

I CAN CONTROL RESOURCES

Chapter 111 - 108: The Ultimate Mission Officially Begins

...

Night had fallen, and the hour was late.

Sounds occasionally drifted down from upstairs, like someone rolling back and forth, turning the place upside down, a commotion of movement...

In short, Gao Neng was certain that Fang Tangtang was not yet asleep.

He couldn't sleep either. Fang Tangtang had told him so much more after their initial conversation—about the significance of forming a team, the format of the annual new student orientation, and so on.

His first day of school.

Gao Neng had insomnia.

The Eastern Capital Military Academy was far more brutal than he had imagined. It wasn't just a military academy anymore; calling it the Eastern Capital Military District's boot camp wouldn't be an exaggeration.

'First, I have to become a Tier One Energy Warrior!'

Since he couldn't sleep, Gao Neng started to sing while continuing to magnetize his muscles.

During the two hours on the plane, Gao Neng had nearly finished magnetizing the muscles in his right palm. Now he had two choices: continue magnetizing his right arm, or magnetize his left palm.

The expert chose the latter.

'You have to be strong with both hands. How can you beat someone up with just one?'

"In a happy pond lived a little frog. It danced as if possessed by a Prince. With its cool gaze, no other frog could compare. One day, it would be awakened by a Princess..."

Having made his decision, Gao Neng began to sing at the top of his lungs.

At that moment, the once-silent night of the Eastern Capital Military Academy was shattered by the infectious tune of "Little Jumping Frog."

Gao Neng sang with great concentration, the energy from his magnetic core continuously nourishing the muscles of his left palm. Strangely, the sound of Fang Tangtang rolling around on the second floor gradually faded.

Eventually, it was replaced by the sound of soft breathing.

Against all odds, Fang Tangtang had drifted off to dreamland amidst the catchy "Little Jumping Frog." She was really asleep!

But unlike Fang Tangtang, the other new students who had already been asleep... were now awake.

They began to toss and turn in their beds. Every now and then, a student would throw open a window to peer outside. They endured it with great difficulty, periodically blurting out a furious curse.

"Who the hell is caterwauling in the middle of the night?!"

...

「The next morning, the sun was bright.」

Time: 8:00 AM sharp.

After breakfast, Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang headed to the Eastern Capital Military Academy's training grounds, walking with a spring in their step.

Today, Fang Tangtang had changed into a fiery red "Battle Garment." It had a small cape in the back, a golden bow in the front, and was paired with a black miniskirt and white stockings.

As for the Scythe of Death, she still had it slung over her shoulder.

Gao Neng, on the other hand, was dressed ordinarily.

But despite not sleeping a wink, he was still full of vigor.

However, compared to Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang, the other new students were filled with resentment.

The 1,200 new students of the Eastern Capital Military Academy were lined up neatly on the training grounds. But all of them had bloodshot eyes and dark circles, their gazes constantly scanning their surroundings.

"I can't believe it. That bastard actually sang all night long!"

"Yeah, if I find out who it was, I'll beat him to death! You have no idea, that voice is still echoing in my head..."

"Tell me about it."

The new students cursed under their breath.

Gao Neng could clearly feel the thick killing intent swirling around him, but he wasn't the least bit flustered. After all, he had successfully magnetized both of his palms.

According to what Chen Bai had described,

he had officially entered Tier One.

With his strength increased, his confidence naturally grew as well.

Besides, even in the worst-case scenario, there were 1,200 new students standing on the training grounds. Who could possibly guess that he was the one singing last night?

'Beat me to death? Naive!' Gao Neng thought with a disdainful expression.

"DING! Host's confidence has reached explosive levels. Ultimate Mission 5/5, 'A Red Star Shines Bright,' now officially active!" a mechanical voice rang out at that moment.

'It's active?!' Gao Neng subconsciously pulled up the mission panel.

"Ultimate Mission 5/5: A Red Star Shines Bright (Complete 'A Red Star Shines Bright' to receive one Advanced Treasure Chest, 100% guaranteed)."

"Mission Description: You are the brightest red star in the sky. No one can dim your light. New students? Teachers? The principal? No! None of them can outshine your brilliance! A passionate youth must soar. Sing, Red Star!"

"Completion Conditions: During the new student orientation, sing any song from 'Three Hundred Nursery Rhymes' for a duration of one hour and successfully survive."

"Countdown: 30 seconds."

"Countdown: 29 seconds."

"Countdown: ..."

"..." Gao Neng's face was now bright red.

Mencius said: "When Heaven is about to confer a great responsibility on a person, it will first fill their heart with suffering, toil their sinews and bones, subject their body to hunger, expose them to poverty, and frustrate their undertakings. In this way, it stimulates their mind, toughens their nature, and improves their incompetence."

'But it doesn't have to be *this* much suffering, does it?'

'This isn't suffering anymore...'

'I'm really going to get beaten to death!'

Gao Neng had actually been mentally prepared for something like this. In fact, after hearing Fang Tangtang talk about "shining brightly" last night, he had already steeled himself to show off his brilliance at the new student orientation.

For example, by challenging this year's top new student.

Or perhaps by claiming the title of Rookie King?

He had even considered grinding Fang Tangtang into the dirt.

But the one thing he never expected was...

...that this stupid system would make him sing.

And most importantly, he could already see the high platform on the training grounds, which was filled with the academy's leaders and rows upon rows of instructors.

According to the normal procedure for a new student orientation...

...those leaders were supposed to give speeches!

A so-called orientation was, naturally, centered around "instructing" and "guiding." Wasn't that something anyone with eyes could figure out?

If things went as expected, these leaders were about to lay down some harsh truths.

"Do you all think you're geniuses?"

"No, you're all trash!"

"The road ahead is long. The Eastern Capital Military Academy is just your starting point. If you want something, you must fight for it. Cowardice will only make you regress; it will not help you improve!"

"..."

Gao Neng's mind was already playing out a variety of scenarios.

And after the "instructing" would come the "guiding."

Fang Tangtang had mentioned it yesterday. The "instructing" was about rules—nothing can be accomplished without rules. The "guiding" was about guiding them toward competition. Making the new students compete was what the military academy wanted to see.

And reality...

...was unfolding just as Gao Neng had predicted.

The four principals of the Eastern Capital Military Academy were currently giving a slight nod to Gu Yi, the dean of the Logistics Academy.

After six days of enforcing school rules and observing the students, they had all noticed the restless hearts of these young prodigies.

What should be done at a time like this?

Mindless suppression?

No.

Suppression was necessary, because pride leads to complacency.

However, mindless suppression would only crush the new students' confidence.

Soldiers should stand tall and proud, with their heads held high.

The military academy didn't need "soldiers" without confidence, but it also couldn't let everyone think that just because they'd gotten into the Eastern Capital Military Academy, they were some kind of prodigy.

The Eastern Capital Military Academy was far more brutal than they imagined.

On the platform,

Gu Yi began to scan his surroundings. His gaze swept over the new students standing below. Every year at the new student orientation, they always made arrangements in advance.

This was also one of the reasons it was scheduled for September 9th.

First, get a feel for the situation.

Then, appropriately, introduce a "catalyst."

Gu Yi's gaze finally settled on three new students.

Kong Kun: Male, 18 years old, 1.8 meters tall, nickname (Bone Kun), top scorer of the Eastern Capital college entrance exam, ranked second in the Eastern District's new student comprehensive assessment. Strength: Tier Two Mid Stage.

Feng Qingqing: Female, 18 years old, 1.69 meters tall, youthful and lively, third-highest scorer of the Eastern Capital college entrance exam, former school belle of Eastern Capital High School, ranked sixth in the Eastern District's new student comprehensive assessment. Strength: Tier Two Early Stage.

Li Qing: Male, 18 years old, 1.76 meters tall, top scorer of the Lingjiang Province college entrance exam, ranked eighth in the Eastern District's new student comprehensive assessment. Strength: Tier Two Early Stage.

These three were the "catalysts"!

With their good family backgrounds and sufficient strength, an outburst from these three would surely stir up the fighting spirit of the other new students, making them understand that only by fighting could they obtain resources.

Soldiers have a strong sense of punctuality.

Of the 1,200 new students, not a single one was late.

Gu Yi had no intention of deliberately delaying things to let the sun beat down on the new students. It was unnecessary and, frankly, quite boring.

He stood up.

He walked to the very front of the high platform, then glanced back at the four principals behind him.

The four principals nodded again, signaling that he could begin.

"Ahem!" Gu Yi coughed heavily. At his level of strength, he naturally didn't need a microphone. His two coughs were enough to quiet the new students on the training grounds.

And the result...

...was just as Gu Yi had expected.

In an instant, the 1,200 new students fell silent. You could hear a pin drop.

Gu Yi was very satisfied.

He had already assessed the quality of this batch of new students, and their strength was quite impressive. Among the 1,200 students, besides Kong Kun, Feng Qingqing, and Li Qing, there were actually another fifteen students who had also reached Tier Two. It was just that the talent gap between them and the top three was rather large.

Eighteen Tier Two new students.

As for the rest, the weakest among them was at Tier One Early Stage.

Among the new students of the Eastern Capital Military Academy, there wasn't a single one who wasn't an Energy Warrior.

"The Eastern Capital Military Academy's new student orientation officially..."

"Pulling the radish, pulling the radish... Heave-ho, heave-ho, pulling the radish... Heave-ho, heave-ho, it won't budge... Old lady, come quick, come help us pull the radish..."

Before Gu Yi could even shout "begins," a loud song erupted from the training grounds.

Yes, the countdown had officially ended.

Gao Neng had no choice but to sing.

Whether it was for the Advanced Treasure Chest reward or for the final, mandatory mission, he had to go all out.

But he wasn't an idiot.

He chose not to sing "Little Jumping Frog" again.

There were two reasons. First, he wanted to struggle a little longer. 'If I sing "Pulling the Radish," maybe they won't guess I was the one singing last night, right?'

The other reason was that "Little Jumping Frog" was a song for cultivation. Singing it now wouldn't be very meaningful. Right now, he needed his vitality and energy to be at their peak.

"Pulling the radish, pulling the radish... Heave-ho, heave-ho, pulling the radish... Heave-ho, heave-ho, it won't budge... Little girl, come quick, come help us pull the radish..."

The ridiculously catchy voice echoed continuously across the training grounds.

(Ah, asking for monthly tickets! Asking for subscriptions! Asking for auto-subscriptions!)

Chapter 112 - 109: It Seems I've Gone Overboard

"..." Gu Yi's face darkened.

'What the hell?'

'Who the hell is singing?!'

It wasn't just Gu Yi. The bizarrely captivating song drew the eyes of every instructor from Eastern Capital Military Academy, and even the four principals. All of them turned to look out onto the field.

Gao Neng felt the gazes shooting at him from all directions.

He was panicking...

'Looks like I've really gone too far this time.'

"Where did this guy come from?" one of the instructors said, speechless.

"To sing at the new student assembly... this guy's way of thinking is... quite something!" another instructor laughed.

While the instructors were murmuring amongst themselves, the new students were clearly just baffled.

'Did Eastern Capital Military Academy get a professional singer this year?'

'And he's singing a fucking children's song?'

'Pulling up radishes...'

'Is there really someone with a death wish here?'

The students all looked at Gao Neng. He was very handsome!

'But the problem is, why does that singing voice sound so familiar?'

"The guy who sang 'Little Leaping Frog' all night yesterday—that's him!"

"It's him?!"

"Holy shit, no wonder the voice sounded familiar! This guy sang 'Little Leaping Frog' all night yesterday, and now he's on the training grounds singing 'Pulling Up Radishes'!!!"

"What a legend. Is he really not going to get beaten to death for this?"

The students were angry, shocked, and even a little dumbfounded.

As far as death-courting stunts go, this was a perfect ten.

The four principals' expressions also darkened. The new student assembly was supposed to be a serious affair, but before they could even begin their speeches, a singer had stolen the spotlight?

"Insolent! Shut your mouth!" Gu Yi, after being stunned for a good ten seconds, finally roared.

"Pulling up radishes, pulling up radishes, heave-ho, heave-ho, pull up the radish... Little kitty, come on over, come help us pull up the radish..." Gao Neng looked at Gu Yi and kept singing.

'Shut up?'

'If I shut up, I'll have to start over!'

'No way I'm shutting up!'

"Vice Principal Wang, I hear you were in charge of recruitment today?" an old man with a scar on his face asked, turning to a middle-aged man beside him.

This was Deng Qixing, Dean of the War Academy and a Vice Principal!

The number two figure in the Eastern Capital Military Academy.

"The recruitment quota is huge every year. Who knows how this one slipped through!" Wang Xueli gritted his teeth. He was the main person in charge of recruitment, but he also had the Manufacturing Academy to manage, didn't he?

The ones actually handling the grunt work were the logistics department.

To put it bluntly...

...Gu Yi, the man on stage right now, was the one who actually got things done.

"Which blind fool recruited this guy? What's his name?" Gu Yi's face was now so dark it looked like it could drip ink. He, the Dean of the Logistics Academy, couldn't even control this one guy?

'He's still singing!'

"He's a special recruit..." a female teacher with glasses replied from a distance. She remembered him being perfectly normal when she received Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang last night.

'There was no sign of him being a lunatic.'

'How did he go crazy overnight?'

"A special recruit?!"

Hearing this, all the vice principals and instructors were stunned.

But a white-haired old man who had been sitting upright at the very top, ready to hear the reports, had his expression change in an instant.

Eastern Capital Military Academy only had two spots for special recruits each year.

To investigate...

...would be very easy.

And this year, it was even easier. Because he, Song Tianyun, had personally claimed one of the special recruitment spots at the principals' meeting, right in front of all the vice principals.

Feeling the gazes from all around, Song Tianyun's mood was now extremely complicated. If there were no surprises, this guy was probably the one he had recruited.

"Ahem... I seem to recall his surname is Gao?" Song Tianyun coughed and finally spoke up.

"Yes, he's Gao Neng, a student from the Forgotten Land. He just reported in last night," the teacher with glasses immediately replied.

"Student Gao Neng certainly has a lot of personality... Yes, quite a troublemaker." Song Tianyun glanced around furtively. He couldn't bring himself to say anything more.

'Don't I have my pride?!'

However, though he couldn't say it, someone else could.

"He is quite a troublemaker. Don't a few of them pop up at every new student assembly? Troublemakers are good... I actually quite like them. If they aren't troublemakers, my War Academy wouldn't even want them. It's understandable, haha, understandable!" The speaker was a bald, middle-aged man.

Gui Zian, Vice Dean of the War Academy and a staunch supporter of Principal Song Tianyun.

"I've seen my fair share of troublemakers, but one who makes trouble like this is a true rarity! This guy doesn't just seem to want to steal the new students' thunder, does he? I think he wants to steal the instructors' thunder too!" Another instructor stood up. He was the Vice Dean of the Manufacturing Academy.

A supporter of Wang Qixing.

"Singing at the new student assembly... In all the decades since the founding of my Eastern Capital Military Academy, I've never seen such a thing!" As the Dean of the Logistics Academy and the host of this assembly, Gu Yi's expression was already quite foul.

'You damn troublemaker!'

'How dare you steal my spotlight?'

'I'll make you pay for this!'

"Dean Gu has a point... We can't let the decades-long honor of our Eastern Capital Military Academy be ruined by this guy, can we? If we can't even handle a single new student, we'll be a laughingstock when word gets out." As Wang Qixing spoke, he shot a subtle glance at Song Tianyun.

Song Tianyun didn't say a word.

He just tilted his head back and looked at the sky.

'If he remembered correctly, this kid was recommended by Shen Ning'Er. At the time, hadn't Shen Ning'Er brazenly claimed that he, Song Tianyun, would owe her a favor?'

"Since Principal Song has no objections, I'll take full responsibility for handling this?" Wang Qixing stood up.

"And what is your opinion, Vice Principal Wang?" Gu Yi asked.

"The student was recruited by Principal Song, so expulsion would be a bit much. But we can certainly 'pluck his thorns.' The instructors don't need to get involved. For the rest, Dean Gu, you can handle it as you see fit," Wang Qixing said.

Song Tianyun continued to stare at the sky.

'As long as he's not expelled, the favor is considered repaid.'

'As for whether he'll be beaten to death...'

'...that wasn't his concern.'

After all, it was normal for a few people to die at Eastern Capital Military Academy every year. Which military academy didn't lose a few students? In any case, it wouldn't be an instructor who killed him.

Seeing this, Gu Yi understood. Song Tianyun's silence meant that as long as the instructors didn't abuse their power to bully a student, if this kid ended up dead, so be it.

"What are you all looking at! You actually want to hear him sing? Then stand here and listen properly! If you don't want to listen, then make this kid shut his mouth!" Gu Yi finally spoke.

A wave of understanding washed over the new students.

The new students understood instantly.

'So it's starting?'

As new students of Eastern Capital Military Academy, they all had a rough idea of the academy's unwritten rules. The so-called new student assembly was, in fact, their best chance to make an impression.

"Let's take this guy down first!"

"He likes pulling up radishes, doesn't he? I'll pull out his teeth!"

"Don't fight me for him! I'm taking on this troublemaker!" a young man with a dark complexion shouted, then charged out, throwing a punch straight at Gao Neng's face.

BANG!

A dull thud sounded.

The dark-faced young man went flying.

But Gao Neng, his expression unchanged, just kept on singing.

'What the hell?'

'Do you really think I, the genius Gao Neng, am some pushover you can just walk all over? You come at me trying to slap my face without even using your energy powers? Don't you know I've broken the Fourth Human Limit?!'

"This guy's explosive power is not bad!"

"His speed is pretty fast, too. In terms of physical ability alone, he should have at least broken the third human limit!"

"Principal Song really has a good eye."

The instructors had naturally seen the punch Gao Neng just threw, which made their expressions change slightly. Although the guy's singing was terrible, his strength was actually decent.

At that moment, Song Tianyun's skyward gaze gradually returned to the field.

He, in fact, had seen it even more clearly. Gao Neng hadn't used his full strength in that punch. The muscles in his arm hadn't even fully tensed.

'Could it be the Fourth Human Limit?'

'No way.'

'Someone from the Forgotten Land who has broken the Fourth Human Limit?'

Song Tianyun shook his head but said nothing.

'I'll just watch and see.'

On the training field, the new students who had been eager to be the first to attack all took an involuntary step back, a new look in their eyes.

'This guy's strength is no joke!'

"I'll give it a try!" a square-faced young man stepped forward.

"That's Wu Yunzhe from Huainan Province! I know him. He's only broken the second human limit, but he's already a Tier One Late Stage Energy Warrior!"

"Get him!"

"Beat the shit out of him!"

The new students roared.

Wu Yunzhe didn't bother with any pleasantries, because Gao Neng was still over there singing his radish song, showing him absolutely no respect.

"My explosive power has already reached 1300 points! I don't believe you can send me flying!" Wu Yunzhe roared, then threw a punch.

And then...

...he went flying again.

"..."

The students fell silent.

Just then, Fang Tangtang let out a "PFFT" and burst out laughing.

"Hahaha... Don't you guys know how to attack all at once? You have to send yourselves to him one by one, like the Huluwa trying to save their grandpa!" Fang Tangtang laughed uproariously.

"..."

The students' faces grew even darker.

Gao Neng's face darkened a little too. He was hoping these guys would come at him one by one. If he could just stall for an hour, he'd complete his mission.

But this little loli, Fang Tangtang...

...was clearly not making things easy for him!

'Is she one of those people who just loves to stir up trouble?'

'What happened to us being comrades who live together and stand shoulder-to-shoulder? Didn't you just try to recruit me into the Death God Team yesterday? Forgetting to help is one thing, but you're actually helping me make more enemies!'

'If I get the chance, I'll definitely pin her to the ground...'

'Never mind, she's a minor!'

Just as he was thinking this, the surrounding new students were already riled up.

"The three of us will go together!"

"If we don't beat him until he's looking for his teeth on the floor today, then I'll be damned!"

"Let's do it!"

Three new students rushed forward at once.

Gao Neng sent one flying with a punch, then kicked another one away.

The last one stood frozen in front of him.

Gao Neng didn't show any mercy either. 'I've already done something this humiliating, and you guys still dare to gang up on me? If we're going to be humiliated, we'll be humiliated together!'

RRRIP!

A pair of pants was ripped right off.

The scene instantly spiraled out of control!

"Holy shit, he pulled off Chen Xiaoyun's pants!"

"What a pale ass!"

"..."

The new students shouted as they scrambled to take pictures.

"AHHH!!!" Chen Xiaoyun let out a tragic howl at the sky. At the same time, he crushed a high-dimension capsule in his hand. A silver-white liquid surged out, instantly enveloping his arm.

"So, are things about to get serious now?" Gu Yi watched this scene, a faint smile playing on his lips.

"This kid's got some real skill! He handled a one-on-three in an instant? And he's a master of courting death. If he hadn't pulled off Chen Xiaoyun's pants, things probably wouldn't have escalated this far," the Vice Dean of the Manufacturing Academy sighed in agreement.

Chapter 113 - 110: Broken?

The mentors were murmuring among themselves.

But Gao Neng had no time to waste. Seeing Chen Xiaoyun about to unleash his power, he shot forward and delivered a follow-up kick right to his crotch.

CRUNCH!

That was the sound of balls shattering.

Chen Xiaoyun dropped to his knees on the spot, tears streaming uncontrollably down his face.

Mommy...

'This bastard fights dirty!'

'I hadn't even "transformed" yet, and he's already kicking?!'

'This isn't fair!'

With tears in his eyes, Chen Xiaoyun collapsed.

Gao Neng just kept on singing. He really had to wonder if these guys' brains were rusty. 'Pantsless, and you're still pretending to be Energy Warriors?'

He remembered what Fang Tangtang had said yesterday: on a real battlefield, who the hell gives you time to "transform"?

This world is a cruel place!

'Since you want to use me as a stepping stone, and you're shameless enough to go three-on-one, don't blame me for not holding back.'

An uproar swept through the crowd.

"With a kick like that, Chen Xiaoyun's done for, isn't he?"

"He'll be bedridden for at least half a month..."

Seeing Chen Xiaoyun brought to his knees by a single kick, the other new students erupted.

This guy wasn't just powerful; he was utterly ruthless. The "weaklings" who had planned on taking advantage of the chaos now instinctively took a step back.

In truth, most of them had never considered the consequences. After all, everyone had assumed this would be a one-sided beatdown.

A whole mob beating up one guy!

What's there to be afraid of?

They even thought Gao Neng wouldn't be able to fight back at all, that he'd just have to let them wail on him.

But things were different now...

Looking at Chen Xiaoyun kneeling on the ground, they finally understood one thing.

This is not a drill!

This is a real battle!

If you wanted to fight Gao Neng, you had to be prepared to get hit back.

「On the high platform.」

The mentors also noticed the shift in the new students' mood.

Gao Neng's last kick had already intimidated some of the weaker new students.

"He struck during the brief opening when his opponent was channeling energy? This kid is highly experienced. He's definitely not some fresh-faced rookie from a normal high school who's never seen a real fight."

"This is getting interesting. The kid's not half bad!"

"Yeah, more than not bad. He's decisive. He's got potential!"

"He's fast and has explosive power. I wonder what his hidden talent is like, though."

The mentors' initial indifference began to shift.

Though Gao Neng hadn't shown the full extent of his power, every move he'd made had been a masterclass in precision, striking directly at his opponents' weak points.

"Dean Gu, how about we add some fuel to the fire? Let's see what this Gao Neng is really made of," one mentor suggested, looking at the new students who were now intimidated by Gao Neng.

Gu Yi's expression was thunderous.

He had originally thought this batch of new students was exceptional. But now, it seemed that while they had power, very few of them truly had the guts to fight for their lives.

In their minds, the new students were still treating the military academy like high school.

"A bunch of useless trash! Did you waste your time in high school?! Over a thousand new students, and you can't beat one person? You shouldn't be calling yourselves elites; you should all be scrubbing toilets!" Gu Yi roared.

"..."

The new students were stunned.

Then, a wave of anger finally washed over them.

"Take him down!"

"Everyone, all at once! Use your energy powers!"

"I refuse to believe he can beat all of us by himself! Don't be afraid to die! Charge!"

Gu Yi's words had successfully ignited the new students' fighting spirit.

Wisps of energy flared up across the training ground. At least a hundred students began to channel their power, most of them forming gauntlets over their arms.

They came in all shapes and sizes.

There were simple gauntlets, gauntlets covered in hedgehog-like spikes, and even a few new students who brought out actual weapons. Over a hundred students, brimming with battlelust.

'In his head, Gao Neng cursed Gu Yi's daughter a few dozen times over.'

'I had this whole mob intimidated.'

'And you had to go and provoke them?'

'Are you trying to get someone killed?'

Gao Neng knew he couldn't rely on pure physical combat anymore. His opponents had drawn weapons. He quickly pulled out two high-dimensional capsules and crushed them in his palm.

"Two talents?"

"He's physically gifted, but only two talents is a little underwhelming."

"Let's just wait and see."

Seeing this, the mentors' eyes held a trace of disappointment.

But Gao Neng had no time to worry about them. A howling mob of new students was already upon him, their energy-clad fists raining down on him with reckless abandon.

"Gao Neng, if you join my Death God Team right now, I can help you!" Fang Tangtang yelled from the sidelines, clearly trying to take advantage of the situation.

"Pulling up the turnip, pulling up the turnip, heave-ho, heave-ho... pulling up the turnip, heave-ho, heave-ho, can't pull it up..." Gao Neng ignored Fang Tangtang, singing "Pulling Up the Turnip" at the top of his lungs as he threw punches to block their attacks.

'Join a team?'

'Join my ass!'

'How could a genius like me, Gao Neng, submit to some little loli?'

'If anyone's joining anything, it should be her joining my team.'

Gao Neng's fighting spirit soared.

Both of his hands were now covered in black iron energy, forming a pair of gauntlets. The rest of his body remained uncovered.

"Hmph, Tier One Early Stage!"

"He's only magnetized his palms, and he's still this arrogant?!"

"Kill him!"

The students were in a frenzy.

They had originally assumed Gao Neng was a late-stage Tier One, but it seemed they had overestimated him.

Just as they were shouting, another student went flying.

And this time, he flew even higher than the last.

At least ten meters into the air.

"What's going on?!"

"Such overwhelming power! Such explosive force!"

"Is this guy really just Tier One Early Stage?"

The new students were stunned.

But as they stared in shock, they noticed the iron energy on Gao Neng's gauntlets had turned red, and the temperature seemed to be rising.

"Is that the Military Department's Flame Fist?" one mentor asked.

"Flame Fist is triggered by igniting one's internal energy to continuously heat the iron energy, ultimately generating thermal kinetic force. But he's only Tier One Early Stage. He shouldn't be able to do that, right?" another mentor refuted.

"It's phosphorus! He's not using his body's energy, he's using phosphorus directly!"

"Compressing phosphorus energy inside the iron energy gauntlets? And then heating it? That would require oxygen... Where's the fire?"

"There it is! Green fire!"

As the mentors spoke, green flames erupted from Gao Neng's hands.

It really was green fire!

"It's phosphorus!"

By the time the students reacted, it was already too late.

Because Gao Neng, mimicking how Chen Bai had once dealt with him, used the thermal energy to accelerate and slammed his fist into another student's chest.

"CRACK!"

At least two ribs were broken.

More importantly, the immense impact sent a whole section of the surrounding crowd flying.

A thick gas billowed continuously from Gao Neng's gauntlets.

Combined with the green flames, he looked absolutely murderous.

But the new students quickly clamped their hands over their noses, scrambling backward in horror.

Phosphorus burns, producing diphosphorus pentoxide.

'This bastard is using poison gas!'

"All Tier One Early Stage students, get back! Anyone Tier One Mid Stage and above with anti-poison gear, with me!" a student immediately yelled.

And then, dozens more new students joined the battle.

All sorts of protective measures appeared on their faces. Some pulled out gas masks, while others ripped strips from their clothing, sprayed them with some unknown liquid, and pressed them to their faces.

Diphosphorus pentoxide is not considered a potent poison.

In fact, it was a fairly common tactic in battles between Energy Warriors.

So, naturally, there were ways to deal with it.

The new students on the training ground quickly separated into three groups: one group watched from the sidelines, another retreated to a safe distance, and the third closed in on Gao Neng once more.

At this point, Gao Neng stopped holding back.

He unleashed his full power.

He wasn't stupid enough to clash head-on with the mob. Instead, he continuously spewed out more diphosphorus pentoxide, and soon, the training ground was shrouded in a thick mist.

"Where did Gao Neng run off to?!"

"I can't see him anymore!"

"Ow! What the fuck, who's pulling down my pants?!"

With their vision obscured, the new students finally descended into chaos.

Gao Neng, however, was completely unaffected. 'Everyone around me is an enemy anyway.' He just hit whoever he could grab, feeling no pressure at all.

'Poison gas?'

'Not at all.'

'My real goal was a smokescreen!'

'A smokescreen to obscure their vision.'

"Not bad. This kid is a real talent! That's a well-deployed 'smokescreen.' One against a hundred? He's really going to cut a path straight through them!" Gui Zian, the bald, middle-aged vice dean of the War Academy who had been watching silently, spoke up again.

"He thinks on his feet. These new students are no match for him!"

"Look, ten more just went flying!"

"There go another two without pants... This kid's methods are pretty vicious..."

While the mentors were discussing above, students were constantly being flung out of the area shrouded in diphosphorus pentoxide, all in various states of misery.

The new students were truly panicking now.

They couldn't find a trace of Gao Neng in the smoke.

Gao Neng was too fast and his blows were too powerful. They couldn't find him to attack, but he was having a grand time, taking them down one by one.

"Get out! Everyone, get out!"

"Don't fight him in the smoke..."

"Stop pulling my pants... Please, I'm begging you! Don't pull down my pants, I don't want to run out of here with my ass hanging out! I'll give you anything you want..."

The students fled one after another.

Gao Neng didn't give chase. After all, he was only safe inside the smoke. If he went out, his voice would give away his position.

Of course, he also took the opportunity to snatch a gas mask.

His phosphorus energy wouldn't hurt him.

But diphosphorus pentoxide itself didn't "recognize its master."

'If he didn't have a gas mask, trying to sing in the thick diphosphorus pentoxide smoke would probably choke him to death.'

"Pulling up the turnip, pulling up the turnip, heave-ho, heave-ho... pulling up the turnip... heave-ho, heave-ho, can't pull it up... Little yellow puppy, come on, come and help us pull the turnip..."

Gao Neng's haunting voice continued to echo across the training ground.

"A bunch of trash!" By now, Gu Yi's face was so dark it looked like ink might drip from it.

The fight had been going on for nearly twenty minutes.

Gao Neng, one against several hundred, was still singing.

Yet the other new students were either injured or had fled. Gu Yi was beginning to lose face.

He was the one who had recruited this batch of new students!

'Is this year's new student orientation really going to be completely wrecked by Gao Neng alone?'

Chapter 114 - 111: I Can't Unleash My Full Strength

"Hahaha, so many of you can't even beat Gao Neng by himself. You're pathetic!" While the others were crying and screaming, Fang Tangtang was laughing gleefully.

The new students' faces all flushed bright red.

'What should we do?'

If they all attacked at once, they just got in each other's way. But if they didn't, Gao Neng took them out one by one, leaving them utterly powerless to fight back.

"All you Tier Ones, get out of the way! Let us handle this!" At last, a few Tier Two freshmen stepped forward. They had already discerned Gao Neng's strength—Tier One Early Stage—which was why they hadn't joined the earlier group assault.

But now...

Hundreds of Tier One students had been defeated.

They had no choice but to intervene.

After all, there was no glory in crushing an ordinary Tier One student. But crushing Gao Neng... now that was a different story!

"All of you, move aside! I can handle him myself!" A guy with a crew cut stepped forward, his arms and torso instantly covered in a layer of bronze battle armor.

"Don't try to be a hero. This guy's no pushover. We should all go at once!" another person advised.

"All at once? Like those fucking idiots? They just get in the way. I'm all that's needed!" The guy with the crew cut ignored the warnings and charged in.

Then, a series of explosive pops and crackles echoed from within the smoke.

All the students' eyes went wide.

Ten seconds passed.

A minute passed...

Five minutes passed...

The noise inside was still going.

"What's going on? Is the fight still going?"

"Something doesn't feel right... Hey, crew cut, are you still alive?!" someone yelled.

But there was no answer.

"Wait, that punk is stalling for time!" Although no one knew why Gao Neng hadn't sent the crew-cut guy flying out, they all sensed something was off.

Because Gao Neng's singing had never stopped.

But the guy with the crew cut had gone silent.

"Ah Shuang, let's go in and check. You take the left, I'll take the right!"

"Got it!"

Another two people charged in.

And just as the two of them rushed in, the body of the guy with the crew cut came flying out of the smoke.

THUD!

The guy with the crew cut slammed onto the ground.

He looked like he'd been knocked out cold for a while, his face swollen up like a pig's.

"..."

"*Hiss!* How terrifying! Even a Tier Two Early Stage is no match for him. Is this guy really just Tier One Early Stage? That's an entire tier of difference!"

The new students all gasped.

What on earth had the guy with the crew cut experienced inside that smoke?!

As the new students were wondering, a fierce gust of wind, like a miniature tornado, suddenly swept across the high platform, blowing away all the phosphorus pentoxide smoke that had been shrouding Gao Neng.

The new students were all stunned.

Because, after the "smoke" was blown away, they finally saw the truth.

Of the two Tier Two students who had rushed in, one was already down on the ground, while the other was bent over, clutching his crotch, his face a mask of agony.

Gao Neng was also stunned for a moment.

'Goddammit!'

'I thought the instructors were supposed to stay out of this!'

He was furious. If he wasn't mistaken, Gu Yi was the one behind this.

"If you're going to fight, then fight out in the open!" Gu Yi snorted, then gave a meaningful look to three figures standing nearby.

Kong Kun, Feng Qingqing, and Li Qing immediately understood Gu Yi's meaning.

The three of them didn't say a word.

They exchanged a glance and walked out.

"All Tier Twos, attack together!" Li Qing shouted as he moved. He clearly had no intention of underestimating their opponent. This was no longer about Tier Two students picking on a Tier One; it was about the absolute necessity of taking Gao Neng down.

"Right!" the Tier Two freshmen immediately responded.

"Is that necessary?" Kong Kun frowned.

"Let's cripple him first and ask questions later!" Li Qing said, then glanced at Feng Qingqing. "Feng Qingqing, be careful. This guy fights dirty, and he has a thing for pulling down people's pants..."

"He'd have to get his hands on me first!" Feng Qingqing scoffed. As the school beauty of Eastern Capital High School, she was no mere flower vase, all looks and no substance.

Ranking sixth in the Eastern District's overall assessment for new students was proof enough of her strength.

"Kong Kun, I hear your Defense Power is incredible. If you can, tie him down and create an opening for the rest of us," Li Qing suggested, turning his gaze to Kong Kun without another word.

"What kind of fucking bullshit is that? If I can't even flatten him, how can I call myself the number one freshman!" Kong Kun cursed before charging straight ahead.

Li Qing's expression flickered.

But in the end, he didn't say anything more. Kong Kun's strength was extremely high; he was the only Tier Two Mid Stage among the new students.

'Maybe he really can handle this alone.'

As Li Qing was thinking this, Kong Kun had already reached Gao Neng's side.

VMMMM!

A silver-white half-plate of battle armor instantly materialized on Kong Kun's body. In addition, rows of silver, fishbone-like barbs sprouted from his arms.

"It's Alloy Steel!"

"An iron and chromium alloy armor?!"

"No wonder they say his Defense Power is the strongest! His title, 'Bone Kun,' is well-earned!"

The new students were stunned.

"Based on talent alone, 70% chromium, Kong Kun's potential is limitless!" The instructors on the high platform watched Kong Kun, smiles playing on their lips.

Meanwhile, Kong Kun had already launched a furious assault on Gao Neng.

BOOM!

Their fighting styles were brutally direct.

They met fist to fist.

Gao Neng took two steps back; Kong Kun was also forced back two steps.

"Huh?! This kid seems to have surpassed the Third Human Limit, doesn't he?" The eyes of War Academy Vice Director Gui Zian lit up once more.

"More than the third? You mean... the fourth?" an instructor asked in disbelief.

"That's impossible. For a student from the Forgotten Land, even breaking the Third Human Limit is an incredible feat. The Fourth Human Limit... there aren't even 20 people in the entire Alliance who have achieved that! Vice Director Gui, are you sure you saw that correctly?"

The instructors found it hard to believe.

"Saw wrong? Are you blind? Haven't you read Kong Kun's file?" Gui Zian's eyes narrowed.

"Of course we've read Kong Kun's file. Third Human Limit breakthrough, Tier Two Mid... wait. Kong Kun is a Tier Two Mid Stage who has broken the Third Human Limit, but he only fought Gao Neng to a standstill?!"

"A Tier Two Mid Stage and a Tier One Early Stage are evenly matched in explosive power! Don't tell me this kid has actually broken the Fourth Human Limit?!"

The instructors finally put two and two together.

And then, something even more surprising happened.

After trading a punch with Kong Kun, Gao Neng actually lunged forward again, throwing another punch at Kong Kun.

Kong Kun didn't dodge either.

Their fists collided once more.

BOOM!

This time, Gao Neng didn't retreat a single step.

But Kong Kun retreated a full five steps before steadying himself.

"You..." Kong Kun was stunned.

"Pull the radish, pull the radish, heigh-ho, heigh-ho, pull the radish... Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it won't come out... Little kitty, come on quick, come and help us pull the radish..."

Gao Neng's singing continued to echo across the training ground.

But all the instructors, including the four principals, stood up at this moment.

"Gao Neng knocked Kong Kun back?!"

"That kid... no, that Gao Neng... he really has broken the Fourth Human Limit. The explosive power in that last strike was at least 2,200 points!"

"Fourth Human Limit, a Tier One fighting a Tier Two!!!"

None of the instructors called Gao Neng "that kid" anymore. His strength had proven to everyone that he had earned the right to be arrogant.

"Alright, that's enough of this farce. Kong Kun, all of you, stand down. And Gao Neng, you will shut your mouth this instant!" Gui Zian finally spoke. Now that he knew Gao Neng had broken the Fourth Human Limit—and on top of that, was personally recruited by Song Tianyun—what was the point of continuing this fight?

The other instructors, hearing this, also said nothing.

Even Gu Yi didn't speak, just sighed helplessly.

Courting death without the strength to back it up is just suicide. But when you **do** have the strength, it's a completely different story.

Because then it's not called courting death. It's called being a maverick.

"Principal Song really has a good eye, to be able to specially recruit someone who has broken the Fourth Human Limit from a place like the Forgotten Land, hahaha..." an instructor began to laugh.

"Yes, he's just a bit of a handful," Song Tianyun said, not looking up at the sky this time, but smiling.

That's right.

'I'm the one who recruited this kid.

What do you all have to say about that?!

The instructors chatted and laughed, completely forgetting that Gao Neng was still singing, as if he hadn't heard a word Gui Zian said.

「One minute later...」

Gui Zian's brow furrowed.

'This kid is still singing!'

「Two minutes later...」

All the instructors' brows furrowed.

'This kid is **really** still singing!'

'Such a troublemaker...'

'But you can't be **this** much of a troublemaker, can you?'

'Of course Gao Neng heard Gui Zian. He wanted to stop, too, but his time wasn't up yet! There were still 20 minutes to go. Can't you let me finish singing before ordering me to stop?'

"It seems this kid's arrogance knows no bounds. If we don't beat him into submission today, who in this academy will ever be able to control him?" Gui Zian grinned, then pointed at Feng Qingqing, Li Qing, and the others. "Whoever can take this kid down gets a reward of 200 Merit Points!"

"..." The instructors said nothing.

Song Tianyun gave an awkward laugh and started looking at the sky again.

'He was given an out and refused to take it...'

'This guy is really asking for a thrashing.'

"200 Merit Points!"

"We get it just for taking him down?!"

"Whoa, that's a huge score!"

The eyes of the Tier Two freshmen, who had already stopped fighting, instantly lit up again. They stared at Gao Neng with even more fervor than before.

It wasn't just them.

Fang Tangtang's eyes were practically sparkling as she looked at Gao Neng.

"Two hundred Merit Points? If I get those, my total will break one thousand! Hahaha... Gao Neng, you're so dead!" Fang Tangtang gripped her Scythe of Death tightly, her face a picture of eager anticipation.

Meanwhile, Gao Neng's expression had turned completely foul.

'What the hell is this?!

'Can't you people just let me finish my 20 minutes of singing in peace?'

'What happened to treasuring a genius when you see one?'

'You all saw I've broken the Fourth Human Limit, so why the hell aren't you treating me like a precious treasure?'

'Shouldn't you be focusing on nurturing me, Instructors?!'

Gao Neng was truly suffering in silence.

He wanted to explain, but how could he?

"Die, Gao Neng!" Kong Kun had actually been a bit dazed by Gao Neng's punch earlier, but at this moment, he couldn't care about anything else and charged forward again.

Li Qing followed close behind.

Feng Qingqing, meanwhile, circled around to his rear with incredible speed.

The ten remaining Tier Two students also closed in, surrounding him.

On the periphery, even a few Tier One Late Stage students were circling, looking for an opening.

'Fuck!' Gao Neng cursed internally while still singing. He threw a full-power punch, knocking Kong Kun back once again.

But Li Qing had already lunged over.

Gao Neng lifted his leg and kicked.

Li Qing clearly had no intention of facing Gao Neng head-on. To Gao Neng's surprise, he actually dodged.

Just then, Gao Neng felt a stir of air behind him. He extended his Spiritual Power and saw Feng Qingqing sweeping a long leg low, aiming for his rear.

'What a devious girl!'

'She's only eighteen and she's already mastered a low blow?!'

Gao Neng really wanted to curse out loud. Seeing the kick about to connect with his groin, he crossed his legs into an 'X' and clamped them together with all his might.

CRACK!

It wasn't a clean snap.

Because Gao Neng had clamped down hard on Feng Qingqing's leg.

'What move should I use now?'

'A backhand grab, of course!'

Seizing the opportunity, Gao Neng shot a hand back and grabbed!

Feng Qingqing clearly didn't see it coming and let out a pained cry. "Ah!"

A solid grip!

However, just then, a red shadow flashed in front of him. A massive, three-meter-long Scythe of Death was now poised right above his head.

"Fang Tangtang is here!"

"..." Gao Neng stared at the Scythe of Death glinting with golden light above his head and nearly coughed up a mouthful of blood.

'Fang Tangtang, you've got some real nerve!'

'So much for being comrades!'

'Watching me get ganged up on without helping was one thing. Trying to take advantage of the chaos to recruit me to her team was another. But now, she's actually trying to earn freaking Merit Points at my expense?'

'Just as I thought. One-night stands really are unreliable!'

Chapter 115 - 112: You Made Me Do This

"Hahaha... Gao Neng, your Merit Points are mine!" Fang Tangtang cheered.

Gao Neng's legs were currently clamped firmly around Feng Qingqing's legs, leaving him no room to dodge. He had no choice but to forcefully extend a hand and punch the flat of the Scythe of Death's blade.

"CLANG!"

The sound of metal striking metal rang out.

The Scythe of Death swerved, grazing past Gao Neng's forehead.

Beads of sweat formed on Gao Neng's forehead. If his punch had missed, or had been just a fraction of a second slower, the blade would have at least ruined his hairstyle.

'Fang Tangtang really wasn't holding back!'

"Watch my Thunderbolt Leg!" Fang Tangtang shouted again. She was clearly prepared. As her scythe missed, she followed up with a Thunderbolt Kick.

Gao Neng had no way to dodge and took the kick straight to his chest. He was sent flying backward like a cannonball.

BAM! He slammed right into Feng Qingqing.

Feng Qingqing's chest ached from the impact.

She let out another piercing shriek.

As for Gao Neng, his momentum carried him forward, pinning her underneath him.

Fortunately, Gao Neng landed on top of Feng Qingqing.

"Qingqing, are you alright?!" Li Qing roared. He leaped into the air, aiming a vicious stomp at Gao Neng.

"Kill him!" Feng Qingqing, seeing Li Qing make his move, coordinated perfectly. Forcibly ignoring the pain, she grabbed both of Gao Neng's hands and held on for dear life.

'Motherfucker, I'm screwed!' Gao Neng roared inwardly. 'If Li Qing's stomp connects, forgetting the humiliation, I'll have at least one or two broken ribs.'

'This Feng Qingqing...'

'She's absolutely ruthless in a fight.'

'Not only does she go for the crotch, but she's also willing to go for a goddamn mutual kill?'

Gao Neng couldn't "unlock" himself through normal means anymore. Plus, with both hands pinned, he couldn't perform a back-handed grab.

'I can only reach down!'

'And grab for dear life!'

'As for the minor detail of *what* he might grab...'

He didn't have time to think about it!

"Ah... you degenerate!" Feng Qingqing's expression changed drastically as he grabbed her. Her entire body trembled uncontrollably, and she subconsciously let go of his hands.

'She finally let go?!' Gao Neng could feel the wind from the attack on his face. Li Qing's foot was less than ten centimeters from his chest. The moment he felt Feng Qingqing's grip loosen, he immediately rolled away.

"BOOM!"

A crater, a good three centimeters deep, appeared on the training field.

Gao Neng's expression flickered.

'This Li Qing is no weakling. The power of that charged-up attack isn't any less than Kong Kun's.'

"Shameless! Handsome men are all bastards, just as I thought!" Feng Qingqing cursed. During their close-quarters fight earlier, she hadn't said anything when Gao Neng had grabbed her... somewhere.

Mistakes were bound to happen in the heat of the moment, after all.

But that downward grope just now...

That was definitely intentional.

"She knew I was handsome and still went for the kill?" What could Gao Neng say? Feng Qingqing wasn't holding back. If he didn't grab down there, where else was he supposed to grab?!

He ignored Feng Qingqing's verbal abuse.

And kept on singing!

Li Qing charged forward to attack again.

Gao Neng didn't hold back either, lashing out with a kick.

Fist and foot collided.

Li Qing was knocked back several steps by the kick.

Meanwhile, Kong Kun, who had been repelled earlier, charged in again.

Gao Neng was truly in a world of hurt.

'Kong Kun's strength was immense; I couldn't push him back without using my full power. That bastard Li Qing was incredibly insidious, always looking for a chance to launch a sneak attack. And Feng Qingqing was nothing like a normal girl, pulling out everything from crotch kicks and mutual destruction tactics to rants about how all men are scum.'

'But the biggest problem was Fang Tangtang...'

'That scythe attack just now was a really close call.'

'He still had chills running down his spine thinking about it. He didn't even know how he'd managed to land a punch on the flat of the blade.'

'This little loli was a total psycho, not one bit as innocent as she looked.'

'She wasn't just mischievous; calling her a black-bellied schemer wouldn't be an exaggeration!'

'These four teaming up...'

'...plus all the "Finishing Dogs" lying in wait all around.'

Gao Neng figured there was a ninety percent chance he was done for this round.

Just as he was thinking this... Kong Kun's fist arrived.

"BAM!"

Their fists collided.

This time, Kong Kun didn't budge, but Gao Neng used the impact to launch himself far away.

"Haha, now it's our turn!"

"Let's go, boys!"

"Now's our chance to kick him while he's down!"

The other Tier Two freshmen, who had been ready for a while, swarmed him.

"You're forcing my hand!" Gao Neng glanced at the timer: 15 minutes and 29 seconds remaining. 'If I use 'Life Form Transformation,' at the minimum cost of 2,000 Alliance Coins per minute, it'll burn through at least thirty thousand Alliance Coins.'

'Thirty thousand!'

Gao Neng felt so pained by the thought that he could barely breathe.

'But if I don't use it, I'll be crippled, if not killed.'

'Screw it!'

With a single thought, Gao Neng activated his Iron Life Form Transformation.

'He didn't use copper because it only increases Defense Power by 70%, whereas iron provides a 100% boost. Right now, he didn't need resilience; he needed to be hard enough.'

「In an instant.」

Gao Neng felt his entire body become as hard as iron.

'It was super, super hard.'

"Come at me, you losers!" Gao Neng shouted, still singing, as he charged forward like a vicious wolf lunging into a pack of huskies.

"BAM!"

"BAM!"

"BAM!"

A series of loud thuds rang out.

After activating his Life Form Transformation, Gao Neng's strength and defense increased dramatically. Against these Tier Two Early Stage freshmen, he was practically taking them down one by one with a single punch.

"Such incredible strength!" the freshmen exclaimed in shock.

"Get out of the way, I'll handle him!" Kong Kun charged over again. Having landed a solid punch earlier, his confidence was surging back.

'I'm the number one freshman!'

'I'm not weaker than anyone!'

"Pulling up the radish!" Gao Neng practically screamed the lyric. He put every ounce of his strength into the punch he threw at Kong Kun, holding nothing back.

"BAM!"

The two fists collided.

Kong Kun's expression changed in an instant.

The immense explosive power sent him flying before he could even react.

At least ten meters into the air.

"PTOO!"

A mouthful of fresh blood sprayed from Kong Kun's mouth.

On the high platform, the four chancellors, along with the deans, vice-deans, and instructors of the various academies, were all stunned into silence by the sudden turn of events.

"That punch... it had an explosive force of at least 3,000 points!"

"I can't believe it... That Gao Neng was actually holding back?!"

"Is the Fourth Human Limit that powerful? A Tier One Early Stage can send a Tier Two Mid Stage flying with a single punch?! Since when was the Fourth Human Limit this incredible?!"

The instructors were genuinely shaken.

Song Tianyun, however, was lost in thought. 'Gao Neng is absurdly powerful. A normal person at the Fourth Human Limit shouldn't be this strong. This kid has other secrets.'

Of course, he didn't voice these thoughts.

At least, he couldn't say them now.

Down on the training field, the students were also stunned by the power Gao Neng had suddenly unleashed.

"So strong?!"

"He sent Kong Kun flying with one punch?"

"And he's really only a Tier One Early Stage..."

The students couldn't believe their eyes.

Gao Neng, however, had no time to worry about them. He realized that the force of his punch had completely shattered the iron energy encasing his hand.

'Pure iron really is no match for chromium-infused Alloy Steel.'

'However, speaking of alloys...'

'I think I have some of my own!'

Copper and tin could be combined to make a copper alloy.

Gao Neng knew this very well. In fact, in the ancient times before the Cataclysm, the alloy of copper and tin had an even more powerful name: Bronze.

He remembered a comic where the Bronze Warriors were total badasses, famous for being practically unkillable.

"CRACK!"

He crushed two more high-dimension capsules.

Instantly, two Alloy Bronze Gloves, formed from copper and tin, materialized over Gao Neng's hands.

"That's the aura of copper!"

"And tin!"

"This Gao Neng doesn't have just two Talents, he has four! Iron, copper, tin, and phosphorus!"

The instructors on the high platform immediately realized.

The Fourth Human Limit plus four Talents... this made him a true genius.

Gao Neng, however, wasn't paying attention to the instructors' expressions. With his new bronze alloy gloves, his combat power had reached its current peak. After all, his silver Talent was still useless for now.

The reason was simple: he was broke...

A very practical problem.

Gao Neng scanned the area, his gaze first landing on Li Qing. 'That kid is insidious, but he's too slippery... He'd probably just run away!'

His gaze shifted.

Gao Neng's eyes fell on Feng Qingqing, and he charged.

"Do you really think I, Feng Qingqing, am a pushover?!" Feng Qingqing was furious. After being groped high and low by Gao Neng, she was already at her boiling point. Now that he was targeting her again, she truly lost control.

Two serpentine, flexible swords instantly appeared in her hands.

"Let me show you my Cyan Snake Swordsmanship!" Feng Qingqing's body was incredibly flexible. Combined with the two pliant swords, she truly moved like a cyan serpent.

Everything became a blur in front of Gao Neng's eyes.

The two flexible swords struck like vipers, one from the left and one from the right, aiming for his armpit and ankle.

'Who plays with snakes in this day and age?!' Gao Neng snorted to himself. He had no intention of playing a game of thrust-and-parry with Feng Qingqing. With his body's Defense Power enhanced by 100%, a mere stab wouldn't cause any serious injury.

"CLINK! CLINK!"

Gao Neng avoided any vital spots, but two cuts still appeared on his upper arm and his foot.

Blood trickled out.

Feng Qingqing clearly hadn't expected her two strikes to fail to pierce right through Gao Neng. In her moment of shock, Gao Neng had already seized her in a tight embrace.

The moment he embraced her, Gao Neng's hands immediately started grabbing.

"Ah! You're shameless!" Feng Qingqing shrieked in fury. Her legs flew up and wrapped around Gao Neng as she twisted her body, attempting a 720-degree flexible-body takedown.

But before she could even begin the flip...

...Gao Neng slammed his forehead into hers.

'Ever heard of the Iron Head Skill?!

"THUD!"

A muffled thud echoed.

Feng Qingqing's legs, still wrapped around Gao Neng, didn't loosen, but she felt the world begin to spin.

"One more for good measure!" Gao Neng didn't hold back.

Taking advantage of Feng Qingqing's dazed state, he slammed his head into hers again.

'He'd knocked out even Chen Bai with this move before. There was no way Feng Qingqing's head was harder than Chen Bai's.'

"THUD!"

Feng Qingqing's eyes started to roll back in her head.

The legs wrapped around Gao Neng finally went slack.

Gao Neng knew Feng Qingqing was at her limit. He pushed off with his feet, tackling her to the ground. Then, his fists rained down like a storm, pummeling the softest parts of her body.

"BAM! BAM! BAM!"

The sound was deafening, the assault utterly brutal.

Chapter 116 - 113: Please, Please... Don't Kill Me

"Ahhh! It hurts... You monster!" Feng Qingqing was in such excruciating pain that she wished she were dead. Otherwise, with her personality, she would never have uttered the word "hurt."

After all, Gao Neng's fists weren't just hard; they were also incredibly powerful. An explosive force of 3,000 points rained down on her body relentlessly. How could she possibly withstand it?

She had only one sensation: the places that were already swollen felt like they were about to go flat, while the places that weren't swollen felt like they were about to swell up.

The other students' faces turned pale as they watched this scene...

'This fighting style is just too insane!'

Feng Qingqing...

'Is he going to beat her to death?'

"Gao Neng, you monster! Let go of Qingqing, now!" Seeing that Feng Qingqing was about to be beaten senseless, Li Qing finally gritted his teeth and charged forward.

This was the moment Gao Neng had been waiting for.

In fact, he had seen it long ago. This guy, Li Qing, was short and plain-looking, but he harbored a deep desire to woo the school beauty, always dreaming of being the hero who saves the damsel in distress.

'You little punk. Are you trying to use my head as a stepping stone to pick up girls?!

"I'll show you 'picking up girls!'" Seeing Li Qing pounce on him from behind, Gao Neng instantly flipped over, using his back to pin down Feng Qingqing.

At the same time, his legs shot upward with all their might.

Rabbit Fights Eagle.

With that one kick,

Gao Neng put his full strength into it.

And he aimed right for Li Qing's plain face.

'Ugly...'

'And you still think you can woo the school beauty?!

'Let's see if this kick doesn't kill you.'

BANG!

Both feet connected solidly.

Li Qing immediately let out a bloodcurdling scream. Two of his front teeth were knocked out as Gao Neng's kick sent him flying a good four or five meters into the air before he crashed face-first onto the ground with a thud.

"Ahhh! I'm going to kill you!" Li Qing could barely stand, but he still wiped his mouth, his face smeared with blood. He had truly been pushed to the absolute limit of his anger by Gao Neng.

Gao Neng didn't hit Feng Qingqing again.

Because Feng Qingqing had actually passed out from the pain.

'Actually, I still held back. At least I didn't hit her face, right?'

His thoughts racing, Gao Neng's gaze swept over his surroundings again. A few more Tier Twos were charging over. Besides them, Fang Tangtang was lingering in the back.

Gao Neng wasn't too worried about these Tier Twos. The only one he was worried about was Fang Tangtang.

'That scheming little loli...'

'She goes for the neck right from the start. Who wouldn't be worried?'

'Five Tier Two trash, one berserk but staggering Li Qing, one neck-slicing Fang Tangtang, and... Kong Kun isn't done for yet? He's getting up again?'

Gao Neng was genuinely tired of this.

'Are 200 Merit Points really that attractive?'

'This is going to be a fight to the death, isn't it?!'

'Then bring it on!'

'I'd like to see if you can be tougher than me!'

Seeing Kong Kun, Li Qing, and the others charge over again, Gao Neng didn't retreat or dodge. He met them head-on.

Having broken the Fourth Human Limit, Gao Neng's own explosive power already exceeded 2,000 points. Combined with his life form's transformation into iron, which increased his attack power by 50%, every punch he threw now landed with at least 3,000 points of force.

One punch!

Two punches!

Three punches!

Each of Gao Neng's punches was heavier than the last.

Kong Kun was quickly knocked to the ground again. Li Qing was also spitting up blood. The other Tier Twos were practically all pinned to the ground and being pummeled by Gao Neng.

As for Fang Tangtang...

...she was still just circling around.

"..."

On the high platform, the expressions of the deans and instructors were quite unsightly.

More than ten Tier Two freshmen.

Among them was this year's top scorer from the Eastern Capital college entrance exams.

So many people ganging up on a single Tier One Early Stage student from the Forgotten Land, and this was the devastating result?

Gao Neng didn't look at the instructors. His gaze was fixed on Fang Tangtang, who had been circling around him the whole time.

"What are you looking at? Are you thinking about pinning me to the ground and beating me up too?" Fang Tangtang sensed Gao Neng's hostile gaze and brandished the Scythe of Death in her hands.

Gao Neng really did have that thought.

After all, just a moment ago, his dear classmate Fang Tangtang had nearly killed him with a single slash.

"Do you know why I haven't sneak-attacked you again? Because I, Death God Fang Tangtang, am confident that even if all of them fall, I can kill you all by myself. Believe it or not," Fang Tangtang continued.

'Believe you? I'll believe you when pigs fly! You're a very bad little loli!' Gao Neng cursed inwardly and rushed forward. He had to get revenge for that slash.

"Oh? You really are going to pin me to the ground and beat me up? Gao Neng, don't you regret this... I, Fang Tangtang, am giving you plenty of chances right now!" Fang Tangtang said as she backed away.

'Chances, my ass! Why didn't you think about regret when you were trying to slice me open?' Gao Neng cursed in his mind, quickened his pace, and leaped at her.

"Ah... Murder! He's a murderer!" Fang Tangtang turned and ran.

Gao Neng chased closely behind.

But soon, he felt something was off. Fang Tangtang's speed wasn't particularly fast; at least, not as fast as when she had slashed at him earlier.

'It's a trap!'

The instant Gao Neng realized it, he saw a golden light swing toward him.

'A cheap shot from behind? No... this is the Retrospect Slash!'

In the ancient times before the Great Cataclysm, a Martial Saint had a move called the Dragged Sword Strategy.

Gao Neng was knowledgeable and brilliant; he knew these historical allusions very well. So, the moment he saw that golden light, he understood.

He ducked.

The golden light practically grazed his scalp as it passed over him.

'How thrilling.'

"Huh?! You actually dodged my, Death God Fang Tangtang's, Retrospect Slash? Impressive, Classmate Gao Neng!" Fang Tangtang's first slash missed, and the second one immediately followed.

It was a combination attack.

As she executed the horizontal cut, she used the momentum to deliver a second chopping slash.

It was extremely fluid.

And incredibly fast.

"Try my, Fang Tangtang's, Thirteen-Consecutive Slash!"

'Thirteen-Consecutive Slash?!' Gao Neng was startled. He released his Spiritual Power. He had never learned any combat techniques, so his Spiritual Power was the only way he could analyze her moves.

SWISH!

Another slash grazed Gao Neng's neck.

Then, the blade became a blur of light.

The third slash.

The fourth slash.

...

'I have to get in close!' As Gao Neng dodged, he also figured it out. The Scythe of Death was three meters long, a length that could be considered a long-range weapon.

At mid-range, he was at a great disadvantage.

Besides, he hadn't learned any techniques like Fang Tangtang and the others. The only thing he had was a set of "Military Boxing" manuals, which he hadn't even really looked at.

Just as Fang Tangtang's eighth slash was about to come down,

Gao Neng clenched his jaw, raised both arms above his head, and forcefully used his copper alloy gauntlets to perform an Empty-handed Blade Seizing.

BOOM!

Fang Tangtang took a step back.

Gao Neng's copper alloy gauntlets cracked.

His hands were numb from the impact. He hadn't fully intercepted the slash, and almost half of its power had struck his gauntlets directly.

"Whoa... You can actually block my, Fang Tangtang's, Thirteen-Consecutive Slash head-on?! You're a monster!" Fang Tangtang yelled, preparing to run again.

'Run? Where are you going to run?!' Gao Neng sneered inwardly. He didn't give Fang Tangtang the chance. While singing loudly, he finally lunged forward and grabbed her.

"Ah, I, Death God Fang Tangtang, am finished! Don't hit my face, Gao Neng, I'm begging you! I'm so cute!" Fang Tangtang was so scared she even dropped her Scythe of Death and covered her face tightly.

Gao Neng indeed had no intention of hitting Fang Tangtang's face.

He sent a punch straight into Fang Tangtang's chest.

BANG!

Fang Tangtang's body trembled, but she didn't cry out in pain.

However, Gao Neng clearly felt his fist get pricked by something extremely sharp. Furthermore, it wasn't the soft feeling of flesh at all, but the texture of metal.

'This little loli's clothes are weird. What is this stuff? Feels like a hedgehog. Maybe I should strip it off and have a look?' Just as Gao Neng was about to act on that thought, an enraged roar echoed in his ears.

"Insolence!"

The roar came from the high platform.

It was so powerful it knocked Gao Neng right on top of Fang Tangtang.

"Gao Neng, I'll give you one last chance. This is the Eastern Capital Military Academy, not a place for you to act so wantonly. If you stop now, I can pretend I saw nothing. But if you dare to sing one more line, even if you've broken the Fourth Human Limit, I will kill you!" The one speaking was none other than Gui Zian.

The Vice Dean of the Eastern Capital Military Academy's War Academy, a bald, muscular man.

A group of Tier Twos being unable to defeat a single Tier One wasn't a big deal in itself. However, Gao Neng's constant singing wasn't just provoking the students; it was a challenge to the dignity of the Eastern Capital Military Academy.

The students couldn't beat him!

Then the instructors would have to step in!

If the instructors couldn't beat him either, then the deans would.

The Eastern Capital Military Academy had decades of strict military regulations. How could they really let Gao Neng run wild on the training field? If every genius followed Gao Neng's example, how could the academy even continue to operate?

"..."

The instructors on the high platform were all silent.

Their original intention was indeed not to intervene. After all, if they made a move, it would give the impression of the strong bullying the weak.

But the situation was different now...

All the students had been defeated.

How many students were lying scattered across the training field?

What could they do now?

They couldn't just stand by and watch, could they?

Were a group of deans, vice deans, and instructors going to cancel the freshmen orientation meeting just to watch Gao Neng sing here? If word of this got out, the Eastern Capital Military Academy could really just shut its doors.

A chill ran down Gao Neng's spine now.

'Did I take things too far?'

He subconsciously glanced at the remaining time: 1 minute and 20 seconds.

'There's still over a minute left?!'

'Why is there still so much time left?'

"Pulling radishes, pulling radishes, hey-ho, hey-ho, pulling radishes. Hey-ho, hey-ho, can't pull it out... Old lady, come quick, come help us pull the radish..." Having come this far, could Gao Neng possibly give up?

Just over a minute.

'I just have to hold on!'

"Gao Neng, you brought this upon yourself!" Gui Zian's expression changed again and again. He finally made his move, leaping down from the high platform.

A distance of a full hundred meters.

He crossed it in a single leap.

Gao Neng was stunned. 'This is what a true powerhouse is, isn't it?'

'Even stronger than Shen Ning'Er!'

"You're still singing?!" As Gui Zian spoke, he stomped his foot violently on the ground. The surface of the training field cracked open instantly, and at the same time, an immense spiritual pressure bore down.

'Spiritual Power? I seem to have that too!' Feeling the pressure, Gao Neng released his own Spiritual Power as well.

He didn't actually intend to compete with Gui Zian in Spiritual Power, because he knew he couldn't win. Instead, he wanted to use this opportunity to tell Gui Zian something.

'I have Spiritual Power too! I've also broken the Fourth Human Limit! I'm a real super genius! Please, please... don't kill me!'

Chapter 117 - 114: My Backing is Rock-Solid

"Huh?!" Gui Zian was visibly stunned.

Spiritual Power!

A Tier One Early Stage student who had broken the Fourth Human Limit actually possessed Spiritual Power?! This was too shocking, practically unbelievable.

Gui Zian wasn't the only one who was stunned.

On the high platform, principals like Song Tianyun and Wang Qixing, as well as Dean Gu Yi, were all dumbfounded when they sensed the two Spiritual Powers clashing on the training ground.

"This kid has Spiritual Power too?!"

"Did his brain mutate?!"

"Principal, where on earth did this kid come from?"

The instructors, shocked, all turned their gazes to Song Tianyun.

Song Tianyun had personally recruited Gao Neng as a special admission student. It stood to reason that he should know Gao Neng's true background.

"That genius from the Shen Family might know this kid." Song Tianyun didn't overthink it. Although Shen Ning'Er had personally introduced Gao Neng, he didn't believe there was any particularly close relationship between them. After all, her status was far too special.

"Shen Ning'Er?!"

"He knows Shen Ning'Er? Then how should we handle this?"

"They probably just know each other, right? Could there be any other kind of relationship? As far as I know, Shen Ning'Er went to the Forgotten Land a while ago to oversee daily affairs, which included the college entrance exams. If I'm not mistaken, she probably noticed this kid's potential during the exams. Other than that, they shouldn't have any other connection," Gu Yi said with certainty.

"Mm, Shen Ning'Er did indeed call me only after the exams were over." Song Tianyun nodded, tacitly agreeing with Gu Yi's assessment.

"Regardless, this kid was introduced by Shen Ning'Er, and he has Spiritual Power... Let's give him one more chance. If he still doesn't know what's good for him... then we can say we've done all we can. At that point, never mind Shen Ning'Er, even if Vice Commander Shen himself came, we'd have a justification for our actions!"

"Alright! I'll give him one last chance! Gao Neng, I am Song Tianyun, the principal of Eastern Capital Military Academy! We are aware of your abilities, and they are quite impressive! But you must not push your luck. Since you have entered our academy, you should know that for a soldier, obeying orders is your primary duty! I will now count to three. If you can stop, the most we will do is expel you from Eastern Capital Military Academy. We won't truly do anything worse to you!" After some thought, Song Tianyun finally spoke up.

On the training ground.

Gui Zian clenched his fists.

Gao Neng's singing...

Continued!

"Three!"

"Two!"

"One!"

"..."

The singing went on.

The instructors were speechless.

Even the principal of Eastern Capital Military Academy speaking personally had no effect?!

'Just chat a little longer, principals, instructors!' Gao Neng was bleeding internally. He really wasn't someone who didn't know when to back down; he desperately wanted to stop.

But now, there were only ten seconds left. Just ten seconds! 'If I can survive this, I'm definitely throwing this stupid system into a ditch.'

'Ah...'

'Just give me ten more seconds.'

'Just talk a little longer!'

Gao Neng screamed internally.

But Gui Zian couldn't possibly give Gao Neng any more time. In fact, the moment Song Tianyun's final word rang out, his fist was already smashing down.

"Gao Neng, you truly brought this on yourself!"

The punch descended.

It was as overwhelming as a mountain crashing down.

Gao Neng, completely suppressed, could only kick Fang Tangtang out from under him. Then, mustering all his strength, he threw both arms up to block.

Gui Zian wasn't using any energy-based power.

But to Gao Neng, this felt less like a fist and more like a rocket launcher. Not only was it impossible to block, but the ground beneath his feet also completely fractured.

"BOOM!"

Gao Neng sank into a crater.

He could barely move his arms.

'One punch!'

'And I'm already powerless to fight back?!'

This was after he had boosted his Defense Power by 100%.

'Without transforming my life form to iron, I would have broken at least two bones.'

"Still singing?! Good kid, your body is tough. You could take one punch, so let's see you take this palm strike!" Gui Zian was furious. He hadn't actually used his full strength in that punch, but Gao Neng was in this state and was still singing nonstop.

It was no longer a matter of holding back. He had to teach Gao Neng a profound lesson. No matter how talented a student was, if their thorns weren't filed down, they could never truly grow.

He wanted to make Gao Neng understand that Eastern Capital Military Academy was nothing like the high schools he knew.

Entering a military academy was like being in the army. No officer would allow a disobedient soldier to run wild on the battlefield. That wouldn't just get one person killed; it would wipe out an entire unit.

Gao Neng was indeed a genius.

But if this disobedient streak couldn't be beaten out of him, the moment Gao Neng stepped onto a battlefield, he would become a ticking time bomb ready to detonate at any moment.

"Uncle Gui, don't!" Just then, Fang Tangtang, who had been kicked away by Gao Neng, scrambled back up.

"Tangtang, don't cause trouble. Uncle has to teach this kid a good lesson today." With a flick of his palm, Gui Zian sent Fang Tangtang flying into the distance. Then, he raised his palm once more.

"NO!!! I'll stop singing! I have something to say!" At that moment, Gao Neng suddenly stopped singing and shouted. The time was finally up, and he really didn't want to be beaten into a cripple.

"Hmph?! Regretting it now? Too late! Brat, you won't be getting out of bed for at least half a year!" Gui Zian paused for a fraction of a second, but then prepared to bring his palm down anyway.

Gao Neng felt the pressure from that palm strike. It wasn't as simple as being bedridden for half a year. If this strike truly landed, he would probably be stuck in bed for a whole year.

'What do I do?!'

He had to do everything he could to survive.

"I've broken the Fourth Human Limit, I have Spiritual Power, and I have five talents over 80%! You can't waste my precious youth!" Gao Neng immediately blurted out.

"Five talents over 80%?!" Gui Zian's expression changed again. He had only seen four talents earlier. He didn't expect Gao Neng to have another one.

"Yes, I have a Silver Talent that's also over 80%! I'm a super genius! You can't do this to me! You should be focusing on nurturing me!" Gao Neng continued.

On the high platform.

The principals and instructors fell silent as well.

The Fourth Human Limit, five talents over 80%, and Spiritual Power... he really was a genius. But unfortunately, his chance had already been given.

Eastern Capital Military Academy could not take back its word.

Not killing him was already the height of their benevolence.

"Hahaha, Gao Neng, are you overthinking things?! Forget five talents, even if you had ten talents over 80%, for disrupting the new student orientation, I will make you suffer the consequences!" Gui Zian's face was cold.

"I... My bone marrow, muscles, and blood are all perfected! I can exert 200% of my strength! And I know I was wrong now, just give me another chance!" Gao Neng really didn't want to be bedridden.

Besides, the most important thing was, he had clearly completed the mission.

But the notification from the stupid system hadn't sounded...

'What does this mean?'

'It means that if I really end up bedridden, there could be danger. I humiliated all the new students today. Who knows what might happen in the future?'

"What damn nonsense are you spouting?! You know you're wrong now? Too late! Let me tell you, Eastern Capital Military Academy has never been short on geniuses! Someone who has broken the Fourth Human Limit is indeed rare, five talents is not bad, and having Spiritual Power is extremely potent. But if you really think we wouldn't dare do anything to you because of these things, then you are sorely mistaken!

Besides, are you under some kind of misunderstanding? Do you really think a genius will automatically become one of the Strongest? Wrong! How many geniuses does Eastern Capital Military Academy have, and how many of them have become the Strongest?

The advantage from breaking the Fourth Human Limit is only in the early stages. Once you reach the mid to late stages, that small difference in physical ability is nothing!

There are no born Strongest in this world, only those who become the Strongest through hard work! You did defeat them today, but do you really think you can beat them in the future? What a joke!

Not killing you today is already the greatest mercy we can show you!"

Gui Zian's words were extremely loud.

Because he wasn't just speaking to Gao Neng, but to all the new students present. He wanted to teach them all a lesson: it didn't matter that they lost today.

The road ahead was long. If they wanted to avenge today's shame, they could only do so through hard work.

Gao Neng's expression shifted again and again.

He could already see it. Gui Zian was going to make an example of him to boost the morale of the new students?! 'It looks like I'm really going to be the sacrificial lamb.'

"Gao Neng, I've said my piece. Now you can rest easy and go lie down. As the Vice Dean of the War Academy at Eastern Capital Military Academy, I don't believe anyone would dare to cause trouble for me for teaching a Tier One brat like you a lesson!" As Gui Zian spoke, his palm came crashing down.

Gao Neng felt his scalp tingle.

'Trouble?!'

'That's right, cause trouble.'

"Shen Ning'Er is my wife!!! She said she's coming to see me in two days! If you cripple me now, Vice Commander Shen will get revenge for me!" Gao Neng wasn't thinking about anything else anymore.

Chen Bai had solemnly warned him.

He couldn't just say things like this, especially not in the City of Hope. But right now, he couldn't be bothered with that. If he didn't say it, he really would end up bedridden.

"BOOM!"

Gui Zian's palm slammed down right next to Gao Neng.

A crater instantly appeared in the ground.

Gao Neng's face paled. If that palm had truly hit him, he would have broken several bones at the very least. 'A hundred days to heal from fractured tendons and bones.' Even if he sang every day, recovery would be difficult.

"Brat, you dare spout such nonsense?!" Gui Zian's face was livid. He had been fully prepared to break a few of Gao Neng's bones with that palm strike, but upon hearing his words, he hesitated.

'Vice Commander Shen!'

'This kid couldn't possibly have something going on with Shen Ning'Er, could he? But if they had no relationship, how would he know that her grandfather is Vice Commander Shen?!'

With Gui Zian's sharp hearing, he had naturally overheard the conversation between Song Tianyun and the others on the high platform. So, in that instant, he really couldn't tell if Gao Neng was telling the truth or bluffing.

It wasn't just Gui Zian...

On the high platform, the expressions of Song Tianyun, the other principals, Gu Yi, and all the instructors had also changed.

This kid said Shen Ning'Er was his wife.

Doesn't that make him Vice Commander Shen's grandson-in-law?!

"I'm not spouting nonsense, really! Shen Ning'Er and I have a three-year agreement! After three years, she'll be my wife! She's really coming to see me in two days! If you don't believe me, you can call Chen Bai! He's the one who brought me here! He knows about it!" Gao Neng could already see it. Being a genius was useless; only Shen Ning'Er was useful.

'As for whether Chen Bai would sell him out...'

'He probably wouldn't.'

'Hasn't that guy Chen Bai always been saying I have something going on with Shen Ning'Er?'

"The Chen Bai he's talking about, is that Shen Ning'Er's adjutant, Lieutenant Chen?"

"I think so!"

"Does anyone have Chen Bai's number?"

Hearing Gao Neng's words, some instructors began to discuss among themselves.

Gui Zian's eyes were also flickering with uncertainty now. 'Could this kid have really gotten involved with that genius girl from the Shen Family?'

Chapter 118 - 115: Freshman "Role Model", Mission Complete

Impossible!

Gui Zian truly didn't believe it.

But what if?

What if it was true? Then this whole affair was worth some serious thought.

'On the very first day of school, I beat Vice Commander Shen's grandson-in-law so badly he's stuck in bed? So badly that when his granddaughter comes to visit, she can only see him lying there?'

Ugh!

Gui Zian didn't dare to think about it any further.

He knew that man's temper all too well. He was famously protective, especially when it came to his treasured granddaughter, Shen Ning'Er. He couldn't possibly spoil her more.

'If this is true, and that last palm strike of mine had landed... even though I'm the vice dean of the Eastern Capital Military Academy, I'd probably end up bedridden just like this kid, right?'

Gui Zian's gaze drifted to the high platform. He was waiting for a decision from those up there. When the sky falls, the tallest people hold it up. At the very least, he didn't feel like he was the tallest one at the academy.

"Principal Song, what do we do now? If this kid really has some special relationship with Shen Ning'Er, should we wait until after Shen Ning'Er has visited him to beat him up again?" an instructor advised.

"I have a feeling something's very off about all this..."

"But he was recommended by Shen Ning'Er, and his talent is exceptional. And just look at that face... Can you see a single flaw? This kid's looks are off the charts!"

"Shen Ning'Er isn't that shallow, is she? Just because this kid is handsome?"

"I wouldn't call it shallow, would you? The kid doesn't just have looks, he has talent too. A Fourth Human Limit breakthrough! Aside from his humble origins, you really can't find any other flaws."

"That seems right, but isn't he a little too rebellious? He's a very prickly person!"

"Old Zhao, it's no wonder you've been single forever. The kids these days love a bad boy. I think this whole thing is actually very possible!"

"If that's the case... should we call Lieutenant Chen to confirm?" Gu Yi turned to look at Song Tianyun.

"What would a mere adjutant know about something like this?" Principal Song frowned. He then took out his phone, hesitated for a moment, and dialed a number.

BEEP... BEEP...

A moment later, a young woman's voice came through the phone.

"Grandpa Song, you were looking for me?"

"Ahem!" Song Tianyun cleared his throat, about to ask his question, but suddenly realized how awkward it was. 'How am I supposed to phrase this? Am I really supposed to just ask Shen Ning'Er, "Is Gao Neng your man?"'

The whole thing felt awkward no matter how he looked at it.

"Grandpa Song, are you calling to ask about Gao Neng?" Shen Ning'Er's voice came through the phone again.

"You already know?" Song Tianyun's expression became a bit strange. Although information traveled fast between the Eastern Capital Military Academy and the Eastern Capital Military District, he was still a bit surprised it was this fast.

Unless... Shen Ning'Er truly had a special relationship with Gao Neng and had arranged for people inside the Eastern Capital Military Academy to offer him some sort of "protection."

Song Tianyun speculated silently.

Meanwhile, on the other end of the line.

Shen Ning'Er, however, covered her mouth and chuckled lightly.

She naturally knew what Song Tianyun wanted to ask.

In fact, when she had recommended Gao Neng for the Eastern Capital Military Academy, Principal Song hadn't paid it much mind, nor had he asked for Gao Neng's details. Today just so happened to be the new student orientation. If she couldn't figure out why he was calling now, would she even be Shen Ning'Er?

"Well, Grandpa Song, was the favor I sent you a good one? A Fourth Human Limit breakthrough, five talents over eighty percent, and he even has Spiritual Power. On top of that, Dr. Lan studied his blood and found some kind of special energy in it." Shen Ning'Er didn't hide any of the details about Gao Neng.

Now that he was in the military academy, some things had to be made public. This would allow Gao Neng to obtain more resources, and the quantity and quality of those resources could, in a very real sense, help a person grow quickly.

"Special energy in his blood?" Song Tianyun truly hadn't known about this. 'Could it be... that kid's shout about his "marrow, muscles, and blood reaching perfection" was actually true?'

He'd never heard of such a mutation!

"That's right. It's not clear what kind of special energy it is yet; Dr. Lan is still researching it. Is there anything else you wanted to know, Grandpa Song?" Shen Ning'Er continued.

"I heard... and this is just a rumor... that you and Gao Neng have some kind of three-year agreement?" After some thought, Song Tianyun decided to ask, though he phrased it differently.

"Yes... there is something like that." Shen Ning'Er sounded surprised for a moment, but she still confirmed it.

"There really is? Heh heh, well, that settles that. Oh, by the way, even though you aren't officially enrolled, you're still affiliated with our Eastern Capital Military Academy by name. If you ever have free time, you should stop by for a class or two. You could help these new students understand what the world outside is really like." Song Tianyun gave an awkward laugh, making a casual, polite suggestion.

As for whether Shen Ning'Er would come to class?

He didn't actually expect her to. A Major in the Military Department who was only affiliated with his academy in name—where would she find the time to actually attend classes? Besides, he'd heard Shen Ning'Er had another breakthrough recently; her promotion to Lieutenant Colonel was probably just around the corner.

"Alright, I'll be there in a few days then." Shen Ning'Er agreed. Even though she was a Major in the Military Department, she was only eighteen years old and technically still considered a student of the Eastern Capital Military Academy. Moreover, since Principal Song had personally invited her to a class, she wouldn't refuse.

"Alright, that's settled then." Song Tianyun hung up the phone.

But he was truly shaken. The Alliance's true prodigies rarely bothered with military academies. For someone like Shen Ning'Er, whose family's resources were more than sufficient and whose fighting techniques were family heirlooms, coming to an academy just to learn the basics would be a complete waste of time.

Furthermore, Shen Ning'Er was a Major in the Military Department with many responsibilities. He had only made a casual remark, never expecting she would actually agree to come.

This forced him to consider whether Gao Neng was the reason for her decision.

"How did it go?" Gu Yi asked.

"It seems... it's true." Song Tianyun's expression was extremely odd. He truly couldn't believe it, yet Shen Ning'Er's words left him no choice but to.

HISS!

This was big news!

'Shen Ning'Er takes one trip to the Forgotten Land and comes back with a man? If word of this actually gets out, the entire Eastern Capital Military District will probably go into an uproar. I wonder what that Vice Commander Shen will think when he hears about it?'

"No way... That kid is really..." Gu Yi couldn't bring himself to finish the sentence.

"So what now? Are we still going to beat this kid up?"

"Shen Ning'Er said she's coming over in a few days. If you really want to beat him, I won't stop you." Song Tianyun glanced at the instructor who had spoken. 'Go ahead, you can be the one to do it.'

"..." The instructor who had spoken immediately shut his mouth.

'If anyone's going to beat him, it should be Gui Zian.'

'What's it got to do with me?'

...

On the high platform, Principal Song and the instructors all shut their mouths and stared at the sky.

Down on the training field, Gui Zian was cursing up a storm.

'So this is the legendary "passing the buck," huh? What happened to "the tallest person holds it up" when things go wrong?'

'Who was it just a minute ago, all high and mighty, saying we needed to knock this kid down a peg? Okay, I'm here trying to do it, and you're all just going to leave me hanging?'

Gui Zian's face was livid.

Worst of all, over a thousand new students were on the training field, staring at him with wide eyes!

'Don't punish Gao Neng?'

'Is that even an option?'

Gui Zian glared at Gao Neng.

Gao Neng looked pitifully at Gui Zian.

'Pitiful my ass! I didn't see you looking so pitiful when you were fighting just now!' Gui Zian cursed inwardly before finally speaking aloud. "Ahem. Gao Neng, you performed exceptionally well just now. You've served as an excellent... role model for this year's freshmen! However, this habit of yours of defying an instructor's orders cannot be tolerated!"

Gui Zian practically spat out the words "role model" through gritted teeth.

"Then... how about I run two laps around the field?" Gao Neng asked obediently, immediately suggesting his own punishment.

"Two laps?!" Gui Zian's face was so dark it looked like it could drip ink. 'Does this guy really think this is high school? I have to punish him severely today, or I'll lose all face!' "One hundred Merit Points will be deducted! And that's only because this is your first offense. If there's a next time, you'll receive... a demerit, at the very least!"

He managed to swallow the word "expulsion" that was on the tip of his tongue.

"Okay, thank you, Dean Gui." Gao Neng immediately seized the opportunity.

"It's *Vice* Dean!" Gui Zian snorted heavily.

"Okay, then Dean Gui... what about the 200 Merit Points you offered just now?" Gao Neng blinked, looking expectantly at Gui Zian.

"What 200 Merit Points?" Gui Zian's brows knitted.

"You said they'd get 200 Merit Points if they beat me. I understood that to mean there was a reward for defeating me. Since none of them managed to do that, shouldn't those 200 Merit Points go to me?" Gao Neng said, as if this was the most obvious thing in the world.

"Kid, are you dreaming?" Gui Zian had finally snapped back to reality. 'He's lucky I'm not beating him until he's bedridden, and he has the nerve to ask me for a reward?'

"But Dean Gui just said it himself: my performance was excellent, a good role model for the freshmen. Punishments should come with rewards, shouldn't they? And the Eastern Capital Military Academy wouldn't be the kind of place to take

back a reward once it's been offered, right?" Gao Neng pressed on. He was a man with "connections" now; there was nothing wrong with milking it for some benefits.

Besides, he'd heard it himself: Shen Ning'Er was really coming to the Eastern Capital Military Academy in a few days.

'By then...'

'...the jig will probably be up, right?'

'If I don't cash in now, when will I get another chance?'

"Give it to him. The academy has no precedent for taking back a reward once it's been offered. He defeated everyone else, so the reward should be his." Principal Song was mentally exhausted. His gaze then fell upon the gloomy-looking new students below. "If you want to reclaim the reward that should have been yours, you can. Just challenge Gao Neng. Defeat him, and those 200 Merit Points will be yours!"

...

The new students said nothing.

They had all fought Gao Neng as a group and lost. Challenge him one-on-one? Wasn't that just asking for a death wish?

Gui Zian was also feeling incredibly weary.

'Does this mean he gets 100 points deducted, but 200 points awarded? So not only does the kid get away unpunished, he actually comes out ahead?'

'The culture at the Eastern Capital Military Academy is getting more and more corrupt.'

'How can we act based on who has powerful connections? Just because this kid might be Vice Commander Shen's grandson-in-law, is the great Eastern Capital Military Academy really going to be afraid of him?'

Just as he was thinking...

He saw Gao Neng fall headfirst in front of him.

He was foaming at the mouth.

"..." Gui Zian's face instantly went from livid to pale. "Kid, don't even think about trying to frame me for an injury! I, Gui Zian, won't fall for that trick! I swear I didn't hit you!"

"Frame you, my ass... This is... a side effect..." Gao Neng grabbed tightly onto Gui Zian's leg with one hand. He really was dizzy, and his entire body felt incredibly sick.

He really wanted to sing "Little Leaping Frog" again to get rid of this awful feeling.

'But if I sing again now...'

'...I'll probably be beaten to a pulp for real.'

'I just have to endure it!'

Just then, a mechanical "DING!" sounded in his ear.

(Bonus Chapter delivered! Please vote with your monthly tickets!)

Chapter 119 - 116: Infinite Energy Annotation

"Congratulations, Host, for completing the final mission (5/5): Brilliant Red Star. You have received one Advanced Treasure Chest." As the mechanical voice finished, a glittering golden treasure chest appeared before Gao Neng.

"Finally, the mission's done! Open it!" Although Gao Neng felt the world spinning, he still wanted to see what was inside the Advanced Treasure Chest.

"BEEP. An Advanced Treasure Chest contains multiple different rewards. The Host may choose one based on their own needs!"

"Drawing random rewards..."

"Drawing complete. Presenting three treasures: 1. One Ningshen Awakening Pill, which can instantly sharpen the Host's mind, heal all injuries, and grant a full-health revival on the spot. 2. Random Skill (one). 3. Two pages of money-making tips (these pages contain two no-penalty bonus missions.)"

'I have to pick one of three?' Gao Neng was speechless.

He was about to pass out, yet this damn system was giving him a multiple-choice question? And it just had to offer a Ningshen Awakening Pill. 'Why didn't you just offer me a vitamin gummy while you're at it?'

But Gao Neng didn't mind too much. All three options seemed pretty good. The first one was basically an extra life; even if he didn't use it now, it would be a great deal to save for later.

Of course, he wasn't planning to pick that one. He hesitated between the random skill and the money-making tips. A random skill was great, but being random, there was no telling what he'd end up with.

The money-making tips, on the other hand, were more practical...

They were equivalent to two bonus missions.

Bonus missions—missions without penalties—were still a very good deal.

So...

'I'll just choose the random skill then.'

"I choose 2, the random skill!" Gao Neng forced himself to stay conscious for one last moment. Determined not to let the damn system screw him over, he made his choice decisively.

"DING. The Host has successfully chosen the random skill reward."

"BEEP. The Host's luck has struck again. You have obtained the random skill: Infinite Energy Enchantment."

'What the hell is this thing?!' Upon hearing the announcement, Gao Neng could no longer hold on, even though he still hadn't figured out what "Infinite Energy Enchantment" was used for.

'Still, since it's a skill from the system, it must be powerful.'

THUD!

Gao Neng passed out.

"Gao Neng? Don't you dare faint, kid. Are you really trying to pull a scam on me?!"
Gui Zian froze for a moment when he saw Gao Neng actually pass out.

"Where are the people from the Logistics Academy?!"

"Coming!" Two instructors from the Logistics Academy rushed over, immediately helped Gao Neng up, and began administering first aid on the spot.

"His vitals are unstable!"

"It looks like he's been poisoned..."

"Could he have poisoned himself with his own phosphorus pentoxide during the fight?"

"It's possible, but that was a while ago. How did the kid hold on for so long? It's a miracle!"

"It's not too serious. He just needs some water and two or three hours of rest. Principal, if possible, we should send Gao Neng back to his dorm to rest right now!"

The two instructors from the Logistics Academy quickly made their diagnosis.

"Alright, take him there," Song Tianyun nodded.

"Principal Song, Gao Neng has passed out. So how do we handle his academy and mentor assignments?" Gu Yi asked the question on his mind.

The new student orientation assembly was meant for assigning students to their respective academies.

But that wasn't the main issue. The main issue was that the entry requirements for the four major academies were all different.

For example, the War Academy assessed a student's combat prowess, while the Manufacturing Academy focused on a student's talent for creating devices (the number of their talents, their knowledge of various mechanisms, and so on).

If they waited for Gao Neng to wake up before arranging the tests...

...it would mean that the instructors from all four major academies would have to be on standby for one student.

"Dean Gu raises a valid point. Academy placement is a two-way street. Vice Principal Wang, is your Manufacturing Academy interested in Gao Neng?" Song Tianyun asked, looking at Wang Qixing.

"I won't poach someone you've clearly got your eye on. Principal Song, if you want him, just say so. Why bother asking the Manufacturing Academy?" Wang Qixing shook his head.

"Haha, Vice Principal Wang has a point. With only five talents, the kid wouldn't be considered elite in the Manufacturing Academy. So... what about the Research Academy?" Song Tianyun chuckled and looked at an elder beside him.

"He's too much of a troublemaker. I doubt he could quiet his mind enough for research. Besides, I don't think that personage from the Shen Family would want someone at the Fourth Human Limit tossed into my Research Academy, would they?" The elder shook his head as well.

"I see... In that case, the Logistics Academy... never mind. Let's just put the kid in the War Academy." Song Tianyun mused for a moment, completely skipping over Gu Yi of the Logistics Academy.

"..." Gu Yi's expression turned grim.

'Why didn't he even bother asking when it came to the Logistics Academy?!

Truthfully, he had no intention of trying to snatch Gao Neng for the Logistics Academy, but being ignored like this still stung. This was blatant disrespect for the entire Logistics branch.

Having made his decision, Song Tianyun's gaze fell on Gui Zian.

"Old Gui, I'll have to trouble you with this. Will you take this kid?"

"To me?!" Gui Zian rubbed his gleaming bald head and glanced at the unconscious Gao Neng on the ground. "Principal Song, I don't like troublemakers!"

"You're the Vice Director of the War Academy anyway. If you really don't like him, you can always switch him to someone else later. Besides, I'm doing you a favor here!" Song Tianyun finished, giving Gui Zian a meaningful look.

Gui Zian's face, however, was a mask of bitterness.

'A favor my ass!'

'I didn't actually beat Gao Neng down. Would Vice Commander Shen really have nothing better to do than come all the way to Eastern Capital Military Academy just to beat me up over this?'

'This is clearly Old Song just passing the buck!'

'He wants this prize student but doesn't want to be the one to take the heat, so he's pushing me out to be the scapegoat.'

'Truly, a higher rank is enough to crush a man!'

Gui Zian didn't say anything else. He handed Gao Neng over to the two instructors from the Logistics Academy, then leaped back onto the high platform and sat down, his expression sour.

"Alright, let's continue the new student orientation assembly," Song Tianyun said, giving Gu Yi a look. With all the instructors gathered, they couldn't just stop now.

"Right." Gu Yi nodded.

In truth, after all the chaos, he no longer had the heart to lecture the new students, but the orientation assembly had to continue.

After all, the academy and mentor selections were mandatory procedures.

The rest of the proceedings went quite smoothly.

「Two hours later...」

Fang Tangtang, Kong Kun, Li Qing, and Feng Qingqing were all successfully accepted into the War Academy, while the other students also made their respective choices.

For the most part, over 80% of the mentors and students were quite satisfied with the pairings.

The only exception was Gui Zian, who now had a splitting headache.

Looking at Fang Tangtang, Kong Kun, Li Qing, and the recently-awakened Feng Qingqing standing before him, and then thinking about Gao Neng, who was currently in the Logistics Academy's infirmary, his head throbbed intensely.

'These five...'

'Can they really coexist peacefully?'

"Ahem, Feng Qingqing, Teacher Li is also an excellent choice. And she's a woman. Why didn't you pick her?" Gui Zian voiced his confusion.

"Sir, Vice Director Gui!" Feng Qingqing gave a military salute, her gaze blazing. "My father ordered me to study under you. A father's command cannot be defied!"

"..." Gui Zian rubbed his head. Feng Qingqing's father was indeed his old comrade-in-arms; he couldn't argue with that, so he had to accept it. He then turned his gaze to Li Qing. "And what about you, Li Qing? I can see you have an explosive fighting style. Teacher Tang would be a more suitable mentor for you."

"I, uh..." Li Qing was missing two front teeth, and his words whistled slightly through the gap. He glanced at Feng Qingqing before finally mustering his courage. "I want to study with Qingqing!"

"Nonsense! Once you enter a military academy, your duty is to serve the Alliance. You can't be thinking about childish romance! Go to Teacher Tang right now, and tell him I sent you!"

"Vice Director Gui, I..."

"Get out!" Gui Zian roared.

"Yes, sir..." Li Qing finally scurried away, crestfallen.

Gui Zian's headache eased slightly. He had finally gotten rid of one of them.

It wasn't that he didn't want to accept Li Qing, but as the Vice Director of the War Academy, he had to be considerate of others. He couldn't keep all the good students for himself.

"Kong Kun, you..."

"Vice Director Gui, my fighting style is the same as yours!" Kong Kun stated with firm conviction.

"I see." Gui Zian nodded, showing no intention of sending Kong Kun away. Instead, he looked at Fang Tangtang again. "Tangtang, it's not really appropriate for you to study under me, is it?"

"I know. To be honest, it's not appropriate for me, Fang Tangtang, to study under anyone. I'm just putting my name on your roster, Uncle Gui. You don't need to worry about it," Fang Tangtang said with a wave of her hand.

"..." For a moment, Gui Zian was at a loss for words.

However, what Fang Tangtang said was true. With the power of the Fang Family's old patriarch, her training regimen had likely been set in stone long ago. She didn't need him to teach her much.

As for why Fang Tangtang had come to the military academy in the first place... he knew the reason.

The Fang Family's old patriarch truly couldn't control the girl standing before him, so he had specially sent her to the military academy for some real-world exposure. To put it bluntly, it was to temper her wild personality. As for combat techniques, she didn't need their instruction.

He said nothing more.

He'd only managed to get rid of one of the four, but one less person was still less trouble.

As for Gao Neng...

Gui Zian decided not to think about him for now. 'I'll deal with it once he wakes up.'

...

Time flew by.

After lunch, Gao Neng finally woke up.

The Eastern Capital Military Academy's infirmary was immaculate, staffed by dedicated caregivers. Two of them were female sophomores from the Logistics Academy, identifiable by the academy badges on their chests.

When Gao Neng opened his eyes, he saw the two female upperclassmen scrambling over something. The moment they saw he was awake, they both broke into smiles.

One was shy, partially hiding her face.

The other was as radiant as the sun.

"Gao Neng, you're awake! Do you want something to eat? I saved this for you. Oh, and congratulations on getting into the War Academy!" the sunny upperclassman said immediately, placing a lunchbox in front of him and tucking a pillow behind his back.

"The War Academy?" Gao Neng was taken aback. The War Academy was the last place he wanted to join. The name alone screamed of fighting and killing on the battlefield. He much preferred sitting safely in the rear, observing the action.

'Did they just force me into an academy without even letting me choose?'

'No way!'

'I have to find a way to transfer academies!'

As he was thinking, he suddenly remembered something. 'All the final missions are complete. That means the damn system should be able to evolve now, right?'

Chapter 120 - 117: The Number 1 Person of the Eastern Capital Military Academy

"Junior Gao Neng, I have some fruit here. Would you like to eat some?" a senior girl asked, bashfully half-hiding her face. Seeing that Gao Neng hadn't touched his chopsticks, she produced a plate of fruit from behind her.

"Thank you, Senior," Gao Neng said. He then opened his system's Attribute Panel. Sure enough, a button had appeared in the evolution section.

He tapped the button.

"DING! The system has met the requirements for evolution. Do you wish to evolve now?"

"Evolve!" Gao Neng didn't waste a second and chose to evolve immediately. At the same time, the system panel went black, and then a progress bar appeared.

Gao Neng glanced at it. 'Looks like this will take some time.'

Next, he glanced at the meal box in front of him. His stomach let out an involuntary RUMBLE. He really was hungry. With a meal served right in front of him, he certainly wasn't going to refuse.

After thanking the two seniors again, Gao Neng started to eat his meal and the fruit.

Seeing Gao Neng begin to eat, the two second-year seniors were very happy.

'This handsome junior is actually quite polite.'

'Not at all like the shameless person everyone described.'

Most importantly, Gao Neng was a celebrity now. The story of him single-handedly fighting a thousand freshmen had already spread through the Eastern Capital Military Academy in an instant.

When the two seniors saw that Gao Neng wasn't a cold person, they started sharing some gossip with him.

For example, Vice Principal Wang Qixing might seem to be on bad terms with Principal Song Tianyun, but they were actually life-and-death comrades, and Song Tianyun had even saved Wang Qixing's life.

For another, Gu Yi was once a combat hero who went missing for two months during an "infiltration" mission. He returned safe and sound, but rumor has it he had a thing with an Angel from another race.

And maybe even had a daughter with her?

Gao Neng was quite interested in these secrets. 'The more you listen, the more you learn.'

After finishing with the secret gossip, the two seniors started talking about life at the military academy. As they talked, the conversation shifted to forming battle teams and the "Battle Rankings."

Gao Neng listened attentively, but when the two seniors told him that his mentor was Gui Zian, his expression finally darkened.

'That big bald guy?'

'This doesn't fit the script...'

'Normally, for a genius like me with both looks and talent, shouldn't the mentor be a beautiful, charming woman? What the hell is this about a big bald guy?'

Gao Neng was not happy.

The thought of having to face a big bald guy every day, and possibly being constantly worked to the bone by him, gave him a weird feeling.

'Now I don't just want to switch academies, I want to switch mentors too.'

'And I have to switch!'

"Junior Gao Neng doesn't seem to like Vice Director Gui?" The two seniors sensed Gao Neng's displeasure and giggled, covering their mouths.

"Is 'like' really the right word for this?" Gao Neng retorted.

"Haha, you're so funny, Junior Gao Neng. Or are you planning on 'rising to the man'?" The two seniors were clearly quite worldly, with little jokes ready at a moment's notice.

"..." Gao Neng was momentarily at a loss for words.

"In the War Academy, Teacher Li is the nicest one. She's beautiful and speaks so gently. If you were with Teacher Li, Junior Gao Neng, you'd definitely be well taken care of."

The two seniors started telling Gao Neng more about the War Academy.

"Oh, right, Junior Gao Neng, Vice Director Gui has a nickname. Do you know what it is?"

"The Bald Vulture?"

"Hahaha, no, it's the Bald Shark!"

"COUGH COUGH!"

Just then, two figures appeared at the doorway.

It was none other than Gui Zian and Fang Tangtang.

The seniors' cheerful expressions instantly froze. Their faces paled, and they fled without even daring to look up.

Gui Zian didn't stop them. He just stared with a dark expression at the food and fruit laid out in front of Gao Neng. 'This brat beats up girls on the training grounds, so how is he still so popular with them?'

'Is it just because he's handsome?!'

'Girls these days are getting more and more superficial...'

Gui Zian felt it was time to rectify these improper tendencies at the Eastern Capital Military Academy.

"Can you walk?" Gui Zian asked coldly.

"Yes," Gao Neng nodded.

"Then get changed and come with me!" Gui Zian said and turned to leave, but he stopped at the door. "Don't think you're so great just because you beat a few

freshmen. The Eastern Capital Military Academy isn't as weak as you think. It won't be too late to be arrogant after you've fought your way onto the 'Battle Rankings'!"

After saying his piece, Gui Zian left.

Fang Tangtang, however, showed no signs of leaving. She quickly darted to Gao Neng's bedside, blinking her big eyes at him. "The Bald Shark is my mentor, too!"

"I already guessed." Gao Neng wasn't an idiot. The Bald Shark had come in with this scheming little loli; how could he not have guessed?

"Want to get on the Battle Rankings?" Fang Tangtang continued, unfazed.

"We'll see," Gao Neng replied. Although the two seniors had told him a few things about the Battle Rankings, he didn't actually know much about them.

He had only managed to grasp one thing.

The Battle Rankings...

...seemed to be more than just a simple ranking of strength.

"If you want to get on the Battle Rankings, you should hurry up and join my battle team. If you're too late, my team will probably be full." Fang Tangtang got very excited whenever she mentioned her team.

Gao Neng ignored her.

He simply put on his jacket and walked out the door.

Fang Tangtang didn't seem to mind being ignored and quickly followed him.

The two of them left the infirmary.

Gao Neng saw Gui Zian waiting outside. Besides him, there were two other familiar faces.

"Gao Neng, I will get my revenge!" The moment Feng Qingqing saw Gao Neng, she whipped her head to the side, then instinctively touched her chest.