

Beast Taming: the More the Better

Chapter 27: Chapter 27: Ordinary Seventh Rank, The Arrival of the Gathering!

The effects of the Spirit-Nurturing Ancient Tea really didn't deceive him.

Su Ping only felt an unprecedented boiling and excitement in his spiritual power.

The smoothness of the meditation took Su Ping by surprise.

Just a few days ago, he had just broken through to the average Fifth Rank.

However, after repeatedly brewing that small pot of Spirit-Nurturing Ancient Tea several times, Su Ping found that his Spiritual Realm had directly broken through to another level.

He had reached the average Sixth Rank.

Even more so, this was just the beginning!

As Qin Xiaoxue had said, the effect of the Spirit-Nurturing Ancient Tea was to enhance meditation. After breaking through and beginning to meditate again, Su Ping could even feel that just after such a brief period of meditation, he had an inkling once more!

His spiritual power was about to boil over again.

For a Beast Tamer, there's no such thing as a void in the Realm from breaking through too quickly; after all, a Beast Tamer's main combat power is tied to their Pet Beasts.

Su Ping naturally wanted to seize this opportunity to fully grasp it.

Sure enough, with Su Ping's meditation, his Realm broke through another level in the span of just one afternoon.

What's most important is that Su Ping could even feel that this was actually still not the end.

However, allowing for some sedimentation, in the future, his meditation results might be several times better than at other times, and at the same time, future meditation practice would be much smoother.

But now, Su Ping was actually already content!

He had risen from the average Fifth Rank to the average Seventh Rank.

This was just a little over a month after graduation. At such a speed, Su Ping believed that in the entire No. 6 High School, there was probably no one who could compare to him.

However, after meeting Qin Xiaoxue and being exposed to a broader world, comparing myself to my schoolmates from No. 6 High School seems quite uninteresting, right?

Shaking his head, Su Ping got up and glanced out the window at the gradually darkening sky, ripples once again spreading in his heart.

He looked at the account balance on his phone with a sense of unreality.

Is it time to readjust my mindset? Su Ping suddenly wondered.

This time, encountering Qin Xiaoxue was my lucky chance, which allowed me to come into contact with those two individuals who were clearly major figures in Linzhou City. And there was even that special wager. All these were the results of my abilities, but were those two figures not coveting me because of Qin Xiaoxue's connections? Or looking at the situation, whether it was the Dragon Nation as a whole or in parts such as Jianghai Province and Linzhou City, for someone like me who showed potential and ability, was nurturing still the main focus? If that were the case, I could confidently display my abilities. If that led to gaining more benefits and resources, strengthening myself, why not do so?

But everything should be done in moderation.

Su Ping knew that it was enough to continue cultivating the Forest Wolf; after all, if one had to say, that was also a skill passed down through his family.

However, if he was too hasty in cultivating other Pet Beasts and inadvertently discovered some other Cultivation methods or perfected some rare Evolution paths, that would be too conspicuous.

Steady progress is key! Only until my power is beyond any doubt.

This was the principle Su Ping set for himself. He took a slight breath. Connected in spirit, Su Ping could feel the change after his own breakthrough from the average Fifth Rank to the average Seventh Rank.

Sure enough, influenced by its master, Xiao Qing's Realm had also received some feedback and improved.

Xiao Qing, who had just this morning reached the Proficient Level with the Sunlight Absorption Skill and had risen to the average Fifth Rank, had grown another size bigger. Its aura had also improved, reaching the average Sixth Rank.

Now Xiao Qing was already the size of an adult wolfhound.

The growth in size of a Pet Beast mainly depends on the advancement in its Realm.

And through various means to accelerate the Realm advancement of the Pet Beast, naturally, its size will also increase.

However, with Xiao Qing's current size, it clearly could not be held in his arms as it was a few days ago.

Nevertheless, the current Xiao Qing's battle power had also become more evident.

Su Ping smiled with satisfaction and soon took the equally eager Xiao Qing to the edge of the forest.

There was only half a month left for Woodhead's training and the bet with Sun Chaoju.

Fifteen days to help Woodhead's Self-Healing Skill break through to the Proficient Level would be a challenge for any ordinary Breeder, but it wouldn't even affect Su Ping's original training plan.

However, Su Ping was not one to slack off; he might disregard his opponent strategically, but tactically, he still paid close attention.

So, there at the forest's edge, at his command, the Forest Wolves from within the Dark Forest swiftly gathered, their green eyes in the dark night making for an eerie sight.

"Starting now, I will be drafting a training plan that calls for the little guys who most want to get stronger to participate!"

At Su Ping's command, almost all the Forest Wolves stood out, ready to try their luck.

Su Ping smiled slightly. "Don't worry, all you little guys will participate tonight. We'll just divide into two groups. One group will use Vine Strangling on the other to inflict injuries, while the other group will continuously use the Self-Healing Skill!"

His orders were conveyed to all the Forest Wolves through Old Sha.

Very quickly, the group of fewer than thirty Forest Wolves was divided into two groups, but just as Su Ping was about to initiate the skill-sharing link, he paused for a moment.

Because he then realized that the limit of fifteen Forest Wolves he could connect with had increased to seventeen!

So, the advancement of my own Realm also affected the number of Pet Beasts I could connect with?

Su Ping let out a sigh of relief. An extra Forest Wolf in the connection meant that the skill level advancement would be twice as fast compared to before.

Now, for Woodhead to improve the Skill Proficiency of Self-Healing, it would be seventeen times faster than practicing alone!

This terrifying concept was enough to allow all of Su Ping's Pet Beasts to truly 'make up for lack of natural ability with diligence' through sheer numbers!

In the ensuing night, among the twenty-seven Forest Wolves, the two groups were distinct: seventeen to be hit and ten to do the hitting. They began the practice of the 'Self-Healing' Skill in the depth of the night.

Regrettably, Little Ones and his own Xiao Qing, as they had not yet grasped the Self-Healing Skill, couldn't join in the connection and had to join the attacking side instead.

Nevertheless, Su Ping didn't mind, confident that with Xiao Qing's Talent, mastering Self-Healing was just a matter of time.

After giving some instructions, he left Old Sha in charge as the supervisor, making sure there were no irrecoverable casualties, and that training would continue until after twelve o'clock before ending.

A balance between work and rest was the method for improvement. Furthermore, daytime was the best time to train Forest Wolves; with the Sunlight Absorption ability, they could rapidly recover Energy and stamina.

And each night, after such a training session, Su Ping could go to Uncle Guan's place the next day to discuss the Pet Beast rental business.

Thinking this, Su Ping sent a message to Uncle Guan, agreeing to meet the next morning to talk about the Pet Beast rental matters.

Only through real combat could the fighting power of these little guys be improved.

And to have a place where they could unleash their combat abilities freely while also making some extra money, why not?

Relaxed, Su Ping returned to his room, but just as he lay down contentedly, his phone pinged with a notification.

It was a private message, and it came from Li Shu.

After leaving the group, the only schoolmate from No. 6 High School he was still in good contact with was Li Shu, with whom he got along well.

The content of the message was simple:

"Bro Ping, tomorrow's the reunion! I'm gonna be there too. Are you ready to roll out the red carpet for me!?"

Chapter 28: Chapter 28: Renting Out Pet Beasts, Trash Forest Wolf?

「Yuntian Resort for Pet Beast Battles.」

It had to be said, compared to his own territory, this neighbor's decorations here were truly admirable. There were even specially constructed roads, with shuttle buses circulating to pick up and drop off guests. The service was quite thorough. No wonder they were always trying to buy this place. Indeed, the construction investment wasn't small.

However, it was clear Su Ping was not in the mood to appreciate the scenery outside the window. He yawned.

Manager Guan, seated opposite him by the coffee table, smiled and glanced at him, "Xiao Ping, didn't sleep well last night?"

Manager Guan clearly didn't need to ask; the slightly dark circles under Su Ping's eyes had already given him away.

It wasn't because he was restless about Li Shu and his classmates visiting. Rather, it was because he had truly completed Cultivation for the first time and earned so much money. Then, determined not to waste the effects of the Nurturing Ancient Tea, he had spent almost half the night in meditation. Afterward, he was up until dawn selecting Poison System resources for Xiao Qing and purchasing materials for the Heart of Woods Magic Potion. As a result, his Realm had improved slightly, but he hadn't advanced to the next Level. Of the more than four million he had earned, only a few tens of thousands remained.

However, the thought of the resources about to be delivered to his doorstep lifted Su Ping's spirits.

In addition to the materials for twenty Heart of Woods Magic Potions, he had also purchased four Poison System resources: Heartbane Fruit, Monkshood Wolf Poison, Oleander in Crimson, and Devil's Willow Leaf.

These four were all herbal Poison System resources, and Devil's Willow Leaf was even an Elite Level Poison System resource.

It had been confirmed that Xiao Qing's Heart of the Poison Wood could grow by consuming Poison System resources. Naturally, Su Ping wouldn't be stingy with his Soul Contracted Beast.

Manager Guan, seeing Su Ping wasn't in the best condition, didn't waste any more words and handed him the contract, saying, "Xiao Ping, take a look. We at Yun Tian are really sincere about this! For your Forest Wolves, as long as they're Ordinary Level, we guarantee five hundred a day per wolf—the same price for one battle. Elite Level ones are one thousand two hundred, also the same price per battle. Plus, professional recuperation and treatment facilities are available for free use, along with comprehensive accident insurance. You can rest assured!"

Su Ping nodded, read through it thoroughly from start to finish, and then nodded again, "No problem. But Uncle Guan, I have one condition: I must be able to interrupt the rental at any time. After all, I get busy sometimes..."

"No problem at all!" Manager Guan smiled and waved his hand. This Pet Beast rental was just a pretext; the real goal was to get Su Ping to visit Yun Tian more often and build a closer relationship.

So, Manager Guan cleared his throat and said, "Xiao Ping, as you've seen, I, your Uncle Guan, am truly sincere. I know a bit about your Heart of Woods' situation. Forest Wolves are a foundational Pet Beast in Linzhou City, so there are many cultivation bases. Your dad has never cared about this aspect, but I know how Heart of Woods is doing. As the young manager of such a large cultivation base, life must not be easy for you, right? We at Yun Tian are genuinely interested in this land! What about this number?"

As he finished speaking, Manager Guan didn't wait for Su Ping to respond and handed over a note. It had a string of zeros on it. It had to be said, the offer was indeed very sincere.

But Su Ping still said helplessly, "Uncle Guan, this land was left by my grandfather. You know my dad. Even though he can be unreliable, he takes this matter very seriously. If I dared to do such a thing behind his back, he'd break my legs. And I really don't need the money right now."

"Don't worry. When your dad comes back, I'll talk to him. How about that?"

"Uncle Guan, please don't put me in a difficult position... How about this, let me take you to see my Forest Wolves. I'm renting out sixteen: ten Ordinary Level and six Elite Level..."

Without giving him a chance to respond, Su Ping hastily got up and led Manager Guan out the door.

When they arrived at the open space in front of the main building, a figure stood there, face dark with frustration, tugging on a rope. Surrounding her were seventeen Forest Wolves.

Qin Xiaoxue finally saw Su Ping arrive, albeit late, and seemed to breathe a sigh of relief.

Who had ever made her do something like this in her entire life? Only this brat would treat her, the esteemed Miss Qin, like a servant girl! Especially with so many people casting curious glances her way. So embarrassing!

But, surprisingly, despite being surrounded by this wolf pack and feeling embarrassed by the curious onlookers, Qin Xiaoxue had to admit it. The reason was simple: among the seventeen Forest Wolves, besides the sixteen Su Ping was renting out, one was her own Woodhead. And in just one night, even though Woodhead's Self-Healing Level hadn't improved, the feedback from their soul connection clearly told her that Woodhead had made great progress!

This brat really had some skill!

However, Qin Xiaoxue's gaze toward Su Ping flickered thoughtfully. *Although she had a straightforward and fiery temper, she wasn't actually foolish. If the Yuntian Resort was backed by the Tianyun Group, that would be truly terrifying. With the Tianyun Group as its backer, and even its chairman personally involved with Su Ping, could it all really be just about renting these dozen or so Forest Wolves? Don't be ridiculous. That was clearly impossible.*

Remembering their conversation that day, Qin Xiaoxue felt she had to remind Su Ping later not to be sold and still help the buyer count the money.

And, as expected, Manager Guan merely glanced at them, nodded, and then said straightforwardly, "You take these little guys to the training grounds first and wait to see if any Beast Tamers will choose them. I'll transfer the money to you personally this evening. However, think over that matter carefully. Even if not for anything else, consider it for your own future."

After Manager Guan left, Su Ping waved his hand and, with a visibly upset Qin Xiaoxue and the seventeen Forest Wolves, including Woodhead, headed towards the training grounds at the back.

Qin Xiaoxue watched the guy in front of her, who showed no intention of helping, and her anger flared. *Is this brat really treating me like a servant girl?*

But before she could speak, a voice came from nearby, "Isn't that Su Ping? I was thinking of checking on Su the Young Master later, but here we bump into each other. What a coincidence, huh?"

Su Ping frowned. A group of people was rapidly approaching from not far away, having just stepped off a shuttle bus. The speaker was none other than Zhou Shuchen, the class president of Class Six-Two, whom he hadn't seen in over a month.

Su Ping had never particularly liked this guy, but he'd never found him this obnoxious before.

However, Su Ping couldn't be bothered with him and quickly spotted Li Shu waving from the crowd. *He'd heard from Li Shu yesterday that he was coming today; he just hadn't expected him so early.*

But just then, Zhou Shuchen's next words made Su Ping freeze, "I heard everything just now. Since when did Su the Young Master become so destitute? Having to rent out these trashy Forest Wolves to make a small buck?"

Chapter 29: Chapter 29: The Life Ancient Tree, Qin Xiaoxue's Anger!

A simple sentence instantly turned the atmosphere icy cold.

The source of this chill was definitely not just Su Ping; even more, it was Qin Xiaoxue, who already harbored grievances.

Trash Forest Wolves? she thought. *Among these Forest Wolves is my, Miss Qin's, own Woodhead! Besides, Forest Wolves are not trash!*

Thus, the corners of Miss Qin's mouth curled up, revealing a smile Su Ping had never seen on her cheeks before.

Although she wore sunglasses, her beauty, hard for ordinary people to match, could still be discerned.

In Linzhou City, that might be fine. However, at the Magic Capital Advanced Beast-Taming Academy, things were different. Unless it was a newcomer who had just enrolled, everyone else would definitely flee as far as possible upon seeing such a smile. *Because this signified that the young lady was truly angry.*

Seemingly sensing the fluctuations in its master's emotions, Woodhead's body was instantly clad in wooden armor. In the next moment, the massive Forest Wolf had appeared before Zhou Shuchen. Its extended wood spike claws were only half an inch from his heart.

An indifferent voice came through the cold atmosphere, "How are you serving as class president? Didn't Teacher Yang tell you when you enrolled that there are no truly weak Pet Beasts, only Beast Tamers who haven't found the right development and training path?"

Zhou Shuchen looked at the enormous wolf, whose eyes were filled with cold, murderous intent, and he instinctively backed away, almost falling to the ground. He looked at Su Ping, saying, "Su Ping, have you gone mad..."

However, just then, a figure quickly descended from the bus, looking at Qin Xiaoxue, who had made the move, "Who are you? Don't you know you can't let Pet Beasts attack people at will? Do you have any respect for the Beast Master Association at all?"

This was a forceful voice, belonging to a man in his thirties.

Upon seeing this figure, Su Ping was slightly startled. The figure was none other than Director Zhang of No. 6 Middle School, Zhang Guowei.

By his side stood an equally unfamiliar young man with an arrogant demeanor. Yet, looking at the Forest Wolf and Qin Xiaoxue, he also showed surprise.

Qin Xiaoxue's gaze shifted. She glanced at the self-righteous Zhang Guowei, then smiled again.

Then, a glow arose, and a figure Su Ping had never seen before appeared by her side.

Looking at this figure, Su Ping was stunned, as were Zhang Guowei, Zhou Shuchen, and everyone else who had gotten off the bus.

It was a massive tree that stood three meters tall. The tree was a lush green, surrounded by an endless aura of life, yet there was an indescribable sense of eeriness about it. On its trunk, an ancient and bizarre face gazed calmly at the people before it.

A Monarch-level Species with Racial Potential in the special Plant System category: the Life Ancient Tree!

No, something is amiss, Su Ping thought, looking at the Life Ancient Tree and instinctively feeling something was wrong. This is definitely not an ordinary Life Ancient Tree! Previously, I couldn't have articulated what was amiss. However, after contracting with Xiao Qing and gaining a deeper understanding of such Pet Beasts, I sense it. This Life Ancient Tree is different from common Life Ancient Trees; it's a mutated one! There are additional scents and auras emanating from it. A bloodline and species mutation! This is a Monarch-level Pet Beast; what value has its mutation reached?

Not only Su Ping, but everyone else was dumbfounded. Some connoisseurs in the crowd had even started to back away, not daring to watch any longer.

In any era, many individuals are worlds apart from ordinary people. Even an average Pet Beast with Monarch Racial Potential was beyond the imagination of any common Beast Tamer, let alone a mutated one.

Commander and Monarch: seemingly only one level of difference, but it was as vast as the chasm between clouds and mud!

After seeing the Life Ancient Tree, Zhang Guowei was also stunned. *What on earth is this?* he wondered.

"Now you tell the Beast Master Association to come and deal with this. Let's see if they dare!" Qin Xiaoxue approached with graceful steps, her tone describable by only one word: unrestrained!

However, she quickly added, "The Beast Master Association has long-established regulations. All Pet Beasts in the Dragon Nation's Beastmaster Society, as long as they are not Ferocious Beasts with a strong desire to kill and attack humans, are entitled to basic rights!

"Furthermore, Pet Beasts that reach a certain level of intelligence and have Innate deficiencies must not be provoked or insulted face-to-face by any Beast Tamers. Otherwise, those Beast Tamers will bear the consequences themselves! Do I really need to spell these things out for you? Let alone the fact I haven't even acted; even if these Forest Wolves killed you, you'd deserve it. Utterly clueless!"

Zhang Guowei's complexion turned extremely ugly, while Zhou Shuchen's face became ashen. He was merely a recently graduated student. Despite having a starting point that his ordinary peers could hardly imagine, he had become arrogant in the spur of the moment, oblivious to the dangers and terrors of the outside world.

It was naturally impossible for Zhang Guowei to go to the Beast Master Association or any security department. It didn't matter whether what Qin Xiaoxue said was true. Even if it were false, the moment the Life Ancient Tree appeared, he understood that for some people, right or wrong held no meaning.

At this moment, Su Ping finally spoke up, "Forget it. Let him learn his lesson, and that'll be the end of it."

Looking at Su Ping, Qin Xiaoxue could tell that these people knew him, and this ignorant fool was mostly targeting Su Ping alone.

Qin Xiaoxue harrumphed coldly, and the gigantic Life Ancient Tree slowly disappeared. She rejoined the wolf pack with Woodhead.

Su Ping's demeanor remained unchanged. Facing Zhang Guowei's complex gaze, he even smiled and said, "Director Zhang, everyone, I'll take the Forest Wolves to the Pet

Beast battling venue first. Once you've settled into your rooms, come find me to hang out! I'll be around."

Everyone watched as the duo passed by them, heading toward the huge venue ahead.

Su Ping bore no anger. Even though he had withdrawn from the group and had no intention of forming deep associations with his old classmates and teachers, there was no need for him to adopt an arrogant, vindictive attitude and ignore them.

On the contrary, Qin Xiaoxue's expression was still somewhat sour.

However, before the two could get far, rapid footsteps approached.

"Foster father, wait for me~"

As expected, Su Ping turned his head. It was none other than the thick-browed Li Shu, who hurried over, hugging Su Ping tightly, his eyes fixated on Qin Xiaoxue.

His Pet Beast was also of the Plant System, just a Luozisong (Pine) with Elite Level Racial Potential, worlds apart from the Life Ancient Tree. But clearly, Su Ping's relatively good relationship with him was thanks to Li Shu's unparalleled knack for hitting it off with people.

"Hello, beautiful lady! My name is Li Shu—Li as in 'pear blossoms,' Shu as in 'a pear tree of blossoms overwhelms the begonias'! I am Bro Ping's sworn son. I'm skilled in the Six Arts of a Gentleman, so if you need anything, feel free to seek me out."

Qin Xiaoxue looked at this thick-browed fellow with suspicion. *The Six Arts of a Gentleman? And I should seek him out if needed? Could he be a Breeder with special skills? But then again, for someone to have a good relationship with a Genius Breeder like Su Ping, and to be friends with a hidden dragon like him in such a small pond, he surely must possess remarkable traits, right?*

With that in mind, she belatedly nodded her head. *However, this 'Six Arts of a Gentleman' is unfamiliar. It seems different from specialized Beast Tamer paths like Breeders, Mechanists, and Necromancers? Yet, it must represent some impressive ability, I presume.*

Black lines had already appeared on Su Ping's forehead.

The Six Arts of a Gentleman: Unshakable Composure, Scornful Amusement, The 'It's a Classic!' Takedown, Provoking Fury, Ironic 'Devotion,' and Stunning into Silence.

Proclaimed as the ultimate arsenal of the keyboard warrior, mastering even one art allows dominance in cyber surfing, ensuring invincibility. With these six skills in hand, one could roam unmatched!

Of course, Qin Xiaoxue, a 'normie' Beast Tamer, had no clue about this. If she really sought out Li Shu in the future and realized she had been played, Miss Qin, not known for her good temper, would make things difficult. Su Ping would also have a hard time explaining. With no other choice, he covered his face in resignation and said, "Don't mind him. Sometimes, like you, his mind isn't quite right."

Qin Xiaoxue nodded. "I see."

Then, after three seconds, she realized what he had implied and glared at Su Ping, "What do you mean by that, you jerk?"

"..."