#### **Dungeon S 161**

# **Chapter 161 Guardian of the Fores**

The Boar Knights were rental monsters that had been on discount when Jin had first accessed the Dungeon Maker. The knights were similar to Nyanmi but the rental cost of Nyanmi was equivalent to ten of these boar knights.

Jin initially thought that getting more rental monsters would bring more variety to the table. However, his funds were severely limited by the decision he made in the Dungeon World so he had not touched any rental monsters for the time being with the exception of these boar knights and Nyanmi. Nonetheless, it was a good idea to increase the variety. Jin also wanted to buy the Boar Knights outright like what he had done with Nyanmi but for some reason, he never felt any decent connection or bond with them, so he decided to just keep them as rentals.

Separately, in terms of monsters, the Boar Knights, and Boar people as a whole, were quite different from werebeasts like the Jacks. The Boarmen had a boar head and legs with a humanoid body while the Werejackals were humans that could transform into Jackal Humanoids.

As he was watching the father-daughter duo's fight, since there were currently no new customers, he heard footsteps entering his store. "Boss Jin! How are you? Just popping by to say hi!" Xue Ping brought Lee An along to drop by Boss Jin's store for a moment.

"I am not too bad, busy with work?" Jin noticed that they were each holding onto a panda packaging wrapped around a piping hot Black Pepper Pork Bun, waiting for the buns to cool down a little. Eventually, Lee An was too hungry and immediately grab a bite out of the tasty looking bun despite its temperature.

"We had sort of some minor investigation going on but when we heard that it's near Tiangong Shopping District, we thought we could come and say hi to you after our work. Oh, and the buns are so much tastier than before!" Xue Ping replied as she could not resist a bite herself.

"It's definitely meatier, the flavours are slightly stronger, and there is this warm kind of feeling that comes along with it too. No doubt this is one of the best buns I've ever eaten." Lee An talked with his mouth full and did not care about his appearance a single bit.

"Eh? Is that?!" Xue Ping just realised that Boss Jin was standing near Station 1 watching the dungeon fight and noticed someone familiar. Lee An was suddenly curious due to Xue Ping's comment and took a look too. He almost dropped his bun on the floor.

"Is he someone special?" Jin asked since he vaguely remembered Jing Ru saying that her father was a police sniper.

"If I am not mistaken, he is one of the top snipers in the police force of our entire province but he did not wish to be promoted because of the workload it would bring. He said he wanted to spend more time with his new family." Xue Ping answered Jin's question as she double checked the name that was on Station 1's TV.

"Is he that good?" Jin asked once more, and Xue Ping laughed. "Continue watching and you can judge him for yourself. Though I think he is hiding his true ability from his stepdaughter. Oh erm, I meant

daughter. Boss, please keep that to yourself!" Xue Ping realised she had messed up when Lee An knocked her on her head.

"Oh... Do not worry, I would not say it out." Jin nodded his head and continued to watch the dungeon fight as the two police detectives walked themselves out of the store with Lee An pinching Xue Ping on her cheeks for her careless remark.

-----

Even though Ren Wei's tracking skills were hardly used ever since he got into the police force, it proved to be quite beneficial when it came to searching for a reckless wounded large boar. The boar was panting really heavily and the goblin was beaten to the point that treating his wounds conventionally would only prolong his suffering.

Both father and daughter took a look at the injuries of the boar and tried to assess if they could do anything for it. It was at this moment that they heard the rustling of the leaves, which immediately made both of them pull out their air pistols out from their holsters.

"Stop! They are not the enemy..." The beaten sword goblin used whatever strength he had left to shout. It was then Jing Ru faced her air pistols downwards and saw two other goblins slowly walk out of the bushes. Ren Wei realised that the goblins were talking the same common language as them to hear too, which he found quite immersive for a dungeon instance. He did not believe that there could be an actual plot to a dungeon instance.

"What happened to you and Mr Oink?" The cloaked dagger goblin came and agilely removed the chains from the sword goblin's neck and limbs. The spear goblin took some medication out and started pasting medicated leaves onto Mr Oink's wounds while the dagger goblin gave the sword goblin a small potion to drink.

"We were ambushed and these metal clunking Boarman kept calling Mr Oink some Great Variant. I tried to fend them off, but there were too many of them. They later defeated me and quickly chained me up for the crime of 'holding the Great Variant'." The sword goblin finally had the strength to talk properly after drinking the potion.

"I think they called it the Great Variant because... ehh Mr Oink, was it? He had two more legs than the boars they were riding." Ren Wei projected his conjecture, which attracted the goblins' attention.

"Dad, it's not just that, you do not know about Mr Oink. He actually has a second form if he gets too injured." Jing Ru interjected her knowledge about Mr Oink. "So, if I am not wrong, as long as Mr Oink is not entirely dead, he can grow back to his first form again."

"But that will take ages, probably a goblin lifetime." The Spear Goblin chuckled.

"Still, he is one of the guardians of the forest, we cannot let him get captured by some weird knights and his King." The Sword Goblin managed to stand up for a while before he dropped to the ground again.

"I am sorry for the late reply but thank you for saving my friend as well as the Guardian of the Forest." The cloaked dagger goblin raised his hand and Ren Wei shook it firmly.

"Anyway, we can help?" Ren Wei asked directly. He knew that the knights were relentless and they would definitely come back with more manpow- no, more Boarpower to capture the goblins and Mr. Oink.

"We have nothing to offer you but possible death if you assist us. Are you still willing to help?" The cloaked dagger goblin said bluntly.

"Is this all you got?" Ren Wei asked once again with regards to the number of goblins they have and the dagger goblin nodded its head.

"We three are the only ones left that patrol the Goblin Forest. Even if we die, the forest will somehow recreate us again to protect its secrets. The Guardians are the same as us but capturing the forest guardians, on the other hand, is another issue altogether." The spear goblin commented.

"So you guys would rather fight to the death for this secret forest than be captured? Aren't you all curious about the secrets this forest holds?" Jing Ru questioned them and they all shook their head.

"No, we definitely do not wish to be killed but we will die for the cause if we have to. Also, all we know is that there is an abandoned stone temple in the middle of the forest. We have never gone in there before and never wish to." The cloaked dagger goblin answered.

"But we will have to if you all want to survive." Ren Wei said with certainty, which made the goblins doubt themselves a little.

"Regardless, I believe that the Knights will need to regroup, or perhaps call in more reinforcements in order to hunt down Mr Oink now that they have an unexpected variable, us. So we have time on our hands to prepare." Jing Ru suggested, which made Ren Wei pause to wonder.

"They said they have nothing to offer, yet you wish to help them?" Ren Wei asked and Jing Ru pouted at her stepdad. "Mom would do the same right? She married you because she trusted that you would do more good than her."

Ren Wei was stunned for a while before he smiled like a fool. "That's true, let's do this."

.

### Chapter 162 Lay of the Land

"Mr Oink can bring you around the forest quickly while I go ahead and scout for the Boar Knights." the Dagger Goblin informed Ren Wei and Jing Ru before and he immediately disappeared into the shadows of the forests.

"Mister Ren Wei, I will show you a good vantage point so that you can get an overall view of this forest." The spear goblin beckoned them to follow him while Mr Oink let the Sword Goblin ride on him so that he could rest a little longer as they tagged along behind the spear goblin.

As the entire group ventured through the forest, they eventually came across a small pathway that led up a ginormous tree. It was so narrow that it barely allowed Ren Wei to walk up, let alone the armoured boar knights. Hence, Mr Oink sat down near the pathway with the sword goblin while the spear goblin continued to lead the way for the human duo.

"Careful with your steps. Do not let the scenery and height to distract your footing." The spear goblin was climbing up the giant tree swiftly and with grace, clearly displaying that he had done it many times before. Climbing the tree held some difficulty for Jing Ru and Ren Wei but they eventually managed to make it to the top to behold the beautiful view of the forest's canopy.

"This feels so real." Ren Wei took a deep breath in and the air was avidly fresh as it entered his lungs. To watch this landscape view of the serene top of the forest with Jing Ru had already made this entire dungeon trip worth it. To see her so happy... so relaxed, her emotions unrestrained as compared to the times she tried to behave well and proper when he was at home with her. It in a way comforted Ren Wei's heart.

"There, I believe you can see that distant castle in the north? That's the Boarman Castle. While you might not be able to see it clearly, there is-"

"Major movement from the North, marching towards the south. A regiment of roughly 40 odd people, sorry, I meant boars." The spear goblin was surprised that Ren Wei was able to deduce that immediately...but later realised that he actually had his binoculars out and they had thermal functions.

"Wow, Dad you really are going all out! You even brought your expensive thermal binoculars?" Jing Ru was pleasantly shocked that her Dad brought out his personal set of gear for the dungeons. "Why not? This is in fact still a sort of battlefield that I am participating in. You cannot underestimate your enemy in any way."

"I know the Dagger Goblin well enough that I know he will purposely mislead them to certain parts of the forest. This will give us ample time to set up any traps we or set up ambush positions." the Spear Goblin commented as he started to show Ren Wei the layout of the goblin forest.

"If I am not mistaken, the dagger goblin will be leading them to the Venus Animal-traps. If they are still stupid enough to follow him through them and somehow make it through, he will most likely lead them to the poison venting trees. It should reduce their numbers by a fair bit." The spear goblin remarked and Jing Ru raised her hand as if she was in class.

"Question, venus animal-traps?" The spear goblin laughed and apologised for not explaining.

"They are actually trees that eat live prey, they attract their unknowing prey with a beautiful scent or even an illusion of a female dryad. But usually, the live prey is eaten up because they wandered too close to the meat loving trees." The Spear Goblin said as he passed a protective charm each to Ren Wei and Jing Ru.

"These charms will stop the meat eating trees from targeting you as well as providing a thin layer of protection against the poison. That does not mean you can stay there for long though." The spear goblin explained.

"Then the dagger goblin has this with him too?" Jing Ru asked but the goblin surprisingly shook his head.

"We are immune to the forest's weapons as we protect its secrets. Therefore, we transverse unhindered," he replied.

"Lastly, right behind this big tree is where the hidden temple is. If what you say is true and we really do have to fall back to that place, I need to say that I have no clue what lies in store for us." The spear goblin stared at Ren Wei for a moment and he understood clearly from the goblin that he really did not wish to disturb the inner peace of the temple.

"I cannot promise you that we won't have to take cover in there but I can promise you that if we ever do, I will make sure that no survivors will ever report what they find back to their superiors. I will also promise you that neither of us will take anything from there for personal benefit." Ren Wei was dead serious with his statements, which comforted and reassured the spear goblin.

"From their speed along with the density of the forest, I presume they will eventually have to get off their riding boars and walk through the danger zones. But let's say they somehow knew where Mr Oink is hiding because I'm pretty sure we can assume he is hiding. How should we proceed?" Ren Wei said as they started to walk down the tree's pathway.

"Ehh Dad! You are thinking too much, just bring Mr Oink with us as bait." Jing Ru answered.

"But don't you have to make sure your asset is safe rather than putting it in a risky position?"

"Heehee! We are in a dungeon, worst case scenario we can just try again." Jing Ru laughed and Ren Wei sighed with a smile on his face. "Well at the moment young lady, you are not the one paying." He gave a light knock on Jing Ru's head as they reached the forest floor and Jing Ru stuck her tongue out at him.

In the end, the two humans and the two goblins along with one energetic Mr Oink came together as they discussed how to proceed.

"We will take roughly 10 minutes to reach to the Venus Animal-traps so that should give us some time to get some personal traps set up before they get there." Ren Wei said as he placed his bag and storage ring on the ground alongside Jing Ru's to have an inventory check.

"We have claymores, landmines, a few bear traps, shock traps and even automated pitfall traps... Oh, some explosive caltrops too!" Jing Ru said it out aloud and Ren Wei looked at her with a curious expression.

"Where did you even get all these kind of traps? I thought we only brought training claymores for dungeon instances." The father was slightly concerned about his daughter's choice of weaponry.

"Hahaha! I got it all from Boss Jin's underground general and weapon store! They were having some minor discount so I took the chance to buy the items that I wanted. Oh, I also got myself a nice looking dress from there too." Jing Ru smiled innocently but Ren Wei could not imagine the amount of money she had spent. She assured him those traps can only work in the dungeons and were bound by a standard restraining spell similar to the training claymores which could not be used outside of a dungeon instance.

"Ohhhhh I know that look Dad. No, I did not spend any more money than you gave me for the dungeon instances. All these can only be bought with panda medal coins. So in a way, they are all kind of like my

rewards for winning Jin's dungeons. They are not that easy to obtain at all!" Jing Ru had a slightly proud expression on her face, which startled Ren Wei as he looked at her with a devious smile.

"I have my own set of weaponry too and judging from what I have just seen, I know you will like them." Ren Wei smirked as he took out his extensive gear of weapons.

Jing Ru's eyes sparkled.

# **Chapter 163 Trap Setup**

There were a few customers who had just finished their dungeon runs and had decided to chill at the bar counter for a while before they left until they noticed Station 1's playthrough. "Wait a minute... you can actually ally with the goblins?!" One of the male customers who was holding onto a bamboo juice was stunned.

His other friends who were discussing a different topic stopped and looked towards Station 1 too. "Hey, that's true! You can ally with the goblins too." A bespectacled friend of his confirmed his query.

"How did they do it? I thought we had to kill the goblins and Mr Oink?" the same customer who had found out about this anomaly quickly asked Yun, who was nearest to the bar counter. She giggled a little and said "Did we actually say that you had to fight against the goblins? All we have described was just the story. Your decision of choosing which side you want to fight for is just the beginning of the story that you create for yourself in the dungeon. That is the beauty of Jin's story themed dungeons."

"Ohhh! But still, wow, fighting against the boar knights would be a challenge." The group of customers agreed since they had sided the boar knights and knew that they had a trump card which the goblins did not know about.

"It will be interesting to see how these two long-ranged cultivators fight against the Boar Knights' trump card. In the meantime, Yun, can I have that cheesecake dessert you mentioned?" The male customers each ordered a cheesecake and continued to watch Ren Wei and Jing Ru fight against all odds.

-----

Mr Oink had Ren Wei, Jing Ru and the two goblins on its back on the way to the Venus Animal-traps habitat. After which, Ren Wei took out his binoculars to check how far the enemies were and how much time they would have to set up traps in this area before the enemy reached them.

"Roughly about one kilometre away. Jing Ru, place the bear traps near those two trees and roughly a few steps after it, place a pitfall trap near that large rock. Before putting the pitfall trap, Spear goblin, would you mind helping me tie these three grenades together? Two explosive and one flashbang above that tree with a stone as a counterweight. "Renwei ordered his daughter and the spear goblin, which they acknowledged immediately.

Meanwhile, he was analysing the possible sniping positions where they could provide support during the confusion. He did not know how these Venus animal-traps worked but he would have to adapt as the situation developed.

"Once you are done, Jing Ru go ride with Mr Oink to the poison-venting trees and find suitable ambush positions for traps. As usual, mark those traps with our standard signals so when we fall back, I will then know where not to step."

"You sure you don't want to supervise the trap placing yourself?" Jing Ru finished setting up the bear traps. Jin's supplied traps were easier to affix as compared to the ones in real life. With just a simple application of chi energy, the bear traps opened up. Of course, before opening the traps, Jing Ru had already camouflaged the trap with the surrounding mud and soil along with some leaves. The traps were new so they were a little shiny and the glare might ring alarm bells for the boar knights.

"No, I trust your judgement and creativity." Ren Wei smiled at her but deep inside he had a selfish motive. "Besides, I want to try out a few new techniques... just not in front of you." He thought to himself. Jing Ru accepted her father's praise as she along with the Spear Goblin rode off to the next area.

"You are not following them?" Ren Wei asked the sword goblin and he smirked in reply. "Like I can let you have all the fun."

"Hahaha, it's just something that I do not wish to let my daughter see for now." Ren Wei immediately revealed his cultivation as he performed his technique to set up the entire area with traps. Four Muskrats? No. Six Muskrat silhouettes were running around holding muskets in their hands above Ren Wei.

"Oh my god! That simple looking guy is a Rank 6 cultivator?!" The male customers who were enjoying their cheesecakes nearly puked it all out. Even Jin was shocked while Yun sniggered since she already knew his cultivation level as soon as he entered the store.

"Advanced Muskrat Art, Ambush of the Muskrats. Advanced Rifle Arts, Ten Musket Rifles Whistling." Ren Wei's advanced trap art allowed the six muskrats that were once silhouettes turn semi corporeal as they quickly picked up the assortment of traps Ren Wei had initially placed on the ground and started to place them as quickly as possible in places he already had planned in his mind.

Meanwhile, his advanced rifle arts allowed him to have ten chi bullets at his command. Instead of shooting the bullets through a rifle, all he had to do was whistle and the chi bullet would execute his command to kill or injure someone...or some boar. This was an assassination technique which he was barely able to use during his service in the police force due to obvious reasons. He learned it because it was part of the cultivation manual but he never really tried it out in the field.

Separately, the semi corporeal muskrats were running around carrying traps that were stronger than what Jing Ru had bought. Shock traps? Of course not! Ren Wei's version was a Thunder Blast trap, a version stronger than a basic shock trap. Pitfall trap? Pfft, good joke! His Spikefall trap had spikes at the bottom of the pitfall.

Ren Wei did this away from the sight of Jing Ru because he himself did not want Jing Ru to see the brutal side of his cultivation and its techniques. They were here to have fun, but to Ren Wei, using skills and techniques he was not allowed to use during work was also a type of fun. Of course, Ren Wei would not annihilate them all as he still wanted to leave some boar knights for Jing Ru to practice on.

When the muskrats had set the traps, they immediately disappeared and Ren Wei hid on top of a comfortable tree branch that allowed him to oversee almost every single Venus Animal-trap.

The Sword Goblin did not care about the methods Ren Wei used but smirked all of a sudden. "The bastard knights are coming. Enjoy Mr Sniper."

.

.

## **Chapter 164 Boar Knights**

"Hah! That dagger goblin thinks that we will be tired while running because we have heavy armour on!" Royal Boar Knight Hamlet snorted with arrogance as he and his regiment of elite boar knights continued to chase after the sole goblin. The boar knights were enchanted with a spell that made their armour light so running was not an issue for them.

It happened when the dagger goblin silently assassinated one of the mage boar knights. Their mage knight was one of the few knights who had practically no armour on, which allowed the dagger goblin to completely surprise the mage knight and kill him in one blow.

Such an action enraged Royal Boar Knight Hamlet as mage knights were not easy to find and replace due to their exceptional talents in detecting where the enemy would be and supporting the entire regiment with buffs.

Regardless, Hamlet was joyful when he saw the goblin slow down considerably, especially when they charged through the forest, destroying obstacle courses of complex flora as they chased down the goblin.

Eventually, the dagger goblin stopped and tried to climb a tree but to slipped and fell. Of course, it was merely a ruse to let Hamlet feel that his objective of capturing or killing the goblin was nigh.

"Ha! You pitiful green ugly! You deserve the punishment of my Hammer!" Bacon, a Quasi Royal Knight, faithful to Hamlet, shouted as he brought out his hammer and the rest of the Boar Knights finally took a breather to watch the show.

As the hammer fell to break the ground, the dagger goblin used his lightning reflexes and leapt across a small opening between two trees. Unfortunately, Bacon did not run into the hidden bear trap. Instead, he too leapt through the small opening of the two trees, hoping to destroy the tree in the process as he aimed to catch the pesky goblin.

It was at this moment that branches from both trees became animated as they grabbed onto Bacon and started to poke through his armour to hold tightly onto him. "What the?!!" Bacon felt the tree branches penetrating into his skin and it was causing him immense pain, although it was still bearable for a boar man. However, Bacon was immobilised and could not move.

That was when he realised his blood and energy were being sapped away and into the trees. "Damn it! These trees are Venus Animal-traps!" Hamlet shouted as he commanded a few of his knights to get Bacon out of the trees.

### "SNAP!"

A boar knight suddenly shouted in agony as the knight realised that there was actually a well-hidden bear trap right beside the two trees. "Traps?!" Hamlet then found out that the dagger goblin had probably led them into an ambush area but there was still no signs of movement around.

"Maybe it is just a solitary trap but just in case... Shield Cavalry! Surround me and observe for a possible ambush! Hammer Cavalry, continue helping Sir Bacon out of that blood sapping tree quickly! One of you go and help that poor sod in the bear trap. Sword and Lance Cavalries, search the area thoroughly for that stupid goblin." Hamlet shouted as the remaining boar knights split up to do what was needed of them.

However, that order was soon to create a heavy blow on the Knights' morale and it all started when a couple of the hammer cavalry knights under Bacon went around the tree to try and pull Bacon out. As they simultaneously pulled Bacon out of the blood sapping trees, the momentum caused them to step backwards, activating the pitfall trap that was hidden a few steps behind the two trees.

Five Hammer Boar Knights along with Sir Bacon fell into the pitfall trap and in that chaos, a bullet shot which was muffled by the boars' own shouting and snorting noise removed the counterweight of the stone that was holding onto the live grenades.

Unknowingly, a bright flash of blinding light distracted the Boar Knights. That flash was followed by an explosion which occurred inside the pitfall trap, causing the Boar Knights, including Bacon, who were trapped inside to be badly wounded. One of the fallen knights died because of the weight of five other boar man crashing onto him. The explosion of the grenades sealed the deal.

As the dust settled and his eyes recovered, Hamlet looked around to see more boar knights lying around the area, only to find two goblins taking the opportunity to ensure that the fallen boar knights were killed properly. Ren Wei's standard bullet shots were sufficient to drop the boar knights but the knights were too sturdy to die from a bullet wound so the goblins went in for the follow up kill.

Hamlet became extremely enraged by the loss of his comrades as he shouted at the top of his lungs and charged furiously towards the two goblins, only to suddenly feel the exact same sensation he had experienced just an hour or so ago.

# "BANG!"

Hamlet fell to the ground again while he realised the shot had hit his torso this time round. The armour he was wearing had helped reduce the damage the bullet could have dealt but there was still some bleeding.

The Shield Boar Knights rushed towards Hamlet and once again a healer managed to heal and support Hamlet. "What in the bollocks! Where is the remaining Mage Knight? Why can't he find that human archer!" Hamlet knew that the human who had just shot him was the same human that had shot him

not so long ago. Hamlet was certain. He was very positive that it was the same dreaded person that had interfered with the taming process of the Great Variant.

"I have found him Sir Hamlet! The trace was too hidden that I had to cast the detection magic again to confirm what I saw. He is right over there hiding on the top of that particular -" Before he could finish his sentence, two chi bullets went through his eyeballs and blood spurted out from the mage boar knight's eye sockets, which sprayed all over Sir Hamlet's face. The mage knight lifelessly dropped to the ground, which caused even the staunchest of knights to cast doubts on whether they could survive...

"Bang!" Another bullet shot was heard but this time around. It skidded through the tip of Hamlet's short tusk, which startled him once again. "Shit!" Hamlet quickly lowered his head. The Shield Boar Knights continued to carry out their duty of protecting their Royal Knight but instead of facing the enemy like a true fearless knight, they all hid behind their shields as they trembled in dread and horror. The morale of the entire boar knight regiment was in shambles.

-----

While Jing Ru was placing the traps where she thought was suitable for a decent ambush in the area filled poison venting trees, Mr Oink was actually lazing around right beside the spear goblin. The goblin knew that everything would be fine since Ren Wei was leading the other two.

Everything was going rather smoothly until Jing Ru felt a sudden blast of heavy spiritual force coursing through the area. The male customers who were watching the highlights were on the edge of the seats as they knew what was coming. The trump card of the Boar Knights.

The Reigning Regal Boar, 'Little' Miss Buu.

.

.

# **Chapter 165 Little Miss Buu**

That blast of spiritual force fired off by Little Miss Buu made Jing Ru barely able to maintain her composure. In the meantime, Ren Wei also felt a small part of the same sensation coming from the poison vent trees. "This is very bad, to have a sensation from a blast of spiritual force so far away means its really strong." Ren Wei then realised that the Boar Knights he was fighting were suitable for Jing Ru to handle but the monster with such substantial spiritual force should have been meant for him instead.

Hence, Ren Wei immediately revealed himself and decided to move towards the Poison Venting Trees. "Do not worry about here, follow Dagger, he will guide you. I will keep the boar knights busy." The sword goblin swung his sword around to flaunt his sword skills to provoke the boar knights while the dagger goblin guided Ren Wei. At the same time, the dagger goblin decided to speed up when he saw that Ren Wei managed to keep up with ease.

"Come fatties, Let's have a rematch." The sword goblin purposely spat on one of the dead boar knights and beckoned Hamlet to come for it.

"You will regret it now that you are alone." Hamlet's anger soared once again and its confidence grew when he saw that he could finally take revenge on the goblin without fearing the sniping human archer.

-----

"Buu Buuu Buuuu!!" Little Miss Buu snorted as it waved its short chubby arms around. The female prized boar was being carried by four unyielding boar knights on top of a palanquin throne filled with cushions and pillows. There was even an umbrella on the palanquin throne and she was using telekinesis magic to grab food from the table of the large palanquin throne and place it into her mouth.

The Regal Boar pointed at the Spear Goblin and Mr Oink and gestured for them to give up before she would be forced to do anything nasty to them. Thankfully, Jing Ru was near a poison venting tree when the blast of spirit force had been fired so she had not been discovered. She decided to hide behind momentarily so that she could recover her breath from the spiritual force strain. However, Jing Ru could also see that her charm was waning by being so close to a poison venting tree.

"Oink! Oink!" Mr Oink issued a challenge against Little Miss Buu but she just laughed, which came out as a snort. With a wave of her short hoofs, a magical circle appeared right above her and a mud rock that was enhanced with magic was shot out of the magical circle. The mud rock attack completely missed as Spear Goblin pulled a tassel of Mr Oink's hair to control his movement around the poison venting trees as they ran further away from the Little Miss Buu.

When Jing Ru took a closer look of Little Miss Buu, she discovered that this 'Little' Miss Buu was not little at all. The amount of fat on its body would have been a lifetime supply of mountain boar meat for tens if not hundreds of people. The fat on her belly looked really enticing even for Jing Ru as she realised she had yet to eat her lunch before coming to Jin's store.

Upon reviewing the whole situation, Jing Ru knew that Mr Oink was running away so that Little Miss Buu would pursue him. This way, they would be able to take advantage of the traps Jing Ru had placed. However, seeing how powerful the regal boar was, Jing Ru thought that she could only weaken it enough before her Dad could show up and take care of it.

Also, monsters with magical abilities would most likely have a magical barrier or shield that reduced the amount of damage done to it. If Jing Ru wanted to act, she would have to act swiftly and decisively for her only advantage at the moment was the element of surprise. That was when Jing Ru remembered the weaponry that she had taken from her father's collection.

A rocket propelled grenade.

To her luck, the poison that was venting out of the trees was actually chlorine gas. She did not exactly want to know about but she was forced to when the charm's powers of protection were all used up and Jing Ru had to take a whiff of it. Fortunately, like every prepared huntsman, she brought out her gas mask and wore it for protection.

A shot of an RPG and chlorine gas? That's quite the cocktail for disaster but Jing Ru figured the gas was probably not concentrated enough to make an impact against the magical barrier shield. Still, she decided to give it a try.

Little Miss Buu was relentless in her attacks too. Somehow, she too had learned that the gas would be dangerous if she used fire related attacks in this area so she had stuck to earth magic to shoot at Mr Oink and the Spear Goblin instead. However, they were agilely traversing the forested areas, unlike the knights who had to ensure that there was sufficient space for their Regal Boar to travel comfortably. Of course, Little Miss Buu made the effort to remove the trees if necessary when they blocked the knights' pathway.

Meanwhile, Jing Ru still stuck to the bushes to avoid being seen by the chasing palanquin until Mr Oink cleverly brought Little Miss Buu closer to a special area that Jing Ru had painstakingly prepared.

"Buuu! Buuu!" The Regal Boar was tired of chasing and started summoning tens of magical rocks, ready to throw them all at once at Mr Oink. That was when Mr Oink began to go on the offensive with a tug of his tassel of hair by the spear goblin.

"BAM!" The headstrong Mr Oink collided loudly against the magical shield of Little Miss Buu but it did not let up and continuously charged against the shield. Left with no choice, Little Miss Buu had to redirect some of her magical powers to maintain the shield. During that time, the spear goblin stood up on the Mr Oink's back and initiated a basic spear art he had learnt from the cultivators over time, Deep Thrust. With all his might, the spear goblin focused all its strength and energy onto the spear and pierced at the shield, causing it to drastically reduce in strength.

At that point, Little Miss Buu gave up on conserving strength and decided to unleash five mystical rock shots at her aggressors. The damage was severe as the rocks smashed into the spear goblin's head and even destroyed one of Mr Oink's tusks. But Mr Oink and the spear goblin still remained strong as they striking at the shield, seemingly unfazed by the damage. The spear goblin decided to pour all his strength into his attacks while Mr Oink charged even more furiously. Eventually, their efforts paid off as Jing Ru saw a minute crack beginning to form on the front of the shield barrier through the scope of her personal rifle Winterwolf.

# "BANG!"

A charged chi shot was fired without any warning and the energised rotating air bullet spiralled its way towards the crack, causing the shield barrier to shatter into thousands of pieces before dissipating into the air.

"Disperse now!" Jing Ru shouted towards the Goblin and Boar duo as she dropped her rifle and jumped out from the tree she was hiding behind. She then leapt towards the palanquin throne with two Uzis, a handgun style machine gun capable of bursts of bullets, firing at the front two Boar Knights that were holding onto the palanquin. The boars soaked up the bullets like a sponge but also like a sponge, all excess that it couldn't take oozed out as blood leaked out from their bodies.

This caused the palanquin throne to become unstable and caused Little Miss Buu to fall to the ground involuntarily. Her clean, untainted body touched the forest's mud and the broken shield caused her to breathe in the chlorine gas. At this crucial moment, Jing Ru threw a gunny sack full of items at Little Miss Buu.

The Regal Boar somehow caught the sack and noticed a variety of metal items in that bag. Some were small and looked like a pine cone while others were round shaped. Regardless, that period of distraction granted Jing Ru the chance to take out her ultimate weapon, the rocket launcher, from her storage ring.

Without much aiming since she was practically firing at point blank range, Jing Ru braced herself for death because she knew that she would not survive the explosion at such close proximity.

"Click"

The RPG roared vociferously as it flew out of the launcher and towards Little Miss Buu. Before she could react, she was engulfed by a blinding white light. A light so bright that it probably brought her to pork heaven. The destruction of the area was stupendous as the explosion was monumental when it interacted with the chlorine gas in the area. Obviously, Mr Oink and the spear goblin knew that Jing Ru would do something big so they had already started running away from the area but they did not expect the radius of the explosion to be this vast.

Even Ren Wei had to stabilise himself from the aftershock as he was running towards their battlefield. "Holy... Jing Ru, you are one heck of a daughter." Ren Wei stopped in his tracks to voice a little prayer as a sign of acknowledgement for her efforts since he was unable to contact her via voice transmission.

"Looks like Daddy will have to clear the dungeon or else this your death, despite it being temporary, will have been in vain." Ren Wei talked to himself as he looked at the dagger goblin and returned to the Venus Animal-traps.

.

## **Chapter 166 No Mercy**

"Hmm that explosion? Pretty good... I rate it a 7.9 out of 10. Clever use of the environment to induce such a scale of kaboom." Peppers came out and observed with Jin for a while. It reminded Jin of the past where he had also been judged for destroying the abandoned Shanghai Tower while running away from a horde of zombies as well as receiving a fairly harsh score from her. It did felt like ages ago when that happened.

"Why 7.9? What did she do wrong?" Jin asked Peppers, who was continuously writing notes on the fight. She was diligently doing the job that had been assigned by Jin, which was to note the mistakes each cultivator had made and how they could improve. Jin mainly needed her to do that because he eventually wanted to create a teaching class with Peppers as the teacher.

Instructors were needed in the gym for the techniques and body but the application of those skills was an entirely different matter. With Peppers' mind akin to an ocean of knowledge, it would be a pity not to use that knowledge to earn some extra cash. Since the system recorded every single battle in detail, Peppers could review with the cultivators as a group or individually so that they could improve their skills.

However, in order to do that, Peppers needed to gather more knowledge about every person. She was definitely not some superhuman who knew the weakness of a person just by touching him.

"She killed herself, that's where she went wrong. If she did not die from the explosion, Her score would be roughly in the high 8's or highly difficult 9s." Peppers sniggered as she imagined herself creating the explosion impeccably. Regardless, both Jin and Peppers knew that the end was nigh since Little Miss Buu was, in a way, the final boss. All Ren Wei had to do was clean up the rest of the Boar Knights.

-----

"Hahaha! Finally caught this bugger!" Hamlet panted as he kicked the chained up sword goblin which had been captured once again. The damage dealt by the sword goblin was more than enough to earn him a badge of honour by the standards of the Boar Knights.

Utilising the traps that had been placed by Ren Wei previously, the sword goblin had managed to defeat the groups of knuckleheads who just wanted revenge for their comrades. The thunderblast traps electrocuted the poor boar knights into charred barbecued pork encased in burnt metal. Not to mention, the Spikefall traps were activated by the heavy weighing boar knights, causing them to become delicious kebabs.

Only with the combined efforts of Hamlet and his shield knights had they managed to encircle the sword goblin and subsequently pummel him to death. They then chained the dead goblin up with the intention of using him as a trophy as well as a memorial for the knights he had killed.

As the boar knights were celebrating by brandishing the dead goblin around, they did not know that a sniper already had its barrel aimed at them. "Advanced Rifle Arts, Hyper Beam." Ren Wei whispered as he chanted his Rifle Art technique. The six muskrats silhouettes did not appear above his head and instead materialised right beside his Barrett Sniper Rifle, a weapon he had changed to midway from the classic M1 Garand rifle so that he could focus on his sniping abilities.

The six muskrat silhouettes, while corporeal, held onto his sniper rifle like multiple bipods as Ren Wei began to half squeeze his trigger in order to charge up the rifle shot. He knew that Hamlet was the leader of the Knights right from the beginning, even before he left the battlefield in an attempt to save Jing Ru. But he thought that he could get rid of most of them and leave Hamlet for Jing Ru to finish. He did not know what had happened but the dagger goblin assured him that the trees in the forest had commended Jing Ru on a fine job killing an enemy far stronger than her.

One of the muskrat silhouettes suddenly turned to Ren Wei and gave him a thumbs up, indicating that the rifle was charged and ready to fire. "No Mercy." His index finger squeezed down on the trigger fully and a large energised chi beam was fired from the end of the barrel. Smoke and energy heated up the flora around the sniper, causing it to burn. Despite the blast, there was no sound other than the crack of the rifle barrel from overheating.

Without noticing anything, the rest of the boar knights did not see an incoming beam of whitish yellow energy that signified their doom and eradicated them from the face of this dungeon instance. Their faces were never to be seen again and Ren Wei completed the dungeon with ease.

He was later teleported to back to the store, only to see that Jing Ru was already eating a cheesecake without him. Meanwhile, the group of male customers who had been watching the entire thing clapped

and cheered for Ren Wei. "Ah?" Ren Wei was extremely confused and only during the lunch conversation with Jing Ru did she explain the dynamics of Boss Jin's shop, how she was in the recovery room and all.

"I did not know that you were hiding things from me! Until this group of busybodies began telling me how awesome my dad is!" Jing Ru pouted and turned her head away from Ren Wei. However, as she turned her head, she was grinning madly due to only now realising how her new Dad was such an amazing person. "Well, him having secrets is also equally cute." She thought to herself as she continued eating her cheesecake.

Meanwhile, Ren Wei did not know how else to coax her but to buy her the second dessert on the menu to appease her. It was then that Yun, who was at the bar counter, reminded Ren Wei about something more important than the order he had just placed.

"You left the dungeon a little too early and did not see the treasure box on your way out. Don't worry, we do not cheat any customers of their rewards." Like a magician, Yun took out a large metal box from underneath the counter and brought it out onto the table for them.

"Place your phone near the lock and it will automatically open," Yun said and Ren Wei did as instructed, only to see that the lock was in fact animated with a small touchscreen beside it. A panda appeared to say congratulations and the box opened slowly.

Looking inside the box, Jing Ru squealed like a piglet upon seeing tens of bronze medal coins as well as a transparent box holding two guns. They were a set of replica Thompson Contenders with a chibi goblin keychain on the end of the handgrip. The Thompson Contender was a break action single shot pistol design from the 1960s. It was rumoured to be one of the strongest pistols in the world and even Ren Wei was amazed upon seeing not just one, but two of these amazing pistols.

"Wow, this is fantastic! You got such a cool weapon!" The male customers took a peek and thought it was better than the average weapons they had received. They too had tried to flaunt the loot that they had received from the dungeon but it did not get the attention they had expected.

"Let's come here again when I am off duty." Ren Wei said as he took another bite of the Fried Oreo Pie and savoured it to the fullest extent. "Definitely," Jing Ru had a broad smile on her face as both father and daughter were having a good time at lunch and later at the fishing service instance.

# **Chapter 167 1st Month Ranking**

It had been a few days since the aggressive promotion of the Reservoir of Deep Fishing Service Instance mainly via word of mouth and the Pandamonium app that now had over seven hundred cultivators using it.

Jin thought that this was an impressive feat considering he had only opened the store for almost a month. The days and nights were long, but he had finally passed the first hurdle that brought down many shops. Jin figured that he should offer some sort of discount to celebrate one month of opening, which unexpectedly coincided with him serving one thousand different customers. Maybe he should advertise the discount... maybe not.

Although shops that had high-quality goods did not necessarily need to advertise as people would naturally flock to them, advertising would bring the store in question up a notch especially when the said store was still young. Not to mention the lack of a Shop Signage. For the past few days, he had been tweaking the Sanctum of Worlds since he had created it in a slight rush. Right now, the Sanctum of Worlds had direct access to the other three service instances that Jin had made.

Jin figured that these instance connections allowed the monsters to use the facilities to improve themselves as well as take a rest after working the entire day. This also allowed other monsters to mingle together so that they could get to know each other a little more. Jin thought of doing this to take advantage of the system's ability to allow the monsters to have a better quality of living.

Of course, he had also placed interconnections between various Home Instances of the different monsters but each retained their right to privacy. If one monster wished to enter to another Home Instance they would need the permission of at least one monster from the instance they wanted to visit.

Also, guess which home instance was the most popular? The prestock Home Instance that was made for the zombies. Almost every monster entered their Home Instance just to have a little fun on the broken down rides and the zombies were also kind enough to let them play.

Talking about broken rides, Jin heard from Yun that there was an incident just a day ago where a roller coaster had derailed while travelling up the chain hill. A third of the coaster train fell from the tracks and crashed into the ground, causing the zombies on the ride at the moment to be squashed.

Fortunately, those zombies were instantly resurrected by the system and were teleported to the front of their Home Instance. The cause of the crash was not a malfunction though, but it was the caused by one particular monster who tried to ride it. Due to what had happened, it was unanimously agreed by every monster that he was forbidden to touch that ride ever again.

This monster who had wrecked the roller coaster was none other than Mr Derpy, who could leap higher than the roller coaster but instead tried to fit his whole body into the roller coaster. He was thinking that if Shu and Mr Oink had not broken the ride when they went on it, he would also be able to enjoy this simple looking roller coaster. However, Jin knew that the roller coasters were actually programmed to break every once in a while, hence the theme of a broken down amusement park. Regardless, it was ironically funny to see such a great being being bullied by the smaller sized monsters.

-----

"Welcome Boss! Buying new armour for yourself?" The red panda, who was one of the 'saleswomen' at the Panda Armoury, asked Jin politely as it jumped onto his shoulders and rubbed against his cheek. Jin smiled as he stroked the red panda's head. Meanwhile, Jin's digital pet appeared too and sat firmly on his head.

"Nah, to be honest, I am looking for armour for some of my monsters," Jin said and the Red Panda immediately categorised the type of armour suitable for his monsters. The store's filled shelves that were meant to be a time waster for most shoppers here instantly shuffled and reorganised themselves to show Jin what was recommended for his monsters.

"Thank you Red Panda, but I am afraid I am only browsing for ideas and inspiration for my own creations." Jin patted the Red Panda repeatedly.

"Why are you looking to buy armour for them?" Yun asked as she came into the Panda armoury, yawning since it was early in the morning before the Sun had even risen.

"I am looking to do some dungeon takeovers. Either that or Shifu Zeru's training. However, the more I thought about what I should do, the more I think I should get the shop's sign up as soon as possible. I mean, even regular customers like Jing Ru and Xiong Da had asked for the shop's name and I haven't given them a proper answer."

"Didn't you already name it Dungeons and Pandas? Blah, this is so off-topic, what do dungeon takeovers have to do with- Oh...Armour for your monsters." It seemed that Yun without her Black Ivory Coffee in the morning had made her thinking rather dull too.

Jin could have bought the armour items with dungeon dollars but he figured he would look at the prices first and instead try to replicate some of the armour with the Dungeon Maker. He figured it might be slightly cheaper and he could also add in modifications that would fit the monsters rather than human cultivators.

"Hmmm, if only the other monsters had the same kind of upgrades like the goblins used to have. Remember? They had new weapons and armour when all of them reached Grade 2. Even now they are using them, especially against higher ranked cultivators." Jin sighed as he admitted that he had not been doing many missions because of the many loose ends he had to handle that had presented themselves due to all the decisions he had made in past missions.

"If that's the case, I can help you out." Yun snapped her fingers and yawned once more as if she wanted to join the Morning Couch Club with Milk and Peppers. A notification appeared on Jin's phone and stated the following:

"Congratulations from the System, Dungeon Supplier. The monthly rankings have been released and the System is pleased to inform you that you have advanced through the ranks. Please come to the Dungeon Maker to receive your rewards."

"Monthly Ranking? Oh...yes, you did mention before, that the level that I attained as a dungeon supplier was different from the Store Ranking." Jin commented as he gently put the Red Panda back down as he headed for the Dungeon Maker.

"1st Month Ranking: 840,199 Placing. You have closed the gap to the position of being the Number One Dungeon Supplier. Please receive your rewards and continue to work hard as a Dungeon Supplier."

"How does someone become number one?" Jin knew it was a bit of a stupid question but he just had to ask. Obviously, it had to do with either fame or the number of customers he served or perhaps it was the largest amount of money contributed to the system.

"There are a few criteria to it. Reach the maximum level for Dungeon Suppliers. Earn a larger daily revenue turnover than the current number one dungeon supplier. These are the few criteria which you need to achieve but you are still too far behind to know the exact conditions and statistics. Continue to complete the missions. They will enable you to reach Number One." The system showed the information on its interface and Jin was deep in thought for a moment.

"I have also tweaked your preferences in missions and replaced them with more 'humane' ones. Please complete your missions." The system replied once more.

"What is the profit turnover rate for the number one ranking?" Jin questioned the system and the system gave a vague answer. "The top twenty rankings have a daily revenue of at least millions of dungeon dollars."

"How the hell can I even compete with that?!" Jin thought to himself "Millions?! And that's in dungeon dollars too?! How was he going to even get a thousand dungeon dollars for himself." Jin thought to himself as he cracked his head. He either had to charge unconscionable prices or he had to diversify his business.

"Proceed slowly. There is no rush for you to get there at the moment. Things will be revealed to you sooner or later and there is no time limit for you to get there." Yun scratched her head and pressed a button in the dungeon maker to reveal the rewards to Jin.

"It's actually not much, but it should help you out in the armour and weapons department," Yun said as a new table mystically appeared in the Dungeon Maker.

# **Chapter 168 Workings of the Dungeon**

"What is this exactly?" Jin walked closer to the new table and found a vending machine right beside the interface table to the Dungeon Maker. In fact, the machines looked like they dispensed cards out of the machine.

"The system couldn't find a fancy name for it, but this is where you can buy cards to equip your monsters. You might find it random but I will explain more in a while. Right now, with this new upgrade, the system has also pegged your monsters' power level to your cultivation grade, similar to your Bellators. The upgrade should make it easier for you to track the levels of the many monsters you have." Yun started to lean on the vending machine while explaining the new machines to Jin.

"Yes, I have been thinking about that and how the power level of the monsters and dungeon difficulty actually works. I always assumed that it's just the system's workings since I initially thought that the monsters each had their own grade. Won't that affect the cultivation difficulty of the dungeon?" Jin asked as he placed his hand on the table to support himself as he talked to Yun.

"A classic example would be the recent instance for Ren Wei and Jing Ru. Although Little Miss Buu was just a modified version of a boar knight that I rented, there was no indication of her power level after I modified her. Yet for some reason, she was always used as the last boss against cultivators. Does that mean that her cultivation grade is actually higher? Was she pegged to a Grade 6 difficulty as compared to the Royal Boar Knights like Hamlet?" Jin continued to throw his questions at the half awoke and half annoyed Yun but before he could ask any more, she stopped him.

With a clap of her hands, a porcelain cup of black ivory coffee along with a saucer appeared on her palm. She savoured it with a sip and gave out a breath of relief. "First. I must reiterate that the system will adjust the difficulty of the dungeons to suit the average grade of the party that enters it. And what I am about to tell you in the next few minutes is sort of a 'trade secret' so I will like to emphasise keeping this to yourself and not sharing it with your customers... "Yun started to explain the system's working.

"We will use Jing Ru and Ren Wei as the example since you mentioned them. The system will continue to adjust its difficulty in real time when they are fighting. Little Miss Buu was meant for Ren Wei, a Grade 6 cultivator. Since she was designed to be the last boss, matching what you have created in the Dungeon Maker for the goblin route of the plot. However, it encountered only Jing Ru, Spear Goblin and Mr Oink without Ren Wei in the party. Hence, the system first released a signal. In this case, the release of spiritual force, to notify the higher grade cultivators."

"At the same time, Little Miss Buu's stats were temporarily reduced to Power Level 4 to suit Jing Ru's Grade 3 Peak and her allies, Mr Oink and Spear Goblin, who were at power level 3 instead of power level 3.5. Oh, also, 3.5 is just a more convenient way of saying Grade 3 Peak. Allies are always reduced to 'one level' lower than the participating customers. However, the moment Ren Wei entered the playing field by either defending, attacking or supporting Jing Ru in any way, Little Miss Buu would have its stats inflated to power level 6.5 with the help of the system." Yun finished her explanation and drank some more coffee.

"The system can do that? I know that compressing one's power level is a standard technique that even animals are capable of doing, but inflating power level? I've never heard of that before." Jin was rather confused by the capabilities of the system. If the system is so almighty, why would it still need Jin to be around?

"You are right, the system can buff and debuff a monster anytime it wants. When it does such things, it requires resources though. However, the resources that it uses are quite different from Souls, Matter and Magic that you are acquainted with." Yun wanted to continue but this time around, Jin stopped her by raising his palm angrily.

"Stop right there. If we want to continue this conversation, let's get out of the Dungeon Maker first. I do not want to be influenced by the system again." Jin had a sense of deja vu when Yun started to talk about resources.

Yun could not help but laugh and shook her head. "Hahaha Jin, seeing you being so cautious makes me chuckle so hard." She wiped her tear away before she continued to talk. "I am just joking, the System uses dungeon dollars to buy the buffs. Remember how we only give you a certain percentage of the money you earned because the rest was taken by the System? Yeah, the system used that to buff the

monsters. As you accumulate larger customer bases, we will increase the percentage you earn because of the economy of scale, meaning that amount of money is sufficient to buff the monsters."

"So you are saying that if my cultivation goes up, the system is inadvertently getting more money since it does not need to buff monsters as much? How does that even benefit me in any way? That sounds more like a rip-off." Jin felt a little irritated learning something new as he realised the system was cheating him off.

"Erm, maybe it's still the first month and you haven't noticed, but do you know how expensive the electrical and water bill is for this place? How about the payment for building this store? Do I need to go on?" Yun folded her arms as she answered Jin's thoughtless question.

"If that's the case, I would like to have proper bookkeeping done. Is there-" At that instant, the Dungeon Maker screen flashed and a list of accounts appeared. Proper bookkeeping? The system was so advanced with its records that the kind of auditing it did for the accounts put the 'Big Four' accounting firms to shame.

Jin roughly remembered yesterday's sales and took a look at the account only to see that everything was well kept. "But yeah, the system does a little... Hmm... it can do a bit of editing of the accounts to ensure that there is a small amount of savings for you in case of rainy days." Yun added.

"I see, so if I have an inspector check my records...a normal inspector wouldn't really see the difference, but..." Yun shook her head when Jin voiced his thoughts out loud.

"There are no buts! Even the best of the best inspectors will not see the anomaly that the system created. It guarantees the ingenuity and authenticity of the bookkeeping." Yun interjected.

"So... if someone really does pick it up, will the system help since it is so confident about it?"

"Yes, the system will compensate you... in one way or another." The Dungeon Maker suddenly wrote on the interface near him. It was at that time that they realised they had derailed from the original conversation by a whole lot.

"Ehh Yun, how does this reward system work again?" Jin shyly asked and Yun blankly stared at him but did not mock him as she stretched her arm out.

"Just give me your phone! I will show you how it works instead of just explaining."

# **Chapter 169 Battle Card Interface**

Yun placed Jin's phone on top of one of the cash ports of the vending machine and the interface besides the machine responded with a few messages. "First time user of the Battle Cards Interface detected. Creating decks for each monster type corresponding to the monsters User has caught. Please hold..."

From the vending machine, packs of cards with the monsters' began keep appearing in chronological order. First were the goblins, then Mr Oink, and subsequently Ke Mi as well as the rest of the gang. Jin and Yun were moving around quite a lot while collecting the packs to place them on the table's interface.

"Wow, there are quite a few packs of cards indeed! But how do they actually work?" Jin asked and Yun, who was taking out the cards from the card packs, answered him.

"Watch and learn young Pandawan." Yun finished opening the goblin deck completely and placed it on the interface. She then asked Jin to not touch the rest of the decks at the moment. "As you can see, the moment you place the cards on the interface, the screen will immediately bring up the monsters corresponding to the deck that the card is from."

True enough, the Spear, Sword and Dagger Goblin came out on the screen and they were shown as cards. In the next few steps, Yun showed him how to get the deck cards scanned and analysed by the system. The cards that had weapons and armour on them appeared right in front of him as well. Yun placed the weapon card behind the dagger goblin and the screen immediately updated the card art with a new image. Right now, the dagger goblin not only held two daggers, but it was also equipped with a shortbow and quiver that was hanging right behind its body, though it was covered by his cape.

"Wow, this is more advanced than any card game system I have ever seen." Jin was a little excited as it had been ages since he had last touched a proper card game. "Mmm, so let's say this is what I wanted my monster to equip. I would put these two cards into this particular slot here and press this big green 'Fuse' button. So, the interface would then cover the slot and in a few seconds a new card would appear." Yun waited for a while and true enough when the cover for the slot was automatically opened, a new card was revealed.

"What's more is that the monster cards are actually holographic. Pick it up and insert some chi into it." Yun instructed Jin and he did as he was told. A greenish light screen appeared from the card and the stats, weapons and any armour equipped were all shown on it.

"This is really fascinating, but why should I do this? Can't I make my own items for the monsters?" Jin asked.

"Well, you could. It doesn't matter if you create or buy the equipment, maybe you might even get something from dungeon takeovers. All you have to do is place them on this interface for them to be converted into cards. "Yun demonstrated with the teacup and saucer by placing them onto the interface and after some magical particles swirled around the item, the teacup and the saucer both became cards.

"But do you have the strength and time to locate and coordinate weapons and armour for the ever increasing number of monsters? Are you going to equip all your zombies with different equipment? With this card system, you can even ask the system to optimise the procedure by automatically equipping items." Yun explained.

"I see... Makes sense, but I'm gonna think about it and play around a little before doing anything drastic. Anyway, now that he has a bow with him, calling the Dagger goblin 'Dagger goblin' isn't really appropriate." Jin took a closer look at the design of the card. The front was illustrated with the new art

design displaying the new weapon and the back of the card was actually engraved with a unique goblin insignia silhouette to identify the card deck this particular card was from.

"Just call him Daggers, like how they call each other Spear and Sword." Yun gave a random suggestion and Jin gave her a curious look. "Don't they have their own names?" He then summoned the three into the dungeon maker.

"You called us?" The three goblins immediately kneeled and Jin saw that the dagger goblin was actually holding onto the new short bow that Yun had randomly inserted as an example.

"Erm, I am really sorry for not asking before, but what are your names?" Jin scratched his head in embarrassment.

"Master, My lowly name is Piercestriker," The Spear Goblin spoke.

"My great master, my humble name is Slashreaver," Sword Goblin answered.

"Master, one's name is Ripcaller. Also, thank you for the new equipment." Dagger Goblin bowed once again in gratitude.

"Eh, I was just testing out a new card system. Do you guys have any preferences in terms of weapons or armour?" Jin beckoned them to stand up and come towards the interface. The table was slightly tall so Jin commanded the Dungeon Maker to lower the table and they all sat around it and started discussing.

"Are you okay with a short bow?" Jin asked and Ripcaller, the dagger goblin, nodded his head excitedly, bordering on wildly. "It was my childhood dream to work with a bow, but I was just not allowed because the quota for the goblin archers reached the maximum for our village," Ripcaller responded.

'Hmm, I wonder what the goblin world is like...Maybe I should ask them during my free time.' Jin thought to himself while he continued discussing their weapon preferences. Once they were done, Jin rearranged the cards and carried out the placement of cards as tutored by Yun.

Within minutes, magical particles appeared around each of the three goblins and they were decked full with armour they had just chosen. The three goblins liked it more than the standard armour given to them when they previously reached Grade 2. Now they were deadlier than before and would prove a challenge to many more cultivators.

'The changes to the power levels and streamlining the card system sure is useful.' Jin thought to himself before he repeated the same equipment selection process for everyone, first by calling them into the dungeon maker and then discussing what equipment would be good for them. Of course, exceptions were made. The zombies and the Deep Ones weren't asked as the zombies were brainless while the Deep Ones had yet to contribute to the shop's coffers.

"Yun, so how do I earn new cards if I do not make or create new equipment?" Jin packed the deck of cards properly and the Dungeon Maker now had a dedicated drawer to keep the card decks neat and organised. Whenever Jin wanted a specific deck, all he had to do was call out the monster's name, and card decks in the drawer shuffled themselves for Jin to precisely pick his desired card deck out.

"Just pay 10 Dungeon Dollars for a card., It's more or less random but there's a chance for unique rarity. Oh, do remember to tell the system which monster you intend the equipment to be for or else it will just give you a card randomly."

"Ewwww, I have to deal with gacha too? And 10 Dungeon Dollars? That is like 1000 Yuan." Jin made a slightly disgusted face.

"If that's the case, you can just wait until you reach a new cultivation grade and the system will endorse an array of equipment cards." Yun shrugged her shoulders to express her nonchalant attitude.

"Forget about that for now... I just struck some gold. Maybe I could redesign the digital pets system and do a battle card game with the digital pets...instead of them just fighting mindlessly in an arena." Inspired by the battle card system, Jin thought to himself and wrote it down in the KIV section of the todo list on his phone.

•

.

## **Chapter 170 Lai Fu's Favour**

"So you are finally going to do the Dungeon Takeover now?" Yun asked and Jin shook his head and showed her a message on his phone.

"Oh Lai Fu, that general store boss of Fresh Price? He is coming in the morning to give you the freshly printed of coupon booklets?" Yun asked Jin and he nodded his head, only to have said store owner knocking on his door, which could be seen shown on the Dungeon Maker interface. Speak of the devil!

"Guess he is already here" Jin took a look at his watch and noticed that it was already 8.30am earth time so he exited the Dungeon Maker to greet Lai Fu.

"Ah, Jin, great timing. I thought I was a little too early." Lai Fu said as he weirdly saw Xiong Da hand-standing upside down beside the shop waiting to come in too.

"Boss, why did you make me wait? I have to go fish to get my spiritual force up!" Xiong Da got down from his upside-down stance gracefully, which was truly unexpected for someone who cultivated the Hungry Hippo Style. Jin then realised Xiong Da was utilising his chi more than usual and the chi he emitted was stronger and denser than before. It's possible that it could even rival a new Grade 4 cultivator in terms of chi density.

Lai Fu was a little shocked when he heard the word fishing. "You serious? You can actually fish here?" Lai Fu asked Xiong Da and he nodded his head.

"Haven't you heard? Boss Jin has a new fishing service instance, in addition, the fish you catch can be eaten straight away. Sure, there was some weird types of fishes that appear occasionally but his AI Chef Roro is able to do such an amazing job that sometimes I wonder if Chef Roro is just a master chef in the bear suit." Xiong Da said as he walked into the store and greeted Yun.

"You allow your customers to walk in even though it is not opening hours?" Lai Fu got even more confused but Jin quickly shook his head to try and clear up the misunderstanding.

"No, he is a special case since he asked for some help with his cultivation. While I am not an expert, he apparently trusts me and my team a lot so we decided to give him a chance. We are glad that we did since it looks like he is improving too. Speaking of which, I remember I owe you a training too." Jin spoke and Lai Fu was a little embarrassed.

"Erm, instead of the training favour, do you mind if I go into that fishing instance?" Lai Fu had actually overheard the conversations of Jin's dungeon supplier and recently overheard the news of being able to fish in his shop when the customers were shopping for basic groceries at his store. Lai Fu didn't want to do it this way and sacrifice potential training but in order to confirm the hearsays he had eavesdropped, he decided to propose this deal. Besides, he actually hoped that he would get into the fishing instance more than getting training.

"Oh? You are interested in the fishing one instead? Erm okay sure. I have several prices in the submenu but since I owe you for acting like a jerk, I shall offer you the most expensive option." Jin said and Lai Fu became a little excited.

"You can fish without restraint for the entire day...okay, let me rephrase. You can fish without restraint during the opening hours today." Jin realised he did not wish to propose to Lai Fu the same offer that was given to Xiong Da. Sure, he owed Lai Fu a favour, but that did not mean he had forgiven Lai Fu for what he had done.

"What can I catch in there? Prawns?" Lai Fu asked and Jin laughed.

"Sure, but they are at least five metres long," Jin said, which made Lai Fu confused.

"It's fine, you will understand once you catch something. Do you have professional gear? If you do, you can bring those in." Jin did not wish to say much as he wanted to focus on the coupon booklets that were beside him but Lai Fu was too excited.

"...Umm.... Let's say I bring in a boat... can I fit that in your instance?" Lai Fu averted his gaze a little as he asked that question.

"Judging from your question, you are seriously going to bring a boat in? Your storage ring can do that?!" Jin knew that most storage rings were not able to carry such a large object unless you had an extremely high grade storage ring. Wild rumours said that you could even bring an island around with you if you had a Grade 19 or Grade 20 storage ring. However, no one even bothered to produce such a ring because the materials and processes required to build such equipment were too costly even for a billionaire.

"I actually do...just a small boat though," Lai Fu humbly whispered and nodded his head frantically.

"Okay, if you say so, I should be able to allow it. The lake should be large enough for you to row your boat around." Jin said that and Lai Fu coughed a bit.

"Anyways, thanks for the- Waaa?" Suddenly, Lai Fu went to his knees and prostrated in front of Jin. This made Jin extremely shocked and he was beyond astonished. Why did Lai Fu, such an egotistical proud person, kneel in front of a person that was technically his business rival?

"Wait, wait, Boss Lai Fu, please get up! What are you doing?" Jin panicked once he recovered from his shock and quickly tried to get Lai Fu to stand back up. It was a good thing that it was early in the morning since he could not imagine what kind of ruckus or rumours would travel around if they saw Lai Fu acting like this.

"Boss Jin... I loved fishing! I still do actually, and in fact, to tell you the truth, I was a fisherman before I became a general store owner. However, I have not been able to participate in deep sea fishing for a very long time because my wife does not allow me to do so. If your fishing instance is as good as everyone says it is and it lets me enjoy fishing once more, I will be in your debt."

"Boss Lai Fu, please! You have not even entered the instance, do not do this! You are not making any sense at all." Jin pulled him up and he saw that Lai Fu was on the verge of crying.

"I'm sorry! It's just that the thought of fishing again after so long made me really emotional. Please do not mind me. Oh, and before I forget, these are your coupon booklets. They are approved and ready to go." Lai Fu wiped his tear and quickly passed the stack of coupon booklets to Jin.

"Maybe I should ask Shen Si Fang about the details instead." Jin thought to himself as he received the stacks of coupon booklets.

"I saw the booklets you made! They were really fancy and the deals will definitely help our shopping district in the short term. Now I understand why you said you wanted a week's worth of profit." Lai Fu said to him as he happily passed Jin the remaining booklets.

"So, are you coming in the afternoon for the fishing instance?" Jin asked once he received all the coupon booklets from Lai Fu.

"Erm, perhaps tomorrow. Do you mind if I bring some friends along? I think... they might be happy if they heard I am going to be fishing again." Lai Fu asked Jin again but he shook his head.

"They can join you but they will have to pay for it. I am only allowing you to go in for free because I owed you. Also, are you sure you are okay to ask your friends to come with you? You seemed a little out of yourself when we mentioned fishing. Plus, you have not tested it out yourself to see if you really like the instance." Jin said with some concern. Though he knew he did not have to care, especially if Lai Fu was bringing in more of that sweet sweet moolah to his shop by inviting his friends, for some reason he felt an obligation to help Lai Fu.

"Yea sure, just show me the menu, I will tell them the -OH MY GOSH SO EXPENSIVE!" Lai Fu nearly vomited blood upon seeing the price and only just realised how much he had saved when Jin said he was allowing him to fish for the whole day free of charge.

"That is why I asked." Jin sighed but Xiong Da, who had been talking to Yun, overheard almost everything and added his comments into the conversation. "Trust me, the fishing instance is worth it! If you don't believe me, I can even bet 1000 Yuan that you will like it."

"You are willing to go that far?" Lai Fu thought for a while and guessed he would just call his friends since he had nothing to lose. After all, his portion was sponsored by Jin.

"Okay, tomorrow then." Lai Fu agreed with Jin and as he went off, so did Xiong Da.

"Looks like it's time for me to prepare the sure win lottery prizes before the shop opens! Yun, you mind doing me favour?" Jin beckoned Yun to follow him into the Dungeon Maker once more.