

## Scavengers 1021

### Chapter 1021: Aspiration

Chu Jiaojiao woke up on the third day after arriving at the Jiao Space Station. She was not sleeping like the dead, but she had to be put into a deep sleep for the repair of her chest and abdominal organs.

The moment Chu Jiaojiao opened her eyes, she asked, "Where's my heart?"

"Right here." Ji You raised his hand, pointing at the bio-recycler nearby, and said, "But it's turned to ashes."

Chu Jiaojiao took one look and instantly let out a loud wail: "My heart! My heart! My heart hurts so much."

Ji You earnestly comforted her, saying, "Don't be too sad, only half was cut out, there's still another half in your chest and abdomen."

Hearing this, Chu Jiaojiao glanced at Ji You's intact hand and then at his face, deliberately putting on a pained expression, she said, "I'm not heartbroken because I lost half my heart but because—"

Chu Jiaojiao quietly gazed at Ji You's face and said, "From now on, I will not be able to wholeheartedly, with a full heart, like Ji You's face any longer."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You twitched the corners of his mouth and said, "Enough. Spicy Eye, call the doctor over to check if there's anything wrong."

Sheng Qingyan was slightly displeased and said, "I'm the Universe's number one Little Cutie, don't call me Spicy Eye." Although saying so, he still promptly walked out the door.

Chu Jiaojiao held her chest with one hand, showing a rather complex expression on her face, and said, "This is my first time replacing body organs, I must say, the experience is somewhat bittersweet."

Ji You asked, "After replacing half of your heart, do you feel any different?"

"Hmm..." Chu Jiaojiao thought for a bit and said, "...Not much of a particular feeling, just a bit of an odd sensation psychologically."

Ji You suddenly reached out his hand, and under Chu Jiaojiao's gaze, placed it on her chest. Chu Jiaojiao's eyes widened suddenly: "Ji... Ji You!!! You... you..."

—How dare you act like a rogue in front of me?

Ji You calmly retracted his hand, then said, "Jiaojiao... you know, Sheng Qingyan... watched over you for 3 days and nights, without closing his eyes once. Someone as lazy, as idle, and as gluttonous as him, these past few days, almost lost interest in food and sleep, staying by your side... If something really happened to you, can you guess what he'd become?"

The playful expression on Chu Jiaojiao's face gradually disappeared. Her eyes lightly drooped, and her tone became extremely low: "I can imagine..."

With her eyes drooping, Chu Jiaojiao suddenly felt a pair of hands gently ruffling her head. Surprised, she looked up and met Ji You's smiling black eyes:

"It's alright."

"Let's grow stronger together."

"Don't let yesterday's you affect tomorrow's you. And don't let tomorrow's you still be yesterday's you."  
Ji You looked at Chu Jiaojiao, his black eyes always carrying a warm smile: "Changing organs, it should only be done once."

Chu Jiaojiao clenched her fist tightly: "Mm."

Ji You lifted his newly replaced hand and said, "This hand, compared to the original one, is quite lacking, but there's no choice, I need to quickly adapt to it, let it once again become my right-hand man. Jiaojiao, I believe you can do it too."

Although the replaced arm had a sense of connection with his blood flow, possibly due to having been severed before, Ji You always had this feeling that it was a fake hand. Every time he used it, he subconsciously wanted to tense up...

In short, he wasn't quite handy with it.

Ji You knew he must immediately engage in practice, constant practice, to adapt himself to it.

Chu Jiaojiao held her chest and said, "I also feel a bit out of breath when talking, maybe I need a few days to adapt."

After she finished speaking, she looked at Ji You, her eyes sparkling: "But I must adapt to the new organ faster than Ji You because—I am Chu Jiaojiao, the number one strongest in the Combat Department."

"Hm?" Ji You raised an eyebrow: "Are you sure you're the strongest in the Combat Department? Did you perhaps hurt your brain and temporarily lose your memory?"

Chu Jiaojiao grinned and said with a mischievous smile: "I did lose my memory, but I always remember that Ji You's the most attractive in the Combat Department."

Ji You: "..."

Suddenly, Chu Jiaojiao reached out and grabbed Ji You's newly attached hand, solemnly saying: "Ji You, let's watch and see, I, Chu Jiaojiao, never give up, even when facing you or anyone else, I will never give up."

"Then let's compete and see who's really the strongest." Ji You laughed and said, "Let's watch and see."

At that moment, Yue Qiguang burst in through the door and said out loud, "Hey, hey, hey... aren't you guys done yet? The number one strongest in the Combat Department is standing right in front of you, open your eyes wide and see."

Yue Qiyuan said faintly, "I've never feared who is stronger or weaker." At this point, determination flashed in Yue Qiyuan's black eyes: "One day, I want to Dominate the Universe."

Behind Yue Qiyuan, Shen Changqing quietly said, "Ayuan, but Teacher Mu said you can't even dominate the toilet."

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Shen Changqing blinked, his fair, delicate, handsome face displaying a calm and composed expression, saying: "That's what Teacher Mu said, not me."

Yue Qiyuan's face darkened: "Shen Changqing, I think you have changed."

Shen Changqing: "???">

Yue Qiyuan said: "Changed to being insidious, could it be you've replaced your heart like Chu Jiaojiao?"

Shen Changqing: "Cough cough..."

Sheng Qingyan raised his hand, letting out a yawn and said: "Arguing about such things is so boring; wouldn't it be great to take a nap?" Having said that, he directly plopped down on the sofa in the ward and instantly started snoring lightly.

The last to enter the room was Doctor Cheng Zhi, who looked at this group of students, his face stern as he procedurally examined Chu Jiaojiao, afterward saying: "No issues."

Continuing on.

Doctor Cheng Zhi unceremoniously said: "You guys can leave now, stop hogging the medical room. Do you even know how annoying it is to see you guys treating the medical room like your home these past few days?"

"Let's go." Doctor Cheng waved his hand.

Chu Jiaojiao's heart, Shen Changqing's eyes, Ji You's hand, undoubtedly, were all meticulously handled by this head of urology, Doctor Cheng Zhi. As Ji You looked at him, the feeling inside was indescribable. But Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao, along with the others, earnestly saluted Doctor Cheng Zhi: "Thank you for your trouble during this time."

Doctor Cheng Zhi said: "If you know it's troublesome, why aren't you leaving quickly?"

Ji You: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao and others: "..."

One sentence, and the day's conversation could just die out.

Ji You, with a thick face, smiled cheekily and said: "Dr. Cheng, my little pet still seems to be disabled, why don't... you see if there are any spare parts you could give it?"

Cheng Zhi slightly twitched the corner of his mouth and said: "I do indeed have some."

Ji You's eyes lit up, and even the Little Golden Dragon, tightly curled within the Space Button, couldn't resist sticking out its tail at this moment.

Then—

Cheng Zhi revealed a slightly kind smile at the corner of his mouth and raised a scalpel, saying: "Full body replacement package, want it?"

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang... the group promptly ran off in a flash.

## Chapter 1022: Return Once More

As Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao walked out of the hospital room, they saw Liu Fufeng squatting in the corner against the wall. Liu Fufeng looked up at Ji You and the others, his eyes carrying a hint of resentment, a trace of melancholy, and a smidgen of helplessness...

Then.

Liu Fufeng suddenly said, "Student Ji You, do you still remember the Black Thorn Bee by Daming Lake?"

Ji You turned to Chu Jiaojiao and asked, "Jiaojiao, do you remember?"

Chu Jiaojiao shook her head, "What is the Black Thorn Bee? Where is Daming Lake?"

Ji You shook her head and looked at Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, and the others. Shen Changqing and the rest shook their heads in unison and said, "Maybe it's an unmarked place. In any case, no idea."

Liu Fufeng looked as though he was about to collapse: "I... you all... I..."

After he finished, he closed his eyes as if about to faint. At that moment, Ji You caught him with her new arm. Liu Fufeng was stunned and heard Ji You laugh, "This new arm isn't bad, at least it can lift weakling Liu Fufeng."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Hearing Ji You call him a weakling, Liu Fufeng oddly felt no anger, and instead calmly asked, "There are only 10 days left of the holiday, how about my task?"

"Cough, cough..." Ji You waved her hand grandly and said, "100 Black Thorn Bees, right? No problem, I'll buy them for you."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

There was a sense of helplessness in Liu Fufeng's pretty eyes as he said, "No way. Cheating won't work, Teacher Mu won't be fooled."

Yue Qiguang exclaimed, "You really thought of cheating that old lady?"

A light blush appeared on Liu Fufeng's fair face, and he whispered, "I don't believe you haven't considered it..."

Yue Qiguang coughed forcefully and said, "What nonsense, dad never thought about it. Dad is the strongest in the universe, and such a little difficulty won't knock dad down? Absolutely not."

Cough, cough...

Even if he thought about it, he couldn't say it in front of these guys.

"Since we took Student Fufeng's Soul Device, we can't just default on the task." The speaker was Shen Changqing. He looked around and said, "Why don't we head back to Bee Head Star?"

As he said this, Shen Changqing's gaze was directed at Ji You, and the others also turned to Ji You. Ji You calmly said, "I have already communicated with Senior Ye Liqiang. Now the Southern Hemisphere of Bee Head Star is open to us."

Chu Jiaojiao said, "Are we not going back to the Northern Hemisphere? Our group task is to collect the teeth and claws of Black Gold Rats, and we seem to need a few more."

Ji You thought for a moment and said, "Let's finish Fufeng's task first. After Senior Ye Liqiang notifies us, we'll head to the Northern Hemisphere." The Black Thorn Bees are in the south, and the Black Gold Rats in the north, each occupying half of the planet, so Ji You and the others must traverse the entire Bee Head Star.

Once everyone confirmed they were physically fine, they chatted while walking to the spaceship parking area, eventually arriving alongside the spaceship.

The spaceship was fully charged, thoroughly inspected, and had no issues before being handed over to Ji You and the others. Ever since entering Jiao Space Station, Ji You and the others had been under the care of Xiao Liu and two other warriors. Now, as they watched Ji You and the rest about to leave, Xiao Liu and the warriors advised, "Stay away from the front-line battle zone. Complete your mission on Bee Head Star, then leave immediately without any stops."

Ji You listened earnestly, nodding, "Yes."

Xiao Liu said, "At most 3 days. If you haven't completed the mission by then, abandon it and do not linger on Bee Head Star or in the nearby Star Domain."

Ji You listened intently.

Xiao Liu said, "I won't see you off. I can't stand farewells, just like every time my girlfriend sees me off, she secretly wipes away tears, and I feel so bad and heartbroken."

Ji You and the others: "..."

A mouthful of unexpected dog food.

Ji You and the others stood at attention, saluted Xiao Liu and the warriors, and said, "Take care, seniors."

Xiao Liu and the others raised their hands in unison, "Take care."

Thus, Ji You and her group boarded the spaceship and left Jiao Space Station.

On the spaceship.

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan... six people, divided into pairs. At the moment, brothers Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan were responsible for flying the spaceship and ensuring safety, while the others took turns resting. But in the rest area, surprisingly, there was no one there.

On the other side, the narrow training room of the spaceship was packed with people. Chu Jiaojiao was doing physical rehabilitation, while Shen Changqing and Sheng Qingyan were dressed in protective clothing, training against each other with real guns shooting at each other.

Sheng Qingyan shot an arrow that knocked Shen Changqing to the ground and nonchalantly said, "Aqing, you're still a long way off if you want to compare shooting skills with me."

After speaking, he gently blew on the muzzle and said, "I've never been inferior to anyone in marksmanship."

Shen Changqing lay on the floor, breathing heavily. The protective clothing and the low-firepower guns used in training meant no fatal injuries, but!!! Even if not fatal, the pain was not minimized at all.

Shen Changqing clutched his chest, it hurt, really hurt...

The next second, Shen Changqing squinted and leapt up, attacking Sheng Qingyan unexpectedly, but Sheng Qingyan had already sensed it, and before Shen Changqing could get close, Sheng Qingyan pulled out a gun and pulled the trigger.

Bang!

Shen Changqing narrowly dodged.

The next second.

Bang!

A sudden arrow struck Shen Changqing's chest and abdomen from behind. The energy arrow hit the protective clothing, making a crisp sound, and then fell to the ground.

Sheng Qingyan squinted and said, "If I switched weapons, you'd be lying down right now."

Shen Changqing wiped the sweat from his forehead, gritted his teeth, and said, "Ayan, let's continue."

Having always relied on spiritual power in every battle and defense, Shen Changqing was, for the first time, so strenuously and thoroughly training his pure physical strength and agility.

And Sheng Qingyan, who had always been laid-back and whose lifelong wish was to live idly, never paused for a moment and continuously practiced with Shen Changqing.

...

Ji You sat in the corner, continuously weaving a floral rope with her hands.

Yes, just simply weaving a floral rope. She was adapting to her new hand, and the only way to get used to it as soon as possible was to keep using it and exercising it...

At first, it felt very unfamiliar, even somewhat stiff, as if it wasn't a hand but a stick...

But Ji You kept her head down, her hands never stopping. She wasn't discouraged, didn't complain, and didn't say a word more. She cast aside everything around her, focused entirely on the strands of silk threads in her hands. The light and shadow cast over her, making her silhouette seem increasingly serene and composed.

Liu Fufeng sat in the corner too, occasionally looking here and there, suddenly feeling a bit too idle?

So—

Liu Fufeng raised his hand and started writing and drawing on the floor...

—His drawing skills couldn't fall behind, either.

In the midst of everyone's intense training, the spaceship followed its predetermined course and arrived at Bee Head Star.

### Chapter 1023: Breathtaking Beauty

The spaceship was hovering above the atmosphere of Bee Head Star. Looking down at this spherical planet, with distinct blue and golden hues, Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao, positioned above the Southern Hemisphere, couldn't help but pause their breath. Below, it was so blue...

It was an endless blue.

A blue as clear as a washed canvas, free of any speck of dust.

Above the blue, there was an extreme white, heart-shaped clouds adorned the sky. Above the clouds, rays of light cascaded, with a touch of golden shimmer, inlaid on these various-sized hearts.

Glittering, sparkling...

As the spaceship entered the atmosphere, it had not yet landed at Bee Head Star Dock, Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing... all couldn't help but turn their faces, staring at the beautiful scenery outside... Only by being immersed in it could one deeply feel that the entire world held the shocking essence of just three colors: white, blue, and gold...

"The spaceship reports to you, it is currently Alliance Standard Time 06:01, the target of this voyage is Bee Head Star 1 Dock, there are 3 minutes and 30 seconds left until docking, please prepare to disembark—"

The voice broadcast sounded within the spaceship, but Ji You and the others had no heart for listening, and were instead focused intently on the scenery ahead. As the spaceship continued to descend, their vision became clearer and brighter...

Below was an expansive sea.

With wind blowing, layer upon layer of waves continuously crashing, rushing towards the beach. The beach, covered with fine, dense sand... the fine sand too was crystal-clear blue.

The spaceship kept descending—

Ji You and the others saw past the beach to a vast, boundless forest, the wind rustling the treetops, the leaves rustling...

Ji You covered her mouth: "This forest, it's actually blue!"

Sea, blue.

Soil, blue.

Trees, blue.

...

Besides blue, it was still blue, an endless expanse of blue...

Beside her, Shen Changqing quietly gazed at the scene before them, his lips curving slightly upward, saying: "No... What you're seeing is just one side of it, it actually has even more spectacular, more striking, more breathtaking views."

Ji You was amazed: "Even more beautiful?"

It was already beautiful beyond the ability of simple words to describe.

Shen Changqing gently nodded: "Yes."

Chu Jiaojiao was watching the time, a hint of excitement in her voice, saying: "It's coming, it's coming, only 30 seconds left."

Ji You: "???"

Yue Qiyuan placed a finger against his lips: "Shh—"

Sheng Qingyan leaned lazily against the spaceship's window sill, Yue Qiguang crossed his arms, Liu Fufeng halted folding the small paper man, a group of seven people all stared outside.

"10!"

"9!"

"8!"

...

"1!"

As Chu Jiaojiao's slightly husky voice halted, they saw—a faint light appeared from a distant place and then, the originally boundless blue sea, beach, soil, and trees...

The blue surprisingly began to fade, with spots of pink emerging, Ji You and the others gasped, in an instant, the sky turned pink...

But soon.

Pink turned to red.

Red became purple.

Purple shifted to orange.

Orange to green.

...

In mere tens of seconds, they transitioned through a dozen hues, absolutely dazzling.

Shen Changqing raised his hand, pointing to the sky: "Look overhead—"

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan... collectively looked toward the sky, and saw the nine stars originally hanging above Bee Head Star silently aligned into a straight line, red-orange-yellow-green-blue-purple...

Ji You and the others had no time to marvel, the nine aligned stars suddenly merged into one, swallowed by the biggest star among them glowing with golden light...

The next second, the Southern Hemisphere of Bee Head Star, which kept changing color, returned to endless blue...

They couldn't resist walking out of the spaceship, savoring carefully...

For a long time.

For a long time.

For a long time.

...

Ji You clutching her chest, "Oh my god!"

Chu Jiaojiao's eyes sparkling: "So beautiful."

Yue Qiyuan's eyes shone, his tone couldn't hide his excitement: "It's truly especially beautiful."

Shen Changqing didn't speak, but his eyes remained unmoved, watching the scenery around.

Sheng Qingyan, one hand resting beside the spaceship's window, eyes half-closed, said: "It is kind of pretty, huh."

Liu Fufeng sat in the corner, the origami in his hand halted for a long time, a long time...

Just as everyone was brimming with emotion, a sudden loud sound shattered the silence: "I've decided! I'm definitely going to propose here!"

Yue Qiguang clenched his fist, loudly saying: "I'm definitely going to propose here!"

Ji You and the others: "..."

This time, Ji You didn't speak, Yue Qiyuan looked at his brother's inexplicably excited face, faintly asking: "Bro, who is your girlfriend?"

Yue Qiguang stretched out his hand, tidying his head of short red hair, his eyebrows slightly raised, speaking with unparalleled confidence: "I'm so handsome and dashing, how many young girls are there if I just beckon with a finger?"

Just as Yue Qiguang's words fell, suddenly—

"Buzz—"

"Buzz—"

"Buzz—"

All at once, a swarm of Black Thorn Bees with crystal-clear blue wings came fiercely towards Ji You and the others—

"Whoa!!!"

"Run!!!"

No one had time to complain about Yue Qiguang's shamelessness; they hurriedly ran towards the spaceship's entrance. Ji You, who reacted the fastest, was the first to dash into the spaceship, not having time to steady her footing, she immediately cursed loudly: "Yue Qiguang, you ultimate crows mouth, shut up from now on!"

"Damn! Why did so many Black Thorn Bees suddenly appear?" Yue Qiguang, the second to step into the spaceship, furrowed his brows, displeased: "What I attract are young girls, not Black Thorn Bees, stop slandering me."

Afterward, Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan collectively said: "It was totally your crows mouth!"

Shen Changqing whispered: "Those are female Black Thorn Bees."

Yue Qiguang: "...Damn!"

Shen Changqing stared at the countless Black Thorn Bees outside, with a touch of wonder in his voice, saying: "These are worker bees gathering dew, worker bees develop from fertilized eggs in the bee cells as female individuals, except their reproductive organs aren't fully developed."

"Heh—" Ji You said faintly: "They really are a bunch of young girls."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang stubbornly stuck out his neck, saying: "This proves my charm is boundless."

Everyone collectively spat at him: "Tch!"

Seeing swarms of Black Thorn Bees about to fly over, Ji You urged: "Quickly take off! Take off!"

Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan were about to start the spaceship, Chu Jiaojiao cried out in shock: "Stop!"

Shen Changqing's voice was hoarse: "One person is missing."

Ji You was also taken aback: "Who?"

Sheng Qingyan opened his mouth: "Where's Liu Fufeng?"

Ji You, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, Chu Jiaojiao... all were shocked: "Damn! Did we forget our sponsor?"

The atmosphere froze for a moment...

millisecond.

milliseconds.

milliseconds.

...

Forced by circumstances, Yue Qiyuan activated the spaceship's Protective Shield, concealing the entire spaceship in the shield, everyone gazing at the swarm-like Black Thorn Bees, patch after patch of blue, anxiously wondering: Where exactly is Liu Fufeng?

His figure was completely unseen...

Everyone stared wide-mouthed, you looking at me, I looking at you...

Ji You gritted her teeth: "Let's risk it, let's run."

"..." Chu Jiaojiao and the others hesitated: "Really... are we really leaving the sponsor behind?"

Chapter 1024: Foresight Like a God

Ji You clapped his hands hard: "Damn! We really can't just ignore it..."

Not to mention Liu Fufeng is the financier of our group, having spent 12 Mid-level Soul Devices to hire us, he's our classmate, and a comrade we just fought alongside... Given his status as a prince of the Empire, we really can't just leave him behind, otherwise, it could very likely become a serious international incident.

"Buzz——"

"Buzz——"

"Buzz——"

The swirling swarm of Black Stinging Bees continued to close in, getting closer and closer, almost at our noses, and Ji You said, suppressing a tingling scalp, "I'll go find him."

Chu Jiaojiao stood up: "I'll go too."

Shen Changqing silently stood behind Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao.

Sheng Qingyan lifted his eyelids and said: "You all are so weak, one person is enough, you know."

Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan exchanged a look, and Yue Qiguang said loudly: "Number 4444, Number 1111, you two cripples guard the spaceship. Shen Changqing, you half-crippled one just stay and guard these two disabled ones."

After speaking, Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan stood up, saying: "We will go out with Sheng Qingyan to find him."

Ji You took a deep breath: "There's no time left, Spicy Eye and I will go, the rest of you stay here."

The place where everyone was standing just now has already been occupied by the swarm of Black Stinging Bees, the blue Black Stinging Bees, one, two, three... each about the size of an adult's fist. In sight, it's a shocking field of blue, and as for Liu Fufeng's shadow, there's really not a bit to be seen...

Just as the group was getting ready to rush out and fight the Black Stinging Bees, a slightly tense voice came from the corner of the spaceship: "Ji... Ji You, where... where are you guys going?"

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing... all paused: "..."

Yue Qiguang jumped up: "What the hell!!! Where did you pop out from?"

Liu Fufeng sighed faintly: "I've been here all along."

Ji You and the others: "!!!"

Ji You patted his chest hard: "Damn! You really didn't go out?"

Chu Jiaojiao: "Damn! You stayed in all this time and we didn't even notice?"

Sheng Qingyan with wide eyes: "How is that possible?"

Shen Changqing asked puzzledly: "How come you didn't show up? We thought you were— you were—"

Yue Qiyuan said: "You were dead."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Liu Fufeng suddenly rolled his eyes ungracefully, saying: "I'm alive and kicking."

"Cough cough..."

"Cough cough..."

"Cough cough..."

Amidst a series of awkward dry coughs, Liu Fufeng blinked his pair of beautiful eyes, looking at the group seemingly choked by his words, with a touch of helplessness in his tone, he said: "Together with you, I realized one thing."

"???" Ji You and others tilted their heads to look at him, Liu Fufeng pursed his lips, with a slightly grievance tone: "Relying on heaven and earth is not as good as relying on oneself."

Ji You and others: "..."

Instantly—

Another round of violent coughing ensued.

Liu Fufeng sighed faintly and said: "I'm so delicate, why don't any of you protect me? If I had really gone out with you, by the time you remember me, I... I would have already been reduced to a pile of broken bits, with no bones left..."

Ji You and others: "..."

Ji You said softly: "This description, though a bit exaggerated, is not impossible."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Liu Fufeng raised his hand, covered the corner of his mouth, and gently coughed, his thin figure swaying instantly: "You... you heartless people..."

Ji You cleared his throat and said: "Cough cough... I'm deaf now."

Chu Jiaojiao: "I'm deaf too."

Yue Qiguang: "I have tinnitus."

Yue Qiyuan: "My... my ears seem to have some problems too."

Shen Changqing opened his mouth, wanting to say something, but eventually didn't dare to speak.

Sheng Qingyan, particularly straightforward, directly covered his ears with both hands and pouted: "I'm not listening, oh, not listening, oh, not listening... definitely not talking about me, oh..."

Just then—

"Bang——"

The spaceship was suddenly struck by the Black Stinging Bee swarm outside, making it tremble slightly, Liu Fufeng almost couldn't stand steadily and nearly fell. Just then, Ji You's Big Chopper came across, supporting his back. Liu Fufeng twitched the corner of his mouth, unable to resist, glaring at Ji You's knife back, said: "Could you... can't you just use your hand to support me?"

"Cough cough..." Ji You said seriously: "The knife is faster."

Liu Fufeng said: "Next time, I want you to use your hand to support me! With your hand."

Ji You thought about it, seemed doable, nodded and said: "Sure, 500 credit points each time."

Liu Fufeng's hand shook, then he held his forehead with one hand and said: "Forget it, my money isn't something blown in by the wind."

After a brief complaint and bickering, everyone fell silent, each ready for a fight, tensely staring out the spaceship window—

The Black Stinging Bee swarm had swept in, susurrus...

One.

Two.

Three.

...

Countless Black Stinging Bees landed on the spaceship's Protective Shield, thud! Thud! Thud!

...

It's as if doomsday had arrived.

Just watching it made Ji You and the others' scalps tingle in bursts, Yue Qiyuan said with slight worry: "I don't know if this Protective Shield can hold."

Shen Changqing frowned tightly and said: "For the bees to pass through completely, it will probably take 10 minutes, we just need to hold on for 10 minutes." But on the beach, the spaceship, faced with this overwhelming Black Stinging Bee swarm, seemed like a tiny grain of sand, constantly battered by the airwaves created by their wing beats. The thin layer of Protective Shield on the ship kept bouncing up and down...

Ji You asked: "Do we have any more Protective Shields available?"

Yue Qiyuan frowned desperately, shook his head and said: "No."

This trip, everyone pooled money together to prepare 10 sets of Protective Shields, originally thinking we surely wouldn't use them all. Unexpectedly, after suddenly encountering a Cosmic Storm in outer space, several were used up. And it wasn't over; we then ran into two more horrifying unknown forces. Ji You simply threw out the remaining Protective Shields. The one we're using now was replenished at the Jiao Space Station.

Ji You pressed her lips together and said: "Senior Xiao Liu said this is a Protective Shield that can withstand Level 6 Cosmic Storms, but I felt it was a bit unsafe, so I exchanged it for a Level 10 one with him."

"What???"

Everyone stared at her in shock, Yue Qiguang was truly amazed and exclaimed: "Damn! Are you some kind of genius?"

"I haven't finished yet." Ji You smiled a little, and said: "So— it's really expensive."

Everyone: "..."

Ji You smiled, saying: "Divided evenly, each of you has to give me 100,000 credit points."

Everyone: "..."

"Cough cough... don't look at me with those eyes, I swear I didn't make any money from it, cough cough... I just earned a hardship fee of 600 credit points, also divided per head, each of you would only give me 100. Is 100 really so costly?" Ji You put on a serious face, adjusting her expression, deciding to explain the importance of safety to them: "... Money is not the main issue, life safety is the most important, if it weren't for this Level 10 Protective Shield, would you still have the leisure to bicker with me here?"

Everyone, upon hearing this, was speechless; although it made a lot of sense, why did they somehow feel like hitting her?

"Tsk!" Everyone said in unison: "Cheapskate!"

Chapter 1025: Dilemma

The Black Thorn Bee army surged, casting a dense cloud along the way, obscuring all nearby scenery, leaving not a trace of light. Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao, along with others, hid inside the spaceship's protective shield, listening to the thumping noises above.

The resistance of the Level 10 protective shield was still sufficient to handle the fierce momentum of the Black Thorn Bees, yet no one dared to relax. Once the shield is activated, it starts consuming the spaceship's energy. If the energy runs out and the bee swarm hasn't left, then Ji You and his group would be in danger.

minute.

minutes.

minutes.

As time passed, the Black Thorn Bee swarm not only didn't decrease; instead, they showed signs of increasing. Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, and the others closely monitored the swarm's movements, and seeing this, their complexions turned grim.

When they accepted Liu Fufeng's high-paying hire, they all believed their luck couldn't be that bad. Black Thorn Bees are gregarious star beasts, typically venturing out in groups to collect honey, but rarely do they come out in full force...

Ji You always thought even with his worst luck, he might encounter at most a few hundred to a thousand. They could just adapt as the situation arose.

But—

But now—

This wasn't just hundreds or thousands. There were tens of millions, billions of them...

Shen Changqing pursed his lips. After a moment, he spoke, "This is— a large-scale migration of the bee swarm. Judging by the scale, it should be the entire Black Thorn Bee swarm from Bee Head Star, undergoing massive migration." At this point, a slight tremor entered Shen Changqing's voice, "This is the worst scenario I ever envisioned. Given how things are developing, it might take at least 2 Alliance Standard Time units for the migration convoy to completely leave."

After speaking.

Shen Changqing looked at his group of comrades and asked, "What should we do?"

Chu Jiaojiao tentatively suggested, "...Cool... Cool off?"

Yue Qiguang said, "If we can't, we might as well rush out and run for it?"

Yue Qiyuan glanced at his brother sideways, then looked at Ji You and said, "4444, you're the best at surviving, what do you say?"

Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, Liu Fufeng... all turned to Ji You, faced with their expectant, yearning eyes, Ji You pursed his lips and said helplessly, "Before this, I want to ask everyone a question."

Yue Qiyuan and others: "???"

Ji You maintained a straight face and said, "This question is serious, you must answer it solemnly."

Yue Qiguang impatiently said, "Just spit it out if you have something to say!"

Ji You spread his hands and said, "Who here is the protagonist? Stand up voluntarily, please. I, Ji You, hereby solemnly declare— I want to formally disassociate myself from this person."

Everyone: "???"

Yue Qiguang said irritably, "Idiot! What nonsense are you talking about?"

Ji You glanced at Yue Qiguang and said quietly, "Little Guangguang, you're so dim, there's no way you're the protagonist; at most, you're cannon fodder."

Yue Qiguang raised his fist and raised an eyebrow, "Looking for death?"

"Ahem..." Facing everyone's speechless expressions, Ji You cleared her throat and said seriously, "I suspect someone here carries the protagonist's fate, where bad luck follows them everywhere... Anyone associated with him risks their life, waiting for him to save us while having to be grateful for it..."

Everyone: "..."

Even though everyone was speechless, Ji You continued earnestly, "No good comes to those around the protagonist. Everything bad that happens is just to drive the plot forward, making the protagonist stronger and having a blast..."

Everyone: "..."

Ji You said, "Think about it... The protagonist may have a good time, but those around him are in trouble. Whether it's cannon fodder, supporting roles, or villains... all just to highlight the protagonist's existence. Ultimately, the protagonist is a detriment to others for their own gain. Such disasters, we shouldn't be playing along with them."

Everyone: "..."

"Look—" Ji You spread his hands and said, "We've always been this unlucky, isn't that proof enough?"

Everyone: "..."

Everyone took a deep breath and said in unison, "I think you're the disaster!"

Ji You shook his head, humbly smiled, and said, "No, no, no... I'm not... I don't have that destiny. If I were the protagonist, I'd have been conquering the sky, not cooped here surviving in this little spaceship with you guys!"

Yue Qiyuan raised his hand, snapped his fingers, and said, "So, may I ask Ji Disaster, Protagonist Ji— what's our plan for continuing to survive?"

Ji You: "..."

Staring at the Black Thorn Bee army outside the window, Ji You walked in a circle around the window with hands behind her back, then turned her face, looked at everyone with a worried expression, and said, "I have no idea."

Everyone: "..."

"This is why I suspect I'm not the protagonist. Because, during any sudden emergency, the protagonist should have some miraculous plan to change the dire situation, but—" Ji You spread her hands, and said helplessly, "I honestly have no idea. My only advice is to prepare an escape pod for ourselves soon. When the protective shield breaks, we'll all fend for ourselves. If luck is on our side and we escape, we might survive for decades. If not, the escape pod will be your coffin, your final resting place."

"For the sake of our long-time camaraderie, I'll give you a friendly tip." Facing the speechless gazes from everyone, Ji You continued recklessly, "I suggest you decorate your escape pod with some flair... Think about it, facing death, shouldn't you prepare a pretty, comfortable, good-looking coffin for yourself?"

Yue Qiguang couldn't hold back anymore and cursed, "No way I'm dying, you go die yourself!"

Yue Qiyuan covered his eyes with one hand, "Am I mad? Spending minutes listening to her nonsense?"

"Ahem..." Shen Changqing whispered, "I guess I am too."

Sheng Qingyan rolled her eyes and said, "Poor dead, oh, could you move over a bit, oh, you're blocking my sleep, oh."

Chu Jiaojiao looked at Ji You, blinked, and said, "Ji You classmate, could you stop rambling? Though you're quite charming even then, we're trying to survive now. No jokes when surviving, ok?"

Liu Fufeng took an unconventional route; instead of complaining about Ji You, he said, "I believe in you, Ji You classmate, you won't die that easily. Can you take me with you when escaping later?"

At this point, Liu Fufeng slightly lowered his head and said softly, "I have a two-person escape pod, I... I can decorate it." His art skills could finally be put to use.

"Ahem... Liu Fufeng classmate, thank you for your trust, but sorry, I think I don't need that." Ji You finished, disregarding Liu Fufeng, and looked at the others, "Who said nonsense was useless? Look— while listening to my nonsense, weren't you just a bit less tense? And—"

During the conversation, Ji You, Yue Qiyuan, and Yue Qiguang together lowered the protective shield's protection level by 3 levels. Although the protection level was only at Level 7 now, this would reduce energy consumption, allowing the protective shield to last a bit longer.

Ji You raised a hand, pointed to the timer, and squinted, "10 minutes have passed."

#### Chapter 1026: Request for Aid

As Ji You finished speaking, everyone turned to the window, where the sky-darkening Black Stinging Bee Swarm still blocked everything outside, as well as the spaceship's monitoring cameras, making it impossible for anyone to observe the exact situation with the bees outside. Yet, the thumping sound above was not as obvious as before.

Shen Changqing's voice softened a bit, saying, "There's a sign of weakening."

Chu Jiaojiao blinked, "Does this mean the swarm is almost done migrating?"

Shen Changqing shook his head and said, "Such a large group, to fully migrate, will take at least another two hours. But the Black Stinging Bee Swarm doesn't all leave at once during migration, leaving not a single one behind. With such a large-scale migration, quite a few black bees are bound to fall behind...and with our strength...even facing a group of hundreds or thousands feels overwhelming."

"Damn!"

Yue Qiguang ruffled his hair in frustration, frowning as he said, "How can we be so unlucky? Could it really be like what that idiot 4444 said, that we're being dragged down by the protagonist?"

"Don't talk nonsense." Ji You's face remained relatively calm, staring out the window with a rare seriousness in her tone. "Listen, the number of bees is definitely decreasing. This is a huge advantage for our Protective Shield's load-bearing capacity."

"Little Yuanyuan!" Ji You suddenly shouted to Yue Qiyuan, "Lower the Protective Shield by two more levels."

Yue Qiyuan was surprised by the somewhat unpleasant three words from Ji You, exclaiming, "Lower it again?"

Ji You firmly replied, "Yes, lower it."

Yue Qiyuan, despite feeling a bit uneasy, nodded, "Okay."

Ji You pointed at the energy reserves of the Protective Shield and said, "It's currently at 60% energy. With the Level 5 shield activated, it is expected to last another 1 hour and 30 minutes. So there's only 30 minutes left..."

Sheng Qingyan pouted, "Thirty minutes is a killer too, you know."

Shen Changqing's eyes lit up upon hearing Ji You's words, "We can transfer the other energy reserves we have to the Protective Shield."

Ji You smiled, "Exactly."

Turning to the others, Ji You said, "I'm sure the energy boxes we have can hold out for another 30 minutes."

Yue Qiyuan, slightly worried, asked, "What if it's not enough? What if another unexpected situation arises?"

Yue Qiguang nodded, "Yeah, what if another swarm suddenly shows up?"

In an instant—

"Spit!"

"Spit!"

"Spit!"

Everyone glared at Yue Qiguang, who opened his mouth, only to hear Ji You curse harshly, "We might not have a protagonist here, but we definitely have a crow's mouth, that's certain."

Yue Qiguang: "Cough, cough..."

Chu Jiaojiao chimed in, cursing, "That's right! Yue Qiguang, shut your damn mouth! If you dare yell again, I'll slap you to death."

Yue Qiyuan said, "If she doesn't finish you, I'll strike the final blow."

Sheng Qingyan said, "Would knives be enough? If not, I could add two more—"

After hesitating for a few seconds, Shen Changqing gritted his teeth and said, "—If you all beat him to death, I'll bury him."

Sitting quietly in the corner, Liu Fufeng had remained silent until now. Seeing Yue Qiguang's somewhat scared expression, Liu Fufeng thought for a moment, then quietly said, "Yue Qiguang... I'll... I'll make you a small paper man, just in case you really die, I'll burn it for you."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Liu Fufeng earnestly said, "On Huangquan Road, it's not good to be without a penny. How about I... also make you some paper money?"

"..." Yue Qiguang felt a bit depressed.

"If this crow's mouth really comes true, we'll toss him out to feed the Black Stinging Bee," Ji You interrupted everyone with a raised hand, saying seriously, "Ye Liqiang's group should have left Bee Head Star less than an hour ago. I just sent him the situation here and requested his support as well."

At this moment—

"Beep—"

Ji You's communicator chimed. She looked down to see that the caller was indeed Senior Ye Liqiang. Ji You told her teammates, "Let's hear Senior Ye Liqiang's opinion."

Everyone fell silent, turning their attention to Ji You's Light Computer.

Ji You answered the call.

Soon, the holographic video was connected, revealing Senior Ye Liqiang's very serious face.

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, and the others' eyes lit up, "Senior—"

"Hmm." Ye Liqiang nodded, then instructed Ji You, "Point the spaceship's surveillance camera at me—"

Ji You complied.

Ye Liqiang stared intently at the image inside the monitor; after a while, he suddenly raised his hand to his forehead, saying, "It does look like a massive population migration."

Ji You's pupils shrank, "It really is?"

Ye Liqiang sighed slightly, saying, "I've been stationed at Jiao Space Station for 20 years and have never encountered such a phenomenon. You guys—you guys are really lucky."

Ji You and the others shook their heads in unison, "Who wants this kind of luck?"

Sitting quietly, Shen Changqing suddenly asked seriously, "Senior, with the current situation, has a new Bee Queen really emerged?"

Ye Liqiang glanced at Shen Changqing with slight surprise, nodding and saying, "That possibility cannot be ruled out. The two main reasons for a large-scale bee swarm migration are the emergence of a new Bee Queen strong enough to unify and lead all bee swarms, and a drastic change in the environment."

"However, obviously, the climate and environment around Bee Head Star haven't undergone sudden changes. This region's climate and environment have always been under our monitoring, and we haven't detected any issues," Ye Liqiang said seriously, "So, it's only possible that a new Bee Queen has appeared. It's summoning nearby bee swarms..."

The Black Stinging Bee Swarm around Bee Head Star has always been under the monitoring of the Alliance. Whenever signs of significant swarm reproduction or overpopulation appear, the Alliance sends military forces for eradication.

The last eradication was less than 2 years ago.

But!

In just 2 years, the Black Stinging Bee Swarm has reproduced to such an extent...

This number, is not just over 10 million?

It exceeds even a billion.

And—a Bee Queen capable of summoning billions through pheromones, what level is it?

More importantly—

How did these Black Stinging Bees manage to bypass the monitoring of the space station to proliferate to such a massive scale?

Thinking of this, Ye Liqiang's face turned grim.

However, Ye Liqiang didn't need to explain all these details to the kids like Ji You. He looked at them, speaking in a gentle tone, "We expect to arrive in 1 hour and 30 minutes. Until then, stay inside the spaceship and do not go out."

Upon hearing this, Ji You and the others quickly responded, "Understood."

Ye Liqiang sternly said, "Ji You, your task is to lead your team and remain on standby. Don't act rashly, understand?"

Ji You loudly affirmed, "Understood!"

Ye Liqiang turned to Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, and the others, loudly saying, "Your task is to cooperate with Ji You, understand?"

Chu Jiaojiao and the others loudly responded, "Understood!"

Chapter 1027: Comfort

After turning off the communication, Ji You turned to Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, and the others, and said, "I have 10 energy boxes. I'll keep one for the Mecha, and the rest can be used for the Protective Shield. How many do you have?"

Chu Jiaojiao said, "I brought all Level 5 energy boxes this time, only five. I'll keep one for the Mecha, and the rest can be used as well."

Next, it was Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, Liu Fufeng, Yue Qiguang, and Yue Qiyuan. Shen Changqing counted them up and said, "There are 51 in total; transferring all to the Protective Shield will support us for 1 hour and 30 minutes, which should be enough."

Among them, Liu Fufeng, being quite wealthy, provided 30 energy boxes alone.

This kind of large spaceship's Protective Shield is a piece of equipment that consumes a massive amount of energy. Fortunately, everyone had brought enough energy boxes this time, making it manageable to deal with the current situation.

Then.

The group stayed inside the spaceship, obediently not moving around or running, while Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, and Shen Changqing, the three injured ones, quietly sat on one side doing physical rehabilitation.

The other four, except for Liu Fufeng who was quietly making small paper men in the corner, were fully alert to guard against any sudden situation.

Outside the window, the Black Stinging Bee Swarm was still wreaking havoc.

Ji You closed her eyes and extended her newly replaced hand, carefully feeling it:

Nothing seemed unusual, but something felt slightly off. She raised her hand, rubbed her temples, and suddenly felt a little depressed.

At this moment, Liu Fufeng's clear voice suddenly sounded beside her, "Not used to the new hand yet?"

Ji You was slightly stunned and stopped her hand.

Liu Fufeng handed the small paper man in his hand to Ji You's front and said, "You can try making small paper men. After doing it for a long time, the sensation in your hand will come."

Ji You shook her head, "Sorry, I don't like making small figures."

Liu Fufeng's expression didn't change, just kept staring at Ji You's hand, and a few seconds later, Liu Fufeng softly said, "My hand was replaced too."

Ji You was taken aback, "What did you say?"

Liu Fufeng softly said, "My hand isn't original either."

Ji You thought for a moment, not particularly shocked, because rumors had it that the former first-in-line heir of the Galaxy Empire was in poor health, often falling ill, and even missed the royal celebrations for many years due to health reasons...

Many people couldn't even figure out the exact appearance of this Imperial Prince.

...

Liu Fufeng said, "21 times."

Ji You: "???"

Liu Fufeng's expression was very calm, and his tone was usual, "I have replaced my hand 21 times in total."

Ji You's pupils shrank, and she opened her mouth, not knowing what to say for a moment.

After a slight silence, Ji You softly said, "Must be hard, right?"

Liu Fufeng's tone was calm too, with no fluctuation in his voice, "Not hard, it's just... it's just very painful."

"Very painful."

"Painful to the point of numbness." Liu Fufeng extended his two arms, which were still covered with bruises, "I'm afraid of pain."

Ji You was somewhat speechless.

Thinking for a moment, Ji You asked, "That time I ran into you at school, was the injury on your hand also caused by replacing your hand?"

Liu Fufeng's beautiful eyes stared at Ji You without blinking, he shook his head and said, "No. That day there was a problem with the newly replaced blood."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You took a deep breath, still a bit surprised, and asked, "You even replaced the blood in your body?"

Liu Fufeng nodded, "Yeah."

Ji You: "..."

Thinking about that kind of pain, Liu Fufeng bit his teeth and said, "There's not a single place on my whole body that hasn't been replaced."

Ji You: "..."

This topic was quite heavy. Ji You instinctively wanted to refuse to receive such information, not understanding why Liu Fufeng suddenly decided to say such things to her.

She was also not a very qualified listener or confidant.

"Ji You..." Liu Fufeng suddenly smiled, his lips slightly curved up. He turned his head, revealing a beautifully curved profile, with skin as white as snow, without a pore visible.

"I envy you."

Liu Fufeng said, "I really do."

Ji You pursed her lips and, after a few seconds, said, "Sorry, I didn't mean to offend, I didn't know these things before..."

Liu Fufeng said, "It's nothing. There's no offense taken." He extended his long, fair hands with rounded nails and said, "I say these things just to tell you that it's okay to replace them. Just treat it like your previous hand and it's fine. Practice with it, make small figures, draw circles... all are very good options."

"My drawing technique and paper-folding skills were practiced like this." Liu Fufeng said this with a slight curl at the corner of his mouth, showing a little proud smugness, "In 3 seconds, I can make a small figure."

Ji You: "..."

"Thank you." Ji You said, "I really need to practice more." At least to coordinate the limbs.

Speaking of which, Ji You looked at Liu Fufeng's face, suddenly feeling a bit hesitant.

After several hesitations, she still did not speak.

Liu Fufeng suddenly laughed and said, "You want to ask if my head has been replaced, right?"

"..." Slightly surprised Liu Fufeng guessed it, Ji You said, "Yes, that's exactly what I wanted to ask."

Liu Fufeng said, "Eyes, nose, mouth, ears, scalp, all replaced, except the core of the brain."

Ji You opened her mouth...

After a while, Ji You said, "Sounds...it sounds a bit terrifying. So——"

"Does it hurt?" Ji You asked.

Hearing these two words, Liu Fufeng's beautiful eyes suddenly brightened, then he lowered his head and said, "Actually, I don't know. I fell asleep before the replacement, and when I woke up, I forgot it."

"Forgot a lot of things." Liu Fufeng stared at the window, his tone somewhat wistful, "Forgetting is better."

The atmosphere was a bit stifling, Ji You thought for a moment, stepped forward, patted Liu Fufeng's shoulder, and said, "Life is limited, remembering some interesting things is enough."

Liu Fufeng squinted, smiling, "I think so too." Then, he changed the subject, "Ji You, could you make me a new cane?"

Ji You: "..."

Liu Fufeng said seriously, "Really, I won't mind if it's not well made, as long as you make it with your own hands."

Ji You refused, "Sorry, I won't make it."

Liu Fufeng's tone was slightly stubborn, "I think you currently really need to practice your hands, why not just carve a cane for me?"

Ji You pointed to Liu Fufeng's arms and said, "Don't you already have one? Why do you need so many canes?"

Liu Fufeng replied, "I can use one with each hand."

Ji You rolled her eyes, "I think what you really need is for your head to be treated, to heal your brain cramps."

After saying that, Ji You ignored him, lowered her head, and earnestly continued exercising her arm's flexibility.

Ji You took out a bundle of Iron Pear Wood silk thread and, putting aside distractions, began practicing handcraft weaving.

Chapter 1028: Net

Liu Fufeng saw that Ji You indeed didn't have the intention of making a cane for him, and with slight regret, he turned around and left.

His departing figure was thin and frail... appearing both lonely and desolate...

One step.

Two steps.

Three steps.

...

Liu Fufeng kept waiting and waiting until he returned to his seat in the corner, but still didn't hear Ji You call him back. Liu Fufeng could only sit down, pick up a few pieces of paper again, and glare at them.

—Even after selling out my misery like this, still no agreement.

—Truly a heart of stone.

—Yingyingying...

Liu Fufeng, with no other choice, started folding small paper men once more.

Meanwhile.

Ji You drew out a strand of silk thread, started with a snake knot, then slightly twisted her fingers to weave the thread. She bowed her head, lost in thought, quietly weaving while ignoring the storm outside the window...

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Soon, a simple outline of a net appeared.

Then.

A few minutes later, an exquisitely woven fishing net appeared in Ji You's hand.

Ji You thought for a moment, threw the net aside, and continued weaving a second one.

The second fishing net took even less time than the first, woven in just 10 minutes.

Then.

The third one.

The fourth one.

...

When everyone came to their senses and saw the nets scattered all over in front of Ji You, they were a bit speechless. Yue Qiguang furrowed his brow and said, "What the hell are you planning by weaving so many nets?"

Ji You looked up at Yue Qiguang's face and said wistfully, "To catch your girlfriends."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang cursed, "Speak seriously."

"Ahem..." Ji You cleared her throat and said seriously, "Brothers! Partners! Classmates! I have a bold idea. Do you think it's feasible?"

Yue Qiguang and the others: "Speak!"

"Look——" Ji You raised her hand, pointing outside the spaceship, and said, "There are so many Black Thorn Bees. If we just randomly catch a netful, wouldn't that be enough for Student Fufeng's task?"

The requirement for Liu Fufeng's task was only 100 Black Thorn Bees.

Outside, there were billions!

Such a rare opportunity, if we could really catch a netful, wouldn't it fulfill the task goal?

After listening to Ji You's words, everyone was a bit speechless. Yue Qiguang even went as far as to sarcastically say, "Seriously? I've got to say, your idea is indeed bold, not only bold but particularly stupid."

Zhou Qiyuan's opinion was more reserved. He said, "The idea is good, but the actual execution isn't feasible."

Chu Jiaojiao said, "Ji You, it does seem a bit difficult."

Sheng Qingyan couldn't be bothered to speak.

On the side, Shen Changqing had been silent all along. Ji You looked at him, originally expecting him to also speak against the idea, but unexpectedly, the next moment, Shen Changqing said, "Actually, I think Ji You's idea is not bad. Shall we discuss its feasibility?"

Everyone: "..."

Sheng Qingyan pouted, glancing at Shen Changqing, and said, "Aqing, why have you been so supportive of that poor dead man's bizarre ideas lately? You weren't like this before."

Shen Changqing is a very pragmatic and meticulous person, to the point where some might find him somewhat rigid. Before doing anything, he always researches extensively and only proceeds when he has a grasp of certainty.

He is known to be a very cautious person.

This has always been the impression he left on others. Principal Hong and Teacher Mu Jianling privately assessed him as—steady yet lacking aggression.

But—

Both Chu Jiaojiao and Sheng Qingyan, as well as Yue Qiguang and others, noticed that Shen Changqing had changed. He started becoming bolder and more willing to try things that didn't seem very certain.

How did this change happen?

When did it start?

...

Thinking of this, Sheng Qingyan and the others couldn't help but turn to Ji You, only to see Ji You grinning at everyone, giggling and saying, "Little Stupid has the best eye! My net, I specially designed it just now, specifically for catching Black Thorn Bees. Look—"

Ji You spread out the entire fishing net, pointing at the mesh, and said, "Look, my mesh, I designed a slipknot here, so adult Black Thorn Bees can easily escape with a slight struggle. But young Black Thorn Bees can't escape and are bound to be caught."

"...So—my target group is the still immature Black Thorn Bees." Ji You smiled as she displayed the net, allowing everyone to see more clearly, while explaining, "During this mass migration, Black Thorn Bees almost entirely emptied their nest, including the young ones. And look—" outside the window, Black Thorn Bees kept flying by...

However, those with weaker physical strength, like young bees and old bees... have no resistance at all in front of a swarm of strong adult bees. Not only can they not keep up with the others' speed, but they're often trampled or even crushed to death by the quickly approaching swarm.

Ji You said, "There's no need for us to risk our lives with the adult Black Thorn Bees. We just need to cast the net and wait for the weak and sick to deliver themselves to us."

Seeing the ground outside littered with dead Black Thorn Bee bodies, God knows how much Ji You wanted to run out and pick them up, but she didn't dare. Even if the Black Thorn Bees didn't sting her, she was afraid of being trampled to death by the Black Thorn Bee army.

Zhou Qiyuan thought for a moment and said, "The plan is feasible. But how can we ensure that your net won't break?"

Ji You lifted her face, proudly saying, "I personally wove this, using all Iron Pear Wood, so it's definitely sturdy."

Zhou Qiyuan glanced at Ji You and said, "You probably don't know that even if it's all high-level Iron Pear Wood, it certainly can't withstand the impact of such a large swarm of Black Thorn Bees. Look——"

As he spoke, Zhou Qiyuan adjusted the spaceship's view, and the screen switched to another side. As the Black Thorn Bees whizzed past this side, a piece of metal suddenly got ripped into shreds. Zhou Qiyuan said, "The hardness of Iron Pear Wood isn't even as high as this metal. Yet, after the Black Thorn Bees flew by, they directly shredded it. So, do you think your Iron Pear Wood net is really feasible?"

As he spoke, several metal pieces suddenly appeared outside the spaceship, but almost instantly, they were all crushed into powder.

Savage!

Ji You suddenly hesitated, "Net? Or not net?"

Zhou Qiyuan said, "I don't think there's a need to use the net. If thrown out, it'll surely turn into dust, and there's also a certain risk in opening the protective shield. What if the Black Thorn Bees break through it?"

Yue Qiguang said, "Number 4444, stop thinking about those hare-brained ideas, and let's just wait for rescue honestly."

At this moment, Shen Changqing, who hadn't spoken much, suddenly said again, "I support Ji You."

#### Chapter 1029: Takeoff

At 7 a.m. on Bee Head Star, the morning glow just passed, a thin layer of mist lay over the grass and tree branches on the ground. Swarms of Black Thorn Bees whistled by, ignoring the mist entirely, crashing into the low vegetation, with a loud whooshing sound.

Dewdrops fell pattering, and at the same time, the branches and leaves of the plants were crushed to pieces.

At this moment, a net silently descended upon the speeding bee swarm. Once the net touched the swarm, an orderly troop of bees suddenly erupted into a small-scale panic, and the net was torn to shreds amid the chaos...

Witnessing all this, Yue Qiyuan, Chu Jiaojiao, and the others shook their heads. Yue Qiyuan said in a deep voice, "It's not working."

Chu Jiaojiao seemed slightly disappointed, "It didn't work."

Yue Qiguang, however, didn't show much reaction. With an expression that suggested he had expected this, he said, "Dad knew it wouldn't work. Iron Pear Wood Silk? Just this ordinary material, trying to withstand a Star Beast army? Dream on."

After speaking, Yue Qiguang casually sat on the sofa in the control room, propped up one foot, and said, "These level 1 small trash, Dad can go out in a Mecha and slaughter a large patch."

Ji You didn't listen to these dispiriting words; she was contemplating with her eyes half-closed.

Shen Changqing said softly, "It's not that the net doesn't work, the material is the issue. It's too brittle for a bee swarm."

Just now, when the bee-catching net was thrown out according to Ji You's plan, it filtered out the adult bees, leaving only the juvenile ones. However, the swarm was too enormous, with too many Black Thorn Bees, rendering the bee-catching net almost powerless.

Although Iron Pear Wood is a plant with exceptionally high toughness and flexibility, known as natural steel, it was truly no match for such a massive swarm.

Ji You opened her eyes and said, "It's not only the net's material; there was also a slight timing issue when casting it. Also, I think we can change our approach. How about retracting the net immediately after throwing it?"

Shen Changqing thought for a moment and said, "We can try."

Ji You took out another net, and this time, she didn't rush to throw it. Instead, she untied a knot on the net in her hand and then retrieved a bundle of hemp from the Space Button.

Hemp, a plant with soft and tough roots, commonly used as a material for protective clothing.

Next.

Ji You pulled out a stack of artificial silk threads.

Then, scissors, pliers, a measuring tape...

In the blink of an eye, the workbench was piled with things.

Seeing this, everyone was speechless. Sheng Qingyan covered her mouth disdainfully and said, "Poor dead, is your Space Button a garbage bag? You stuffed all kinds of messy things inside?"

Ji You paused her hand and glanced at Sheng Qingyan, "Spicy Eye, you probably forgot my major is material processing, right? This is hemp, a Material Department classroom content, and... these, how are they garbage? They are processing tools from the Material Department."

"Uninformed, uncultured, just shut your mouth," Ji You said with disdain, then resumed working on the bee-catching net in her hand.

Everyone was suddenly struck by Ji You's remark.

Number 4444, was a student from the Material Department.

Having stayed in the Combat Department for so long, everyone had somehow forgotten this fact... all were a bit embarrassed for a moment.

The air was very quiet.

Just at this moment, the spaceship suddenly received a communication request. Everyone looked up simultaneously at the communication screen. Ji You took a deep breath and said, "Connect."

The screen showed Ye Liqiang's resolute face, and Ye Liqiang said, "In 3 minutes, I will launch Black Thorn Bee pheromone interference at your location. The swarm will definitely fall into disarray then, and you should elevate the Protective Shield to the highest level and be ready to evacuate at any moment."

Ji You said solemnly, "Understood."

Ye Liqiang said, "The evacuation point coordinates are \*\*\*, remember, you have only 5 minutes to evacuate."

Ji You and the others all became serious, "Understood."

The communication was immediately cut off.

Ji You said, "Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, you are responsible for piloting the spaceship. Remember, do not pause, and at the spaceship's speed, we also need 4 minutes and 30 seconds at full speed to reach the safe spot. So—"

Ji You narrowed her eyes, "You cannot stop, no matter what happens, do not stop."

Yue Qiyuan and Yue Qiguang were startled but nodded firmly, "Understood."

Ji You kept her eyes on the monitor screen, filled with a dark mass of Black Thorn Bees, obscuring almost everything else, and spoke to Chu Jiaojiao and Sheng Qingyan without turning her head, "Jiaojiao, Spicy Eye, you're responsible for clearing the path for the spaceship. For any obstructing Black Thorn Bee, don't hesitate, fire! Hit them hard!"

Chu Jiaojiao, lying prone on the launch platform, monitored the screen with her eyes half-narrowed, "Rest assured, your Sister Jiao Jiao's shooting skills aren't shoddy."

Sheng Qingyan narrowed her eyes, adjusted the cannon muzzle, and posed with an appearance saying not a word more than necessary.

Ji You turned to Shen Changqing, "Classmate Shen Changqing, I need you to assist me with net retrieval."

Observing the large disturbance among the bee swarm on Bee Head Star, Ji You believed that after they evacuated, the entire Bee Head Star would likely be temporarily locked down, and their mission would be unfeasible, unless they volunteered to join the operation to clear out the Black Thorn Bees.

Stepping into the battlefield early didn't scare Ji You, but without full confidence in ensuring the team's safety, especially—

With a legendary burden like Liu Fufeng among the team members.

Therefore, Ji You decided to take a risk and attempt to catch a net full of Black Thorn Bees during the evacuation assisted by Senior Ye Liqiang and his team.

She calculated the feasibility, having about a 60% chance of success.

Shen Changqing pursed his lips, and on his composed face was the same determined look as Ji Ru, saying, "Rest assured, I'm here."

Staring at the monitor, Ji You raised her hand, "There are 3 minutes left—"

The entire team strained the nerves in their heads, quietly waiting for Senior Ye Liqiang to activate the pheromone interference—

In the corner, folding paper pieces, Liu Fufeng opened his mouth several times, wanting to speak but holding back—

So, what am I supposed to be doing?

He had been waiting, waiting for instructions from fellow student Ji You, but—

Truly none.

Seeing the spaceship was about to launch, Liu Fufeng thought for a moment and voluntarily spoke, "Ji You classmate—"

Ji You waved, "Your task is to stay put, be safe."

"..." On Liu Fufeng's fair face was a look of seriousness, "Yes, rest assured, classmate Ji You, I will stay put, not causing any trouble. Also, I have just made a stack of paper Black Thorn Bees and cursed them with the vilest curse. They will definitely die completely."

Ji You: "..."

The others: "..."

Yue Qiguang nearly knocked over the spaceship's directional instrument, "Can't we be serious at this time? Is this a time for jokes?"

"Prepare—" Ji You snapped her fingers, "The pheromone interference has been launched."

Chapter 1030: Mutation!

When the clock hand pointed to the agreed time, Ji You and her teammates held their breaths—

Soon after, a beam of white light fell from the sky, fog formed, instantly enveloping Ji You and her team. Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan, without a moment of hesitation, immediately started the spaceship, accelerating to the maximum speed towards the destination.

Sheng Qingyan and Chu Jiaojiao stood at one end, ready for action.

At the same time, the swarm, affected by the pheromone interference agent, became chaotic.

The main purpose of the pheromone interference is to block the swarm from receiving signals from the Bee Queen. Secondly, it can also disrupt communication from higher-level Black Thorn Bees to the lower levels.

The Black Thorn Bees are a class-stratified colony-type Star Beast, with the lower levels absolutely obeying the upper levels. Once they cannot receive signals, they become frantic, and their aggressiveness increases.

The spaceship, flying at high speed, soon faced obstruction from the Black Thorn Bees. Some Black Thorn Bees, not receiving orders from above, hovered in place and suddenly spotted the emerging spaceship, launching a fierce attack.

Bam!

Bam!

Bam!

Without being instructed, Chu Jiaojiao and Sheng Qingyan aimed their cannons at the swarm, continuously firing.

Sparks flew, smoke billowed up...

In a blink of an eye, the large bodies of the Black Thorn Bees turned to black ash, filling the air with the scent of char.

With the cannon fire clearing the way, the spaceship took the opportunity to leave its original position.

...

Everything unfolded according to the established plan, progressing well in order.

Ye Liqiang, positioned above the Bee Head Star, witnessed this scene via the monitor and immediately told the nearby warrior, "Launch the second interference agent."

The warrior was momentarily stunned: "Captain Ye?"

The specially-made colony-type Star Beast pheromone interference agent is expensive. Even their Jiao Space Station has limited reserves. Is it really necessary to launch two here? In his view, one should be enough to save the students...

Ye Liqiang, with a calm expression, said, "Launch it!"

The warrior composed himself, didn't question further, and launched it decisively.

Whoosh—

The interference agent was launched, landing above the swarm, transforming into smoke in an instant, enveloping the area of Black Thorn Bees below. In the next moment, the previously orderly Black Thorn Bees became disorganized.

"Buzz—"

"Buzz—"

"Buzz—"

Having lost their direction, some Black Thorn Bees stopped, some flew upward, some to the left, and some to the right... Quickly, internal stampings and collisions occurred, fluttering...

The dead and injured Black Thorn Bees fell like pouring rain, with soybean-sized drops falling down, and Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan did not waste the opportunity created by the interference agent, tilting the spaceship slightly, charging through that side, successfully tearing open a way to break out.

Watching the spaceship break out from the swarm of Black Thorn Bees, racing safely towards the target, Ye Liqiang's tightly knit eyebrows relaxed, a slight smile on his lips. He turned to his deputy and said, "Prepare the next—"

The words he was about to say were abruptly stopped, Ye Liqiang's expression changed suddenly—

...

At the moment the spaceship broke through the encirclement, Ji You cast a net towards the chaotic, flustered swarm behind her. She moved quickly, deploying and retrieving the net in one seamless motion, almost completing everything within one second. Meanwhile, Shen Changqing extended all his Spiritual Silk, sending out a spiritual interference before the Black Thorn Bees behind could react, causing some pursuing Black Thorn Bees to become dizzy—

Then, Shen Changqing helped Ji You to drag the net back!

Crash~

The net was dragged onto the spaceship ramp, one, two, three... Ji You didn't have time to count, just took a brief look, knowing there must be 100 bees, then she frowned and, together with Shen Changqing, threw a second net over the Black Thorn Bees in the net.

Third net.

Fourth net.

...

Until all the nets Ji You had woven to practice arm dexterity were layered over the first net, the taut string in her mind finally relaxed a little.

Success!

They really succeeded.

As long as you believe in yourself, there's nothing in this world you can't overcome.

Ji You clenched her fist and turned to the spaceship monitor. The next moment, Ji You's mouth opened into an O-shape: "Damn...damn, damn, damn...oh!"

Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiguang, steering the spaceship, hadn't exchanged a word since they sat in the cockpit, their entire bodies tense. When the spaceship successfully broke through the Black Thorn Bee circle, neither brother relaxed, fully focused on piloting the spaceship to safety and giving it their all.

The Yue Family brothers understood all too well that time, a minute, a second, a millisecond...couldn't be wasted, faster!

Faster!

The spaceship sped swiftly in their hands, embodying the ghostly youth's frenzy and grace.

The next second, the monitors showed more than a dozen giant beasts, with massive wings, sharp stingers, and scythe-like cold antennae, along with two deep blue compound eyes edged with gold...

Isn't this—

An enlarged version of the Black Thorn Bee!

A few thousand times larger!!!

Yue Qiyuan's face changed: "I..."

Yue Qiguang's fingers trembled, sharply changing the direction, but it was too late!

"Boom—"

A dozen giant Black Thorn Bees collided with the spaceship, which was originally a small spaceship with a passenger limit of 30 people, and light in weight. Under the collision of the giant Black Thorn Bees nearly the size of the spaceship body, the spaceship was hit, retreating incessantly.

Inside the spaceship, everyone was staggered by this massive impact, and Yue Qiyuan was even flung aside, thrown out of the cockpit. Ji You dropped the net line in her hand, shouting loudly, "Don't stop! Look for gaps to squeeze through!"

"Protective Shield!"

"Push to the maximum!"

"Energy!"

Ji You leaped up and sat in the cockpit seat, squinting her eyes, ignoring the sweat on her forehead that blocked her view. She pulled down the thruster, "Boom—"

Towards this group of giant Black Thorn Bees, advancing instead of retreating!

Bang!

The enormous impact sound made the entire spaceship tremble again!

More than a dozen giant Black Thorn Bees surged in from all sides, surrounding the spaceship completely. Behind them, a large swarm of Black Thorn Bees rushed in at high speed after the pheromone interference agent lost its effect. Their momentum was no less than the giant Black Thorn Bees.

A tiger in front, a wolf behind, no avoiding left or right, this was simply a dead end!

"Boom—"

The spaceship was once again knocked upside down in all directions!

Chu Jiaojiao and Sheng Qingyan opened fire with full force! The artillery fire was unending, every blast taking away a part of the normal Black Thorn Bee swarm! They even hit a Black Thorn Bee the size of a small airship.

But...

How can a thimble suffice to quench thirst?

Yue Qiguang pinched his thigh, gritting his teeth in anger: "What the hell kind of luck is this?"

"These Black Thorn Bees. Level 5? Level 6? Or—Level 7, Level 8???" Yue Qiguang yanked his red hair, gritting his teeth: "Dad never heard of Black Thorn Bees getting this big! Is this a genetic mutation or what?"

"It's a mutation!" Ji You said, "We're in trouble—"