

Beast T 111

Chapter 111: Forest Wolf Catalog LV3, Mind's Eye!_2

However, at this moment, a voice suddenly spoke in Old Sha's heart, "Old Sha, go get some tree fruits for these Forest Wolves—five for each of the eight Elite Level ones, and ten for each of the two Commander Level wolves!"

AWOO?!

Old Sha blinked, a hint of confusion showing in his verdant pupils.

Had the training from his young master these past couple of days been too much, leaving him short on rest? Why did it seem like he could hear his young master's voice and command? And why was the command so utterly detestable to him? Math, of all things, was the most hated! He must have heard wrong! Yes, that's it!

Old Sha shook his head, shifting his scrutinizing gaze back to the little ones his young master was cultivating.

However, just as he had done so, that voice rang out once again: "Hurry up, get the tree fruits, or otherwise soon you'll have to redistribute the tree fruits to all the Forest Wolves!"

Old Sha shivered and, under the astonished stares of the group of Forest Wolves before him, he rushed to the cabin nearby and grasped a huge barrel of tree fruits in his jaws.

It was so strange, how on earth did his young master do this?

How it was done, Old Sha didn't know, but what he did know was that if he didn't follow through, he might have to start that nightmarish permutation and combination task again.

Watching Old Sha's actions through his Mental Vision, Su Ping nodded in satisfaction.

This ability was indeed extremely magical!

Su Ping then tried to overlay one Forest Wolf's training perspective on top of Old Sha's vision.

And indeed, Old Sha's movements faltered a little. But he adapted quickly.

This sensation was like slacking off at work while simultaneously playing chess. Two other perspectives appeared in his mind: one was his own immediate field of vision, and the other was like watching the other Forest Wolves through a screen.

If any situation arose on the other end while sharing this Mental Vision, the other connected Forest Wolves could discover it instantly.

However, after only a short try, Su Ping decided not to continue. Instead, he quickly summarized some key points about this Mental Vision in his mind.

The most important and universal aspect of the ability was having more thorough control over the connected and shared Forest Wolves; he could even try to have them act as commanders in group combat.

Micro-managing twenty Forest Wolves.

He could issue commands from a distance through this ability.

However, sharing the Mental Vision among the Forest Wolves was not to be used carelessly. It was quite uncomfortable for the wolves.

Perhaps, for human Beast Tamers, watching additional perspectives in their spirit—much like monitoring screens—was difficult. Moreover, the intelligence of the Forest Wolves was not on par with humans.

Only Old Sha could somewhat adapt to the shared vision of a few Forest Wolves. Others, even while running, would often lose concentration and smash directly into tree stumps.

If they couldn't adapt, using this ability in battle would clearly be suicidal.

Nevertheless, as the Cultivation of the Forest Wolves progressed and their Levels increased, it should get much better.

Thinking this, Su Ping let out a long breath, then ceased concentrating his spiritual power and opened his eyes.

Then, an unprecedented sense of exhaustion came over him, making Su Ping realize that this Mental Vision ability was not something even he could use casually.

...

「Two or three days passed quickly.」

It had been several days since Su Anyong returned, and today was the day of his departure.

There was no sorrow; neither father nor son were prone to sentimentality. If Su Ping had to describe his feelings, it was more like resentment.

Yes, this old coot was leaving, and he still hadn't left the "Super Shadow" behind.

That Mechanical Core intelligent sports car, worth over two hundred million on the market, remained beyond Su Ping's reach.

And Su Ping regretted it greatly.

After obtaining it for himself, he could sell it and add some money to buy that intelligent extraction machine. At that time, he could resume the unfinished Wolf Tobacco research.

It was a pity, though, that the old man guarded it more closely than his own nest egg, let alone allowing Su Ping to fiddle with it. It was usually kept in the Beast Taming Space, and Su Ping wasn't even given the chance to touch it.

Damn it, I'll get one that's even cooler, flashier, and more badass in the future, to make this old coot green with envy!

However, after looking at the small wooden box in the Beast Taming Space, Su Ping let out a sigh.

Let it go, let it go. For the sake of this item, I'll forgive the old man.

Previously, he had heard from Qin Xiaoxue that when Woodhead evolved into the Crown Wolf Emperor, it required two main core materials.

One was Natural Essence, the other was the Thorny Crown.

He didn't understand what the latter was yet, but Natural Essence was undoubtedly an Emperor Level resource.

However, Su Ping had never imagined that in less than a month, he would come into contact with this Natural Essence, especially through his own father.

This was the treasure that Su Anyong had originally planned to bring back to prolong Old Sha's life.

Now that Old Sha had completed his Evolution, he obviously did not need it anymore, so Su Anyong gave it to Su Ping instead.

This undoubtedly made Su Ping speculate further about the old man's identity.

He had never doubted that his father had secrets and strength.

After all, his grandfather had been a Monarch Level Beastmaster in that era. Unless his father was truly an incompetent good-for-nothing... But then again, while Su Anyong was often unreliable and whimsical, Su Ping had never seen him suffer any grievances, act weak, or spend his days merely eating, drinking, and making merry.

However, speculation was just speculation.

He didn't ask further because if Su Anyong didn't want to share, there was no point in asking. He would just be brushed off and treated like a fool, as he had been in the car.

He had boasted a little to the old man over the phone about his achievements. He wanted to let him know that he, Su Ping, having awakened his Beast Tamer Talent and become a true Beast Tamer, was no longer the helpless kid he used to be.

In the past few days, Su Ping also shared some plans for the future development of the Heart of Woods with Su Anyong.

Expand the area! Broaden the industry! Increase the Cultivation of other Pet Beasts, especially putting the Cultivation of Pet Beasts from the Plant System and aquatic types on the agenda!

Su Anyong had no particular reaction, just one sentence over and over, "Whatever you do, Dad supports you! But, there's no money!"

As for selling the sports car? Was the kid really talking about selling a sports car? That was his, Su Anyong's, life!

Su Ping simply stopped bothering with him afterwards.

In these two days, he had familiarized himself as much as possible with the use of Mental Vision. He had also further planned the Cultivation of those ten Forest Wolves and finally determined the scope of their development for the coming days.

Besides, there were two noteworthy things that happened during these two days.

First, the next-door Yuntian Resort came over again. However, it wasn't the previous Manager Qian or Dong Muyun; it was someone else, proposing to develop the unknown Secret Realm with Su Ping.

However, Su Ping neither rejected nor agreed to the proposal.

Lately, Old Sha could clearly feel the ripples of space becoming more frequent on the banks of the Lingxi River. This wasn't due to the comings and goings of the little Papermen; rather, the gate to that Secret Realm was probably about to appear.

He would wait and see what the deal with that Secret Realm was before deciding; it wouldn't be too late.

Second, was what was happening right in front of him at this moment.

After Su Ping's promotion to Common Tenth Level, Xiao Qing's Realm also reached Common Ninth Rank.

And over these many days, Xiao Qing, as the prime beneficiary of the 'Link Share' ability, along with the breakthrough of his Sunlight Absorption Skills to the Proficiency Level, had his Realm rise with the tide!

He had reached Common Tenth Level! Once again on par with Su Ping!

Su Ping had already planned that in a few days, once Xiao Qing's Realm had stabilized, he would give him the Elite Level Poison System Resource, the Devil's Willow Leaf, to consume, hoping he could breakthrough to the Elite Level in one go!

Once the Pet Beast broke through, it might also lead to his own breakthrough of the Elite Level threshold.

After all, with the Stone of Creation and many previous resources, Su Ping could feel that his spiritual power was also constantly improving, reaching an exciting juncture.

And meanwhile, over these past two days, the resources Su Ping had asked Zhang Lie to prepare had finally been delivered into his hands.

Chapter 112: Su Ping's Farming Blueprint! No More Money!

Herb juices, Wood Spirit Grass, Smiling Sunflower Seeds, Sunlight Spring Water, Breath of Nature... These were the resources Su Ping needed to cultivate his Pet Beasts.

However, what was delivered at this moment was more than just these.

In addition to two precious Sun Crystals, there were items like Elf Leaves, Fruits of Life, Hearts of Wood Marrow, and a pile of resources with Wood and Life Attributes.

They were brought in by a small truck!

They were sent into his own cultivation base.

As Zhang Lie had said, generally, the resources needed for Cultivation would not all be delivered at once to an ordinary Breeder.

But he believed in himself and also in Heart of Woods.

All things considered, flattery never fails.

Su Ping was quite satisfied with the efficiency of the Legion's handling of affairs.

Concerning the Cultivation and Evolution of those ten Wanmu Wolves, Su Ping had already made plans.

According to the previous agreement, if the Wanmu Wolves placed in the subsequent Legion contests, he would receive a third-class merit. Additionally, he would gain a second-class military honor.

And that honorary military title.

Although Su Ping did not fully understand the specific uses of these accolades, they sounded rather nice.

Naturally, to ensure these little guys would not embarrass him in two months, Su Ping was determined to do his utmost!

First and foremost was the Cultivation of Heart of Woods.

Heart of Woods, Sunlight Absorption, Photosynthesis—Su Ping had yet to completely understand the special formula these three Skills combined to create.

But without a doubt, as evidenced by Old Sha's performance, they could form a cyclical system.

This was crucial for increasing combat effectiveness.

Therefore, even though Heart of Woods was not among the Wanmu Wolf's Racial Skills, Su Ping had still placed the Wood Heart Skill at the core of their skill set.

It was just a pity that after Old Sha's Heart of Woods reached the Master Level, advancing it further became extremely difficult.

Even when connected with other Forest Wolves, practicing the Wood Heart Skill proficiently was quite troublesome.

After briefly planning the upcoming Cultivation time, Su Ping already had an estimate in mind.

He would start by cultivating Heart of Woods. Then, in about ten days, he would begin formally evolving these Legion Forest Wolves into Wanmu Wolves.

Old Sha's Evolution took about less than half a month.

This time, the Cultivation period was only two months.

After Su Ping cultivated Heart of Woods, he also wanted to improve the Sunlight Absorption Skills of some Legion Forest Wolves. This way, the resulting Wanmu Wolves would have stronger potential and strength.

However, once the Cultivation was complete, he had to reserve at least a week. Su Ping intended to train the Wanmu Wolves in combat, allowing the evolved Wanmu Wolves to adapt to their new Abilities.

Looking at the precious resources stored in the Magic Potion workshop, Su Ping let out a sigh. It's unfortunate. It's fine to use these things myself; even asking for more based on this usage isn't a big deal. But if I were to "fleece" the Legion and then turn around to sell these goods, the nature of the matter would be entirely different. Never mind what the Legion might think; my own father would definitely have an opinion.

Consequently, Su Ping was actually quite troubled. I'm out of money!

Old Sha's Evolution had exhausted the savings he had accumulated over this period, but he had many areas where he currently needed money.

Lao Guan had already negotiated with those around Heart of Woods. All the deeds for the land along both sides of Lingxi River had been agreed upon, and even the small hillside south of the river had been settled. As long as Su had the money, the contract could be signed at any time!

Then, the land area of Heart of Woods could be expanded at least twofold.

This twofold expansion wasn't just doubling the current area of the Heart of Wood Cultivation Base; instead, it encompassed the entirety of Heart of Woods along with the Yuntian Resort. One could only imagine the scale.

After all, apart from some storefronts near the road with some foot traffic, the space at the back was a desolate land rarely trodden by human feet.

Su Ping intended to build a bridge on his property at this Lingxi River location. This bridge would link both sides of the river belonging to Heart of Woods. He also planned to draw in river water to create a small lake.

Meanwhile, the small barren hill to the south would serve as a large botanical garden for cultivating Plant-based Pet Beasts.

And to the west of Lingxi River, he would see if he could carve out a special, fully enclosed area to raise some Undead Pet Beasts.

Yun Tian would still maintain the resort. Even though it was on the outskirts of the city, it was still along the street, so certain aesthetics had to be maintained.

When that time came, the Yuntian Resort would connect with the entirety of Heart of Woods. Complemented by several nearby storefronts, it would act as a one-stop service station for Pet Beast Cultivation, vacationing, and combat.

The space behind, with the Forest Wolf forest, the Lingxi River location, and the barren hill to the south, would become the Cultivation grounds for Pet Beasts. This was the preliminary plan.

Lao Guan had also calculated the costs for Su Ping.

The issue with the land deeds wasn't too bad. If it was only the area south of Lingxi River and the barren hill, the deeds would cost only about twenty million yuan to secure.

After all, it was undeveloped wasteland with no development value.

However, excluding Heart of Woods and Yuntian Resort, the other deeds near them along the street were not so cheap.

Chapter 113: Su Ping's Farming Blueprint! Out of Money!_2

Of course, there was no need to rush this particular matter for now.

However, while buying and fencing off land might not be expensive, the renovations certainly were!

Su Ping wanted to dig lakes and build bridges on his own property.

To say nothing of other things, wouldn't roads need to be paved to connect everything? Weren't special fences required to prevent Pet Beasts from escaping?

Excluding all the other various measures and constructions, these items alone would cost more than the land title deeds.

Roughly speaking, just laying a basic foundation would require at least fifty million, and even that might not be enough.

And that wasn't even considering the even more terrifying Pet Beast procurement costs later on!

Su Ping wanted to leverage the advantages of the Forest Wolf. He planned to purchase some Plant-based Pet Beast offspring for the new Heart of Woods business venture and also wanted to research the breeding and evolution of Plant-based Pet Beasts.

Well, buying just one wouldn't be enough, right? After all, I still need to consider the enhancement of the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas!

But after purchasing Plant-based Pet Beasts, what about the other expenses?

Even if Plant-based Pet Beasts didn't require feeding and food consumption like others, they still needed things like Spirit Water.

Which of these doesn't cost money?

This was still just for Plant-based Pet Beasts. If the planned large lake was completed, and if he continued to research and develop aquatic Pet Beast resources, then that was another story—it would undoubtedly carry a staggering price tag.

The expenditure involved couldn't be covered by just one or two hundred million.

And right now, the monthly cost for food, tree fruits, and other necessities for his fifty Forest Wolves already amounted to several hundred thousand.

So, raising a group of Pet Beasts was truly not something an ordinary Beast Tamer could afford.

However, Su Ping wasn't in too much of a hurry. He knew he had to take things one step at a time, just like eating a meal one bite at a time.

Speaking of which, once they evolved into Wanmu Wolves, they could extract nutrients from sunlight, greatly reducing their food requirements. At most, they might munch on some tree fruits when they had nothing else to do.

It truly is the best evolutionary form!

How wonderful it would be if all Pet Beasts could be like the Wanmu Wolf?

Su Ping shook his head, then his spirits suddenly lifted.

His father had passed away, and it was time for his own life to return to normal: improve his strength, and research and develop Pet Beast cultivation!

My current goal is to make money! Setting other things aside for now, I need to secure the land titles for the surrounding areas first!

Su Ping was reinvigorated and ready to make a big splash.

「On the other hand.」

At the Legion base near West Dragon Lake and Linzhou City, an imposing man in his fifties, with general's stars on his shoulders, sat behind his desk in an office at the heart of the base.

Several documents rested on his desk and in his hands.

The content of the documents was straightforward, listing the cultivation directions reported by each division and the roster of elites selected for cultivation. It also detailed the resources that had been distributed and their specific allocations.

Every detail was meticulously noted.

General Zhao read through them very carefully.

This was his first major initiative since taking command of the Eastern Forest Army, and he certainly understood what it represented.

In recent years, the Dragon Nation found itself at a special juncture. Its ruler, though young, was a brilliant sovereign rarely seen throughout history. Once in power, he had made a stunning impact, not by remaining idle but by acting decisively!

He had firmly suppressed many old-establishment Beast Taming Gate families and strongly supported the emerging new scholarly Beast Tamer faction. At the same time, he vigorously rectified issues concerning resource allocation within the Beast Master Associations and Breeder Associations across the country.

Following this, it was time for the Beast Tamer Legions!

Setting aside the infighting among the Legion's higher-ups, he had now been entrusted with a heavy responsibility: dispatched to take command of the new forces and ensure a smooth start to the internal military reforms.

Those Breeders in the Legion, despite being given a plethora of resources, how many years had it been since they had produced any significant results? It had reached a point where the Beast Tamer warriors within the Legion often found their combat power inferior to that of Beast Tamers from outside.

This situation had clearly dissatisfied the young ruler.

Thus, this grand internal competition for elite cultivation, orchestrated by General Zhao himself, began with great pomp and circumstance.

The actions of the various divisions also pleased General Zhao. It had only been a few days since the Legion-wide announcement, and these units had already identified their cultivation directions and Breeders.

Hmm? Not bad. The Shadow Leopard's evolutionary body, the 'Chasing Shadow Leopard,' reaching Commander Level is one thing, but for the Breeder to have a chance to cultivate the 'Shadow Step' Skill? Interesting.

The Great Strength Vajra Ape? This is a Pet Beast with extraordinary strength at Peak Command, and there are even some evolutionary bodies with Monarch Level racial potential. Good, good.

As General Zhao read through the document, he nodded, making a mental note of the unit names that caught his eye, planning to pay special attention to their performance during the competition.

But soon, General Zhao's eyebrows shot up, a look of surprise flickering in his eyes.

Those rascals from the Tiger C Troop must have seen what was happening with the Rock Tiger Troop, right? Just waiting for this order to be announced, tsk, tsk. The Roaring Snow Tiger's peak Commander Level evolutionary body, the Ice Scale White Tiger, and the Winged Sky Tiger with its flying capabilities? Huh? And a Netherworld Demon Tiger with Monarch racial potential?

Just as expected! With even a slight leak of resources from within the Legion, what can't those external Breeders cultivate? Why bother maintaining those worthless cultivation departments in the Legion that haven't produced results in years?

However, judging solely from this Legion-wide competition, it seemed the Fierce Tiger C Troop would most likely have the last laugh.

Tiger-type Pet Beasts were indeed somewhat more powerful than other terrestrial Pet Beasts, and more evolutionary forms had been developed for them.

He continued scrolling. General Zhao, who could typically deduce a general idea just from the proposed cultivation directions, suddenly paused. He stared at the line below, blinking slowly, somewhat confused for a moment. Clearly, he didn't immediately comprehend it.

The reason was simple, as the line below clearly read:

[Forest Wolf Troop, Wolf A Troop. Commander: Zhang Lie. Cultivators: Sun Xiao, Gao Hang, Li Da...]

The preceding details were not particularly special. The Forest Wolf Troop had a slightly larger number of personnel undergoing cultivation, but that was normal. He was aware of the recent exercise where the Rock Tiger Troop had inflicted a three-to-one casualty ratio on the Forest Wolf Troop.

General Zhao could guess that the young Lin Lei probably wanted the Forest Wolf Troop to redeem themselves, so he had selected a few more individuals for cultivation to choose the most suitable ones from among them.

But what he couldn't comprehend was the line that followed:

[Cultivation Direction: Evolution, Skill Cultivation. Evolutionary Body: Wanmu Wolf. Cultivation Skill: Heart of Woods.]

Wanmu Wolf? Never heard of that before.

General Zhao pondered for a moment and even searched on the computer, but he still found no information. Not only was there nothing on the commercial market, but he couldn't find any information on this Wanmu Wolf even within the Legion's internal database.

What kind of evolutionary form is this?

General Zhao thought for a bit more, then pulled out the thick stack of documents. He quickly found the report pertaining to the Forest Wolf Troop, along with the details of the required resources and their delivery location.

Heart of Woods Cultivation Base? In Linzhou City? A completely new and undiscovered Forest Wolf evolutionary form? A young Breeder fresh out of graduation? An Intermediate Breeder registered with the Jianghai Province Breeders Association? One of Liu Fuhai's people?

General Zhao's pupils constricted, his interest genuinely piqued.

The Forest Wolf was one of the most common and widely used Pet Beasts. If a new, popular evolutionary form for it emerged, it would be a major event!

And such significant news hasn't leaked out at all? It's either still in a confidential phase, or our own soldiers were being deceived.

However, the latter seemed unlikely.

Linzhou City?

At this thought, General Zhao stopped reading and took out his phone. He quickly found a familiar number. It belonged to none other than Liu Fuhai, the current vice-chairman of the Linzhou City Breeder Association.

Although the local Breeder and Beast Master Associations had no subordinate relationship with the Legion, the two men were on relatively good personal terms.

In the past, Linzhou City hadn't produced any impressive results in the Breeder competitions.

Now, it seems Old Liu is planning to make a big splash with this Wanmu Wolf evolutionary form, keeping it under wraps until now, eh?

However, after considering it, General Zhao decided not to call during working hours. Instead, he merely sent a text message:

"Old Liu, congratulations! You've hidden this one quite deep! Haha!"

Chapter 114: The Riddle Man Deserves to Die! Xiao Qing's Breakthrough

"This time, take the opportunity to discuss and learn from each other; it will greatly benefit your futures!"

In the office of Vice President Liu of the Breeder Association, he said to the several Breeders before his desk.

"Yes!"

Standing before Vice President Liu was a group of young Breeders. Most were under thirty years old and were newly promoted Junior Breeders sent from Jianghai Province to neighboring Huaiyang Province for an exchange program.

After sending them off, two people remained in the office.

These two were none other than the Intermediate Breeders from the Jianghai Province Breeders Association who specialized in Forest Wolves.

One was Sun Chaoju, whom Su Ping knew very well. The other was another Breeder from Linzhou City specializing in Forest Wolves.

Vice President Liu glanced at them, took a sip of tea to moisten his throat, smiled, and said, "Alright, what's there to be so gloomy about? The job in the Legion isn't that easy, is it? Now you've finally realized there's always someone better out there, right?"

Sun Chaoju and the other Breeder specializing in Forest Wolves exchanged helpless looks.

It was Sun Chaoju, being relatively closer to him, who reluctantly looked at Vice President Liu and said, "Teacher, if it had been a fair competition, that would be one thing. But I had just begun negotiations with the deputy commander of that unit, and the very next day, I was replaced without any explanation. Old Wang, too. He had just settled on a preliminary agreement with the instructor of the Forest Wolf Troop, only to be informed that the contract was voided. Do you know what's really going on?"

Vice President Liu continued sipping his tea, looking at them helplessly. "The Legion is making a major move. This time, it's just an appetizer, aimed at internal changes. However, your abilities are indeed hardly sufficient to get involved in these muddy waters."

Sun Chaoju and Old Wang exchanged glances. Their teacher really knew something?

Vice President Liu was a good man in all aspects, except for one: he loved to be coy.

The more anxious the two before him became, the more unhurriedly he savored his tea before continuing, "The higher-ups are dissatisfied with the Cultivation Department of the Beast Tamer Legion for taking resources without delivering results. So, the Legion is preparing to implement elite outsourced cultivation.

In Linzhou, besides you two who are skilled at Forest Wolf cultivation, there's only that kid, Su Ping. However, he's completely focused on the evolution of the Wanmu Wolf. He probably doesn't know about this and wouldn't be in the mood to bother with it anyway.

But you must understand, this is a revolution for the entire Forest Army!"

Vice President Liu's expression turned serious. "The race limit of Forest Wolves is the Elite Peak Level. Even if some advanced resources are consumed to break through that race limit, the improvement isn't significant!

However, the upper limit for this upcoming Legion-wide grand competition is the Commander Level! So, you should understand what this implies!"

The two were slightly startled, then understanding dawned, and they exchanged wry, helpless smiles.

They now understood what it meant.

The cultivation cap for the Legion competition was the Commander Level. However, normally, the Racial Potential of Forest Wolves only reached the Elite Level at best. This meant there was only one way forward!

That was to cultivate for evolution.

But how could cultivating evolution be so easy and simple?

They were aware of widely publicized evolutionary paths like the Forest Wolf and the Elf Wolf, but the success rates weren't particularly high.

More importantly, could these two most common and widespread Forest Wolf Evolvers meet the requirements of the Forest Wolf Troop within the Legion?

Clearly, the answer was no.

So, why had the Forest Wolf Troop changed their minds after initial contact with them? The reason was simple: they had found a stronger Forest Wolf Breeder.

One capable of enabling Forest Wolves to complete their evolution and potentially secure a prominent place in the Legion's upcoming internal grand competition.

What point was there in even talking about a serious competition with that unknown and mysterious Forest Wolf Breeder? Couldn't the commander of the Forest Wolf Troop distinguish who was more capable? Obviously, no one was a fool. That was impossible.

So, after this blunt assessment from their teacher, Sun Chaoju and Master Wang, who was beside him, grew even more curious. They both looked at Liu Fuhai.

"Teacher, do you know who that Senior Forest Wolf Breeder is? Is he from our Jianghai Province?"

What kind of Forest Wolf Breeder could it be, and what kind of cultivation techniques would they use to meet the demands of the Forest Wolf Troop? They had even made a decision without any intention of continuing negotiations with us. As Breeders who also specialized in Forest Wolves, we naturally want to learn a thing or two. Even if we can't learn much, it would be good just to broaden our horizons!

Unfortunately, Vice President Liu shook his head. "The Legion and local authorities cannot interfere with each other's affairs unless there are special circumstances. Those are the rules."

Seeing the disappointment in his two students' eyes, Old Liu smiled again and said, "However, when the time comes for the grand Legion competition, I should be among the spectators. I expect their respective Breeders will also be invited. Then, we can all see just who this remarkable person is."

It seemed that was all they could do for now.

Sun Chaoju and Master Wang exchanged looks. The former remarked with some feeling, "Speaking of which, if Su Ping were here, with his Heart of Woods, he'd surely be able to participate in the cooperative cultivation, wouldn't he?"

The 'Heart of Woods' skill is incredibly versatile with top-notch effects. It's evidently indispensable in the cultivation of any Forest Wolf Evolver!

Chapter 115: All Riddlers Must Die! Xiao Qing's Breakthrough_2

However, Vice President Liu simply shook his head.

It wasn't just him; even when he visited Qin Erlong these past few days, that old fellow had prattled on at length.

Every word was a complaint about Su Ping:

He didn't understand a girl's heart.

He didn't know to take the initiative as a young man.

It had been so long since he'd called Xiao Xue.

It was a stream of nonsensical blabber, just short of Qin Erlong taking Su Ping by the hand and teaching him how to woo girls.

Clearly, Qin Erlong must have pursued his own wife in the same way back then.

Of course, Qin Erlong did mention some serious matters too.

For instance, Qin Xiaoxue had told him about a Secret Realm about to manifest at Su Ping's family home, asking him to keep an eye on things if Su Ping requested assistance.

Beyond that, Qin Erlong mostly complained about himself.

Why on earth did I have to bring up the Wanmu Wolf's evolution path? It only delayed the chance for their relationship to advance further!

Vice President Liu deeply disdained Qin Erlong's attitude—both his frustration that Su Ping wasn't living up to his romantic expectations and this purely inane chatter from someone with too much time on his hands.

A Breeder like Su Ping, a good kid who sets everything else aside and focuses solely on Pet Beast Cultivation, that's how he achieved such profound expertise and research capabilities at such a young age!

Vice President Liu glanced at the two before him. If these two had even half—no, a third—of Su Ping's research spirit and dedication, they wouldn't have been dismissed from the Forest Wolf Troop without

even making an impression. Damn it, they made me lose face, and now they have the gall to come crying to me? Do they have any shame?

The more he thought about it, the angrier Vice President Liu became. With a wave of his hand, he said, "Get lost already! Instead of wasting time on this rubbish, you'd be better off figuring out how to improve your breeding skills."

After shooing away the two unpromising students, Vice President Liu looked down and saw a message flashing on his phone.

The sender of the message made Vice President Liu pause in surprise.

He had just been discussing the Legion tournament, and now the very protagonist of that event was messaging him.

What in the world is this message about?

Vice President Liu frowned slightly as he read the message on his phone, "Old Liu, congratulations! You sure kept that one quiet! HAHA!"

Congratulations for what? Kept what quiet?

After a moment's thought, Vice President Liu replied, "What's up?"

DING-DONG. The reply came quickly.

But it only left Old Liu more confused.

"HAHAHA, I get it! Don't worry, I won't tell anyone. It's not often you get a chance to show off, Old Liu. I definitely won't spoil your fun!"

Reading Zhao Deguang's message, Vice President Liu grew even more perplexed.

Get what? Damn it, I don't even understand what you're rambling about! Riddlers really deserve to die.

But Old Liu couldn't be bothered with him. As the Vice President of the Breeder Association—effectively the acting President—he had plenty of official duties each day and wasn't just sitting in an office idly chatting.

Who has the time to waste gossiping with these old codgers?

「...」

At this point, Old Liu was obviously unaware that Su Ping had already completed the Wanmu Wolf Cultivation and had even begun deploying them.

Of course, one couldn't blame Su Ping for not informing the Vice President of the Breeder Association, who was still waiting to offer assistance.

He was simply too busy.

Just as he often said, once he entered a busy phase, Su Ping truly would neglect sleep and forget to eat.

Especially with the Heart of Woods project, stimulated by the prospect of making quick money, Su Ping had directly lifted the weekly restriction of accepting only one Heart of Woods Forest Wolf Cultivation slot.

Naturally, the official explanation was that his Cultivation techniques had further matured, allowing for a significant increase in success rates and, consequently, a faster Cultivation speed.

Thus, Su Ping's days were incredibly full!

Meditation, bonding with the ten Forest Wolves from the Legion, concocting and administering the Heart of Woods Magic Potion for their Cultivation, and combat training!

Indeed, with his mental vision, Su Ping could finally train the Forest Wolves in combat, not just passively have them use Skills.

Su Ping had also gleaned these training methods from Zhang Lie.

Old Sha served as supervisor while Su Ping's own fifty Forest Wolves were divided into two squads.

Each wolf wore red or blue markers representing their respective teams.

Then, they engaged in stealth and annihilation combat exercises in the forest.

Of course, this "annihilation" wasn't literally deadly. It would be too great a loss if they died during training without even facing a real enemy. A hit to a button placed on a vital spot, which then emitted a sound, counted as a 'death'.

If one had to describe it, it was somewhat similar to tactical exercises within a Legion.

Thanks to his mental vision, Su Ping could observe the combat maneuvers, spontaneous reactions, and fighting styles of the Forest Wolves he was connected to.

This provided him with opportunities for further adjustments and precise, targeted micro-training.

The only slight drawback is that they are all Forest Wolves, and battling in the woods becomes too monotonous. After a few rounds, the effectiveness diminishes. If I could develop different Species Pet Beasts and conduct mock battles between various species, that would be very promising!

And undoubtedly, the one thing most needed to achieve all this was money!

Therefore, in this recent period, in addition to awakening the Heart of Woods in all of his own remaining twenty-odd Forest Wolves, Su Ping had also successfully cultivated ten *additional* Forest Wolves with the Heart of Woods for clients!

After deducting expenses and taxes, he was left with a whopping sum of just over thirty million!

Then, more than half of this stupendous sum was promptly spent.

Under a contract, a large tract of undeveloped land south of the Lingxi River, along with the barren mountain behind it, would be developed and utilized by Su Ping and the Heart of Wood Cultivation Base for the next one hundred years.

Su Ping didn't let the remaining funds sit idle either.

Although the money was still far from enough to complete the renovations according to his grand blueprint, he could certainly begin the planning phase.

After all, as the reputation of the Heart of Woods spread and its Cultivation success rate remained high, business was booming—not quite a case of raking in gold daily, but certainly thriving.

However, it was evident that Su Ping had overlooked one thing.

After finishing the day's training, carrying Xiao Qing, Su Ping returned from the forest and grassland at the back to the reception and residential/experimental area up front.

There, he saw Lao Guan, who looked resentful and noticeably thinner after the past few days.

"Uncle Guan, have the designers left?" Su Ping asked.

Today was the day the specialists in courtyard design and renovation were scheduled to come, since neither Lao Guan nor Su Ping were professionals in that area.

To ensure the space was both practical and aesthetically pleasing, they naturally had to bring in some experts.

Lao Guan nodded without a word, just staring at Su Ping with that same resentful expression.

Su Ping felt somewhat awkward; he understood why.

These past few days, Lao Guan has been much busier than me. It's no exaggeration to say he's been rising earlier than a rooster and going to bed later than a dog.

Su Ping quickly said, "Uncle Guan, when is your daughter coming to have her Pet Beast cultivated? We have so many Forest Wolves now, I can easily help her cultivate one."

As expected, at this mention, Lao Guan sighed and said reluctantly, "Xiao Ping, setting other things aside, business is getting better and better. We really need to hire some reception staff, don't you think? I honestly can't handle it all by myself!"

Su Ping nodded helplessly, then his eyes suddenly lit up. "Right, what are your daughter's plans for the future? How about this: let her come and help me out. She'll get a regular salary, and frankly, I wouldn't trust just anyone else with the job."

Speaking of which, I did call Li Shu to ask, but that fellow just kept saying he was busy with important matters. I have no idea what he's actually up to. I couldn't be bothered to press him. Now that I think about it, we really do need more people for reception.

"This..." Guan Qianshan hesitated.

However, Su Ping, still carrying Xiao Qing, quickly said, "Alright, alright, Uncle Guan, I have important matters to attend to. I'll leave this with you. If your daughter isn't sure what to do in the future, just have her join us here!"

Watching Su Ping dart into the medical room, Guan Qianshan shook his head helplessly.

But Su Ping hadn't been fibbing to Lao Guan.

He genuinely had important things to do.

After several days of meditation, Xiao Qing felt stable and was now eager to try.

The little fellow wanted to attempt a breakthrough to the Elite Level by consuming a Devil's Willow Leaf!

Chapter 116: The Onslaught of Xiao Qing! Poison Flower!

In some ways, Su Ping was not a qualified Beast Tamer.

Relatively speaking, the amount of energy he invested in his own Soul Contracted Beast was not significant. In fact, on many occasions, the attention he paid to it was less than what he gave to the little Paperman and Old Sha.

However, regardless of the circumstances, a Soul Contracted Beast was the most essential proof of a Beast Tamer's true strength.

Fortunately, although Xiao Qing would occasionally get jealous and demand Su Ping set aside time each day to spend exclusively with the little one, at other times it was very well-behaved and motivated.

Perhaps in Xiao Qing's heart, it was precisely because it wasn't working hard enough and its strength wasn't strong enough that its master didn't pay much attention to it.

Therefore, among all the Forest Wolves of the Heart of Woods, Xiao Qing could be considered one of the most diligent.

Facts had proven that with great talent, sufficient effort, and a master providing 'cheats' on the side, a Pet Beast could do as it pleased. Like now, Su Ping placed Xiao Qing on the Life Detector, took the necessary treatment tools, and Old Sha was ready outside, prepared to use emergency treatment measures at any time.

With the Eye of Truth, Su Ping looked at Xiao Qing before him.

In less than two months, the little one in front of him had transformed from a newly weaned puppy into what it was now:

[Mutated Forest Wolf (Contracted)]

[Attribute: Wood, Poison]

[Current Level: Common Tenth Level]

[Racial Potential: Commander Third Rank]

[Skills: Sunlight Absorption (Proficient), Poison Vine Strangulation (Proficient), Self-Healing (Proficiency), Accelerated Growth (Proficiency), Mutated Poison Wood Heart (Proficiency)]

A mutated wolf pup that hadn't even advanced to Elite Level had reached Master Level in Vine Strangling and Sunlight Absorption in just a month. The rest of its skills, including the Mutated Poison Wood Heart, were also at Proficiency.

Such a speed of skill improvement could not simply be described as talented.

It was also because of the improvement of its own skills, as well as the presence of the Heart of the Poison Wood, that Su Ping dared to agree to Xiao Qing's suggestion for a trial after it was proposed. He obviously understood Xiao Qing's desire to become stronger.

Once everything was ready, with a determined look in Xiao Qing's eyes, Su Ping took something out.

It was a very small willow leaf, only the length and thickness of a finger. This willow leaf was pitch black with purple-red vascular patterns on it. At first glance, it looked less like any plant's leaf and more akin to the fabled horns of a demon from the abyss.

However, upon seeing this, Xiao Qing became suddenly excited.

Objects of the same attribute held a great appeal for Pet Beasts. Therefore, high-level resources that emerged in the wild would often have Pet Beasts guarding them. The Devil's Willow Leaf appealed to Xiao Qing due to its Poison Attribute and, making it an even better fit, its compatibility with the Heart of the Poison Wood.

But this time, Su Ping was not careless. He put on gloves and a mask, split the Devil's Willow Leaf in two, and then brought one part to Xiao Qing's mouth.

The leaf was too small. It was swallowed by Xiao Qing without a sound. However, just three minutes later, a reaction occurred!

Su Ping instinctively stepped back.

From Xiao Qing's body, streams of faint, dark green breath spilled out from its nose and mouth.

To Su Ping's surprise, as this faint mist touched the remaining half of the Devil's Willow Leaf, it instantly absorbed the rest of the leaf, much like the Heart of Woods would absorb the power of plants.

Clearly, for Xiao Qing, just half of the Devil's Willow Leaf was not enough! Not nearly enough!

Su Ping held his breath, his gaze unwavering as he watched both the Life Detector and Xiao Qing's body.

Xiao Qing had fallen into a deep sleep, but on its body, apart from the enveloping mist, there was also a faint glow.

No wonder Poison Type Pet Beasts were said to be the most dangerous, perhaps second to none. Su Ping now witnessed it firsthand.

Just the act of consuming a resource to attempt a breakthrough was enough for the surrounding mist to teach a lesson to any who thought to take advantage at that moment.

Simultaneously, Su Ping could see on the Life Detector that Xiao Qing's heartbeat and pulse had suddenly accelerated. Not only that, but all other metrics also showed a significant increase.

The next moment, a low Wolf Howl resounded.

The engulfing mist completely disappeared. At the same time, Su Ping could feel very clearly in his spirit an indescribable sensation of refreshment. It fed back directly to Su Ping from the deepest part of his spirit!

Breakthrough!

Elite Level!

Beast Tamers and Pet Beasts were linked in terms of levels. A Beast Tamer's level breakthrough would provide feedback to their Pet Beast, and similarly, a Pet Beast's breakthrough would also provide feedback to the Beast Tamer. This was particularly evident in the early stages.

And naturally, there was a realm-based bond between the two. Generally speaking, as long as they were in the same realm, there wouldn't be any problem. It was also barely acceptable for a Pet Beast to be slightly higher in realm than the Beast Tamer, as was the case now.

Although, if I were to put Xiao Qing into the Beast Taming Space again, my own Beast Taming Space would feel a sense of swelling. This is even though the Soul Contract is in place, meaning the Pet Beast Home's talent restrictions naturally don't apply to Xiao Qing.

Chapter 117: The Onslaught of Xiao Qing! Poison Flower!_2

These were some of the side effects when a Pet Beast's level surpassed that of its Beast Tamer by a whole tier.

Fortunately, Su Ping could also feel that, with the feedback from Xiao Qing's Soul Contract, his spiritual power had also reached a peak.

Whenever he wished, he could break through that vague barrier and become a true Elite Beast Tamer. This also officially meant becoming qualified to take the Beast Tamer professional certification exam.

Obviously, there was no hurry at the moment.

Su Ping's spirit rippled, but his gaze remained firmly fixed on Xiao Qing.

The glimmer of the breakthrough disappeared, and the faint poisonous fog retracted into its body.

From start to finish, Xiao Qing, having digested the Devil's Willow Leaf in less than half an hour, lightly leaped down from the Life Detector.

There was still no significant change. Its body was just slightly taller.

But soon, Su Ping sensed something was off.

After all, Xiao Qing was his Contracted Beast.

He could feel even the slightest change most directly, not to mention that Xiao Qing's current changes were definitely not minor.

Immediately, the Eye of Truth, which had just been activated, was once again locked onto Xiao Qing before him!

And the changes, vastly different from half an hour ago, also registered in Su Ping's mind.

[Mutated Forest Wolf (Contracted)]

[Attribute: Wood, Poison]

[Current Level: Elite First Rank]

[Racial Potential: Commander Third Rank]

[Skills: Simplified, Poison Flower (Beginner)]

As for the Level breakthrough, Su Ping did not care.

He did not care that the skill level hadn't improved. At this moment, all of Su Ping's attention was firmly locked onto the last skill that had appeared among Xiao Qing's Skills!

Had Xiao Qing awakened a new Skill with this Level breakthrough?

Even for Mutated Pet Beasts, it was very difficult to comprehend an entirely new Skill beyond those of their original race.

But Xiao Qing had done it.

And obviously, it was an ability derived from its Poison Type mutation!

Su Ping eagerly checked Xiao Qing's Skill changes:

[Poison Flower (Beginner): A Special Skill formed by combining Poison Type and Wood Element attributes. It can be used independently to create a fragrant aroma with Poison Type effects. It can also be attached to other Wood Element objects, imbuing the corresponding Wood Element abilities with poisonous effects.]

A very simple Skill.

It couldn't even be considered powerful.

However, it gave Su Ping a strangely familiar feeling.

Poison Flower of the wolf... was his Xiao Qing aiming to further strengthen the 'Tree Realm Descent' of the Wanmu Wolf?

Nevertheless, Su Ping knew this was just a sense of déjà vu from reading the Skill description.

The Skill itself was meant to enhance Xiao Qing's own combat capabilities.

He affectionately ruffled the excited Xiao Qing's head.

"Remarkable!"

Indeed, remarkable. In fact, this wasn't just a matter of one Skill.

This aligned with what Vice President Liu had taught in his course: Skills are concrete displays and derivatives of a Pet Beast's capabilities.

And Evolution is the transformation that occurs when a Pet Beast's proficient abilities reach a peak.

Therefore, many Pet Beasts' Evolutions could be researched by focusing on their Skills.

For example, the Wanmu Wolf, in essence, was the transformation of the Forest Wolf's most basic racial skill, Sunlight Absorption, reaching its peak.

Xiao Qing's comprehension of a new Skill undoubtedly represented a research direction for its Evolution.

Of course, this was truly just a direction, not even a concrete plan yet.

Su Ping shook his head, intending to lead Xiao Qing out, but at that moment, as expected, the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas also provided direct feedback:

[Cultivation of Poison Type mutated bloodline Pet Beasts has improved.]

[Poison Type mutated bloodline Pet Beast promoted to Elite Level, comprehended the Poison Type Skill: Poison Flower. Gained Forest Wolf Experience Points: 300!]

[Further analysis of the reasons for the Poison Type mutation in Forest Wolves has been carried out. Can expend 42,700 Experience Points from this Catalog to forcibly analyze the cause of the Forest Wolf's Poison Type bloodline mutation and obtain methods for breeding this mutation.]

As expected!

Not only had he gained Experience Points for the Forest Wolf Catalog, but the Experience Points needed for the Poison Type mutation analysis had also decreased considerably.

Although for him, it was still an undoubtedly huge expense, hadn't he also seen some glimmers of dawn?

Thinking of this, Su Ping glanced at the Forest Wolf Catalog, which had changed its appearance:

[Catalog: Forest Wolf]

[Current Catalog Level: 3 (619/20,000)]

The increase in Experience seemed trivial in the face of the terrifying amount required for leveling up.

Previously, Su Ping hadn't really considered that after reaching LV3, the amount of Experience needed for further improvement would be so immense.

That was one of the reasons Su Ping planned to focus on illuminating the Catalogs of other Pet Beasts.

A requirement of 20,000 Experience Points, not to mention the Experience he would consume in the process, suggested that leveling up to LV4 wasn't going to be easy.

After a brief look, Su Ping paid it no more mind. Leading the excited Xiao Qing, he said directly,

"Let's go test the effects of the new Skill!"

"AWOOO!"

"Old Sha, you come with us too!"

"AWOOO!"

「In the middle of the night.」

Lao Guan yawned, went to the bathroom, and then, out of habit as the gatekeeper, took a stroll around the perimeter.

Although Su Ping had never requested this, Lao Guan, despite his grumbling, actually did much more than required. For instance, after patrolling the area and finding nothing unusual, Lao Guan went to the monitoring room for a final check.

However, Guan Qianshan, who was originally drowsy, was taken aback.

Under the dark night sky, the wooded area before the Heart of Woods was brightly illuminated by searchlights.

The area that should have been quiet was still bustling with activity.

In the video footage from the surveillance cameras, two wolves and one man appeared to have no trace of sleepiness.

In that clearing, they continuously unleashed Skills.

And Su Ping, beside them, was constantly directing them while swiftly jotting down notes in a brand-new notebook.

This was not the first time Lao Guan had seen such a scene.

Especially a few days ago, when the Old Wolf had not yet completed its Evolution, Lao Guan would almost certainly see Su Ping there every time he got up at night.

Over these past few days, Guan Qianshan had welcomed numerous Beast Tamers who came for Cultivation.

Nearly everyone was generous with their praise for Su Ping:

"A true Genius Breeder!"

"He has great potential!"

"A bright future ahead!"

This was all because their Forest Wolves had acquired the Heart of Woods Skill.

At such a young age, with such remarkable breeding proficiency and results, it seemed this young fellow truly deserved such praise.

This was particularly true after they learned the significance of the Wanmu Wolf.

Yet, Guan Qianshan was the only one who could see the hard work Su Ping put in behind his Talent.

Talent plus effort determines the upper limit for a Beast Tamer!

And in this world, that limit is always set by those who possess both Talent and the dedication to work for it.

But here before him was such a person.

So, just where was Su Ping's limit?

Thinking this, Lao Guan let out a sigh, and even his drowsiness somewhat retreated.

Damn it, what's with this sudden urge to work overtime!?

However, Lao Guan's urge to work overtime remained unfulfilled.

This was because, before long, Su Ping noticed Lao Guan was still awake and asked him to cook some late-night snacks. After eating, Su Ping returned to his room under Guan Qianshan's relieved gaze.

It was good that Su Ping was resting. That way, he could go back to sleep at 2 a.m. without feeling guilty.

However, just as Lao Guan thought Su Ping was finally resting, Su Ping, having finished washing up, lay on his bed and took a deep breath.

An Elite Level breakthrough was nothing major for Xiao Qing.

But for a Beast Tamer, an Elite Level breakthrough was crucial!

It was only after reaching the Elite Level that a Beast Tamer's Beast Taming Space could be effectively utilized.

And now, he was about to begin his ascension to the Elite Level!

Chapter 118: Promotion to Elite! Su Ping's Space Characteristics!

The Beast Taming Space is one of the primary manifestations of a Beast Tamer's abilities. For a powerful Beast Tamer, the Beast Taming Space is not merely a portable space for their Pet Beasts; it is also an accumulation of wealth and resources, or even a training ground and medical facility for them. This is due to the Space Characteristics that emerge within the Beast Taming Space after each Realm breakthrough.

However, Su Ping was clearly different from other ordinary Beast Tamers. The Stone of Creation, after merging with his Beast Taming Space, was constantly transforming it. It was merely awaiting Su Ping's advancement in Realm, his leap to becoming an Elite Level Beast Tamer, to fully awaken the 'Ecological Cycle' Space Trait. And now, that moment had undoubtedly arrived.

The ripples in the space were inconspicuous within the dark Beast Taming Space. However, Su Ping felt an explosive sensation, as if everything around him was boiling with an excitement so intense it was difficult to contain. The cramped, dark Beast Taming Space seemed to shatter at this moment, as energy infused from his spiritual power ignited its shadowy depths.

An indescribable coolness flowed from his mind, spreading through his limbs and bones. His body, somewhat fatigued from helping Xiao Qing record its newest skill, Poison Flower, felt as if it had been completely rejuvenated.

Evidently, while a Beast Tamer's primary abilities lay in controlling beasts with spiritual power and the aspects of their Beast Taming Space, each advancement also brought a certain enhancement to their physical body, albeit not a significant one.

Savoring the pleasant comfort, Su Ping refocused his attention on his Beast Taming Space. As his spiritual power surged and erupted, the once-dark Beast Taming Space began to slowly transform. A profound and mysterious power began to emanate, slowly carving out the space from its surroundings. The dark, murky air currents vanished, replaced by a void that was incorporated into the space.

The Stone of Creation, after vanishing for who knew how long, surprisingly re-emerged within Su Ping's Beast Taming Space. A hazy fluctuation emanated from the Stone of Creation. This fluctuation not only accelerated the Beast Taming Space's expansion but also transformed it from the size of a small storage room to that of a three-bedroom apartment. And it was still expanding.

Finally, with a sharp cracking sound, as if something had shattered, the Beast Taming Space ceased its expansion. Its area, roughly two hundred square meters with a ceiling dozens of meters high, was enough to fill Su Ping with pleasant surprise.

However, it was clear this wasn't the end. That cracking sound hadn't come from the space itself, but from the glowing Stone of Creation. The Stone of Creation completely shattered. But the changes it brought were not yet finished.

Actual earth materialized on the previously void ground. Moreover, this earthen ground was occasionally dotted with specks of vibrant green. Above, in the azure sky, clouds slowly began to appear. Then, to Su Ping's utter astonishment, the tiny fragments of the shattered Stone of Creation slowly ascended into the sky and coalesced into a miniature sun!

At this moment, Su Ping's Beast Taming Space, at first glance, seemed indistinguishable from the outside world.

Is this the benefit brought by the Stone of Creation?

Su Ping blinked, a wave of astonishment washing over him with a slight delay.

But no, that's not right!

What else is there?

With the Stone of Creation, I should have gained the Ecological Cycle Space Trait. But what about the Space Trait I was supposed to awaken after my Level breakthrough?

Su Ping blinked again, and then realization struck him. In the next instant, the details of his Beast Taming Space's newly awakened Trait appeared in his mind.

The first, undoubtedly, was the Trait bestowed by the Stone of Creation:

[Ecological Cycle: Nature Type Resource Type Trait. Forms a stable ecological cycle system, completely identical to the energy cycle governed by the true natural laws of the outside world. Capable of cultivating plants and raising any creatures or Pet Beasts from the outside world. Spiritual power can be consumed to accelerate growth by creating artificial rainfall and increasing sunlight exposure.]

This Trait, needless to say, was crucial. It allowed many activities to be conducted directly within the Beast Taming Space. It was also the most encompassing Space Trait, useful in virtually any situation. Of course, it would be absurd if a Trait granted by Emperor Level Peak resources wasn't useful. If it weren't, Su Ping wouldn't be constantly plagued by that nightmare of needing to marry into another family for support.

What was truly important, undoubtedly, was the Space Trait he had awakened through his own breakthrough!

However, when his Beast Taming Space instinctively relayed the details of the Trait he had obtained to its master, Su Ping was stunned. Because he sensed a special Space Trait he had never encountered before:

[Space Absorption: Space Element Resource Type Trait. Can absorb the Origin of ownerless Secret Realms, adding corresponding changes and slight enhancements to one's own Beast Taming Space from the absorbed Origin.]

(Note 1: User must be physically present within the Secret Realm to activate.)

(Note 2: Can only be successfully activated if there are no Pet Beasts within the Secret Realm whose Level exceeds the user's own.)

(Note 3: The magnitude of the absorption effect is determined by the Level difference between the Secret Realm's original master and the user.)

Chapter 119: Promotion to Elite! Su Ping's Space Characteristics!_2

What did this mean?

Also, why had he awakened a Space Element Space Characteristic when his first Pet Beast was clearly a mutated Poison Type Forest Wolf?

However, this was considered somewhat normal; such cases had occurred before, and not infrequently.

After all, the acquisition of Beast Taming Space Traits, although somewhat related to one's own Pet Beast, seemed to be mostly random.

What truly made Su Ping curious was the Ability of this Space Characteristic—what exactly did it entail?

Although, being his Space Characteristic Ability, he had an innate understanding of it, its specific effects would only be clear once he used it.

And the method of use was to find an unclaimed Secret Realm.

For others, this Space Characteristic was likely as useless as could be.

After all, it seemed Secret Realms weren't so easily found.

But for Su Ping, it apparently wasn't a problem.

Because in his own backyard, there was such a Secret Realm about to emerge.

It was like being handed a pillow just as he was getting sleepy, Su Ping thought.

After much thought, Su Ping could only attribute this to possessing the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas. Perhaps the world's Origin was secretly watching over him?

Shaking his head, Su Ping wasn't in a hurry to try. It wouldn't be too late to study this Ability after the little Paperman's Secret Realm appeared.

For now, he still needed to familiarize himself with his own Beast Taming Space.

Although the Space Absorption Trait he had awakened didn't assist with cultivation within the space, he was fortunate to have Qin Xiaoxue's help.

The ecological cycling Ability bestowed by the Stone of Creation was enough for Su Ping to truly experience the joy of cultivation.

And first and foremost was the planting of Plant Type resources!

In an instant, Su Ping thought of something quite suitable:

Smiley Sunflowers!

Even though it was an Ordinary Level resource, sunflower seeds containing Light Power had become one of Old Sha's favorite snacks after his Evolution was completed.

Unfortunately, while buying a pound or two of these seeds wasn't overly expensive, that amount was barely a couple of mouthfuls for Old Sha.

After all, while normal people needed to peel sunflower seeds, Old Sha didn't; he crunched them down, shells and all.

Considering he might have several Wanmu Wolves in the future, supplying them would be a considerable expense. If he could grow the sunflowers himself, it would undoubtedly alleviate some of that financial pressure.

He decided to act immediately!

Su Ping promptly took out his phone, swiftly ordered several large bags of Smiley Sunflower seeds, and carefully read their planting instructions.

Indeed, they turned out to be quite suitable.

Smiley Sunflowers weren't Plant-based Pet Beasts, but simply Plant Type resources. Moreover, they were extremely easy to grow, not demanding of the planting environment, needing only ample sunlight every day.

His Beast Taming Space perfectly met this condition.

For now, planting Low-level resources will do. Advanced Level resources aren't so easy to grow.

Moreover, significant results would primarily depend on an increase in the Beast Tamer's Level.

Su Ping hadn't considered aiming too high. At this stage, trying to cultivate Advanced Level resources would be a pipe dream.

He let out a long breath. At this moment, not a hint of sleepiness remained; his Spirit was excited to the extreme.

Simultaneously, the fatigue in his body had been dispelled by the recent level-up and breakthrough.

He had never felt so good.

Naturally, any sleepiness had vanished.

He focused inward for a moment. Sure enough, in his soul connection, besides the mind-linked Soul Contract with Xiao Qing, a new empty slot had appeared.

Elite Level Beast Tamer!

From now on, he was an Elite Level Beast Tamer!

Although this was merely the first threshold for professional Beast Tamers, and becoming a truly powerful Beast Tamer was still a distant goal, every journey begins with a single step. For Su Ping, this moment was profoundly significant.

So, Su Ping sat up straight.

He thought for a moment and then went to the side room.

In that room, under the deep night's moonlight, only the little Paperman was present, practicing its sword draws repeatedly against a wall in the basement's lightwell.

The little Paperman seemed to know neither loneliness nor monotony.

Previously, Su Anyong had also seen the little Paperman and had offered some opinions and suggestions regarding the Paperman Pet Beast.

Undoubtedly, the Paperman Pet Beast's potential was far too low.

Even though Su Ping sensed it had a peculiar Racial Skill, and even if it might possess that Racial Skill—Paper Body Joint—it was still merely a Low-level Undead Pet Beast with Ordinary Level Racial Potential.

Its known potential and strength were incredibly weak.

However, Su Ping's conviction had never wavered in the slightest!

Su Anyong's words couldn't influence Su Ping's choice; the little Paperman was unquestionably his second Pet Beast.

If, initially, Su Ping's curiosity about the Secret Realm had driven him to want the little Paperman as his Pet Beast to better understand the mysteries of that hidden domain, then later, through continued interaction, Su Ping had become genuinely satisfied with the little Paperman itself.

Its tenacious character truly suited Su Ping's taste.

As for Racial Potential? Su Ping had never given it much deep thought. Is Racial Potential important?! Very important, extremely important!

He had already experienced the significance of a Pet Beast with high Racial Potential.

It could make someone as cautious and prudent as Zhou Shuchen suddenly become arrogant and conceited.

It had also made everyone deeply fearful of Miss Qin after witnessing the Monarch Level Racial Potential of the Life Ancient Tree.

But for Su Ping, it wasn't that important.

If a Pet Beast could become a High-level, powerful Pet Beast just by eating, sleeping, and practicing casually every day, then what would be the need for Beast Tamers and Breeders? Perhaps some would say that Pet Beasts of strong Races would naturally become even stronger under the Cultivation of a powerful Beast Tamer. But Su Ping always believed that strength based on Level and Realm was only one aspect. That kind of strength could only bully the weaker; only those who attained strength step by step would have the courage to face stronger opponents—and become even stronger themselves!

The impact of the little Paperman's sword strike against Old Sha, back then, still resonated deeply within Su Ping.

Besides, only this kind of Cultivation could bring a greater sense of achievement!

Thus, he appeared behind the little Paperman and said, "Little guy, how's your practice going?"

However, just as Su Ping had expected, there was no improvement in the little Paperman's Realm or skill levels.

It was still at the Ordinary Ninth Rank, with Jinge Technique at Perfection, Accelerated Casting at Beginner, and Paper Body Folding at Beginner.

It seemed no different from when Su Ping had finished its initial Cultivation.

"PIP!" it declared, its voice like dry leaves rustling. "Master, I am... getting stronger!"

The little Paperman sheathed its paper sword and bowed to Su Ping.

Su Ping didn't correct the little Paperman's form of address. After all, at this moment, wasn't the title 'Master' rightfully his, in a sense?

So, after the little Paperman's meticulous bow, Su Ping said, "Little guy, would you like to follow me always? To become my 'core disciple'?"

This time, the little Paperman responded almost instantly, its simple paper face seeming to light up with eagerness. "PIP! I'm willing!"

The little Paperman could feel that the 'Master' before it was genuinely helping it grow stronger.

Moreover, it had previously seen how that big dog, with Master's help, had suddenly become so formidable! Even more formidable than before! It also wanted to become that formidable, to learn more Swordsmanship, and defeat more Experts! To become a true top-tier Swordsman!

Having truly arrived in this wider world, even though it was currently confined here, the little Paperman could sense many powerful auras.

"Good! Get ready! Don't resist!"

The little Paperman nodded, its simple face showing serene determination as it closed its eyes.

Seeing the little Paperman close its eyes, Su Ping didn't immediately establish the Soul Contract to make it his second Contracted Beast.

On the contrary, he fell into deep thought.

Because Su Ping had thought of a problem that, for him, was truly very, very difficult.

If he contracted the little Paperman, he couldn't still call it 'little Paperman,' right? The little fellow would need a name, wouldn't it?

Undoubtedly, this was a matter more challenging for him than perfecting a Cultivation Secret Technique!

Chapter 120: The Second Pet Beast! The Opening of the Secret Realm?

Su Ping thought of the look in his dad, Su Anyong's, eyes a few days ago, and the sigh-filled words he heard after the name Xiao Qing was mentioned:

"Son, when you fight with Plant Type, Wood Element Beast Tamers in the future, it's best not to call out the little guy's name directly to command him; just use the Soul Contract. Otherwise, the opponent's Pet Beast may not know who you're calling, because their Pet Beast's nickname might be the same!"

The reason Su Ping hadn't missed the old man at all after he left was precisely because of his nagging mouth.

However, what the old man said did make some sense.

The name Xiao Qing was too common. Of course, now it was impossible to change Xiao Qing's name, so Su Ping had to put more effort into naming his second Pet Beast.

So, as he watched the little Paperman open his eyes in confusion, Su Ping cleared his throat,

"From today onwards, as you have officially become my core disciple, it's time for me to give you a true name!"

"WAH? (A name?)"

The little Paperman was first slightly stunned, then his eyes suddenly lit up. And I mean literally lit up:

"WAH! (A name!)"

"WAH... WAH? (Oriental... Blizzard?)"

Damn!

A wave of foreboding suddenly surged in Su Ping's heart.

Throughout history, what name of those swordsmen in TV dramas and movies was ever normal?

And clearly, having such names bestowed upon Pet Beasts would be abnormal too.

If Su Anyong returned and found out not only had he made a Soul Contract with a Paperman, but had named it 'Oriental Blizzard,' Su Ping could already fully imagine the state and mannerisms his dad would display!

Seemingly imagining some horrifying and terrible scene, Su Ping shivered and hastily shook his head.

"As my official disciple, you should have a two-character name just like me and Xiao Qing!"

He quickly tried to fix the issue.

However, seeing the little Paperman getting excited, Su Ping felt a headache coming on.

"WAH! (Invincible!)"

"WAH! (Flying Goose!)"

"WAH! (Unrivaled!)"

"WAH! (Blizzard!)"

"WAH..."

"Alright!"

Su Ping directly called a stop, interrupting the little Paperman's obsession with 'Blizzard.' He then summoned his terrifying Chinese Language Gaokao score of 82 points and began racking his brains as swiftly as possible.

Finally, after much effort, he decided to link his own dream to the young creature before him!

"The seed of the Heart of Woods is Xiao Qing! My small goal for the future is to become a Pet Beast Breeding Base worth a hundred billion! So, I'll call you Qian Yi then!"

Su Ping was quite proud of himself.

Who says I'm bad at naming? Isn't this name good? It has a nice meaning too.

In the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas, the term 'myriad spirits' is used. Beneath 'myriad' is 'thousand,' and the unit above it is 'billion.' Combining these two could also be encompassed by this idea.

Also, at first listen, it's quite catchy. Genius! I am a genius!

Su Ping was very satisfied.

And it seemed the little Paperman was satisfied too:

"WAH! (Qian Yi!)"

"WAH! (Qian Yi!)"

"..."

Watching the little Paperman repeating his new name, Su Ping nodded in satisfaction. Thankfully, it seemed the Paperman's tastes were quite in line with his!

But as they communicated telepathically, Su Ping suddenly furrowed his brow after listening for a while.

Huh? It didn't seem to be what he had in mind!

"WAH! WAH! (Qian Yi! One in a Thousand! I am the mighty swordsman who is one in a thousand!)"

Su Ping looked at the little Paperman, who had apparently excitedly accepted the name, in confusion.

Huh? Is this the name I wanted to give? Is this it?

But seeing the little Paperman so happy it couldn't find north, Su Ping nodded.

Yes! This was it! Qian Yi! That was the name he had chosen for the little Paperman!

Facing the little Paperman Qian Yi's excited and admiring gaze, Su Ping finally said, a little after the fact,

"Alright, get ready, don't resist!"

Qian Yi: (๑-∪-๑)

This time, Su Ping no longer hesitated. He slowly connected his soul to the little Paperman Qian Yi before him. That familiar sensation enveloped both him and the Paperman once again.

It wasn't a connection of blood, but rather one of souls intertwined. Like a bridge opening to traffic, it completely interlinked him with the little Paperman.

This sensation made Su Ping's soul feel as though it had suddenly gained a burden-bearing strength.

Though the little Paperman's power was weak and its Realm was low, such a fresh force's arrival still allowed Su Ping's recently broken-through spiritual power to advance a small step forward.

Although the effect of this step wasn't major, there was still some distance to reaching the Elite Level, Second Rank.

After breaking through to the Elite Level, Su Ping clearly felt that while the power feedback from upgrading Pet Beasts didn't change, the difficulty of his own promotions increased.

However, this might be the case for Su Ping the Beast Tamer. But for the little Paperman Qian Yi, it was like directly consuming an unimaginably miraculous elixir. Upon the Soul Contract with Su Ping, it felt an immense amount of power feedback.

This power allowed the little Paperman, already at its Peak, to change its aura immediately. Its Level finally broke through, reaching the Common Tenth Level!

This was also, generally speaking, the theoretical race limit for the Paperman, an Undead Pet Beast.

"WAH!"

Little Paperman Qian Yi opened his eyes in excitement. His choice had clearly not been wrong.