

R Cultivator 266

Chapter 266: Delivering the Gift

The next day, Tyler woke up early, refreshed himself, and stepped out of his portable house, only to find the entire camp deserted. Confused, he scanned the area until distant murmurs caught his attention.

Following the noise, he discovered a crowd of students gathered around a large screen mounted on a makeshift frame. The screen displayed a list of missions and updates in glowing text.

"Hey, Junior Tyler! Good morning!" Brolin's deep voice greeted him warmly.

"Good morning, Senior Brolin. What's going on here?" Tyler asked, his curiosity piqued.

"Ah, nothing too exciting," Brolin said, crossing his muscular arms. "These are missions issued by the camp. If you're not already assigned a task, you can take one from the board. Stuff like 'Camp 450 needs a healer for a day,' or 'Camp 100 requires Abyss Beetle juice.' That sort of thing."

He gestured toward the screen as he spoke, then added, "But since you're already assigned to check the City Array, this doesn't concern you much."

"Got it," Tyler replied. "I'll head out in a few minutes. Take care."

He waved and turned to leave, but Brolin's voice stopped him.

"Uh... wait!"

Tyler turned back, raising an eyebrow. "Is there something else? Oh, is this about that favor you mentioned yesterday?"

Brolin's face lit up with a mix of excitement and embarrassment. "Yeah... could you come over here for a sec?"

Curious, Tyler followed him to a quieter corner of the camp. From behind his back, Brolin produced a small box wrapped in pink gift paper, adorned with hearts.

Tyler instinctively stepped back, holding up his hands defensively. "Whoa! Look, I don't swing that way. I only see you as a senior, nothing more."

"What? No! It's not like that!" Brolin quickly shook his head, flustered. "This isn't for you!"

Relieved but still cautious, Tyler waited for an explanation.

"It's like this," Brolin began, his tone softer now. "There's this girl named Kyla... in the Technology Department."

"Ah," Tyler said, connecting the dots.

"She's... well, she's kind of my sweetheart," Brolin admitted, scratching the back of his bald head awkwardly. "Today's her birthday, and I wanted to give her this gift. But I've already been assigned to a mission and don't have the time to deliver it myself. So, I was hoping you could do it for me?"

Tyler studied the box for a moment, then nodded. "That's it? Sure, I can handle that. Consider it done."

Brolin's face broke into a grin of gratitude. "Thanks, Junior Tyler! You're a lifesaver."

Tyler pocketed the small gift, gave Brolin a thumbs-up, and set off toward the City Defense Base.

Tyler arrived at the City Defense Base, displaying his badge to the guards at the entrance. After verifying his credentials, they allowed him inside and led him to a sealed room at the heart of the facility.

The room was surprisingly lively. Seven women, who were supposed to be working on the City Defense Array, looked more like they were having a picnic.

A petite humanoid rabbit girl was engrossed in sketching diagrams while nibbling on a carrot. Her floppy ears twitched with every movement of her pencil. Two beast girls and three elves sat around a small table, sipping tea and coffee, their laughter and casual chatter filling the room.

Then there was another woman, who immediately caught Tyler's attention.

She looked about 25, exuding an aura of sensuality. She has huge breasts which is almost on verge on popping out from her dress. She was drinking milk, and as some spilled onto her half exposed chest, she casually used her thumb to wipe it off before sucking it clean.

While sucking her thumb she noticed Someone. It was Tyler.

Their eyes met, and the seductive woman's face turned a deep shade of red. Flustered, she asked, "Who are you, little boy?"

The other women noticed him at that moment, their chatter ceasing abruptly.

They seemed surprised, likely because they couldn't use divine sense in the room to avoid interfering with the sensitive arrays.

Tyler held up his badge to answer their unspoken questions.

"Oh, a junior!" the seductive woman quickly explained, trying to regain her composure. "Well, except for us seniors -me and that rabbit girl over there- everyone else is your peer."

The other girls greeted him warmly, and Tyler responded with a polite bow. "Hello, I'm Tyler White. Please take care of me."

Introductions followed. The rabbit girl was named Kyla, and, to his surprise, so was the seductive woman. Tyler decided to ask about the coincidence later, as work beckoned.

"This is the City Defense Array," Rabbit Kyla began, holding up her sketches. "It used to cover the entire city, but now it only protects half its diameter. A sudden Abyss breakout contaminated the energy absorption system, damaging the array. The core part is beyond repair."

She explained the problems in detail, pointing to her diagrams. "The only solution is to replace the entire array, but since it's a chained array, removing one part will destabilize the whole system. Alignment is tricky, so for now, we're using Oobleck Mercury as a temporary fix, replacing it whenever it evaporates. Your mission is to experiment with alternative materials."

Tyler nodded, listening intently as Rabbit Kyla handed him a list of failed materials for reference.

Human Kyla already wore a coat. But she glancing at Tyler with flushed face time to time.

By noon, Tyler was deeply engrossed in his work. He examined a cylindrical tube containing the silver Oobleck Mercury.

When he touched it gently, his hand sank into the liquid, but when he flicked it, it felt solid.

"This stuff is fascinating," he murmured as he worked on replacing the metallic cubes connected to the array.

"Fascinated by Oobleck Mercury, are we?" a voice teased from behind him.

He turned to see the human Kyla, who had quietly approached. Tyler hesitated for a moment, recalling Brolin's favor and the odds that this Kyla might be the one he admired.

"Uh, is something wrong?" Kyla asked, looking flustered under his gaze. She covered her chests part tightly. But the button on the dress broke and revealing a little.

She shyly held it in her hand and said, "Did you saw anything today morning?" She asked.

He wanted to say, he saw a huge valley, but he decided to against it. This girl might be Brolin's sweetheart. So he just shook his head confusedly.

Kyla sighed.

"Actually, I have something for you," Tyler said, pulling out the pink gift box Brolin had given him.

Kyla's face turned crimson. She stepped back, stammering, "W-we just met... this is so sudden!"

Before Tyler could explain, she bolted from the room, leaving him dumbfounded.

"Damn it, Brolin. This is your fault," Tyler muttered as he left to clear up the misunderstanding.

On his way out, Rabbit Kyla approached him, her hands wrapped around a giant carrot. She looked puzzled as she noticed her colleague rushing away.

"You know Brolin?" she asked excitedly, her small tail wagging.

Tyler blinked, then nodded, handing her the gift box.

Kyla stepped back and said, "N-no I have someone I like..."

Tyler quickly waved his hand and explained, "This is from him. He wanted me to wish you a happy birthday."

Rabbit Kyla's ears twitched, and her face lit up. She happily accepted the box, placing it in her storage device. "Thank you, Tyler!" she said, clutching her oversized carrot.

Watching her joy, Tyler recalled Brolin's imposing figure and glanced at the petite rabbit girl before him. "Brolin, you monster..." he muttered under his breath.

"What was that?" Kyla asked, not catching his words as she thoughtfully nibbled on her carrot.

"Oh, nothing," Tyler replied. "Aren't you going to open it?"

"Later, when I'm alone," she replied nonchalantly.

Tyler nodded, eyeing the carrot she held.

"That's a giant carrot."

"It's called a Jumbo Carrot. Brolin's been giving me these since we were kids. I'm addicted to them," she said, beaming.

Tyler stared at her, dumbfounded.

She is holding a giant carrot with her two hands and was deep in thought what the gift might be. From Tyler's point of view it looked like she is sucking on a Giant Carrot.

He imagined a Bald Wolf is holding a Giant Carrot between it legs and a small rabbit is sucking on it.

Brolin had been training her for that moment all along. This little rabbit won't be frightened when she saw some huge thing in her First make out. Unsure whether to laugh or cry, he decided to leave.

Now, he had another task: finding the human Kyla to clear up the misunderstanding.

Chapter 267: Mission in Crustle City

A few days later, in the early morning, Rabbit Kyla made her way toward the boys' camp. Brolin, walked beside her, chatting animatedly.

A giant man and a small rabbit, the combination itself little unusual. But the People in the camp are used to it.

Tyler stepped out of his house, stretching his arms after a good night's rest. Rabbit Kyla's sharp eyes locked onto him, and she quickly approached.

"Where is she?" she asked, her voice tinged with curiosity.

Before Tyler could answer, the door behind him creaked open. Human Kyla peeked out, her face flushed red. Without saying a word, she hurried over to Rabbit Kyla, who immediately began inspecting her from head to toe, checking if anything was missing.

According to Human Kyle, she lost something when she spent her first night with Tyler Alone.

"You were in his house all night! What were you two doing?" Rabbit Kyla asked, tilting her head in confusion.

Human Kyla's blush deepened, and she quickly grabbed Rabbit Kyla by the arm, dragging her away from the scene. The boys in the camp watched the spectacle, shooting Tyler knowing looks filled with envy and admiration.

Brolin, standing nearby, scratched his head before walking over to Tyler.

"Huh... Anyway, I've taken a mission," Brolin began. "I need three Array Masters to help set up some arrays in Crustle City."

"Crustle City? Isn't that place destroyed?" Tyler asked, raising an eyebrow.

"Yeah, it was," Brolin admitted, "but this is a small mission. We've got to investigate a strange flower blooming near the 'Good Boy' statue. The mission needs to be quick, and arrays will help with the research."

Tyler considered it for a moment. "Well, I'm in. I don't have much else to do today."

"Great! Kyla said she'd bring another Array Master," Brolin said with a grin. "With the three of you and me escorting, we should wrap this up in no time."

Crustle City, once a bustling neighbor to Luka City, was famous for its rich culinary culture and thriving economy. Now, it stood eerily empty, consumed by Abyss unrelenting grasp. Vines enveloped the buildings, roads, and every visible surface, turning the city into a shadow of its former self.

Huge vines and many different Abyss species are roaming in the Area.

In the heart of the desolate city, near the Mayor's statue, sat five figures cloaked in black. The statue, a tribute to the Dog Beastman mayor who had once led Crustle City with wisdom and compassion, depicted his humanoid body with a proud dog's head. Beneath it, the inscription read: "Good Boy", a nickname given to him by the townsfolk. The monument, like the rest of the city, was overrun with thorns and vines.

One of the cloaked figures spoke, his voice grave.

"Justice itself is crueler than evil. Those who pursue justice must be able to make crueler decisions than those who are evil."

The others echoed the sentiment, shouting, "Justice Will Prevail!"

If Tyler White had been present, he would have recognized them immediately as the infamous Justice Bandits. Tyler had once encountered this group when they tried to assassinate the Young Master of the Crimson Blood Sect.

"Why don't we venture deeper into the city, Leader?" one of the figures asked cautiously.

The leader shook his head. "The Abyss forces further in are too dangerous, even for us. It would be reckless to go deeper. Our mission is simple: test the effects of this flower on experimental subjects. The nearby factions will send someone to investigate soon enough. We'll use them as test subjects and observe from here."

The others nodded in agreement. Placing a hand over their chests, they chanted in unison, "Justice Prevails."

Meanwhile, outside the city, Brolin's team gathered. The group now included four members: Brolin, Tyler, and the two Kylas—Rabbit Kyla and Human Kyla.

"Are we going on a double date or something?" Tyler muttered, half-joking.

Everyone burst into laughter.

"Right, right? I thought the same thing!" Rabbit Kyla said enthusiastically, moving closer to Tyler without realizing it.

"Cough!" Brolin cleared his throat loudly and stepped between the two, giving Tyler a playful glare.

Human Kyla chuckled softly at the exchange, clearly amused by the dynamic.

With their preparations complete, the team set off toward Crustle City.

As they approached the city's outskirts, Tyler looked up at the thick, gray fog hovering ominously overhead. "Why don't we just fly in and get this over with?" he asked.

Brolin shook his head. "Better not. That fog is crawling with creatures. Flying even at low altitudes could attract unwanted attention."

The group proceeded on foot, stepping cautiously through the vine-choked streets. Rabbit Kyla carried a small scanning device, its screen flickering with readings of their surroundings. The device, more advanced than using divine sense, allowed them to cover a larger area without exhausting mental energy.

"There are some Lizart Rats near the bridge to the left," Rabbit Kyla reported, her eyes fixed on the scanner.

Brolin hefted his massive battle axe and peeked around the corner. Sure enough, three Lizart Rats skulked in the shadows.

The creatures were grotesque, four-legged monstrosities with slick black skin that shimmered with an unnatural purple hue. Tentacle-like appendages sprouted from their eyebrows, writhing menacingly as they sniffed the air.

Without hesitation, Brolin charged. The Lizart Rats noticed him immediately and let out guttural growls, their tentacles snapping toward him like whips.

Brolin swung his axe in a wide arc, severing the tentacles with a single powerful strike. The creatures screeched in pain, but Brolin didn't let up. He brought his axe down again, cleaving through their thick hides and putting an end to their struggle.

As the group moved further into the city, the atmosphere grew heavier. The vines seemed almost alive, pulsating faintly as if feeding on the residual energy in the air.

Rabbit Kyla's scanner emitted a soft beep, drawing everyone's attention. "There's something ahead—three humanoid figures," she said, her eyes narrowing as she scrutinized the device.

"Humanoid?" Tyler asked, his tone sharp with caution. "Abyss creatures or practitioners?"

"Hard to say," Rabbit Kyla replied, her voice steady but wary.

The team advanced cautiously, their weapons at the ready. The oppressive silence of the city seemed to amplify every step they took. When they finally reached the central plaza, the figures came into view, standing unnaturally still near the Good Boy statue.

At first glance, the figures resembled humans wrapped tightly in leaves and vines, their forms blending with the overgrown surroundings.

"Is that a plant?" Rabbit Kyla asked, tilting her head in curiosity. Without waiting for a response, she walked closer, her fingers lightly brushing against the scanner for additional readings.

"Hello?" she called out softly, tapping one of the figures on its vine-covered shoulder.

The creature turned slowly, revealing a grotesque face with hollow eyes and a gaping mouth. It let out a piercing screech, releasing a wave of sonic energy that rattled the surrounding area.

Reacting instinctively, Rabbit Kyla executed a graceful backflip, her foot connecting with the creature's chin mid-air. The force of her kick slammed its mouth shut, cutting off the screech. However, the creature's body trembled violently before it exploded into a shower of greenish fluid, as if it were a balloon bursting under pressure.

The commotion caught the attention of the other two creatures, which immediately broke into a sprint toward the group.

Brolin stepped forward, gripping his axe tightly. With a swift and powerful swing, he cleaved one of the creatures cleanly in half. For a moment, it seemed like a decisive victory. But to his horror, the two halves twitched and began to regenerate, each forming into a new, fully intact creature.

"What the—" Brolin cursed, stumbling back.

Before the creatures could launch an attack, An invisible force slammed down on the creatures, pinning them to the ground. Even the air seemed heavier, making it difficult for anyone to move.

"Chop them into pieces," Tyler commanded, his tone calm but firm. He already activated a pressure-releasing array which caught the creatures off-guard.

Brolin, realizing the array didn't affect him, charged into the field. The pressure seemed to part around him, indicating Tyler's precise control. Wielding his axe with relentless determination, Brolin hacked at the creatures, reducing them to a mess of shredded plant matter.

When the last piece stopped twitching, Tyler deactivated the array. The oppressive weight lifted, and everyone exhaled in relief.

As they continued walking past the Good Boy statue, Behind them, the pieces were moving. Tiny shreds of plant matter began to quiver and grow, stretching and twisting into new forms.

Oblivious to the regrowth behind them, the group turned a corner and froze.

"What the—" Tyler muttered, his voice tinged with disbelief.

Standing before them was the Good Boy statue again, identical to the one they had just passed.

"That's... impossible," Brolin said, gripping his axe tightly.

Rabbit Kyla checked her scanner, which seemed to malfunction, displaying a series of erratic readings. "We didn't loop back. We should be heading away from the plaza, not back to it."

"It's not the same statue," Human Kyla whispered, pointing at the base. The inscription, which previously read "Good Boy," now read "Bad Boy."

The group exchanged uneasy glances.

"Looks like we got ourselves into a bad situation." Tyler said with a sigh. "Stay sharp."

Chapter 268: Nowhere to escape

The group stood before the transformed statue, their unease growing with each passing moment. Instead of the gentle, welcoming face of Mayor Dogman, the statue now bore the visage of a ferocious wolf. Its eyes gleamed with a menacing red glow, and the air around it seemed to hum with an unnatural energy.

"Is this some kind of prank?" Brolin murmured, his voice uncertain.

"Impossible," Rabbit Kyla replied, shaking her head. "Mayor Dogman was loved by everyone in the city. No one would dare disrespect him like this."

Tyler narrowed his eyes, his instincts warning him of danger. "Let's turn back," he said abruptly, pivoting on his heel. But as he rounded the corner, he froze mid-step.

At the end of the road, the plant humanoid creatures they had previously destroyed were moving again. The shredded plant matter had reassembled, growing back into grotesque forms. This time, however, there were more of them—dozens, maybe even hundreds, congregating near the now ominous Good Boy statue.

"These undying plants," Tyler muttered through gritted teeth. "They just keep coming back."

"Can't we take another route?" Human Kyla asked, her voice tinged with desperation.

Tyler glanced down the opposite street, but his heart sank at the sight. Gigantic thorn-covered vines had grown across the road, forming an impenetrable barrier. "Doesn't look like we have much of a choice," he said. "Let's head back to the... Bad Boy statue."

The team retraced their steps cautiously, their eyes darting around for any signs of movement. The city felt alive, the vines on the buildings shifting ever so slightly as if watching their every move. When they reached the statue again, Rabbit Kyla pulled out her communication device.

"Should we call for reinforcements?" she asked, holding the device up.

Human Kyla, already checking her own watch, frowned. "There's no signal," she said.

Tyler furrowed his brows, pulling a sleek device from his pocket—a portable waypoint unit. He pressed a few buttons, and a glowing blue portal began to form in front of him.

The others stared in surprise.

"You're from the Elite Academy of Magic and Technology?" Rabbit Kyla asked, her tone a mix of awe and curiosity.

Tyler gave a brief nod. The waypoint terminal was exclusive to the Academy, for outsiders it's a cutting-edge teleportation device that can teleport from anywhere.

"I heard the Academy was bought out recently and underwent major renovations," Human Kyla said, her curiosity deepening. "Didn't they give students a one-time use teleportation device which allows the students to escape dire situations? Is this it?"

"Something like that," Tyler replied evasively, not wanting to explain further.

As the portal stabilized, the group watched in anticipation. But their hope quickly turned to despair when an identical portal opened just a few meters away—right next to the Bad Boy statue.

Tyler stepped through and appeared near the statue, shaking his head. "Looks like the space here is confined," he said grimly. "We can't leave."

The realization hit them like a ton of bricks. They were trapped in the city, with undying plant creatures multiplying by the minute and the oppressive force of the altered statue looming over them.

Rabbit Kyla clenched her fists, her usual confidence faltering. "What do we do now?"

Tyler glanced at the statue, its wolfish face almost mocking them. "We figure out what's causing this," he said firmly. "And we destroy it."

The group nodded, their resolve hardening.

Behind the Bad Boy statue, large thorny vines sprawled across the path, forming an impenetrable barrier. The eerie silence of the city was broken only by the faint rustling of leaves, a sound that seemed to follow their every move. Flying was out of the question, as the Abyss fog above was infamous for harboring deadly monsters. According to research, there was more than a 50% chance of encountering an Abyss flying creature if they took to the skies.

Tyler took a deep breath. "Let me set up a concealment array," he said, pulling out a few array stones from his storage device.

"I'll help," Human Kyla offered, stepping forward with a determined look.

As the two began arranging the stones in a circular formation, Brolin sidled over to Rabbit Kyla, his expression a mix of concern and bravado. "Don't worry," he said, puffing out his chest. "I'll protect you."

Rabbit Kyla turned to him, her face blank with confusion as she munched on a biscuit. "Protect me from what?" she asked, her voice casual, showing no signs of panic.

Brolin coughed awkwardly, his bravado deflating. Desperate to recover, he pointed at a nearby building and said, "Why don't we just break through that wall? Wouldn't that be faster?"

Rabbit Kyla finished her biscuit and dusted off her hands. "We could," she admitted, "but what if the undying plants hear the noise and swarm us? That's why Tyler is setting up the concealment array. At least within its radius, we'll be hidden."

Brolin frowned but nodded in reluctant agreement.

Tyler and Human Kyla finished their work and activated the array. A faint shimmer enveloped the group, the concealment barrier merging seamlessly with the ambient gloom.

"Breaking the wall is risky," Rabbit Kyla explained to Tyler and Human Kyla, who had joined them. "The concealment array only works within its radius. If we cause too much noise, those plants will definitely hear us."

"If only we could blast through silently," Brolin muttered under his breath.

Everyone turned to look at him, their eyes lighting up.

"What?" he asked nervously, feeling the weight of their stares.

"Genius..." Tyler said with a smirk.

"As expected of my Brolin," Rabbit Kyla added teasingly, patting his arm.

"There's a way to blast these walls silently?" Brolin asked, his curiosity piqued.

Tyler nodded. "But we'll need the right materials."

"Which we don't have," Human Kyla sighed, crossing her arms.

"Actually..." Tyler said, an amused glint in his eye.

A few minutes later, the group stared in disbelief as Tyler pulled out an array of lab equipment—beakers, burners, and even a portable alchemy table—from his storage device.

"Why do you even carry these?" Rabbit Kyla asked, her brows furrowed in exasperation.

"Does your storage device have everything?" Human Kyla added, equally baffled.

Tyler ignored their protests and set up a makeshift alchemy lab against the wall. "We're going to break this wall without making a sound," he declared confidently.

As Tyler and the others worked, none of them noticed the small flower blooming atop a nearby building. Its petals shimmered with an unnatural green light as it swayed gently, its movements deliberate and watchful. Hidden amidst the vines, the flower pulsed faintly, as though observing its prey and silently calling for reinforcements.

The group continued their preparations, oblivious to the creeping threat.

Chapter 269: Why are you two ---

The Bad Boy statue loomed over the group like a silent guardian of the eerie, desolate street. Its menacing posture and chipped stone features seemed to mock their predicament. Tyler White stood at the forefront, his sharp eyes scanning the materials in his hands. Behind him, Rabbit Kyla and Human Kyla prepared their gear, while Brolin paced impatiently.

"We're running out of time, Tyler," Brolin muttered, his voice low but urgent. "Are you sure this is going to work?"

"Trust me," Tyler replied, pulling a few items from his storage device. He glanced at his watch, flipping through some documents.

"What are you looking at?" Brolin asked, his tone laced with doubt.

"I've only heard about this technique," Tyler admitted. "I'm reading the instructions to make sure I get it right."

"It's over... everything's over," Brolin groaned, throwing his hands in the air.

Ignoring him, Tyler placed a series of beakers, a portable heating unit, and oddly shaped tools on a makeshift table. His focus was unwavering, his movements precise.

Rabbit Kyla, her ears twitching, eyed him suspiciously. "Why do you even have those documents saved on your watch?"

Tyler glanced at her, unamused. "Why are you always so curious?"

"I'm curious too," Human Kyla added, smirking.

"Are all Kylas like cats?" Tyler muttered under his breath. Then, louder, he explained, "It's study material from a friend. She asked me to download it and send it back. I forgot to delete it afterward."

"Oh, a girlfriend?" Human Kyla teased, her tone playful.

Tyler sighed, shaking his head. "More like a friend who might steal your girlfriend." His mind wandered briefly to Mathilda, who was always causing trouble in the most amusing ways.

"Heh. She sounds fun," Human Kyla said, a hint of sarcasm in her voice. "I wonder if she's interested in me."

Tyler ignored her, choosing instead to focus on his task. He picked up a chunk of limestone, placed it on the table, and grabbed a mallet. With steady, rhythmic motions, he crushed the stone into a fine powder. The clinking sound of the mallet echoed through the tense atmosphere.

"Why does this smell weird?" Brolin asked, wrinkling his nose.

"It's called science," Tyler replied with a smirk, not missing a beat.

He transferred the powdered limestone into a metal bowl and set it atop the portable heating unit. A controlled blue flame flickered beneath the bowl as the limestone began to decompose, releasing faint wisps of gas.

Once the quicklime was ready, Tyler carefully added water. The mixture hissed and steamed, a reaction that created a thick paste. He stirred briskly, then added sand from a nearby pile to form a sturdy plaster.

"Done," Tyler announced, stepping back with a trowel in hand. He glanced at the group. "Now let's break this wall without making a scene."

Brolin crossed his arms, watching as Tyler approached the side of a decrepit building. Tyler spread the plaster into the cracks and gaps in the stonework, his movements deliberate. As the chemical reaction took hold, the structure groaned ominously. Fractures began to spider across the wall's surface.

Tyler gave the wall a gentle knock. The weakened structure crumbled, the debris collapsing in a muffled heap that was barely louder than a whisper. Dust billowed in the air, settling quickly in the heavy Abyss fog.

"It works," Tyler said with a grin, grabbing Rabbit Kyla and Human Kyla by the arms. He pulled them back before gesturing for the others to follow.

Brolin stepped through the newly created opening, his axe drawn and ready. Rabbit Kyla hesitated for a moment, her nose twitching nervously. Human Kyla offered a reassuring nod, and the group pressed forward.

Inside, they found themselves in a vast, hollowed-out structure. The dim interior connected to the other street, where the Good Boy statue stood. Faint cracks of light seeped through gaps in the walls, casting eerie shadows.

Tyler raised a hand, signaling the group to stop. They all froze as the creak of a door echoed across the space.

One of the humanoid-shaped Undying Plants walked in casually, its movements unnervingly human-like.

"They can open doors?" Tyler muttered.

The group retreated as silently as possible, their breaths held. Tyler's mind raced. If the plant detected them, it would alert the rest of its kind, and they'd be overwhelmed.

Once they were a safe distance away, Tyler waved his hand, and a surge of icy mana flowed through the air. Ice began to form rapidly, sealing the hole in the wall they had just created. The crystalline barrier shimmered faintly in the dim light, blending seamlessly with the surrounding debris.

"Back to the Bad Boy statue. Now what?" Brolin asked, his axe resting heavily on his shoulder. His frustration was evident as he surveyed the ominous figure towering over them.

"Wait for reinforcements?" Rabbit Kyla suggested, her ears twitching nervously.

Tyler shook his head, his sharp gaze fixed on the surrounding terrain. "Those Undying Plants are everywhere. They'll find us before the camp even realizes we're missing."

"How about we just break this creepy statue?" Brolin grumbled, his voice laced with impatience. "It's giving me a bad feeling."

Tyler hesitated for a moment, glancing at the unsettling figure. Its shadow stretched unnaturally, as though the statue itself was alive. "Let's do it," he agreed finally.

Rabbit Kyla clapped her hands. "Then let's make another batch of plaster."

Unbeknownst to them, a small flower hidden in the rubble pulsed faintly, its petals glowing with an eerie green light. It had been observing their every move, and now it began emitting a steady radiance, as though summoning something.

The group worked quickly, repeating the process Tyler had taught them earlier. Powdered limestone, water, and sand combined to form the plaster they needed.

"I'll do it this time!" Rabbit Kyla declared, grabbing the plaster bucket. Her enthusiasm was contagious as she dashed toward the statue.

But before she could get close, the ground erupted. Massive petals, as wide as shields, shot up from the earth and ensnared her in one swift motion.

"Brolin!" Rabbit Kyla cried out, her voice filled with panic. She locked eyes with him just as the petals began dragging her down.

Brolin roared, "Kylaaaa!" Without a second thought, he swung his axe at the ground where she had disappeared. But it was futile. The earth closed seamlessly, leaving no trace of Rabbit Kyla.

"Calm down, Brolin," Human Kyla said, her voice trembling. "We need to stay quiet, or we'll attract—"

"How can I calm down?" Brolin shouted, his face red with fury. "You'll only understand when one of those things eats you or Tyler!"

As if on cue, petals emerged around Tyler, wrapping around him like a constricting snake. His eyes widened in shock as he was yanked into the ground before anyone could react.

"I— I didn't mean that literally," Brolin stammered, his anger giving way to disbelief. "That's just... coincidence!"

He looked nervously at Human Kyla. "You're next," he muttered, trying to keep his voice steady.

Nothing happened.

Brolin paced nervously, clutching his axe. "See? Nothing's happening. I guess it's just—"

Human Kyla froze, her fear palpable. Then, without warning, petals enveloped her too. She let out a scream as she was dragged underground, leaving Brolin alone.

"Oh, come on!" he shouted into the silence. "Next is me, right? Just get it over with already!"

But nothing happened.

The commotion caused by Brolin had attracted the attention of the Undying Plants. They poured into the area like a swarm, their humanoid forms moving with an unsettling grace. The ice wall Tyler had created earlier cracked, then shattered under the weight of their assault.

"Ahhh... Not this again.." He grumbled and took his axe.

Before he could swing his axe, the petals emerged again. This time, they wrapped around him, pulling him. Brolin didn't struggle.

Moments later, some plants themselves began falling victim to the flower's petals, disappearing one by one into the ground.

Tyler woke up with a groan, his body aching from the rough journey underground. He blinked, trying to adjust to the dim light filtering through the dense canopy of vines overhead. He was lying on a massive, pulsating leaf, its surface soft but strangely warm.

"Ahhh..." A faint sound caught his attention.

Tyler shot up, his heart pounding. He recognized the voices—it was Rabbit Kyla and Human Kyla.

"Where are you?" Tyler called out, his voice echoing in the cavernous space. He looked around, taking in his surroundings.

The underground chamber was enormous, its walls and ceiling completely covered in thick, glowing vines. The light they emitted bathed the area in a sickly green hue. Massive flowers dotted the space, their petals slowly opening and closing as though they were breathing.

Tyler spotted the others on similar giant leaves, suspended above a pit that seemed to descend endlessly. Rabbit Kyla struggled against the vines binding her arms and legs. Same for Human Kyla.

But They were both tied up in sexy poses. It almost made Tyler nose bleed. Another question popped in Tyler's mind.

He also blurted out, "Why are you two naked?"

Chapter 270: 270. Corrosive Liquid that melts Clothes?

Both Kylas wore the dresses Tyler had provided after their unexpected ordeal. The mood was tense, and Rabbit Kyla looked on the verge of tears.

"I lost everything in my storage device," Rabbit Kyla said, her voice shaky.

"Calm down," Tyler said, trying to diffuse the situation. "The mission's difficulty has clearly exceeded what was posted. We'll report this and demand enough compensation to make up for it."

Human Kyla sighed, sitting down on a nearby rock. "It wasn't just our storage devices. After being dragged underground by those flowers, we fell into a puddle of some strange green liquid. It had corrosive properties. Everything we carried—our clothes, weapons, and even the storage devices—was completely dissolved."

Tyler nodded thoughtfully. He had more than enough supplies in his own storage device, including spare clothing. He always made it a point to be over-prepared for any situation. However, giving women dresses, especially in this awkward situation, felt like walking a tightrope. The last thing he wanted was to be labeled a pervert.

After some deliberation, Tyler handed them oversized T-shirt-like dresses.

Rabbit Kyla, being petite and short, found the T-shirt practically drowning her. It was so loose and long that it covered her entire body down to her knees. The sleeves were much longer than her arms, and the way they hung over her small hands gave her an almost childlike appearance. Despite the ill fit, she

managed to wear it, and the sight of a rabbit girl in an oversized, baggy T-shirt made her look undeniably cute.

Human Kyla, on the other hand, had a very different issue. While she was also relatively short, her figure was far from petite. Particularly around the chest area, the T-shirt stretched tightly, making it ride higher than intended. The hem barely reached halfway down her thighs, leaving much of her legs exposed in a way that could only be described as seductive.

Tyler glanced at them both, trying his best to keep his expression neutral. "This should do for now. We'll get proper replacements when we get back to camp."

Rabbit Kyla, noticing Human Kyla's predicament, tilted her head innocently. "Your shirt's too small. Why didn't you take the bigger one?"

Human Kyla crossed her arms defensively, her cheeks flushing. "It's not like I had much of a choice! Besides, you're so small that anything would look big on you."

Rabbit Kyla pouted but didn't argue further, too preoccupied with tugging at the long sleeves of her shirt.

Tyler cleared his throat, interrupting the brewing argument. "Let's focus on getting out of here first. We'll have plenty of time to argue about clothes later."

Both Kylas nodded, their expressions shifting to seriousness. Despite their strange appearances, they quickly adapted to their new outfits.

Tyler, Rabbit Kyla, and Human Kyla stood cautiously in the dimly lit underground expanse, their senses heightened. The eerie glow from bioluminescent plants illuminated the vines and giant leaves that surrounded them.

"I wonder where Brolin is?" Rabbit Kyla's voice trembled as her ears twitched nervously.

"Let's not make any noise unless we want to attract more trouble," Tyler warned, his tone firm but calm.

Both Kylas nodded in agreement, their faces mirroring their unease. They had just escaped a terrifying encounter where massive flower-like petals had dragged each of them underground one by one.

"Where exactly is the corrosive liquid you mentioned earlier?" Tyler asked, glancing at the two Kylas.

Rabbit Kyla instinctively took a step back, wrapping her arms around herself protectively, while Human Kyla pointed toward a towering plant in the distance. Its massive leaves stretched out like the limbs of some sleeping giant.

"It's up there," Human Kyla explained. "That's where we fell into it after being dragged underground. The liquid destroyed everything—our clothes, weapons, and even our storage devices. I've never seen anything like it before."

Tyler frowned. "A liquid that can dissolve non-living objects? That's rare. It's probably worth taking a sample for study."

"You want to collect it?" Rabbit Kyla asked, incredulous.

"It could be valuable," Tyler replied. "Anything unique from the Abyss usually is. Don't worry—I'll handle it. You two should look for Brolin while I retrieve the sample."

The Kylas hesitated but eventually nodded. Both girls doesn't want to go near that liquid. Tyler handed them a spare storage device stocked with array discs, tools, and potions.

"Meet me by that red-colored tree in five hours," he instructed, pointing to a glowing landmark in the distance. "Stay safe and stay together."

With that, Tyler leapt gracefully onto the vines and branches, heading toward the plant where the corrosive liquid resided.

Tyler stood by the edge of the massive plant, marveling at the strange green liquid that bubbled and shimmered within the natural bowl formed by the giant leaf. The vines above occasionally dropped what looked like of the weird creature he fought before "Undying Plant Creatures" into the liquid, where they dissolved almost instantly, leaving no trace.

"Guess 'Undying' isn't quite accurate after all," Tyler muttered. These Liquids are these creatures Nemesis.

The eerie silence of the place was punctuated only by the occasional drip of liquid and the faint rustling of vines.

He took a test tube from his storage device and threw it in the liquid causally. It melted immediately.

"What am I even expecting?" He murmured.

He approached the edge of the basin cautiously, dipping a finger into the liquid. As expected, it didn't harm him. Instead, it felt cool and smooth, like gel.

"More like slime..." Tyler murmured, "The girls were covered in this and their clothes melted."

Tyler felt little regret not watching the show live.

He then kept his movements deliberate and quiet, mindful of the dangers lurking in the underground. He carefully examined the environment, noting that while the liquid seemed to dissolve anything it touched, the giant leaf containing it remained unaffected.

"The only thing this stuff doesn't dissolve is the plant itself," Tyler mused. "That's my container, then."

He reached into his storage device, retrieving a sharp knife and a cylindrical container. With practiced precision, he approached a nearby leaf about a meter in size that doesn't have the liquid. Using the knife, he slashed the leaf and carefully removed it.

Then he placed it inside the liquid. It didn't Melt.

"Cool..." Tyler smiled.

He made sure to check at those vines.

Next, Tyler began fashioning the leaf into a makeshift liner for his container. He folded the material into a cone shape and secured it snugly inside the cylindrical vessel. Once satisfied that the liquid wouldn't seep through, he retrieved the copper ladle.

"Let's see how this goes," he muttered, dipping the back side of ladle into the viscous green substance.

Seeing that it didn't dissolve. Tyler sighed of relief. According to Adam , this Ladle should be Chaos Treasure, which Tyler has no Idea what it is. But probably something powerful thing. So he decided to use it.

The he scooped up the liquid.

The liquid clung to the ladle like jelly, refusing to drip. Tyler carefully poured it into the leaf-lined container, watching as it settled without damaging its new enclosure.

"That should do it," he said, placing a second layer of leaf over the container before sealing it with a lid.

To ensure the safety of the sample, Tyler retrieved a special pen filled with glowing ink from his storage device. He meticulously carved Preservation Runes onto the surface of the container. These runes, a technique he'd mastered during his time at Starfire Academy, would prevent the contents from being affected by external forces or degradation.

Satisfied with his work, Tyler placed the sealed container back into his storage device. "Gotta the sample. Now to regroup with the others."