

I CAN CONTROL RESOURCES

Chapter 61: You're Trying to Assassinate Me?!

"Gao Neng, why did you bring a cat to the exam?" the Examiner asked, somewhat displeased. To be fair, the preliminary test didn't have any explicit rules against bringing pets.

'But isn't that common sense?'

"Examiner!" Gao Neng shouted, his posture earnest. "My family's poor, and my mom's away at work. There's no one home to take care of my cat!"

"All right, all right... I get it." The Examiner rubbed his ears. Gao Neng had shouted so loudly it nearly deafened him.

The other students, meanwhile, just looked at each other.

"Gao Neng is so kind-hearted!" a female student murmured, her eyes glazed with admiration.

"He cares so much about a cat. Imagine if he and I had children... Aaaah, I'm blushing, I'm blushing..."

"That cat's so cute. I want to take care of it for him."

"..."

A wave of chatter swept through the room.

At that moment, the Examiner waved his hand, signaling for quiet.

"Gao Neng, stick both your hands inside. Then, imagine you're trying to pull everything out of the testing machine. Got it?" the Examiner said, pointing to the machine in front of him.

"Got it." Gao Neng nodded.

He'd been watching from the back for over an hour, so of course he understood the procedure. But the question on his mind wasn't about how to pull things out.

'It's... where's the power cord for this thing?'

"All right, you can begin," the Examiner nodded.

"Gao Xiaomeng." Gao Neng glanced at the cat on his shoulder. He thought this was the moment she was supposed to leap down and find the machine's power cord.

"Meeow..." Gao Xiaomeng squinted, grooming her whiskers with her paws, wearing an expression that said, 'I have absolutely no idea what you're talking about.'

Dark lines formed on Gao Neng's face.

'Quit playing dumb!'

'Get down there, now!'

Gao Neng twitched his shoulder, trying to shake Gao Xiaomeng off.

But Gao Xiaomeng's claws were dug firmly into his clothes. No matter how much he shook, she remained as steady as a rock, like a buoy in the middle of the ocean.

"Gao Neng, why haven't you started?" the Examiner prompted.

"..." Gao Neng was speechless. Now he was starting to panic. If Gao Xiaomeng didn't find the power cord, the machine would operate normally. How was he supposed to get through this?

He'd figured out the baseline from watching the others. Normally, a single talent above 40% was considered good. If someone had two talents over 20%, they could be called a bona fide genius.

And him?

Gao Neng glanced at his Attribute Panel: Iron 100%, Copper 100%, Tin 100%, Silver 100%, Gold 100%, Phosphorus 100%, Sulfur 100%, Silicon 100%...

'If I actually test these numbers, everyone in this training base, including the Examiner, will probably piss their pants in shock, right?'

"Gao Neng, what are you stalling for? Hurry up, the other students are waiting," the Examiner urged again when he saw Gao Neng still hadn't moved.

"..."

"Don't be nervous. Just relax. Believe in yourself; I'm sure you'll get a good result!" After a moment's thought, the Examiner decided to offer some encouragement.

"Gao Xiaomeng..." Gao Neng looked at her again.

"Meeow!" Gao Xiaomeng blinked innocently.

"Two fish! How about two fish?" Gao Neng played his trump card.

"Mrow."

"Three! Three fish!"

"Meeow..."

"Fine, fine, fine! I'll skip four and go straight to five! That's my absolute limit! Five fish! I'll buy them for you the second we get home. Deal?" Beads of sweat formed on Gao Neng's forehead.

"Meeow." Gao Xiaomeng just kept looking adorable.

"Gao Neng, are you taking this test or not? If not, I'm marking it down as a forfeit, and all your talents will be recorded as zero!" The Examiner had finally had enough.

'What the hell is he doing?'

'Bringing a pet is one thing, but standing here counting fish...'

'Is he trying to mock my math skills or something?'

"Fine, Gao Xiaomeng. If I'm screwed, you can go back to sleeping in a dumpster!" Gao Neng gritted his teeth and finally stepped forward.

"Stick both your hands inside," the Examiner said, pointing to two holes in the testing machine.

Gao Neng glanced one last time at Gao Xiaomeng on his shoulder. He saw that she had actually closed her eyes and was even letting out a yawn.

'The nerve of this cat!'

"Aargh... To hell with it!" Gao Neng squeezed his eyes shut. No more hesitation. He plunged both hands straight into the machine.

Instantly, he felt his hands enveloped by something soft and spongy. He could even feel a substance flowing within it.

'What the...'

'Absorb!'

BOOM!

The entire testing machine suddenly started to vibrate violently.

Then, Gao Neng heard a series of startled cries erupt around him.

Even the Examiner shot to his feet.

Gao Neng opened his eyes.

'Holy crap...'

'Damn!'

The numbers on the machine's display were going berserk, shooting upward like a rocket.

All sorts of numbers were spinning and tumbling across the screen.

It was a dazzling, chaotic mess.

"Whoa, what's happening?!"

"I think I saw his Iron talent hit 50%, and it's still climbing!"

"And Copper... Copper's at 50% too!"

"Whoa, Copper's at 60%!"

"What's that? Tin... Holy crap, Tin's at 60% too!"

"Silver!!!"

"Oh my god, is that Gold...? Gold's at 60%!"

"And Sulfur... Silicon... Phosphorus..."

"..."

BANG!

Amid the shouts, a loud bang suddenly rang out. A shower of electric sparks erupted from the machine.

Gao Neng was thrown backward by the force of the blast.

THUD!

He landed right in the arms of a female student.

"Whoa, Gao Neng, what happened?! Are you hurt?" the female student asked nervously, hugging him tightly.

Meanwhile, the surrounding students and the Examiner were completely dumbfounded.

The machine...

...had exploded!

It had actually exploded!

The expensive talent testing machine, specially shipped all the way from the City of Hope, had exploded?!

The Examiner was dumbstruck.

The surrounding students were even more stupefied. They weren't concerned about the machine exploding, but about the string of ridiculously brilliant scores that had appeared on the screen just moments before.

Iron 60%...

Copper 60%...

Tin 60%...

And Silver 60%, Gold 60%, Phosphorus 60%, Sulfur 60%, Silicon 60%...

...

It was utterly terrifying!

Gao Neng snapped back to his senses. He quickly squirmed free from the girl's suffocating embrace and shot a complicated look at Gao Xiaomeng, who was still clinging tightly to his clothes.

'Not bad, little Miss Xiaomeng!'

'You had a real blast, didn't you?'

'Do you have any idea... that you blew up the machine?!'

'If I have to pay for this, they could strip me naked and it still wouldn't be enough, would it?'

'Wait!'

'What should I do with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity?'

Gao Neng's mind raced. In that instant, he unleashed his genius-level intellect, running at double speed. He finally realized this was his last chance.

SWOOSH!

Gao Neng dashed in front of the Examiner. He took a deep breath and roared, "Are you an idiot? Are you trying to kill me? Speak! Are you one of Wang Ju's men? Did he send you here to kill me? You tried to murder me during my talent test?!"

I Can Control Resources

"Scheme against you?!" The Examiner was stunned.

"Isn't that what's happening? Then you tell me, why was everyone else's test fine, but the moment it's my turn, the machine explodes?!" Gao Neng immediately went on the offensive.

"That's right... Why did it explode on your turn?" The Examiner fell silent, but he quickly realized what was going on. 'This bastard broke it, didn't he?'

'He blew up a machine!'

'And he still has the gall to question me?'

The Examiner's expression was grim.

However, he ultimately decided not to argue with Gao Neng about it. After all, the way the machine exploded was a bit strange, and the numbers on the display earlier had been far too shocking.

"Old Deng, what's going on? Did the testing machine break?" Another Examiner walked over, glancing at Gao Neng and then at the grim-faced Examiner.

"It might be broken... but it was working fine just a moment ago..." The grim-faced Examiner nodded, then shook his head.

"How about you try the machine at my station?"

"Alright." In the end, the grim-faced Examiner didn't say anything more. He looked at Gao Neng. "Gao Neng, go to the machine next to this one and test again. The rest of you, go line up over there too."

"But we've been waiting for so long..."

"Yeah!"

"Why is our luck so bad? The machine had to break."

Although the students waiting in line were reluctant, they quickly moved over.

Gao Neng was in a great mood. He had just received a confirmation from the system for completing one "Are you a dumbass?" quest. However, he had to keep an angry expression on his face.

Because there were still two more to go.

He had to maintain his current state of fury.

"It's not going to explode again, is it? If it does... I'm going to start cussing people out!" Gao Neng put on a full display of his innocence, laying the groundwork for what was to come.

"They don't explode that easily. What happened just now was a total accident!" the other Examiner said with a chuckle, signaling for Gao Neng to go ahead and start the test.

Gao Neng didn't stand on ceremony.

He was brimming with confidence. With Gao Xiaomeng around, it was definitely going to explode again.

'Five more fish,' Gao Neng thought, giving what he considered a friendly smile to Gao Xiaomeng, who was perched on his shoulder, as he reached out his hands.

"Meow, meow, meow..." Gao Xiaomeng kept up her adorable act.

As for the students behind him, they all instinctively took a few steps back.

"Go ahead," the Examiner said, patting the testing machine with a confident look.

"Alright." Gao Neng immediately thrust his hands inside. Then, just like before, he focused his thoughts with all his might on sucking everything out of it.

BOOM!

The entire testing machine began to shake again.

In just an instant, the numbers on the machine's display started to spin wildly, all sorts of figures appearing once more. The situation was identical to the last time.

Iron 60%...

Copper 60%...

Tin 60%...

Silver 60%, Gold 60%, Phosphorus 60%, Sulfur 60%, Silicon 60%...

"Oh no, it's gonna blow again!" someone shrieked.

The high school girl who had caught Gao Neng earlier instantly dashed behind him.

Then came a loud BOOM!

Sparks of electricity danced across the machine.

Gao Neng was once again sent staggering backward from the shockwave.

SMACK!

He fell right into the high school girl's arms again.

"Senior Gao Neng! Senior Gao Neng, are you okay?!" The girl's worried expression looked completely genuine as her hands once again clutched him tightly to her chest.

...

A dead silence fell.

The Examiner who had been smiling just a moment ago was frozen in shock.

As for the grim-faced Examiner, his expression grew even darker...

Meanwhile, the surrounding students just stared at each other with the strangest looks on their faces. Blowing up two machines in a row... that was seriously badass!

'A coincidence?!'

'If this is a fucking coincidence, I'll eat my own shit!'

"AHH! Let me go!" Gao Neng yelled, springing away and rushing right up to the stunned Examiner. "You said it wouldn't explode?! How dare you tell me this wasn't premeditated! Are you a dumbass?! I'm going to file a complaint against you all... You must be in league with Wang Ju!"

"..." The stunned Examiner's face darkened once again.

And it wasn't just him.

The other Examiners' faces were just as dark. Every one of them had a bizarre expression, staring at Gao Neng as if he were a monster.

'What the hell?'

'It blows up the moment he tests? These machines are super expensive!'

"Gao Neng, stop making a scene. There's something fishy about this. Did you tamper with the machine?" one of the Examiners finally said, unable to watch any longer.

"Me, tamper with it? I followed the standard procedure for the test. You were all standing right here watching. How could I have tampered with it? You're trying to frame me!" Naturally, Gao Neng couldn't admit to anything.

"..." All the Examiners fell silent.

Just as Gao Neng had said, they were the ones operating the machines. All Gao Neng did was stick his hands inside; he hadn't done anything else.

But the machines had, in fact, exploded...

And two of them, in a row.

The whole affair was simply too bizarre.

"How about this? I'll test one last time. You can all inspect everything carefully and see for yourselves if I'm tampering with anything," Gao Neng suggested, an idea sparking in his mind.

'Just one more test.'

'And my plan will be a perfect success.'

"Test again?" The Examiners exchanged glances but said nothing. After all, they were already short on machines for this test, and now two had been destroyed.

If another one blew up...

The consequences were unthinkable.

"Is there another possibility? What if Gao Neng's hidden talent is too high, over 60%, and it caused the machines to malfunction?" one Examiner tentatively suggested.

"Under normal circumstances, if a talent value exceeds 60%, the machine is supposed to give an audio prompt. But these just blew up... That shouldn't happen, right?" another Examiner chimed in.

"It shouldn't, but we can't completely rule out that possibility..." The other Examiners weren't so sure.

Gao Neng was confused.

'Hidden talent over 60%? What does that mean?'

"It's like this: these machines can only accurately measure hidden talent values below 60%. If it exceeds 60%, you need to use an intermediate-level testing machine," one of the Examiners explained, noticing Gao Neng's confused expression.

'So that's how it is...' Gao Neng was starting to understand. No wonder the numbers on the display only went up to 60% before the machines exploded.

'So after all this time...'

'There are intermediate-level testing machines?'

Then came the question: was the explosion of those two machines Gao Xiaomeng's doing, or did they truly malfunction because his hidden talent was too high?

Gao Neng, who had been so certain just a moment ago, was suddenly a little unsure.

Just as he was pondering this, a figure appeared in the distance.

Lieutenant Chen.

...

"Ahem!" Lieutenant Chen cleared his throat twice, pointedly. He hadn't planned on revealing himself, but given the current situation, he had no choice.

"Lieutenant Chen!" The Examiners immediately snapped to a military salute.

"I recall we brought two spare intermediate-level testing machines when we came, correct?" Lieutenant Chen asked calmly.

"Yes, sir."

"Good. Then let's use an intermediate machine for one more test." Lieutenant Chen nodded, then his gaze shifted to Gao Neng. "Gao Neng, that's a very cute cat on your shoulder."

"Yeah... but she doesn't like being held by other people." Looking into Lieutenant Chen's eyes, Gao Neng felt a strange sense of unease.

"That's alright. Just holding her for a little while won't be a problem." Lieutenant Chen gave a brilliant smile, then shot a meaningful look at the Examiner standing before him.

How could the Examiner not understand Lieutenant Chen's meaning?

He understood at once.

"Gao Neng, to prove you haven't tampered with the machines, we'll need to temporarily quarantine your cat. No problem with that, right?" the Examiner asked, also flashing a brilliant smile.

'Ginger is spiciest when it's old!'

'Why didn't I think that the cat might be the problem?'

Chapter 63: The Vast Sea of Stars

"There is—" Gao Neng was about to say there was a problem, but Gao Xiaomeng had already leaped from his shoulder and, with a WHOOSH, scampered away.

"..."

"Oh no, the cat ran off!"

A cry of alarm rang out.

"Give me back my cat!"

"It won't get far. The training base is only so big," Lieutenant Chen said, his smile growing even wider. "Once you finish your test, we'll naturally return the cat to you."

Gao Neng's expression finally darkened.

It was even darker than the Examiners' faces had been earlier.

'Did I take it too far?'

'Without Gao Xiaomeng, can I still make this machine explode?'

Gao Neng said nothing.

Not far away, a few people had already brought over two intermediate-level testing machines. They lined them up and began to inspect them carefully.

"Lieutenant Chen, inspection complete! No problems. This one absolutely will not explode!" the soldier in charge of the inspection reported after finishing.

"Alright, Gao Neng, hurry up and test on the machine on the right. If you really have a talent over 60%, then congratulations are in order." Lieutenant Chen was personally overseeing this one, full of confidence.

'...' Gao Neng really wanted to say that of course he knew his hidden talents were over 60%. 'In fact, they aren't just over 60%, they're all 100%! If the machine actually measured that, it would scare you to death.'

'But the problem is...'

'Can I really say that?'

'Yes!'

"What 60%? My hidden talents are way over 60%! Is this machine of yours even going to work? If it explodes again, I'm going to lose it!" Gao Neng retorted, then strode toward the intermediate-level testing machine.

"Explode again? Heh..." The Examiners all shook their heads.

Lieutenant Chen was also smiling.

'Could his bragging be any more ridiculous?'

'He admitted Gao Neng was a genius, but if Gao Neng's talent could actually overload and blow up this machine too, he, Lieutenant Chen, would eat shit on the spot.'

"Gao Neng, I'll administer the test myself this time!" Lieutenant Chen followed Gao Neng to the machine and pointed at the array of precision instruments on it. "This intermediate-level testing machine can measure hidden talents between 60% and 80%. Even if one of your talents really exceeds 80%, it's not a problem."

"Not a problem even if it goes over?" Gao Neng felt a slight chill.

"Of course not. I can tell you with absolute certainty that it won't be a problem. Besides... this machine has a story," Lieutenant Chen said, patting his chest.

"A machine with a story?" Gao Neng was puzzled. He'd heard of people having stories, but he'd never heard of a testing machine having one.

"Mm, there's no harm in telling you. This machine once tested someone you know."

"Someone I know? Shen Ning'Er?"

"That's right. The first time Major Shen tested her talents, she used this very machine in front of you. Her Iron talent alone exceeded 80%, and that wasn't the only one... You get what I'm saying, right? Do you really think your talents could be higher than Major Shen's?" Lieutenant Chen continued to smile.

"In that case... I really can't surpass her..." 'In truth, Gao Neng really wanted to say that his talents were just an enhanced, copied version of Shen Ning'Er's. But he knew that even if he did, Lieutenant Chen wouldn't believe him.'

'Ah, mortals!'

'They can never understand what a true genius is!'

"Heh, I'll give you that, kid. You have some self-awareness. Alright, stop dawdling and get to it. After this, I have to report back... oh, I mean, I have to tabulate the results!" Lieutenant Chen's tone shifted abruptly as he caught his slip of the tongue.

"Report back?" Gao Neng subconsciously glanced up at the surveillance camera overhead, then flashed a bright, toothy grin at it.

...

"His teeth are pretty white." In the monitoring room, Shen Ning'Er let out an unconscious smile, but then, as if sensing someone beside her, she immediately resumed her cold expression.

"..."

"Major Shen, the cat has really run far away. It doesn't look like it has any intention of turning back... Could we have been mistaken?" a soldier asked cautiously.

"We'll know if it explodes," Shen Ning'Er said coolly.

"Yes, ma'am!" The soldiers exchanged glances and said no more.

...

「Training Base, Testing Hall.」

Gao Neng had been forced in front of the intermediate-level testing machine. He had no way out and could only pray that Gao Xiaomeng was hiding in a corner somewhere nearby.

'If she can control it from my shoulder...'

'A little farther away should be fine too, right?'

"Begin, Gao Neng!" Lieutenant Chen signaled for him to start.

The surrounding candidates all turned to watch. After all, Gao Neng had truly given them a "surprise" today.

"Will he really break 60%?"

"No way!"

"He got first in the physical fitness test. If he gets first in the talent test too, wouldn't that make him a monster?"

The candidates buzzed with discussion.

In the crowd, He Haifan, Lv Guoyuan, Mao Shan, and Jin Lingling also stared with wide eyes, looking even more nervous than they had been during their own tests.

And the female high school student who had successfully caught Gao Neng in her arms twice had, as if by some strange impulse, slipped into position behind him again.

Gao Neng walked over.

He placed both hands into the intermediate testing machine. A wrapping sensation quickly enveloped them, only it was much stronger than before.

'Gao Xiaomeng, you better come through for me!' Gao Neng screamed inwardly. He then clenched his jaw and began to absorb with all his might.

BUZZ!

The intermediate testing machine trembled slightly, and the numbers on it began to rise rapidly. In just a moment, a terrifying string of numbers appeared.

Iron 60%...

Iron 75%...

Iron 80%!

Copper 80%!

Tin 80%!

Silver 80%, Gold 80%, Phosphorus 80%, Sulfur 80%, Silicon 80%...

It was almost the same as before, the only difference being that all the numbers had become 80%. Moreover, the number of energy elements displayed was still continuously increasing.

Selenium 80%!

Calcium 80%!

...

"Holy crap, what's happening?! What am I seeing... It's titanium!"

"Titanium is at 80% too!"

"And mercury... Mercury's at 80% too!"

"What is going on? What in the world is going on?!"

The candidates were completely dumbfounded.

The intermediate testing machine didn't explode right away, but the numbers on it were far too terrifying. It was like watching a horror movie.

BOOM!

As the numbers on the screen continued to increase, the intermediate testing machine's initial slight tremble finally turned into a violent shake, just like the previous machines.

"Not good! Gao Neng, let go, quick!" The smile had long vanished from Lieutenant Chen's face. He could clearly feel that the intermediate testing machine was about to give out.

But it was too late...

BOOM!

A massive explosion rang out.

Electricity arced wildly from the intermediate testing machine.

And it wasn't just electricity; even its lid and display screen went flying.

This time...

It had really exploded!

Without a doubt, Gao Neng was sent flying by the blast. He once again landed headfirst in the arms of the female high school student who was already prepared behind him.

"Senior Gao Neng! Senior Gao Neng, are you okay?!" The female high school student was on the verge of tears, clutching Gao Neng tightly and rubbing him against her chest with wild abandon.

DING! [Host detected being forcefully groped. Bonus Quest successfully triggered: "Destroy the Flower."]

[Quest Description: The path of the strong is a lonely one. Only a man who can endure solitude can become truly powerful. Go forth, young one! Reveal your ruthless side and sever the bonds that hinder your growth. Your goal is not the fleeting flowers and weeds before you, but the vast Sea of Stars!]

Chapter 64: Talent Test Results

"..." Gao Neng was speechless. He desperately wanted to curse. 'What in the starry hell? What kind of messed-up "Ruthless Flower-Destroyer" mission is this? Aren't they just asking me to kill a maiden to prove my worth?'

It was too cruel!

There was no way he would ever accept it!

"Mission Requirement: Take down 30 females. (For every 10 successfully taken down, you will be rewarded with one Junior Treasure Chest. After successfully taking down 30, you will gain a 100% chance to spin the Lucky Prize Wheel once.)"

"Mission Time Limit: 3 months."

"Penalty for failure: None."

"Do you accept?"

A series of mechanical sounds rang out again.

'There's even a Lucky Prize Wheel?' Gao Neng remembered that he'd only ever gotten one real spin so far, and he'd won the Third Set of Primary and Middle School Broadcast Calisthenics.

This mission was indeed very tempting...

And there really was no penalty whatsoever.

But asking him to hit a woman?

Was that even possible?

"Yes, I accept." Gao Neng wore a cynical expression. Then, he heard a DING, and a small notification bar appeared before him.

Ruthless Flower-Destroyer: 0/30

...

「In the monitoring room.」

Shen Ning'Er's gaze shifted from the sparking Intermediate-level testing machine to the female high school student who had thrown her arms around Gao Neng, her brow furrowed slightly.

"What is that female high school student's name?"

"..." The soldiers were stunned for a moment. Then, their eyes focused on the image on the monitor, and their expressions turned strange.

"I'll check the registration records..."

"No need." Shen Ning'Er waved her hand. "I was just asking casually. There's no need to check anymore."

"???" The soldier who was about to check the records looked confused. He subconsciously glanced at the screen, and his eyes went wide.

Because the girl had already fainted and was on the ground.

'What happened?'

The other soldiers were all silent. After all, they had seen clearly what had just happened, and it was precisely because they saw it so clearly that they couldn't speak.

If they had to say something...

They just wanted to say one thing: 'Kid, you just saved your own neck!'

...

That's right!

Gao Neng had made his move.

As the female high school student held him in a tight embrace and rubbed against him, his anger was palpable. He protested loudly and, with a sudden leap, jumped up.

And then...

He just so happened to slam his elbow into the girl's head.

"THUD!"

And the female high school student fainted.

After that, the only thing that could be heard throughout the training base was Gao Neng's furious, roaring tirade.

"Lieutenant Chen, even if you are a Lieutenant in the Alliance, I have to ask you—are you a moron?! Just tell me, are you a moron?!"

"..." Lieutenant Chen was speechless.

"Didn't you just swear on your conscience that it wouldn't explode? Then why did it explode? You tell me why!" Gao Neng shrieked at the top of his lungs.

While he was at it, he glanced at the "Ruthless Flower-Destroyer" mission log.

Ruthless Flower-Destroyer: 1/30

Nice!

'It's super easy. If it says take them down, you take them down.'

Gao Neng's face was furious, but he was actually in a great mood. It was like killing two birds with one stone.

Although taking down a female high school student made him feel a little guilty, he had been forced into it. His true nature was that of a kind, upright, pure, and wise young man.

But alas, he was stuck with a moronic system!

For the Human Alliance to gain another peerless powerhouse, to rebuild the Forgotten Land, to defend the Alliance, to protect humanity...

He truly had no other choice.

The path of the strong could not be completely without "sacrifices." The only thing he could do now was to wait until he became a true powerhouse and give this female high school student ten thousand Alliance Coins...

Oh, wait, no—a signed photo as compensation.

Was that stingy?

Not at all!

He, Gao Neng, was a man destined to conquer the Sea of Stars in the future. Wouldn't one of his autographed photos be worth millions of Alliance Coins?

Getting knocked out once to earn a million Alliance Coins—that wasn't a bad deal at all.

Gao Neng waited for the treasure chest reward to drop from the sky.

Because, according to the mission, he had already done everything he was supposed to do.

But the treasure chest...

...did not appear.

'What's going on?'

'Did I not curse him out enough?'

"Hey, Lieutenant Chen, why aren't you talking? I'm asking you a question! Are you a moron?! Are you a moron? Are you a moron?" Gao Neng decided to give it another try.

"That's enough!" Lieutenant Chen's face was so dark it looked like it could bleed.

He was a decorated Alliance Lieutenant, yet he was being called a moron to his face by a student taking the college entrance exam? And he'd been called that a good four or five times in a row?

He couldn't take it anymore!

Silence fell...

Throughout the entire training base, not even the sound of heavy breathing could be heard.

There was only a single sound from far away.

"Meow..."

...

"Gao Neng, come clean. What tricks did you pull?!" After about a minute of silence, Lieutenant Chen's expression finally returned to normal.

"???" Gao Neng blinked, his face a mask of innocence.

But in reality, the thing he most wanted to know was why his treasure chest hadn't arrived yet. 'Could it be that the mission isn't complete?'

"You really didn't do anything?" Lieutenant Chen's chest heaved.

"What do you think? Should I test again...? Isn't there one Intermediate-level testing machine left? I don't think it'll explode this time," Gao Neng suggested after a moment's thought.

"You dare!" Lieutenant Chen was practically roaring. 'Test again? We've already blown up three of the damn things. If we keep testing, how is anyone supposed to finish the college entrance exam?'

"So, no more tests? What do we do now?" Gao Neng waved his hands.

"Right... what do we do?" Lieutenant Chen's lips trembled. He really couldn't think of what to do. If they tested him... it would explode. If they didn't... he wouldn't have a score.

"BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ!"

Just then, Lieutenant Chen's body twitched.

He pulled a phone from his waist, glanced at it, and his expression immediately became respectful as he stepped to the side.

"Yes!"

"Understood..."

"But will this really be okay? I'm worried about the follow-up inspection from the Military Department. What if the talent's name is wrong? That's..."

"Alright!"

"Yes, I understand!"

A moment later, Lieutenant Chen walked back.

However, when his gaze fell on Gao Neng again, his eyes held a complex look, as if he were staring at a monster.

"Your results are in."

"They're in?" Gao Neng was stunned. 'They're in just from a phone call?'

The other students all looked at each other, their faces filled with confusion and curiosity about what Gao Neng's results were.

"Yes. Although the Intermediate-level testing machine exploded, it was actually connected to a central computer system, which has already outputted the test results," Lieutenant Chen said, nodding seriously.

"It's connected to a central computer system?"

"Oh, so that's how it is!"

"The inventions of the City of Hope are truly great!"

Hearing this, the group of students all nodded.

Only He Haifan, Lv Guoyuan, and Mao Shan had strange expressions, because they had all noticed the faint glint that flashed through Lieutenant Chen's eyes.

Gao Neng was also finding it hard to believe.

However, he still felt a little nervous. 'Could it be... the real reason the mission isn't complete is that my hidden talent has been exposed?'

Just as he was thinking this, Lieutenant Chen arrived in front of him.

"Gao Neng, you must remember, no matter how great a person's talent is, if they don't work hard and instead become lazy, they can never become a true powerhouse!" Lieutenant Chen said earnestly.

"Understood," Gao Neng replied with a serious nod.

"Alright. Your talents are excellent. Iron Talent 91%, Copper Talent 88%, Tin Talent 86%!" Lieutenant Chen announced loudly after seeing Gao Neng nod.

"..."

A moment of silence.

Then, an uproar.

The crowd went wild.

"91% Iron Talent!"

"And 88% Copper Talent, 86% Tin Talent... My God, what level is that?! I've never heard of anyone's talents being so high!"

"Gao Neng is so handsome!"

Shrieks, gasps, and shocked cries filled the testing base.

Meanwhile, He Haifan, Lv Guoyuan, and Mao Shan were completely dumbfounded, the three of them frozen as if they had been struck by lightning.

'Isn't that too much of an exaggeration?!'

'To have three talents all above 80%'

'No wonder the machines exploded!'

"I'm not finished!" Just as everyone was reeling from the shock, Lieutenant Chen suddenly spoke again, his gaze sweeping over the crowd.

"..."

"He's not finished?"

"What does that mean?"

The students quieted down, but their faces were filled with utter confusion.

Gao Neng also didn't quite understand what Lieutenant Chen was trying to do. The moment he heard those numbers, he knew they were fake. 'They're all f-ing fake!'

'So, since they're fake...'

'...what game is he playing now?'

"That's right, I'm not finished. Gao Neng's true hidden talents don't just include three above 80%, but a total of five above 80%!" Lieutenant Chen announced.

Chapter 65: Mission: I Am the Overlord

"Five abilities!!!"

"What?! He actually has five!"

"Oh my god... I've never heard of anyone having five talents over 80%. What does that even mean? Is he a monster?!"

If the students were shocked before...

...then now, they were truly dumbfounded.

Born in the Forgotten Land, they truly couldn't imagine that the halo of talents above a person's head could actually number as high as five—and all of them over 80% at that.

Despair. This was true despair.

How could one person be so outstanding? Perfect looks, top-tier academic scores, first place in the physical fitness test, and now even his talents were exaggerated to the point of five abilities over 80%?

How could anyone compare!

There was no comparison at all!

"Five abilities?" Gao Neng was actually a little surprised himself. His expression grew even more peculiar. He really hadn't expected Shen Ning'Er to peg him with five talents over 80%.

Lieutenant Chen's gaze fell on Gao Neng. He didn't see much elation on Gao Neng's face, which surprised him somewhat.

'Could this kid's mental fortitude be this strong?'

'A will as firm as a rock, like in the legends?'

'What a talent!'

'No wonder even Major Shen is so... toward him...'

Ahem!

Lieutenant Chen coughed forcefully twice, and his gaze softened. "Five hidden talents exceeding 80%... This can be considered joyous news for the Alliance.

Therefore, to protect you, your remaining two talents will not be announced publicly."

"You're not announcing them?" Gao Neng looked at Lieutenant Chen calmly.

"That's right, we're not. However, they will be given to you in a sealed envelope so that you'll know them yourself. Understand?" Lieutenant Chen said calmly.

"Understood!" Gao Neng replied loudly.

"Ahem... As long as you understand. No need to be so loud. Go to the lounge and rest for a bit. Someone will bring you the envelope shortly." Lieutenant Chen rubbed his ears.

"Alright!" Gao Neng shouted once more before making a beeline for the lounge. He was genuinely curious to see what other two talents Shen Ning'Er would tack on for him.

...

In the lounge.

Gao Neng waited quietly, rocking back and forth.

Outside, however, Li Qingping and several teachers from Third Senior High School were as anxious as ants on a hot pan, their faces flushed red.

Five talents over 80%!

If they hadn't heard it with their own ears, they wouldn't have believed it. And on top of that, his physical fitness test results: 725 points of explosive power, a 6.5-second 100-meter dash, and 20 minutes of endurance!

If that's not a genius...

...then you tell me what is!

Third Senior High School has produced a super genius! Once this news gets out, it will absolutely shake the Forgotten Land. Even people in the City of Hope would be astonished to hear it, right?

"Why haven't the results been delivered yet..." Li Qingping muttered, wringing his hands as he paced back and forth in front of the lounge.

"They're here, they're here, Principal! The results are here!" one of the teachers exclaimed.

"Hm?! They really are here!" Li Qingping looked over and saw a soldier in the distance walking toward the lounge, holding a sealed envelope.

"Hello, Principal Li," the soldier greeted him.

"Are these Gao Neng's final results?" Li Qingping was overcome with excitement.

"Yes, they are. But I can't show them to you just yet, Principal Li. The orders from above are to let Gao Neng see them first, then he can decide whether or not to make them public," the soldier replied with a nod.

"I understand, I understand! It's for his protection, I get it!" Li Qingping immediately stepped aside and pointed to the lounge. "Gao Neng is right inside. I've sent everyone else away. He's the only one in there. It's quiet, completely confidential!"

"Heh... Principal Li, you're truly a model public servant!" The soldier chuckled, then walked briskly inside with the envelope. He immediately spotted Gao Neng rocking in his chair.

Gao Neng, of course, also saw the soldier enter.

However, he wasn't excited. His expression was placid, and he even felt a little like laughing. He completely lacked the typical anticipation of someone about to see their report card and grin from ear to ear.

"Student Gao Neng, you're quite composed. This is the first time I've seen someone remain so calm after getting such excellent talent test results," the soldier quipped.

"Yes, I am indeed very composed," Gao Neng replied with a serious nod.

"..." The soldier was taken aback for a moment. 'This guy isn't being modest at all, is he?' After a brief pause, he handed the envelope to Gao Neng and turned his back. "Give it back to me after you're done reading."

"I have to give it back?" Gao Neng curiously tore open the envelope. Then, his eyes slowly widened.

Because what was written on it was extremely simple.

Just three words...

You fill it!

Gao Neng stared blankly for a full five seconds before it dawned on him.

'What the hell, "You fill it"?!'

However, he already understood what Shen Ning'Er meant. She wanted him to provide his own "report card" to be submitted to her superiors.

'But is Shen Ning'Er really so sure that I have more than just three talents over 80%?'

'It seems Shen Ning'Er must have guessed something... or maybe... wait a minute, I'm not supposed to know, am I?' Gao Neng suddenly thought of a problem.

Without the system's Attribute Panel, it would be impossible for him to know the values of his hidden talents. So, what did Shen Ning'Er mean by giving him this envelope to fill out?

'Could it be...'

'I get it!'

Gao Neng quickly realized—it was the intermediate-level testing machine.

During his test, he had felt a strong sense of being enveloped. Not only that, but when he was forcefully absorbing, he could actually feel the distinct fluctuations of various 'energy elements'.

It was just that there were too many fluctuating 'energy elements', and his mind had been fixated on making the machine explode, so he hadn't paid close attention at the time.

But thinking back on it now, he was starting to understand.

'I *do* know!'

'Although I don't know the specific values, I still have a sense of which 'energy elements' were fluctuating the most intensely.'

'Shen Ning'Er provided three "reference values" in advance. Now she's letting me extrapolate from them. And if I'm not mistaken, there's a trap in here somewhere!'

Of course, not *that* kind of trap!

Gao Neng had a good guess that Shen Ning'Er was testing him. After all, for someone who could "overload" an intermediate-level testing machine to end up with only five talents over 80%...

...it just didn't seem to make much sense, no matter how you looked at it.

'Instead of announcing all five talents, she deliberately left two for me to fill in? She must want to see just how "honest" I'm willing to be with her, right?'

'In that case, I might as well be a little bit honest...'

With that thought, his pen flew across the paper.

Soon, a row of numbers appeared on the paper.

Iron 91%, Copper 88%, Tin 86%...

For these three, Gao Neng gave Shen Ning'Er plenty of face, not changing a single percentage point. He just casually added another string of them afterward.

Silver 85%, Gold 86%, Phosphorus 82%, Sulfur 83%, Silicon 85%

So as not to scare the daylights out of Shen Ning'Er...

...he was low-key and only wrote five.

Adding the ones Shen Ning'Er had announced earlier, that made a total of eight.

'That's definitely low-key enough, right!'

After writing the five, he thought for a moment more, and finally added a sentence at the very bottom of the page: "The Alliance must cultivate this talent as a top priority. My respects!"

...

The envelope was quickly returned.

Shen Ning'Er waited until the soldier had left before opening the envelope. She then saw the string of numbers on it, as well as the final sentence.

It made her initially calm expression suddenly break into a smile, like a peach blossom blooming in March.

"'My respects?' Heh, but to think he actually came clean..." Shen Ning'Er chuckled, but then her gaze turned solemn. "To actually have eight talents over 80%... that's even more impressive than I expected. Is he really only two short of my own?"

Shen Ning'Er's brow furrowed tightly, the smile gone from her face. Her fingers tapped lightly on the desktop as she twirled a pen in her hand.

'A student from the Forgotten Land with eight talents over 80%, yet no background... His strength has only just broken through the second human limit. If

this were announced now, there might be some immediate benefits, but what about when he enters the City of Hope? Can he really protect himself there?’

The tapping of Shen Ning’Er’s fingers grew faster and faster.

’Assign someone to protect him?’

’No!’

’It would be too conspicuous and would easily arouse suspicion.’

’Besides, that would turn him into a hothouse flower. Without a baptism of blood, one can never become truly strong.’

’He has to grow strong on his own!’

’Taking a step back, who could possibly protect him for his entire life?’

’Better to stick with five talents. For him at this stage, that should be the most suitable number. It’s enough to be considered a genius and attract attention, but

not so much that he'll incur the jealousy of *those people*. In terms of initial resources, even the 'Big Four' couldn't possibly ignore a genius with five talents over 80%! By the time he graduates and enters the Military Department... he should have the ability to protect himself by then!'

Thinking this, Shen Ning'Er finally stopped twirling the pen in her hand. The tip slowly descended onto the string of numbers on the envelope.

Sulfur 83%, Silicon 85%

These two numbers were quickly crossed out.

Then, the pen hesitated over Gold and Silver.

'Gold... he probably can't afford to use it. Let's just leave Silver!' Shen Ning'Er finally crossed out Gold 86%, leaving only Silver 85% and Phosphorus 82% on the envelope.

...

After Shen Ning'Er crossed out the remaining three talents, Gao Neng finally received the notification that his mission was complete.

"DING! Congratulations, Host, for completing the first trial of the ultimate mission 'Shining Red Star'—'High-Profile Luxury.' You have successfully obtained a Primary Treasure Chest. Please keep up the good work!"

"Completed?" Gao Neng's eyes lit up as he continued to rock back and forth in the lounge. He opened it casually and once again received a white Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill.

'Not bad!'

'The third human limit breakthrough is right around the corner!'

Gao Neng thought for a moment, then happily opened the mission panel to check the description for the second trial, 'I Am the Overlord'.

Chapter 66: Xiaomeng Queen, Unifying the World

"Ultimate Quest 2/5: I Am the Overlord."

"Quest Description: A true overlord doesn't just dominate their own little patch of land; they dominate the entire Alliance. From the moment you pick up your pen, 'making flowers bloom with a stroke' and 'turning stone to gold' are not enough to describe your domineering presence. You are the king of the exam hall, and no one can challenge your authority!"

"Quest Completion Requirement: Dominate the theory exam across the Human Alliance, becoming this year's top scorer in the entire Alliance's college entrance theory exam, not just in the Forgotten Land."

"???" Gao Neng was a little stunned.

He wasn't stunned because the quest was too difficult, but because it was surprisingly "normal." It completely lacked the system's usual troll-like nature.

Gao Neng had originally guessed that during his theory exam, the troll-like system might throw some curveballs at him.

For example: get first place even after burning the exam paper, or perhaps make him cheat on purpose, get caught, and then have to find a way to get out of trouble.

Why would it issue such a normal quest?

'Has the troll-like system stopped being a troll?'

'No way!'

Gao Neng thought about it carefully. As for whether this quest was difficult... it actually was a bit difficult!

The entire Alliance...

If it were just being the top scorer of the Forgotten Land's theory exam, he was more than eighty percent confident. But if it was for the entire Alliance, his confidence dropped to thirty percent at most.

After all, something like a theory exam also depended on luck. If he happened to encounter a topic he hadn't covered, it wouldn't be strange to get one or two questions wrong.

'Forget it, I won't think about it. If I can complete the quest just by becoming the top scorer... okay, it's still a bit hard. I'll review some more when I get home!'

'Wait!'

The official college entrance exams start in three days.

The theory exam papers must have already been sent over from the City of Hope, right?

So...

The exam papers are in Shen Ning'Er's hands right now!

What if he could find out the contents of the exam in advance?

Gao Neng looked up at a surveillance camera in the distance. A bold thought flashed through his mind. 'Could the hidden condition for this quest be to take down Shen Ning'Er one more time?'

...

Night gradually fell.

Because Gao Neng had consecutively blown up three testing machines, the talent test dragged on until eight o'clock at night before it finally ended.

The Military Department was very efficient.

The results of this preparatory test were announced quickly. Out of more than 1,200 applicants, only 453 managed to pass, not even 500.

A single preparatory test had eliminated nearly two-thirds of them.

Some were happy, some were sad.

Gao Neng looked at the results and could only think one thing... 'The Alliance is so crooked! Did they just pocket the one-thousand registration fee from over 800 students?'

'That's over eight hundred thousand!'

'Could it be that Shen Ning'Er is actually a shill? Deliberately giving that passionate speech to trick students into signing up?'

Gao Neng didn't dwell on it.

The principals of the five high schools were already organizing the students to leave in an orderly fashion.

Buses from the training base had long been waiting outside. They had different routes, all heading back to their respective schools—returning everyone from whence they came.

At 8:40 PM, Gao Neng arrived at the gate of the Third Senior High School.

After getting off the bus, Li Qingping began to take a head count.

Li Qingping was very satisfied with the results of the preparatory test. Although a large number of students had been eliminated, Third Senior High School still had 68 remaining.

This number was already higher than the number of applicants from previous years. Moreover, all these students were now eligible to take the official college entrance exams, so there was great hope.

Most importantly...

They had produced a Gao Neng!

'The goal of getting ten students from Third High admitted this year... is not just a dream!' Li Qingping grew excited internally, which made him a bit more long-winded.

After finishing the roll call, he couldn't hold back and added a few more words.

First, he comforted those who didn't pass the preparatory test. Then, he offered some words of encouragement to those who did pass. Finally, he even touched upon the school's reward policy for students who get into a Military University.

Time...

Soon, it was nine-thirty.

Li Qingping spoke with great fervor, spittle flying, while the students listened, drowsy and ready to fall asleep.

"Principal Li, my cat is missing!" Gao Neng, seeing Li Qingping get more and more worked up, finally couldn't take it anymore. He was hungry.

"Ah? A cat... what cat? Oh... you mean that cat of yours... Where did it run off to? Everyone, please help! Quickly, help Gao Neng find his cat..." Li Qingping was stunned for a moment, but then he quickly remembered that Gao Neng had indeed brought a cat with him this time.

"Find the cat?"

"Why do we have to help find the cat? I want to go home..." Fatty said, his face a mask of bewilderment.

"THWACK!"

A knuckle cracked down on Fatty's head.

"You idiot, we're finding the cat! Let's hurry and spread out, go help Gao Neng find his cat!" one student yelled, then decisively took off running.

The other students paused for a second, then they all caught on.

"Time to find the cat!"

"I'll go look too!"

"WHOOSH..."

In no time, the only ones left were Li Qingping and the bewildered Fatty.

Even Gao Neng had gone off to "find the cat."

"Aren't you going to find the cat?" Li Qingping asked, looking at Fatty with a faint smile playing on his lips.

"I want to go home... I'm so hungry. Principal, I don't want to look for the cat," Fatty said, rubbing his stomach, his expression so miserable it looked like he was about to cry.

"Sigh, your intelligence is worrying," Li Qingping said, shaking his head. He then turned and left, leaving Fatty standing alone in the cold wind.

...

Gao Xiaomeng was really missing!

But Gao Neng wasn't worried in the slightest. He even felt a little like laughing. It was a good thing Gao Xiaomeng had disappeared; otherwise, he would have had to stand in the wind listening to Li Qingping for at least another half hour.

「The Forgotten Land.」

The largest garbage factory.

The workers here had already clocked out long ago, but the place was now even livelier than when they were on duty. The number of stray cats gathered here had reached over three thousand.

"MEOW!"

"MEOW MEOW MEOW..."

"MROW!"

All sorts of cat cries rose and fell in succession.

Tonight, the garbage factory was destined to be anything but peaceful.

In the very center of the more than three thousand cats stood nine cats of varying appearances. They each had a different demeanor: some fierce, some one-eyed, some huge, some alluring...

They were waiting for a cat daring enough to challenge their authority to appear.

And just at that moment...

A silver flash leaped down from high above, landing steadily on the ground and kicking up a ring of gray dust.

"MEOW!"

"MEOW MEOW MEOW!"

"..."

There were cheers, there was fury, there were taunts, and there was excitement.

"Tonight is the night that I, the Xiaomeng Queen, shall unite the Forgotten Land!" Gao Xiaomeng declared, rising to stand on her hind legs, issuing her vow to become king.

In her right paw, she held a black iron hammer, and in her left, a silver wrench.

But the most terrifying thing was what was under her feet.

She was actually standing on a small wooden stool!

(To all you handsome guys and beautiful ladies, you are truly handsome and beautiful!!)

Chapter 67: Stool Skill or Ruthless Hammer

"Meow!"

Nine cats, each with a different expression, all cried out. They had all heard a rumor about a cat that could speak human language. At first, they didn't believe it.

Now, they did!

This stirred up mixed feelings among them.

Who would go first...

...became the question.

After all, this silver cat before them looked fierce. Was it actually holding a hammer and a wrench?!

"Stop dawdling! All nine of you, come at me at once! If I win, I'm the Cat King, and if you lose, you're my subjects. Hurry it up! I, your Xiaomeng Queen, am in a rush to get home for dinner!" Gao Xiaomeng spread her front paws, one forward and one back, striking a pose. She then planted a hind paw on a stool, her expression exceedingly arrogant.

"Meow!"

The nine cats exchanged a look, then charged forward as one.

"Take this! Stool Skill!" The moment the first cat rushed over, a smile touched the corners of Gao Xiaomeng's eyes. She didn't use the hammer and wrench in her front paws. Instead, she used her hind paw to viciously flick the stool upwards.

"Meow!"

Watching the stool fly toward it, the first cat was horrified. It had anticipated that Gao Xiaomeng would use her hammer, but it never expected that the stool under her paw was the truly fatal weapon.

"BAM!"

Unable to dodge in time, the first cat was sent flying into the air by the stool.

Gao Xiaomeng, as light as a swallow, leaped powerfully. She actually used the mid-air stool as a springboard to launch herself up again, bringing the hammer in her right paw down on the airborne cat's head.

"THUD!"

A muffled sound rang out.

The first cat fell to the ground.

"Meow!"

The entire audience was stunned.

Gao Xiaomeng, however, landed back on the ground by stepping on her little stool. She returned to her original pose: hammer in her right paw, wrench in her left, with one paw still on the stool.

The remaining eight cats were frozen in place. It was too fast, too incredible. The hammer and wrench were just a follow-up; the little stool was her real trump card.

Gao Xiaomeng completely ignored the expressions on the eight cats, looking at them with contempt, as if they were nothing more than ants.

"You common cats will never understand the meaning of the four words 'the loneliness of the master.' I, your Xiaomeng Queen, don't just plan on becoming the Cat King of you strays. I will become a god among cats!" Gao Xiaomeng spoke again.

"Meow!"

"Meow!"

The eight cats were enraged.

They scattered in all directions, then swarmed her.

But Gao Xiaomeng remained completely unfazed, swinging the hammer in her right paw like a whirlwind while her left paw used the wrench to make unexpected moves.

The most terrifying thing, however, was the little stool under her paw.

Because you could never know when Gao Xiaomeng would use her Stool Skill again. At this moment, that tiny stool weighed on the eight cats' minds like a great mountain.

The eight cats' gazes were all vaguely focused on the little stool.

And then...

"THUD!"

Another cat was hammered to the ground.

Next, the seven remaining cats grew furious. They stopped paying attention to the stool and refocused on the hammer.

And then...

The Stool Skill appeared once more.

"WHAM!"

The wind-whipped little stool spun relentlessly in the air as Gao Xiaomeng leaped again, repeating the exact same move she used to knock out the first cat.

"THUD!"

One swing of the hammer.

And the seven cats became six.

This time, all the surrounding cats were utterly shocked. They had never imagined that such a powerful cat existed in this world—one who could fight nine opponents at once without losing a single hair.

"Meeeoow!!!" Gao Xiaomeng let out a victorious cry.

The remaining six cats involuntarily took a step back. When they looked at Gao Xiaomeng now, fear had already taken root in their hearts.

'What a terrifying cat!'

'What a terrifying Stool Skill!'

They stopped, not daring to advance, but they were still unwilling to concede.

After a moment's hesitation, they all exchanged a look and charged forward again. For the honor of the Cat King title, they had to give it their all against Gao Xiaomeng.

The great battle...

...raged on.

...

「Meanwhile, on Gao Neng's way home.」

He, too, witnessed a great battle.

Three men in black, wearing clown masks, were ganging up on a "helpless girl" in a girls' high school uniform. What's more, he knew this helpless girl.

It was none other than his fellow student from the girls' high school, Jin Lingling.

However, the Jin Lingling of this moment was a weeping mess, with none of the youthful bravado she had at the training base. Tears streamed from her big, wide eyes.

She struggled, sobbing.

She continuously screamed "Help, help, help..." in Gao Neng's direction.

Her school uniform was torn, revealing patches of snow-white skin.

The three men in clown masks, each holding a short dagger, were constantly slashing at Jin Lingling's body.

Jin Lingling's clothes were being cut to ribbons.

But miraculously...

...only her clothes were being torn.

"..." Gao Neng stared blankly at the "battle" before him. He was suddenly reminded of Shen Ning'Er pretending to be a psycho. The difference between their performances was like night and day.

'Such clumsy acting...'

'Even without the Eye of Deprivation, anyone could see through this at a glance, right?'

Gao Neng sighed. He had already seen the faces hidden beneath the three clown masks. If he remembered correctly, those three were also students from the girls' high school.

Time remaining on Eye of Deprivation: 1 day.

'Is this really all it's going to show me?'

'It seems...'

'...that renewing this Eye of Deprivation skill isn't really worth it.'

Just as he was thinking this, a fifth person suddenly appeared before him. It was a hunched-over old woman carrying a large black cloth sack on the night street.

"M-mugging..." The old woman seemed to have been frightened by the "battle" before her. She fell onto her butt, even dropping the trash-picking stick from her hand.

Gao Neng subconsciously moved to help her up.

He wasn't afraid of being extorted.

Because he was completely broke.

But he quickly saw another face on the old woman. It was an incredibly enchanting face, full of amorous charm.

Most importantly, he also saw a pair of pointed ears hidden under the old woman's wig.

'It's her?!' Gao Neng was shocked. He recognized this woman. After the Dream Toy Factory was destroyed, he had once seen her using his Spiritual Power.

It was by following her footsteps that he had found the underground factory.

He had always thought that this woman, like Wang Ju, had died in the underground factory. He never expected her to still be alive.

'What is this woman trying to do?'

Gao Neng didn't dwell on it.

Because Jin Lingling was already running toward him, screaming. Behind her followed three "thugs" in clown masks, moving at a pace that was neither fast nor slow.

"Gao Neng... help me!" Jin Lingling looked utterly wretched, a complete mess of tears. If her acting weren't so terrible, one might actually feel some sympathy for her.

'Sigh, why does everyone insist on serving themselves up on a silver platter? I just accepted a quest to be ruthless to a fair maiden, too... this is such a dilemma!' Gao Neng felt helpless. He wanted to refuse, but in the end, he couldn't resist the restless urge and felt the new hammer hidden at his waist.

As for why he had a new hammer?

The answer was quite simple. The old hammer from his house had been "absorbed" by Shen Ning'Er, so he had bought a new one on his way home to replace it.

He hadn't expected...

...for such a coincidence!

(Gao Neng: Actually, what's even more of a coincidence is that today is the super-handsome Xin Yi's birthday! How exciting! In that case... let's release this Chapter early!)

Chapter 68: One Hammer per Crybaby

One hammer per crybaby!

Gao Neng watched Jin Lingling get closer and closer, the impulse in his heart growing stronger.

'Should I take down Jin Lingling and the three high school thugs first? Then go take down that old lady in makeup? If I do that, I'll have a five-kill count.'

'Wait!'

'Something doesn't seem right...'

'I have no idea what that pointy-eared woman's power level is. What if I fight her head-on... and can't win? It wouldn't just be me in danger; Jin Lingling and these crybabies would probably die here too.'

'One guy and four girls!'

"Help me... Classmate Gao Neng!" Jin Lingling had already lunged in front of Gao Neng. At the same time, her foot conveniently slipped, and her body went limp as she collapsed before him.

This fall was so...

'Fake!'

Gao Neng fought the urge to bring his hammer down on her. He took a deep breath. "Halt, you three vicious thugs! Have you no decency? Can't you see you've scared an innocent old grandma so much she's fallen over? Can't you at least help the grandma up before you continue your mugging?!"

"???"

The three high school thugs were a bit slow to react.

According to a normal script, what Gao Neng should be yelling right now was:
"Hey! Bullying a good girl in broad daylight, do you have a death wish?"

Then, they would follow up with: "Get out of the way, kid, or we'll make you wish you were dead."

Finally, they would symbolically get into a small scuffle with Gao Neng, throw a punch, and then immediately run for it, leaving behind the line: "The green mountains remain, the clear water flows forever."

'But what kind of line is this?'

'Help the innocent old grandma first?'

'The lines are all wrong, it's hard for us to follow up!'

The three high school thugs exchanged glances. Then, their gazes subconsciously drifted to the fallen old grandma not far away. For a moment, they were actually a little conflicted.

'She does look pretty innocent...'

'Classmate Gao Neng isn't just handsome, he's also really kind-hearted.'

'Maybe we should help her up first?'

One of the high school thugs started to move, but she was quickly pulled back by the one in the middle, who then shot her a fierce glare.

This made the other girl who had been about to help clench her teeth.

'Those who achieve great things don't sweat the small stuff!'

'For Principal Xue of the Girls' High School to successfully become the chairman of the Supervisory Committee, a small sacrifice is worth it.' So, they prepared to forcibly pull the plot back on track.

"Stinky kid, let go of that beautiful and cute girl, we... huh?!"

Before the three high school students could finish, they saw that Gao Neng had already walked around the fallen Jin Lingling and was striding over to the old grandma who had fallen on the ground.

"..." The three high school students were dumbfounded.

'How are we supposed to continue this act?'

'Jin Lingling is right in front of us, completely exposed. Are we supposed to go rip her clothes? Or help the old grandma with Gao Neng?'

Just as they were thinking this, they saw Jin Lingling glare fiercely at them, then point her finger at Gao Neng, who was standing by the old grandma.

"Gao... wait, no, stinky kid, let go of that innocent old grandma right now!" one of the high school students instantly reacted and shouted.

"Are you a f*cking idiot?" Another high school student, furious at her incompetence, kicked the one who had spoken right in the butt. Then, she cleared her throat. "Stinky kid, if you want to save this beautiful and cute girl, then show us what you're really made of!"

"Yeah, our boss is right! Stinky kid, get over here!" The last one nodded and pointed a finger at Gao Neng.

After they finished speaking, the three high school students even remembered to wink at Jin Lingling.

The meaning was obvious...

'We're doing a great job acting, right?'

"..." Jin Lingling's face darkened, but she couldn't say anything. Helpless, she could only force herself to get up and run toward Gao Neng again. "Senior Gao Neng, save me!"

Gao Neng's face had also darkened.

'Could this acting be any faker?'

Still, he could understand. The girls' high school was a closed-off campus, with students attending from middle school all the way through high school. It was safe to say they rarely went out.

'Forget it.'

'Time to show them what real acting is.'

Gao Neng ignored Jin Lingling running up from behind him. He reached out his left hand and placed it on the pointy-eared woman's shoulder, a look of sincere concern on his face. "Grandma, are you hurt?"

"N-no... Young man, you're truly kind..." The pointy-eared woman shook her head and tried to stand up on her own, but she found her shoulder was being held down by Gao Neng.

She tried.

She couldn't get up.

"Grandma, don't move. Let me check you for injuries. Our teacher said that the older you get, the more brittle your bones become, and it's easy to fracture them... If you're really hurt, I'll take you to the hospital," Gao Neng said kindly, all while holding the pointy-eared woman down.

"Check me? Oh... you're so considerate, young man. I feel like my back... something's not quite right. It hurts a little here... Young man, could you take a look for me?" The pointy-eared woman's eyes narrowed. She then put on an amiable smile, pointing to her lower back with one hand while the other casually rested on her chest.

There, a cold dagger was hidden. As soon as Gao Neng turned his back to check her, that dagger could instantly take his life.

"Your back? Okay, I'll take a look for you right now!" Gao Neng looked down, pressed down hard with his left hand, and simultaneously, his right hand swiftly pulled out the hammer hidden behind his back.

The gleaming hammer was heavy and solid.

He didn't hesitate.

He raised the hammer straight up.

Under the moonlight, Gao Neng held the pointy-eared woman's shoulder with one hand and raised the hammer high with the other, looking as mighty and magnificent as a descending "Hammer God." He was certain that if this hammer struck the back of the woman's head, she would be knocked out cold on the spot.

However, this action of his gave the approaching Jin Lingling a huge fright.

"Ah... a hammer?!"

"Hmm?!" The pointy-eared woman's expression changed. The dagger at her chest was drawn in a flash. She had originally planned to strike when Gao Neng went to check her back, but now there was no time for hesitation.

'Damn it!'

The pointy-eared woman instinctively tried to stab Gao Neng's chest, but her shoulder was pinned firmly down. In this situation, she couldn't get up at all.

'No other way!'

She had to settle for the next best thing and chose to stab at Gao Neng's thigh.

"A dagger?" Gao Neng was also startled. He had suspected there was something wrong with the pointy-eared woman, but he hadn't expected her to actually be after him.

Fortunately, he had been prepared. Seeing the dagger lunge toward him, he immediately used the force of his left hand pressing on the woman's shoulder to propel himself behind her.

"Die!"

His position had changed.

Although Gao Neng's hammer could no longer hit the back of her head, a blow coming down from above was still not something she could withstand.

"YOOO!!!" At that moment, a strange, bird-like shriek came from the pointy-eared woman's mouth, but it carried a soul-shaking impact.

Gao Neng was rattled by the cry.

'It's a little uncomfortable.'

However, he wasn't greatly affected.

The hammer in his hand only paused for a moment before continuing its downward swing.

"THUD!"

A muffled sound rang out.

With this blow, Gao Neng had aimed for the top of the pointy-eared woman's head, but her reaction was simply too fast. At the last second, she forcibly tilted her head to the side.

As a result, the hammer grazed past her ear and slammed into her shoulder.

But even so...

The pointy-eared woman was still knocked to the ground by the blow.

"A miss?!" Gao Neng really wanted to land another blow, but the instant the pointy-eared woman hit the ground, she assumed a defensive posture.

She propped herself up with both hands and kicked both legs straight at him.

'So agile!'

Gao Neng had no choice but to retreat.

One could say that they had separated as quickly as they had clashed.

The scene unfolded in a flash.

Jin Lingling and the three high school students were completely stunned. They hadn't even understood what had just happened.

"Classmate Gao Neng, why did you..."

"Alien! She's an alien! Run!" Gao Neng had no time to blame Jin Lingling now. He shouted immediately because he could already tell that this pointy-eared woman was extremely strong. He was no match for her, and Jin Lingling and the others stood even less of a chance.

"What?!"

"A-Alien?!"

"How could this old grandma be an alien? She doesn't look like one to me... huh?"

Jin Lingling couldn't process it, and neither could the other three high school students.

But at that moment, the pointy-eared woman moved again. She pushed off the ground with both feet and shot forward, hugging the ground. In the blink of an eye, she was in front of Jin Lingling.

"Ah!"

Jin Lingling tried to dodge.

But the pointy-eared woman was too fast; she subdued her in an instant.

"Wh-what do you want?! This is human territory..." Jin Lingling panicked. She didn't want to die; she still had her whole bright future ahead of her.

I Can Control Resources

"Jin Lingling!" Gao Neng's scalp tingled with fear. The pointed-ear woman was too strong, even faster than him. She had grabbed Jin Lingling in an instant.

'He didn't have any particular feelings for Jin Lingling...'

But if he didn't save her, Jin Lingling would surely die.

Because just as Jin Lingling screamed, the pointed-ear woman had already raised her dagger.

"Don't kill her! If you've got a problem, come for me!" Gao Neng yelled, seeing that Jin Lingling was about to be killed. He prepared to rush over and save her.

A smile touched the pointed-ear woman's lips. Her dagger didn't fall right away, because she was waiting. Waiting for Gao Neng to charge over on his own. Then, her objective would be achieved.

However, Jin Lingling moved just then.

Her strength was not weak among the girls' high school students; one could even say she was top-tier. An intense sense of mortal danger made her use all her strength to slam her head backward.

BAM!

A muffled thud rang out.

The pointed-ear woman was struck in the face, and her nose throbbed with pain.

Jin Lingling seized this opportunity to flee at top speed.

"Naive!" The pointed-ear woman touched her nose, let out a soft cry, and in a flash, appeared behind Jin Lingling once more.

THUD! One kick.

And Jin Lingling was on the ground once more.

"Lowly human, die!" The pointed-ear woman kicked out repeatedly, stomping on Jin Lingling's body. Her movements were utterly savage; she clearly had no intention of holding back.

SPIT!

Jin Lingling coughed up mouthful after mouthful of blood.

Her eyes were wide—filled with weakness, powerlessness, terror, regret...

Countless thoughts flashed through her mind. She finally realized what a foolish thing she had done. She regretted it, but it was too late. All she could do was stretch out one hand, pointing down the road behind Gao Neng.

Her expression seemed to say...

Run!

"AHHH!!!"

"Is she really from an alien race?!"

"Sister Lingling... Sister Lingling, are you okay?!"

The three high school girls only snapped out of it now. They stared at Jin Lingling on the ground, their eyes filled with disbelief.

'Why aren't these three girls running yet?' Gao Neng's fists clenched. At this moment, he deeply understood the meaning of powerlessness. The pointed-ear woman was too strong. Facing an opponent like this, he was utterly helpless.

'If I rush in now, it'll be suicide. There's no other possibility.'

Soon, Jin Lingling fell unconscious on the ground.

The pointed-ear woman didn't spare the unconscious Jin Lingling another glance. She raised her dagger with one hand and with the other, pulled a slip of paper

from her clothes: "Name: Gao Neng. Talent Test: 5 attributes at 80% or higher. A pretty good genius.

I just didn't expect your soul to be so powerful as well, strong enough to resist my 'Siren Song.' It seems today's harvest will be even greater than I imagined."

'She's really after me?!' As this registered, countless thoughts instantly flashed through Gao Neng's mind.

'Should I charge in and save Jin Lingling?'

'No!'

'I'll definitely die if I go!'

'Not only would I die, but no one else here would survive, including those three other high school students.'

'That's right! She's after me... So what if I run?'

"Run! Split up!" The moment the thought occurred to him, Gao Neng turned and broke into a mad dash. His only hope was that the pointed-ear woman would chase him and abandon Jin Lingling and the remaining three high school students.

"Run?!"

"Wh... Where to..."

"Ah!"

The three high school students stared blankly for a second, then sprinted off together in one direction. And worst of all, they were running right toward Gao Neng.

"Gao Neng, save me!"

"We're students from the girls' high school! We're not thugs!"

"Save us, Gao Neng!"

The three high school girls shouted as they ran.

"..." In that moment, Gao Neng truly understood the meaning of the term "useless teammates." The high school girls were so terrified they had completely lost the ability to think straight.

"Hahaha... Is this the future of the Human Alliance?" The pointed-ear woman laughed, and with a blur of motion, she lunged toward the three high school students.

As for the unconscious Jin Lingling, she paid her no more mind.

Helpless, Gao Neng could only grit his teeth and hurl the iron hammer in his hand. "Split up! I'll lead her away! Don't follow me!"

WHOOSH!

The iron hammer whistled through the air as it hurtled toward the pointed-ear woman.

But just then, a sinister smile appeared on the pointed-ear woman's face. With a wave of her hands, the airborne hammer's trajectory shifted slightly.

THUNK!

It struck one of the high school students right on the forehead.

THUMP!

The high school student collapsed to the ground.

Gao Neng froze for a second. At the exact moment the girl fell, he saw a "+1" added to his Ruthless Flower-Destroyer mission tab.

Ruthless Flower-Destroyer: 2/30.

'Are you kidding me? That counts too?'

"Ah! I don't want to die!"

"I want to go back to school! Back to school... The principal will protect us!"

The other two high school students seemed to be startled once again by this "disaster from out of nowhere." Watching their classmate get knocked down, they finally saw the "truth."

They stopped following Gao Neng.

Instead, they screamed and ran into another alley.

"..." Gao Neng was speechless.

'Was that a blessing in disguise?'

Gao Neng didn't linger. His life was on the line. He turned and bolted.

"Trying to run? You can't escape!" The pointed-ear woman ignored the two fleeing high school girls and chased straight after Gao Neng.

...

The nights in the Forgotten Land were very dark.

Especially in the slum district, lights were a rare sight.

Fortunately, Gao Neng was quite familiar with the terrain in this area. He didn't run toward his home; instead, his mind raced, searching for a place with few people and complex enough geography.

'The trash factory!'

'That's it!'

Just like that, the place immediately came to Gao Neng's mind.

The trash factory was filled with heaps of garbage piled up like small mountains. Better yet, you could find a trash can or garbage pile to hide in at any moment.

Gao Neng didn't dare to look back.

He directly activated his Spiritual Power to observe the pointed-ear woman's position behind him.

'Too close!'

The distance between them was less than ten meters.

Moreover, the pointed-ear woman was incredibly fast. At his current speed, there was no way he could outrun her. His only choice was to start weaving like a snake.

Gao Neng ducked into a small alley.

Then, a left turn, a right turn, another left, another right...

The pointed-ear woman followed close behind, but due to her slight shoulder injury and Gao Neng's desperate, head-down sprint, the distance between them didn't shrink by much.

'This kid is pretty nimble, huh?' the pointed-ear woman cursed under her breath. Finally, she gritted her teeth, kicked off the side of the alley, and vaulted onto the roof.

"There he is!"

The pointed-ear woman quickly spotted Gao Neng's direction.

SWOOSH! SWOOSH! SWOOSH!

Her toes tapped lightly on the rooftops, propelling her forward. In less than a moment, she had taken a shortcut and landed directly in front of Gao Neng.

But just then...

Gao Neng, as if he'd already sensed her position, veered off again.

'Damn it! What's this kid's deal? He's clearly weak, but he's as slippery as a rat!' The pointed-ear woman pursued him again.

The two of them continued their game of cat and mouse, one chasing and the other fleeing.

This went on for about fifteen minutes.

Gao Neng finally plunged into the perimeter of the trash factory.

And then he found that in a central area of the trash factory, there were countless meowing stray cats. As far as the eye could see, there was a dense, motley crowd of them, at least 3,000 strong.

And, most importantly...

In the very center of that huge crowd of stray cats, he saw a familiar figure.

"Gao Xiaomeng!" Gao Neng's eyes went wide.

It was really Gao Xiaomeng.

Under the moonlight, Gao Xiaomeng held an iron hammer in her right hand and a wrench in her left. She even had one foot propped on a small stool. She looked ridiculously majestic.

Most terrifying of all, prostrated before Gao Xiaomeng were nine stray cats of various shapes and sizes.

'Is this an uprising?!

Gao Neng had never seen such a bizarre scene. For a moment, he subconsciously ran toward Gao Xiaomeng's position.

"MEOW!" A stray cat spotted Gao Neng and cried out.

"MEOW MEOW MEOW!"

"MEOW..."

The other cats seemed to have spotted this uninvited guest as well. More than 3,000 cats immediately began to meow in unison. What a magnificent spectacle it was!

"MEOW!!!" Gao Xiaomeng let out a great cry.

"..." All the stray cats fell prostrate on the ground, completely silent.

"Gao Neng, what are you doing here? Have you come to admire the heroic presence of me, the Xiaomeng Queen?" Gao Xiaomeng looked at Gao Neng, a hint of surprise in her eyes.

"Now where will you run!" Just then, the pointed-ear woman took advantage of her rooftop position and leaped down, successfully blocking Gao Neng's path at last.

"..." Gao Neng was speechless.

"Huh? You look like you're being hunted," Gao Xiaomeng spoke again.

"What do you mean 'look like'? I *am* being hunted!" Gao Neng was exasperated. He glanced at the dense crowd of stray cats surrounding them, then at the pointed-ear woman before him.

This night!

It really was anything but peaceful.

(Please vote with recommendation tickets!)

I Can Control Resources

...

My name is Gao Neng.

I'm currently surrounded by over 3,000 stray cats and a woman with pointed ears. Fortunately, these 3,000-plus strays seem to know Gao Xiaomeng pretty well.

Most importantly, Gao Xiaomeng is a freakishly smart cat.

"My subjects, charge!" Gao Xiaomeng yelled, pointing the hammer in its right paw straight at the pointed-eared woman. It had the dignified air of a mountain bandit king.

The amazing thing was...

The 3,000-plus stray cats actually attacked... oh, wait, they used their claws!

"A talking cat?" The pointed-eared woman seemed to sense that something was off, but she was merely surprised, not overly flustered.

THWACK!

A stray cat went flying from a kick.

But soon, more strays charged forward. They clawed at her face, her chest, her neck, her thighs...

The scene was absolutely stunning.

Gao Neng was genuinely dumbfounded.

A single stray cat might not be much of a fighter, but the combined might of over 3,000 of them attacking at once was truly astonishing.

At the very least, the pointed-eared woman's clothes were instantly torn to shreds.

The red, white, floral, black, and green underneath were all exposed.

It was a truly vibrant and colorful sight.

For a moment, Gao Neng couldn't even make out what all the colors represented. For example, he couldn't figure out that patch of verdant green.

"Meow!" Gao Xiaomeng looked haughty, hopping over to Gao Neng. It smoothed its whiskers with its paws, as if to say, 'Aren't I amazing?'

"You really are," Gao Neng said honestly.

But before the words were even out of his mouth, the situation took a sharp downturn. At the same time, several stray cats came flying over like cannonballs.

THUD!

THUD!

Several stray cats crashed into a pile of trash and were knocked unconscious.

The strays that had been swarming the pointed-eared woman were suddenly blasted away. They were sent flying back, one after another, and more than a dozen collapsed into pools of their own blood.

The pointed-eared woman was clearly furious.

Clutching two cold daggers in a reverse grip, she shot into the retreating pack of strays. Every sweep of her arms claimed the lives of at least one or two cats.

"MEOW!!!" Gao Xiaomeng, in a desperate fury, recklessly leaped at the pointed-eared woman, bringing the hammer in its right paw down on the woman's head.

"A mere spark, daring to contend with the sun and moon!" The pointed-eared woman leaped up and sent Gao Xiaomeng flying back again with a kick in mid-air.

THUD!

Gao Xiaomeng hit the trash pile and bounced back up like a rubber ball.

"Meow!"

Gao Xiaomeng charged forward again.

Then, it was kicked back once more.

This repeated three times.

Meanwhile, the number of dead strays on the ground kept increasing, until a good fifty or sixty lay in pools of blood.

Gao Neng clenched his jaw.

He had no direct connection to these stray cats, but they were dying because of him. And besides them, Jin Lingling had also been severely wounded by this woman.

He wasn't some bleeding-heart saint.

But he wasn't cold-blooded, either.

He had been hoping that Gao Xiaomeng might possess some superpower capable of overpowering the pointed-eared woman.

But it now seemed that aside from being highly intelligent and unusually durable, Gao Xiaomeng didn't actually have the kind of incredible powers he had imagined.

"Let me borrow this hammer!" Gao Neng picked up the hammer Gao Xiaomeng had dropped and charged straight at the pointed-eared woman.

"Humans are so ignorant! If you had taken this chance to run, I might not have been able to catch you. But since you've come to throw your life away, don't blame me for what happens next!" The pointed-eared woman snorted coldly and flashed behind Gao Neng. "Do you not understand the concept of an absolute gap in power?"

RRRIP!

A bloody gash appeared on Gao Neng's back.

That was only because he had used his Spiritual Power to lock onto her position, realized something was wrong at the last second, and forced himself into a forward roll to evade the worst of it.

Otherwise, that single blow would have been fatal.

'So strong?!' Gao Neng quickly made an assessment. This pointed-eared woman might be weaker than Shen Ning'Er, but she was definitely stronger than any of the Energy Warriors he had met before.

"Die!" The pointed-eared woman lunged at him again.

Gao Xiaomeng flashed forward and blocked her.

Then, it was sent flying by another kick.

The other strays pounced again, and a few more immediately collapsed into pools of blood.

"Meow meow meow!"

"Meeooww!"

"..."

The stray cats let out pained cries. They could also sense how powerful their opponent was, but strangely, not a single one of them turned tail and fled.

"MEEEEOOOWWW!!!" Gao Xiaomeng let out a long cry to the sky. Its silver fur stood on end, and its deep blue eyes blazed with fury.

Then, a bizarre scene unfolded.

Gao Neng suddenly felt an extremely special, yet deeply familiar, sensation coming from Gao Xiaomeng. Most importantly, the color of the cat's eyes was changing.

From deep blue to pitch black.

They were like two bottomless black holes.

WHOOSH!

Gao Xiaomeng leaped onto Gao Neng's shoulder.

At that moment, Gao Neng's Spiritual Power surged violently.

'A magnetic pile!'

Gao Neng was all too familiar with this sensation. It was just like when he had stood inside that collapsing magnetic pile. Although it felt slightly different this time, his Spiritual Power was still growing frantically, and the world before his eyes once again sharpened into focus.

Every single particle of energy was pulsing.

It was as if his eyes could see everything in existence.

"Iron!" At Gao Neng's thought, the scrap iron in the junkyard erupted like a fountain, transforming into streams of black iron energy.

"Hm?! He can control iron?" The pointed-eared woman was visibly startled. She hadn't sensed the magnetic force of an Energy Warrior coming from Gao Neng.

If that was the case, Gao Neng couldn't possibly be an Energy Warrior.

But the facts before her eyes told her otherwise...

Gao Neng wasn't just an Energy Warrior—his energy extraction range was an astounding 30 meters wide!

That was a terrifying level of ability.

Because even when Shen Ning'Er demonstrated her Energy Extraction Technique, her palm was only about 20 centimeters away from the iron ore.

Thirty meters...

'Is he a monster?!

The pointed-eared woman was shaken to her core, but this only solidified her resolve to kill Gao Neng. If a monster like this was allowed to mature, the consequences would be unthinkable.

WHOOSH!

The pointed-eared woman tried to rush Gao Neng.

But countless streams of black iron energy had already formed into javelins in mid-air, shooting toward her.

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

They rained down from the sky.

The pointed-eared woman could only dodge frantically.

But there were simply too many javelins. A ceaseless torrent of black iron energy surged forth, continuously forming new projectiles.

BAM!

A javelin struck the pointed-eared woman on the butt.

But strangely, instead of the squelching sound of a spear piercing flesh, there was just a dull thud, as if it had hit a rock.

Even so, the impact was enough to send the pointed-eared woman tumbling across the ground.

'What a tough butt!' Gao Neng's emotions were actually quite complex at the moment. He felt excited, bewildered, thrilled, and sad, all interspersed with a bit of confusion...

But at this moment, all these complex emotions coalesced into a single thought: his javelin hadn't actually managed to pierce the pointed-eared woman's butt?!

'What the hell?!'