

## Dungeon S 661

### Chapter 661 Demon Exorcist Formation Badges

"Boss!" Su Zhen, the Great White Snake Demon Cultivator, was the first to acknowledge Jin when she saw him entering the Restaurant carriage. Her recent success for being a full fledged Demon Exorcist had earned her many praises from the Royal Snake clan, and most importantly, from her mother.

Lee Na was not exactly the best role model for being a mother considering her busy position as the Chief Operating Officer of JODE. While she had harboured high expectations for her daughter, she knew Su Zhen's battle limits.

So, when Lee Na heard the news that her daughter was the first to graduate as a Demon Exorcist, she was completely taken by surprise and became elated. All thanks to Jin, Su Zhen had become a little closer to her mother as they started to talk a bit more even though it was mostly about work.

The others greeted Jin as well, and the penguin waiter offered an additional chair for him to sit. "Thanks, bud. You did great with Kido." Jin smiled at the penguin waiter who he recognised him as the few Penguin Ninjas assisted in the rescue operation. The penguin waiter quietly smiled for Jin's acknowledgement and returned to serve the other customers.

He later turned back at his kids and took out four nicely wrapped gifts and placed it on the table. "Its a little late but better late than never. Happy belated Christmas to you guys." Jin said as he pushed the gifts to each side of the table and Rong, the Ox Demon Cultivator asked whether if they could open it straight away which Jin nodded back in response.

To Jin, it was interesting to see how each of the Demon cultivators opened their presents. Lian, the Nine Tailed Fox Demon Cultivator, and Rong ripped opened their presents as if they had never seen one in their lives. At the same time, Lein, the Qilin Demon Cultivator, and Su Zhen were more demure in their movements as they systematically open by using their finger with a bit chi to act as a letter opener to reveal their presents.

Each of them noticed that there were a formation patch and a pair of inscription charms in each of their gifts. Similar to how Kraft had given his Dark Elves a formation patch to represent their team, the Night Foxes, Jin had decided to create a group for them as well.

When Grandma Yuan had told him to take charge of the Shenzhen's JODE branch, Jin knew there was no way he could be handling so many things all by himself and those apprentices were the answer. Though, Grandma Yuan had good intentions to provide him both the reputation and money, she did not know that Jin had a lot on his plate.

Sure, he might stick his hands in every little bit of issue that was raised up, but governing all of them? He isn't a god and even the gods and demons he knew preferred not to do any of this. So, he had decided to groom these four and eventually, they would take over from him. Besides, there was nothing much to worry about them betraying after signing that System contract.

As for the presents, the formation patches had a furious looking Panda growling at the centre. And right beside the panda, there was a small but obvious distinction in each of the formation patches. They were the common pictorial representation of the demons which the teens had cultivated.

For example, Rong had an Ox facing at the side right below the Battle Panda's face while Lein's was the Qilin. Unlike a regular formation badge which needed to be pasted on a Velcro patch, these patches could be placed wherever they want, including on clothes or even their phones.

And that was not all to it.

Jin asked them to transfer some chi and Lian was the first to do to it since her curiosity took over her. In a few moments, the badge glowed, instantly creating a miniature AI right above her, similar to the digital pets that almost every cultivator had by their side.

This particular digital pet was different from the usual AI digital pets. Jin had customised it a little as an AI assistant, courtesy by the System. With the upcoming creation of the Demon Exorcist Administration and training centre, Jin believed the four of them would be at the pinnacle of this situation and these AI assistants would be a great help aiding them to run it.

Of course, Jin knew that they currently thirst for more battle and experience, but they had to take on the administrative matters and subsequently leadership roles. (Jin believed he knew how they felt since he was thirsty for battle too, but recently the dungeon supplier preferred the backlines.)

Thus, those digital pet assistants would aid them akin something similar to a competent secretary. The good and bad side about it was that it would only exist within Jin's compound since those assistants were powered by the System. (Because of it, they cannot bring any work back home.)

Upon learning about the digital pet assistants, Su Zhen and Lein had already see the potential if it was working as intended. But to Lian, she was already treating it as a digital pet, hugging the nine tailed white fox and touching its exquisite fur.

She could not fathom how real and fluffy it felt but compared to Rong's, she did had the better looking pet. Rong's Ox Demon lore was based on Ao Ye, whose body was filled with loads of long human hair, from the top of the ox's head to all the way to its tail. While Rong did complain it looked disgustingly terrible, its hair was surprisingly smooth, and Rong secretly harboured the desire to touch it.

He also found it quite ironic that it was in tune to some of the variant myths about Ao Ye, as to how the demon attracted its human prey by revealing a long bout of hair at an isolated corner of the village or forest. The humans who found the hair attractive, could not help trying to chase the beauty down, maybe to befriend her or otherwise for other nefarious intentions.

As for the pair of inscriptions bundled with the formation badges, Jin had another surprise installed.

## **Chapter 662 Dual Inscription Charms**

"I never saw these inscriptions before, are they custom made?" Lein said as he inspected on the pair of inscription charms after sticking the formation badge proudly on his shoulder.

"Action speaks louder than words. Let's bring you guys to an empty dungeon space to test it out," Jin said as he tapped a few buttons on his phone and informed his demon exorcists to follow the penguin waiter who later ushered them to a cabin with an open portal in it.

When they entered the portal, the demon exorcists realised that they returned to the very same dungeon instance which they pitted against Jin in a 'one to one' duel. While the memory of their defeat haunted them a little, the refreshing sea breeze blowing in their face made them take a step back to appreciate the scenery instead.

But for Lein, he was more than excited to know what the pair of inscription charms could do. Without much hesitation, Jin told the Qilin Demon Cultivator to put the charms on his clothes. "Be ready to prepare a constant supply of chi, though I will suggest inserting a burst of chi into them for an added effect."

"But won't that means we have to use these clothes in the future?" Lein questioned and wondered if it was the best choice to use them on ordinary clothes as compared to customised high grade defensive shirts.

"Hahaha, you are right. but there's nothing to worry about. What you are holding are temporary inscription charms. And the reason I brought you guys here is that I want your honest opinions on it. You can say this current session with the inscriptions is part of a trial too." Jin answered as he brought out a few more of the very same inscriptions they were holding on his hands. At the same time, he brought out a few fighting dummies and placed them at various distance intervals.

Lein gave a satisfied smile from Jin's assurance, and he pasted the two inscriptions on his long sleeve shirt. The rest had decided to stand at the sidelines to watch and see Lein's performance before trying it out themselves.

As instructed, the Qilin Demon Cultivator focused his energies and inserted it into the pair of inscription charms with an intense amount of chi. But unlike the usual inscription charms, the current ones only glowed dimly upon receiving the chi energy, making Lein thought that he had not supplied enough chi into it.

Then suddenly, a pair of phantom Qilins burst out of the inscriptions, growing more prominent as it travelled forward, hitting the dummies at the five and ten metre mark before performing a turn to run towards Lein instead.

"Stand there and receive the blow like a man!" Jin shouted as he signalled the rest to move back a little more. Lein was surprised by the command given by Jin but he figured the dungeon supplier had his reasons ordering him to do so.

Thus, he took a deep breath in and prepared for the worst. When the two phantom Qilins dashed towards Lein, it felt like a blast of his own lightning techniques pulsating through his body when they hit him. However, instead of feeling injured, he felt refreshed more than ever and noticed an external flow of chi covering his entire body.

When Lein opened his eyes, the Qilin Demon Cultivator found out that he was in a different set of clothing. There was a sort of grey protective gear covering his chest while he wore a long white coat with blue streaks along the coat tails. Later he realised that the blue streaks somehow formed the outline of Qilin head.

Lein even had combat gloves and boots on, and they felt extremely comfortable on him like a perfect fit. The rest of the demon exorcists were amazed by his sudden change in appearance as if he was some hero from some anime show.

Jin smirked as he told them that the pair of inscriptions consisted of a cosmetic inscription and a full body defensive inscription. By materialising their own chi into metaphysical state, it creates a defensive body barrier around the user.

Su Zhen had heard about such defence inscriptions and knew that they were used for higher ranked demon exorcists. Some even tailor made their talismans to incorporate this type of inscriptions. However, she recalled that these full body defence inscriptions were usually depicted like an aura enveloping the user.

"That is where my cosmetic inscription come into play! It transforms the full body defence aura into physical items, and you could say I went a bit overboard with the design...especially for the females." The way Jin replied nearly creeped Su Zhen and Lian from trying the pair of inscriptions, but he subsequently assured that it was not lewd in any way.

"Still, this is an amazing innovation! I did not expect inscriptions could be created like a transformation device." Lein was pleased with the gift, but he could feel that maintaining the 'hero' form was not easy. "And you are right, the chi consumption is immense, I can feel my dantian churning madly just to keep this up for more than a minute."

"It actually depends on how much chi you give at the start when you activate the inscriptions, it will then consume that amount of chi to maintain the cosmetic inscription," Jin replied while keeping the rest of the dummies.

"However, I suggested a burst of chi is to show you that the defensive inscription could work as an offensive technique too. You had personally seen how powerful that Phantom Qilin attack was, shredding the dummies into pieces." He then asked Lein to deactivate his 'hero' mode to save his chi.

"And like every technique, the more chi inserted into the defensive inscription, the stronger the chi armour becomes. In my opinion, Lein's concentration of chi in that previous transformation could at least withstand Rong's full combo attack without flinching."

"What?! I don't believe that! Come, Lein! Activate that chi armour again, I want to prove Jin that his theory is wrong!" Rong said as he materialised his weapon.

"Aren't you more interested to see what your hero form looks like?" Lein tried to change the subject as he knew he needed time to recover his chi.

"Heh! Probably the same as yours but I am more interested how the girls looked like. Then, it will also give us a glimpse of what kind of pervert Boss Jin is." Rong said with an evil looking grin on his face, but upon hearing his comment, the two girls refused to transform.

"I really swear that the armour does not look as bad as you think!" Jin tried to downplay Rong's response, though Lian gave a disgusted look back at Jin's defensive comments. She discerned that Jin must not be telling the entire truth with the way he was acting. Meanwhile, Su Zhen shook her head in dismay and had forgotten that they were dealing with immature boys here.

"Alright, alright. That's enough for now. Here Lein, the replacement inscription charms. Use them wisely, they are not easy to make." Jin calmed down before opening another portal, leading them to the conference room instance.

Now that the Christmas gifts were out of the way, its time for business.

## **Chapter 663 JOME**

"We have checked the advanced training centres in the major provinces like Hubei and Guandong. Su Zhen also managed to get a peek in the central administration centre in Shanghai as well." Lein took out an A4 notebook from his storage ring and showed Jin what he found.

"On the other hand, Rong had a friendly contact from overseas, and they had exchanged a few tips as well from the Mage Exorcists," Lein added before giving Rong the chance to explain.

"Wait, the Mage Exorcists? Sorry, heard of them but I do not know much about them." Jin interrupted the conversation. He did hear of their existence, but they were not really well mentioned in public as compared to the Eastern counterparts.

"Figure as much. That is because the Mage Exorcists always used their Church's name whenever they performed their mission. The western counterparts rather glorify the churches they were in than to use their own names for publicity." Rong replied.

"But we do have temples as bases too, right?" Jin questioned as he remembered the 'dream' where he had to fight the White Tiger of the West.

"Grandma Yuan or Claire should really conduct a crash course for you." Rong sighed, knowing that Jin was not trained in the Demon Exorcist Academy nor had any prior education. He did not blame him, especially since a number of new administrators and managers did not have any knowledge too. At the very least, Jin was trying to learn, considering he's now among the ranks of the Demon Exorcists.

"Heh, I have you kids to teach me. That should be sufficient." Jin answered with a smile, but the rest simultaneously shook their heads.

"Please don't put that kind of responsibility on us. Teacher Yuan will kill us if we teach the wrong things." Su Zhen responded bitterly.

"Or too little. Haha..." Lian interrupted.

"Kill? I believe she will think that will be too kind of a punishment. She would probably make us carry those hundred kilogramme weights on our hands and legs while clearing the triathlon obstacle course of hell." Lian said as if they had been punished that way before.

"I do not dislike that punishment, but I agree its something I would not wish to live through again," Lein added which let Jin to conclude that Grandma Yuan did put them through a gruesome training period.

"Anyways, JODE does not comprise of those Church goers. -We do not dislike them, barring them from joining or anything. It is mainly because our branding and members mostly came from the eastern counterparts. Some Exorcists hold dual membership too, but it's rare because of their stringent criteria" Rong explained to Jin about the Mage Exorcists.

"As for the Western Mage Exorcists, they had JOME, the Joint Organisations of Mage Exorcists. Their main headquarters is in the Vatican City where the Pope had reign and power over them."

"They could be considered as Demon Exorcists too, but I think they want to differentiate themselves away from us," Lian said while Su Zhen added that the demons they fought usually originated from the mages themselves.

"As the mages harness their magical energies, they tend to be more sensitive to their surroundings, and the alluring calls by the demons are not uncommon." Su Zhen interjected. "A few capable ones could summons them to do their bidding, but for most of the cases, the mages themselves transformed into demons. It made the exorcism a bitch if we want to save the person and that is why sometimes the Mage Exorcists think they are better than us."

"Because you guys mainly kill stuff while they kill and save people?" Jin tried to deduce, and Su Zhen nodded in return.

"Thus, it leads to the route where the Mage Exorcists looked down on forbidden magic like blood magic and to some extent, dark magic. Even though Dark Magic users started to have public recognition in the past decade because of their orthodoxical method to treat mental traumas, they have been frowned upon most of the time. The Mage Exorcists also had a long bloody history against the Dark Magic users." Lein said, but he prompted Rong to return back to the main topic.

"Ah! Yes. My Mage Exorcist contact had graciously provided me with this information. As he had personally gone through the advanced training programme there, his end user experience should prove to be informative." Rong said as he showed Jin his phone logs with his friend.

"The chat logs looked roughly the same as what you guys had so far gathered. Knowing the basic weakness of your demons and having live demon samples to fight against." Jin said as he made a quick comparison.

"Yeah, it's just that each of the centres has a specific set of live demons to fight against especially since the samples are limited. Sometimes, they do not even let us kill the demons since they needed them for training." Su Zhen recalled seeing some of the senior exorcists had to weaken the said demons so that it could be suitable for training. At times, they stopped the training to keep the demons alive and allowed it to recuperate.

"Unfortunately, these methods poised significant risks for the Demon Exorcists both junior and seniors as the demons could get out of hand or even stronger the process. That is why there is always a Senior Trap Formation Specialist and a high tiered Rank Demon Exorcists to ensure that those demons were banished into the abyss if such an unfortunate situation rises." She said as she took out a file of all the protocols used in the central JODE headquarters.

They were all photocopied and filed accordingly, but Su Zhen said that the protocols might differ slightly from each training centre since it's based on their sample set of live demons.

"Now I understand why Grandma Yuan had decided to use my dungeon instances," Jin said out loud as he briefly flipped through the protocols.

"Yeah, considering how god damn realistic your spider was, I really believe we have a shot of making this happen," Lian said excitedly as she quietly caressed on her formation badge and pet her digital nine tail fox demon under the table.

"Hmm, I am wondering... Will it be a tall order to ask of you guys to find and hunt those demons you guys saw in the advanced training course? Or are you guys not prepared for that?" Jin questioned with the intention to make his advance training centre to be as authentic as possible.

"Why do that? We have videos of those live demons courtesy of the advanced training centres. We can use them, right?" Rong could not understand Jin's rationale since he did not know how people contracted under Jin's system could automatically make those demons into his.

"His question was whether we can kill it, not capturing it, right?" Lein asked for a clarification, and Jin nodded his head.

"If it's just killing, I see no reason why we cannot do that. Capturing will surely be out of our league." Lian shrugged her shoulders and agreed to it. She preferred to do something like that instead of sitting here, listening to all the meaningless talk.

"But I do not understand. Why search and destroy? Even we can kill, what good does that do for you?" Rong asked with a series of impending questions in his head. "I also assume you are not coming with us, and that kind of defeat the purpose?"

"You are not wrong. I will not be there. But someone will be." Jin said as he took his phone out and pretended to call. Soon, the doors opened, and a gorgeous lady figure sauntered in with much...sleepy elegance.

"You finally called? I was waiting too damn long for my turn." Milk yawned as she rubbed her bed hair.

## **Chapter 664 Boys Be Boys**

"This is Milk, one of my employees and the few trusted individuals in my line of work. Some of you might have seen her in the Luxury Recovery Instance." Jin introduced the Priest Bellator to his demon exorcists. Needless to say, Rong and Lein were completely mesmerised by her looks (and boobs) as she stood beside Jin and gave a warm introduction.

"First of all. My heart is with Boss here, so don't have any ideas trying to chase me." Milk said out straight since she knew how desperate Jin's customers had tried to chase after her repeatedly.

"And despite the fact that he kept rejecting me, it made my love for him grow even stronger!" Milk screeched as she took the chance to hug him from the side, with her grandiose pair of assets approaching Jin without any warning.

Jin blushed almost immediately, and it reinforced to the girls that Jin was definitely a closet pervert and they even had afterthoughts to burn the dual inscription charms away. Separately, the two boys nearly died from blood loss through their noses as they could practically see everything with the low cut shirt she was wearing.

Naturally, Su Zhen performed her cultivation techniques, summoning a snake to topple the chairs those perverts were sitting to break their concentration at Milk's assets. And when that was done, Lian took her claw weapons out and sharpened them while staring intently at the boys' crotch.

Lein and Rong immediately understood the implication of her wanting to gouge their balls out, but the problem was that Lian accidentally revealed her upper thighs when she placed a foot on the toppled chair. (She only wanted to look menacing when she sharpened her claw weapons.)

She did wear a pair of black stockings but it wasn't the complete ones. Lein already looked away when he accidentally took a glimpse of the forbidden fruit, but to Rong, his face looked as if he had found the holy grail.

Lian noticed there was something wrong with Rong's expression, but she realised too late. Hence, she immediately raised her leg that was on the chair and stomped it directly on his face without any warning. Lian then placed her entire weight on her foot, causing him to fall backwards. As if that was not enough, she took a step back...to his crotch in order to make sure that he learnt his lesson for staring at her lewdly.

"Sorry bro, I have to fend for myself." Lein thought to himself when he heard the muffled screams of his buddy, but then he too found himself in a precarious situation.

An irate snake was staring at him with the intent to bite with extreme lethality caused the Qilin demon cultivator to quickly prostrate in front of the small little white snake and apologised not to do it again.

"Oof, it's a little extreme, but damn! Those girls really showed the boys their place." Milk said as she tightened her hug, making Jin more than uncomfortable.

"Okay, okay that's enough Milk," Jin begged Milk to release him, and with enough teasing, she sat right beside him, now with a jacket to cover her assets. (The jacket was not helping much, but it was definitely better than nothing.)

"She will accompany you guys for the demon searches and whatever demons you fought, she will record it with a pair of HD camera glasses which I had prepared for her. Should you guys needed any help, she could provide assistance too."

"But helping too much would prove to be detrimental in your training as demon exorcists, especially the provisional ones. So, I assist only when you guys are in dire danger. Otherwise, I will be there as a spectator."

"This way, I believe it is good for the provisional demon exorcists too. With the footage from the camera glasses, it will be considered that you all completed the exorcisms in a team. After which, I can send Claire and Grandma Yuan the progress report to promote the rest of you to full fledged exorcists." Jin explained, and the rest suddenly felt that it's a rather good deal.

"What can Ms Milk do? Is she a Western Mage?" Lian asked after perceiving that she had a cross necklace.

"You could say I'm a battle priest." Milk did not explain further what she specialised in, but it already brought a wave of relief to the group. Having a healer in an inexperienced demon exorcist team was a great boon and not every team was able to afford a healer, much less one who was seasoned in the art of fighting.

"However, there might be times I might need to call her back, so I am leaving her with some portal scrolls so do not be surprised if she suddenly disappeared out of the blue. Of course, I won't ask for her if you guys are in battle." Jin added and also explained that the portal scroll allowed Jin to send reinforcements in too if there was a need. However, he did emphasize that with Milk around, there should not be a problem with the team.

"So, what are you suggest for us to hunt?" Lein questioned, and suddenly a devious idea came into Jin's mind.

"I do not know what is happening there right now, and it would be good to have some eyes in the area. Given that they are demon exorcists, the border guards should allow them to go in and investigate as well. If not, those brats would probably think of a way to go round the situation to fulfil their curiosity." Jin thought to himself as he used his phone as a remote control. With a few taps, he first opened up an electronic map of China with the aid of the System on the projection screen, and then Jin pointed at the north of Shenzhen.

Dongguan and Huizhou.

"The mountains and forests up there?" Lein asked once more, and Jin nodded his head with adamance.

"Ah! I get what you mean. If I am not mistaken, there are increase sightings of skeleton demons reported in the monthly report, making it easy for us to get samples of the fights. They have the ability to possess animals and encage them in their bones. After which, they will use the bodies of the animals as the host to rampage." Su Zhen said as she looked through her phone.

"I will like you guys to go there and have a look. But remember safety first. If the situation is grave, retreat." Jin pretended to know what was going on with a faint smile and the rest also thought that it was a good place to get experience.

Not too long ago, these brats might not have accepted Jin's mission since they knew that these skeleton demons were like the trash of the trash. However, the encounter with the colossal spider demon had made them learn not to underestimate any task, no matter how easy it sounds. Perhaps, they might encounter a variant which could prove to be useful material for Jin to create too.

However, they all did not know Jin's actual intention of sending them there.

## **Chapter 665 Tribal Negotiation**

Although it was best to start working on the JODE Administration and Training Centre instance, especially since Lee Na was waiting for his progress, Jin had other pressing matters to attend to. When he entrusted Milk with them, Jin quickly teleported to one of the islands in the Open Dungeon instance where he had previously instructed the System to place all the Giant World's 'refugees' in at that area.

Hamatarou who acted on behalf of Qiu Yu to enforce the contracts had begun to be swarm with many questions which he was unable to answer or entertain.

Some of the tribal elders knew Hamatarou, but the rest of their village had no idea what was going on. This mass migration matter was based on the absolute trust of their mythical treasure, which their elders doubted if they were duped.

That was where Drex and the other Dark Elves came in.

They were acting as the role of enforcers keeping the necessary peace among the groups and withholding the use of violence unless it's inevitable. The Night Foxes were sorely needed to ensure that these tribes did not kill one another off until they signed the contract.

Jin might have thought that he was doing them a favour or giving them a better life, but the truth was that he had displaced them from their ordinary lives. He was partially aware of it and therefore decided to enter personally to mediate in the current situation.

But as usual, the System suggested the Night Foxes to eliminate every single villager, and make everyone be subjected to its loyalty command as soon as possible. Naturally, Jin rejected that as he felt it was essential to communicate with each other although the dungeon supplier learnt not to that naive too.

Sometimes, power had to be applied to produce a scenario where everyone compromises.

This was because many believed their elders were scammed, especially when they were forced to sign some sort of contract which they had no understanding of. So, Jin decided to take the soft power route first and see if these Animal People could understand through his explanations.

When Jin teleported to the open dungeon instance, the major leaders of the eight tribes had already assembled together in a makeshift tent. While many wished to listen into the conversation, the Night Foxes forbade them from coming near the tent. Thus, the rest continued to wait restlessly outside, awaiting the decision of their leaders.

Of all the Animal People clans, only two leaders and their tribes had already completed the contracts.

The Turtles and Walrus.

A majority of the tribal leaders were still on the fence except for the Otters who were adamant of returning back to their old ways. They were, unfortunately, the only ones who refused to sign anything.

When Jin walked into the tent, they saw that he was with another Animal People, who they perceived to be a swordsman, along with him. Some of the leaders were old enough to recognise a human being, and they began to whisper excitedly among themselves even though they barely met. (Perhaps, adversity brings kindled strangers together.)

"Greetings all. I am Jin, this frog here is Gaeru, and some of you have known my friend and associate, Sage Hamatarou." Jin tried to show that he was affiliated to Hamatarou to exert further power and influence to the group.

"While a few of you had already heard from Hamatarou's story why we had forcefully migrated you to this particular piece of land. I am here to tell you that was not all." Jin announced as he immediately summoned out massive holographic projections via his System phone and revealed them the current situation in the Giant World.

None of the tribal leaders could believe the images of the cold, barren wasteland, and some even call out that its a hoax. Gaeru, who was the last sole survivor of his clan, later explained why Jin was doing all of these. He included the story about the massacre of his entire village by the Salamanders and yet none of them could believe what was happening. Jin soon realised that many were still in denial and the soft approach would not work with them.

"I guess the only way is to return them back to where they come from. After all, showing is telling." Jin said to Hamatarou while he folded his arms.

"Yes, we wished to return to our villages!" The Croc Leader demanded, and the others follow suit, including the Turtles and Walrus Leaders who had already sign the contract.

"Very well. We had already done our part rescuing you guys from the Ice Age spell from Queen Mab, and that would be free of charge. Should you ever wish to return here, use this particular ring to contact Hamatarou." Jin said while presenting the rings on the table and the leaders all thought that was a good deal until the dungeon supplier started to open his mouth once more.

"However, if you ever return, you would be automatically be required to sign a contract with us. Not only that, your contract terms will have three times more the requirements than what we presented you right now. Having to work until you clear your village's debt will be the least of your worries." The sudden declaration startled the whole group, even Hamatarou.

"Our operation to save you people from the Giants and deploying combat professionals to risk their lives for yours were not cheap," Jin warned as he looked at the rings on the table. Some were already hesitant to pick the rings. "I will give you guys one more hour to talk to your village people. Those who had decided either to leave or stay, please revert to either Hamatarou."

"For the two other villages which had already sign the contract, you have technically broken a clause of your contract if you take a step back to the Giant World without permission." Jin said with a tinge of anger in his words before his face relaxed and spoke the following.

"However, we are not slavers of any kind. So, I have allowed you to break your contract at a price. You are free to return here again. But at a tremendous cost than those who have not sign a single thing." Jin said while emitting his chi aura out to show that he meant business even though he was smiling through his teeth.

"However, if you and your village wish to stay, I will promise you that providing you will be my utmost duty. A piece of bountiful land like this island shall be bestowed to you for your village to develop, grow and prosper. I also swear that I can provide you jobs, new skills to learn and heck. A damn good time."

Jin had now switched his bait as he showed pictures of his penguins working hard in the Restaurant Instance while others were having fun at the Theme Park instance.

"I will leave a few penguins here who had saved your lives to answer any questions. I hope you will make the right choice." Jin said as he requested the System to bring out Kido and his other ninjas to talk to the leaders.

The dungeon supplier believed he had done what he needed to do and the rest he would leave it to Hamatarou and his penguins to convince the leaders.

Because as of that moment, Amura Rei had messaged that he had finally outfitted three Sandroku Golems to be spaceworthy.

### **Chapter 666 Extra: Su Zhen's Recommendation**

Milk was still currently in the room, discussing with Jin's demon exorcists with regards to the upcoming expedition. She knew Jin's hidden agenda for sending them to the north of Shenzhen, so she was keeping a close eye to make sure that they were prepared for it, at least physically.

"I believe I can handle our accommodations. The Royal Ox Zodiac Clan have quite a huge presence in Dongguan, so it should be easy for me to pull some strings around to get a decent lodging before the arrival of Chinese New Year." Rong suggested, and the rest agreed to it immediately.

"Aside from the fact that we are currently earning measly peanuts from Jin, I have more than enough money to spare for you guys to buy equipment." Lein generously offered to the group though Su Zhen and Lian somehow felt bad taking it.

"Don't be. You could say I am a bit ashamed of my previous haughty behaviour and thought that I would be the first and best candidate to get promoted. Turns out I have much to learn... And hey look at it this way! I have yet to give you guys your Christmas presents." He immediately recalled how Jin still appreciated their presence and efforts even though they demeaned him.

"Hmm, I guessed its reasonable if it's your way of giving Christmas presents to us." Su Zhen nodded her head and did not refuse the offer.

"Honestly, I would prefer some of the clothing in Jin's store compared to the equipment he sells. I mean, our Royal Armoury ought to have better equipment than what's offered here." Lian countered, but Rong surprisingly disagreed with her.

"I have actually bought a few axes and hammers from this place and gave it to my Royal Armourer as well. They were astounded by the quality of it. My uncle, who was in the weapon development said that some of the Grade 5 weapons were more durable than his Grade 10s. He even asked me to buy every single piece for him to test it out when I have the time." Rong divulged to the whole group, which made Milk deliver a smug smile.

"Of course, while we import a few of our stuff in, most of our weapons were hand made by the best people." Milk wanted to openly praise Blacksmith Vulcan's skills in creating those weapons, but she knew that they would not believe if Milk said that all those weapons were made by one person.

Vulcan could have also created better grade weapons, but the System was locking his abilities and his production until Jin was powerful enough to handle high grade cultivators.

"Our inscriptions are the best top notch too if you have not noticed. This is also why you guys can mix and match any items of clothing for defensive purposes."

"But you guys do not have high grade combat armours right? The one meant for pure defence instead of daily use." Su Zhen did not doubt Milk's, but this was one thing she noticed was lacking in Jin's armour store.

"That I won't deny. We have a 'few' weavers who could create decent defensive articles of clothing, but they are not to the point they could be compared to high grade combat armours. However, considering that we are selling quality defensive inscriptions, it should not be a problem for most cultivators." Milk explained, and though it looked as if Su Zhen had something at the tip of her tongue, she continued on.

"Besides, we have trustworthy contacts to import such high grade combat armour, and I believe Jin will release them when the time is right. After all, this is a dungeon store, not the Royal Armourer. It will be scary if our normal cultivators are decked out with combat armour, right?"

"I see. While it's okay for dungeon practice, sometimes high defensive grade armour would be needed for real practical fights. Since we will be opening up to the Demon Exorcists, I believe we should look into that portion too." Su Zhen said and started to write an address on a piece of paper.

"I feel that Boss Jin should have an inhouse armourer too. I have a friend- erm... an associate that specialises in the production of high grade combat armour. He is, however, very difficult to find since he doesn't stay in one place." Milk took the piece of paper and looked at the address.

"If so, why did you pass me this particular address?" Milk queried.

"The Royal Snake Clan used to contact him to make us some customised armour in the past, but I must confess, it was with much difficulty. Similar to your store, he's a crazy miracle worker. He can easily make a piece of shirt withstand a blow from a Grade 10 monster from cheap raw materials." Su Zhen said, and Lian believed she heard of such an associate too. Subsequently, Rong and Lein attested to such a rumour and did not know that it was true, only to remember her mother was the COO of JODE.

"Imagine getting him to seriously work for you, he would definitely be able to make a miracle. Some even say the ministers had people secretly scouting for him so they can pay a visit to him." Su Zhen expressed herself vividly.

"My mom gave this address to me and told me to look up for him at this address. She said that if I was lucky, I would be able to meet him. But after trying a few times, it was needless to say, I have no luck right now. Maybe, meeting him had some requirements or maybe it was perchance." Su Zhen added and told Milk and the rest of her friends that he had no name except the moniker the Ghost Armourer.

"What makes you think Jin can find him?" Milk chuckled a little upon hearing the whole story.

"I do not know, I feel like Boss can do the impossible, and if he could really recruit the Ghost Armourer to his shop, his fame will shoot up to the roof. Of course, it's just wild speculations."

"Heh, I will pass the message to him when I have the time." Milk smiled and texted a message to the person who scoffed at the word impossible.

The Devilman.

## **Chapter 667 Rei's Comeback**

"Rei, how did it go?" Jin showed a weary smile when he teleported into the workshop entrance. All the past two days, the dungeon supplier had been working non stop to ensure the success of gathering allies while fulfilling his promise to Hamatarou to save them.

It did, however, derail into a new customer dungeon raid but the subsequent and yet surprising capture of Maeve proved to be worth it.

Jin hoped that he could get some miscellaneous task done before the police and military cooperation exercise. Still, it was imperative he assisted the System in obtaining its upgrade to eradicate the perceived threat above Shenzhen.

The police captain did say that things were under control, but Jin knew that he was definitely underreporting the severity of the situation. That was how his country work most of the time though everyone kept mum about it.

Although it was a risk to send the young, new graduated Demon Exorcists to the field, they were already contracted with the System. So there was little to worry about his 'assistants', and this would be another valuable experience for them.

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"Hey Boss, it went rather well. The Orcs and Goblins definitely had some knowledge in the field mechanics and electronics...although it sure is useful to have some magic capabilities. It made the process more viable." Rei replied with a hearty smile.

It had been a long time since he was covered in engine grease, and the nostalgic feeling of it was tremendously satisfying. He already felt it was already worthy to take a two day break from his manga drawing to do all of this.

"Not to mention, the crew here is itching to go have a test run, though I assume you want them to go into the practical immediately." Rei added as three goblin pilots came forth to salute at Jin.

"Pilot Piratez, Washbuckler and Deckerhand reporting." The goblins announced but their names gave Jin a curious expression.

"Ah, a bit of a long story. It was I who told them that having code names are common in my battlefield and informed the goblins that this particular mission was to salvage for parts in space. So, they had decided to get pirate-y names when I told them that outer space was like a vast ocean." Rei explained.

"Its a little cheesy but if they like it, let them be." Jin thought to himself as he chuckled a little before nodding his head in acknowledgement of the goblins who were still saluting.

"Yeap, so follow me. I have managed to convert two construction Sandroku Golems into Salvaging Golems, which by the way, I am impressed by the practicality of the golems. In terms of mobility and strength, they were as close, if not better, than the mecha workers we have in our work. Of course, I am comparing based on the models before I transmigrated. The only difference and complain is the use of batteries. However..." Rei continued to ramble as he beckoned Jin to follow him into the busy workshop in Industry Sector 1 of the Dungeon City Fortress.

Jin was initially interested to hear, but when Rei got into the specifics, he was starting to feel like it was his engineering professor ranting all over again. (Undoubtedly it caused him to turn a deaf ear to Rei's explanation..)

Soon, they reached a more secluded hanger and saw the Orc engineers doing final checks to the golems. It caused Jin to wonder why there wasn't a mix of Orcs and goblins going into space. Rei later explained that it was mainly because the goblin pilots have a good grasp of instant magic. "I have to fix up a support system for outer space and wanted to insert the backup respiratory support system too... But I am afraid the battery load will exceed, and this will cause unexpected short circuits in the golem." Rei started his lengthy explanation.

"So, with the pilots able to use magic at the crux of an emergency would heighten the odds of them surviving. Like putting a barrier in front of them in case of a breach or setting an air bubble around their head before ejecting and teleporting back to the Hangar again." Rei replied, and it looked like the mechatronics engineer was mentally checking off the standard safety protocols in his head when he was remodelling the golems.

"Plus, we are lightweight and take lesser oxygen. More air, longer operating hours, lesser strain on the battery system." Washbuckler said, and the Orcs could not argue against that.

When Jin saw the new remodified Salvaging Golems, he was surprised to know that it was extremely simple in design. This was because Rei did something similar to the Gearbox System which he had made the salvaging tools modular and detachable to the Salvaging Golems' arms. These included typical salvaging items like a pickup pinching arm, a cutter arm, and there was one with a power magnet on it.

"What happened to the third one?" Jin asked, and Rei's smirk got wider as he quickly when to the corner and turn on the lights only for Jin to realise that the hangar was bigger than he thought it would be. (The goblin pilots did place a magical illusion spell to help with the surprise too.)

The third golem was modified to fit on the nose of the C-130 plane.

Rei and the rest of the engineering crew had ingeniously outfitted the C-130 plane with rocket boosters on its wings as well as putting automated turrets on the sides of the dropship.

"Since we were going modular, I thought to see your old blueprints. And that was where we found the plans of your Orgebuster from Ayse, I felt inspired to create something similar. Of course, I did it within my timeframe, and there were limits to this prototype beauty." Rei said with excitement while tapping his hand on the plane.

"We were, after all, using this as a dropship to haul the debris and salvaged items back to the hangar and this should reduce the System's expenses instead of opening a portal infinitely," Rei commented, stating that the System was extremely pleased with the design proposal and gave a C-130 for free for them to modify.

"I am honestly blown away by this too." Jin for once smiled like a kid in a toy store, seeing a brand new toy for grabs.

### **Chapter 668 Honest Truth**

"All the controls of the modified C-130 Space Explorer can be handled by the Salvaging Golem at the nose of the plane. I've made some adjustments to the electrical board circuits, and with the help of magic, it's been further simplified for both Orcs and Goblins to use without too much training." Rei explained as he opened the cargo door of the C-130 Space Explorer.

"So, what are we expecting to salvage based on your experience... you have done this before, right? Or have you only done this in theory?" Jin queried, and Rei stopped to ponder for a moment.

"I think we can expect to find quite a number of good parts. If we are fortunate enough, a proper spaceship might be possible. Though I figured it would be derelict since in such cases, it would be a miracle if the internal parts hadn't already been stripped by someone else. But hey, at least you might get a hull out of it. We can always bring it back to do modifications." Rei shrugged and speculated as much as Jin with regards to the possible loot.

"Though realistically speaking, having only three Salvaging Golems won't yield you that much in one week... Much less in your allocated deadline. Best case scenario, and I stress, this is HIGHLY UNLIKELY; If we find ourselves an intact spaceship, one where all we have to do will be to change some parts and refuel the baby, even then, we are still looking at a space travel time of about two to three weeks to find the ship or port where Titan was holding onto. And that is already making a lot of assumptions!" Rei warned not to get too optimistic.

"A lot of things can go wrong. The Titan could have already embarked onto a different ship, or been moved to another port. Heck, it might have already invaded the Xeon Union. And even if we were to somehow find it, we will have to face at least a small space fleet befitting the protection of the Titan. But again, this is already assuming the best scenario." Rei stood and decided to tell Jin off.

"But considering that we always knee deep in rather shitty situations, I should expect not able to find the Titan anytime soon, and even if I did, I would be against fleets of the United Federation thinking that I am with the bad guy. To make things even more 'exciting', the Xeon Union assumed we are also a ploy by the United Feds too and will fire upon us when given a chance?" Jin gave a hypothetical bad scenario

which Rei nodded furiously to it. No wonder, Kraft's suggestion to be the ultimate bad guy was not as unrealistic as Jin thought it would be.

"To be brutally honest with you Boss, your timeline is plainly unrealistic, and even though I managed to finish this in two days, it was a more of a challenge for myself than keeping the promise to you. There are a lot of things that might go wrong with these golems too. I have yet to perform any stress test on them to make sure that does not happen. However, I am willing to forgo the test run and close an eye to the situation because the Gobs claim they can be resurrected. To me, machines don't matter as much as the lives riding on them. So if it's true the worst case will be us having to build new ones."

"Hmm..." Jin was trying to consider everything Rei was lecturing him about, yet while doing so, he was unconsciously making a very frustrated face. Rei felt that he should continue to say his piece before Jin made any rash and stupid decisions.

"I am beseeching you to reconsider the situation again. You have my blessing if you limit yourself to sending out your Gobs for salvaging, but NOTHING ELSE! I get that you have time constraints, but not everything can be solved with magic. Accept the reality and expect that this will be a long endeavour rather than a rushed one." Rei told him with his eyes looking directly into Jin's.

"Besides, take a good look at yourself. You should really think this over. You are tired, weary from the constant work and I bet you do not even know that today's New Year Eve. I really suggest that you find an alternative or change the timeline and be realistic about the whole Titan finding situation!"

Somehow that hit a nerve... Jin did not know how to argue about what Rei said, mainly because it was all true. He looked over the C-130 interior for a moment and then sighed heavily. He was resolute about trying to change his own fate after getting a painful reminder that he was being manipulated by external forces who were rich, powerful and more influential than him.

But here he was already being defeated by the inevitable fact, that some things lay outside his control... at least for now. He was sure that having the System might change things, but it looked like life had a way to always put an insurmountable obstacle in front of him.

He proceeded to take a seat at the side of the C130 Space Explorer and asked Rei to leave him alone for a moment. Meanwhile, Rei was stunned as he had not expected Jin to react this way. He had at least expected some kind of resistance, but not for him to solemnly ponder on the issues.

Still a bit dumbfounded, he quietly nodded his head and moved out of the C130 space explorer granting Jin his desired alone time.

"Do you think Boss be okay?" Washbuckler asked his fellow two space pilots, but they were equally clueless. Even Rei started to feel bad about pointing out the obvious to Jin.

"No use thinking too much on our end. Let's do some work to busy ourselves. If Boss wants to continue with the mission, he'll approach us again." Piratez suggested as the voice of reason and the four of them decided to do some counter checks to ensure that their internal golem systems were working as intended.

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An hour had passed with no sign of Jin coming out of the C-130 Space Explorer. The waiting made the entire space crew a little anxious. "I'll go and check on Boss. Maybe he teleported away and forgot to notify us." One of the Orc engineers volunteered, but Rei declined his offer.

"No, let me do it. I was the one who pointed the issues out, so it's only fair if I should be the one to confront him. And if he has any arguments, it will be directed at me instead." Rei strongly insisted, but deep down, the space crew team knew that Rei was just as timid as them.

"I don't think we need to worry so much, we all know Boss is quite a reasonable person. He is not the kind to flare up randomly." Piratez argued and both his friends immediately thought of their old mage master in the academy who used to shout at them for every wrongdoing.

Eventually, they decided to enter as a group to check on Jin, but as they went closer to the C130 open cargo door, they realised that Jin was still sitting there. Rei had adamantly decided to be the first to move up, and as he got closer, he found a rare sight of their Boss...sleeping with his head leaning at the side panel.

Rei signalled them to be quiet and beckoned them to come over to check on him, but one of the Orcs tripped which caused him to slip and fall, resulting in a loud deafening echo in the empty cargo area of the C-130. Jin's eyes went wide open scanning the surrounding for any enemy intrusion, only to find the space crew attempting to crawl up on him. Then he yawned and stretched himself.

"My bad. I think the moment I relaxed, I accidentally went into sleep. Where were we?" Jin apologised, and Rei informed him that he had probably been knocked out for over an hour.

"Oh, no wonder... sorry about that. Anyways, Rei. I thought about what you said, and I must admit you are entirely right. Have the space crew meet me at their workshop meeting room. Let's have a formal and realistic discussion." Jin responded favourably to Rei's reasoning and stopped for a moment.

"And erm, order some good food from the Penguins since its New Year's Eve. Don't be shy, it will be on me." His stomach growled loudly, which the rest agreed heartily.

### **Chapter 669 Extra: Preachings**

After that short cheering from the space crew, Jin instinctively checked his phone and noticed that dozens of missed calls and loads of messages had piled up. They were mainly from Qiu Yue and Lynn who had attempted to reach him.

"System has noticed that User has entered a state of sleep deeper than any other compared to the last week and has therefore decided to mute the phone for you. Despite System's assurance that the User was safe, the Sub System Users wanted to be sure." Jin was surprised by the System's gesture and thanked it before looking at his phone.

If anything, that sleep may surprisingly have been one of the best wake up call he ever received.

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Being a cultivator of the Nineteen Lazy Astral Pandas Style, he automatically entered his subconsciousness and found himself sitting beside his Grandfather Ming at the top of the icy cold mountain peak once more.

"Yikes!" Jin shouted as he felt the winds blew through his shirt. Unlike the previous time with Ming, he was now dressed with what he had been wearing in real life, which was not exactly intended for this kind of weather.

"Don't worry, lad. I am not going to force you to fight any Legendary Beasts this time around. Though that turtle is still down there waiting for you with my secret. If you want to uncover it, be my guest." Ming gleed at Jin before turning solemn.

"You haven't been yourself lately, have you?" Ming placed his hand over Jin's shoulder, and the latter quietly leaned at his grandfather's side.

"Yeah. It's been rough these past few weeks. Problems keep piling up no matter how I try to clear them. It's as if fate actively tries to put one obstacle after the other. I don't feel at peace no matter what I do." Jin tried to phrase his problem without it sounding too much like whining since he knew his grandfather was a no nonsense guy.

"If I was in the real world, I would have scolded you for not having any guts. For what a sissy you have become." Ming scoffed at Jin. "However, since I am not in the real world, let me give you something that might actually help you." Jin's grandfather took a deep breath before he did the most unexpected to Jin.

He swiftly moved his hands under Jin's armpit and performed a judo throw on Jin, causing his grandson to split the bench they were sitting into two. Jin splattered blood out from his mouth in an instant while his grandfather's smile got even wider.

"When you are confused, scratch your lungs and order them to fight! When you are angry, rise up and fight it! When you are calm, learn to fight along with it! When you are happy, fight to live for more of this fleeting moment! Whatever you do, you have to fight!" Ming preached as he sent a palm thrust towards Jin's stomach and the dungeon supplier absorbed the entire blow.

There was no 'grandfatherly love' or mercy in the strike. All he felt was pain.

However, the pain was oddly refreshing. Jin had kept himself to the backline for some time now due to all the administrative work. It felt like ages since he had entered the fray, causing his fighting sense to dull a little.

"What do you do when you see a wall in front of you? Push it down! If you cannot push it, climb! Go around it! Or dig underneath it! If all else fails just keep slamming into it until the thing breaks! If your bones break, wait for them to heal and then bash it again! Eventually, it will give way! Remember, you are a System User! The System is a product of the Wills of the Heaven. You – No, we are part of the Celestial Chosen!!!" Ming emphasised with his foot on Jin's chest.

"Hah... Celestial's Chosen... If that is true, the world must really hate us to hunt us down continuously." Jin remarked as he tried to push Ming's shoe away, but the pressure seemed to only get greater until he could feel his bones begin to crack.

"Because – Never mind, that phrase just sounded good at the moment. So, just ignore what I said. In any case, look at how far you have come. Back then, when you first treated this path of becoming a dungeon supplier, you only went with the flow. You were no different from a Koi in a pond being fed bread crumbs, unaware that he might get eaten one of these days." Ming laughed at his own joke.

"But now? You finally learned that there is more to it than just the small little pond. You have experienced what it means to get bitten. Most importantly, you are willing to fight back! Although it's a little pathetic looking, you are getting there. Your fangs are still growing, and that is what I want to continue to see in you. Never stop trying! If things push you down, never stop moving. Even if you feel like you are going backwards, learn why you are going back. After which proceed forth." Ming encouraged him as he pushed even further while Jin struggled to go against the pressure.

"Remember that you are no longer just a boss over a measly store. You are the boss for many villages! For kingdoms! For several monster races! Heck, even Gods and Demons are under your command." The pressure did not alleviate, and somehow Jin believed he felt a tinge of jealousy in his grandfather's voice.

"They may have started to follow you because the System compelled them to do so. Still, I believe some are genuinely pledging their service to you not only because it's interesting, but you are worthy of following."

"Just take a look at that sneaky fox. You may not realise it, but he does far more for you than meets the eye. Take a look at the girls beside you. They are doing their best to help you achieve what you are trying to do. Even Yun has been helping you in her own way. If you ever doubt yourself, never forget that there are those beside you, who believe in you." At the same time, a tone of praise and admiration in Ming's voice too, something which Jin had hardly ever received from him.

Yet, Ming was right.

It was not the first time Jin met with problems larger than himself. Although he had been lucky the previous times, it did not mean that he did not see things through when the tough gets going.

"I understand now, Gramps. It took me a while to understand, but please continue to watch over me." Jin nodded as he stopped trying to push Ming's boot away. Instead, he gathered his Maqi at his palms and summoned ice spikes to attack Ming.

Ming sniggered as he blocked the ice spikes with ease but did not realise that Jin did something else entirely out of the norm. With the ice spikes as a distraction, Jin imagined himself as part of the snow, and when the cold mountain winds blew, he immediately transformed into a pile of snow and allowed the winds to disperse him.

"Hah! You rascal! Glad to know that you still remember you are in your consciousness." Ming laughed as he saw that Jin had reached a new understanding of himself, allowing him to passively transcend into Grade Eight Peak.

"You called?"

"YEAH WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?!?!" Qiu Yue shouted in the phone so loudly that Jin could feel her wrath transmitting through the phone.

"I erm... accidentally fell asleep in one of the workshop hangars after discussing some stuff with Rei and the others," Jin replied with a guilty conscience. He felt like a little kid who had been out playing for too long, worrying his mother. What followed was an awkward pause in the conversation.

"Oh. Okay... No wonder the System did not allow us to call through. -Sigh- I guess we may have overreacted, but the System could have just told us that you had fallen asleep." Qiu Yue sounded a bit calmer, but not by much.

Suddenly the System interjected: "System cannot verify whether User is truly asleep or cultivating. Thus, System has been unable to provide a definite response to your questions."

"Dude. I know you are omnipotent, but don't enter our conversations like this. It's creepy. Like stalker creepy." Qiu Yue complained, seemingly having found a new target for her rage and Jin laughed.

"Forget about that. You know it cannot help being creepy, right? The System monitors our every move no matter what we do. Is there any use pretending it doesn't?" Lynn interjected on Qiu Yue's end, but Jin could roughly hear her voice in the background.

"Yeah, it's like the overprotective parents that Jin never had." Qiu Yue accidentally commented something a little insensitive, forgetting that she was still on the line with Jin. "Oh oops, sorry Boss."

"No need, I am not overly sensitive as you believe me to be."

"What lies!" Qiu Yue thought to herself.

"Anyways, what's the matter?" Jin questioned and Qiu Yue informed him that they had prepared a New Year Eve's dinner with the bellators.

"Hmmm, that does sound like a good idea." Jin looked at his watch, and it was nearly six in the evening. "Let me have a quick meeting with the space crew beforehand. We will be altering our timelines since Rei brought up some major concerns. If you don't hear from me in the next hour or so, come to the conference room instance and drag me out. Thank you for reminding me about this." Jin said as he hurriedly teleported to the conference room instance.

And before him, a sumptuous spread of gourmet food was laid ready by the chef penguins and the space crew was waiting rather (im)patiently for him. They collectively pointed at the helm of the table, which was still vacant.

"THAT was fast!" Jin saw the amount of food and wondered if the space crew could actually finish up everything, especially since the food was stretched from one corner of the table to the other end. No room was spared to ensure the maximum presence of gastronomic gourmet.

"It was Rei's idea!" Deckkerhand immediately exposed the mastermind though Rei had never planned on denying it. It took a bit for the still sleepy Jin to realise what was going on. Since it was on Jin's tab, they had thought to extend his generosity to not just the space crew but the other Orc and Goblin helpers who had assisted the team as thanks.

"You really think this is sufficient to satisfy those Orcs' stomach? Their tummies are practically black holes walking around! Order more! And do get the penguins to join the feast too once they are done with the cooking!" Jin ordered and pretend to wipe out a credit card from his wallet, causing the crew to cheer even louder. (Even though it was not necessary, but the action of presenting his credit card somehow excited the entire space crew.)

Jin then beckoned Rei to gather the others to come in to join the feast while he asked the System to expand the conference room, allowing the insertion of another long conference table for the penguins to place their buffet. "For today only, enjoy the end of the year," Jin said, indicating that that the initial discussion be postponed for the new upcoming year.

"Boss, are you not joining us?" Rei questioned, and Jin told him that his other family is waiting for him with dinner as well. "I better help out a little with the preparations or else, Lynn might kill me," Jin confessed he had not been helping with the dinner preparations for quite some time because of his workload.

Only then, the dungeon supplier saw Rei's quiet but troubled expression, prompting him to pick up the courage and placed his hand on the manga artist's shoulders.

"Worry not. We will do our utmost to help you find your family, but as you said yourself. Some things can't be rushed. Please give us some time too." Jin promised, and given the recent turn of developments, Rei knew that his new boss would really try his best for his minions. Thus, he gave a slight smile in return as a sign of trust.

"Alright, then I shall hold you to your word. But for today, WE PARTYYYY!!!" Rei picked up a beer can and shouted, giving the rest the signal to start. At the same time, Jin had requested his system to connect him to various monster leaders like Gold, Moloch, Derek and Ayse.

"Dinner is on me, order whatever you guys like and treat the entire group for New Year's Eve. But it's a little late, so give the penguins some time to prep the food too! We don't want them to overwork themselves."

"Actually, can we order from the Tree Mall? I seriously enjoy the penguin food, but I would love to try some of Earth's cuisine too." Gold asked on behalf of his werejackals, which made Jin somewhat flustered. The rest started to consider such an option too, and it looked like they reached an overall agreement.

"I don't mind, though I cannot guarantee that the taste of the food out there will be as heavenly or spiritually filling. You guys still okay with it?"

"Yeah, we are fine with it. Besides, it would be unfair to the penguins if they always have to work so hard for us, especially when we are growing in numbers." Gold replied, and Jin thought it was a good idea to give some business for the lower floors too.

"But you will be working the crap out of those penguins aiding the human chefs," Moloch argued, and at that moment Kido joined the call.

"Actually, we can afford to have a few more penguins assist with the orders. We have already completed the analysis on those chefs' way of cooking and should be able to replicate it. We might even improve

on their version." Kido currently represented the Kitchen since Lynn was preparing dinner for the bellators and Jin did not see the problem with that.

"Alright, I am fine with it, give your orders to the System which it will compile and split the orders between both the human chefs and the penguins. That way, the workload is slightly less straining to the human chefs. As for you penguins if it's possible, work out a rotation system, so that at least a third of you can relax at a time." Jin ordered and everyone was amenable to it. The call ended with much elation in the background, yet Jin decided to give Si Fang a heads up.

"Ah Jin, I am -WAIT WHAT?! Is this some kind of New Year Eve's joke?!" Si Fang's sudden shouting scared nearly all the customers in his Castle Tower Café instance, and he immediately apologised for his rude behaviour.

"Erm, yeah. I'm sorry, it's so sudden. What was supposed to be an internal mini conference at my end ended up getting bigger than I imagined. A little unexpected but you know...how situations can be unpredictable." Jin tried to bluff, and he succeeded with a poor excuse.

"I guess... We cannot say no to extra money, especially if it's coming from the landlord himself. Sure, I will tell the others to be prepared for the massive order, but I cannot assist you if we run out of stock." Si Fang warned, but there was this indescribable excitement running through his veins.

"Stock supplies? You do not have to worry about that. I can guarantee that as long as if the chefs are willing to earn money, there's plenty of supplies to go around. I will get Lai Fu to assist with it." Jin pointed out, and Si Fang immediately agreed to relay the message.

So what if it was New Year's Eve? All of them were veterans in the Food & Beverage business, and they had long since been prepared to work extra hard for the added income during the holidays.

They just never imagined how absurd Jin's desired quantity would have to be.