

## Full Time 391

### Chapter 391: Quantum Divination

According to ancient legend, the Mountain Werewolves and the Slumbering Ancient Tribe were mortal enemies during their home planet era. No one knew if this legend was true, but it had been passed down for so long that, even if false, it had effectively become true.

Therefore, the Mountain Werewolves were indeed very familiar with the scent of the Slumbering Ancient Tribe. Everyone trusted the werewolf's abilities and promptly organized their team to follow him in pursuit. Even the aircraft took off, maintaining a low altitude to keep up with the team.

Aboard the aircraft, some hatches opened, revealing powerful weapons inside.

Chen Gu didn't follow. He left the formidable Slumbering Ancient Tribe member for Director Xue and the others to handle head-on.

After everyone had left, he emerged from his hiding place. Based on the information he had just memorized about the rookie training camp, he found Mao Yisheng's dormitory.

The layout inside was clearly Mao Yisheng's style. He picked up a strand of Mao Yisheng's hair from the pillow—he was certain it was hair, not some other inexplicable body hair.

He gently twirled the strand of hair with his fingers and switched his active consciousness to that of Derek Kun Shen Ken. A faint blue glow enveloped his eyes. The power of the Quantum Wizard began to radiate outward, forming energy ripples that spread like water waves, continuously permeating the void.

Chen Gu used one of the Quantum Wizard's more obscure abilities: Quantum Divination.

At the Second Energy Level, Chen Gu's memory embodiment could only exert Third Energy Level power, which wasn't enough to perform Quantum Divination.

Now at the Third Energy Level, by accessing Derek Kun Shen Ken's memories, he could exert Fourth Energy Level power, though performing Quantum Divination was still quite a struggle.

So while it seemed unremarkable, Chen Gu was actually having a very hard time.

Quantum Divination, when used to find people, brought a sort of "directional" sensation, which, for Chen Gu, had become quite vague, only hinting at a general direction.

However, Chen Gu found that this direction was not the same as the one the Mountain Werewolves had taken in pursuit of the Slumbering Ancient Tribe member.

HUFF...

Chen Gu suddenly exhaled deeply, the dense energy ripples around him shattering like bubbles. His eyes became somewhat lifeless, and the strand of hair between his fingers turned to ash.

Chen Gu looked around the entire dormitory, feeling very uncomfortable.

Derek Kun Shen Ken's typical 'straight guy' aesthetic preferred neat and symmetrical arrangements.

Mao, are you daft? How can you live in such a messy dorm? he mentally complained.

He quickly left the dormitory; otherwise, he would have been unable to resist "tidying" it up.

Outside, Chen Gu felt much better because the shapes of those iron dumpling-like massive beast cages appealed to his aesthetics.

Additionally, the arrangement of these cages was neat and orderly, very friendly to those with obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Chen Gu hummed a tune; the near-debilitating exhaustion he had felt moments before subsided. He cheerfully located the cage for Mao Yisheng's Night Tour Specter. All the equipment here had failed, so Chen Gu could simply pull open the door and walk in.

In the darkness of the cage, he found a scale, large enough to serve as a shield for an ordinary person.

Chen Gu rubbed his temples and complained, Damn it, Mao! Next time I see you, I'm eating you out of house and home!

Then, enduring the discomfort, he performed Quantum Divination yet again.

This time, the skill's duration was only half of the previous attempt. With a SNAP, the scale in his hand shattered, and the energy ripples around him collapsed.

Blood trickled from Chen Gu's nostrils. He swayed for a few moments before slowly sitting down.

This was dangerous. Each time he pushed his abilities to their limit, the risk of greater corruption and degradation increased!

After resting for a moment, the dizzy feeling in his head began to subside. Chen Gu's brow furrowed deeply. What's going on?

He had used Quantum Divination to search for the Night Tour Specter, and it pointed in yet another direction. This was different from Mao Yisheng's indicated location and the direction of the Slumbering Ancient Tribe member.

What exactly does the person behind this incident want to do?

Moreover, it's hard to understand why they would choose to strike during this rookie training camp. It's too close to the Huai Shan Branch School.

Anyone capable of wiping out the entire rookie training camp would surely know the location of the Huai Shan Branch School. The risk of taking action here is simply too great...

Could it be that their target is actually related to the school? That makes even less sense. With that old monster, the Principal, holding down the fort, even Aviloya—a Ninth Power Level expert—wouldn't dare act recklessly. Causing trouble for the school? That's like an old man tired of living seeking death by arsenic.

Gong Shuxu appeared quietly and asked, "What do you plan to do?"

Chen Gu suddenly laughed. "I'm not going to worry about all that, and I don't need to overcomplicate things. I only got involved in this for Mao's sake, so I'll just follow the direction indicated for Mao Yisheng."

But before starting the pursuit, Chen Gu went outside the rookie training camp. He found some of Kumataro's flesh and blood on the ground and examined it.

This is a bit different from the tissue of a normal biological organism... Chen Gu took some samples and called Qing Ruyan at headquarters. "I'm sending you some samples. Have Oubayang's students study them and get back to me with the results as soon as possible."

Pale blue energy ripples formed around the sample in Chen Gu's hand. He activated Quantum Teleportation. The void around the sample suddenly collapsed inward, and it vanished in an instant.

「...」

Almost simultaneously, inside the main headquarters building, Qing Ruyan was sitting in her office. She saw a lump of flesh suddenly materialize above her neat desk. PLOP! It landed on the desktop, splattering blood and gore all over her. Qing Ruyan froze for a moment, then let out a hysterical scream, "Chen Gu, I am SO going to get you for this!"

Chen Gu followed the indications from Quantum Divination, tracking deeper and deeper into the ancient forest.

Several hundred kilometers later, he stood on a weathered boulder, gazing down at a valley overgrown with dark-blue thorns. He had finally found the first trace.

Several bodies had been haphazardly discarded among the thorns. Some thorns had even turned blue-red at their roots from absorbing the blood.

One corpse lay face down, its build similar to Mao Yisheng's.

Chen Gu stood on the rock, hesitating for a long moment before he could summon the courage to descend. Gong Shuxu, standing behind him, also let out a long sigh.

From their clothes, it was clear that they were all rookies from this year's batch.

Out of trillions of Confederation citizens, these rookies had been selected by the Alliance. They were the envy of countless people and should have had brilliant futures, perhaps even leaving their mark on the Alliance's history.

But now, all those potential futures had come to an abrupt end, extinguished in this nameless wilderness.

Chapter 392: Accurate Judgment (1)

Chen Gu slowly descended, step by step approaching the corpse. Then, gritting his teeth, he turned it over.

PHEW— Chen Gu exhaled and slumped to the ground.

Fortunately, it wasn't one of the Russians. Chen Gu breathed a sigh of relief. Only then did he feel composed enough to carefully examine the bodies. The wounds were startling, seemingly caused by the mauling of wild beasts.

A giant beast?

The Sleeping Ancient Clan could control their giant beasts to kill them. But Chen Gu quickly shook his head. If it were giant beasts, these wounds are too small.

Chen Gu turned and nodded to Gong Shuxu, who stepped forward to walk beside him as they continued tracking.

After that, various traces remained visible along the path, making it easier to follow.

「A few hours later.」

They suddenly stopped. Faint voices drifted from the dense forest ahead.

Gong Shuxu waved his hand over both of them and then signaled to Chen Gu. The two of them headed towards the forest, "openly and honorably" as it were.

After entering the forest, Chen Gu saw a sentry perched on a branch of the third tree to his left.

Equipped with advanced gear and holding an energy burst rifle, he lay in wait, vigilant as a venomous snake. However, Chen Gu and Gong Shuxu walked right under his nose, and he was none the wiser.

Further in, every tree had an electronic eye embedded in it, their various rays sweeping the area, leaving no blind spots.

Gong Shuxu, however, walked past unconcernedly.

The electronic eyes faithfully relayed their movements to the monitoring equipment in the forest camp, but the soldier in front of the equipment seemed oblivious to the two men on the screen.

Even behind him, a powerful Third Energy Level professional was discussing something with two others. He occasionally glanced back at the monitor. Chen Gu and Gong Shuxu were clearly visible on the screen, yet he noticed nothing amiss and continued his conversation.

Chen Gu entered the camp, "strutting confidently," and couldn't help but give Gong Shuxu a big thumbs up. Awesome, this was his easiest infiltration ever.

It sure feels great to have such a powerful backer.

Chen Gu even felt a little excited. If 'The Past of Four Hundred People' featured a high-level Psychological Spy, that would be quite intriguing.

Around the camp, five or six warriors were patrolling, while another seven or eight gathered to eat, casually guarding over a hundred "captives."

These captives were all new talents from this intake, each wearing a special collar that would explode if they attempted to escape.

A little farther away stood a camouflaged tent. A middle-aged woman with a pale, slightly sickly complexion walked out. She paused at the entrance, as if sensing something.

Then she opened her left hand and squinted slightly, concentrating intently.

She suddenly let out a cold laugh. "Heh—a bunch of fools. They've allowed someone to sneak right up to them and haven't even noticed."

The warriors were taken aback. They immediately scrambled to their feet, raising their weapons to search, but though their muzzles swept past Chen Gu and Gong Shuxu several times, none of them identified the pair as enemies or aimed their guns.

From inside the tent, three more professionals burst out. Among them, a Hell Titan roared, his body swelling enormously to over six meters high—definitely Fourth Energy Level!

But the three professionals also failed to locate the enemy.

Mist formed around the middle-aged woman's palm, carrying a hint of chill. With a fierce clench of her hand, the water vapor around Chen Gu and Gong Shuxu instantly condensed into countless extremely fine, sharp ice blades that shot towards them like a storm!

Gong Shuxu realized, "A Sixth Energy Level Glacier Spirit! She used her perception of temperature and moisture to detect two extra people in the camp."

The Hell Titan finally "spotted" the two men. With an enraged roar, he stomped the ground and charged towards Chen Gu, his steps like thunder.

Chen Gu focused his Entanglement Control before him. Although the tiny ice blades were sharp, each one lacked significant power. He managed to stop them all in mid-air.

Gong Shuxu had already locked his gaze on the middle-aged woman. He said to Chen Gu, "Protect yourself! Once I've dealt with this old hag, I'll come help you."

Being called an "old hag" sent the middle-aged woman into a fury. She let out a shrill scream as the surrounding temperature plummeted. Her form transformed into an icy gale, sweeping towards Gong Shuxu.

Before she even arrived, an icy cage had already materialized around Gong Shuxu.

A grave expression crossed Gong Shuxu's face. He slowly opened his mouth and exhaled a mist-like power that spread around him. This was his "Psychological Suggestion Field," his signature ability. Within this field, any living creature would be constantly bombarded with various psychological suggestions.

Clearly, Gong Shuxu didn't dare underestimate his opponent.

Chen Gu was instantly dismayed. No way, is this pillar of support going to crumble so quickly?

The Fourth Energy Level Hell Titan charged forward. Along the way, he casually uprooted a small tree as thick as an arm and hurled it like a javelin at Chen Gu.

The other two professionals sneered in unison, attacking from the left and right.

The one on the left pressed his hands downwards. Two streams of particles surged from his palms, transforming into two particle rivers that lifted his body steadily into the air. He was a Starwind Commandant.

The one on the right slowly spread her arms. A dense cluster of fine electric sparks appeared around her, writhing on her skin like tiny snakes. She also flew into the air, even faster than the Starwind Commandant. This was a Charge Dominator.

Chen Gu inwardly groaned. A tank on the ground and two kites in the sky. How am I supposed to fight this?

The surrounding warriors clearly had great confidence in the professionals. They herded all the captives to a distance, quietly waiting for the intruding enemies to be slain.

The leader of the warriors was a battle-hardened old mercenary with extensive experience cooperating with professionals. He quickly assessed the situation and relaxed, telling his men, "Don't worry."

"Although that old man is also Sixth Energy Level, he's a Psychological Spy and not skilled in direct combat. He's certainly no match for Her Excellency Lan Bingyu."

Gong Shuxu heard this and seethed with anger. Even a mere mercenary harbors such a shallow 'misunderstanding'! We Psychological Spies must redeem our reputation! The road ahead is long and arduous!

"That young one... he's a Quantum Wizard. That class is tricky, but he's only Third Energy Level. The three Lords Baotianmo are at the same Energy Level as him. With their numerical superiority and coordinated teamwork, it'll take five rounds at most to send him to his doom!"

The old mercenary spoke with absolute certainty, fully confident in his judgment. This confidence also infected his subordinates and influenced the captives.

### Chapter 393: Accurate Judgment (2)

Among the prisoners, Mao Yisheng shrank within the crowd. The moment he saw Chen Gu, a wave of warmth surged in his heart. He knew Chen Gu had come to rescue him.

However, he did not rashly jump out and call for Chen Gu, as that would have signaled to these enemies that he could be used as a hostage to threaten Chen Gu.

And now, hearing the old mercenary's words, Mao Yisheng was also filled with anxiety, his mind in turmoil. Professional? What does that mean?

But he had a kind of blind trust in Chen Gu, hoping in his heart that Chen Gu could once again create a miracle.

Hell Titan was an infamous criminal, notoriously wanted for robbery and murder. He committed all manner of evil deeds with cruel methods and was considered a degenerate among freelancers. He had a bounty of seven million Starshield from the Bureau of Mystic Security. Such a high bounty, yet he remained at large, was enough to prove his strength.

He pursued relentlessly, howling continuously. However, Chen Gu only skirmished with him, not engaging directly. Hell Titan left huge footprints on the jungle floor as he uprooted a large tree to use as a club, swinging it continuously but always missing his target.

He roared and bellowed, "Coward! Come and fight if you dare!"

Chen Gu ignored him, his attention seemingly focused on the two Professionals in the sky. The Starwind Centurion was constantly firing streams of searing particles, while the Electric Charge Dominator kept a tight watch over him. The slightest lapse in Chen Gu's concentration, and he could be trapped in an electric cage released by her.

Chen Gu struggled to respond, relying on 'Quantum Teleportation' several times to escape at the last possible moment. However, after using 'Quantum Teleportation' several times, he was gasping for breath, his movements no longer as agile as before.

The Electric Charge Dominator called out from the sky to Hell Titan, "Don't be impatient. He won't last much longer. Once we take him down, you can deal with him however you please."

Hell Titan had a cruel nature and enjoyed torturing his enemies, deriving great pleasure from this 'hobby.'

"HEHEHE—" Hell Titan let out a sinister laugh, no longer in a rush, ready to slowly grind down his opponent.

True to form, the Electric Charge Dominator followed up with a wide-area 'Lightning Rain Curtain.' Chen Gu was struck by two bolts of lightning in succession. Then, to dodge a massive particle bomb dropped by the Starwind Centurion, he had to use 'Quantum Teleportation' again. When he reappeared, he stumbled and fell the instant he landed.

The three Professionals smirked as they closed in, surrounding him. Hell Titan advanced deliberately, savoring the moment as he approached his despairing prey, aiming to exert immense psychological pressure.

Around the Starwind Centurion flowed three massive particle rivers, which had condensed into the shape of whips. They were ready to lash out at any moment and completely disintegrate Chen Gu's body into primordial particles.

The Electric Charge Dominator spread her arms. The electrical charges she controlled filled the entire space, encircling Chen Gu. His every move was under her command.

Chen Gu forced himself to stand up, looking defiantly at the three Professionals.

The old mercenary chuckled. "It's over. The three of you were very cautious, not reckless." He had just claimed the three Professionals would deal with Chen Gu within five rounds. However, Chen Gu had dragged the fight out for so long that the old mercenary was embarrassed, and now he was forcefully trying to save face.

Among the prisoners, Mao Yisheng clenched his fists, his eyes brimming with tears, silently cheering for Chen Gu in his heart: Chen Gu, don't give up!

Hell Titan took a large step forward, his huge palm reaching for Chen Gu's head. But in that very instant, his hand suddenly froze.

The other two Professionals also froze, momentarily stunned.

'Mental Storm'!

Chen Gu instantaneously switched to Isabella Wu's memory. Because this Professional skill was silent and invisible, distant onlookers—including the old mercenary and Mao Yisheng—had no idea what had just happened. They were all utterly baffled. Why had the three Professionals, who were in a dominant position and on the verge of ending the fight, suddenly stopped?

Chen Gu scoffed internally. Three Third Energy Level fighters think they can kill me? How naive. A surprise attack, huh. Who wouldn't know how to do that?

Chen Gu, who had seemed 'on the brink' and 'unable to hold on' just moments before, suddenly burst with vigor. He rapidly switched back to Milna Katrina's memory. Looking up, his 'Nuclear Fusion Beam Eyes' shot forth two intense, fiery-red beams, reducing the Electric Charge Dominator in mid-air to ashes!

"Ah!" The old mercenary cried out in shock. Does the Quantum Wizard possess such a terrifying skill?

While emitting the 'Nuclear Fusion Beam Eyes,' Chen Gu pulled out the Riverwash Sword from the Dimensional Prison Ring. With a flick of the sword, 'Nuclear Electrocutation' surged forth like a shimmering light dragon. It soared into the sky, slicing the body of the Starwind Centurion into seven or eight pieces. Blood, along with shattered organs and chunks of flesh, rained down from the sky.

"AARGH—" Hell Titan let out a painful roar, finally recovering from the impact of the 'Mental Storm.' But when he turned around, he discovered his two companions had vanished!

He had no idea what had just transpired. Staring at Chen Gu with a mixture of shock and suspicion, he instinctively took a step back. "What... what on earth are you?"

Chen Gu clapped his hands, and the Riverwash Sword returned to the Dimensional Prison Ring. He twisted his neck, a malevolent smile spreading across his face. "Didn't you want a direct confrontation just now? Fine, I'll grant you your wish!"

As he twisted his neck, his body began to swell rapidly, shockingly becoming as colossal as Hell Titan!

Hell Titan was astounded, fearfully repeating, "What on earth are you... This is impossible!"

Chen Gu had already charged forward, grabbing Hell Titan. The two colossal figures grappled. After a standoff that lasted a mere half-second, Hell Titan was slowly lifted off the ground by Chen Gu.

"AARGH—" Hell Titan screamed in terror. What kind of monster is this? Its brute strength is even greater than mine! He's clearly a Quantum Wizard, so where did these skills he's using come from?

An intense fear washed over Hell Titan like a tide. For the first time, he experienced the stark terror his victims must have felt in their final moments.

Chen Gu lifted Hell Titan high and then smashed him violently onto the ground!

BOOM!

A large crater formed in the ground. Chen Gu stepped onto Hell Titan's chest, raised his massive fist, and brought it crashing down on his head.

THUD!

THUD!

THUD!

After three punches, Hell Titan's head was a shattered mess of bone fragments and flesh. He was dead beyond any doubt.

Chen Gu spat. "Trash."

He reverted to his normal size and looked towards Gong Shuxu.

#### Chapter 394: The Beast is Poisoned

Lan Bingyu didn't know what skill she had used, but her entire being had already transformed into a chilling frosty wind, devoid of any physical form, firmly entrapping Gong Shuxu within it.

Yet, Gong Shuxu's performance once again overturned the old mercenary's understanding. Clearly a Psychological Spy unskilled in direct combat, he remained unshakable under Lan Bingyu's siege.

On the contrary, whenever Lan Bingyu's various attacks entered the five-meter range around Gong Shuxu, they would inexplicably start to "hesitate."

In the old mercenary's view, there were several instances where Lady Lan Bingyu had the opportunity to strike a killing blow, but each time, at the final moment, the attack would slow, and Gong Shuxu would dodge away.

Gong Shuxu's expression remained calm. Almost at the same moment Chen Gu defeated Bao Tianmo with three punches, Gong Shuxu suddenly abandoned all defensive postures. His hands shifted between several poses, like mudras from some ancient religion, and then he said in an unfathomable tone, "Why not end your own life to make amends to the world? What are you waiting for?"

The old mercenary watched, dumbfounded, as the omnipresent icy wind suddenly stopped. It then slowly condensed back into Lan Bingyu, from whose seven orifices blood slowly seeped out as she fell headlong to the ground!

Chen Gu nodded silently. During the battle, Gong Shuxu had continually used his skills to influence Lan Bingyu. Finally, at the last moment, he detonated all the psychological suggestions, causing Lan Bingyu to completely collapse and commit suicide.

Chen Gu was immensely envious. This skill is just too cool, very suitable for an award-winning actor like me.

All the mercenaries looked towards their leader. The old mercenary, no longer caring about embarrassment, knelt down without hesitation, raising his energy rifle high above his head. "I surrender!"

The rest of the mercenaries all knelt down with a great CLATTER.

Mao Yisheng, among the prisoners, pumped his fists and leaped up. "Bro Chen, you're awesome—"

Chen Gu had already seen he was still alive and felt relieved. He went over to help him remove the collar from his neck. Mao Yisheng hugged him tightly and asked haphazardly, "Bro Chen, how did you do that just now? And what do they mean by 'professional'?"

Chen Gu smiled wryly to himself. With so many witnesses, and the prisoners all being rookies who could become big stars in the future, handling the aftermath will be a huge problem.

He patted Mao Yisheng's shoulder. "I'll explain all this to you later. Tell me, what exactly happened this time?"

Gong Shuxu also came over.

Mao Yisheng's expression turned resentful. "Bro Chen, I think there's a traitor within the Alliance!"

Gong Shuxu said indifferently, "If you're referring to the Alliance security personnel at the training camp assisting the enemy... then I can tell you, that was not their intention. They were controlled by the 'Ancient Slumbering Tribe.'"

Mao Yisheng shook his head. "It's not that simple."

He organized his thoughts, trying to express himself as clearly as possible. "The security of the Alliance has always been managed by the 'Blue Sea Corporation.'"

This is a security company famous throughout the Confederation and even the entire Star Sea. It's undoubtedly powerful and also employs many professionals.

"Even if the security personnel were controlled and unable to resist, we still had hundreds of huge beasts!" Mao Yisheng said, getting to the point. "Even when facing you... professionals, those powerful beasts shouldn't have been helpless.

"But throughout the incident, the beasts were very cooperative. It's likely a traitor had tampered with them in advance.

"Five days before the incident, I felt that something was off with my Night Wanderer; its reaction speed suddenly slowed down.

"If it were any other change, I, as a new recruit, might not have noticed. But the Night Wanderer specializes in agility, so a decrease in reaction speed is quite apparent.""

Chen Gu and Gong Shuxu both took this very seriously.

Chen Gu pondered for a moment and asked, "Besides this, are there any other abnormalities? Have you communicated with the other newcomers, and have they noticed anything unusual like you have?"

Before Mao Yisheng could answer, several other newcomers raised their hands—seven or eight of them—all speaking at once. "I noticed it too!"

"My 'Earthshaking Fierce Tiger's' power has decreased significantly."

"My 'Triple-Headed Horror Eagle' used to connect with me very easily. But those few days, it became sluggish all of a sudden, and often it would take more than four attempts to establish a connection."

Gong Shuxu nodded. "Poison?"

The biggest obstacle to wiping out the entire newcomer training camp in one fell swoop was indeed not the security forces, nor the newcomers, but the beasts.

Each beast had formidable combat capability, and once they coordinated with the newcomers, even average professionals would not dare claim certain victory.

The most secure method was indeed to bribe an inside agent to poison the food of the beasts.

However, considering the massive size of the beasts and their strong resistance, dosing was a problem. Since each beast was different, it required small, continuous doses over a prolonged period, which naturally took time.

Now, it seemed the poisoning must have started at the beginning of the training camp, with effects starting to show five days ago. Only when the beasts were completely under their control did these people boldly strike, taking over the entire training camp.

Chen Gu then asked, "In these five days, did the condition of the beasts continue to worsen?"

Mao Yisheng thought for a moment. "It doesn't seem so."

Chen Gu furrowed his eyebrows. The mastermind behind this probably only needed to reduce the beasts' abilities to a certain level, after which they were confident they could subdue them.

He also found it strange. "Over a hundred beasts... how did they transport them away?"

Mao Yisheng shook his head. "I don't know. After we were captured, we were held captive and never saw our beast partners again."

For the moment, Chen Gu also couldn't understand what these people planned to achieve with such a grand conspiracy.

He shook his head. "Never mind. I just wanted to get you out. Let the Alliance handle the rest. Come on, everyone, let's head back to the school first."

The Bureau of Mystic Security had already received the news and was dispatching a large number of special agents. Without a doubt, the safest place nearby was the Huai Shan Branch School.

And these mercenaries, as well as the newcomers, had all witnessed professionals in combat, so the follow-up secrecy measures would be a headache.

Chen Gu guessed that the Bureau of Mystic Security would definitely use advanced technology to erase this part of their memories. However, this involved human rights issues, which would likely be very tricky.

He led the group, escorting those mercenaries, back to Huai Shan Branch School.

On the way, a few mercenaries tried to escape using the complicated terrain, but Gong Shuxu showed no mercy in dealing with them.

Chen Gu suspected Gong Shuxu even wished all the mercenaries would try to escape. That way, he could kill them without any qualms, and the Bureau of Mystic Security's subsequent work of ensuring secrecy would be much easier.

#### Chapter 395: Jealousy Fire

On the way, Mao Yisheng avoided Gong Shuxu and discreetly came to Chen Gu's side, whispering, "Brother Chen, when we go back this time... I'm afraid I won't remember what happened, right?"

Chen Gu didn't want to lie to him and remained silent, not denying it.

No one was a fool. Mao Yisheng might not have realized it at first, but as they traveled, he gradually understood.

Mao Yisheng seemed restless. "Brother Chen... If I could join you and become a Professional, wouldn't I be spared from having my memory erased?"

Chen Gu couldn't help but look at him. "You want to become a Professional?"

Obviously, Mao Yisheng's desire to avoid memory deletion was just a pretext; his stronger purpose was to become a Professional.

A flame lit up in Mao Yisheng's eyes. "Brother Chen, if you were me, having witnessed the power of Professionals with your own eyes, would you be able to resist?"

Chen Gu sighed softly. He had saved Mao Yisheng this time. Suddenly, in a moment of peril, a powerful force had been revealed before his eyes—one that didn't require giant beasts, where one's own body could exert equally formidable strength!

Indeed, it was difficult to resist such "temptation."

But he calmly said to Mao Yisheng, "You've only seen the power of Professionals, but do you know what they have to give up?"

Mao Yisheng, seeing Chen Gu's solemn expression, suddenly asked in astonishment, "Brother Chen, you're not... incapacitated, are you?"

Chen Gu was taken aback. "What are you talking about?"

Mao Yisheng said, "I've read countless ancient martial arts stories. I know many peerless martial arts require a great sacrifice, such as the well-known phrase, 'To practice this divine skill, one must first...'"

In this era, ancient martial arts stories were still in high demand. This was due to the battles with the Alien Insect Race, as warriors needed strong physical abilities. Consequently, various physical training methods became very marketable—one could tell just by looking at all the dojos on the streets.

As a result, martial arts stories not only survived but even experienced a revival.

Chen Gu was shocked for a moment, then gave Mao Yisheng a heavy thump on the head. "Nonsense!"

Mao Yisheng cried out in pain, rubbing his forehead and complaining, "I don't understand these things. Besides, you were so popular at school but still haven't found a girlfriend. And back then, Big Sis Liu Shichan was clearly interested in you, all that back-and-forth flirting, but you didn't pursue her. Everyone was guessing behind your back that you either have issues or you don't like women..."

"Bullshit!" Chen Gu erupted in anger, then suddenly realized there was another issue. "Since when were Liu Shichan and I ever flirting back and forth?"

He waved his hand dismissively. "Don't talk about all this nonsense. You've got me completely confused."

He grasped Mao Yisheng by the shoulders. "To become a Professional, you have to risk your life. One single slip could turn you into a horrific monster. Even if you die, your family won't even get a body back!"

"Moreover, even as a Professional, the resources needed for every promotion are terrifyingly expensive. I'm only at the Third Energy Level, but the resources spent on promotions have already cost tens of billions."

Mao Yisheng gasped. His family was merely comfortably off. Just to scrape together eight million for those reagents before, they would have had to sell everything they owned. Tens of billions... where could one find so much money?

"Furthermore, after becoming a Professional, you either become a freelancer—constantly monitored by the authorities with very limited promotion prospects—or you join the government. If you become an operative for the Bureau of Mystic Security, you'll have to undertake all sorts of dangerous missions. The slightest misstep could lead to a 'heroic' end."

"Maozi, you're an only child. Are you really willing to take that risk?"

Mao Yisheng hesitated. He thought of his parents.

Chen Gu smiled. "Don't overthink it. Why do you think there are so few Professionals in this world? It's because this path is not only incredibly difficult but also extremely dangerous. You've already been selected by the Alliance; you have a great future ahead of you. Why would you want to force your way onto this single-plank bridge?"

Chen Gu had said all he could to advise and dissuade him. Besides, it wasn't as if one could become a Professional just by wanting to.

Mao Yisheng then tried a different approach. "Then... Brother Chen, could you please put in a good word for me? Ask them not to wipe my memory. I can sign the strictest confidentiality agreement. You know we're good brothers. If something similar happens in the future, and I see you use your abilities again, the Bureau of Mystic Security will just erase my memory once more. I'm worried that if this happens a few times, my brain will start having problems."

The general public still held somewhat "conservative" views regarding memory. Unless absolutely necessary, Mao Yisheng didn't want anyone tampering with his mind.

Chen Gu looked troubled but could only say, "I'll do my best to make a case for you."

The group arrived in a large procession outside the Huai Shan Branch School, where Wang Chengqian was already waiting with a large contingent of Bureau of Mystic Security operatives and action team members.

Every student within the school had received a notification on the internal channel: No unauthorized departures.

But these students were Professionals, each with their own methods. They spied from the shadows, most out of curiosity. However, one individual lurked hidden, revealing only a pair of sinister eyes, fixated on Chen Gu outside the school.

It's him again!

The Bureau of Mystic Security team was led by Qing Ruyan. She still harbored a grudge against Chen Gu for splashing her face with filthy blood. However, with official business at hand, she merely shot Chen Gu a fierce glare before taking custody of the mercenaries and new recruits.

Chen Gu quietly pulled Qing Ruyan aside and explained Mao Yisheng's situation. Qing Ruyan said, "I'm just the Director's assistant; I can't make decisions on such matters. However, I can give you an idea: the Bureau also needs informants from various social circles. You understand?"

Chen Gu's eyes lit up with understanding. "Got it! Thanks!" He patted Qing Ruyan's shoulder. "Who's in charge of this kind of thing?"

"Director Yan of the Special Development Department."

Their hushed conversation, witnessed by Andreyao from the shadows within the school, appeared "intimate and ambiguous" to him. This stoked Andreyao's jealousy, causing him to grind his teeth. Qing Ziyao's daughter!

Why does \*he\* get to be so close with the daughter of the Son of the Stars, while my pursuit of Ye Feileng is always futile? Even with my family's help, I can't win her favor?

What's so great about Chen Gu? His background, strength, talent, looks, brilliance—can any of it compare to mine?

Andreyao had been severely beaten by Zhong Yuanbei earlier. Although the school had state-of-the-art medical facilities, and Zhong Yuanbei, while furious, hadn't delivered a fatal blow, Andreyao had fully recovered after two days in a healing pod. But the pain of his injuries had been very real.

Hatred festered, and his rage intensified. Finally, it completely overwhelmed Andreyao's judgment. He silently retreated into the darkness, having decided to do "something."

Chapter 396: Two Radiation Missionaries

Chen Gu mulled over matters concerning Minister Yan of the Development Department. He had been with the Bureau for some time and had picked up on internal stories through casual chats.

Minister Yan was Aviloya's right-hand man, specifically charged with recruiting and developing new personnel for the Bureau of Mystic Security. His contributions were indispensable to the Bureau's current prominence.

Shortly after Aviloya became Director-General, Minister Yan's assistance proved invaluable. It allowed her to consolidate power without worrying about the predecessor's remnants, ensuring she wouldn't be short-staffed.

These days, Minister Yan maintained a low profile; there were few talents left truly warranting his personal recruitment efforts.

However, Minister Yan had always maintained a good relationship with Dr. Meng Ji, a connection that might be worth pursuing.

He promptly called Dr. Meng Ji. But after three consecutive calls went unanswered, Chen Gu could only shake his head; the doctor was clearly engrossed in his research.

"Looks like I have to make a trip in person," Chen Gu muttered.

He then spoke to Aviloya, "Can you push back Mao Yisheng's appointment for me? I need to return to headquarters."

Qing Ruyan hummed reluctantly. Chen Gu held up three fingers. "Three lavish meals, your choice of place."

Qing Ruyan immediately grinned, patting her ample chest. "Brother, leave it to me!"

Chen Gu returned to his dorm. His clothes were stained with blood from the battle and torn in places. He certainly couldn't head back to the city in that state.

He took a quick shower and changed into fresh clothes. As he was leaving, heading towards the school gates, he looked up to see Andreyao approaching. Andreyao saw him too, snorted coldly, averted his gaze, and walked past.

Chen Gu had taken great advantage of the An Family and had decided to postpone his revenge, so he didn't provoke Andreyao any further. However, just as they brushed past each other, Andreyao stopped and called out, "Chen Gu."

Turning around, Chen Gu saw Andreyao with an awkward expression, hesitating before speaking. "My second uncle told me about it. There were some misunderstandings, but he has already explained everything to you. He asked me to apologize to you, so we could bury the hatchet."

He slowly extended his hand to Chen Gu. "I was impulsive. Truly sorry."

If apologies were truly effective, what would be the need for laws? Chen Gu mused. He couldn't tell if the An Family genuinely wanted to resolve their grudge or if, like him, they were merely biding their time, lulling their enemy into a false sense of security before striking. Still, such an outwardly amicable facade was perfect for concealing malicious intent and launching a devastating sneak attack later.

So, Chen Gu offered a faint smile and shook his hand.

"Since it was a misunderstanding, once things are cleared up, we can just..." Chen Gu's pleasantries were cut short as his expression abruptly changed. A brilliant light erupted from their clasped palms, spreading rapidly up his arm!

Chen Gu was all too familiar with this phenomenon; he had used this very move to eliminate countless enemies.

Andreyao's face contorted instantly into a ferocious grin. "Misunderstanding my ass! I just want you dead!"

He was also a Radiation Missionary!

The most critical aspect of Chen Gu being ambushed was his failure to anticipate that Andreyao would actually be so deranged as to attack him within the Huai Shan Branch School.

The brilliant light continued its relentless spread, climbing Chen Gu's arm and rapidly approaching his shoulder.

Andreyao desperately tried to wrench his hand free. This profession was truly a double-edged sword, demanding a heavy price to eliminate an enemy. If he didn't break away immediately, the ensuing Biological Nuclear Explosion would vaporize him too!

But they were still locked in that "friendly" handshake. Chen Gu gripped Andreyao's arm with unyielding force, his face a mask of desperate, cornered-beast resolve.

Andreyao panicked. He wanted to kill Chen Gu, but he did not want to die alongside him.

He was the pride of the An Family, his future brimming with promise. He wasn't ready to die yet; he hadn't experienced nearly enough of life!

Just as the incandescent glow neared Chen Gu's shoulder, he abruptly drew the Riverwash Sword and, with a single stroke, severed his own arm. Then, before Andreyao's stunned and horrified eyes, Chen Gu kicked him squarely in the chest. Andreyao went flying. Chen Gu used the recoil to propel himself backward, blood gushing from his severed limb like a breached fire hydrant, spraying a crimson trail.

Chen Gu scrambled behind a nearby building for cover.

The instant he found cover, an intense, searing light flashed. A gigantic ball of flame erupted skyward, followed by the deafening roar of the explosion.

Within the Huai Shan Branch School, all buildings were equipped with energy protection systems. The structure Chen Gu hid behind instantly generated an energy shield in response to the blast.

However, the "explosive material" this time was Chen Gu's arm. His constitution was unique, partly due to Isabella Wu's influence; he suffered from pica and bulimia, having consumed many "peculiar and extraordinary" substances. This resulted in an explosion of immense power.

The thick energy shield shattered instantly. The violent blast obliterated the building. Moments later, energy shields on several adjacent structures flared into existence, only to be torn apart in quick succession.

The soaring explosion, along with the booming and shaking, stunned the entire Huai Shan Branch School.

Someone actually dared to attack the school? Did they have a death wish?

Instantly, high-Energy Level teachers erupted from their respective grand halls, soaring into the sky. They braved the shockwaves, rushing furiously toward the incident site.

Then, an incredibly powerful presence erupted from an inconspicuous small building at the rear of the school. The angry approaching teachers, each of them at the Sixth or Seventh Energy Level, paled in comparison to this new force, looking like fireflies under the full moon.

All the teachers landed together and bowed in the direction of that presence. "Director."

A short elderly man, clad in a coarse cloth robe—a rare sight in this era—slowly approached. His naturally severe face was now exceptionally grim, his eyes glinting with a cold, piercing light.

In the Huai Shan Branch School, the one most feared by students and teachers alike was not the esteemed Principal. It was the man now approaching—Shentu Lu, the Dean of Discipline!

At the front of the school, the Bureau of Mystic Security personnel, busy with prisoner containment and talent screening, were also stunned—especially Qing Ruyan and Gong Shuxu. This was the Huai Shan Branch School, after all! The eccentric Principal, when angered, was known to make blood flow like rivers!

It didn't matter who you were or where you came from. Even if you were from the Star State, the Principal had dared, on more than one occasion, to single-handedly go and annihilate your entire clan.

Gong Shuxu shifted, tempted to investigate. But he wasn't affiliated with the Huai Shan Branch School. Right now, the entire campus was a powder keg, ready to ignite at the slightest spark. After a moment's hesitation, Gong Shuxu decided against meddling in their "internal affairs."

#### Chapter 397: Eve of the Storm

The explosion had dissipated. Andreyao was utterly obliterated, leaving only a massive pit dozens of meters wide where he had fallen. A grand hall nearby had completely collapsed, and the surrounding ground was strewn with glass-like crystals formed by the intense heat and pressure.

Standing before this massive pit, Shentu Lu commanded in a deep voice, "Bring up the surveillance footage!"

A holographic projection screen flickered to life before him, vividly replaying everything that had occurred prior to the explosion for all to see.

The surrounding teachers were stunned. Andreyao! The An Family! Had they lost their minds, daring to attack their own classmate within the school? And yet, Andreyao had not only failed but had also gotten himself killed in the process.

With a blur of movement, Shentu Lu appeared where Chen Gu had been hiding. The entire building had collapsed, burying Chen Gu underneath. The force of the explosion had knocked him unconscious.

Shentu Lu pressed his hand downward, and in an instant, all the building's debris within a hundred-meter radius disintegrated into atomic particles!

Chen Gu floated among these atomic particles. With a pull of his hand, Shentu Lu dragged him out, ordering, "Send him for medical treatment immediately!"

"Investigate the grudge between Chen Gu and Andreyao."

"I'm going to pay the An Family a personal visit!"

The teachers shivered internally, sensing impending disaster for the An Family. It didn't matter that they were one of the Confederation's top families; Director Shentu Lu was always strictly impartial and administered justice without favor, for he was of the Ninth Power Level, after all!

Moreover, for hundreds of years, no one had dared to cause trouble within Huai Shan Branch School—not just because of Shentu Lu, but also because the old Headmaster would likely be enraged.

Several teachers hurriedly carried Chen Gu to the school's medical room, which was equipped with the most advanced devices. In this era, regenerating a severed limb was not a difficult task. Although Chen Gu had been injured, he was unlikely to suffer any permanent harm. As for the An Family, however, their fate was far more uncertain.

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Within Yuanbei Hall, Bai Shengyuan and Zhong Yuanbei also felt the violent tremor. Bai Shengyuan's expression changed as he asked, "Teacher, should we go out and see what happened?"

Zhong Yuanbei, focused on his experiment, replied, "See what? With Shentu Lu and the Headmaster there, is the sky going to fall? Concentrate on the experiment."

"Yes, Teacher."

---

No sooner had Shentu Lu left than the old Headmaster arrived; at such a critical time, the school absolutely needed a top-tier expert to maintain order.

And just as the old Headmaster arrived, the investigation into the feud between Chen Gu and Andreyao was already complete. The matter was quite straightforward; Zhong Yuanbei had even reprimanded Andreyao for it, so it was hardly a secret.

A retinue of secretaries followed behind His Excellency, the Headmaster. Each was a stunning beauty dressed in a work uniform, maintaining an air of businesslike efficiency.

But everyone knew that these women were the Headmaster's close female confidants, and each one was a high Energy Level practitioner.

In normal times, people might mockingly say the Headmaster was "old but young at heart," but given today's grave atmosphere, everyone kept their heads bowed, not wanting to incur the Headmaster's ire.

Although the Headmaster was advanced in age, he looked remarkably young and handsome.

He and his old friends, Zhong Yuanbei and Shentu Lu, seemed like polar opposites.

Shentu Lu's face was etched with past suffering and deep-seated resentment, his features stern and fierce. The Headmaster, however, was the picture of calm composure, suave and debonair.

Zhong Yuanbei was somewhat impulsive and lacked foresight, while the Headmaster, in contrast, remained calm and collected, always appearing to have everything under control.

But today, even his typically confident face had taken on a gloomier cast. His female confidants behind him were all fiercely clenching their silver teeth, their thoughts venomous: To slight our husband's dignity is to slight the honor of our sisterhood! We are women; we are petty! We are all at the Eighth Energy Level, and we have the means to retaliate.

The Headmaster reviewed the report on the feud between Andreyao and Chen Gu. On the surface, Ye Feileng seemed to be the cause. Even Ye Feileng herself, standing at the very back of the assembled teachers, felt a wave of despair. I've become a 'disastrous beauty' this time, she thought. The Headmaster will surely punish me.

Through the crowd, she cautiously stole glances at the Headmaster now and then. When she had first entered Huai Shan Branch School as a college student not yet twenty, she knew from the moment she saw the Headmaster that she had fallen for him; he was an emotional snare from which she felt she could never escape.

It was no secret in this school that the female teachers adored the Headmaster; anyone who didn't harbor certain "impure" thoughts about him was, in fact, more likely to be considered odd.

But Ye Feileng was different; she was truly persistent.

The Headmaster had many female confidants, but she didn't care. On the contrary, this very fact made her feel she had a chance: Surely His Lordship the Headmaster wouldn't mind one more.

So, as long as she performed well enough, she was certain she could capture the Headmaster's attention.

For years, she had worked tirelessly towards this goal, only to be confronted with such an outcome now.

She didn't mind whatever punishment the school might mete out; what she minded was the Headmaster seeing her in the light of a "disastrous beauty."

Ye Feileng felt a chill pierce her heart, her hatred for the An Family becoming bone-deep. I clearly rejected Andreyao! Why did you have to keep pestering me relentlessly?!

The An Family had truly suffered a total loss this time, incurring the resentment of all parties involved.

However, the Headmaster did not call Ye Feileng out for a reprimand. The root cause of the incident was not Ye Feileng, but the An Family.

It was the An Family's attempt to curry favor with the students from humble backgrounds within Huai Shan Branch School. This was why they had so strongly supported Andreyao's pursuit of Ye Feileng from behind the scenes, encouraging his persistent advances despite repeated rejections.

The Headmaster's mouth twitched. "Some people," he said, his voice chilling, "when they get carried away by success, truly need to be taught a lesson!"

His female confidants immediately knew that something significant was about to happen, for their husband seldom spoke in such a frigid tone.

This incident had touched upon two of the Headmaster's deepest sensitivities: first, the audacity to attack a fellow student on school grounds—and not an ordinary scuffle, but an assassination attempt using professional skills.

Second, the great clans attempting to win over those from humble backgrounds.

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Shentu Lu paid a very polite visit to the An Family, but once he stated his purpose, the An Family members were dumbfounded.

An Guanghai, in particular, remembered explicitly telling Andreyao to put a stop to the matter for the time being. Andreyao was a "sensible kid who understood the bigger picture," which was why the An Family had been so pleased with him.

How could he have made such a monumental yet elementary mistake?

An Guanghai couldn't help but ask, "Is this truly what happened? Could it be that Chen Gu deliberately framed our Andreyao, taking the opportunity to kill him?"

Indeed, the An Family already knew that Andreyao had died on the spot in this incident. But at this moment, even his own parents had no time to grieve; the An Family was facing an enormous crisis.

Shentu Lu's expression darkened. He let out a heavy snort and then projected the entire surveillance video for them to see.

The An Family was utterly aghast. Someone murmured softly, "Could it be because he resented Zhong Yuanbei for injuring him...?"

## Chapter 398: The An Family Has Spine

"Nonsense!" the head of the An Family, Andreyao's uncle An Guangtian, rebuked angrily. "Andreyao is not that kind of person. He's mature beyond his years and always considers the bigger picture!"

With both hands on his thighs, An Guangtian spoke earnestly to Shentu Lu, "There must be something fishy about this matter! We request a comprehensive investigation. I believe that our An Family's children would not do such a thing. If it really is Andreyao's fault, our An Family will certainly give the Huai Shan Branch School and the headmaster an explanation!"

An Guanghai also knew that although the An Family was powerful, they could not afford to offend the headmaster. But he also felt that the An Family wasn't some soft persimmon that could be easily squashed. If they instantly pleaded guilty and yielded as soon as Shentu Lu knocked on their door, how could the An Family ever hold their heads high within the Confederation again?

The headmaster was indeed powerful, but the An Family also had the strength to fight for justice for its offspring!

Shentu Lu's face grew even uglier. "Are you saying we wrongly blamed Andreyao?"

"This matter is indeed very strange," An Guanghai still maintained.

"HMPH!" Shentu Lu left, flicking his sleeve.

...

Chen Gu woke up in the healing pod just two hours later, but he had not emerged because the school had already paid for the regeneration of a new arm for him.

Chen Gu felt a tingling sensation at the site where his arm had been severed, signaling the rapid growth of new tissue.

Qing Ruyan was waiting outside the healing pod. Seeing him awaken, she let out a soft sigh of relief and joked, "I'm glad you survived; otherwise, I'd be down three big meals."

The awkwardness that had emerged between them because of Aviloya's interference had dissipated like smoke in the wake of this unexpected incident.

Chen Gu replied with a slight smile, "Don't worry, I'll explicitly state in my will: my assets will first compensate your meal expenses, and only then will the remainder go to my son."

Qing Ruyan scolded him with a playful glare, "You're still joking around in this situation."

Chen Gu replied with nonchalance, "I feel pretty good, at least I'm alive. Andreyao is gone, right?"

"Blown to pieces," Qing Ruyan said with a curl of her lip, finding no pity for such a person. "The explosion from your arm was so powerful. The school suffered huge losses: five buildings collapsed and one palace fell. Ha, the An Family... disaster is upon them."

Chen Gu furrowed his brows slightly, puzzled. "Has Andreyao gone mad? Why would he try to kill me within the school?"

Qing Ruyan explained, "The school is also investigating this incident. But Andreyao was blown to bits; it's only possible to find some fragments of his body tissue, making it difficult to find any clues from him."

Despite this, Chen Gu still felt uneasy, unsure why he had such a feeling, so he inquired, "How's Mao Yisheng doing?"

"Don't worry, the Behemoth Alliance also took a hit in the explosion. They've invested heavily, and a large number of powerful individuals have rushed here. The safety of this batch of newcomers is certainly not a problem."

After a pause, she continued, "What kind of spell did you cast on Gong Shuxu? That man, usually so aloof, actually went to recommend Mao Yisheng to Minister Yan on your behalf."

"Mao Yisheng is a contender from the Behemoth Alliance. We weren't originally paying much attention to that area, but after this incident, the higher-ups feel that it's necessary to place some people. Mao Yisheng is perfect for the job, so there's no need for you to worry about him."

This must be Gong Shuxu's way of apologizing, Chen Gu thought, a secret smile touching his lips. That old man always keeps things bottled up; he would never say anything directly. Such an old tsundere.

Qing Ruyan advised, "You should get some rest. It will probably take a day for your arm to grow back, but it will need several more months of training."

...

In the darkness of the night within the protected area, starlight scattered down, while the occasional roar of wild animals echoed through the hills and valleys.

Inside a bamboo hut by the creek, a light was on. The headmaster had returned to school but had left a dear friend to remain there.

Not far off, in a valley, a huge maglev truck drove out, its lights off to avoid attracting attention.

The truck stopped about ten kilometers from the bamboo building. Then the rear compartment opened, and several figures in black quickly exited the driver's cabin and entered the compartment to begin operations.

Inside the compartment was a huge, special device. As energy continuously flowed into it, a pale red glow began to form within the instrument.

A CRACKLING sound of electric current followed.

The glow gradually intensified, its range expanding steadily.

If Chen Gu were here, he would definitely recognize the sensation of this energy; it was eerily familiar—the Dimensional Cage.

Compared to Chen Gu's Dimensional Prison Ring, this apparatus was much larger. Correspondingly, the space within the cage was also many times greater.

WHOOSH—energy violently shot outward, forming a massive void portal.

One after another, giant beasts with blood-red eyes leaped out. Upon landing, they roared furiously towards the sky and then charged madly towards the bamboo building!

If the newcomers were here, they would recognize these creatures as their giant beast partners.

Inside the bamboo building, the confidante smiled subtly. "As expected, they have come." Still seated calmly, she gently lifted her sleeves to boil water for tea.

Her husband and sisters would soon return, and hot tea would be just right.

The headmaster's figure appeared on a nearby peak, followed by his female companions. "So, they're indeed after the thing in the river," he noted.

A cold smile played upon his lips.

...

Chen Gu lay bored and groggy in the healing pod. He dozed off and woke in the latter half of the night.

To his surprise, he discovered that his arm had completely regrown.

Could it be because my body is somewhat special? Having eaten all those bizarre things, is that why my regenerative ability is so strong? Chen Gu wondered with a self-deprecating smile.

He stepped out of the healing pod and tried moving his new arm. It indeed felt a bit unfamiliar, as if he hadn't used it for a decade.

He dried the nutrient fluid from his body with a towel, found some clothes to put on, and stepped out of the room.

The school was tranquil. The chirping of insects echoed from the distant mountains, and the stars above shone brightly.

Chen Gu casually sat down on the nearby steps, sighing, "Andreyao, you've truly dared to defy the world's condemnation, to strike within the school... What gave you the courage?"

Though it was just a casual lament, once the words were spoken, inspiration struck Chen Gu: psychological suggestion!

He thought back to Gong Shuxu's battle with Lan Bingyu.

Lan Bingyu, a revered Glacier Spirit of the Sixth Energy Level, capable of turning her body into energy, still couldn't fend off the incessant psychological suggestions planted by the Psychological Spy.

If a high-level Psychological Spy had planted some psychological suggestion in Andreyao, it wouldn't be apparent on the surface, and Andreyao himself would definitely be unaware.

But why choose Andreyao? And this psychological suggestion was quite blatant—its goal to make him strike within the school.

What benefit was there for that hidden Psychological Spy?

Chapter 399: Risking the World's Condemnation

Chen Gu suddenly thought of something. His expression changed, and he abruptly stood up and sprinted away, muttering, "This is courting universal condemnation..."

Outside the main entrance of the school, special agents from the Bureau of Mystic Security were on patrol. However, the high-Energy Level professionals hired by the Behemoth Alliance for a hefty sum wouldn't arrive until the next morning.

If I'm not mistaken, the Principal should already be absent from the school, and both Shentu Lu from the Academic Affairs Office and Director Xue are out and haven't returned... Chen Gu swiftly headed toward the Principal's office. When he reached the palace reserved for the Principal, he saw a room inside radiating warm light.

Chen Gu rushed in—only to slam headfirst into the grand hall's defensive energy barrier, and he was bounced back.

Desperate, Chen Gu shouted from outside, "Principal, Principal, are you there? It's me, Chen Gu..."

There was no response from within. The energy barrier even blocked his voice.

Chen Gu stomped his foot and turned, heading directly for Yuanbei Hall.

Though it was the wee hours of the night, poor Bai Shengyuan still hadn't rested. Today's experiment was an uninterrupted, continuous process. They had started at four in the morning and had been busy for over twenty hours, without eating or even drinking a drop of water.

In the midst of it all, a massive Biological Nuclear Explosion occurred, sending tremors their way. Bai Shengyuan had wanted to go out and assess the situation but was refused by his teacher.

Then, just as the final results were about to emerge, Zhong Yuanbei revealed a gratified smile, ready to record the final data.

At that moment, BANG! The laboratory door was smashed open. Then, with a HISS, the secondary airtight door was forcefully pulled open! The experiment, which required a completely sealed environment, collapsed on the spot, instantly rendering all data useless!

"AH!" Zhong Yuanbei was so enraged he surged forward, ready to crush the intruder. However, he quickly saw it was his indentured labor for the next three years... No, his student for the next three years, Chen Gu.

Zhong Yuanbei hesitated for a moment, but the fury from his ruined experiment quickly resurfaced. Chen Gu, however, bellowed, "Teacher, someone is attacking the school!"

"Nonsense!" Zhong Yuanbei rebuked. "Who would be reckless enough to provoke our Huai Shan Branch School? My two old brothers don't even need to get involved. I alone can make them regret it!"

Zhong Yuanbei glanced around disdainfully, projecting a commanding aura.

But his accursed new disciple stubbornly refused to show his teacher any deference, firmly undercutting him, "Teacher, someone already caused trouble in the school today! They used a Biological Nuclear Explosion and nearly killed your student!"

"PFFT—" Bai Shengyuan, who was hastily gulping down some water, sprayed it out. Remembering the tremor, he exclaimed in horror, "That was you?"

Zhong Yuanbei's imposing aura instantly deflated, immediately replaced by explosive anger. He shot up, cursing, "They really don't take me, Zhong Yuanbei, seriously! Who did this? I'll annihilate their entire family!"

Chen Gu briefly explained the situation, then said, "Let's not worry about that for now. I feel something is very wrong with this incident. I suspect someone has deliberately created a diversion to attack the school."

"Considering the assault earlier today, the school should have powerful individuals on guard. But if those protectors were lured away now, the school would become vulnerable."

"Teacher, please quickly confirm if the Principal is still on campus overseeing things."

If the Principal was expected to be overseeing the school, then creating a narrative that Andreyao's attack was meant to pin the Principal down here could, paradoxically, be a ploy to lure him away.

A single person, Andreyao, had managed to divert the school's two strongest individuals—the Principal and Shentu Lu—away from the campus.

Still, plenty of high-Energy Level teachers remained at the school; the so-called "vulnerability" was only relative. This also meant that if someone had indeed plotted such an attack, the assailants must possess formidable strength.

Zhong Yuanbei immediately called the Principal, but there was no answer!

Chen Gu's expression changed. "Teacher, is there any kind of shelter in the school?"

Zhong Yuanbei gritted his teeth. "As you said, if someone attacks the school now, it must be a supreme expert. They'll strike with lightning speed, kill in one blow, and then flee before the Principal and Shentu Lu can return."

"It must be someone at the Ninth Power Level."

"No shelter here can withstand an attack from the Ninth Power Level."

A crazed, fierce expression appeared on Teacher Zhong's face. "Gather everyone! Go to the Storm Platform! We'll use Machine No. 3 to deal with him!"

Bai Shengyuan shuddered, his water cup nearly slipping from his grasp. "Teacher, Machine No. 3 is still an experimental model! No one's sure if it can even be used in actual combat."

And Chen Gu, for his part, was once again struck by his teacher's "madness"—wanting to confront a Ninth Power Level expert head-on!

"Do you have any better ideas?" Zhong Yuanbei shot back at Bai Shengyuan.

Helpless, Bai Shengyuan replied, "No."

"Then why aren't you hurrying to notify everyone?" Zhong Yuanbei dismissed Bai Shengyuan and then said to Chen Gu, "You, go and call in the people from the Bureau of Mystic Security. The more professionals, the better!"

When Gong Shuxu and Qing Ruyan heard what Chen Gu said, they found it unbelievable. A Ninth Power Level expert attacking the school?

But at a time like this, it was, of course, better to be safe than sorry. The two immediately led the Bureau of Mystic Security personnel into the school.

Inside the school, chaos had already erupted. Many refused to believe this assessment, clamoring that it was nonsense.

Moreover, Machine No. 3 at the Storm Platform was highly confidential; exposing it to everyone like this was practically a crime!

At this critical moment, Zhong Yuanbei's "ferocity" was on full display. He roared, "All of you, shut up! Anyone with an objection, step forward! I'll smash your head in with one punch!"

Chen Gu was speechless. With him saying that, who would dare step forward?

The Storm Platform was a huge, palace-like structure. It didn't look particularly special from the outside, but once inside, Chen Gu saw a massive apparatus hidden within. Its various components had merged with the building itself, and he even noticed some parts made from the skeletons of super-lifeforms.

In the center of the palace were four tiers of seats. Under Bai Shengyuan's direction, each professional took a seat. The four rows contained a total of two hundred seats, just enough for the combined personnel from the school and the Bureau of Mystic Security, with a few people to spare.

Zhong Yuanbei personally operated Machine No. 3. He sat in a separate position as a helmet, connected to various optical fibers and wires, slowly lowered and fastened onto his head. A flicker of pain crossed Zhong Yuanbei's face.

Just then, a figure abruptly materialized within the school grounds.

The school's entire defense system showed no reaction to him.

He scanned his surroundings, his gaze settling on the Storm Platform. A hint of surprise touched his voice as he said, "A desperate last stand?"

"Is it any use? Heh."

Chapter 400: Child's Play

A silhouette floated towards the Storm Platform, leaving behind a trail of light that resembled a rainbow.

As he landed in front of the Storm Platform, everything around him began to change. Palaces, buildings, and corridors started to disassemble into basic materials, which then rapidly combined and smelted together.

Some Professionals had already recognized him and exclaimed, "A Ninth Power Level Alchemist!"

"It's Joe Madus of the Star State!"

In the entire Star Sea, those at the Ninth Power Level were numbered and renowned; the newcomer was recognized as soon as he demonstrated his ability.

By then, the power of the Ninth Power Level had taken control of the entire school. Within the vast campus, he effortlessly transmuted all facilities, extracting the materials he needed and beginning his alchemy.

The Storm Platform before him also fell within the range of his abilities. Its outer materials rapidly began to decompose and transform, leaving the entire structure teetering on the brink of collapse.

「...」

"ROAR!" The last behemoth fell. The Principal stood calmly in the air above the little bamboo building, silently awaiting the arrival of his true, anticipated opponent.

If the enemy dared to scheme for what lies in the river, then these behemoths were merely an appetizer.

However, after waiting a while, the darkness remained silent; no one stepped forward.

The Principal's brows furrowed. He raised his hand, and a force quickly spread, covering the entire nearby mountain range. The truck that had transported the behemoths, along with several black-clad figures who had abandoned it and were fleeing swiftly, were all plucked from the ground by this power.

The black-clad figures were quite strong, all at the Fourth Energy Level, but before the Principal, they were no different from the insects in the mountains.

Yet, aside from them, there were no other Professionals in the entire mountain area.

The Principal's expression changed. With a wave of his hand, he vanished into thin air, rushing towards the school, a heavy sense of unease surging within him.

「...」

The architectural camouflage surrounding the Storm Platform had been completely stripped away, revealing the massive form of Mech Number Three.

Zhong Yuanbei roared, his eyes bloodshot, veins bulging on his neck and forehead, as he successfully activated Mech Number Three.

Bright light burst forth from within the mech. All the Professionals sitting in the four levels of seats trembled as they felt their powers merging through Mech Number Three as a medium. Suddenly, the mech deployed a massive "horn" outwards.

Then, a silent, invisible, special vibration emanated.

This vibration somewhat resembled the abilities of a Resonance Council Celebrity but was undoubtedly more powerful, and it seemed to incorporate other "abilities."

Joe Madus's power collided head-on with this vibration, and his ability to decompose and transmute materials became sluggish.

The speed at which the Ninth Power Level was transmuting the entire school slowed.

Joe Madus let out a soft gasp of surprise, observing Mech Number Three with interest. Through the crude mech, he could still see the people inside, especially Zhong Yuanbei.

"Is this your research project?" he asked, spreading his arms and aiming at Mech Number Three from a distance. "It's not yet complete. It's not enough to contend with me."

Zhong Yuanbei firmly believed in the principle: Strike first to gain the upper hand; hesitate and suffer the consequences. He acted before Joe Madus, gritting his teeth fiercely and pushing Mech Number Three's output to its maximum!

The expressions of the Professionals on the four levels of seats changed drastically as they felt their powers draining away like water from a breached dam.

The school's teachers and students were slightly better off, naturally trusting Zhong Yuanbei. However, the special agents from the Bureau of Mystic Security began to worry they would be completely drained by this bizarre device. Even if they survived this Ninth Power Level ordeal, they feared they might end up crippled for life.

THRRRUMMM...

Mech Number Three began to vibrate violently; the special vibrations emitted by its huge 'horns' instantly intensified threefold.

However, to Zhong Yuanbei's disappointment, this preemptive strike had no effect on Joe Madus whatsoever.

He remained motionless, not even a finger trembling.

Meanwhile, the entire school, aside from Mech Number Three, had already been transmuted by him. Certain materials had gathered, combined, and reacted, forged into an alchemical creation of modest size that nonetheless inspired involuntary fear.

The special vibrations, now tripled in strength, continued. But Joe Madus's hands suddenly twisted, and an enormous, mysterious force instantly shredded these vibrations, directly impacting Mech Number Three.

WHOOSH—

Parts of Mech Number Three's exterior instantaneously transmuted into various precious materials.

Zhong Yuanbei let out a wretched scream, blood spewing from his mouth. The helmet on his head, its lights and wires crackling with electrical sparks, melted in an instant.

On the four levels of seats, almost everyone collapsed simultaneously, many clutching their heads and moaning in agony.

Among them were many school teachers, all at the Sixth and Seventh Energy Levels. Two hundred people had combined their strength, utilizing the advanced Mech Number Three, yet they still couldn't withstand a single, casual strike from a Ninth Power Level individual. Such was the disparity!

Chen Gu rolled from his seat. Although he too was in severe pain, his physical constitution was extremely robust, far superior to the others.

He looked up and saw Zhong Yuanbei also collapsed in his seat, the helmet on his head still sparking and slowly starting to burn.

Chen Gu immediately struggled to his feet, rushed over, forcefully tore off the helmet, and dragged his teacher from the seat.

Just as he pulled Zhong Yuanbei away, the helmet exploded with a BANG!

The blast wave flung them both a good seven or eight meters.

Joe Madus smiled at everyone and raised his hand again. With this deliberately elegant and unhurried gesture, Mech Number Three completely disintegrated, scattering into countless components that floated in mid-air.

"Quite a few good materials," Joe Madus remarked with satisfaction.

Then, with a clench of his hand, the vast number of components vanished, spirited away by him to some unknown location.

Everyone was now directly exposed to Joe Madus's power.

He had just dismantled the entire school. The alchemical creation he had forged now descended from above, aiming directly at the crowd. Despair filled everyone's faces. The Ninth Power Level... ah, it's too strong, utterly un-opposable!

But Chen Gu suddenly pointed behind Joe Madus and exclaimed with a look of pleasant surprise, "Principal!"

Joe Madus scoffed, "Is there any point in playing such childish tricks?"

Chen Gu grinned without responding. Then, a voice declared from behind Joe Madus, "The entire Star State will pay the price for your actions today!"

Surprised, Joe Madus turned to look: the Principal was rapidly approaching from dozens of kilometers away.

Joe Madus glanced at Chen Gu and the others with some regret. "You actually returned three seconds early, Hua Buwu," he remarked. "You've become smarter, eh? Hehehe."

Laughing, his figure began to fade slowly, transmuting his own body to become a part of the world itself, only to reforge himself anew in another location.