

Martial Arts 321

Chapter 321: Opportunity Has Arrived

Faced with Du Hao's accusations, Ye Cheng seemed as if he hadn't heard a thing, continuously pleading for mercy.

Du Hao took three steps in two strides, grabbed the latter's collar, spat on his face, "Get up! No kneeling!"

Ye Cheng still didn't listen, refusing to get up no matter what.

After several attempts.

Du Hao kicked him. The kick wasn't strong enough to kill, so the protective talisman didn't activate, and he successfully kicked him to the ground.

"You spineless creature, no backbone at all. Do you think kneeling and pleading to him will make him let you go?"

Saying this, he still felt unsatisfied and kicked him several more times.

"Du Hao, that's enough!"

Even a rabbit will bite when cornered, let alone a human.

Ye Cheng propped himself up with his hands, stared at Du Hao with reddened eyes, "Were it not for you, would I be here now? You made me suffer this terrible fate, and I haven't complained to you, yet you keep pushing me. Talk about having guts? Hmph, are you even fit to use that term?"

"Why wouldn't I be!"

Du Hao was so enraged he wished he could kill the guy in front of him.

"Zou Xuan and Jiang Miao died, but at least they died standing, without begging. Look at you; you're a disgrace!"

"Tch!"

Ye Cheng spat, "Du Hao, quit acting all tough. If you're truly as brave as you claim, why did you only send a clone here? Afraid to come in person? Two B-level Awakened as protection isn't enough to make you feel safe?"

Du Hao was stunned.

"At the end of the day, you're still afraid of death."

Since they'd already had a falling out, Ye Cheng decided to go all out, mocking him, "The truth is, deep down, you don't trust them either. You worry you'll encounter danger and die; hence you send a clone. If it were you on the ground instead of me, you'd beg even more pathetically."

"You're full of shit!"

Du Hao was utterly enraged, punched him straight in the face.

"Du Hao! Stop pushing it!" Ye Cheng was equally furious.

Both of them are C-level Awakened. Calling you Brother Du is out of respect for your ties with the Jiulong City Lord.

Du Hao was about to throw another punch when he noticed Chen Fan watching nearby, snorted coldly, "Fine, you wanna beg? Go ahead, beg. I'd like to see if he'll let you go."

Then he stared at Chen Fan, viciously, "Alright, you win this time, but don't think this is over. Even if you flee to the ends of the earth, I won't let you go!"

His stance sharply contrasted with Ye Cheng, who was on his knees.

Chen Fan sneered.

Anyone unaware of the situation would probably think Du Hao was a tough guy.

However, he was right; Chen Fan had no intention of letting any of the four people present go.

Even Ye Cheng was no exception.

On the surface, Ye Cheng hadn't done anything against him.

But according to Meng Xue's foresight, had Chen Fan not arrived and intercepted them this morning, revealing his identity to Anshan City, all would have been lost.

And responsible for all that would be Ye Cheng.

"Sir, please spare me. I'll agree to anything you ask if you let me go."

Ye Cheng continued pleading.

In the next moment, a black dagger pierced his heart.

Ye Cheng's body slowly collapsed, his eyes wide open with shock and regret.

He couldn't fathom why, even after begging so lowly, the other side still wouldn't let him go. He was just a weak man.

If time could turn back, he'd never agree to Zou Xuan's proposal.

"Hmph, fool."

Du Hao sneered.

Last time in Anshan City, no one at the scene escaped. This time it would be no different.

So, even though he didn't want his clone to die again, he wouldn't waste any more words.

Once he returned, he'd definitely tell his close friend, the Jiulong City Lord.

Though the action failed, he gained information suggesting that Chen Fan might be somewhere around Anshan City, maybe even living there!)

Only Chen Fan and Du Hao were left.

"Hmph, still standing around?"

Du Hao impatiently said, "You want to kill me? Then do it. I'll let you know I'll bring more people next time, not just two B-level Awakened."

Chen Fan frowned upon hearing this.

Du Hao, seeing this, was overjoyed.

Did he finally fear?

Yes! Absolutely!

Two B-level Awakened. Although killing them seemed easy, it definitely came at a heavy cost, possibly even injuries, though not evident now.

If he could bring his brothers next time, at least ten B-level Awakened, even A-level Awakened would have to reconsider. Fear from this wasn't surprising.

Feeling pleased, he said, "Scared now? I gave you chances before but you didn't cherish them."

"How about this, if you let my clone go, I'll pretend nothing happened before. Deal?"

"Really?"

Chen Fan asked.

"Of course, you can confirm in Jiulong City. I, Du Hao, never break my word," Du Hao snorted.

"I'll think about it."

Chen Fan pondered.

"Alright,"

Du Hao nodded, glancing at Jiang Miao's corpse, "They were less skilled than you, no complaints there. As for me, even though I died once at your hand, it's just a clone, doesn't matter. You don't need to worry."

If you spare me, I'll recommend you to my good brother, the Jiulong City Lord. Following him will bring you unimaginable benefits. Think about it."

Of course, he didn't actually mean this.

If his clone dies again, his strength might degrade to D-level. Regaining it would be tough, and generating clones slow.

So not dying is preferable.

As for recommending, he didn't believe Chen Fan would trust that. If he did, Du Hao would laugh in his sleep; essentially walking into a trap.

Chen Fan frowned, seemingly contemplating.

Suddenly, his face changed, whispered, "Someone's coming."

Du Hao was about to look around when he blacked out, fainted.

Next moment, Du Hao's true self, sitting in a quiet chamber, abruptly opened his eyes.

"What's going on?"

He frowned deeply.

As the original, he could switch between true self and clone, but when the clone faints, his consciousness returns.

In short, he had no clue what was happening with the clone now.

"What's that guy up to?"

Du Hao clenched his fists, unease rising.

Was he planning something against the clone?

Hmph.

He sneered internally. If his intention is to control the clone to threaten him, he's mistaken.

Because he could control the clone, even make it commit suicide!

Du Hao guessed correctly, Chen Fan did plan something for the clone.

As Du Hao mentioned, even killing the clone wouldn't stop him from coming back with more people. Without killing the true self, he wouldn't give up.

Moreover, Du Hao knows about the Celestial God Fruit, won't stop trying to claim it.

But how to kill him?

Directly heading to Jiulong City to use Celestial Response, find Du Hao, and kill him seemed feasible but had drawbacks.

One, the true self's location would be heavily guarded; experts and layers of fingerprint verification could be hurdles.

Two, Jiulong City isn't like Anshan City; using Celestial Response might alert others.

It's a mid-sized city, full of hidden talents.

Thus, Chen Fan had a bold idea: killing the true self using the clone.

Not risking himself, and that guy wouldn't expect his clone to turn against him.

Chen Fan grabbed the body, carried it hundreds of meters away, placed it down, and squatted, opening one of the clone's eyes, locking eyes and activating the Soul Shifting Technique.

"An empty shell."

As he expected, Du Hao's clones lacked self-awareness, only some memories.

Short, day and a half, likely because it recently formed, mostly meditating with the original.

Clearly, Du Hao invested heavily in himself; various elixirs, Calming Tea, and never stopped.

Tasks like brewing tea, he typically made clones do.

Chen Fan's eyes lit up, feeling an opportunity.

Chapter 322: Everything is Ready

If it weren't for that memory, Chen Fan would have planned to place the Demon-breaking Saber on this clone, and once he saw Du Hao's true form, directly strike him with it.

With an ordinary blade, there was a high probability that it would be blocked by the opponent's protective shield during an ambush.

The Demon-breaking Saber was naturally different.

However, in this case, retrieving the blade would be a problem, and there was also the risk of exposure. If discovered, it would be a loss to both manpower and resources.

Switching to poison made it much easier.

In this world, getting poison wasn't particularly difficult.

And finding the right moment to poison Du Hao didn't seem hard either.

From that earlier memory, it appeared Du Hao had died too many times, making his cultivation exceedingly harder, ten times more difficult than others in the same realm. As a result, he frantically invested resources into himself.

When meditating and cultivating, he was more prone to distraction compared to others. Therefore, he desperately drank tea that calmed the mind. The more he drank, the less effective it became, and the less effective it was, the more he drank.

So, this was an opportunity.

Chen Fan looked around, found a hidden spot, and quickly made his way to the nearest city.

A few minutes later, he returned with a packet of poison.

This was a potent poison made by grinding together two toxic plants found in the wild. The combination doubled the toxicity. Even if a True Essence Realm Martial Artist drank it, if not quickly noticed, it could be fatal. As for those below the True Essence Realm, once ingested, it would be too late even if discovered.

"Good thing this guy is only a C-level Awakened. If he were a B-level Awakened, I wouldn't have had enough money for the poison." Chen Fan thought to himself.

His gaze fell on the ring on the opponent's right thumb.

It was a spatial item.

No password was needed; it could be opened with the opponent's fingerprint.

Accordingly, this spatial ring was only one cubic meter in size and filled with basic living supplies, nothing valuable.

Chen Fan stuffed the packet of poison into some neatly folded clothes.

"Now, it's flawless."

Unless Du Hao overturned all of these clothes, it was impossible for him to find the packet of poison.

Chen Fan put the spatial ring back on him, then opened his eyelids and used the Soul Shifting Technique again.

Seconds later, Chen Fan let out a breath and slowly withdrew his hand.

It was done.

Before meeting Du Hao's true form, this clone would not show any abnormalities. But once it did, and the true form arranged for tea, the command would activate, causing the clone to take the hidden poison and pour it into the tea.

If Du Hao drank it, he would die without a doubt.

Of course, if he noticed something was off and didn't drink it, there was nothing that could be done.

As the saying goes, "Man proposes, God disposes." Chen Fan could only do what he could, and the rest depended on fate.

"Thankfully, Ye Cheng is dead. Even if Du Hao returns and seeks revenge, he won't find me."

Chen Fan thought to himself.

Moreover, by tomorrow morning, the Celestial God Fruit would be fully mature.

At that time, he would give the fruit to Meng Xue to help her breakthrough, securing her assistance and early warnings of any danger in the future.

Once everything was set, he reached out and touched two acupoints on Du Hao's body.

The person on the ground opened his eyes immediately.

"What did you do to me?"

Du Hao's voice sounded as he moved his body, feeling the changes.

"Someone approached earlier. I didn't want our matters to be known by others, so I knocked you out and brought you elsewhere."

Chen Fan glanced at him, speaking calmly. "Besides, if I wanted to harm you, would I wait until now?"

Suspicion flashed in Du Hao's eyes.

However, after checking his body, he found nothing wrong.

"Could it be that I'm overthinking?"

He thought to himself.

The clone had a mental connection with his true form. If something was wrong, there was no way it would escape his perception.

"Alright, I'll trust you this time."

He nodded. "So, have you considered what I talked about before?"

Chen Fan frowned. "If I let you go this time, will you really not come back with others to trouble me again?"

"Do you think I'm that untrustworthy?"

Du Hao countered.

"Doesn't seem like it,"

Chen Fan mused. "The last time I killed you, you said you would come back with others to find me. I must say, you did keep your word."

Hearing this, Du Hao almost coughed up blood.

Damn it, this bastard! Why bring that up?

Fuming inside, he still managed to maintain a smile. "Exactly, so you can trust me. Let me go, and I promise I won't come back with others to trouble you."

Chen Fan looked tempted but still frowned like he had concerns.

"Friend, what are you hesitating for?"

Du Hao urged, "I've said so much. Don't you believe me?"

"How about this," Chen Fan suggested, "Swear that if you return, you won't bring others to trouble me. If you do, I'll let you go. Otherwise, I can't trust your word."

"Swear?"

Du Hao was taken aback, caught off guard.

"Yes."

Chen Fan nodded heavily. "If you swear an oath, I'll believe you."

Staring intently at him, Chen Fan locked eyes with Du Hao.

Du Hao hesitated.

Times were different now. Ten years ago, nobody could say for sure if there were consequences for breaking oaths.

But now, with the emergence of Awakeners wielding extraordinary powers and regular people turning into martial artists through body tempering, it was hard to say.

However, the fierce man before him, holding a blade, stared at him menacingly.

If he refused, that blade might pierce his chest the next moment.

"Having my clone die so many times has already made my cultivation difficult. If I die again, it will only get harder. It's already hard enough... forget it, a wise man doesn't fight when the odds are against him. I'll worry about retribution later."

Swiftly calculating the pros and cons, Du Hao raised his hand. "I, Du Hao, swear to the heavens, if my friend here spares me and lets me return safely to Jiulong City, I promise not to bring anyone to trouble him. If I break this oath, may I die a miserable death!"

After swearing, he slowly lowered his hand. "Satisfied, my friend?"

"Mhm."

Chen Fan nodded, sheathing his blade. "You can leave now, but I expect you to keep your oath, or it won't end well for anyone."

"Of course, of course."

Relieved, Du Hao stood up.

"Friend, rest assured. Since I swore an oath, I won't break it. Otherwise, I'd be my own worst enemy."

He chuckled.

Internally, he thought, I'll just tell someone else to deal with you. That way, I won't be breaking any promises.

Still, he didn't dare rejoice too soon.

Who knew if the man before him would suddenly change his mind and strike him down?

"Friend, if that's all, I'll take my leave?" he tentatively asked.

"Mhm."

Chen Fan waved him off.

"Alright, I'll be on my way."

Du Hao was overjoyed, nearly wanting to sprint away.

However, reason kept him steady, and he even offered an olive branch. "Friend, my previous offer still stands. With your strength, if you come to Jiulong City, you will surely be valued by the City Lord. Whenever you decide to come, I, Du Hao, will welcome you with open arms."

"We'll see."

Chen Fan replied nonchalantly.

"Very well, then. Farewell, and may we meet again if fate allows."

Du Hao cupped his hands in farewell and headed off.

He moved much slower than when he came. After a few miles, he began to run as fast as he could.

After running for several minutes and encountering many people, he finally slowed down and took a look behind him.

"Finally escaped from that guy's clutches."

He panted, his back drenched in sweat, almost collapsing from weak knees.

Absolutely terrifying.

Two B-level Awakened capable of battling Commander-level Fierce Beasts, defeated by that guy in one move!

And that twenty-five-meter-long Sword Qi.

Even a top-level Commander-level Fierce Beast could be cleaved in two with that, right?

"I'll have to call in Brother Xiang. Only he, with a team, can kill that guy!"

Du Hao's eyes were filled with intense killing intent.

What a joke. Killing his clone is like killing him; he's his bitter enemy. How could he let him go so easily?

Especially with the Celestial God Fruit near Anshan City, he wouldn't give it up for anything.

"I don't know what that guy did to me while I was unconscious, but I found nothing when I checked. I guess I'll have to inspect thoroughly once I get back."

With that, he sprinted with all his might towards Jiulong City.

A hundred miles away, Chen Fan stood in place, a cold smile on his lips.

This Du Hao wasn't as composed as he seemed.

Once out of his sight, he wished he had more legs to run faster.

Did he think running faster would matter if Chen Fan really wanted to kill him?

As for the oath, that was just to lower his guard.

"I hope that clone doesn't disappoint."

Chen Fan muttered to himself, watching Du Hao's departing direction.

Chapter 323: You're Heading for a Big Disaster

Anshan City, under the guidance of a group of Awakeners, the relocation process was proceeding in an orderly manner.

Those carrying their luggage, with their families in tow, all had smiles on their faces, and were full of praise for Chairman Li.

In contrast, the faces of the residents standing on both sides of the road darkened with hostile glares fixed on these newcomers.

They had paid a huge price to earn a spot in the city, but these outsiders?

They were moving in for free?

How is that fair!

Not far away, someone whispered in Hua Jun's ear, "Chairman, it seems like the people in the city are not happy."

"Hmm."

Hua Jun nodded.

Though the city's residents had strong opinions, they wouldn't dare act out in public with their presence. But what might happen in private, there's no telling.

In fact, he didn't really care about the lives of these ordinary people; what did it matter if more of them died?

However, if the city's security were compromised, it would reflect poorly on his leadership, and he'd have a hard time explaining to the Chairman.

The next moment, a cold gleam flashed in his eyes, and he said:

"Pass the word, whether they are original residents or new arrivals, anyone who causes trouble will be killed without mercy."

"Understood!"

Several Awakeners immediately responded.

"Buzz, buzz, buzz..."

The phone in Hua Jun's pocket vibrated.

Hua Jun took out the phone, and when he saw the name on the screen, a look of surprise appeared on his face.

It was Yan Hao calling.

"Why is he calling me?"

Hua Jun frowned but answered the call, "Hello?"

"Chairman Hua, it's me."

Yan Hao chuckled, "I hope I'm not disturbing your work, Chairman Hua?"

"It's alright."

Hua Jun sighed in relief, his tone softened a bit, and he asked, "Brother Yan, what makes you call me suddenly?"

"I do have something important."

Yan Hao said.

"Something important?"

Hua Jun asked suspiciously, "What is it?"

"Chairman Hua, it's best to discuss this in person." Yan Hao lowered his voice, "It concerns the safety of Anshan City, and your safety as well. Please come over as soon as possible."

"The safety of Anshan City and my own safety?"

Hua Jun's expression changed instantly, and he hurriedly asked, "Can't you tell me over the phone?"

Yan Hao gave a wry smile, "Chairman Hua, it's very complicated and can't be explained in a few words. It's best to talk face-to-face."

He paused, then added, "Chairman Hua, you'll understand how important it is to come in person once you hear what I have to say."

"Alright, I'll come over now."

After a brief consideration, Hua Jun agreed.

Better safe than sorry.

"You guys stay here and keep watch. I need to make a quick trip."

As soon as these words fell, before the others could react, he disappeared from sight.

"?"

Several Awakeners looked at each other in confusion.

"What happened? Where's the Chairman?"

"Probably something urgent. Since he asked us to keep watch, we'll just stay here and do that."

"Yes, maybe he got a call from Chairman Li and had to rush back."

"That's possible."

None of them thought much of it.

Meanwhile, Hua Jun had already appeared downstairs at Yan Hao's house.

"Brother Yan."

He called up to the upstairs.

"Chairman Hua."

Yan Hao walked out from the living room on the first floor, "Chairman Hua, please come in."

"Alright."

Hua Jun didn't think much of it and followed him in.

The large villa seemed to have only Yan Hao inside.

A faint scent lingered in the air, with sandalwood burning in a distant censer.

They sat down on the sofa.

"Brother Yan, you mentioned on the phone that there was an urgent matter. What is it, related to Anshan City and myself?" Hua Jun asked impatiently as soon as he sat down.

"That's correct."

Yan Hao said, pouring water into the cups in front of them, "Chairman Hua, you must be tired from this morning, have some water first?"

"I'm not thirsty."

Hua Jun pushed the cup aside, urging, "Brother Yan, this is urgent. Please tell me, what's the matter?"

Yan Hao smiled.

He had anticipated that the other wouldn't drink the tea, so he hadn't tampered with it.

The strange thing was the sandalwood.

It wasn't ordinary incense; once inhaled, it could immobilize a person, rendering them unable to move and making instant teleportation items unusable.

Though inexpensive, it did take some time to take effect.

"Alright, since Chairman Hua asked, I'll tell you."

"Please do."

Hua Jun perked up, looking tense.

After all, Yan Hao was Yan Ming's brother and might know things they didn't.

"Chairman Hua, I saw that you let people from outside the city move in today, didn't you?"

Hua Jun frowned slightly, "We informed you about this yesterday, didn't we?"

Yan Hao shook his head, "Chairman Hua, do you know what consequences this could lead to?"

"What consequences?" Hua Jun asked instinctively.

"Chaos in the city, leading to the collapse of Anshan City from within."

Hua Jun stared at him blankly.

Could Yan Hao's so-called important matter be this?

"What, you don't believe me, Chairman Hua?"

Yan Hao sneered, "Think about it, Chairman Hua. Those people from outside didn't pay a thing to get in. How do you think the original residents will feel about that? Do you believe they'll just accept it? Maybe nothing will happen in the short term, but small daily frictions will build up and eventually lead to a catastrophe!"

Among those people, there are many ordinary folks, but also quite a few Martial Artists. If a big conflict breaks out, it would be a fight involving tens of thousands, even hundreds of thousands, not something to take lightly, Chairman Hua!"

Hua Jun nodded.

He had to admit, what the other party said made sense.

Even if he ordered against trouble, minor conflicts causing bloodshed would be hard to avoid. Over time, such clashes could escalate into something major.

But so what?

In the apocalypse, the most abundant resource was ordinary people.

Even if the city's tens of thousands of civilians were wiped out, so what? In a few months, new people would fill the city again.

"Brother Yan, get to the point."

Hua Jun frowned.

If calling him here was just to talk about this, he felt there was no need to stay any longer.

"Chairman Hua, the above issue is what I meant by the major issue concerning Anshan City. Now I want to discuss the matter concerning your safety, which I hope you'll listen to carefully."

Yan Hao glanced around.

"Alright, go ahead."

Hua Jun nodded.

"Chairman Hua, don't you realize that doing these things for that man surnamed Li has put your life in danger?"

Yan Hao's tone shifted.

Sure enough, Hua Jun's face paled hearing this.

"Brother Yan, please speak clearly."

"Chairman Hua, that Li person is evidently a tyrant, willing to offend everyone in Anshan City for his own good reputation. Aside from the outsiders, who in the city doesn't detest him?"

"That's true enough."

Hua Jun showed a helpless smile.

From Awakeners like the Yan family to city Martial Artists, ordinary residents, even children, everyone likely cursed Chairman Li in their hearts.

He was despised by many.

"So, Chairman Hua, seeing as you understand this, a man hated by everyone is bound to face dire consequences. You, as his accomplice, won't escape unscathed either!"

"Brother Yan, your words seem a bit exaggerated."

Hua Jun smiled and shook his head, "Though the Chairman's actions have indeed offended most city residents, he still has supporters, doesn't he?

Besides, with his strength, even if he angered everyone, to speak bluntly, no one could do anything to him."

"Can you guarantee that while no one can touch him now, that future remains unchanged?"

Yan Hao gritted his teeth.

A sense of grand ambition arose.

Because he believed he could be the one to manage that Li's fate!

Hua Jun was stunned.

"Chairman Hua, if such a day comes, you, as his henchman, do you think you could escape unscathed?"

"Absurd, just absurd."

Hua Jun said, "Yan Hao, I thought you called me over to share something important, but it's just talking about this. Sigh."

He sighed, "I know you hold grudges against the Chairman, but he's treated you quite fairly, haven't you noticed? He's given the land he took from you to others,

Yan Hao, let's stop here. Stay here peacefully, don't cook up any schemes, and no one will trouble you, otherwise, don't blame me for not showing mercy."

"Hahaha."

Yan Hao laughed, "No mercy? Hua Jun, did you show mercy yesterday when you found us? When my big brother was alive, you were like a dog before me, asking you to go east, you wouldn't dare go west. But once my brother died, you started overriding us, calling it showing mercy?"

"Yan Hao, I'll give you one more chance. Take back your words and I'll pretend none of this happened today."

Hua Jun's eyes turned colder.

Chapter 324: You Didn't Seriously Think We Were Fellow Travelers, Did You?

"You want me to take back all those words?"

Yan Hao laughed so hard that tears almost came out, as if he had heard an outrageous fantasy story.

Hua Jun's face grew colder and colder.

He realized that this guy was here to stir things up.

Initially, considering their past acquaintance, he didn't want to go too far.

But seeing it today, if he didn't act, this guy was bound to cause a big trouble someday.

Instead of waiting for that, he might as well kill him here today.

"Chairman Hua, your eyes are really cold, could it be that you want to kill me?"

Yan Hao's lips curled up, and he asked with a hint of sarcasm.

"I do have such an intention."

Hua Jun took a deep breath and said, "Yan Hao, if you are willing to come with me to see someone, I can spare your life and even plead for you in front of him."

"Hahaha."

Yan Hao laughed loudly, "Hua Jun, even till now, you still don't understand the situation? Do you think I called you here without preparing a backup plan? Look at yourself, can you still move?"

"What?"

Hua Jun was shocked and suddenly realized that his body was as if immobilized, unable to move!

"What's going on?"

His expression changed dramatically, he took a deep breath and sniffed hard in the air, suddenly awakening with a shout, "Body-Solidifying Incense!"

"Congratulations, you guessed right, but it's too late now."

After saying that, Yan Hao clapped his hands and said, "Brother Xie, you can come out now."

The sound of footsteps approached, and several figures emerged from all corners, surrounding him.

"!!!"

Hua Jun's face turned ashen.

He never expected that there were so many people hidden around.

He was too careless!

Because even the burning Body-Solidifying Incense, he didn't recognize it immediately!

"Chairman Hua, long time no see."

A figure walked up to him, smiling at him.

The voice was somewhat familiar.

Hua Jun fixed his eyes and suddenly his mouth gaped open with a ghostly expression.

"What's the matter, Chairman Hua, just two or three years and you don't recognize us anymore?" The others also walked up, smiles on their faces, giving an unfathomable feeling.

"It's, it's you!"

Hua Jun exclaimed.

He recognized these people immediately, so he found it unbelievable.

"Xie Ming, three years ago, weren't you..."

"Expelled from Anshan City, right?"

"Indeed."

Cold sweat dripped from Hua Jun's forehead, he glanced at Yan Hao through the corner of his eye.

Indeed,

It must have been Yan Hao who revealed the news of Yan Ming and others' incident to Xie Ming and his people, leading to the current scenario.

"I underestimated Yan Hao!"

Hua Jun's face turned pale.

Last night, he was misled by Yan Hao's performance, thinking the other had accepted reality, but as it turned out, he went out and found Xie Ming and them afterward.

Then, they set a trap for him.

One could imagine what awaited him next.

"Chairman Hua, didn't you have a lot to say before?"

Yan Hao stepped forward smugly, "Why aren't you saying anything now? Weren't you going to take me to someone, that person must be the one named Li, right?"

"Yan Hao."

Hua Jun licked his lips and said hoarsely, "Do you know what you're thinking? You brought Yan Ming and the others not just to deal with me, but also the Chairman, right? Let me give you some advice, the Chairman's power is far beyond your imagination, stop now, it's not too late."

"Pshu!"

Yan Hao spat on the ground in disdain, "Li's strength beyond my imagination? Haha, you think I'm scared? Open your eyes and see who's standing in front of you."

Hua Jun looked at Xie Ming, sighed, and said, "Xie Ming, I never thought our first meeting after three years would be like this..."

"Indeed."

Xie Ming said, "I never thought I'd return to Anshan City."

"I remember when you left, there were many like Er Hu and Chang Chun among you."

"They are all dead."

Xie Ming's eyes flashed with sorrow, "Only a few of us managed to leave Anshan City alive."

Hua Jun was stunned.

Then he glanced at Yan Hao again.

Xie Ming and the others' misfortunes were all due to Yan Hao's brother Yan Ming. Logically, Xie Ming and his friends should hate Yan Hao to the bone.

But now, they had joined forces.

It seemed like the old saying was true: there are no eternal enemies, only eternal interests.

Despite this, his desire to survive made him decide to try and persuade them.

"Xie Ming, you came this time to deal with the Chairman and take back Anshan City, right?"

Xie Ming and the others exchanged glances but said nothing.

"If that's the case, let me give you some advice, forget it."

Hua Jun gave a bitter smile, "Our Chairman's name is Li Ping, he's a ruthless figure. Don't say C-level Awakeners, even the top-level elite-level Fierce Beasts get slaughtered without a scratch."

Over the years, all of your power may have improved, but whether you can defeat him is a huge unknown..."

"Hua Jun!"

Yan Hao interrupted him, "Stop trying to scare us! Do you think we will believe your rubbish? Hmph, Hua Jun, for the sake of our past acquaintance, I can give you a chance to live. Beg for your life, and I'll let you go, how about it?"

His eyes were filled with mockery.

As if saying, Hua Jun, never thought the tables would turn this quickly, did you?

Of course, there was no way he would let Hua Jun live.

He wanted nothing more than to tear this guy into pieces. So, he wanted to shame Hua Jun before killing him.

"Yan Hao, you're really despicable."

Hua Jun gritted his teeth.

If he had known it would come to this, he would have killed this guy yesterday to prevent future problems.

"Thank you for the compliment."

Yan Hao said smugly, "Throughout history, it's the victor who becomes the king, and the loser the outlaw. Who cares about the means?

Hua Jun, enough talk, I'll give you one last chance, beg for mercy, and I'll spare you. Otherwise, I'll make you experience a fate worse than death!"

Several bearded men looked at Xie Ming.

The latter shook his head slightly.

"Hahaha."

Hua Jun laughed, "Yan Hao, do you think I'm foolish enough to believe your lies that I'll live if I beg for mercy?

If I'm not mistaken, you want to humiliate me before killing me, right?"

Yan Hao's face alternated between green and white.

Seeing this, Hua Jun sneered, "If you want to kill me, then make your move. I'll be waiting for you down below."

He closed his eyes slowly.

Although he had a Protective Talisman, it was only a matter of time before it was broken.

"Fine, fine!"

Yan Hao's eyes glinted with malice.

"Since you refuse a toast only to drink a forfeit, don't blame me for being rude. Brother Xie!"

He looked at Xie Ming and his group, "I'll trouble you guys to kill him, preferably dismember him. It's too kind to kill him easily."

Hua Jun's face turned as pale as paper, he bit his lips tightly.

But after waiting for a while, the expected attack never occurred.

He opened his eyes in confusion, only to see Xie Ming and his group still standing there, not moving an inch.

"What's going on?"

A strange thought entered his mind.

Could it be that Xie Ming and his men were also immobilized like him?

Was that even possible?

He wasn't the only one confused, Yan Hao also looked at Xie Ming and his group in puzzlement.

"Brother Xie?"

Xie Ming turned around at the call.

Yan Hao breathed a sigh of relief and said politely, "It seems you didn't hear what I said earlier, I..."

"No, we heard it." Xie Ming suddenly said, interrupting him.

"Yes, not only did we hear it, we heard it clearly."

"You want us to dismember him, right?"

The others also turned around and spoke one after another.

A bad feeling rose in Yan Hao's heart, he subconsciously nodded, "Y-yes, he has a Protective Talisman, and I can't break it for now, so I need your help."

"Sorry, we can't help with that."

Xie Ming shook his head.

"!!!!"

Hua Jun's pupils widened.

Did he hear correctly?

Xie Ming and his group refused Yan Hao's order?

Did that mean they were going to betray him?

Hua Jun's heart pounded. If that was the case, wouldn't he be saved today?

Still, a part of him felt uneasy, fearing it was just wishful thinking.

"Wh-what do you mean?"

Yan Hao panicked, his voice trembling, "Didn't we agree? I lured Hua Jun here, you kill him and Li, and you get Anshan City. Brother Xie, have you forgotten?"

"Yan Hao, did you really think we were on the same side?" Xie Ming sneered, "Your brother harmed us so badly, we'd love to skin you alive, pull out your veins, drink your blood, and eat your flesh, and you think we'd cooperate with you? Wishful thinking!"

As soon as he finished speaking, numerous wooden spikes shot up from the ground like bamboo after rain, quickly wrapping around Yan Hao's legs.

A glow flashed around Yan Hao, clearly his Protective Shield was activating, but the wooden spikes didn't harm him, instead they bound him tightly, leaving only his face exposed.

Chapter 325: Willing to Work Like a Dog and Horse

The event happened so suddenly that when Yan Hao reacted, he found his body completely immobile. He couldn't even move a single finger.

He realized something was terribly wrong and quickly tried to use his Instant Teleportation Item to leave.

But to his shock, the Instant Teleportation Item didn't work.

In desperation, he could only look at Xie Ming with a pleading expression and said anxiously, "Brother Xie, what are you doing? We're on the same side! We are supposed to deal with Hua Jun together, Brother Xie!"

"Yan Hao, at this point, you're still pretending to be stupid," the bearded man mocked, "Didn't you hear what Brother said earlier? We're on the same side with you? Why don't you look in a mirror?"

"That's right, we were never on the same path, not before and definitely not now."

"Yan Hao, stop pretending. Just now, you tried to use an Instant Teleportation Item to leave, didn't you? Don't think we didn't see that. But it's a pity that Brother had anticipated your move and bound you in advance. Even if you grew wings now, you wouldn't escape."

As the few of them kept talking, Yan Hao's face grew paler.

On the other side, Hua Jun's face grew more excited.

Because he realized that today, he might not have to die after all?

"Xie, Brother Xie, what are you...?"

He said softly.

"Chairman Hua, it's a long story; let's detoxify you first,"

Xie Ming turned around, a cheerful smile on his face. He took out a small bottle from his pocket and placed it under Hua Jun's nose.

Hua Jun took a few deep breaths and immediately felt sensation return to his body.

"You, you all!"

Yan Hao glared angrily at Xie Ming and the others. If he still hadn't figured it out at this moment, his previous life would have been wasted.

But why?

His mind was filled with confusion.

Currently, Hua Jun was definitely a dead man, and after killing him, they could go and kill that Chairman Li. Their enemies were in the open while they were hidden in the shadows; the odds of success were high. And after they killed Chairman Li, wouldn't the entire Anshan City still be under Xie Ming's control?

How could he alone contend with them?

But Xie Ming helped detoxify Hua Jun? Were they idiots?

"Chairman Hua, here's what happened,"

Xie Ming said with a smile. "Last night, this guy suddenly called me, saying there was a change in Anshan City, that the defense force was weak, and he wanted us to come back. At first, I thought it was too good to be true. But after listening to him, I understood."

He glanced coldly at Yan Hao and said, "Turns out, he was unsatisfied with Chairman Hua's actions and lacked the strength himself. So he thought of us, hoping we'd fight you to the death so he could reap the benefits."

"It's not true,"

Yan Hao desperately tried to explain. "Brother Xie, believe me, I never meant that, Brother Xie."

"Shut up!"

The bearded man slapped him.

"And then?"

Hua Jun asked, looking intrigued.

"Initially, I didn't intend to get involved since we'd been away from Anshan City for so long. There was no need. But after hearing about Chairman Li's deeds, I changed my mind,"

Xie Ming took a deep breath and looked outside. "Chairman Li took away Yan Hao and his brother's lands, not for personal gain, but for the ordinary people. This made us brothers admire him greatly."

"Yes, yes, Chairman Li is truly noble, a role model for us all,"

"After hearing about Chairman Li's deeds, our admiration for him was like a river flowing endlessly, like the Yellow River flooding uncontrollably."

"However, not everyone could understand Chairman Li's good intentions. Some even tried to undermine him. Since we knew, how could we do nothing? That would make us no different from the Fierce Beasts outside!"

The few of them chimed in one after another.

After speaking, they thought they might have exaggerated a bit.

Fortunately, Xie Ming's voice rose again, "We originally planned to come over with recordings to expose Yan Hao's true colors. Unexpectedly, he plotted against Chairman Hua and made us accomplices. So we

played along, waiting for Chairman Li to arrive with solid evidence before taking action. We apologize for scaring you, Chairman Hua. Please pardon us."

Upon hearing this, Hua Jun understood and bowed, "I see. If it weren't for Brother Xie today, I, Hua Jun, would have died at this scoundrel's hands."

"Oh, Chairman Hua, there's no need to be so polite,"

Xie Ming quickly helped him up.

They exchanged a smile.

Hua Jun wasn't a fool.

If Xie Ming and the others wanted to take down Yan Hao, they could have done so earlier after learning about his plot.

But they waited until he was in danger before stepping in.

It was likely because they needed something.

Of course, considering they saved his life, he could overlook their minor schemes.

Yan Hao's face turned even uglier after finishing listening.

He knew that his chances of surviving today were slim, so he gave up and glared fiercely at Xie Ming, "Xie Ming, you're a traitor. I trusted you so much, and you betrayed me!"

"We're the traitors?"

Xie Ming sneered. "Come on, Yan Hao, stop flattering yourself. Who doesn't know what kind of people you and your brother Yan Ming are? When we first built Anshan City together, Yan Ming killed and drove away how many people to seize the position of City Lord? If anyone's a traitor, it's him."

"Xie Ming, don't you dare insult my brother!"

Yan Hao growled through gritted teeth.

"Heh,"

Xie Ming scoffed, cupping his hands towards Hua Jun, "Chairman Hua, this guy has evil intentions. If we let him go, who knows what he'll come up with next time? It's better to kill him here and prevent future troubles."

As his words fell, Yan Hao's face turned from furious to fearful and finally to a look of pleading.

"Brother Hua, I've realized my mistake. Please let me go."

He teared up, snot running down, "I swear, if I scheme again in the future, let me be struck by lightning and die a horrible death!"

"Ha,"

The bearded man laughed coldly, "Swearing might work these days, but what use is skill then?"

"Exactly. Chairman Hua has given you not one, but several chances before. You didn't cherish them. You brought this upon yourself."

"Chairman Hua, give the order."

They all looked at Hua Jun, as if awaiting his command.

After a moment of hesitation, Hua Jun nodded, "Then I'll trouble Brother Xie."

"No problem,"

Xie Ming smiled, a glint of murder in his eyes.

The wooden bars around Yan Hao's body tightened like pythons strangling their prey, creaking loudly as they squeezed inwards.

"No! Stop!"

Yan Hao screamed hysterically.

The Protective Shield around his body was weakening, on the verge of breaking.

Unfortunately, no one paid him any attention, all their eyes watching him as if he were already a dead man.

"Brother Hua, please save me,"

Yan Hao cried, tearing his heart out.

"Sigh."

Hua Jun sighed lightly, "Yan Hao, you're an adult; you should understand that adults have to face the consequences of their actions. Don't worry, death is only momentary and won't hurt much."

"Crack!"

Under the pressure of hundreds of wooden bars, the Protective Shield finally shattered.

Then, the sound of bones breaking and muscles tearing filled the air as Yan Hao's body twisted into a grotesque shape, his face a mask of pain.

Xie Ming's clenched right fist slowly opened, and the wooden bars scattered. With a thud, Yan Hao's body hit the ground, blood quickly staining the carpet.

Hua Jun shook his head.

He felt a bit lucky.

If Xie Ming and the others hadn't sided with him, the twisted corpse on the ground would be his.

"Brother Xie, I will never forget your great kindness today. If there's anything I can help with, please let me know."

The bearded man and the others immediately looked at Xie Ming.

"Hey,"

Xie Ming waved his hand, "It was just a small favor. I'm sure if the situation were reversed, Chairman Hua would do the same."

"Yes, yes, no need to be so polite, Chairman Hua,"

"Just a small favor," they said, laughing.

Hua Jun wasn't fooled; he knew they were just being polite.

"Brother Xie," he said seriously, "There's no need to be so polite with me. If there's anything I can help with, just say the word."

"Well,"

Xie Ming looked at the others.

"Brother, since Chairman Hua said so, why don't you speak up?"

"Yes, brother, tell him."

"Alright."

Xie Ming cleared his throat, "Chairman Hua, to be honest, we greatly admire Chairman Li's actions. We've heard that Anshan City is currently in need of people, so we wish to join the Anshan City Awakened Association and serve diligently."

As his words fell, all their hearts were in their throats.

They had done everything they could; the rest was up to fate.

"So that's it," NovelBin.c(m)

Hua Jun was overjoyed, "I couldn't be happier if you joined our branch. But,"

His smile froze, "With your extraordinary abilities, you'll need the Chairman's approval to join."

"Of course, of course,"

They exchanged looks and breathed a sigh of relief.

"Could I trouble Chairman Hua to introduce us?"

"Naturally."

Hua Jun agreed without hesitation, "But the Chairman is hard to pin down. Let me make a call. Please wait a moment."

"No problem, thank you, Chairman Hua."

"You're welcome."

Hua Jun took out his phone, "Brother Xie, don't worry. The Chairman isn't as difficult as rumors suggest. You've helped us greatly today and with your skills, the Chairman won't refuse your entry."

"That's the best outcome,"

Xie Ming and the others said, still feeling anxious.

Chapter 326: Commander-level Fierce Beast?

On the wasteland, Chen Fan found a spot and sat down to meditate, recovering the True Essence within his body.

The previous slash had consumed most of his True Essence.

The effect was significant, directly splitting one person into pieces, even the Space Items turned to dust.

Fortunately, the Space Items of the other B-level Awakened were still intact. Although he didn't know what it contained, he could find out by informing Meng Xue later. NovelBin

As for the other C-level Awakened, he didn't pay much attention.

Just as the True Essence within his body was about to recover completely, the phone in his pocket suddenly vibrated.

"Hua Jun?"

Chen Fan frowned, wondering if some incident had occurred within the city.

He answered the phone, changing his tone slightly, and said, "What's up?"

"Chairman, there's something I want to tell you. It might take a while; do you have time now?" Hua Jun cautiously asked.

"Hmm, go ahead."

"It's like this..."

Hua Jun glanced at Xie Ming and the others. Without hiding anything, he directly explained the situation.

"Oh? There's such a thing?"

Chen Fan's tone was surprised.

"Yes, Chairman, I was careless. If the people Yan Hao had called were not Brother Xie and his group but someone else, I would have been dead by now."

Hua Jun sighed and then tentatively said, "Chairman, Brother Xie and his group initially didn't plan to deal with this matter, but after hearing about your actions, they were full of respect and decided to join the association."

Afraid that Chen Fan might refuse, he added, "Chairman, Brother Xie and his group consist of five people. Three of them are C-level Awakened, and the other two are close to a breakthrough. If they join our association, it would be like adding wings to a tiger."

Chairman, when do you have time to meet them?"

"No need."

Upon hearing these three words, the smile on Hua Jun's face instantly froze.

Xie Ming and the others beside him also felt a surge of unease.

Could it be that Chairman Li did not think much of them or was he wary and unwilling to accept them?

"If they want to join, let them join. I have urgent matters now and can't spare time. Also, if others want to join in the future, you decide. No need to report each one to me."

"Yes, yes!"

Hua Jun was overjoyed.

On one hand, he repaid the kindness of Xie Ming and his group.

On the other hand, the Chairman's words were filled with trust.

After hanging up the phone, he put down his cell phone and smiled at them, "Brother Xie, there's no need to worry. The Chairman has agreed to your joining."

"What!"

Xie Ming and the others exchanged glances, feeling as if they were dreaming.

"Chairman Hua, Chairman Li, did he just agree?"

"Don't we need to meet him?"

"No need."

Hua Jun waved his hand and said, "The Chairman is busy and can't spare the time. Moreover, considering your strength, the Chairman is more than happy, so he agreed immediately. Brother Xie, from now on, you are members of the Anshan City Awakened Association. Anshan City welcomes you back!"

As he spoke, he extended his hand.

Xie Ming reacted quickly and reached out his hand as well.

Before coming, he had made countless assumptions in his mind.

He even prepared words in case of refusal upon meeting Chairman Li.

Who could have thought that it wouldn't be such a hassle, and a phone call would settle everything?

Hua Jun released his hand and laughed, "Brother Xie, there's no time to lose. Quickly relocate your family. Anshan City needs people now, just right for you to fulfill your ambitions."

"Rest assured, Chairman Hua, we will go back and relocate our family as soon as possible. At that time, please take care of us," Xie Ming clasped his fists.

"Brother Xie, there's no need to be so courteous. Just call me by my name. We are all brothers, working together for the future of Anshan City."

"Hmm!"

Xie Ming and the others nodded heavily, unable to suppress the smiles on their faces.

For them, joining Anshan City was the hardest step.

Going forward, given their strength, it would only be a matter of time before they became the pillars of Anshan City.

Meanwhile, Chen Fan hung up the phone, the corner of his mouth slightly lifted, muttering to himself, "Three C-level Awakened, they've come at the perfect time."

Anshan City, not too big, not too small, having over ten thousand residents, relying solely on Hua Jun, was indeed difficult to manage. With three more C-level Awakened, it would be much easier.

Moreover, if the surrounding villagers were relocated to the city, having C-level Awakened would mean less worry about encountering high-level Fierce Beasts and minimizing losses.

Of course, when relocating his own village, he still needed to watch from afar.

"Almost time, it's time to hunt Fierce Beasts."

Chen Fan stood up from the ground, his gaze fixed on the distance.

He no longer needed to worry about medicinal herbs; filling his Elixir Field and Sea of Qi with True Essence to 100% was just a matter of time.

In comparison, acquiring Experience Points had become the primary task.

The two B-level Awakened he killed earlier provided about 60,000 Experience Points each. Adding the previous 20,000+, it was close to 150,000.

But this was still too little.

A single Golden Bell Shield couldn't even be fully upgraded, not to mention the soon-to-be unlocked Dragon Elephant Wisdom Skill, Vajra Indestructible Divine Skill, and a bunch of Inner Power Boxing and Martial Arts techniques.

Although killing Awakened yields high experience, he didn't want to do it unless necessary.

So, to gain Experience Points, he could only hunt Fierce Beasts.

Of course, if he encountered Cultists, destroying their Black Balls filled with death aura would also yield considerable Experience Points. Unfortunately, such opportunities were rare.

Chen Fan stretched his body, accompanied by a series of sounds, he regained his original form. Simultaneously, a black Battle Bow appeared in his right hand, and he carried over two meters of arrows on his back. Each arrow was as thick as a grown man's arm, looking intimidating.

The next moment, his body propelled like a missile, whistling towards the north.

After about ten minutes, the outline of Anshan City appeared ahead. Chen Fan didn't stop; with a thought, he extended the distance of Celestial Response to the maximum.

"Lion Apes, and two of them?"

Chen Fan's mouth slightly curved as he closed the Celestial Response range and quickly sped towards the two Lion Apes.

"Roar!"

At this moment, two nearly ten-meter-tall Lion Apes were feasting on a high-level Fierce Beast, the scene was extremely bloody.

But the two Lion Apes were very excited, occasionally pounding their chests and roaring.

Suddenly, a violent buzzing sound approached from afar. The Lion Ape on the left couldn't react to what had happened before an arrow pierced its chest, the powerful kinetic energy of the arrow throwing its body backward dozens of meters.

With a loud crash, the tens of tons of Lion Ape fell on its back, a fist-sized blood hole in its chest, blood gushing out.

Its breath waning.

"Roar! Roar!"

The other Lion Ape roared in anger, scanning its surroundings, seemingly searching for the attacker.

Suddenly, another sonic boom echoed.

Seeing a huge flame flying towards here at an astonishing speed, upon closer inspection, it was not a flame but an arrow surrounded by fiery True Qi, resembling a flame.

"Boom!"

Another loud noise.

The second Lion Ape's chest exploded with a one-meter diameter hole.

With a thud, this Lion Ape also fell backward but unlike its companion, it died instantly.

Two kilometers away, Chen Fan looked at the Battle Bow in his hand, satisfactorily nodding.

No wonder it's the Tier Four Alloy Battle Bow, a single normal-power arrow could easily penetrate the defense of Elite-level Fierce Beasts, aiming at vital spots could directly kill.

If True Qi is applied, like the Sun-Shooting Arrow just now, it would be an instant kill.

Chen Fan stepped forward, gathered the vital materials from the two Lion Apes, and stored them in Space Items before reopening Celestial Response.

Soon, he detected the aura of another two Elite-level Fierce Beasts, about thirty high-level Fierce Beasts.

"There's also a Fire Scaly Pig, how timely."

Chen Fan's mouth curved into a smile.

He immediately headed towards the location of the Fire Scaly Pig.

In the next moment, an arrow surrounded by fiery True Qi whistled again.

"Boom!"

After a huge burst, even the formidable Fire Scaly Pig had a six or seven hundred centimeters large hole on its body, falling down with raised dust.

Again, an instant kill with one arrow.

"No wonder it's the Tier Four Alloy Battle Bow,"

Chen Fan sighed again, using only the basic Sun-Shooting Arrow, yet hadn't even used the more powerful Flaming Arrow.

"I should find one or two Commander-level Fierce Beasts to test my skills."

Chen Fan looked towards the distance.

The land occupied by the Human Race now is less than one-tenth of what it was ten years ago.

Three super-large cities stand in a tripod configuration. The regions between the three super-large cities are considered absolute safe zones. Around these super-large cities, gradually formed over ten large cities, the same goes for medium cities.

On the outermost perimeter are small cities like Anshan City.

From the sky, the entire Human Race territory resembles a circle, a sort of fortress.

Outside the fortress lies the territory of Fierce Beasts, with greater danger the deeper you go.

After collecting materials from the Fire Scaly Pig, Chen Fan continued moving forward.

On the way, he killed nearly ten Elite-level Fierce Beasts, yet he still couldn't detect any aura far exceeding that of Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

Chen Fan frowned, his gaze fixed ahead, noticing a human city appearing in the distance out of nowhere.

But unlike the cities he had seen before, this city was a scene of ruins, desolate and broken.

"Is it a relic of an old city?"

Chen Fan opened Celestial Response, and was shocked to find the city had thousands of auras, all Fierce Beasts!

Most of the auras ranged from Mid-level to high-level Fierce Beasts.

There were dozens of Elite-level Fierce Beasts auras.

Besides that, one aura was several times stronger than those of Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

"Is it a Commander-level Fierce Beast?"

Chen Fan muttered.

This powerful aura gave him a sense of danger, but not extreme danger.

"Let's check it out."

Chen Fan swallowed his saliva.

Chapter 327: Herd of Frenzied Bulls

About two kilometers away from the city ruins, Chen Fan frowned.

That was likely the location of the Commander-level Fierce Beast, precisely at the city center.

And the dozens of Elite-level Fierce Beast auras surrounding it were stationed all around, like guards, encircling the Commander-level Fierce Beast at the very center.

This meant that sneaking up on the Commander-level Fierce Beast without being noticed would be very difficult.

"Just as Meng Xue said, all Commander-level Fierce Beasts possess intelligence."

Chen Fan muttered.

Moreover, one peculiar aspect was that, aside from some differences in strength, the auras of the dozens of Elite-level Fierce Beasts were almost identical.

"Could it be that they are all the same type of Elite-level Fierce Beast?"

Chen Fan found this somewhat unbelievable.

Since he had come this far, he wouldn't be satisfied without seeing the Commander-level Fierce Beast in the center.

But charging in blindly would definitely attract both the Commander-level Fierce Beast and the dozens of Elite-level Fierce Beasts, which wouldn't be a wise choice.

"Let's try clearing out some of those Elite-level Fierce Beasts first."

Chen Fan walked forward.

The city outskirts were filled with rubble and overgrown vegetation, with many Mid to High-level Fierce Beasts resting in the shadows of the walls, presenting a harmonious scene.

This was indeed strange.

Because in other places, High-level Fierce Beasts would normally fight amongst themselves, not to mention the many Mid-level Fierce Beasts here—they would be just like food delivered to their doorstep.

But the High-level Fierce Beasts seemed not to notice.

Chen Fan didn't disturb them, jumping across the rooftops.

Soon, a few Elite-level Fierce Beasts came into view.

More than ten Frenzied Bulls.

Standing nearly six meters tall and almost ten meters long, with two horns close to two meters long, and blood-red eyes.

Among Elite-level Fierce Beasts, they weren't particularly powerful; one-on-one, they were much weaker than a Fire Scaly Pig. The problem was, these beasts typically appeared in groups, even Fire Scaly Pigs avoided them.

Moreover, they were called Frenzied Bulls because once injured, their power and speed would surge, launching fearless attacks on their opponents.

"No wonder there are dozens of identical auras."

Chen Fan hid in a tall building, overlooking everything below.

Indeed, it was a group of Frenzied Bulls.

Not just in this direction, the other three directions likely presented the same scenario.

At this moment, the strongest aura in his mind became familiar.

"It seems that's also a Frenzied Bull, but the king of this group."

Chen Fan looked towards the center a few kilometers away.

To his surprise, they were the same species. If he attacked these Frenzied Bulls, the Commander-level Fierce Beast would surely not sit idly by if it noticed.

At this moment, several Frenzied Bulls below woke up, sniffing the air vigorously.

"Can't delay any longer."

Chen Fan sensed trouble because the Elite-level Fierce Beasts below had detected something unusual and would soon find him.

Immediately, he drew five arrows, activating his True Essence within.

A loud explosion,

Five Sun-Shooting Arrows, carrying immense momentum, headed towards the five Frenzied Bulls below.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

With several violent explosions, the five Frenzied Bulls couldn't even scream, their heads or bodies exploded, leaving holes nearly a meter in diameter.

"Roar!"

The remaining Frenzied Bulls immediately awoke, roaring towards Chen Fan's direction.

However, they were met with more and faster arrows.

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

One Frenzied Bull after another fell into pools of blood.

In less than three seconds, over ten Elite-level Frenzied Bulls were all shot dead.

The other High-level Fierce Beasts fled in panic, raising dust visible from over ten miles away.

"Damn."

Chen Fan frowned.

As if to confirm his words.

"Roar!"

A thunderous roar echoed from the city's center.

The roar carried hints of sorrow and immense anger.

"It's that Commander-level Fierce Beast."

Chen Fan couldn't help but chuckle bitterly; he knew he would inevitably alert the beast, just sooner than expected.

Given the situation, he had no choice but to either flee or face what's coming head-on.

"Roar!"

"Roar!"

In an instant, the entire city's Fierce Beasts started to riot, roars coming from all directions.

"Roar!"

The thunderous roar sounded again, and a nearly twenty-meter-tall figure slowly rose from the city center.

Two massive horns, almost ten meters long, blood-red eyes, and heated breaths from its mouth and nose, its entire body covered in armor that even a 150mm howitzer couldn't break.

It looked in Chen Fan's direction, its hind legs scratching the ground, and suddenly charged.

"Boom." It was like an earthquake, the ground trembled within a range of tens of miles.

The next second, a huge figure charged out.

"Boom!"

A high-rise building blocking the path was shattered, debris hitting concrete walls within tens of meters.

"Boom!"

Another building was cut in half, seven or eight floors collapsing.

Then the third, fourth...

Some High-level Fierce Beasts unable to dodge were sent flying, exploding mid-air; others halfway through their escape were squashed into pulp by falling iron hooves.

The high-rise-filled city was being forcibly cleared by this Commander-level Fierce Beast, carving out a several-kilometer path.

"Roar!"

The Furious Barbaric Bull King fixated its blood-red eyes on the building where Chen Fan stood, and rammed its horns.

"Boom!"

A loud crash, the building Chen Fan stood on turned to rubble, steel and concrete penetrated like paper.

"So fast."

Chen Fan stood on a high-rise several hundred meters behind the Commander-level Fierce Beast.

Its speed and power were extraordinary.

He looked at the several-kilometer path behind it, this beast alone could destroy all of Anshan City.

Since that's the case, he wouldn't hold back, immediately using his most powerful Flaming Arrow.

Sun-Shooting Arrow, each shot consumes 10,000 True Qi, increasing arrow power tenfold.

Flaming Arrow consumes 30,000 True Qi, adding significant fire attribute damage along with physical damage.

"Boom!"

A loud explosion.

A flame shot towards the Commander-level Fierce Beast.

Upon closer inspection, it was an arrow wrapped in fiery red True Qi, looking like a flame.

The arrow swiftly hit the armor on the Frenzied Bull, piercing it with a splash of blood; the arrow almost embedded itself entirely.

"Boom!"

Another explosion; the fire attribute True Qi on the arrow detonated, amidst a blaze, the Furious Barbaric Bull King's body was opened up with a half-meter wound, edges charred, and the air carried a scent of roasted meat.

"Roar!"

The Furious Barbaric Bull King turned, its blood-red eyes glowing even brighter.

It launched another charge towards Chen Fan, now moving twice as fast.

"Boom!"

The spot where Chen Fan stood was again reduced to rubble.

But the Furious Barbaric Bull King wasn't satisfied, stomping crazily on the ruins.

"Whew, close call."

A kilometer away, Chen Fan calmed himself.

Fortunately, he had activated his full power stance, his speed increased several folds; otherwise, he might really have been hit.

He wasn't afraid of being hit by an Elite-level Fierce Beast, but a full-force hit from a Commander-level Fierce Beast was hard to say.

Luckily, his arrow, made of Tier Four Alloy, could easily penetrate the beast.

In that case, killing this giant was just a matter of time.

Chen Fan drew another arrow, this time aiming at the head for a kill shot.

"Boom!"

Another Flaming Arrow sped towards its head.

Just as it was about to hit, the beast suddenly turned its horns upward.

"Ding!"

A crisp sound.

The arrow shattered, the fiery attribute True Qi erupted, and when the smoke cleared, Chen Fan was shocked.

Aside from looking a bit disheveled, the Frenzied Bull remained unscathed!

Its horns seemed even brighter.

"Those horns seem valuable."

Chen Fan noted.

He also learned a lesson.

The head might be a weak spot, but hitting it was very challenging.

"I have to take it slow, but its speed isn't faster than mine, it can't hurt me; besides, Flaming Arrow only consumes 300 True Qi per shot, I can fire nearly ten shots now."

Chen Fan's figure blurred.

The spot he stood on was again shattered.

Reappearing a kilometer away.

Drawing his bow, activating True Qi.

Fiery attribute True Qi enveloped the arrow.

Release.

"Boom!"

Another Flaming Arrow flew, aimed at the leg.

With a hiss, the arrow embedded deep.

Amidst intense flames, the connection between the Furious Barbaric Bull King's leg and body was severed, leaving only one-fifth intact, the rest in shambles.

"Roar!"

The Furious Barbaric Bull King roared in pain, eyes flashing with fear.

It no longer dared to charge at the small entity in the distance.

Charging would guarantee losing a leg, reducing its strength by eighty percent; even Elite-level Fierce Beasts might then attack it.

"Roar! Roar! Roar!"

It roared several times, summoning nearby Elite-level Frenzied Bulls to surround Chen Fan.

It moved back.

"Planning to escape?" Chen Fan smirked.

"Too late to run now."

Chapter 328: One Million Experience Points

"Roar!"

Dozens of Frenzied Bulls charged towards the high-rise building where Chen Fan was located from all directions.

In just a few moments, the six or seven-story building collapsed with a loud crash.

However, Chen Fan's figure had already appeared hundreds of meters away, with a bow drawn and an arrow aimed at the injured front leg of the Frenzied Barbaric Bull King.

For the average Martial Artist, such a number of buildings might be an obstacle, but for him, they were an advantage.

The bowstring twanged, and a Flaming Arrow struck the injured leg of the Frenzied Barbaric Bull King, causing the beast to crash to the ground amid flames.

A powerful shockwave overturned several nearby small buildings.

"The opportunity is here!"

A gleam of sharpness flashed in Chen Fan's eyes as he produced three Armor-Piercing Arrows!

Massive amounts of True Essence from within his body adhered to the arrows.

This time, he aimed at the opponent's neck again.

"Boom!"

With a loud explosion, the three Flaming Arrows roared like missiles towards the target.

The Frenzied Barbaric Bull King seemed to sense something and tried to turn its head to deflect the arrows with its horns, but having lost a front leg, it couldn't even maintain its balance, let alone precisely deflect the arrows with its horns.

In the next moment.

"Squish!"

All three Flaming Arrows pierced into the opponent's neck almost simultaneously, and the Fire Attribute True Qi attached to the arrows erupted at once!

A column of fire shot up nearly ten meters high.

A flaming bull's head flew like a cannonball, crashing through several buildings before embedding in a wall.

The headless body collapsed to the ground, its two hind legs twitching instinctively.

"Phew..."

Seeing this, Chen Fan let out a sigh of relief.

The fact proved his timing was perfect, and the compounded power of the three Flaming Arrows successfully blasted off the head of this Commander-level Fierce Beast.

"If I had used the Fifth Strike of Windward Slash, it might have had the same effect, but it wouldn't have been as safe as using long-range archery."

Chen Fan thought to himself.

If he had used a saber, he would have had to control the distance to within a hundred meters, the closer the distance, the stronger the power.

However, a hundred meters was merely an instant for this Commander-level Fierce Beast, and there was a risk that the beast could attack him at the same time he attacked it.

Not so with archery.

From the moment this Commander-level Fierce Beast entered the battlefield, Chen Fan had been kiting it.

An attack range of one or two kilometers was more than enough for him to evade the Frenzied Bull's charges.

"It's a pity that the power of archery is still a bit weak. Even the Flaming Arrow Technique's power is only about twenty or thirty times that of a regular arrow, while the Fifth Strike of Windward Slash can reach fifty times the power of saber techniques."

Chen Fan's gaze fell on the dozens of Elite-level Fierce Beasts below, sparking an idea.

The death of the Frenzied Barbaric Bull King only fueled the anger of the other Frenzied Bulls. Instead of retreating, their eyes glowed even more brightly with rage.

"Roar!"

"Roar!"

In their angry roars, dozens of Frenzied Bulls charged at Chen Fan with reckless abandon.

Seeing this, Chen Fan's lips curled into a smile.

He was more than happy to oblige.

Leaping into the air, he landed on a building several dozen meters away, and the moment he touched down, five Sun-Shooting Arrows whistled out.

Five Elite Frenzied Bulls fell to the ground on the spot, each with a nearly meter-wide hole in its body.

"Roar!"

The remaining Frenzied Bulls rushed at the small building in response.

Chen Fan's figure vanished once again.

In this way, as buildings continued to fall, so did the relentless waves of Frenzied Bulls.

Chen Fan even found time to jump to the ground and retrieve his arrows.

The slaughter was completely one-sided.

After a few minutes, fewer than five of the dozens of Elite-level Frenzied Bulls remained.

The surviving bulls' eyes gradually dimmed, as if sensing that something was amiss, they began to retreat slowly.

Of course, this behavior was instinctual rather than intelligent.

However, Chen Fan did not give them the chance.

With each twang of the bowstring, another Frenzied Bull fell into a pool of blood.

In less than three seconds, all five remaining Frenzied Bulls were shot dead.

"It's over."

Chen Fan stretched his muscles, feeling somewhat unfulfilled.

He glanced at his Experience Points.

In total, he had killed one Commander-level Fierce Beast and forty-five Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

The Commander-level Fierce Beast alone had provided nearly 100,000 Experience Points, slightly higher than the two B-level Awakeners from before.

The forty-five Elite-level Fierce Beasts offered even more astonishing gains: 450,000 Experience Points, averaging nearly 6,000 points per Elite Frenzied Bull.

Chen Fan was overjoyed.

His current Experience Points had accumulated to over 700,000, the most he had ever had.

With so many Experience Points, maxing out the Dragon Elephant Wisdom Skill and Vajra Indestructible Divine Skill was a sure thing.

As for the Golden Bell Shield, it was unnecessary to spend Experience Points on it since he had already unlocked the Vajra Indestructible Divine Skill.

The remaining Experience Points could likely elevate various Heart Methods to the Perfection Realm, unlocking the desired Traits.

His gaze fell on the pile of Frenzied Bulls on the ground.

So many materials would be enough for him to go back and buy Martial Arts like the Marriage Robe Divine Skill and Undying Seal Technique.

"To avoid unforeseen complications, it's better to collect the Fierce Beast materials first."

Chen Fan moved quickly, stuffing the head of the Frenzied Barbaric Bull King into a space item. Undoubtedly, the horns were valuable and worth a lot of points.

He then appeared in front of the body, drew a dagger, and began cutting off other materials.

Time ticked by, and after about a quarter of an hour, he had collected the materials from the dozens of Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

Looking at the piles of beef, he felt a pang of regret.

These were the flesh of Elite-level Fierce Beasts. He recalled how, in the past, the flesh of a single Low-level Fierce Beast had excited him immensely.

But there were just too many prey and limited space in the space item. Even if he wanted to store them, why not prioritize the Commander-level Fierce Beast?

Chen Fan's gaze fell on the body of the Frenzied Barbaric Bull King.

To store this beast, he would need at least a hundred cubic meters of space in his space item, plus some cutting.

Space items with a hundred cubic meters capacity, if available at the Awakened Association, would likely be extremely expensive.

The distance from here to Anshan City was several hundred miles, making it difficult to transport the body back.

But leaving it here would be a waste, so he decided to go through the trouble.

However, he wasn't planning to return immediately.

There were still tens of thousands of Mid-level and High-level Fierce Beasts around.

Killing a High-level Fierce Beast awarded only a few hundred points, incomparable to the experience gained from killing Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

Therefore, in the past, when he encountered High-level Fierce Beasts in the wild, he simply ignored them.

But the situation was different now.

These High-level Fierce Beasts were gathered here, not scattered like before, making the hunt much easier.

Each High-level Fierce Beast offered a few hundred points, and at ten beasts, it totaled a few thousand points. Extrapolate this to thousands and the Experience Points could reach millions.

Millions of points, far more than what the previous group of Elite-level Beasts had provided!

Moreover, Chen Fan was highly tempted by another factor.

He could seize this opportunity to practice Basic Archery!

That's right.

There was no need for any Arrow Technique Secret Skill against these Mid to High-level Fierce Beasts; an ordinary arrow was enough to kill them.

The effect on the Skill Level of Basic Archery was self-evident.

Once the Basic Archery level was high, it would enhance the Flaming Arrow Technique's skill level, possibly unlocking the hundredfold power of the Sun-Shooting Arrow Technique!

At that point, facing a Commander-level Fierce Beast wouldn't be as troublesome; a single shot with the hundredfold power Sun-Shooting Arrow would finish the fight.

"Although the process is tedious and time-consuming, today presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Chen Fan narrowed his eyes. Moreover, hunting Mid to High-level Fierce Beasts couldn't be as boring as shooting arrows at targets.

He moved again, positioning himself on a high-rise building to overlook the scene.

Without the oppression of Commander-level Fierce Beasts, the surrounding Mid to High-level Fierce Beasts weren't as harmonious, engaging in battles among themselves.

In just a short while, the remaining Mid-level Beasts were almost entirely slaughtered, while only a few escaped.

The High-level Beasts, gathered in twos and threes, or individually, feasted on the flesh of the Mid-level Beasts, and the city's air was thick with a bloody stench.

"It won't be long before more High-level Beasts are drawn here by the scent of blood, possibly even some Elite-level Beasts. This is truly a blessing."

Chen Fan was ecstatic, heading immediately towards the area with the most High-level Beasts.

"Boom!"

A sonic boom echoed.

A Gale Wolf King was instantly pierced by an arrow, its body flying backward like a tattered rag sack.

The arrow that pierced it continued its relentless momentum, shooting through five or six more High-level Beasts before embedding itself in a reinforced concrete wall.

"Swish!"

"Swish!"

Several more arrows cut through the air.

The High-level Beasts, unaware of where the attacks came from, began to fall one after another.

In less than thirty seconds, over a hundred High-level Beasts were killed.

The quiver was empty.

"Thirty arrows are still too few."

Chen Fan sighed, as he hadn't expected to encounter such a situation today; otherwise, even hundreds or thousands of arrows wouldn't have been enough.

Fortunately, his Basic Archery skill level had increased several levels.

"Let's continue then."

Chen Fan leaped down, retrieving the arrows one by one and returning them to the quiver.

Of course, some clueless High-level Beasts charged at him.

They met a tragic end.

Upon impact, they were shattered by the Golden Bell Shield, sent flying, and ultimately, they died completely and utterly.

Chapter 329: A Mysterious Person

Just as Chen Fan was enjoying shooting High-level Fierce Beasts tirelessly, from the southeast direction, a group of seven or eight people was approaching.

None of them carried weapons, suggesting they weren't Martial Artists.

Leading them was an adult man, of medium build, robust physique, and a refined demeanor, giving off a trustworthy vibe.

Behind him were several younger individuals, both male and female, and even a small girl under five feet tall, seemingly around fourteen or fifteen years old.

"Anxi City is just ahead."

A man in his early twenties said, his eyes gleaming as he looked forward.

"Yes, last time I only killed more than ten High-level Fierce Beasts and not a single Elite-level Fierce Beast. This time, I must kill at least three to five Elite-level Fierce Beasts." A nearby young man said, gritting his teeth.

"Kill three to five Elite-level Fierce Beasts? Nie Lin, stop bragging."

"Exactly, do you really think those Frenzied Bulls are that easy to kill? I'm not looking down on you, but if you can kill two, the sun will probably rise from the west."

Several women in the team heard this and covered their mouths, laughing.

"You!"

Nie Lin was infuriated, pointing at the other man, gritting his teeth, "Wang, who do you think you're looking down on? Killing two Frenzied Bulls, how hard can it be? Do you dare to bet with me?"

"Bet it is, who's afraid?"

The young man raised his head, "What do you want to bet?"

"Let's bet on..."

"Enough."

The voice of the adult man ahead sounded, carrying a tone of helplessness, "Do you all really think this mission is a game? I've told you more than three times already, inside Anxi City is a Commander-level Fierce Beast. Do you know the consequences if we disturb that creature?"

"Yes, we know."

Everyone immediately lowered their heads.

"Knowing isn't enough."

The adult man glared at them.

"Uncle Yuan, but you're here with us, aren't you?"

"Exactly, you're a B-level Awakened one; if we indeed disturb that Commander-level Fierce Beast, you will be here to handle it without any accidents."

"We still can't afford to be careless."

Yuan Yang shook his head,

"If we indeed disturb that creature, not even I can guarantee the safety of all of you. I might encounter severe danger myself. So, when we reach the outskirts of Anxi City, all of you must follow my orders strictly. Do not act independently, understood?"

"Understood!"

Everyone replied in unison.

"Alright, stick close behind me, and don't act until my command."

After giving them instructions, Yuan Yang looked ahead.

The silhouette of an abandoned city came into view.

Anxi City, which was a third-tier city with a million population ten years ago, had quickly fallen due to earth's drastic changes.

Years have passed, and this place had become the territory of a Commander-level Fierce Beast...

Although it was just a Frenzied Barbaric Bull King, a regular Commander-level Fierce Beast, it was still formidable—one-on-one, Yuan Yang had no absolute confidence.

Fortunately, he wasn't here to eliminate the opponent, but to train these young members from the association.

Enhancing the control over Superpowers is most effective through actual combat, facing Fierce Beasts directly.

Today's Anxi City was an excellent training ground, with numerous Mid to High-level Fierce Beasts and plenty of Elite-level Fierce Beasts, provided they don't disturb that central Commander-level Fierce Beast.

As they got closer, Yuan Yang frowned as he smelled a strong scent of blood.

This was notably different from the last two times.

"Be cautious, something's up."

He warned in a low voice.

Upon hearing this, everyone behind him immediately snapped out of their playful mood, becoming fully vigilant.

After all, they were C-level Awakened ones and had witnessed many intense situations.

"Uncle Yuan, what's happening?" someone couldn't help but ask.

"Not clear yet, we'll find out soon." Yuan Yang shook his head.

Soon, they reached the city outskirts, only to see the ground littered with Fierce Beast corpses.

Both High-level and Mid-level Fierce Beasts.

"What's going on?"

Everyone was stunned to see this scene.

The last two visits, there were countless Mid to High-level Fierce Beasts here, but they were alive, so now?

"Everyone stay put, keep an eye on surrounding areas."

Yuan Yang advised while examining the Fierce Beast corpses.

There were many traces of biting on the beast bodies, some bearing multiple wounds.

"Could these be bitten by High-level Fierce Beasts?"

Yuan Yang muttered.

It's normal for High-level Fierce Beasts to attack Mid-level Fierce Beasts to fill their stomachs, even though the Commander-level Fierce Beast suppresses them, this occurrence can't be completely avoided, as it even consumes High-level Fierce Beasts itself.

But, these Mid-level Fierce Beasts' corpses are too numerous!

"No, there are also High-level Fierce Beast corpses!"

He quickly walked forward, picked up a High-level Fierce Beast corpse, and his jaw dropped.

There was a fist-sized blood hole on the body, with a smooth edge, as if something had pierced through.

"There's another one there! And one over there!"

He went forward to examine each.

The wounds matched that of the first High-level Fierce Beast.

"What's going on?"

Yuan Yang frowned even deeper.

Mid-level Fierce Beasts unquestionably died by High-level Fierce Beasts.

But how did those High-level Fierce Beasts die?

The wounds clearly didn't resemble anything a Fierce Beast would inflict.

"Uncle Yuan, these wounds seem like they were caused by arrows?"

A young woman approached curiously.

"Seriously? Fist-sized arrows?"

"Even javelins aren't that large, right?"

Others gathered around, discussing.

"Just a guess." The young woman said hesitantly, realizing the improbability of such large arrows.

Probably the work of an Awakener?

Suddenly, a distant loud noise accompanied by faint wails echoed.

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

Several more explosions erupted, and the beasts' disturbance grew louder.

"Uncle Yuan?"

The group was startled, their eyes warily fixed on Yuan Yang.

"I'll check it out. You stay here until I return." Yuan Yang instructed.

"Uncle Yuan, let us go with you."

"Uncle Yuan, we won't be a burden."

"Alright, but stay cautious."

Yuan Yang conceded, realizing it would help them handle emergencies, and there's strength in numbers, particularly among Awakeners.

The group headed toward the sounds.

Along the way, Fierce Beast corpses were scattered everywhere.

After more than ten explosions, things fell silent again.

Yuan Yang's team felt anxious.

Such disturbances could attract the Commander-level Fierce Beast, causing chaos.

However, curiosity drove them forward.

Then, a figure appeared on the street, visible to them.

A mysterious person wearing an Evil Ghost Mask, strong and tall, likely a man, holding a Longbow larger than himself and a Quiver of arrows on his back. His right hand pulled a large javelin-like arrow from the ground, placing it in the Quiver.

"It's a human!"

Someone in the group exclaimed.

Instantly, the mysterious person turned to look at them.

"What a terrifying aura."

Yuan Yang felt his blood freeze as the person locked eyes with him.

The young men and women were too scared to breathe.

The mysterious figure looked away, moved to another spot, pulled a second javelin-like arrow from the ground, placed it in the Quiver, and walked away.

When the figure disappeared, everyone finally reacted.

"Uncle... Uncle Yuan, what... what's happening?"

A young man stammered, still shaken.

Yuan Yang took a deep breath, "If my guess is correct, he's the one who killed those High-level Fierce Beasts along the way."

"Him!"

"It's actually him?"

Everyone looked shocked and disbelieving.

"You recall the wounds on those High-level Fierce Beasts, right?" Yuan Yang asked softly.

They nodded.

"Back then, Gao Yun said the wounds looked like arrow wounds. Even I didn't believe it, as who'd have such thick arrows. But just now, I saw him pull out what seemed like a javelin from the ground, and realized it was actually an arrow!"

"You saw his Longbow and Quiver; it's him shooting those massive javelin-sized arrows to kill the High-level Fierce Beasts."

Everyone gasped.

Goodness, there really are fist-sized arrows?

Not just High-level Fierce Beasts, even they would be skinned alive if hit by one.

Though they believed their protective talismans would protect them from any harm.

"Uncle Yuan, does that mean he's an Archer?"

"Yes."

Yuan Yang nodded,

"Is he a Martial Artist or an Awakener?"

"I'm not sure."

Yuan Yang shook his head.

Many B-level Awakeners also use cold weapons aside from their Superpowers, being both Awakeners and Martial Artists.

"Regardless of whether he's an Awakener or Martial Artist, we have no business with him. Besides, if he's stuck here killing only High-level Fierce Beasts, his strength is likely not extraordinary. No concern." A young man said dismissively.

Mostly feeling embarrassed to be rendered speechless by the stranger's stare.

"Right, we're here not for High-level Fierce Beasts but the Frenzied Bulls inside the city."

"Uncle Yuan, let's proceed."

"Alright."

Yuan Yang nodded.

His intuition told him, the Archer wasn't ordinary, and his strength likely exceeded just handling High-level Fierce Beasts.

Still, avoiding trouble is wise here, especially with numerous High-level Fierce Beasts around for the Archer to shoot.

"Let's take another route to find the Frenzied Bulls. Remember, when encountering them, follow my orders, avoid drawing the Commander-level Fierce Beast."

"Relax, Uncle Yuan, you've said these so many times our ears have calluses."

"Exactly, didn't disturb it the last two times either."

"Let's go, Uncle Yuan, my sword is itching for action."

Everyone prepared eagerly.

"Alright."

Yuan Yang turned before leaving, glancing once more at the direction the mysterious Archer departed, with furrowed brows.

Wondering how many High-level Fierce Beasts did the Archer kill already? Normally, with such commotion, whether it alarmed the Commander-level Beast or many Elite-level Beasts, there should be tracks.

But observing the surroundings, there weren't traces of Elite-level Beasts, nor any corpses.

What's going on?

Adding to the Mid-level Fierce Beast corpses spread out, the strong blood scent should've attracted the Commander-level Beast?

It's baffling.

Chapter 330: Is it him?

"Basic Archery, leveled up again."

Chen Fan glanced at the skill bar and muttered to himself.

In less than half an hour, Basic Archery had leveled up nearly 10 times, reaching nearly Level 60.

The traits were still the same as before, with no new ones unlocked.

He glanced at the experience points again.

They had increased by fifty or sixty thousand points.

At this rate of development, the experience points could increase by seven or eight hundred thousand before nightfall!

Of course, that was theoretically.

Those high-level fierce beasts are indeed without wisdom, but they have the instinct to seek benefits and avoid harm. When they see their companions falling one by one, many of them flee far away.

"Even if the yield of experience points is halved, it can still amount to three or four hundred thousand points, adding up to over seven hundred thousand now. Breaking a million today should be a certainty. If only there were more arrows."

Chen Fan thought to himself.

He had only thirty arrows in total, which made the efficiency of killing these high-level fierce beasts very low.

Fortunately, his goal was not just to gain experience points but also to improve the proficiency of Basic Archery.

"Hmm?"

Suddenly he sensed something and looked in the direction where those people had left.

"Are those people heading towards the center?"

Chen Fan frowned.

The materials from the commander-level fierce beast and dozens of elite-level fierce beasts had all been collected by him. Even if those people went there, it wouldn't matter much.

However, he intended to take the commander-level fierce beast with him.

Hopefully, those people don't target that commander-level fierce beast. Otherwise, it will waste some more time.

He shook his head and once again aimed his arrow at a high-level fierce beast a kilometer away.

Meanwhile, in a different direction.

Yuan Yang, leading a group of people, was darting between buildings.

Compared to before, this time they encountered a large number of high-level fierce beasts. Some even spotted them and charged towards them.

However, a few high-level fierce beasts didn't have a chance to get close to the group, getting blown into pieces halfway.

"Tch, these high-level fierce beasts are really not shrewd, daring to provoke us." A young man said narcissistically.

"Alright, you just killed a couple of high-level fierce beasts, look at yourself boasting."

"Yeah, show us how you instantly kill an elite-level fierce beast next."

"Kill? Just watch me later."

The group started bickering again.

Little did they know, Yuan Yang at the front suddenly trembled, showing a horrified expression.

"What's wrong, Uncle Yuan?"

A curious young woman behind asked, and when she followed Yuan Yang's gaze, her eyes widened.

Ahead, on a large open ground hundreds of meters away, lay dozens of large fierce beast corpses.

All were Frenzied Bulls!

Soon, the others noticed this scene too.

The atmosphere turned silent instantly.

"Uncle Yuan, what's going on? Why are there so many Frenzied Bulls' corpses ahead?" Someone couldn't help but ask.

"Are they all dead?"

"Obviously! If they were alive and we were this close, they'd have reacted."

"How did they die? Who killed them? Could it be internal fighting?"

"Internal fighting? No way! Frenzied Bulls are social beasts, internal fighting?"

"Let's go take a closer look, be cautious and watch the surroundings."

Yuan Yang said.

Even he was full of doubts.

As they got closer, they finally saw what had happened.

Each Frenzied Bull had a meter-wide hole, with blood coagulating around the wound, clearly dead for some time.

Moreover, valuable materials from these Frenzied Bulls were missing, like the pair of horns on their heads.

"Someone cut and took them away with a sharp weapon."

Yuan Yang inspected a dead Frenzied Bull, examining the neat cut.

"Uncle Yuan, same here."

"Same here."

"Seems like all of them."

They were all dumbfounded.

The same wound, same marks.

Were all these Frenzied Bulls killed by the same person?

Oh my god, who could kill dozens of elite-level fierce beasts alone?

"Shh."

Yuan Yang realized their voices were too loud, gesturing for them to be quiet. "Everyone, keep calm..."

Before he finished, someone tugged his arm.

"Uncle Yuan, look over there, what's that?" said the person, pointing not far off.

"What's that?"

Yuan Yang looked, and immediately felt a chill down his spine.

A frame over ten meters tall and more than twenty meters long, looking like a mountain of flesh from afar!

Is this the size of an elite-level beast?

This is clearly a commander-level fierce beast!

"Command, commander-level?"

"It's a commander-level fierce beast!"

"Oh my god, it's the Furious Barbaric Bull King!"

Exclamations erupted.

"Uncle Yuan, should we leave here? If the Furious Barbaric Bull King notices us, we'll be in trouble." A quick-thinking woman reminded.

The others also snapped out of their shock hearing this.

That's right, faced with such a beast without preparation, remain calm; panic can turn an easy escape into a dangerous situation, making already dangerous scenarios even deadlier.

"Don't worry."

Yuan Yang's voice echoed.

"That Furious Barbaric Bull King is already dead."

"What! Dead!"

"Dead!"

Startled, they looked again.

The commander-level fierce beast had no head!

Not just the head, its four legs were gone, and its mountain-like body was covered in injuries and even burn marks.

"This?"

They exchanged glances.

This Furious Barbaric Bull King was already dead.

"Uncle Yuan, shall we go take a closer look?"

"Yes, let's have a closer look."

Yuan Yang nodded.

Approaching the Furious Barbaric Bull King's body, despite it being dead, its gigantic frame brought an overwhelming sense of oppression.

"How did it die?"

"Yeah, who could kill such a massive beast?"

"A B-level Awakener perhaps?"

"Even a B-level Awakener alone would struggle with this many Frenzied Bulls."

"Indeed, probably needs at least two or three B-level Awakeners."

"Too bad the valuable materials from this commander-level fierce beast have been taken, what's left isn't worth much."

"Not worth much? This is a commander-level beast, its meat is as valuable as a top-grade Qi Blood Pill, even more so!"

"Really, the effect is that strong?"

They chatted back and forth.

Yuan Yang inspected the wounds on the Furious Barbaric Bull King, deep in thought.

He remembered the masked, bow-wielding mysterious person outside.

The wounds on those elite-level fierce beasts were penetrative, similar to those on the high-level fierce beasts outside, but much larger.

At first, they didn't seem caused by arrows.

But what if arrows were infused with True Qi?

Being a True Essence Realm martial artist himself, he knew a simple palm strike could break several walls, but with True Qi, it could shatter them.

Similarly, could arrows infused with True Qi achieve similar results?

Were the outside elite fierce beasts also killed by the mysterious person?

Probably.

And what about this commander-level fierce beast?

The Barbaric Bull King, though ordinary, didn't have racial talents, relying on brute strength to charge around.

It's still a commander-level fierce beast!

Facing it one-on-one, there's a risk of falling. Killing it? Difficult.

The wounds on this Furious Barbaric Bull King seemed caused by explosions; intense heat burned the surrounding black.

Not arrow wounds.

"Could there be someone else?"

He murmured.

"Uncle Yuan, someone else?" A curious woman inquired.

"No, nothing."

Yuan Yang shook his head.

His gaze scanned the surroundings, lingering on the fallen Frenzied Bulls and the Furious Barbaric Bull King.

Today, he intended to train the young associates like before, but all elite fierce beasts were killed and even the strongest commander-level beast was dead.

No wonder the outside mid to high-level fierce beasts fought amongst themselves.

"It seems hunting will have to be in other abandoned cities next time. Those cities' commander-level beasts aren't as easy to deal with as this Furious Barbaric Bull King."

Thinking this, Yuan Yang felt headache.

The perfect spot was lost.

"Uncle Yuan, shall we leave?"

"Yeah, Uncle Yuan, the elite fierce beasts here are dead, only high-level ones left. We aren't that guy outside, enthusiastically killing high-level beasts."

"Uncle Yuan, before we leave, shall we take the commander-level beast?" A man suggested.

Though the beast was dead, people in the city wouldn't know how it died.

They could show off and the meat's worth money.

"This commander-level beast?"

Yuan Yang considered.

Killing the Furious Barbaric Bull King, only the valuable materials were taken. Its flesh and tendons were good too, taking it would be great.

"Then..."

"You better not think about taking that Furious Barbaric Bull King."

A sudden voice interrupted.