# THE GOD VIRUS

#### Chapter 381: Run

Seeing her finally speak in Chinese, frowning, Virus couldn't help but ask, "Why weren't you able to talk just now? What exactly happened to you?"

Unfortunately, instead of providing him with a satisfying answer, Hu Yuexin's eyebrows immediately closed in to one another as she repeated, "I said... who are you?"

" ..."

"You don't even recognize me? It's me, Aizen. Aizen Vee." Admitted Virus while gazing right into her eyes.

He went on then, "could it be... you don't remember a thing? Hmm, let's start with this... do you know who you are?"

Catching this interrogative question, Hu Yuexin didn't respond immediately. Instead, she continued staring into Virus's eyes quietly as if she was contemplating something crucial.

'Where am I?'

'What's with these strange buildings?' Examining her surroundings, she pondered in confusion. The modern skyscrapers of Shanghai was indeed a novelty to her.

'A moment before, I was still imprisoned on that damned throne, thinking I'm destined to be stuck there till the arrival of my death. But then, when I periodically tried utilizing that mysterious technique of mine as usual... it suddenly activated for real and then...' her line of sight began wandering around at this point as it brushed past Amara before it was finally locked on the figure of the golden beauty.

Meanwhile, the sight of those deep pupils only forced odd thoughts to pop into Virus's head, 'Seriously though, what's with those eyes... I can swear they are entirely different from before. It's like I'm gazing into the eyes of a total stranger. Is she perhaps now suffering from Dissociative Identity Disorder[1] due to some kind of traumatic brain injury?'

'But... those profound eyes of hers... why do they give me this chilling feeling that I'm gazing at someone who's very similar to me? Someone who has lived for a very long time I mean. Someone ancient.'

Shaking his head in the end, Virus decided, 'I shouldn't jump into any conclusions. First, I need to speak to her more.'

And it was exactly at this moment when Hu Yuexin opened her mouth again and confirmed Virus's notion coldly, "Yes, I do not recall anything. I don't even know my name. So tell me, what's this place?"

Considering the situation from Hu Yuexin's perspective, Virus could only imagine how confused and lost she must be right now. Therefore, letting out a helpless sigh, Virus decided to clarify the situation to her first, "Your name is Hu Yuexin and you live in this city... Shanghai. You have a sick son. His name is..."

After that, Virus provided a brief summary of everything he knew about the person called Hu Yuexin.

"... And that's everything I know about you."

"But all that aside," getting closer to her at this point, Virus added, "I was genuinely worried about you, Hu Yuexin. I don't know what that light was or what happened to you as of yet. But whatever it was, I don't care. What matters to me most is that you're alive at least."

Following that, abruptly, spreading his arms, Virus hugged her out of nowhere.

#### Bang!

Shockingly, however, the instant Hu Yuexin was within his embrace, an invisible force was released from her body, which promptly sent the thunderstruck Virus flying away!

By the sidelines, both Amara and the golden beauty seemed to have been greatly dumbfounded by this unexpected turn of events too.

Nonetheless, it didn't take long before, at some meters away, Virus rose to his feet once again.

Only this time, unbelievably, a trail of blood was drawn on the corner of his mouth while his eyes were wide open due to astonishment. 'W-what the fuck... what was that attack?! I think it directly bypassed my flesh defense and was even able to slightly damage my internal organs...'

In the meantime, externally, he began voicing his disbelief, "What was that attack? Why would you assault me-"

But before he could even finish, Hu Yuexin's icy tone interrupted him, "Never, Touch me again."

"Ever."

On the contrary, however, this chain of events had only intensified Virus's curiosity regarding her weird condition even further. Thus, recalling the strange attack, Virus asked, "How did you become this powerful, Hu Yuexin? A mere Dissociative Identity Disorder can no longer explain it. Unless... you've either awakened some sort of Trait or..." Reaching the end of his sentence, Virus didn't continue.

Hearing his interrogation, Hu Yuexin didn't bother herself with it at all, instead, she merely stated her rejection on dwelling on the matter any further, "I don't know what you're talking about, nor do I care. Just let me tell you this,

according to your explanations just now, you and I seemed to be somewhat close before... well, that ends here. We're total strangers from now on."

Not stopping there, she went on calmly, "Also, it appears I owe you one of those Red-Crystal thingies which was stolen by that disgrace of a man Fan Tong. Well, I'm not one to owe anyone anything, so there's no need to be concerned about that either. I'll soon get my hands on another one or two of those and return it to you together with its appropriate interest. That'll be all."

Following that, as she was done speaking, turning around, she was adamant about leaving the area. But before she could do that, much to her annoyance, she was stopped in her tracks. "Wait."

Narrowing her eyes in irritation, Hu Yuexin declared, "What is it now? Don't be a nuisance and stop bothering me already!"

Truthfully, Hu Yuexin was so insistent on leaving because her number one priority at the moment was to leave anywhere close to the place this mysterious yet analytic man was present at.

She didn't want her secret to be discovered just yet since she wasn't sure what he might do as a result. 'I'm too weak to confront this man right now since that simple burst of attack exhausted me already. And I need to leave even more so since it wasn't even able to inflict any type of fatal injury on him... not even close.'

In fact, she was so desperate to leave because every inch of her entire existence was warning her to run away from this dangerous man as quickly as possible. 'The current me is no match for him.'

## THE GOD VIRUS

### Chapter 382: K

"Don't you want to save your son? I can help you with that." Virus questioned with his penetrative gaze still as sharp as before.

Hearing the question, however, Hu Yuexin had this absurd sensation of being studied and analyzed by him, which to be truthful, shook her heart to its very core.

Nonetheless, she didn't hesitate to reply, "No. I don't need your or anyone else's help for saving my son. I'll do that myself." Having rejected the offer, she ended the conversation next, "Goodbye then."

Watching her vanishing back, finally shaking his head, Virus no longer called or tried stopping her.

"Aizen... what was that light just now?" Still full of disbelief and incredulity, Amara asked while gazing at the direction where Hu Yuexin had disappeared to.

"Hmm, well, I suppose it was some type of trait or something." Responded Virus at once, however, deducing from his tone, it was clear that even he himself hardly believed that. In fact, if he had to choose between 'trait' or 'something', even he would pick 'something'.

"That's impossible! How can a trait bring someone back from the dead?" Extremely perplexed, she denied the possibility.

"Well, there's a trait which allowed a girl to sneak a peek into the possible future, so who is to say that particular trait can't exist either." Was Virus' only response before he ended the conversation, "Let's go now, we need to return."

Next, entering the car, the trio finally realized there was another person who had seen the entire heaven-defying performance other than them. It was the driver who was sitting within the car shocked-silly.

"If you utter a word about what happened today to anyone. No, in fact, even if you don't say anything but someone gets the wind of it, that'll be the last day of your life. Alright?" Sitting inside the car, in a tone that was as if he was

simply explaining the relationship between cause and effect, Virus notified the driver regarding the consequences of the possible revelation of today's matter.

This instantly sent an intense shiver down to the driver's spine as he promptly recalled the scene of Virus pointing a gun at his temple. He was confident this customer of his was someone very dangerous as he had this particular gut feeling that Virus will definitely do what he had warned him with. "Y-yes, sir. I'm not a busybody, sir. I swear on my son's life I won't reveal a word of what happened today. In fact, I don't even know what you're talking about, sir."

"Drive, then. Our jet is waiting for us." And with that, he no longer bothered himself with him. This was all he would do for the current Hu Yuexin.

Of course, if instead of Hu Yuexin, the same thing had happened to the golden beauty, unquestionably, Virus would not have hesitated in getting rid of the driver right there and then. Since only the dead was sure not to talk.

. . .

Simultaneously, in various parts of the world, in many countries such as America, France, South Korea, etc. similar phenomena to Shanghai were taking place.

. . .

#### FRANCE, IN THE VICINITY OF A PARTICULAR JUNGLE

Currently, two gigantic ants had been just released from a rift as they had rather effortlessly gotten rid of the three dispatched guardians as they were now wreaking havoc everywhere.

Of course, it didn't take long before a new batch of guardians arrived at the scene.

"God... do you think we can get rid of those monsters, guild leader K?" One of the five guardians present at the scene uttered.

Meanwhile, instead of answering the question, the person who was addressed as K simply turned around and asked a question of his own, "Kiddo, do you think you can disorient them?"

"Uncle, I told you to stop calling me kiddo! Call me Dizzy, you old man!" Immediately, a frown took shape on Dizzy's forehead as he mouthed in annoyance.

"Haha... and it's been years since I'm telling you to stop calling me 'old man' or 'uncle', but do you ever listen? Anyway, can you do it?" K phrased with a chuckle.

"Hmm, let me try." Subsequently, Dizzy raised both his arms as he tried muddling the two massive ants.

Regrettably, however, the instant he focused his trait on the two, he came to realize that disorienting the two simultaneously was an impossible thing to do for the current him at least. Even dazing one of them was a rather difficult thing to achieve, "Um, uncle, I can only daze one of them... and that's for a very short time... perhaps a minute."

Furrowing his brows in return, helplessly, K could only command, "Do it then, meanwhile, the rest of you try holding the other ant back while we handle the other one as quickly as we can before joining you three."

"Yes, sir!" Heeding the order, the three charged at the other ant without hesitation.

After confirming the three were gone and the first ant had been dazed successfully, raising a single hand, K sent a large number of various sizes of bombs and rockets toward the disoriented ant.

#### BOOOM!

Following that, dust covered the area.

"Is it dead?" K murmured while intently focusing his gaze into the cloud of dust.

Unfortunately, after the dust cleared away a few seconds later, K was faced with a scene that dumbfounded even him.

In fact, what made him dumbstruck was the sight of the nearly unscathed ant who had been snapped out of his dazed state as a consequence of his bombing.

"I-It's fine?" Even K himself was feeling rather unnerved at this point. "T-that's impossible! No monster was ever able to survive that..."

"U-uncle, I can't... I can't disorient it anymore... i-it's resisting it!"

Just as K was about to respond to that in absolute confoundment, sounds of scream reverberated the surrounding area, drawing K and Dizzy's attention to itself.

"Ahhhh!"

Turning their heads around that very instant, Dizzy and K were faced with a horrifying scene they doubted they were ever going to forget.

# THE GOD VIRUS

# Chapter 383: Nippy

Currently, right in front of them, utilizing its mandibles, the other ant cut one of the three guardians into two sections. Next, utilizing two of its sharp legs that were as sharp as knives, it attacked its remaining opponents, successfully forcing them to their eternal sleep as a result. Even though the entire process appeared to have taken a lot of time, the ant had been so quick that the three guardians didn't even have the time to use their traits and try surviving the attack.

"Noooo!" Cried K as he instantly utilized every ounce of his trait, Psychokinesis, as he sent both of the ants flying away to the far distance.

As he ran to the gruesome corpses of his companions next, a drop of tear rolled down K's face before he powerlessly fell to his knees beside them.

"U-uncle, right now is not the time for grieving. We need to... run..." Trembling all over his body, Dizzy was hardly able to even mouth these few words. Dizzy was dazed indeed.

Hearing dizzy's fearful voice, on the other hand, K stood up at once before uttering with a dark face, "You leave... I'll go and kill them myself."

"Uncle! You can't!" Alas, before he could even finish, K's figure had already risen to the sky as it flew in the direction where the two horrendous ants had disappeared at.

Meanwhile, watching K's vanishing figure, Dizzy clenched both his fists before murmuring in the end, "I won't leave you alone, uncle. You know that." With that, he also followed the shadow of his guild leader, K.

. . .

Unfortunately or fortunately for him, when K flew to the scene where the two ants should've been at right now, he was faced with an empty space.

Apparently, the two ants had escaped or retreated into the woods.

'Finding them would be even harder... now that they've run into the woods.' With that thought, he was just about to follow them when the rushing figure of Dizzy appeared in his line of view.

"Uncle! I'll come with you, let's go!" Said Dizzy with unshakeable determination exuding from his being.

Listening to this, however, frowning, traces of hesitation finally took root on K's heart.

Knowing how obstinate Dizzy can get when he was resolved to do something, K was confident Dizzy would follow him anywhere now. But to be honest, the notion of that happening terrified him, he didn't want the guilt of losing another one of his people on his conscience today.

Therefore, after much struggle and deliberation to himself, K declared, "Let's go, we're going back to our headquarters."

"B-but... what about those ants? They might return or even slaughter innocent people..." Worried about the possible consequences of leaving the ants alone, Dizzy inquired.

"As much as I'd hate to admit, it'll be too hard for us to kill those bastard monsters alone. We need to go back, notify the Abnormals Association, gather more forces, and then come back for a search and hunt session."

"B-but..."

In a flash, a sharp glint of anger flickered through K's eyes as he declared his final decision, "No buts! We'll go collect the corpse of our comrades and leave!"

"... Alright."

. . .

Simultaneously, nearly a similar scene was being sighted in various countries around the globe. However, in one of these particular nations, something even more stupefying was about to take place.

. . .

#### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Currently, Nippy, aka Supersonic Sword, having reserved a single rift entirely for himself, was waiting for the fracture to spit the monster so he could deal with them solo.

"Hahaha... at last, my first solo rift. My name will soon resound throughout the world and people shall revere me as the mighty Supersonic Sword!" He exclaimed in an embarrassing yet exaggerated posture while placing his palm on his forehead.

#### Crack~

The dim sound of glass shattering was heard at this point. And having noticed that, gathering every bit of his focus, Nippy determined. 'It's opening! My rift is opening!'

Grabbing the hilt of his sword next, pure excitement began to flicker within his eyes while the image of a soon-to-be future full of reverence of the world toward him occupied his mind.

"Come!" He cried, full of pride.

Simultaneously, the rift finally started the process of expelling as whatever that was on the other side was instantly brought to this side.

In the meantime, the moment the being inside was brought out, without even waiting to check what it was, a grin covered Nippy's face as he promptly brandished his sword at whatever that had been just shunned there.

#### Bam!

. . .

"Ah... what is this? I just arrived here and some bastard's already trying to kill me? Moreover, he's of the human race."

On the other hand, as Nippy felt the obstruction of the path of his sword, the zeal and fever left Nippy's eyes without further ado.

And indeed, with that fire of passion leaving his face, at last, he carefully looked at the being in front of him.

Instantly, his pupils constricted to the size of needle pins. He couldn't believe what he was seeing right now.

"W-what... h-how is this possible? Y-y-y-you, how can you come out of that place?!"

Witnessing what was before him, Nippy was stunned indeed. He was stunned because he could only call what was in front of him a... man!

A man, as in a male human being! The thought of which petrified him there and then!

Following that, Nippy began murmuring beneath his breath, "No, no, no... but that's not possible, right? What is he? Is he some type of monster in the shape of a man?! Yes, yes, that must be it! That's the only explanation."

"Huh, what's this bastard muttering? And what language is that?" Meanwhile, unwilling to free the tip of Nippy's sword from his grasp, the other being also whispered.

In actual fact, both Nippy and the other man were speaking in different languages. But to be more clear, while Nippy was pronouncing English sentences, the other person was mouthing voices which could only be said to be connected to Chinese itself or at least very similar to it.

"Whatever. Let's just get rid of this bug before exploring this land." Having decided on his next course of action, letting go of the tip of Nippy's sharp sword, at last, he pointed a single finger toward the still confused and lost guardian.

In a flash, a strange type of energy seemed to be gathering in front of the other man's finger which was released the very next moment.

#### Thud!

While on the other hand, the second Supersonic Sword had taken notice of the accumulating mysterious energy, getting a very ominous yet dangerous feeling, he promptly raised his sword precisely to the spot where the finger was pointing at. The middle of his forehead.

And following that, as expected, a cracking noise reverberated around the area as Supersonic Sword was blasted away with his eyes wide open.

Nippy was greatly startled because one moment the energy was still collecting before his finger but the next fraction of the second, something had already shattered his sword to many pieces as the cumulative force behind it also launched him several meters back.

## THE GOD VIRUS

### Chapter 384: Millions of Tragedy, Tragedy of Millions

Going through this kind of unexpected yet horrible experience, Nippy's eyelids were so wide apart from one another that his eyeballs were almost on the verge of popping out as he was shooting through the air and being blasted away.

Unfortunately, seemingly not wanting to even give his opponent the opportunity to snap out of his dazed state or even touch the ground once again, while Nippy was still shooting through the air, he once again took shape beside him before sending a simple yet powerful punch at the unresponsive Nippy.

#### BAM! CRACK~

"Ahhhh!" A strange noise of many bones shattering reverberated in the area as it was followed by the tragic cry of the now gory Nippy who was sent flying away in another direction before his sorry ass had even hit his previous fated destination.

"Hmm," Briefly gazing at the now motionless figure of Nippy whose death or life was unknown, he murmured, "So weak... I feel disgusted by even wasting my time and attacking him."

With that said, he no longer cared about the question of whether Nippy was dead or alive as he turned around and disappeared into the horizon.

. . .

Meanwhile, all around the globe, various monsters were wreaking havoc and chaos. If the rift was in a village, the village itself together with all of its inhabitants was slaughtered. If it was in a town, the town itself vanished from the face of the Earth. Even some cities were devastated to a pathetic point of absolute tragedy.

Today's event was indeed a rare type of calamity which was going to have numerous chain effects on the constantly changing and evolving Earth once again.

. . .

At the same time, media all around the world was going crazy as they streamed or broadcasted the calamitous events of the day one after another.

The cases of towns, villages, and even many skyscrapers of various cities together with its inhabitants disappearing were being so frequently reported that the estimated cases of casualties had already exceeded millions!

Now although that might seem a small number compared to the entire seven billion population on Earth, it was in truth a gigantic figure!

And in the end, even though millions might just seem a number, if all of those ice-cold corpses were in fact gathered in a single location and put above one another, it would definitely form a mountain made of corpses and dead bodies!!!

. . .

In a certain News channel in France, an anchorman was reporting, "We've just been updated that three of the companions of Guardian K, the guild leader of [Dawn of Courage], have been announced dead."

"Delving more deeply into the matter, it appears that, regrettably, the entire primarily dispatched team of Guardians together with the whole nearby village and its population had been confirmed dead and annihilated before the arrival of Guardian K's team..." At this point, there seemed to be a lump stuck in the anchorman's throat as he was about to burst into tears at any seconds now. Notwithstanding, after several seconds of quietness, he appeared to have been temporarily successful in controlling himself as he added, "My deepest condolences to all people of my nation."

Ruefully, France was not the only country to be going through this cataclysmic incident, and all around the world, a similar catastrophe was occurring as many families, compatriots, and even the entire planet population itself was grieving over the instant loss of so many lives.

On this day, countless children had lost their parents and thus became orphans. "Mama, papa... wake up... why aren't you waking up?! Mamaaa, papaa!!! Wuuuuuuh... I Pwomise to not be a bad kid anymore, pwease wake upp, wuuuuh..."

. . .

Many fathers or mothers took an even harsher blow to themselves as they experienced one of the worst types of pain, the loss of a child!

In one corner of the world, a gravely wounded father was running toward what he believed to be the direction of the hospital while on his arms was the cold gory corpse of a teen girl. "Sara, Sara... please, j-just a little bit, hang on just a little bit, w-we're almost t-there. Don't l-leave dad alone. You're all I have, you know that!!!" Albeit, the girl was already gone, never to return again.

In another corner. "Whyyyyyyy!!! What did we do to deserver this!!! Why did those monsters have to kill my son!!! What did we ever do to them!? Why, whyyy, whyyyyyy!!! I swear... I swear on this already cold body of yours, Josh, I'll slaughter all of them! EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM!" By this point, that man's face was contorting to a horrifying extent as tears kept pouring down his face without end. Rage, hatred, and grief were no longer recognizable in his expression.

Sadly yet, all of this was a mere tip compared to the iceberg itself.

Today, Earth was once again reminded of how weak it was against the incoming enemies that apparently wanted nothing but their total destruction.

. . .

As blood and fire were drawn everywhere, on top of a certain private-jet, a man was comfortably sitting with a glass of wine on his hand as he enjoyed the mesmerizing scenery of calm clouds right outside his window.

Of course, Amara and the golden beauty weren't that laid-back and casual as they were intently staring at the television within the jet.

At this point, tears even began streaming down Amara's face as she saw many screaming and crying people above the corpses of their loved ones.

More importantly, she was acting this way because the death toll alone felt like a mountain pressuring against her heart and mind.

"How... how can this happen... sob... why is this happening?! God-" She muttered, full of remorse and sorrow.

However, at this time, a leisurely uttered response by Virus made her feel even worse as her face darkened instantly, "People die, Amara. They are meant to die," not pausing there, he went on, "well, at least on this timeline that is. They come to life in order to wither away and pass away. It's a mere inevitable cycle, so there's no use in wasting your energy and feeling bad about it, it's just that their time came sooner than expected. That is all."

'In fact, all I see is a ghost town when I look at this planet of the past.'

"Y-you!!! How can you say that?! How can you be so cold and unmoved by all this... i-it's no longer a single death or even several deaths, Aizen... it's millions we're talking about! Millions of tragic deaths! Is your heart really made by nothing BUT STONES?!" She cried in agony and rage. Honestly, she couldn't believe Virus had just uttered those inexcusable words and tried justifying the entire situation by saying 'Well, people die. So... that's normal.'

"Hmm, not a single death, but millions of deaths?" Briefly murmuring this sentence; however, he announced coldly, "Such hypocrisy."

Not stopping there, he continued, "So you're saying one or several deaths are just fine, but millions are not? No, no... in fact, you're not just saying it, seeing how you were totally fine watching me actually kill someone, you do truly believe in it."

"So you don't care about several deaths, but you care about it when its in millions. What a hypocrite you are, Amara. Isn't the value of life in that single life itself and not the accumulation of it?"

"And now you want to judge me for it? How dare you?" Accompanied by an annoyed frown, a chilly glint blazed within Virus' pupils.

"So who is the worse one here, Amara?"

"A hypocrite believing in the greater good, willing to kill several people for the benefit of millions, or the person who sees 'one' and 'a million' as equals?"

## THE GOD VIRUS

## Chapter 385: Ready

Listening to everything Virus had to say, claiming Amara was thunderstruck would be an understatement since that couldn't even begin to define her current emotions anymore.

She felt wronged and misunderstood as she wanted to scream that he was not correct about this. Albeit, she couldn't in the end.

Notwithstanding, for a while, after Virus was done speaking, a strange type of silence descended upon the interior of the jet as Amara could only stare wide-eyed at him, a little pale on the face.

However, as she deliberated more on the matter, gradually, her anger returned to her as she pondered, 'Aren't you just twisting the entire situation? Aren't I at least getting sad over their deaths?'

Nevertheless, she didn't utter any of that out loud, and instead, returning to her seat with a harrumph, she stayed quiet for the rest of the journey after murmuring something beneath her lips. "Hmph, I can't win over you with words alone when you can easily make a devil a saint and a saint the worst devil the world has ever seen."

. . .

#### KNOCK! KNOCK!

"Come on in." Said someone in a relaxed tone.

Creak~ Targh!

"Mr. CEO, everything's ready at last!" Stated a young woman while gazing at the ugly man in front of her. This young woman was his personal secretary.

"Un." Nodding his head, uttered the CEO ugly inquisitively, "Briefly go over some of the main processes we went through in these past few years."

"Yes, Mr. CEO." Nodding respectfully, the woman continued, "So, at the very first step, without anyone's notice, mine included, you sir together with the aid of Mr. Robert James, the head of Legal Department, secretly bought many precious lands with the potential to be mined from all over the world."

Simultaneously, she was wondering to herself internally, 'Which I still don't know how you guys did it... I can't even begin to guess how this company can suddenly discover so many lands full of potential all of sudden...'

Outwardly, without any change in expression whatsoever, she went on, "It was followed by the second step where Mr. James dealt with and cleared away all of the relevant paperwork and legal and political issues as the green light was finally given to us to handle the remaining crucial phases."

"Anyway, subsequently, the headquarters began building the required construction bases at the site of each of the mining lands. Not only that, heeding your personal orders, we also bought the most expensive and advanced tools for the process of mining itself."

"And now, after several years, every single one of our mining sites is considered the most advanced ones all around the globe. Everything else such as the matter of hiring a gigantic number of workers, employees, etc. has been completed too."

"Thus, as of this moment, all of our employees and miners are just waiting for your signal to officially begin mining. That is all, sir." Concluded the secretary with shining eyes of reverence directed at her CEO.

In fact, the gaze of this secretary of his seemed to be filled with such passion and veneration that the CEO ugly had this absurd notion that she might start worshipping him at any seconds now.

"I see. Now report the list of mines that are ready to start working for our company." A momentary flicker of satisfaction went through the CEO ugly's eyes as he threw another question into the ring.

In truth, the reason why the CEO ugly was questioning her like this had to do with the fact that in these past few years, he had been extremely pleased with this secretary of his, and therefore, he wanted to promote her in the following days. These inquiries were like a final yet simple interview where he wanted to shine more light on the extent of her diligence and power of analysis.

"Yes, sir. According to the report I was handed with, it is clearly elaborated that the mines are ranked based on the potential size of their veins. This ranking respectively includes from the smallest to biggest D-grade, C-grade, B-grade, and the largest A-grade mines."

"The list states that we are now in possession of many D-grade mines of copper, silver, iron, etc."

Speaking of these D-grade mines, a rather strange expression became visible on the CEO ugly's face as he recalled something, 'Huh, thinking back, Master didn't even bother with these D-grade mines as he merely told me to memorize their spots as spare ones. He never mentioned these smaller mines in specific as he merely told me to start preparing the mines with our capital without telling me to abandon or make use of the smaller ones which he didn't even spare a glance at.'

'Sigh, in the end, without missing a single one, I just went ahead and made use of all of them since there are going to be tons of profits earned from each

and every one of them. But I wonder, was doing this the best thing? Hope it pleases master.'

Meanwhile, the secretary went on with her elucidation in a professional tone, "There were also several C-grade mines specializing in either copper, iron, or silver."

"But moving on to the larger B-grade mines, there are six mines entirely and every one of them specializes in either silver, Iron, or gold."

"And at last, the company's now in possession of two A-grade mines, one of which mainly specializes in diamond and is expected to produce more than 15 million carats diamonds annually, and the other one is a mixed-mine expected to be able to produce gold, molybdenum, silver, copper, etc. by itself alone."

Going quiet at this point she finished, "That is all, sir."

"Hmm, great. Alright! You can go ahead and give the green light, we'll launch the mining phase from this moment onwards."

"Yes, Mr. CEO." Confirmed the secretary. Yet for some unknown reason, she wasn't moving at all.

"Is there anything else?" Rather intrigued, without displaying any signs of emotion, the CEO ugly questioned.

"Um, Mr. CEO... should we take some precautionary measures before that? I'm just worried that if we start the mining phase now, the rest of the mining industry and the governments of those countries in possession of mines might try to shut us down or-" Before she could finish with her expression of worry, however, the CEO ugly interrupted, "You don't need to worry about that. It's already been dealt with. You're dismissed."

"Yes, Mr. CEO." Since it was no longer appropriate for her to proceed any further than that, the secretary merely retreated and left the office.

'Hmph, they would've made a move already if they did indeed dare to do so.' Pondered the CEO ugly to himself after watching his secretary leave. In fact, when it came to this particular topic, the CEO ugly knew better than anyone else that other people would rarely dare to offend them anymore.

This mainly had to do with the fact that up to this moment, the Virus Industries was absolutely successful in maintaining their sole control and secrecy over the production and distribution of the annual temporary cures of the Mutated HIV, [Ai Virus 001: The Savior].

Moreover, he was confident this status quo was going to remain the same until at least the permanent cure of the Mutated HIV was discovered by someone. But for now, they were safe from most of those greedy eyes observing them from within the shadows.

### THE GOD VIRUS

# **Chapter 386: Possible Reasons**

Hours later, a private jet landed on a particular island owned by Virus as two people got off of it before the jet once again took off into the vast sky. Its next destination was New York.

"Welcome back, master." Since the Island ugly was already waiting for their arrival, Virus and the golden beauty were respectfully escorted to their base on the atoll.

"Here, take this and go finish that device as quickly as possible." Handing the Pink Star over to the Island ugly, taking on a leisurely tone, Virus declared.

"Actually master, that device was already prepared a long time ago. It just needed the Pink Star in order to be complete and functional. I'll bring it over this very instant." Presenting Virus with this good piece of news, the Island ugly left the room briefly.

Meanwhile, the golden beauty served him some quality tea as they enjoyed their waiting period.

"Em, master, after you're done with your thing, are we gonna leave to China or New York?" Inquired the golden beauty while taking a single sip of her own tea.

"Hmm, I've some stuff to do in New York, so we'll temporarily return there." Replied the master mysteriously.

#### Creak~

At this point, the door to the room was pushed open as the Island ugly came back. This time, he had also brought something over.

"Is that the device?" Gazing at what could only be described as a glasshelmet, Virus questioned.

"Yes, master. You just need to place the Pink Star diamond in this hole here." Explained the Island ugly while pointing at the opening spot in the forehead area of the helmet.

Although most of the helmet seemed to be made out of a strange type of glass, there was also a very complex web-like network of lines and other parts similar wired within the very glass itself.

"Alright then, you two leave my suite while I do my thing then. Don't disturb me until I tell you otherwise."

"Yes, master." Both the golden beauty and the Island ugly heeded the command as they left the area subsequently.

As the two took their leave, the Island ugly queried, "So, how was it? Did you guys have some fun in Shanghai?"

"Fun?" However, a complicated expression seemed to flicker on the golden beauty's face as many notions appeared within her head, 'Was it fun? Well, I

admit there were many fun parts to our travel, like buying those clothes and hanging out with master... it's just the final part of the journey that's been bothering me slightly.'

Nonetheless, in the end, she uttered none of those out loud and instead gave a simple response, "Un, yes. It was kinda fun."

...

Meanwhile, within his personal suite on the island, after the two had disappeared outside, Virus picked up the glass-helmet at last. But for a few seconds, he simply stared at the helmet.

Now although this glimpse of his seemed to be just that, a mere glimpse, in truth, he was constructing the most basic form of Artificial Intelligence as he locked it up within the tool.

'Hmm.' Next, he didn't hesitate to grab and place the Pink Star diamond at the very center-area of the forehead of the helmet itself.

To be even more precise, the location of placement was exactly in the middle part of his eyebrows.

## Targh!

The moment Pink Star was in close proximity to the hole, however, an odd suction force and some very small bolts of electricity seemed to take shape from the glass hat itself as it automatically drew the Pink Star to itself.

Following that, from all over the interior of the glass, with the diamond as their target, hundreds of red laser-like beams concentrated on the diamond. All of them were now shining at the Pink Star itself.

'Hmm, it's finally the time for me to examine my [Existential Codes] and discover just what the hell is wrong with me.' As this line, accompanied with

some traces of excitement, took shape within his head, Virus didn't dilly-dally any longer as he went ahead and put the helmet on.

#### Thud!

The moment the glass helmet came to cover half his head, it made direct contact with the center of his forehead before some kind of connection seemed to be made between his brain and the Pink Star the very next second!

[Ding! Establishing a connection between the brain and the device...] Immediately, this sentence displayed itself before his eyes. This report, however, didn't truly exist in front of him as it was merely being transmitted into his brain, giving him the illusion as if he was truly seeing the sentence with his own very eyes!

[Connection Established. Does the host want to unlock and gain access to its/his/her relevant 'Existential Codes'?]

"Yes, unlock and access."

[Is the host absolutely certain? WARNING: Please keep in mind, due to the impurity of the crystal placed within the device, gaining access to your raw 'Existential Codes' comes with the following risks – (a) Possible loss of memory, (b) possible disorientation, and (c) Slight chance of failure in accessing the codes of existence.]

"Yes, proceed."

[...]

[Confirmed. The device is trying to gain access to the host's 'Existential Codes'.]

[1%...]

[26%...]

[57%...]

[83%...]

[WARNING! FAILURE IN UNLOCKING AND GAINING ACCESS TO HOST'S EXISTENTIAL CODES.]

"Huh? Argh." This result which came as a surprise was promptly followed by sharp pain and headache that forced Virus to yelp briefly.

'It failed? Why is that?' He said doubtfully. The headache was already starting to recede.

[According to the feedback received, there could be a few possible reasons for this failure. But please be warned that these reasons are completely inaccurate and unreliable.]

'Go on and show me the possible reasons.'

[Here are the possible reasons...]

[1. The host is a human being, therefore lacks 'Existential Codes' to begin with and instead possesses a human soul.]

Reading the first reason, shaking his head, Virus denied the possibility while muttering to himself, "I wasn't born a human being, so that's most likely impossible. Logically, my 'Existential Codes' should still exist. Moreover, if I had a full human soul, the device would've been at least able to determine that it has come into contact with a human soul and determine that it is indeed the sole cause for failure." He outright denied this probability because even though humanity of the future deemed the soul as the most mysterious aspect of mankind which they had very little knowledge about, utilizing their advanced tools of technology, they were at least able to pinpoint, sense, and even recognize it.

'Display the second possible cause.'

[2. The device has come into contact with a mutated type of soul or an unknown form of 'Existential Codes', thus making it impossible to determine what or how it went wrong.]

'Hmm... what's the third one?' He was furrowing his brows at this point.

[3. The device has come into contact with an unknown being or race that's not been included in the transmitted database of racial soulprints.]

'And the fourth?'

[4. The 'Existential Codes' was locked and secured in a mysterious way which makes it impossible to access, discern, and connect.]

## THE GOD VIRUS

### Chapter 387: NYAA

'Although the fourth reason could be partly true, it's not the complete truth. In fact, in my past life, I was indeed able to gain access to the surface construction of my 'Existential Codes' on many occasions, even though I was never able to take a peek at the very essence and core of my 'Existential Codes'. But even back then that was my limit since for some undetermined reason I wasn't able to sneak a peek at deeper levels.'

'Back then, I was only able to helplessly conclude that those mysterious beings who created me had taken extreme measures in order to make it impossible for me or anyone else to see the very essence of my existence which would in return keep their secret and make it implausible to unravel the mystery of my creation and independent consciousness... but that's beside the point... the point right now is that I was at least able to gain access and study the very surface of my [Existential Codes] which is also what I required and needed at the moment.'

'But... perhaps, after I entered my biological body, something unspecified occurred which forced those extreme security measures to heighten even further. Thus resulting in the current situation of me being unable to even access the exterior surface of my [Existential Codes].'

'Anyway, tell me the fifth reason for now.'

[There is no fifth reason, host. That was everything.] Immediately, a sentence was exhibited before his eyes.

'Sigh... in the end, that means either one of the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th options could very well be the reasons behind this failure. But which one is it? That is the question.'

Afterward, for nearly ten minutes, Virus continued contemplating the subject matter, unfortunately, no matter how hard he thought, the information about the variations just wasn't complete enough for him to narrow down the options to a single one.

With that considered, finally, Virus could only shake his head and give up. 'Let's just try this again. I mean, who knows, maybe the device merely malfunctioned and failed.' Having decided to try the process again, he ordered, 'Try again!'

[...]

[Confirmed. The device is trying to gain access to the host's 'Existential Codes'.]

[1%...]

[28%...]

[66%...]

[91%...]

[WARNING! FAILURE IN UNLOCKING AND GAINING ACCESS TO HOST'S EXISTENTIAL CODES.]

#### Crack!

Following that, the noise of something cracking echoed as a fissure was drawn on the body of Pink Star before it was followed by the helmet's incoming report.

[WARNING! The crystal has been damaged. It is predicted that the host would be able to use the helmet two more times before the crystal shatters entirely. (4/2)]

Simultaneously, Virus felt as if a hammer had been just smashed against his brain and consciousness as he entered a strange state of mental confusion. Virus was disoriented this time.

Alas, he faced the same result once again. Utter failure.

Well, despite still not getting an answer to his urgent question, he was at least able to notice an even more important and perhaps grave issue. An issue that might just as well have to do with his previous problem and strange behavior.

. . .

#### TWO DAYS LATER - NEW YORK

Currently, Mark Sanchez, the personal driver of the CEO ugly was patiently waiting at the airport.

'Wonder who I'm supposed to drive around today... All CEO Greg told me was to follow every wish and command of the person I'm about to welcome today. He must be someone very important... but who could it be? Perhaps it's the chairman?'

. . .

'Oh, he's here.'

As the entrance of the jet was opened, accompanied by the familiar golden beauty, a dark-haired young man exited the private jet.

'Eh, I know miss Bella, but who is the other man with him? I believe CEO Greg told me I was gonna serve a man today, so it should be him, right?... but wow, he shouldn't even be 24. So young yet still able to force CEO Greg to sent me personally!' Even though useless thoughts like this were passing through his head, Mark stepped forward as he greeted the two, "Sir. Miss. Welcome to New York."

Subsequently, he politely opened the door for them as the two entered the car with a nod of satisfaction.

"Should I take you to headquarters, sir?" Inquired Mark after the luxury car started to speed up.

"No, first, take us to New York's Abnormals Association." Slightly shaking his head, the black-haired youth announced their following destination.

"Y-yes, sir." Although Mark was a little amazed, being the professional driver with a lot of experience, he was quick to regain his composure.

. . .

"Hello there, I would like to apply for a Guardian License." Casually leaning on the counter, Virus attracted the woman's attention.

"Ah, yes. And what's your name, sir?" Exhibiting a very bright smile, the young woman requested for clarification of his identity.

"Uh, you want us to get to know each other so soon?" Showing an exaggerated expression, the dark-haired youth, obviously Virus, tried teasing the lady. In fact, every time Virus went through a change in appearance, his

attitude also seems to transform and adjust itself accordingly while he sinks into character entirely.

Caught off-guard by this tease of him, a shade of red seemed to cover the reception lady's cheeks as she raised her head once again and took an even closer look at his face. Notwithstanding, since she was rather used to these types of situations where the other person tried to flirt and tease, she was rather calm about it. 'He's rather handsome though... not bad.'

"Hehe... please don't tease me, sir, I'm just doing my job." Beaming an even brighter chuckle in return, the lady once again threw the same question on the table, "But I really need to know your name since it's part of the protocol, so... please, sir."

"Hahaha... is that so? That's such a disappointment then. Anyway, you can call me Victor Goodwin." Virus answered in a joking tone.

'Victor Goodwin? Pfft, his parents must've really wanted him to be a winner in life.' With this notion occupying her mind, she didn't hesitate to hand over a piece of paper while requesting with a grin, "Please fill this form too."

## THE GOD VIRUS

### **Chapter 388: Motivation**

Filling the blank spots in the form which was about basic questions such as the full name of the applicant, date of birth, address, the motive for applying for a Guardian License, national number, etc. Virus once again handed the form back to her. Meanwhile, she was drinking water from her bottle.

After receiving the form, just as she does all the time, in order to sate her own curiosity, the receptionist naturally took a quick glance at the 'motive for applying for a Guardian License'.

#### PFFFFT!

But the next instant, everything within her mouth was spilled out as she gazed over at Virus dumbfoundedly.

She was so speechless because this was the first time she had seen such a weird motivation for wanting to be a Guardian.

#### 'Entertainment.'

That was the only word that was written in that particular section. Indeed, sitting behind the desk and having accepted many application forms before, she could boldly say that she had seen all types of reasons such as 'for justice', 'for wanting to be famous', 'for fighting against evil', 'for wanting to be rich', 'for revenge', 'for defending humanity', and many others!

Yet... this was the first time she had seen such a simple yet strange motivation. Entertainment.

No matter, gazing back at Virus's currently chuckling eyes, she got the inexplicable sensation as if the target of her attention was a mere kid who was obsessed with nothing but games that would entertain and engage him!

"Ah, Mr. Goodwin-"

"You can call me Vic."

"Ah, yes. Vic... I-I mean, Victor, is this truly the reason for you wanting to be a Guardian? Simply... entertainment?" She inquired doubtfully.

She didn't believe, not even for a single second, that someone would be crazy enough to throw himself into the raging war of terrifying monsters of the rift which apparently desired nothing but the eradication of the entire human race for such an absurd yet ludicrous rationale as 'entertainment'.

Meanwhile, after a few seconds of silence, turning rather serious, the darkhaired youth finally uttered, "Hmm... entertainment, as long as we're able to live and survive comfortably, isn't that the reason for everything?" "W-what?" The receptionist could swear at this point that she'd encountered a madman this time.

Not paying any heed to her gaze which was as if she was looking at an insane man, Virus' serious face seemed to melt away as it was replaced with a peal of unconstrained laughter, "Hahaha, just kidding, I just wrote the first word that came to my mind. My real motivation is to fight for justice by being evil!"

"Huh?" At this time, the receptionist, at last, felt like she was being teased and played with for the last minute or two. So pouting slightly, she voiced helplessly, "Sigh, Victor... you were teasing me again. Okay, okay, you don't want to tell us your real motivation for wanting to be a Guardian. That's fine. We'll just go with 'Entertainment' then."

After that, handing over a piece of paper, she explained, "This is like your entrance ticket for the Guardian Examinations which is fifteen days later. You can return at the time and participate in the exams."

"Hmm, why can't I take it right away?" Virus preferred to take the evaluation tests right away if possible.

"That's because the exams require professional Guardians and as I'm sure you're aware already, professional Guardians are busy and expensive. Therefore, they come once a month just to assist with the exams." She clarified.

"Oh, I see. Is there anything else I need to know?"

Hearing the question, recalling something, she didn't hesitate to offer him an examination guide booklet in return before exclaiming with a chuckle, "Just take a look at this, everything you need to know is written in here. Oh, right! You can also pay your examination fee upfront."

"I see. And how much is that?"

"Eh, you don't know yet? It's \$100,000."

Immediately, an indistinct frown found its way on the dark-haired man's forehead. "Isn't that a bit too much? I mean, how are normal people supposed to get their Guardian License if even the examination fee is exorbitant like that?"

"Umm, well, it's true that normal people wouldn't be able to pay that by themselves alone. But there's no helping it since a large percentage of that goes to the hired Guardian examiners while the rest goes to the American Abnormals Association."

Not ending her elucidation there, she added, "But it's not like there are no ways for normal people to pay either."

"What do you mean?"

"Hmm, I'm only aware of two of the methods by which even normal abnormals can pay for the examination fees. First, there are special places that lend high-interest loans to abnormals who are about to take their Guardian evaluations. This option is rather risky. But then again, if you pass the evaluation indeed and if you are a decent abnormal with a desirable potential, paying back wouldn't be that much of a hassle."

After that, before Virus could question again, she went ahead and started talking about the second method, "And the alternative is to get the backing and support of one of the guilds. If you can make one of the guilds fancy you in these remaining fifteen days, you wouldn't have a problem in paying since they'll do it for you in exchange for a certain contract. I recommend this method, but unfortunately, it's too hard to enter the eyes of top-class Guilds."

Putting a business card on the counter next, she whispered, "Since I like you quite a lot, I suggest you go to this place and get a loan from them. Its interest rate is probably the lowest amongst such organizations."

"Hahaha, although I'm quite honored you've come to like this humble me, there's no need for it." Pushing back the business card, Virus shoved a particular debit card in her direction instead. "I'll pay upfront, you can withdraw all of it at once."

Of course, having already predicted such a situation, the debit card was not his own pitch-black full of grandeur [Virus] card since that would naturally attract too much attention and might even lead to the revelation of his true identity.

This debit card was the one he had requested from the CEO ugly before and then received it from his driver, Mark Sanchez.

## THE GOD VIRUS

### Chapter 389: Mommy?

Seeing this, the receptionist was somewhat nonplussed since she had assumed that Virus was a poor abnormal belonging to the lower middle class of society at most.

"Oh, would you look at me mistaking our young master for a poor man!" Grinning from ear to ear, she exclaimed jokingly. Still, slightly dubious, she picked up the card and swiped it once.

"What's the password?" "6969." "..."

"What?"

11 11

"...Nothing."

A few seconds later, finally receiving the confirmation of successful \$100,000 withdrawal, agape, she returned the card and the receipt to him.

"Alright then, thank you, I'll be back in fifteen days."

"OK. Goodbye, Victor. Hope you'll be the victor and have a good win fifteen days from now on, hehe..." Teasing the disappearing back of Virus, the receptionist wondered, 'So weird, why is he so familiar... it's as if I've seen him somewhere.'

\_\_\_\_

After successfully running away and vanishing from anywhere near Virus, Hu Yuexin, finally heaving a sigh of relief, exclaimed, "Phew, thank the Nine Realms of Hell for getting away from that unfathomable beast."

'Hmm, so, I'm raising my dead sister's son who's now my son, huh? Well, since I took over your body, I'll at least take care of your son. That's my compensation for you.'

'But damn... what a trashy constitution and physique you have, woman! Furthermore, this kind of body isn't even compatible with me. This is going to be a bit hard to handle.' Finally relaxing her furrowing brows, she added, "First, let's go and take a look at her son's condition and see how much time he has left."

. . .

Sometime later, finally arriving at the hospital which was extremely crowded due to the previous appearance of the Plant Kraken, Hu Yuexin admitted helplessly, "Phew, it was so hard finding this hospital."

Next, after a period of asking around, she finally found her way to the room where her son was at.

"Xiao Wei, mom's here!" Beaming a happy smile at the little bony kid, Hu Yuexin greeted.

She was not going to let him notice any difference. So she decided to act as motherly as she could. "Did you miss mommy?"

"Mommy? Is that you?" At first, the child looked at her in a strange way, making Hu Yuexin somewhat startled as she wondered, 'Did he perhaps... notice that I'm not her?'

Still, continuing her act, she voiced, "You dummy! Of course, it's mommy, child! Who else could it be? Urgh, mommy's so hurt. Xiao Wei can't even recognize me anymore."

Nevertheless, the child continued studying all over Hu Yuexin's body suspiciously. Fortunately, in the end, after she was done examining every inch of her body, nose, dress, moles, lips, etc. finally, a silly grin took shape on his pale face. "It's weally mommy! But mommy's different! Mommy must've grown up!"

The tension, at last, faded from Hu Yuexin's expression. "Hehe... that must be it."

'Phew, that was close. What a sharp-minded kid.'

"Um, my sweet Xiao Wei, can mommy take a look at your body?"

Seeing him nod once, Hu Yuexin didn't hesitate to grab his hand as she placed her two fingers on his pulse.

Thirty seconds later, withdrawing her hands, various notions shaped up within her mind. 'Hmm, the problem lies with the internal organ that's in charge of producing and replenishing his blood which is resulting in an abnormal type of blood to be produced inside his body... and that's affecting the way his internal organs work.'

'If it was the past me, curing him would've been a simple thing... but now... hmm, I need to get stronger first.'

'He should still have around a month or so. I wonder if I'll be able to find the stuff I require in order to cure him by then.' Deliberating up to this point, snapping out of her contemplative state, she displayed another cheerful smile at the child prior to declaring, "Mommy needs to go and work now. I'll visit you later on, okay?"

Although there were some traces of unwillingness and hesitation written on his face, in the end, he still nodded his head, "En... Xiao Wei will be a good son and wait for mommy!"

"Hehehe! Good! That's my son!" While patting his head repeatedly, a strange thought flashed past Hu Yuexin's mind, 'What a cute son. I'm starting to like him already.'

Still, no matter how much she smiled and laughed, there was some type of icy coldness within her eyes that never vanished. Apparently, that was her true temper and nature hiding behind her façade.

Afterward, the first thing Hu Yuexin did was to buy a phone since her previous one had been already ruined. She had learned about cellphones and the internet after studying the people around her for some time.

Next, she returned to the ruin which the previous Hu Yuexin called house. Weirdly, Virus even possessed the information regarding her home address as he passed it on to her.

Subsequently, sitting in a random corner of the empty house, she started surfing the internet as she absorbed as much information as she could regarding Humanity, Earth, Rifts, etc.

She was like a sponge, having come into contact with water for the first time.

'Hmm, interesting, interesting... so the human beings on this planet can awaken strange powers and abilities called 'Traits' after consuming some of those Red-Crystals, huh?' Not stopping there, she added, 'That's rather new. There must be either something very unique and special about the human race on this planet or it's that those Red-Crystals are the special items in this case.'

'Anyway, considering that I'm also a human being of this planet now, there shouldn't be an issue with me awakening a 'Trait' too since I can fulfill both of the requirements in either case, right? I just need to hunt some of those monsters with red flame-like eyes in order to get my hands on a few of them.'

"Ah, I'm really curious about what my Trait's going to be!" Full of excitement, she phrased out loud. But it didn't take long before she forcefully calmed herself down as a resolved glint flashed through her pupils as she decided, 'But before that... first things first.'

### THE GOD VIRUS

# Chapter 390: Sharks

'First, I need to buy some essential stuff. However, since many of those materials naturally should not exist on this planet, I need to find some substitutes for them.' Deciding on her next course of action, immediately, her eyes fell on her phone once again as she exhibited a rather odd yet happy grin. 'Thankfully, due to the existence of this thing called the internet... that's going to be a lot easier... so convenient!'

'What a wonderful world this is! It's like a treasure box that's been never opened before. Not only that, accessing the internet is like I've been given the key for opening it too.' As her grin turned even broader, picking up her brand new Virus phone, she began searching for various materials and their possible substitutes.

. . .

Nearly seventeen hours later, Hu Yuexin was holding a complete list of materials. A list which made her happier the more she looked at it.

'It's finally done! But I'm exhausted. I'll rest first before going out to purchase those stuff.' Just as she was about to put away the list and sleep. Her phone started ringing.

Dring~ Dring~ Dring~

In fact, when she was buying the phone, she was asked if she wanted to have the same number as before and to that, she had merely responded with 'yes'. Therefore, it wasn't odd that her phone was ringing at the moment.

"Who is this?"

"Hello, yes. I'm calling from the hospital's finance department. I really apologize for calling like this but the accumulated amount of money you owe to the hospital needs to be paid or the hospital won't be able to take care of your son anymore and will be required to discharge him. The least we ask for is for you to pay some percentage of it." A feminine voice was heard from the other side of the line.

Feeling annoyed, a cold glint flashed through Hu Yuexin's eyes in return as she replied, "I already told that rude woman who previously stopped me at the hospital that I'm going to be paying in two days! If I say two days, then it's going to be within those two days, okay? So stop being a nuisance already. Goodbye!"

"But, you said that before and-"

Not bothering to listen any further, hanging up the line, she sank into a deep slumber.

. . .

Waking up the following day, the first thing Hu Yuexin noticed was the fact that she was now totally broke as she had spent the entire fortune of the previous Hu Yuexin on buying her new phone.

'Hmm, I came across a term called 'Loan Shark' yesterday. That should be a nice temporary solution to my current issue of money.' Having concluded this, picking her cellphone again, she started googling the address of places that might be the possible dens of so-called loan sharks.

Once again during her search, Hu Yuexin couldn't help but be grateful for the convenience of this useful piece of technology called phone and internet.

One hour later, she was standing in front of the door of a shady office as she tapped it.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Soon, the door was opened before she was politely escorted inside.

"Welcome, miss. I wonder what brings such beauty to our humble presence?" Voiced the man sitting behind his desk while grinning in what one could only call terrifying.

Seeing the many hoodlums gathered in the room and examining the various tattoos covering all over their faces and bodies, Hu Yuexin determined, 'It seems I came to the right place.'

"Why do you come to a loan shark? To get a loan, of course." She answered in a level-headed manner.

"Oh." Listening to her, the eyes of the person who was most likely the leader within the room started to shimmer as his smile seemed to grow even more horrifying and evil as he said, "So this beauty is a customer! And how much would our dear miss require?"

"500,000 US Dollars." Hu Yuexin didn't hesitate to respond.

However, noticing the astronomical figure, the eyes of the boss seemed to have gone wide-open as he became thunderstruck at once. He hadn't expected this fair lady to request such an exorbitant figure in one go.

"Miss, can I ask first, what's your job?" Still, being gangsterly professional, he decided not to jump on any conclusions as he inquired calmly.

"My job? Hmm, you can say I'm unemployed at the moment. But I'll probably be a Guardian soon." Already having some ideas about how these places functioned, without any delay whatsoever, Hu Yuexin responded.

And as expected, the mob boss's eyes seemed to be instantly set aflame as he, at last, felt like he understood the whole picture. "Oh! So the beautiful lady is going to be a Guardian and needs money in order to pay for the Abnormal Association's examination fees and expenses."

After that, not dilly-dallying more than necessary, in a straightforward manner, he added, "But before we sign the contract and I send you the money, I need you to prove that you are worth our investment." Following that, he seemed to have signaled four of his lackeys within the room to attack.

Indeed, very soon, the four thugs were already charging toward her.

"Hmph." And indeed, letting out a ridiculing harrumph full of distinct traces of mock and contempt, Hu Yuexin dodged each of the incoming attacks brilliantly before sending extremely accurate punches to the various sensitive yet fatal spots all over those hoodlums' muscly figures.

'Sigh, this body is too weak right now. I'm forced to deal the most damage and immobilize them with the least amount of force, which ironically happens to be every last drop of power this body can currently muster.'

Notwithstanding, afterward, the mob boss was faced with the scene of four fallen bodies of his men. Although he was somewhat amazed, considering

how mad the world had gone already with the appearance of both Guardians and Rifts, his amazement couldn't be considered much.