

I CAN CONTROL RESOURCES

Chapter 81: A New Breakthrough

Of course, that was impossible.

However, Gao Neng had other methods. He could determine which way was south by examining the growth rings and the density of leaves on the trees—a method he had learned from a book.

North is up, south is down, west is left, east is right!

"This way is east!" Gao Neng quickly made his decision. He then crept forward under the cover of darkness, spreading his Spiritual Power out once again.

The fog could affect a person's line of sight.

But it didn't seem to have much of an effect on Spiritual Power.

When Gao Neng discovered this, an idea suddenly lit up in his mind. 'If I launch a sneak attack under the cover of darkness, the others will surely be defenseless, right?'

Most importantly, while this was a Virtual Battlefield, the examinees who entered were real people.

These people had all woken up at the crack of dawn, taken their written exams, and then been brought to the military training base to be immediately thrown into a high-intensity combat assessment.

It was impossible that they weren't tired.

'If my guess is right... most of the examinees probably can't hold out for long.'

However, these people definitely weren't idiots. The combat assessment was fraught with danger on all sides, so they would surely force themselves to stay awake. At the very least, holding out until midnight shouldn't be a problem.

'By that logic, the best time to strike would be after midnight.'

Once Gao Neng confirmed this, he was no longer in a hurry. He ambled along, stopping whenever he felt like it. When it was time to rest, he rested, even picking some wild fruits along the way.

「Three hours later...」

The night deepened.

In the military training base, Li Qingping, who had been looking smug just moments before, was now getting restless.

Son of a bitch!

Three hours, and he's only gotten one kill?

Is this still Gao Neng?!

Li Qingping was truly frustrated by his wasted potential. 'Is he getting too arrogant?' Meanwhile, He Haifan, who was originally in second place, was now rapidly closing the gap.

Gao Neng: 12 Points.

He Haifan: 11 Points.

"Sigh... That child, Haifan, is really something. It's just a combat assessment; there's no need to push himself so hard," Principal He Lin of First High sighed plaintively.

"Hmph!" Li Qingping tilted his head back and said nothing.

If it were possible, he really wanted to rush into the Virtual Battlefield and strangle Gao Neng right now. 'You little brat, what was it you said when you came to me for that pen?'

"It looks like Gao Neng has laid down to rest again." The principal of Fourth High shook his head helplessly. Gao Neng had spent at least half his time resting on this journey.

"He must be exhausted... After all, he used up a lot of energy earlier. Or maybe... he's conserving his strength?" By the time the principal of Second High finished, even he didn't quite believe his own words.

The exam was only a day and a half long.

Everyone was fighting for their lives. After all, the further they went, the stronger their opponents would be, and the fewer kills there would be to claim.

Even if he really was conserving his strength, he should be doing it in the middle or late stages, not right now.

"He killed another one of my Girls' High students!" Xue Jingjing wasn't concerned about anything else. The only person who had died at Gao Neng's hands in the past three hours was, once again, a student from her school.

Was this really a coincidence?!

...

「Time: Twelve o'clock midnight.」

Because Gao Neng had been moving slowly, he could already hear the clear sound of thunder behind him. Bolts of lightning ripped across the night sky, followed by booming rumbles.

'I've calculated the time. It's about time to begin.'

Although Gao Neng had been resting the whole time, he had also been constantly observing the positions of the Girls' High students. By now, he had already locked onto eight or nine of them.

He didn't delay any longer.

This was because those eight or nine Girls' High students had all basically stopped moving.

The fog in the jungle was growing thicker, severely obstructing their vision. Coupled with the creeping exhaustion, the students had all begun to hide and rest.

In a patch of tall grass.

Two Girls' High students who had teamed up were resting back-to-back.

They had been exhausted all day, and their eyes could barely stay open. Naturally, they didn't notice a flock of wild ducks waddling past them.

And then...

One of the ducks leaped into the tall grass.

"Ah! Where did this duck come from... Ah! This duck is so strong... Ouch... It hurts... No... Let go of me, ahhh..."

"Ah... Am I going to be beaten to death by a duck?!"

The miserable shrieks rang out, then quickly faded.

Gao Neng flapped his wings and walked out of the grass.

Kills: 14

Flower Destroyer: 13/30

Continue!

This midnight was destined to be anything but peaceful.

Gao Neng led his flock of duck minions, continuously launching night raids on the drowsy Girls' High students. Cries of pain and calls for help echoed ceaselessly through the jungle.

And amidst the constant screams, Gao Neng's kill count skyrocketed.

Kills: 16

Flower Destroyer: 15/30

...

Kills: 18

Flower Destroyer: 17/30

...

Kills: 19

Flower Destroyer: 18/30

...

「In the military base.」

Xue Jingjing and Li Qingping were finally wrestling with each other.

"Elder Li, I can't take it anymore! I'll fight you to the death!" As the principal of Girls' High, Xue Jingjing was naturally no weakling. With all the scratching and biting, Li Qingping was completely outmatched.

"Principal Xue... I really fucking didn't tell him! You... Ouch, what the hell... Why are you biting me? Old Lady Xue, stop biting! I, Li Qingping, have a reputation to maintain!"

"If I don't kill you today, my surname isn't Xue!"

"You think you're the only one with teeth? I have them too!"

"Ouch... You old, shameless bastard, you're actually biting back?! Fine... Let's see who's the better biter!" Xue Jingjing had truly gone mad.

She had completely disregarded her image.

Gao Neng's total kill count was now 21.

But 18 of them were students from her Girls' High. Who would believe there wasn't something fishy going on?!

Li Qingping must have ordered him to do it!

'That Gao Neng is such a kind and handsome boy. When Jin Lingling was injured, he even made a special trip to give her one thousand Alliance Coins as a get-well gift. To say that such a kind boy would hit a woman?'

She didn't believe it!

'Li Qingping must have seen that my Girls' High students were easy targets and deliberately instructed Gao Neng to avoid the First High students and specifically go after them.'

"Old Lady Xue, you just try biting me again..."

"So what if I do!"

"..."

The principals of Second High and Fourth High successfully made way, giving the two of them space.

It was midnight, and they were getting a little sleepy.

'It's a live broadcast of a fierce clash. Might as well watch while we can. Anyway, no one from the Military Department is here, so we have nothing to worry about.'

"Jingjing, if I were you, I'd kick that old lecher in the crotch!" the principal of Fourth High added, helpfully fanning the flames.

"..."

...

Gao Neng had no idea what was happening at the military base.

He only knew that his kill count had reached 21, and he had successfully completed 20 for his Flower Destroyer quest.

"DING! Congratulations, Host, for completing the second stage of Flower Destroyer. You have successfully obtained one Primary Treasure Chest."

"Four Bone Marrow Cleansing Pills!" Gao Neng was in a great mood. 'Does this mean I have a chance to break through the third human limit?'

Stay calm!

Don't get cocky!

'I wonder if I can break through if I take it here?'

Gao Neng hesitated. If he took it and couldn't break through, wouldn't that be a waste? But if he just held onto it without taking it, that also seemed like a waste...

Of course, the most important thing was that he had already discovered the tracks of an Examiner. Not far away, a Velociraptor was resting with its eyes closed.

'If I can break through the third human limit...'

'Wouldn't my chances of taking them down be much higher?'

"I'll eat one and see! Anyway, if it doesn't work, I'll still get one as a reward after this mission is over! That's enough!" After a moment of hesitation, Gao Neng ultimately did some callisthenics to recover his vitality and energy, then placed a Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill in his mouth.

It melted in his mouth.

A cool sensation!

As Gao Neng felt the Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill go down, he felt that this was a sure thing.

But soon, he realized something was wrong. His vitality was rising rapidly, but not only that, he could also feel a mysterious power from his surroundings surging toward him.

Chapter 82: The First in the World

What was going on?

Gao Neng watched as his HP and Energy values skyrocketed.

For a moment, he was a bit stunned.

According to his calculations, for the first breakthrough, one Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill added 100 HP. For the second, one pill added 50 HP.

So, normally, the third time should have only added 25 points.

But this Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill had given him a full 50 HP, raising his total from 303 to 353. His Energy also went from 185 to 199.

HP: 266/353.

Energy: 160/199.

Weird!

Gao Neng remembered that last time, during his second-stage breakthrough, his Energy had increased by 17 points. 'By that logic, if my HP increased by 50, shouldn't my Energy have also increased by 17?'

But this time, it seemed to be stuck at 199 and wouldn't go up!

'Is it because of that strange power?'

Gao Neng could feel that power. It was like some kind of "particle" in the air. After entering his body, the power merged into his bloodstream like rivers flowing into the sea.

But he couldn't say what kind of power it was specifically.

'Is it because of the Magnetic Pile again?' Gao Neng considered a possibility. This Virtual Battlefield was developed with Magnetic Pile technology, so perhaps there was some of its residual power inside.

Who cared!

'If I take it outside, it might only add 25 HP, but taking it here adds 50. With such a great opportunity, I have to take another one and see.'

Gao Neng once again restored his HP and Energy to full.

Then, he took another pill.

HP: 368

...

HP: 389

...

HP: 399

...

"DING! Host's HP cap has reached 400. Do you wish to break through?"

"Break through!" Gao Neng didn't hesitate. 'It actually saved me two Bone Marrow Cleansing Pills?! If I don't break through now, when will I?'

BOOM!

In an instant, intense pain washed over him.

Gao Neng was experienced. Without a second thought, he started doing calisthenics.

In just a short while, some black substance seeped out of his body again, and his HP and Energy values finally changed once more.

HP: 403

Energy: 219

'It added 20 Energy points at once? No, wait, it compensated for the 3 points it was short before?' This time, Gao Neng clearly felt the changes in his body.

If he unleashed his power now, his strength could reach at least 1,000 points, or possibly even higher!

Moreover, he felt that his Spiritual Power had also grown substantially. The tendrils of Spiritual Power had become far fewer, but the total amount had clearly doubled, and he even had a faint sense that they were undergoing some kind of fusion.

'What will it become?'

Gao Neng felt a sense of anticipation.

But what puzzled him was that the mysterious power had appeared again, once more merging into his blood.

'What on earth is it?'

'Maybe I should take two more...'

'Is it possible to break through to the Fourth Human Limit?'

Gao Neng didn't know if the concept of a Fourth Human Limit even existed in this world, but it wouldn't kill him to try. Besides, he still had extra Bone Marrow Cleansing Pills, so it would be a waste not to take them.

After restoring his HP, Gao Neng took out another Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill and swallowed it.

This time, the mysterious power was clearly more violent. He could distinctly feel the particle-like things converging into a stream.

HP: 428

Energy: 227

'The effect really did decrease! Taking the pills here must have doubled their potency!' Gao Neng didn't know the principle behind it, but he still took the last Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill.

The reason was simple.

His HP and Energy were still increasing.

Since they were increasing, more was always better than less.

In the end, his HP settled at 453, and his Energy at 235.

HP: 453

Energy: 235

'With two more pills, I could probably break through again!' A powerful joy welled up in Gao Neng's heart. He had never even heard of a Fourth Human Limit breakthrough.

'Am I going to become the number one person in the world?'

'If I really break through to the Fourth Human Limit, could I beat Shen Ning'Er to death in close combat without using any energy-based powers?'

'Hmm, before I take care of Shen Ning'Er, I'll use that Velociraptor for some practice.'

The surge in strength made Gao Neng a little conceited. He had originally been planning a sneak attack, but now, there was no need. He could face it head-on.

Of course, he had thought through this decision carefully.

Since the Military Department was also assessing the Examiners, it was almost certain that they were forbidden from using "energy powers" in the Virtual Battlefield.

'If they can't use energy powers, what's there to be afraid of from an ordinary Examiner?'

'And if I can't win...'

'Running away shouldn't be a problem, right?'

After making his decision, Gao Neng found a nearby stream and took a cold bath, making his feathers clean again.

"QUACK QUACK QUACK!" Gao Neng called out a few times.

"QUACK QUACK..." The drowsy little flock of ducks quickly perked up.

Without further delay, Gao Neng puffed out his chest, held his head high, and crept toward the Velociraptor's location.

「...」

At that moment, the Velociraptor was resting with its eyes closed.

He had an assessment mission, so he couldn't actually fall asleep, but he understood that a short rest would help him maintain his peak condition.

'The students from the Forgotten Land are so much weaker than those from the City of Hope. I've already killed eight in half a day. Just two more to go, and the mission's complete!' A smile unconsciously touched the Examiner's lips.

As a new recruit who had just joined the Military Department six months ago, he also needed to be assessed.

Fortunately, he had been assigned to the Forgotten Land, where the students were basically all noobs. Only one, Gao Neng, had reached the second limit breakthrough.

Although he had only broken through once, he had become an Energy Warrior a year ago. Even without using energy powers, he could easily crush Gao Neng, who was at the second human limit.

This was a classic case of level suppression!

Of course, if he were to encounter one of those super-geniuses from the City of Hope, it would be a different story. After all, a large portion of those geniuses had already become Energy Warriors before even enrolling in the academy.

Just as he was thinking this, he heard a "QUACK QUACK QUACK."

The Examiner's eyes snapped open.

'A flock of ducks?' The Examiner instinctively prepared to close his eyes again, but his intuition told him something was strange. How could ducks approach a powerful dinosaur?

'This goes against their biological instincts!'

'Something's wrong!'

'Could it be that someone deliberately drove these ducks in front of me as a distraction, to launch a sneak attack from behind? These little brats are pretty clever, huh?'

'Too bad I saw right through it!'

The Examiner didn't overthink it.

He watched as the dozen or so ducks arrived at his feet.

"ROAR!" he bellowed.

The ducks were instantly startled, flapping their wings and scattering in every direction.

The Examiner, meanwhile, spun around abruptly. His gaze fell behind him, his eyes icy cold. "No need to hide! Get out here, all of you! I've already found you!"

'Would one person dare to ambush me?'

'Bullshit!'

'It must be an organized and disciplined team!'

Chapter 83: Critical Hit, Combo

Gao Neng was pleasantly surprised.

His original plan was to sacrifice a few of his duck minions and use the opportunity to punch the Examiner in the face.

But now, he realized there might be a better option.

'Showing me his ass?'

'How could I possibly tolerate this!'

Gao Neng's current vitality value was 453 points, 50 points more than someone who had broken the three limits. His explosive power was at least between 1200 and 1500 points.

And that was just his arms.

If he used his legs to kick, it would probably be even higher.

He wasn't sure how much critical damage this kick would inflict, but if the pain was doubled, this Examiner was not going to have a good time.

In truth, he wasn't a shameless person.

It was just that the pose this Examiner had struck was simply too perfect.

He really couldn't control himself.

So, having reached the end of his rope, he leaped up. And, as a sign of respect for the Examiner, he had no choice but to use all his strength to kick upwards, aiming right for the man's family jewels.

THWACK!

A muffled sound echoed.

The sound of shattered dreams and aching jewels.

The Examiner's wary expression instantly changed. His face went from ruddy to pale, then from pale to a ghastly shade of purple.

His body trembled, and he involuntarily flew three meters into the air.

"AHHH!!!"

This blood-curdling scream came straight from his throat. It was the music of the soul, containing no falsehoods, no pleasantries, no half-heartedness—only pure, unadulterated sincerity.

If he had a choice, he would want nothing more than to die quietly right now.

Double pain sensitivity!

It was a truly *stinging* pain!

The Examiner was furious, grief-stricken, lost...

His experience told him he had been sneak-attacked.

And the attacker was right below him.

He looked down and saw a duck, a duck with yellow feathers. That duck was grinning at him, its beak stretched wide in a smile.

Don't ask how he could tell the duck was smiling.

Because that wasn't the point...

The point was, that duck was waiting quietly for him below. And its two wings were pressed together, making a gesture of prayer.

'What is he trying to do? What else could he possibly want to do?!' the Examiner thought in horror.

'Huh? He's falling down again?' Gao Neng was actually praying. 'I was forced into this. What I'm doing is wrong, but it's all to get stronger and protect humanity.'

'But why is this comrade Examiner falling again?'

'And in such a perfect pose, too?'

Gao Neng tilted his head back, watching the Examiner plummet straight down. A strange thought flashed through his mind.

'It seems...'

'It's really possible...'

'To do a combo!'

'In that case...'

'Why not chain it?'

Gao Neng didn't want to do it. It was purely instinct that made him thrust two fingers upward with all his might once more.

SCHLICK!

It was the sound of penetration.

"..."

The Examiner's eyes went wide.

He felt a powerful electric current surge forth, shooting from his rear end straight to his brain, causing his face to drain from purple back to a deathly pale.

He didn't scream this time.

Because no sound would come out of his throat.

He simply shed two crystal-clear tears.

'There's a line you don't cross as a person... Oh, wait, as a duck! You can't do this!'

'Even though we're technically competitors, and we're told to treat this like a real battlefield, it's still just a training exercise and an exam...'

THUD!

The Examiner crashed to the ground.

"Sorry, classmate, I was forced to do this!" Of course, Gao Neng couldn't reveal his intention to attack an Examiner. He shouted and pounced, unleashing a merciless storm of duck wings and webbed feet upon the Examiner's body.

But all the Examiner wanted to do was desperately protect his crotch...

But he just couldn't do it.

Because he was currently a Velociraptor, and his claws... weren't long enough!

THUMP THUMP THUMP!

Amidst the bloody scene, the Examiner fell unconscious.

'Huh? His skin is really tough, huh? Is it a rule that Examiners can't die?' Gao Neng was a little surprised. He could clearly feel that he had broken the Velociraptor's sternum. Based on his experience taking down the high school girl, a few punches and kicks like that should have been fatal.

But this Examiner had only fainted.

'Impressive!'

'He can really take a beating!'

'Oh, right, didn't I have to whip him a few times?' Gao Neng remembered something. He glanced around and quickly found a vine.

'Sorry, Mr. Examiner.'

'You can rest assured about one thing. I'll definitely just whip you a few times casually, and that'll be that.'

Gao Neng casually snapped off the vine, then returned to the Examiner's side and brought the whip down.

"AHH!!" The Examiner actually jolted awake from the pain.

"???" Gao Neng was confused. 'Was that whip really so painful?'

He looked at the vine in his hand.

Then, he realized it seemed to be a thorny vine.

'I've been framed!'

'I really just wanted to whip him casually a few times...'

CRACK! CRACK! CRACK!

Since the grudge was already formed, there was no way Gao Neng could stop now. After a flurry of lashes, the Examiner's body finally, slowly faded away.

'Success!'

Gao Neng received a system notification: he had successfully taken down one Examiner.

'That was pretty simple.'

Breaking the three human limits really makes you freaking strong!

Gao Neng spread his Spiritual Power out again. Soon, he discovered that not far away, another Examiner seemed to have heard the commotion and was rushing toward him.

It was a Tyrannosaurus Rex!

The Tyrannosaurus Rex that had stomped three of his duck minions to death!

'This grudge... must be avenged!'

...

BANG!

Back at the military training base, an Examiner slammed his fist against a wall. Then, his mouth contorted in pain again, because the wall was made of alloy.

"Ouch, that hurts..."

"Xiaojie, how are you out already? Don't tell me you were killed by a candidate?" an Examiner guarding the exit asked with a look of astonishment.

"It was a sneak attack! I was sneak-attacked!" Xiaojie's face flushed red.

"Heh heh..." The Examiner at the gate didn't say anything. Sneak attacks were unavoidable, but they were still factored into the exam evaluation.

Xiaojie's exam score probably wasn't going to be very good.

"Brother Li, I really messed up this time... I lost to a duck, can you believe it?" Xiaojie said dejectedly. The area where he'd been "pricked" was still faintly aching.

"A duck? Tell me, how did it sneak-attack you?"

"That duck is too treacherous... He, he..." Xiaojie didn't quite know how to describe it, but he recounted the incident anyway.

Ten minutes later.

Just as the two of them were deep in conversation.

Another Examiner appeared at the exit, clutching his crotch.

"These little bastards are too damn ruthless nowadays! He even whipped my corpse?! Ouch, it hurts like hell..." The Examiner felt a chill run down his spine as he recalled what had happened in the Virtual Battlefield.

"Huh? Little Niu'Er, you got killed too?"

"It was a sneak attack! I was sneak-attacked!" Little Niu'Er's face flushed red.

"Another sneak attack? Don't tell me you were also sneak-attacked by a duck?" The Examiner at the gate was startled, then he glanced at Xiaojie beside him.

"Huh? How'd you know, Brother Li? It was a duck, a super treacherous one. I ran into him once before and stomped three of them to death. When I saw him this time, I didn't stomp... and then I let my guard down and fell for his trick!" Little Niu'Er said with a miserable expression. Then, his eyes fell on Xiaojie. "Yo, Xiaojie, you died too?"

"Yeah, I was also killed by that duck!"

"..."

...

「Time gradually passed.」

This night was truly not peaceful.

Because the number of Examiners walking out of the exit began to increase, from two to four, and from four to a final count of eight.

Eight Examiners...

They all stared at each other.

Just then, a figure slowly approached from the distance.

"Lieutenant!" Upon seeing the newcomer, all the Examiners immediately snapped to a military salute.

"Mm, no need to say anything, I already know. The one who beat you is Gao Neng. The Major's orders are that we can't let this kid get too arrogant. Even if he's

going to take first place, we can't let him think there's no one in the Military Department!" After speaking, Chen Bai turned and walked toward the entrance.

"Lieutenant..." one of the Examiners began, seemingly hesitant to speak.

"What is it?" Chen Bai stopped.

"You already know he's a duck. Isn't going in now a bit... risky?" the Examiner finally said after some thought.

"Risky? It seems... you don't want revenge anymore?" Chen Bai's eyes narrowed.

"That's not what I mean, sir. What I mean is, all of us were sneak-attacked. But you, Lieutenant, already know Gao Neng's identity. If you go in like this..."

"Spit it out!"

"Yes, sir! Gao Neng's strength is immense. I have a feeling he hid his true results in the prep test. You can't use energy powers on this trip in, Lieutenant. If you happen to get tripped up by a rookie mistake..."

"Bullshit! Me, Chen Bai, lose to this kid?!" After saying this, Chen Bai shot a deep look at the Examiners. "If even I lose, then all of you will pass this assessment with outstanding marks!"

"Thank you, Lieutenant!"

"Thank me, my ass! If I don't lose, all of you will be punished with a fifty-kilometer, full-pack cross-country run!" With a flick of his hand, Chen Bai entered the portal.

(Go, duck, go! Toss me some recommendation votes! Add this to your collection! Send some tips my way!)

Chapter 84: Sooner or Later, the Shoes Get Wet

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"I can't die in peace!!!" In the Virtual Battlefield, an Examiner clutched at his gouged-out eye. He couldn't let go of his burning rage, even in death.

It wasn't that he'd never considered failure.

He just never imagined that after being defeated, he would be flogged in such a humiliating way.

And with thorny vines, no less.

"That makes nine," Gao Neng said, looking up.

If these Examiners counted toward his kill score, his current total would be 30. The only shame was that all of them were men.

His kill count of female students was still at 20.

What a shame!

Most importantly, Gao Neng noticed that students from the girls' high school were becoming scarce. He had searched the area several times but couldn't find a single trace of them.

'Could I have killed them all?'

Gao Neng shook his head.

There were 70 to 80 students from the girls' high school in this final exam. Although he'd already killed 18 of them, there had to be some stragglers left.

'I'll try to take down ten more and complete the mission.'

Gao Neng stopped hunting for Examiners. Day was breaking, he had already taken down nearly all of them in the vicinity, and besides, he had just received the second audio prompt.

"To the east, a small island with two peach trees. This is the objective of the practical combat training."

'If I get a head start and reach the island first, I might run into some more students from the girls' high school!' Having made his decision, Gao Neng immediately set off.

As for his flock of little duck soldiers...

They were all too exhausted to even walk now.

Gao Neng was a little disappointed, but he wasn't too concerned. After all, the ducks had already served their purpose.

...

「Three hours later.」

Time: 10:30 AM.

Facing the rising sun, Gao Neng strode forward. He cut a path through the wilderness, casually killing two sleeping monkeys and a squirrel, along with a wild boar, a roe deer, and a goat that were in the middle of breakfast.

At this point, his kill count reached 35.

Of course, not counting the Examiners, it was only 26, which was still pretty good.

Nearly 20 hours of jungle survival and combat had left the examinees utterly exhausted. Their numbers had plummeted, with fewer than 60 remaining.

High School No. 1's He Haifan, kill count: 16.

High School No. 2's Lv Guoyuan, kill count: 12.

High School No. 4's Mao Shan, kill count: 11.

The Girls' High School's Li Caicai, kill count: 11.

These were the only ones who had managed a kill count of 10 or more at this stage.

...

The small island to the east was an island in the middle of a lake.

It was separated from the shore by a stretch of water about half a kilometer wide. This was the final testing ground for the practical exam: swim across and reach the island.

When Gao Neng arrived at the lakeshore, he happened to see two teams fighting fiercely.

One team, with a total of five members, was led by He Haifan from High School No. 1. It was safe to assume they were all elites from his school.

The other team was led by Mao Shan from High School No. 4.

Mao Shan's team was slightly smaller, with only four people. Having just run into He Haifan's group, they were likely to be completely wiped out.

Just as Gao Neng was wondering if he should swoop in and steal a few kills, another seven-person team arrived from behind.

This team was quite flashy.

It was led by a small, fierce-looking rodent with a large, furry, fiery-red tail. Through his Eye of Deprivation, Gao Neng could see that the rodent's true form was a shy, short-haired female student.

He vaguely remembered her. He thought she was a top student from the girls' high school named Li Caicai.

Of course, the reason they were so flashy wasn't because of their numbers, but because the team was actually carrying a tall flag.

It was a real flag.

It was cut from a huge leaf, and five large words were written on it with some unknown substance.

"Girls' High Self-Defense Force!"

Gao Neng's eyes lit up when he saw it.

'Seven of them!'

"Sister Cai Cai, there are two teams fighting up ahead," said a girls' high student who had transformed into a gorilla. "I recognize that tiger. It's He Haifan from

High school No. 1. He tried to kill me earlier, but luckily I was fast enough to get away! Huh? Is that a lone duck over there?!"

"Hey, lone duck! Are you one of our students from the girls' high?" another student from the school immediately called out. "If you are, hurry up and join us! Sister Cai Cai is here!"

"QUACK, QUACK," Gao Neng squawked twice.

"It's a wild duck. Never mind, let's ignore it." After hearing Gao Neng's two quacks, Li Caicai paid him no more attention. She glanced at the fierce battle between the teams from High School No. 1 and No. 4, then headed for the riverbank.

"Sister Cai Cai, shouldn't we take advantage of the situation?"

"Take advantage? He Haifan is stronger than any of us. Let's get to the island first and prepare for the final battle!" Li Caicai was nothing if not clever.

"Okay, we'll listen to Sister Cai Cai!" the girls' high students immediately responded.

"Axiang, you're a good swimmer. Stay here on the bank and keep watch, just in case," Li Caicai ordered. She clearly had good leadership skills. "The rest of you who aren't as strong in the water, follow me."

"Alright! I'll stay behind!"

The girls' high students were remarkably efficient.

Under Li Caicai's lead, they quickly jumped into the river one after another.

In the end, only the gorilla who had spoken first was left behind.

'They've all teamed up? It'll be difficult to pick them off or launch a sneak attack now... So, should I take out this lone student from the girls' high, or go after He Haifan?' Gao Neng glanced from the gorilla on the shore to He Haifan's group fighting High School No. 4 in the distance, weighing his options.

'If I go after He Haifan's group now, snagging one or two kills shouldn't be a problem.'

'But the consequences...'

'I'd probably get surrounded by both High School No. 1 and High School No. 4, right?'

'Besides, with my current score, first place is practically in the bag as long as I play it safe. It would be irrational to provoke both High School No. 1 and No. 4 right now.'

'As for this straggler from the girls' high...'

'She'll be much easier to deal with!'

'I could finish the fight in a minute or two.'

Gao Neng looked up at the sky. It wasn't that he had it in for the girls' high school; they had just shown up at the perfect moment. He'd been all set to make a move on He Haifan.

Having made up his mind, Gao Neng began to sneak quietly toward the gorilla on the bank.

"Stop, you duck!" The gorilla quickly became alert.

But it was too late.

Gao Neng was less than two meters away from her. At this distance, he didn't hold back. He lunged forward in a duck-like pounce and tackled the gorilla to the ground.

"AHH!!! So it really is you—MMMPPH!" The gorilla's eyes went wide. She tried to scream for help, but a duck wing clamped down hard over her mouth.

Gao Neng didn't go for the kill right away. Instead, he clamped his wing over the student's mouth and quickly dragged the gorilla into the nearby bushes.

After all, some things were inconvenient to do in broad daylight—a little too bloody.

"MMMPPH!!!"

"Let go..."

"I... MMPH... MMPH..."

The gorilla struggled for her life, her fists flailing wildly as she tried to push away the duck pinning her down. But alas, the difference in their strength was simply too vast.

"Sister Cai Cai, look! Sister Axiang is gone!"

"What?! Where'd she go!"

"That lone duck from before is gone too! That duck must have ambushed Sister Axiang!"

"Sisters, back to shore! Let's kill that lone duck!"

"Yeah!"

The girls' high students were riled up, and they all quickly started swimming back toward the shore.

"Brother Haifan, I think I just saw a duck drag a gorilla into those bushes!" one of the High School No. 1 students, currently locked in a fierce battle with High School No. 4, called out, having somehow noticed the scene.

"I saw it too," another student chimed in. "That duck is incredible. It took down the gorilla in a single move. That gorilla's probably about to be killed..."

"Huh?! I remember that gorilla. That's Axiang from the girls' high; she's pretty strong. I ran into her once and couldn't even catch her. To think she'd be taken down by a duck... Who could it be? A lone duck, making it all the way here? No, wait... That duck is probably Gao Neng!" He Haifan's eyes flickered as sudden realization struck him.

"Gao Neng?! You're saying that duck is Gao Neng?" Hearing He Haifan's words, even Mao Shan, who was in the middle of the fight, stopped his fists.

"That's right. I'm at least ninety percent sure. Mao Shan, what's your take? Do we keep fighting or what?" He Haifan said immediately.

"What about you?"

"Kill Gao Neng first, then we'll fight to the death!"

"Perfect, that's what I was thinking too!" Mao Shan immediately nodded.

"Then what are we waiting for? Our two schools will team up, take out Gao Neng, and then we'll fight for the title of this year's top scorer!" He Haifan's eyes shone with a brilliant light.

"Deal!"

Without any more pointless talk, the two teams reached an agreement and charged toward Gao Neng.

Gao Neng was incredibly efficient. When he said one or two minutes, he would never take more than three. After dragging her into the bushes, he unleashed a flurry of blows with his duck wings, and in no time at all, the gorilla went silent.

But when he flapped his wings and walked out of the bushes again...

He realized something seemed a little off.

(Go, ducks, go! Let the recommendation tickets fly!)

Chapter 85: Combat on the Lake

'What's going on?'

Gao Neng was startled. The students from First High and Fourth High, who had been locked in a fierce battle, were now rushing toward him. Not only that, but even Li Caicai and the others, who had swum nearly a hundred meters out, were swimming back to shore.

'I'm surrounded!'

"Gao Neng, you dare bully the students from the Girls' High? Watch how I, He Haifan, take care of you!" He Haifan shouted righteously as he ran.

"That's right! We at Fourth High won't let you off either!" Mao Shan immediately chimed in.

"What? Gao Neng was the one who eliminated Axiang?" The girls swimming back were in disbelief when they heard He Haifan and the others.

'Have I been exposed?' Gao Neng's mind raced. He had expected to be found out eventually, so it wasn't a huge surprise.

What he hadn't expected, however, was that First High and Fourth High would abandon their brawl to team up against him alone. They were even trying to rope in the Girls' High.

'If all three schools really join forces, this could be a bit troublesome.'

'What should I do in a situation like this?'

Gao Neng was perfectly calm.

He didn't shout, "I'm not Gao Neng!"

He wasn't that naive. He simply glanced quietly at He Haifan and the others, then bellowed, "The glow of a firefly dares not compete with the splendor of the sun and moon! Today, I, Chen Bai, will show you the strength required of an Alliance soldier!"

"What?! Lieutenant Chen Bai!" A student at the very front, only five meters from Gao Neng, immediately skidded to a halt, his face filled with terror.

"Don't listen to his nonsense! He's Gao Neng!" Seeing the student stop, He Haifan shouted anxiously. 'Only a damn idiot would fall for that, right?'

"An impersonator?" The other students were startled.

But just then, Gao Neng made his move.

BAM!

A dull thud echoed.

Almost as soon as He Haifan's voice faded, the student who had stopped was smacked by a duck wing.

And then...

He went flying.

"So fast! He's running the 100-meter dash in five seconds, at least!"

"His explosive power is ridiculous, definitely over 1,000 points!"

"Look... Ah Ga's mouth got knocked crooked!"

The students were horrified.

But Gao Neng wasn't flustered at all. In fact, after his successful strike, he even paused. "Sigh... So weak! Your target is that small island, not me, Chen Bai. Understand? Now, scram!"

"Ah... Run!"

"Lieutenant Chen, we were wrong!"

"He's not Lieutenant Chen! He's really Gao Neng! Don't run! If we all attack together, we can take him down! It's our only chance to become the top scorer in the exam!" He Haifan's eyes were bloodshot.

"Top scorer? That's your business. I just want to get into the Military University!"

"Right, right! If we really offend Lieutenant Chen, we'll be in deep trouble. Better safe than sorry. Let's get out of here!"

"Lieutenant Chen isn't really trying to take us out. Let's run!"

The students weren't idiots. The only ones with a real shot at being the top scorer were He Haifan and his group. The finish line was so close; why would they fight someone who might be Chen Bai here?

Only an idiot would do that!

"He Haifan, don't worry! I, Mao Shan, believe you and support you! You go first, I'll cover your back!" Mao Shan didn't retreat, instead shouting loudly.

"..." He Haifan was speechless.

'Fuck your mom!'

'I'd have to be a fucking idiot to go first!'

He wasn't going.

Naturally, Mao Shan wasn't going either.

The two of them were at a stalemate.

Meanwhile, Gao Neng didn't spare them another glance. He charged straight for the lake and, with a SPLASH, dove right in.

Soon...

Screams erupted from the lake.

"Ah! Lieutenant Chen, no! Please let me go... I'm just a student... I'm begging you, don't come over... Ah, GLUG GLUG GLUG..."

"Run! Lieutenant Chen is killing people!"

"Swim to the island! This must be part of the Military Department's test!"

"But I'm not a good swimmer... I can barely swim... Help!"

The students from the Girls' High panicked, and the scene descended into chaos.

Naturally, Gao Neng showed no more mercy.

He was an excellent swimmer. He'd grab a girl, drag her into the water, and then finish her off with a flurry of punches and kicks. It was remarkably efficient.

In no time at all, two girls had been victimized.

On the shore, He Haifan and Mao Shan were dumbfounded.

'You can do that?!'

'If we'd known, we would have impersonated Chen Bai too! If you just have his name over your head on this battlefield, you'd be a nightmare for the other students, wouldn't you?'

"Quick! While Lieutenant Chen is busy with the girls, let's swim for it!" one clever student immediately decided, and leaped into the lake.

The other students still on the shore quickly caught on.

Right now, "Chen Bai's" targets were the girls. For them, this was the perfect opportunity to rush to the island.

SPLASH!

SPLASH!

...

One by one, the students started diving in.

He Haifan and Mao Shan exchanged another look, then immediately followed suit.

As for the students from the Girls' High...

No one paid them any mind.

It's not like they could actually die, they'd just be eliminated. At a time like this, their test scores were what mattered most!

...

「Military Training Base.」

"Elder Li!!!" Xue Jingjing's face turned a shade of reddish-purple as she watched Gao Neng drag her students underwater one by one on the screen.

"Old Lady Xue, are you starting this again?!" Li Qingping's expression changed. He still had bite marks on him from last time; he did not want a repeat performance.

"Jingjing, honestly, for Gao Neng to be targeting the Girls' High students like this... I wouldn't believe it if you told me there wasn't some inside story!" the principal of Fourth High immediately fanned the flames.

"Elder Li, those are my best students! I, Xue Jingjing, may not be able to kill Gao Neng, but I can definitely kill you! I'll fight you to the death!"

"Holy shit! Old Lady Xue, don't go too far... Don't bite! If you bite again... I... I, I, I... I'm getting desperate! I'll drop my pants!"

"You shameless old pervert! Go on, drop them! I dare you!"

"I... I'll do it!"

"..."

...

「In the lake of the Virtual Battlefield.」

Gao Neng had no idea what was happening back at the military base.

He only knew that right now, he was a wolf let loose in a flock of sheep. All the sheep were trying to flee, but the more they panicked, the slower they swam.

Gao Neng took out three in one go.

"Lieutenant Chen... no!" The fourth girl was caught by Gao Neng. She struggled with all her might to swim toward the island, but she couldn't move at all.

"GLUG GLUG GLUG..."

"..."

Soon, the fourth girl from the Girls' High was eliminated.

Without hesitation, Gao Neng swam toward the fifth girl.

'It's so tiring being a man!'

'I was once an upright, kind, and innocent young man. But alas, I have this idiotic system. To protect humanity, to become stronger, I have no choice but to be ruthless.'

As the fifth girl fell into Gao Neng's clutches, Li Caicai finally made it to the small island, dripping wet.

"Too bad, one got away..." Gao Neng felt a bit helpless. That Li Caicai was just too fast. However, none of the other girls had escaped.

The Girls' High Self-Defense Squad.

At this point, only Li Caicai survived.

All the others had been eliminated.

'Just four more eliminations, and I'll get a spin on the lucky prize wheel!'

While thinking this, Gao Neng grabbed the head of the girl in his hands and pushed it underwater. The girl struggled desperately, again and again...

"GLUG GLUG GLUG..."

Ruthless Ravager: 26/30

"I'm sorry, I was forced into this. Reality is cruel, and everyone has to grow up!" Gao Neng figured that since this Girls' High Self-Defense Squad had made it this far, they must have some "blood on their hands" already. Passing the practical combat exam shouldn't be a problem for them, right?

Just as he was thinking this, he suddenly felt a powerful force grip his ankle and begin dragging him furiously down into the water.

"GLUG GLUG GLUG!"

Gao Neng choked on a few mouthfuls of lake water.

'This sucks!'

'Who dares to ambush me?!'

(We're on the strong recommendation list! Please vote to boost my numbers! Why are there so few votes?!)

Chapter 86: A Powerful Reversal

Gao Neng had thought that turning into a duck was like wearing a diving suit, giving him a natural advantage. He never expected someone would dare to challenge his authority.

Fortunately, the lake water was relatively clear.

He spotted the creature at the bottom of the water with a single glance.

"Whoa! What a huge... octopus?!" Gao Neng jumped in fright, but he quickly realized something was wrong. There was a phantom-like human figure superimposed over the octopus's body.

"Chen Bai!"

'Chen Bai turned into an octopus? Isn't he a dinosaur?!

'And he's attacking me?'

GLUG GLUG GLUG!

Startled, Gao Neng choked on a few mouthfuls of lake water.

Then, he lunged forward, grabbing the tentacles wrapped around his legs with both hands. Without hesitation, he bit down hard.

'I'll bite you to death!'

!!! Chen Bai also seemed not to have expected Gao Neng to bite so swiftly. His mouth opened, and a few bubbles escaped. Clearly, he had also choked on some lake water.

But Chen Bai was Chen Bai, after all.

He was bold, meticulous, and powerful. Plus, he had come prepared. He immediately used his other tentacles to wrap around Gao Neng's neck.

Gao Neng's face turned pale.

'Underwater combat...'

Chen Bai, taking advantage of the octopus's natural superiority, had him tightly bound.

He was even choking him.

Gao Neng instinctively wanted to surface for a breath of air.

But he knew that if he tried to escape upward, Chen Bai would very likely kill him.

'What should I do?'

'I can only fight it out!'

Gao Neng had no other choice. Fortunately, he could clearly see the silhouette of Chen Bai's octopus form, so he could naturally distinguish its specific body parts.

"Take this!" While biting down on a tentacle, Gao Neng grabbed Chen Bai's crotch with one hand and, with all his might, squeezed hard.

GLUG GLUG GLUG!

Chen Bai's eyes went wide.

Bubbles streamed from his mouth. He clearly hadn't expected Gao Neng's casual squeeze to be so accurate. The doubled pain made it impossible for him to close his mouth.

Gao Neng wasn't about to show any mercy.

How could he let go of the opportunity he now had firmly in hand?

'Squeeze again!'

'Squeeze with all my strength!'

'And a vicious tug!'

!!! Chen Bai finally couldn't take it anymore. Thrashing wildly, he kicked at Gao Neng's body with several tentacles, finally punting him out of the water.

"HUFF!" Gao Neng's whole body ached, but he immediately gasped for air.

At the same time, a huge wave rolled across the water's surface, and then, a gigantic octopus, a full ten-plus meters long, emerged.

"This is unfair! He's hacking! How can there be an octopus this big in a lake? This thing belongs in the ocean!" Gao Neng cursed, not daring to continue fighting Chen Bai in the water. He swam desperately toward the small island.

The octopus, after thrashing on the lake's surface a few times, gave chase once again.

"Quick, classmates, grab him! I'm Gao Neng from Third High!" Chen Bai shouted toward the island as he pursued Gao Neng.

??? Gao Neng was a little confused.

'What the hell?'

'Chen Bai is impersonating me?'

"It's Gao Neng from Third High?!"

"Gao Neng turned into a... whoa, what a huge octopus!"

"He's fighting Lieutenant Chen? And he actually managed to make Lieutenant Chen... run away?"

On the small island, Li Caicai, He Haifan, and the others saw this scene and were momentarily stunned.

"The Military Department's assessment is designed to kill us! Our only chance of passing is to work together and kill Lieutenant Chen Bai first! Everyone, attack together! He's injured!" Chen Bai continued to shout.

... This time, Gao Neng understood.

'Chen Bai is going to use my name, and then use the students to kill me?!'

'But, this isn't how the plot is supposed to go, right?'

'Normally, if Chen Bai found out someone was impersonating him, he should have been furious and immediately set the record straight. But instead of clearing his name, he was indirectly confirming that I was Lieutenant Chen Bai.'

'No!'

'How could this be?'

'Unless... Chen Bai knows that I'm Gao Neng?!'

'He's giving me a taste of my own medicine!'

'Gan Liniang!'

Gao Neng finally understood Chen Bai's sinister intentions. This was revenge, pure and simple. But he couldn't say anything, because there was no way he could now claim that *he* was the real Gao Neng.

That would be truly foolish.

"Quick, anyone who wants to pass the assessment, follow me and kill Lieutenant Chen Bai!" Chen Bai was still shouting as he swam up behind Gao Neng.

The students on the island were finally moved to action.

They had all seen it with their own eyes: Gao Neng had killed the student from the girls' high school. On top of that, Gao Neng himself had admitted to being Chen Bai, and his demonstrated power far surpassed the scores from his own physical fitness test.

It was settled!

There was no doubt about it.

Now that "classmate Gao Neng" was fighting "Lieutenant Chen Bai" to the death, what did they, the students, have to worry about?

"Lieutenant Chen Bai, I, Li Caicai, will avenge the students of the girls' high school and prove that we are not to be trifled with!" Li Caicai was the first to charge forward.

At this point, Gao Neng had no other choice.

Seeing Li Caicai attack with a Fierce Rat Fist, he countered with a smack of his duck wing.

SMACK!

A fist and a wing collided.

Unsurprisingly, Li Caicai was knocked back five steps.

"It really is Lieutenant Chen Bai! He's so strong! Everyone, attack together!" Li Caicai shouted, and demonstrating her tenacity, she lunged forward again.

"Li Caicai, we'll help you!"

"I'm coming too!"

"Let's kill Lieutenant Chen Bai together! We just need to pass the assessment first!"

Seeing Li Caicai make her move, the students no longer hesitated. They all scrambled to rush forward.

Gao Neng was now truly experiencing what it felt like to suffer in silence.

'This was pure misery!'

'When did so many people get on this island?'

'There are more than thirty of them!'

"Students of Second High, follow me, Lv Guoyuan, and charge!" With a great roar, another group rushed out on the island, surprisingly led by Lv Guoyuan.

"Students of Third High, charge! Gao Neng has made his move! We can't bring shame to Third High! Third High will be victorious!" At this moment, the students from Third High also charged out together.

... Gao Neng was speechless.

'Son of a bitch!'

'Where are these guys' brains?!'

'Are you all blind?!'

'Am I, the great leader of Third High, going to die at the hands of my own people?'

"Insolence! Do none of you want to pass the assessment?! Do you have any idea what the consequences are for attacking an Examiner?" Gao Neng gritted his teeth and bellowed.

... The excited students froze.

"The Military Department's assessments have always been fair! Since the Examiner attacked us candidates, it means we candidates can also attack the Examiner! Classmates, don't be afraid! With me, Gao Neng, here, I'll take responsibility even if the sky falls! I have a great relationship with Major Shen!" Chen Bai, naturally seeing the students' hesitation, shouted again.

"That's right, Major Shen!"

"Gao Neng must have gotten inside information from Major Shen!"

"Yes, that must be it! If we follow Gao Neng's lead and attack, we can't go wrong!"

The students were instantly convinced.

With no more hesitation, they all lunged toward Gao Neng.

Just then, Chen Bai also charged ashore. Without a hint of hesitation, he pounced toward Gao Neng, all while continuing to shout his theory as he ran.

The enormous octopus...

...was still remarkably agile, even on the island.

(Happy holidays everyone! During this strong recommendation period, I need a lot of recommendation votes to boost my presence. Please show your support!)

I Can Control Resources

"Chen Bai, you damn hacker! You just wait, I'm going to destroy you!" What else could Gao Neng do? He could only run, desperately trying to break out of the encirclement.

"Don't even think about running!" Li Caicai was incredibly tenacious, once again being the first to charge forward.

"Whoever stands in my way dies!" Gao Neng wasn't holding back anymore. He didn't care if she was a girl; he slammed his palm right into the charging little shrew's chest.

BAM!

Li Caicai went down again.

"He won't even spare a high school girl!"

"Lieutenant Chen has gone too far!"

"How despicable!"

The students all roared in anger.

"You're damn right! I, Chen Bai, am exactly this kind of person! What are you going to do about it?" Gao Neng yelled.

"Get him! Everyone, get him together!" Compared to the tenacious Li Caicai, He Haifan was far more slippery. He yelled the loudest but stayed the farthest back.

"Human wave attack! We'll use a human wave attack! Wear him down in rotations!" Mao Shan shouted just as fiercely, yet he only circled about, dodging left and right.

Gao Neng quickly figured out the situation.

He Haifan and Mao Shan were indeed among the stronger students in the group. However, both of them were more concerned with becoming the top scorer in the college entrance exams.

Therefore, these two were actually a good place to break through.

Gao Neng didn't hesitate. After knocking Li Caicai down, he charged straight for He Haifan.

'He's coming for me?!' He Haifan's face fell. His mind raced, but he ultimately gritted his teeth and blocked Gao Neng's path.

"Behold, my Overlord's Sky-Shattering Strike!" Gao Neng roared, throwing a punch.

"Overlord's Sky-Shattering Strike?!" He Haifan's expression changed again, and he instinctively took a step back.

'An opening!' How could Gao Neng possibly pass up such a perfect opportunity? The instant He Haifan retreated, he closed the distance and swung his open palm.

SLAP!

The slap echoed with a crisp crack.

It left He Haifan completely dumbfounded.

'A trick...'

'What happened to the Overlord's Sky-Shattering Strike?!'

He Haifan felt like crying.

Gao Neng paid him no mind, turning to flee the moment the slap landed.

"Damn it, he's getting away!"

"After him!"

"Let's surround him!"

The students immediately swarmed after him.

But Gao Neng was faster than any of the students. He was already running for his life at breakneck speed, sprinting forward without a single glance back.

'The kid's pretty fast, huh? And he dares to tarnish my name?!' Chen Bai wanted to grind his teeth in rage, but an octopus has no teeth... so all he could do was flail his eight tentacles.

He didn't pursue, however, because his objective had already been met.

Making Gao Neng public enemy number one.

Put some pressure on him!

「...」

Gao Neng had plenty of stamina.

Normally, the students would never be able to catch him.

Unfortunately, the island wasn't large—in fact, it was quite small. In a place like this, it was nearly impossible to escape an encirclement.

So, he was soon cornered once more.

And it was, once again, Li Caicai.

"..." Gao Neng was truly at a loss for words. He was finally learning what it meant to be on a woman's bad side. This Li Caicai was just too relentless.

There was no other choice. He had to strike again.

BAM!

Li Caicai took another palm to the chest.

But just as Gao Neng thought he could escape again, Lv Guoyuan suddenly had a screw loose.

"Lieutenant Chen, I'll fight you to the death!" Seeing Li Caicai get knocked down, Lv Guoyuan's eyes went bloodshot. With a roar of "Where do you think you're going?!" he charged forward like an enraged boar.

Of course, he really was a pig.

Except...

...he was a wild boar with two tusks.

THUD!

Gao Neng was rammed by Lv Guoyuan.

A dull ache spread through his chest.

'Double pain amplification... it hurts like hell...'

Right after, eight students swarmed in and surrounded him.

Gao Neng glanced around and saw three students from Second High, one from Fourth High, and four from Third High. There wasn't a single student from First High.

'The students from Third High...'

'They're so eager!'

Then again, it made sense. After all, Chen Bai had been impersonating him, Gao Neng.

At Third High, Gao Neng's name carried a lot of weight. He was popular, handsome, a true leader who could rally others with a single call—an undisputed leading figure.

But right now, that was exactly what was giving Gao Neng a headache.

But what was that saying? Just when you think you've reached a dead end, a new path opens up.

Gao Neng was feeling that exact glimmer of hope right now, because the lone student from Fourth High who had joined the fray was, surprisingly, a girl.

'A girl...'

'She's a treasure!'

Gao Neng had assumed most of the female students were already eliminated, making it nearly impossible to complete his mission of taking out four more of them. But now, he saw a glimmer of hope.

'Just four more, and I'll get a spin on the Lucky Wheel!' Gao Neng had no choice but to gamble, pinning all his hopes on that lucky draw.

Therefore, he had to take out four girls, no matter the cost!

And this girl from Fourth High was his first target.

"Let's do this!" Gao Neng stopped holding back. He had now broken through the third human limit, and his power far surpassed this crowd.

While taking down all eight of them would still take some effort, he was confident he could eliminate one if he focused all his power on them.

Speed!

Absolute speed!

Ignoring the dull ache in his chest, Gao Neng took a single large step and appeared right in front of the girl from Fourth High.

"The wind sighs, the river runs cold; the hero departs, never to return!" the Fourth High girl shrieked, charging forward instead of retreating and throwing a palm strike at Gao Neng.

"..." Gao Neng answered with a whip kick.

THWACK!

The girl from Fourth High dropped to her knees.

At the same time, a fist slammed into his back.

"Broadcast Calisthenics, Section Five: Trunk Rotation!" With a backhand slap, Gao Neng sent the Second High student who had ambushed him flying.

In fact, he'd figured it out during his battle with Chen Bai in the lake: life and death in this Virtual Battlefield were determined by a red health bar.

Just like in a video game.

Once the health bar was empty...

...it was GAME OVER.

Right now, his own health bar was already down by a third.

Therefore, what he needed to do now was find a way to replenish his health while fighting.

'Another move...'

'Leg-Lifting Exercise!'

THUMP!

The kneeling girl from Fourth High took another kick right to the face. She was sent flying like a rubber ball.

The other students around them were stunned by Gao Neng's bizarre moves.

"Do Lieutenant Chen's moves look like... broadcast calisthenics to you?"

"It's so effective! You can actually fight with broadcast calisthenics? Or is Lieutenant Chen just refusing to use the Military Department's techniques because he thinks it'd be bullying us?"

"Who cares! If Lieutenant Chen is holding back, that's our chance!"

Despite their surprise, the students charged in again.

Meanwhile, Gao Neng, while "performing" his broadcast calisthenics, grabbed the downed female student and began wailing on her. A punch, a kick, another punch, another kick...

Soon, the Fourth High girl's health bar was empty.

"Ahh... I, Qin Xiaobei, have finally made a glorious sacrifice!" the girl shouted, a faint smile on her face as she died peacefully.

'Happy, even in death? What is wrong with her?' Gao Neng really couldn't comprehend what went on inside that girl's head.

Cruel Hands Against Fair Maidens: 27/30

'Three more to go!'

Gao Neng's gaze shifted to where Li Caicai had been, only to find she was gone.

'Huh?'

'Where did Li Caicai run off to?'

'Er... that Lv Guoyuan guy... Don't tell me he has a crush on Li Caicai?' Looking to his right, Gao Neng saw Lv Guoyuan carrying Li Caicai over his shoulder, sprinting into the distance.

'A wild boar carrying a little shrew?'

What a picture-perfect moment.

Chapter 88: New Skill: Life Form Transformation

"Let go of me, Lv Guoyuan, let me go! The one I like is Gao Neng! Even if you get my body, you'll never have my heart!" Li Caicai yelled.

"..." Gao Neng let out a sigh. 'It's tough being this outstanding.'

He didn't give chase. There was no need. There were still about forty or fifty people on the island, so finding three girls wouldn't be difficult.

So, as he ran, he began looking for girls who were on their own.

And soon, he found one.

She was a girl with a ponytail, probably a student from High School No. 1. She hadn't joined the siege and seemed rather alert, her back against a rock as she cautiously surveyed her surroundings.

An idea struck Gao Neng, and he stopped. He didn't rush toward the girl. Instead, he chose to make a move on a different student standing near her, someone from High School No. 2.

"Quick! Someone help me surround Lieutenant Chen! I... I'm holding him off!" the student from High School No. 2 yelled in a panic, dodging as he shouted for help.

Immediately, a few students closed in.

Including the ones chasing him from behind, there were now nearly ten students.

Gao Neng began to put his toughness to the test, performing his calisthenics routine while tangling with the students.

As he tied them down, the number of attackers grew. The group of nearly ten quickly swelled to fifteen, and it looked like it would soon reach twenty.

Gritting his teeth, Gao Neng held his ground, looking as if he might be defeated at any moment.

"Get him!"

"Lieutenant Chen is about to break!"

"Just a few more people and we can wear him down!"

The students yelled once more.

Just then, the girl who had been leaning against the rock finally couldn't stand it anymore. After a moment's hesitation, she began to slowly approach Gao Neng.

'A feint to the east, an attack to the west!' Seeing his chance, Gao Neng immediately broke off his engagement with the students and lunged toward the girl.

The girl had no time to react.

She scrambled backward.

Gao Neng pressed his advantage, unleashing a "Fierce Tiger Rips Out the Heart"!

"AHHH!!!"

The girl let out a piercing scream and froze on the spot.

Gao Neng used his momentum to push her over, then followed up with a torrential storm of Duck Palm Kicks.

In just a few moments, the girl was eliminated.

Destroyer of Flowers: 28/30

'Only two more to go!'

Of course, Gao Neng had taken a few more punches and kicks in the process, and he grimaced from the pain.

His red health bar was already down to a third. Gao Neng didn't dare linger. He spun around and sprinted away, desperately knocking over two students to break out of the encirclement.

"So infuriating! He got away again!"

"Lieutenant Chen is as strong as they say. How could more than ten of us fail to take down one guy?"

"He's incredible. I wish I could be that strong someday."

The students were stunned, but they quickly gave chase again.

Gao Neng continued to search for his next target.

But he soon realized something was wrong. Every girl he saw now treated him like the devil, turning and running on sight.

They had absolutely no intention of fighting him.

This was getting frustrating...

Gao Neng ran two full laps around the island without finding another opportunity.

Meanwhile, He Haifan and Mao Shan had started taking advantage of the chaos to "harvest" kills left and right.

The reason was simple: not much time was left in the combat assessment. And with Gao Neng drawing all the attention, the other students were leaving more and more openings.

"Ah, He Haifan, you snake!"

"Mao Shan, you...!"

Led by the two of them, the battle on the island finally descended into chaos.

This naturally gave Gao Neng a chance to catch his breath. He started using the terrain to continuously counter-kill the examinees from various schools who were chasing him.

One, two, three...

He'd already lost count of how many he had taken down.

In any case, the number of people chasing him gradually dwindled.

By now, the students truly understood just how formidable Gao Neng was. Not only was he incredibly strong and strangely fast, but most importantly, he was also tough as nails.

If they didn't know he was "Lieutenant Chen Bai," they would've suspected the guy was using hacks.

A normal person would have been ground down and defeated by now, right?

...

「Inside the military base.」

Li Qingping, Xue Jingjing, and the others had finally fallen silent. They had all watched the process of Gao Neng being swarmed, and each of them gulped nervously.

"I really don't know what kind of luck you have, Old Li. To think someone like that... is actually at your High School No. 3?" Xue Jingjing's eyes were practically glowing. Even though she was a little miffed, she had to admit that Gao Neng was truly powerful.

"Looks like this year's top scorer is a lock," the principal of High School No. 2 nodded.

"Not necessarily," the principal of High School No. 4 said, glancing at High School No. 1's principal, He Lin. "He Haifan's kill count is rising fast. A comeback isn't impossible. You have to remember, the combat assessment makes up 70% of the total score."

"Let's wait and see." He Lin's eyes flickered, but his expression was tense.

Gao Neng was currently tied down. Even though he was constantly making counter-kills, his kill rate was clearly not as fast as He Haifan's.

...

「On the island, by the lake.」

Chen Bai was also marveling at the sight. 'He really has incredible stamina. He's been swarmed by so many people for an hour, and he can still run? The Major was right! This kid really does need a bit of pressure. None of these examinees are a match for him. If he goes to the Military University like this, he'll probably get a big head.'

As Chen Bai was thinking this, Gao Neng happened to run to a spot not far from him.

"Get him!" Chen Bai yelled.

But just then, a powerful gust of wind—an attack—shot toward him.

A smirk touched Chen Bai's lips, and without a moment's hesitation, he lashed out with a Squid Leg back-kick.

BAM!

A figure was sent flying.

It was none other than Mao Shan from High School No. 4.

Behind him stood He Haifan from High School No. 1, along with more than ten other students.

"Sneak attack me?" Chen Bai sneered.

"Gao Neng, once we kill you, the top scorer title will be ours!" He Haifan sneered back. He didn't for a second believe that "Gao Neng" could be stronger than "Chen Bai."

"Damn... that kick was heavy!" Mao Shan clutched his stomach, unable to get back on his feet. But his resolve was firm. "Everyone, together! Let's take down Gao Neng first!"

"Right!"

Everyone swarmed forward.

Chen Bai didn't hold back, kicking away one after another. After all, a squid has plenty of legs.

Just then, the students from High School No. 3 who had been chasing Gao Neng noticed that Chen Bai was being swarmed, and their expressions turned sour.

"That bastard He Haifan is trying to swarm Gao Neng! Let's go save him first!"

"What about Lieutenant Chen?"

"Let the others chase him! Students of High School No. 3, with me! We have to protect Gao Neng! We can't let High School No. 1 and High School No. 4 steal the top scorer title!"

"Yeah, let's go!"

The students from High School No. 3 quickly broke away from the group chasing "Lieutenant Chen".

Gao Neng finally breathed a sigh of relief. With the students from his own school gone, he no longer had to hold back. He could finally go all out.

"Crap, the students from High School No. 3 are gone! The few of us left are no match for Lieutenant Chen!"

"Run!"

"Let's go help take down Gao Neng!"

Seeing the tide had turned, the remaining students scattered and fled.

"..." Gao Neng was a little dumbfounded.

'What just happened? They just ran off? Should I go after them? Nah, better focus on destroying flowers!'

With no one to interfere, Gao Neng finally found an opportunity and took down a female student from High School No. 2.

Destroyer of Flowers: 29/30

'Just one more to go! Who will be the last one?'

"Lieutenant Chen, even if everyone else is too scared to fight you, I, Li Caicai, will never let you off! I've already successfully defeated that meddling Lv Guoyuan, so now there's no one to stop me from getting my revenge!" Just as he was wondering, a fiery-red, ferocious little mouse leaped out.

"Li Caicai?" Gao Neng looked up at the sky in exasperation.

'Lv Guoyuan... You poor, poor man!'

"I fight for Gao Neng!" Li Caicai yelled and lunged at him.

The two of them were instantly locked in a grapple.

Tangled...

And tangled some more.

In the end, Li Caicai made a heroic sacrifice.

[Ding! Congratulations, Host, for completing the "Destroyer of Flowers" mission. Reward: one (1) Beginner's Treasure Chest. You have also unlocked one (1) spin of the Lucky Spin Wheel.]

"Finally!" Gao Neng stared at the treasure chest and the golden Lucky Spin Wheel that had appeared before him, so excited he could almost cry.

'What an ordeal! For the last hour, every second felt like a year. Constantly swarmed, constantly hunted. If it weren't for his powerful willpower and the restorative effects of his calisthenics, he'd be dead by now.'

'Lucky Spin Wheel, spin, spin, spin!'

[Beep! Permanent Special Skill acquired: Life Form Transformation (Beginner)!]

Chapter 89: Super Transformation, Invincible in the World

"Lifeform Transformation?" Gao Neng stared at the spot where the Lucky Wheel had stopped, feeling rather conflicted. He was pleasantly surprised, yet also felt a strong urge to complain.

The pleasant surprise was that his judgment hadn't been wrong!

The Lucky Wheel really could grant special skills. What he wanted to complain about was, what the hell was this "Lifeform Transformation"?

'Most importantly, why is it only beginner-level?'

"Lifeform Transformation (Beginner): Different lifeforms possess different attributes. The host can transform 30% of their body."

"That sounds impressive, but it's so vague it tells me nothing." Gao Neng was speechless. He immediately opened his Attribute Panel.

Sure enough, a new skill had appeared on his skill list: 'Lifeform Transformation (Beginner).' Below the skill, there was a triangular expand button.

Gao Neng casually clicked it. A wall of densely packed text appeared before his eyes...

The description was nearly ten thousand words long.

"..." Gao Neng was utterly dumbfounded.

'This skill's description...'

'It's so damn long!'

Gao Neng's reading speed was decent. He read very carefully, but the further down he got, the more astounded he became.

This skill was truly outrageous. It wasn't a single ability at all, but a complete series focused on lifeform transformation.

Simply put, the gist was that the human body is composed of over 60 different elements. Among them are 11 essential major elements, including calcium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorine.

In addition, there are over a dozen essential trace elements, such as iron, copper, zinc, manganese, cobalt, vanadium, chromium, molybdenum, selenium, and iodine.

And this skill allowed Gao Neng to achieve a 30% transformation of his body's 'major' and 'trace' elements.

For example!

Take the 'Iron' transformation...

'Holy shit?!'

'This skill is insane!'

"Increased 'iron' composition in the body. Unyielding constitution! Defense Power increased by 100%, Strength increased by 50%!" Gao Neng was stunned when he saw the transformation data.

'This is insane!'

He'd always known the skills from the Idiot System were ridiculously good, but he'd never imagined one could be *this* ridiculous.

'Is this what they call "the greater the risk, the greater the reward"?''

Gao Neng could hardly believe it. He decided to check the stats for copper...

"Increased 'copper' composition in the body. Flexibility enhanced! Defense Power increased by 70%, Strength increased by 50%. Semi-conductive: 50% lightning damage reduction!"

'It even reduces lightning damage?!'

'So badass!'

'As expected, every transformation has different attributes.'

Gao Neng was thrilled. He felt that it was now impossible to deny how super strong he was. This skill was absurdly powerful, and this was only the beginner level. What about intermediate and advanced?

'Strength skyrocketing by 1000%!

'Shatter mountains with a punch, part rivers with a kick!'

'I'd be an Immortal!'

Gao Neng was so excited his face was slightly flushed. He continued reading and saw the conditions for use...

"Friendly Reminder: Use of Lifeform Transformation (Beginner) is not recommended for extended periods. Overuse may cause adverse reactions, such as: dizziness, vertigo, vomiting, pregnancy, etc."

"What the hell?!"

Gao Neng completely ignored that list of adverse reactions. He'd expected as much. After all, he wasn't an idiot; an excess of trace elements from a prolonged transformation was bound to cause problems.

But the real issue wasn't the dizziness and vertigo...

It was the string of numbers that followed.

"Cost to use 'Iron' enhancement: 1,000 Alliance Coins per minute."

"Cost to use 'Copper' enhancement: 2,000 Alliance Coins per minute."

"Cost to use 'Zinc' enhancement..."

"..."

"The cheapest one, 'Iron,' costs 1,000 Alliance Coins per minute?! 'Copper' is 2,000, and there are even more expensive ones..."

"This is fucking daylight robbery!"

How much money did Gao Neng have right now?

In total...

Barely ten thousand!

In other words, even if he used the cheapest 'Iron' option, he could only "transform" for ten minutes?!

'What the hell kind of condition is that.'

"Idiot System, I'm telling you in all seriousness, that kind of thinking is dangerous. You're just blatantly discriminating against the poor! No money, no fun, is that it? Go on, be a bigger rip-off if you've got the guts! 1,000 Alliance Coins a minute?! Why don't you just make it 2,000 a minute, huh?!" Gao Neng had reached his limit.

"Understood. The system has humanely fulfilled the host's request. Lifeform Evolution (Beginner) 'Iron' usage cost has been changed to 2,000 Alliance Coins per minute," the mechanical voice intoned.

"..." Gao Neng was stunned speechless.

"..." The Idiot System.

"Um... my dearest, most handsome system, I was just kidding. Do you believe me?" What else could Gao Neng say? All he wanted now was to turn back time.

"I do not."

"!!!" Gao Neng took a deep breath.

'This is the last straw!'

At that moment, he made up his mind. As soon as he got a little bit stronger, he was ditching this Idiot System no matter what.

'I'll never take another one of its quests again! Not even if you beat me to death!'

'Screw you, you idiot! I don't want your rewards, no matter how good they are!'

He didn't say anything else.

So what if the 'Iron' enhancement now cost 2,000 Alliance Coins?

'Big deal!'

'Worst case, I just won't use 'Iron.' I'll use 'Copper'... I'm not losing out if I use 'Copper,' since its price was 2,000 Alliance Coins per minute to begin with.'

Gao Neng glanced at the 'Copper' enhancement again. Yep, still 2,000. Unchanged! He was ecstatic!

...

The battle on the island had reached a fever pitch.

Chen Bai seemed to have no intention of actually killing the examinees surrounding him. Instead, he chose to bog them down in a prolonged fight, neither advancing nor retreating, simply wearing them out.

The students from Third High, however, were in a much more miserable state.

Besieged by First High and Fourth High, with Second High harassing them from the sides, the Third High students were beaten back again and again, with one of them getting eliminated every so often.

"Gao Neng... help... help me!" A Third High student, unable to hold on any longer against three attackers, began to stumble toward Chen Bai.

Chen Bai, however, merely shifted his position in silence.

"Ah!" The Third High student finally collapsed.

The other Third High students glanced over with a hint of pity but said nothing. As long as "Gao Neng" didn't die, the title of top scorer in the college entrance exam was guaranteed to go to Third High.

For "Gao Neng" to avoid being aggressive and conserve his strength... was perfectly normal behavior.

"Protect Gao Neng!"

"We can die, but Gao Neng can't!"

"For the honor of Third High!"

The Third High students yelled, forming a desperate human wall.

Just then, a yellow-feathered duck poked its head out of the lake. Then, it slowly began to approach an octopus standing on the shore.

I Can Control Resources

The sky had gradually darkened, and a bright moon rose over the lake's surface.

The number of examinees on the small island had dwindled to less than twenty.

The combat assessment had now reached what could be called its final moments. The students gritted their teeth, enduring double the pain as they fought with all their might.

Even He Haifan and Mao Shan were panting for breath at this point.

Meanwhile, Gao Neng had already used this opportunity to sneak to the shore.

RUMBLE!

The sound of the thunderstorm was drawing closer.

There really wasn't much time left.

"Kill!"

"Kill!"

The students roared.

Chen Bai kept moving toward the lake, dodging the examinees who were lunging at him.

Closer!

Closer!

Less than three meters away.

Gao Neng didn't wait any longer. He charged straight at Chen Bai.

'What is an opportunity?'

'When you're strong enough, every frontal assault is an opportunity!'

"Hmph, I've been waiting for you!" Chen Bai whipped around, seemingly having sensed Gao Neng's presence long ago, and threw a punch straight at Gao Neng's face.

"Lifeform Transformation, Copper!" Gao Neng didn't waste any words. Chen Bai's senses were too sharp; the chances of a successful sneak attack were practically zero.

'It's already a feat that I managed to get this close.' So, he directly activated his Copper Transformation and met the attack with a duck wing.

A 50% power boost!

This duck wing strike from Gao Neng had an explosive force of at least 2,000 points.

BANG!

A dull thud rang out, tinged with a metallic hum.

As for Chen Bai, he was stunned by the blow and stumbled back three steps before he could regain his footing.

"Such immense strength!" Chen Bai was genuinely shocked. He knew about Gao Neng's explosive power—over 700 points from breaking the second human limit.

It was precisely because he knew this that he had given Gao Neng the chance to get close. Besides, the punch he had just thrown wasn't actually at full power.

But the moment their fists collided, he knew something was wrong.

Gao Neng's punch was definitely not just 700!

It was at least over 2,000!

Chen Bai was a Lieutenant. He had become an Energy Warrior after breaking the second human limit, and at the time of his advancement, his explosive power was also around 700 points.

However, after becoming an Energy Warrior, his strength had advanced another step. In terms of raw physical explosive power, his was now around 2,000 points as well.

But the crux of the matter was...

He was a Tier Two Energy Warrior!

And what was Gao Neng?

A "normal person" who hadn't even stepped into the realm of Energy Warriors.

An explosive power of over 2,000 points?

'He's a monster!'

Chen Bai was so shocked his jaw nearly hit the floor...

The surrounding students, who were in the middle of their own fierce battles, were also startled by the exchange.

"Lieutenant Chen really is strong!"

"He knocked Gao Neng back with one punch... But why is he targeting Student Gao Neng?"

"Lieutenant Chen is so strong, yet he resorts to sneak attacks. Hmph!"

The students from Third High grumbled.

But Chen Bai's expression was quite grim. 'What do they mean, "Lieutenant Chen is strong"? This is a slap in the face, isn't it? They're flat-out saying I'm weaker than Gao Neng!'

"Let's go!" Gao Neng didn't hold back and charged forward again. He had gained a clear advantage with that last punch and naturally felt no fear. After all, he was burning through 2,000 Alliance Coins a minute. This was no time to hesitate.

BANG!

The two of them were instantly locked in combat.

And the surrounding students, who had been ready to curse him out some more, were now stunned.

Gao Neng and Chen Bai traded blow for blow, neither of them backing down. It was a complete head-on clash, and they were locked in a stalemate.

"Student Gao Neng is so strong! He can actually withstand Lieutenant Chen Bai's ferocious, storm-like assault!"

"He really is strong! That's Lieutenant Chen Bai we're talking about!"

"Go, Gao Neng! Don't lose to that duck! You're an octopus, have some octopus dignity!"

The students from Third High yelled.

But Chen Bai's expression grew uglier and uglier. Under Gao Neng's frenzied assault, he was actually retreating? And he was about to be pushed back into the lake.

"You brat, you're incredible! In such a short time, don't tell me you've broken through again?!" Chen Bai grew more alarmed the longer they fought, because every one of Gao Neng's punches packed a ferocious amount of power.

At least over 2,000 points!

Maybe even 2,500?!

What did that even mean? It meant that in a head-on clash, he, Chen Bai, was actually losing to a normal person who hadn't even advanced to become an Energy Warrior.

...

「Military Training Base.」

Li Qingping, Xue Jingjing, and several other principals were also dumbfounded.

'Gao Neng is clashing head-on with Chen Bai?!'

'No, Gao Neng is chasing Chen Bai down, and in terms of strength, he's actually overpowering him?'

'What is going on!'

'Are my eyes playing tricks on me? Or is Gao Neng on steroids... no, wait, duck steroids!'

...

It wasn't just Li Qingping and the others who were in shock.

In another room at the Military Training Base, Shen Ning'Er, dressed in a black military uniform, also had her small, rosy lips parted in astonishment.

"Has he... broken the third human limit?" Shen Ning'Er's eyes were as bright as stars, but she quickly shook her head. "No, it's more than the third! The fourth?!"

The thought flashed through her mind.

Even Shen Ning'Er herself found it hard to believe.

'The fourth...'

'How many people in the Alliance have broken the Fourth Human Limit? The total number is probably less than twenty! And among them, every single one is either a high-ranking official in the Alliance or a peerless genius.'

For example, she, Shen Ning'Er, was one of them.

But that wasn't the crucial point. The issue was that Gao Neng's rate of progress was simply too fast.

'During the last fitness test, his explosive power was over 700 points. How many days has it been since then? He went from the second human limit to the fourth?'

Shen Ning'Er's brows furrowed.

Her fingers tapped restlessly on the desk in front of her.

'The incident at the Golden Grand Hotel.'

'The matter of the underground factory...'

'And he even solo-killed a Dark Elf...'

'Looking back on these events now, none of them seemed like something Gao Neng should have been able to accomplish.'

"Chen Bai!" Shen Ning'Er picked up a controller from the desk, pressed a button, and spoke into it. "Stop holding back. In this combat assessment, his score is already impossible for anyone to surpass. Since that's the case, we might as well see his true strength!"

...

「Virtual Battlefield, on the small island.」

A flash of light swept through. The duck was gone, as was the octopus, the monkey, the rhino, and the rabbit. All the students had returned to their original forms.

This left the students momentarily stunned.

'We're human again?'

As the students registered their surprise, their eyes were subconsciously drawn to the two figures locked in a fierce battle not far away.

"Are my eyes playing tricks on me... I think I just saw the duck turn into Gao Neng?! But I thought the duck was Lieutenant Chen Bai?"

"The duck was Gao Neng? Impossible, right? You must be seeing things..."

"Am I really seeing things? But why is it the other way around now? It looks like Gao Neng is overwhelming Lieutenant Chen! Look, the Lieutenant is retreating... he's about to be pushed into the lake!"

The students exclaimed in shock.

Meanwhile, Chen Bai was feeling more and more bitter.

He had heard Shen Ning'Er's words. But her telling him to stop holding back? He really *wished* he was holding back, but the problem was, he was going all out!

'Major, can't you see that?!

'Am I, a Tier Two Energy Warrior, really going to be forced to use my energy powers by a normal person?'

When Chen Bai saw that both he and Gao Neng had reverted to their human forms, he understood Shen Ning'Er's intentions. 'But isn't this taking things too far? It's just bullying at this point.'

"Gao Neng, I'm sorry. A soldier's duty is to obey orders. I, Chen Bai, can afford to lose face, but I cannot afford to let the Military Department lose face!" After being forced back two more steps by Gao Neng, Chen Bai finally gritted his teeth and pulled out a black high-dimensional capsule.

CRACK!

He crushed the high-dimensional capsule.

A mass of black iron energy instantly surged out and covered Chen Bai's arms and torso, forming a pair of gauntlets and a breastplate.

"Whoa, Lieutenant Chen is using his iron energy?!"

"No way! Gao Neng, run! The Lieutenant is breaking the rules!"

"..."

The students were aghast.

He Haifan and Mao Shan stood frozen in place. 'So this is Gao Neng? The same Gao Neng they had schemed so hard to defeat?'

'Does he have to be this strong? It's a completely different league!'

"Gao Neng, I'm bullying you today. When you become an Energy Warrior in the future, you can come and get your revenge at any time!" Chen Bai no longer paid any attention to the surrounding chatter and threw a punch at Gao Neng.

Gao Neng met it with a punch of his own.

Then, at the instant their fists collided, the gauntlet on Chen Bai's hand suddenly contracted, and a jet of hot air blasted from its back.

THUMP!

Gao Neng went flying.

'For fuck's sake!'

'Is that even allowed?!'

'The gauntlet has a contracting mechanism? And it can blast hot air!'

'Ref!'

'That's a foul!'

'I'm fucking done! Can I just quit? Don't you know I've already been fighting for three minutes? That's 6,000 Alliance Coins gone, and now you pull this shit on me?'

'I'm almost broke!'

(The sixth Helmsman of this book, '___神_', has been born! Everyone is urging for more updates and a burst of Chapters. Just wait a few days. When the book goes on sale on the 1st, I'll deliver that burst! The final battle is imminent, please give me some recommendation tickets to charge up my energy! Let's make writing even more passionate!)