

Dungeon S 361

Chapter 361 The Arrival of King Hamu

The Orcs were perplexed by the sudden onslaught of monsters. Instead of goblins, they were suddenly defending against a surprise ambush of undead rising from the ground. Moreover, this was just the beginning as Jin had made it a free for all for his monsters to attack. (Some joked that there was hidden competition to see which monster or group of monsters could get the most kills and the System would reward them.)

At the same time, the werejackals and werecats had taken the fight to the orcs who were still in the sewers. Their speed and occasional spell casting made short work of the brutish orcs. Minotaurs of various classes, the Fanatics, Maids and Cowboys clashed head on with the Fire Orcs warriors in the open city squares who welcomed the challenge. Jin had yet to introduce them formally into any dungeons so this fight was a great opportunity for them to exercise out all the frustrations they had for some time.

The emergence of reinforcement also provided some breather for the zombies. Half Ghoul Lord Derek also summoned his latest creation onto the battlefield. The Orc abominations, or as he liked to call them 'Zomorks'. Unfortunately, Jin was unhappy with the rebranding of the entire class of orc zombie abominations although his suggestion to refer to them as 'Orc Zombs' was just as bad.

In any case, the Zomorks/Orc Zombs were truly frightening for the orcs to battle. As they were made from various parts of orcs, Half Ghoul Derek purposely strengthened their muscles by at least two fold by combining it with the tissue samples from other races. To the normal Orc Warriors, this alone would prove to be a challenge. However, that was not the end. Because there was nothing to limiting Half Ghoul Lord Derek to the normal anatomy of their original race, Half Ghoul Derek experimented by introducing many styles. Three armed, Four armed, Six Legged, Two Head, Double Full Upper (Both front and back) and many other variations which made the bravest of orcs shook in fear when they encountered such abominations.

"At this rate, Half Ghoul Derek could potentially turn out to be as crazy as Ayse. Maybe we should limit his creativity a bit, or at least make sure he does not overdo it." Jin overlooked the battlefield and also got some shivers looking at the Orc Zombs as he asked Kraft to help tighten his flexible body armour a little.

Kraft gladly helped as he was the one that pointed out that Jin had to go into battle in style. Since he represented the 'masked humanoids' side, he would have to work on his image and do more than the usual shirt and pants he always had been wearing. Jin reluctantly agreed although truth be told, it was more because it was King Hamu they were going to be dealing with and being a mere Grade 7, Jin was starting to have doubts if he was ready to face him. The more armour he got on him, the safer he started to feel.

Therefore he had purposely created Another Jin tasking him to spend his time researching right combinations of inscriptions to be used for the operation ahead. When Qiu Yue heard about it, she

could not help but decided to chip in. "I believe he'd like this shirt!" Qiu Yue said when picking up one of the only grey shirts from of the whole selection.

"Nah, the cutting on the shoulders would make it a bit hard to move during battle. I did try it." Another Jin said as he dismissed the shirt he chose.

"But Jin will like the design!" Qiu Yue replied back with a pout on her face which Another Jin could not deny. For her own sanity, she treated Another Jin as an entirely different person even though Another Jin and Jin were technically the same person altogether. Another Jin could not resist her cuteness but at the same time laughed bitterly when she said that.

"Sure, he would like the design. After all, I also really do like the design. Nevertheless, it is no good in battle!" Another Jin tried to make Qiu Yue see the fact that they were the same person but she was not making any effort to correct it.

"Then let's simply adjust it. Your adorable Red Pandas can do that, right?" The moment Qiu Yue mentioned 'red pandas' they came scurrying and surrounded her. It appeared they liked to be around Qiu Yue instinctively.

"Yes, we shall rework it so that it will be practical, comfortable while still to your liking too." Red Panda licked their paws as it looked at Another Jin which he reluctantly nodded his head and followed the Red Panda into the fitting room.

"I would not worry about that. There's a fine line between genius and insanity. Also, if Derek really became as insane as Ayse, you would still have a potentially brilliant head researcher for Qiu Yue... there is no need for you to worry. My foxes will periodically oversee the experiments and they would inform me about any changes in his mentality. That is if I bother to reply you back, heh." Kraft teased Jin at first, but noticing the other's nervousness he quickly joked about it.

Jin's body armour was finally adjusted to his comfort and the temporary inscriptions were in place which he thanked Kraft for his help. But without Jin noticing, Kraft had sneakily placed a bullet of his between the straps of the body armour. "Take care of this little guy, he is interesting and responsible enough to be our master." Kraft sent his thought to the bullet as he patted Jin's shoulder to confirm that he was done.

Jin later wore the grey shirt Qiu Yue selected for him over the armour which fitted really nicely mainly because the shirt was large enough to vest like armour. (And it did make Jin more manly than scrawny.)

Meanwhile, the firefight at the Gob Gob castle became increasingly intense when the Orc's Mechanised Walkers or aptly named Tin Cans came into the picture. But unlike the Northern Diversion where they have the Sandroku Golems to defend against the Tin Cans, there was none here. Hence, Jin had finally released something which he kept for hidden for a long period of time. He finally felt it was the proper time to use them.

The Robotic Arachnid and its robot crawlers.

It was initially under the possession of Duke Wolte, but the lazy slug decided to seat this battle out. After his core had been taken away by the System to power up the shield barrier in the Dungeon City Fortress, he argued that unless Jin provided him with another suitable method to power up, he would not assist in any fight. Jin did not particularly care much since he did not have that much information on him in the first place.

In addition, Lord Moloch recommended the same to Jin. It was no use patronising Duke Wolte. Had he not turned into a slug, he would be quite the powerhouse, but currently there was no time to search for a way around that. However, even in his feeble form, his military advice proved to be very useful. He was more than happy providing his expertise during the construction of the fort walls of the Western Coastal town of Gob Gob Si after Moloch had 'convinced' him. (Technically he was just bored, and was starting to feel bad for not doing too much) "Well, at the very least he is also contributing in some way in the Shaolin Instance, helping to provide some deadpan comedy relief for the cultivators," Jin mentioned to Lord Moloch after he talked with Lord Wolte.

Besides, what better way to kill a Tin can than with another robot class? The Robotic Arachnid appeared out the muddy moats of the castle when the Fire Orcs were happily dishing out their projectiles against the dense magical barrier protecting the castle. The orcs were initially shocked when the legs of the Robotic Arachnid crept out like tentacles right in front of them.

The horrid mass of metal spikes immediately pierced some of the Tin Cans that were at the main gates of the castle and started absorbing its power source. They started to become immobile the longer the spike stuck onto them. It then proceeded to emerge out of the water to show its true form to the Fire Orcs. To further their shock, it immediately opened its belly and the same robot crawlers that had plagued Jin and his monsters were harassing the orcs.

With the System providing them with a better supply of power than the half broken dungeon core, the robot crawlers turned even deadlier than before. Their speed could not be outmatched by these 'slow' moving orcs so they aimed for the siege weapons first. In addition, the System had enhanced the Arachnid and her crawlers with the latest batch of metal which had a specification slightly inferior to the metal that was used for the M4 Sherman Tank. (They had to earn their keep to get better metal composition and this battle was one way to do so.)

The blades on their claws were able to pierce most of the orc's armour easily and the power up also included the ability to shoot laser projectiles too, although the strength of the lasers could definitely be improved. In less than five minutes, they had destroyed the joints of the siege weapons, rendering most of them useless. The Orcs that were trained to kill humans and goblins, were not skilful enough to destroy these crawlers and suffered considerable losses.

However, that was all about to change when Orc King Hamu entered the capital via the same portal which the Wind Orc Air Force utilised.

Unfortunately, his welcome was not as grand as it should have been when an airship carrier was crashing towards the location he was being teleported to. King Hamu smiled as he finally had something to unleash his stored powers at. With a raise of his hand, A silhouette of Diabolos' hand appeared, stopping the burning airship carrier crashing towards Hamu. All he needed was a squeeze of his palm

and suddenly a black orb of energy enveloped the entire airship carrier, devouring it in a matter of seconds.

The black orb of energy turned into a spear like projectile with a twist of his finger and soon, dark red magical energy with green wind energy was seen spiralling around the projectile. No doubt, it was aimed at the dense barrier that had so far reflected and absorbed every single siege attack the Orcs had thrown at it.

"BANG!" Hou Fei's surprise sniper shot still echoed in King Hamu's ears as he felt the projectile biting into him, squeezing his flesh from the inside. However, the power of Garuda on his armour aided him and automatically pulled the bullet out without him having to move a muscle. He observed that piece of metal that pierced him and commanded the Winds of Garuda to crush the shell into dust. Despite the slight bleeding, King Hamu was able to quickly recover thanks to his powers peaking during the red moon.

In spite of that, he was annoyed that someone was honourless enough to target him when he was preoccupied. King Hamu conjured a spear out of energy and looked towards Hou Fei after Diabolos pointed to him where it came from. Hou Fei did not flinch and instead shamelessly shot another bullet at him again.

"Insolent!" King Hamu shouted as he threw the energised spear projectile at Hou Fei without any regards to the orcs that found the whereabouts of the shot and rushed to engage the enemy.

"Any time now System!!!" Hou Fei yelled as he fired one final shot towards King Hamu before the System created a portal on the floor, allowing gravity to do the work. Hou Fei freefall into the Dungeon Maker and sadly no one was there to catch him. Thankfully, his body still remembered the training from his youth. Hou Fei automatically curled up while holding his beloved rifle as he slammed on the floor. (Separately, the building he was on exploded from the energised spear attack and took the surrounding few blocks out too, eliminating dozens of orcs and some of Jin's monsters with it.)

"Oof! You could have given me a better landing spot." Hou Fei groaned with pain as he slowly got up. "I am not as young as I was, to suffer this kind of shit." Hou Fei exhaled loudly from the pain while using his rifle as a support to stand up. He then gave an 'okay' sign to Jin which made the both grinned widely.

Out of the three bullets that Hou Fei shot, two managed to hit King Hamu. The first was at his chest area and the other was his left shoulder which King Hamu did not evade as the energised spear projectile blocked his peripheral vision. Naturally, King Hamu cursed as the winds of Garuda took the bullet out of his left shoulder again but he did not know that the shots that fired were not just simple copper bullets filled with gunpowder.

Those bullets were specially made by Hou Fei whose clan was well known for their research on poisons. How well would it work on a being belonging to a different race? Only time could tell. Still, he believed it should worked well enough. As this should be the first time the Orc King encountered this kind of weapon projectile which moved faster than an arrow but slower than the laser projectiles, the group would believe he would ignore the wound he received.

Besides, Hamu would not be expecting it since he had the winds of Garuda imbued into his armour but this shot could only be prepared and factored into the operation because Ayse leaked the news about

the demise of Red Hurricane. (Kraft really did a good job getting all the information he could get, in a rather friendly way, since she was already cooperative.) If not for their ample preparations, the shots would not have been able to counter the winds of Garuda.

Starting to get a little suspicious about the extent of Garuda's powers, King Hamu decided to deal with the high level magical barrier up close instead of remaining a possible stationary target for other goblins or humanoids to attack him. Unlike the newly acquired powers of the Shaitan Noble of Wind, the powers granted to him by Diabolos have already become a part of him and he trusted them wholeheartedly.

Alas, that itself was another trap waiting to be sprung by Jin and the others.

The moment Orc King Hamu got close enough to the magical barrier, the barrier instantly disappeared and transferred itself to surround Orc King Hamu, trapping him within the dense magical barrier. Peppers who was channelling her magic into the ritual, was smiling at herself as it happened and felt that the orcs were simply too predictable. (No, Peppers, you are just too sly.)

The moment King Hamu became a stationary target in the air yet again, he noticed a line of weird looking animal or perhaps bizarre looking monsters on the roof parapet, looking at him as if they want a piece of him. They were none other than the werejackals and the werecats holding onto various weapons that were glowing with light. Those weapons had been emblazoned by Goblin King Sol himself who did not mind the work since he was brimming with vitality all thanks to Jin.

Right Hand Oku and Yellow Ice who managed to catch up with King Hamu saw the scene at the castle and decided to aid their King in his defence. However, that sentiment only applied to Right Hand Oku as Yellow Ice sent Cross out of his shadow to shoot a bolt from his crossbow. Oku blocked it almost immediately with his gauntlet and sneered at Yellow Ice.

"I knew I smell something fishy ever since Ayse began to propose the plan. Whether you are in cahoots or not, that is irrelevant at this point. Your current actions have betrayed you." Oku raised his hand and the same black energy orb appeared, floating above his armoured hand. "Unfortunately for you, the King has prepared backup plans to ensure that all traitors would be dealt with extreme prejudice."

The Black Orb vibrated and the Fire Orcs that were gathered outside the castle immediately had a black hand mark visible on their necks. Oku had been bestowed with a certain degree of powers from King Hamu himself. One of them was the command over the leashes he had created. With just a point from Oku, the Fire Orcs blindly charged towards Yellow Ice.

"Go, do what you must in order to let the goblin allies win." Yellow Ice ordered as he stomped his feet and an ice hand emerged from the ground, grabbing Cross and throwing him towards Oku who was trying to run towards Hamu.

"...And make me King." Yellow Ice smirked as he could finally vent his frustrations on the orcs. A fog of mist had already started to materialise around the possessed Fire Orcs.

"I will not fail you, My King!!!" Cross already reloaded his crossbow and held his dagger under the crossbow while maintaining his aim at Oku as he flew towards the Right Hand.

Chapter 362 Reverse Aegis

Cross's shot pierced Oku's back who was too focused dashing towards the castle where the werejackals were about to pounce onto Orc King Hamu. The Right Hand tried to ignore the pain from the shot but it cleared his head enough to realise that even if he tried his best to head towards the castle, the werejackals would have ample time to strike King Hamu regardless of his efforts.

Instead, what he should be doing was to get rid of this goblin who was in cahoots with that traitorous Yellow Ice and find a way to aid King Hamu without sacrificing himself. However, this realisation came a bit late. Cross crashed into him using his shoulder while holding his dagger sideways, allowing him to impale Oku's torso. Familiar with the weak spots of the Orcish armours, the goblin made use of the sides which were vulnerable to stabs.

Instead of screaming in pain, Oku redirected that anger he had by grabbing onto Cross' head and smashing him to the ground while withdrawing his axe from his waist. Cross was ironically doing a similar thing before he momentarily lost consciousness from the blow that was bound to happen. Except he was holding on to a vial of an alchemical concoction instead which he threw at the Orc.

The vial broke into pieces injuring Oku's face. Yet this was not the worst part. The alchemical concoction was a form of liquid ice, courtesy of the Avatar of Shiva. The liquid went into Oku's eyes, nose and part of it entered into his mouth too. Within seconds after direct contact, the liquid froze and expanded rapidly. The drying of the ice caused extreme pain to his eyes, nose and mouth, which caused his breathing to become more and more of an issue. Though Cross was unable to follow up immediately, he earned the time needed to regain consciousness when Oku was incapacitated from the liquid ice concoction.

Cross crawled towards Oku, grabbed the plunged dagger on Oku's side and continuously tried to stab Oku with it despite the constant dizziness he was still experiencing. As his judgement was still impaired, his attempts focused on the vulnerable spot of the struggling Orc. Only until Cross felt he was stable enough that that he decided to change his dagger's point to the neck region. But before Cross could follow through with his strike, Oku attempted to step backwards to distance himself from Cross. Yet, the goblin was nimble enough to hold onto him which caused Oku to change his approach and started punching the goblin until the goblin let go of it. (He tried to kick too but missed terribly because he was unable to see properly from the ice)

Using the time that Cross was hindered by his wounds, Oku tried to remove the ice by breaking it with his bare hands. Unable to progress much this way he decided to pull it off to the degree that he felt his skin was being torn away as well. As soon as Oku could somewhat see again, he tried to summon the very same black orb that he used to control the fire orcs, only for a crossbow bolt to pierce his hand. Cross was not willing to give Oku any breathing space. His challenging gaze made it clear that he would not allow Oku to do as he pleased, even while the goblin was panting on the ground, seemingly badly injured.

Oku raged at this nuisance of a goblin as he plucked the bolt out, walked towards the goblin and attempted to kick him into the moat. The goblin attempted to shoot one more time, but the bolt did not

penetrate his front armour at all. Oku smirked and lift his leg up. Only to notice at that moment that his right leg had suddenly gone missing. Replaced by it was a robot crawler that was staring at him intently.

The crawler made no effort to jumped onto his face and plunged its bladed legs into the back of Oku's head and neck area just as if it was trying to hug him. Blood gushed out of his neck and he could no longer feel the squeeze from the robot crawler since his head was going numb. He tried to pull it out with all his might but it seemed meaningless. Slowly, but surely he knew that this was the end of him. Meanwhile, Cross was being assisted by two robot crawlers which dragged him further towards the castle for some emergency treatment.

Simultaneously, the werejackals and werecats had already begun their assault at the imprisoned King Hamu who had a difficult time trying to break the magical barrier. How could he have known that it was tailored especially for him. Peppers had been working overtime behind the scenes to create such a spell. The spell was designed to work similar to a puzzle egg. This was why the magical barrier could be broken apart from the castle and refit back again, entrapping King Hamu in an enclosed space. In addition, the magic barrier became nearly impenetrable since the surface area it covered had lessened when it trapped King Hamu.

But, it was the intricacies of the magic spell that truly made it shine. For it to work, the barrier had to absorb all kinds of magic and even kinetic energy to power itself up else it ceased to exist after a set duration. (Therefore, Peppers who had unlimited mana was needed to constantly insert magic power at the barrier to 'eat' while waiting for the Orcs to appear.) So while it seemed that it had a high magical power consumption to maintain the barrier, Pepper's calculation had paid off when the Orc Army had tried to overcome it with extensive use of fire spells and consistent siege attacks.

And currently Orc King Hamu was doing his best to break the barrier by dishing out high level spells or using extreme brute strength. But because of the nature of the barrier, as long as his attacks were constantly feeding it with energy, he should remain trapped. (Which Jin complimented Peppers for making sufficient preparation against the Orc King.)

Moreover, the barrier utilised a crystal which Peppers asked Goblin King Sol to insert his magic into. (So that the Goblin King did not have to be on the scene to power the magic barrier.) This light magic filled crystal was later used as a catalyst to cast this magic barrier. Usually, people would add a catalyst to increase the resistance of their magical barrier, but Peppers did it other way around.

Inserting a catalyst would in fact disable the ability of her magical barrier to absorb that particular element. In this case, any attack imbued with the light element would be able to pass through easily. Therefore, Peppers aptly named this particular barrier spell the 'Reverse Aegis'. A nod of acknowledgement to the legendary shield which Zeus and Athena used which Peppers got her inspiration from for creating the barrier spell.

The werejackals proceeded to attack King Hamu and their magically infused blades crossed the Reverse Aegis with ease and injured the Orc King. One strike was nothing but as the group struck ceaselessly without any resistance to King Hamu, he was bound to incur some injury.

King Hamu did try to retaliate back but all of his black energy from Diabolos was absorbed so easily into the Reverse Aegis that it became a waste of time. Little did he know that all he'd have to do was endure for a time. Still after his multiple fruitless attempts, the barrier was still going strong and the werejackals

and werecats made a lot of progress wearing him down without suffering a single injury in return. It felt as if it was a cheat although Peppers would argue against that.

"Heh! If not for Ayse's sample of the dark energy and the winds of Garuda from the King's medical examination, I would not have been able to create this in such a short term, making it so easy for you guys! I put in a looooot of effort!" Peppers complaint in the secured System Channel which made Jin laughed and he promised he would compensate her with her very own XXXL Panda Plushie or whatever else kind of custom Plushie she wished for.

"You are not making progress. At this rate, you will be useless to me!" Diabolos bellowed in a fit of anger.

"How about you give it a try?!" King Hamu slammed his fist on the barrier yet there was still no reaction. Everything he did was useless, and even his ability to protect himself with Diabolos Energy got absorbed.

"Pathetic." Diabolos forcefully took a big part of King Hamu's soul without permission and the dark energy that King Hamu became even darker than black. Even looking at the energy felt as if the void was staring at back at him and wanted him to accompany the darkness in the bottomless abyss. At that point, his whole body shivered for a moment and it released an extensive amount of energy that the barrier was unable to cope with it.

Diabolos had utilised the Red Moon powers King Hamu had absorbed for himself along with his own powers to break out of the barrier. Diabolos managed had overwhelmed the absorption of magical energy to a degree that it was unable to handle the load causing Reverse Aegis to shatter. Hamu did not like it a single bit, since he was planning to use the Red Moon powers as one of the plans to break out from Diabolo's pact. But at that point of time, it was paramount that he survives.

Therefore with the barrier broken, that was when King Hamu began his revenge against the werehumans. Yellow was the first one he grabbed as the Werejackal Vice Leader pounced towards him despite knowing that the Reverse Aegis spell expired. All the Orc King had to do was to point his finger at Yellow and he immediately disappeared in a mist of darkness, dropping the sword of light to the ground. The other werejackals immediately became wary of him. However it was too late, with a quick snap of his fingers, small dark projectiles appeared above Hamu and went towards them.

"Just a bit more! Try to get his attention for just a while longer. All we need to do is to pin him down long enough to make sure the volcano hits him! Best case would be to push him into the volcano when it erupts!" Peppers was unable to help their companions as she had to remain in place in the ritual circle as her mana transfer was near completion to awaken the volcano.

"Easier said than done!" Grey retorted back as the werejackals started to pace around the King Hamu who was floating above them. The werecats took the initiative by unleashing their gun whips. Sadly, even more dark energy orbs emerged around him to strike the werejackals and werecats. Though they tried to evade, the projectiles seemed hellbent to take revenge for their master and the new ones followed through if the initial ones missed. Some managed to evade them completely, others were not that lucky but they covered the werecats to allow them to catch him momentarily.

That was when strings and chains started to pull him down. Zhi Nu, the Immortal weaver as well as the Ninja Penguins arrived on the scene in the nick of time to assist the surviving werecats. "You think these

puny strings and chains will stop me?!!" King Hamu shouted as he curled up a little in order to let Diabolos wings forcibly emerge out of his back. The more King Hamu lost his soul to Diabolos, the more Diabolos took control of this physical body and changed him to his likening to play.

"Burn us now along with it! That's your best bet!" Zhi Nu said in the System Channel which Peppers would not hesitate to do. While cruel, she knew every second they tried to pin him down counted and they would use anything, any factor that could produce the highest percentage of success probability for the operation to succeed. Self sacrifice for the greater good was not an issue to those monsters.

"You will be unable to stop him if he grows out all six wings." An odd voice echoed at the crowd of monsters and penguins trying to pin him down. At that instant, a gigantic pillar of yellowish ice fell from the heavens and slammed onto King Hamu. Despite that, King Hamu summoned an energy force field in an attempt to push the pillar upwards and away from him.

"YELLOW ICE! HOW DARE YOU!" King Hamu shouted in agony as he felt the weight of the ice pillar on him. Zhi Nu did not hesitate to pull out even more strings from her sleeves and tightly secure the pillar to the ground. However, Yellow Ice was not done. With one hand busy controlling the pillar, he took a deep breath while using another hand to materialise shards of ice and use them to pierce King Hamu's hands, wings, and legs.

"As the former spymaster of the Orcs, I hereby deem you unworthy to rule the country any further. Your reign has plunged us into an era of chaos and has cost us the lives of hundreds and thousands of orcs. Therefore you are not only exiled, but deserve the highest punishment. Enjoy your stay with Diabolos!" Yellow Ice yelled while putting a brave front. (However, he could feel that his legs were already shaking and hands quivering from the extensive use of his ice magic.)

"ALMOST READY!!!" Peppers shouted at the top of her voice and suddenly tens and dozens of portals appeared, allowing the rest of the monsters to escape. Yellow Ice did not know what was happening but he guessed it was to defeat the remaining Fire Orcs in the capital and most importantly, King Hamu.

"Heh, so I was right. Betrayers ultimately never have a good ending." Yellow Ice regretted it a bit as his legs nearly gave out from the strenuous use of magic. However, Cross with bandages all around him appeared right beside him and supported his Lord.

"My King, we will see this through together." Cross said solemnly and suddenly Yellow Ice's heart was filled with a gradual warmth to see his first and final loyal subject.

"Do not worry. Every ending is simply a new beginning." Zhi Nu smiled at both Yellow Ice and Cross as if there was a hidden meaning to her words. Despite her portal opening right beside her, Zhi Nu refused to enter it and decided to stay back to ensure the strings were held together.

"Go, my fair lady. I will make sure this King will receive his deserved fate." Yellow Ice told her as he gritted his teeth to summon another two ice pillars diagonally and smashed it towards the force field that King Hamu was maintaining.

"I shall take on your offer. Just remember my words. We will definitely meet again." Zhi Nu tied additional strings to the two pillar of ices and tightened them before she stepped into the portal. That was when Yellow Ice could feel that the temperature was getting hotter and the floor was rumbling.

What the orcs did not know was that the entire (fake) capital city was built on top of a large inactive volcano. Within moments, the ground underneath the orcs broke and lava began spewing out of it, starting from the crevices that the zombies made when they crawled out of the ground.

"You think this kind of pathetic magic will hold me down!!!!" King Hamu screamed but now his voice was mixed with another entity, Diabolos.

"If it does not, I will make sure it will!!!" Jin shouted back from nowhere. The skies seemed to part as the infamous half body Titan knight emerged appear from a portal more colossal than any before it, scaring every single entity on top of the volcano city. The Titan pushed the ice 'blocks' down even more until it penetrated through the force field and froze the wings of Diabolos.

After which, the Titan Knight grabbed onto King Hamu and smashed him down even further, into the boiling magma to ensure that he was boiled to death. That was also the trigger for the volcano to explode but the Titan Knight made sure it shoved King Hamu as deep as possible before being teleported away by Jin. (He would have such a big headache if the Titan Knight died. The cost to replace him was truly astronomical.)

At the same time, Jin was watching via Tact Tweak from afar on a large fox provided by Kraft, as the volcano island met its demise. Unfortunately, Jin highly doubted this was it. After all, what kind of Big Boss did not have a second phase?

But for now, he laid back to witness an explosion that Peppers would probably rate a 10.5/10.

Chapter 363 Diabolos

The volcano continued to erupt, consuming the entire town at the top of the mountain and later spewing lava over the crater. The ash cloud from the crater was immensely large that it hid the Red Moon from plain sight. In the meantime, Jin asked Itori, the white fox he was riding on to stay on guard for King Hamu.

However, there was no sign of him coming out of the lava at all. The System then stated that it did not detect the presence of Diabolos Shatian powers anywhere in the volcano. "Did we capture King Hamu?" Jin was curious if the System was hiding the fact it captured the Orc King and wanted to make a joke out of it.

"Negative. The volcano and the operation did, however, capture a total of 1323 Fire Orcs which consist of warriors, archers, spearmen, axemen and mages. 46 Humanoid researchers were captured too. Upon references from Peppers and taxonomy sources from the Goblins, the humanoids are a subgenre race of the Wood Elves that had essentially mated with the Lost Dwarves. For User's information, the orcs called derogatory terms such as Fey Mongrels to them. The plausible reason why these Elvish Dwarves are able to operate the lost tech systems is that they have a faint trace of the bloodline from the lost dwarves which is needed to power up the lost tech system." The System noted to Jin.

"That is a surprise. I was thinking how we could get the researcher slav- erm I mean these Elvish Dwarves in be in our servitude." Jin said while his half mask transformed into a full mask panda. It was to filter away the ashes in the air because of the ash cloud.

"Avatar of Shiva, Yellow Ice, and his goblin subject, Cross which Flame Ripper informed us had been captured too by the volcano eruption User and others had initiated. Scans still showed no sign of the Orc King within the vicinity." The System stated. Jin adjusted the Tact Tweak and sent a message to Flame Ripper to check whether they had any signs on the King returning back to either the Fire Orc base of the castle. Unfortunately, they reported that there was no sign of him.

Jin decided to wait for a little while more while he browsed the Tact Tweak even further. Before the annihilation of the entire fake capital, he gave the robot crawlers and the Robotic Arachnid a secondary task. It was to salvage usable parts from the Orc Mechanised Walkers if it was possible during their combat. Through the Tact Tweak, it seemed that they managed to recover quite a few of them before the volcano took the rest out. The integrity of the Tin Cans varied, but the crawlers were able to get one intact.

"Does User wishes to begin analysis of the Lost Tech Mechanised Walker and the blueprints Orc Researcher Ayse to determine if there are any substitutes available in the market to replace the parts for these walkers? It could possibly be useful as reference for the repairs of Mechataur." The System asked and Jin commanded it to put it in the backburner for now.

"I have a bad feeling about this, System. Enhance the detection of the satellite as much as possible in case he decided to target the real capital." Jin said which the System quickly put it into place.

"User. The satellite indicated no Shaitan related activity in the goblin region. Separately, an update report for the Northern and Western Diversion is available if User wishes to preview it." The System stated which Jin guessed there would not be any harm doing so and allowed the System to carry on.

"For the Western Diversion. The Ice Orc Sea Fleet is currently in a standstill with Spear General Argent's army. Predicative analytics indicated that the counter attack would most be initiated by the cultivators themselves with the aid of the goblins within the next hour or so." The System replied.

"In the Northern Region, both the cultivators and the goblin army had been pushing the weakened Thunder Orcs back following the defeat of their Commander Purple Thunder. Three Sandroku Golems were fixed in the heat of the battlefield by the goblin mages since their pilots were not severely injured. Damage reports of the golems will be sent back for further investigation and evaluation too. Slashreaver who was badly injured in the battle against Purple Thunder had his vitals stabilised. Unfortunately, he was not killed in battle, and System is unable to resurrect him to return his full fighting form." The System further added.

"Will he be okay in the long run?" Jin said as he saw the condition Slashreaver suffered. Third degree burns all around his body, both arms amputated, his left ear was erased from the lightning strike and parts of his skull broke into pieces.

"Affirmative. One of the rewards for aiding this war is the evolution of the goblins. As one of them had already completed Step Up Evolution, more resources can be placed into the other two to force their genes for a Step Up Evolution. However, the System predicts that Slashreaver might not need additional

resources as he had met the sufficient requirements for a Step Up Evolution." The System commented but Jin did not understand the process.

"Sufficient stress in the genes and experience accumulated, played a major part in a Step Up Evolution. What Slashreaver needs now is a trigger. Similar to what Half Ghoul Lord Derek experienced, the Enhancement card "I am the Alpha" was both the stress and trigger factor for him. That is why he was able to evolve." The System remarked.

"I see...so erm any luck on finding King Hamu?" Jin worriedly asked although the System said there was no indication of him.

"Maybe he is in hiding?" Kraft materialised sitting beside Jin on Itori as he proceeded to explain his reason.

"By now, if the System did not consume them and there is no further detection of Diabolo's Shaitan powers anywhere around here, I can only conclude he ran away. It is either Diabolos had fully taken control of King Hamu's body and teleported away via his Shaitan plane or King Hamu was still strong enough to portal out of danger." Kraft deduced from what he had seen so far during the operation when he was in the Dungeon Maker.

"You mean he retreated for now since the conditions are not favourable for him?" Jin asked for a confirmation.

"That is my only deduction since we knew the Shaitans have access to another dimensional plane. If King Hamu was completely controlled by Diabolos, he could simply do that. Besides, we are not sure if Diabolos already ate King Hamu or that Shaitan Messenger planned to use his body for other nefarious acts." Kraft said his piece as he admired the beauty of the live volcano.

"Moreover, we do not have the ability to scan the entire goblin world in detail since we only have a CHEAP satellite working. Regardless, we covered most of the locations. Both the Orc and Goblin Capital, his military base and the locations of the Northern and Western armies." Kraft said casually as he braced himself for another volcano explosion that was coming and the two guys could feel the shockwaves impacting them.

Jin was naturally distressed if it was King Hamu that cause the volcano attack when they were talking about him, but the System said it was just the volcano.

"Peppers ensured that the island itself would be flooded with lava. She is not wrong at all!! This is way beyond expectations!!" Kraft did not seem to worry a single thing as he whistled, seeing how cool it was for waves of lava to be oozing out and over the volcano crater nonstop.

"ISLAND! YES, ISLAND!!!" Jin suddenly thought of something that they did not cover at all. "Ayse, didn't you say you guys found an island full of lost tech? Right? Do you still have the coordinates?" Jin hurriedly asked in the secured System channel which Ayse promptly replied. Once Jin received the coordinates, he hurried the fox to move as fast as possible.

"You better HOLD ONNNNN!!!" Kraft's warning was too late since Itori had already begun sprinting over the ocean waters and towards the coordinates of the Lost Tech Island.

"To push me into the lava....to humiliate us at every turn....Who did those humanoids and monsters think they are!!!" Diabolos shouted as he tried to slam on the large metal door, but the punch was so faint that it barely made any noise. Despite all the setbacks, he had finally completed his objective of consuming King Hamu's soul and taking over his body for his own selfish reason.

But Diabolos felt extremely weak.

It was not meant to go this way. He initially wanted to overtake King Hamu's body when the Orc King was brimming with Red Moon energy. That was because the energy that was emanated from the Red Moon aligned to his darkness element. As long as King Hamu became a container, a vessel filled with dark energy, he would be able to enter the body and control it easily.

But right now, he was drained out of Red Moon energy. This particular body was so battered up that it was in no position to fight against the humanoids. The body had also taken a lot of damage from the cursed Light magic which slowed its recovery since it hindered Diabolos' dark energy to flow correctly.

"Heh, too bad for them, I had purposely kept this place as a backup, my final gambit for this kind of situation. I never thought it would be necessary... Just wait for me to get better, to get what's coming to you..." Diabolos murmured while he dragged his feet and broken wings along the metal floors inside the deserted laboratory on the Lost Tech Island. King Hamu, under the influence of Diabolos, had previously demanded the humanoid researchers to recreate a recovery capsule when they were searching for other blueprints.

The recovery capsule was a one time use equipment and the materials to replicate the fluid was extremely expensive, using only the rarest materials hunted down by the Avatars and veteran hunter gatherers. And for its quality, it was extremely potent. Just bathed in that miracle liquid for less than an hour, all the damage a body had incurred would be removed, like it never happened before.

But this battered body of his was taking too much time and effort to move that it felt like ages walking towards the recovery capsule. Diabolos became too feeble after taking over King Hamu's body. Not because of the possession but because he used by his remaining energy to shield and teleport this body from the lava to the Lost Tech Island. He even had to destroy the magical barrier that was protecting the island since only King Hamu knew the exact passphrase to enter without any harm.

"I will make sure...that I will find these monsters...these humanoids...and mostly importantly Sol!" Diabolos growled under his heavy breaths as he tried to activate the console for the recovery capsule. As he was about to open the capsule, Diabolos suddenly felt that his stomach was feeling rather queasy and his legs gave out almost immediately.

He started to gag from the pain and subsequently vomited but only blood was splattered all over the floor. Not just any healthy red orc blood, the blood Diabolos vomited on the floor was dull black. Lamentably, Diabolos heard heavy footsteps from afar, which made him feared the worst.

The white fox entered the island with ease as it bashed through the metal doors of the laboratory and followed the pieces of feathers that were dropped from the wings of Diabolos. (along with some blood stains) Just a sniff from the feathers, Itori knew where to find King Hamu. But first, She shrank smaller so that Jin would not hit the ceiling because of her size and later went after the trail of scent left behind by the feathers.

Not long, Jin and Itori found King Hamu lying on the metal floor with an activated capsule right beside him. The stench in the room was obscenely strong and supposedly it was from the King Hamu himself. "Ah I see, Hou Fei's poison had started to work. I guess it took that long because it made sure to impair the dantian of the cultivator so that it could no longer produce any chi to supplement the body." Kraft saw the effects and walked towards Diabolos armed with his No Mercy.

"But because this guy did not practice any cultivation nor had any chi, not to mention we have no idea how their magic circuits worked, I guessed the poison took some time to act." Kraft frowned a little, considering he did not know what to expect from the poison on an orc. (Kraft then realised he should have asked Hou Fei to collaborate with him first and test on certain subjects before attempting this method. Although Kraft guessed they were both too busy to worry about this.)

"But we still decided to give it a try right? It might have been a long shot to hope it would work and hinder the Orc King but looks like it did even better than expected." Jin said, and at that point of time, pitch black moonflowers began to abruptly grow from the pores of King Hamu's body, oozing more blood from the flowers themselves.

Later, Kraft quoted from Hou Fei that the flowers were usually the representation of their 'chi' and it was the body's way of expelling the poison and bad blood out from the pores of the skin. Through deduction, they figured that the expulsion of the toxins produced the flowers, and Kraft said that by the time the body defence mechanism kicked in to save itself, it was already too late.

"What is...happening to this body...curses... This is *COUGH* the wrong...*COUGH* time to enter a body..." Diabolos questioned as his vision turned foggy and he could not utilise any dark energy in him at all. He felt his mana reserves empty which was supposed to be impossible. He had totally no idea what was going on.

For once, He was powerless.

Kraft did not hesitate as he raised his No Mercy revolver at King Hamu and shot all three bullets at Diabolos, causing the body to become limp immediately, putting up zero struggle. Jin slowly walked towards the body and saw that even though it was King Hamu's body, the features on his face was clearly not his.

"User, Diabolos has been captured. However, he had been sealed and will be under System's supervision until User reached higher grades. This is not a form of punishment, but merely the System's precaution. The entity is a being with powers unimaginable and the System believed its current loyalty enforcement orders might prove to be inadequate against it. System would keep the entity in stasis and not treat its wounds until analysis of its powers is satisfactory." The System noted and Jin realised this was the first time the System felt...scared.

"Are you saying its powers could possibly be higher than Grade 19? Or maybe an equivalent to the legendary Grade 20?" Jin was a little excited but the System denied his fantasies.

"His powers are estimated to be an equivalent grade level 15 or 16. Without further analysis, System is unable to know its true extent of Diabolos' powers. It is the first time the System encountered and captured such a powerful creature. The System will require some time to make sure the loyalty

enforcement order works while recommends User to level up to ensure that User is capable of making full use of its powers." The System commented before it turned quiet once again.

"Then I guess...Mission complete...?" Jin awkwardly cheered at this rather anticlimactic ending which Kraft sniggered a little before looking at the capsule right in front of it.

"Let's look through our 'rewards'?" Kraft said as he asked System to summon out Ayse for a better explanation of the items in this particular lab they were in.

Chapter 364 Lost Tech Products

Ayse stretched a little after appearing as she complaint how small the guest room was in the Sanctum of Worlds instance. "Ahaha...I think there is an influx of monsters that we did not expect at all. At this rate, I think it is vital we get the Dungeon City Fortress up as soon as possible." Jin said while his eyes wandered around at the complexity of the laboratory he was in. It felt futuristic enough with the weird interior design of the lab but still held an impression that it was archaic.

"Do you still wish to proceed with the war against the Rat Demon Army considering we somehow fulfilled our objectives by getting a decent amount of monsters from this campaign," Kraft asked as he attempted to fiddle with the consoles of activated capsule a little, but Ayse later restrained him.

"We might be more equipped to fight against the Rat Demons with the aid of the goblins too but I still think it will not be anytime soon. It's best to reevaluate what had happened in this campaign and improve on it first before we jump into another war. Right now, we are on the defensive and it was already a pain in the ass to coordinate everything. Besides, The Deep Ones Dungeon is not up yet and I believed I had dragged that long enough." Jin said as Ayse turned on the secondary lights in the area to let her master have a better look at the Lost tech products she and her team had invented. Jin also took this opportunity to look around the lab.

"DO! NOT! TOUCH! ANY! THING!" Ayse shouted at Kraft who had itchy fingers and allowed them to commit the crime of annoying Ayse once more. She also hoped that her warnings could be heard by Jin too. She then proceeded to activate a large screen and demanded the two to sit in front of it at a fit of anger. (They complied immediately even though Jin had the right to walk around.)

"Oof! I cannot believe they actually hide all my initial creations here. I thought they all went to waste after I showed it to Hamu. But ARGH!!!! Its all in a mess!" Ayse scratched and messed up her short hair but the guys did not understand as everything seem to be placed very neatly.

"Wrong order! That X Projectile-23 should be placed together with the Power Condenser, not beside the Shield Dilator!" Ayse was whining while carrying her inventions around and putting them according to her logic. Meanwhile, the screen in front Jin and Kraft started to flash pictures of various lost tech products as if it was some presentation slide. Even though Ayse was busy cleaning up the lab, she babbled her explanation on the Lost Tech products on it. But it was so fluent and well covered that the two lads believed she might have probably given the same speech before.

But only Jin was interested in the presentation and took notes with regards to the Lost Tech products. Kraft got bored the moment he sat down and asked Jin for the Tact Tweak. "Might as well aid the Northern and Western Diversion." Kraft thought as he started fiddling with the options in the Tact Tweak.

"Abdul! Suppressive Fire! Two o'clock!" Ren Wei shouted when the group was taking cover at a piece of ship wreckage near the beachhead. Abdul unleashed his cultivation, the Rakish Rhino, to increase his defences as he went to the open and started firing at Orcs without a care for his life. Gupta charged ahead without hesitation and loaded five chi enhanced Dragonbreath shells into his shotgun. They were aiming for the crashed airship carrier that the goblin wyvern riders took down initially.

Despite the crash, many of the Wind Orcs survived and the resistance from the Wind Orcs was strong enough to warrant a counter offensive to reduce their numbers. Spear General Argent utilised the cultivators' magpies to inform them that the goblin armies were preoccupied with the Ice Orcs in the city so they requested for more aid at the front. Hence, Ren Wei and his group of police mates were the first few that responded to the call.

"Intermediate Shotgun Technique! Gushing Showers of the Elephant!" Gupta held his weapon firmly on his waist as shots of Dragonbreath turn into a continuous spray of fire which burnt any Orc that exited from the crash site. Jing Ru and Ren Wei threw a few fragmentation grenades to increase the damage caused. After which, they went to the sides of the ship and fired their grapple gun upwards. They planned to clear the airship carrier cabins starting from the top while Gupta and Abdul would be entering from the bottom of the crashed airship.

However, the moment some of the Orcs saw the grapple gun hooks and attempted to destroy it, they encounter shots of sniper fire from afar. Ren Wei had previously contacted with other police cultivators via the magpie communication system (which he found to be rather cute and useful.) When the father daughter duo managed to climb up to starboard of the ship, they found a series of dead bodies courtesy of the other snipers. Ren Wei thanked them via the magpies and proceeded to clear the rest with Jing Ru.

Separately, Shu and Ke Mi were only able to handle that many orcs at the fort walls despite the counter offensive to hinder the orc's assault. But this time around, the Orcs found out that using fire and highly flammable explosives against Shu's fort wall was somewhat effective. It might not incur much damage for Shu because of Ke Mi's magical barrier but it drastically slowed Shu's roots' reactions and thus the active defences on the wall were reduced.

Once in a while, Shu was able to unleash hundreds of deadly sakura petals that sliced any orcs down the moment the petal had contact with them. But he required some time to be able to regrow those petals again which time was a luxury he could not afford in this battle. "We need more hands!!!" Shu bellowed in anger as he swiped a line of orcs away from the fort walls.

Suddenly as if the System heard his prayers, the werejackals, wercats, his beloved praying Mantis and the family of Wyrms entered the fray killing the orcs that were trying to overwhelm the anti tank cannon teams. "Hey stupid tree, cannot handle these muscleheads by yourself?" Yellow, who was revived by the System mocked Shu.

"Ah, frigging dogs always barking, barking and barking. Go bite something every once in a while!" Shu nagged but it finally felt more relax for a breather with the arrival of the monsters he can trust.

Separately, in the Northern Diversion, the Thunder Orcs had already fought to the point that they decided to retreat from the official goblin territorial line. Sword General Gladios stopped the rest from chasing and only commanded his troops to release projectiles at them.

Other than that, the remaining Sandroku Golems fired their artillery shells freely at the enemy to ensure that the Thunder Orcs were retreating for real. General Gladios commanded a unit to stay on sight on the goblin territorial line as overwatch while the rest went around the battlefield to ensure that the Thunder Orcs remained dead. He wanted no prisoners to be left alive.

After which, Gladios quickly rode back to the camp to check on his son, Slashreaver who was being treated continuously by the Goblin Healers. Slashreaver heard his father's familiar footsteps and looked up to expect him. "I did good, did I?" Slashreaver whispered when he saw his father entering the medical tent.

"You fool. Why risk your life so eagerly to save mine?" Gladios sat beside him and patted his head. Gladios felt powerless in this current situation. If there were anything he could do to bring his son back to the way he is, he would not hesitate to do so, even consulting with the orcs themselves for that too. That was how desperate Gladios felt at that point of time and the despair could only grow even stronger.

"Heh, you do not have to worry. Master Jin had his way to return me to my original self." Slashreaver reassured him but the goblin healers were shaking their heads with a deep frown in their looks.

Gladios understood what it meant. Slashreaver's vitals might be stable for now, but the Shaitan Thunder corruption was eating him up. The healers deduced that Purple Thunder had prepared his magic spells and enchanted them with a curse before the fight. They noticed there was a dark energy coursing through Slashreaver's body and there was no way to remove it. Gladios believed that attack was for him so that the goblins would lose not just any general but one that was revered by the masses.

Gladios, however, continued to retain a smile in front of Slashreaver until Milk with her customised half panda Mask asked for permission to enter the tent. "Good evening General Gladios, on behalf of Master Jin, I will be taking over his care." Milk was dressed in her priestess clothes when she appeared in front of them.

"But the- Give me a minute. I will be back." Gladios exited the tent and asked if his son could truly be saved. Milk gave a soft smile and nodded her head.

"Do not worry General Gladios, in fact, you might find your son...more powerful than before. Take this as a trial he had to overcome his physical body limits." Milk replied but Gladios was confused. He was not in the mood to think things but because she was a lady, Gladios tried to talk as calmly as he could even though he was fuming according to his body language.

"Are you going to experiment on him or something so that he can become better?? If it is, I rather he die than to suffer through some weird experiment," Gladios replied which Milk slowly shook her head.

"It is not an experiment, but a tried and true process. Besides, has Master Jin ever fail you before? Did you not once said that he was the goblin's saviour?" Milk rebutted and Gladios kept his silence for a while.

"I trust you on that, or else I made sure I will die trying to kill the whole lot of you," Gladios answered Milk with a slight tone of distrust in his voice. But it was the truth, Master Jin had been a major boon on the goblin race itself in the past recent days. If not for him, the orcs would have conquered the entire goblin race, and their next line of action would definitely be killing the old and enslaved almost every one of them. By then, death would be a mercy they craved so badly for.

"You worry too much. General Gladios, everything will go just fine." Milk smiled once again before entering the medical tent and brought Slashreaver away via a portal from the goblin healers. Gladios knew that there were other things to take care in the battlefield so he decided to use that as an excuse to not think about Slashreaver.

"Uwah! Why did you throw that thing at me!" Kraft let out a girly scream which made Jin laughed a little during the presentation.

"Because you did not listen to a single word I said!" Ayse complained as she pointed at Kraft while holding on to another spiked ball. The spike ball which missed Kraft earlier, destroyed the chair that Kraft was sitting by instantly increasing the length of the spikes.

"Do not hold back Ayse, continue on. Just do not destroy any other tech products in here." Jin gave Ayse the permission to throw another spiked ball which she gladly did so.

"TRAITOR!!!" Kraft said to Jin as he proceeded to hide behind Itori who was sleeping at the side of the room, but she turned into a bullet immediately. "WHY YOU! ANOTHER TRAITOR!" Kraft cursed at Itori as he barely managed to dodge against another spiked ball. He did not realised that Ayse was that good in throwing items.

Meanwhile, Jin was already reviewing the tech products in the lab. He figured there were some that were extremely useful. Such as the recovery capsule that was first introduced to Jin. The System replied, indicating to them that those ingredients found by the orc hunter gatherers could be easily bought over through the System's market. It broke down the required concoction and the ingredients from the System's market was able to replicate its authenticity to a near 100%.

The System added that after using the replicated concoction, the remaining wounds were just derma related. Jin figured he could use that after utilising the High Intensity Mode Capsule or if mechanically possible, combine the both of them and it would have be capable of performing two functions.

The other products that caught his eye were the Lost Tech Material Recycler and the Lost Tech Counterfeiter. The Lost Tech Material Recycler was the 'dream came true' for an evergreen world. Even when the System heard of its uses, it immediately wanted to analyse it and use it for its own purpose.

How does the Lost Tech Material Recycler work? Ayse said that they can start by inserting an unwanted item, which will break down the bonds of the object into sheets, orbs or even blocks of material resources. Yes, The recycler broke the item into specific resources and both Jin and the System felt that

his machine had unlimited potential. For example, by putting a piece of glass into the Lost Tech Material Recycler, the device would chunk out blocks of sand, limestone and sodium oxide and calcium carbonate in separate casings.

To the orcs, they did not know that they possessed such a gem in their facility. Even Ayse thought that it was such a useless product that the Orcs created from the Lost Tech blueprints. But to the System who has the database of almost every material available in the world, found this Material Recycler was the most exciting item it ever found. The only bad thing was that it took a long time to break the materials down to their base compounds. (But that was not an issue for the System who can willfully control time compression and dilation in instances.)

Additionally, Jin could understand where the System was coming. If they could recycle the junk in their world, they would be able to obtain resources at a very cheap price or perhaps free. Even he started to think if he should have a selling option. By buying items that people did not want, they might have the chance to change the world. Jin believed that a system could be thought up to ensure that he would be earning more money buying useless items from the public.

The next was the Lost Tech Counterfeiter which was kept in a cage. Believe it or not, the product looked like a bear with a large bobbling head, but it was indeed a lost tech product. (Apparently, the Lost Dwarves liked bears.) Ayse said that was how the blueprints could be recreated. Place a certain blueprint beside the Lost Tech Counterfeiter and command it to scan the blueprint before it starts to construct the entire product out inside its belly. Depending on the size of the product, it will expand and when it was done, the bear will sit straight up and split open itself for the completed product.

Either that or place the item in front of the Bobbling Bear that the user wished to recreate and it would do so. However, because it does not know the composition of the item, the items it produced would be inferior. Jin realised it was something similar to the System's way of producing certain items.

However, there was a catch to that procedure. Jin had to insert dungeon dollars to the System to produce the item. For this particular Lost Tech Counterfeiter, all he needed was either a blueprint or the item on hand.

However, it seemed to be defying the laws of physics. Every action must have a reaction. Jin could not believe the Counterfeiter machine was so powerful out that it was able to produce something without any 'actions' to the reaction. Only through further probing from Ayse that he learnt that it needed 'food' to work. "Any food?" Jin asked Ayse who was panting trying to chase after Kraft in the room but subsequently gave up.

"Anything. Be it organic or inorganic, the bear did not care. That was why we just throw our junk into the counterfeiter and it eats like an ever hungry baby. When we needed something built, all we need to do was ask it to scan the blueprints and it will start building. That was why we were able to build our army arsenal so quickly." Ayse said as she asked Jin to replicate something as an example.

Jin decided to give a problematic specimen for it to try on as he pulled out a piece of the living armour on him and let the counterfeiter scanned it.

Red lasers appeared out of the bear looking machine as it paced around the piece of living armour to scan it. The counterfeiter even picked it up rather delicately despite its large 'paws' to see the bottom of

the item. Then, it left the piece of living armour alone and stayed at the corner of a cage while a digital timer appeared on top of its head to indicate how much time it needed to operate.

"99 hours?" Jin exclaimed and guessed it could only know the result later and decided to bring the Bobbling Bear back into the Dungeon Maker along with the recovery capsule and the material recycler. Other than that, the rest of the lost tech products were pretty average in terms of practical use but the System still wanted to take it back and analysis it, so Jin ordered his crawlers and zombies to assist with the carrying.

Even though Operation Pompeii was done, the time that passed in the real world was barely an hour. Thus it posed a problem for Jin's announcement and the current goblin war theme in November. Therefore, Jin figured that he needed to extend the event for a longer period of time so that the cultivators would be able to have their fun while earning back profit to cover the exorbitant amount of expenses he acquired through this operation.

"System, do you have sufficient data to replicate goblins as NPCs and the scenes of the Western Coastal Town and Northern Valley Town? Because we are going to put those orcs we captured to work before more cultivators enter our shop later in the morning." Jin said as he requested for a portal to the Dungeon Maker.

"System had been running through various possible scenarios from the data collected and concluded it is more than sufficient. System had released another two million dungeon dollars as a loan to User's account to recreate the instances." The System stated and Jin smirked.

It was time to create the reenactment of these scenes as proper dungeon instances.

Chapter 365 The Surprise for Ren Wei

"Ohhhh my gosh! I burnt through like twenty over odd medals worth of ammunition!" Jing Ru exclaimed as the police squad returned to the Panda Weaponry after their time was up. While slightly regretful, it was Ren Wei's decision to stop when their mission of clearing the crashed airship carrier was completed.

The Pandamonium App asked if they wanted 'One More' try, but Ren Wei figured that their ammunition was all spent, the squad was tired enough, and he also noticed more cultivators were entering the fray to replace others. Hence, he decided to call it off which the team unanimously agreed to it.

"It was a really superb workout. I haven't felt such an adrenaline rush for a long time." Ren Wei praised the experience to the others as he returned the real gun and got his air gun model back at the side counter. The Three Headed Bear noticed a puncture in Ren Wei's rifle before asking him to leave and stared at him coldly for a while.

"Heh, sorry about that. Needed to use it to defend myself from a surprise spear strike when I was turning the corner. Must say, the craftsmanship is supreme, it still works despite the puncture." Ren Wei smiled innocently as he replied while trying to compliment the other party to calm him down. The Three Headed Bear snorted back as he placed his air gun down and asked for Abdul who was standing behind him to come forward for his gun exchange.

"If you want to experience a real adrenaline rush, you can always come back patrolling with us. I guarantee you will get such a feeling at least once every week." Gupta teased Ren Wei a bit when he returned his gun back.

"Anyways, I am hungry, shall we go eat? I heard the Restaurant Train of Delicacy serves some great food." Ren Wei asked but the three of them retorted all at the same time that they wanted to look around the weapon shop for a while. Ren Wei then decided to stay for a bit, but Jing Ru conveniently gave him an excuse.

"How about you go ahead and book a table for us first? I will be coming after you in a moment. Just some replenishment of some ammunition that's all!" Jing Ru suggested as she pushed Ren Wei out of the Panda Weaponry and quickly ran to the counter.

"I believe I should have enough raid points and medals for the gift I reserved. Do you mind taking it out?" Jing Ru asked hastily. Seeing her actions, both Abdul and Gupta realised that Jing Ru had reminded them about the same goal they had in mind; Getting a gift for her father.

"Big Bear, my man. Could you give us our gift as well? If possible, subtract the points from both our accounts." Abdul asked which caused the Three Headed Bear to simultaneously bring out the exact same gun model for the both of them, the Dragunov Sniper Rifle.

Jing Ru stared at the uncles, who looked back at the same time. The realisation that they had the same idea suddenly made all three of them chuckle and laughed together. "Well, Young Miss could you let us uncles purchase the gift for your dad? We don't mind it being a present from all three of us." Gupta offered since the two policemen assumed they would rarely have the chance to come together and play that much in the near future.

"I cannot allow you all to pay for everything. How about this? We share equally for this rifle and perhaps we also buy him a 5 Gold Panda Medal Voucher so he can purchase customisations or ammo in the future?" Jing Ru suggested which Gupta and Abdul believed it was a good idea.

"Here is your gun. For the rest of the transaction, go to the Red Pandas." The Three Headed Bear kept one of the sniper rifles and left the side counter to continue hammering his stuff on his anvil. Jing Ru then approached the Red Panda to inform her about their transaction. As always the cute animal gladly assisted them with their request. They even provided a sleek modern looking rifle suitcase to keep the air gun version of the Dragunov Sniper Rifle.

"Do you think they sell any birthday cakes in this place?" Abdul asked, but Gupta had no idea while Jing was busy doing the transaction for them.

"We do have cheesecakes! They are sold in the Restaurant Train of Delicacy Service Instance." The Red Pandas offered their advice which made Jing Ru became wildly excited. She had completely forgotten about its existence for a moment.

"Oh yes!! How could I forget about THAT cheesecake! I still remember that sweetness in my mouth. Does the general store sells any candles or anything?" Jing Ru humbly asked which the Red Panda said that it could relay their request to the penguins.

"Alright, if Ren Wei's girl vouches that the cheesecake is that good then we simply have to go for it. A little dessert before breakfast should not be a problem, heh!" Abdul commented. The Red Panda asked if they would like the casing also to be wrapped up.

"Do we need to pay extra?" Jing Ru asked as she checked her remaining raid points and medals.

"You do not have to. It's on the house. We will bring it to you and your father. Enjoy yourselves!" The Red Panda replied courteously as it playfully grabbed the rifle casing and asked the other red pandas for help to wrap everything up and get things ready.

"We will pay for the cheesecake then, and it's been a while since we last met. Let us at least do those honours. You can surprise him with the gift." Gupta offered as they proceeded to the Restaurant Train Instance to see Ren Wei waving at them. While waiting, he had already ordered some drinks for them.

"I was unsure know what you guys would like to drink here, so I just ordered coffee for you two. For you, my princess, I knew exactly what you would like. Here's your favourite Bamboo Juice." Ren Wei beamed with delight as he saw Jing Ru gleefully accepted the drink.

Suddenly, all the lights in the train were dimmed, and a light drum rolling was heard in the background before an announcement was being made. "Ladies and Gentlemen, if you do not mind joining, let us put our hands together to wish a happy birthday for the pleasant gentlemen and loving father, Mr Ren Wei at Table 49." The penguin spoke with a microphone on an elevated stage. It was none other than Mr Patsu making his personal appearance for Ren Wei.

Ren Wei immediately blushed and put his head down as the train's spotlights were focused on him. The cultivators who were having their breakfast in the morning had unanimously clapped for him upon Mr Patsu's request and the penguin waiters pushed a clothed trolley full of cheesecake with candles on it. There was even the penguin band that played a birthday song with an accompanying singer that the cultivators sang along with.

Meanwhile, the other three rascals were happily giggling at the side seeing Ren Wei embarrassingly blow the candles out from the cake. "Hey! You did not make any wish at all!" Jing Ru pouted a little but she knew they had already embarrassed her father enough.

The lights came back on and the penguins did a magic trick for Ren Wei to see. From underneath the small tray they somehow managed to pull out a big long rectangular box all neatly wrapped. Ren Wei was amazed by it and thanked the penguins for it as he was not expecting any birthday presents or celebrations but just wanted to spend time with his daughter and his buddies. Yet, the penguin waiter corrected him, informing him that it was a gift from the three right beside him. Ren Wei could not contain his excitement picked up the long bulky gift he received and took a good look especially when he noticed that the wrapper had cartoonish muskrats running around chasing one and other.

"What is it?" Ren Wei became curious about the contents of the beautifully packaged gift when all three decided to remain silent about it. (They were actually trying their best not to laugh or giggle.)

"Well, there is only one way to find out. Open it and you will see!" Abdul could not take it and laughed before he shamelessly tried a piece of the cheesecake.

"HOLY SHI-! What kind of heavenly cheesecake is this?" Abdul could not help to interrupt Ren Wei's unwrapping but it did make Ren Wei laugh out as he had a similar (though not so vocal) reaction after enjoying the same cheesecake with Jing Ru before. He had never forgotten that taste. Gupta, on the other hand, had had the decency to wait until Ren Wei was done unwrapping before he partook that fluffy, bouncy cheesecake on the table.

"You must be kidding me! You guys bought this for me?!!" Ren Wei was at a loss of words after finding out the contents of the box. It was a brand new Dragunov Sniper air rifle which cost quite a fair bit on the market because of the lack of availability. Still, he could not fathom how the three banded together to buy this for him.

"To be honest, we didn't plan to share the gift. We happened to choose the exact gifts for you in Jin's shop. So we added a bit extra. Recheck the box. There should be one more present in there." Jing Ru admitted that she had been planning to buy one since a month ago.

"No wonder you two rascals were going crazy killing the orcs like there was no tomorrow when both of you are usually more tactical in your approach." Ren Wei finally figured why the two had been acting so strangely in the Raid instance. He noticed an envelope near the air gun rifle. Inside contained the five Gold Panda Medals Voucher which had a QR Code to link it up to his Pandamonium Account.

"Blahhh if we had known beforehand that we were going to share the cost with your daughter here, I wouldn't have worked my ass off like crazy after my night duty." Abdul sneered a little before he picked up another slice of the heavenly cheesecake to eat.

"Hey who is the birthday boy here?!" Ren Wei quickly grabbed one to eat before Gupta and Jing Ru snatched them all. The four of them had a great time chatting with each other about the encounters they had in the raid instance before they decided to return back for the day.

"Hey, Abdul, Gupta. Thanks...for recognising Jing Ru as my daughter." Ren Wei said personally to his two pals when Jing Ru went to start up the car for him.

"She seems like a fine, dandy young lass," Gupta said in a weird fake European accent, but he returned to his normal serious self when Ren Wei sighed at him. "It's great that everything seems to be working out for you. Happy Birthday, buddy." Gupta gave a hug which Abdul followed suit.

"Be sure to visit us once in a while in Tiangong rather than sucking up to people's ass in Central." Abdul patted Ren Wei's back and went off. Jing Ru coincidentally came around the corner with his car and got down to wave goodbye to the uncles too.

"It was fun training with you. Did not expect those two uncles to be this funny too." Jing Ru mentioned as she yawned a little when she got into the car but noticed a serious expression on Ren Wei's face. It was as if he wanted to say something very important when he entered the car. She kept quiet and allowed Ren Wei some time to ask the question, although she roughly knew where it was going.

"I erm... Is...it okay if we go visit your mom's grave?" Ren Wei asked and Jing Ru stared at him for a while and later nodded a bit.

"I am sure Mom will be delighted." Jing Ru smiled tenderly as she pulled the chair back to rest. "Wake me up when ...OH SHIT, WHEN DID YOU?!" Jing Ru was shocked as she just noticed an item so fluffy behind the back seats.

"Well erm, I thought you would like it since you were rambling about it earlier in the morning. I was lucky that they just restocked. Sorry, I was not able to get the XXXL size because of the lack of points, but I hope XXL will do-" Suddenly, Jing Ru hugged Ren Wei and gave him a friendly kiss at his cheek.

"Thanks, Dad!" Jing Ru said as she quickly unbuckled her seatbelt and crawled towards the back seats hugging the XXL panda plushie. She immediately understood why Luo Bo was so crazy about it and why Xiong Da was so protective. Before she knew it, Jing Ru fell asleep.

"That little girl..." Ren Wei could not help but grabbed his phone out and took a picture of his daughter. Jing Ru's innocent smile reminded Ren Wei of her mother when she was younger. "Thank you Xing Ru... for coming into my life." Ren Wei whispered as he began to drive to visit Jing Ru's mother's grave.

Chapter 366 Western Diversion Dungeon Instance

Despite the late night announcement, Jin was surprised to see that a decent number of cultivators still managed to come to visit his shop for the Goblin Raid Instance. He decided to make a rare appearance at the shopfront while several of his Another Jins were hard at work recreating the western diversion, northern diversion and one hidden instance, the attack of the goblin capital for the entirety of the Raid Instance Event in his shop.

Speaking of the western diversion, Mr Derpy finally got to enjoy some fun the moment he noticed that the ships were moving backwards. He had been staring at them for the longest time ever waiting for any changes. As soon as they retreated and crossed the imaginary line set by Jin during the operation preparations, Mr Derpy did not hesitate.

The other Deep Ones immediately gave way to their Shadow Lord as he launched himself out of the water and made a deep wailing sound that frightened the already demoralised orcs before crashing back into the deep oceans with a large, loud splash. The waves from the splash impacted the medium ships so terribly that some even capsized from it, allowing the Deep Ones to selfishly snatch their prey from one another.

Mr Derpy after having made his grand entrance, swam underneath a warship and bit through the ship's keel, the bottom most structure holding the hull, causing seawater to gush into the hole rapidly. It also gave the Deep Ones the opportunity to enter and rampage through sinking warship. As for the rest of the warships...One after another they suffered the same fate as the first one, which Mr Derpy gave absolutely no chills for making him so long to act.

The cultivators that were fighting on the ships had been encouraged by the magpies to escape but many continued to press on, believing it was only part of the plot for the raid dungeon instance they were participating. The cultivators took it as some time trial, killing as many as possible before the warship

sunk to the bottom of the sea. Hence, many of the cultivators died from drowning though most did not mind a single bit when they returned to the recovery instance.

Some thought there should be a way out which no one had figured out yet, just as always with other Jin's dungeons. (They probably read too much into the situation.) Still, that data gave the Another Jins the idea to implement it into the real Western Diversion dungeon instance.

Of course, there would be a hidden way to fly out of the whole mess if they could find it in time. If some drowned trying to find out, they could probably purchase more tickets to search for the answer. Another Jins were already contemplating whether they should add hidden achievements for bragging rights.

Eventually, the orcs in the Western Diversion and Northern Diversion had fully retreated and the goblin armies began cleaning up the battlefield. Some of the Ice Orcs had decided to surrender in the Western Coastal Town of Gob Gob Si but the majority of them fought to the death. Jin's monsters did one last sweep around the area before they teleported away, leaving the goblins to do what needed to be done.

With the scenes of battle clearing up in the Goblin World, Jin encountered a problem he had not have time to plan for before. Technically, the defeat of Orc King Hamu allowed him to proclaim this official event to be over and tell everyone to go home. But that felt like a very bad idea especially after his sudden announcement in the middle of the night.

It also felt unreasonable towards those cultivators who had joined the battlefield mere minutes before the battle was over, only for them to get teleported back. Jin announced to the cultivators that he found a critical technical issue which could result in a server failure. So as an apology, Jin compensated all who had joined too late with an apology pack worth five bronze panda medals.

Even though Another Jins were not fully ready yet, Jin also opened another portal to the real dungeon instance for all who wished to participate after receiving the apology pack. However, the cultivators did not know that this particular dungeon instance was not a complete instance because of the time constraint Jin had encountered. A couple of unlucky Another Jins were simultaneously building the dungeon instance of the Western Diversion scenario as it went live for the cultivators.

Panda Captains Bai and Hei dragged the start of the instance out as long as they could by giving the cultivators a surprise event, stating that there were reports of Wind Orcs attempting to infiltrate into the Western Coastal Town via the hills at the side. This particular event was supposed to be one of the many pre-sequel events that Another Jins decided to incorporate but for this particular instance, it was a fixed event. That way, Another Jins had some more time to create what was needed for the eventual battle.

But unlike the Goblin World which they had no control over, Another Jins purposely enhanced the Goblin Raids Dungeon instances in many ways. Firstly, communications. Instead of magpies, they made use of the mini pets that most of the cultivators had and those became the new messengers for communication purposes. If one did not have a mini pet they could purchase one for a slightly lower price during this event. If not, a magpie would be accompanying them in place of their pets.

Second, He realised the orcs...were caught in such a bad predicament that they were unable to fight back, making it such an unfair fight. Now that it was no longer a matter of real life and death, he decided

to even the odds. So firstly, he removed all the monsters that aided the goblins and changed it to solely a goblins vs orcs battle. Instead of lost tech warships, he purposely used models from the late 1800s and early 1900s. Wooden frigates powered by steam engines (which were way cheaper compared to recreating the lost tech) and the System matched the speed and strength of the lost tech warships which they had collected the data from.

For the airship carriers, Another Jins had decided to copy the idea of aircraft carriers from the past, mainly the HMS Argus, a British aircraft carrier. As HMS Argus was converted from an ocean liner to an aircraft carrier, Another Jins decided to do the same. Because Jin was an engineering student before, he still had a user account giving him access to the university database (He did not clean his browser and cookies!!) and it allowed him to get access to look at the blueprints for ocean liners.

On a separate note, Kraft asked if Jin wished to hack into the database and get access to all the information in case his user account ever expired. "You sure you can do this without being detected? I do not want police to come knocking at my doorstep." Jin was slightly wary.

"Technically, you already have the Police Heads under your fingertips. Even if you were caught, you could get off with it." Kraft reminded him that the Royal Zodiac Tiger's Head, Yuan Ba and his daughter, Yang Ling, owed them a favour though they could probably use that for something grander.

"But in all seriousness, yeah I can do that in a jiffy with the help of the System. Their database is third rate and my judgement tells me, there had already been a few silent hacks in there. So as soon as we find a backdoor they left, we can just use it and subsequently, the blame would fall on whoever placed it there."

"I had no idea you are able to do cyber hacking, aren't you a relic from the past?" Jin mocked Kraft only to get whacked on the head by Tsu and Kai. The two black foxes had appeared out of nowhere and each stood at both sides of his shoulders.

"A bellator got to update himself too, else what use would he have to his Master? Besides, did you forget I am in the counterintelligence business?" Kraft sniggered as he enjoyed Jin struggling against Tsu and Kai. "Haven't you ever wondered how you managed to get your dungeon supplier license? Take a wild guess who made it so that the System was capable of such a feat."

"But can you hack like erm the Black market or something like the FBI equivalent?" Jin was curious about Kraft's extent.

"Maybe." Kraft grinned evilly as he took the opportunity to fiddle with the database that Jin logged into. Suddenly just like in those science fiction and spy thriller shows, dozens of windows appeared in front of the laptop screen. And all Kraft did was place his palm right above the keyboard without touching a single key at all for the hacking process to initiate.

Jin was taken aback by Kraft's abilities until a small pop up came out which stated the following: "Copy All? Yes or No?" Kraft then pressed 'Y' on the keyboard and the screen immediately buzzed with activity.

"Done. Must say, there is a lot of information in your university database, all sorts of stuff. From politics to geography. Peppers will go mad happy deciphering all the raw data." Kraft stretched his hands and walked away. Looking back after some steps, he snapped his fingers for Tsu and Kai to disappear again.

Jin was happy to no longer suffer their joint attack and passed the Ocean Liner blueprint data to Another Jin to work on as they recreated the aircraft carrier and added giant sized turbines to make them fly.

Of course, theoretically in the real world, adding giant size turbines that would magically let a 50,000 over tons float in the air would never happen at all. But because this was a dungeon instance, certain physics laws could simply be altered. This was one of the exceptions that Another Jin was willing to make and provide the new cultivators with another platform to fight against the orcs.

Third thing on his agenda. All of the goblins were replaced with NPCs because he and Qiu Yue had not negotiated the terms thoroughly with the Goblin King for the army. Hence, the System utilised the data of the three goblin generals' sons when they were first captured. Back then, the goblins only had mediocre to above average attributes as compared to now. Hence, the system copied the data and made hundreds of copies for Another Jins to populate the Western Coastal Town Area. (Of course, Jin had to use the money the system loaned him to pay for the goblin NPCs. Nothing was free.)

They had placed Wyrstriker as the overall goblin commander for the Western Coastal town in the hopes that Wyrstriker would get better understanding what his father, Spear General Argent, was going through for the battles.

Lastly, the System had deduced it would be optimal to provide various modern tactics that the Orcs could take to fight against the goblin NPCs and the cultivators. Hence, it recommended the different plans to the Ice and Wind Orcs that were captured and advised their leaders to choose what they liked the most against the cultivators. Unless specified, the System decided to give them free rein over their commands.

The captured Orcs had no choice but to obey, courtesy of the Loyalty Enforcement Orders that the System put them under. However, no Orc would say no to a good fight. (And most definitely a much fairer fight against the cultivators and goblin NPCs.)

Separately, Jin and Yun were doing customer support and damage control after he put up the notice late at night. He saw Xiong Da rushing into the shop instance after his tedious work in the office and giving him a strange glare. Jin kindly explained that he just wanted to check the response of his customers and had seemingly underestimated the response.

"Enticing us with a free ticket and x5 points, but imposing a requirement that one had to come as soon as possible? This is more like a threat than a favourable deal for the consumers! Have you really not seen this coming?! Aaargggh, I don't have time to argue, I need to make full use of it. FOR THE (NEXT) PLUSHIE!!!!" Xiong Da stormed off after saying his piece.

He hastily entered the raid instance which the Another Jins were patching it up live. Jin really did not expect that it would be that popular to open at night. Since his only desire was to protect as many goblins as possible with the aid of the cultivators while he dealt with the mastermind behind this whole meaningless war. But Jin believed it was because of their increase in grade over the months that less sleep was no longer much of a concern for the cultivators.

"Perhaps, I should review my opening hours. Essentially I can employ more than one double to take care of the place if I want to." Jin thought to himself and the System approved of such a method.

"User, please do take note that you are not able to leave behind Another Jin in the shop when you go away from the shop. Your alternate personality will disappear after the distance between yourselves reach a certain threshold. It could also potentially damage your psych up if you forcibly break it." The System, on the other hand, also encouraged him to train more since it should be possible to achieve what he wanted when he was able to create his astral phantom.

"Okay, noted. How is Slashreaver doing? Are we going to use the recovery capsule on him?" Jin asked in his mind as he greeted another customer into his shop.

"Milk is currently taking care of that. He does not necessarily need the recovery capsule and System had already placed him in his home instance in the Sanctum of Worlds for him to advance his evolution. Does User wish to partake in the process?" System asked and Jin answered that he needed one more minute.

"Man, you are too riled up, calm down Wyrstriker." Flame Ripper tried to calm his friend down, who had been pacing around nonstop, while he sat at the side of the bench outside their simple goblin hut. They were both waiting while Milk was attending to Slashreaver.

"How can you remain so still? Why can't Master Jin just kill Slashreaver and revive him? That would make things much simpler. Heck I'd do i-" Wyrstriker replied but before he could say anything else, Iwen his wyvern used his wing to knock on Wyrstriker's head.

"Be patient! Sit!" Iwen commanded and Wyrstiker grumbled a little before he sat down as commanded by his wyvern. That was when Jin entered their sanctum and hurried into the goblin hut. Wyrstriker took that as an excuse to stand up again and followed Jin into the hut. Flame Ripper sighed a little before entering the hut too.

"So System, what do I have to do?" Jin asked. Through the loudspeaker of his phone, the System told him that there was a new card in Jin's Tact Tweak. With a little bit of fumbling to search for it, Jin found the card and it materialised at the top of the Tact Tweak's screen.

"Goblin Evolution Trigger." Jin read the title on the card and there was a strand of rainbowish DNA as the picture of the card with a goblin silhouette in it. As easy as it sounded, Jin placed the card on the panting Slashreaver and suddenly, a light shone all around Slashreaver.

"Step back, everyone." Milk commanded and the rest complied.

The shine grew so bright that all of them had to use their arms and hands to cover part of their eyes while peeking through in hopes to see what was happening. Within five seconds, they heard a loud thud of a footstep and out came Slashreaver.

"Dread Reaver." Jin saw the new name of Slashreaver that was posted on the Tact Tweak as a suit of black armour came out of the light. Dread Reaver was taller than Jin and he featured a dark purplish cape as well as a two handed great broadsword. The great sword was simple looking, and it only had a handle tied in bandages with no crossguard nor pommel attached to it. What's scary was the width of the Great sword's blade width. It was at least two goblins head wide, roughly 45-50 centimetres wide and approximately 1.5 metres long. If not for Dread Reaver's height, he might be dragging it around.

His full body armour had bloodied edges at every edgy part of the armour and there was no single part of his body being exposed. Even the armour that covered the joints were made of a kind of metal which Jin could not figure out but it appeared extremely flexible, similar to tactical fabric. There was also an imprinted insignia of a lightning bolt penetrating a goblin skull at the back of his helmet.

Speaking about his helmet, it had the design for only his right ear. The left side of the helmet did not have any which made it look like he was some one horned devil.

Dread Reaver clenched his fists a little. It was a strange feeling after losing them for a few hours as he looked at his new self. He tried to pull his helmet out but it seemed like the armour was restricting him to do so. After a few attempts, he realised the only way was to pull his helmet similarly to taking a hood off. The helmet then retracted itself to the back of his neck and they finally saw his face.

The side that was burnt by Purple Thunder's bolt remained charred but his wounds were healed and left with one ear. Dread Reaver took the opportunity to kneel down and thank Jin for giving him new powers.

"It's all your own effort, Dread Reaver. Thank you for enduring everything. I hope to be able to continue working with you...and wish that Starfire will still love you as you are now." Jin gave his blessings to Dread Reaver.

"Hahaha... Starfire, I do wonder how she will react and think of me when she sees me like this." Dread Reaver gave a light soft smile but Jin could feel some bittersweet vibes from it too. Meanwhile, Flame Ripper and Wyrstriker were amazed by the transformation Slashreaver went through and came over to congratulate him as well.

"How did he become this absurdly strong?" Wyrstriker asked out loud as he admired Dread Reaver's aura.

"He danced with Death for so long that Death must have finally begun to take an interest in him and granted him exclusive powers to represent her. Still cannot believe that Slashreaver is such a playboy to court both Death and Starfire at the same time." Flame Ripper believed that was the only logical explanation for Dread Reaver's current class.

The Death Knight.

Chapter 367 The Knight's Moun

"Master, I hoped I had not worry you too much." Dread Reaver apologised before he turned to another direction and whistled loudly. A familiar rumbling noise came from afar and Jin noticed it was none other than Mr Oink. Despite the change in his appearance, Mr Oink seemed to recognise Dread Reaver and snorted happily at him.

"System, if you do not mind." Dread Reaver was just pretending to be courteous as he did not wait for the System's acknowledgement and placed his hand at the docile Mr Oink. Slightly dark, purplish energy

flowed out from Dread Reaver's gauntlet at Mr Oink who started to glow after being hit by the wave of darkness.

"Mr Oink is currently undergoing a variant Step Up Evolution which was not intended by the System." The System calmly informed Jin who remembered that Mr Oink was also due for the evolution process because of the rewards for completing the Goblin War mission. "If User wishes to stop the evolution, User has to answer within the next five seconds." The System stated but Jin trusted in Dread Reaver's judgement.

Mr Oink snorted one last time before an orb of darkness completely enveloped him. At that moment, Dread Reaver was holding onto the very same Enhancement card that the System had given Jin to evolve him, only that it was now titled 'Eight Legged Mountain Boar

Evolution Trigger'. He fiddled with the card in his hands for a while as he stepped forward and threw the card into the orb. Everyone in the vicinity waited anxiously before Mr Oink stomped its feet to break the orb that was surrounding him.

As it shattered, Jin saw the new form of Mr Oink. He was encased with armour from head to tail. The very same bloodied edge black armour that Dread Reaver was wearing. But his hoofs were on fire, burning dark purplish in colour. That was not all, at the sides of Mr Oink was a smaller sized piglet, which largely resembled Mr Oink's second form. The piglet was sitting in a floating sidecar chained onto Mr Oink and it was manning an auto repeating crossbow. Similar to Mr Oink and Dread Reaver's armour style, Little Mister Piggy was fashioning a fancy grey edgy helmet with Dread Reaver's insignia. He had no accompanying suit although his side car was rather well armoured.

"Oinkmobile." The System reflected Mr Oink's name on Jin's Tact Tweak which made Jin burst into laughter.

"You are messing with me, aren't you?" Jin asked and the System stated that it was not joking. Jin could only accept that fact and walked towards the Oinkmobile to admire him for a while. Oinkmobile snorted deeply as Jin ruffled his fur (the armour was partially retractable, same as with Dread Reaver) and congratulated him for evolving. The armoured boar oinked happily after receiving some scratches and later went over to acknowledge Dread Reaver. (And hopefully, get more scratchies.)

"You are still letting us ride him though, right?" Wyrstriker tried to ease the atmosphere a bit.

"Only if you let me ride your grand Wyvern." Dread Reaver replied chuckling. He raised his hands up and gave a bro hug to Wyrstriker and then did the same with Flame Ripper.

"Gosh, I was worried your personality might have changed after you evolved," Wyrstriker admitted a bit embarrassed as he gawked at the fearsome armour that Dread Reaver was wearing.

"Do you think your own Step Up Evolution will be as cool as ours?" Flame Ripper teased Wyrstriker a bit, only for the latter to refute him and did the same to Flame Ripper for still wearing nothing but his leather armour and cloak that was given by Jin at the start of the mission. This made his imposing figure look somewhat cheap.

Jin gave them some time to 'argue' amongst themselves before Wyrstriker came forward for his turn. He was a little unsure what was going to happen and for some reason, he felt pressured fearing he could not meet the expectations of Jin after he evolved.

"Do not worry, Wyrstriker. Each one of you possesses their own strengths. Never doubt your powers which you trained so hard to obtain. Remember how you were able to defeat Nubwort, when just some months ago ...well that is for me, technically a year for you according to King Sol. Anyways, just two months ago, you never expected that you could fight against the Black Disaster all by yourself. So have faith in yourself!" Jin encouraged him as he took out the Goblin Evolution Trigger enhancement card in front of Wyrstriker.

"But if you feel that you are not ready yet, we can always do this another day." Jin could see there was still some hesitation left in Wyrstriker's eyes and in his body language. The two other goblins also tried to encourage him and told him that they did not expect to be able to evolve into their present forms. But in the end, Wyrstriker decided to postpone the evolution.

"I am not ready Master, I am sorry. I feel that I should learn more about myself and Iwen first before we go for the evolution." Wyrstriker knew that his skills was on par with the other two but there was something in his heart that made him feel that it was not the time yet.

"No worries. You have successfully changed into your side evolution not too long ago. Whenever you feel that you want to go ahead, just tell me. Besides, according to the System's criteria, you are set to evolve with the help of the trigger card so time should not be an issue. Who knows maybe postponing it could help turn you even stronger than the other two." Jin said and decided to leave first and gave them some space to talk about their experiences.

"User could have simply force evolved Wyrstriker, his advanced form will prove formidable in future battles and provide a higher difficulty for your customers too. System had noted an overall increase in grades from the cultivators that frequently patronised the shop. The number of regular customers should only rise, which will become a problem if User does not update his monsters. Wyrstriker might eventually prove too easy for the cultivators in the near future. If System might add, there are no recorded cases of a monster waiting to evolve into an even more powerful form. It is against the rules of Mother Nature's survival of the fittest." The System seemingly complained about Jin's actions as he entered the dungeon maker to overlook the progress of Another Jins.

"No recorded cases does not mean that it's impossible, correct? Even if it turns out to be the case, I feel he needed to be ready emotionally since it is, after all, a triggered evolution which is also against the rules of Mother Nature. " Jin rebutted the System

"And speaking of the instances, I know that I've asked before but I just need one more confirmation now that they have evolved. The Goblin Forest instance, can it still feature the previous goblins form or do we need to change it to the new forms the goblins currently have?" Jin asked with concern.

"The System shall repeat it for the 7th time. The data of the goblins had been analysed thoroughly. The substituted goblin NPCs can emulate their behaviour with 97.8% probability of success. Unless someone has encountered them dozens of times, no one should be able to tell the difference. Additionally just as User has previously suggested, System had implemented the new mode and named it New Game+.

After a cultivator has beaten the initial instance, they will be able to choose this mode, which should prove to be more of a challenge." The System replied.

"I see, alright. Then use the same storyline for now, I will make the necessary changes to the plot for the New Game+ levels later. For now, our topmost priority is the completion of the Western Diversion before more cultivators come in." Jin sat down and immediately coordinated with Another Jins to get the Western Diversion Dungeon Instance starting.

Qiu Yue relaxed on the bed in the room Jin had graciously provided. After the battle operation was done, her work wasn't. Far from it. She had to coordinate the resources with the goblins in order to ensure that everything they needed was being sent off to the Western Coast and Northern Valley on time. Should she fail, the armies would starve or lack medical supplies.

But one thing was for sure. Despite the hectic schedule she created in lieu with Operation Pompeii, she never had had such an opportunity to command whole ministries and it felt very rewarding for her. "So by following Jin, I can expect myself doing more of this in the future, huh?" Qiu Yue stared at the ceiling for some time before there was a knock on the door.

"It's me, Lynn, I brought you some food. Thought you would be hungry around this time." Lynn said from behind the door. With an unexpected quickness, Qiu Yue opened the door to let her in. There had been some touch and go moments with her, but the two young women hadn't had the chance to really interact nor talk to each other either. Qiu Yue guessed Lynn just wanted to know more about the new occupant in the house.

"Wow, piping hot noodles! Thank you, Lynn. That's exactly what I needed at the moment. Do you wish to come in?" Qiu Yue decided to let her in since this was the opportunity to understand why Jin chose her to be part of the System too.

Lynn, on the other hand, was checking out the room that Qiu Yue was in. There was not much stuff yet, most noticeably her luggage bag at the side of the bed. Aside from that, everything which had already been placed was rather neat and tidy. Even the clothes that she washed were all hanged up at the closet.

"I asked the System to inform me when you'd return to your room since I saw how you were rushing around in the terrace house with your eyes half open for the past few days. I figured providing you a bowl of hot food would relieve some of your stress." Lynn had already prepared a good excuse reason to check her out.

Though she did not have time to interact much with Lynn, Qiu Yue's intuition told her that Lynn appeared the kind who would not talk that much. Hence, if Lynn was making such an effort to interact with Qiu Yue... there could only be two possibilities for that. Either she was really that concerned about her... or Jin.

"Heh heh, so you want to get to know your opponent, huh?" Qiu Yue immediately assumed the latter to be case, as she happily indulged herself in the hot noodles.

"What? No no no." Lynn panicked a little upon hearing such a direct statement from Qiu Yue yet her body language was plain obvious. Eyes diverting, cheeks slightly blushed, stiffened shoulders and a slightly high pitch. Qiu Yue guessed she was not the only one enamoured by Jin. She had known about his charm, especially now with how much he changed compared when he was in uni.

"I am just teasing you! Were you the one to cook this? The food's amazing. My stomach feels extremely content from the warmth of the soup and the noodles are absolutely delicious. I want another bowl, but I think I need to take note of my weight." Qiu Yue praised Lynn as she grabbed a rubber band from the side of the table in her room and began to tie her hair up so she could eat without it getting in the way.

"Yes, I did. I'm glad it suits your liking. If you have any request, I'd be more than happy to make you something in the future, too." Lynn replied directly and with shifting eyes, she plucked her courage up and asked. "Erm, you seem to have some history with Jin. How did the two of you meet?"

"We've known each other since our university days. We were classmates back then. But he sure has changed a lot. You know, he was not this responsible the last time I met him." Qiu Yue decided to keep her past relationship with Jin a secret for now.

"But still as awkward as now whenever he asks somebody for favour?" Lynn asked and Qiu Yue nodded her head furiously. Both girls laughed at his behaviour. "Somehow, he always seems to feel guilty about asking somebody for help. I think it might have something with how his grandfather brought him up. You ehh, know that he does not have any parents, right?" Qiu Yue continued the conversation.

"Yeah. Well, I guess there's Yun. Supposedly she's his mother, but she does not have any recollections on Jin or ever giving birth to him, though." Lynn blurted out and Qiu Yue was visibly surprised about that fact. She always thought Yun was just another NPC or Bellator under Jin's command.

"Anyways...I am actually here for another reason." Lynn decided to cut to the chase which Qiu Yue had not considered this girl to be this impatient. In fact usually, Lynn wouldn't be that way but she was very nervous about her interaction with Qiu Yue, mostly because of the reason she wished to speak with her privately.

"Are you very sure that you want to aid Jin in his journey? Supporting him all the way? Because once you gain a Sub System of your own, you can never go back to your ordinary life. Your life will be pretty much be tied to Jin's in the future if you accept." Lynn asked with utmost seriousness. Qiu Yue was a bit baffled as she assumed Lynn was there to ask if Qiu Yue wanted to be with Jin.

"I erm...I guess so." Qiu Yue replied haphazardly after being caught off guard. Out of nowhere, Lynn's facial expression changed drastically.

"DO YOU THINK THIS IS SOME JOKE?!" Lynn who had pledged her eternal loyalty to Jin, who was willing to give her all for Jin got riled up by the weak answer from Qiu Yue that she banged her table. This was something that would change the life of Qiu Yue forever without any chance to revert everything, yet the other party did not seem to care for it and took such a decision so lightly.

The soup from the noodle bowl even spilt around the table a little. Seeing the result of her own outburst, Lynn quickly regretted it. She realised she was in the wrong and returned to her meek expression.

"Sorry. I am truly... I spoke out of place. I erm was not thinking straight. It's jus-" Lynn apologised and took out some tissue from her storage ring and cleaned the area up a little.

"No. You don't need to apologise. Jin is indeed giving his very best and it is obvious that you are highly committed to his cause to the very end. You were just looking out for him and making sure, that I shared your resolve. I do not know what has happened between the both of you for you to act in this way this but rest assured. If I thought of this as a joke, I would not have quit my job and put a single effort for Jin at all. I believe wholeheartedly that he can do great things. No. He will accomplish great things that can change this district, the country and perhaps even the world." Qiu Yue stood up and talked down at Lynn.

"And you can be very damn well sure, I will be by his side when he reaches for the top. Because he is mine." Qiu Yue stated in a calm and yet somewhat threatening tone. That was when Lynn smirked as she curled her hair behind her right ear and stared intently at Qiu Yue.

"I shall welcome the challenge," Lynn replied with just as much confidence. Usually, she was only this confident when in the kitchen, but somehow she had found the courage when it involved Jin. Qiu Yue grinned as she knew from that day onwards, she would be great friends (and rivals) with Lynn.

Chapter 368 Aftermath of Operation Pompeii

After the successful Operation Pompeii, Jin and Qiu Yue had been rather busy tying loose ends up. Another Jins with the help of Original Jin had managed to create all three raid dungeon instances for the cultivators that would be ongoing throughout the entire month of November.

Each of the instances was meant to cater to various levels of cultivators. The Northern Diversion Scenario was declared as the place for new cultivators to try out the entire raid instance experience. The Western Diversion Scenario was more catered towards the veteran cultivators, though it was open to any cultivators that had participated in the Northern Diversion for at least five times.

Jin purposely set such arbitrary requirements to allow the new cultivators to get accustomed to following orders, so that they wouldn't get overwhelmed by the ambushes of the more aggressive Orcs which the System now controlled. The Western Diversion scenario had been restructured and it was possible to be invaded from any directions.

After Jin had watched the replay of how the Ice Orc Admiral advanced their ships, he ordered those Ice Orcs to use that Ice Wave spell in every encounter in the dungeon instances. (It gave the Orcs a hell lot of fun doing so too!) Sometimes, the warships would ram and smash through the fort walls directly while at other times, they encircled the town first, bombarding the place and land from the sides. There were even occasional instances in which they landed at the back of the town, which caused much havoc to the cultivators.

The amount of money the raid instances earned Jin was way more than he ever could have anticipated. Even the System seemed a bit surprised, when it announced to Jin, that half his loan had already been

paid back. (If not for the Shop instance able to expand indefinitely, it would have been extremely packed.)

One of the major factors for this appeared to be the relatively cheap entry fee for the event, enticing people to replay it a few more times. (The rewards they could earn, certainly also helped). But it was also the fact that Jin had decided to keep his shop open 24 hours.

The demographics for the night were primarily skewed towards office workers who came to vent their frustrations after their overtime. A lot of them appreciated that there was still a place open for supper, which catered such fantastic food that satisfied both office men and ladies. (though some asked for alcohol and Jin said he would consider.) After patronising the Restaurant Train of Delicacy instance, many would then head for the raid event. Even if they did not, the amount of money they spent in the Restaurant Instance was awfully much.

Separately, there was surprisingly an increased number of policemen participating in his dungeons throughout the day. It was only recently that Jin found out the actual reason from Gupta who came back a few times with some of his other police mates.

Their 'budget' turned out to originate from the Ruby Rats who had come to collect some of their resurrected members which the police then used for training purposes. Upon learning this, Jin was more than happy to accept the cash from his competitor. He even told Gupta to tell their superiors if they wished to mass order any equipment from him, Jin was willing to make them an offer they wouldn't be able to resist.

One more demographic that surprised Jin came in the early wee hours of the morning before he switched shifts with Yun.

Senior Citizens.

The grandmothers and grandfathers aged 60 to even 80 years old had also been interested in testing out the dungeon instances, but his usual rates were too expensive. Not to mention, it was too crowded for their liking.

When news reached them that Jin had changed the opening hours and the latest raid instance was cheap enough, they figured it was the best opportunity to enter. After experiencing an instance or two, some even declared that they would bring their friends along to the instance instead of their usual morning workout if Jin continued to open at these times.

Some of the older generations of cultivators even made Jin dumbfounded when they exhibited their skills in the dungeons. The System was extremely interested because those cultivations were not found in the books that Ming rewarded Jin. Not to mention, their attacks were inherently stronger than most of the modern cultivators in the same grade.

Through a few conversations, Jin also learned more about his newest clients and found out why the majority of the older generations did not wish to mingle with the younger folks. They were simply a little embarrassed to enter the instances, because of the mockery some had received in other dungeon supplier stores.

However, Jin reassured them that such a thing would not repeat itself in his shop, as everyone should have the opportunity to cultivate regardless of age. If an incident such as that would occur, he would personally see to that matter. The old folks laughed it off and thanked the young boss for his assistance.

On a different note, Jin purposely made into the last instance as a special hidden instance that could only be bought with 500 raid points. When he was finished with it, he sent out a notification that a "mysterious instance" has appeared after the Orcs had been beaten back for the 14,605 times.

The notification vaguely talked about an ambush of the Orcs and the Goblin Deities were angry with all the bloodshed. More was revealed when the cultivators obtained the hidden instance through the redemption store as the city contained obscure snippets of lore for those who were interested (Peppers had a lot of fun, writing it down and Jin even introduced the concept of player's achievement in the Pandamonium App due to this.)

The Hidden Instance was also a wild success. Jin created the instance by placing the cultivators randomly in the midst of an ambush by the Fire Orcs and forced them to react instantly. Some even died nearly as soon as they entered (though anyone who got that unlucky in the first 15 minutes, got revived, after a cooldown, and got a second chance).

After the first day, the Hidden Instance was renamed as "Siege of the Goblin City" and Jin purposely listed the characteristics of the instance in the redemption counter to make sure that the cultivators had an informed choice before redeeming it.

Similar to what had happened, the city was located at the top of the volcano and the cultivators had to race against time to take down as many Fire Orcs as possible. But unlike the real Operation Pompeii, Jin and the System purposely placed both combat and non combat goblin NPCs into the situation. He wanted to simulate the liveliness in the city as compared to what had actually happened during the Operation.

Hence, in addition to taking down the Fire Orcs, raid points would be rewarded for saving the non combat goblins by escorting them to their ships that were docked right beside the sea. This also gave the Fire Orcs more freedom in the way they attacked the cultivators since it was no longer restricted to just the city but the island as a whole.

Speaking of Orcs, the Orcs tribes of Wind, Ice, Thunder and Fire had not only learnt the truth but had also been given the time to let it sink into their skulls. Some were initially furious, others were relieved but most were just delighted to resurrect and get a second chance to fight again.

Many relished in the fight against the cultivators and with enough bouts, some of the orcs started to get used to the cultivators' way of fighting and developed ways to cope with it. The more they fought, the more the orcs were starting to prove to be a challenge. And because it was a raid instance, the cultivators had to quickly formulate tactics on the spot to overcome the everlearning orcs' ferocity and tenacity.

However, Jin noticed that most of the cultivators were not very successful mainly due to their prideful nature as a veteran cultivator. Without a commander, the cultivators treated the instance more like Jin's usual instances, in which they could act alone.

To deal with such problems, Jin made use of his NPCs. After the infamous match, his NPCs, especially Captain Bai and Hei, had earned respect and fear of his customers. The presence of those two captains quickly defused any situation the ragtag teams of cultivators had and ensured that they spent more time killing orcs as a group rather than squabbling.

While Jin was occupied handling the stuff back in his shop, Qiu Yue was busy settling the negotiations with the Goblin King. The main demand did not change and it was to provide Jin with an army. However, before the negotiations could start, Qiu Yue had a lengthy discussion with Jin about what the demand was. What he truly wanted from the goblins since the request 'just an Army' was pretty vague.

Initially, Jin even wanted to pull back from the request. After all, he had already acquired more than enough Orcs to make an army of his own, but Qiu Yue did not allow him to. She emphasised it would be dishonouring an agreement and they could not appear too generous, especially if they wanted future dealings with the Goblins. It could potentially set a bad precedent for further negotiations.

Succumbing to the pressure from Qiu Yue, Jin finally narrowed it down and asked for a tri joint force to join him. They did not necessarily need to be elites, but all should be at least skilled enough in the field of air, sea and land combat.

He figured that he had enough capable leaders and officers from the various Orc tribes so if the two races could join together and share ideas, they might have an even better chance against the demon rat army in the Farming World. Therefore, Qiu Yue had been pressing King Sol for a Joint Force army consisting of Air, Sea and Land troops to be requisitioned.

Unsurprisingly, King Sol agreed and even offered Sword General Gladios to accompany them but Qiu Yue refused. "All we want is a Tri Joint Army. We do not need one of your generals to accompany us." Qiu Yue replied as they were discussing the terms and conditions for her to draft a legal contract out. (With some outside help from Xiong Da when Jin had the chance to meet him. Of course, Kraft did some slight mind altering magic on him after seeing the goblin contract.)

"Why not? Gladios was itching to go. In fact, he volunteered to be deployed under Jin." King Sol asked with some concern but Qiu Yue gave him a straightforward reason.

"I- We want to further develop the skill set of the Generals' sons. As you might have heard, the trio had managed to make large contributions to the war and eventually pushed themselves to evolve into a Wyvern Knight, a descendant of Ifrit, and a Death Knight respectively. They may possess a lot of fighting capabilities but in terms of leadership? There are lots to learn. We consider it to be possibly detrimental if they simply learn from their fathers. By providing them with no assistance, they would have the chance to grow individually and to become leaders with unique traits of their own." Qiu Yue replied.

"... That's fairly reasonable. I shall inform Gladios and the others about your decision. However your other request... I am unsure what to say..." King Sol was a bit hesitant since Qiu Yue's second demand was to take the entirety of his goblin ministry advisors with her. That was way more than he could afford.

The majority of them had taken to their job not too long ago, and this was already considering that they were the helpers and secretaries of their predecessors. Since the Ministry advisors were the pillars of

their structure, without them, their economy might drop into a standstill if not worse. Qiu Yue wanted them because all of them were already under the System's influence. Jin and Qiu Yue could certainly just grab them and leave the goblin society in a lurch, but that would go against both of their principles.

Hence, Qiu Yue sweetened the deal by offering King Sol a time frame. She would give each of them some time to train a new batch of goblins to be their replacement. She would even help them with the teaching to avoid the 'discrepancies' she had encountered since the time she helped. This way, they would be loyal to King Sol and not as corrupt as their predecessors.

King Sol agreed under the presumption that only those advisors agreeing with the idea to be 'taken away' to be allowed to go. He thought the condition was absurd but what he found even more absurd was that not a single one had any qualms about following Qiu Yue.

Each and everyone agreed to it wholeheartedly despite the administrative torture Qiu Yue put them through. Some of the ministers had already begun writing their list of candidates for selection. Needless to say, Qiu Yue would have a screening of her own for picking their replacements, mainly because she wanted the Kingdom of Gob Gob to be not just a business contract but an ally to be counted on in the future. (as well as a trading partner.) Seeing his ministers having no objection to Qiu Yue's decision, King Sol reluctantly agreed to it. While still a bit unhappy about it, ultimately the goblins did owe them a rather hefty favour.

"Now I have my own set of cabinet ministers which will be useful for building the Dungeon City Fortress up." Qiu Yue smiled as she witnessed King Sol signing the agreement.

Chapter 369 The New Orc King

Apart from the Tri Joint Force agreement, Qiu Yue also negotiated for a few additional trading agreements to make use of King Sol's previously promised 'blank cheque'.

There was no written agreement on what exactly would be given to Jin if he successfully repelled the Orcs. Tasked by the System, she designed the contracts to be vastly in Jin's favour. He, however, did intervene as Jin saw the deals would be so absurdly favoured towards them and asked her not to go too far. If they squeezed King Sol completely dry, then it would merely ruin their beneficial relationship.

Only with Jin's feedback did Qiu Yue admit that she might have gone a bit overboard. If it were just one particular deal in their favour, it would not be too much of a problem, but she nearly made a mistake to present them all to their benefit. She felt somewhat awful and decided not to take that much advantage of the poor Goblin King.

Besides, it was not King Sol's fault for giving her that much leeway with the contracts. There had not been much of choice for King Sol back when the orcs invaded. The goblin kingdom had suddenly been forced into a state of emergency following the Kingslayer Ambush. Despair was soaring high and spreading like wildfire when news spread that their kingdom being the only remaining goblin capital left to stand against Orcs. King Sol foresaw the potential losses and was very desperate for any helping hand

after he found out about the successful Kingslayer Ambush in the other Kingdoms. Hence, with Jin's deal being the only one on the table, King Sol could not say no.

The revised trade agreements were mostly fair to both sides and covered a few key items, one of which was manpower. Qiu Yue sorely needed skilled workers and professionals for the upcoming construction of the Dungeon City Fortress. That was her main priority. Even though she and Jin had an engineering background, they needed the expertise of those who could overlook and guide the building process. They were unable to do that themselves especially for all the projects that were planned.

A good city builder must have the awareness, comprehension and the insight to create not just a five year, but also a ten year and even a twenty year masterplan. He needed to ensure that there was sufficient space to expand, to modernise and ultimately to automate. Sure, Qiu Yue had gathered some knowledge on such subjects during her stint in her previous line of work but hers was more focused on developing the existing modern infrastructures. As a result, she was unsure on how to start from scratch.

Therefore, she asked King Sol if she could initiate a recruitment drive. Engineers, mages, scientists, craftsman and all other sorts of professions would be welcomed to be interviewed by her. Initially, King Sol was wondering why she would require all these workers.

To him, the humanoids seemed more than capable of creating items which were way more advanced than whatever they could come up with. Nevertheless, Qiu Yue created a somewhat plausible excuse, stating that her race liked to collect information from other races to build up from that knowledge and find ways to incorporate and improve their own technology.

King Sol was a little sceptical about it but eventually, he started considering it as a sort of future investment. By loaning out their expertise out to Qiu Yue, the goblins could potentially return with the humanoids knowledge which should prove useful in their own future too. Even though he was immediately sold as soon as Qiu Yue offered an exchange of information (as long as they were not deemed confidential), he continued to be wary against this cute little Red Panda Masked Humanoid. But his love for the kingdom never waned and if these exchange of information could help to secure the modernisation of the Goblin Kingdom, he would naturally do it in a heartbeat.

Nevertheless, after already being 'scammed' once by Qiu Yue in the initial agreement, King Sol had become a little wiser and asked her to set a loan duration. Qiu Yue decided on a three year period. The time flow between their own world and the Goblin's was different. To Qiu Yue and Jin, it would only be a mere six months which she felt was already cutting it too short.

However, it was not precisely a lose win situation for the Goblin Kingdom. Through the help of the System, Qiu Yue managed to haggle for that terribly large lump sum of gold they showed the King and the other advisors previously in their bet as compensation for loaning their expertise. Not just that, those professionals who would be loaned out to Jin, would have the opportunity to bring families and loved ones along with them. That way, those skilled workers would feel less homesick and not be worried about their loved ones.

King Sol thought that it was a decent deal, considering he was currently in need of gold. It was to cover the sunk costs incurred from the ever hungry war chest, which was depleted after mobilising the army to defend against the orcs. King Sol also required the funds to rebuild the Western Coastal Town of Gob

Gob Si, the Northern Valley Town of Gob Gob Bu, the villages that were raided and take care of the refugees he took in that escaped from the Orc conquered regions.

Those orc conquered regions also became an important point of negotiation. Qiu Yue and Jin offered to step in to mediate mainly because they had acquired the former spymaster of the Orc Kingdom, Yellow Ice.

Ever since Yellow Ice and Cross resurrected from the dead, they knew what they wished to do. As soon as they got the chance, they asked for Jin and begged him for a pardon to remove the Enforcement Loyalty Orders by the System.

Unfortunately, the System did not allow any monsters to be released back into the 'wild' and stated that if Jin wished to allow them to leave, they could. However, if he ever needed their help, Yellow Ice and Cross would be teleported immediately to his side, without prior warning nor need for consent. Jin explained that he would try not to make use of this too much but that that would be the only compromise he could give in the matter and the duo accepted.

Yet, even after the plea to return to their kingdom, the former spymaster was forced to stay in the Dungeon Maker until Jin and Qiu Yue gave their own opinions on the current situation between the goblins and the orcs as well as their expectations on how Yellow Ice should proceed once returned home.

"Giving back the regions we took, that I understand and those kinds of arrangements can be made. But creating trade between the Goblins and Orcs? That is a tall order you wish for us to achieve." Yellow Ice grumbled as he looked through the documents. (The System had printed them out in the goblin language for Yellow Ice to read. As a Spymaster, he had to be proficient in all the major languages of their world.)

"We are not expecting you to implement those immediately. Have a few stand offs, some scuffles between the goblin nation if you need to. Then convince the public that the goblins are willing to hold a talk. Start with the essential items like food, some natural resources etc. After that, we could talk about more specific resources or even luxury goods trading. Else, there is always the possibility of a goblin uprising against the Orcs and there is nothing much you can do to prevent it." Jin stated as a matter of fact.

"All things considered, the goblins technically repelled all of your attacks. The majority of your troops have perished, three of your kingdom's avatars died and your King has disappeared, missing in action. We could make the goblins push for more demands rather than staying neutral since they were the winning party in this war. I heard rumours that even the Humans had decided to side more towards the goblins after rumours of the Orc King's disappearance. I have news that those humans already began distancing themselves from Orc related activities. Unless something were to change, it does not bode well for the Orcs." Qiu Yue decided to use the stick since Jin had prepared the carrot.

"Considering I am under your command and have no way to disagree, you two make a very valid point." Yellow Ice was being sarcastic and he knew what they were expecting from him. They wished to have him crowned as the new Orc King. He certainly had credentials to become one. He was the King's former royal spymaster, a trusted figure in the Orc Military, a respected figure between the Orc Nobles and advisors, and lastly not to mention the only remaining Avatar of the Shaitans.

Sure, the avatars could be chosen again by the various tribes but Yellow Ice had already proven himself as someone the Orcs could trust. Besides, he still had the support of the remnants of the Ice Orc Sea Fleet under his command which would no doubt provide him support for the throne should he wish to ascend.

"My Liege, this is the best and perfect opportunity for you to restructure the kingdom. There might still be differences between the Goblins and Orcs but at least, we are one step closer into this arduous journey of unification." Cross whispered as he knelt to acknowledge his new King.

Aside from that, Yellow Ice indeed had no option to say no to his ascension as the new King after his own Shaitan Noble, Shiva also came to speak to him personally after he resurrected.

After being enraged for some time that she was unable to taste the flesh of her dear Avatar once he died, she became extremely delighted that he somehow came back to life. Moreover, Yellow Ice was also supplying her with a sort of new energy source. That magical energy even managed to stem her constant craving.

The source no doubt came from the System after it analysed Flame Ripper's energy signature. It modified the energy signature to suit Yellow Ice and provided him with an ample and yet at the same time restricted supply as an experiment suggested by Kraft and it worked wonders.

Shiva had promptly decided to nurture Yellow Ice further and turned him into her descendant. In a way, he performed a side evolution. His appearance did not change much, but his body physique was more toned than before. (It even shined like a diamond under sunlight too!) The most important thing was that he was henceforth able to wield the bluish white ice energy instead of his usual yellowish ice energy. And as the new descendant, Shiva had granted a new name upon her new child.

Frost Echo, The Prince of Icy Wrath.

With the blessing of Shiva, Frost Echo returned to the Orc Kingdom before anarchy took place. With an (Icy) Iron Fist, Frost Echo promptly restored the powers and established a balance among the nobles and surviving military leaders. With the knowledge of serving under two kings, the Prince of Icy Wrath had begun to settle existing internal issues that had been plaguing the kingdom for a long time. Only when he believed results were achieved then he would introduce his reforms and enact his real master's requests so that both the Orc and Goblin Kingdom could prosper.

Cross initially wanted to remain as the shadow of his new King, an assassin that would do whatever had to be done without implicating his King, but Frost Echo denied him such a position. Instead, Cross was appointed to become Frost Echo's right hand man.

Despite the initial disagreements from many orcs, Cross was able to walk the fine line of threatening Orc nobles and convincing them to work for the new King. Only then did some of the leaders begin to respect Cross for his abilities. This allowed both to realise how they had indeed taken a step into what they had dreamed of, the start of a kingdom that could coexist.

But of course, behind the new Orc King were the real decision makers. Frost Echo had to rely on the System's resources to remedy the current issues to make the general Orc population as well as Shiva happy. The System, in turn, made Qiu Yue responsible for everything that Frost Echo requested.

At first, Qiu Yue was unhappy with the System's decision since she already had much on her plate to handle. But she slowly came to enjoy the power she wielded as Qiu Yue realised she was now responsible for the two new developing kingdoms.

And it did not take long for Qiu Yue to start making plans on how to use her new toys in the most efficient way. (Frightening little red panda user!)

Chapter 370 Midnight Gathering

The System was extremely satisfied with the overall outcome of Jin's intervention in the Goblin World. Not only did it gain a puppet King for the Orc Kingdom but it also established a significantly beneficial relationship with the Goblin Kingdoms.

Therefore, after the negotiations were done, it finally kept its word and allowed Jin to give Qiu Yue the rights to become a Sub System User. "About damn time I'd say, she did so much work for us." Jin criticised as he was slouching in his home's couch watching some online action movie while enjoying some snacks he bought from the Tiangong District. The rest of the bellators, along with Yun and Lynn were accompanying him as he had decided to call for an informal meeting beforehand. (The shop was currently handled by Another Jin and the announcers.)

"Do you think she will like eating all this junk food? I could make better ones." Lynn asked as she happily munched on some crispy chicken flavoured popcorn.

"If she does not like any of these snacks, I volunteer to clean this up for her. My stomach craves for such food!" Peppers gleed while slurping on a large cup of coke.

"She will like them... that is if she has not changed her taste sinc- HEY PEPPERS! NO!" Jin stopped Peppers from grabbing more than what was allocated for her. That was when the System teleported a slightly weary Qiu Yue over from the Goblin World to the living room where everyone else was waiting for her.

"Erm? What's the occasion?" Qiu Yue was famished from all the talks and the spread of food on the table was already calling out to her, luring her body like a snake being charmed by the sound of a punji. As soon as Jin gave her an empty plate and asked her to grab a bite, she did not hesitate a single bit at all and immediately dug in. Regrettably, Yun did not allowed Qiu Yue to do so as she grabbed her by her collar and dragged Qiu Yue to the kitchen to wash her hands.

"Hand hygiene. Who knows what kind of viruses you brought back from the goblin world?" Yun said as she watched Qiu Yue washed her hands thoroughly first before permitting her to run back to the table. This time Qiu Yue grabbed two pieces of chicken wing without delay.

"Erm...okay. A few things to celebrate but mainly, it's to officially congratulate you for getting the job done and earning the approval of the System. Today you have the chance to become a Sub System User. I wanted to throw a party for Lynn back then too..but-" Jin looked over at Lynn the moment he mentioned it.

"But I rejected him outright. I thought it was not necessary after all the time I've worked for him." Lynn was blunt and harsh which made Jin feel embarrassed on the spot.

"Ah! I still remember that rejection. Jin was depressed for the whole day." Milk had decided to add fuel to the fire as she unabashedly took a few takoyaki balls and gobbled them all at once.

"Oh...no wonder he desperately wanted to train with me on that day. I was wondering why his strikes were so unusually weak." Zeru added nonchalantly while he nabbed a few onion rings from the snack buffet on the coffee table.

"He even failed to close the fridge door when he came back from work. If not for the System regulating the electricity, we will be incurring a few hundreds of Yuan on the bills for neglect." Yun mentioned while chewing on a large slice of teriyaki chicken chop.

"Such a shame. Jin even had a fanciful speech prepared for the occasion. Our Master here has spent a lot of time in front of the mirror going through it. Well, time to use it now, Jin!" Kraft sniggered as he fed his foxes the Xiao Long Baos (Soup dumplings with pork meat fillings). Meanwhile, Jin was starting to resemble a tomato from all the embarrassment of the combined mental attack.

"Well, here I am, and I am not going to reject this amount of goodness. Ohhh! Cheese fries! And it's still piping hot!! Those are my favourites!!!" Qiu Yue grabbed a few with her bare hands as she opened her mouth like a hippo and placed that bunch of fries into her mouth without any reserve. (Jin found it especially cute that her behaviour had remained the same.)

"Anyways...yeah, this is also a way to thank all of you guys for helping me this much with this whole unexpected war." Jin smiled as he looked at each one of them in turn with an open heart of gratitude.

"System does not require thanks and is unable to process any kind of food. Any other form of compensation?" The System asked and everyone burst into laughter.

"NO WAY!! You gained the most out of the whole situation. YOU should be the one treating everyone!" Jin complained and the System projected a sad Emoticon on the TV screen before it sent a message to Qiu Yue's phone.

The message of acceptance to be a Sub System User.

Jin then proceeded to warn Qiu Yue what to expect from accepting it and asked if she wanted to do it first before enjoying the rest of the food or after their meal. Qiu Yue immediately agreed to get it out of the way as soon as possible. Thinking too much into it would not help much with the situation either. Hence, she tapped to agree on her phone and suddenly her phone floated and shot a beam of intense light towards the top of her head.

Instead of the excruciating pain Lynn had suffered, Qiu Yue suddenly found herself resisting an invisible heavy burden that pushed her down to the ground, as if it was trying to flatten her. She tried to bear with it with her by displaying her current cultivation but it was useless. Within five short seconds, she fell to her knees and subsequently she was lying on the ground gasping for air. Yet the others could only look, they were unable to do anything to help her.

Nobody was able to interfere with the trial of a Sub System User. What seemed like seconds for Jin and the others felt like an eternity as Qiu Yue tried to withstand the invisible force tying her down to the

ground. Yet after some time, just as easy as it came, it also disappeared that abruptly. The System gave the notification to Jin that the Sub System had been inserted into Qiu Yue and he could see that she was already sweating buckets on the floor from the trial.

"Good thing, you did it immediately, else you might have vomited all this tasty food. Relax a bit and enjoy it now." Yun tried to comfort her as she and Lynn assisted Qie Yue up. Milk passed her a few pieces of tissues to wipe her sweat away and aided her to remove her jacket.

"Suddenly, I feel like Queen." Qiu Yue said and everyone laughed and stopped being too concerned for her, while they continued to enjoy their buffet that was laid out at the coffee table. Only Jin was still kind enough to offer her a cup of root beer and advised her to cool down some more.

After the snacking, they decided to stay around at the request of Jin as he pulled out a deck of cards and they began to play Texas Poker on the dining table since there were still leftovers on the coffee table. With a tap on the phone by Yun, the dining table immediately turned into a poker table laid with premium speed felt and tens of chips appeared on the table. The felt layout gave an authentic playing surface and it helped to reduce the poker chip bouncing and those messy pots. Since they were playing for fun, Yun gave each of them a particular set of chips.

As Lynn was not too familiar with the game, Kraft decided to assist her with it. Pei eventually came out of the blessing bracelet and sat down beside Jin, though he was the only one who could see her aside from Kraft.

"I cannot project my full powers in the bracelet form. This is to protect all of you from that devilman's mind games. Otherwise, none of you will ever win." Pei explained as she fiddled with her fox tail a little. As Jin rarely sees Pei in her true form, he noticed that she now wore the traditional Korean Hanbok.

"Pei probably liked those traditional clothes in general huh..." Jin thought to himself as she had been appearing in various oriental sets when she was in her true form. Meanwhile, Kraft got a little disappointed upon Pei's cruel accusation and in order to prevent any disagreement, he volunteered to be the card dealer after he taught Lynn the basics with the aid of others by giving her a dry run.

However, before the game officially started, Moloch appeared in front of them with his puppet human in a formal casino suit. He stood right beside Kraft. "The System notified me that you guys are playing a card game. I shall be the dealer instead since I'm a good to honest card mechanic compared to this crafty old fox here." Moloch's puppet immediately grabbed up the cards away from Kraft and threw them into a bin.

An unopened box of cards appeared magically from Moloch's puppet hand and he took the cards out to shuffle them. The various shuffles Moloch did was so quick yet stylish which it looked so amazing that the crowd clapped as he gave the cards out.

Despite being ostracised, Kraft decided to stay for a couple game just for the fun of it. Even if he was denied playing some mind games behind the scenes, he was still going to get his petty revenge back on the entire crowd. Unsurprisingly it didn't took long for Kraft to win a game or two because of the bluffs he made despite Moloch's attempt to rig the game against him.

While he was unable to mess with anyone directly, Kraft was able to pick up the subtle body language from the other players. That was just the start! Upon learning their behaviours, all he needed was to

insert a few of his own little psychological games and that was sufficient to upset the entire balance of the group. If the group were some high rollers strangers, they would have ordered Kraft to be killed after the game was done. It was that frustrating.

"Hahahah! Another win for me! Oh man, you guys should really train on your poker face. Especially Master. You are too easy to read." Kraft laughed heartily as he finally decided to stay at the sidelines to watch over the rest of the games before he spoiled the fun that Jin had wanted to provide for the whole gang.

As the games went on, the chips began not to matter much, so Yun decided to make this into a more challenging game. "A chip for a glass of alcohol. Who is in for it? Whatever's your poison, I will provide." Yun suggested and that was when everyone became excited. Even Peppers who was technically underage was given Chu-Hai, a sort of Japanese alcoholic beverage diluted with carbonated water so that she could have the feel of being drunk.

"Who will be paying for all these premium drinks?" The System spoke out from Yun's phone and everyone simultaneously pointed at Jin, who was already sighing in despair when the System opened its mouth.

"Fine, fine. But then everyone has to get drunk or else they are not allowed to sleep! No clarity spells!" Jin said with his eyes at Milk and Peppers. Both of them accepted willingly and they began playing with such bets.

On the other hand, being a card mechanic, Moloch had decided to spare Jin from drinking too much alcohol. After all, the shop needed someone to care for it. (Although on hindsight, Moloch had severely underestimated Yun's capacity to handle liquor.) Should the Original Jin pass out, the Another Jin's would also disappear.

Therefore, he purposely made the card dealing look random but it was calculated to ensure Jin was still alive and sober. The longer the games go on, the rest of the bellators and Sub System Users, aside from Yun, were getting more and more drunk that the drinks counter could be empty before sunrise.

"Hah! Four Kings!!! All of you drink and bow to the majestic prowess of this Fiery Demonic Sage Queen!" Peppers showed her hand as she matched with the dealer's cards and everyone was growling except for one. Lynn quietly put her hand of cards down and gave Peppers a peace symbol and a wide smile.

"HAHAHAHAH! FOUR ACES!" Milk was laughing hysterically at Peppers as she pushed five cups of low alcoholic content beverage to Peppers and demanded her to drink. Peppers cried foul play at Lynn's beginner's luck but Milk had already begun forcing the drink into that poor little kid. Kraft could not help and chuckled as he began recording these moments with the aid of the System via one of his foxes.

"This is what a family should be. This is what the previous Panda clan masters had always aspired to have. Jin, never ever lose this. I only hope that you will have more time in the future to enjoy moments like this. Especially when trouble always has a way to find the System's User..." Kraft solemnly thought to himself as he beamed with a broad grin, watching Peppers seizing the opportunity to drown Milk with her own alcoholic beverage in the next round.