

Ice Age 311

Chapter 311: The Bait

There were 31 hours left until the missile strike scheduled for tomorrow night at 12.

Yang Xinxin had already altered the coordinates sent from West Hill Base, replacing the Shelter's coordinates with those of West Hill Base.

If all went according to plan, the missile would land on West Hill Base instead.

To destroy a heavily fortified shelter, the Jiangnan District was using a high-yield bunker buster.

According to Lu Keran's calculations, it was impossible for the missile to completely destroy West Hill Base, which was buried hundreds of meters underground. However, it would cause severe tremors, equivalent to an 8.0 magnitude earthquake.

Zhang Yi said to Yang Xinxin, "When the time comes, Xinxin, you'll take control of West Hill Base's network and cut off their power!"

"West Hill Base relies heavily on electricity. Once we cut the power, the entire base will be temporarily paralyzed, causing widespread panic."

At this point, Yang Xinxin reminded Zhang Yi, "Although I can control the power shutdown through the network, there are manual systems inside West Hill Base that can restore power."

Zhang Yi chuckled. "That's fine. We only need to create temporary chaos."

"By then, Liang Yue will lead her students out of the Fourth Life Pod."

As Zhang Yi spoke, a sly grin appeared in his eyes.

"With Liang Yue leading the way, the rest of the people in the Fourth Life Pod will follow."

“Those who have been oppressed for so long will undoubtedly seize the opportunity to overthrow West Hill Base’s control. The thousands of people inside will create even more chaos.”

“And that’s when we make our move!”

On their own, Zhang Yi’s group would have a hard time destroying a massive base like West Hill Base.

However, the internal conflicts within the base were already severe.

All Zhang Yi needed was to light the fuse, and the base would implode on its own.

There was another key point.

The residents of the Fourth Life Pod were not ordinary civilians.

In fact, the people who had sought refuge in West Hill Base during the early days of the apocalypse were influential figures from Tianhai City.

These people were ambitious and ruthless; there was no way they would be content generating power by pedaling bicycles.

Zhang Yi was certain that they would rise up at the first opportunity.

Lu Keran crossed her arms, concerned. “But in that case, won’t Teacher Liang and the others be in great danger?”

“The ones who start the rebellion are usually the first to face the soldiers’ crackdown.”

Zhang Yi dismissed her concern. “Freedom comes with sacrifices. They should be well aware of that.”

“And with Liang Yue protecting them, not too many should die.”

In truth, Zhang Yi didn’t care at all about the students’ lives.

As long as Liang Yue could help him destabilize West Hill Base, he didn’t care how many others perished.

“So, what’s the plan after we sneak in amidst the chaos?” Fatty Xu scratched his head, a bit confused about the mission’s goal.

“We’ve said we want to destroy West Hill Base, but how do we ensure it’s completely destroyed?”

“Do we kill their leader, Chen Xinian? But killing one leader seems pointless; another would just take his place.”

“Are we going to kill everyone in West Hill Base?”

Fatty Xu laughed as if he had made a joke, but Zhang Yi’s serious expression made him stop abruptly.

“Boss, you’re not really planning to kill them all, are you?”

Fatty Xu wasn’t the only one surprised. The others also stared at Zhang Yi, thinking the plan sounded insane and impossible.

Zhang Yi didn’t hold back and revealed his full plan. “At the very least, we need to eliminate 80% of their leadership. Ideally, we’ll kill everyone.”

“This isn’t as impossible as it sounds. I have plenty of explosives—some I confiscated when they tried to destroy our Shelter, and some are my own stockpile.”

“If we detonate such a large amount of explosives in an underground space, do you know what will happen?”

No one in the group had expertise in this area, so they all turned to Lu Keran and Yang Xinxin for an explanation.

After a moment of thought, Lu Keran explained, “Big Brother has about 1,000 kilograms of explosives. If they’re detonated, they’ll cause massive destruction, damaging part of West Hill Base and killing nearby people.”

“But that’s not the worst of it.”

“First, the explosion would destroy West Hill Base’s vital systems—electricity, water circulation, air ventilation, and even escape routes.”

“If any of these systems are compromised, it would be impossible to survive underground.”

“And since explosions consume a lot of oxygen, it’s likely that people far from the blast zone will suffocate due to lack of air.”

Lu Keran’s explanation made everyone realize just how devastating Zhang Yi’s plan truly was.

Even if one part of the plan failed to kill, there were several other deadly outcomes waiting for West Hill Base’s residents.

Fatty Xu chimed in, “Boss, this plan is great. But how do we sneak into West Hill Base? Walking in openly would get us lost or easily recognized.”

Zhang Yi smiled. “I’ve considered that. First, you all need to memorize the layout of West Hill Base. There’s a 3D model on the computer—study it carefully. This is life or death; no slacking off.”

“As for how we get inside with the explosives, we just need a disguise.”

With that, Zhang Yi reached into his dimensional space and pulled out two white combat uniforms.

Previously, he had absorbed a few Special Forces Team members into his space.

These uniforms had been stripped from those soldiers.

“We’ll wear these uniforms. When the internal chaos breaks out, we can easily slip inside.”

Zhang Yi pointed at the computer screen. “We’ll plant the explosives in the Second Life Pod. All of West Hill Base’s critical systems are located there. We don’t need to be picky; just find a hidden spot.”

“With 1,000 kilograms of explosives, the effect will be the same wherever we place them.”

As for encountering Superhumans or getting into direct confrontations, Zhang Yi wasn’t worried at all.

His Dimensional Gate was most powerful in confined spaces.

It would create an impenetrable barrier, and unless the enemy had overwhelming strength—something not yet seen in any human—it couldn’t be breached.

Zhang Yi’s plan was meticulous. Even Fatty Xu, who was normally a coward, felt relieved and thought it was highly feasible.

Afterward, Zhang Yi went over the plan again and handed out weapons to everyone.

Although conventional firearms had little effect on Superhumans, they might still be useful.

Especially for Fatty Xu, who would have to rely on guns inside the base, where his powers wouldn’t be as effective.

In one room, everyone checked their guns and equipment, discussing how they would cooperate and handle unexpected situations.

Fatty Xu was visibly nervous, sweat beading on his forehead.

Uncle You, however, remained calm and composed.

Having served in the military for many years and fought alongside Zhang Yi through multiple life-and-death battles in Yuelu Residential Area, he wasn't as anxious.

Still, there was a glimmer of excitement in his eyes, showing that he wasn't completely at ease either.

As for Zhang Yi?

He felt the same as Uncle You.

Facing such a formidable opponent for the first time, he couldn't deny feeling some nerves.

But once he made a decision, he wouldn't hesitate.

He had also planned an escape route.

If anything went wrong, he would lead his team out immediately.

Hua Hua, being a beast, could move far faster than a Superhuman.

It could transform into a vehicle and help Zhang Yi escape the underground facility.

And once outside, Zhang Yi's snowmobile could easily outrun any pursuers.

After all, West Hill Base only had one snowmobile and a few sleds, which were hardly a threat.

"Remember, completing the mission is secondary. Staying alive is the top priority!"

Zhang Yi seriously reminded Uncle You and Fatty Xu.

Uncle You smiled and nodded. Fatty Xu nodded vigorously.

At West Hill Base.

After her conversation with Zhang Yi, Liang Yue immediately removed her SIM card and turned off her phone.

To avoid detection, she only powered on her phone occasionally to check for messages from Zhang Yi.

Knowing that Zhang Yi would come to rescue her tomorrow night, Liang Yue couldn't help but feel excited.

Finally, she would be able to take her students and escape from this nightmare!

That night, Liang Yue went to the Fourth Life Pod and found her students.

She didn't tell them about the escape plan for the next day.

After everything that had happened, she had learned to be cautious. Such a critical operation had to be kept secret.

If word got out, it could cost everyone their lives.

She only told them not to sleep at midnight tomorrow, as she had something important to share with them then.

Everyone agreed without question, nodding in agreement.

Lately, more and more people had been disappearing.

In fact, the frequency of these disappearances had increased recently, making everyone more afraid.

Liang Yue had become their only pillar of support, so they naturally followed her instructions.

After notifying the students in the Fourth Life Pod, Liang Yue returned to the Second Life Pod to find Ye Xiaotian, along with Shen Moling and Meng Zixuan, both of whom had become Chen Xinian's mistresses.

She wanted to save as many of her students as possible—anyone still alive.

“No one will be left behind,” she thought.

“Come to the Fourth Life Pod at midnight tomorrow. I have something important to tell you,” Liang Yue said to the three of them

Ye Xiaotian immediately agreed. “Yes, Teacher Liang!”

But Shen Moling and Meng Zixuan exchanged a glance, their eyes filled with doubt.

"Teacher Liang, are you planning to escape?" Shen Moling asked coldly, leaning against the wall.

"In West Hill Base, escaping is considered treason. That's a death sentence, you know."

Meng Zixuan, sitting at her vanity table, carefully applied lipstick.

"Teacher Liang wouldn't be that foolish, right? She's now the captain of the Special Forces Team. She has status, wealth, and security. There's no need for her to do something so reckless."

Seeing what her students had become pained Liang Yue's heart.

In just a few months, their youthful innocence had vanished, replaced by the demeanor of jaded women.

Though they were still under twenty, their clothes and makeup were overly mature, as if they were desperately trying to showcase their femininity.

Liang Yue took a deep breath and said to them, "West Hill Base is not the paradise you think it is. There's a lot of filth here that you don't know about."

"Take my advice—this place isn't right for you."

But after hearing this, Shen Moling and Meng Zixuan burst out laughing.

"Haha! Did you hear that? Teacher Liang thinks we don't know what's going on!"

"How ridiculous. Teacher Liang, do you still think we're little kids?"

They laughed until their stomachs hurt.

Liang Yue was dumbfounded. "You..."

Shen Moling suddenly looked up, her cold eyes locking onto Liang Yue's. "Don't be naive, Teacher Liang. We know exactly what's going on here."

Stepping closer, she stared into Liang Yue's eyes. "So what? This place is hell, but do you think the outside world is any better?"

"At least here, we can live comfortably. Why should we care about anyone else's life or death?"

Meng Zixuan finished applying her lipstick and admired herself in the mirror before turning to Liang Yue.

"Teacher Liang, you need to stop clinging to those childish ideals."

"We're grateful you helped us survive, but the world is cruel. Being overly kind will only lead to disaster."

Liang Yue felt like she didn't recognize her own students anymore.

Just a few months ago, they had been innocent, sweet girls, acting like princesses around her.

How could she describe them now?

Although Liang Yue didn't want to use such harsh words, the term "prostitutes" came to mind.

She had lost hope in them.

With a sigh, Liang Yue said, "I only wanted everyone to gather for one last reunion."

She turned and left the room.

Shen Moling and Meng Zixuan exchanged confused glances.

“Do you believe her?”

“I don’t. Do you?”

“Neither do I.”

A sinister glint flashed in Shen Moling’s eyes.

“It seems she really is planning to betray the organization. I’m going to report this to the Leader!”

Chapter 312 : Position

Shen Moling and Meng Zixuan were thrilled, sensing they had captured some critical information.

If Liang Yue was truly planning to defect from the organization, they could seize this chance to win Chen Xinian’s favor.

After all, since Chen Xinian had last shown them attention, it had been half a month since he’d come near them again.

The West Hill Base didn’t lack pretty girls.

Most people here were either wealthy or influential, and these girls were pampered daughters from rich families, with the limits of beauty right there for all to see.

Though Shen and Meng were quite attractive, they weren't overwhelmingly stunning.

Besides, Chen Xinian's age was catching up with him, and his needs weren't as pressing as before.

Especially after his recent conflict with Zhang Yi, his interest had dwindled noticeably.

This left Shen Moling and Meng Zixuan uneasy, fearing that one day they might be thrown back into the Fourth Life Pod.

Once they had tasted the luxury of the Second Life Pod, going back was unimaginable.

So, as soon as Liang Yue left the room, the two rushed out, intending to report her.

But as they opened the door, they saw Liang Yue standing there, looking at them with disappointment.

"You two really let me down."

Liang Yue raised her hand and, with lightning speed, struck each of their necks twice.

Their vision went black, and they collapsed.

Liang Yue had lost all hope in them. To ensure the safety of the other students, she firmly tied the two girls up and stuffed them into the closet.

Just as she was about to leave, she noticed a bottle of sleeping pills on the table and fed each of them two tablets.

Living together in the Second Life Pod, Liang Yue knew that Meng Zixuan and Shen Moling rarely interacted with others.

After all, the other residents were all elite talents and clearly looked down on the two "companions."

No one would come looking for them.

As long as they slept until tomorrow night, she and the other students would be safe.

After ensuring that the closet was ventilated, Liang Yue took their keys, locked the door from the outside, and stepped out.

Just as she breathed a sigh of relief, preparing to rest a bit, she heard a familiar voice.

“Miss Liang, what are you doing here so late?”

Liang Yue's body stiffened, a flicker of tension rising within her.

The voice belonged to Chen Xinian's personal secretary, Ge Rou.

Forcing herself to remain calm, she turned and smiled at her.

Ge Rou, dressed in a black suit with wide, wine-red glasses, wore her usual professional smile.

“I was just heading back. Secretary Ge, where are you headed?”

Ge Rou's smile deepened.

She walked towards Liang Yue, high heels clicking with each step, her eyes narrowing slightly.

Liang Yue felt a surge of unease.

“Miss Liang, you've been visiting the Fourth Life Pod often these past few days, haven't you?”

Ge Rou's words made Liang Yue's nerves tighten.

Could it be... her plan had been discovered?

Or was there a traitor among the students who leaked the information?

Her mind raced, but outwardly she stayed composed.

"I was just checking on the students."

Thinking back over her plan, Liang Yue was sure she had made no mistakes.

She had only told the students to gather at midnight tomorrow, without specifying any details.

Even if someone had leaked the information, she could easily come up with an excuse.

She frowned and coldly asked Ge Rou, "Secretary Ge, there's something I wanted to ask you too!"

"Why have so many of my students mysteriously disappeared since we arrived here over a month ago?"

Ge Rou hadn't expected Liang Yue to question her.

She frowned briefly before responding, "I thought I told you, the West Hill Base has various divisions. Everyone has to follow orders and obey commands." ↪

"The power station isn't the only department. They've been reassigned to other areas as needed."

Relieved, Liang Yue realized Ge Rou had only heard about her visits to the Fourth Life Pod.

Her plan was still intact.

She let out a cold laugh. "Is that really the case? Even so, half of my students disappearing is a bit much!"

She stared fiercely at Ge Rou and demanded, "Secretary Ge, have you been using my students for human experiments?"

A flash of surprise appeared in Ge Rou's eyes, but she quickly laughed it off.

"So, you're aware of that matter."

"That's fine. Since it's within the base and you're the Special Forces Team captain, it's something you would have found out eventually. Saves me the trouble of explaining."

Ge Rou admitted openly.

"Yes, some of your students were indeed sent for human experiments. The goal was to unlock their potential and turn them into Superhumans."

She spread her hands. "But you know how rare Superhumans are, and the success rate of these experiments is extremely low."

In reality, the success rate for these experiments at West Hill Base was dismal, with few successful cases.

Even the current Superhuman captains had achieved their abilities through other special means.

Ge Rou made no effort to hide the experiments from Liang Yue.

As a highly regarded Superhuman at West Hill Base, she would inevitably find out about it.

In fact, in the First to Third Life Pods, these experiments weren't even a secret.

The experiments required numerous subjects, making it impossible to completely hide.

Liang Yue showed the appropriate anger.

"You're using my students for experiments?"

Ge Rou simply smiled, patting her on the shoulder.

"Miss Liang, calm down. I doubt you're naïve enough to believe the base would support so many people for nothing."

"Everything in life comes with a price. If the base hadn't taken you in, you and your students would likely be dead by now."

"So, sacrificing for the base is your duty."

Liang Yue found herself momentarily speechless.

True, without the West Hill Base, they might all have perished long ago.

Even if they'd managed to hide out in Tianqing Academy, they would have eventually run out of resources.

But this didn't mean she could accept Ge Rou's reasoning.

"They could find other ways to survive, not by sacrificing their lives!"

Liang Yue retorted coldly.

Ge Rou shook her head, sighing at Liang Yue as if teaching an ignorant child.

“You’re too idealistic.”

“Miss Liang, you’re now one of the elite here at West Hill Base. The quality of life you enjoy now comes from the sacrifices of those beneath you.”

“You’re benefiting from your students’ sacrifices, so don’t put on a show of righteousness here.”

“Sometimes, you have to live selfishly. Do you not find your current life satisfactory?”

Ge Rou’s eyes glinted as she tried to persuade Liang Yue to accept the survival rules of the base.

Liang Yue was silent for a moment, lowering her head with a sigh.

“I understand.”

Ge Rou’s smile widened. “Now that’s the spirit! You’ll have to realize this sooner or later in a world like this. Goodnight!”

With that, she sauntered away from Liang Yue.

After Ge Rou left, Liang Yue quietly breathed a sigh of relief.

"Thank goodness... thank goodness I wasn't exposed!"

If she had been, everything would have been for nothing.

Liang Yue didn't agree with Ge Rou's philosophy. She believed that even in the apocalypse, society shouldn't devolve into social Darwinism. If it did, humanity would be doomed. At the very least, she could never abandon her students.

"It looks like she already suspects me, but without evidence, she won't take any action for now."

"No matter. By tomorrow, I'll be out of this hellhole!"

With a determined glint in her eyes, Liang Yue tried to act as though nothing had happened and returned to her room.

...

This was destined to be an extraordinary day.

Though everything appeared calm on the surface, without any visible ripples, Zhang Yi and the others understood that something critical, something that would determine their future, was about to happen.

That night, Zhang Yi and his companions took melatonin to get a good night's sleep and set alarms to wake up on time.

The night passed uneventfully.

The next morning arrived quickly.

Zhang Yi and his group slept in until around ten due to their late-night strategy session the evening before. When they got up, Zhou Haimei, Yang Mi, and Zhou Ke'er had already prepared a feast for lunch.

While they ate, Zhang Yi and the others went over their battle plan once more, ensuring that each phase would go off without a hitch.

Zhang Yi placed a fish dish by his plate, and Hua Hua jumped onto the table, joining in on the meal. Everyone was used to Zhang Yi doting on Hua Hua.

"According to the plan, the missile strike is set for midnight tonight," Zhang Yi said.

"We'll get into position early, lying in wait nearby. Once the missile strike hits, Liang Yue and her team will try to escape in the chaos."

He tapped the table forcefully. "We wait for Liang Yue and her team to make their move. If they don't, that means something's wrong on their end. If that happens, we'll abandon the plan without hesitation!"

"Even though we're well-versed in the layout of West Hill Base, once inside, we could still get lost. We need someone to guide us."

Uncle You and Fatty Xu nodded emphatically, fully endorsing Zhang Yi's approach.

"Then, as planned, we'll blend into the crowd, plant the explosives, and escape."

"If anything unexpected comes up, don't hesitate. Just run!"

"Remember, safety first. There's no need to take unnecessary risks."

Zhang Yi was most concerned about preserving his own life.

Fatty Xu nodded vigorously, showing his complete agreement.

Uncle You said seriously, "So, for this mission to succeed, we have to ensure we rescue Liang Yue and her students, right?"

Zhang Yi scoffed.

"Honestly?"

Liang Yue's students didn't matter much to him. But without Liang Yue, the rest of the plan would be hard to execute.

"Think of it that way if you like, but Liang Yue's the priority, not her students."

The group went over the plan repeatedly, analyzing every possible scenario to ensure they stayed safe at all times.

"Finally, there's one more crucial point!"

Zhang Yi looked earnestly at Uncle You, Fatty Xu, and Hua Hua. Hua Hua, sensing his gaze, lifted her head from her fish and looked back at Zhang Yi.

"We'll be fighting amidst the confusion in their base, so they won't be able to use their heavy weaponry. As for the regular soldiers with firearms, I can handle them."

"But the biggest issue is their six Superhumans."

He looked at them with anticipation. "I'm planning to use a strategy like Tian Ji's Horse Racing to counter them."

"Of course, if we can outrun them, we should. If not, we'll engage as a last resort."

...

The wait was agonizing.

That day felt endlessly longer than usual.

Zhang Yi, Uncle You, and the others checked their equipment repeatedly.

Yang Xinxin stayed in front of her computer, monitoring West Hill Base's network to make sure there were no surprises.

As darkness fell, Zhang Yi glanced at his watch—it was 8:00 p.m.

Driving in the dark required caution to avoid drawing attention. From here, it would take roughly three hours to cover the 50 kilometers to West Hill Base.

"It's time. Let's move out!"

Zhang Yi abruptly stood up from the sofa.

A look of resolve flashed in Uncle You and Fatty Xu's eyes as they bit their lips and got to their feet.

The women walked over.

Yang Mi and the others embraced Zhang Yi gently. "Zhang Yi, we'll be here waiting for you to come back safe and sound!"

Zhang Yi smiled, kissing each of them goodbye.

"Don't worry; if I'm known for one thing, it's self-preservation. I'll be fine!"

Zhou Haimei exchanged a few words with Uncle You, adjusting his clothes with a reluctant gaze.

For these women, deep bonds had formed with the men in their lives—whether from dependence or something else. They knew that without them, surviving in this apocalyptic world would be even harder.

Only Fatty Xu was on his own. Pulling out his phone, he opened an app, and a virtual anime girl popped up, encouraging him with a cheerful, "Anata, ganbatte!"

Fatty Xu grinned. "Eri, I'll complete the mission and come back safe!"

Just as they were about to leave, Zhou Ke'er held Zhang Yi's hand, her expression worried. "How about I come with you? If any of you get injured, I can help with the treatment."

But Zhang Yi shook his head. "If we run into trouble, it'll likely be against Superhumans. You wouldn't be able to help much in that case."

"We've got emergency medical supplies on hand, so we'll manage."

Zhou Ke'er understood, though he didn't spell it out. If she went along as a regular person, she could become a liability.

She looked at him with concern. "Alright, but don't forget to use the medicine I prepared for you."

Zhang Yi nodded. "Don't worry, I won't."

The three left the safehouse, descending the stairs into the dark night.

Zhang Yi pulled out their snow vehicle, climbed into the driver's seat, and started the engine.

Dressed in all-white combat gear, they could easily be mistaken for members of West Hill Base's Special Forces Team.

As the snow vehicle roared to life, they headed off into the snowy night, straight toward West Hill Base.

Chapter 314: The Eve

Zhang Yi and his two companions were heading toward the West Hill Base.

Their headsets connected to both radio and satellite phones, allowing them to communicate with Yang Xinxin in real-time.

Although Yang Xinxin was sitting at home, she was on a battlefield of her own.

In this operation, her role was crucial.

"Brother, West Hill Base just confirmed the missile launch time and coordinates with Jiangnan District."

"The time is set for midnight exactly, but as for the coordinates, I've made a slight adjustment in secret, so there's no need to worry."

Zhang Yi nodded, "Got it! Keep monitoring their network and report any issues immediately."

"Understood!"

The night was pitch black, so Zhang Yi kept his speed moderate. Even though the snow blanketed the ground, making it flat, he didn't want the sound of the snow vehicle's engine to give them away.

With Yang Xinxin's guidance, they reached the vicinity of the West Hill Base without a hitch.

Zhang Yi knew the exact coordinates of the base and stopped the car about three kilometers away.

The three of them checked the time—it was already 11:25 PM.

The car's heater was on, keeping them warm so they'd be in optimal condition for the upcoming operation.

Zhang Yi took a silver box from his spatial storage and opened it to reveal ten vials of stimulant.

He handed two vials to Uncle You and Fatty Xu.

After giving them a brief rundown, Zhang Yi took a vial and injected it into his own wrist.

Uncle You followed suit without hesitation.

As Fatty Xu injected himself, he asked, "Stimulants usually have side effects, right?"

Zhang Yi rolled his eyes, "Even if there are side effects, they won't show up right away."

"Let's focus on staying alive. After the mission, you can rest and recover as much as you want."

Fatty Xu nodded, "True, a bit of a side effect is nothing compared to staying alive."

Once they had taken the stimulants, a warm sensation flowed through their bodies.

Though it was late, they felt no trace of fatigue; their eyes shone with newfound energy.

Inside West Hill Base.

Liang Yue arrived at the Fourth Life Pod at the scheduled time.

Even though it was nighttime, people were still working overtime to generate power in the Life Pod.

But Liang Yue used her special privileges to call over her students; even the power plant supervisor didn't dare raise any objections.

She gathered her students.

"Everyone, put on the thick clothes you brought along!"

They were about to leave the West Hill Base, and with the temperature outside at fifty to sixty degrees below zero, they'd freeze in these thin clothes.

Hearing this, some students realized they were about to leave.

"Teacher Liang, are we escaping?" a male student whispered, excitement in his voice.

"Shh!" Wu Chengyu shot him a stern look. "Don't talk too much—just do as Teacher Liang instructed."

The boy quickly covered his mouth.

The group shared a quiet understanding, with a glimmer of hope appearing in their eyes.

When they arrived, they had worn the winter gear issued by Tianqing Academy.

But inside, since the underground temperature was milder, they'd put their warm clothes aside.

No longer minding the temperature, everyone hurried to put on their thick winter clothes.

Liang Yue recalled Zhang Yi's words, knowing something significant was about to happen in the Shelter.

So, she led her students to a corner, hiding them there.

"Zhang Yi, I don't know what you're planning, but please don't let me down!" Liang Yue prayed silently in her heart.

Believing in Zhang Yi was her only option; even if she wasn't entirely confident, she had to follow his instructions.

Meanwhile, on the outside, Chen Xinian remained oblivious.

That night, instead of going to bed as usual, he sat in front of his computer, waiting to receive news of the Shelter's destruction.

Though it came at a cost, sacrificing one of his valuable opportunities to request aid, if it meant eliminating a serious threat, he considered it worth it.

After all, Zhang Yi's existence not only jeopardized the West Hill Base's control over nearby areas but also posed a severe challenge to Chen Xinian's authority.

In Chen Xinian's eyes, Zhang Yi was more dangerous than any other faction in Tianhai City.

He constantly reminded Chen Xinian of his past humiliations—a prominent Tianhai City official, put in his place by a mere nobody!

Chen Xinian sat at his desk, staring at his computer screen, waiting for Jiangnan District's report: "Target Destroyed."

The thought that the man who had humiliated him would soon be dead filled Chen Xinian with satisfaction.

But he didn't want to savor this moment alone.

After a brief pause, he picked up the phone and called his squad captain, Ling Feng.

He wanted Ling Feng to witness what he'd accomplished—that the man Ling Feng couldn't handle was eliminated by him.

So, Ling Feng shouldn't think he was irreplaceable; Chen Xinian didn't need him.

Ling Feng quickly arrived at Chen Xinian's office after receiving the call.

He saw Chen Xinian, dressed in light yellow pajamas, sitting by the computer with a broad smile on his face.

Curious, Ling Feng wondered what had made Chen Xinian so happy.

"Leader!"

Ling Feng saluted.

Chen Xinian beamed at him, gesturing for him to come over. "Ling Feng, come on over. I've got something good to show you."

Ling Feng stepped closer.

With a confident look, Chen Xinian crossed his arms and leaned back in his chair.

“You don’t need to worry about Zhang Yi anymore. I’ve already taken care of it!”

Ling Feng’s eyes widened in surprise.

“You’ve found a way to deal with him?”

Although Chen Xinian had a military background, his position of power was more due to family connections than battlefield achievements.

In terms of basic soldier skills, Chen Xinian was no better than a common foot soldier.

Ling Feng couldn’t imagine how Chen Xinian had pulled this off.

Chen Xinian’s face lit up with a smug grin.

“You have to understand, even in the apocalypse, the military still holds immense power. Not even the superhumans are invincible!”

He looked at Ling Feng, subtly warning him not to let his strength go to his head.

Ling Feng nodded, “Don’t worry, I’ll always follow the Leader’s orders.”

Chen Xinian nodded back and turned his computer screen towards Ling Feng.

“I contacted Jiangnan District, where Director Zhu owed me a major favor. This time, I got him to help by launching a bunker buster missile at Zhang Yi’s Shelter.”

Chapter 315 : Arrival, Chaos

When Ling Feng heard that Chen Xinian had deployed a bunker buster missile to deal with Zhang Yi, his face lit up with excitement.

"Fantastic! With this, Zhang Yi is as good as dead!"

Although Zhang Yi's superhuman abilities allowed him to absorb energy and physical attacks, it had already been tested that he couldn't absorb the energy from an explosion of 500 kilograms of TNT in one go.

The bunker busters currently equipped by Huaguo carry explosives of over a ton, with even larger, more destructive versions available.

West Hill Base had already submitted all data on Zhang Yi's Shelter to Jiangnan District.

To ensure the complete destruction of the Shelter, Jiangnan District deployed a heavier model of bunker buster with enhanced penetration capabilities and a higher payload.

Chen Xinian leaned back in his chair, smiling faintly. "I warned him—young people shouldn't let a little special ability go to their heads. This world isn't as simple as they think."

He motioned for Ling Feng to join him. "Come, Ling Feng. Let's watch together as his Shelter is destroyed."

Ling Feng stood behind Chen Xinian, both staring at the computer screen.

Displayed on it was a 3D model of the Shelter, programmed to update in real-time as soon as the missile struck.

Ling Feng was thrilled but couldn't help but joke, "Deploying such a powerful weapon just to handle one Zhang Yi—it's overkill, isn't it?"

Chen Xinian sighed quietly.

"If only this weapon was under my command. In the past, I was on the same level as Zhu Zheng, but now he's become like a local warlord."

Chen Xinian shot Ling Feng a glance and chuckled, shaking his head.

"You're still too young. You don't understand politics."

Although he and Zhu Zheng shared some camaraderie, it wasn't deep. After using up this favor, Chen Xinian would have to pay a much higher price to request Zhu Zheng's help again.

Besides, for the Jiangnan District, the entire region was now their territory.

Whoever claimed power locally posed no real threat to them.

What reason would Zhu Zheng have to support Chen Xinian?

And Chen Xinian was a man who would rather be a "chicken's head than a bull's tail."

Even if it was just a small dominion in Tianhai City, he was still a sovereign in his own right.

There was no need for him to scramble to be anyone's underling.

Time ticked by slowly.

Zhang Yi, Liang Yue, and Chen Xinian were all waiting for the missile, launched from the silos in Jinling, to descend upon them.

Yang Xinxin's gaze never left the screen, watching closely to avoid missing any critical information.

As midnight approached, a thin layer of sweat coated Zhang Yi's palm.

The three quietly wiped their palms and put on their tactical gloves.

At Jiangnan District headquarters in Jinling, a middle-aged officer in military uniform pressed the launch button in the operations command room.

A massive bunker buster soared out of the missile silo, blazing a trail across the night sky as it streaked southeast.

The fiery tail illuminated the dark night, standing out distinctly over Tianhai City.

At that moment, many people in secret corners across Tianhai City lifted their heads, their expressions grim as they observed the sight.

Zhang Yi and his group were ready.

The three gripped their guns, and Hua Hua, the demon cat, fluffed up her black fur in alarm.

Liang Yue tightened her hold on her Tang Sword.

Chen Xinian's eyes were glued to the screen, brimming with excitement.

Right then, at West Hill Base, the Information Department's radar detected an unidentified object speeding towards them!

“What is that?!”

“It’s a missile... coming from Jinling!”

“What are they thinking?!”

“Report this immediately!”

By the time they detected it, it was already too late.

West Hill Base’s anti-air radar only covered a range of 200 kilometers, and the missile’s speed left no time to react.

From within the snow vehicle, Zhang Yi watched as a bright streak descended on the horizon, crashing down like a meteor towards West Hill.

The hearts of Zhang Yi, Fatty Xu, and Uncle You leaped into their throats as they leaned forward instinctively, clutching onto anything within reach.

“Boom—”

A deep rumble echoed from the depths of the earth.

The sound wasn’t deafening as expected, since bunker busters explode hundreds of meters underground.

Yet the tremors were still intense, causing the vehicle to shake as if it were a small boat in a storm, creating an unsettling illusion of overturning. R

“D***, it worked!” Zhang Yi shouted in excitement.

If the ground was shaking so intensely from several kilometers away, the impact on the underground Shelter at West Hill Base would be unimaginable!

Zhang Yi instructed Yang Xinxin, “Xinxin, execute the plan!”

From the Safe House, Yang Xinxin calmly replied, “Understood!”

She brought her hovering finger down firmly on the Enter key.

Inside West Hill Base, it was as if an earthquake had struck, throwing the entire facility into chaos!

Caught completely off-guard by the missile attack, the entire base shuddered violently, waking people from their sleep.

Those unaware of the situation thought it was an earthquake, screaming in terror.

Meanwhile, Yang Xinxin hacked into the base's network and shut off the power.

The whole West Hill Base plunged into pitch darkness, and without power, no systems could operate.

Panicked screams filled the base.

Chen Xinian, thrown off his chair, had to be helped up by Ling Feng.

“What's going on? What happened? Why is this happening?”

Chen Xinian looked around in confusion, his anger exploding in a shout.

Just then, a call from the Information Department came through. “Leader, we’ve been hit by a missile strike!”

“What? A missile strike? From where?!”

Chen Xinian was about to curse when a thought struck him.

“Could it be... that b*****d Zhu Zheng double-crossed me?!”

Unaware that his base’s network had been infiltrated, Chen Xinian assumed Zhu Zheng had sabotaged him.

But cursing would have to wait—his priority was restoring order at West Hill Base.

He immediately rounded up the heads of various departments, assigning tasks.

“Ling Feng, rally the Special Forces Team to secure our safety!”

“Make sure no one from the Fourth Life Pod causes trouble. Station soldiers there and defend it at all costs—if anyone tries to create chaos, kill them on the spot!”

“Also, get the engineers to repair the power systems!”

Despite the turmoil, Chen Xinian quickly grasped the situation.

Their base was heavily fortified; a few missiles alone wouldn’t bring it down.

They just had to survive this brief period of disorder.

It wouldn't take long.

Chapter 316: Escape

The missile struck West Hill Base, causing a violent tremor.

The soldiers standing guard outside the base panicked, frantically reaching for their communication devices to contact the command center. But Yang Xinxin had already cut the power, leaving the entire base in chaos; none of them could get through.

At that moment, a snow vehicle approached from the distance, stopping at the base's entrance as three figures charged out.

“Attack!”

Zhang Yi's eyes were filled with killing intent as he raised his gun and started shooting.

In just thirty seconds, all the soldiers guarding the entrance were taken down. Even elite soldiers were no match for Superhumans.

Ahead of them lay the main gate of West Hill Base.

“Now, it's up to Liang Yue!” Zhang Yi said, his gaze steady and focused.

...

Inside the Fourth Life Pod.

After the missile strike, the entire pod shook violently.

Students huddled in a corner screamed and clung to each other in terror. Only now did Liang Yue understand what Zhang Yi meant by a “disturbance.”

Luckily, the underground shelter had been constructed to withstand such impacts, and although the tremors were severe, there was no sign of collapse.

Liang Yue and her students were prepared, so they weren’t injured in the chaos. However, others in the Fourth Life Pod weren’t as fortunate.

Some had already gone to bed and were thrown off, their beds collapsing on top of them, causing severe injuries. Others working late pedaling on exercise bikes for power fell off, yelling in fright without anywhere to hide.

There were cries everywhere.

Desperate screams filled the air.

Suddenly, the entire shelter went dark.

Without hesitation, Liang Yue grabbed a female student. “Go! Follow me out of here! Move, quickly!”

There was no time to explain—every second counted!

If the West Hill Base restored power and regained control, they’d lose any chance of escape.

Using her phone as a flashlight, Liang Yue led the students, running at the front. Behind her, they held hands, following the light through the chaotic crowd, eyes fixed on the small beacon of hope.

At the doorway, Liang Yue used all her strength to open the heavy, dark green metal door.

Inside was chaos, and outside wasn't much better.

The Third Life Pod housed many soldiers, though not all of them were highly trained.

Caught off guard, the soldiers didn't dare to act hastily since no orders had reached them yet.

Liang Yue and her students rushed out, prompting others to surge forward, thinking they could escape death only by getting out.

The sudden chaos left the soldiers stunned.

They shouted, aiming their guns at the crowd: "Get back! No one's allowed to leave, or we'll open fire!"

"Return, all of you! Stop coming out!"

About a dozen soldiers held rifles, shouting orders. But no matter how loud they yelled, they couldn't drown out the terrified screams filling the base.

The Third Life Pod was in turmoil itself, and the soldiers hesitated to shoot in the dark, fearing stray bullets might hit their own.

Even more concerning, if the Fourth Life Pod's thousands of inhabitants charged en masse, they'd be overwhelmed.

Seeing the chaos, Liang Yue thought, *This is our chance!*

She had memorized the escape route, so she led her students forward, each holding hands and firmly following her direction, unlike the panicked crowd scattering aimlessly.

Soon, they exited the Fourth Life Pod, moving through the underground passage.

Not long after, the sound of rapid gunfire and bloodcurdling screams echoed, sending a chill down everyone's spine. They realized the soldiers had started shooting!

Many might be killed in such disarray, but they couldn't let that stop them. Escaping West Hill Base was their only priority.

"Don't look back, keep moving forward!" Liang Yue whispered, urging them on.

She held her phone ahead, lighting the way, her other hand gripping her sword hilt tightly, embodying a fierce resolve like *Liberty Leading the People*.

About a dozen students followed closely behind, not daring to stray.

However, they still had several corridors to cross before reaching the escape tunnel. Speed was crucial.

Liang Yue knew that with its military might, West Hill Base could easily suppress this level of unrest. She stayed on guard, ready to fight at any moment.

Rounding a corner, two armed soldiers appeared ahead. Although the lighting was chaotic, yellow glow sticks provided visibility on the walls.

When the soldiers saw Liang Yue leading a group of students, they immediately raised their guns.

"No one's allowed through without orders. Go back!"

Without a word, Liang Yue summoned her blue Superhuman energy, which began swirling like smoke around her right hand.

Clang!

In a flash of blue light, the soldiers felt a sudden chill around their necks. Their guns fell in two, along with their throats.

Blood sprayed like a gust of wind as the soldiers clutched their necks, collapsing in despair.

“Move!” Liang Yue urged the students forward.

The soldiers’ presence confirmed that West Hill Base’s leaders were trying to restore order. If they delayed any longer, more soldiers would arrive.

If she encountered the Special Forces, Liang Yue couldn’t guarantee she could get all her students out safely.

The group ran forward, panting heavily.

To reach the ground, they’d have to climb a staircase over a hundred meters high—a daunting task even for the fit, but they had no other choice.

Though there was an elevator for the Special Forces and high-ranking officials, access was restricted to Chen Xinian.

Liang Yue led her students toward the escape route.

Suddenly, a bright light appeared ahead.

Excited smiles broke out on the students’ faces.

“We’ve reached the exit!”

But Liang Yue abruptly halted, blocking the students.

“Stop!”

The light above flickered and then settled on Liang Yue’s face.

Liang Yue shielded her eyes, and then she heard the familiar sound of high heels.

“Miss Liang, I guess my warnings meant nothing to you,” Ge Rou said icily.

Only then did the group realize it wasn’t the exit ahead but a line of over thirty heavily armed, stern-faced Special Forces Team members.

“The Leader is wise; he knew someone would attempt to escape in the chaos.”

“You aren’t the first group to try, and you won’t be the last. But your fate will be the same.”

Ge Rou adjusted her glasses, a mocking smile on her face.

“You’ll become rations!”

At the mention of “rations,” the students turned pale.

Does that mean the food we ate... contained...

Some started retching, but nausea was the least of their worries now. Survival was paramount, yet escape seemed impossible with such a force in their path.

So close to freedom, their hopes were brutally shattered.

Ge Rou stood with arms crossed, looking down at them coldly.

Behind her, thirty soldiers aimed their loaded guns at the students, completely blocking their escape.

Liang Yue felt a chill in her heart, nearly sinking into despair.

Alone, she could easily break through, but with her students, it was impossible.

If they engaged, the students would be torn apart by the concentrated gunfire.

Ge Rou sneered, "Why sacrifice yourself for these worthless test subjects?"

"West Hill Base doesn't tolerate betrayal!"

Liang Yue raised her hand. "Wait! Maybe we can talk this over."

Ge Rou's tone turned frigid. "There's nothing to discuss! Even with your potential as a Superhuman, a traitor is a traitor, and traitors must die."

Ge Rou slowly raised her right hand, preparing to signal.

But just then, a soldier beside her collapsed.

Ge Rou's eyes widened as she noticed a small hole in his helmet, one that standard bulletproof helmets couldn't stop against a sniper shot.

Behind them, the main gate of West Hill Base swung open.

Zhang Yi and his team appeared, sniper rifles in hand, taking out soldiers one by one!

Terrified, Ge Rou screamed, diving for cover as she ordered the soldiers to return fire.

In seconds, gunfire filled the narrow passageway, bullets creating a deadly crossfire.

Liang Yue urged her students to take cover against the wall.

Drawing her Tang Sword, she charged at the soldiers for close combat.

She knew Zhang Yi's team had arrived for backup.

With this support, Liang Yue felt a surge of confidence as the three forces clashed in the confined corridor.

West Hill Base's soldiers, trapped between Zhang Yi's team and Liang Yue's sword, couldn't match their strength.

In both close and long-range combat, the soldiers were completely outmatched.

Zhang Yi's Dimensional Gate allowed them to strike unimpeded, and Liang Yue's sword cut through anyone in close quarters.

The brief yet brutal battle left the corridor littered with body parts and blood flowing down the staircase like a river.

Liang Yue looked up and met Zhang Yi's gaze.

For the first time, she looked at him with genuine gratitude.

“Thank you for the support,” Liang Yue said sincerely.

“No problem. It’s what you deserve,” Zhang Yi replied.

If Liang Yue hadn’t served as an informant inside West Hill Base, Zhang Yi wouldn’t have had the chance to attack the base.

“Get them out quickly; every second counts,” Zhang Yi urged.

Liang Yue nodded, gathering her shaken students.

As they moved forward, she spotted Ge Rou cowering in a corner.

The once-high-and-mighty secretary now looked as if she wished she could curl up and disappear.

But physics didn’t grant her such a mercy.

Liang Yue glared at her. “Ge Rou, you’re the one who sent my students to their deaths, weren’t you?”

Terror was etched on Ge Rou’s face, this once-proud woman so

frightened she had wet herself.

“No! I’m just a secretary! It was the Leader’s orders,” she pleaded.

Ye Xiaotian stepped forward, hatred in his eyes. His experience in human experiments had scarred him deeply, making him wish for death countless times.

Without a word, he pulled out a knife, stabbing it into Ge Rou's throat and slicing it open.

Blood gushed out as Ge Rou clutched her neck, collapsing to the ground and lying still after a few desperate twitches.

Chapter 317 : Infiltration

Liang Yue walked over to Zhang Yi, expressing her gratitude sincerely, "Thank you for coming to get us, as promised."

Although the three of them wore Special Forces Team uniforms, Liang Yue wasn't particularly curious. She had known since Zhang Yi's assault on Xu Family Town that he had similar combat gear.

Liang Yue took a long look at Hua Hua, perched on Zhang Yi's shoulder. She sensed that familiar aura immediately.

Hua Hua looked back at Liang Yue with her amber eyes, which held a distinctly human-like amusement.

Liang Yue took a few deep breaths, choosing not to dwell on this for now. She didn't know the whole story, but now wasn't the time to pursue it.

Zhang Yi nodded and said, "We've cleared the guards at the entrance. Your students can leave first."

He pulled two backpacks from a spatial storage space and tossed them on the ground.

"These are packed with high-energy food and fuel for warmth. Have them take these supplies and head to the residential area five kilometers southeast to hide."

"Lead the way for us; we have other things to do."

Both Liang Yue and the students looked surprised.

The students were visibly anxious. “Aren’t... you coming with us?”

If they encountered pursuers, they wouldn’t stand a chance.

“Relax,” Zhang Yi replied. “Right now, they don’t have time to come after you.”

He continued, “However, if we just escape without taking action, I’m sure they’ll track us down after they’ve calmed things here.”

Zhang Yi looked Liang Yue squarely in the eyes. “Teacher Liang, you, of all people, should understand. Simply escaping from West Hill Base is not realistic!”

“Especially since you’ve already killed so many of them.”

Liang Yue bit her lip, knowing Zhang Yi was right.

Once she decided to break ties with West Hill Base, there was no going back.

“What do you plan to do?” she asked.

Zhang Yi gave a slight smile. “It’s simple—let’s end this once and for all! Let’s blow up West Hill Base so they’ll never be a threat to us again!”

“Destroy the entire West Hill Base?”

Liang Yue hesitated. After all, there were thousands of people in the base.

If they destroyed it, wouldn’t they all die?

But Zhang Yi's point was clear: as long as West Hill Base remained, she and her students would face retribution sooner or later.

They weren't like Zhang Yi, who had the strength to stand against the base.

After a moment's thought, Liang Yue made up her mind. "Alright, I'll help you!"

There was no time to hesitate.

Destroying West Hill Base with Zhang Yi was the only viable option left to her.

Liang Yue called Ye Xiaotian over, entrusting him with leading the students out.

Ye Xiaotian cast a deep look at Zhang Yi and his two companions, then said to Liang Yue, "Teacher Liang, you have to come back safely!"

Though Ye Xiaotian was enhanced, he didn't have the courage to face the full force of the Special Forces Team.

Besides, even if he stayed, Zhang Yi likely wouldn't keep him, as a modified human was still too weak compared to true Superhumans.

Ye Xiaotian slung a backpack over his shoulder and handed the other to Wu Chengyu.

The group, with the students in tow, quickly made their way up through the passage.

Only after watching them disappear through the door did Liang Yue breathe a sigh of relief.

Zhang Yi glanced at her, lowering the visor on his helmet as he said, "Let's go. We don't have much time."

This chaos wouldn't last long.

Yang Xinxin had taken control of West Hill Base's internal network, shutting down several systems.

But soon, someone would restore them manually.

And the Fourth Life Pod's revolt would eventually be crushed by gunfire.

They had to complete their mission as quickly as possible.

"Take us to this spot!"

Zhang Yi pulled out his phone, showing Liang Yue the location of the Second Life Pod on the map.

Liang Yue nodded, "Follow me!"

This was her residence, so she knew it well.

Liang Yue led the way with her Tang Sword in hand.

Behind her, Zhang Yi and his two companions were already feeling the effects of the stimulants they had taken. For the next few hours, they wouldn't feel fatigue, their pain sensitivity would be reduced, and they could perform at peak physical and combat capacity.

The four of them moved quickly through the underground passages, where the sounds of gunfire and shouting echoed throughout West Hill Base.

People from the Fourth Life Pod had broken into the Third and Second Life Pods.

They hadn't chosen to escape from West Hill Base, knowing the freezing conditions outside meant certain death.

Many of them, especially the clever ones, aimed to seize control of West Hill Base by force.

The passageways were filled with skirmishes, with bloodstains on the walls and floors.

But when Zhang Yi's group appeared, people instinctively moved aside.

After all, they were wearing the iconic uniforms of the Special Forces Team.

Liang Yue even wore a captain's uniform.

Since the power system was down, they had to rely on glow sticks and temporary lighting, which obscured visibility.

People glanced at them but didn't have time to scrutinize if they were allies.

No one here knew of Liang Yue's defection, so the soldiers stepped aside for her as she passed.

As for the civilians from the Fourth Life Pod, they fled as though they'd seen ghosts.

Everyone knew the Special Forces Team was the base's most powerful armed force.

Zhang Yi took out a handgun and fired two shots at civilians nearby, deterring anyone from approaching and clearing a path for his team.

If they were going to act, they had to commit fully. Disguised as Special Forces Team members, killing a few civilians made them look the part.

Fatty Xu and Uncle You followed suit, showing no hesitation in dealing with those around them.

Few here were genuinely innocent civilians. Most of them were once the elites and authorities of Tianhai City.

The four moved quickly through the passage, reaching the Second Life Pod before long.

Once there, the atmosphere grew quieter.

The Second Life Pod was heavily guarded, primarily by Special Forces Team members, who quickly subdued any minor disturbances.

Seeing Liang Yue and the others in uniform, they assumed they were allies and let them pass.

“Let’s do it!” Zhang Yi said to Uncle You and Fatty Xu.

They nodded and swiftly pulled out time bombs from their backpacks, placing them in hidden corners throughout the Second Life Pod.

Watching them, Liang Yue grew anxious. “The structures here are extremely sturdy. Normal explosives won’t work!”

Zhang Yi replied calmly, “I know. These aren’t ordinary explosives.”

As he spoke, he headed to the location they had planned beforehand.

The spot was a corner of the Second Life Pod, tucked away in a secluded area rarely frequented by anyone.

Liang Yue, feeling uneasy, followed him closely.

When Zhang Yi reached the spot, he pulled out two large bundles of explosives from his spatial storage space, placing them in the corner.

At first glance, Liang Yue thought they looked familiar. Then it hit her: they were the same explosives Ling Feng had used to attack the shelter!

“You actually kept those!”

Zhang Yi smirked. “Of course. I never waste anything. Now, let’s let them taste their own explosives!”

Chapter 318: Killing Intent Boiling Over!

After setting up the explosives, Zhang Yi turned immediately. “Let’s go. We need to get out of here now!”

As he walked, he pulled out several smaller explosives, attaching them to the doors of each room they passed.

Following closely, Liang Yue glanced at the end of the hallway leading to the Second Life Pod, where Chen Xinian lived.

“Why don’t we kill Chen Xinian? Capture the leader, and the whole West Hill Base would fall apart!”

Just thinking about how Chen Xinian’s orders had turned West Hill Base into its current nightmare filled her with hatred, especially since he had exploited her students, making her feel repulsed as a woman.

Without looking back, Zhang Yi replied, "Killing Chen Xinian would only lead to another taking his place."

"Have you considered that the problem isn't just one person, but the entire system at West Hill Base?"

Liang Yue opened her mouth to respond, but no words came. She couldn't argue because Zhang Yi was right.

"This den of corruption needs to be destroyed," Zhang Yi said coldly. "Otherwise, it'll keep breeding evil."

He moved onward, with Uncle You and Fatty Xu following.

The four hurried toward the Third Life Pod. Their behavior finally caught the attention of a few Special Forces Team members.

"Stop! Where are you going?"

One soldier pointed his gun at them.

As a Special Forces soldier, his sharp instincts told him something was off with these people, especially with a tabby cat following them. No one at West Hill Base kept pets—they had once, but pets eventually became protein sources.

If it weren't for the power outage dimming the lights, they'd have noticed something wrong sooner.

But Zhang Yi never intended to hide his presence for long.

"Quadruple speed!" he commanded, instantly accelerating and firing a quick shot in return.

Bang!

The soldier's helmet shattered, and he fell dead on the spot.

No need to hide anymore; Zhang Yi's setup was complete. Even if the base had skilled bomb-disposal experts, they wouldn't have enough time to disarm all the explosives.

Indeed, some explosives were decoys meant to divert attention.

"They're not from the base!"

The fallen soldier's death alerted the others.

Immediately, the soldiers raised their guns and aimed at Zhang Yi and his team.

"Dimensional Gate!"

Zhang Yi extended his right hand forward, opening the Dimensional Gate.

In the narrow corridor, the gate blocked all angles of attack.

Gunfire erupted, bullets raining down, yet none could breach the Dimensional Gate. Each round vanished into the other dimension.

Liang Yue couldn't help casting a deep look at Zhang Yi. Observing his power from a Special Forces perspective, she had always found it formidable and hard to counter. Now, as an ally, his overwhelming defensive ability made her feel secure.

Then someone in the crowd recognized Zhang Yi's ability.

"Spatial power—it's Zhang Yi!"

The speaker, Shen Hong, had once followed Ling Feng in an attack on Zhang Yi's shelter.

Recalling the ability's nature, he shouted in panic, "Stop shooting! Scatter now!"

But it was too late.

Zhang Yi smiled slightly. "Full counter!"

The bullets absorbed by the Dimensional Gate blasted back out in an instant.

Thud-thud-thud!

The bullets tore through armor and flesh.

The seven or eight soldiers in front were shredded in seconds.

The soldiers behind had no room to escape, confined by the narrow corridor. Their only defense was hiding behind their fallen comrades' bodies.

Amid the thunderous gunfire, Zhang Yi quickly began retreating.

As he backed up, he tossed dozens of grenades from the Dimensional Space, their pins removed.

Seeing the grenades, the soldiers' faces went pale.

"Take cover!"

The grenades rolled along the corridor, hitting walls and the ground before a rapid series of explosions erupted.

Screams and shouts of agony filled the air as limbs flew, and blood splattered across the walls, painting them red.

“Retreat!” Zhang Yi ordered.

This place was no longer safe. If they got surrounded, even his Dimensional Gate would lose its effectiveness, as it only protected in one direction and couldn’t cover multiple angles.

Just then, the lights above flickered.

“The power system is almost restored.”

Zhang Yi frowned.

If West Hill Base’s systems came back online, it would make creating chaos much harder.

“Move, move, move! Get out of here!”

The group retreated swiftly.

But Special Forces members were already closing in.

News of Zhang Yi’s infiltration reached Ling Feng and Chen Xinian.

Chen Xinian immediately issued a death order: Zhang Yi must not leave—dead or alive, he wanted him found.

“Damn Zhang Yi, this time you came right to me! Let’s see how you fight me without that turtle shell protecting you!”

In his room, Chen Xinian powered up a backup generator.

Dressed in protective gear, he was flanked by bodyguards, each armed and ready to defend him.

Meanwhile, in the Second Life Pod, Ling Feng gathered his men, burning with rage, ready to settle scores with Zhang Yi.

“Let’s see you escape this time!”

Ling Feng’s eyes blazed with killing intent. Old grudges and fresh anger simmered within him, and he was determined to end things with Zhang Yi here and now.

But as they advanced, chaos erupted in the Second Life Pod.

People there noticed yellow explosive charges plastered everywhere. These bombs weren’t meant to destroy walls, but they would kill and deplete oxygen, causing asphyxiation.

“Deploy bomb disposal experts, now!” Ling Feng ordered before storming off to pursue Zhang Yi.

Nothing mattered to him now except killing Zhang Yi.

Zhang Yi’s group fought their way back as they retreated.

Following Ling Feng’s orders, Special Forces and regular soldiers focused their efforts on stopping them.

Every exit was swarming with soldiers.

Zhang Yi opened the Dimensional Gate, absorbing their gunfire and firing it back, taking down many soldiers.

But the soldiers had been warned and tried to delay Zhang Yi and his team instead of attacking head-on.

They aimed to buy time for Ling Feng and the other top officers to arrive.

“Don’t worry about them—break through! We can’t waste time fighting here!”

Zhang Yi wanted to avoid a confrontation with the troublesome Superhumans.

“I’ll handle this!” Uncle You declared.

Activating his Superhuman ability, he grew in size, his protective suit tearing as he transformed into a towering muscular giant over two meters tall.

His massive frame nearly blocked the entire corridor.

Uncle You charged forward like a human tank, crashing into the soldiers blocking their way.

Bullets ricocheted off his body with a metallic clang, unable to cause any serious harm.

“Roar!”

With a mighty charge, Uncle You sent a dozen soldiers flying.

Chapter 319 : Ice and Fire

Everything was unfolding exactly as Zhang Yi had planned.

In the short span of chaos, he successfully planted the explosives in the Second Life Pod.

This was where the core figures of West Hill Base resided. If they all died, the base would fall apart.

Even if the remaining soldiers survived, they would be little more than a leaderless, scattered force.

So, even the worst outcome was one Zhang Yi could live with.

Still, seeing the wave of soldiers flooding in from all directions down the passageways made Zhang Yi feel a sense of awe.

Luckily, he had injected himself with a stimulant.

Instead of fear, he felt exhilarated, his blood boiling with excitement.

He opened the Dimensional Gate, pulled out his rifle, and fired. The bullets he used were specially crafted armor-piercing rounds—designed specifically for dealing with the Special Forces Team's armor.

In just five minutes, over thirty soldiers had fallen to his rifle.

But more soldiers kept coming.

They had orders to hold Zhang Yi and his team at all costs.

With so many people willing to sacrifice themselves, Zhang Yi and his team found their pace delayed.

Uncle You transformed into a titan-like giant, clearing blockades with his immense, rock-like skin, so tough that bullets barely left a mark on it.

Zhang Yi called out, "Uncle You, be careful!"

Taking bullets head-on was fine with Uncle You's thick skin, but it made Zhang Yi nervous just watching.

Uncle You laughed, "Don't worry about me!"

Not only was he physically strong, but he also had regenerative abilities, allowing him to heal quickly from non-lethal injuries.

At that moment, five Special Forces Team members in white armor appeared before him.

Some were familiar faces to Zhang Yi, including Shen Hong and Yu Lang.

These five were modified humans, all enhanced with cells from Ling Feng!

Shen Hong and Yu Lang's eyes turned red upon seeing Zhang Yi.

So many of their comrades had died at Zhang Yi's hands during their last mission, leaving only the two of them alive. Their hatred for Zhang Yi ran deep. Rá

"Zhang Yi!!!" Shen Hong roared. "You're not leaving now. Today, you die here!"

The five men, knowing Zhang Yi's abilities, didn't bother with firearms.

Instead, they came at him with bayonets, claw knives, and batons, launching a flurry of attacks.

Uncle You snorted, "If you want Zhang Yi, you'll have to get through me first!"

As Zhang Yi's shield, he wouldn't let anyone lay a hand on him.

The five modified humans charged at Uncle You, expecting an intense battle.

But to their shock, Uncle You swung his massive arm and sent them all flying with a single strike!

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The five crashed into the walls, coughing up blood from internal injuries.

“Half-baked modified humans really think they can compete with a true Superhuman?”

Zhang Yi said coolly.

Uncle You was stronger than ever.

His mutation kept progressing, making his abilities grow with time.

Modified humans, on the other hand, were flawed; the mutated cells slowly ate away at their healthy cells.

They only grew weaker over time.

“They’re nothing,” Uncle You said, disappointment flickering in his eyes.

“I wish I could face a real Superhuman in a true battle.”

His fists itched with anticipation.

Though he now possessed immense strength, he hadn’t yet faced a real fight to test it, making him restless.

“I’d rather never have to fight at all,” Zhang Yi muttered.

The group moved past the incapacitated modified humans and continued their retreat.

“You think you can escape that easily?”

A cold laugh echoed from around the corner as a tall, thin figure emerged.

The gold star insignia on his combat uniform marked his status as a team captain.

Zhang Yi recognized him immediately—the Superhuman known as Fang Zun, codename “Fire Man.”

“Dimensional Gate!” Zhang Yi instantly opened the portal.

Fang Zun sneered and extended his hands towards Zhang Yi and his team. With a boom, a massive fire dragon roared down the corridor toward them!

The Dimensional Gate swallowed the fire dragon, but Fang Zun continued his assault, and no one knew how long he could sustain it.

“He’s stalling us!” Zhang Yi’s eyes narrowed as he quickly grasped Fang Zun’s intent.

Once Zhang Yi opened the Dimensional Gate, he couldn’t move it. Unless Fang Zun stopped, Zhang Yi would be unable to escape.

And that fire control ability, which Zhang Yi once deemed practically useless, was proving devastating in these close quarters.

The intense heat was spreading along the walls, even making the reinforced concrete glow red.

Fang Zun's flames must have reached over a thousand degrees Celsius!

If Zhang Yi didn't stop Fang Zun, more Special Forces Team members would arrive soon.

Seeing that they were close to their exit, Zhang Yi called out, "Fatty, it's up to you now!"

With those words, a torrent of snow burst from the Dimensional Gate, instantly smothering Fang Zun's fire dragon.

Fang Zun stepped back but continued to block the passage, sneering, "You think this little trick will stop me? Too naive!"

He pulled out a large metal canister from behind him, unscrewed the cap, and poured out a stream of black, oily liquid.

It was a special fuel he'd formulated, burning ten times hotter than gasoline!

The black oil spread beneath his feet.

With a snap of his fingers, a flame sparked from Fang Zun's fingertip, transforming into a snake that slithered onto the ground.

Whoosh!

Flames shot up from the ground, reaching five or six meters high.

Yet, Fang Zun stood in the middle of the inferno unharmed, with not a single flame touching his clothes.

He twirled his fingers, commanding an even larger fire dragon to strike Zhang Yi and his group.

“Let’s see how long you last! The captains will be here any moment now, and then you’re dead!” Fang Zun laughed.

He was intentionally trying to rattle Zhang Yi’s team, hoping they’d slip up.

But, having taken stimulants, the three felt more exhilaration than fear.

As Fang Zun’s fire dragon surged forward, Fatty Xu leapt into action, summoning a pale blue glow from his hands. The snow that Zhang Yi had brought swirled and transformed into a roaring snowstorm!

Fatty Xu’s power only worked in icy conditions.

So, Zhang Yi had specifically collected a large amount of snow in his Dimensional Space for this moment.

The snowstorm clashed with the fire dragon, filling the passage with thick steam.

Fang Zun hesitated, taken aback. His intel on Fatty Xu was limited.

None of them had ever seen Fatty Xu in action before.

But Fatty Xu’s snowstorm created just enough time and space for Zhang Yi and the others to make their escape.

“Go!”

As Fatty Xu held off Fang Zun, Zhang Yi and Uncle You dashed forward.

But then, a terrifying blast of wind struck from behind.

“You wanted a real fight, didn’t you? I’ll play with you.”

A familiar voice echoed in Zhang Yi’s ears.

Zhang Yi’s eyes widened in recognition.

Though Fang Zun had only held them back for seconds, it was enough for the others to catch up.

“Look out!” Zhang Yi warned his team.

In the next instant, a blurry figure surged from the end of the passage, charging straight at Uncle You.

Uncle You instinctively swung a punch forward.

The figure didn’t dodge; instead, he threw a punch of his own.

The next moment, Zhang Yi and the others watched in shock as Uncle You staggered back seven or eight steps and collapsed.

His right arm twisted at a grotesque angle, his fist a bloody mess, with bone visible through his shredded skin.

Uncle You, whose physical strength was his hallmark, had been defeated in a single blow!

Zhang Yi’s heart sank as he stared at the man.

Only one person at West Hill Base had the monstrous strength to bring down Uncle You with a single hit—Ling Feng.

Ling Feng stood just ten meters from Zhang Yi, making no move to advance.

Not because of any sense of honor, but because as soon as Uncle You was struck down, Zhang Yi had opened the Dimensional Gate to block his path.

If Ling Feng came any closer, he would be drawn into the portal, where Zhang Yi would have the advantage.

But somehow, Ling Feng sensed this and stopped instinctively.

Fatty Xu, seeing the scene unfold, broke into a cold sweat. "Uncle You, are you okay?"

Sweating heavily, Uncle You grimaced. Thanks to the stimulant, he barely felt any pain.

"Fine, just... feels like I got hit by a train."

Without a word, Zhang Yi threw him another dose of stimulant.

It could only be used up to three times due to the severe side effects, which would leave the user debilitated for two weeks.

But there was no time to worry about that now.

Zhang Yi needed Uncle You's fighting ability against such a formidable foe.

Ahead, Fatty Xu continued to hold off Fang Zun with his snowstorm. The element advantage kept them at a stalemate.

For Zhang Yi, that was enough.

It gave him the chance to focus on the approaching threat from Ling Feng's direction.

Hua Hua's fur stood on end, and she let out a low growl.

Liang Yue rested her hand on the hilt of her Tang Sword, ready for a fight.

"Don't worry; he's not getting through," Zhang Yi said calmly.

He was confident

that with the Dimensional Gate in a confined space like this, he was unbeatable.

If it weren't for this advantage, he wouldn't have risked coming so far into West Hill Base.

Ling Feng stood before the Dimensional Gate, able to sense its unique spatial energy.

He had also learned from their previous battles that the Dimensional Gate couldn't launch attacks on its own.

As long as he didn't enter, Zhang Yi couldn't reach him.

Crossing his arms, Ling Feng sneered, "You think you'll escape after coming here?"

One by one, more captain-level Superhumans appeared behind him.

Each of them glared at Zhang Yi with a look of pure hatred.

Chapter 320: Pursuit and Escape

Uncle You had injected a second dose of the stimulant, and with his unique regenerative abilities, he was quickly recovering.

The soldiers behind them had been cleared out, Fatty Xu was blocking Fang Zun, and Zhang Yi's Dimensional Gate prevented Ling Feng from advancing.

But Zhang Yi knew Ling Feng's intent.

With Ling Feng's skills, if he truly wanted to pursue, Zhang Yi wouldn't have any chance of escaping.

"So, it's come to this," Zhang Yi murmured. "I'd hoped to end this war a bit easier, but it seems that's not possible."

But that was fine. A head-on clash with Superhumans like Ling Feng had always been one of the scenarios he'd considered.

"Zhang Yi."

At that moment, a woman emerged from behind Ling Feng, calling Zhang Yi's name softly.

He instinctively looked at her.

Their gazes met mid-air.

Zhang Yi felt as if her eyes were deep, dark abysses drawing him in.

Her name was Ye Ronghua, a powerful illusionist with hypnotic abilities. Looking directly into her eyes intensified her influence.

"Ah!"

Suddenly, Ye Ronghua clutched her eyes, letting out a scream.

Zhang Yi stood unharmed, while she collapsed to her knees, her body convulsing as if severely injured.

Not only her—Ling Feng and his team also appeared dazed and disoriented.

“Apologies, but my Dimensional Gate reflects even brainwaves back,” Zhang Yi sneered.

Though brainwaves are invisible, they still transmit physically and cannot bypass Zhang Yi’s Dimensional Gate. Trying to use that move on him was a death sentence. ↴

Zhang Yi had thoroughly studied his enemies’ abilities and was fully prepared for Ye Ronghua’s mental attacks.

Rather than affecting him, her illusion rebounded, entrapping her and her team.

Taking advantage of their confusion, Zhang Yi didn’t attack, as close-quarters combat wasn’t his strength.

Escaping was the best choice right now!

“Hua Hua!”

At his call, the tabby cat at his feet let out a loud “Meow!” before its body began expanding!

Ling Feng was the first to regain consciousness, his strong will quickly shaking off the illusion’s effects.

Though he had heard about Hua Hua, seeing a mutated cat in person was still surprising.

There was almost no intel on Hua Hua.

Due to the limited space, Hua Hua could only grow to about two meters tall and four to five meters in length.

“Let’s go!”

Zhang Yi leapt onto Hua Hua’s back and helped the others climb up.

Liang Yue grasped Zhang Yi’s hand, flipping gracefully onto the seat in front of him.

“Fatty, let’s go!”

Zhang Yi first helped Uncle You, then called for Fatty Xu to stop his standoff.

Quickly, Fatty Xu withdrew, as the corridor was filled with white steam, obscuring visibility. Fang Zun, fearing friendly fire, hesitated to release his flames.

This gave them an opening to escape.

Hua Hua turned and sprinted out of the corridor.

Zhang Yi retracted his Dimensional Gate, but not before tossing a load of grenades and explosives from within it.

As Hua Hua rounded the corner, Zhang Yi pressed the detonator in his hand!

The explosives on the ground, along with the smoke bombs left in the Second Life Pod, detonated simultaneously.

Flames surged unpredictably, and deafening explosions echoed throughout the underground.

Fatty Xu anxiously asked, "Boss, won't that big one be dismantled?"

Zhang Yi replied gravely, "No! We left plenty of small explosives as smoke bombs, and with the poor lighting, they won't find the hidden explosives that fast."

"I'll detonate it when we get outside!"

Hua Hua dashed towards the exit of West Hill Base.

Meanwhile, back at the explosion site, a thick layer of ice had shielded Ling Feng and his team, insulating them from the blast.

Bang!

Ling Feng punched through the thick ice wall in front of him, his eyes burning with a deadly glare.

"Pursue them!"

He surged forward like a raging tornado.

Shi Dayong roared, transforming into a giant ice ape, and hoisted Zheng Xuerong over his shoulder as he charged ahead.

Behind him, the beastly Xu Mingjie's body twisted as his muscles expanded, tearing through his clothing.

He became a grotesque creature, his elongated arms dragging along the ground, his face contorted, and green liquid dripping from his mouth, barely recognizable as human.

With a roar, he grabbed Ye Ronghua and Fang Zun, joining the chase.

Zhang Yi and his group rode Hua Hua away, the sounds of pursuit piercing the air.

Fatty Xu grew nervous. "Boss, throw down some bombs to stop them!"

Zhang Yi shook his head. "No, I'm not one to use underhanded tactics. If they want to chase, let them chase."

The others glanced at Zhang Yi in disbelief.

Coming from Zhang Yi, that statement was hardly convincing.

Zhang Yi was known for being ruthless in achieving his goals.

But the team understood that if he made this choice, he had a deeper plan, so they held their silence.

The multiple applications of the Dimensional Gate were one of Zhang Yi's biggest aces, one he wouldn't waste lightly.

Once used, the enemy would be ready for it in the future.

Now wasn't the right time.

Fatty Xu raised his submachine gun, shouting as he fired down at the pursuers.

Although such firearms couldn't harm Ling Feng, they did slow his advance slightly.

Within seconds, Hua Hua leapt out of the tunnel entrance, reaching the surface outside West Hill Base.

Not long after, Ling Feng emerged from the tunnel as well. He didn't rush to attack but fixed his gaze on Zhang Yi's group from a short distance.

At this range, Ling Feng was confident Zhang Yi couldn't escape.

The Dimensional Gate was one-directional, and with Ling Feng's speed, he could easily evade it and attack from various angles.

Even if Zhang Yi tried to drive away, Ling Feng would shoot out the vehicle's tires.

Without the defenses of a shelter, Ling Feng's power was overwhelmingly strong.

Fatty Xu swallowed nervously. "Boss, what do we do?"

Zhang Yi slid off Hua Hua's back. Although carrying four people wasn't too much for her, it still slowed her down.

An escape directly back to the shelter was impossible now.

And trying to escape by vehicle in front of elite soldiers would only insult their skill.

They could shoot out the car tires with their eyes closed.

Moments later, the other Superhumans caught up.

They stood behind Ling Feng, glaring coldly at Zhang Yi, their expressions murderous.

All the team leaders of West Hill Base were assembled.

The sheer pressure was overwhelming, filling the air with a murderous aura.

“Now, let’s see where you can run! There’s no shelter here for you to hide in!”

Ling Feng’s lips curved into a cold smile, his eyes glinting with deadly intent and a hint of excitement for revenge.

Zhang Yi sighed softly. “An eye for an eye... when does it ever end?”