

Medical 301

Chapter 301 Mixed Breeds

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"This is most likely not a pure beast, but rather a hybrid species," Lan Feng said with clear hostility in his voice. "I don't intend to help you, but I'll make an exception this time." He continued, then stopped suppressing his Spiritual Energy, allowing the Holy Beast's aura to withdraw from Yan Xiaobao's body.

The laughter from before now turned into wailing in fear, and it quickly vanished into the distance. The beast wasn't just terrified of Yan Xiaobao; one could also hear constant rustling sounds, followed by panicked roars and rapid retreat.

Yan Xiaobao didn't have time to wait. Instead of listening to the sounds of numerous beasts fleeing as if they had just witnessed a human die, he charged toward the spot where he had previously heard Rong Xing's scream.

Rong Xing lay on the grass, her body weak and her eyes closed. Her skin was pale without a trace of blood. Her leg was severely injured, and there were bruises on her neck, but none of the injuries seemed fatal, giving Yan Xiaobao a moment of relief.

Lan Feng's aura was quickly suppressed again because maintaining it any longer was too dangerous. If there was another Holy Name Magic Beast in the Magic Forest, it would clearly not want to share its territory, and the two would inevitably clash. Although Yan Xiaobao had gained Spiritual Energy through Lan Feng, he was clearly not on par with a true Holy Beast.

"What just happened?" Ma Kong asked sternly, as none of them knew why these Magical Creatures had retreated in such a panic earlier. However, their question was soon answered when Lan Feng took over Yan Xiaobao's body and spoke.

"I, the always benevolent and almighty Lan Feng, was the one who scared them away." He declared in his usual arrogant tone before immediately adopting a serious expression on his childlike face as the sentence left his lips.

"That beast is most likely a hybrid species," he said, causing the others to look somewhat surprised. Sitting down with a sigh, he gestured for the others to do the same. With a wave of his hand, a jade artifact appeared, which he handed to Rong Xing. It contained healing pills he had bought back at the academy before their expedition.

Rong Xing gratefully took one, then turned back to watch as Lan Feng finally began explaining.

"Certain types of Magic Beasts have the ability to transform into human form. I myself possess such an ability, and I dare say I am exceptionally handsome," Lan Feng began, as Rong Xing's injuries began healing before their eyes.

"When a human and a Magical Creature have offspring, it is neither fully beast nor fully human but becomes something in between. Some of these hybrids are much weaker than both humans and beasts, while others are far stronger, as they gain the advantages of both races."

A shiver ran through Yan Xiaobao's spine as he listened. The idea of Magical Creatures possessing human intelligence was too terrifying to fathom.

"You won't be able to handle a powerful hybrid species," Lan Feng sighed. "When we encounter one, I'll make sure they're eliminated, but everything else is up to you. She will return as well, so I recommend we stop here for now."

With that said, Yan Xiaobao suddenly felt Lan Feng grow tense, and the small bird residing within his Dantian Cave became instantly serious. "F*ck!" Lan Feng shouted as he took over Yan Xiaobao's body in an instant, alarming everyone else present. freewebnove.com

"Run!" Lan Feng shrieked, pointing toward the path they had traveled earlier. Hearing this sudden change in attitude from the previously arrogant bird, no one questioned him. The items they had unpacked earlier were completely abandoned as they began fleeing in the direction he indicated.

"What's going on?" Yan Xiaobao asked worriedly. Though he and Lan Feng had encountered dangers before, the oppressive aura he felt chasing after them this time brought an overwhelming sense of peril that weighed heavily on him.

In truth, it wasn't Yan Xiaobao sensing the aura, but Lan Feng. When their souls merged, Yan Xiaobao could feel some of what Lan Feng experienced, but it was only a fraction of what the bird perceived. Imagining the full extent of that oppressive aura was terrifying.

"F*ck!" Lan Feng cursed loudly, instilling even more fear into the fleeing youths. It was clear that the six cultivators were now rushing out of the forest far faster than they had when they entered. They could already see the tents in the distance, along with the beasts they had kept in pens near the countryside.

Once Lan Feng reached halfway back to the tents, he stopped running, turning to take a defensive stance instead of continuing to retreat.

"There's a Holy Demon Beast in this Magic Forest," Lan Feng said through gritted teeth. "I may have been a Holy Beast in the past, but my current strength is no match for this being. Fortunately, it doesn't seem interested in chasing us for now, and we've already left the forest."

Hearing this, all the young cultivators present audibly sighed in relief. However, seeing that Lan Feng remained vigilant, none of them dared to truly relax.

"The beast we previously injured isn't pleased," Lan Feng frowned. "She's here now, and it seems she's called for reinforcements. There are now three hybrid Magical Creatures altogether, so unless you give it your all, you won't make it out alive."

Despite saying this, Lan Feng turned to Deng Wu with a determined expression. Survival, after all, was more important than keeping secrets.

"I'll support Yan Xiaobao from the side," Lan Feng said, returning control of the body to Yan Xiaobao before stepping back.

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"We can't let these beasts kill us." Lan Feng roared, clearly setting his sights on killing them, and after his spiritual energy subsided, he gathered himself, ready to let Hui Yue use it in battle.

"Listen." Yan Xiaobao's face showed a serious expression, and the other five immediately paid attention to him. "Deng Wu, you go and fight for us. She most likely doesn't have much Qi left, and even if she does, she's injured from our previous attacks." Hearing this, Deng Wu nodded, his usual joking

demeanor becoming serious, his eyes sharp, as they observed the edge of the forest waiting for their target to arrive.

"You four." Yan Xiaobao said to the Rong twins, Gao Yan, and Ma Kong, "You need to take on a beast that is not injured, I'll handle one myself."

Hearing all this, they all nodded. Air spread from the six bodies, momentum surging, with different shades of white being guided to their hands. One was a Daqi Pillar, the other a bomb. In Rong Xing's hand appeared a large fan. It was as tall as she was, and the wind that gently blew through the air suddenly stopped, as if awaiting permission to continue its action.

Rong Ming held a gigantic blade in his hand, a blade created by a Qilin with no Qi, humming as if demanding Rong Ming to release it, letting it sweep through the air.

Yan Xiaobao chuckled lightly as he gazed at the outskirts of the woods, squinting his eyes, noticing that three people were walking toward the six young people waiting for them.

All these figures were female, and Yan Xiaobao observed how they resembled mythical creatures from the old world.

A blue woman, covered in scales, walking like seaweed on the left. Her body was very attractive, though quite tattered, as the scales were broken, black blood staining her blue scales, and on another beautiful face, the pain was evident.

Next to the blue woman, who reminded Hui Yue of the Water Fairy, was a yellow woman. Her upper body was that of a woman, but her lower body appeared like a snake. Her eyes were filled with hostility, her red cat-like pupils instantly locked onto Yan Xiaobao standing in the center. Yan Xiaobao was turning around, holding the transforming weapon and Qi's knife with black blood.

The last woman was clearly mixed with a bird. Her arms were large white wings, and her legs long and bird-claw sharp. Her torso and face were evidently of a woman, but her white skin was covered in feathers.

Looking at this last woman, Yan Xiaobao couldn't help but think of Lan Feng. If the two of them met in a different circumstance, Yan Xiaobao felt they would make a perfect couple. After all, they were both bird-like, looking somewhat human.

"Ready." Yan Xiaobao said, and they all focused on the target before them. Rong Xing quickly stood above her fan, gently floating over the ground, while a dagger solidified beside her.

Rong Ming stood on the ground, his sword letting out a loud high-pitched sound after seeing the bird woman, as if recognizing her as his target.

Deng Wu looked at the blue woman, his pillar constantly expanding. At first, it appeared like an ordinary staff, but as these women took their time crossing, the pillar had become unimaginable. This pillar contained Deng Wu's entire cultivation base, one strike was enough to finish this blue-skinned woman.

Deng Wu himself engaged in the most intense battle ahead of him, Yan Xiaobao couldn't afford any distraction. Clearly, he had better Martial Arts attacks, but no one should forget he was ranked second among them all.

Suddenly, a half-snake's voice sounded, and three humanoid beasts charged at the six waiting young ones, their attacks ready to join the battle.

Yan Xiaobao bit his lips, his mouth filled with blood, but he ignored it, as he clutched black blood along with Qi's knife, entering a defensive stance, his gaze focused on the snake body before him.

The Snake Woman was charging straight at Yan Xiaobao. As she reached a hundred meters within that smaller white-haired boy, the Snake Woman suddenly increased her speed, lifting her hands, revealing nails as long as daggers. Looking at them, Yan Xiaobao's face showed a bitter smile as he clashed those sharp claws with his two weapons.

The impact scattered Yan Xiaobao's Qi's knife into the air, causing him to frown slightly, feeling the Snake Woman before him was much stronger than he had anticipated. Nevertheless, Xu Yue wasn't one to back away, as long as his dagger blocked the lethal claws, Yan Xiaobao reached out, swept it across the female beast's arms and chest before him.

A low growl accompanied the cut on the woman's left arm. The wound wasn't serious enough to be classified as a severe injury, but it managed to disarm the woman from her game and allowed Yan Xiaobao to seize the momentum.

A new Qi's knife emerged in Yan Xiaobao's hand, and this time he activated Velocity Flow, taking the initiative. Yan Xiaobao appeared behind the Snake Woman, with two knives ready to cut down the woman before him, but the Snake Woman managed to block both attacks with her tail.

In the beast's eyes, anger was evident, as she began a frenzied attack, swinging her tail at her neck, hoping to get lucky and hit Yan Xiaobao, letting out a furious howl from her throat.

The frenzied attack made it even more difficult for Yan Xiaobao. He could no longer read her maneuvers, as they were random, causing him to slightly retreat, but when the woman tightly pursued him, even his retreat was meaningless, her tail served both as defense and offense.

The battle grew desperate, as neither the Snake Woman nor Yan Xiaobao dared to give up, and over time, they both tried to push each other, resulting in them both taking quite a number of hits.

Yan Xiaobao had already given it his all, activating his Qi Guard, enduring some hits while rushing to injure the Snake Woman, but in doing so, small cuts appeared on his body, as the tail managed small breaks in Qi Country Guard.

Usually, a Qi Country Guard would be able to fully defend Yan Xiaobao, but now his Qi was scattered among three different advanced skills, all of them working together, sucking Qi Chain after Daqi Pillar. After these intense exchanges, Yan Xiaobao had already depleted half of his Qi Pool.

Yan Xiaobao's face showed a serious expression, he dismantled the Qi Martial Arts skill, and sheathed the black blood, placing his hands in parallel, as he ignited a small Mars Fire, the size of the Mars expanding rapidly.

Watching the spark grow into a giant Fireball caused a flicker of fear in the heart of the humanoid beast, but she was the vicious sister of the Magic Forest, refusing to back down to a child. Instead, she began muttering some Spells, causing the ground to form an earth shield in front of her, using it to mitigate the impact of the Fireball coming her way.

As Yan Xiaobao saw this, he couldn't help but snort. Although earth was strong, such a small earth shield couldn't block a Fireball already infused with two drops of Lan Feng's spiritual energy.

The Fireball above Yan Xiaobao was soaring. It continuously rotated around itself, beginning to affect the wind, causing strong gales to fill the area. These winds were drawn into the Fireball itself, bringing grass and leaves, which instantly incinerated before they even caught fire.

The suddenly appearing Domineering Ball made the blue woman and bird woman exchange glances, and without waiting a minute, they rushed to the Snake Woman's side, intending to protect her.

While the Snake Woman had already created an earth barrier, the blue woman was using her remaining power to craft a water barrier, while the seemingly unharmed bird lifted a snowfall.

An intention to kill appeared within Yan Xiaobao, his body shrouded in a red mist, seemingly being absorbed into the Fireball. Everything happened in a matter of seconds, and as Yan Xiaobao lost control, he flung the Fireball toward the three hybrid beasts.

A loud surge of heat echoed throughout the field, startling the magical beasts and all the villagers who rushed to see what had happened.

A large fire spread out, but in the middle of the blaze, three humanoid magical beasts were kneeling, covered by a water pit, just like this clear place in the Magic Forest had caught those Rong twins before.

Although coughing and with minor burns, the three beasts once again left the Water Prison, with Yan Xiaobao noticing the bird and scaled woman releasing snow water and spirits, respectively, managing to extinguish the fire.

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Chapter 303 Primal Killing Instinct

Looking at these three figures, it was apparent that they wanted to escape back into the forest, but Hui Yue and the others could clearly see this coming.

Yan Xiaobao signaled for the others to surround the three injured beasts. As they did so, the three humanoid beasts began roaring at the six young humans. One of them, the birdwoman, even attempted an attack, but Rong Ming swung his blade to block her, forcing her to quickly calm down afterward.

Observing these beasts, Yan Xiaobao noticed that while they reacted like beasts and seemed incapable of speech, the intelligence in their eyes was undeniable. It may be slightly inferior to that of humans, but it was far more developed than any other beasts they had encountered before.

"Can you understand what I'm saying?" Yan Xiaobao asked curiously, his icy blue eyes alight with excitement. The beasts showed no sign of comprehension; instead, they continued hissing, acting more animalistic than human-like.

Although they had humanoid forms, their cultivation level hadn't advanced enough to make them equal to humans. However, their strength was clearly superior, as they didn't rely on Dany but rather on their beast cores. Beast cores bestowed them unique affinities at birth, which strengthened over time.

'Don't trust them,' Lan Feng remarked from within Yan Xiaobao's Dantian Cave. His face bore an unsettling expression, irritated by the idea that they would have to rely on his spiritual power to subdue these three beasts.

"Listen, I know you can understand me," Yan Xiaobao said firmly. His killing intent surged once more, blanketing the area with a palpable fear that made everyone tremble. Even the previously proud beasts felt an overwhelming dread as they faced his primal killing aura.

"I think you value survival," Yan Xiaobao said. The Snake Woman's head shot up, looking at the boy with wary eyes. As a beast, she couldn't fathom any chance of survival in this situation.

"We've been training here for a month, killing beasts with cultivation levels lower than yours," Xu Yue explained slowly. "Currently, the ladies from the Magic Forest have brought in a beast of Saints' rank to prevent us from entering the forest for training. This leaves us with two options."

Yan Xiaobao drew out a dagger stained with black blood and spun it in his hand. The dangerous black blade, combined with his heavy killing intent, paralyzed the three beasts with fear, preventing them

from even twitching. In some ways, this young boy's presence was more terrifying than Lan Feng's earlier aura.

"I need you ladies to enter the forest and ensure that the Saints'-rank beast doesn't interfere with our training or obstruct us. In return, we won't trespass into your domain within the forest." Yan Xiaobao paused briefly before continuing, "The second option is that we kill the three of you and take your beast cores. Since we can no longer enter the forest, we might as well obtain higher-level cores from your remains."

After these words, an oppressive silence engulfed the area. The Snake Woman's face showed shock as she tried to process her options. She had no doubt in her mind that the seemingly childish boy would show no hesitation in killing her and her sisters.

Yan Xiaobao didn't press the three beasts immediately but instead waited patiently, arms crossed over his chest, gripping the black dagger tightly. The atmosphere between the six young humans and the three feral humanoid beasts grew increasingly tense, saturated further by the heavy killing intent.

Finally, the Snake Woman let out a deep sigh, a gesture that made her seem more human-like. She nodded, albeit reluctantly. As one of the three sisters of the Magic Forest, her pride and honor were paramount, but in the face of survival, she was willing to abandon all dignity to live another day.

"Do we have a deal?" Yan Xiaobao asked again. The beast nodded once more, unhappy with the outcome but left with no other viable choices.

"I don't think this is a good idea," Ma Kong suddenly frowned. "How can we trust them?"

Yan Xiaobao smiled faintly, retrieving a memory storage stone and then taking out a pair of jade bottles containing pills.

"We can't trust them," he said, handing some medicine pills to his six companions. "But they can't trust us either." With that, he tossed the pills to the beasts.

Though the beasts had never consumed pills before, they often ate medicinal plants and relished their original energy. When they opened the jade bottles and a rich fragrance wafted out, their nostrils flared, and greed flickered in their eyes. These were clearly more appealing than raw herbs.

The Snake Woman hesitated as she eyed Yan Xiaobao, a flash of suspicion crossing her mind. If he hadn't also given the pills to his companions, she might have suspected him of trying to poison her, but now she believed his hostility had eased.

The previously oppressive killing intent that blanketed the area dissipated, leaving the white-haired boy smiling at the beasts gobbling down the pills greedily.

Finally, with a low growl, the Snake Woman started heading back to the forest where they resided. Her heart was conflicted and full of complex emotions. On one hand, she deeply feared the young boy and his devastatingly powerful presence. On the other, she yearned to grow stronger, despite knowing full well that she couldn't rival him once he unleashed his Fireball.

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Admitting defeat is difficult, but this young man had already allowed her to stay alive and guaranteed her dignity, while promising not to intrude into their territory again. Not to mention, they had just provided medical treatment for the injuries they suffered. No one could argue that the harm was their own fault, since it was the beasts that attacked the humans first.

The Snake Woman sighed and turned around, noticing that the white-haired boy was still looking at them. Her heart fluttered slightly, and she wasn't sure if she hated him or admired him.

'What do we do now?' The blue-haired woman growled, sighing at the Snake Woman's hesitation.

'We do what we promised,' she growled back, a hint of mystery glimmering in her eyes. "If we don't abide by this, then we're already dead." She said this as she delved deeper into the forest itself.

"But, elder sister," the blue-haired woman growled furiously, "They are the ones who intruded into my territory. The next time they step foot in the forest, we can kill them!"

'I've given my word. I'll allow them to hunt here for two months. They won't provoke us, and we won't provoke them. The hostility between the two of you has already been resolved with pills!' the Snake Woman roared back, finally angry. No one could make her go back on her promise.

Moreover, since magical beasts possess beast cores instead of Dany, they are far superior at absorbing the essence of medicinal plants. This has always been the case, and now with pills infused with plenty of flora, all three sisters have benefited significantly. freewebnovel.com

Back at the camp, Yan Xiaobao gazed at the ground and let out a deep sigh. The skirmish that occurred had left the entire area scarred. Some sections were scorched, while others had craters from Deng Wu's Dancing Qi Pillar and Ma Gang's Qi Bomb.

Rong Ming's Whip Qi had left long fissures, and Rong Xing's Qi Dagger had caused numerous puncture wounds.

At first, the disciples themselves didn't look good. Their clothes were shredded from the beasts' ferocious attacks, and their skin wasn't faring much better. Rong Xing's leg still bore a massive wound, but after consuming some pills, color had returned to their bodies, and they all sat down to cultivate.

The battle had sparked revelations in all six of the young disciples' respective attacks. Sitting in their meditative poses, the essence of heaven and earth rushed toward them, as if eager to participate in their current breakthroughs.

Deng Wu was the first to open his eyes, a golden glimmer flashing in his pupils for just a second before disappearing. He glanced at the entranced Yan Xiaobao, noticing the essence of the world converging around him, suffusing the air with energy as he absorbed and refined his Qi while contemplating ways to improve and evolve his Speed Flow and Qi Guard Skills.

Rong Xing was the next to open her eyes. Once she did, she remained completely calm, moving to the village to prepare food for the rest when she awakened.

The next to awaken was Gao Yan, followed by Ma Gang, who spent some time practicing Martial Arts Skills before entering the village, drawn in by the enticing aroma of roasted meat.

An hour after Ma Gang and Gao Yan woke up, Yan Xiaobao opened his eyes. A deep understanding shone in his gaze, though it wasn't enough for Yan Xiaobao to immediately advance his Velocity Flow.

Yan Xiaobao closed his eyes once more, realizing he had the potential to evolve Velocity Flow—by allowing duplications to manifest as more than mere copies, enabling them to become even stronger than before. Yet, he was missing a crucial aspect of it. No matter how Yan Xiaobao mulled over the matter, the final piece of this evolution eluded him.

Looking at Rong Ming, a smile formed on Yan Xiaobao's lips. He saw the other boy surrounded by the essence of heaven and earth, which was automatically drawn to him as he cultivated. From this essence, Yan Xiaobao could easily deduce that Rong Ming was among the most inspired individuals in the group. The white-haired boy couldn't wait to see how far his first friend would grow.

A soft chuckle escaped Yan Xiaobao's lips as he recalled every day spent in this field with Rong Ming and Rong Xing. The good mood lingered as Yan Xiaobao prepared to eat some of Rong Xing's delectable food in the village and then make a plan for the rest of the training camp.

Yan Xiaobao stood on the corpse of the One-eyed Demon Dog, preparing to extract its beast core when he heard a deep sigh. Straightening his back, he looked up toward the canopy and called out loudly, "Alright, come out. How long are you planning to stalk me in this forest?"

The fight against the three female beasts had ended three weeks ago, and since then, Yan Xiaobao and the others had entered the Magical Forest. Everything unfolded exactly as they had agreed upon before; none of them ventured into the areas belonging to humanoid beasts, just as the three women ensured the magical beasts adhered to the accords.

Three weeks had passed, and the six young disciples ventured deeper into the forest, gradually increasing the difficulty of each battle. Although they were now fighting beasts at the disciple level, none of these confrontations posed much of a challenge because their exceptionally strong skills made them incomparable to the fierce battle with the three females at the start of their training.

While the fights proved somewhat monotonous, the six youths repeatedly gained insights after each bout. Whenever any of them gained enlightenment, the essence of heaven and earth would surge around the person, expediting their breakthroughs.

This heavenly and earthly assistance allowed everyone to achieve more Qi refinement in a short period than ever before.

Yan Xiaobao managed to break into the rank of a six-star disciple, Rong Xing reached the pinnacle of a third-star physician, and Rong Ming finally caught up to his sister, advancing to a third-star level like her.

Gao Yan continued to surprise Yan Xiaobao. His cultivation techniques pushed him to achieve a five-star disciple level after only minor insights. It was clear this guy would soon surpass Yan Xiaobao's grade.

Before entering the Magic Forest, Ma Gang had failed to reach the physician level, but after initiating his own Qi Bomb, he found himself stepping into the realm of practitioners.

Deng Yue was the one Yan Xiaobao anticipated the most for a breakthrough. Deng Yue had been a top-tier nine-star physician for a long time, but he had yet to break through. This alone was evidence of the difficulty in unlocking the Middle Dantian.

Though it hadn't happened yet, Yan Xiaobao had a strong feeling it would occur soon. Whenever Deng Wu moved through the forest, the air would ripple and various elements would be drawn toward him, as if waiting to reveal his elemental affinity.

After the battle, Yan Xiaobao could sense the constant watchful pursuit of his every move. At first, the eyes incited a sense of danger, but Yan Xiaobao soon noticed they carried no malice—only curiosity.

Currently, Yan Xiaobao joined the competition initiated by Gao Yan to see who could collect the most beast cores in three days. It would be their last chance before returning to Liluo City, yet even now, those eyes continued to follow his every action.

Having tolerated the three weeks of surveillance, Yan Xiaobao finally decided he had had enough time. He called out to summon the Snake Woman, who had been shadowing him all along. As his voice echoed through the dense forest, a slithering sound could be heard, and the yellow-skinned woman emerged before him. Her eyes filled with curiosity every time she looked at him.

With her arms outstretched, her face broke into a wide grin, holding beast cores from random disciple-ranked beasts. Seeing so many cores, Yan Xiaobao couldn't help but draw a sharp breath, his eyes wide in astonishment as the Snake Woman forced him to take them.

The sight sparked an idea in Yan Xiaobao's mind. From his satchel, he took out some Miracle Pills and placed them in her clawed hands as he accepted the beast cores.

The Snake Woman tilted her head slightly, resembling a pet waiting to be fed snacks, and an involuntary laugh escaped Yan Xiaobao's lips.

The laugh drew the Snake Woman's attention away from the four pills in her hand. As she gazed at the boy in front of her, she began to laugh as well. Her laughter sounded like refreshing raindrops falling onto parched earth. Even just listening to it, Hui was captivated.

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Chapter 305 One-eyed Demon Dog

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The forest suddenly became more enchanting than ever before. Colors were more vibrant, and even the corpse of the One-eyed Demon Dog looked like a fluffy little puppy.

As Yan Xiaobao moved closer to the Snake Woman, he unknowingly smiled. Suddenly, his body gave a sudden jolt, and Yan Xiaobao felt his consciousness being pulled away while his body was taken over by Lan Feng.

Xiu Yue was filled with shock, as he realized this Snake Woman was indeed capable of confusing a man's senses with her allure, but he also understood that she did this unconsciously. In some ways, she was entirely like a child.

"Don't be fooled," Lan Feng warned, still maintaining control over the body. "Even though her rank isn't high, she still possesses the intelligence of a King Beast, considering her human blood."

Hearing this, Yan Xiaobao was slightly startled. He had never imagined that human blood could bring such significant benefits to this magical beast. While it was undoubtedly advantageous, it also proved that these humanoid beasts were distinct from Divine Beasts, yet they were not human either.

The Snake Woman let out a low growl as she watched Yan Xiaobao with curious eyes.

"No," Lan Feng called out forcefully. "We're leaving soon." As soon as the words echoed, a look of concern appeared on the woman's face, followed by a raspy growl and then a dry chuckle.

"We're from the big city," Lan Feng said. Yan Xiaobao saw the Phoenix conversing with the Snake Woman. Their conversation lasted a long time, and Yan Xiaobao could feel the frustration growing fiercer in Lan Feng's soul as he repeatedly tried to explain that Yan Xiaobao was only here for training and lived in a village outside the forest, far from the city.

"Listen to this woman's voice!" Lan Feng finally roared, his patience having run out. "Unless you make a Beast Oath, you will never meet him again!"

Hearing the mention of a Beast Oath, Yan Xiaobao furrowed his brow. As a cultivator, how could he not understand what a Beast Oath was? A Beast Oath was much like a Blood Oath, a pledge where beasts swore their lives to the cultivator they made the vow to.

Different from a soul contract, a Beast Oath was a primary servant-master relationship, a bond sealed by blood. This meant that the cultivator and the beast could not communicate with one another until the beast attained enough intelligence to learn the human tongue—a feat that typically did not occur until they reached the Emperor or King level.

A beast would never willingly lower themselves to make a Beast Oath, and many would rather die than become a human's servant. If such an extreme situation arose, the cultivator could opt to capture the beast's soul and absorb it.

To capture a beast's soul, an inscription pattern created by a Water Cultivation Personnel was required. These patterns prevented the soul from entering the netherworld, instead binding it to the one who activated the inscription. By devouring the soul, it would become linked to the cultivator's cultivation base, forcing the soul to channel its power to enhance the abilities of the human cultivator.

Through the earlier discussions, Yan Xiaobao had realized that the Snake Woman was deeply curious about Hui Yue and others, but after hearing Lan Feng mention the Beast Oath, Yan Xiaobao knew that the Snake Woman would likely be infuriated. If she weren't angry, at the very least, she would be displeased and try to change the subject.

Unfortunately, things didn't go as Lan Feng and Yan Xiaobao had anticipated. The Snake Woman lunged forward without warning, a chilling cold spreading through Yan Xiaobao's body. Before he could react, blood had already been drawn from his arm.

Seeing this, Yan Xiaobao became highly alert. He swiftly dispersed his energy throughout his body to unleash his deadliest attack, the Spark of Mars. But before he could retaliate, he realized the Snake Woman wasn't launching another attack. Instead, she had merged her arm with one of her claw-like nails into his wound.

Then, she mixed Yan Xiaobao's blood with her own, and her growling voice let out a few angry snarls.
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As the snarls faded, a golden light glimmered over the wound on her arm, with silver rays enveloping the entire beast and eventually illuminating the entire area with a warm, gentle glow.

Yan Xiaobao felt the light being absorbed through the cut on his arm as it gradually healed, leaving only a small scar. The remaining light surged toward the Snake Woman. Some of it entered her wound, just as it had entered his.

The rest of the light moved to her forehead, forming a pearl-like gemstone that absorbed the remaining glow. The gemstone slowly disappeared into her forehead. Now, her once-beautiful red eyes had turned silver—a sign that she had successfully submitted to a cultivator and made her Beast Oath.

Silence fell over the small clearing in the forest. Both Yan Xiaobao and Lan Feng were stunned, unable to speak or even show anger at witnessing a beast initiate a Beast Oath so resolutely. Finally, Lan Feng cleared his throat and asked: "What is your name?"

Back at the camp, Yan Xiaobao heaved a deep sigh. He was now traveling with his new beast companion, but no matter how he looked at this woman, he simply couldn't perceive her as a beast.

Chapter 306 One-eyed Demon Dog_2

Her lower body was a snake, while her upper body was that of a beautiful, mature woman. She stood nearly two meters tall. Her stunning face seemed to belong to someone who had once gazed upon the vastness of the world, and now her silvery eyes shimmered with wisdom.

However, this intelligence was only evident in certain ways, as she appeared utterly ignorant of the outside world. During an earlier conversation, Yan Xiaobao learned her name was Sha Yun. She had no concept of age, so she did not know how old she was.

Three weeks ago, she became interested in Yan Xiaobao because he had spared her and her sisters, even gifting them medicinal pills. Since then, she had observed him daily, gradually growing more intrigued and starting to wonder what other people were like, and what the world beyond this forest might be.

She had wanted to ask him, but she knew he wouldn't understand her questions. When she learned Yan Xiaobao was planning to leave the forest, fear gripped her, causing her to act rashly and pledge a Beast Oath.

"What's she doing here?" Gao Yan asked, furrowing his brow as Yan Xiaobao dragged Sha Yun along into their camp.

Walking through the dense forest back to camp gave Yan Xiaobao plenty of time to ponder. Initially, he was entirely opposed to the idea of his former adversary now trailing him. But he knew there was no way to release a beast without killing it.

Gazing at the stunning woman behind him, Yan Xiaobao had no intention of harming her, yet taking her along felt rather inappropriate. Not to mention, she obeyed him completely, a sensation that sent shivers down his spine.

'Stop complaining so much,' Lan Feng said with a laugh. "Having such a beautiful woman as your servant isn't half bad. If you don't want to enjoy her, then I wouldn't mind at all!"

'Knock it off,' Yan Xiaobao hissed, attempting to shut Phoenix up. But he quickly realized that, despite Lan Feng's shock at witnessing a humanoid beast personally pledge a Beast Oath, his astonishment and despair were overshadowed by amusement—far beyond Yan Xiaobao's own feelings.

Their camp was located along a beautiful river winding through the forest. The ground was carpeted with vibrant flowers, and many animals and low-lying magical creatures roamed the area, creating a warm and cheerful atmosphere.

The river was fairly wide, enough for the young ones to glimpse sunlight filtering through branches and gaps above, though not so broad as to prevent them from seeing the opposite shore.

The team moved their camp each day to a new location in search of beasts. One team member would always stay behind to guard their tents and cook dinner, determined by drawing lots. Today, the person staying behind was Gao Yan.

Walking into the camp with Sha Yun in tow, Yan Xiaobao spotted no one else had yet returned, and he sighed in relief.

"What's she doing here?" The older boy raised his head, looking up from the pot where he was simmering food. His face bore no hostility, only mild confusion.

The battle between the beast and the young students had ended three weeks ago, and it had brought significant breakthroughs for every member of the team. It left them with a faint sense of gratitude toward the beasts, despite the fight being more perilous than anything they had faced before. Great threats had yielded great rewards.

"She's curious about humans," Yan Xiaobao hesitated, leading her toward the fire as he sat down on a log. "Sit." He commanded, speaking to her as if addressing a young girl or a small animal. Remarkably, the Snake Woman did not mind his tone at all, curling her tail as she sat on the log.

Sha Yun had lived in the Magic Forest for years, but most mercenaries knew well to stay clear of the three Beast Sisters, known for ambushing defenseless Cultivators without mercy. Although some mercenaries might have killed these sisters, the rewards were far from worth it. Their strength exceeded the level of their beast cores, allowing them to live relatively sheltered lives.

Both Sha Yun and her sisters knew there was human blood coursing through their veins, granting them intelligence far beyond that of other beasts. This intelligence even allowed them to befriend the Beast King in the forest's hierarchy, as he was often bored and keen for proper conversation with them.

Yet, despite their intellectual growth, the three sisters remained relatively naive compared to humans. Their curiosity and mindset mirrored that of 13 or 14-year-old girls—young ladies who had never ventured beyond their own gates, unaware of the vast, breathtaking world awaiting them.

Sha Yun was no different. She was deeply curious about nature and couldn't help but wonder what humans were like. Her life had been shaped by teachings that humans were enemies of magical beasts, creatures to be avoided at all costs, as humans saw magical beasts in the same way. It was survival of the fittest in the Magic Forest.

But after years of holding firm to this belief, Sha Yun suddenly encountered a strong young man who emerged from a seemingly hopeless situation. Though he defeated her and her sisters, he still allowed them to leave with their dignity intact.

This kind of person was different, and Sha Yun couldn't help but wonder if the human world might also be different. Suddenly, the narrow confines of the forest seemed to open before her. Though it meant submitting to a human, Sha Yun had realized her life was now in this young master's hands, who had granted her and her sisters a chance to leave unharmed. For this alone, her sense of dignity told her that she owed him her life.

Chapter 307 One-eyed Demon Dog_3

"Hello." A voice suddenly broke the silence, dragging Sha Yun out of her deep thoughts. She lifted her head, her silver eyes fixed firmly on the young man standing in front of her. Looking at him, Sha Yun easily discerned that he was older than Yan Xiaobao, and remembered that he had argued with one of her sisters earlier. Nevertheless, now he was sporting a gentle smile, and the only reaction he had to her silver eyes was a raised eyebrow.

"My name is Gao Yan," the young man introduced himself. "I assume you don't speak Human?" he asked. Sha Yun could only nod in response. She never expected this young man to greet her in this manner.

A faint sound escaped her lips as she tried to mimic the words Gao Yan had spoken before, but to no avail. A look of disappointment appeared on her face, and her snake tail began slapping the ground in irritation.

"Her name is Sha Yun," Yan Xiaobao said while walking toward the riverside, fetching some water before heading to a restroom. The daily combat with Demon Beasts left them covered in dust, and an unbearable stench would arise in a very short time.

The riverbank was lined with the softest grass, sloping gently down to the crisp water's edge. Wading into the river, Yan Xiaobao shivered slightly due to the extreme chill, but after a few minutes, his body adapted to the frigid water. As he washed his skin, he closed his eyes, a satisfied sigh spilling from his lips as he let the water cleanse him, flowing downstream and past the campsite. The water soothed his sore muscles and weary body.

Suddenly, a deafening roar tore through the air, causing the relaxed Yan Xiaobao to tense up immediately. But before he could see anything, a massive shadow loomed overhead, and he felt something wrap around his waist, dragging him onto the creek's edge.

Looking down, Yan Xiaobao realized the thing coiled around him was a snake tail. His hair stood on end as he was yanked back to the shore like a trapped fish.

Knowing resistance was futile, Xu Yue allowed the powerful snake tail to pull him up. Emerging from the water, soaking wet, he sighed and sat on the soft grass next to Sha Yun, whose expression carried a mixture of love and concern.

A small growl escaped the snake woman's throat alongside peculiar sibilant sounds, as her claws retracted and her scaled fingers gripped his face, forcing him to look at her directly, worry evident deep within her gaze.

"She's a good woman," Lan Feng commented from within the Dantian Cave. "You should mate with her and produce little snake babies. I've always wondered whether these hybrid serpents would give birth to babies or lay eggs."

"I think I'll pass," Yan Xiaobao said quickly. "I'm fine," he declared loudly to let Sha Yun know he hadn't been hurt in the water, and he returned to the river's edge where he'd left his clothes.

Even then, the tail remained securely wrapped around his waist. Yan Xiaobao attempted to pry it loose, but Sha Yun stubbornly ignored him, ensuring the grip was strong enough to prevent him from removing it forcefully.

"Sha Yun!" Yan Xiaobao protested angrily. "I can't grab my clothes. Take your tail off me!" With a sigh of reluctance, she finally released Yan Xiaobao, who swiftly slid into his clothes and turned around to find Gao Yan at the back of the campsite, laughing uncontrollably. Sha Yun sat by the fireplace, sipping a drink as though Yan Xiaobao had never reprimanded her.

Observing the varying expressions, Xu Yue couldn't help but let out a sigh, feeling as though he'd turned into the parent of two rebellious children, his headache intensifying. Meanwhile, he was battling Lan Feng's incessant temptation to make little snake babies. It was clear that the perverted bird within him was not only replicating animal instincts but eagerly amplifying them.

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Chapter 308 Big Snake Woman

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Just as Yan Xiaobao managed to get his clothes on, he noticed Rong'er's twins heading toward the campsite, their faces smeared with dirt yet still brimming with satisfied smiles.

When they returned to the campsite, they saw the Big Snake Woman sitting by the fire. They looked slightly startled, but Rong Xing acted as if nothing were amiss. She walked over and greeted the woman politely, not forgetting to introduce herself.

Sha Yun tried to respond, but all that escaped her lips were small growls. Sadness, however, seeped into her eyes once more.

"Yan Xiaobao!" Rong Xing's voice suddenly rang out, startling Yan Xiaobao by its angry tone. He looked up to see the serene woman storming toward him with long strides. Her stunning features were clouded with fury, and before Yan Xiaobao could react, she slapped him squarely across the face.

"How could you?!" she exclaimed in a low but threatening voice. Yet, before she could touch Yan Xiaobao again, Sha Yun suddenly appeared between the two young humans, roaring in menace. Her tail seemed poised, ready to strike.

"Stand down, Sha Yun," Yan Xiaobao sighed, sinking onto the grass as he looked at his companions. "What's the matter?" he asked as Ma Kong returned.

Ignoring the arrival of the other friend, Rong Xing clenched her teeth before pointing at Sha Yun. "Look at Sha Yun! She upheld her part of the bargain, but you still forced her into a Beast Oath!"

At this, Yan Xiaobao couldn't suppress his laughter. How he wished the Beast Oath had never happened.

"Calm down," he insisted after his laughter subsided. "She initiated it herself. I'm the victim here. What else could I have done with this woman who was intent on following me around?"

Rong Xing's face went blank, surprise flickering across her expression. Her brows furrowed slightly, and astonishment gave way to confusion. Yan Xiaobao couldn't blame her; even he would have reacted similarly if someone told him a humanoid beast had voluntarily instigated a Beast Oath.

"Oh, has my new beauty joined our ranks?" A voice rang out from behind as Deng Wu took Sha Yun's outstretched hand, kissing it lightly before throwing her a wink and flashing a smile.

"If Rong Xing hadn't stolen my heart, I believe I'd have become your devoted admirer. Oh my God, your eyes are silver!"

A massive bonfire roared toward the heavens, lighting up the campsite as night fell. The gentle sound of water flowing in the nearby stream added a peaceful touch to the atmosphere.

This was their last night camping in the Magic Forest before all of them would return to the bustling city. With wine and snacks laid out, they spent their time comparing who had acquired the most beast cores and who had made the greatest cultivation progress.

Deng Wu still faced difficulties entering the Master Rank domain, but even so, he was undeterred. Instead, he was busy playing with Sha Yun, getting her drunk and coaxing her to dance with him by the fire. Laughter erupted from everyone present as they watched Sha Yun, slightly unsteady yet captivating, dance alongside a far less graceful, overly intoxicated Deng Wu.

Two less enthusiastic figures stood at the edge of the campsite — one dressed in white, the other in blue. These were Sha Yun's sisters, both displeased with their sibling's decision to follow these unknown Cultivators into the outside world. What troubled them most was her voluntary initiation of the Beast Oath.

Despite their initial hesitation, Yan Xiaobao managed to coax them closer with the pills he offered. Although Hui Yue understood these pills were precious, he believed forging strong relationships with the more formidable beasts in the Magic Forest was vital for wrapping up their visit peacefully. This could prevent their village from being left vulnerable or their defenseless parents and friends from being targeted.

The night sky gradually grew darker, and after hours of drinking, dancing, and chatting, the group finally dispersed. They packed up their belongings and prepared to return to the village where they had left their mounts.

When Sha Yun arrived there with them, her presence sparked chaos. No one believed she could possibly be friendly. Since none of them were cultivators, they were unaware of the Beast Oath's significance.

Seeing the fear and distrust in the villagers' eyes, Yan Xiaobao couldn't help but sigh. No matter what he said, he knew the villagers would never truly accept the Beast Woman, even though she had transformed into an exceedingly gentle, albeit slightly naïve, individual.

"Then let's change the plan," Yan Xiaobao sighed again. "We need to head to Liluo City, but even if we reach it today, the city gates will likely be closed. Let's find a small town with an inn along the way."

Upon hearing this, the others nodded in agreement. Though they had planned to stay in the village for some time, Sha Yun's presence had clearly stirred too much fear. There was no need to create further problems for the villagers, who would much prefer Sha Yun to leave.

Sha Yun glanced around, her large silver eyes filled with melancholy. She understood the situation quite well. Slowly, she began to realize that the outside world was far more hostile than the Magic Forest where she was born.

"Don't worry," Yan Xiaobao said softly, taking her hand and leading her toward an old shack at the village's edge. When they reached the house, Sha Yun's eyes filled with doubt and confusion, not understanding the purpose of visiting yet another home in this prejudiced village.

Chapter 309 Big Snake Woman_2

However, Yan Xiaobao took her there anyway. Even if it might hurt her, she remained a proud Demon Beast within the Magic Forest. She stood upright, facing forward, without flinching at the possibility of humiliation crossing her mind.

Beside Sha Yun, Yan Xiaobao chuckled softly. Seeing the intense expression on her face, he nodded slightly before knocking on the door.

"Come in." A weary voice called from inside. Yan Xiaobao pushed open the dilapidated wooden door. He stepped inside to announce his arrival, then made sure to pull Sha Yun close to him.

"Hello, Mom." He said politely, looking at the beautiful woman sitting in the kitchen. Her belly was so large that Yan Xiaobao thought it might explode rather than simply deliver a child.

Hui Lifen noticed Yan Xiaobao had brought a snake-bodied woman along, yet her face showed no fear, only curiosity as she furrowed her brow slightly. After all, it was her son who had brought this unfamiliar woman, and Hui Lifen completely trusted her son. He would never deliberately put her in harm's way.

"Mom, I want to introduce Sha Yun to you," Yan Xiaobao said as he sat on the chair next to his mother and gestured for the Snake Woman to follow, which she did quickly. Although she appeared unaffected, as if the opinions of others didn't matter, Yan Xiaobao noticed her tail had begun slowly tapping the floor to help her stay calm.

"Sha Yun is a magical beast with human blood in her veins. Though she hasn't mastered our language yet, she's just as intelligent as you and me. She's promised to follow me wherever I go and protect me." Upon hearing this, Hui Lifen's impression of Sha Yun rose significantly. She reached out to hold the snake woman's hand and gazed into her silver eyes with her warm brown ones.

"Thank you," Hui Lifen said, her voice trembling slightly. "I know Xiao Yue has many friends, but knowing that he has someone as strong as you beside him makes me feel more at ease. Please, you must take care of him for me."

Seeing the relief wash over his mother, Yan Xiaobao's face lit up with a gentle smile. He knew she'd been worried about him leaving the village and felt anxious about how he would fare in the vast world beyond. Knowing he'd found a companion reassured her, but having witnessed his earlier conflict with the three Beast-Woman sisters, she remained uneasy about the world Yan Xiaobao was stepping into.

Now, a promise from one of the most powerful creatures to constantly travel with and protect Yan Xiaobao—it was impossible for her not to feel happy.

Hui Lifen had lived in this village her entire life. Although Rong Liang and Bu Were were remarkably strong, she'd never seen them fight, so the strongest person she could imagine was Sha Yun. How could Yan Xiaobao not be safe with such a formidable companion?

Seeing the happiness on Hui Lifen's face, both Yan Xiaobao and Sha Yun felt a sense of comfort. Yan Xiaobao was relieved because he wanted his mother to stop worrying, especially now that she was about to give birth to his sibling. She needed all her energy for herself instead of worrying about him.

Sha Yun, on the other hand, felt deeply comforted knowing not everyone hated her. She couldn't comprehend the rare feeling of having someone grasp her hand and even thank her. The sensation was so unfamiliar that Sha Yun didn't know how to process it. Nevertheless, it left a trace of warmth deep in her heart—a feeling that made her inexplicably happy.

"We have to leave now," Yan Xiaobao said regretfully as he stood up. Hui Lifen's smile was tinged with sadness as she saw her guest head for the door.

"Promise me you'll be careful," she pleaded. "The life of a cultivator is long and dangerous. Death lurks in every corner. I'd rather have a living, weak son than a strong son who dies young."

Hearing this, Yan Xiaobao couldn't help but smile. He gave his mother a big hug and took one last glance at their familiar little cottage. It seemed likely he wouldn't return to this poor village within the Magic Forest for at least another year.

Catching up with the others wasn't a problem since they were all waiting for their designated items. Everything was ready, and now all they needed was Yan Xiaobao and Sha Yun.

As Yan Xiaobao rode a magical horse, Sha Yun refused to ride anything. Unable to understand her reasoning, Yan Xiaobao accepted her refusal and instead watched how she followed them swiftly while maintaining her graceful movements on the ground. In such moments, Yan Xiaobao fully grasped that Sha Yun was indeed a Divine Beast, not an ordinary cultivator.

The first village Yan Xiaobao and the company passed through clearly left the villagers astonished as they saw the serpent-like woman running as elegantly as the magical horses. The curling movements of her body captivated any young boy or man who watched, freezing them in place, their gaze stuck on her until she disappeared into the distance.

After the group passed through the village, they eventually decided to continue straight to the city. If they were delayed, they could go directly to the academy and settle there.

Though it was currently summer break, the academy never closed its doors to students, and Yan Xiaobao found himself yearning for his courtyard, his favorite tree, and his soft bed fitted with sheets and pillows. These were certainly better than the cold, hard ground he'd been sleeping on for many nights, not to mention the old bed at his parents' home. No, Yan Xiaobao missed his bed, but realizing that he'd need to purchase several things for Sha Yun drained his energy just from thinking it over. While she was considered a beast, she was undoubtedly more like a woman.

Chapter 310 Big Snake Woman_3

A woman needs many things, but most importantly, she needs her own bed! Yan Xiaobao did not want to tempt Lan Feng and share a bed with this witch and her long snake tail.

Unfortunately, not only was Lan Lan tempted by the charming woman next to them,

for most of the trip, Sha Yun had been traveling with Rong Xing. Although they couldn't have a proper conversation, Rong Xing was able to explain the world of human females to the Snake Woman, trying to prepare her for the world she was entering.

The two beauties traveling together often made Deng Wu tilt his head, looking at the two women behind him. His eyes appeared quite moist, as he seemed to be trying to comprehend what he was seeing.

Suddenly, there was a loud crashing sound, followed by someone's shocked wail. Yan Xiaobao looked towards the sound, and he could no longer hold back his laughter, seeing his good friend Deng Wu fall to the ground and lie there tangled up with his beast.

Although Deng Wu wanted to blame it on the beast, it was evident that he lost his balance leaning back and looking at the two women behind him.

"Don't laugh." His face showed a sad expression, and his angry voice said, as everyone was chuckling at him. "Look there." He continued, his finger pointing to the top of a pagoda visible in the distance.

"Miss Sha Yun, I hope you're ready, because there's no turning back now."

When she saw the pagoda in the distance, excitement filled Sha Yun's eyes, but it gradually turned into a longing, which brought a slight smile to Yan Xiaobao's face. Although he did not have a spiritual connection with this female beast, her feelings were easily understood when she wore everything on her face.

When they finally saw their home from afar, they sped up and ran towards the city gate, hoping to get there in time before it closed. The travel training had taken a little longer than expected, and they all longed for a warm bed and fluffy pillows instead of sleeping a night on the cold hard ground.

There was still a trace of nostalgia upon them as they quietly headed towards the city gate. Although they had worked together at the academy before, they had never been quite so close, especially not being together for such a long period. Returning to their previous lifestyle, now they had grown accustomed to playing all day, but now felt a bit dissatisfied.

Despite having seen the pagoda on the horizon, it still took several hours from that distance, and they even had to pass through several villages along the way. When they all managed to reach the city gate, the sun was setting, and the heavy wooden doors were about to be closed, making a creaking noise.

"Wait!" One of the sentries called from the city walls. "I see this young noble and the young lady coming this way. Don't close the gate until they arrive!"

Once the voice rang from the door, the creaking stopped, and a wave of cheers spread across the sky. Lord Rong Liang was a well-loved City Lord, and his heir was equally popular as he mingled with the guards as equals. This young man had been away for some time, and now that he had returned, it was evident that the guards wanted to welcome him back as warmly as possible.

The cheering was a surprise for Yan Xiaobao and the others as it meant the city gate would remain open, but Sha Yun did not understand that the cheering was a joyful thing. Instead, she became alert, and a loud hiss echoed at the gate, causing the cheering to stop abruptly, and the guards became cautious. It was definitely the sound of a troublesome Demon Beast, but when they saw that the beastman was part of the escort group, there was a tremor among them. frēwebnovël.com

Whenever humans managed to slay a beast, Sha Yun, who had always lived in the Magic Forest, knew that cheering was a celebratory sound. They would cheer like this, so to her, cheering became a sign that someone had killed a magical beast. How could she not remain alert in such a situation?