

## Unfathomable 541

### Chapter 541

"Liu Chen don't you dare lose or I'll kill you myself!"

Shouted the young master whose servant Zhang Dong was impersonating. He wanted to do nothing more than go and slap all of these kids in the face. They were all teenagers and apparently already corrupt down to their bones. He could see the glee in some of their eyes that would probably be hard to correct even if they switched factions at this very moment. Yet before he could contend with that problem he needed to first get out of here.

"Kill him."

Young master Haoyu was a bit more composed but even he was part of the group. Zhang Dong could clearly see through the system what the youth said to the burly servant. Even though none of them needed to die here it was often the case. In the demonic sects not many masters tolerated failures and depending on the occasion they would not accept it.

In this case, Liu Chen and the other servant would be fighting for their own survival. The young masters on both sides hated each other and they made a spectacle of it. There were far too many people gathered here, it would be a hit to their face if they lost which was still the main reason anyone existed in this world.

'I wonder if I can ever get people to realize that fame and prestige aren't all that great...'

He wanted to do nothing more and to explain how a simple life might be a lot better than one filled with wealth. Yet at this very moment, the large servant was already charging his way while surrounding himself with some strange red energy. This energy was filled with negative emotions which allowed the man to boost his power even higher.

There was a small problem here, Zhang Dong didn't really know what this Liu Chen was good at. The man didn't have many personal belongings on him, these were probably kept at a safer location where the other inner disciples couldn't get them. He was probably wary of carrying too much money or resources that were meant for his own progress.

Thus Zhang Dong wasn't really sure what this servant was good at. The only clue that was in his possession was Liu Chen himself that was still knocked out in his spatial treasure. A quick examination revealed some of his proficiencies and that he preferred palm attacks to other means.

'His dao of shadows is the most proficient as well... but this doesn't always mean anything...'

He was unsure how to react, should he just go for it and knock the big guy out in one hit? Yet that could draw unwanted attention from the elders and teachers that were watching the scene play out. At this point in time, he couldn't just reveal himself as his escape route was not clear. Wang Long could have already arrived on the scene and might also have a way to block any teleportation attempts.

For this reason, he needed to make it look authentic. People in the training areas had been performing some basic techniques that he could copy. The only problem would be his position, as a servant he

would probably not be allowed to learn high level techniques that others were using. For this reason, he needed to go with something more basic but refined to make up for the discrepancy in tiers.

“Hah, look at him just standing there! Did he just give up and accepted his fate?”

“That might be true, maybe the servant is tired of working for someone like Yichen.”

The group that was on Haoyu’s side started cackling while looking at the fight. Zhang Dong was still processing the situation and thinking about a good strategy. His hands were lowered as if he had given up on the bout. The large man didn’t stop though, he was ordered to kill and that’s what he would do. His large fist which was covered by crimson energy quickly descended at his opponent’s head.

Suddenly there was a change, as the fist was only a few centimeters away from Zhang Dong’s face he stepped to the side. It was as if the path of the blow had been read and he used the least amount of effort to evade it. This was his answer to his problem, instead of going for flashy techniques he would win with the basics.

The cultivators in this world were enhanced, martial artists. When they started out they focused a lot of their time on perfecting their basic martial skills. Yet as they progressed to new heights they tended to forget about the foundations of their power. Regular techniques like reading the flow of combat, and searching for cues a body made were forgotten. Instead, they trained in performing large-scale attacks with the help of their Qi.

To win this battle he didn’t really need to be stronger than his opponent. It would be fine if he could just read him and counter effectively. Just like that after dodging the large blow he surrounded himself with a thin layer of fake demonic Qi. This was to boost his power while also protecting his own body from the red energy that would try to invade his body and harm it.

Soon the large man felt a palm strike his side. Even though there wasn’t a lot of power behind it he felt like vomiting. But he would not be defeated this easily, the muscles that he was so proud of were like armor and he was also hiding his true power. This amount of damage he could still contend with.

“You...”

His first opened up as he spread his fingers into the shape of a claw. His fingernails expanded in both length and thickness as he attempted to shred his enemy. Yet even when performing these strikes at an alarming pace Zhang Dong was able to see through every faint and small movement and react accordingly.

To not make it too obvious he showed a concerned face as if he was barely managing himself. The exchange of blows continued and both parties were receiving damage but one of them was clearly losing.

“Young master Haoyu’s servant is losing?”

“How is that Liu Chen this lucky? Was he hiding his martial skills all this time?”

“Did he just stumble over a rock to dodge that flying kick?”

Zhang Dong didn’t think that he was the best actor but he tried to remember any actions that might help him in this situation. He wanted to appear as being lucky but also with enough skill to win this fight.

If he could sell his victory as just being lucky then it was fine. The other servant couldn't really reveal his true power for long as the whole bet would be forfeit and that was also what he was aiming for.

'He tried a few times but hasn't made it too obvious...'

The large man had been boosting himself with that half-step core formation power from time to time. It was clear that Haoyu had instructed him not to make it too obvious. If Zhang Dong played his cards right then he wouldn't even need to deliver the final blow to this meat head. What he needed to do was to make him angry enough to reveal his true potential.

"Did Liu Chen hit his head and get enlightened or something?"

The young lords that were watching the fight started watching the fight without blinking. They were still only Qi condensation practitioners that could learn a lot. To them the way Liu Chen dodged every attack was quite intriguing. The footwork in itself was something not many masters were capable of. Yet it would probably be impossible to copy as both of the fighters were already high ranked foundation establishment adepts.

'Common, I know that you want to do it...'

For his next attempt, Zhang Dong performed a bicycle kick to the face after getting his other foot grasped. It was a nice hit to his opponent's chin that was unable to defend himself. His mouth became filled with blood and one of the teeth inside his mouth had been snapped in half. The man could not believe it, how was he losing to someone he should be able to kill with one hit.

"Y-you...BASTARD!"

'There we go! Give me that rage mode!'

Finally, his tactic of annoying the other servant with smacks to the face had borne fruit. He could see all sorts of veins popping up on his body as he transformed into his true form. It was clear that the man was only a half-step core formation practitioner for a reason. The form he was taking on was incomplete and hard to control. The demonic arts he was using swayed towards the emotions garnering rage and anger. In short, he was a berserker that had a short fuse.

'Here he comes... hope someone will jump in before it gets out of hand...'

"H-hey, that's not something a servant should be capable of doing... he is above the foundation realm..."

Zhang Dong made sure to shout out what was going on to make the others act quicker. The young masters that were looking at him were pushed back by the spike in cultivation. To people of the lowest realm, a half-step core formation master was enough to make them faint.

"Haoyu I know that you were a cheating bastard!"

"I don't know what you are insinuating, I had no idea about this either!"

"Shut up you liar and admit your loss!"

"Never!"

'Those two fuckers...'

While the two were arguing with each other he was still getting assaulted by the enraged muscle head. Evading these savage attacks wasn't as easy now. With him hiding his true power there was a limited assortment of options thus the only reasonable thing to do was, to make a run for it.

"H-help!"

"Hey shouldn't we stop the fight, Liu Chen looks pathetic..."

"Yeah..."

The other kids from the group started laughing as he burst forth from the group and made a run for it. While this might have not been the best way out of this situation it gave him a chance of running.

'The teachers aren't interfering either... this really is a hellhole for learning...'

It didn't seem there was anyone to punish the young masters. They would probably work it out between each other and no one cared about the runaway servant that was now only an amusing sight to behold.

'I guess this is as good a time as any...'

With the fight now being a big farce, he decided to bolt it for the main gate. There the guards would probably help him out with this situation and perhaps even allow him to escape to the other side. When outside he would finally be able to move past this debacle and join in with his army...

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'Good the coast is clear...'

Zhang Dong was planning to run towards the exit gate while being chased by the enraged cultivator. Yet due to him having to lower his cultivation level he wasn't quite able to do it. Instead, he sidestepped into an empty alley where his pursuer was quickly knocked out while no one could see it.

The man was now stuck within his spatial artifact with the other servant he apprehended. Luckily for him, the idiot that was charging after him was radiating a negative aura everywhere. It wasn't hard to heighten his battle prowess in a situation like this without alerting the nascent soul elders around him.

'Let's go.'

"Liu Chen? What was that commotion? I heard that there was a fight at the training ground"

"Oh you know, it was the usual..."

While he had not received any real damage during his bout he made it seem that he had been beaten up. The guards here were not informed about the details so after a glance, it looked like he had gone through the usual. Thanks to that they gave him the nod and he was able to leave the core sect area. The young master probably had other things to worry about as he was now owed money.

His mission was mostly over now and after he left the inner city he would more than likely be safe. What remained was to travel to the upper inner city and finally escape. Thus he made his way through the streets while shedding his Liu Chen disguise as fast as he could. Instead, he went for one of the many guards that would have the clearing for leaving this inner sect.

'I don't think I have much time left...'

On his system window, he had a countdown timer to when the meeting with Wang Long was supposed to take place. Yet just like before the security around this place was lax. The people that were performing these tasks didn't seem to care much or were unable to think that they were being infiltrated.

'I guess randomly taking over a sect and forcing their inhabitants to work doesn't work that well...'

There was a difference between the approaches that he and Wang Long took. Zhang Dong had slowly built up the trust in his clan and with the other families before their sect was formed. The vast majority of the core sect was in awe of his power and strong character. There wouldn't be many things that they wouldn't do for him and their trust could not be easily broken.

Here on the other hand it was power gained by force. It wouldn't be strange if all of the Chaos Sect members surrendered instantly after their new leader was defeated. Even if Zhang Dong wished for a battle between him and Wang Long the man in question would probably not agree to a fair confrontation just between them. If that was a possibility Zhang Dong would have already announced himself and demanded a proper bout between the two leaders.

'There we go... Bob, be sure to scan for Wang Long, we can't have him popping out of the blue.'

'Affirmative'

This was still Wang Long's faction and he wasn't sure how far his faction system had been upgraded to. The sect was patched up in a couple of places but it wasn't being managed that well. Perhaps thanks to this was his infiltration attempt this successful. Now what he just needed to do was to get outside and his way out was just around the corner.

"Wha..."

"Sorry about that..."

A merchant with a few guards was about to pack up and leave. Another victim fell to his body-switching technique as he took out a guard that had just entered an outhouse. Zhang Dong had strategically placed himself on the ceiling before knocking out the man with his pants down.

With his new disguise in place, he just got out and joined the other mercenaries that were escorting the merchant. The carts were filled with some junk that the merchant probably hoped to dump in the outer city where the resources were harder to come by.

"Common move it, we don't have all day, and remember, none of you are getting paid until you unload the merchandise!"

He could see the regular workers giving out sighs of disappointment. While there were only three carts with goods they contained some spatial treasures with the true items. These would probably need to be removed from inside the treasure and then carried to their proper destination.

Soon they arrived at the checkpoint which contained the large gate. In a few moments, he would be outside and after reaching the outer city he would be safe. Even if he destroyed the outer city gates during his escape it wouldn't really matter anymore. The massive barriers surrounding everything were

already rigged by him, what he needed to do was to get outside and contact his army which wouldn't take that long to get here.

'It's our turn now.'

Even though it looked like the coast was clear he didn't forget to pay close attention to everyone here. The merchant owner was showing his identification plaque to the guards which would probably allow him to move through the gate. During the exchange, he also saw some blood crystals making their way into the guard's spatial ring which would only allow them to cross faster.

This was quite the normal occurrence even back at the orthodox sect side. Bribing guards at entrances to cities or other territories was a regular expense that merchants counted in before setting out to trade. Here it was more of the same unless the guards lacked a reason or were incentivized to capture people that attempted bribes nothing would change.

'Warning, warning.'

'Huh, what is it, Bob?'

Suddenly as they were passing through the checkpoint he could hear his AI blasting loud horns. There was something wrong but even when he spread his senses in all directions he couldn't see anything.

'Warning, outer system changes detected, attempting to block the change ..... attempt was unsuccessful, the change will take place in 3...2...1...'

'Wait Bob, what are you talking about? What changes?'

Zhang Dong continued to move with the merchants through the large gate while his eyes darted around. There was something going wrong right when he was about to step outside of the gate. Only after the countdown was over was he able to see the shift.

"What is happening?"

This was also noticed by the guards and the merchant he was with. A strange device with the logo of the Chaos Sect appeared on it. It was clear to Zhang Dong that this had to have been created by Wang Long and his faction system. Bob quickly confirmed his fears which forced him to drop the guard act.

'Identification device spotted, warning! The user will be unable to conceal himself from the other faction system!'

For one reason or another Wang Long decided to dump some spirit points into his faction system. This was something that he did frequently to upgrade the structures and enhance others. This might have still been only a coincidence and before he was found out he might be able to escape.

"Hey what are you..."

\*BOOM\*

While the carts stopped in place he gathered all of his energies around his body. A bright spark of light filled the entire region as he tossed himself towards the exit. Of course, he was still on the threshold of

the barrier that would only be removed after he blew up the spirit vein. That part of the plan was still in place but it was too soon for it.

This was a multiple-layered defensive formation and he was right inside of it. While charging through the gate he was forced to bust through it while using a large chunk of his spiritual energy. Luckily the formation needed a second to activate and this gave him enough time to get to the other side.

‘Can I teleport out of here?’

While pushing through he quickly brought up the system window that he was previously hiding. First, he attempted to teleport toward one of his sect members who was supposed to be at the secret camp. Yet a red screen appeared just like he was afraid of, unless he used a huge amount of spirit points he would be unable to leave. These he needed for the long-range teleportation of the golden palace and thus he postponed this option.

With another injection of Qi, he shot out through the other end of the gate. This of course sent all sorts of warning signals through the entire sect. Various masters were forced to take chase along with some guardian beasts that were of similar power. Yet no one was quite as fast as Zhang Dong was, if it was only this much then he would surely be able to escape.

He could already see the exit before him, his speed increased as his body was surrounded by both lightning and golden light. To augment his power he decided to make his spiritual energy take the form of a really fast drill. Even if the barrier stopped him for a moment he would just drill through it instantly.

Finally, the last hurdle was before him as he collided with the barrier while bulldozing through various other demonic cultivators. There were even two nascent soul elders that were just knocked to the side as if they were crash test dummies. The promised land was before him, in a few seconds he would be outside and even if anyone tried to follow him they would be unable to keep up with his speed.

Yet right before he collided with the outer city barrier he noticed a large shadow looming over him. This was followed by a giant spike in demonic Qi. This was above something that anyone from the elders here should be capable of doing. He needed to get out of there and it needed to happen now.

His bones started crumbling as he forced himself to change directions in an abrupt manner. Only thanks to his healing energies and his powerful body were he able to somehow evade a critical injury. This was just in time to not get hit by a torrent of dark energy that collided with the spot he was going for.

When looking towards the source of this massive energy spike he found a familiar-looking dragon that looked a lot more demonic than before. It wasn't alone though as on top of its head he spotted a certain evil cultivator that was going by the name of Demon King these days.

“Haha, look what the cat dragged in!”

‘Well, shit!’

Wang Long glanced toward Zhang Dong, who had stopped his escape. From all sides, multiple nascent soul masters came swarming in as he quickly found himself being surrounded. His escape route was blocked and the man he was after had arrived, his biggest fear was about to come true.

## **Chapter 543**

"I was just wondering when you would show up, I really didn't expect you to try to sneak in like a total retard though. What was the plan here bruv? Were you trying to assassinate me during my introduction speech?"

"..."

Zhang Dong was surrounded by around ten nascent soul masters and multiple other demonic cultivators. Most of them were floating on swords but some were using flying ships or other treasures. Yet even with all of them here the only real problem was the man that was leading them, Wang Long.

"Assassinate you?"

"Hah, are you going to play dumb? But you did come alone so perhaps you aren't the brightest!"

Wang Long was up in the sky on his demonic-looking dragon. This creature had gone through a drastic change of form on power. It looked like some kind of charred zombie dragon, it had exposed flesh sticking out everywhere that looked as if it was decomposing. Some of its bones were also sticking out but even when it looked like a corpse it didn't look weak.

'The creature is surrounded by evil energy, I can feel the corruption from all the way here... but I might be in luck, he doesn't seem to realize that I was actually escaping before he arrived...'

From the monologue, Zhang Dong could tell that Wang Long had only discovered him just now. He was unaware of any forces gathering outside of his new domain. The change to the gate was probably something he did recently and it wasn't anything planned. It seemed that Wang Long didn't know about the barriers being rigged and ready to collapse.

'Even though he is dumb and conceited, he still is strong...'

While his enemy wasn't the best tactician one thing was for sure, he had leveled up since their last run-in. It was a monolithic change, if Zhang Dong didn't know that his opponent had the system it would have been a stunning turn of events. If his power eclipsed his own was still up to debate as none of them were showing their cards right now.

Yet he could not just attack him, the other nascent soul masters might have not been strong or that dangerous but they would sway the fight. He was also missing his own dragon that was left behind at the secret encampment. After he was discovered his whole system had been jammed from peeking outside and he was still unsure if he should fork up the spirit points to run. For all, he knew Wang Long had more of them and could block his escape anyway.

"Weren't you more chatty the last time we met or are you stumped that your system won't let you teleport out? I'm not like you, I actually have a functioning brain! If you weren't just a goober you'd have done the same back at your faction, haha what a noob, and you're supposed to have been longer than me!"

It was strange to hear a villain monologue from the only person that was supposed to have come from the real world. Yet there he was, berating Zhang Dong for not taking into consideration that he wouldn't be able to escape once he entered his faction area. However, the only reason he did not prepare last time was because he was unaware of the existence of a second system user.



“You sure talk a lot for an incel.”

“... what did you call me?”

‘I guess that hit the spot.’

To shut up his enemy he jabbed at something that was probably the truth. Wang Long overvalued his sexual life to a fault. This was probably something that had to have been a focal point in his previous life. The most probable cause was probably the lack of the man’s experience with the fairer sex. He went out of his way to have as many sexual acts as he could as if he was making up for his past inefficiencies.

“You heard it, who else but an incel would act as you do? Still trying to fill the void in your heart because that one girl in high school didn’t want to look your way or something?”

In reality, he was unsure what this would help him with but he needed to stall. Before he was discovered he did notice one thing, Bahamut his familiar was a lot closer to this city than he was supposed to be. Did he somehow know that his master was in trouble or was there another explanation?

“By how red you are getting I’ll assume that I hit a bullseye on that one. Hey, if this is just a game like you make it out to be, does it even count?”

“Huh?”

Wang Long was giving off quite the chaotic aura that was even making the people here cover in fear. He was clearly still thinking that everyone here was an NPC and not a real human being. This could be used to Zhang Dong’s advantage if he poked at his opponent’s insecurities.

“It doesn’t count, you are still and always will be a virgin and an incel, right? These people are just NPCs bots with no emotions, no matter how much you do it with them it will never count!”

“You fuck! Stop calling me an incel, I’m not a virgin!”

“Are you sure? If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck then it’s probably a little virgin just like you!”

He burst out in laughter while inching away, the uncomfortable demonic aura wasn’t affecting him as much as it was the people that were trying to keep him from escaping. The negative emotions infected the demonic corpse dragon as well. It was corrupting the air around it causing even the nearby nascent soul masters to cower in fear.

It was a simple battle tactic, getting an opponent angry always worked in favor of the one that could keep their mind cool. They would get aggressive and easy to read. It was a lot better to fight someone that couldn’t control their emotions than someone that mastered them and Wang Long was certainly the former type.

“You fucker, I’ll cut off your balls and feed it to your bastard kids!”

Just as planned he had lost it and began his assault without carrying for the people around him. While the man had gotten a lot more powerful his personality didn’t change. He certainly still had a big chip on his shoulder and Zhang Dong was a person that could remind him of the old world they left behind. He

would desperately try to destroy the only link to his old unfavorable past even if that meant killing his own people.

“D-demon King w-why...”

After propelling himself to the side to evade the huge breath attack of the corrupt zombie-like dragon one of the nascent soul masters that was behind him was hit. Even though he was a nascent soul master at the pinnacle his face started to instantly melt from the corrosive and poisonous cloud that escaped from the dragon’s maw.

However even when Wang Long was going berserk and some of his troops were getting massacred, Zhang Dong was still in trouble. The only thing he could do was dodge while trying to reach the outer city barrier.

‘Just a bit more, that idiot didn’t realize it yet but I’m not really trapped in here.’

Even though he was a nascent soul master, getting through the outer barrier wouldn’t be that easy. It was reinforced by the hexagram and the creatures that were drained of their energy there. Zhang Dong had done his due diligence to take care of that part of the problem before delving deep into the inner sect. Now it was time to spring his own counter trap that he was hoping to activate only after his troops appeared on the scene.

Luckily for him, Wang Long was far too busy being angry and pointing his dragon’s breath attack at him to notice the strange change in the formation. First, the six towers that were the focal point of this city’s outer formation started rumbling, from within the screams of the massive monsters could be heard by everyone.

This was followed by a switch in the formation’s color that was more akin to his golden lightning than the demonic gray it was before. The trap was simple, the barrier would work for a short amount of time while the six large nascent soul beasts would be let loose in the city.

Thanks to his knowledge about beast taming that he had lifted from the old expedition secret ground he knew how to insert a little thought into all of those creatures minds. They already felt animosity towards the people that trapped them there but that would probably be focused on the citizens and not the actual people that were responsible.

For that reason, he just inserted a little mind trick. The beasts had already mostly lost their mind and were just a bundle of rage that wanted nothing more than revenge. He just needed to shift that anger towards certain Qi patterns. These would all belong to masters above the nascent soul level.

Thus as the beings emerged from the rubble of the collapsed spires they turned in the direction of Wang Long and the other grandmasters. They were the largest beacons of energy in the area and quite easy to track. They instantly charged toward the floating humans while ignoring anything else. This would somewhat allow the regular citizens to evacuate but would probably still cause some deaths that he needed to contend with.

This was his cue to make a run for it. Wang Long that was raging a second ago was forced to look away towards the crumbling towers. His system was probably showing him all sorts of warning signals at this very moment that would hold him back for a moment.

Zhang Dong turned around to head back to where his troops were at. His tactic of setting the beast on the city only after his army attacked had fallen through but his plan could still be salvaged. Yet as he was about to turn into a shooting star and get out of here he stopped himself.

“Huh?”

“Support the Patriarch, attack with all your might!”

“For the United Element’s Sect!”

“For the Sect!”

“For the Patriarch!”

Instead of him having to rendezvous with his troops they appeared out of nowhere themselves. Only after the outer barrier was lifted did his system start to go back online and he could check his faction window for his people.

“Liena, what are you doing here?”

“What do you think? What wife wouldn’t come to aid her husband?”

“Senior Brother! I see that you have started without us!”

“Dong’er, I see that you managed to return in one piece but it would be smarter to leave these sort of tactics to the spy unit next time.”

All of his friends and family members were there. They had arrived at the scene even after he had ordered them to remain at the base and wait for further orders. They had ignored them but he was not mad but glad about it.

“You guys... we’ll talk about this later...”

While he didn’t appreciate it that his wife was here this was supposed to be the last big battle of his sect. Wang Long was here and he was caught with his pants down it was time to end all of this once and for all.

## **Chapter 544**

“Do you think this changes anything?”

“I think it does but before we start I’ll give you the option to surrender. You’ll just have to relinquish the system to me, I will of course guarantee your safety.”

“Are you serious? Give away my system? Over my dead body!”

While the two leaders exchanged some quick words while the two sides clashed with each other. The appearance of Zhang Dong’s army was quite unexpected. This left the whole demonic city in a state of chaos. The beasts that were used to power the outer formation were loose and attacking the nascent soul masters while the orthodox cultivators were coming from the outside.

Large ships made of spirit iron continued to appear along with more traditional cultivators of beasts and flying swords. This was clearly a planned endeavor but why this attack was taking place wasn't too obvious to these people.

Orthodox and demonic cultivators most of the time stayed out of their regions. While the former side was considered to be stronger they didn't really have anything to gain from clashing with the demonic cultivators. The lands here were devoid of spiritual energy that regular cultivators could use and the treasures wouldn't give them an edge either.

"I thought you would say that, you give me no choice then, one way or another this will end here."

"Haha, do you think those NPC forces will be enough?"

Wang Long didn't seem impressed by the flying ships and the army that was quickly appearing. Even the new golden dragon Bahamut that was equal to his soul beast didn't shake his resolve. In his eyes Zhang Dong made one big mistake, he decided to bring the fight to his faction base where he had the advantage.

"Let me show you how it's done!"

With a click on his system screen, he activated the buffing function. It was the same one Zhang Dong used when Wang Long invaded the United Element sect. Yet this time around the ones that were getting enhanced were the demonic cultivators from the Chaos Sect. The nascent soul masters could feel their energy circulating, it was as if they were young again and also possessed more power than they ever did.

"You think this is all? I've spent a lot of points on toys just to see you eat shit!"

It didn't look like this was all as Wang Long continued grinning and activating functions on his system. Zhang Dong remained quiet but deep inside he was also smiling. His opponent was not aware that he was showing his cards too soon. First of all the buff wouldn't last forever and he already activated it before measuring his opponent's full battle prowess.

Then second of all he was showing him another trump card in the form of the Demon King castle that was now slowly floating out of the volcano. This thing was quite similar to the golden castle he had procured from the Long Clan. He wasn't sure if it was bought with the help of spirit points or if it was just a counter fortress to the one he had. It could have just been a backup for the situation of a system holder going for a demonic route.

The sight of this giant gaudy-looking dark lava castle sent shivers down the demonic cultivators. Everyone could feel that this was a treasure of unfathomable power and probably not something the orthodox sect that was attacking them could combat. Yet their hearts sunk soon after as they felt a spike in spiritual energy in the middle of the assaulting force armada.

In a blink, a huge structure on par with their Demon King's castle appeared out of thin air. It was a magnificent golden castle with massive walls and huge cannons stuck to them. It was clear that the attackers came prepared to counter Wang Long's own fortress of doom.

"How did you..."

"You're not the only one with a castle here incel-boy."

“Stop calling me that!”

“Make me!”

Zhang Dong peeked behind at his sect members. There he could see or feel his family members like Liena and Zhang Jin. Besides them, there were also his friends and faithful retainers like Huo Qiang and Zhang Zhi that were ready to risk their lives for this endeavor.

In reality, there was no reason to involve them this soon or at all. Perhaps the better way would be to just hang out at the Long Clan and shield himself behind the Azure Emperor that had some kind of backup plan. That might have been the safer route but also one that would endanger the lives of more people inside of the empire. As long as Wang Long remained in power, even the other invaders seemed like a lesser problem.

Finally, it was time for the last rodeo but before the spiritual energy blasts started flying the side belonging to the demonic cultivators encountered another problem. Only the outer city had been breached and the enemy cannons were unable to pierce through the inner city barrier.

While that remained functional their forces could always retreat. The outer city wasn't really their main base, everything that they needed to survive was where the sect was. They would be able to even survive years there without any support from the outside. With the exposed spirit vein they had an almost unlimited amount of energy to get back to.

Already the barrier was expanding and people were going to the cannons that they would use to shoot down the flying ships in the sky. Their plan was to use the one-way barrier in their favor. They could keep firing their weapons at the enemy while the forcefield would block the barrage from outside.

They were convinced that before they run out of spiritual energy the ships in the sky would be nothing more than rubble. Their enemies had made a stupid decision to come with such a paltry force. In their eyes, they wouldn't attempt a feat like this without at least twice as much firepower.

Yet before the first cannon could fire towards the closest ship or the large golden fortress, a tiny beam of golden light collided with the barrier. It came from the leader of their new enemies and didn't cause any damage.

“Wait, what's happening? Why is the grand array flickering?”

The tiny ray of light wasn't there to cause damage, it was just a trigger for his backdoor entrance to open. The work he went through to sabotage the grand formation bore fruit quite soon as the coast was clear. The surprised demonic cultivators didn't even have time to react as their cannons that should have been indestructible exploded from a long-range cannon blast.

“Their formations are down, everyone attack with all your might!”

While the whole place exploded into something that looked like a rainbow light show the two leaders continued to look at each other. Zhang Dong was trying to examine the capabilities of his opponent while also getting on top of his own dragon. Both of them were in possession of a system that brought in a certain randomness factor.

'I should expect him to have a lot of items from that store but he can't have that much after getting that floating castle...'

The previous encounter with this person wasn't that tough as he took him by surprise. Not much time had passed and Wang Long probably wasn't able to learn that many new tricks. His approach was to kill his old faction and use what he gained to artificially inflate his all-around power.

This was a double-edged sword that Zhang Dong expected Wang Long to have ignored. He already proved himself to be lazy and over-reliant on the system. His answer to the previous loss was just to get more spirit points and get better techniques and arts. What he didn't count in were the proficiencies that could not be increased through the system.

A system user was given the knowledge of the skill or technique but they still needed to use it to get better at it. He expected Wang Long to have been a couch potato just like he was before. Without proper training and moving the body around it was impossible to perform a technique to its perfection even when the system implanted all of the knowledge.

'His movements are unrefined for sure...'

They quickly clashed with each other. Sparks flew and his golden energy bounced away from the darkened demonic one of his opponents. None of them did any damage to each other but it looked like Wang Long at a base had more energy than even Zhang Dong.

'The old system is really a giant cheat if you have no issue killing people...'

He was different from his replacement. Killing people never came easy and even now he was unconvinced of his current strategy. Yet his opponent didn't really give him a choice, the longer he lived the stronger he became and the more people would die. To end all of this madness he needed to put an end to it.

Somewhere deep inside he did blame himself for Wang Long's appearance. Perhaps all those years ago during the expedition, if he didn't let his pride slip out then all of this would have never happened. But perhaps the immortal that created that place would have forced him to lose his previous system in another way that he wouldn't be able to control.

Yet this was not the time to think back to his beginning as before him stood his greatest enemy, Wang Long. To Zhang Dong he was a skewed reflection of the person that he could have easily become if he let this world's morals cloud his own judgment. Instead, he chose to take the harder route of working things out with people if that option arose.

'I should probably take this fight somewhere else...'

Wang Long clearly didn't care for the citizens or his faction at all. If this happened inside Spirit Spring City, Zhang Dong would actually start losing points for damaging his own buildings and having the approval rating fall down. Here on the other hand the zombie dragon continued to give out deadly mists that corroded everything and made the building turn to dust.

Luckily after all the comments about Wang Long's insecurities and virgin status, he was truly mad. It didn't take much for him to give chase as he propelled himself towards the more desolate area to the

side. There his plan was to take him out just like the Demi-Human Emperor and end this farce once and for all.

## **Chapter 545**

“The enemy has no defenses, attack now, they are all demonic monsters, show them no mercy!”

Shouted out Zhang Jin who set up camp on the large floating golden palace. While his grandson Zhang Dong would like to take in prisoners he knew that it would be childish to think they wouldn't backstab them. He was assured that a demonic cultivator could be surrounded while hiding a blade behind his back and just waiting for a chance.

Many good people had died this way and he would not make the same mistake. The demons that resided in this place would do the same to them if they had the chance. It was hard for him to even separate the sect and civilians living here. To him, an old man that followed the old ways after winning would have to be purged.

There always existed a chance that someone from the survivors could return strong and with a vengeance. In a world where one person could turn the tide of battle, this was always a possibility. One such person was on his side, Zhang Dong, the United Element Sect Patriarch. Then there was also the other one, Wang Long the Demon King.

While his grandson was already a being of unimaginable power that he didn't understand, this Wang Long was even scarier. The old man couldn't fathom what this demonic cultivator could have done to achieve this much power in such a short amount of time. He single-handedly destroyed an old behemoth that was the Soaring Dragon Sect.

This was not something anyone expected to ever occur. This was truly an age of change that would bring another world order. Zhang Jin was unsure what awaited them after this battle was over but he could barely contain his excitement. If they managed to defeat the man that destroyed one of the old big three then it would mean that they could take their place.

While their leader didn't seem to be aiming for that title, almost all of the elders in the sect desired this prestige. Their leader would be the brother of the Azure Emperor, he even had the birthright to take the whole Empire for himself. This was however something that still needed debating, the Azure Emperor was not weak and they could not know how much this war would set them back.

“Raise the shield output, ram the fortress into that blasted castle, let's see if it has the same defensive capabilities!”

Zhang Jin was the commanding officer of the Golden Dong Palace. He was not allowed to lose or have this magnificent treasure destroyed by the enemy. They were going against a similar type of fortress which was more suited for offense than defense. It had more cannons and could move faster yet if they managed to get in closer then he believed that their victory was assured.

While the two large flying structures were exchanging cannon blasts more fighting was going outside. Large formations looking like water serpents or other beasts like emerald birds were going up against a large number of ferocious demonic beings. At the time the battle looked like a stalemate and Zhang Dong was keeping a close eye on his own faction through his system window.

‘Not yet...’

He didn’t like it but his troops needed to last a bit without his help. The other side wasn’t really stronger but they were under the effect of Wang Long’s faction buff. His enemy was probably convinced that it wouldn’t be possible for him to activate it. This wasn’t true, with the help of his golden bastion he would be able to produce the same effect around it. The area wasn’t as big as the one back at his sect but it would be enough to be victorious here.

“Where are you going? Are you really one of those idiots that can only fight when there aren’t any others around?”

Wang Long flew after him on his zombie dragon while shouting. He was right, the two heavy hitters would produce so much collateral damage that it would be safer if no one was near their battle zone. His enemy had probably watched similar scenes playing out in some fiction concerning heroes. It wasn’t strange for them to bring the battle to a desolate area where they could let loose.

“You really bought into this fake game, haven’t you?”

His opponent was different though, he did not concern himself with his own faction. This he presented by stopping in his tracks and pointing his dragon towards one of the buildings on the edge of the outer city.

“Wait, what are you doing?”

“Does this really bother you?”

Without needing to say anything the dragon’s breath attack collided with the structure. Zhang Dong could only watch on in horror as the people that were trying to hide melted instantly. The poisonous and corrosive breath of this creature was enough to turn the whole area into a sludge.

“Seriously? Dude, you really have a hero complex. These ‘people’ aren’t even from your faction, what a retard. How did you even survive for this long?”

“...”

He remained quiet while looking at the pile of sludge before him. Wang Long was berating him probably in the hopes to make him mad but anger was not the emotion that he was feeling.

“You know what your biggest problem is and why you could never beat me?”

“Huh?”

“It’s because you are just a lonely little fuck with a superiority complex, you don’t even try to improve and use the fastest method to get ahead. Do you seriously think I’ve led you here only to save some lives?”

Zhang Dong Pointed out toward the ground that was under his opponent. During his stay here the outer city accommodated him for a few days. This was enough for an expert like him to lay some traps. He had expected things to go wrong and there were contingencies in place for such an occasion. While he didn’t have to use them as his sect arrived to help him now was the time.



Suddenly a strange array of magical symbols appeared below the spot Wang Long was floating over. It produced a spear-shaped golden construct that shot out towards the zombie dragon and its master. This was one of the traps that he had left over, only when Wang Long stopped was it actually worth activating.

The spear of golden light carried a lot of spiritual energy. It was similar to a full hit from Zhang Dong himself and was quite troublesome to hide within this city. Luckily Bob was there to help him hide this trap from Wang Long's system. It was surprisingly easy as the systems were certainly not made to hide things from other system holders.

The person that created them probably didn't expect anyone could do it and at least not at this level of power. Zhang Dong was also just lucky, he didn't have the abilities to tackle this mystery. The real mind behind it all was the old immortal that allowed all of this to happen. In the future he wished to meet this man, perhaps they could talk about old games.

This golden attack which was a mix of magic and spiritual energy collided with the zombie dragon who was under Wang Long. A shield of pungent mist appeared out of nowhere to protect this beast. The attack was strong but it would probably be not enough to pierce through the evolved soul-beast.

Luckily for Zhang Dong, he wasn't going against a very experienced opponent. Wang Long was someone that steamrolled through everyone while just using the system. His answer to his first big loss was to just get more power. Thus when against such a trap that seemed more dangerous than it actually was, he lost his composure.

There was no need for him to add more energy to the soul beast's shield. It would have been just enough to last through it, instead Wang Long should have been looking toward the opponent that was already charging at him. His attention was down on the sparkling spear while it should have been on his main enemy, Zhang Dong.

Through this blunder, he opened himself up to an attack that was barely evaded. A nick on Wang Long's neck appeared and the added holy energy seeped into his flesh. Demonic Qi and Holy one didn't like each other, this would create a chaotic reaction that would literally make his blood boil.

The pain was intense and not something that spoiled brat was used to. Soon came the follow-up attack as Behemoth the golden dragon collided with the creature with exposed flesh. Both of them went tumbling away while snapping and clawing at each other's faces. Thanks to the radiant light surrounding the golden dragon it was able to last through the corrosive saliva that the other beast gave out. Soon their masters were left alone and the duel between them could finally start.

"You fucker!"

"Don't talk or you might bite your tongue, junior."

While the two monster dragons flew down to the ground their masters continued to the opposite side. Zhang Dong was on the attack as he was unwilling to give Wang Long time to react. To his surprise, it wasn't as easy as he believed it to be. His trap was successful and he managed to dismount his opponent but even now as he was pushing, producing a mortal wound was hard.

"GET OFF ME!"

Wang Long roared out while producing a gigantic burst of demonic energy. This surprised even Zhang Dong, who had to defend himself from the excessive Qi that could even injure him if he wasn't careful. A large ball of black energy surrounded the entire area and pushed everything to the sides. It was as if a miniature nuclear explosion went off and even the people that were fighting further away could feel everything.

'Shit, I lost my momentum.'

Zhang Dong covered his face while backing away. The blast was strong enough to propel him backward. His plan was to overwhelm Wang Long with his quick movement and superior technique before he could activate any of his own. Perhaps he was superior in hand-to-hand combat but he was not too sure about the gap when it involved Qi attacks.

The system allowed anyone to get the best of the best without the need for crafting resources and mixing. Thus he wouldn't wait, while the blast had happened he was already charging up for the follow-up. In his hand, he was holding a golden sword that at this very moment was already cleaving down to sever anything in its path.

A thin line appeared before him as even the dark clouds above them were severed in half. This produced a follow-up blast that brought all fighting around them to a stop. The powerful masters could only look in shock and awe at the battle that was taking place. To them it looked not like something a mortal should be able to produce, this was the realm of immortals.

## **Chapter 546**

There was a giant explosion, everyone was stunned to see a massive shockwave rocking the entire outer city of demonic cultivators. Luckily everyone had already been evacuating since the first nascent soul master was spotted. Some ran for the outskirts where the poison mists didn't reach while others went underground where there was a vast array of tunnels that could take them to a separate location.

Zhang Dong was the closest to this phenomenon. He wanted to do nothing else but to charge forward but the spike in energy was even too high for him. One of his strongest sword attacks was unable to cause much damage and Wang Long was continuously growing in power while surrounded by a twister of dark energy.

'Did he copy my design or is this just something from the system store that he got...'

Before the dark mist cleared up he could tell what was waiting inside for him. It was something that looked familiar and could be seen on some superhero shows that he saw back in his old world. Without waiting he decided to activate his own version of this treasure before he got overwhelmed by Wang Long.

He didn't have any music to accompany the transformation but quickly his body began to shine white. Soon after a suit of futuristic-looking armor appeared on his body, an improved version of the booster suits that he created for a few of his trusted retainers. His wife in particular had already adorned her own green suit that was further boosting her capabilities.

'Still feels a bit uncomfortable...'

The suit was made from silvery-white metal. His whole body shivered as a prickly feeling took over. This suit to bring out more potential was somewhat infused into his flesh. Thanks to this it would feel like he was only wearing something like a layer of skin. The white overcoat started turning golden after his Qi started radiating everywhere.

This suit of armor was quite sleek and it hugged his body tightly. There weren't really any parts that were sticking out and even the shoulder pauldrons were quite minimalistic. It was just there to boost his energies and to provide more defense than even his body refining technique could.

On the other hand, his opponent's armor was a lot more intricate. As expected for someone that was going for a demon lord, the main color was black with a few crimson-red undertones. It looked similar to some fantasy full-body armors with spikes coming out from the back and pauldrons. The gauntlets had red fingertips that looked more like monster claws with the same pattern on his feet.

'Did he go for the most edgy-looking one there was? It even has a cape...'

The cape had the image of a dragon on the back that looked similar to the zombie soul beast. Wang Long's transformation was finished and now besides the bulky-looking armor, he was also holding a giant two-handed sword in one of his hands. The whole sword was longer than its user and would somewhat give him the reach advantage.

'Hm... I'm not really sure if he knows what he is doing...'

While from the outside the gear that Wang Long looked cool and fashionable, it wasn't that suited for the fight that they were having. Zhang Dong could already see the glaring weak points that this combo would bring. Yet even with those weak points the power radiating from his opponent was truly immense. The sword he was holding would probably be enough to cleave his body in half.

'That is if he can get me...'

"Do you think you are the only one with cool toys? Did you really..."

Wang Long pointed towards Zhang Dong with the huge longsword that looked like it was made from a steel beam and then sharpened down. Before he could finish his villain monologue he needed to defend himself. His opponent was here to win, it was not a time for discussion anymore the person that struck first would be victorious.

With Zhang Dong on the offensive, the self-proclaimed demon king was pushed back towards the active volcano in the background. Finally, the battle was able to move to a safer location that wouldn't endanger any of the two armies fighting.

Both of them created separate impact zones after they forcefully parted from each other. Small knicks and scratches were visible on Wang Long's black armor and even some of the spikes were slightly bent. Zhang Dong on the other hand remained mostly untouched after they went through the scuffle.

'If he wasn't wearing that thing...'

He didn't want to admit it but this wouldn't be easy. His opponent received a lot more hits but it didn't change the fact that the armor wasn't coming off. Through the continuous exchange of blows he noticed

Wang Long slowly improving. While he was lazy now, his background still contained training and improvement.

At least at the beginning of his story here there had to be a time that he diligently trained to get stronger. Gaining power rapidly was quite intoxicating so it wouldn't be strange if at first, he gave it his all. Only after he beat everyone with the help of his skills and the system did he become the weak-minded man.

'I have to take in his rate of improvement and finish this fast...'

It was true that with the help of the full system, Wang Long's power level was above even his. The only reason he was able to produce better results was that he prepared and had more experience. But one wrong move and this whole thing could turn sour rather quickly.

"Fucking bastard!"

Luckily his opponent still had one glaring character flaw, his temper. After receiving so many nicks and scratches to his armor he was pissed. The large sword that he was holding started glowing in a shade-like hue. In a blink of an eye, all color faded from the world and Zhang Dong found himself surrounded by darkness.

It was as if all the light from the area along with sound was removed. He couldn't even see his own limbs or detect his enemy that was standing there a second ago. This wasn't good, this was clearly an attack meant to delude his senses. Wang Long was probably already coming toward him for a quick kill.

"This might have worked on others but it won't work on me."

Zhang Dong shouted while his whole body shone like a radiant star. Both of them had to clash Dao's that they had mastered, he had the Dao of the Holy Element while Wang Long had switched over to the Dao of Unholy Darkness.

The flash of light was able to dispel the small area of effect technique that revealed a man clad in dark armor. The huge blade was in both of his hands and he was about to swing it down to cleave Zhang Dong in two. Before this could happen the blinding light was successful in slowing down his movements. The swing collided with the ground and produced another huge explosion.

Earth shattered before the mighty sword struck and produced a shockwave that traveled kilometers in one direction. Soon after lava burst out from this gash that appeared as if the ground had started to bleed. The man who was supposed to die from this strike was not there; instead, he dodged to the right side.

His right fist was clenched and radiating with golden lightning bolts. Right at the moment when the sword collided with the ground he a punch shot out. It collided with Wang Long's face and also a small invisible barrier made by his Qi. The sound of glass shattering and metal bending followed suit as the strike connected.

Wang Long flew to the side after the clean hit to his face. The punch was strong enough to bend the rare dark metal that the demonic armor was made from. Yet even though the man was flying through the air, Zhang Dong didn't give chase. He did not manage to fully evade the strike as his left limb which had been covered by the white armor had become exposed.

The pain was tremendous and some of his bones had actually been broken but it was the same for Wang Long. The helmet that was covering his head shot off into the distance. His exposed face showed a broken nose along with a missing tooth.

Yet this was not the time to rest, Zhang Dong gritted his teeth and soon after bolted towards where Wang Long flew. On the other hand, the demon king was quite shocked at what had happened to his face. It was clear that he was inexperienced, his lack of awareness would be his downfall.

Instead of keeping track of his enemy, he was more concerned about the pain around his face. This was only the second time he could remember this sort of pain. The last time was also through a punch to the face by the same opponent yet this time around it hurt a lot more.

His whole face was on fire as the infused holy energy was reacting with the unholy one that was ingrained into his body. Luckily dispersing it wasn't that hard as he had a lot more energy than the amount that was infused. Even then the pain wasn't going away, his body was rapidly mending itself but the shock didn't go away.

While Wang Long didn't really take a critical hit he was not used to being punched in the face. All of his previous wins seemed to have been gained through the help of his system without many setbacks happening. This reaction was clearly not something a master of this level should be showing. No nascent soul monster was able to go through life without properly being able to take a hit and continue fighting.

Zhang Dong, on the other hand, had gone through many setbacks. Even now while his left hand was healing itself he continued to push. If he couldn't use this hand then he could punch with the other. If that one became unusable then two of his limbs remained and even without them, there was a myriad of ranged techniques that he could deploy.

Yet even when his hits landed he didn't seem to be going that far. The unholy energy that was inside this armor and also inside Wang Long's body was making it difficult to produce long-lasting damage. Masters like them could survive even with the bottom half of their body being destroyed, with time there was always a possibility of it regrowing. The only way to win would be by overpowering the opponent with Qi which damaged the body and nascent soul from the inside.

There was a strange phenomenon though, with each hit that connected his seed that was inside of him continued to react. It was as if the darkness that was inside of Wang Long was being slowly siphoned away and giving him a tiny boost of energy that caused his strange seed to evolve further...

## **Chapter 547**

The clash between the two could be felt by anyone within the vicinity. Each punch and kick caused the air to vibrate and the ground to quake. Their power had reached the apex of what this world was supposed to be able to handle.

In the background, the cultivators continued their fight. Unless one of the leaders fell in battle they would continue. It was a race against time, if one of those beings of power came up on top one of their sides would probably lose. The only hope the losing side had was if both of them defeated each other, then the stronger faction would win and in this case, they seemed to be around at the same level.

The golden palace that hailed from the United Element Sect collided with the dark fortress from the Chaos Sect. People started piling out from both sides and engaging in hand-to-hand combat. Seniors and Juniors were drawing their last breaths as this fight continued. There was only one way to stop this carnage and Zhang Dong was frantically pushing toward it.

“What did you do to me!”

“Luck might be on my side again...”

Wang Long shouted out in anger while pulling up various demonic techniques. Chains of corrosive energy, poisonous mists, and qi absorbing techniques proved to be very effective against all of his other opponents. While all of those powers were strong, Zhang Dong was always able to counter or dodge them in some way. As always, the way that Wang Long gained those techniques was faulty. He did not delve into the way they worked on a deeper level and this was now the result.

Yet while Zhang Dong was barely able to hold on this was not the main reason for his success. During the battle, he noticed something strange, the unique seed that represented his current cultivation was slowly opening itself. With every collision between the two enemies, he was growing stronger and Wang Long was growing weaker.

‘I’m absorbing his negative Qi or perhaps something else? Could this seed be taking in the source of his power, that is the system?’

“Hey, Bob, any input on this? Can I really just absorb the system that he has?”

“Not enough data.”

“Yeah, I thought so...”

“Current probably of success is 26%, need more data to make a proper assessment.”

“26%!?”

Usually, Bob didn’t give him such big numbers when it came to things like this. If he had one in a fourth chance of this working then it was more than enough to make an attempt. This might have been it, a way to sprout this strange seed and go beyond the limits that this world had been created under. For it to happen however, he would need to stay close to Wang Long and let his seed absorb his essence. At this point in time, they were only quickly trading blows which didn’t allow it.

Suddenly Wang Long unleashed a pillar of black light that forced him away. To Zhang Dong’s dismay, he could not actually absorb the Qi directly. Only when he was touching his enemy’s body was he able to take in his essence. This made him believe that he was actually taking in the system and not actually the spiritual energy or soul.

“What is this? What did you do?”

“Having some trouble with your system? Is something not working correctly?”

After replying in a mocking tone he waited for Wang Long’s reaction. He wasn’t actually sure what was happening but it seemed that the system window was malfunctioning. What his opponent was seeing had probably changed which meant that he was on the right track. Perhaps after more of the system,

Wang Long would start losing the skill that he gained through it or at least the imparted knowledge that allowed him to use them.

“Target is attempting to flee.”

“You won’t be able to get away that easily.”

Zhang Dong expected Wang Long to flee at a point that he started losing but he didn’t think that he would do it this soon. Both of them had scratches on their armor and were bleeding but for masters like them, this was nothing. None of them was near a point of no return so this attempt to teleport away only showed how cowardly his opponent was.

“I just need to farm more points shithead, you might still have the advantage but don’t think that will last forever!”

From his opponent’s standpoint, it was all due to numbers. In reality, Zhang Dong never had the number of spirit points that Wang Long did. Even when he had the full iteration of the system he had never managed to kill even one proper nascent soul master. While he could still gain points it was only through spirit stones and other resources, never by defeating others which came easy.

“Is that what you think? Perhaps you will never get it... but you’re not going anywhere, Bob, do it.”

“Activating the directive.”

Wang Long was fast to go towards his system window, his fingers were clearly clicking one of the options there. Either he was going to one of the available save points or to one of his faction members that were far away. His body began to flicker as the teleportation jump was about to trigger but right before the body vanished Bob interfered.

“What?”

“You can’t run from me.”

While Wang Long was confused about his failure to teleport Zhang Dong rocketed toward him without mercy. Instead of dodging, he continued to click the other options but even when he tried it was unsuccessful. His face collided with a full-powered lightning punch and the damage he suffered was true.

This was his chance, while normally his opponent would be sent tumbling into the distance this time around it was different. Before Wang Long’s body could be sent flying away he grabbed him. A barrage of attacks ensued as the dark armor protecting Wang Long’s body started to dent in all sorts of places.

Finally, after all this time, this protective shell started to give. His own gauntlets that once protected his fist had been shredded to pieces but he continued. The pain of his bones being shattered and rebuilt almost instantly was pushed aside as he attempted to end this battle. He could see it, Wang Long had turned into a punching bag and was unable to keep his mind in place. If he managed to knock him out for even a second then grabbing and taking the rest of the system was a possibility.

Then when he could see the light at the end of this pitch black tunnel a loud roar of a beast stopped him. The Zombie dragon that was battling Bahamut appeared out of nowhere. Its huge mouth filled with razor-sharp teeth opened up wide to devour both him and Wang Long.

‘Shit...’

This creature was strong and also a part of his enemy. Even if it devoured Wang Long he would not die, Zhang Dong on the other hand would probably not come out unscathed. After weighing the pros and cons of this situation he decided to retreat. Just as the teeth came down he propelled himself back and saw his enemy be eaten.

Bahamut was not far behind as the moment the zombie dragon ate Wang Long it sunk its teeth into its back. The teeth were used as an infusion point of energy in an attempt to destroy the being made of darkness and poison. While its master was safe the dragon was now injurer, yet this was not over as another burst of demonic Qi caused both Zhang Dong and his golden dragon to fly back.

‘What is it doing? Why is it shrinking...’

The monster dragon was vanishing before them. The flesh was turning into a pitch black liquid that was condensing into something. Quickly Zhang Dong realized that this was also a technique, one that allowed for the fusion between nascent soul master and their soul beast. This was what was taking place here, to alleviate the loss of his previous Qi and to heal from all the damage Wang Long decided to fuse with his beast.

This was not an easy technique and not something that other nascent soul masters would attempt to go through. Unless they had perfect control of their soul beast and the two nascent souls aligned, it could be dangerous. If someone failed they could even lose their life or suffer a decline in their cultivation. Some even thought that a perfect fusion was a way into the immortal stage but no one could confirm this claim to this very day.

“You look different...”

“Grrrr... w-what is this”

The transformation was somewhat successful but it seemed that Wang Long was unable to finish it. His body was larger with webbed wings fused to his back. His body was fully black and his legs and feet had assumed the form of the zombie dragon. There was a tail and even two horns sticking out of his forehead but then a twisted mix of facial features arose.

It was as if someone stuck Wang Long’s handsome face into a blender and then plastered it onto a mannequin. He looked truly horrifying, it was a face that only a mother could love. It was strange to make out what Wang Long was thinking. Perhaps this was due to all of his punches mostly focusing on the face. His holy Qi could have interfered with the transformation and it probably didn’t help that Wang Long’s system was malfunctioning.

“W-what did you do to me, this is all your fault... if... if you didn’t exist I would have had it all! I’m going to kill you!”

Finally, his enemy had lost all of his marbles as he charged. While this fusion of two nascent souls wasn’t fully successful it still gave his opponent a large power boost. Bahamut was also here to help but even when it tried to swing its large dragon claw on the now transformed Wang Long it was easily knocked back. Even the golden scales weren’t enough to protect his familiar from the damage.



‘Normally this would be the part where I combine with my soul beast and win this but I’m not really a nascent soul master...’

No one really knew that Zhang Dong’s cultivation was different. Bahamut was just something entirely separate and even if he was created from a part of his soul, fusing with it would kill the golden dragon. This didn’t mean that he was defenseless, his dragon couldn’t fuse with him directly but could perform an act that was quite similar...

## **Chapter 548**

A change took place not to Zhang Dong’s being like when Wang Long combined with his soul beast but to the white beat-up armor. Instead of combining together into a singular being, Bahamut could enhance the prepared armament that was his full body suit.

All the scratches and dents on the silver piece of armor started mending themselves and changing color. Long gone was the bright silvery hue, it was replaced by a fully golden armor covered in scales. The change in design didn’t only consist of it going from silvery white to golden, it also came with an increase in size.

First of all, there was a set of large metallic wings on Zhang Dong’s back. Each one with a silvery claw at the end. The whole armor looked more like a mechanical suit similar to the golems that he came in contact with in the other world. Its source of power was just Bahamut instead and together with Zhang Dong it was boosted even further.

His familiar was more similar to a summoned spirit and he was actually a mix of spiritual energy and mana. Through some experimentation, Zhang Dong discovered this strange equipment-enhancing effect. The only requirement was that he needed to make the weapon or armor that Bahamut would inhabit. With the correct materials, the treasures would be boosted to a previously inconceivable degree.

Thus on one side stood a mix of man and creature with a face full of distortions. On the other side, there was Zhang Dong whose whole body was draped in shiny metal. The draconic features were noticeable on both and depicted the difference between light and dark quite well.

“I’ll tear you limb from limb and that tin can won’t save you!”

“Quite boisterous for someone that just tried to run away, you can still give up, just destroy your dantian and I’ll let you live.”

“Screw off! Do you really think I’ll believe that?”

Wang Long roared like a beast while producing a breath made out of deathly fog and acid. Yet Zhang Dong didn’t shy away from confronting his enemy directly. The dragon’s power armor was equipped with full protection against all poison and corrosive effects.

These deadly techniques that demonic cultivators were proud of were why they usually won against orthodox opponents. During a battle, it would slowly erode away on the enemy making them lose a large chunk of their combat skills. The longer the fight lasted the more likely it was for the demonic fighter to win however, when this type of attack was rendered useless then things could quickly be reversed.

The giant sword that Wang Long previously wielded started glowing with purple energy. Yet even when he was swinging it around Zhang Dong utilized his new suit to fully dodge those swings. There were exhaust vents coming out of those wings that allowed him to move in various patterns that his enemy wasn't used to.

The two masters had pulled out some of their trump cards in this battle that had only lasted for about ten minutes. Volcanic ash exploded everywhere as the two tumbled into the opening that was already mostly destroyed. Yet even when they were submerged by the magma inside none of them was even taking any damage. It was more of a hot bath than anything else and even when they tumbled through it they could survive.

Another wave of destruction filled the land as a catastrophic chain reaction occurred. As Wang Long and Zhang Dong were clashing in the lava it started a chaotic burst of energy. The magma burst out from the ground and started destroying the demon city. The Chaos Sect's main area began to be flooded from the underground and whoever was hiding there had to evacuate. The entire place was getting destroyed and it wasn't looking great for the demonic cultivators.

Back and forth they went but slowly the battle shifted in favor of the United Element Sect. Without a strong leader to hold them in check some of the demonic cultivators took the chance to escape. While this was the minority it did start to affect the morale of the troops that began trying to withdraw into their main sect area or into the flying castle. Even though the protective shields were mostly gone there were still large cannons and beasts they could command to protect them.

"Y-you, why did you have to ruin everything? This was supposed to be my story, I am the main hero, not you!"

"You really need to do something about that superiority complex... or is it just narcissism? Do you think that you can just walk all over everyone without any repercussions?"

"Those are not people, I am the only real person there... that's right, you're probably just one of them, after I kill you, the world will belong to me and I'll be able to do anything that I want, this is just a test!"

Zhang Dong frowned as he looked at the person that was supposedly from his home world. It was clear that he had made up his mind about this place and was unwilling to listen to anyone. Perhaps he thought that he had already died and this was some kind of reward for his troubles? Did he think that if he won this competition of strength that he would achieve true freedom and live as a god?

The man before him was a true despot, he didn't account for anyone's opinion but his own. Zhang Dong at least tried to listen to his people before making the decision. In the future, he hoped to retire and lead a quieter life but for now, he needed to get this issue out of the way. In the last confrontation between the two, his most powerful skill integrated all of his newly gained dao's was charging up.

A small star formed in his hand and while expanding was then condensed even further. Gravity, light, and lightning were connecting with each other to form something that resembled a real Pulsar. This small neutron star of unimaginable mass would be thrown at his opponent. In this current confrontation, he had the high ground while Wang Long had landed in a ditch filled with lava.

His enemy wouldn't just let himself be pushed back, above him a giant sphere of black energy was already being made. This wasn't all, to top it off a figure of a massive black dragon appeared with its

mouth in the middle of that sphere. It made it look like this giant creature that was a lot larger than the zombie dragon soul beast was performing a breath attack.

‘He still had this much energy left?’

“It’s too late if you realized, now die!”

Wang Long shouted, the giant black orb exploded while turning into a beam of pitch black ooze. It traveled forward while colliding with the star that Zhang Dong had created. To his surprise, the beam was holding on and the reason for it was the place where they ended up.

He had been fooled, his enemy that didn’t seem so bright had finally used his head. The battle was in the volcano which had a connection to the spirit vein. This same spirit vein was powering Wang Long’s new attack while putting a giant strain on his body. While he would not come out of this without an injury the attack would be indeed boosted by the large amount of corrupt Qi here.

‘Shit...’

His attack was getting pushed back, even when he included Bahamut’s power into it, there was still some missing. Slowly the Pulsar was getting pushed back, if this continued he would surely be devoured by that unholy energy. Before his eyes flashed the faces of his closest family members. For them, he tried to push himself over the edge.

Suddenly the orb of light that he produced started expanding as he injected more and more of his reserves. Yet this only amounted to creating a stalemate but who would be able to last for longer? The person that was almost out of energy or the one that was injecting himself with loads of corrupted Qi?

“Huh?”

Then as he was at his lowest he felt a hand touch his back. He didn’t even need to turn around to know who it was. A gentle type of energy that felt like a warm summer breeze flowed into his body as he felt empowered. This was not all, from the other side another palm landed on his shoulder. The energy it produced was a lot wilder, like an erupting volcano.

“Senior brother, you are not alone!”

“Did you think I’ll let my husband perish?”

Both Huo Qiang and Liena were standing behind him and lending their strength. If he was not in such a situation he would have replied in joy. Holding this technique in place was all that he could do and with the added energy the stalemate was being broken. This was not the end yet, a mass of spiritual energy attacks erupted from behind him.

“Aid the Patriarch!”

“For the sect!”

The golden fortress emerged from the rubble. Its walls were exposed and most of the cannons had been broken in the fight with the demonic castle. Even then the cultivators that were on it lend their energy to assault the one below. He was not alone, everyone that he brought here was with him and lending him strength. Who was he to deny them? As their leader, he had to win.

Wang Long continued to scream as his body trembled. Even as he attempted to absorb more energy his body started rejecting it. He had reached his limit and no one was there to save him. The demonic cultivators that he commanded were long gone and the city was being abandoned.

His kingdom which was gained by conquest was being destroyed by the same exact thing. This was the law of these lands, the one with the biggest fist ruled. Thus when someone appeared who possessed an even greater power, the kingdom would fall and so would their people.

‘Goodbye Wang Long...’

The man before him looked like a monster, he was something that he could have become if he didn’t lose the original system. However, he didn’t know, was this person evil from the beginning or was he just skewed into this caricature of a person by the results of his actions. He would never know as his death was something that needed to happen. With one last push, he forced his neutron star towards his enemy that would go out in a bang.

Slowly the demonic energy was pushed away and the attack collided. A massive explosion akin to a supernova encompassed the entire area. Everything was covered in white light and everything went silent. Even Wang Long’s screams of indignation couldn’t be heard as his body was slowly purified into nothingness. The battle was over and he had won but was this truly the end of it all...

## **Chapter 549**

Tiny particles of white light gently rose into the sky as Zhang Dong’s mechanical armor started to fade away. His tired face and beads of sweat became apparent as the draconic mask vanished to reveal his tired expression. He was about to fall down to the ground after overtaxing his cultivation yet a gentle hand held on to him from the side.

“Are you alright?”

“Yeah, I’m fine, just give me a moment...”

Zhang Dong smiled at his wife who gave him a shoulder to rest on. Even though everyone had been lending him their power he was doing most of the heavy lifting. Below them, there was a giant hole that looked like an impact area from a large meteor. Slowly it was starting to fill up with lava from the side while the person in the center drew his last breath.

Wang Long was still there but he was barely holding on. Most of his body was gone, his legs and arms had been disintegrated during the overwhelming attack. What was left behind was just his upper torso and his head which were partially melted. There was nothing left of his old face after the combination of beast and man.

“We did it, senior brother, our sect has been victorious and the demonic bastards are running like the cowards that they are! Just give me an order and I’ll finish the job.”

Huo Qiang shouted while beating his chest. His body was all scratched up and even his nose had been broken during the fights but apparently, he still wanted more. Zhang Dong shook his head as this was not the time for more carnage

“That’s good to hear but let them go, there had been enough bloodshed for one day, we need to save our resources for later, we might have won this battle but the threats are still there.”

“My husband is right as always, you should try using your brain from time to time Qiang.”

Liena scoffed at Qiang while the muscle-bound man returned the action with a glare. It was clear that their sect had gone through a lot here. Even the golden bastion had its walls breached and it would need to be repaired. If they spread their troops too thin, they would be opening themselves to an attack.

A few recovery pills made their way into his mouth to help him stabilize his soul and body. Within a moment he regained enough strength to float down before his enemy that was on his deathbed. While the people around him looked to him as a defeated foe he wasn’t willing to ignore the potential of a turnaround. It always happened at these junctures, it wouldn’t be that strange if Wang Long had some kind of backup plan.

‘Bob, get ready to intercept it.’

“y-Y-u-U...”

There was still some fight left in those eyes but it didn’t seem that Wang Long could string together a full sentence. If looks could kill then he would have been dead on the spot. There was so much hate and indignation in those eyes. Zhang Dong didn’t feel that much remorse; the man before him had made his choice, which was now the result. He had tried to reach out an olive branch multiple times and it had been swatted away each time.

‘Affirmative’

This fight wasn’t quite over, even if his enemy was dying this was not the end of his plan. Just like the years before after a system holder was killed he would be replaced. He already knew thanks to the previous owner of the system that released him from the original system that this would happen.

Some kind of signal would be sent out and he needed to intercept it. If the people outside of this world knew that Wang Long had died, something drastic could occur. This world was already in the middle of the war between empires which was supposed to last for many years. A new system holder would be ill-equipped to enter this higher-level event at this point.

Zhang Dong’s biggest fear was that something like in the other world might occur. One of those strange overseers could appear and wipe everything off the face of the planet. This was his biggest fear that all of his friends and family would cease to be. Something like this would be called a hard reset but a soft one could also be an option.

In the case of the other one, instead of everyone dying the scenario would just play out and after the bridges between empires closed life would continue as it was. The new system holder would just arrive thousands of years later to repeat the cycle. Perhaps the beings above had some techniques related to time that would speed up the process even further.

While the second option wouldn’t be that bad he couldn’t risk it. It would be better to just block the transmission from going through. With his hacked system he could act as a dummy so that whoever was out there still thought Wang Long alive. After he was successful he would have some time to deliberate

on his next step. Reaching the immortal realm wouldn't be out of question, perhaps when he achieved that he would have the power needed to comprehend everything.

"y-y-u-u...d-DIE!"

Just as he expected Wang Long still had one trick up his sleeve. As he approached him a beam of black light escaped from his mouth. This technique was something that he could recognize, it was a last-ditch effort of a demonic cultivator to achieve victory. To everyone's surprise, Zhang Dong didn't do anything, he just motioned his hand toward everyone to signal that it was fine as he took the black energy beam to the face.

The moment the energy made its way into his body Wang Long's body started crumbling into dust. It wasn't important anymore as the system always stuck to the important part of its user, which was their soul. This soul was now trying to take over his body and that was something he was hoping for.

"Retard, I will eat you from the inside, and then that slut of a wife will be mine!"

"Is that so?"

"What!?"

Normally demonic possessions like this were hard to counter. These dark arts were studied by the evil cultivators while to the orthodox ones it was taboo. Thus most of the time the demonic expert won over the unprepared one in this confrontation. Zhang Dong was not like that, after his visit to the other worlds his soul energy was truly massive. There was no one in this world that would be able to contend with it and Wang Long quickly started to regret his decision.

The two found themselves in a void created by both of their souls. There wasn't much there but some light and the void. Soon the world sprung to life and Wang Long found himself looking at gorgeous scenery that looked like paradise. He was not alone there as when looking up he saw a giant and this was Zhang Dong.

"You look different... so this is how you looked before coming here."

Wang Long's original appearance as an overweight keyboard warrior was revealed. At this moment he was standing on top of Zhang Dong's palm and the difference between them was truly massive. This size disparity was due to the amount of soul energy that the United Element Sect's Patriarch was in possession of. His enemy looked truly pitiful but his actions had led him here and he needed to be punished.

"Wait, what are you doing?... No, please. Let me live, I give up, you can have that world, just let me live."

It was finally clear to Wang Long that he had no chance of winning. Perhaps it was due to changing into his old form but the man's bravado had instantly vanished. Instead, he was now down on his knees and trembling before Zhang Dong's might. It was quite a pitiful scene but the deed needed to be done. Too many people had been killed by this narcissist and their souls demanded vengeance.

"No please, you c-can't j-ust..."

Zhang Dong brought both his palms together and Wang Long's voice vanished. His hands began to glow in a faint light as his energies began dispersing the soul essence of his foe. While Wang Long probably

didn't deserve it he offered him a painless death. It was slow and he would just feel as if he was falling into deep sleep that he would never wake up from.

'Your time to shine Bob.'

'Initiating suppression, attempting to suppress the 'Devouring seed protocol', please standby...'

Bob went silent while he compressed both of his palms onto Wang Long's soul that contained the system within it. On the outside, everyone that had gathered was looking in amazement at the strange phenomenon. To them it looked like the black energy that collided with Zhang Dong's face was forced down into his palms. It was as if he was trying to crush it with his hands.

"Should we do something?"

Huo Qiang asked while unsure if his senior brother was handling the situation well. Liena on the other hand believed in her husband, when he told her that he would handle it, then he would.

"Just wait a moment, I can feel that demonic soul vanishing."

She was also a nascent soul master so to some degree she could feel Wang Long's soul disappearing. It was being replaced by something else, something with a lot of power. When looking at her husband's hands she could see them slowly spreading apart to reveal a cube made of some sort of energy.

Before it formed a swarm of strange symbols appeared on top of it before a wave of energy knocked everyone away, including Zhang Dong that was trying to contain it. The cube floated there in place for a moment before dropping down to the ground where previously Wang Long's corpse was and the procedure concluded.

'Suppression of the other system was successful.'

Zhang Dong gave out a sigh of relief as he gathered himself up. What was left of Wang Long was a nucleus and within it his system was stored. Now he was free to do with it what he wanted, absorbing it or even passing it to someone else seemed to be an option.

'Finally, it's all over now, perhaps my life can return to normal...'

He smiled at the cube as all the tension left his body. This was finally the end, the other empires didn't really pose much of a threat, and with this, he would have enough time to think of the next step in peace. However, unbeknownst to him, there was someone with different plans there...

## **Chapter 550**

There it was, the item that would allow him to shed this mortal body. The seed inside of him was already reacting to it. The closer he got the more the feeling inside started to burst forth. Zhang Dong knew that if he used the cube that was created from Wang Long's soul and body then he would finally reach the immortal stage.

This was something he was afraid of actually doing, it would probably be a point of no return. The history of this place stated that whoever reached the immortal stage would be somehow catapulted out of this world. It could happen to him as well, perhaps this world could not sustain someone at the immortal level or whoever created this place would yank him away.

He stood at a crossroad that went in many directions. The safest choice would be to grab the cube and save it for later. His longevity had not been used as he had at least five hundred years in the tank before he would even start to age. This time could be spent on training and getting ready for what could be beyond this world.

Then there was another reason that he wanted to go with this option and that was his family. Zhang Dong wished to actually spend some quality time with them for once. When he left this place then it could be the last time he sees his son, daughter, and wife. It was already a proven fact that a person could wait it out even into the older years.

His predecessor only ascended after getting too old to sustain his longevity, with Wang Long's death there didn't seem to be any rush. The demi-human emperor was strong and the others were probably around his level. This was not something that his improved sect couldn't handle. The longer they trained the stronger they would become and the easier it would be to defeat the remaining enemies.

Yet the urge to just sit down in the lotus position was strong. The people that were gathered around here didn't move but they did realize that this item was something special. Perhaps if he didn't consume this cube now he would not get a chance later. What if someone got to it before he could use it or if it was discovered by the hidden overlords? Maybe he needed to risk it and just try attaining the immortal stage that everyone dreamed of.

His hand reached out towards the cube that started to float up and towards him. The seed inside of him started to instantly react. It started to pulse with life and expand the closer the nucleus containing Wang Long's system and Dao approached. The moment it touched his body the process might even be started forcefully.

'No... it's too soon... I don't know what might happen, it's best to not use a trump card this soon...'

The cube stopped just a meter before him as he put his hand down. It was calling out to him but he did not want to go through the change yet. Instead, he needed to lock this thing away so that it wouldn't beckon to him this much. For this he would need to lock this thing away, with his current knowledge that he lifted from his predecessor he knew what needed to be done.

With a wave of his hand, a set of strange symbols started to circle around the floating cube. It was a powerful seal that would help him keep this item hidden from even the overseer that probably resided somewhere in this world. At least that was what Bob's calculations determined so he couldn't be entirely sure if it would work.

As the rune-like symbols floated around the aura of the cube became fainter. Previously it was glowing with a bright white light but soon it began to turn gray. Finally, it dropped down to the ground while becoming solid black. Now when it was sealed it would be even fine if he held it directly by his hand. Only with the help of Bob would a person have enough computing power to disperse this seal here.

Now he just needed to reach out and take it. After the item was inside of his spatial ring or spatial treasure he could keep it safe. However, when he tried to reach out with his hand to make the now sealed nucleus towards him, it didn't react. Did the battle along with the sealing technique take this much of a toll on him? He could have sworn that he recovered a lot after swallowing some high-quality pills.



“Liena could you perhaps... Liena? ... Qiang?”

If he was too weak then it was natural to ask for help from his wife but there was a problem. When he turned his head towards her she wasn't moving. No one was moving, it was as if time had stopped for everyone but him. Then he noticed that the cube was acting up, it floated up slowly before shooting into the distance.

Even when he tried jumping after it, his body felt really sluggish. The connection to his cultivation base had been cut off and even the strange seed that was giving him power wasn't reacting. He was powerless to stop the item from going away and this only confirmed his previous fear. Perhaps it was better to absorb this thing when he had the chance but now it turned to the worst-case scenario.

‘Is it an overseer?’

While he had no power to do anything his eyes still worked. When he traced the flight path of the cube he noticed a lone figure floating in the sky. To his surprise, it was indeed someone that he knew, a person from the Long Clan. In the previous world the administrator took the form of the King but here it was different.

“... The Azure Dragon Empress?”

“Yes, that is the title that belongs to this body.”

Her reply was almost robotic, it lacked any kind of emotion. The woman that stuck around Long Qing didn't act like this. She played the role of the gentle matriarch that made life worth living for the Azure Emperor. Was this all a scam? Was the Emperor in on this or was he just a puppet that didn't know anything?

It somewhat made sense that someone from the Long Clan would be involved. The Empress' position was only below the Emperor so she could do almost anything without being second-guessed by anyone. Long Qing was in the forefront so she wouldn't be suspected by anyone, even Zhang Dong had to agree that he couldn't find anything suspicious with the pair.

“Could you return that? I kind of need it...”

“Return it? I can't do that, this should not exist here... but this is peculiar, why can you still move?”

“Uh well...”

“The being has a system but it can still move... this has not been planned. It goes against the world order, is it an error? No... the great one does not make mistakes...”

The beautiful woman grasped the cube and started examining it. Her gaze moved toward Zhang Dong, that look that lacked any emotion made his skin crawl. It was as if he was some kind of lab rat. Her monologue at least revealed some more truths and actually confirmed something.

‘So there is a being behind all of this...’

The mention of the great one did raise some eyebrows. It meant that there was one grand being behind all of this madness. The demon lord from the magical world had decided to erase it but this one was

different. Even now she was mumbling to herself without even paying attention to Zhang Dong who was listening.

Time had actually stopped for everyone here. He could not hear anyone breathing or any heartbeats, nor was there any wind anywhere. Moving through space was strange but for some reason, he could do it. Perhaps after absorbing some of that nucleus his cultivation had reached a new height. The seed inside of him did become a bit bigger and something wanted to sprout.

“A decision needs to be made...”

To the woman, it didn't seem that he existed. Her focus was on the cube but to his surprise, she wasn't able to crack it open. It was strange to see a being of immense power scratching her head while shaking the cube. Perhaps even overseers had limits to their capabilities. Interacting with a system item could be above their clearance.

“The story has not yet ended...”

Was the last thing that escaped from her mouth. The cube she was holding was somehow hidden into her own gown. Her gaze moved back towards Zhang Dong that wanted to ask many questions. Yet instead of answering them, he started getting warning signals from Bob.

‘Mental attack had been attempted... scrambling was successful...the user will not suffer any memory loss... attempting to hide the fact from the administrator...’

“Huh?”

He called out in shock when looking at the prompt. If what Bob was showing him was correct then he had to act the part to get out of this alive. For this he started looking around in a daze as if he was not aware of where he was. His hand moved to his head to play it off as a migraine and to his surprise, the woman that was floating above him took this as a fact.

It was strange but it worked, it was as if the overseer couldn't fathom their mind-affecting technique ever failing. Within a second of performing it, she vanished and the world regained its coloring. The sight was quite peculiar as everything started moving very slowly before returning to normal.

“Are you done, husband?”

“I uh... yes, we should gather up the injured, don't pursue the demons, we don't have the time for that...”

The whole encounter was quite unsettling but it seemed that this administrator intended to let him ride out this scenario. She referred to it as a ‘story’ that probably included the enemy empires that were still active outside. He had gained another chance in the face of this powerful being but he had also lost his ticket out. As long as the cube was in that woman's grasp he would probably not be able to reach the immortal stage.

‘I'm back to square one... at least Wang Long isn't a problem anymore...’

One problem was solved but was quickly replaced by another one. His only option was to get his people out of here first before attempting to figure out his next best option...

