

## Full Time 521

### Chapter 521: The Sword of Abstinence / Father-Son Sword

Even a clay figure has a bit of spirit. Though Great Actor Chen was a bit of a coward, he was also provoked. "Are you bored? Why not go after Boles? What's the point of tormenting a Fourth Energy Level like me?"

Rainbow snorted. "Do you think I'm tormenting you on purpose?"

Chen Gu certainly understood that an Eighth Energy Level wouldn't be so frivolous, and he had a feeling that Rainbow's actions had a deeper meaning.

Sweat was faintly visible on her forehead, indicating that the incredibly realistic illusion she had just produced wasn't easy for her to conjure.

But his pride wouldn't let him admit defeat, and Chen Gu continued, "Then what other reason could there be?"

Rainbow ignored him and flicked her finger. A holographic communication screen appeared, displaying Aviloya with her cool demeanor and a battle sword floating restlessly behind her.

"Is it over?" she asked.

Chen Gu nearly exploded. "Are you two old ladies ganging up to make fun of me?"

Rainbow said, "He passed."

Aviloya glanced at Chen Gu with some surprise. "He actually passed."

Chen Gu, his head full of black lines, thought, What do you mean? Do you have so little faith in me?

Forget it, it seems she should indeed have little faith in me.

Seeing Chen Gu's head droop noticeably, Aviloya said, "Anyway, you tell him about the rest. I've approved this plan."

Then, with a flash of light, the holographic image disappeared.

Chen Gu's ears perked up. "What plan?"

Rainbow explained, "Boles himself is extremely insane and powerful. After gaining control of the Nebula Bomb, he has become a colossal threat to all humanity."

"Whatever plan we use, it's hard to completely contain him, to prevent him from detonating the Nebula Bomb—if he does, it'll be an immense disaster!"

Chen Gu grew impatient. "I know that..."

"Don't interrupt me," Rainbow scolded with a glare. "I'll give you a piece of advice: to achieve those dirty little ambitions in your heart, you need to be a bit more gentlemanly towards women."

Chen Gu protested with a sense of injustice, "I have no such ambitions..."

Rainbow ignored him and continued, "Our only chance is to use the abilities of a Brain Domain Hacker, like I did just now, to pull him into a psychic battle within an illusion."

"As it stands, there is no Ninth Power Level Brain Domain Hacker in the Confederation. I'm the best candidate."

"However, we assessed that Boles's overall strength is now on par with an Eighth Energy Level. I don't have full confidence of victory."

"Engaging him in psychic combat within the illusion is a desperate strategy for me as well. His corruption poses a great threat to me. I need a mental anchor to pull me back when I fall into the manifestation of altered desires."

Chen Gu finally understood. "You want me to be this mental anchor? So you went to all that trouble to cast a psychic illusion on me, just to see if I could maintain my true self under the influence of my strongest desires?"

Rainbow nodded.

"But I'm only Fourth Energy Level. Surely, you could find a more powerful Brain Domain Hacker?"

Rainbow nodded again. "Your Energy Level is indeed a bit low.

There are several Sixth Energy Level Brain Domain Hackers within the Bureau of Mystic Security, and within the Confederation, there is one Eighth Energy Level and three Seventh Energy Levels.

But unfortunately, I can't allow them into my psychic illusion. Everyone has their own inner darkness that they do not wish others to see. Even if they are only Sixth Energy Level, there is a good chance they would probe into the depths of my psyche.

If I had to be concerned about this while fighting Boles, I would surely fail."

Chen Gu fell silent. So your point is I'm too weak, and therefore you're not worried about me? That's annoying.

"The best would be Fifth Energy Level, but there's no suitable individual at that level. You're the most appropriate given the circumstances, and as a multi-class individual, you're not necessarily weaker than a Fifth Energy Level."

Rainbow didn't mind the possibility that Boles might glimpse into her heart during the battle. After all, this fight would end in either his death or hers.

And for the same reasons, Rainbow couldn't join forces with other Eighth Energy Level individuals.

Other Eighth Energy Level Brain Domain Hackers would harbor the same concerns. Two strong allies joining forces might actually reduce the chances of winning, giving Boles the opportunity to break them one by one.

Therefore, she had to face him alone.

Chen Gu instinctively wanted to refuse. The whole thing looked immensely dangerous. Even an Eighth Energy Level like Rainbow and a Ninth Power Level like Aviloya had to be extremely cautious and test themselves in advance.

But as he was about to decline, what came out was, "Is this really the only way?"

"For now, it's the only plan we can come up with," Rainbow said with a casual smile. "Even if I lose, Boles won't just detonate the Nebula Bomb right away, so we'll still have a chance."

Chen Gu was silent; Boles's victory would undoubtedly mean a grim end for Rainbow.

"You are a special agent of the Bureau of Mystic Security," Rainbow continued. "I don't need to coerce you with words; you should understand that this mission cannot be refused."

To refuse would be an act of treason.

In fact, the thought of resisting the plan in Chen Gu's heart was fading away.

If an Eighth Energy Level like Rainbow was willing to take such a risk, what reason did he, a mere Fourth Energy Level, have to refuse?

This wasn't for personal gain. Chen Gu never considered himself noble, but when faced with such choices, he always seemed to pick the right path.

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Finally, he gritted his teeth and said, "Alright, I will accept the mission."

Rainbow nodded. "Actually, when you passed the test just now, I knew you wouldn't refuse this mission."

She waved to Chen Gu. "Let's go back. There's a bar in the factory; I'll treat you to a drink. Now that official business is out of the way, I want to talk to you about personal matters. Since it's personal, I'll make sure there's something in it for you."

...

Due to its high security classification, this factory was hidden deep in remote mountains, far from any city. However, it housed a large number of personnel. Consequently, it boasted a full range of amenities, much like a small town.

Within the factory compound, there was a small bar with retro and exquisite decor, and its prices were not low.

At this time, everyone was still working, so the bar was nearly empty. After they entered, Rainbow ordered a cocktail for herself. Chen Gu saw the colorful, sweet-smelling drink and wanted one too, but Rainbow shot him a glare and stopped him. "That's not for men. Bring him a 30-year-old Glennington whisky."

Chen Gu knew this type of whisky; it was Marshal Bai's favorite. The older the vintage, the higher the alcohol content. A thirty-year-old bottle would be over sixty percent alcohol. He grimaced. "I'm still just a kid, you know..."

Rainbow contentedly sipped her sweet cocktail, watching Chen Gu grimace as he sipped the strong whisky, and couldn't help but chuckle.

Chen Gu shot her an annoyed glare.

Putting down her glass, Rainbow suddenly said, "Speaking of which, we have another connection. I am Qiao Shuangyi's great-aunt."

Chen Gu almost choked on his drink. Rainbow certainly didn't look that old; externally, she appeared to be only in her thirties.

Rainbow was very pleased with Chen Gu's shocked expression. She touched her cheek and said, "If they wish, Professionals can maintain their youth until the very end. And as you know, women are quite willing to spend money on such things."

Chen Gu cautiously asked, "Exactly how old are you?"

Rainbow giggled. "Actually, I'm not that old. Aviloya and I are best friends; we're about the same age. I just turned fifty this year. I'm my father's youngest daughter."

Chen Gu did some quick calculations. She seems a bit younger than I am, he thought.

Rainbow swiped the colored pencil in her hand through the air, conjuring a holographic interface that displayed an email.

"This contains all my insights and experiences as an Eighth Energy Level Brain Domain Hacker. There's also an account that can unlock a safe deposit box. Inside, you'll find various materials related to advancement as a Brain Domain Hacker that I've collected throughout my own progression but haven't used."

Chen Gu was quite tempted. These are all truly valuable items, he thought.

However, Rainbow didn't say she was giving them to him. Instead, she changed the subject, "Do you still remember what happened with the An Family?"

Chen Gu nodded. Of course, he remembered. Andreyao's attempt to assault me led to an attack on the Huai Shan Branch School, which in turn caused the entire An Family to crumble overnight. Their remaining descendants are probably holed up in some forgotten corner now, barely surviving.

"The An Family's collapse was undoubtedly their own fault, but the more significant issue was their lack of a top-tier powerhouse to support them. The An Family had long recognized this vulnerability and sought to rectify it. However, such deficiencies aren't easily remedied, even for a powerful family, just by wishing it so. If the An Family had possessed even one Eighth Energy Level powerhouse, they wouldn't have been so swiftly and completely ejected from the Confederation's political arena. In the end, Chen Jixian even went to their doorstep and utterly shattered what little remained of their so-called prestigious family's dignity."

Chen Gu was stunned. "Chen Jixian went after the An Family?"

Rainbow glanced at him in surprise. "You didn't know? He had just advanced to the Sixth Energy Level and immediately went to confront the An Family, without a moment's delay."

Chen Gu recalled for a moment and felt a sense of comfort. Come to think of it, that was right when I started competing in the Behemoth League. No matter how many times I called for that unfilial son, he never came to watch my matches. So, this is what he was busy with.

Rainbow decided to clarify things. "Originally, Chen Jixian was slated for an important position after advancing to the Sixth Energy Level. However, that incident with the An Family had to be dealt with, so he was immediately sent back to Wuzhaoyin City. He was even stripped of his Director position and had been serving as Acting Director ever since. His recent transfer to headquarters is, in fact, a promotion disguised as a demotion."

"Unlike the An Family, our Qiao Family has always stood firm precisely because we've had a powerhouse in every generation—and in this generation, that's me. That's why, even though I'm a woman over fifty, I'm still unmarried."

"The problem now is, if I perish during this mission, the Qiao Family will be left without a successor."

Only at this point did Chen Gu realize the enormous risks that Rainbow was taking!

"Why did you accept this mission then?"

Rainbow said, "Firstly, I am the Deputy Director of the Bureau of Mystic Security. For many years, I haven't managed many affairs, but the Qiao Family has gained considerable benefits thanks to my title. We've been on the receiving end for a long time; now it's time to contribute.

"Secondly, Aviloya and I are extremely close. She came to me personally because she doesn't trust other Brain Domain Hackers, and I couldn't bring myself to refuse her."

Chen Gu nodded in understanding.

"In Qiao Shuangyi's father's generation, they made significant achievements in both politics and business, but their talent as Professionals was merely average. I had planned to hold on for a few more years, then select and groom a promising candidate from Qiao Shuangyi's generation. But now... I don't know if I'll live to see that day."

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She pointed to the email in front of her. "I know you and Qiao Shuangyi are close. This gift is for you. I hope you can look after Shuangyi's chubby kid in the future."

Chen Gu nodded repeatedly. "Of course, no problem."

Rainbow flashed a carefree smile, tapped her colored pencil once, and sent the email to Chen Gu.

"I disagree with this plan."

Chen Jixian, his eyelids half-closed, voiced his opposition, his tone indifferent yet resolute.

Previously, only Aviloya and Rainbow knew the entire plan. Once preparations for implementation began, Chen Jixian and Gong Shuxu also needed to be informed, in addition to the participant, Chen Gu.

Chen Jixian opposed it without hesitation, his reasoning sound. "Chen Gu's Energy Level is too low to serve as a firm anchor."

"Doing so is irresponsible towards the Eighth Energy Level. The Bureau's decision was ill-considered."

"Besides, it's unfair to Chen Gu. A weakling like him, involved in a confrontation between top powerhouses, is like a small boat in a storm; he could be torn apart in an instant."

Even though he had begun to suspect this unfilial son might not be so unfilial after all, Chen Gu still found it hard to accept being so openly disdained.

He touched his nose. Oh well, perhaps my grown son is just worried about me.

Gong Shuxu also felt it was inappropriate. However, just as he was about to speak, Rainbow stated decisively, "This is a joint decision with the Director-General. We are not soliciting your opinions. Just execute it."

"Yes," Chen Jixian and Gong Shuxu said in unison.

Boles had vanished after peeking into the factory last time and hadn't reappeared for two straight days.

Rainbow made an immediate decision. "We can't wait any longer; delay breeds trouble. Chen Gu, come with me."

She had previously surmised that Boles might have left some kind of sensor in places he had visited. Rainbow's plan was to 'startle the snake by hitting the grass.'

However, just as the two were preparing to set out, Chen Jixian, eyelids still half-closed, walked over and said woodenly to Chen Gu, "Come with me for a moment."

Rainbow glanced at Chen Gu. She was Aviloya's good friend, so of course, she knew about the relationship between Chen Gu and Chen Jixian.

Chen Gu felt a bit awkward. But the unfilial son had already turned and walked away. After a moment's thought, Chen Gu lowered his head and followed.

After all, this mission was exceptionally dangerous. He didn't want his 'last conversation' with his grown son to be one where Chen Jixian spoke to him, only for him to ignore it and walk away haughtily.

Besides, he was the father; of course, he should be tolerant of his child.

Chen Jixian led him outside to a secluded spot. Suddenly, he produced a war sword from behind his back. "It's ready."

Chen Gu was overjoyed. He found his unfilial son somewhat more likable now. So the lad does have a conscience after all, rushing to craft this for me before the mission.

He took the sword and tested it, unable to stop himself from looking at his son with new appreciation. This war sword surpasses the Riverwash Sword by more than just a little!

Chen Jixian said indifferently, "It's primarily designed for the Radiation Missionary profession, though it can also accommodate your other professions. However, its support and amplification for those other professions are rather weak.

It's only slightly better for the Quantum Wizard."

He seemed somewhat regretful as he spoke frankly, "I'm only at the Sixth Energy Level. If I were at the Eighth Energy Level... I could have done better."

Chen Gu couldn't help but laugh. "What good would being at the Eighth Energy Level do? Could you make a sword that allows me, with Fourth Energy Level power, to kill Boles in one strike?"

However, Chen Jixian didn't deny it. Chen Gu shook his head. That's utterly impossible anyway.

Finally, Chen Jixian said, "I've incorporated some special super-life materials. As you use it, explore it gradually. There should be some hidden, mystical abilities."

After speaking, he turned and left without waiting for Chen Gu's response. Beneath his half-lowered eyelids, his eyes were bloodshot from exhaustion.

Chen Gu called out from behind, "Have you named this sword?"

Chen Jixian waved his hand without turning back. "Name it yourself."

Chen Gu chuckled mischievously. Name it myself? Should I call it the 'Benevolent Father Sword' or the 'Filial Son Sword'?

But then he worried that if he really used such a name, Chen Jixian might snatch the sword back in a fit of rage...

He went to meet Rainbow, pondering the name on the way. I'll publicly call it the 'Sword of Aversion.' My grown son should feel some comfort hearing that. But secretly, I'll call it the 'Father-Son Sword,' HEH HEH HEH!

As he played with his new weapon, the more he looked at it, the more pleasing it became to his eye, and the more familiar it felt. Rainbow pursed her lips. "Alright, let's get going."

The two of them left the factory and headed straight to the spot where Boles had transformed into a swarm of insects.

In a certain city, within the rooftop suite of a top-tier hotel, Boles, who was sitting cross-legged on the bed, suddenly snapped his eyes open.

He had indeed sensed something. However, his power primarily stemmed from mutation; his own professional Energy Level was not high. Even the new abilities he had acquired from the Insect Race, which now surpassed his professional ones, were inferior to those of Rainbow and the others. He sensed someone had found his trail but couldn't accurately determine who it was or how powerful they were.

Boles frowned for a moment. His rational mind told him he should remain hidden for a while. He had other plans for the Nebula Bullet and didn't want to use it to fight the Bureau of Mystic Security to the bitter end.

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But the madness within him, induced by mutation, made it impossible for him to obey 'reason'.

Under his black clothes, his body eerily twisted left and right as if two thoughts were fighting within him. Then, he chuckled darkly, his body silently exploding into a swarm of tiny black bugs that rustled from the bed and melted into every dark corner, finally disappearing without a trace.

Chen Gu found it quite surreal. The process of tracking Boles with Rainbow on this journey was about seventy to eighty percent similar to his previous experiences in the 'mental illusion'.

If it weren't for his ability as a Brain Domain Hacker, which allowed him to clearly distinguish between reality and dreams, he would have felt somewhat lost.

Rainbow noticed his feelings. Since she hoped Chen Gu would take care of her grandchildren, her attitude towards him had softened considerably. She immediately explained, "Mental illusions aren't merely figments of imagination. They are, in fact, predictions of 'potential existence' derived through my abilities. Therefore, they won't differ much from reality. Otherwise, the illusion would seem false and easily seen through."

"The key choices within the illusion are the fundamental reason why the illusion differs from the real world."

Chen Gu nodded. He hadn't yet had time to review Rainbow's professional insights, and he decided then and there that he must study them thoroughly.

After all, of the two high-Energy Level professions he currently mastered—Isabella Wu's Brain Domain Hacker and Meng Moshi's Multistate Special Agent—Isabella Wu's was, comparatively speaking, somewhat more acceptable.

Although it came with uncontrollable cravings, at least using its power didn't leave him with that 'heartbreaking, intoxicating' feeling—as if he hadn't just been abandoned by a beloved woman, but by the entire world.

Speaking of which, Chen Gu was rather speechless. In *\*The Chronicle of the Four Hundred\**, every professional had various 'quirks,' and it seemed the higher their Energy Level, the more unbearable these 'quirks' became.

Before discovering Meng Moshi's profile, he had resolved not to use Isabella Wu's abilities unless absolutely necessary, because he found peculiarities like pica and gluttony hard to bear...

While he was lost in his thoughts, Rainbow glided onward. They successfully located the city where Boles was hiding and then pursued him out of it.

Chen Gu was puzzled. "It would be more advantageous for Boles in the city. We'd be constrained by concerns for civilian safety, which would offer him good cover. So why would he leave?"

Rainbow looked in the direction where Boles had fled and slowly said, "Because he is very confident."

"All the lives in this city, in his eyes, are food. And whether it's a Mutant or a member of the Insect Race, they prefer their food alive."

"If a battle were to break out in the city, the corpses from the collateral deaths would, in his view, be a waste!"

Chen Gu fell silent. The more confident Boles was, the stronger it implied he had become. This was definitely not good news for Rainbow or him.

Without further conversation, the two continued their pursuit. After traveling several hundred kilometers from the city, they arrived at a desolate, rocky floodplain.

It was backed by a gently sloping hill that stretched for tens of kilometers, with a wide, rushing river before it. Only some wild grass grew stubbornly in the crevices between the stones along the riverbank.

And on a large, flat rock by the river stood a solitary figure. He was cloaked in black, his entire body enveloped, with only a pair of blood-red eyes peeking out from his hood.

Chen Gu recognized him at a glance. "Boles!"

Human traitor, Insect Race Subverter.

Boles looked at the two of them, his eyes flickering with the red light of madness and cunning. "Just the two of you? That sets my mind at ease."

The madness deep inside him swayed his actions, preventing him from choosing a rational escape. But within that insanity, there was also cunning.

He had been leading them on, watching for any ambush that might follow them.

Now that he had confirmed there was no ambush, he naturally revealed himself, ready to savor his delectable prey: an Eighth Energy Level entity and a Fourth Energy Level one!

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WHOOSH...

Amidst a strange sound, a special void gate, akin to "Quantum Teleportation," opened behind Boles. Countless gargantuan, pitch-black, fierce insects surged out from it.

Twin vortices suddenly coalesced in Rainbow's eyes. They grew larger and larger until they spread out, transforming into two immense storms of spiritual power.

Boles was instantly drawn into a psychic illusion by her!

Simultaneously, Chen Gu felt a special mental bond forming between himself and Rainbow.

It was more like an "understanding" between "Brain Domain Hackers." He could use this connection to observe the battle within the psychic illusion between Rainbow and Boles. If Rainbow was in a tight spot, he could intervene and pull her back.

However, Chen Gu's own situation wasn't any more optimistic than Rainbow's. That void portal hadn't closed at all, and a torrent of Mutant Insects poured out relentlessly.

Engulfed by the spiritual power illusion, Rainbow was invisible to the insects; they all rushed towards Chen Gu instead.

Instantly, the area filled with the insects' deafening, piercing roars as various attacks rained down.

Chen Gu activated his Dimensional Prison Ring. The Combat Rooster, which had been impatiently waiting inside, roared as it leaped out, the "Father-Son Sword" strapped to its body.

But upon seeing so many enemies, the Combat Rooster turned, ready to dive back in, only to be caught by Chen Gu.

Chen Gu mounted the Combat Rooster, drew the Father-Son Sword high, and with a mighty shout, he slashed down!

BOOM—

A thick blast of nuclear light shot out hundreds of meters. Chen Gu's wrist rotated, and hundreds of enormous insects were instantly obliterated!

"Powerful!" Chen Gu exclaimed inwardly. This sword was indeed much stronger than the "Riverwash Sword."

The Combat Rooster saw this. Hey, if the master is this formidable, what's to fear? Let's get them! It roared repeatedly and charged at the insects.

Meanwhile, through the mysterious mental bond, Chen Gu saw that Rainbow was already entangled in battle with Boles within the psychic illusion. Boles had quickly realized his predicament. He constantly conjured various attacks; demons, monstrosities, and even beings of pure lust swirled around his body!

However, an Evil God had yet to appear. Perhaps its rank is too high for him to dare imagine, or perhaps he has never seen one, so he can't conjure it, Chen Gu mused.

Rainbow was no less formidable. Within her own spiritual power illusion, she summoned various powerful coded items, trading blows evenly with Boles.

If such a battle were to occur in the real world, it would likely affect an area thousands of kilometers wide. It would shatter this planet into ruins and could ultimately destroy it entirely, contaminating a vast expanse of the surrounding star fields!

For now, Rainbow faced no immediate danger, so Chen Gu didn't need to divide his attention. He rode the Combat Rooster with abandon, relentlessly pushing back the Mutant Insects.

His main concern now was the risk of contamination.

High above, several military satellites faithfully recorded everything, transmitting the footage back to the factory.

Chen Jixian and Gong Shuxu were both watching the battle. The moment the fight erupted, news had already been relayed to headquarters.

Aviloya herself issued an order: "Maintain close observation, but do not interfere without authorization. I will arrive as quickly as possible!"

Chu Zheng didn't quite understand. "Boles is already engaged. If we act now, just one Eighth Energy Level expert could easily kill Boles and completely resolve this crisis."

Chen Jixian, arms crossed, maintained a cool expression and said nothing. No one knew that beneath his clothes, his entire body had tensed the instant the battle began.

Gong Shuxu explained to her, "Boles and Her Excellency Rainbow are locked in a mental struggle. Attacking Boles now could cause immense harm to Her Excellency, potentially even leading to her death."

Rainbow had risked her own spiritual collapse to ensnare Boles in a psychic illusion, preventing him from activating the Nebula Bomb. No one was willing to launch a sneak attack on Boles if it meant harming Rainbow.

Chu Zheng then suggested, "Then we should at least send support to help the Bishop against these Mutant Insects."

On the screen, the swarm of Mutant Insects seemed endless. More and more poured from the void portal, already engulfing Chen Gu like a vast ocean.

Although Chen Gu appeared incredibly powerful, capable of slaying hundreds of insects with a mere wave of his hand, he was fighting alone. Furthermore, he had to keep an eye on Rainbow. Sooner or later, under the relentless assault of the insect tide, he would exhaust his strength and be utterly overwhelmed!

But Chen Jixian suddenly spoke, his voice cold, "Don't act rashly!"

"This time," he continued, "we must lure all the Mutant Insects out of that void portal and annihilate them in one go! Otherwise, the repercussions will be endless!"

Chu Zheng was somewhat intimidated by him. How can they not support the Bishop?! Despite her strong dissatisfaction with the decision, she merely pursed her lips and remained silent.

Gong Shuxu further clarified for her, "We have no idea where that void portal connects, or what the situation is on the other side."

"Therefore, we certainly can't risk sending anyone through the void portal to exterminate the Mutant Insects there."

"And once we kill Boles, this void portal will close. Without Boles as their leader, the Insect Race on the other side will most likely follow their instincts and birth a new Empress."

#### Chapter 526: Mental Anchorage\_2

"If it comes to that, the Mutant bug swarm will still be a threat lodged within, unpredictable as to when it might erupt."

"Going to support Chen Gu in advance might also alert those bugs, making them refuse to come out from the other side of the void portal."

Chu Zheng exclaimed in shock, "Do you mean to say that the instructor needs to hold out until no more bugs come out of that void portal? But heaven knows how many bugs Boles has bred during this time! Can the instructor... hold on?"

The girl with the tablet couldn't help but clutch her hands to her chest, her beautiful eyes filled with worry as she watched Chen Gu on the screen, her heart aching for him.

...

Only two people were on Aviloya's spaceship: herself and her assistant, Qing Ruyan.

This was her private spacecraft and not part of the Bureau of Mystic Security. However, in this era, the energy consumed by a small spacecraft for warp jumps was not much different from that of a large one, so few people bought such ships. Simply put, they weren't cost-effective.

Qing Ruyan operated the spaceship while anxiously watching the combat screen.

Aviloya hummed, "Careful not to make a mistake in your operation!"

"Sorry, Your Excellency," Qing Ruyan quickly apologized, then steeled herself and turned off the screen. But Aviloya stopped her, simply moving the screen from Qing Ruyan's view to her own. "Focus on steering. If there's any change on the battlefield, I will tell you."

"Yes."

Qing Ruyan had always worked alongside Aviloya and had been exposed to the upper echelons of the Bureau of Mystic Security. She was well aware of the various secret details of the entire operation and wouldn't ask "superficial" questions like Chu Zheng.

Therefore, conversations between her and Aviloya, if overheard, might seem somewhat cryptic.

"Can Chen Gu hold on?"

Aviloya said indifferently, "He's an operative of the Bureau of Mystic Security. Even if he can't hold on, he has to!"

Qing Ruyan's expression darkened. She knew the Director-General wasn't fond of Chen Gu and wanted to speak up for him, but she also knew that doing so would be futile and would only annoy Aviloya further.

The small spaceship's energy input rapidly peaked. Its warp engine opened a special passageway, and the ship disappeared instantly into the Star Sea.

...

Chen Gu, of course, knew the agency's entire plan. This time, he and Rainbow embarked on this risky venture together—one an Eighth Energy Level expert, the other a multi-professional. The agency had invested heavily, aiming to resolve the triple threat of Boles, the Mutant bug swarm, and the nebula bomb in one fell swoop.

So, he constantly maneuvered the Combat Rooster through the bug swarm. In reality, as more and more bugs appeared, the pressure he faced mounted. Everywhere he looked was a dark sea of insects. He

could only rely on the Combat Rooster's formidable power, continuously launching assaults in all directions.

If he stayed in one place for too long, he risked being completely surrounded and killed.

However, more and more giant bugs, not at all inferior in size to the Combat Rooster, kept squeezing through the void portal. Although not smart, they possessed incredibly strong fighting instincts and were attempting to block the Combat Rooster everywhere, forcing Chen Gu into a desperate fight.

Chen Gu snorted coldly, unfazed. Every time those huge bugs were about to corner him, he would switch to his Brain Domain Hacker profession and easily control several large bugs nearby, making them turn on their companions and attack each other.

An opening was effortlessly created, and Chen Gu spurred the Combat Rooster to escape smoothly.

Each maneuver looked perilous, bringing him a hair's breadth from being completely overwhelmed by the black tide and causing Chu Zheng to gasp in shock every time. However, overall, Chen Gu remained safe as long as his power hadn't run out and he could still freely switch between his various professions.

But things weren't looking good for Rainbow!

Boles in the mental illusion realm was no easier to deal with than in the real world. The demons, monstrosities, and Fiends of Desire conjured by his imagination seemed utterly real, possessing all sorts of seductive and corrupting powers!

Just now, a group of these Fiends of Desire had lured Rainbow into a deep abyss of longing for love.

Chen Gu's heart skipped a beat. To protect her clan, Rainbow hasn't married to this day, he mused. But how could she not yearn for love? For so many years, to avoid emotional entanglement, Rainbow has likely distanced herself from any man she felt an inkling of affection for, minimizing contact to prevent things from escalating uncontrollably. Yet, the more she suppressed it, the stronger her inner yearning must have grown. Once triggered by these Fiends of Desire, it would erupt like a volcano.

And indeed, Rainbow, caught off guard, had fallen into its grasp. While dealing with the Mutant bug swarm outside, Chen Gu carefully observed Rainbow's situation. The moment she showed signs of not being able to hold on, he was ready to use his spiritual power to forcibly extract her, using himself as an anchor.

However, doing so would mean the complete failure of the mission: the mental illusion realm would collapse, and Boles would break free, ready to detonate the nebula bomb at any moment.

Fortunately, at the last moment, Rainbow remembered her duty, her relatives, and her clan. Though in agony and disarray, she tore herself from the enchanting vision of love and survived the crisis.

However, immediately afterward, those Fiends of Desire found another weakness from her recent experience: her clan.

### Chapter 527: Mental Anchorage\_3

Thus began another round of enticement. It was just like the previous scenarios Rainbow had orchestrated for Chen Gu in the spiritual illusion. This time, in this "fantasy," the Qiao Family rose step by step. Through a series of fortuitous coincidences, they were on the verge of becoming the foremost family within the Confederation, secretly manipulating the political realm of the other three major Star Nations!

The entire family's power was about to reach the pinnacle of human society.

Throughout this entire process, Rainbow played an extremely important role; one could say that Rainbow single-handedly brought the family to such heights.

Chen Gu's heart sank completely, for he felt that Rainbow might not be able to survive this ordeal. He could sense that Rainbow was truly and completely intoxicated with these sensations.

The Qiao Family was originally the foundation she was sworn to protect, and for them, she completely sacrificed her own lifetime of happiness.

Even this mission, on a deeper level, was also for the Qiao Family.

Rainbow understood her best friend very well. If she were to die in this mission, the Qiao Family would forever stand unshakable within the Confederation. This would undoubtedly hold true at least until the Ninth Power Level Aviloya fell.

Aviloya, out of guilt for her, would forever guard the Qiao Family.

This time, the Beings of Desire had truly found Rainbow's weakness.

Chen Gu watched helplessly as Rainbow's spiritual power illusion changed from a clear, light blue to a slowly greying color, indicating the corruption of her spiritual power!

Finally, on Rainbow's cheeks, two delicate scales appeared. Chen Gu made a decisive move; he could no longer wait!

If Rainbow were to mutate and join forces with Boles, it would undoubtedly be a colossal catastrophe.

Chen Gu let out a long howl. Switching to the Brain Domain Hacker occupation, his spiritual power surged out, the shockwaves intended to awaken Rainbow.

This time he exerted his full power; the abilities of the Brain Domain Hacker uncontrollably emanated outward.

The hundreds of insectoid Mutants of varying sizes surrounding Chen Gu instantly spurted blood. Their brains were scrambled into chaos, and with a great RUMBLE, they collapsed.

In the spiritual power illusion, however, Rainbow remained indifferent.

She was still immersed in that fantasy of leading her entire family to the very pinnacle of power.

Chen Gu was desperate. Enduring the discomfort in his brain, he once again unleashed an even stronger spiritual force.

A visible, deep blue, ring-shaped wave expanded rapidly with Chen Gu at its center. It swept across a 3,000-meter radius, and every Insect Race creature within this range fell to the ground, spewing blood.

This force was in no way weaker than if Chen Gu had set off a Biological Nuclear Explosion!

This power, relying on the spiritual anchor between him and Rainbow, was transmitted into Rainbow's mind. Chen Gu saw Rainbow, who was standing still, begin to bleed from all seven of her orifices.

Still not working? Chen Gu was anxious; he had not anticipated that it would be so difficult to awaken a powerful Eighth Energy Level being once they were submerged!

His head throbbed with severe pain, as if it were about to explode. He was unaware that his own eyes and nostrils were also seeping blood.

Everyone watching the scene from behind felt their hearts leap to their throats. Chu Zheng was especially on the verge of tears, "Everyone, think of something... fast..."

Chen Jixian, who was slow to react, finally grasped something. He turned his head and glanced at her. This seems to... have gone beyond the feelings between a student and an instructor?

He glanced at Chu Zheng's chest. Does the old man like this type?

Then what about Man Suling?

Yep, definitely an old sleazebag!

Then, Chen Jixian stood up, his combat hammer in hand. He went outside and addressed the military personnel with unquestionable authority, "Arrange for a ground aircraft. I need to get there immediately!"

But immediately afterward, someone inside shouted, "Captain, quick, come take a look!"

Chen Jixian turned around. On the screen, the grey in Rainbow's spiritual illusion was fading fast, and the fantasy that had intoxicated her was rapidly breaking apart.

The scales on Rainbow's cheeks began to fade. There were faint signs of her regaining consciousness and struggling free!

Rainbow came to with a start, feeling as though she had awakened from a "beautiful dream." She immediately looked for Chen Gu because people always have a vivid impression of the one who wakens them. This impression is usually referred to as "waking up on the wrong side of the bed."

But Rainbow understood clearly: it was Chen Gu who had saved her.

Her and Aviloya's decision to use Chen Gu as the spiritual anchor was right; it indeed played a pivotal role.

However, as the person involved, she perceived the entire process more acutely than the bystanders at the rear. The Beings of Desire, though fantasies concocted by Boles, seemed to show a look of shock during Chen Gu's final burst of spiritual power. They then all receded, their figures appearing somewhat panicked.

It appeared they were truly fearful!

Rainbow had heard that Chen Gu called himself the "Mutant Fuse." Now it seemed there was some truth to that. But why was that so?

She didn't have much time to ponder this question. Although she had been rescued, the battle within the spiritual illusion was far from over. Boles launched another attack with a sinister laugh.

Chen Gu sighed with relief and collapsed onto the back of the Combat Rooster. He was unable to move for a moment as the aftereffects of overexerting his spiritual power took hold.

The powerful Mutant Insect Race roared and rushed forward. The Mutated Spitter insects were over fifty meters long. Their giant tail spikes, like cruise missiles, blasted out in unison, hundreds of them heading straight for Chen Gu.

Chapter 528: Mental Anchorage\_4

Chu Zheng, watching from the rear, clenched her teeth tightly, her heart filled with worry.

Chen Gu snorted coldly. His Quantum Wizard occupational skills activated, causing the huge spikes that had flown into the air to come to a sudden halt. He stared at the spikes but, unlike his days on the battlefield, didn't simply reverse their direction to shoot them back.

He was no longer the greenhorn he once was; he could delicately control these enormous spikes. A Mutant Blazing Mammoth Bug slammed forcefully into the ground. It opened its wide mouth, simultaneously forming three fireballs in its throat, ready to spew them at Chen Gu. After their mutation, Blazing Mammoth Bugs no longer spewed a jet of flame like ordinary ones; they now shot high-explosive, intensely hot fire orbs!

The more powerful the Blazing Mammoth Bug, the more fire orbs it could spit at one time.

Chen Gu's eyes flickered. WHOOSH! A huge spike flew out, swift and accurate. It pierced the throat of the Mutant Blazing Mammoth Bug at the very moment it was about to spew its flames.

BOOM!

The three fire orbs exploded simultaneously, shattering the Mutant Blazing Mammoth Bug to pieces on the spot.

The ground quivered. Something was moving rapidly just beneath the surface, already only a few dozen meters from Chen Gu. WHISTLING, another huge spike plunged deep into the ground, pinning a Mutant Burrowing Electro-Bug. These mutants were not only more gigantic in size but also discharged even more powerful electric currents. Thick, uncontrollable electric arcs spread from beneath the ground, incinerating the surrounding bugs to char.

Chen Gu deftly maneuvered these enormous spikes, using them as his weapons to continuously slaughter the bugs. However, to those watching from the rear, it seemed that Chen Gu must be severely depleting his own energy, resorting to such tactics out of necessity.

Yet, from that void gateway, an endless stream of the Mutant Insect Race poured out.

Chen Jixian said, "Let's hurry over. As soon as all the bugs are out, we'll immediately provide support."

In fact, everyone was already restless and immediately responded in unison, "Alright."

At most, they could only help alleviate some of Chen Gu's pressure. The main force responsible for exterminating these bugs was a fleet lying in ambush in outer space.

But the fleet couldn't rashly reveal itself.

Everyone immediately boarded the flyers and quickly arrived near the battlefield.

Chen Gu had run out of spikes. Taking a moment to catch his breath, he once again gripped the Father-Son Sword and plunged into the insect swarm.

In the spiritual illusion, Rainbow was making swift, triumphant progress.

She noticed that after her last spiritual anchoring, those Sinful Desires had suddenly weakened. They could no longer directly engage her in battle. Relying solely on Boles, he was no match for her in the spiritual illusion.

Just give me a little more time, and I'll completely eliminate this traitor!

At this point, Rainbow had enough surplus strength to sense the situation outside. The tide of Mutants from the Insect Race showed no signs of abating from the void gateway. It now seemed very likely she might kill Boles ahead of schedule.

If so, the remaining Mutants would be trapped on the other side of the void gateway. This plan might not be so perfect after all.

But that wouldn't make her slow down the pace of vanquishing Boles. The ultimate goal of this plan was Boles and the Starbursts he controlled; it was important to distinguish between primary and secondary objectives.

If I held off my attack momentarily, letting Boles recover, it could lead to unexpected outcomes.

Chen Gu struggled to hold on. That spiritual anchoring had overtaxed his spiritual power, severely impacting his capabilities. Now, even with memory embodiment, he could only exert the power of the Fourth Energy Level.

Wave after wave of insects surged forward, and Chen Gu was almost overwhelmed. The onlookers behind him grew anxious, struggling to contain their impatience.

Suddenly, a bright light appeared in the sky. It shot straight from outer space, instantly reaching the battlefield. Without halting, it landed before the void gateway and then, sword in hand, courageously charged in!

Chen Gu was astonished. Aviloya!

She charged into the void gateway, intending to venture alone into Boles's unknown space and thoroughly eradicate the Mutant insect swarm!

Gong Shuxu, at the rear, turned pale and yelled out in alarm, "Director-General... you absolutely mustn't!"

#### Chapter 529: Perfect Ending

Gong Shuxu was deeply concerned, his worries entirely for the public good: Even though you are at the Ninth Power Level, the location of that mysterious void is unknown. We don't know what other dangers might be lurking there. Venturing in is too risky. You're the Director-General; you shoulder immense responsibilities.

But the Valkyrie remained the same Valkyrie she had always been.

She disliked Chen Gu, but she would not let personal feelings compromise her public duty.

As an operative of the Bureau of Mystic Security, Chen Gu had done everything within his power, even exceeding what anyone could have expected of him.

How could she, as the Director-General, simply watch a loyal operative fall or suffer grave injuries in battle?

Others might not dare, or might lack the power, to charge into the alien void, but she did!

The moment Chen Jixian saw the Valkyrie appear, he understood Aviloya's intention. Without a word, he rushed out, warhammer in hand. While still a considerable distance away, he hurled the warhammer with all his might. Spinning like a drill and flashing with intense light, it soared through the sky like a meteor, crashing into the insect swarm.

BOOM...

Its power was savage. Waves of force rolled out, shattering clusters of insects.

Chen Gu sighed deeply with relief. My son has come to rescue his father, he thought.

As the special operatives charged one by one into the battlefield, a huge shadow slowly appeared above the clouds. The Close Range Attack Ship entered the atmosphere and steadily closed in. Multiple hatches opened, and massive ship cannons extended.

In the psychic illusion, Boles was in full retreat, his mind on the verge of being completely controlled by Rainbow.

Rainbow silently cheered for Aviloya in her heart. Hurry, hurry!

Chen Gu and his teammates regrouped and began a fighting retreat, trying to avoid being surrounded by the swarm. Once the Close Range Attack Ship was ready to bombard, they could break free from the battlefield in the shortest possible time.

Suddenly, Chen Gu felt a premonition and turned his head. Rainbow's psychic illusion was starting to fade. Finally, Rainbow shuddered, her consciousness returning to her body as the psychic illusion completely vanished.

Meanwhile, Boles, in his original spot, showed no signs of life and began to disintegrate completely.

Without the cover of the psychic illusion, the surrounding Mutant insects noticed her and were about to screech and attack. Rainbow swept her hands, invading the minds of the surrounding insects and controlling them. They shielded her as she fought her way out, their brains bursting under her mental assault.

Yet Rainbow's eyes remained fixed on the dimensional portal.

From the moment Boles's body began to disintegrate, the portal had become unstable. Without Boles's support, it was steadily shrinking.

The Close Range Attack Ship descended rapidly, every cannon charging up.

But suddenly, Rainbow turned back and rushed toward the portal, causing everyone to gasp in shock. She fought her way to the front of the dimensional portal, desperately trying to do something, anything, to keep it open.

It was futile, however. Boles had constructed the portal, and only he knew the principles behind it. Although Rainbow was at the Eighth Energy Level, she wasn't adept in this particular field.

"Aviloya!" Angrily, she used her spiritual power to burst the brains of a group of large insects attacking from behind. Then she yelled loudly into the shrinking portal, but there was no response!

Even as the portal diminished to the size of a washbasin, Rainbow refused to give up. She subconsciously tried to pry it open with her hands, to stop it from shrinking further.

The special operations team received a communication from the Close Range Attack Ship: "Please evacuate immediately!"

"The swarm is starting to scatter. If we delay further, we won't be able to annihilate all of them here.

"If a single insect escapes, it could trigger a disaster!"

Chen Gu gritted his teeth and switched to the Quantum Wizard class. A light blue ripple of energy flickered around him. In the next moment, he used Quantum Teleportation to appear beside Rainbow, grabbing her arm. "Let's go!"

"You have to trust the Director-General! She's at the Ninth Power Level. Even if she's trapped in that alien void, she has the power to fight her way back!"

Then, without waiting for Rainbow to refuse, he used Quantum Teleportation to take her away. After rejoining the others, they retreated at full speed without a moment's pause.

Chen Jixian immediately reported to the Close Range Attack Ship, "Our team has evacuated! Commence bombardment in thirty seconds!"

Rainbow forcefully shook off Chen Gu's hand. "No! I have to rescue Aviloya!"

She turned and charged toward the insect swarm. Chen Gu, desperate, yelled, "You crazy woman! If Aviloya, a Ninth Power Level, couldn't handle it, what use is it for you to go? Are you just going to die for nothing?!"

Rainbow ignored him, and Chen Gu shouted again, "Come back!"

"If Aviloya really can't come back, and you die in there too, what will become of the Qiao Family? Who will protect the Qiao Family?"

"Do you want the Qiao Family to suffer the same fate as the An Family?!"

Rainbow stopped in her tracks. Her gaze locked on the portal, now reduced to the size of a basketball, tears streaming from her eyes.

The Close Range Attack Ship's cannons were fully charged, ready to fire at any moment.

Suddenly, a sword appeared in the dimensional portal, forcefully wedging itself in the still-shrinking gateway!

"Aviloya!" Rainbow exclaimed with delight, waving her arms and calling out, "Come back!"

But the portal was now too small for a person to pass through.

The battle sword could only temporarily wedge the portal, preventing it from shrinking further. However, this was merely a stopgap measure; the portal was destined to close sooner or later.

Chapter 530: Perfect Ending\_2

Gong Shuxu expressed his confusion, "The Director-General is a Quantum Wizard; she could have teleported out..."

However, Aviloya never used her professional skill to escape.

Rainbow could no longer bear it. She turned back, ready to cut through the swarm again to reach the dimensional portal and help Aviloya.

Chen Gu grabbed her again and gritted his teeth fiercely. "I'll go! You guys retreat at once!"

He used Quantum Teleportation again and appeared before the dimensional portal. Chen Jixian's eyelids twitched violently a few times; in the end, he let out a quiet sigh and said nothing.

Chen Gu observed the dimensional portal for a moment, then clenched his teeth. Faint blue energy ripples once again emanated from him. He was going to use Quantum Teleportation to pass through a portal that could no longer accommodate a single person!

This was very risky, and Chen Gu was fully aware of it.

Aviloya was a Ninth Power Level Quantum Wizard, and even she couldn't return using Quantum Teleportation. Either this type of dimensional portal was inherently impassable by professional skills, or Aviloya had already exhausted her strength and was severely wounded in the battle on the other side, rendering her unable to perform Quantum Teleportation.

The energy ripples collapsed inward rapidly, and Chen Gu disappeared on the spot!

But this time was vastly different from every other instance of Quantum Teleportation. Previously, he had always arrived smoothly at his intended location.

The entire procedure was usually extremely smooth. Even on the few occasions he pushed himself to the limit to use Quantum Teleportation, only activating the skill was exceptionally painful. The process itself, however, was as smooth as silk, and Chen Gu would appear at his desired location with practically no sensation during the teleportation.

This time, however, the teleportation felt unbearably slow, as if he were mired in glue, with infinite forces tugging at him, preventing him from reaching his desired destination.

Moreover, waves of electric shock-like numbness and stinging pain constantly assailed him.

Chen Gu struggled mightily to move forward, feeling as though he had exhausted all his strength. After an indeterminable amount of time, the sticky, sluggish sensation abruptly vanished, and he fell heavily somewhere.

He hardly had time to catch his breath, let alone observe his surroundings. He immediately looked up, searching for Aviloya.

The Valkyrie looked somewhat astonished at his arrival.

Chen Gu saw Aviloya's aura fluctuating. One of her arms hung limply at her side, and her legs had turned pitch black. She was leaning against a rough rock. Indeed, she was too weak to perform Quantum Teleportation.

Chen Gu couldn't afford to ask how fierce the battle on this side had been to leave a Ninth Power Level warrior so ragged. He pulled Aviloya up and initiated Quantum Teleportation once more!

The dimensional portal had already begun to erode the body of the battle sword, shrinking it to the size of a fist.

"Ah—" Chen Gu let out a howl. The light of the energy ripples was stronger than before, and blood once again flowed from his eyes and nostrils.

The energy ripples collapsed violently inward, and the two of them disappeared together.

Shortly after they vanished, the dimensional portal closed completely. SNAP! Space sliced the battle sword in two. The half with the hilt fell into that vast, alien dimension.

Meanwhile, in their world, Rainbow collapsed to the ground. They had retreated to a safe area but could still see the dimensional portal close completely, the tip of the sword falling to the ground...

"Instructor—" Chu Zheng cried out in piercing anguish, her body swaying. Dora, at her side, reached out to support her. Tears were also welling in Dora's large eyes.

"Begin the attack!" came the order from the Close Range Attack Ship. The ship's cannons roared, spewing out massive energy beams that instantly turned the giant bugs to ash upon hitting the ground.

One shot followed another. The Mutant swarm was soon completely wiped out, leaving only widespread contamination behind...

Gong Shuxu let out a long sigh. Despite his confidence in Aviloya—believing she would eventually return even if lost in that strange void—he wondered, What about Chen Gu? Was his Quantum Teleportation successful? It's very possible he died during that attempt.

Selena, full of fury, jumped in front of Rainbow and swung her fist at the Eighth Energy Level warrior. "It's all your fault! If it weren't for you, Chen Gu wouldn't have had to take that risk!"

WHACK!

The punch landed squarely on the Eighth Energy Level's face. Rainbow neither dodged nor flinched, perhaps so consumed by overwhelming grief that she had become unresponsive to her surroundings.

Chen Jixian stood motionless as his battle hammer slipped from his grasp, clattering to the ground. He didn't know what he was feeling. The 'father' who had been absent for his entire upbringing had come and gone. Was this truly the final departure? He had always believed he hated this father. After all, the man had never fulfilled his paternal duties and had burdened him with 'shame,' ruining his promising military career and destroying his dreams. But why did he feel so empty now? Why were his thoughts now filled with memories of laughter and joy from the family banquet with Chen Zili and Chen Qingyu? Why had his weapon, something a warrior should never let go of, silently slipped from his hand?

Finally, he uttered a long sigh.

The massive Combat Rooster stood behind everyone, looking somewhat lost as it gazed towards where the dimensional portal had been. Being highly intelligent, it seemed to grasp the situation: Its master... was dead?