

## Scavengers 321

### Chapter 321: Overdoing the Show

Boom——

The moment the Mini Particle Cannon was fired, its force was unstoppable, like the pressure of Mount Tai descending upon them... The onlookers couldn't help but change their expressions, not to mention the Hero King, who was locked in by the Particle Cannon.

In an instant, Hero King's face changed drastically:

Not good.

Hard to dodge.

Switching from offense to defense, Hero King increased the thrusters, changed direction once more, and the Mecha sped away in the sky, but—

Useless.

Completely useless.

That hair-raising sense of crisis not only failed to diminish but instead intensified.

meters.

meters.

meters.

...

Escape!

Hurry and escape!

But—

What terrified Hero King even more was that he not only found nowhere to run but also felt an overwhelming terrifying pressure closing in from all directions, step by step approaching him. His pride, his spiritual power, was unable to make the slightest tremble in this oppressive force that came crashing down.

No escape.

Boom——

Hero King slowly closed his eyes...

A few seconds later.

The system notification arrived: [The match has ended, Rag Queen wins.]

The surrounding crowd was rendered silent once again.

Hero King was also silent.

Ji You clapped her hands and slowly approached the shattered Mecha of Hero King lying on the ground, step by step... Her every step resounded like beating a drum in the hearts of Hero King and his fans.

Finally.

Rag Queen stopped her steps.

With a frown, Hero King looked at her, a hint of reluctance in his eyes: "No need to say it, I already know why you are here, it's my lack of skill. I voluntarily cancel the following seven matches."

Ji You's eyes widened: "!!!"

Huh?

Her intention was not at all like that.

She just wanted to take this opportunity to show off!

Just as simple as that, ahhhh...

Seeing the surprise flash in Rag Queen's eyes, Hero King felt he had regained some ground. Proposing the cancellation now, in the eyes of others, seemed to be a very wise action, which helped dissipate some of the suffocation and anger in his heart. Hero King pressed his lips together and said, "As Hero King, my word is my bond. The next seven matches are hereby canceled."

Struggling against the inner chaos, Ji You said with wide eyes: "Big brother, I think you've misunderstood my intent."

Hero King was taken aback: "What?"

Ji You took a step forward, wishing she could vigorously shake this big brother's shoulders, why cancel?

Why cancel?

Isn't it good to fight the full 10 matches?

Why wouldn't you let her continue earning points?

Ji You restrained her urge to roar, speaking with considerable restraint: "Big brother, you really have misunderstood me. I came over here just because I thought it was more spacious and convenient for counting—ah, no, for counting points."

Hero King: "???"

The audience: "???"

Then—

Both the perplexed audience and Hero King saw Rag Queen read out her private system message in front of everyone: [Congratulations: You have received 60699 points from the betting pool this match.]

Hero King: "!!!"

The audience: "!!!"

Ji You looked at the crowd whose jaws had dropped in shock, raised her hand to pat Hero King on the shoulder, and with a slight hook of her lips, said indifferently, "Big brother, thanks for your and your fans' selfless contribution."

Hero King: "..."

Everyone was speechless.

So, she just wanted to show off.

Ji You: "I'll take my leave."

As her voice fell and she was about to exit the arena, Hero King couldn't help but ask, "Is that all you wanted to say?"

Ji You, without turning back: "What else?"

Hero King pursed his lips tightly, watching as Rag Queen left the scene with grace.

Defeat.

And a severe miscalculation at that.

Not only did he lose 100,000 points, but he also ruined the reputation he had worked so hard to build up, truly a case of losing the wife and the army.

He thought that, based on Rag Queen's personality and having figured out his intention and strategy to use her as a stepping stone for himself, she would certainly take this opportunity to hit him hard, ridicule him, and mock him severely.

But what happened?

Nothing.

Nothing at all.

She didn't even say much more.

...

After logging off from Star Network, Hero King's face looked awful. Beside him, a woman softly comforted him, "Hero, a single failure is nothing to worry about. We'll work harder next time."

Hero King did not respond.

The woman said, "On the forums, your fans aren't disappointed in you. They're very tolerant and believe that next time you'll surely defeat that Rag Queen... Do you believe in yourself...?"

Before she could finish the word 'self', Hero King abruptly cut her off, saying, "I'm no match for her."

The woman was startled: "Hero—"

Hero King, with a stern face, said, "You haven't fought her, so you can't understand how terrifying her spiritual power is. I suspect her Spiritual Silk Cleaning Rate is at least over 30%!"

The woman exclaimed in shock, "What?"

"30%?"

"No way?"

"She's just a Freshman, how could she have such a high Spiritual Silk Cleaning Rate?"

Hero King said, "30% is an underestimate on my part. My own Spiritual Silk has reached a Cleaning Rate of 15%, but when I faced her, I couldn't feel any limit to her power. Her strength is unfathomable, and facing her was like facing an instructor..."

The woman gasped: "No... That's impossible." What level is an instructor? At least they have a Spiritual Silk Cleaning Rate over 50%, but the opponent is just a Freshman.

How could this be?

Hero King thought of something, his tone a bit heavy, "In this year's Alliance University rookies competition, our First Military Academy has a strong opponent."

Hearing this, the woman also frowned, saying, "This has to do with Rag Queen. We don't know which school she is from. Maybe she is from our First Military Academy?"

Hero King shook his head: "Impossible."

One would know the caliber of his own cohort of students. Often sparring with each other, everyone would have some understanding. If the Combat Department had someone with such terrifying abilities, how could there have been no word of it beforehand?

So—

Absolutely impossible.

The two fell silent for a while, and Hero King said, "I need to step up my training in the coming period."

...

Here.

Ji You looked at her account which had gained over 60,000 additional points, adding to her previous gains of over 50,000 points from three matches with Hero King, netting a total of 110,000 points. This kind of earnings was beyond what anyone could imagine.

But...

But Ji You was not very happy.

It really was because she had bragged too much, saying something about playing house with someone. As a result, Money-giving Child didn't want to play with her anymore.

Yingyingying~

This loss was truly severe.

Ji You maintained a faintly sorrowful demeanor for a long time before she finally dispelled the annoyance in her heart. Then, hearing the notification sound, Ji You looked down to see that she had received a new challenge request. She opened it, and her mouth curved into a smile.

Chapter 322: Money-giving Child

New challenge request message, constantly blinking.

Ji You's eyes lit up when she saw the opponent's name, and she couldn't stop the smile on her lips.

No doubt about it.

The Money-giving Child is here, how can she not be thrilled?

But, why is this guy suddenly willing to initiate a challenge against her again? It's really strange, has she been too prominent lately, or does he think that his power has improved enough to defeat her?

This person wasn't just anybody, he was Ji You's former defeated opponent—Dominate the Universe!

To Ji You, this guy was so memorable that she might not forget him for decades! After all, by defeating Dominate the Universe, she earned her first bucket of 16,000 massive points.

Now tell me, could Ji You ever forget such a Money-giving Child?

Absolutely not.

Ji You was about to agree immediately, but suddenly thought of something, went to the store and bought 100 Ordinary Particle Cannons before accepting the invite.

Quickly.

Ji You entered the new arena, and so did Dominate the Universe. Seeing his face, Ji You couldn't help but show a slight smile: "Hey! Brother Dominate the Universe, what wind blew you here today?"

You know, after Ji You won a match against him, she also actively sought him out for more matches, but this guy, for some reason, repeatedly declined Ji You, and after being declined several times, she no longer insisted.

Now, this guy taking the initiative to come to her, it seems he's already made some preparations.

Ji You chuckled, not waiting for his reply, said: "You came today, don't tell me you want to defeat me and wash away your previous shame?"

Dominate the Universe's mouth twitched.

Ji You laughed in a slightly sleazy way, said: "If you are thinking of washing away your shame, I advise you not to fight, because it's impossible."

Dominate the Universe: "..."

Dominate the Universe took a deep breath, said: "It's been a while, why do you talk so much nonsense? Cut down the crap, it wastes time, let's start the match right now."

Ji You: "..."

What's going on??

Why does this sound so familiar to her?

On this side—

The audience burst into laughter because of Dominate the Universe's words:

"Queen! You are being disliked."

"Queen... thirty years in the east, thirty years in the west, think about how you used to talk to Hero King?"

"You complain about others wasting time, now you enjoy the same treatment, right?"

"Queen! Queen! I finally squeezed in! Queen is mighty! Sweep through the arena!"

...

Listening to the discussions from the audience, Ji You's expression became slightly awkward, she finally realized where she had heard it before, it turns out she had said something similar in the past.

Also—

The audience in the stands seemed a bit different too, Ji You curiously looked up at the dense crowd, and with a look, she noticed the difference, now most of the audience were real spectators, the previous three matches against Hero King, 80% of them were fans of him alone, that's why the audience was biased in favor of Hero King.

Ji You was choked by Dominate the Universe, then said: "Alright, since you're so eager to be beaten, then I'll indulge you."

Dominate the Universe, with a stern face, said softly: "Who beats whom, it's not certain yet."

As the countdown to the start ended, both immediately showcased their respective mechs, Ji You's as usual was an antique mech, the audience, seeing this, immediately started laughing cheerfully:

"The queen came out and everyone laughed because they all knew she was here to pick up junk again."

"Queen, are you really determined to stick with the antique mech until the end? Have you considered changing it?"

"Would the Rag Queen still be the Rag Queen if she swapped out the antique mech? Don't change it! I just love watching you dominate others with that antique mech."

...

Ji You's demeanor instantly transformed as she entered the battlefield. The playful and smiling face was swept away, replaced by a strong and sharp presence, like a sword drawn from its sheath, ready to decisively claim victory.

Whew~

On this side, Dominate the Universe also underwent a transformation in aura. Unlike the Rag Queen's sharpness, he and his mecha became more restrained. But the more restrained he appeared, the less the audience dared to underestimate him.

Dominate the Universe was no unknown. He had fought several spectacular battles and had a bit of a reputation in the Alliance East District. Moreover, the first time Rag Queen made a name for herself was by competing against him, and their previous battle video is still a hot post on the East District forum.

So—

When the news spread that Dominate the Universe and the Rag Queen were facing off again, the audience, who loved a good show, swarmed into the arena, fearing they'd miss out if they were a step slow.

Luckily, without the Hero King's fans scrambling for seats, everyone managed to squeeze in rather smoothly.

Seemingly in unison, the Rag Queen and Dominate the Universe both decided to strike first. As the battle commenced, they immediately launched fierce offensives.

Boom boom boom—

Ji You squinted her eyes, dodging while aiming the cannon at Dominate the Universe, who also continuously shifted positions to avoid the barrage. For a while, the two seemed locked in a stalemate, neither able to get the upper hand.

Dominate the Universe, with a tense expression, was extremely cautious. His cannon kept firing particle shots, understanding the terrifying spiritual power of his opponent, not giving her any time to prepare a Compressed Particle Cannon, nor allowing her any chance to get close...

Boom boom boom—

Dominate the Universe's Particle Cannon fired relentlessly, clearly intending to give his opponent no respite, ensuring she was constantly on the defensive.

While Ji You counterattacked and ran, seemingly in disarray, what nobody expected was that she suddenly turned around while running and faced Dominate the Universe's bombardment head-on.

Audience: "???"

Everyone saw, when the dozen of particle shots that were about to hit her were suddenly intercepted by a Compressed Particle Cannon shot by the Rag Queen at less than 5000 meters distance, sparking dazzling flames in mid-air,

Audience: "!!!"

This—

What else could everyone say but damn?

With this successful counter, Ji You found an opening, immediately seizing the chance to roll on the spot and swiftly move sideways, but still managed to fire two shots!

Whoosh—

Dominate the Universe's expression changed slightly as he narrowly avoided the shots.

However, having dodged one, the second unexpectedly severed the mechanical arm of his mech.

Ji You narrowed her eyes, readjusted the cannon, and aimed again—

Whoosh—

The third Compressed Particle Cannon shot straight towards Dominate the Universe's cockpit—

Dominate the Universe's approach wasn't wrong, but he mistakenly estimated the number of Compressed Particle Cannons Ji You had on hand. In the two matches against Hero King, she used only 6 out of 10 Compressed Particle Cannons, leaving 4, which were now perfectly delivered for Dominate the Universe to experience.

Thus—

Ji You didn't need any time to prepare and could directly confront Dominate the Universe.

Then, estimating quickly, she suddenly fired at a coordinate; Dominate the Universe narrowly avoided the third, but was directly hit by the fourth shot. With a thunderous boom—he watched helplessly as his cockpit shattered, his expression turning even darker.

### Chapter 323: The Taste of Wealth

Dominate the Universe did not expect the situation to reverse so quickly. His ingeniously designed evasion route was seen through by Rag Queen, which shocked him greatly. But there was no time to think too much about that now—the cockpit had been breached, and the situation was critical...

Dominate the Universe raised his hand, ready to counterattack, when suddenly he heard a faint whistling sound coming toward him—

His pupils dilated suddenly, and then a flash of white light streaked past—Whoosh—

Thunk~

Boom~

This Particle Cannon hit Dominate the Universe's control cabin accurately, severing his Spiritual Connection with the mech. Dominate the Universe gaped: "!!!"

Then—

The audience saw Dominate the Universe's mecha explode into a mushroom cloud...

The system promptly announced: [The match has ended. Rag Queen wins.]

The audience: "..."

After a long pause.

Someone asked: "How long did that match last?"

Someone answered: "Did it even reach 30 seconds?"

Another person said: "No, I timed it. Exactly 28 seconds and 36 milliseconds."

The spectator seats: "..."

Immediately following, posts popped up on the forums on time:

[So fast! Dominate the Universe only lasted less than 30 seconds!]

Below the post, they attached a video and illustrations.

1L: Hahaha... Women fall silent upon seeing this, men shed tears.

2L: Dominate the Universe, it's time to change your name, call yourself Quick Universe.

3L: Hahaha... Queen is mighty and domineering!

4L: At this moment, I just want to interview Dominate the Universe on his true feelings...

5L: Watched the entire match from start to finish. I can only say Rag Queen has changed my opinion of her. She once said using an antique mech wasn't for show but to challenge herself, to break through her limits, and I believe her now. Whether it's speed, weapons, defense, or energy reserves... the antique mech has no advantage, but in her hands, it reached the speed of Wind Wing, the defense of Po Jun, the fierceness of Chasing Sun... In her hands, the only shortcoming of the antique mech was its energy

reserve, but facing this single flaw, she used her speed to exploit strengths and avoid weaknesses, controlling every match to end within 10 minutes. Therefore, energy also temporarily ceased to be a shortcoming... Truly admirable!

6L: The person above is right. That's what I wanted to say. Dominate the Universe's swift defeat wasn't because he lacked ability, but because he misjudged the situation, thinking he could easily defeat Rag Queen with aggressive attacks. The reality proved that with appropriate, handy weapons, Rag Queen could do even better with such tactics.

...

Neither Ji You nor Dominate the Universe were interested in looking at the analysis and discussions on the forum. After finishing this match, it was already Ji You's designated bedtime, so before logging off, she glanced at her massive number of points and went to sleep on Star Network, satisfied.

On the other side.

Dominate the Universe had a dark expression on his face, replaying the video of the match against Rag Queen over and over again. He watched very closely, fixating on each frame, even replaying some of Rag Queen's actions several times...

After a while.

Dominate the Universe paused the video, let out a long breath, but remained silent.

Beside him, Shen Changqing said: "Ayuan, what do you think, want to try the antique mech yourself?"

Dominate the Universe, also known as Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Ignoring the peculiar expression on Yue Qiyuan's face, Shen Changqing continued, "I fought 10 matches with the antique mech tonight, lost 8, and won 2. I've gained some insights on using the antique mech. Actually, the biggest challenge in piloting it is you have to maintain a high level of mental tension at all times, and use everything at your disposal to fight meticulously..."

Yue Qiyuan let out another breath, then said: "Aqing, you are right. What's strong about Rag Queen is not just her spiritual power, but even more so, her unpredictable fighting style. Her ability to adapt on the fly is the strongest I've seen on the battlefield."

Despite feeling extremely frustrated, Yue Qiyuan had no choice but to admit that Rag Queen was very strong.

But—

Yue Qiyuan's eyes sparkled as he said, "But I don't think I'm inferior to her. What I lack is experience. During this time, I'll intensify my training."

Shen Changqing didn't comment on this; instead, he asked, "Have you considered using the antique mech?"

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Yue Qiyuan took a deep breath and replied, "I haven't considered it."

Shen Changqing was puzzled: "Why not?"

Yue Qiyuan said: "The Rag Queen suits her, Aquing, it suits you too, but it's not for me. I have to stick to my own path. With my Physical Strength, I can't improve my speed, so in the future, I will focus solely on cultivating my spiritual power." Yue Qiyuan was well aware of his weaknesses. His Physical Strength wasn't sufficient, giving him no advantage in speed and no ability to sustain prolonged battles. Therefore, he should strive to maximize and perfect his strengths.

Upon hearing this, Shen Changqing was silent for a moment before saying, "Alright, since you have your direction, I won't try to persuade you otherwise."

After a brief conversation, they both logged off to sleep.

The next day.

After class, Ji You and her classmates sprinted to the cafeteria. As usual, she lined up at the braised pork rib service window. The line inched forward, and finally, it was Ji You's turn.

The moment Ji You saw Senior He Bi at the window, the corners of her mouth twitched slightly. Even though she already knew that Senior He Bi was serving meals during this time, she couldn't help feeling an itch in her hands whenever she saw this scumbag senior's face...

Why couldn't it be her gentle, cute, beautiful, kind Angel Senior?

As He Bi saw Ji You, a cafeteria's official smile appeared on his face. He said, "What would you like to eat, student?"

Ji You grandly declared, "Braised pork ribs with rice, give me 10 servings!"

He Bi: "..."

He Bi's mouth twitched as he replied, "Student, each person can only get one serving."

Ji You fluttered her eyelids and gave him a sidelong glance, saying, "I know the cafeteria's rules, obviously. What I meant was 1 serving for me, and one for each of the nine classmates behind me."

"..." He Bi's eyes twitched as he said, "The cafeteria does not give credit."

Heh, wow~

Thinking she was still the poor creature of the past, looking down on her, huh.

With a flourish, Ji You waved her hand, paying the bill outright, then she raised an eyebrow and said, "Hey! Server! Hurry up, a little sprightliness, please." That's right, after making a good sum yesterday, Ji You came specially to show off in front of Senior He Bi. As it turned out, the feeling of spending lavishly and shocking others was indescribably satisfying.

He Bi: "..."

Server?

Hurry up?

And so—

He Bi really did pick up the serving spoon swiftly, scooped a bowl of rice, then lifted his hand, and in one go scooped up a large portion of braised pork ribs, with at least twenty pieces he roughly estimated.

Then—

His hand started to shake, and shake, and shake...

Splash~

One rib fell.

Splash~

Two ribs fell.

Splash~

Three ribs fell.

...

Ji You's eyes were about to pop out. After most of the ribs had fallen, Senior He Bi's hands finally stopped—

Chapter 324: Revenge of the Pauper

Swoosh~

Swoosh~

Swoosh~

In the plate, pieces of meat kept falling in orderly fashion...

When He Bijiāng put down the spoon, all the onlookers couldn't help but marvel: His skill in shaking the spoon was truly mesmerizing, making people want to slam the table in amazement!

But—

Ji You glared with wide eyes, pointing to her own plate and asked, "Senior He Bi, did you give me one piece less?" She counted them over and over, and there were only nine! Isn't the standard ten pieces?

He Bi shook his head firmly, saying: "No, nothing is missing."

Ji You: "!!! Are you kidding me? There are clearly only 9 pieces, if you do this, I'll have to complain about you to the Consumer Association."

Hearing this, He Bi glanced at her briefly and then, picking up the spoon, pushed aside one piece of rib and said, "If your eyesight is bad, go see an eye doctor. Okay, next."

Ji You looked down and nearly choked!

There were indeed 10 pieces!

But—

The piece pressed at the bottom was smaller than a fingernail cap, can that even count as a piece?

Wouldn't that be scorned even as a filler?

Seeing the shocked and frustrated look on this short girl, the corners of He Bi's mouth quietly curled upwards, urging, "Miss, please take your plate and go, don't impede my work."

Ji You: "..."

Taking a deep breath, Ji You picked up her plate, and before leaving, she glanced at Senior He Bi, her tone morose: "Even if your spoon shaking skills are high, it doesn't hide the fact that you're a scumbag, Senior."

He Bi: "..."

But having successfully teased this little shorty, He Bi was in a very good mood, so he didn't take the shorty's words to heart; instead, he maintained a polite smile and said, "Thank you for the compliment, Miss. I'll keep improving."

"..." Ji You was speechless for a moment, then turned and walked away.

She had barely taken a few steps when Sheng Qingyan caught her from behind, "You broke dead poor— explain clearly to us before you leave, is this meal really on you?"

Ji You turned around: "Yes."

Sheng Qingyan still had a huge doubt in his tone, "There are no strings attached?"

Ji You took a deep breath, "Of course not."

She just wanted to show off harshly in front of stingy Senior He Bi, never expecting that she'd almost been infuriated by Senior He Bi...

Indeed—

Scumbag He Bi's level has reached one that everyone hates.

Hmph~

Hearing this, Sheng Qingyan immediately felt relieved, and promptly said to Senior He Bi: "Senior, can I have a serving of braised pork rib rice... it's okay to be slow... I'm not in a rush..."

The ordeal of no. 4444, this poor broke dead, Sheng Qingyan, who was closest, saw everything clearly; how could she dare to urge the Senior to quicken the serving? Isn't that asking for trouble?

Indeed—

As the Universe's number one Little Cutie, Sheng Qingyan would never make such a low-level mistake.

Then—

Hearing this, Senior He Bi glanced at the strangely speaking and ambiguously good-looking Sheng Qingyan, bowed his head, and began to serve the food without a word.

As he spooned down, raising it, Sheng Qingyan felt her heart lift—

Splash~

Splash~

Splash~

As Sheng Qingyan predicted, Senior He Bi was not quick in shaking his spoon, and as the pieces of meat were ladled onto the rice, Sheng Qingyan's eyes instantly widened: "Senior, why are my meat pieces so small?"

He Bi didn't answer, instead he countered: "Are there fewer portions?"

Sheng Qingyan: "...No."

He Bi said: "Then that settles it."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

This senior's spoon-shaking skill is really something; shake a little, toss a little, and all the big chunks of meat fall off, leaving only small ones.

Admire it?

No!

Just want to cry...

A bullied Sheng Qingyan, faced with a dominant, overbearing, and unreasonable senior, dared not speak out, and finally picked up his plate and left with a grievance.

Next up, Chu Jiaojiao.

Chu Jiaojiao didn't ask for faster or slower movements; she just honestly said, "Senior, please give me the braised pork ribs rice."

He Bi glanced at her, a spoonful went in, no need to shake the spoon at all, the chunks of meat spread evenly on the plate, neither more nor less, exactly ten pieces.

But—

Chu Jiaojiao glanced and realized that the chunks in her bowl were still small. After thinking, she quickly said: "Senior, I have a lot of strength, and I need a lot of food, this meat is a bit small."

He Bi raised a smile and said: "Classmate, having a big appetite doesn't necessarily mean you need to eat more meat. You could buy some professional nutritional supplements to get energy."

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao backed down.

...

Thus—

Thanks to Ji You, everyone's meal was a bit suffocating, and then, after eating and drinking their fill, Yue Qiguang was the first to stand up and said: "4444, daddy won't need you to treat anymore."

Yue Qiyuan stood up second, saying: "Me neither."

Sheng Qingyan cursed under his breath, "It's all your fault... If it wasn't for you, how could we possibly get such small pieces of meat? We won't need your treats anymore..."

Unlike the first three, Chu Jiaojiao looked at Ji You, hesitating repeatedly.

Ji You, seeing her eyelids twitching, scolded: "Chu Jiaojiao, if you have something to say, just say it, don't mutter, what does that look like?"

Chu Jiaojiao hehe smiled, saying: "Ji You, you look really good when you're scolding me, but— but— but what they said, I wanted to say too. But don't worry, it's just that I won't need you to treat me, I still like your face, I still like you as a person."

Ji You: "..."

Then, Shen Changqing picked up his tray, ready to take it for recycling, he turned his head, looked at Ji You, seemed to consider his words, then whispered: "You know what I mean."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You thought it was over, but suddenly Xuzhou also came towards her, first silent for a moment, then with his bushy eyebrows and big eyes, he suddenly said: "I have enough money for meals, but thank you anyway."

Ji You opened her mouth, feeling somewhat breathless, and couldn't come back to her senses for a long while.

With plenty of money on hand, she just wanted to flaunt it a bit.

Just simply wanted to flaunt.

Why—

is it so hard?

Not only was she fooled by scumbag He Bi once, but her guests also disliked her, what kind of world is this?

When everyone had left, Ji You carried her tray depressed, took it for recycling, just as she put down the tray and turned, she saw the tall figure of scumbag He Bi and that annoying expression on his face.

Ji You: "..."

Ji You was pondering whether her hands itched more, her feet itched more, or maybe she should greet him with a combination of fists and kicks, when suddenly—

Senior He Bi took the initiative to say: "Ji You, please don't act inappropriately in front of poor people in the future, because— revenge from the poor, is quite scary, you know."

Ji You: "..."

Chapter 325: Irrelevant People

Ji You: "..."

After her expression froze for a few seconds, Ji You gritted her teeth and said, "Senior He Bi, we're all poor as dirt, why do you have to hurt each other like this? This isn't doing you any favors either."

He Bi's lips curled up slightly: "But it makes me happy."

Ji You: "..."

Forget it.

Why bother with a jerk like He Bi?

It's exhausting.

"Goodbye." Ji You waved her hand and turned to leave.

"Wait a minute..." He Bi suddenly called out, stopping Ji You in her tracks. Turning back around, her mouth twitched as she said, "Talking to Senior He Bi is truly displeasing. Farewell."

He Bi: "..."

Wow~

This little runt sure has a temper.

He Bi didn't hesitate and directly asked, "Have you been in touch with Yaya recently?"

Ji You: "Huh???"

He Bi said, "I have something to discuss with Yaya, but I can't get ahold of her."

Ji You was a bit puzzled and couldn't help but ask, "Senior, why are you asking me if you want to find Senior Shi Ya?" Although she suspected she might be Shi Ya's long-lost younger sister, their relationship hadn't come to light yet, had it?

And Senior He Bi and Senior Shi Ya were in the same year, even if in different departments. They both worked together in the big cafeteria; contacting Senior Shi Ya should be easier for Senior He Bi, right?

Why suddenly come to ask her?

On hearing this, He Bi looked up at Ji You. His dark eyes held a complicated expression, and then he said, "It seems you haven't been able to contact her either."

Ji You's heart clenched, and she quickly pressed, "What do you mean by that? Senior, is Shi Ya in some kind of danger?"

He Bi did not respond immediately but frowned slightly before shaking his head and saying, "She shouldn't be in danger, she's not reckless. Anyway, I'll be going first."

The reason he had sought out this junior sister to inquire about Yaya was because he had noticed Yaya's inexplicable concern and attention to this junior sister. Since he couldn't get any information, He Bi turned to leave.

Hastily, Ji You grabbed his arm, "Where are you going? You haven't even told me what's going on."

He Bi: "...What's the use of telling you if you can't contact her?"

Ji You: "..."

Who said I can't get in touch?

In front of Senior He Bi, Ji You immediately dialed Senior Shi Ya's contact number. After a few rings, there was a click, and the call disconnected.

Seeing this, He Bi knew there was no point waiting and turned to leave again.

However——

Just a few steps out, he suddenly heard a notification from Ji You's Light Computer and stopped abruptly, turning back in surprise to look at Ji You——

Ji You opened the message and sure enough, it was from Senior Shi Ya. She immediately smiled and said, "It's from Senior Sister; she's asking me something and says she's a bit busy, will get back to me later."

He Bi: "..."

After a few seconds of silence, He Bi looked up again, scrutinizing this short junior sister for a good while, but still couldn't see anything special about her.

Apart from being short, thick-skinned, and a foodie...

What's so exceptional about this junior sister?

Why——

Would she alone receive Yaya's attention?

He Bi, seemingly incredulous, said: "Let me see the message."

Ji You: "...Would I lie to you?"

He Bi leaned over to take a look and confirmed the message indeed came from Shi Ya's contact number. He then raised his head and took another careful look at Ji You, still unable to detect anything extraordinary about this little shorty.

Realizing the odd look in his eyes, Ji You couldn't help but ask, "Senior He Bi, why are you looking at me like that?"

He Bi didn't respond immediately. Instead, he turned on his Light Computer, composed a message, and sent it to Shi Ya, but like a stone cast into the sea, there was no response.

He Bi: "..."

This favoritism is way too obvious, isn't it?

Instant reply to this little shorty, but ignoring me?

He Bi felt a little disheartened.

He refused to give up and said quickly, "You send Yaya a message, just ask if she has seen mine and tell her to reply to me immediately."

Ji You found this somewhat odd and didn't act right away. After a moment of thought, she said, "Senior He Bi, not to have a malicious mind, but if our gentle, kind, beautiful, and adorable Senior Sister Yaya isn't replying to you, could it be that you've done something to hurt her? Just to let you know, I will always stand by Senior Sister Yaya's side. As long as I'm here, you won't be able to do anything to harm her."

Saying this, Ji You suddenly gave He Bi a thorough once-over from head to toe, left to right with a gaze that carried sharpness and an edge, full of intimidating power, making He Bi feel as if his entire Spiritual World was tensed up in an instant, as if bracing for an enemy attack.

What's going on?

Wasn't this junior sister supposed known to be utterly lacking in both spiritual power and physical strength?

He Bi had to bring out all of his Spiritual Silk to counter the awful intimidation and managed to barely hold off. His facial expression looked somewhat awkward, and with an eye roll, he said, "What are you talking about? I'm seeking out Yaya for a serious matter."

Ji You asked, "What serious matter?"

How can she be so persistent? He Bi's mouth tightened as he said, "Just tell her that He Bi is looking for her. She'll understand what it's about."

His response clearly indicated he didn't want to elaborate.

Upon hearing this, Ji You shrugged apologetically and said, "I'm sorry, but if Senior Sister isn't responding to you, she must have her reasons. I won't interfere with her choices just because you've asked me to."

He Bi's gaze darkened as he said, "Fine, thanks."

After that, he turned and walked away.

Watching Senior He Bi's departing figure, Ji You felt a twinge of unease—what if she had really done something wrong? Could it be that He Bi was not merely pursuing Shi Ya unsuccessfully and refusing to take no for an answer?

Was it something else, something serious?

What could it be?

Should she ask Senior Shi Ya about it?

Or simply pass on Senior He Bi's message to her?

It concerned Senior Shi Ya, and for some reason, Ji You felt indecisive. After much thought, by the time she returned to her dorm, she still hadn't made up her mind. Just then, she received a message from Senior Shi Ya: [Just finished up, did you need something?]

From this brief reply, Ji You couldn't gauge Senior Shi Ya's current expression. Without delay and after some thought, Ji You texted: [Senior Sister, it was Senior He Bi who was looking for me, asking if I could contact you and to help send a message. But since I don't know your intentions, I didn't agree to his request.]

Waiting for just a few seconds, Shi Ya's reply came promptly: [I understand. In the future, if he ever seeks you out again, you don't have to bother with him.]

Ji You: "..."

Random riffraff...

Senior Sister truly is Senior Sister, even saying such an unreasonable thing so adorably.

Ji You replied: [Okay.]

Chapter 326: Added to the Blacklist

In a remote corner of an enclosed, strictly guarded laboratory on a distant planet, Shi Ya, dressed in a white lab coat of the research institute, looked at the message sent by Ji You with a slight start.

Suddenly——

A notification tone interrupted her brief reverie. Shi Ya opened her Light Computer, and the message immediately popped up—it was from He Bi.

——[Yaya, I know you can see my message. I hope you can stay calm. The choice you are making right now is not conducive to your future development and is not very safe either. Please consider it carefully.]

After reading it, Shi Ya didn't reply but casually turned it off.

She thought about it and raised her hand decisively, moving He Bi into the blacklist.

On his side, He Bi waited for a while, but did not receive a reply. His expression darkened, and after thinking it over, he directly dialed Shi Ya's contact number. However, as soon as he tried to call, he realized he had been blocked.

He Bi: "..."

Feeling helpless, He Bi had no choice but to give up temporarily.

Over here.

Ji You replied with a single 'Okay' and waited a bit, guessing that Senior Shi Ya must be busy. She wasn't disappointed; she was about to turn off her Light Computer when, somehow, Ji You's habit of rambling kicked in. She rattled off a string of characters, blabbering about her sweeping victories over opponents on the Alliance's internal network, and said to Senior Shi Ya: [Senior, you would never guess, but I'm now rolling in points. When you come back to school, I'll treat you to a meal.]

After typing that, Ji You clicked send.

As soon as she sent it, she started to regret it, worried whether she might have disturbed Senior Shi Ya at work. Hesitating, she was thinking of retracting the message when she saw that she had received a reply from Senior Shi Ya: [Very impressive.]

It was a very short sentence, only three words, but knowing that these words came from Senior Shi Ya's mouth, Ji You felt extremely happy, almost wanting to jump three feet high.

Ji You: [I will continue to work hard.]

After sending this message, Shi Ya did not reply.

Ji You waited a few seconds, thought of what Senior He Bi had said, and then thought about Senior Shi Ya's attitude. She felt a strange sensation she couldn't quite grasp or scratch—an unsettling emotion stirring within her.

Ji You believed that although Senior He Bi was a stingy jerk and a pauper, he definitely wasn't a bad person, so he wouldn't do anything to harm Senior Shi Ya.

But——

What exactly was it?

Ji You didn't feel right asking Senior Shi Ya directly. After much deliberation and thickening her skin, she continued to send another message to her senior: [Senior Shi Ya, even though we haven't known each other for long, you can trust me. If there's anything difficult that you can't decide on, you can come to me. Anything at all.]

Ji You sent it.

For a long while.

There was no response.

She didn't know if Senior Shi Ya had seen it or not.

Inside the laboratory.

Shi Ya gazed blankly at Ji You's message. The tension in her brows relaxed in an instant, and she involuntarily smiled. Another researcher, who by chance saw this, was very surprised and asked with an inquisitive and scrutinizing tone: "Shi Ya, what's made you so happy?"

This person, ever since entering the lab, had always been as cold as ice, with an aura of 'all living things keep away.' Now, to see such an expression was truly unexpected.

Shi Ya immediately put away her smile and said indifferently: "It's nothing."

Having said that, she turned and walked away.

...

After a few minutes, Ji You didn't get a reply from Senior Shi Ya, but she wasn't sad. At least, Senior Shi Ya had replied to her message before, which meant she was safe for the moment.

That was enough.

Ji You then immediately began to study today's material course.

After finishing her studies, she didn't rush to submit her homework but made herself a cup of Cloud Mist Milk Tea. After drinking it and feeling the changes in her Spiritual World, she found that whether it was the Spiritual World, the Spiritual Silk, or the Iron Plate, there were no changes. However, the message from Xiao You proved that Cloud Mist Tea was very beneficial to Xiao You's body.

That's enough.

For this Cloud Mist Tea, Ji You is ready to go all out.

So, she immediately enters Star Network and starts competing.

There is 1 day left until the promotion match, and tonight is crucial. As long as Ji You wins 3 more matches, she can advance. This is about the Cloud Mist Tea, and Ji You clenches her teeth, determined to get into the promotion match.

Therefore—

The cheapskate Ji You, to ensure her advancement, painfully spends 250 points for every match to buy 500 Ordinary Particle Cannons, then compresses them into miniature versions.

These Particle Cannons, compressed by Ji You's spiritual power, are almost as powerful as Tracking Particle Cannons, and they're even cheaper.

The only issue is that—during each match, she has to multitask, fighting her opponent while also dedicating spiritual power to compress Particle Cannons, which consumes a lot of her energy, but she grits her teeth and bears it.

After securing strong victories in the first two matches with her powerful artillery.

As Ji You is browsing through the challenge application page, contemplating on who to choose as her opponent, a message suddenly pops up. She looks at it, and is surprised: "This Daddy Universe Strongest actually wants to challenge me?"

Daddy Universe Strongest, a top player ranked in the top 80 of the East District's freshman level.

To say the East District's strength is top-notch would be an overstatement; after all, only ranked 80th, he's at the bottom end of top players. But if Ji You looked down on him because of his low rank?

Certainly not.

Because Daddy Universe Strongest's low rank isn't due to his lack of ability, but because he has only played 12 matches, losing only 2, both to opponents ranked in the top 20 of the East District.

So—

This person is very strong.

Ji You absolutely cannot afford even the slightest bit of contempt.

Therefore—

Ji You doesn't hesitate for a moment before choosing to refuse.

Joking? Her current goal is to ensure her own promotion, not to show off her prowess to others for some empty fame.

Over here, Daddy Universe Strongest is very surprised to see himself rejected and sends a message: [What a piece of junk, you're scared of Daddy, aren't you? That's why you rejected Daddy's challenge, right?]

Scared?

Ji You rolls her eyes in a very unladylike manner and ignores him.

Unexpectedly, this guy becomes even noisier when ignored, he's more energized: [Too scared? Can't even reply to Daddy's message? Just admit you're a coward, and Daddy will let you off.]

Coward?

She, the Rag Queen, scared by a mere rank 80 nobody?

Don't make me laugh.

Without another word, Ji You immediately adds the other party to her blacklist.

There's no time to waste on such fools right now.

Over there.

Daddy Universe Strongest sees himself getting blacklisted and his eyes widen in disbelief, shouting:  
"What? This person actually dares to blacklist Daddy?"

"How dare she?"

"How could she?"

"Ah!!!"

"Daddy was waiting to beat her down hard!"

#### Chapter 327: Making the Rankings

After rejecting the offer from 'Daddy Universe Strongest,' Ji You instantly felt the world go quiet. Now, she only needed one more victory to enter the advancement matches, and that would give her the qualification to compete for the finals in the East District.

So, this match was crucial.

She searched for potential opponents nearby and sent out challenge requests to several players she was confident she could beat, but after waiting for a few minutes, all her requests seemed to vanish into thin air.

Eh?

What's going on?

Could it be that someone like 'Hero King' has appeared, willing to pay 100,000 points to buy off my challenge?

Ji You furrowed her brows in thought and immediately went to the forum to see if there was any news about this.

As soon as she entered the forum, she saw several popular threads flash by. Glancing at them, Ji You suddenly stopped in her tracks because one of the hot threads caught her eye:

[The latest changes in the top 100 rankings for freshmen in the East District are as follows:

1st Place: Little Shengsheng, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 100%, Number of battles: 10.

2nd Place: Fu Feng, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 99%, Number of battles: 100.

3rd Place: Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 98%, Number of battles: 50.

...

33rd Place: Little Cutie, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 90%, Number of battles: 10.

...

55th Place: Lord Mo, Physique S-level, Spiritual Power A-level, Win rate: 95%, Number of battles: 100.

56th Place: Jiang Wu, Physique A-level, Spiritual Power S-level, Win rate: 95%, Number of battles: 100.

...

80th Place: Daddy Universe Strongest, Physique S-level, Spiritual Power B-level, Win rate: 96%, Number of battles: 50.

...

85th Place: Xiaoqing, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 90%, Number of battles: 50.

86th Place: Dominate the Universe, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 90%, Number of battles: 50.

...

90th Place: Black Smoke, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 90%, Number of battles: 100.

...

99th Place: Rag Queen, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 79%, Number of battles: 49.

100th Place: King's Expedition, Physical Strength and Spiritual Power level confidential, Win rate: 90%, Number of battles: 100.]

Above is a complete list of the rankings.

When Ji You saw her own name unexpectedly on the list, she was genuinely shocked. Especially since everyone else had at least a 90% win rate, and she had made the list with only a 79% win rate.

It was really strange.

Know that if you don't achieve an 80% win rate in the elimination matches, you wouldn't even qualify for the next round. In other words, Ji You hadn't even secured the qualification for advancement, yet she had already risen to the 99th place.

After giving it a bit of thought, she immediately figured out the key point. Over the past two days, she had indeed defeated the 'Hero King' who was ranked 99th, so she must have taken over his spot.

As for the 'Hero King'?

He has fallen so far in this leaderboard update that he's no longer even listed.

Ji You couldn't help but stroke her chin: "This Hero King, although he suffered a crushing defeat at my hands, his strength makes it easy for him to qualify for advancement. Therefore, in the advancement matches, it's very likely that I'll encounter him again. I must be on guard."

"But—"

"Who would have thought, Xiaoqing actually made it onto the list as well, and what's more, ranked at 85, several places higher than me."

"Besides Xiaoqing, another one of my defeated underlings, Dominate the Universe, is also on the list, ranked at 86. Strange... Why can I replace Hero King's rank but not Dominate the Universe's?"

I clearly beat Dominate the Universe twice, didn't I?

Regarding this, Ji You hadn't acquainted herself with the rules of the ranking system beforehand, so she couldn't figure out the reason. In fact, this list was the result of precise data calculations based on the contestants' own talents, potential, and performance in the arena, made by the Star Network system. For instance, that 'Little Shengsheng' who ranked first had only fought 10 matches, but every opponent he faced was within the top 20 of the leaderboard, and every match was won brilliantly, which is why the system rated him as first.

As for Dominate the Universe and Xiaoqing, although both had lost to Rag Queen, the system still rated them higher based on their past performances.

What about Rag Queen? With a 79% win rate, she managed to rank at 99, also because the system created numerous precise data sets from her past matches, which placed her at 99.

Those in the top 100 are Ji You's future opponents. After a brief scan, besides Xiaoqing and Dominate the Universe, who she had experience with, Ji You's gaze ultimately rested on the heads of the 80th-ranked 'Daddy Universe Strongest' and the 3rd-ranked 'Drunk Lying on a Beauty'.

Why take note of these two?

Just a few minutes ago, she had blocked that noisy Daddy Universe Strongest, how could she not pay attention? Of course, there were also other reasons for noticing him.

Ji You vividly remembered her first time entering the internal network to watch other's matches, where she saw the competition between Daddy Universe Strongest and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee. The spectacular process of their duel had indeed given Ji You a great shock.

Unexpectedly, both of their strengths were so formidable, especially that Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, who was ranked third.

Terrifying.

Terrifying.

...

However, no matter how terrifying others might be, they are currently irrelevant to Ji You. Right now, her only thought was to quickly find her next opponent, win, and then get the qualification for advancement.

She is now, after all, a high-level fighter ranked at 99, a character of some repute. It would be a disgrace to her grandmother's house if she couldn't even secure the qualification to advance.

At this moment, Ji You suddenly received a challenge request: [King's Expedition has issued a challenge to you, Challenge Points: 100.]

Ji You: "Eh?"

This person—

Isn't this the one ranked at 100?

Ji You was skeptical; she browsed the leaderboard again carefully and confirmed that the challenger was indeed King's Expedition from the East District, a Freshman ranked 100th.

Accept?

Reject?

To be honest, for Ji You's last match, it would be best to play it safe. She should reject the challenge.

Ji You didn't immediately refuse but waited a while, about a few minutes, and noticed that no one had accepted the challenges she had sent out.

Her brows slightly furrowed.

At this time, King's Expedition suddenly sent a message: [Are you afraid to fight me? Afraid of losing? Afraid of losing the qualification to advance?]

Clearly, Ji You's thoughts and intentions weren't secret, anyone who wasn't blind could understand her current situation. King's Expedition made no attempt to hide it, pointing it out directly.

Ji You looked at this sentence, her expression slightly startled.

Afraid of losing?

Of course, she was afraid. Ji You's goal was to secure the top 10 in the Alliance to gain the confidence to discuss purchasing Cloud Mist Tea from Teacher Mu Jianling. If she were to lose the chance to advance due to carelessness and arrogance—

Chapter 328: The Best in the Arena

But—

Ji You knew very well that what she had lost was not just the chance to advance, but the chance for Xiao You to recover, even if the opportunity for recovery was just a wild guess between her and Xiao You, even if that chance was one in a hundred billion, Ji You was not willing to lose it.

Therefore—

Ji You was scared.

She hesitated and looked around cautiously.

Her indecision was palpable.

...

The fears and worries in her heart lasted only a moment, and shortly after, a breathtaking brilliance burst forth from her eyes: if she stopped because she was afraid, then her journey would also end here.

How could she even speak of bravely striving for Xiao You's recovery?

Without this obstacle, there would be others in the future. The obstacles ahead were always unpredictable. The only thing Ji You could do was to overcome them! Surpass them! Until all obstacles were flattened.

Could she do it?

Yes.

— Even if it cost her life.

Perhaps Ji You herself did not realize, at the moment when this tenacious thought was born in her heart, a powerful, invisible force suddenly erupted around her, spreading in all directions, as if it was competing with the heavens and earth.

Boom—

All hesitations, all cautious deliberations, all fears and worries, at this moment, crumbled and could no longer hinder Ji You's progress.

Fight!

Ji You raised her hand and chose to agree.

At this side.

King's Expedition was slightly startled: "Oh, she chose to agree."

Hero King leaned over to look and saw that Rag Queen really agreed, a flash of light in his eyes, and Hero King said, "Ajing, you must be very careful, very careful, and even more careful in this round of competition. The strength of Rag Queen should not be underestimated."

King's Expedition turned to look at Hero King beside him and nodded solemnly, "Hero, don't worry, I won't be careless, I will fight with all my might to block her in the preliminary contest."

These two, from the same Military Academy and classmates, talked with Hero King seemingly leading, their relationship obviously centered on 'Hero King'.

Hero King, hearing this, smiled slightly, saying, "Mm, I believe you. If you can defeat her, it's not only an opportunity to make your name known but also for our Military Academy to achieve the final victory by clearing an obstacle."

King's Expedition clenched his fist tightly after hearing this: "Mm!"

Now, having defeated Xiaoqing ranked 85, Hero King ranked 99, and recently Dominate the Universe ranked 86 in Rag Queen, she's currently in the limelight. If someone stood up and defeated her now, without a doubt, the fame would rise rapidly.

Although King's Expedition had also entered the rankings, he was only at the tail end at the 100th position, and his performances in each battle weren't spectacular, barely noticeable in fame.

Now that Rag Queen had accepted his challenge, King's Expedition knew it was an opportunity that came once in a lifetime, and he secretly vowed to defeat her.

Immediately following——

The scene shifted, and King's Expedition was teleported to the arena.

Upon his arrival, the audience erupted into cheers: "King's Expedition! Invincible in battle!"

"King's Expedition! Invincible in battle!"

"King's Expedition! Invincible in battle!"

The enthusiastic cheers from the audience made King's Expedition himself slightly stunned: Hmm? When did I gather so many fans?

After pondering, he understood the reason: It must be Hero King's arrangement, obviously to ensure his own victory.

Realizing this, King's Expedition raised his hand to lightly wave at the audience in response.

This wave of his hand exuding the demeanor of a master instantly ignited the passion of the spectators even more, and the cheers intensified: "King's Expedition! Invincible in battle!"

Witnessing this scene, Ji You didn't know what expression to put on her face.

Was she envious?

Or jealous?

Or both envious and jealous and resentful?

Ah ah ah...

Both are top players on the list, but her ranking is even one spot above her opponent's. When she made her appearance, the arena fell as quiet as a chicken coop, but when her opponent came out, the crowd erupted in cheers—

Ji You couldn't help but feel jealous.

So, Ji You twisted her mouth and looked towards King's Expedition, sarcastically saying without hiding her bitterness: "Oh my, I'm getting so jealous. How do you manage to have special effects when you enter? I'm incredibly envious!"

King's Expedition hadn't even responded yet when Ji You continued non-stop: "Are there any of my fans in the audience? Could you please shout for me: 'Rag Queen, the best in the arena!'"

Quiet.

Silence.

Dead silence.

...

It seemed as if someone had hit the pause button in the arena; both the boiling noise and the restless crowd stopped in that instant, everything was as quiet as a chicken coop.

Ji You: "..."

Awkward.

This just got awkward.

Where are those people who ranted on the forums, claiming they love her, always support her? Not even one?

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Suddenly, from a quiet corner, a loud female voice rang out: "Rag Queen, the best in the arena!"

As soon as this voice came out, the people next to her turned their heads in surprise, "Why are you shouting?"

The owner of the voice: "It's too awkward; I find this Rag Queen quite pleasant, so why not help her out? Any problem with that?"

Dominate the Universe hesitated for a moment: "No problem."

Xiaoqing also paused slightly: "No problem."

It's just—

Because of this person's shout, their corner instantly attracted numerous gazes, making both of them feel awkward. For a moment, both were considering whether to shift their positions slightly to distance themselves from this person.

The girl: "Dare to move your butts? I'll beat you up!"

Xiaoqing: "..."

Dominate the Universe: "..."

The girl: "What's there to be ashamed of? Rag Queen is clearly very powerful, and great, I bet she'll win!"

Xiaoqing remained silent.

Dominate the Universe paused for a moment and said: "You're mistaken. We're not embarrassed by her strength, but by that sleazy, silly aura she naturally carries, so we don't want anything to do with her."

After all, cheering for oneself, supporting oneself, and claiming to be the best - these are not things that ordinary people can do. Only the silliest of the silly can manage that.

Is there anything wrong with not wanting to associate with silliness?

...

When Ji You heard someone actually responded to her, she immediately cheered up; following her gaze, she noticed the girl who shouted seemed vaguely familiar, probably someone she had seen at the competition—

Who could it be?

Suddenly—

Ji You's eyes widened when she saw the two guys next to the girl; wasn't it Xiaoqing and Dominate the Universe?

Then—

Taking a closer look, she realized the girl boldly cheering for her was none other than Drunk Lying on a Beauty, ranked third!

Ji You: "!!!"

Ji You's lips curled into a smile, thinking to herself: Young lady, you really have a good eye!

This whole scene unfolded in mere seconds. Ji You looked around the arena, slowly raised the corners of her mouth, and with renewed dignity, loudly said: "Rag Queen! The best in the arena!"

Chapter 329: Utter Silence

"Rag Queen! The best in the entire arena!"

As soon as the words 'Rag Queen' were uttered, it was like a thunderclap on a clear day, stunning the King's Expedition and the surrounding audience inside out with disbelief, an eerie silence spreading through the entire arena...

A few seconds later.

Before King's Expedition could regain his composure, Ji You lifted her head and gestured with a curl of her finger, "Heard you wanted to defeat me? See that? My aura is unmatched, silencing everyone at my arrival! I give you three seconds to surrender voluntarily or else—"

King's Expedition: "..."

Whether or not he was actually scared by these words, King's Expedition's mind was a mess at the moment: Was he really going to fight this clown? Even if he won, it wouldn't feel like much of an honor.

But—

Once the arrow is shot, there's no going back. No matter how foolish the opponent or how questionable their intelligence... he would have to fight through the tears and the gritted teeth to finish this match and shut Rag Queen's mouth for good.

So—

Without further ado, King's Expedition simply declared, "Let's begin."

The timer started; in an instant, both of them piloted their mechs and quickly created distance from each other. King's Expedition's Wind Wing Mech, designed for speed, burst to its maximum in an instant, leaving a considerable gap between him and Ji You's mech, stirring awe among the audience with his signature speed display at the start of the match. The cheer squad arranged by Hero King instantly cheered, "King's Expedition!"

"King's Expedition!"

"King's Expedition!"

...

After reaching a safe distance, King's Expedition didn't land but kept speeding and leaping around the arena without looking for an opportunity to attack from stealth. For a moment, the audience was puzzled by his intentions.

On the contrary, after Rag Queen had slightly increased the distance, she landed from mid-air and stood there with her antique mech without making any further moves.

What's she doing?

Is she standing there waiting to take a beating?

Does Rag Queen know she's no match and is just giving up?

For a moment, the audience couldn't understand Rag Queen's intentions either.

Ji You remained stationary on the side, holding her position. Her eyes closely watched every move made by King's Expedition. Since he neither sought a stealth attack nor launched any immediate offense, but only kept racing around at a distance, Ji You knew it was just a feint. His speed was very fast, and from a short exchange, Ji You understood that if she tried to compete in speed, she would lose. It wouldn't be difficult for him to close in for a sneak attack.

So—

To prevent a stealth attack, you would always be on guard. The best strategy now was to take the initiative.

After observing for a few seconds, Ji You had a good grasp of his movement trajectory and preferences and had roughly estimated his top speed. She quickly aimed her gun at a certain spot.

In the spectator stands:

Chu Jiaojiao's lips curled up, "Rag Queen is making her move."

Shen Changqing and Yue Qiyuan also tensed up in an instant.

And then—

Whoosh~

A particle cannon shot was fired along a specific trajectory, heading straight for a particular position.

Anyone who could be a Mechanical Warrior had extraordinary hearing. Despite the distance, they felt a slight air movement the moment the particle cannon was fired. King's Expedition's eyes darkened, "Striking first, huh?"

Think again.

King's Expedition piloted his mech with graceful movements, swiftly vacating the spot he had been in.

Right after leaving, he heard successive booms—

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

The audience exploded in speculation at this scene:

"A wild barrage?"

"Has Rag Queen completely given up?"

"King's Expedition is on the right side, why is she shooting to the left? Is she dumb?"

"King's Expedition is in the air, why is she randomly firing at the ground?"

"It's confirmed; she's a complete clown!"

"Poser, and a genuine idiot at that!"

...

As King's Expedition hastened forward, it was also muttering to itself in the dark: this Rag Queen was truly firing chaotically without any strategy, such behavior not only squandered weapons but energy as well. It completely failed to understand what she intended by doing this.

If this wasn't being a true idiot, then what was?

Taking advantage of the barrage of shots, King's Expedition made a few sly leaps and had stealthily approached close to the rear of Rag Queen. At the same time, the grim barrel aimed at the energy center of the antique mech.

Without a second's hesitation, King's Expedition immediately pulled the trigger.

Whoosh—

Hearing the slight whizzing noise of the Particle Cannon firing successfully, King's Expedition was inwardly pleased with itself. Knowing the essence of sneak attacks, it hit and ran without pause, refusing to engage further, and quickly withdrew from the area.

Whoosh—

Huh? Just as it started to move, King's Expedition felt slightly puzzled, why did the sound of the Particle Cannon begin to draw closer? Had it not known that it was the one who had fired, it might have mistaken the Particle Cannon for grazing right past its ear...

Oh no!

With a sudden ominous premonition, King's Expedition's reflexes were quick. It instinctively activated the Protective Shield and, in the blink of an eye, moved thousands of meters away from the spot...

But—

Boom!

The following explosion startled King's Expedition; it was sure it had moved out of the enemy's attack range, how could this happen?

Click~

Click~

Click~

...

Those were the sounds of the Protective Shield shattering.

—It had been hit just now.

King's Expedition pursed its lips and kept changing its positioning, all the while staring intently at the antique mech which stood still in the distance.

Hmm?

It's fine?

How could the opponent possibly be alright?

At such a close distance just now, it couldn't have missed.

Just as this thought surfaced, King's Expedition suddenly felt a chilling sensation - danger!

Whoosh~

Whoosh~

Whoosh~

It wasn't until King's Expedition was locked-on that it didn't lose its composure. It activated its mecha, continuously changing its speed and direction. With a few evasive maneuvers, it escaped the hazardous area.

However—

Just after landing, before it could catch its breath, King's Expedition immediately felt a foreboding sense of approaching disaster!

Boom—

Boom—

Boom—

Three Particle Cannons rushed forward simultaneously, one after another, striking the Wind Wing Mecha's head, chest, and feet—the key nodes which housed the cockpit, energy system, and thrusters. Precisely targeted, the Particle Cannons collided in the blink of an eye.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Intense sparks leaped before its eyes. In an instant, the cockpit and energy system burst, the Mechanical Legs unable to withstand the attack at that moment collapsed, the entire frame thunderously fell to the ground, King's Expedition's fingertips trembled, feeling a bitter taste slowly spreading down its throat...

Defeated.

Completely powerless to retaliate.

The surrounding audience, too, were staring wide-eyed, a bit unclear about the situation, particularly Hero King's 'fans' who had been invited to cheer for King's Expedition; with their mouths agape, ready to shout slogans and cheer loudly, their voices abruptly stopped mid-air—

Chapter 330: Poor or Stingy?

Arena.

At the moment when this agile Wind Wing, shattered into pieces, thunderously hit the ground, instantly, the system's announcement echoed in the ears of every spectator:

[The match has ended, Rag Queen wins!]

Audience: "..."

After a while.

Someone asked: "How many seconds was it?"

No response.

Someone asked again: "How many seconds did it take to end?"

Silence.

Stiffness.

Awkwardness.

...

The fans' gaping mouths gradually closed, and then, under the lead of a head fan, these fans who got stuck in the middle of their tasks had no reason to continue their work and began leaving their seats in droves; in less than a few seconds, more than 90% of the audience had left.

Then, someone else asked: "How many seconds was it? Why is no one answering?"

"15 seconds, duh, there's a timer for the match, can't you watch it?" Immediately, someone shot a glare at the person who spoke, suggesting the questioner was either truly dumb or looking to cause trouble.

The questioner suddenly stuck out their tongue, let out a shy laugh, and said, "I just couldn't believe it; I thought my eyes were playing tricks on me. Since everyone agrees it was 15 seconds, that means my eyes are fine."

The respondent: "..."

However, after these two broke the silence, the discussion amongst the remaining spectators was immediately ignited: "King's Expedition truly didn't lose unjustly, getting targeted by the Rag Queen is just like being marked by something sticky that you can't shake off. I originally thought her ability to tangle with her opponents was strong, but her sniping power is even stronger! From a thousand miles away, she can directly take the enemy's head! Scary..."

"Truly scary..."

"Just thinking about her cold and dreadful gaze as she stared at King's Expedition makes my whole body shudder..."

"The random barrage of Ordinary Particle Cannons in the beginning was all a blind eye method, the purpose was to hide the 4 Mini Particle Cannons that came after, and those 4 Cannons were the real trump cards—each shot was lethal, the first broke through the Protective Shield, the second shattered the cockpit, the third blasted the energy system, and the fourth damaged the thrusters..."

Scary...

So scary..."

"For a speed-type contestant like King's Expedition, in front of her, no matter how many times he changed his position, and no matter how fast he ran, he had no way to escape her lock-on. Is this—still human?"

"No, it's a beast."

"Speaking of which, the Rag Queen always uses an antique mech, have you ever considered, if she were to switch to a mech with stronger defense, speed, and firepower... what would the outcome be?"

"3 seconds! The battle would end in 3 seconds!"

"No! 1 second! If she's willing to use the Mecha Po Jun, at most 1 second, she could settle King's Expedition!"

"You all have so much faith in her, huh! Am I the only one here who hopes to see her switch mechs for the competition?"

"I want to see her change mechs +1!"

Once these few sentences were said, the whole audience was instantly set ablaze with this thought, and suddenly, everyone stood up, shouting to the Rag Queen who was waiting for the countdown to leave the arena: "Rag Queen, let's make a deal, could you stop using the antique mech, and switch to one with fiercer power and stronger firepower?"

Ji You was intently staring at the points tally page, her mouth twitching, looking as if she'd been massively shocked, in disbelief, then suddenly heard the remaining 10% of the audience actually starting to petition her to change mechs?

Change mechs?

Ji You lifted her gaze, scanned her surroundings with a stiff smile, and said, "Impossible! It's impossible in this lifetime! A pauper like the Rag Queen must operate an antique mech to make ends meet—"

The audience was stupefied: "!!!"

Was she being serious?

Upon catching the shocked expressions of the audience, Ji You immediately realized she had said something wrong. Her facial expression remained unchanged, and she spoke with an earnest tone, "Of course, everything I said before was just a joke. You guys are so naive and cute for believing such nonsense! Do I look like someone in need of points? You guys must be joking. Let me ask, who among you has more points than me?"

As she said this, she paused slightly and glanced over the audience.

The audience was silent: "..."

Such an unreasonable and infuriating statement, it was an outright show of wealth!

But—

The audience couldn't refute her.

In an instant, Ji You's expression turned serious as she said, "I hereby declare seriously: I currently have no plans to switch mechas because I feel that I have not surpassed myself. I still need to keep challenging myself until the day comes when I truly feel that I have made a breakthrough. Only then will I consider changing to a new mech."

Oh—

So that's how it is.

Once she put it that way, everyone found it easier to understand.

Indeed, her previous words were all in jest.

How could the Rag Queen possibly be a pauper? Unable to switch mechas because of poverty? That would be a fairy tale! Not to mention anything else, just the cut from the betting pools in the Rag Queen's last few battles was enough to make everyone jealous and envious—

Such a rich person, how could she possibly be poor?

What a load of nonsense!

And because of this, when the Rag Queen suddenly flaunted her wealth just now, provoking anger, no one spoke up in disagreement.

Now, hearing the Rag Queen's explanation, everyone instantly believed her. Far from feeling deceived or played, many were touched by the Rag Queen's inspirational spirit and spoke out one after another:

"Queen! Strive hard and break through your limits soon!"

"Rag Queen, stay true to your path and forge ahead without hesitation!"

"Queen! I believe in you! Looking forward to your breakthrough!"

...

In a corner.

Chu Jiaojiao watched the Rag Queen on stage, her eyes shimmering: "Ah, ah, ah... This queen is kinda pretty!"

As she watched, drool nearly spilled from Chu Jiaojiao's mouth.

Beside her, Shen Changqing stared at the Rag Queen on stage, his pitch-black eyes occasionally showing a contemplative look. After a while, he nodded solemnly.

But Yue Qiyuan, sitting next to Shen Changqing, felt really uncomfortable listening to the Rag Queen's explanation and the boiling voices of the crowd around them. He turned his head and caught Shen Changqing's gaze. Shen Changqing looked up, eye to eye for a moment, then said, "Ayuan, I deeply resonate with what she said. In the last days piloting an antique mech, I've had breakthroughs, but only minor ones. I haven't fully tapped into my potential yet, so—I will also keep using the antique mech until I truly achieve a breakthrough."

Yue Qiyuan opened his mouth: "You... you can't be serious?"

Shen Changqing stayed silent, just nodding his head, his eyes gleaming with an unwavering light as he looked back at Yue Qiyuan.

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Looking at the Rag Queen on stage, with her aura of a big shot and utmost integrity, and then at the audience beside him, who were filled with admiration just from her few words, Yue Qiyuan twitched at the corner of his mouth and couldn't help but quip, "She's not switching mechas not because she's poor or to break through herself, but because she's just stingy!"

Stingy as in tightfisted!