

Scavengers 1001

Chapter 1001: Fierce Battle!!!

The dark, narrow underworld made it impossible for the massive mechas to stretch out freely, so both sides were relying on their close combat skills. Ying Sanqiang and his three companions, unlike Ji You and the others who had undergone systematic close-combat training, were entirely self-taught. However, their unconventional approach had its advantages, as Ying Sanqiang and his friends honed their close combat skills through countless brushes with death. Their fighting style was wild, chaotic, and unstructured, yet there was no wasted motion, and every strike was a deadly blow.

The four quickly retreated. During their escape, Shen Changqing moved with lightning speed and reached the back of Ying Sanqiang. At that moment, Ying Sanqiang seemed to anticipate his situation. He was holding a saber, but at his waist was a High Energy Particle Flow Gun. Just as Shen Changqing closed in from behind, Ying Sanqiang suddenly turned around and fired!

Boom——

In that instant, the muzzle of the High Energy Particle Flow Gun flashed, followed by an explosion of dazzling light that blurred Shen Changqing's vision into a haze!

Even worse, at such close range and without any protection, this burst of particle flow was enough to instantly kill a robust adult man!

Shen Changqing's vision was a blur, but his mind was crystal clear. He knew there was no way to dodge—in a decisive moment, he gritted his teeth, not retreating a single step. Instead, he charged forward, intending to grab the gunman and drag him into hell together at the last moment!

By doing so——

The odds for Ji You, Jiaojiao, and Ayan in the 3-on-3 battle would increase, wouldn't they?

Thinking of this, Shen Changqing slightly closed his eyes.

"Aqing!" Sheng Qingyan's voice trembled with heart-wrenching intensity, as he watched the scene unfold, ignoring the enemy's weapon at his throat and slashing back at his foe, dashing toward Shen Changqing's direction.

"Shen Changqing!" Chu Jiaojiao was in a panic. She was furthest from Shen Changqing and could not catch up. In her panic, she suddenly saw a big hammer about to smash Sheng Qingyan's head. Without thinking, she leaped and lunged at the hammer!

"Fall back!" Ji You bit her lip hard and shouted with all her might! At that moment, it was a race against time and speed, and with unprecedented composure and calmness, Ji You snatched an Energy Net from Little Golden Dragon at an unbelievable speed, tossing it toward Shen Changqing's direction!

It has to hit!

It has to hit!

It absolutely has to hit!

No one knew how nervous Ji You was inside, how panicked, scared, and helpless... As she prayed inwardly, she even felt her heart trembling violently!

Frenzied trembling!

There was even a moment when it stopped.

Ji You's heart was in her throat!

Whoosh~

The Energy Net covered Shen Changqing's head, draping down!

From head to toe!

Completely enveloped!

Ji You's heart was filled with joy, and her expression relaxed...

At that moment, the burst of the High Energy Particle Flow Gun released dazzling, blinding sparks. As Ying Sanqiang was about to retreat after firing, Shen Changqing grabbed his coat. At this moment, Shen Changqing was fully enveloped by the Energy Net, leaving Ying Sanqiang alone in the sparks, releasing a radiant glow!

Simultaneously——

Ji You's extended arm, which hadn't had time to retract, felt a sharp pain!

Squish——

The sound of a blade cutting into flesh rang clearly in Ji You's ears...

Crack~

It broke.

The right hand broke.

Ji You didn't have time to be surprised or cry out in pain when the wielder of the saber, noticing the miss, immediately redirected, aiming for Ji You's neck. The sharp blade and the slight sound of it cutting through the air came toward Ji You.

Instead of dodging, Ji You didn't pay attention to her severed hand; she merely narrowed her eyes, instantly drawing her machete to forcibly block the oncoming blade. Then, a powerful force hit her, forcing Ji You's body to keep retreating, retreating...

Almost collapsing to the ground, but she managed to hold on with a slight sway of her body.

Ying Dadao was astounded. He never imagined that this little runt could block his attack at such a critical moment. A strike like this one could have felled even a Level 4 Star Beast.

The little runt is fine?

After the initial shock, Ying Dadao noticed that Ying Sanqiang was caught in the Particle Flow Cannon Fire as well. This realization shocked Ying Dadao to the core, unwilling to entangle further with these devilish wolves. Without a moment's hesitation, he turned to flee!

Clean and swift, without a hint of delay!

Seeing this, Ji You narrowed her eyes. In an emergency, she raised her hand and threw her Big Chopper. But with one hand severed and losing too much blood, she felt dizzy upon throwing the blade, and it fell feebly in mid-air.

Ying Dadao didn't look back, disappearing in the blink of an eye.

At the same time, Sheng Qingyan, momentarily stunned, was originally entangled with Ying Tiechui. But when Sheng Qingyan noticed Shen Changqing in a crisis, he ignored his own safety and dashed toward Shen Changqing, even exposing his vulnerable back to the enemy, much to Ying Tiechui's delight!

The hammer swung toward the sissy's head at once!

At that moment, a tall figure darted over, using its body to forcibly intercept the energy Big Iron Hammer!

Clang!

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Ying Tiechui was taken aback: "Damn!"

The scene descended into chaos, with Ying Jian wielding his sword and fiercely battling with Chu Jiaojiao, even starting to fall behind. Just as he fretted over delivering a fatal blow, the opportunity unexpectedly presented itself. The tomboy suddenly broke away, darting to the side. Ying Jian didn't hesitate and thrust his sword at the tomboy's back!

Squish~

The sound of the sword penetrating flesh.

Direct hit!

Ying Jian was overjoyed!

At that moment, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, and the extraordinarily resilient Chu Jiaojiao, together charged at Ying Tiechui!

Bam!

Bam!

Bam!

Every strike was deadly!

Ying Tiechui fell——

The Boss, Ying Sanqiang, and Ying Tiechui were all down. Seeing the situation take a sharp turn, Ying Jian was mentally cursing over a billion times and dared not delay further. In the next second, he chased after Ying Dadao, desperately fleeing!

But——

If Ying Dadao escaped due to Ji You's group's carelessness, did Ying Jian hope to escape?

No way!

In the next moment, Ji You, bleeding all over, gripped the hilt, her eyes chillingly cold——

Bam!

This swing landed squarely on Ying Jian's back! Immediately, Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan, and Shen Changqing all rushed over, leaving Ying Jian barely time to blink before being slashed countless times——

"I..."

"Damn..."

In the next moment, Ying Jian's body slipped limply downward, his head drooping like a wilted eggplant near the corner of a chair, lifeless.

"Puh——"

Chu Jiaojiao spat out a mouthful of blood, Ji You slumped to the side, her severed arm hanging limply, blood dripping steadily...

Chapter 1002: The Original Is Best

Ji You fell to the ground, her body twisted awkwardly, half her arm dripping scarlet blood, yet she still ignored her situation, forcefully raised her hand, and pointed to the door: "Don't stop, pursue!"

Ji You was only able to determine through spiritual fluctuations that there were only five enemies here, but what about outside?

Or, are there other enemies in other places underground?

...

All of this remained unknown, and Ji You did not dare to gamble with her and her teammates' safety, so she mustered her last breath, finished speaking, and the next second—

"Puff—"

Ji You suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood!

Shen Changqing: "Ji You!"

Sheng Qingyan: "Ji You!"

Chu Jiaojiao, coughing blood: "Ji... Ji You!"

Facing the concern of her teammates, Ji You wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth and calmly said, "Don't worry, it's just clotted blood."

After speaking—

"Puff—"

"Puff—"

"Puff—"

Shen Changqing clenched his fist tightly and said, "I have some healing potion here, take one first."

Ji You waved her hand: "What are you dawdling about? Hurry up and chase them for me!"

Shen Changqing: "But—"

He turned his back and rushed towards the door.

Ji You glared at Sheng Qingyan: "This isn't the time to dawdle; we must capture that big saber-wielding bastard and not let him escape! He won't get far, I cut him too."

Sheng Qingyan looked worryingly at Chu Jiaojiao, then at Ji You, then stomped his foot and with a heavy heart turned around.

His steps were so decisive, no more hesitation!

Watching Shen Changqing and Sheng Qingyan chase out, Ji You finally felt a little relieved, then she began to cough violently, her face turning red, her neck swollen, and blood gushing out in large mouthfuls.

This internal injury—

Was too severe.

Ji You shivered with pain, her body turning cold.

Chu Jiaojiao forced herself to hold Ji You's intact hand, her bloodstained cheek full of worry as she looked at Ji You, "Ji... Ji You... are you... are you okay?"

Her voice also kept trembling, even intermittently, like a broken bellows...

Ji You put on a stern face: "Shut up! A person stabbed clear through has no right to talk to me."

Chu Jiaojiao held her throat: "Cough..."

Chu Jiaojiao understood that her condition was indeed not good. That heavy blow—it was with sheer physical strength she took it for Sheng Qingyan. Fortunately, she was as strong as an ox, otherwise, if it truly landed on Sheng Qingyan, given how he loves to cry, he surely couldn't take it.

Chu Jiaojiao's lips curled into a slight smile.

But—

That sword, really plunged straight through her chest, pierced through. If she hadn't taken an instant healing pill, she wouldn't have withstood it.

Cough cough...

Still too weak.

Too careless!

Such a small pitfall could make her lose her composure, completely lose calmness. What about in the future?

Would she still need to go to the battlefield?

Would she—

Always need to rely on Ji You to protect and save her?

...

Chu Jiaojiao's face and lips were covered with a layer of pallor, eyes dim and lifeless, only the indelible blood staining her protective clothing, drip drip...

Chu Jiaojiao looked at Ji You's equally pale, bloodless face, lost in thought.

From the door.

Suddenly came a series of urgent footsteps, thud! thud! thud!

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao's hearts leapt, the two leaning against the corner wall grabbed their weapons and sprang up instantly—

"Where?"

"Where?"

"That blockhead No. 4444 really lost a hand?"

"That dumbass Chu Jiaojiao really got perforated?"

"Damn!"

Hearing this voice, Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao simultaneously turned their heads and stared at Yue Qiguang who stepped inside. At the same time, their tense nerves instantly relaxed to the ground, Ji You darkened her face: "Instead of shouting nonsense, hurry up and fetch my hand."

Yue Qiguang, though his mouth was loud, actually was tense, with brows furrowed, no smile on his handsome face. When he saw Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao's situation, his face fell even more:

"Damn!"

"What happened?"

Saying this, Yue Qiguang rushed over in a flash, took out two simple repair cabins from the space button and threw them in front of the two, raising his hand, he was about to stuff the more critically-wounded Chu Jiaojiao in. Chu Jiaojiao clutched her chest and asked, "What about them?"

Yue Qiguang's face darkened, cursed: "Why do you care so much? Dad is here for everything."

Chu Jiaojiao grinned: "Yue... Yue Qiguang, is... is your Sister Jiao Jiao unable to wield a knife anymore? Or have you grown cocky?"

Yue Qiguang shoved Chu Jiaojiao into the repair cabin, face dark as he said: "Be good for daddy, don't think just because you're like this, daddy won't dare to hit you."

Chu Jiaojiao: "You..."

"Clang!"

The cabin door was shut by Yue Qiguang.

Having dealt with Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang immediately turned and stared at Ji You—

His eyes were deep and dark, carrying a dangerous ferocity...

Ji You waved her good left hand, said: "Cough cough... don't push me, I'll climb in myself, could you... help me pick up my hand?"

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang said softly: "A severed hand, like meat fallen into a stinking ditch, is useless."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You covered her chest, said: "That's my flesh, even if it falls into a cesspit, I don't mind, fetch it for me, please pick it up."

Yue Qiguang's mouth twitched, clearly choked a bit, and he decided not to argue with Ji You, just raised his hand and stuffed Ji You into the repair cabin, Ji You shouted in a panic: "Hand hand hand..."

Yue Qiguang walked over, picked up Ji You's severed hand, moodily stuffed it into the repair cabin, muttering: "Anyway it's already severed, just grow another from cells, a transplant will do."

Ji You looked at her recovered hand and said: "I still prefer the original."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Through the transparent window of the repair cabin, Ji You glanced at Yue Qiguang, and said: "You're so leisurely, have you caught them?" Inside the cabin, nutrient fluid and repair liquid were continuously infused into her body, mending Ji You's injuries, but with her current injuries, recovery couldn't happen in a short time; at least four to five days would be needed to get back to her lively self.

After Chu Jiaojiao entered the repair cabin, her body was in an extremely precarious condition because the injury was at the heart. Right after entering the repair cabin, the repair system initiated a forced sleep function. At this moment, Chu Jiaojiao had her eyes closed, although her breathing was a bit heavy, the injury was stabilized...

Yue Qiguang stared at the real-time data of Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao's repair cabins. Hearing Ji You's voice, he couldn't help but roll his eyes and said: "No. 4444, why are you so annoying? Is this the time for you to worry about these things?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You clapped her hands, the cabin shook with a thud: "If you don't tell me, I won't die in peace!"

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang said speechlessly: "Got them."

Upon hearing this, Ji You fell asleep.

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Chapter 1003: No Regrets

But in less than 10 seconds, Ji You suddenly opened her eyes. She bounced up, her head hitting the top of the repair cabin. Ji You raised a hand, rubbing her head, when she heard a cool voice from above, "Not planning to keep your head?"

"Yue Qiyuan?" Ji You's head was still a bit dizzy. She glanced around herself, finding she was still inside the repair cabin. Through the transparent window, she looked outside, and was shocked: "Oh my god!"

Turns out Yue Qiyuan and Shen Changqing were carrying her repair cabin towards the door—

Ji You panicked: "Stop!"

Yue Qiyuan and Yue Qiguang were a bit speechless as they looked at the lively Ji You who seemed capable of killing a bull in one breath. Yue Qiyuan raised a hand, rubbing his temple, and asked, "Are you sure she's actually injured?"

Can an injured person be this lively?

Yue Qiguang shrugged: "It's true. When Dad arrived, the two of them were really more dead than alive, just a few seconds away from kicking the bucket."

Ji You's sudden reaction was just a natural response to being startled. Now, she instantly went weak, "Stop... Stop."

Yue Qiyuan and Shen Changqing had already stopped, and Yue Qiyuan asked, "Say it. Then quickly go back to sleep."

Ji You raised a hand, weakly pointing at the hidden room, saying, "Check... check... is there..."

Seeing her struggling to finish a sentence, Yue Qiyuan asked, "Anything unusual?"

Ji You: "Valuable."

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Yue Qiyuan was at a loss, but only for 1 second, then he said: "No, besides a surveillance screen, it's completely empty here."

Ji You spat out a mouthful of blood: "That can't be right."

She clearly felt there had to be a treasure inside.

Ji You thought for a moment, and said, "Loot the bodies!"

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Ji You explained confidently: "When upgrading and fighting monsters, don't we always loot the bodies?"

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Yue Qiyuan said speechlessly: "We already picked up all the Space Buttons from these people. Once you and Chu Jiaojiao are in better physical condition, we'll look through them together."

Ji You still wasn't reassured, saying: "This script isn't right. According to the typical novel plot, after we enter the deepest part of the hidden room and defeat the monsters, there should be treasures waiting for us."

Yue Qiyuan looked at Shen Changqing: "Are you sure her injuries are to her hand and internal, not her head?"

Shen Changqing's face was still very bad, pale with a sickly hue. He seemed somewhat disconnected, lost in thought. Hearing Yue Qiyuan's question brought him back to reality momentarily, but he seemed not to have understood what Yue Qiyuan said, as he opened his mouth and suddenly said: "It's all my fault!"

After that sentence.

Shen Changqing's delicate face was already streaked with tears, although his eyes were obscured by the intense particle light stream, leaving his vision blurred and pain in his eyes preventing him from being aware of his appearance, or the torrent of his tears—he only bit his lip and said again: "It's all my fault."

Yue Qiyuan's fingertips trembled—

Carrying Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang and Sheng Qingyan suddenly halted their steps as well—

The atmosphere plunged into an oppressive silence so suffocating one could taste bitterness with each breath...

Both repair cabins stood quietly before Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, Shen Changqing, and Sheng Qingyan, unaware of Shen Changqing's tearful downpour. Sheng Qingyan stared at the restless, pained face of Chu Jiaojiao inside the cabin, biting his lip hard, his glamorous, exquisite face marked by a stubborn helplessness...

Biting down hard, Sheng Qingyan suddenly said: "I... I can't just stand by and watch him die."

His voice trembled, yet he insisted: "I've trained all this time just so I wouldn't have to see everyone I care about die."

Sheng Qingyan covered his face with both hands, tears streaming down: "I regret nothing. Even if it were to happen again, I still would rush to save him."

Drip-drop~

Drip-drop~

Drip-drop~

...

Distinct droplets of tears fell against the edge of the repair cabin wall, engulfed by a silent stillness. No one spoke, Yue Qiyuan and Yue Qiguang said nothing further, their breaths unconsciously shallower.

Sheng Qingyan's shoulders shook continuously...

Shen Changqing opened his mouth, wanting to break the suffocating silence with words, but any attempt died in his throat, as he bowed his head, his tears joining the drip-drop chorus against the repair cabin's wall edge.

Shen Changqing clenched his fists:

[No more.

I will never again.

Never should such a foolish version of me appear again.]

...

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Ji You suddenly said: "Spicy Eye, you know what? Your crying face just looks like a debtor owing me 10 billion, going through all sorts of drama just not to pay up."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Sheng Qingyan stomped his foot suddenly: "Annoying~"

Ji You clutched her chest, glaring at Sheng Qingyan, then Shen Changqing, finally fixing her gaze on Shen Changqing, saying: "Little Stupid, when did you pick up this habit of crying? Wipe away those tears and buck up, check if there's something of immense value nearby."

Watching Shen Changqing's face turn red instantly, Ji You teased: "By the way. Keep that Eight-point Spider for now, what if it's really worth 10 billion?"

In an instant—

Shen Changqing's face flushed from forehead to neck.

Yue Qiyuan and Yue Qiguang, slightly puzzled, Yue Qiyuan asked: "What Eight-point Spider?"

"Ahem..." Shen Changqing said: "It's already suffocated."

Ji You was shocked: "Didn't you say it's made with Black Armor Particle technology, breathable and all?"

Shen Changqing: "Ahem... just an ordinary sealed bag, doesn't have such good features."

Ji You: "You're not as honest as you seem."

Shen Changqing: "..."

Shen Changqing felt his cheeks burning, unbearably hot.

It must be said, Ji You has that kind of ability. With just a casual comment, the entire atmosphere revived from her jesting, Sheng Qingyan stood straight again, waving his hand saying: "Enough now, patients should speak less, or else the surgical doctors might remove your tongue and replace it with a quieter one..."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You glared, fixating on Yue Qiyuan, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, and Yue Qiguang, "Are you going to talk or not?"

Yue Qiyuan said: "The criminals have been caught. We'll inform you of the details once your condition improves. No need to worry about those above, Ye Liqiang personally leads the rescue, and Student Fufeng along with other seniors ensure there's no danger."

Ji You urgently asked: "How exactly did you catch them?"

Speaking of this, Yue Qiyuan's expression turned a bit odd, saying: "As we were about to enter the underground, Student Fufeng suddenly told us not to go inside, the person outside had come out and was hiding behind a discarded stump."

"Everyone looked and, ha~ he really was."

Chapter 1004: Analysis

After listening, Ji You clicked her tongue repeatedly, unable to help asking: "Was it really discovered by Fu Feng? Why didn't he come down?"

Yue Qiguang said, "He said he's afraid of heights and the dark, so he didn't want to come down." To enter this underground world, one has to jump down from the collapsed cavity, at a height of about 70 or 80 meters, and the underground world is very dark...

Upon hearing this, Ji You muttered: "So many problems indeed."

Speaking of which, Ji You couldn't help but say: "With a body like Lin of Liu Fufeng, could he really discover the enemy? Could it be that you let the enemy escape and are afraid I'll scold you, so you're deliberately deceiving me?"

Yue Qiguang heard this and instantly rolled his eyes, retorting in a bad mood: "Would dad lie to you? Is dad that idle?"

Ji You thought about it: "That's true."

Although Liu Fufeng's body was frail, his spiritual power was unusual, so it wasn't too surprising he could discover the enemy.

Yue Qiguang was about to make some more sarcastic remarks when, unexpectedly, Ji You chimed in: "With your IQ, you couldn't come up with such a clever scam."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang clenched his fists and asked Yue Qiyuan, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing: "I feel like killing this idiot right now, do any of you have opinions on that?"

"Cough cough..." Yue Qiyuan scolded, "Why argue with someone whose head is injured? Seriously."

Upon hearing this, Yue Qiguang laughed bitterly and slapped his thigh: "Exactly, there's no need for dad to argue with someone whose brain has issues."

Yue Qiyuan said: "I was just talking to Ji You earlier."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang glared: "Yue Qiyuan, are you looking for death?"

Yue Qiyuan said: "That's right, just like you thought—your brain does have issues, quite significant ones."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

"Cough cough..." Ji You cleared her throat to interrupt the brothers' internal conflict, speaking softly: "Born from the same root, why roast each other in such haste."

Oh dear, having spoken, they became a pair of insults.

Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan's faces instantly darkened.

As the situation was about to dive into a peculiar internal strife, Shen Changqing gently said: "Ji You, I just checked again, there's only one monitoring system here, no other dark doors, nor anything else discovered."

Ji You asked curiously: "What's going on? How could there be nothing at all? Why would these people hide here, and why, at the sight of us breaking in, do they want to kill us?"

At this moment, Sheng Qingyan's thick, curled lashes still had a trace of sparkling tears hanging on them. He blinked and the tears fluttered down...

The tear hanging on fell off, Sheng Qingyan raised his head and collected the sorrow and anxiety from his pupils, then turned to Ji You and said: "Because this underground chamber is actually an illegal laboratory, 50 or 60 years ago, the Alliance and other nations and regions discovered many clandestine laboratories illegally conducting experiments, which later caused severe impacts, so they were heavily suppressed, this place..."

Sheng Qingyan took a step and walked around the chamber, then continued: "Abandoned for about 50 years, it's a standard human laboratory."

Ji You asked: "Hmm? Human?"

Just the word 'human' sent chills down people's spines...

Sheng Qingyan said: "Specifically, ah, I don't quite know, ah."

Shen Changqing added, speaking softly: "What Ayan said is true. The chamber we're in now has nothing inside because it's a monitoring room designed to oversee every room in the underground illegal laboratory. The first door we paced through to the seventh, each door has its purpose; you've tried, it was very simple, each door has the door lock password directly revealed to you, in truth, it's not intended to inform us intruders, but rather—"

At this point, Shen Changqing's tone slightly deepened: "In fact, it's to inform those experimental subjects."

"..." Ji You opened her mouth, "So then...this place, did it not get suppressed? Eliminated?"

Shen Changqing pondered for a while, refrained from immediately explaining Ji You's question, and softly said: "I just observed that the eighth door is actually the true laboratory, the ninth door is connected with the first door, from the first door you only need to turn a corner to reach the ninth, however, the connecting passage between these two doors is blocked, but if not for Ying Dadao just now opening this channel, we might have circled around without finding this passage. Besides, the real laboratory of the eighth door appears to be a material room because all of the experiment equipment has been moved, not a single piece left."

Everyone listened intently.

Shen Changqing continued pointing to several spots on the eighth door: "They obviously moved swiftly, leaving indentation marks from experimental equipment on the ground. But these marks have now turned into moss, making them not very visible."

Everyone followed Shen Changqing's pointed direction and upon looking, indeed, it was so.

Shen Changqing said: "Thus, this illegal laboratory possibly caught wind of some information, heard some rumors, or simply had connections to obtain insider info, leading to a preemptive evacuation."

So, it wasn't that there was no suppression or abolishment, rather these people fled early?

Ji You slightly closed her eyes, saying: "So this place has been abandoned for 50 years now. Then—how do these people know this secret location?" She raised her hand pointing to the corpses of Ying Tu and the others.

Ji You's question clearly hit the core.

Shen Changqing shook his head and said: "I couldn't guess either. However, during Bee Head Star's prosperous Black Gold Ore era, several large mining companies stationed here not only employed tons of miners for digging but also quite a few free mercenary groups for security..."

Yue Qiyuan furrowed his brows and said: "Tracking the missions they've received in recent years should clarify it. If indeed they've undertaken security for Bee Head Star here, then it's not surprising they're hiding here now."

Ji You hurriedly asked: "Hiding here?"

Yue Qiyuan said solemnly: "These people are already wanted felons by the Alliance, and the Alliance has officially issued a wanted order."

Ji You asked: "What crime did they commit?"

Yue Qiyuan's eyes darkened slightly: "Not long ago, they hijacked and killed passengers of a public transport spaceship, everyone aboard perished."

Ji You opened her mouth, remained silent for a moment, then clenched her fists tightly: "Damn! If I'd known these bastards were so heinous, I wouldn't have let them die so soon! Damn!"

Everyone's expressions became extremely somber, Yue Qiyuan said: "This laboratory will temporarily be handled by the team led by Senior Ye Liqiang; let's return to the surface first."

Ji You: "Alright."

Initially, upon hearing Ying Dadao was captured, Ji You had put her mind at ease, confident to get a good night's sleep and heal her body well. Unexpectedly, after hearing this news, she felt miserable.

Chapter 1005: Damn It!

Yue Qiguang and Shen Changqing carried Ji You's repair cabin, while Sheng Qingyan and Yue Qiyuan carried Chu Jiaojiao's repair cabin. The group of six didn't delay and quickly emerged from the underground cavern. As soon as their figures appeared on the surface, Liu Fufeng, who was squatting in

a corner scribbling furiously, sprang to his feet. He hurried to the front of Ji You's repair cabin, his beautiful eyes fixed on Ji You's half-severed hand, frowning deeply: "Ji You, has your hand really been severed?"

Ji You replied: "Yes, it has."

Liu Fufeng, looking at Ji You's half-severed hand, seemed on the verge of collapsing... His expression was one of heartache, sorrow, regret, and pity... The complexity of his face was indescribable in words. Frowning tightly, he said: "How could you be so careless?"

Ji You said: "Don't worry, next time, I'll be sure to pay attention."

Liu Fufeng muttered: "My cane isn't working well. I was originally planning to have you make a new one for me."

Ji You: "..."

Liu Fufeng clutched his chest and said: "I'm afraid that with your hand severed, you won't be able to make a good cane."

Ji You asked in puzzlement: "Why are you so insistent on having me make a cane for you?"

Liu Fufeng pressed his lips together and said: "Only you can make the best ones."

Ji You felt a stir in her heart, but she didn't say anything and instead asked nonchalantly: "Have you used other things I made?"

Liu Fufeng replied in a very natural tone: "No, but I feel you're the best."

Ji You observed his expression and said: "Everyone's used things I've made, and they've all said they're good. It's normal if you've used them too, no need to be secretive about it..."

Liu Fufeng was taken aback and asked: "Ji You, what are you talking about?"

"..." Ji You thought for a moment and said: "Nothing."

Acting?

Really?

Forget it.

Ji You wasn't interested in Liu Fufeng's situation anymore. In any case, she followed Little Golden Dragon's advice to stay as far away from Liu Fufeng as possible.

At this moment, Ye Liqiang arrived with a small squad of warriors. Ye Liqiang wasn't tall, even a bit short and stocky, which made him quite memorable among the tall, long-legged people Ji You had encountered. However, Ye Liqiang's complexion was a healthy wheat color. Although he was a bit short and stocky, he looked particularly energetic. When he faced Ji You and the others, his face, somewhat similar to Professor Ye Hong's, showed a kind smile: "It's good you're all okay."

In fact, at this very moment, he was deeply shocked. When he received the message from above, Ye Liqiang was astonished because a group of students had just gone to Bee Head Star. Ye Liqiang had overheard their discussion and even offered them some advice, telling them that Dock 5 or 6 were the safest spots for docking. He wasn't sure if they heeded his advice. If they really chose Dock 6, they were likely to encounter those criminals. Ye Liqiang, after a little thought, dared not delay. He immediately led the strongest squad under his command to rush over.

The Flying Eagle Mercenary Group, a level 3 team, officially consisted of five people, led by Ying Tu, known for their formidable combat power. Since their formation 30 years ago, they've always taken on tough missions and completed them every time.

All five team members remained unharmed.

In just 30 short years, they had ascended to a level 3 mercenary group, proving their strength. But little did anyone know; secretly, this mercenary group had connections with the interstellar pirate group, repeatedly colluding with them and undermining the Alliance's stability and peace.

Recently, a group of retired warriors, led by the old Commander Chu Zhan, cracked down on a pirate group, which led the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group to surface. Unbeknownst to them, Flying Eagle Mercenary Group got wind of the situation, left early, and hijacked a public transport spaceship in their escape. This made the Alliance's guards hesitant during the capture process, allowing the five of the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group to escape...

Flying Eagle Mercenary Group was highly cunning, having long prepared numerous counters to evade capture. They repeatedly escaped during the Alliance guards' pursuit. Eventually, the Alliance guards traced their escape route and confirmed their possible hiding on Bee Head Star.

Consequently, they immediately informed Ye Liqiang's team stationed in the area, requesting Ye Liqiang to lead his team to assist the police in capturing the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group.

Therefore, when Yue Qiyuan and Yue Qiguang sensed something was amiss and turned their spaceship back for help, they encountered Ye Liqiang and his warriors before even leaving Bee Head Star.

The urgent arrival of Ye Liqiang, along with the worry for the children, especially a girl named Ji You who was a special favorite of his stubborn, uptight, and stern uncle, magnified his anxiety.

These kids have outstanding strength and potential, and if something happened to them here, it would be a big loss for the Alliance.

Ye Liqiang rushed over, fearing to hear sudden bad news, only to find—

Indeed, there was bad news, but it wasn't for Ji You's group; it was the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group who faced bad news.

Ye Liqiang thought they were joking and sternly asked again, not expecting that the red-haired boy from the Yue Family impatiently said, "Instead of wasting time here asking about these trivial matters, you'd be better off helping save people down there!"

With that, Yue Qiguang, in a hurry, jumped into the collapsed underground.

Ye Liqiang: "..."

To capture such ferocious criminals from the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group, and this kid calls it trivial?

"Oh~" Ye Liqiang slapped his forehead, chuckled, and sighed: "I must be getting old." Unable to keep up with these kids' thoughts.

Ye Liqiang made some arrangements with the warriors, leaving some on the surface and others stationed outside the atmosphere of Bee Head Star. A few others followed him underground to rescue, only to run into Shen Changqing and Yue Qiyuan trying to climb out...

After hearing Ji You and the others' situation and learning one had escaped, Ye Liqiang raised his hand and gave a command. The warriors executed it in an orderly manner, and in the next moment, they caught the escaping Ying Dadao.

Ying Dadao was just out of luck. Though quick on his feet, aware of the three team members on the surface, he deliberately chose another exit, emerging around a dead oak tree. He remembered this outlet's location, where a corner led directly into the dock's route. From there, escaping Bee Head Star would be a piece of cake. But Ying Dadao prepared two plans; he didn't intend to escape Bee Head Star. The Alliance's dogs had been relentless in pursuit, guessing they were close. Now, the Boss, Ying Sanqiang, and others were dead.

The dogs of the Alliance would undoubtedly think he'd be scared into immediately fleeing Bee Head Star, but he planned to do the opposite. He wouldn't flee; familiar with the place, he thought he could hide here for three to five years without issue.

Except—

Damn, those damn kids! Ying Dadao thought furiously: he'd hidden so cleverly yet was discovered at a glance!

Curses!

Chapter 1006: Arm Repair

"It's good that you're all alright." Ye Liqiang looked at Ji You and the others with a gentle smile. Then, he fixed his gaze on Ji You's severed arm, his eyes narrowing. After that, his lips relaxed into a smile again, as he said, "It's okay if your arm is broken, I'll find you the best doctor to fix it."

"Really?" Ji You's eyes lit up. "Senior Ye, can my hand still be fixed? Can it be restored to how it was?"

Ye Liqiang thought for a moment before saying, "That will have to wait until the doctor does a detailed examination. However, even if it can't be restored, it's okay. Look—" He suddenly slapped his own thigh and elbow, then pointed to his own hair, saying, "This leg, this arm, and also this hair, they were all transplanted later..."

Saying this, Ye Liqiang vigorously waved his hand, tugged at his hair, and kicked his leg, laughing, "Transplants don't affect the body's agility."

Ji You, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiguang, and Yue Qiyuan were all astonished upon hearing this. Ji You opened his mouth and said, "Senior Ye, you've already replaced so many of your own body parts?"

Ye Liqiang chuckled, "It's not such a rare thing. Warriors like us who defend the front lines, who hasn't repaired or replaced parts of their body? It's a common occurrence, something we're used to."

At this point, Ye Liqiang suddenly pointed to a burly young warrior with exceptionally fair skin, saying, "Look at our strongest combatant, Xiao Liu. Except for his heart and brain, everything else has been replaced."

Ji You and the others: "..."

Suddenly, everyone rose in respect.

The unexpectedly named Xiao Liu, despite his rugged appearance, was extremely shy. Facing the students' admiring gaze, his face turned as red as a boiled shrimp in an instant...

Ye Liqiang's face suddenly turned serious, saying, "The Flying Eagle Mercenary Group has already been captured, but there are many things that need handling. Moreover, we can't guarantee whether this place is entirely safe yet. Now that you're all injured, it's best to retreat from Bee Head Star temporarily and leave the rest to us."

Ji You's hand, Chu Jiaojiao's chest and abdomen, Shen Changqing's eyes...

These children are the hope of the Alliance.

Upon hearing this, Ji You did not voice any objections. The Flying Eagle Mercenary Group seemed to come from a clean background as free mercenaries but secretly engaged in activities akin to interstellar pirates. Do they still have accomplices?

What is the motive behind this group?

How did the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group know about the illegal laboratory beneath Dock 6 on Bee Head Star?

Was it discovered by chance back when they were free mercenaries, or did they already know?

And—

When was this illegal laboratory built? What research was conducted? Who constructed it? Who is the capital behind it? Does it have connections with those mining groups, or...

...

There are too many questions awaiting investigation.

But!!!

This isn't Ji You's job or a region Ji You can currently touch... She clearly understood that Senior Ye Liqiang's words carried underlying meaning, but Ji You found no need to dig deeper because she knew that Senior Ye Liqiang and these lovable and respectable warriors had their reasons for withholding certain information.

Thus—

Ji You immediately said, "Senior, we'll retreat at once."

Upon hearing this, Ye Liqiang laughed, "It'll take 30 light minutes to return to the Space Station, you're injured and lacking in parts... I'll have Xiao Liu and two other warriors escort you back."

Ji You felt a bit embarrassed, "Senior Ye, isn't it a bit much? Better to let Brother Xiao Liu stay here and assist you; we can manage on our own!"

Ye Liqiang waved his hand, saying, "It's decided."

"Ahem..." Ji You forcefully cleared her throat, winking at Senior Ye Liqiang. Ye Liqiang was momentarily stunned, and Ji You's face filled with smiles, "Senior Ye, I have a favor to ask. I'm not sure if I should mention it."

Ye Liqiang said, "Speak."

Upon hearing this, Ji You immediately blurted out, "Senior, can the treasure we found in the secret chamber, and the Space Button on these corpses, can the treasures inside be ours?"

Ye Liqiang never expected Ji You to say this, and with such blatant straightforwardness, without even a hint of shyness.

This child...

I heard, she's quite the Old Miser.

Ahem...

Ye Liqiang swept away the smile on his face, adopting a very serious tone, "I can only agree to part. This is also what I wanted to discuss with you next. There may be items or clues on them and in this chamber that the Alliance needs, so I can't decide to give it all to you."

This was consistent with Ji You's guess, and Ji You wasn't much disappointed. She glanced at Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, and Yue Qiguang... noticing they seemed to have no objections either. So, Ji You directly said, "Well, we'll only take those valuable treasures you don't need, nothing else."

Shen Changqing and the others: "..."

Ye Liqiang smiled, "Alright."

This child, indeed without any pretense.

Ji You was finally filled with excitement, nearly jumping out of the repair cabin to quickly pick out treasures. However, due to excessive blood loss, her body was still weak, requiring her to stay in the repair cabin for a while longer.

Ji You felt somewhat helpless; she turned her head to look at Chu Jiaojiao in another repair cabin. Chu Jiaojiao still had her eyes closed, her stunning yet fierce face now completely colorless, as pale as a sheet of paper, ready to tear at any poke.

Such a Chu Jiaojiao just embodied the feeling her name suggested.

Gazing at Chu Jiaojiao's peaceful sleeping face, Ji You's initial excitement seemed to gradually settle down. Unconsciously, Ji You also fell asleep. By the time she woke again, half an hour had passed, and Ji You felt a slight recovery of vitality, immediately requesting to exit the repair cabin.

Nearby, Yue Qiguang grumbled, "Are you some kind of joker summoned by monkeys? Can't you just stay quietly in the repair cabin like a patient?" Despite the complaining, he still opened the cabin door for Ji You.

Ji You climbed out, hopping on one leg, wobbling toward the place where Ying Tu and others' Space Buttons were stored, while beside her Yue Qiyuan softly remarked, "Number 4444, I remember your hand is injured, not your leg."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You slapped her forehead with her good hand, chuckling awkwardly, "Haha, I forgot. No wonder I felt something was off with my body, turns out it's my hand."

After speaking, Ji You quickly put down her foot.

Liu Fufeng suddenly handed over a crutch, saying, "Ji You, here you go."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You sternly refused, "My hand is injured, not my foot, I can't use a crutch."

Liu Fufeng whispered, "It's okay, next time you can make a crutch for the hand, I'll lend it to you."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You ignored him, turning to look around the Dock. At this moment, Senior Ye Liqiang had already led a team underground, leaving some to guard the surface, among them Xiao Liu.

Chapter 1007: Truly Penniless

Xiao Liu saw Ji You coming over, his pale face with a hint of blush, facing Ji You's bright eyes, he said seriously with a straight face, "Classmate Ji You, Captain Ye has already assigned me the task of escorting you from here on out. If you need any help, just let me know."

Ji You loudly responded, "Got it, Senior Liu."

However, even though his face looked rugged, his skin was too tender, too pale, so just by looking at his face, he seemed like a boy who hadn't yet shed his youthful air. But his eyes were deep and dark, as if they've been through countless hardships... The overall feel was quite contradictory, Ji You almost blurted out 'Brother Liu' earlier but managed to hold back.

Xiao Liu suddenly asked, "Do you think my face looks a bit strange?"

Ji You quickly said, "No... no... I just think your skin is exceptionally good, uh... do you use skincare products regularly? Which brand?"

Xiao Liu couldn't help but laugh, saying, "No... this skin of mine was re-grafted after being burned all over, it hasn't fully grown back yet, so it doesn't quite match my demeanor. I'm actually a very tough guy, how could I possibly use girlish skincare products?"

Burned all over...

How painful must that be?

Ji You, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan... the few of them listening, all felt a chill down their spines. Yet, Xiao Liu spoke so casually about it, all at once, the way they looked at Xiao Liu was filled with even more admiration.

"Haha..." Xiao Liu was a bit amused, he raised his hand, scratched his head, the smile on his face looked very honest, and said, "This hair of mine was also just grafted. Back then, all my skin tissues died, especially the scalp was in the worst condition, almost couldn't graft successfully. Luckily, it did succeed, otherwise, my girlfriend would have killed me when she saw it. She loved to tug at my hair."

Ji You: "..."

Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, and the other boys: "Farewell!"

Taken by surprise with a mouthful of dog food, unbelievable...

Yue Qiguang thought about it and still couldn't let it go, couldn't help but say, "You actually have a girlfriend?"

Xiao Liu proudly said, "Of course I do, back then it was my girlfriend who pursued me actively."

Yue Qiguang was extremely shocked: "Impossible! How can that be! You're definitely lying to us, aren't you?"

"Ahem..." Ji You cleared her throat and said, "Kid, where do you have so many question marks! Hurry, let's pick out some things and go back to heal." Having temporarily stopped the bleeding after treatment in the repair cabin, Ji You, whose face was still pale, felt a bit breathless when saying more words now...

From the incident till now, Sheng Qingyan, who had been a bit silent, watched Ji You slightly sway, suddenly reached out to hold Ji You steady, and said softly, "Poor dead oh... remember, oh... I'm not intentionally supporting you, oh, just my hand accidentally held you, oh."

Saying this, Sheng Qingyan's pretty face looked a bit uncomfortable.

Ji You quickly said, "I know, it was your hand that deliberately held me, you're not actually worried that I'd fall, right? Don't worry, don't worry, you've explained it once, I understand now, not only is Spicy Eye you spicy on the eyes, but you also care about people."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Beside them, Shen Changqing whispered, "There are a few small stones on the ground, you two don't just talk, watch your steps."

Ji You laughed and said, "Don't worry, I'm not blind, you want to bet I could even do a dance now?"

Everyone: "..."

Xiao Liu pointed at the things left behind by the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group and said, "The Captain instructed that the items inside are for you to pick."

Five Space Buttons were quietly placed on a specially made workbench.

Ji You took a deep breath, feeling that mysterious attraction becoming clearer as she approached the 5 Space Buttons.

Step 1.

Step 2.

Step 3.

...

Confirmed, it was the Space Button with the largest space in the middle.

Ji You asked, "Whose Space Button is this?"

Shen Changqing explained, "It's from the boss of the Flying Eagle Mercenary Group, Ying Tu." At that time, it was Shen Changqing in charge of searching the body, and although these Space Buttons had no visible identity marks, he remembered this was Ying Tu's. Ying Tu had it hung around his neck, wrapped in a protective film and kept close.

Ji You turned to Xiao Liu and asked, "Senior Liu, can we take the stuff out of the Space Button and choose piece by piece?"

Xiao Liu, slightly disappointed for not being able to continue feeding dog food, nodded and said, "You can, pour them out."

Ji You poured out Ying Tu's Space Button—

Instantly, a pile of messy stuff rolled out, almost blinding Ji You and others, dark ores, dried firewood, a few sticks of low-level nutrient solution... cluttered materials...

Three words summed it up: Dirty! Messy! Poor!

That's right.

This Ying Tu was a poor guy, from top to bottom, not only couldn't find a single Credit Point, but the mix of materials was diverse, poorly handled and stored, many were moldy, smelly, and rotten.

Ji You felt her heart twitch uncontrollably.

Quoting Professor Ye Hong's words, "Materials handled wrongly are worth nothing."

The materials from Ying Tu's Space Button, each item could be worth several tens of thousands of Credit Points, but... already completely ruined, simply... Ji You lamented angrily, "Fool! Fool! Such good materials, even if you can't process them, you didn't even know to buy some specific containers for storage."

Yue Qiyuan said, "As an interstellar pirate, he probably had no idea what he was robbing, why are your expectations so high?"

Ji You held her chest, "These are all mine! Mine! My money!"

Everyone ignored Ji You and moved towards the table to focus on selecting their desired items, but this Ying Tu was so poor and shabby, even for food, he had only a few nearly expired sticks of low-level nutrient solutions... calling him a 'poor dead' was an injustice, they picked through everything and found there was hardly anything worth selecting.

Ji You carefully reviewed everything, finding that the mysterious pull weakened once the contents of the Space Button were out.

What's going on?

Ji You found it odd, but still meticulously picked up all of Ying Tu's stuff, examined thoroughly and realized that feeling seemed to have vanished just like that.

No more feeling at all.

Ji You wrinkled her brow: [Could it be, I was mistaken, it wasn't Ying Tu's Space Button, but another person's?]

With this thought, Ji You looked at the other Space Buttons and found, indeed, there was no feeling, that mysterious attraction had seemingly disappeared entirely.

Ji You felt a bit frustrated.

Chapter 1008: Special Items

Ji You didn't find anything valuable, and it was clear that neither did the others. Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan were a bit unsure, and asked Shen Changqing beside them: "Shen Changqing, can you take another look to see if there's anything we missed here?"

Shen Changqing's expression was very calm as he carefully examined everything, shook his head, and said, "There are a few rather precious materials, each worth about 500,000 credit points, but unfortunately, they've already broken down and aren't worth anything now."

Ji You, Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, and the others all cursed in unison: "Poor dead!"

Seeing these kids so disdainful, Xiao Liu couldn't help but laugh and said: "These guys are all desperadoes, living for the moment. You ask them to save money, and they won't. When they get their hands on treasures, they usually exchange them for cash to live extravagantly. It's good enough if they have any left at all."

Despite this, everyone still spat: "Tsk! Being interstellar pirates and still this poor, truly poor dead!"

When selecting the Eagle Map Space Button, after a while of picking and not finding anything, they decided to move on to the next. Shen Changqing looked at Ji You's constipated-looking face and couldn't help but ask: "Ji You, what are you looking for?"

Hmm?

Upon hearing Shen Changqing's words, everyone else turned to look at Ji You, who candidly said: "I'm looking for something. I felt earlier that something here has an inexplicable attraction to my spiritual power, but now, it seems to be gone."

Shen Changqing was momentarily startled but quickly his eyes lit up, and he said: "Ji You, are you saying your spiritual power can sense something useful to you?"

Ji You nodded: "Yes."

Sheng Qingyan, Yue Qiyuan, and Yue Qiguang blinked, looking at the two of them.

Shen Changqing explained: "Indeed, such situations can happen. In this world, there are countless humans... each person's spiritual power is unique, and occasionally in nature, some special objects have unique effects on someone's spiritual power. However, such special items are extremely rare; I've only heard of them."

Ji You's eyes brightened upon hearing this: "Really? Then, what effect do these special objects have on spiritual power?"

Could it be that what attracted them was such a special item that could affect their spiritual power?

Ji You thought it must be.

Because—

Even now, the Six Spiritual Threads in her Spiritual World were still clamoring:

Boss: [Master! Don't give up, catch it!]

Second: [Master! Go for it, I believe in you!]

Third: [Master! Never give up, never surrender, I'm always your support.]

Fourth: [Master! Charge~ It must be here! It must be here!] After saying this, Fourth suddenly wagged its tail and continued a bit cutely: [If you're tired, Master, you can rest a bit. We'll continue looking later. I believe in you, I always have, you're the best master in the whole world.]

Old Five: [Master! I believe in you too.]

Old Six: [Master, when can we eat? I'm so hungry?]

The various compliments from the Spiritual Threads were gladly accepted by Ji You, but she gave none of them any promises, just like a heartbreaker who neither refuses nor commits, calling it going with the flow.

When Ji You asked the Six Spiritual Threads what effect this thing had on her and them, all they could say was that this thing was especially delicious, incredibly delicious, extremely delicious...

Ji You gave up chatting with the food-crazy threads and instead focused intently on Shen Changqing.

Shen Changqing said: "These special items take many forms, some are living creatures, some are plants, and some are ores or soil, etc. Their role is somewhat akin to a highly specialized Soul Device, but it only works with spiritual power aligned with its magnetic field, which means it's worthless in the hands of those who don't match. Moreover, the probability of these items being compatible with any specific spiritual thread is minuscule, not even one in a billion, so many have never heard of it."

With Shen Changqing's explanation, everyone was intrigued, even Xiao Liu and the two warriors beside him showed some interest.

Then, Shen Changqing said: "If one is exceedingly fortunate to encounter a special item aligning with their spiritual power's magnetic field, then spiritual power could advance rapidly. It's said that someone's Spiritual Silk Cleaning Rate jumped from 1% to 66%, and another's Spiritual Level surged from D-level to S-level. There's even claims that someone's rate reached 100%, but that's just hearsay, unsure if it's true."

Ji You and others: "!!!"

Yue Qiguang exclaimed in shock: "Could there really be someone with a 100% cleaning rate?"

Yue Qiyuan shook his head: "That must be fake."

How difficult it is to increase the Spiritual Silk Cleaning Rate, everyone present knew it well. A leap to 100% seemed incredible, leaving everyone momentarily breathless, then all began to doubt its authenticity.

It's known that until now, no one throughout the entire Alliance, even all of human society, has been heard to have a 100% cleaning rate.

Shen Changqing said: "I also doubt the authenticity; I came across it accidentally in a dusty book in my grandfather's study, a self-printed publication, not from a publisher, so it's hard to verify. However, there's something you might not know, my grandfather was once fortunate enough to obtain a special item, which seemed to be a dried-up little grass. After using it, his spiritual power jumped from A-level to SS-level, and it also laid the foundation for his later advancement to SSS-level."

Ji You and others: "!!!"

Ji You clutched her heart, admiringly saying: "As expected of our grandfather!"

Shen Changqing: "..."

Shen Changqing blushed slightly and said, "Grandfather's spiritual power increased so quickly thanks to an external force, but he is a man of great determination; he worked harder than anyone else. His strength comes from a combination of talent and effort."

Ji You quickly said: "Of course, who is our grandfather? He's one of the strongest warriors in the Alliance!" At this, Ji You cleared her throat and added: "Just one of them, cough, cough... because the strongest in the Alliance is me! The future me!"

Everyone: "..."

After a moment of speechlessness, Yue Qiyuan squatted down and said: "Let's help 4444 search together, maybe we really can find such a special item."

Yue Qiguang said: "Dad will help look too, no time for listening to foolish boasting."

Shen Changqing also crouched down, carefully sifting through the contents of the Eagle Map Space Button.

Sheng Qingyan remained somewhat silent, but after hearing about this, he immediately crouched down, starting to search piece by piece.

With her friends working so diligently, Ji You, of course, couldn't fall behind. As per Shen Changqing's advice, she picked up each item, carefully using her spiritual power to sense...

Chapter 1009: Drag It Out

Ji You's eyes spotted a nutrient solution among the clutter of items. It was a standard model, low-level nutrient solution produced by Huatai Food. Just seeing the mushy stuff inside the transparent packaging made Ji You's stomach churn...

On the garbage planet, to save money, Ji You would split a nutrient solution in half, eating it in two meals, but half was never enough. So, she had the idea of diluting it with water, adding it to the mushy nutrient solution, and the taste...

Just thinking about it made Ji You shiver; she felt she needed at least 100 years to wash away the memory of that extremely disgusting taste...

Everyone perked up at the mention of a special item possibly being here, suddenly bursting with energy to help Ji You search... Ji You was also very serious, forcing herself to overcome the nausea and examine the low-level nutrient solution in her hand over and over, yet still couldn't find anything special...

Spiritual World.

Boss, Second, and Third chimed together: [Master! Put down the nutrient solution; we're still friends.]

Fourth initially wanted to follow Boss and the others, but wittily seized the opportunity to take advantage: [Master, Sisi is going to faint from this stench and needs Master's kiss and hug to wake up.]

Old Five looked to the left, then the right, wagging its tail, earnestly reminded the Master: [Master! This is definitely not the delicious thing Sisi is looking for; definitely not. You should put it down sooner.]

Sixth: [No, don't, refuse.]

"Cough cough..." Ji You raised her hand to her forehead, and following the demands of the Spiritual Silk, put down the nutrient solution in her hand. Simultaneously, she couldn't help but shout into the Spiritual Silk World: "You think I want to hold it? You just don't understand... If it weren't for you guys..."

"Forget it." Ji You's fierce demeanor suddenly softened; she turned around and whispered softly, "In the end, it's a lone person bearing it all."

Boss, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth halted their movements upon hearing the Master's somewhat melancholy voice. In front of them was the Master whose figure was clearly so grand, so towering, so broad...

But—

Yet she gave off such a delicate, delicate to the point of being slightly helpless feeling, bringing out a twinge of guilt deep in the Silk's hearts: Have we gone too far?

Clearly the Master had worked so hard to nurture the Silks, yet the Silks asked for so much more...

Myself!

What have I, along with the other Silks, done to Master!

Only knowing how to take without giving back, isn't that just like a parasite, making people resent and feel ashamed?

In an instant, from Boss to Sixth, even Fourth who loves to play tricks the most, were like energised little warriors, beating their chests and exclaiming in unison: [Master! Don't be sad! Sisi are your eternal support!]

In the ethereal Spirit Space, Ji You stood still, facing away.

Six Spiritual Threads: [Master, take a rest, leave it to Sisi! Sisi will definitely go all out today to uncover it!]

And then—

Ji You turned around to look at her six Spiritual Threads, her gaze full of helpless affection...

"You all..." Ji You sighed slightly, her smile carrying three parts helplessness, three parts reflection, and three parts affection... Her tone was gentle as she said: "I am your eternal support; as my Ji You's threads, if possible, I would rather endure bitterness alone, to let you fly freely under this sky without worries..."

Six Spiritual Threads: [!!!]

Six Spiritual Threads trembled in unison: [Master—]

Faced with the Silks' expressions of reverence, adoration, love, care, guilt, remorse... such that thousands of words couldn't capture their feelings, Ji You waved her hand lightly and smiled, saying: "No need to speak, you are my threads, I understand, I completely understand."

Six Spiritual Threads, deeply moved, weeped: [Master—]

Ji You chuckled softly: "Alright— Let's find it together."

Six Spiritual Threads, like charged-up little warriors, were all excited, each clenching their fists: [Yes!]

Reality.

Yue Qiguang saw Ji You with a trace of a smile at her lips and couldn't help but feel chills. Puzzled, he asked: "Number 4444, why are you smirking with a nutrient solution? Could the special item be this nutrient solution?"

Impossible, right?

Yue Qiguang clicked his tongue, moved closer to examine it, and the next second, Ji You threw the nutrient solution at him: "If it were such a special item, I could give you hundreds of them."

Yue Qiguang caught it and then tossed it aside disdainfully.

At this time, Shen Changqing's slender fingers pinched a dry leaf and said to Ji You: "Ji You, try this." This was the only leaf in the Eagle Map Space Button, only the size of a fingernail, probably brought accidentally when Ying Tu was storing something. Shen Changqing felt the most likely special item was this leaf because his grandfather's special item was a kind of plant.

With expectant eyes, Shen Changqing handed it to Ji You. Ji You accepted it but hadn't yet examined it carefully when she heard the Six Spiritual Threads inside the Spirit Space Button all exclaim together: [Not this! Not this! Not from the honest person!]

Ji You: "Can you check again?"

Six Spiritual Threads all shook their heads: [It's too stinky for Sisi...No more looking, no more looking.]

Next.

Yue Qiyuan handed over a stone.

Six Spiritual Threads: [Why is Yue Qiyuan so dumb? Even dumber than his brother. Why does he think he's smarter than his brother? How can a random stone from this trash heap be our special item?]

Ji You shook her head at Yue Qiyuan and said, "You're so dumb~"

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Ji You said seriously: "It wasn't me who said that, it was my Spiritual Threads told me."

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Yue Qiyuan went silent for a moment before he couldn't help but curse with a dark face: "I kindly helped you find something, and you attacked me personally? Where's your manners?"

Ji You replied defensively: "I said it wasn't me, it was my Spiritual Threads."

Yue Qiyuan rolled his eyes: "Who are you fooling? Whose Spiritual Threads can speak?"

Ji You: "Mine."

Yue Qiyuan simply decided to ignore her and kept searching.

Everyone rummaged through the mess of items again and again, each item carefully observed at least three times, but Ji You kept saying no, feeling it wasn't right...

Just then, Sheng Qingyan seemed to suddenly recall something, grabbed the Eagle Map space button the size of a coin in his hand, jiggled it to contemplate, and then tore off the layer of protective film wrapped around it. At that moment, Ji You suddenly felt invigorated!

Six Spiritual Threads: [Wow! That's it!]

Six Spiritual Threads: [Wow! Spicy Eyes eight meters eight today!]

Chapter 1010: It's This!

When Sheng Qingyan revealed the item in his hand, Ji You's eyes widened instantly!

Sheng Qingyan frowned slightly and spoke to Ji You, "Oh, poor dead, do you want to try this? It's the only thing left unchecked." He gently stretched out his hand and pushed the item slightly in front of Ji You...

Ji You felt her heart beating heavily.

Fiercely beating.

Madly beating.

...

She pressed her hand lightly to her chest, trying her best to remain calm, saying, "I'll try it."

This is the protective film used by Ying Tu to wrap the Space Button. It is a layer of smooth, milky white gel-like substance, somewhat like rubber but much more transparent...

Ji You's hand slowly, slowly reached over...

At the same time, the Six Strands were madly howling: [That's it! Eat it! Eat it! Eat it!]

Ji You frowned and chastised them: "Calm down, everyone."

This is a special item, it must be looked at carefully, otherwise, if not examined carefully, wouldn't it be missed when encountered later? What if this isn't the only piece, and there are others?

Can I buy it from someone else?

Maybe it's a material, can I create it using other methods?

...

In an instant, many thoughts bubbled up in Ji You's mind. She was very excited and thrilled. Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, Liu Fufeng, Xiao Liu, and other warriors... everyone seeing her expression suddenly understood:

—That's it.

Sheng Qingyan tilted his head: "Is it???"

Ji You nodded vigorously.

Upon hearing this, everyone's eyes lit up suddenly, and they all gathered around, staring intently at the nail-sized gel-like object, while Ji You's hand already extended towards Sheng Qingyan.

A bit.

A bit.

A bit.

...

Then, under the tense gaze of the crowd, Ji You finally grasped the item. Upon touching it, she felt a cool sensation, much like the skin of a watermelon freshly taken out of the refrigerator, cold, with droplets of water seemingly on it...

Droplets of water?

Ji You paused, glanced down, and saw that the originally gel-like protective film was transforming into droplets of water at a visibly rapid pace...

Drip~

Drip~

Drip~

Ji You: "What the f***!!!"

Others: "What the f***!!!"

"Quickly find something to catch it!" Yue Qiguang yelled, while Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, and Yue Qiyuan had already taken out water bottles, ready to hand them over when Liu Fufeng quickly placed a ladle under Ji You's clenched fist.

Sheng Qingyan and others were surprised, Liu Fufeng said: "I think you should use your bowls to catch it, mine... mine is an iron bowl, it rusts, rust leads to chemical reactions."

Sheng Qingyan and others: "..."

Liu Fufeng's lips curled with slight embarrassment: "It's my Mengmeng's food bowl, he likes iron, couldn't find another bowl temporarily."

Sheng Qingyan had already replaced Liu Fufeng's bowl with his own water bottle, but everyone was too focused on the item to pay attention to what bowl it was, all nervously staring at Ji You's hand and the protective film that gradually softened and liquefied...

Drip~

Drip~

Drip~

...

This crisp sound captivated everyone's attention, all nervously and anxiously waiting. Ji You's face suddenly darkened, then increasingly darkened...

Because—

When her hand touched the special item, the Iron Plate that had disappeared from the Spirit Space suddenly reappeared, it was covered with cracks all over, looked pitch-black without any luster, and as soon as the Six Spiritual Threads saw the Iron Plate appear, sirens went off, but before they could react, the special item was sucked away by the Iron Plate.

Gone!

In the blink of an eye, it was gone.

The Six Spiritual Threads were all stunned! Each with wide-open mouths, waving their tails, eyes full of shock, stiffened collectively into statues...

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

A long time passed.

A long time passed.

The Six Spiritual Threads did not move...

The Iron Plate consumed the special item entirely, not a single residue was left. In an instant, it was about to disappear—

Six Strands: [Stop right there!]

Would the Iron Plate listen?

The surface cracks slightly repaired, and the Iron Plate gained some luster, disappearing without a trace in the blink of an eye!

Six Strands: [...]

Strong as the Boss, suddenly burst into tears: [It... it's just a bastard!]

The Second started to wipe tears: [It's just a bastard!]

The Third's tears fell relentlessly: [Didn't leave us even scraps, too excessive! Too excessive!]

The Fourth was already too sad, almost unable to speak: [I... I... Sisi... I... don't want to live anymore...]

Old Five was different from the other threads, it was alone, secretly wiping tears: [So excessive, so excessive, so excessive...]

The Sixth cried loudly: [Bad guy! Bastard! Scoundrel! Egg! Duck egg! Goose egg! Stinky egg...]

...

The Spiritual Threads were too heartbroken, originally Ji You's face had been dark as a pot, but seeing each of the Spiritual Threads like this, somehow, she suddenly couldn't help but laugh.

The Boss trembled all over: [Master, you're actually laughing!]

The Second, the Third: [So excessive oh!]

The Fourth: [Sisi doesn't want to live anymore, Master's hugs and kisses don't work anymore, only the special item can save Sisi...]

Old Five: [Master, will we have anything to eat in the future?]

The Sixth: [Master, can't you do something about Iron?]

"Cough cough..." Ji You cleared her throat, if she could manage the Iron Plate, would she have waited until now? But since the threads were incredibly heartbroken, Ji You couldn't let them lose their passion for life, so she put on a serious face and said, "Don't panic! If there's one special item, there must be a second, a third..."

Six Strands simultaneously spoke out: [Lies!]

Ji You: "Cough cough..."

These days, being a master isn't easy, the threads aren't easy to fool either.

Ji You put on a stern face, her eyes said: [Who is your master, don't you know yet? I'm the future monarch of the Peak of the Universe, the pet of the Heavenly Dao, the son of fortune of the Universe! Still the heroine of this world! How can I not find another one?]

Six Strands turned their backs collectively, uninterested in the Master's nonsense.

In reality.

Ji You darkened her face, everyone else watched her face nervously without missing any fluctuations—

Then, Shen Changqing asked: "Ji You, do you feel anything? Like spiritual power enhanced, clearance improved? Or, any other unusual sensations work too..."

Ji You didn't answer but instead stared at Liu Fufeng's bowl, Sheng Qingyan's water bottle... the few droplets inside, asking: "Just this little?"

Sheng Qingyan, Liu Fufeng nodded, Liu Fufeng added: "Didn't lose a drop, I caught it immediately."

Ji You: "Oh—"

Facing everyone's nervous gaze, Ji You kept a straight face, saying: "I... I feel a bit of a headache."

Everyone: "..."

Ji You: "And chest pain."

Everyone: "..."