

The Interstellar Queen of Scavengers

#Chapter 31: Discovery!!! - Read The Interstellar Queen of Scavengers Chapter 31: Discovery!!!

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To meet with Master Dodge, Cheng Yu had gotten up early to meticulously dress up, driving the airship he'd spent a huge sum on. It took him two days crossing most of the Alliance to reach Main Star, but—

the result turned out like this...

Back home, Cheng Yu was in low spirits and exhausted. He slumped onto the couch and suddenly heard the communicator ring. Looking up, it was his half-brother Cheng Kun contacting him.

Upon connecting, Cheng Yu's face turned steely: "What do you want?"

Cheng Kun smiled smugly: "Cheng Yu, with your talent, you still want to ask Master Dodge to make a Soul Device? I advise you not to waste the master's time. You—"

"This lifetime, it's impossible!"

His meaning was clear: he intended to somehow stop him for a lifetime. Hearing this, Cheng Yu's eyes nearly shot flames: "This is outrageous! Cheng Kun, don't get too arrogant!"

The corners of Cheng Kun's mouth curled up in a mocking smile: "Big brother, we shall see."

Cheng Yu opened his mouth, and clang—the connection was cut off.

He got so angry that he immediately raised his hand and threw a fierce punch!

Bang—

The metal wall was unscathed, but his right hand was throbbing with pain. Clenching his teeth, he withdrew his hand. Since Cheng Kun had uttered those words, it indicated that he would definitely try to hinder his advancement possibilities.

What should he do?

Cheng Yu's face was grim as stone.

This time, he had put a lot of effort into scheduling a meeting with Master Dodge. Since Cheng Kun had intervened, it was virtually impossible for him to get future engagements with Master Dodge—this path was ruined.

In the whole Alliance, was there another soul artifact maker who could help him?

Jiang Hua?

Kong Zhe?

Deng Mingguang?

Or maybe Bert Bechi?

...

One after another, the names of Soul Artifact Masters flashed through Cheng Yu's mind, yet... his lips could only muster a bitter smile, his heart and eyes filled with bitterness; all these people were too hard to reach.

After several days of hectic efforts for a meeting with Master Dodge, which turned out futile, leaving him worn out and ragged, Cheng Yu decided to put aside this matter for now. He turned around, headed back to his room, and planned to rest.

Just then, in the corner of his eye, Cheng Yu suddenly caught sight of the Grass Seed Fruit Pendant on the shelf, which made him pause.

Somehow, Cheng Yu stepped forward and picked it up to look it over.

The pendant, still as shiny as when he'd bought it, showed no differences. But Cheng Yu felt that there was an issue he had overlooked.

What could it be?

Holding the pendant, he walked and stepped into the room.

Then, he lay down on the bed with his clothes on.

Cheng Yu felt very agitated, depressed, and in pain; he even thought about jumping into his Mecha and charging to Main Star for a fight to the death with Cheng Kun, but he knew it was futile; with his current strength, going now would be like handing himself over on a platter.

Cheng Kun's original talent was Double A, and over many years, with substantial resources from the family, his spiritual power and physical strength had reached Double S. On the other hand, oneself?

Spiritual Power B, Physical Strength B, with no improvement over the years.

It should be noted that the higher the level, the harder it is to advance, such as from S to SS level, some might take over a decade or two, or even a lifetime and still not be able to advance.

Cheng Kun's original Double A had taken fifteen years to advance to Double S.

As for Cheng Yu himself? His original talent was Double C, and over the years through natural food and consumable Low Star Soul Devices, he managed only to advance to Double B. For Cheng Yu to advance further, ordinary natural food and Low Star Soul Devices were no longer sufficient.

This was also why Cheng Yu was so eager to find a soul artifact maker; only extremely rare treasures in nature or Soul Devices custom-tailored by a Soul Artifact Master could affect an improvement in Cheng Kun's talent.

But, his path to getting a Soul Device crafted by a Master had been blocked by Cheng Kun.

Cheng Yu was filled with rage, but there was nothing he could do.

Irritated...

Resentful...

Bored...

All sorts of emotions entangled Cheng Yu, making him feel certain he could not fall asleep smoothly, yet for some reason, as soon as he lay in bed and closed his eyes, he felt a very slight cool sensation entering his mind. This refreshing coolness, like trickling water, slowly flowed away, gradually spreading throughout his body...

Utterly relaxed—

Unknowingly, Cheng Yu fell asleep.

When he woke up, it was already past noon. He immediately jumped up, and suddenly—

Bang bang...

A crisp sound caught Cheng Yu's attention. He turned his head to find that the grass seed fruit pendant he was holding had fallen to the ground. He had used too much force in his leap, and the pendant had cracked into two halves.

Cheng Yu bent down to pick it up and felt quite regretful after looking at it.

Ah~

This grass seed fruit had a flaw: it was pretty but it was just as fragile as old glass, easily breaking upon impact. That's why this fruit hadn't found any practical use to date.

Sighing in pity, Cheng Yu was about to throw it away when his gaze suddenly fixed.

He felt something odd about himself. Just from sleeping, he felt as if he had consumed rare treasures, filled with vitality and excessive energy! He could even jump three feet high!

This fully spirited sensation had occurred often in recent days, especially vivid upon waking up today.

Cheng Yu thought of a possibility:

Could it be that he had been frequently in contact with some Soul Device?

Only a Soul Device could produce such an effect.

But—

He hadn't bought any Soul Devices recently, and besides, Low Star Soul Devices would no longer affect his spiritual power or physical strength, while High-level Soul Devices were not something he could just easily purchase.

Naturally, Cheng Yu's eyes rested on the grass seed fruit pendant broken into two halves in his hand.

This thing—

Looked pretty on the outside, but utterly unremarkable inside. When held, it didn't feel like a Soul Device at all.

How could it possibly be a Soul Device?

Cheng Yu was somewhat in disbelief.

"Absurd!"

"How could I even think of that?"

"Truly absurd!"

"No matter how skilled a Soul Artifact Master, it's impossible to turn a grass seed into a Soul Device." Cheng Yu slapped his head hard, thinking this idea was incredibly fanciful and completely impossible.

However—

The smile on Cheng Yu's lips then froze. He remembered that the days he felt changes in his spiritual energy were exactly when he wore this grass seed pendant. During the two days he took an airship to the Main Star without wearing the pendant, that full-spirited and utterly relaxed feeling disappeared.

Last night—

He was too tired, so he forgot to take off the grass seed fruit and fell asleep. That is, he spent the whole night with the grass seed on his chest—

After waking up, he was energized, even capable of completing one hundred sets of gravity training in one go!

This—

What did it imply?

Chapter 32: Chapter 32: Into the Wild Again

What does this mean?

Cheng Yu did not dare to make wild guesses amidst the chaos, so he decided to conduct the test himself. Hence, he brought out his own detection equipment, took another intact Grass Seed Fruit Pendant for testing, examining it thoroughly, without missing any spot...

Very carefully...

Roughly two hours later, as Cheng Yu looked at the results, his eyes flashed with a mix of surprise and devastating sorrow.

This!

This!

This!

It was actually a real Soul Device!

A Soul Device!

And he, without any knowledge, had actually broken a Soul Device!

Broken it!

Destroyed it!

Unforgivable!

Cheng Yu was utterly heartbroken!

Just by thinking about it, he wished he could slap his just-awoken self for doing such a foolish thing!

Looking at the broken Grass Seed Fruit before his eyes, its shimmering luster was still present, yet the entire bead had dimmed significantly, with a layer of greyish white marring the edges, indicating that the internal structure of the Soul Device was completely disrupted and shattered... and implying that the Soul Device was damaged and no longer functional.

Cheng Yu was so angry!

So heartbroken.

He felt like he was bleeding inside.

How could he have been so thoughtless!

After regretting for quite some time, Cheng Yu collected himself and focused on studying this intact Soul Device. Its material was the cheap and fragile grass seed, and although the Master who made it had painstakingly sculpted and polished it, due to the limitations of the material, this pendant was still just a Low Star Soul Device. But it's not that simple. If it were made of superior materials, such as Pear White Jade, Ice Crystal Stone, Black Shining Gold... etc., anything but grass seed, its grade would definitely be more than just Low Star!

Unfortunately~

Unfortunately~

Unfortunately~

Sighing repeatedly, Cheng Yu then revealed a heart filled with joy: "Just from the craftsmanship, you can tell that the person who made this is definitely a Master, but I wonder who the Master could be? Is it Master Jiang Hua, or is it Master Deng Mingguang?"

"But looking at the craftsmanship, there are quite a few differences."

"Could it be that a Master wanted to change their forging methods, so they just used grass seed as practice?"

"That would be too wasteful." Of course, what's wasted is the Master's skill and time, not the grass seed.

However, whether the Master had used it for practice or if it was made by some reclusive Master, this time, Cheng Yu had indeed found a treasure!

This grass seed fruit necklace was a Low Star Soul Device after all! It's worth at least a starting price of one million credit points!

Not just the Grass Seed Fruit Pendant, but also the rope used to hang the pendant; the rope's braiding method was also very unique, and there was a constant flow of a magnetic field on the body of the rope. If the Master had put even a bit more effort at the time of making it, it might also have become a Soul Device!

This——

Is definitely the work of a mighty Soul Artifact Master, whose skills in forging Soul Devices, are definitely above Mickey Dodge!

Cheng Yu's eyes shimmered with light!

If he could get in touch with this Master, and request them to tailor-make a Soul Device for him—thinking about this possibility, Cheng Yu, who was originally in despair, feeling like there was no way out, suddenly had a brilliant smile blossom on his face!

Indeed, there is never a road that is utterly impassable!

Without delay, Cheng Yu immediately went online, intending to find the Master's shop, but he waited until the evening and the Master still did not show up. The Master must be very busy, how could they possibly personally manage such a small shop?

Thinking so, Cheng Yu immediately sent a sincere message to the shop owner, explaining his situation and request, and bluntly stating that he was willing to pay a price of five million, as well as bring his own materials, to request the other party to craft a Low Star Soul Device for him.

Indeed.

Low Star.

The price of 5 million is already very high for a Low Star Soul Device.

But Cheng Yu was willing to invest to foster good relations with the Master.

He sent the email and anxiously awaited a response...

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During this time, Ji You was busy collecting Iron Pear Wood and studying, leaving no time to attend to her Star Network shop.

Today.

The weather was clear.

Ryan, Ji You, Xie Chuanqiong, Xie Lingzhi, Lea, and Grandma Jenny had agreed to continue collecting Iron Pear Wood together. They set out at seven in the morning, and by seven-thirty, they were already waiting outside the protective barrier of the West District.

At eight o'clock sharp, the protective zone would open the Protective Shield, allowing those who needed to gather resources to depart on airships or Flying Devices.

A cool breeze gently brushed by.

Xie Chuanqiong handed an item to Ji You with a gentle voice: "You, here you go, this machete is finally fixed."

Ji You was thrilled: "Ah? Really? It's fixed?"

Xie Chuanqiong nodded, stating: "Yes, some parts for this knife are out of production, so it took a bit of time to find them. That's why it was delayed for several days. You shouldn't try it now, wait until we get into the wild."

The area was crowded with many onlookers. Ji You's energy machete, now repaired, had excellent attributes. With Ji You's current strength and status, there could be those harboring ill intentions... Thus, Xie Chuanqiong gave her several cautions.

"Understood."

"I know." Taking the bag, Ji You was filled with joy, yearning to try it out right then and there. But she was also aware of the situation, the bustling crowd around her was not appropriate.

Hold back!

Once in the wild, she could make full use of it!

Ji You suppressed her excitement, and the others were equally looking forward to it.

To repair this machete, Ji You spent 300 credit points. Her previous savings, plus the income from collecting Iron Pear Wood in the past few days, were all spent. The purchase of the knife cost 200, and in total, Ji You spent 500 credit points.

points for a Level 2 energy machete.

As long as there were no issues with the knife later on, it would be a great bargain!

Eight o'clock sharp.

The Protective Shield finally cracked open a bit, and Ji You and the others boarded the airship, swiftly entering the outskirts of the West District.

After disembarking from the airship, everyone looked to Ryan. Xie Lingzhi clung to him and asked, "Brother Ryan, are we still going to the same old place this time?"

The same old place referred to the address they had frequented lately.

Ryan nodded and said, "I need to go deep into the mountains to collect some material. Do you want to accompany me to the edge?"

Xie Chuanqiong made the decision and nodded: "Let's go."

Ryan stated, "Alright, keep up."

No one wanted to delay, and they promptly followed.

Everyone was very skilled at collecting Iron Pear Wood. To avoid drawing the attention of Star Beasts, everyone was silent, wary, alert with utmost caution, quietly pushing through thickets and bushes, making their way forward.

Ji You patiently resisted checking her energy machete.

After a while.

Ryan stopped and said, "You stay here, don't go any deeper. About 20 kilometers ahead is the territory of a group of Banded Butterflies, and you would not be able to handle them if you entered accidentally."

Banded Butterflies?

Upon hearing this, everyone was startled.

Ryan continued, "Banded Butterflies are social Star Beasts. They like tranquility and will stay in one place for at least some time, rarely moving. As long as you don't get within 100 meters of them, they won't attack you."

Xie Chuanqiong, Xie Lingzhi, Lea, and the others understood it well. It was Ji You's first time hearing about it, but with the original owner's memories, she also knew that Banded Butterflies were a very formidable type of Star Beast.

Chapter 33: Chapter 33: Cut the Talk, Let's Fight!

The Banded Butterfly, a type of insect Star Beast, enjoys nectar and generally inhabits environments that are lush, humid, and densely forested. An individual Banded Butterfly is about the size of an adult's fist. They are social creatures, with group sizes ranging from about 500 to 1000. A single Banded Butterfly poses little threat, as their combat power is quite low, but they seldom act alone. Typically, they operate in groups of 50 to 100, and sometimes the entire colony mobilizes. Like the saying goes, even ants can overwhelm an elephant—a collective of Banded Butterflies can be terrifying.

Consequently, only powerful Mechanical Warriors dare not provoke them carelessly.

Compared to Star Beasts like Carrion Rats, Long-Mouthed Pigs, and long-eared rabbits that actively attack humans, Banded Butterflies are relatively agreeable, as they won't launch an offensive against humans unless necessary.

Memories of the Banded Butterfly flashed through Ji You's mind as she focused intently on the environment around her.

After checking the surroundings and ensuring there was no immediate danger, everyone relaxed. Xie Chuanqiong, with the highest Combat Power in the team, made the arrangements: "You, stay with Lingzhi on the left to collect; Lea and Grandma Jenny on the right, and I'll stand guard in the middle."

This way, should danger arise or any unexpected situation occur on either side, Xie Chuanqiong in the middle could rush to the rescue immediately.

Ji You had no objections, but Xie Lingzhi immediately threw a fit: "Brother, are you mistaken? You're making me partner with this waste?"

"Are you kidding me?"

"I disagree!"

"I certainly don't want to!"

Saying so, Xie Lingzhi darted away from Ji You as if avoiding the plague.

Ji You frowned.

She had previously not taken Xie Lingzhi's words to heart, out of respect for Uncle Xie Yi and Xie Chuanqiong, but if Xie Lingzhi continued to insult her with such malicious language, Ji You wasn't going to keep being polite.

Xie Chuanqiong's face darkened: "Stop fooling around! If you had the capability, you'd be the one guarding the middle alone. But can you do that?"

How could her Combat Power compare to her brother's?

Besides, she was out here to gather Iron Pear Wood, to earn money, not to protect these burdens... but she couldn't just ignore her brother's command. Thinking this, Xie Lingzhi couldn't help feeling frustrated.

Xie Chuanqiong continued: "Furthermore, you are only slightly ahead of You in terms of Physical Strength and spiritual power. And do you know why? Isn't it because Dad has worked hard and spent money on all sorts of supplements for you, to lay the foundation for you? Your talent, wasn't it given to you by Dad? Did you earn it with your own efforts? What makes you so proud?"

"Do you think you are a warrior like Ryan? If you don't have such power, then on what grounds do you look down on others?"

"Why do you call others waste?"

"I think your actual combat ability might not be better than You's!"

"If I hear the word 'waste' from your mouth again, I'll..." Xie Chuanqiong's gaze chilled, and he raised his hand, making a gesture as if to attack—

Xie Chuanqiong was known for his gentle nature and reticence. This was the first time he had spoken so much in front of the neighbors, and his tone and expression were very stern.

In just a few sentences, Xie Lingzhi's face went pale. Her brother was always indulgent toward her, giving her preferential treatment with the best of everything. This was the first time she had seen him so fierce and aggressive, which left her feeling wronged.

Gloomily, she lowered her head and walked alone towards the left.

Clearly, she had accepted her brother's arrangement.

However, just as Xie Lingzhi took a few steps, Ji You blocked her path. Ji You stared at the crestfallen Xie Lingzhi, tilting her chin slightly upward, and said assertively: "Xie

Lingzhi, I know that even with Brother Qiong's lecture, deep down you still think I'm useless!"

Xie Lingzhi was stunned, about to retort with a remark about Ji You's self-awareness, but before she could speak, she suddenly heard Ji You say: "Since that's the case, let's have a fight! A fight to see who is more formidable—you, the 'genius' with a spiritual power of C and Physical Strength of D, or me, the 'waste' who's worthless in both aspects!"

What?

Xie Lingzhi was even more astonished.

Was this "waste" really saying such things?

Had the weather gone mad?

Ji You assumed a fighting stance: "Come on!"

Not fight?

How does one prove they're not a waste?

Ji You was never one to sit idle and be bullied without putting up a fight!

Since Xie Lingzhi kept calling her waste at every turn, Ji You would then demonstrate through actions and silence the other party!

Is there any simpler and more straightforward way than fighting it out with your opponent?

Fight!

Now!

Immediately!

Right now!

Ji You's eyes blazed with a burning will to fight!

Xie Lingzhi was stunned for a moment before she realized what was happening. She sized up Ji You and couldn't help but curl her lips into a mocking smile: "Don't tell me that just because you got your hands on a Level 2 energy weapon, your confidence is through the roof?"

With that said, her eyes turned sharp: "Do you really think you can win against me with just a Level 2 weapon?"

In the interstellar era, why are spiritual power and Physical Strength graded by levels? Because the differences between levels are incredibly vast. The capacity of each is different; for a Double F wastrel to beat a Double E, it's impossible without relying on some external force.

Just crossing one tier is already immensely challenging.

Not to mention, Xie Lingzhi's Physical Strength is at C, her spiritual power at D, while Ji You? Ji You is E in Physical Strength and F in spiritual power! The gap between them is far more than just a level!

The facts were just so.

Xie Lingzhi lifted the corners of her mouth in a mocking smile: "Keep dreaming!"

"No!"

"It's not a Level 2 weapon!"

Ji You lifted the corners of her mouth, looked straight at Xie Lingzhi, and said seriously, "I won't use a weapon!"

"What?"

"What?"

Are you kidding me? Not only was Xie Lingzhi shocked, but even Lea, Grandma Jenny, and Xie Chuanqiong turned their heads in surprise to look at Ji You.

Was Ji You joking?

Of course not.

She raised her eyebrows and said firmly, "I mean—let's fight without weapons, relying only on our fists and feet! How about that?"

What?

Xie Lingzhi could hardly believe her ears.

Could it be—

The wind was too loud?

Lea was already panicking, stepping forward quickly, blocking Ji You, and shaking her head: "You, don't mess around!"

Grandma Jenny also said, "You, don't be reckless!"

In everyone's view, Ji You was completely messing around.

If she used external forces, like an energy weapon... Ji You might stand a fighting chance against Xie Lingzhi—yes, a fighting chance, not a win. But—without external support, relying solely on her own hands and feet, Ji You wanted to defeat Xie Lingzhi?

It was an outlandish fantasy!

After the surprise, Xie Lingzhi raised her eyebrows and looked at Ji You, saying, "Are you sure?"

Ji You: "Sure!"

Xie Lingzhi: "Without any weapons?"

Ji You: "Cut the crap! Bring it on!"

Chapter 34: Chapter 34: A Fight? She Never Backs Down

Ji You's character was just like that; if something could be solved simply and brutally, she definitely wouldn't bother taking the long way around. Faced with Xie Lingzhi's repeated questioning and everyone else's confusion, she decided to skip the small talk and just start fighting!

A fight would make things clear and straightforward.

Xie Lingzhi lifted the corners of her mouth: "As you wish."

Heh~

This good-for-nothing who has both a ruined constitution and spiritual power actually dares to provoke me, I'll definitely make her regret it!

She's asking for it!

Then she can't blame me for not being polite.

Provoked by Ji You, Xie Lingzhi eyes also ignited with the will to fight.

Both of them threw away their weapons, and seeing this, Lea, Grandma Jenny, and Xie Chuanqiong stepped back a few steps, realizing it was futile to stop them, allowing the

two to duel. But before the duel, Xie Chuanqiong suddenly said, "Lingzhi, fighting against You with your level is totally unfair to her! How about this, let her have one round, best two out of three rounds! You only need to win once to be the loser. How about that?"

This match, if it were to proceed normally, was completely unfair for Ji You. Xie Chuanqiong couldn't stand by and watch his little sister bully others, so he actively stepped forward and made a reasonable arrangement.

Hmm?

As soon as Ji You heard this, she thought: Only a fool would miss out on such an advantage!

Of course, she agreed.

Only a fool would refuse this.

In fact, Ji You wasn't certain she could defeat Xie Lingzhi. But she knew one thing: it was okay to lose the match, but her attitude had to be strong, she could absolutely not show weakness, and couldn't allow Xie Lingzhi to keep thinking she was easy to bully and insult!

This was not just a duel, but a battle to maintain her dignity!

In her mind, she could not accept defeat!

As soon as Xie Chuanqiong spoke, Ji You's mind had already raced through ten million thoughts, but she didn't make a sound.

Sure enough—

After waiting briefly, she heard Xie Lingzhi lift her chin proudly, "Let her have one round then! Am I afraid of her?" In truth, Xie Lingzhi thought her brother's suggestion was excellent. Only in this way, after she defeated Ji You, would it look fair and square.

Otherwise—

It wouldn't be honorable to win.

Upon hearing this, Ji You immediately said with a smile, "Since Lingzhi agrees, I naturally have no objections."

With neither party objecting, the match naturally began.

Xie Chuanqiong said, "Lea and Grandma Jenny, take charge of guarding the east and west directions. I'll handle the south and north. You and Lingzhi, just focus on the duel."

This wasn't a protected area nor a battleground on the Star Network, but the perilous West District wilderness! With the two about to fight, someone needed to be in charge of the safety of their surroundings. Without Ji You and Xie Lingzhi needing to say anything, Xie Chuanqiong had already made arrangements.

Ji You looked at Xie Chuanqiong, whose features were clear and handsome, and a hint of admiration flashed through her mind. In this period of time, Xie Chuanqiong's behavior had been very methodical; if this were a squad, he was indeed a qualified leader.

After marking their territory, the two stood in the center.

Xie Lingzhi hooked her finger at Ji You: "Do you come at me, or shall I?"

Such a tone, utterly contemptuous.

But Ji You didn't care about that, did she? She carefully analyzed the situation: in terms of physical strength, spiritual power, and actual combat, she was no match for Xie Lingzhi. But there was one thing she was sure of:

She wouldn't underestimate the enemy.

She would give it her all.

As long as she could exploit Xie Lingzhi's complacency, she could find a way to achieve victory!

Without a word, Ji You charged straight at Xie Lingzhi, her actions declaring that she would go first!

Seeing this, Xie Lingzhi bent her knees slightly, ready to respond!

Ji You dived in, attacking Xie Lingzhi, who raised her arm to block Ji You's sharp strike with her elbow.

Ji You instantly backed off.

Xie Lingzhi sneered, "With just this little bit of ability, you dare to compete with me?"

As she spoke, she stepped back and charged towards Ji You with a lunge. Just as she was about to get close, she lifted her leg and swept downwards. The leg sweep was fierce and domineering, and had Ji You not been prepared, she would have been embarrassingly tripped to the ground.

But this wave of attack had been defended against, albeit with some difficulty.

Then, Xie Lingzhi's assault came again. Ji You met the attack hastily and, carelessly, was struck on the back by Xie Lingzhi. Ji You staggered... on the verge of falling—

"Be careful!" Lea, who was watching from the side, couldn't help exclaiming in alarm.

Such a good opportunity—would Xie Lingzhi let it go?

Obviously—

No.

Xie Lingzhi, seizing the opportunity, quickly spun around—lifting her leg, she was about to strike Ji You's spine fiercely when—

Suddenly—

The staggering Ji You, who seemed unable to stand steadily, suddenly straightened up, tensed her spine, and as Xie Lingzhi's leg was about to reach, she slightly sidestepped, nimbly twisted her body in another direction, and with lightning-fast reflexes grabbed Xie Lingzhi's leg.

Ji You bent slightly, her hand clamping around Xie Lingzhi's leg, and with an abrupt surge of strength, a crisp crack was heard, and Xie Lingzhi's entire body crashed to the ground.

Xie Lingzhi winced in pain, a flicker of irritation passing through her heart.

But—

Before Xie Lingzhi could react, Ji You swiftly pounced onto Xie Lingzhi's back, pinning down her arms in a tight grip, while the other hand held her neck firmly...

The series of turnaround moves was just too fast—so fast that not only Xie Lingzhi didn't catch up, but neither did Lea nor Grandma Jenny!

Too fast!

The turnaround was too quick!

Xie Chuanqiong, however, saw everything clearly. A glint flashed through his eyes, a hint of a smile showing: You's move was unexpected, initially feigning unpreparedness, giving the opponent the illusion of an open opportunity, catching her off guard and counter-attacking swiftly.

Not bad.

Her combat consciousness was extremely good.

And—

You played this hand beautifully, and taught Lingzhi a harsh lesson. Hopefully, Lingzhi would no longer look down on others with such arrogance in the future.

As Xie Chuanqiong's eyes filled with admiration, Ji You firmly suppressed Xie Lingzhi. Xie Lingzhi tried to break free with sheer force, but no matter how hard she tried, she couldn't break free. After several attempts, she felt utterly humiliated and helplessly hung her head.

Ji You said, "Do you admit defeat?"

On hearing that, Xie Lingzhi's breath hitched, and she was incredibly annoyed. Stubbornly clenching her teeth, she refused to admit defeat!

To lose to a loser?

It was a profound disgrace.

Silence—

Ji You exerted more force and said, "Won't you admit defeat?"

Xie Lingzhi, fuming with anger, struggled violently; however, Ji You's hold on her was like an insurmountable chasm, and it was baffling how this so-called loser suddenly had so much strength!

Ji You's eyes turned cold: "Still won't admit defeat?"

Xie Lingzhi retorted angrily, "I have not lost to a loser like—"

"Enough!"

"You wins."

"Xie Lingzhi loses!" Xie Chuanqiong couldn't stand it anymore, he interrupted his sister and directly concluded the match. In his view, losing was not shameful; what was shameful was not admitting defeat after losing, making a spectacle of oneself.

And—

This person was his own sister.

This gave Xie Chuanqiong a headache.

Chapter 35: Chapter 35: Admit Defeat

Upon receiving Xie Chuanqiong's words, Ji You quickly let go and stepped back, then immediately patted off the dust on her body, looking at Xie Lingzhi who was hopping mad, she cupped her fists with a smile and said, "Thanks for letting me win."

Actually, well—

Ji You couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

Had Xie Chuanqiong not spoken out to stop her, she wouldn't have been able to control Xie Lingzhi for much longer. At most another minute and she would no longer be able to restrain Xie Lingzhi.

It was also at this moment that Ji You realised just how significant the difference between levels actually was; Xie Lingzhi, relying solely on her brute physical strength, was able to withstand all of Ji You's offensive moves and techniques.

No, this won't do.

She needed to find a way to enhance her Talent Level.

Otherwise—

She would only be stuck on this garbage planet forever with no chance of getting ahead, let alone clear the original host of injustices and ensure Xu Siyu, the evildoer, got her deserved punishment.

As Ji You firmed her resolve, Xie Lingzhi finally calmed her emotions and looked at Ji You, her face flashing a tinge of embarrassed red. She opened her mouth but couldn't utter a single word.

Xie Chuanqiong said, "Admit defeat, apologize, promise not to do it again in the future."

He spoke like a stern parent, keeping a straight face, and as a B-level Physique, his aura fully unleashed, making Xie Lingzhi dare not hesitate any longer. She opened her mouth, softly saying, "I admit defeat... I..."

Xie Chuanqiong: "Hmm?"

Xie Lingzhi closed her eyes and simply blurted out, "I admit defeat! I apologize! I won't call you a piece of trash again."

Seeing things turn for the better, Ji You smiled cheerily, "I accept your apology."

Xie Lingzhi: "Hmph~"

Dropping those words, she quickly turned around and ran off.

Xie Chuanqiong looked at Ji You and said somewhat apologetically, "You, Lingzhi is just like that, I hope you don't mind."

Ji You looked at Xie Chuanqiong and laughed, "Brother Qiong, I really don't take it to heart. I truly don't."

"Good." Xie Chuanqiong, like an older brother, gently instructed, "You and Lingzhi are assigned to the same area to gather resources. She might get temperamental and not act with you, so be mindful of the dangers around you. If something feels off, make sure to notify me immediately."

Ji You: "Okay."

After Xie Chuanqiong finished advising Ji You, he turned to Lea with a kinder look in his eyes, "Lea, you and Grandma Jenny should also be careful, got it?"

Lea laughed heartily and replied, "Got it."

Xie Chuanqiong said, "Alright, let's set off."

Ji You slung a basket over her shoulder, carrying an energy machete on her back, and headed in Xie Lingzhi's direction. As soon as she saw Ji You coming, Xie Lingzhi quickly turned her face away.

Ji You chuckled heartily, even singing a happy tune: "Us common folk, oh how happy we are today, truly oh so happy..."

"..." Listening to Ji You's cheerful singing, Xie Lingzhi's face darkened, her triumphant little demeanor was so irritating, Xie Lingzhi couldn't help but snort, "Don't be too smug, you only won because you got lucky. If my brother hadn't called a halt, you could've only held out for two more minutes..."

In two minutes, she could have turned defeat into victory!

In fact, during that bout just now, Xie Lingzhi had been too hot-headed to realise, but now that she had calmed down, she could see clearly that with her level suppression over Ji You, there's no way Ji You could have restrained her for five minutes.

If she could just hold on for a few minutes, she'd give Ji You a sound thrashing!

But—

Alas, the situation was pressing, and her brother was taking someone else's side...

Ji You grinned, revealing a set of white teeth, "I'm smug because I certainly should be smug, why not be smug? I won."

Xie Lingzhi: "You..."

Her heart seethed with frustration.

Ji You turned her head, saying, "I won't bother arguing with you, it's more important to work."

After all, she had defeated Xie Lingzhi, and Xie Lingzhi had promised not to call her a piece of trash again.

That was enough.

For the time being, making money was the priority.

Ji You looked around, chose an Iron Pear Wood tree about ten centimeters in diameter and 1.5 meters tall, got ready to work—and seeing this, Xie Lingzhi thought it pointless to dwell on it anymore and turned to choose an Iron Pear Wood for herself.

After a careful observation, Ji You immediately drew out her energy machete and chopped down!

Thump——

The whole tree fell with a sound.

"Not bad."

"It's very sharp." Ji You took a look at the cut on the Iron Pear Wood, feeling very happy. She put away the energy machete, then squatted down, pulled out an ordinary metal dagger, and began to peel the bark and extract the fiber tissues.

After the Iron Pear Wood was cut down, the fibers inside would probably harden in about half an hour, so she needed to hurry.

One.

Two.

Three.

...

Ji You's hands were very nimble as she extracted the fibers one by one, placing them into her basket.

Afterward.

She would pick another one.

Then.

Came the third one.

Watching the silk threads pile up more and more in her basket, Ji You's face bloomed with a smile! The quality of the fiber tissues was very good, and she estimated she could gather around seven or eight pounds, which could sell for about 100 credit points.

This was really great.

Full of joy, Ji You continued her hard work, choosing the largest diameter tree this time, wanting to make a big harvest, when suddenly——

A buzzing sound echoed around.

In the distance, it seemed to be the sound of flapping wings——

Ji You stopped working and looked up, her gaze instantly sharpened. She saw Xie Lingzhi had already walked about 500 meters away from her, heading towards a low shrub, and on top of the shrubbery were colorful blossoms of pink, white, red, yellow... beautiful flowers.

These flowers gave off a fragrant scent.

And upon closer listen——

The sound of flapping wings grew closer.

It seemed that their target was also this cluster of flowers.

"Don't go near!" Ji You shouted!

Xie Lingzhi paused, turned her head with a touch of impatience: "What are you yelling for?"

Ji You said: "Don't pick the flowers!"

Xie Lingzhi became annoyed: "I'll pick if I want, none of your damn business!" As soon as she spoke, her hand reached toward a pink flower in the shrubbery...

"Don't touch it!" Ji You was nearly frantic with urgency! But she was too far away to stop Xie Lingzhi immediately.

This——

Why couldn't this foolish girl just listen?

Xie Lingzhi had just stretched out her hand, not yet having picked any flower, when she suddenly caught a glance out of the corner of her eye of a colorful shadow darting out from the bushes, fluttering away...

That was——

A Banded Butterfly!

Xie Lingzhi's pupils dilated slightly, and immediately, she almost turned green with regret.

Courting death!

It's over!

Why did she have to court death?

Usually, when a lone Banded Butterfly lands amidst a clump of flowers, it generally serves the role of a scout, leading the way. After finding a suitable location to gather nectar, it releases a wave-like signal, informing its kind that it has found the target, prompting the others to quickly come...

So——

Don't think about dealing with a lone Banded Butterfly; its kin might rush over at any moment!

Chapter 36: Chapter 36: Banded Butterfly Attack!

Banded Butterfly...

It's over.

It's over.

It's over.

At this moment, Xie Lingzhi's mind was filled with only one thought, her thoughts were in utter chaos, unable to think of a solution, she just reflexively threw the pink flower in her hand down and turned to run.

Banded Butterflies don't like to cause trouble or fight... but they have one characteristic, they never give up on a target once they find or pursue it, if someone touches what they deem theirs, it could potentially become a fight to the death.

By picking that flower, Xie Lingzhi was akin to taking food right out of the Banded Butterfly's mouth.

The Banded Butterfly that had just flown away returned in just a few seconds, only this time, it was accompanied by a large swarm...

One.

Two.

Three.

...

Countless—

Buzz buzz buzz...

The sky was filled with the sound of their wings like palm-leaf fans.

Having run only a few steps, Xie Lingzhi's complexion suddenly turned deathly pale...

That noise, which was faint at first, suddenly grew much louder, followed by the sight of being surrounded by Banded Butterflies within her field of vision. Seeing this, Ji You couldn't help but raise a bitter smile:

It's over.

Looks like we're done for today.

Is this transmigration only to meet an untimely end?

A few days of sightseeing through transmigration?

Humph—

Negative review!

She would definitely give the transmigration god a negative review!

Xie Lingzhi ran in desperation, and Ji You was not doing any better on her side, drawing her energy machete, running while fending off the approaching Banded Butterflies with her hand.

"What's going on?" Lea cried out in shock.

"Run!!!" Just then, a Banded Butterfly aggressively attacked the grandmother and granddaughter, causing Grandma Jenny to turn pale with fright and quickly pull her granddaughter Lea to the side to dodge.

"Lingzhi!!" Xie Chuanqiong, who hurried over upon hearing the commotion, watched in panic as several Banded Butterflies circled above his sister's head, ready to bite down on her crown. Anxious, he was over ten meters away from Xie Lingzhi and was too far to help.

At that moment, Ji You suddenly reached out and pulled Xie Lingzhi into the bushes—

Thump—

They both tumbled into the grass beside them.

The Banded Butterflies missed their strike but continued their attack—

Right then, Xie Chuanqiong's timely rescue arrived. He raised his energy sword in hand, and with several bangs... the Banded Butterflies were slashed down.

Xie Chuanqiong shouted loudly: "Don't scatter, everyone gather together!"

"Move towards me!"

"Quick!"

In their panicked state, everyone heard Xie Chuanqiong's voice and calmed down a bit, quickly grouping towards Xie Chuanqiong's location. While fending off the attacks of the Banded Butterflies, Xie Chuanqiong directed...

Soon, everyone had gathered together.

Banded Butterflies excel in group attacks, and against such opponents, one must not split up to fight alone, as this would only allow the Banded Butterflies the chance to pick them off one by one. Thus, it was necessary to concentrate all their strength and face the challenge together.

Xie Chuanqiong asked: "Is anyone hurt?"

"No."

"No."

"I'm not either."

"Nobody is."

Xie Chuanqiong felt relieved and immediately gave instructions: "Alright, everyone take your positions, I'll lead the attack in the middle, Lingzhi you cover the left, Lea you take the right, You you guard the rear, Grandma Jenny, you send a message to Ryan and be on alert."

Under Xie Chuanqiong's temporary command, the panicked crowd managed to catch a moment's breath.

Xie Lingzhi, who gathered close to her brother, still had a pale face but at least regained a bit of color. She cautiously glanced at Ji You and muttered a "Thank you."

Ji You didn't hear, but was intently staring ahead.

Xie Lingzhi gritted her teeth and said, "Ji You, thank you."

Just now, if it hadn't been for Ji You's quick eyes and hands pulling her aside, her fate—would definitely not have been good.

This thank you, was necessary.

Ji You: "Ah?"

Xie Lingzhi's face darkened: "Forget it, let's pretend I didn't say anything."

Ji You: "..."

At this moment, the entire swarm of Banded Butterflies had gathered, and escaping was completely out of the question, all they could do was confront them in battle.

However—

Everyone knew that the scales of victory were impossible to tilt in their favor.

Their only course of action now was to delay!

To delay until Ryan arrived!

The situation was extremely critical.

After sending the message, Grandma Jenny quickly said, "Ryan has replied. He asked us to hold on for ten minutes, he will arrive in ten minutes."

Ten minutes—

Everyone felt a wave of despair upon hearing this.

This wasn't just a few Banded Butterflies, but hundreds, thousands! An entire tribe had mobilized!

Tragic!

No one's luck could be worse than that of Ji You and her companions.

Upon hearing Grandma Jenny's response, Xie Chuanqiong's heart was filled with bitterness, but he dared not show it. As the person with the highest Combat Power among the group, if he gave up and showed a fearful demeanor, it would only affect the others.

Xie Chuanqiong tightened his face.

At that moment—

One after another, Banded Butterflies were being struck down. It seemed these butterflies were also enraged by the 'insects' in front of them, no longer attacking indiscriminately without any strategy, but instead, swarmed towards the most hate-inducing Xie Chuanqiong, planning to take down this tough nut first.

"Brother!"

"Be careful!" Xie Lingzhi's eyes flashed with tears as she saw her brother's arm suddenly bitten. She hurriedly wanted to rush over to protect her brother.

"Stop!"

"Don't break formation!" Xie Chuanqiong quickly stopped her. The group had gathered together, each person responsible for their own position. If Xie Lingzhi moved, it would quickly open a gap for the Banded Butterflies to exploit.

Xie Lingzhi, with tears streaming down, stopped her step upon hearing this. She bit her teeth and swung the weapon in her hand vigorously.

...

Unconsciously, a large pile of Banded Butterfly corpses lay before them, the exact number unknown. This was the first time Ji You had killed so many Star Beasts, and

she could hardly feel her arms anymore. After wiping her sweat, she hurriedly asked, "Grandma Jenny, how many minutes have passed?"

"Five minutes."

Though Grandma Jenny was tasked with vigilance, she had to guard all positions, step in with a blow when someone was about to fall into danger. She was not taking it easy either, always keeping an eye on the passing time.

"Only five minutes?" Ji You was disappointed.

Xie Chuanqiong had already been injured, the extent of which was unknown.

The light on the energy weapon in Lea's hand flickered, a sign that the energy was about to run out...

Xie Lingzhi too, appeared to be in a trance—

Grandma Jenny was already advanced in years and simply couldn't withstand a prolonged battle of attrition.

What about herself?

For someone as unskilled as herself to have killed so many Banded Butterflies, Ji You was already very surprised, and moreover, she was well aware of her own condition. At most, she could hold on for another three minutes before succumbing.

This was just five minutes, and already everyone was completely exhausted from coping.

And—

To cope for another five minutes?

This was obviously very difficult.

What to do?

What to do?

What exactly should be done?

As Ji You swung her machete at the swarming Banded Butterflies, her mind raced with constant thought.

Chapter 37: Chapter 37: Outsmarting the Banded Butterfly

Chapter 37: Cunning Battle with the Banded Butterfly

I don't want to die.

Not at all!

To live!

I must live!

A certain belief within my heart continually whispers to Ji You.

At the same time—

Her heart is also beating fiercely.

Worry~

Fear~

Terror~

Is this?

The original owner?

Does the original owner not want to die?

As this consciousness emerged, Ji You suddenly felt a warm flow surge into her chest:

[Survive!]

[Survive!]

[You can do it!]

"Yes!"

"I will!" Ji You vehemently responded in her heart! For the original owner, for herself, she must survive!

This resolute belief to live supported Ji You. As she grasped the machete to fight, her peripheral vision suddenly caught sight of a pile of scattered Iron Pear Wood Silk Thread.

Hmm?

A flash of insight rapidly crossed her mind.

Too fast for Ji You to catch.

What could she do?

What kind of method could there be?

Silk thread!

Silk thread!

Sturdy, reliable silk thread!

Got it!

A flash of brilliance in Ji You's eyes, she quickly shouted loudly: "Brother Qiong! Sister Liya, you all must hold on, I have a plan! Grandma Jenny, come guard this direction, everyone focus around me for cover, I'm going to make something!"

"Very quickly!"

"Buy me time!"

Despite not understanding the 'plan' mentioned by Ji You, upon hearing her words, everyone quickly responded. Xie Chuanqiong said: "Lingzhi, brace up, Lea, pay attention to the flexible switching of your right hand!"

"Grandma Jenny, don't panic!"

"Steady!"

Hearing Xie Chuanqiong's prompt tactical arrangements, Ji You couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief, and at the same time, she immediately perked up, grabbing the Iron Pear Wood fibers and silk thread scattered to the side.

After that.

Ji You's focus sharpened, and her hands began to fly nimble and fast!

She was weaving.

She needed to weave a net within two to three minutes!

And these Iron Pear Wood silk threads were the best material!

One strand.

Two strands.

Three strands.

The disordered and scattered silk threads under Ji You's dexterous hands gradually took on the shape of a net.

...

Despite the danger all around, Ji You had only one thought in her mind: Weave!

Weave quickly!

Weave rapidly!

[Survive!]

[You can survive!]

[You can do it!]

[You definitely can.]

[Keep it up!!!]

As Ji You's fingers flew, a voice in her heart constantly, incessantly, and repeatedly echoed these words.

At this moment, Ji You had completely calmed down.

"What's the time?"

"Three minutes have passed."

"We can hardly hold on."

"..."

In my ears, the sounds of Lea, Grandma Jenny, Xie Lingzhi, and Xie Chuanqiong talking to each other—I, Ji You, ignored them all, focusing my whole body and mind on my weaving. Under such intense concentration, my mind was clear, and ideas in my brain unfolded bit by bit. A net, from conception, layout, to weaving... all became clear,

reflecting sharply in my mind. With a clear train of thought, my hands moved faster than ever—I even surprised myself with this speed!

Before I traveled to this world, weaving a bracelet would take me at least an hour or two.

But now?

Three minutes!

Three minutes!

In just three minutes, I've managed to weave a large net!

"Done!" Ji You was overjoyed and quickly said, "Brother Qiong, you throw the net. The rest of us will act as bait to lure all the Banded Butterflies in the direction of the net!"

Her words instantly inspired everyone!

Right.

We could do that!

Iron Pear Wood is commonly used as a weapon for Mechas. It's impervious to knives and guns, and even low-level energy weapons can't break it!

As long as we lure the Banded Butterflies into the net, there's no escape for them!

It was an inspiration Ji You got from using nets to catch butterflies as a child. These tactics...

The individual attack power of these Banded Butterflies is very low. If we can trap them all in a net-like structure, they won't be able to escape! Just like fish caught in a net—as long as they're in the net, they can't get away unless the net breaks...

Almost by a stroke of genius, Ji You quickly decided to weave a large net that could capture most of the Banded Butterflies!

Next.

Ji You gestured, and Lea, Xie Lingzhi, and Grandma Jenny ran in the same direction. Those simple-minded Banded Butterflies all followed them to that spot...

At that moment, Xie Chuanqiong swung his sword and knocked down a couple of Banded Butterflies. Just when Ji You and the others seemed to be nearing crisis, Ji You shouted, "Scatter! Run!"

As soon as she spoke, Xie Chuanqiong threw his net!

Whoosh~

A huge net unfolded, hitting the cluster of Banded Butterflies right in the center.

"Pull!"

Those who had just dashed out a few steps immediately retreated, grabbing the four corners of the net...

And that's when the majority of the Banded Butterflies fell into the net!

A dense, dark mass—

Countless, innumerable—

Impossible to say how many there were!

The Banded Butterflies struggled and surged within... but they couldn't escape the confines of the Iron Pear Wood net.

A rare smile appeared on Xie Chuanqiong's face, "Success!"

"Yes!"

"We did it!"

"We're saved!"

Lea and Grandma Jenny, grandmother and granddaughter, hugged each other, weeping tears of joy.

Tears also glistened in Xie Lingzhi's eyes.

Ji You said with a smile: "Don't let your guard down. Our fight isn't over yet. There are still dozens of them caught in the net."

This was an entire swarm of Banded Butterflies—there must be over a thousand. About nine hundred were either killed or trapped in the net. A few dozen more fluttered outside in the wild.

But to Ji You and her companions, just dozens—

That was nothing to worry about.

Without needing instruction, everyone took up their weapons and continued the fight!

Soon—

The last Banded Butterfly fluttering in the sky was killed, and everyone let out a sigh of relief.

Next—

Was to deal with the Banded Butterflies in the net. Locked securely within, there was nothing fearsome about these cruel creatures. Everyone crouched at four different positions, took out their weapons, and started hitting one by one.

The bodies of the Banded Butterflies were fragile, ordinary metal weapons were enough to deal with them.

As they struck, they also chatted and laughed together...

And so—

When Ryan rushed over hurriedly, he stumbled upon such a warm and harmonious scene.

Ryan: "..."

He thought that when he arrived, the scene would likely be out of control and tragic; all along the way, he was inwardly chiding himself for his delay.

But—

Was he seeing things?

Or—

Was he not fully awake?

"Ryan?" Xie Lingzhi, with her sharp eyes, immediately spotted Ryan's tall figure. She exclaimed with joy: "You made it?"

"Ryan—"

"Come over and help!" Grandma Jenny greeted Ryan with a smiling face and urged him to come over and help hit the Banded Butterflies.

As for what had happened?

No need to ask. Just looking at the scene, he knew. Ryan kept a composed expression on his face and nodded: "Mm."

Chapter 38: Chapter 38: Queen of Banded

Chapter 38: Queen of Banded!

Knocking.

Knocking.

And knocking again.

A few people were sitting around the net, each with a stone in hand, tapping incessantly... all one could hear was the clinking and clanking sounds. Ji You glanced over and thought to herself sarcastically: If outsiders saw this, they'd probably think these folks were gathered around cracking walnuts.

Walnuts?

Cough cough—

Let's be serious.

She grabbed a stone and hurled it towards a particularly round and chubby Banded Butterfly.

Clang—

After the stone collided with the Banded Butterfly's head, it was surprisingly repelled. The force of the impact flipped Ji You onto the ground.

The commotion caught everyone's attention immediately.

"What happened?"

"You? Why did you fall?" Grandma Jenny asked with concern.

"I... I don't really know," Ji You scratched her head, stood up, dusted off her buttocks, and said, "This Banded Butterfly is so chubby! Its head is so hard. My stone got repelled and even shattered."

She found it odd and couldn't help but look at the plump Banded Butterfly again. There it was, squatting in the net just as before, its round colorful eyes glaring fiercely at her. Ji You: "...Goodness, it can't be killed with a knock!"

Before anyone else could speak, Xie Chuanqiong stepped forward to inspect and then explained with a smile, "You're really lucky. This is the Banded Butterfly Queen. In every Banded Butterfly swarm, there's only one like this."

"Hiss?"

"It's actually the queen?" Ji You was astonished! She leaned in curiously to inspect the queen, who looked similar to the other ordinary Banded Butterflies but was significantly larger, about the size of two ordinary Banded Butterflies. Its wings were more vibrantly colored, and its belly was bulging prominently, giving off a particularly fertile vibe.

"Is it really a queen?"

"I absolutely couldn't tell before!" Ji You exclaimed.

Xie Lingzhi rolled her eyes silently, mumbling, "Clueless!"

Ji You pretended not to hear Xie Lingzhi's mocking comment as she dug at her ear.

Discovering a queen wasn't the surprise; what was astonishing was the level of this Banded Butterfly Queen, which had already reached Peak 3, seemingly on the verge of breaking through to Level 4. After examining, Ryan explained to the group, "Peak Level 3, close to breaking through to Level 4. It's a surprise that you caught it. If it breaks through to Level 4, the Iron Pear Wood Silk wouldn't be able to hold it."

"Eh?"

"That powerful?"

"No wonder I couldn't kill it with a stone." Ji You suddenly realized, "I'll try my energy machete."

As she was speaking, the queen seemed to sense the malicious intent in Ji You's words. It spread its wings and beat them vigorously, expressing its raging anger.

Ji You raised the knife——

"Keep it."

"The Banded Butterfly Queen fetches a good price," Ryan interrupted her, saying, "Its Material is worth a lot, more so when it's alive. Many Mechanical Materials research institutions like to buy them. Selling it could fetch 20-30 thousand credit points."

"Huh?"

"What?"

"How much?"

Ji You could hardly believe her ears. She blinked and then blinked again, pressing for clarification, "Ryan, what did you just say?"

Ryan, not the least bit annoyed, repeated, "A live Peak Level 3 Banded Butterfly Queen is quite difficult to capture. If sold to a research institution, it could indeed fetch 20-30 thousand credit points."

"Huh?"

"Really?"

"I..." Ji You quickly stowed away her energy machete, but before she did, she instinctively gave the queen's head a tap with the back of the knife and immediately grinned from ear to ear, saying, "Oh my goodness! I was this close to knocking out 20-30 thousand credit points."

"Lucky."

"Phew, I stopped just in time."

Thank God.

Thank God.

Thank God indeed.

This is worth at least 20,000!

20,000!

For a moment, Ji You couldn't help but giggle foolishly, her eyes unblinkingly fixed on the Banded Butterfly Queen's plump body, with a light in her eyes that was extremely gentle, as if she were a kind old Grandma, looking at her no-good granddaughter.

That look—

It's hair-raising.

"Idiot!" Xie Lingzhi was speechless; she couldn't believe she actually lost to such a fool?

Humiliating!

Utterly disgraceful!

Lea and Grandma Jenny both laughed, Lea almost unable to straighten up, holding her stomach, she said: "You, stop making everyone laugh. You really must have forgotten, Ryan was right, the Banded Butterfly Queen is worth quite a bit of money."

This information didn't need to be looked up on the Star Network, it was covered in the textbooks Union students study from, including sections about the Banded Butterfly. The wings, legs, and the powdery substance on the wings of the Banded Butterfly Queen are all very useful. In particular, the powdery substance secreted on the wings is a type of neural substance, fragrant in smell and capable of numbing and befuddling, useful as medicine and as a weapon...

Many research institutes breed the Banded Butterfly Queen specifically to harvest this powder.

Following that, Lea explained in detail.

Ji You then understood—

Suddenly, she looked at the Banded Butterfly Queen with even more affection.

Everyone: "..."

Now that they couldn't just smack the queen dead and had to capture her alive, how to bring her back became the problem. Ji You couldn't help but ask, "So—how do we catch it?"

Ryan said, "Leave it to me."

With that, he took out a metal cage from his Space Button, and then two gloves. Only after putting on the gloves did Ryan reach out for the Banded Butterfly Queen. The Queen struggled furiously but was no match for Ryan's overpowering strength and was quickly grabbed and locked in the cage.

It was only after hearing Sister Liya's explanation that Ji You understood the paralyzing effect of the powder on the Banded Butterfly Queen's wings; if she had been careless and touched its head earlier, she might well have ended up with her whole hand numb and without sensation—

Thank God.

Thank God.

Thank God.

After securing the cage, Ryan took off his gloves and handed it to Ji You, saying, "Keep it safe."

Ji You replied with a beaming smile, "Thank you."

Their luck this time was incredibly good; they not only got their lives back but also acquired an expensively priced Banded Butterfly Queen! It was like waking up from a dream with a smile; everyone picked up the pace, working even more swiftly.

Within five minutes, all the ordinary Banded Butterflies were dealt with.

It was only then that everyone truly breathed a sigh of relief.

Everyone organized the Iron Pear Wood Silk again and tidied up, then roughly divided it based on everyone's previous gathering efforts.

Xie Chuanqiong said, "We have to thank You; otherwise, we might not have lasted until Ryan's support arrived."

Lea also said with a laugh, "Indeed, I thought I wasn't going to survive today."

Grandma Jenny clasped her hands together repeatedly, "Scared me to death, scared me to death..."

Xie Lingzhi sniffed, "Hmph."

Scratching her head, Ji You said with a grin, "It wasn't a big deal; just something I came up with in a moment of urgency."

Xie Chuanqiong said, "No! It's not just something you came up with; the most important thing is that you were able to weave a net in such limited time." None of the others present could have done that.

"Indeed. The net is ingeniously crafted." Ryan normally wasn't talkative, nor inclined to give compliments, but he was genuinely impressed by Ji You's brilliant idea and her exquisite weaving skills.

Chapter 39: Chapter 39: Butterfly Honey

This net, ingeniously conceived and well laid out, carefully looked like a beautifully crafted array diagram, with every connection point appearing meticulously arranged. If not for such a weaving technique, it might not be able to completely trap the Banded Butterfly group, as well as the level 3 peak queen.

Ryan's eyes were full of admiration.

Here, being a waste with both spiritual power and physical strength, today was the day Ji You received the most praise from everyone. Now, even Ryan was praising her. As Ji You listened, she became increasingly embarrassed.

Blushing, Ji You said, "Oh, it's just a little talent I have, you guys usually don't appreciate it." Her hobbies, knitting wristbands, bracelets, necklaces, polishing beads... the neighbors knew about them, but they used to think she was just fooling around. But now, how could they still think that way? They realized for the first time that these seemingly trivial crafts were so useful, saving everyone's life at the critical moment.

Now, even Grandma Jenny didn't say that Ji You's crafts were just a waste of time. She smiled and said, "You, teach me how to knit too, especially the net you made today. I need to learn it."

What if they encounter group-living Star Beasts in the wild again?

It might be useful.

Lea added, "Teach me too."

Xie Lingzhi snorted with her nose and looked at Ji You a few times, wanting to say something but in the end, she said nothing.

Ji You pretended not to notice Xie Lingzhi's subtle expression, she looked at everyone, smiled and said, "Sure! As long as you are willing to learn from me, I'll teach everyone!"

She never kept it to herself, anyway, these crafts were no big deal. People with dexterous hands and minds could learn it by just watching. On the contrary, those who were not agile wouldn't be able to learn it even if taught many times. In her previous life, Ji You taught many people crafting.

She became famous online by producing crafting tutorial videos like knitting and polishing.

Regarding sharing such tutorial videos, she was very happy to, and she was also willing to teach Lea and Grandma Jenny, of course—if Xie Lingzhi was willing to put down her pride and ask to learn, Ji You wouldn't mind teaching her either.

As they were talking, Ryan interrupted everyone and said, "This group of Banded Butterflies should be the one I discovered before. I know where their nest is, let's see if there is any Butterfly Honey."

As soon as these words fell, everyone was enlightened, and Ji You's eyes immediately lit up:

Butterfly Honey!

What is Butterfly Honey?

Like honey, Butterfly Honey is collected by butterfly-type Star Beasts. This type of honey is a very rare and expensive natural food material that contains a lot of trace elements beneficial to the human body, effectively enhancing spiritual power and physical strength.

For example, when a person is on the verge of breaking through from Spiritual Power B-level and Physical Strength B-level to Double A, they can feel that they are just separated by a thin layer of paper, but they can't break through despite exerting much effort. Just by drinking an appropriate amount of Butterfly Honey, the probability of breakthrough can greatly increase, science has proven that the efficacy of high-quality Butterfly Honey on breakthroughs is an astonishing 80% and above! Of course, this is for people below S-level, for those above S-level, the effect is less than 20%! But even just a 15% increase in probability is very high for elite talents.

Thus, Butterfly Honey is generally used for human breakthroughs.

Also, since Banded Butterflies, Thousand Feather Butterflies... these Star Beasts that produce Butterfly Honey are gregarious and cannot be artificially bred, collecting their Butterfly Honey can only rely on interstellar mercenaries to capture them.

All in all, this causes the price of Butterfly Honey to remain high, in the interstellar, low-quality Butterfly Honey is priced at 100,000 credit points per 100 grams, high-quality Butterfly Honey can reach a terrifying 500,000 credit points per 100 grams...

So—

What is Butterfly Honey?

It's money!

It's a lot, a lot of money!

After Ryan finished speaking, everyone's eyes shone.

Ji You asked, "Ryan, is it far from here?"

Ryan said, "Not far, about half an hour."

Xie Chuanqiong stood up, saying, "Brother Ryan, let's go now, try to gather before the protective barrier of West District closes."

Ryan had no objection, he nodded: "Okay."

The group immediately set off.

As the main culprit who attracted the Banded Butterfly, Xie Lingzhi remained unusually silent throughout the journey, despite everyone having escaped the danger. But if it weren't for Ji You's quick thinking, the situation could still be dire... Xie Lingzhi thought and thought, feeling increasingly heavy-hearted.

The nest of the Banded Butterfly was not far away. The group hastened their steps and found their target in just a matter of minutes.

Around where they stood, dozens of Banded Butterflies were still scattered. Ryan drew his energy sword and with a few slashes, the sound of swishing was followed by the fluttering fall of the butterflies... It almost instantly cleared the remaining Banded Butterflies.

Ryan said, "Don't move around, I'll go up and see if there is any Butterfly Honey."

Butterfly Honey, such a treasure, was truly rare, and even Ryan couldn't be completely sure there would be any.

Upon hearing Ryan's words, Ji You and Lea, among others, stayed still.

The Banded Butterfly nest was built between the rocky cliffs of a very high mountain, a person with physical strength like Ji You simply couldn't climb it, but Ryan, having a mech, could easily ascend.

Ji You had only seen mechs on Star Network and hadn't seen one in reality. Her eyes sparkled as she waited for Ryan to release the mech...

However—

Ryan instead took out a piece of rope from the Space Button and threw it up the steep cliff, starting to climb...

Ji You: "..."

In the blink of an eye, Ryan had climbed to the top of the cliff.

This skill—

Was truly incredible.

There was no need for a mech at all, using a mech would just be a waste of energy. It's understandable why Ryan didn't use it.

Ah!

Underneath Ji You's astonishment, there was still a bit of disappointment.

About twenty minutes later, Ryan came back down.

Ji You hurriedly asked, "Did you find any?"

Ryan smiled and said, "Yes!"

After saying that, Ryan showed everyone a clear bottle he held, saying, "It's a good haul, about two or three kilograms."

"So much!"

"We're rich!"

"Fantastic!"

Ji You, Lea, Xie Lingzhi, Xie Chuanqiong, and Grandma Jenny all became excited, each stepping forward to carefully examine the Butterfly Honey! Ji You looked left and right, noticing that this thing looked a lot like honey, but the slight difference perhaps was that the Butterfly Honey was clearer.

Butterfly Honey!

This is real Butterfly Honey!

By the way, how much was Butterfly Honey per kilogram?

Also, it seems that Butterfly Honey is priced according to quality?

Thinking of this, Ji You quickly asked, "Ryan, what quality is this Butterfly Honey?"

Chapter 40: Profit Sharing

Ryan chuckled upon hearing that, "Low-grade."

"Ah?" Ji You felt quite disappointed upon hearing this, the price difference between low-grade, middle-grade, and high-grade was huge, "Only low-grade?"

Standing aside, Xie Lingzhi rolled her eyes and said with a sneer, "Do you think high-grade ones are as common as trash all over the place? For our Planet 101 to produce Butterfly Honey is already incredible enough!"

"That's true."

"2 to 3 kilograms! That's at least a couple of million credit points! We are really striking it rich!"

"Hahaha..." Ji You laughed heartily at the thought of such a sum of money.

"Let's divide the goods when we get home." After a moment of contemplation, Ryan said, "Let's head back first."

"Alright."

Given the abundant dangers in the wild, nobody said much; they packed up and promptly set off to leave.

Once reaching the boundary of the protective barrier, everyone sold the Iron Pear Wood they had gathered and quickly returned to the residential area. During this haul, everyone kept the Iron Pear Wood they gathered themselves; only Butterfly Honey and the Banded Butterfly Queen needed to be shared.

After unanimous discussion, Xie Chuanqiong spoke, "Thanks to You for this significant yield, otherwise the outcome for us would be uncertain. Therefore, You should take 50%, and the rest of us will divide the remainder evenly."

"That much?"

"I shouldn't take so much, it was a collective effort. Give me 40%." Ji You declined.

On this matter, Lea was rather adamant, "You, just take it. Without you, we might all have died, and wouldn't be able to sit here and share the profits."

Xie Chuanqiong said, "You, 50% is what you deserve."

Xie Lingzhi pouted and murmured, "Idiot!"

Seeing everyone insist so unanimously, Ji You scratched his head and said somewhat embarrassingly, "Then—I'll take it." 50%? How much is that, exactly?

If it sold for 20,000, she would take 10,000; if it sold for 30,000, she would get 15,000...

A fortune!

Dizzy.

Dizzy.

Dizzy.

Ji You was nearly overwhelmed with joy.

After the Banded Butterfly Queen was divided, it was time to divide the Butterfly Honey.

Xie Chuanqiong said, "We got the Butterfly Honey thanks to You. You will take 40%, Ryan will take 30%, and the remaining 30% will be divided among the rest of us. Nobody has any objections, right?"

Nobody objected; getting the Butterfly Honey was a pleasant surprise, and Ji You was the most deserving, followed by Ryan. Without Ryan, they couldn't have taken the Butterfly Honey, so everyone agreed to this division plan.

Xie Chuanqiong stated, "In that case, let's divide it this way."

"Wait!" Ji You raised her hand and said with a smile, "I have an objection!"

Xie Chuanqiong: "Hmm? You, what do you..."

He was already aware of what Ji You was about to say.

Laughing cheerfully, Ji You said, "I'll just take 30%, and the remaining 40%, you guys divide it!"

Everyone was about to decline when Ji You rushed to say, "Don't refuse! This harvest was achieved only with everyone's joint efforts, and it couldn't have been done without any one of you. That settles it."

Ji You was such a person by nature, clear about gratitude and grudges! Whoever was kind to her, she would reciprocate, and anyone who dared to trouble her, she would definitely pay them back, even if she couldn't do so immediately, she would bide her time to unleash a big move!

The Xie Family, Lea's family, were all her own people, all kind to her, so Ji You was willing to share her gains with them.

After Ji You insisted repeatedly, everyone stopped refusing after trying to persuade her.

Because Butterfly Honey was so precious, normally no one would even dare to dream about it, let alone use it to increase their own level. Once the accounts were settled, Grandma Jenny smiled and said, "You kids, don't think of selling all the Butterfly Honey; save some for your own use."

Xie Chuanqiong said sternly, "Grandma Jenny, rest assured, Xie Lingzhi and I will keep 200 grams for our advancement."

Grandma Jenny smiled and said, "That's good. You, keep some for yourself too, at least 300 grams, so that both your spiritual power and Physical Strength can go up one level."

Ji You originally planned to sell all of it, but upon hearing Grandma Jenny's words, she thought it made sense too. Since she had a rare commodity that could elevate her level, she should certainly enhance her own strength. Being strong was the only way to protect herself, so she hastily said, "I know, I'll keep 400 grams." The Butterfly Honey they had just weighed totaled 2800 grams, and Ji You could take 840 grams. By selling 400, she would still have over 400 grams left.

Xie Chuanqiong said, "Ryan, we'll leave the selling part to you, is that okay?"

Ryan nodded: "Sure."

These High-level materials, if directly listed on the Star Network, could probably only fetch the market price, but since Ryan had his channels, he might be able to get a higher price.

After thinking briefly, Ryan continued, "It should sell quickly, I'll transfer the credits to you when it's done."

Ryan's character was well known, so no one worried that he would embezzle the money after selling it.

In fact, for Ryan, neither the Banded Butterfly Queen nor the Butterfly Honey were particularly rare. He had seen too many rare treasures; these items were merely ordinary for him—Ryan didn't actually care about the share of money that he would get; even if everyone refused to share with him, he wouldn't ask for it proactively.

After deciding, no one said much else. Ji You set aside 400 grams of her Butterfly Honey and asked Ryan to sell it on her behalf.

Low-grade Butterfly Honey like this could be sold for 100,000 credit points per 100 grams, so in one fell swoop, she would have a windfall of 400,000!

400,000, ah!

It was something she couldn't even have dreamed of before.

Not just Ji You, everyone's faces were bursting with joy, even someone as proud as Xie Lingzhi and as steady as Xie Chuanqiong had an involuntary hint of glee on their faces thinking about the rewards from this trip.

When Ji You returned home, her stomach was so hungry it felt like her chest was sticking to her back. She quickly took out a nutrient solution, thinking of eating one, but as she was about to tear open the packaging, Ji You furrowed her brows, realizing she was already a little rich girl with several hundred thousand! How could she still stomach a low-level nutrition?

No way!

Absolutely not!

How could a little rich girl eat low-level nutrition?

That totally didn't fit her new status.

Ji You tossed the nutrient solution aside, touching the remaining Butterfly Honey in her hand, and chuckled to herself, "Today, I'm going to indulge! Buy ten or eight jins of natural food!"

Speaking of which, how much was that huge apple from Beikena Mountain? 810 credit points! Now that she had money, she would buy 10 at once!

Right!

If not buying, then buy 10 at once.

The suddenly wealthy Ji You was over the moon, almost too happy to find her bearings, but—she didn't care too much. Buying 10 big apples would only cost her 8,100, still within her budget.

True to her word, Ji You put down the Crystal Bottle containing the Butterfly Honey, about to get on the Star Network, when out of the corner of her eye, her pupils suddenly shrank—