

Pet Store 41

Chapter 41: Bloodline of Skeleton King

Su Ping looked past the varieties of pet food with prices of only three-digit numbers and went straight to check the most valuable.

“Purple Bamboo Yin Flower, 26,000 coins per flower.”

“Ghost Core, 10,000 coins per core.”

“Haunted Lotus, the price is... 1,200,000 coins!”

Su Ping counted the many zeroes. Indeed, the price was 1.2 million coins!

He was struggling for breath.

The price was 1.2 million coins!

This could be converted to 12,000 energy points!

The money made from this “Haunted Lotus” alone could have made up for the 9,000 energy points entrance fee to the Chaotic Realm of the Undead and the extra 3,000 energy points would be net profit made!

Considering that his last access was free of charge, all of the 9,000 energy points were net income!

“The Haunted Lotus is crystallized inside a skeleton being of the king level. It contains a strong undead aura which can help an advanced undead pet rise by one rank directly!”

“When pets of the ninth rank consume this, there is a 5% chance that they can evolve into a beast king directly!”

Su Ping was stunned by the power of the plant.

This was a treasure that could help an advanced pet rise in rank!

“How precious this is!”

Su Ping was both surprised and delighted. Treasures that could help a pet advance were few and far between, and those that could apply to advanced pets were even rarer!

“I remember I picked this up by the gate of an ancient hall. The Little Skeleton found it first.”

Su Ping still had a vague memory of how he came by this pet food. It was during countless deaths. Randomly, he was revived in an ancient hall. The Little Skeleton found this plant inside a huge skeleton that was over 10 meters tall by the gate.

Su Ping assumed that this plant was very likely to be useful, given how strongly the Little Skeleton longed for it and how pleased the Little Skeleton was. So, he grabbed the plant and it turned out to be a real treasure.

The unfortunate side was that not long after they picked this plant up, they were murdered by some unknown force before they could explore other areas.

Then, determined, Su Ping chose to revive on the spot for over a dozen times. Every time he was brought back to life, he would be wiped out mercilessly at once. He accomplished nothing. He didn't even see his enemy before he had to leave that place.

"I didn't realize that the stuff I picked up randomly turned out to be this valuable. On the contrary, the pet food that was guarded by other monsters and I took great effort to collect are garbage!"

Su Ping remembered some of the pet food vividly but those items only had a price of a few hundred, which made him unhappy. He wished he could have more discerning eyes. The pet food identification spell was poor.

On the shelf, other than the "Haunted Lotus," there were other pet food varieties that would be sold at dozens of thousands and each of them had different miraculous effects.

Su Ping got the calculator and added up the prices of all the pet food. The total amounted to more than 4.5 million coins!

That was to say, if he could sell everything, he would have 45,000 energy points!

45,000 energy points...

That would be enough for him to upgrade the Chaos Spirit Pool to the third level!

With a third-level spirit pool, there was a slight chance that a pet with a beast king's bloodline could be bred!

"It's a pity that most of it is food for undead pets which are not that popular. Not many people would use such pets. I assume the sales will go slowly."

Su Ping frowned as he noticed this issue.

"Girls nowadays prefer those adorable "multifunctional" pets that could fight, act cute and cuddle."

The pets of the undead family, while strong in combat, had miserable looks. Such pets would either be some dead beings, skeletons, or ghosts whose faces would be covered in blood. Anyone that sent them out to battle would blush in embarrassment, fearing that people would think they had unhealthy minds.

People were shallow beings, only judging a book by its cover.

Naturally, the pets that lived with people would be affected thusly as well.

"But, if humans don't judge people by their looks, then what's the point of me being so handsome?"

Su Ping reconciled with this fact soon.

That pet food was hard to sell, but they would leave the shelves one day as long as the quality was good.

He piled the pet food on the counter and sorted it out. Then, Su Ping shifted his attention to that blood-red bead.

The system had identified this item. It was called the "Blood Bead." This was a mundane name but the value was far from being mundane. The price was set at 15 million coins!

That's right. It was 15 million coins in price, over 10 times more than the price of the Haunted Lotus!

This bead was the most valuable item he had harvested during this trip!

To be exact, this Blood Bead was not a kind of food. But according to the system, anything that could be consumed was categorized as pet food!

The Blood Bead was from within the Skeleton King, the crystallization of life inside the Skeleton King, equal to the placenta found in pregnant women!

Its effect was simple, to convert any skeleton-related being to one with the Skeleton King bloodline!

A Skeleton King had the royal bloodline in the skeleton family. This royal family was unrelated to Beast Kings, but it was one of the noblest and strongest bloodlines!

Su Ping didn't count this Blood Bead as one of the pet foods. He didn't plan to sell it, even though 15 million was... a tremendous amount that no regular person could have made within a lifetime!

He could always make more money, but such treasures would only come by once in a blue moon!

As far as Su Ping could tell, the Skeleton King bloodline would be worth far beyond 15 million. It was just the system that was big-budgeted.

"I believe profits will pour in from all sides as long as I have the strength."

At a top-level cultivation plane like the Chaotic Realm of the Undead, Su Ping had come across many horrible monsters and some other beings that had been living there for who knows how long. He had seen the vast world, the unbounded world.

Strength was the only thing that could secure fame throughout eternity!

"I can give this Blood Bead to the Little Skeleton. Its aptitude has already been rated as above average, far superior to the other low-rank pets of the undead family. If the Little Skeleton can obtain the Skeleton King's bloodline, this will make its capability come into fuller play!"

Su Ping was not stingy. Only by becoming stronger could he obtain more items. Saving money would be putting the cart before the horse.

Besides, hypothetically, he could sell the Blood Bead and obtain 150,000 energy points, but he would not use the energy points at the moment. To upgrade the Chaos Spirit Pool, he would have to spend a million energy points. There was a long way to go. For him, the energy points that he could get from selling the other pet food were enough as it was.

If he had to, he could pay for a visit to another cultivation plane.

Su Ping went to the pet room. The Little Skeleton and the Lightning Rat were sleeping soundly in the nursing pens.

Su Ping approached the Little Skeleton to wake it up and hand it the Blood Bead.

When the Little Skeleton saw this Blood Bead, crimson color glowed in its eyes. It was exceptionally glad.

As the Little Skeleton took over the Blood Bead, it stuffed the bead into its head. Soon, the bead began to spin in the Little Skeleton's head as if the bead was being embedded in the skull. The energy-like blood streaks flowed around the Little Skeleton, gradually changing its bloodline.

In the Little Skeleton's consciousness, it was gesticulating with hands and feet happily.

Su Ping smiled as he felt the excitement coming from the Little Skeleton and patted its little head. Only this time, he could not break the Little Skeleton's neck so easily.

"Little fellow, I will have to count on you from now on." Su Ping smiled.

The Little Skeleton seemed to have understood him. The Little Skeleton nodded and pulled out the bone dagger from its hipbone and waved it, trying to prove that it was reliable.

Su Ping asked the Little Skeleton to go back to sleep while he headed back to the store. He waited for customers to come as he continued the unfinished tests from the previous night.

Time zipped by.

Few customers stopped by that day. There was one but when he came to the counter for information and saw the price of at least dozens or hundreds of the many items on the shelf, he turned around and fled in fright at once.

For the next two days, more customers came but he sold nothing.

On the third day.

As usual, Su Ping came to the store. He dusted the counter and began to work on his cultivation.

Not long afterward, some customers showed up.

"Sir, we're here to pick up my pets," someone with a fresh and sweet sound said.

Su Ping raised his head. It was the two girls again.

Chapter 42: Sentimentally Attached

Su Yanying was glad to see the signboard of the "Pixie Pet Store." She was excited and looked forward to coming to this mysterious shop again. She had been missing the place.

She had been separated from her pets for three days. She could not wait to give those little darlings a hug.

Even though...

Those guys were not little. They were so huge that she had to hold her head up high just to look at them.

But to her, those pets were her babies. She bought some of the pets when they were cubs and raised them. Some of the pets grew up quickly. They reached adulthood in three to five years and grew from a size where she could pick them up easily to one that she could ride them.

"I wonder if the owner has been taking good care of your pets."

Lan Lele came with Su Yanying as her escort again and to supervise. After all, they had spent a fortune last time they visited. They couldn't afford to be fooled by that owner.

Su Ping stopped cultivating when the two stepped into the store. "Wait here," he said with a poker face.

With that said, Su Ping went to the pet room in the back to wake up the Lightning Rat and the other three pets.

"Come on out."

Su Ping told the pets to step out of the nursing pens.

The pets dawdled their way out from the nursing pens reluctantly as they sensed Su Ping's determined will.

As soon as they stepped away from the nursing pens, the pets were reconnected to Su Yanying's astral power contract. They could feel each other's presence.

"It's them." Su Yanying's eyes glowed. She was happy that she could tell her pets were just in the back, a wall away from her.

She stood on tiptoe, looking with anticipation.

After several minutes, she finally saw her pets slowly step out from the pet room; they would stop every now and then to look back as if something behind them was appealing and they were unwilling to be away from it.

Su Yanying was surprised.

From the astral power contract, she could sense vividly how reluctant her pets were. They had not seen each other for a long time. How could her pets be attracted to something else and not become excited to see her?

Had they become attached to this place?

"Go on. Go." Su Ping waved his hand impatiently.

Those pets were intelligent. They looked at him with their watery eyes, begging.

Su Ping was not in the mood to gaze into their eyes. He hurried them on.

The pets were sad. They returned to Su Yanying, down in the dumps. When they saw their own master, they rubbed against her as a welcoming sign and then lay prone on the floor, feeling blue.

Su Yanying was surprised since she could sense the frustration in her pets.

This wasn't the meeting she had pictured.

Shouldn't they run to her, wild with joy?

Shouldn't they dance and hop around her in happiness?

Why would they be depressed when they saw their master?

Su Yanying darted a look at the Lightning Rat by her foot. Last time she had visited, the Lightning Rat was overjoyed to see her. It was also in a bad mood at the moment.

“Why...?” For a moment, Su Yanying did not know what to say. She felt that the situation was unfair and an urge to cry was bubbling up.

Su Ping was surprised to feel how upset and reluctant the pets were but he could understand.

The elementary nursing pens were built with spirit stones. The pets were being nurtured by the anima at all times. What the pets felt in the nursing pens was similar to what people felt when soaking in a hot spring during winter. It was already nice that pets were not furious after being dragged out all of a sudden.

Lan Lele noticed something was off about the pets. She questioned Su Ping, “Sir, why are they so lifeless?”

Su Ping pulled a long face. “Why should I know?”

“You took care of them. Why don’t you know?” Lan Lele’s face was clouded with anger.

Su Ping put on a sarcastic grin. “So, if I take care of you for a couple of days, I should know all your emotions as well?”

“You!” Lan Lele stomped her feet in fury.

Su Yanying came back to her senses. She put herself between the two arguing people and apologized to Su Ping. “Sir, I am sorry. My friend has a short temper.”

“Yingying, something is wrong here,” Lan Lele cautioned her.

Su Yanying shook her head. “I just feel that they are unwilling to be parted from here. It means that they like the place. That is to say, instead of treating them unfairly, the owner is taking good care of them. I should thank the owner.”

“What?” Lan Lele did not understand. “Unwilling to leave? They are unwilling to leave here?”

This was hardly imaginable. How could the pets become emotionally attached to that place after a couple of days of boarding?

Su Ping did not enter into contracts with the pets. Even if they had emotional bonds built with the astral power contract, at the very beginning, the pets and their masters would not be close. The pets would only be following orders. Once the contract was removed, the pets and the masters would be completely unrelated.

“It’s true.”

Su Yanying forced a smile. She could not understand it, either. Only if Su Ping treated the pets extremely nicely would the pets become attached, which implied that this was a reputable pet store!

Lan Lele stood there, stunned. She believed that Su Yanying would not lie to her and would not defend the owner. Lan Lele knew that she must have misunderstood the owner.

Lan Lele cast a glance at Su Ping whose face was still grim. The apology stopped on the tip of her tongue. She pretended that nothing had happened and shifted her look toward the pets.

“Their wounds seemed to have healed.”

Lan Lele was sure that Su Yanying did not lie to her upon a closer check. Except for the fact that the pets were in a lousy mood, their wounds had recovered, and they seemed to be healthier than before. Their fur was in a brighter color and the flames on the feathers of the Fallen Phoenix were burning with more intensity. She could tell that the pets were taken good care of.

Su Yanying nodded. She had noticed this before. The healer told her that her pets would recover after three days. But she could tell that the pets had not just recovered. The pets were healed at the store. They weren't just fed.

As for what Su Ping mentioned about improving their power of understanding and bettering their constitution, for now, Su Yanying could not find out. She was satisfied with the fact that they had recovered.

“I wonder how the training went.”

Su Yanying cast her looks at the Lightning Rat by her foot. She crouched down to pet its head to comfort it.

While she was patting the Lightning Rat, she noticed that its fur's color was deeper, having shifted to a blackish color from that dark purple.

Besides, maybe this was just in her mind, but she felt that her other pets were unwilling to come near the Lightning Rat who was the nearest to her. The other three pets were two to three meters away from her, unwilling to come close. They weren't like this in the past.

“Sir, is it quite different from before?” Su Yanying lifted her eyes to him.

Su Ping answered coldly, “Its strength has been improved by several folds, at the very least.”

While the rating for combat strength was only doubled, that was a digit only, not the Lightning Rat's true strength!

Improving from the third rank to the seventh rank represented an increase in strength of more than a dozen times. Not even a hundred third-rank pets or more could defeat a seventh-rank pet!

That was why he thought the system's quests were unreasonable...

“Several times stronger?” Su Yanying did not believe this.

Lan Lele opened her eyes wide, wondering if Su Ping had chosen the wrong words.

The Lightning Rat was much stronger than before after merely three days of training?

Did Su Ping consider himself a master trainer?

Not even master trainers could boast such things, unless some secret ways were applied to the Lightning Rat. But who would make such a big fuss with a Lightning Rat? What they paid did not deserve that increase.

Chapter 43: Training Effect Test

“Sir, are you being serious?” Su Yanying could not help but voice her doubt. She felt that Su Ping might be joking or was plainly mocking them. After all, the expression on his grim face didn’t appear to be friendly.

“Hmm. Interesting.”

Su Ping was not in the mood to defend himself against their disbelief. He whistled at the Lightning Rat who was by her foot and sent over instructions through his consciousness using astral power, “Thunder Shadow Image!”

Even without the contract, the Lightning Rat acted by reflex after sensing Su Ping’s consciousness. Electric arcs burst out from the Lightning Rat and two more Lightning Rats that were surrounded by lightning emerged.

There were three in total!

Each Lightning Rat was doing something different. One was looking around, one ran to the door, and the other one stayed by Su Yanying’s foot.

“What... Multiple Thunder Shadow Image?!”

Both Su Yanying and Lan Lele were stunned by what they saw.

Two cloned shadows could be created?

Besides, the three Lightning Rats were acting differently. This was not something that the average Thunder Shadow Image could have managed. The cloned images were lifelike!

“Such a lazy bone...” Su Ping was unhappy since merely two images were created but he did not push the Lightning Rat. After all, this Multiple Thunder Shadow Image alone was well worth the 10,000 coins paid.

“The Thunder Shadow Image is an advanced pet skill. Now, it has been upgraded!”

“This... is amazing!”

Su Yanying and Lan Lele’s faces were covered in astonishment. It was rare that the Lightning Rat could learn the “Thunder Shadow Image.” It had even been upgraded to “Multiple Thunder Shadow Image.” That wasn’t something many advanced pets of the thunder family could have done!

It took them a while to get back to reality. When they lifted their eyes to Su Ping again, the looks were different from before.

They were convinced that there had to be a master trainer in the store, one who could upgrade an advanced pet skill within three days.

Who were master trainers?

They were people that even a ninth-rank battle pet warrior with a title should treat politely.

Lan Lele blushed as she thought of her previous attitude and she was afraid as well. Regardless of Su Ping's cold face, she lowered her head. "Sir, I have misjudged you. I am sorry..."

"It's okay."

Su Ping did not mind what happened before. "Is there anything else you need? Like pet food?" he asked.

The two didn't see this question coming. They looked at the counter behind Su Ping. The corner of their eyes twitched violently when they saw the price of the pet food.

"Well..."

Su Yanying was hesitating.

On the other hand, the fact that her Lightning Rat could experience such a drastic change was entirely because of this pet store.

She bit her teeth to force out some words, "I don't have much money with me. Sir, how about you recommend some of the cheaper pet food?"

"How much do you have?" Su Ping asked.

"I have 1500 coins," Su Yanying said honestly.

"Let's go with this." Su Ping turned around to choose. He just happened to find a Fire Grass that the Fallen Phoenix could eat. "That will be 1200 coins."

Su Yanying felt her eyelids twitch as she saw this red grass that was less than 10 centimeters long. One blade of grass was sold at 1200 coins...

She made up her mind after thinking about the Lightning Rat's progress and paid for the grass.

Lan Lele knew what her friend was thinking and did not stop her. Lan Lele thought this could be regarded as thanks for the Lightning Rat's training.

Su Ping placed the grass in a transparent bottle and gave it to Su Yanying.

Su Yanying took over the grass and placed it in her messenger bag without looking. Then, she expressed her appreciation to Su Ping again for his training.

Her thanks were sincere. After she witnessed the Multiple Thunder Shadow Image demonstration, she was completely convinced that the Lightning Rat had been trained there.

Without the Lightning Rat, even if she had fought with the Fanged Tiger, she would have lost in the preliminary matches.

She would have been embarrassed. To make it worse, such loss could affect her career after graduation. It was safe to say that this store had helped her.

The two girls thanked him effusively. From this, Su Ping felt his hard work had paid off.

As he watched them leave, something stuck in Su Ping's throat—words that he failed to utter. *"Don't just say thank you. Why didn't you pay me more money..."*

...

...

Having picked up their pets, Lan Lele and Su Yanying hurried back to the academy.

They arrived at the gate and looked at the time, relieved to see it was only 10:00 in the morning.

"Yingying, slow down. Your turn will come up at 11:30. We still have time." Lan Lele was struggling for breath and her cheeks blushed.

Su Yanying was filled with excitement, "I want to go to the training ground to see how they are doing."

"Sure. I will go with you." Lan Lele's eyes glowed as she thought of that Lightning Rat as well.

Soon, they had arrived at the training ground in the academy. The training ground was large; it had twenty different venues of various environments, such as forests, furnace hearths, waterways and others.

People could choose different training venues according to their pet types.

Also, there were the regular comprehensive training venues with a common environment, one that the battle pet warriors would often come across outside. After all, nobody would only fight in the environment they were more familiar with. Therefore, combat abilities demonstrated in the common environment were more important!

At the moment, most of the students were watching the games at the stadium. So, Su Yanying did not have to wait in the line for a turn.

Su Yanying stepped to the machine by the door to log onto her student account, deduct the credit and pick the venue.

She chose a common venue with a 2v2 model.

Lan Lele did the same thing. She logged on her student account, had the credit deducted, and then she was invited into the team.

Since there was no line, after they made their choice, they saw the number of the venue the system had assigned to them, 08.

Su Yanying and Lan Lele headed in together.

"Yingying, let's try your Lightning Rat!" Lan Lele was itchy to try. It interested her just to think that she could fight with a Lightning Rat that had mastered advanced pet skills.

Lan Lele unleashed her contract power to summon her strongest pet, Earth Buddha!

This pet of the rock family with an advanced bloodline was made of rocks; it was human-like, and was named the Earth Buddha because it looked like an ancient Buddha.

“Such a dirty trick!” Su Yanying said grumpily.

The Earth Buddha had not reached adulthood yet, and was not an advanced pet in the real sense but it was a fifth-rank one already!

Lan Lele was being deliberately dishonest by sending out a fifth-rank pet to fight against Su Yanying’s Lightning Rat, when the Earth Buddha could be the Lightning Rat’s mortal enemy!

Still, since this was a practice, Su Yanying wanted to find out if the Lightning Rat’s Multiple Thunder Shadow Image could fool a fifth-rank pet.

“Astral Shield!”

Lan Lele stuck out her tongue at her friend. As soon as she entered the venue, she established her astral shield. Previously, the Lightning Rat had lured away the enemy pet and snuck up on the battle pet warrior to secure the final win. Therefore, Lan Lele was putting her guards up as a precaution.

Su Yanying snorted gently and said to the Lightning Rat next to her, “Go ahead!”

The Lightning Rat sensed its master’s battle will. Its lazy-bone-state changed in an instant. Neither of the girls noticed that from its small rat eyes darted out a bloodthirsty and cold glare, one that belied an extremely crazy killing intent!

Chapter 44: Escaping Earth Buddha

“Zangzang, target the rat!”

Lan Lele gave instructions to the Earth Buddha in front of her. She lifted her hand and the power of the blast was added to aid the Earth Buddha. A whirlwind span around the Earth Buddha to make it lighter and more flexible.

“Roar!”

The Earth Buddha was standing on one foot like an old monk meditating. Having felt its master’s will, the Earth Buddha set down the other foot. The four eyes on its face were opened all of a sudden as the roar was let out!

This roar was like one from Buddha’s fury, full of deterrence.

Usually, a low-rank pet would have flinched upon hearing this roar. After all, this was the most basic deterrence skill mastered by an advanced pet that could completely overwhelm low-rank pets. While the Earth Buddha had not reached adulthood or the most advanced level, its roar could be already appalling.

Su Yanying looked at the Lightning Rat in front of her. Its hair stood up in terror.

However, from the emotions she felt in the Lightning Rat, she detected a strong intention to fight which was so wild that she found it hard to control, as if the Lightning Rat were going to run away.

“Unsteady Ground!”

Lan Lele made the first move and told the Earth Buddha to attack first.

Bang!

The ground in front of the Earth Buddha burst open all of a sudden and the crack reached toward the Lightning Rat and Su Yanying.

The image of the Earth Buddha was reflected in those blood-thirsty, reddened eyes of the Lightning Rat. The desire for blood surged out. After the impact of countless killings, the moment the Lightning Rat entered the battle, its will for harvesting blood had reached the extreme.

To battle was to kill the enemies!

That was something the Lightning Rat had learned.

When the Lightning Rat was about to do something, it felt some instructions coming its way. "Use the Multiple Thunder Shadow Image now!"

That instruction came from Su Yanying.

The moment the Earth Buddha initiated the attack, Su Yanying had decided to let the Lightning Rat apply its strongest skill, the Multiple Thunder Shadow Image.

She intended to find out if the Lightning Rat's "Multiple Thunder Shadow Image" could fool the Earth Buddha. As for defeating the Earth Buddha? She never thought that could be possible.

After all, the Earth Buddha was a fifth-rank pet. While Lan Lele herself was not famous for her combat strength, the strength of her pets was well-known in the academy!

The reason that Lan Lele could not show her capabilities in the tournament was that she loved to have fun and her skill as a battle pet warrior was inferior.

The pet's strength was not the only factor that mattered. The battle pet warriors' mastery and command were important as well. An outstanding battle pet warrior could support their pets and even enable them to take on others of a higher rank!

When the Lightning Rat received Su Yanying's instructions, the former seemed to be struggling to hang on to its desire for blood. However, the power of the contract stipulated that the Lightning Rat had to follow orders from the battle pet warrior. The energy surging inside the Lightning Rat changed directions and several figures surrounded by lightning dashed out.

In an instant, three Lightning Rats appeared in the venue.

However, the three Lightning Rats were not running in different directions. Instead, all of them were charging toward the Earth Buddha. It didn't seem that the Lightning Rats were going to distract it.

Su Yanying did not expect this. Was the Lightning Rat trying to engage in close combat with the Earth Buddha? However, the Earth Buddha was a fifth-rank pet and of an advanced bloodline which gave it more abilities, including inherited advanced pet skills, unlike the other regular fifth-rank pets!

"Split up and go around the Earth Buddha!" Su Yanying said at once.

The thirst for blood faded away a bit more in the Lightning Rat's eyes. The Lightning Rat was struggling, but it followed Su Yanying's orders eventually. The three headed up to three directions and dashed toward Lan Lele who was behind the Earth Buddha.

"Yingying, let it fight with Zangzang. My astral shield is fragile," Lan Lele shouted at once as the three Lightning Rats ran toward her.

Usually, pets looked cute. However, those little guys could kill a person easily!

"Don't worry. I'm just trying to see if your Earth Buddha can tell which one is the real one." Having said that, Su Yanying told the Lightning Rat to fake an attack on Lan Lele.

The Thunder Slash that was taking shape on the Lightning Rat's forehead came back as Su Yanying passed along the order. The Lightning Rats began to run around the venue.

Roar!

The Earth Buddha roared angrily as it saw two Lightning Rats charging toward its master. The Earth Buddha slapped the ground. Several earthen walls were erected around Lan Lele to shield her inside.

Then, the Earth Buddha pounced at the ground as if diving into the water. The Earth Buddha and the ground became one. In less than three seconds, the Earth Buddha burst out and stopped a running Lightning Rat.

Bang!

The Earth Buddha was surrounded by spikes like a sea urchin. The Earth Buddha smashed this Lightning Rat into pieces.

That was only an image!

Su Yanying was pleasantly surprised. The Lightning Rat's disguise was quite successful, having fooled a fifth-rank pet.

If the Lightning Rat could fool pets, then it could fool battle pet warriors as well.

After all, the battle pet warriors that she could encounter were the students at the same grade in the academy. Such advanced skills were not something that could be learned in the academy. Only some powerful teachers could have told the minute differences between the real one from the fake Lightning Rats!

Bang!

After the Earth Buddha crushed that image of the Lightning Rat, the former was surrounded by the electric arcs bursting out from the latter at the same time. That being said, since the Earth Buddha was a fifth-rank pet, its skin managed to transmit the electricity into the ground, so the Earth Buddha remained unharmed.

The Earth Buddha snuck back into the ground once more.

The other two Lightning Rats stopped at the same time. On one of them, the lightning was becoming messier and messier. This one was an image. As time moved on, it would be harder for the Lightning Rat to control its shadow images. The differences at this stage were easy to ascertain.

The Lightning Rat, the real one, did not move. It just stayed close to the ground and did not blink its reddened eyes for once.

All of a sudden—

The Lightning Rat's eyes were rekindled!

Bang!

The ground under the Lightning Rat was lifted, and dirt was stirred up.

The ferocious Earth Buddha broke through the soil and seemed to have hit the Lightning Rat.

Lightning flashed!

Teleport in mid air!

In the old days, the Lightning Rat was rusty when it came to the "Thunder Flash." The Lightning Rat would rarely use the skill and after a long time, the skill might even slip from its mind!

However, in the Chaotic Realm of the Undead, every time the Lightning Rat wanted to come close to its enemies, it would have to rely on this skill. The Lightning Rat had become quite proficient with it!

Amid the dust.

The Earth Buddha was confused because it sensed it had missed its opponent.

While the Earth Buddha was still in shock, it saw some sparkles. All of a sudden, with a bolt of lightning, something came up.

That was something with a pair of eyes filled with violent, blood-thirsty looks, and raging fury!

Thunder Slash!

Bang!

The Thunder Slash that came into being almost instantly landed on the Earth Buddha across the air.

However, while in terror, the Earth Buddha reacted fast. A shield built of soil surrounded the Earth Buddha. With a cracking sound, after the Earth Buddha was hit, it fell to the ground.

As things happened, it seemed as if the Earth Buddha had turned into water. The Earth Buddha had gone underground and escaped.

Chapter 45: Fear

"Lightning Rat!"

Su Yanying jumped in fright, having seen the Lightning Rat being smashed away by the disrupted ground. No matter how strong the power of understanding the Lightning Rat had, it was a low-rank pet, nonetheless. Su Yanying supposed this strike could badly maul the Lightning Rat!

The raised dust blurred her view of the Lightning Rat. Su Yanying called out the Fanged Tiger and told it to get in there to help the Lightning Rat.

“Lele, ask your pet to stop now!”

Su Yanying wanted to put an end to the fight immediately. All of a sudden, she realized that Lan Lele was surrounded by the dirt wall. It was likely that Lan Lele could not hear her.

This was bad!

In the meanwhile, the Fanged Tiger had dashed into the venue. Its huge body dispersed the dust, revealing the Lightning Rat.

The Lightning Rat was on the ground, safe and sound, which astonished Su Yanying.

She had just seen the Lightning Rat being smashed away. How could it stay unharmed?

Boom!

Boom!

Abruptly, the ground began to shake again. One after another, three more walls were added outside the original three dirt walls, adding more protection for Lan Lele.

Su Yanying was stunned still.

What?

What did this mean?

Had the Earth Buddha given up on the attack?

But, if the Earth Buddha had curled up behind all those walls of defense, there wasn't much she could do.

After all, the Earth Buddha was at the fifth rank and was a pet of the rock family with defense as a strong suit. The strongest pet she had was the Fanged Tiger who was at the intermediate position of the fourth rank. There was nothing the Fanged Tiger could do to the Earth Buddha.

A moment later, the dirt walls loosened a bit and a hole appeared. Lan Lele walked out from behind the walls, craning her neck to peer and make sure it was not dangerous outside. “What is going on?” She asked Su Yanying in confusion.

“Are you asking me?” Su Yanying was baffled.

“Just now, Zangzang sensed an intense danger so it locked me in there. I was so puzzled. What can be dangerous at the training grounds in our academy? As I see it, nothing seems to be out of place.” Lan Lele was perplexed.

“It sensed danger?” Su Yanying was filled with questions.

Everything was fine just then. What danger could there be?

Besides, her pets did not pick up any clues on danger and they didn’t give her such feedback.

“Did Zangzang get it wrong?” Lan Lele turned around. In the shades behind the dirt walls, she could see through the hole that the Earth Buddha was hiding in there. It was shivering and its four eyes were all demonstrating fear.

“That’s curious...” Lan Lele tilted her head, completely at a loss.

Su Yanying noticed how scared the Earth Buddha was. She was no less stunned. Pets were not sophisticated beings and that fear was not fake. That was to say, there was something that happened moments before that made the Earth Buddha sense danger and grow terrified because of it.

However, she had been there the whole time. She never saw anything off.

“Wait a minute. Isn’t it...” Su Yanying remembered that toward the end of the battle, the Earth Buddha escaped as soon as the sneak attack on the Lightning Rat took place.

The Lightning Rat was unharmed, so the Earth Buddha must have missed its target. In principle, the Earth Buddha should have struck while the iron was hot.

Unless, there was something else that made the Earth Buddha give up.

Something that the Earth Buddha was terrified of.

Could it be that this thing... was the Lightning Rat?

A glint of shock flashed past Su Yanying’s eyes.

Was it even possible?

The Lightning Rat was a low-rank pet. While it had picked up advanced pet skills, its potential was limited within that low-rank bracket; it couldn’t have shattered that shackle.

As a pet with an advanced bloodline, the Earth Buddha was proud. How could it be scared of a low-rank Lightning Rat?

“Lele, have your Earth Buddha come here,” Su Yanying said suddenly. To prove her theory would be easy. A simple test would do.

Lan Lele didn’t understand her friend’s intention, but she told the Earth Buddha to do so nonetheless.

The master’s will could not be disobeyed. Although the Earth Buddha was conveying its resistance to Lan Lele, it did step over.

It was just that, the Earth Buddha was incredibly slow.

“Lightning Rat, go to it,” Su Yanying said in her mind.

Receiving the order from its master, the Lightning Rat crawled up and stood on all fours slowly. Even though this was a rat, it could walk forward with the same graceful, light, and soundless demeanor seen in cats.

Su Yanying and Lan Lele were good students, but their visions were limited. Neither could discern the hidden power and cruelty in the Lightning Rat's every move. That bearing and posture both indicated that the Lightning Rat could launch an alarming strike at any second just like an assassin concealed in the dark!

The Earth Buddha that was making its way to Lan Lele became even more fearful as it saw the Lightning Rat step over slowly. The Earth Buddha had practically stopped. Around its feet, the ground was shaking. Dirt and sand were crawling up from its feet to every corner of its body. The Earth Buddha was strengthening its defenses for protection.

Su Yanying's eyes sparkled. She asked the Lightning Rat to come back and then told the Fanged Tiger move closer to the Earth Buddha who didn't show any particular reaction. Instead, the Earth Buddha breathed in relief as the Lightning Rat moved away, as if a great burden had been lifted. The shell of dirt that covered up the Earth Buddha broke up into flowing sand and fell to the ground.

"I was right."

Su Yanying was taken aback by what she saw.

It was the Lightning Rat.

The Earth Buddha was afraid of the Lightning Rat!!

That was the Earth Buddha, a famous pet of the rock family, a star amongst pets.

However, the Earth Buddha was scared of a Lightning Rat that could be seen anywhere...

"There must be something I don't know. So, the Lightning Rat knows other skills, other than the 'Multiple Thunder Shadow Image'. It has other powerful abilities!"

As Su Yanying made such assumptions, excitement rose in her eyes. Just this one "Multiple Thunder Shadow Image" was enough to thrill her. There were other possible skills!

That store owner did not mention this. Was he also unaware?

The training was such a good bargain!

"That store is more than trustworthy. But I don't think the business is good given how unpopular it is. It must be that few people know about the store yet. I must go there more often before the store becomes popular. Maybe I can get a membership card or something..." Su Yanying had already begun to let her mind go wild.

"Yingying?" Lan Lele was surprised to see Su Yanying smirking to herself. Was it Su Yanying who scared the Earth Buddha?

Su Yanying came back to her senses. She didn't have time to explain. "Help me with the other pets' practice as well."

“Eh, sure.” Lan Lele didn’t think too much about it.

She didn’t read into the fact that the Earth Buddha was scared. Her attention was not on the pets, to begin with. If she were willing to devote more efforts to raise her pets, given the wealth of her family, she could easily become a student to be showcased in the academy’s newspaper.

Afterward.

Su Yanying sent out her Fanged Tiger, the Fallen Phoenix, and the Ugly Stone Beast one after another. She noticed that the three pets she had left in boarding had made progress as well.

While their progress was not as noticeable when compared with Lightning Rat, their combat strengths had been improved by half at least. The Fanged Tiger was below the fifth rank and could never compete with the Earth Buddha. However, not only could the Fanged Tiger fight the Earth Buddha for a bit, the former was not at a disadvantage!

As Su Yanying’s usual training partner, Lan Lele could sense the change as well. She was surprised to see that in merely three days, Su Yanying’s three pets had experienced such a drastic rise in their abilities, as if they were on drugs!

Could this be a result of the boarding service in that pet store?

Lan Lele’s eyes blinked. As the daughter of a businessman, she was born with an acute business sense. She could tell that that store could bring forth huge commercial opportunities!

Soon, the training ended. Su Yanying looked at the time. Her turn was almost up. She didn’t go on to prevent her pets from spending more energy. They weren’t pushed to their limits in those training fights.

“Let’s go.”

Su Yanying was in a good mood. She didn’t think that she could take the crown in this year’s tournament. But, after the result of those drills and having felt the transformation of her pets, she believed she had a chance to reach for the championship!

Chapter 46: Blazing Ray Acquired!

At the Astral Pet battle stadium.

A burst of cheers erupted; the ordinary students who had no chance to compete were also very excited to watch from the spectator seats.

As of that moment...

The participants that could pass the preliminary matches were the outstanding students among the top 100 on the power rankings in the academy. Some celebrity students that could hardly be seen were among those participants as well.

The contests had been more exciting. The pets that could come out were of at least the third rank. Rarely would any second rank pets be summoned to the contests. Even if there were, those second-rank pets would be defeated with no exception.

When it was a fight between powerful students from the power rankings, the stadium would be filled with the rioting sound of excitement!

“We have more than ten minutes. No rush.”

Lan Lele and Su Yanying arrived at the stadium as well. They found the seats of their class and sat down.

At the moment, other contests were taking place. The two parties were among the stronger students. Neither could get the upper hand.

Su Yanying watched the contest. All of a sudden, she felt that someone was glaring at her. She turned her eyes and noticed that the glare came from her front; there was a cold looking person sitting upright. It was Jiang Hanbing who was nicknamed “Ice Jiang.”

There were no grievances between Su Yanying and Jiang Hanbing to begin with, but they had somehow become competitors after people had built up rumors about them.

Gossip was a fearful thing.

Time moved on in their student lives.

She would take notice of Jiang Hanbing every now and then.

As time passed, they had become rivals.

Naturally, that glare came from Jiang Hanbing. Su Yanying’s eyes flickered. She had tested the strength of her pets. She was confident that she could defeat him, instead of having their battles hang in the balance like before!

Lan Lele saw the names on the digital board. She gave Su Yanying a pep talk, “Yingying, your turn is coming up. Be careful... I will be waiting for your victorious return.”

Su Yanying smiled. “Don’t worry. I know my opponent. Just the Fallen Phoenix alone will be able to overwhelm him.”

At this time, the commentator called out Su Yanying and her opponent’s name.

The other students cheered for them.

Su Yanying was somewhat famous in the academy. As a girl in the senior classes who was in the power rankings’ top 10, she would attract much attention.

Soon, her opponent came. It was a roly-poly boy.

“Miss Su, if I win against you, can you sign your name on my chest? I promise I will never take another shower again in my life!” As soon as the chubby boy came to the stage, he thus announced.

“Boo!”

The other students started booing.

“Senior Su belongs to all of us. Nobody can take her as his own!!” The students were bellowing.

Su Yanying frowned at this jeer. She said coldly, “We will talk when you do win.”

“Good!” The short and fat boy seemed to have been encouraged by this. He called out his pet at once. It was a middle-rank bloodline pet of the water family, the Cloaking Water Beast.

This pet was human-like and made up of water, proficient at hiding and assassination.

The pet was holding an element dagger that could shift into water streams like the pet itself.

Su Yanying called out her Fallen Phoenix without thinking.

“Yelp!”

The Fallen Phoenix caused a burst of exclamation as soon as it appeared. After all, the Fallen Phoenix was a pet with an advanced bloodline; such pets would become advanced pets as soon as they reached adulthood. Pets of this kind were rare and far superior to other lower-rank pets.

A fiery flame lingered close to the Fallen Phoenix, making it appear as if on fire.

Since mutual forbearance existed in the two pets’ properties, it all came down to whose pet was stronger in a fight.

As soon as the judge announced the start of the match, the chubby boy shouted, admitting defeat.

This was just what people expected.

Su Yanying felt the boy was smart. However, all of a sudden, she noticed a trace of a smile that indicated he had attained what he wished as he called back his pet.

She frowned. Something was not right.

Then, the roly-poly boy called out the second pet, one of the rock family.

Given its property, the pet was not as formidable as the Fallen Phoenix but it had a strong resistance to fire as well.

“It’s the Earth Seizer!”

Su Yanying’s expression changed a bit the moment she saw this pet. The Earth Seizer was one of the most outstanding pets of the rock family. The Earth Seizer could not deter pets of the fire family, but it was an invincible opponent for flying pets!

“I am sorry, Miss Su. I have recently been searching for all the information about your past contests and have a basic understanding of your pets. Of all your pets, the Fallen Phoenix is the most difficult one to deal with. You have the Ugly Stone Beast and the Fanged Tiger, which are strong, but they can only be good in face-to-face combat. I just have to crush them in such a fight and that will be fine.

“It’s just this Fallen Phoenix. Even a fifth-rank pet will find it hard to defeat it. Rather, the former will be tortured by the latter.

“Of course, you have that genius little rat. But it will be of no use in a contest like this. My Earth Seizer alone will be able to defeat that rat.”

The fat boy grinned. He was convinced the outcome of the contest had been determined.

Su Yanying felt her mind weigh down. She had collected his information as well but failed to find the Earth Seizer in his data. That was why she had sent out the Fallen Phoenix so readily.

“Right, I forget to tell you, Miss Su. For this tournament, I spent all the pocket money I had saved in three years. I rented this Earth Seizer a month ago. It is a trump card I prepared just for this tournament.”

The fat boy smiled and looked at the audience. “I want everyone to remember my name and know my existence after this tournament! I shall no longer remain in obscurity when I graduate!”

Su Yanying gasped.

A three-years worth of pocket money...

What was he saying?

“So, you’re saying that you lived without any pocket money for three years, right?” Su Yanying asked.

The chubby boy raised his eyebrows and said calmly, “That’s right.”

“Then, you don’t eat any snacks?” Su Yanying could not imagine how horrible a life would be without chips, cola, fried chicken, and other snacks!

The short and fat boy frowned. “Of course not.”

Was this a proper question at the time?

“Then, why are you still so fat?” Su Yanying threw out another question.

Boom! A critical strike!

The short and stout boy felt as if he had received a punch, making him feel suffocated. His mouth twitched for a while but eventually, he held down his anger. “Miss Su, you will regret those words,” he cautioned her, in a hoarse voice.

“Will I?”

Su Yanying lifted her hand. A blasting power was added to the Fallen Phoenix who was already light and graceful. It could move around faster.

Even though the Earth Seizer was a formidable foe to the Fallen Phoenix, Su Yanying chose to stick to the fight.

“Hmm. Courting death.”

The roly-poly boy’s face was clouded. He passed along his instructions to the Earth Seizer in his mind. “*Dungeon Imprisonment!*”

Bang, bang, bang!

Dozens of thorns suddenly protruded from the ground, quickly rushing into the air toward the Fallen Phoenix.

“That is Dungeon Imprisonment that Earth Seizers are best at!” The commentator exclaimed.

Hostility filled Su Yanying’s eyes. How could she know which one of them was weaker without a fight?

Overwhelmed?

For sure.

But if her pet was strong enough, it could shatter its overwhelming shackles!

“Blazing Bird!” Su Yanying ordered the Fallen Phoenix to attack.

“Flame Breath Cut!”

Two pet skills were applied at the same time. A bird burning in flames came off from the Fallen Phoenix and dived toward the short and fat boy.

He sneered. “Earth Guardian!”

Bang!

Several earthen walls were erected to protect him.

The flaming bird smashed into the wall and dispersed in sparks instantly.

The Flame Breath Cut turned out to be useless as well.

Su Yanying was taken aback.

This was indeed a formidable opponent.

Pets of the earth family were born with a strong resistance to fire; the dirt walls were just too strong!

“Time for this to come to an end.”

The short and stout boy used “Sense Extension” to observe the situation beyond the walls. He grinned sarcastically when he saw the Fallen Phoenix’s efforts were futile. “Did you think that I would buy a piece of garbage with my three years’ worth of pocket money?”

Su Yanying had used her Sense Extension as well. She could hear what the chubby boy was saying behind the dirt walls. She was alerted. She was shocked the moment she cast another look at the Earth Seizer.

“It’s an adult Earth Seizer!”

“Fifth-rank!”

Su Yanying looked awful as she counted the number of horns on the Earth Seizer’s jaw.

Her Fallen Phoenix could fight back an average third rank Earth Seizer regardless of the fact that their properties were mutually deterrent. But this one was of the fifth rank... Her Fallen Phoenix had barely reached the upper position of the third rank!

“Come back.” Su Yanying was frustrated. She had fallen into his trap. She admitted defeat.

That being said, she still had the Lightning Rat and the Fanged Tiger, trump cards for her win.

When she was calling out for the Fallen Phoenix, she felt that it was resisting. At the same time, being forced by the thorns on the ground, the Fallen Phoenix moved to a corner made by the walls.

The Fallen Phoenix used Flame Breath Cut many times, but the flames could not inflict much harm as they fell on the thorns. The flames just scorched them.

“Come back.” Su Yanying hurried to use the power of the contract.

Right at that moment, a long cry of anger echoed in the air!

“Yelp!”

A flame burst out suddenly, and at the same time, an extremely hot ray suddenly swept out, slashing all the ground thorns that were flying and chasing the Fallen Phoenix in the field!

The commentator that was about to say that the Fallen Phoenix was being targeted suddenly felt that all words had disappeared at the tip of his tongue.

What did he just see?

Was it Blazing Ray, an eighth-rank pet skill of the fire family?!!

The entire stadium instantly fell into a short moment of dead silence.

Chapter 47: The Genius' Second Fabulous Show

What!

There was a sudden uproar in the stadium.

Blazing Ray!

A rare advanced skill of pets in the fire family!

The aptitude and rarity of advanced pets were determined depending on whether they had mastered rare pet skills.

There was no doubt.

A Fallen Phoenix that had learned “Blazing Ray” could be counted as one of the best in the “Fallen Phoenix” species.

“An eighth-rank pet skill...”

On the spectator’s seats, some people with overwhelming but restrained presence had their eyes fixed on the fire bird that was soaring and calling in the sky.

The Fallen Phoenix was far from being an adult, judging by its size alone.

While the Fallen Phoenix enjoyed an advanced bloodline, the Blazing Ray was not included among the inherited pet skills.

The Fallen Phoenix could learn the skill by itself as it grew up. Even they had to be envious of a pet of such talent.

“Is that girl its master?”

“I remember her.”

Compared with the pets, given their battle pet warrior status, those people were more interested in the master.

After all, the pet’s changes and strength were closely linked to their masters’. When some talented pets were controlled by weak masters, the pets would gradually forget some of the rare skills that they had mastered. It would be difficult for those pets to put their strength into full play and eventually, they would disappear into the common crowd.

Whereas.

An outstanding battle pet warrior could tap his or her pets’ full potential even if the pets were of a poor aptitude. He or she could train excellent pets.

All of a sudden, someone said in surprise, “Ah, I remember. Isn’t she the one that used a Lightning Rat on her previous match?”

The name “Lightning Rat” rang a bell. The others came to realize this fact instantly.

Three days before, that Lightning Rat took their breath away...

Back then, they already had a feeling that the Lightning Rat’s master had to be a genius. Otherwise, if the Lightning Rat were to rely on itself alone, no matter how talented it was, it couldn’t have learned so many advanced pet skills.

Being once again amazed by the same person never crossed their minds.

Not only had she trained a talented Lightning Rat, but she had also nurtured this outstanding Fallen Phoenix!

Even though this Fallen Phoenix was less talented than the Lightning Rat, the former was an advanced pet. This talent and the potential that lay within its bloodline determined that the Fallen Phoenix would grow to be a formidable advanced battle pet!

A red headed lady turned around and asked, “Vice Principal Dong, what is the girl’s name?”

Eh?

Was she trying to grab the girl for her team?

The other people turned to Dong Songming and fixed their eyes on him.

Everyone was thinking that if this talented student could join their team, after several years of training, she could play a big and important role in the future when they explored uncharted lands!

Next to them, Dong Songming was inwardly excited while he kept a straight face.

The life of the academy would be prolonged if talents emerged from it.

If this talented girl could join a team and build a reputation with her contributions, she would have a glorious future. For the academy, she would be a strong connection they could rely on!

“She is Su Yanying, from Class Two, Grade Three,” Dong Songming answered calmly.

Su Yanying!

The eyes of those present sparkled. They had committed this name to memory.

After the contest ended, they would find out everything there was to know about the girl.

On the stage.

Su Yanying had no idea that some big potatoes had noticed her. Her attention was on the Fallen Phoenix and her brain was ringing.

The power of the Blazing Ray was terrifying. The flames did not fan out; they formed a concentrated burst of energy. With more energy converged together, this was no weaker than a physical attack!

Wherever the Blazing Ray swept across, the protruding spikes on the ground were cleaved in two, as if they were just pieces of paper.

Along with the Fallen Phoenix’s angry calls, the Blazing Ray was reaching toward the short and stout boy surrounded by dirt walls.

“What...?”

The fat boy stared at the scene.

When had the Fallen Phoenix learned the Blazing Ray skill?

During the contest?

He was so unfortunate, to have encountered something this terrifying.

“No kidding...”

Boom!

The dirt walls collapsed, and the astral shield shattered. The ray cut a narrow crack on the ground. Although the crack was only as wide as a finger, it was bottomless...

KO!

The fat boy was saved by the judge in the nick of time, but it had also been announced that the boy had lost this round.

Burning in flames of wrath, the phoenix came back slowly. Its flaming wings had grown, creating a scorching heat.

“Its rank has risen...” Su Yanying stared at the Fallen Phoenix. From the information passed along from the contract, she could tell that her Fallen Phoenix had broken through to the fourth rank from the upper position of the third rank!

A Fallen Phoenix of the fourth rank already had the combat strength of a middle-level pet.

Besides, since the Fallen Phoenix had learned a rare eighth-rank pet skill, the Fallen Phoenix could compare favorably against a pet of the fifth rank!

“Yelp, yelp!”

The Fallen Phoenix chirped happily.

Su Yanying came back to her senses. Looking at the happy Fallen Phoenix, she felt she was dreaming.

She originally thought that she would lose this round. She never expected that the tables could be turned.

“It was able to learn an eighth-rank pet skill...” Still, Su Yanying found it surreal. How strong must the Fallen Phoenix’s power of understanding be to achieve this? She didn’t give it any guidance at all!

Suddenly, something struck her.

She remembered that pet store...

The calmness of that store owner...

“The power of understanding... and constitution... can be improved...”

She was dumbstruck.

At the moment, the judge had already returned to his seat. He declared the start of the third round.

Once again, it was the fat boy against Su Yanying.

The third round commenced thusly.

While it was true that the outcome seemed to have been determined, there were instances in previous matches with a score of 2:0 with the latter winning three times in a row in the last round in an amazing comeback.

“Even heaven is against me!”

The roly-poly boy was indignant. Gradually, the sorrow in his eyes transformed into resentment and violence!

There would be no more miracles!

While the Fallen Phoenix could not be taken care of and he was not sure that he could win, that didn’t mean that he was defeated!

He had prepared a trump card!

He suffered in silence for three years just so he could climb to the peak at this moment, to make the world notice his presence. He was not willing to stop now!

“Come on out, Wind Warcraft!” the short boy shouted.

Astral power around him was draining wildly, pouring into the contract in front of him.

Astral power was needed to summon pets.

To summon a pet with a rank lower than himself, the astral powers needed would not be much. On the other hand, if he were to summon a pet with a rank much higher than his, a large amount of astral power would be needed!

Whoosh!

Wind sprang out from nowhere in the stadium.

It was soft and slow.

But the ground in front of the fat boy suddenly cracked and opened.

A pet that was almost five meters tall with strange, dark cyan patterns came out slowly from the contract space.

The pet floated quietly in front of the fat boy. The moment the pet came, the fat boy fell on his bottom, exhausted. The summoning had almost sucked him dry!

Chapter 48: Instant Kill! Instant Kill!

“It is a Wind Warcraft of a middle-rank bloodline.”

“This, this one is an adult!”

The moment the Wind Warcraft presented itself, the wind in the stadium grew strong. The air was filled with killing intent.

Wind Warcraft.

Just as the name suggested, this was a pet of the wind family. The fact that it was named “Warcraft” was enough to reveal its brutal and barbaric nature. This was a very aggressive kind of pet amongst all the intermediate pets.

More importantly, the Wind Warcraft was huge; its four semi-transparent wind wings marked it as a full grown specimen!

The moment she saw the Wind Warcraft, Su Yanying’s face changed.

An adult Wind Warcraft!

This one was at the upper position of the fifth rank!

If it was talented, it could compete against a pet of the sixth rank!

Besides, as opposed to Lan Lele's Earth Buddha, this was a pet of the offensive type and it could be very aggressive!

Lan Lele's Earth Buddha had already become one of the few valiant pets in the academy. If it weren't for the fact that Lan Lele's own control abilities were low, the Earth Buddha would be one of the star pets that could help her win.

"There's no information about this. Is this the trump card he had been hiding?"

Su Yanying looked awful.

She had been overly confident, thinking that her opponent was a nobody. Only, it turned out that he was a sinister viper!

And, as soon as the viper showed his hand, the move was fatal!

The audience was frozen as well.

They had thought the outcome had been predetermined. They did not see this shift coming!

This was such a grandiose comeback!

The judge took a look at the Wind Warcraft. His stares were ridden with worry. Then, he turned around and reminded Su Yanying, "Su Yanying, please send out your pet."

She clenched her teeth as well as her fists.

Send out her pet?

Which one?

Her Fallen Phoenix had just reached the fourth rank. Even with the advanced Blazing Ray pet skill, the Fallen Phoenix could only match the abilities of the fifth rank after a fashion. At the very best, one at the middle position of the fifth rank.

As for the Fanged Tiger and the Ugly Stone Beast, both were at the fourth rank, several times weaker than the Wind Warcraft!

Even the Lightning Rat with the unusual power of understanding was merely at the third rank, even though it could use the Multiple Thunder Shadow Image!

"Hmm."

The short and fat boy crawled up from the ground and patted the dust off his bum. He grinned and said to Su Yanying who looked pale, "Now you see how terrifying I can be without eating snacks for three years?"

Su Yanying felt her cheeks twitch.

This was such a slap to her pride.

It hurt.

She never thought she would lose to someone like this.

Anyways...

Even if she was about to lose, she would not admit defeat like a coward!

“Come on out!” Astral power surged in her as she called out the Fanged Tiger. She would let it spearhead the attack.

She had three chances. She could make the Fanged Tiger and the Lightning Rat wear the Wind Warcraft down at first, then she could send out the Fallen Phoenix as the grand finale to make a last-ditch effort!

“Augmentation in strength, perception, firmness, and gale power!”

Su Yanying added all the four basic augmentation effects of the third rank on the Fanged Tiger!

It wasn't an easy task to cultivate to the third rank in all of the four augmentation skills.

When the augmentation power reached the Fanged Tiger, the audience cried out in amazement after witnessing Su Yanying's achievements in battle pet warrior skills.

“Hmm!”

The fat boy's eyebrows were knitted together but he let out a sneer. “Take care of the tiger. Use Wind Slit to finish it!”

Not only did he want to win, but he also wanted to win in a shocking way. That was the only thing that could excite him!

Besides, only by doing this could he leave a deep impression on the powerful teams off stage!

The Wind Warcraft stayed absolutely still in the air.

The fat boy was surprised. He pulled a long face.

The Wind Warcraft was rented. Since its rank was far superior to that of his own, his control over the pet was difficult.

“Damn bastard!” He was clenching his teeth in hatred, but he couldn't pass through such thoughts to the pet.

Roar!

Facing them was the Fanged Tiger. It let out a roar all of a sudden with hair raised; its aggressiveness increased with the four augmentation effects. Promptly, the Fanged Tiger dashed over.

Biting!

The Fanged Tiger opened its large, fierce-looking mouth and bit at the Wind Warcraft.

Whoosh!

The soft breeze suddenly moved.

The next second, the Fanged Tiger froze on the spot. Then, a large amount of blood spilled out as if the Fanged Tiger had been cut by countless invisible sharp blades.

Then, as if struck by a bomb, the Fanged Tiger was smashed away.

Boom!

The Fanged Tiger fell to the ground, disabled.

Instant kill!

The audience was silent.

Nobody expected that the Wind Warcraft could be this ferocious. Was this the strength of a pet at the upper position of the fifth rank?

Su Yanying was taken aback. She called the Fanged Tiger back into the contract space at once.

The Wind Warcraft was formidable!

The Fanged Tiger never stood a chance!

She had thought that she could wear the Wind Warcraft out with attrition warfare. She just then found that thought ridiculous.

"I..."

Su Yanying said with a bitter mind. She was ready to give up.

Right at that moment, the gentle breeze that surrounded her suddenly closed in.

An air of murder was running in the air!

Su Yanying was scared.

The judge who was by the stage noticed what the Wind Warcraft intended to do at once. By the time he sensed that the wind elements around Su Yanying were increasing in density, the judge had turned pale.

Pff, pff!

The ground around Su Yanying was cut by the wind and she seemed to be in the middle of wind blades, right in the middle of a tornado.

"What is going on?"

The audience was taken aback. Was the Wind Warcraft attempting to attack Su Yanying?

However, since Su Yanying had lost the first match and had yet to send out her second pet, this was against the rules.

"The Wind Warcraft is getting out of control!"

At the spectator seats, the red headed lady frowned. She could tell what had gone wrong with one look.

Sitting next to him, Dong Songming's face changed as he stood up in a hurry. Su Yanying was a rare talent. To let her get hurt would be a great loss to the academy!

As for the Wind Warcraft!

They could tell right away that the pet was rented. The master's strength was no match for the pet's!
"Damn it!" Dong Songming slapped at the desk. He used astral power to message the judge, ordering him to bring the Wind Warcraft under control.

Nobody noticed that the moment the wind elements were closing in on Su Yanying, something crawled up by her feet. It was the Lightning Rat.

The Lightning Rat's whole body broke out with gooseflesh. In its little eyes were bursting with the desire for blood, filled with violence and ferocity!

The Lightning Rat fixed its reddening, gruesome looks on the Wind Warcraft facing them.

Kill!

Kill!

Stimulated by the murderous intent in the air, the Lightning Rat was pushed by its own hormones. The only thing on its mind was to kill!

To attack wildly without stopping!

Kill, kill, kill!

"Squeak!"

Nobody heard this ruthless and tyrannical cry. However, all of a sudden, many bolts of lightning were discharged, generating a glaring light. The electric snakes seemed to have come to life. They danced around and crushed the invisible wind blades around Su Yanying!

"Eh?" The judge who was about to take action was surprised by this.

Whoosh!

Abruptly, all the lightning bolts traveled back to one spot and then vanished.

It seemed as if everything were an illusion, something completely unreal!

But four or five meters away, the lightning re-appeared out of nowhere!

It emerged for just one moment; the lightning vanished once again!

"Thunder Flash!!"

Off the stage, the group, including the redheaded lady, stood up at once. They stared at the stage with disbelief in their eyes.

Dash! Rush! Flash!

Lightning dashed around several times in a row. Taking advantage of the moment the Wind Warcraft was lost in thought, the Lightning Rat discharged a thick bolt of lightning from its back slashing at the Wind Warcraft in a fit of rage!

Bang!

Glaring light illuminated the entire stadium!

The moment the lightning disappeared, everyone could see a huge body that had been burnt by electricity lying on the ground. It was the Wind Warcraft.

Instant kill!

People were so quiet that even the drop of a needle could be heard.

Chapter 50: Exploring Unclaimed Territories

At the Pixie Pet Store on Taohuaxi Street.

Su Ping was sitting in front of the computer, watching a video while cultivating.

He had the computer cleaned of viruses. The system was reinstalled, and it cost him 70 coins, which made his heart ache.

“Good, nice. Harder...”

A gentle and pleasant voice reached his ears from the small soundbox.

In the video, there was a pink linsang lying on all fours on a table and a young man was focusing on massaging the linsang’s front paws.

Standing at the side was a learned and refined middle-aged man that would now and then correct the young man’s massage skills.

“Can this be called training, too?”

Su Ping was speechless.

The video explained that with special massage skills, the young man could imbue the linsang with astral power and unclog the veins in its front paws. According to the middle-aged man who was wearing a middle-level trainer badge, after a long time, such a massage could strengthen the linsang pet’s front paws.

The difficult part of such training was that the trainer had to be extremely familiar with the internal structure of the astral pet. Otherwise, the astral power could not be digested, and this action could only backfire.

Su Ping had no interest in learning this skill. He fast forwarded the video to look at the scenes shot a few months later.

The young man grabbed a ruler and measured the linsang pet’s front paws. They were 20 centimeters long!

That was two centimeters longer than the front paws of average linsang pets!

Then there were more clips demonstrating attacks of the linsang pet... Anyways, the result was that the front paws were one fifth stronger in attacks after such a treatment!

And, the training only lasted for three months!

Su Ping was speechless as he browsed through the bullet screen comments whooshing by, "You have my respect, Mr. Lin+238," "I want to be that linsang pet+529," "Two centimeters longer? I have an idea...+1073."

"That could be regarded as awesome?"

"Three months!"

"Every day for three months, which was a long time, the trainer had to invest his accumulated astral power. All that only to increase the strength of the front paws by one fifth?!"

Su Ping felt that those honeyed words in the bullet screen comments were hard on the eyes.

He closed the video and suddenly, an idea sprang to mind.

He had been frustrated since the store had not received any business for the last couple of days. People would say that good wine needed no bush. However, he couldn't afford to wait for fame to expand.

"Distributing flyers won't be effective and people may not believe what they say. To shoot a video and post it online can be a good way to advertise," Su Ping thought.

While there was little worth shooting inside the store, and since he didn't know any training techniques, he could film the cultivation planes.

For a trainer, the most important thing would be the cultivation planes other than some secret training methods.

The cultivation plane environment could exert the biggest influence on pets. That was why within a short matter of days, Su Ping was able to help the Lightning Rat and the Little Skeleton improve their abilities by several times.

"Compared to the cultivation bases that the trainers are at, my cultivation planes are entirely different worlds, vast and boundless. That would be eye-catching."

"Every time I visit a cultivation plane, I can put a camera in my storage space to capture the views and the pets in the cultivation plane. When I come back, I can edit the videos and post them for promotion."

"But I cannot shoot some of the special cultivation planes, like the Chaotic Realm of the Undead. The three crimson moons in the sky are too shocking. Someone may think that I doctored the images, since they will be able to tell right away that I'm not on this planet."

The more he thought about it, the more plausible he found the plan. As for the specific ways to shoot the videos, he would think about it when the time came.

He opened up the most popular video website and started the registering process.

"Please type in your nickname."

"The pretty, beautiful, and incredibly handsome man."

"The nickname has been taken."

"Really?"

“How could someone be this shameless?”

Su Ping frowned as he sunk into deep thought.

A moment later, he quickly typed in another nickname.

“The unrestrained good-looking man.”

“The nickname has been taken.”

“Your pretty boy is here.”

“The nickname has been...”

“What to do when I am too handsome?”

“The nickname...”

Almost 10 minutes later...

Su Ping finally finished the registration.

He had gained a full view of this ugly world just by experiencing this measly account registry process.

There were too many shameless people out there!

Su Ping sighed, exhausted both in mind and body. Then, he entered the “My Center” section of his page. There was a tutorial to teach people how to upload and post videos.

It wasn’t complicated. One read and Su Ping had learned it. The only thing he needed to do was to shoot the video.

“I have no other training orders at the moment. To self-finance a visit to a cultivation plane would mean losing money. Besides, I have to get a high-resolution camera...”

Su Ping felt a headache once he thought about the camera issue.

Good cameras were not cheap, with prices ranging in the thousands at the very least.

Besides, he had converted all the money he made in the store into energy points. Even if he had not done so, he wouldn’t have spent that money on buying a camera. So, he would have to ask his family for money to buy the camera.

“Right, there are still 20,000 in the card my mom gave me. The money is for me to buy offspring at pet bases but I can breed pets in the store now, so I don’t have to buy them anymore. I can use this money.”

Remembering those savings relieved a burden on Su Ping’s mind. This way, the matter of the camera had been resolved.

Next, he would have to decide which cultivation planes he should go to and how to shoot the video.

Buzzing!

All of a sudden, he heard the noise made by a sports car engine outside the store.

Su Ping's train of thought was disrupted. He frowned. The car parked outside his store.

His unusually acute hearing enabled him to hear when the car door was opened and closed, including the sound made by the magnets on the door. Then, two people stepped into the store.

"Sir."

Someone greeted him with a pleasant voice.

Su Ping looked up. He knew them, the siblings that came to find fault with him.

To be honest, he had to thank them. Without them riling up the system, he wouldn't have obtained the free chance to access any cultivation plane he wanted.

"Sir, I see that you have some new items."

Fan Xiaoyu, the slim girl, saw the shelf with more items on display. She said those teasing words with a grin. However, the grin froze on her face as she glanced through the prices.

No kidding.

Only a few days had passed since her last visit, and there were even higher prices on display.

Fan Xiaoyu soon came back to her senses as she recalled the benefits of the food they had purchased in their previous visit. Her eyes were glowing.

"Sir, long time no see," Fan Yujing said, smiling. He didn't seem to mind that his arm had been broken at the store.

Su Ping took a look at his arm. It was healed, good as new.

He had to admit that the healing techniques in this world were advanced. To heal a severed limb was not hard. The hard part was to pay for it.

"What do you need?" Su Ping could tell from their looks that the two must have come to know the benefits of the food sold. They were aware that his pet food was well worth its value.

Just as Su Ping suspected, Fan Yujing did stop by to purchase more pet food.

After his previous visit, he gave that Colored Buddha Leaf to his pet. Coincidence or not, shortly after the pet took it, his pet used a new pet skill by chance during a battle!

It wasn't a rare, advanced pet skill, but it was a pleasant surprise nonetheless.

Therefore, he wanted to test his idea by visiting the store again. He wanted to buy some more pet food. Other than that, he came for another important mission.

"Sir, I wonder if you're interested in exploring an unclaimed territory." Fan Yujing looked at Su Ping with anticipation.