

Scavengers 581

Chapter 581: Fake Liquor Ruins Lives

Ji You's face was stern as she continued to fire her cannons with calm precision!

But her movements were clearly becoming more hurried!

One.

Two.

Three.

...

Rag Queen's actions got faster and more chaotic.

Hmm?

The audience perked up, "Is she getting annoyed? Looking to end it quickly?"

And Fu Feng?

Then everyone saw that Fu Feng remained calm and meticulous in his interception.

Suddenly—

A blast from Fu Feng broke through the resistance and quickly sped toward Rag Queen!

Boom—

Hit!

Audience: "..."

It wasn't until they saw sparks flying from the tail wing of Rag Queen's Mecha Blade that the audience could believe it was true!

Actually hit?

How is that possible?

With Rag Queen's skills, she should be able to intercept it, or dodge!

Then the audience saw that after being hit, Rag Queen's Mecha wobbled, she seemed very angry, and suddenly she propelled the Mecha forward with great force, then—

Bang—

The Mecha crashed to the ground.

Audience: "..."

Not just the audience, but even Fu Feng, who maintained his composure, was stunned by the scene, and his movements paused for a moment.

It was at this moment that Rag Queen suddenly moved; she leaped up and charged at Fu Feng fiercely.

Fu Feng's expression changed, thinking: I've been tricked!

In a flash, Fu Feng cranked his thrusters to maximum, quickly dodging away from his spot—

But—

Rag Queen, who seemed so formidable, suddenly stumbled mid-charge and fell to the ground, Mecha and all.

Audience: "..."

Fu Feng: "..."

Whether the opponent was pretending to act or really had a problem, Fu Feng pursed his lips, said nothing, and unleashing dozens of High Energy Particle Cannon shots at high speed!

In the blink of an eye, the Particle Cannons reached Rag Queen, who reacted quickly. She made adjustments, dodging continuously, but several cannons slipped through and hit Rag Queen's Blade!

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

Hearing the sound of being hit, the audience couldn't help but feel sympathy pains for Rag Queen!

Harsh!

Really harsh!

Audience A: "What is she doing?"

Audience B: "Rag Queen, show your strength, fight!"

Audience C: "Trash-talking queen, did you drink fake booze before the match?"

Audience D: "Fake booze is harmful, man!"

...

No matter how the audience called out, the fact was Rag Queen kept getting hit, and her Mecha Blade became riddled with holes in a short time.

It looked pitiful.

Fu Feng was very steady and did not launch a counter-attack because of the opponent's misfortune. Instead, he remained as stable as an old dog, maintaining the maximum distance from Rag Queen and firing his cannons methodically!

The only difference was that each time he fired, there were more cannons, stronger, and more energy-consuming!

Rag Queen, frantically dodging, was forced to activate her Protective Shield.

Crack—

Protective Shield shattered.

Rag Queen put up another layer of Protective Shield.

After repeating this for a few times.

Audience: "..."

Audience A: "Can't you use something nicer?"

Audience B: "1 point for a Basic Protective Shield, who are you trying to fool?"

Audience C: "Come on, big sis! Get wise! Go for a 100,000 point turtle shell!"

Audience D: "Trash-talking and stingy, you're invincible!"

Although the audience kept complaining, Rag Queen's use of Protective Shields was effective in warding off most of Fu Feng's attacks.

It's just—

Occasionally, an Ordinary Particle Cannon broke through, hitting her Mecha.

At this point, the Mecha was quite forlorn with damage. The only consolation was that the blade's Mechanical Cabin, energy system, and propulsion system were still intact.

Just as the audience was thinking this, suddenly—

A miniature Particle Cannon, hidden among countless Ordinary Particle Cannons, shot through layers of obstacles, heading straight for the Rag Queen's Mecha energy system!

"Fuck!"

"Dodge it!"

"Run!"

The audience couldn't help but yell when they saw this thrilling scene; Ji You also made an emergency escape in a flash!

But—

Boom—

All the audience could see was the Rag Queen in the Mechanical Cabin, sweat suddenly breaking out on her forehead because—

She got hit!

Damage to the energy system is a matter of life and death!

Audience: "!!!"

"It's over!"

"The Rag Queen is done for!"

"It's finished!"

"Finally?"

However—

Even so, Fu Feng still didn't move a muscle, unwilling to step forward.

The audience was speechless: "..."

Audience A: "I'm tired, just hurry up and finish her off!"

Audience B: "I'm also tired!"

Audience C: "I command you to hurry up, step forward and end her misery quickly with a single strike!"

Audience D: "You insolent rabble, if you dare delay my time any further, I will drag you all down and have you beheaded!"

...

Despite that, Fu Feng still advanced step by step, unhurriedly firing his cannons!

Rag Queen's energy system was breached and she couldn't move; she kept using the Basic Protective Shield to defend...

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Just when everyone thought the stand-off would continue, Rag Queen got hit again; Fu Feng suddenly moved swiftly, leaping up and rushing over, drawing his sword and thrusting directly at Rag Queen's Mechanical Cabin.

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

In that instant, the downed Rag Queen suddenly leapt up, grabbing hold of Fu Feng's Mecha's big head!

"Got you!"

Fu Feng: "..."

In this moment, Ji You's spiritual power, recklessly and crazily attacked!

Boss: [Minions, for Candy Beans, charge!]

Second: [For Candy Beans, charge!]

Third: [For Candy Beans! Charge, charge, charge!]

Fourth: [For our Master! Charge!]

Ji You's mouth twitched; Fourth's flattery was unstoppable no matter where he was!

There was an interruption, and as Old Five and Sixth began to echo in unison, it conveniently changed to: [For our Master! For Candy Beans! Charge, charge, charge!]

Click——

No one knew what happened, but suddenly Fu Feng turned pale and instantly cut off the Spiritual Connector to his Mecha, falling from the Mechanical Cabin.

A Mecha that loses connection with its pilot during Mechanical Driving is basically dead in the water.

This problem is very serious.

Rag Queen took the opportunity, pulled out the Big Chopper, and furiously smashed Fu Feng's Mechanical Cabin.

Clang~

Clang~

Clang~

Listening to the clangs, the hearts of the audience spasmed again and again...

Under such violent destruction, Fu Feng's Mechanical Cabin unsurprisingly shattered!

Then——

Rag Queen's mechanical arm reached in, and just like catching chicks, directly pulled Fu Feng out!

Audience: "Fuck!"

"Fu Feng! Wake up! You can't sleep!"

"Fu Feng, it's morning, Rag Queen is here to spank you!"

"Fuck! I was wrong! The one who drank fake alcohol before the match was Fu Feng ahhh!"

"Fu Feng! Fake alcohol is harmful; we won't drink it anymore!"

"Counterattack quickly! Fuck!"

"Fuck! Fuck! Fuck! I just dozed off for a second, what just happened?"

"I also just closed my eyes for a moment, what happened?"

Chapter 582: With Dignity

The audience seats.

Those who had just dozed off, got distracted, or were drowsy suddenly looked up and saw the scene before them, as if they were shockingly roused from a near-death sickness, wondering what year it is now!

This!

This!

This!

The Rag Queen actually hoisted Fu Feng out of the cockpit like picking up a chick?

What happened?

A novel with an interstellar theme, taking a sudden fantastical twist halfway through?

That's way too far-fetched.

Cough cough...

That's not right! Fu Feng had the upper hand, the Rag Queen's Mecha's energy system shattered, and the whole Mecha about to be turned into a sieve!

This!

Can it really turn the tables?

Now, no one dared to nod off or wander off again; they all perked up, to see if there was any reversal to come.

In fact, even when Ji Youzhen truly had Fu Feng in her grasp, she couldn't dare to be careless!

She might seem careless and unconcerned, but in reality, she is extremely conservative in her actions. In such a do-or-die battlefield, Ji Youzhen believes only dead enemies pose no threat to her.

So—

She remained fully alert and without a word, pulled out the energy great machete, not uttering a single word of waste! Without pausing for a moment, she slashed straight at Fu Feng's vital spots...

Bang!

Somehow, the blade suddenly became a bit dull, and the cut wasn't very clean.

That shouldn't be right?

Ji Youzhen was slightly puzzled; she tried harder, and just as she forcefully swung down again, her gaze collided with Fu Feng's, who had just opened his eyes to look at her...

That look, Fu Feng's eyes were deep and full of endless melancholy and resentment... as if Ji Youzhen at this very moment was a big bully, wantonly oppressing the innocent.

Ji Youzhen felt a bit weird, also a bit reluctant.

But!!!

Ji Youzhen still didn't hesitate for half a second when making her cut, and this time, the blade finally went smoothly.

Snap~

Fu Feng expired!

System: [The match is over, Rag Queen wins.]

Audience: "???"

Ji Youzhen: "???"

Fu Feng is gone?

Just like that?

Silence.

Very silent.

Extremely silent.

Ji Youzhen gazed at Fu Feng's 'corpse' for a few seconds, then suddenly let out a long sigh, saying, "Big brother, to think you'd depart this young! Sigh~"

Audience: "..."

Fu Feng: "..."

Utter silence.

Then, a stretch of deathly stillness followed.

After that—

Everyone saw the Rag Queen suddenly bent down, looking seriously at Fu Feng's 'corpse', saying, "Brother~ rest assured, I will make sure you leave this world with dignity."

Then.

The audience watched as the Rag Queen started to work, sweeping Fu Feng's 'corpse' into the trash recycle bin all at once.

Audience: "..."

Fu Feng: "..."

As they watched this outrageous sequence, the dead silence in the audience seats cracked and, after a stir, a torrent of mockery rained down from the stands:

Audience A: "That's the dignity you're giving?"

Audience B: "Please throw it all in the trash for that kind of dignity."

Audience C: "If I were Fu Feng, I'd have to arise from anger!"

Audience D: "Fu Feng! Are you going to take that lying down? Get up and fight!"

...

Cough cough...

No matter how the audience complained, this match ended unexpectedly just like that.

When it was time to be teleported out of the arena, Ji You grinned, and with a chuckle said to the audience, "Brothers and sisters, I'm taking my leave first, see you in the next match!"

Audience: "..."

Faced with the Rag Queen, they had run out of things to heckle. Compete in wisecracks? Insults? Being talkative? Wait... She outdid everyone in all of those categories.

Defeated.

Defeated.

Defeated.

After the match, everyone watched and analyzed the combat video closely and found out that the Rag Queen was truly amazing!

Not only strong in power! First-rate in acting!

Where did Fu Feng lose?

He lost due to his naivety, mistakenly believing the Rag Queen's feigned weakness, and she was truly ruthless. In order to make Fu Feng believe she was finished, she used herself as bait. It was one thing for the Mecha to be shot full of holes by Fu Feng, but she even shattered her own energy system!

Destroying the energy system—this move was a truly brilliant gamble! The slightest mishap and she would have been done for, it was extremely dangerous! But!!!

That's exactly why Fu Feng was fooled!

The audience was fooled too!

After this match, everyone agreed: [You can't trust a single word out of the Rag Queen's mouth, not even a strand of her hair or a fleck of dandruff!]

...

As for Ji You, winning the match was all that mattered; she didn't care about what people said behind her back.

As for the means of her victory?

Cough cough...

What does it matter if the methods are high or low, noble or humble? The only distinction is between effective and ineffective. Besides, she had only added a bit of acting during the match, that's all.

In any case—

Having won the match, Ji You couldn't be happier or more smug, her mouth almost reaching Sky, and she glanced over at her teacher Mu Jianling, thinking proudly:

[Teacher~

Look~

I really am the best student you've ever taught in hundreds of years!

Without a doubt!]

Suddenly Mu Jianling looked up and glanced over here.

Ji You grinned: [Praise me! Praise me! Praise me!]

Cough...

And some extra Candy Beans as a reward would be even better.

Mu Jianling's lips slightly curled up, then suddenly asked, "What do you all think about the match you just watched?"

Students: "..."

Thoughts?

It's a bit complicated; we can't articulate it right away.

Mu Jianling said with a smile, "To me, it's a real pity she didn't apply for the Alliance Drama Academy. With her talent, she's a natural born actor, even the Alliance Flower Ye Lu would be ashamed to compete in acting!"

Students: "Ah???? Yes, yes, yes!!! She is such a drama queen! She deceived everyone!"

Hearing this, Mu Jianling was not at all annoyed but continued smiling, "Hm. I'm in a good mood today, so I'll assign you all a simple learning task. Everyone learn from her acting skills, not necessary to surpass her, but you must all at least reach half her level."

Students: "..."

Looking at the students, each with their eyes widened, Mu Jianling smiled slyly, his tone light but firm, "This will be included in the performance assessment, anyone who does not meet the criteria will lose academic points."

Students: "!!!!!"

In an instant, the whole training room was filled with utter grief!

"Rag Queen! You really caused us great trouble!"

"You troublemaker!"

"I can't coexist with you under the same Sky!"

...

Hearing the curses from the entire training room, for some reason, Ji You felt chilly all over and tingles running down her spine...

Could this vest still explode?

This vest is completely ruined!

Then, Ji You looked up, only to meet Mu Jianling's eyes brimming with laughter.

Ji You: "..."

This normally icy Mu Jianling smiling all of a sudden is indeed terrifying!

Chapter 583: Teacher Mu's Praise

Mu Jianling, as a teacher, put me on the spot, so I could neither boast nor show off.

Ji You was unhappy.

Ji You was very depressed.

Ji You became withdrawn.

...

Ji You, enveloped in a low-pressure atmosphere, suddenly noticed an even lower pressure from the person next door—

Liu Fufeng.

Liu Fufeng, shoulders hunched, uncontrollably tore back and forth at a piece of paper in his fair, slender hands...

"It's already so tattered, why keep tearing it?" Ji You moved closer and asked, puzzled.

Fufeng mechanically kept tearing, his thoughts drifting far away, momentarily forgetting to hide the shredded pieces of paper.

Ji You reached out to grab—

Fufeng suddenly awoke, pressing his hands together hurriedly—

But—

It was too late!

Ji You had snatched several pieces!

Liu Fufeng's complexion changed drastically in an instant.

Ji You: "???"

Seeing him like this, Ji You stuffed the snatched pieces back to him and said, "What's the rush, am I that heartless? I won't peek at your secrets without your permission."

Liu Fufeng was startled.

After Ji You finished speaking, she no longer paid attention to Liu Fufeng and instead gazed resentfully at Teacher Mu Jianling.

A flush of crimson tinged the handsome face of Liu Fufeng; he was genuinely stunned.

[Ji You could have peeked, but she didn't.]

[She didn't.]

[Beneath her shameless facade lies an upright soul.]

...

Liu Fufeng stuffed the shredded paper into a recycling bin.

Meanwhile.

Faced with over a thousand noisy students in the training room, Mu Jianling cleared his throat and said, "What's all the racket? Quiet down, everyone."

In an instant, the training room became as quiet as a mouse.

Mu Jianling snorted coldly and scolded, "Do you think acting is trivial? A petty skill? In the face of absolute power, isn't it utterly useless?"

The students kept quiet, not daring to make a sound.

Mu Jianling almost snorted through his nostrils, "But I think, at least 80% of you here not only lack real power but don't even possess these worthless petty tricks! What do you have to be proud of?"

The students: "..."

The students' necks shrank even tighter.

Mu Jianling said, "Petty tricks may not be noble, but they can still be useful in crucial moments. At least if you encounter someone dumber than you, you can get by with acting."

The students: "..."

Mu Jianling continued, "I've said it before, when you're on the battlefield, you have only two goals: one is to kill the enemy, and the other is to survive! It doesn't matter what methods you use to cling to life, kill more enemies, and walk out of the battlefield alive."

The students listened thoughtfully.

Mu Jianling suddenly asked, "Do you really think the Rag Queen's combat methods are disgraceful?"

The students remained silent but shook their heads one after another.

Seeing the students shaking their heads, Mu Jianling felt unusually relieved in his heart; at least this batch of students wasn't blockheads. Then, Mu Jianling said with a smile, "In battle, there's no such thing as dignified or undignified; only effective and ineffective."

The students loudly responded, "Yes!"

Honestly speaking, although everyone criticized the Rag Queen as shameless, brazen, and a drama queen... yet—they could not help but be captivated by her combat methods and strength and felt great admiration!

Mu Jianling continued with a smile, "I watched the Rag Queen's several matches; her tactics are flexible and her ideas quick-witted, definitely worth your learning. I hope you all take it seriously."

Upon hearing this, the students were all astounded, mainly surprised that Teacher Mu Jianling actually admired a student so much!

Remarkable!

Normally, even when dealing with geniuses like Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, and Shen Changqing, Teacher Mu Jianling's expressions and words seemed to visibly scream: [These idiots!]

Now—

A student from the East District, 'Rag Queen', had been praised by Teacher Mu Jianling for so long.

Who is the Rag Queen?

A genius from the First Military Academy?

Or?

The students shook off these messy thoughts and raised their heads to loudly reply to Mu Jianling: "Yes! We will follow the teacher's teachings!"

Isn't it just practicing acting?

Learn!

"Cough..."

Ji You coughed quietly, raising her hand to cover her reddened ears.

Oh my~

Suddenly praised by Teacher Mu Jianling! This feeling~

Awesome!

At the same time feeling awesome, there was also a bit of shyness... If only she could loudly and proudly tell everyone that she was the Rag Queen, that would have been better.

Cough...

Ji You stopped thinking about it.

Because the next competition was coming up.

Next is the top three competition.

The rule for this round, as always, was a simple and brutal draw! Among the three people, one would get a bye!

The other two who drew the opponents would compete, and the loser would drop to third place.

The winner would compete against the person with the bye to determine the first place.

In any case, the rules of the online competition were just like this, pure and unpretentious.

But—

Although the rules were simple, the difficulty sharply increased.

To be honest, talking about pressure? Ji You felt tremendous pressure; she had competed several times with these two during the selection and had lost each time.

Not won once.

How to compete then?

Ji You pondered—

Then—

Just as they were about to start drawing, Mu Jianling said, "Quiet."

The training room quieted down, and so did the vast audience of the arena in that instant.

Ji You stood on stage, feeling her fingers trembling a bit—

Chu Jiaojiao and Little Shengsheng seemed unfazed on the surface.

They prepared to draw—

Suddenly—

Little Shengsheng said, "I don't want to draw the bye."

Ji You: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Audience: "..."

"Is this kid's brain broken?"—This thought popped up in everyone's mind simultaneously.

In an instant, Ji You blinked and asked, "Then... how about you give up the draw, and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, stone, and scissors decide who gets the bye?"

Ji You wasn't too sure about her luck in drawing, but she was slightly more confident in rock-paper-scissors.

Before Little Shengsheng could respond, Chu Jiaojiao was already nodding vigorously: "Yes! Yes! Yes!"

System: [Changing the competition rules is prohibited, or disqualification will occur.]

Ji You: "..."

Ji You felt very regretful inside and when she looked up, she realized that Little Shengsheng across her looked quite regretful too...

For a moment, Ji You was truly speechless.

This silly kid, participating in the competition, doesn't really care about winning or losing, but about the process and the growth gained from the competition!

Indeed—

A true master deserves to be a master; their thoughts are indeed different!

Respect!

System: [Please do not delay, make your choice quickly, 10, 9, 8, 7...]

Upon the system's warning, all three stretched out their hands at once, Little Shengsheng being the slowest, Ji You was the first one to grab, and Chu Jiaojiao was just a little bit behind.

Then—

Ji You carefully opened the slip of paper and looked at it, then glanced at the other two.

From the audience's perspective, the expressions of the three were all very calm.

Who?

Who got the bye?

Chapter 584: Invisible Swagger

When Ji You saw the words written on the note, her expression remained calm. She looked up and took another glance at Little Shengsheng and Chu Jiaojiao beside her; both of their expressions were very calm as well.

Then—

The three of them looked at each other.

Chu Jiaojiao shook her head with regret and said, "It's not me."

Hearing what Chu Jiaojiao said, the calm on Ji You's face finally collapsed, and she yelled, "Fuck! Little Shengsheng, I suspect you're cheating!"

Absolutely!

Definitely cheating.

The look on Little Shengsheng's face at this moment was, oh, so ugly—her delicate brows and nose nearly scrunched up together. She looked at the Rag Queen and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee and asked a question that made the souls of Ji You and the others tremble, "I even let you pick first, so why couldn't you catch it?"

Ji You: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Audience: "..."

Silence.

Dead silence.

This silence, filled with extreme awkwardness, spread from the stage to the audience, and continued to spread all around...

After a while.

Audience A: "Fuck! Invisible showing off is the most deadly!"

Audience B: "Little Shengsheng, that's enough."

Audience C: "Little Shengsheng, I've misjudged you, I always thought you were the most innocent and unpretentious contestant in the competition, I had no idea you were like this!"

Audience D: "It's over, I'm disillusioned. What I thought was a pure stream turned out to be a mudslide."

...

It's not just Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao who are almost suffocating with anger when they hear Little Shengsheng's name, even the audience below the stage can't stand it any longer.

A bye!

Two byes in a row!

Such a Chosen Son, it wouldn't be too much to call her god's own son or daughter. The key is that what others desperately wish for, she doesn't even want!

Just look~

How much does that need to be slapped?

Then—

Suddenly, Little Shengsheng asked, "System, can I reapply for the draw?"

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Everyone: "..."

Can't get more smug.

Really can't get more smug.

System: [Once the draw results are determined, they cannot be changed. If dissatisfied, please feel free to withdraw from the competition.]

Upon hearing this, Little Shengsheng pursed her lips and said, "Then never mind."

Ji You scratched her head, looked at Chu Jiaojiao, and asked, "Do you feel the urge to hit her?"

Chu Jiaojiao nodded vigorously: "Yes! Not just an urge, I want to riot!"

Ji You empathized deeply: "Me too."

Little Shengsheng heard her two opponents speak, and although her frown was still there, her expression had turned softer. She looked at Ji You, then at Chu Jiaojiao; she wanted to fight both of them, but in the end, she could only choose one... so Little Shengsheng was a bit conflicted before finally saying, "You guys work hard; I'm fine with whoever I fight in the end."

Upon hearing this sentence, Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao were already too upset to be angry.

Because—Little Shengsheng's words were clearly all genuine thoughts from the heart, without a hint of showiness, swagger, or showing off. And that was just frustrating.

System: [The first round of the competition is about to begin, please get ready, contestants.]

The arena opened, Little Shengsheng was transported to the waiting room, and with a flash before their eyes, Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao arrived at a simulated vast starry space battlefield.

The entire audience's atmosphere also turned lively again in that instant.

Audience A: "Why isn't there a betting pool for the finals? I really want to place bets."

Audience B: "Speaking of which, who do you think will win?"

Audience C: "From the heart, I support the Rag Queen, but in terms of strength, Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee has a slight edge."

Audience D: "Now this, I can't agree with! How could you say the Rag Queen is no match for Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee? Other than having a pair of fists, what else does Drunk have?"

...

Regarding the debate over who would win between Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao, the audience below the stage was also split into two camps, one steadfastly supporting Ji You and the other steadfastly supporting Chu Jiaojiao.

Inside the training room.

Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, and the others were also troubled by this question.

Shen Changqing said: "Chu Jiaojiao's only weakness is her spiritual power. As long as she can defend against the Rag Queen's Spiritual Interference, she can definitely win. But if she can't defend against it, then it's dangerous."

Yue Qiyuan said: "I think so too."

Yue Qiguang said: "In my view, that idiot Chu Jiaojiao definitely can't win."

Sheng Qingyan, who had been slouching over the table looking lazy, couldn't sit back any longer. She lifted her head and said: "Why can't Jiaojiao do it? She'll definitely make it. Jiaojiao has never been defeated all her life."

In any case—

Sheng Qingyan was brimming with confidence in Chu Jiaojiao.

In the arena.

Chu Jiaojiao looked at Ji You and suddenly said: "Rag Queen, even though you're pretty, I definitely won't go easy on you today."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You was almost ready to curse: Do I need your charity?

Ji You sneered: "Bring it on!"

Hearing that, Chu Jiaojiao's eyes lit up: "So bold! I like that."

Ji You suddenly raised her hand, saying: "Before that, I'd like to make an unreasonable request."

Chu Jiaojiao had quite a high tolerance for beauties, and somehow, she just felt that even though this Rag Queen in front of her wasn't as pretty as Ji You, she was still very beautiful.

So, Chu Jiaojiao asked very patiently: "What is it? Tell me."

Ji You said: "I hope you can change your name."

Chu Jiaojiao: "Huh? Change name?"

Ji You said: "I want you to change it to 'Drunk Lying on the Ugly's Knee.'"

Pfft—

Chu Jiaojiao couldn't hold back and burst out laughing, holding her chest, she said: "Isn't your request a bit too unreasonable?"

Ji You rolled her eyes and said: "Didn't I say in advance, this is an unreasonable request?"

Such shameless words, but!!!

Ahem!

She loved it.

Still—

Chu Jiaojiao still had a pained expression, saying with difficulty: "But... I can't do that..."

Ji You said: "Then there's no helping it, I'll have to beat you to death and send you where you belong."

Wow~

Chu Jiaojiao's eyes suddenly shone brightly, her whole face beaming with an infatuated smile: "Good~ very good~"

Audience: "..."

The audience angrily slapped their thighs: "Is this an idiot?"

"Remove the question mark, this is definitely an idiot."

"So—are we watching a battle of idiots?"

"Cough cough..."

On the field.

As the countdown ended, Ji You took the lead, brandishing the Mechanical Blade and quickly entered the cockpit, connecting to the Connection Device.

Chu Jiaojiao was not far behind, swiftly entering her Mecha.

The simulation battlefield was a vast expanse of space, with occasional meteors and space debris floating by, but practically no planets to set foot on. If one of the two were ejected from their Mecha, it would likely seal their defeat.

Ji You, in the first moment, piloted the Mecha to speed away.

Facing a brute like Chu Jiaojiao, a close-quarters battle would surely be at a disadvantage, so Ji You didn't act rashly, immediately creating distance between them.

Chapter 585: Beasts! A Pair!

Ji You ran swiftly, with Chu Jiaojiao in hot pursuit, step by step, the distance between them shrinking...

Ji You increased the thrusters, and the speed of the Mecha surged once more.

Suddenly, Chu Jiaojiao fired at a certain point in the sky, and with a loud bang, an asteroid instantly shattered into countless pieces, which then scattered in all directions. Dozens of those fragments directly struck Ji You's Mecha.

Clang~

Her trajectory disrupted, along with the impact from the small asteroids, caused Ji You's Mecha to wobble completely, inevitably slowing her down.

Chu Jiaojiao's move—

"Beautiful!"

The audience exclaimed unanimously.

Chu Jiaojiao seized the opportunity to max out the thrusters, reducing the distance between them by half!

Just when they were within the shooting range of Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee and the audience thought Rag Queen was done for, suddenly—

Rag Queen fired a shot into midair!

Swoosh—

It was only after hearing the sound slicing through the air did the audience realize a dark asteroid was also hurtling towards them.

Boom—

With a loud explosion, the enormous asteroid burst apart in the blink of an eye, propelling shards in every direction, the largest of which shot straight towards Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee!

Clang~

Hit by the fragments, the entire Mecha of Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee shuddered, its speed immediately decreasing—

The distance between the two fighters was maintained once more.

The audience:

"Beautiful!"

"The same clever move as Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, brilliant!"

"Is this what they call giving her a taste of her own medicine?"

"Thinking of taking down Rag Queen? Not so fast!"

...

In reality, Ji You was feeling a bit overwhelmed at the moment. With Chu Jiaojiao relentlessly on her heels, sticking to her like a persistent annoyance, getting rid of her would be impossible without defeating her.

But! To defeat her wasn't that easy either, it required the right approach and tactics.

While running, Ji You pondered her strategy.

Next, the audience watched as both Rag Queen and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee continuously used the asteroids floating in space to create one obstacle and countermeasure after another.

These scenes were both exciting and thrilling! It was as if the battlefield was a performance of speed and passion, and despite the repetitive scenes over the past ten minutes, the audience felt no visual fatigue.

No good!

Can't keep running like this!

This beast Chu Jiaojiao could keep running for days and nights without breaking a sweat, but Ji You couldn't.

Her Physical Strength was her biggest weakness; if this continued, she'd surely be dragged to her death by Chu the beast.

Ji You realized that to turn the situation around, she had to stop.

And—

She had to maintain distance from Chu Jiaojiao and prevent her from immediately attacking.

But how?

Then—

Everyone saw Rag Queen's Mecha extend a claw from its mechanical arm, grabbing a white flag and waving it continuously in the direction of Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee~

What?

Waving the white flag?

Surrendering outright?

The audience: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao was also somewhat taken aback and asked, "Are you conceding?"

Ji You didn't reply, but simply turned the white flag to face the crowd, revealing three large characters:
[Fake White Flag]

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

The audience: "..."

The audience took a deep breath but still couldn't help but curse, "This is an arena, please be serious! If you want to mess around, go back to your house and do it there!"

"Cough cough..." Ji You cleared her throat and sternly said, "I'm not intentionally messing around. This is a small flag of friendship that I am showing to my opponent Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee. Who decreed we must be enemies locked in mortal combat? Can't we be friends? Between friends, shouldn't we spread friendship?"

The audience: "..."

The audience cursed, "What nonsense are you talking about? This is embarrassing, isn't it?" questioning the setting and the talk of friendship and friends, they were simply aghast—

Chu Jiaojiao scratched her head and honestly said, "Well... I also feel a bit embarrassed."

"Cough..."

Ji You forced a dry laugh and said, "Awkward, that's right."

Suddenly—

Her eyes turned cold, and in that instant, before the onlookers could see what was launched from the blade tip, the spot where Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee was still a moment ago, erupted with a violent explosion!

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

Chu Jiaojiao hopped on one foot while running and shouting, "Holy shit! So ferocious! Lucky I ran fast!"

But—

The explosion didn't die down quickly. It stirred up the surrounding magnetic field, gathering countless meteorites, rock fragments, space debris... all rolling up into a massive vortex—

Being too close to this vortex, Chu Jiaojiao had no idea that such a thing would happen. To think, the projectile Rag Queen fired at the beginning didn't look that terrifying—

What?

How did it result in such a formidable force?

Caught off-guard, Chu Jiaojiao, along with her mecha, was swept into the vortex!

The audience was dumbstruck.

This!

This!

This!

Watching Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee being dragged into the vortex, both person and mecha bathed in firelight...

Silence.

The crowd fell into a weird hush.

"Damn it!"

"Beast!"

"What did Rag Queen do?"

"Holy shit! Is she a devil?"

...

In fact, Ji You was also surprised by the scene she caused, but to keep up the boss's demeanor, she appeared utterly indifferent on her face.

"She just secretly compressed a hundred High Energy Particle Cannons into one!"

"That Particle Cannon is terrifying; the explosion activated the previously stable magnetic fields and air pressure around it, causing the vortex!"

"Just a simple siphoning principle."

"Holy crap! A genius!"

"Is Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee going to be torn to pieces by the energy blast wave?"

"Doesn't that mean Rag Queen is just sitting there reaping the victory?"

While all the viewers thought so, Ji You, keeping her distance from the vortex, dared not jump to conclusions—for what she faced was not just anyone, but Chu Jiaojiao, that beast.

Sure enough—

It was just a moment, and as the energy stabilized, Chu Jiaojiao, who had been swept into the vortex, leaped out driving her mecha—

Ji You narrowed her eyes, aimed the cannon barrel at Chu Jiaojiao in the vortex, and issued the firing command again.

Swoosh—

Chu Jiaojiao screamed: "Holy shit!"

Boom—

The airflows, air pressure, magnetic field... were stirred up again, forming an even bigger vortex—

The audience: "..."

The silence said it all—

When did Rag Queen prepare the second Compressed Cannon?

You should know, these things can't be mass-produced; one needs a certain level of spiritual power to accomplish this.

Others can't even handle one; she managed two.

Others use Ordinary Particle Cannons; she uses High Energy Particle Cannons.

This—

This is beyond just calling her a beast.

At that moment, Rag Queen, with her unparalleled boss stature, suddenly turned pale and staggered a bit, and at that exact moment, as everyone thought Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee was going to fall, she suddenly surged forth with great force, breaking out of the vortex.

Everyone: "!!!!"

Beast!!!

A pair!!!!

Chapter 586: Ji You Is Unwilling to Accept Defeat

Beasts!

A pair!

The audience widened their eyes, almost unable to believe the scene unfolding before them.

Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, piloting her broken Mecha, had actually run out from the vortex, and when everyone looked back at Rag Queen, they suddenly noticed that something was off with her expression!

Huh?

Rag Queen's lips were pale, her fingers trembling, she actually didn't move?

"Hurry up and attack!"

"Attack! Attack!"

"Faster! Faster!"

...

But it was too late, Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee had already leapt out, charging straight towards Rag Queen!

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Not only did Rag Queen fail to take any action, but instead, she suddenly collapsed onto the control panel!

Audience: "!!!"

What the hell?

Is this an act?

Or?

Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, who was approaching ferociously, noticeably hesitated, her eyes filled with caution—

But!

Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee had fought countless battles, it wasn't prudence she relied on, but brashness!

It was her innate instinct for battle!

At this moment, even if Rag Queen was really pretending, acting injured to lure her closer... then, she was indeed severely wounded.

Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee wasn't going to give up this perfect opportunity!

Therefore, she didn't retreat but instead charged forward even faster!

At that moment, a white flash crossed, and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee immediately activated an expensive Protective Shield!

Boom—

The explosion from the Particle Cannon debris kept hitting the Protective Shield, and Chu Jiaojiao suddenly lunged at Rag Queen with a thrust!

Bang!

Hit Rag Queen's cockpit!

Chu Jiaojiao launched another attack!

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

At this time, Ji You, just as Chu Jiaojiao had predicted, was seriously injured. Her spiritual power was nearly drained, and compressing those 2 High Energy Particle Cannons was something Ji You did with sheer willpower, but!

To no avail against Chu Jiaojiao, which made Ji You distressed!

The only strategy now—Ji You steeled her heart, suddenly, under everyone's gaze, she charged and hugged Chu Jiaojiao's Mecha!

Audience: "..."

The sticky method again!

Would it succeed this time?

Feeling Rag Queen's mechanical arms tightly wound around her, Chu Jiaojiao was not annoyed but instead shouted, "Ah! The beauty throws herself into my arms! Please, hold me tighter!"

Audience: "..."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You nearly lost her grip and fell off, she shuddered with goosebumps and, making a final decision, abruptly initiated the Self-Destruction sequence!

But—

Crack~

A crisp sound, Ji You's Blade began to shatter into pieces, as it turned out, Chu Jiaojiao's recent attack wasn't reckless, but very methodical, step by step dismantling the Blade's functions, causing the Blade to be unable to initiate the Self-Destruction program.

Ji You: "..."

She hadn't even noticed!

Indeed, the drain of spiritual power, was it too hazardous, too fatal?

Boom—

Everyone just saw Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee fire another shot at the Rag Queen's mecha, and this time, Blade was struck just like a falling leaf!

...

Silence.

Dead silence.

...

System: [The match has ended, Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee wins!]

Ji You was experiencing being a 'corpse' for the first time. Through the damaged perspective of her 'corpse', she saw Chu Jiaojiao with a defeated look on her face, squatting next to her 'corpse', both in pain and asking for a beating as she said, "Queen! I won't allow you to die!"

"Get up!"

"Get up!"

Ji You: "..."

Even in death, there's no peace!

Ji You, without hesitation, complained to the system: [Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee is attempting to insult a corpse, requesting the system to issue a punishment.]

Ding—

System: [Upon review, the other party has not conducted any action that insults the corpse.]

Ji You: "..."

Audience: "Hahaha—"

Nice one, system, showing such blatant favoritism, is this even fair?

Ji You took a deep breath and typed out a few words: [Please give the dead their due dignity!]

System: [Teleportation field will be activated shortly, please prepare both parties to exit the arena. 10, 9, 8, 7...]

Ji You cursed furiously: "You're deliberately changing the subject!"

System: [Corpse speaking out of turn, deduct 1 point.]

Chu Jiaojiao chuckled and said, "Rag Queen, goodbye. It was a pleasure competing against you!"

Ji You: [Goodbye! I'm not happy at all!]

...

With a heart full of gloom, Ji You left the Star Network and returned to the training room.

The final result of this match was unexpected but also reasonable.

Chu Jiaojiao's Physical Strength was significantly different from Ji You's to begin with, and though Ji You had the advantage of spiritual power, it wasn't enough to overcome her disadvantage.

She was a bit unwilling to accept it, hating to lose!

Hating the feeling of being powerless!

That competitive desire for the first time surged and tumbled intensely within Ji You's heart!

Next time, she definitely must not lose again!

Absolutely not!

In the training room, the students were whispering and discussing the match; Mu Jianling did not stop the students' discussions.

Ji You turned her head and looked at Chu Jiaojiao, whose short, handsome hair fluttered in the wind, outlining her face with more youthful exuberance and vitality!

Sheng Qingyan stared at Chu Jiaojiao, his beautiful eyes shining: "Jiaojiao, you're so amazing!"

Lazy as Sheng Qingyan, he didn't take the time to sneak in a nap this time. He watched the whole match, and seeing Chu Jiaojiao win, he felt like he got revenge. Sheng Qingyan was truly happy, his face so full of smile that only his teeth showed, not his eyes.

Sheng Qingyan: "Jiaojiao, just now Yue Qiguang secretly bullied someone, you help me beat him up!"

Chu Jiaojiao's forehead vein throbbed: "Shut up!"

Sheng Qingyan retracted his neck.

Beside them, Shen Changqing said: "Congratulations to student Chu Jiaojiao on making it to the next round."

Yue Qiyuan: "Congratulations!"

Yue Qiguang, with a cool expression, said: "Congratulations!"

Lou, Lance, and others also spoke up: "Congratulations!"

At this moment, Ji You finally managed to dispel the frustration and loss in her heart, she looked at Chu Jiaojiao and said, "Jiaojiao, congrats."

When she said this, everyone didn't notice anything unusual, but then Chu Jiaojiao suddenly asked with curiosity: "Ji You, what exactly are you congratulating me for?"

Ji You was taken aback, feeling the surrounding gazes suddenly becoming a bit strange.

An alter ego!

Ji You suddenly understood the key point; in the eyes of these people, she was not aware of their gaming aliases on the Star Network!

Inside, Ji You was a bit flustered, but on the outside, she chuckled hehe, looking quite unconventional, and said: "What's so strange about that? Of course, it's to congratulate you for beating the Rag Queen!"

Huh?

Chu Jiaojiao's eyes brightened: "You actually know my name?"

"Look at what you're saying, isn't it obvious?" Ji You raised her hand, waved it dismissively, and said, "Everyone is congratulating you, I just put two and two together, what's there to make a fuss about?"

"Besides, with a beast like you, I watch you fight every day, how could I not recognize you?"

"That makes so much sense!" Chu Jiaojiao chuckled: "You really live up to the name Ji You!"

Chapter 587: The Match Ends

"Indeed, well-deserved reputation, Ji You."

Hearing Chu Jiaojiao's words, honestly speaking, Ji You felt a mixture of emotions. Chu Jiaojiao, this animal, aside from being an animal, she's also a face-chaser, and the brainless kind at that.

Ji You suddenly had some regrets. If she had carelessly revealed her identity during the competition, would this person have handed her the victory on a silver platter?

Very—

Most likely.

Sigh!

However, she's never been one to rely on looks; she has earned her place as third in the Alliance through strength.

This thought only circulated in Ji You's mind for a moment before she pushed it aside.

At this time—

Shen Changqing suddenly asked, "Ji You, what is your Alliance University internal network account?"

Ji You blurted out, "Of course, it's 'Universe's Strongest Number One'!"

Hearing this, Shen Changqing's face turned slightly gloomy.

Ji You thought: Kid, you think such shallow tricks can make me reveal my alias? Impossible. I'm known as the 'Universe's Number One Crafty Little Cutie.'

Cough, cough~

Although he didn't get anything from Ji You, Shen Changqing didn't pursue it further. However, Yue Qiyuan kept peering over, repeatedly giving Ji You inconspicuous glances.

Ji You wasn't concerned with that, because—

The peak duel was about to start.

Little Shengsheng VS Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee!

Which one will ultimately claim victory?

It can be said that even before the match began, the atmosphere of the entire arena had become extremely heated. People gossiped noisily:

"I bet on Little Shengsheng."

"I bet on Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee."

"Their strengths are both inscrutable, but I still think Little Shengsheng has a greater chance of winning because Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee has already expended a lot of Physical Strength in the bout with Rag Queen. Can she still come out strong?"

"I agree with that."

"Have you all forgotten that Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee isn't an ordinary human?"

"Then... have you forgotten that Little Shengsheng isn't an ordinary human either? So— These two are evenly matched, and it's hard to predict the outcome."

...

Immediately after—

The scene shifted, and Chu Jiaojiao and Little Shengsheng were both teleported into the arena, causing everyone to fall silent and watch the two.

The opening countdown had already begun—

Both were somewhat silent, with neither speaking.

Audience A: "Aren't you two going to say something?"

Audience B: "Yeah, say some trash talk."

Audience C: "The last thing you want is silence on the battlefield."

Audience D: "I actually think it's nice for the field to be quiet. Otherwise, everyone would be as noisy as Rag Queen, which is pretty annoying."

Chu Jiaojiao and Little Shengsheng exchanged glances, and Chu Jiaojiao said, "Little Shengsheng, get ready, I'll be serious."

Little Shengsheng: "You must be serious."

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao felt a bit stifled and asked, "How strong are you, exactly? I want to know your Physical Strength and spiritual power, if that's okay?"

Little Shengsheng hesitated for a moment, then replied, "I've sent you a private message."

Chu Jiaojiao looked down, checked, and suddenly trembled: "No! Impossible, right?"

Little Shengsheng frowned slightly and said, "I don't lie."

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Stifled.

She really felt stifled.

Little Shengsheng, turns out to be a Double S-class beast in terms of Physical Strength and Spiritual Power! You must know, achieving Double S-class in both Physical Strength and Spiritual Power is an extremely difficult feat. To this day, Chu Jiaojiao is merely at A-level Spiritual Power.

On this side, the two people quietly whisper to each other, the audience's curiosity instantly aroused; they all ask, "What kind of talent is it? Go ahead and say it! Hurry up and speak!"

Chu Jiaojiao's lips curl into a slight smile, looking around and saying, "Not telling."

Audience: "..."

Audience: "Little Shengsheng, you must beat her to death, please!"

Little Shengsheng remained silent.

At this moment, the opening countdown has already ended, and the battle is imminent. Although Chu Jiaojiao was startled by Little Shengsheng's talent, at the actual start of the match, she does not show any fear. What a joke!

How could she, who defeats everyone under the sky, feel fear just because the opponent is too strong?

On the contrary, Chu Jiaojiao's eyes burn with fighting spirit, full of enthusiasm!

So does Little Shengsheng.

After the battle commences, neither of them chooses a war of attrition, instead, they both charge towards their opponent!

Chu Jiaojiao holds a Great Sword in her hand.

Little Shengsheng also wields a Great Sword.

They thrust at each other simultaneously.

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

The Great Swords clash mid-air, neither overpowering the other in momentum; one ferocious and well-practiced, the other graceful and natural—as if gods were fighting, fascinating the audience: "Who would have thought that the clash of cold weapons could be so majestic."

"Indeed, there's a reason cold weapons have never been phased out."

"When experts duel, even if they each hold a wooden stick, it's as if they have full command, stirring and profound!"

...

With their swords clashing and neither gaining an advantage, as if by telepathy, Chu Jiaojiao and Little Shengsheng both take a step back and then simultaneously fire off a shot.

Whoosh—

Whoosh—

Such precision, not something ordinary people can compare to—this close distance, for slightly weaker opponents, would mean being hit. However, after firing, Chu Jiaojiao and Little Shengsheng both retreat several steps.

Two Particle Cannons collide mid-air—

Boom—

The violent explosion sets the entire arena ablaze, and for a moment, the pitch-black starry sky shines as bright as day.

Just when the audience thinks the two of them will continue to exchange gentlemanly attacks, their eyes narrowed by the bright light, and when they open them again, they realize that Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee has vanished without a trace, hmm?

Where did she go?

Click~

There's a faint sound of breaking air. At this moment, Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee leaps out, her attacks, as if they cost nothing, come in a surge.

Little Shengsheng presses her lips together, her expression unchanged, still dealing with the attacks calmly and unhurriedly.

...

The match lasts nearly an hour, and finally, it ends with a prompt from the system.

System: [Match over, Little Shengsheng wins.]

The crowd gapes at the result, speechless for a long time.

It's actually the silent Little Shengsheng who suddenly says, "It's a pity I didn't get to fight the Rag Queen."

Crowd: "..."

This cheeky tone, how can it not make people itch to fight back?

Chu Jiaojiao, however, is in good spirits, she grins at Little Shengsheng and says, "Little Shengsheng, I hope to fight you again next time."

Little Shengsheng: "Okay."

Chu Jiaojiao: "Next time, I will not be so weak." Initially, she thought she was quite a capable force amongst her peers and age group, but ever since she learned of Little Shengsheng's real talents, she couldn't help but put away her pride.

I haven't worked hard enough.

If I had worked hard enough, I should've broken through to Spiritual Power A-level already.

Chapter 588: Final Exam

The individual competition this year has concluded, with the first place for freshmen taken by a contestant from the East District named Little Shengsheng.

The winner for the sophomores was a contestant from the East District who goes by 'He Bi'.

For the junior year, the champion was a contestant from the North District named 'Defeating Bai Ji'.

And for seniors, a North District contestant called 'Stir-fried Bitter Gourd' clinched the victory.

In summary, compared to previous years, aside from the dominating North District, this year's East District also caught many by surprise. Particularly noteworthy are the freshmen, with all finalists in the competition hailing from the East District.

After the competition ended, the forum practically turned into a celebratory frenzy for people from the East District.

As for the forum, Ji You and the others didn't bother checking it out; she only glanced briefly at the top of each year's leaderboard. She skipped over the juniors and seniors, as they weren't very familiar to her, and instead focused on that sophomore contestant named 'He Bi'.

That name—

It's certainly easy to let one's imagination run wild.

But!

Who said that scumbag He Bi was so strong?

Cough, cough...

Although, during the school's opening exercises, He Bi was the top sophomore contender, but now we're talking about all sophomores across the entire Alliance. Besides, such an obviously recognizable name like 'He Bi' is prone to being targeted.

Surely scumbag He Bi couldn't be that careless, right?

Training room.

Even after the competition, students continued to enthusiastically discuss the process and analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the contestants...

Teacher Mu Jianling didn't intervene. Once the discussions had mostly subsided, Mu Jianling finally said, "The singles event has ended, but there are still team competitions ahead. I hope those who have made it to the team finals will prepare well."

"As for those who didn't participate—"

"Buckle down and train with vigor."

"This term's final exams are set in the outskirts of the Sixth Star System and remember, if you don't pass the assessment—"

Mu Jianling left the rest unsaid, but students could already feel a chill in the air from the monotone and flat delivery...

Mu Jianling looked down at the students below her gaze pausing briefly on Chu Jiaojiao, Ji You, and Shen Changqing before suddenly noting, "Those who performed well in this competition, don't become too

self-congratulatory. Just because you're awesome at virtual mech piloting doesn't mean you won't be a complete noob with a real mech."

Students: "..."

Mu Jianling: "Don't believe me?"

Students quickly nodded their heads: "Believe, believe, believe..."

Piloting a real mech primarily examines a person's mental and physical coordination with the mech. This issue, on the other hand, is significantly reduced in a holographic simulation online.

People with strong individual talents, such as Ji You with exceptional spiritual power, Chu Jiaojiao with beast-like physical strength, are examples. Such people are incredibly strong in one aspect, and when piloting mechs in a holographic network, they can even overturn or suppress their weaknesses by relying on their spiritual power or physical strength alone, making them overpowering and badass in combat.

In reality though?

When actually piloting a mech, Ji You's physical shortcomings, Chu Jiaojiao's limitations in spiritual power, are all glaringly obvious – they must be improved through repeated training and effort.

After Mu Jianling finished speaking the points above and took out examples such as Rag Queen and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, she suddenly asked, "Rag Queen, Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, did you two hear what I just said?"

Students: "!!!!"

Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao widened their eyes in shock: "!!!!"

Chu Jiaojiao spoke loudly: "Teacher, I understand. I will earnestly heed your advice and train diligently, never becoming prideful or complacent."

The students collectively turned to look at Chu Jiaojiao—

So Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee was this beast Chu Jiaojiao.

Many had a sudden realization, but of course, most had already guessed as much. When Mu Jianling mentioned that Rag Queen and Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee were part of their Combat Department, it cemented the suspicion into truth, and no one was surprised.

That leaves one question—

Who is Rag Queen?

Chu Jiaojiao stood up voluntarily, and although she didn't verbally confirm that she was Drunk Lying on the Beauty's Knee, there was no longer any need to clarify.

Rag Queen, huh?

Ji You's mouth stiffened, quite at a loss whether to laugh or cry.

Is this teacher toxic or what?

Determined to see me fall, aren't they?

Fortunately, I'm mentally tough, not like that idiot Chu Jiaojiao who got exposed the moment she opened her mouth. Without saying a word, I just sat there, squeezed out a smile towards Teacher Mu Jianling:

[I won't make a sound.]

[Not a peep!]

Who is it?

Who could it be?

The students looked at each other, with question marks popping up in their minds. This Rag Queen, notorious for sneaky tactics, numerous tricks, thick skin like a city wall, and especially fond of acting, truly the epitome of drama...

Such a talent, and they're our classmate?

Speculation abounded for a while with many trying to match the characteristics of the Rag Queen and eliminating candidates. Ji You shrunk her neck down, performing quail-like to perfection... Though a few guessed it was her, seeing her demeanor quickly led them to rule her out.

Mu Jianling didn't intend to force students to speak up. With a stern face, she continued: "You've been training in the Combat Department for almost a semester. Before the end of term exams, everyone must pass the Basic Mecha Driving Assessment and obtain a Basic Driving License, only then can you participate in the final exams."

The students: "???"

Yue Qiguang raised his hand and asked: "Teacher, what if we can't get the driving license?"

Mu Jianling glanced at him and replied: "Do I even need to say? No eligibility for the final exam, and your score for this term will be zero."

The students: "..."

Instantly—

The entire training room fell deathly silent.

After a while,

Someone spoke: "Not having the license means not even qualifying for the final exams, isn't that a bit too harsh?"

"Haven't heard of this rule in the past years?"

"Since when did this rule change?"

...

Mu Jianling, arms folded, responded to the students' questions: "It's a rule that changed this year, yes, starting with your cohort specifically."

Upon hearing this, the students immediately voiced their grievances—

"Damn it!"

"We're really out of luck."

"What kind of dog luck is this?"

"The school is changing rules on a whim, shouldn't there be a declaration in advance, or perhaps a vote to seek the students' opinions?"

...

The students' discontent didn't make Mu Jianling furrow her brow. She crossed her arms and suddenly scoffed: "When a Star Beast wants to kill you, will it ask for your opinion? When an enemy wants to slaughter you, will they ask if you're willing to die?"

The students: "..."

Mu Jianling sneered: "As a Combat Department student, after a semester, if you can't even get a Basic Mecha Driver's License, it's a disgrace!"

The students: "..."

Mu Jianling said: "What about it, shall I record this moment to show how foolish you look right now?"

The students: "..."

Nobody dared to speak, nor did anyone dare to talk back to Teacher Mu Jianling. Everyone just quietly listened to the instructions, obediently bowed their heads, quail-like.

Chapter 589: Stingy Candy Bean Purchase

Mu Jianling finished reprimanding and finally felt a bit relieved, and then said, "Class dismissed."

"Teacher, thank you for your hard work." The students stood up one by one and walked towards the door.

Ji You was the last one to leave; she didn't go with Chu Jiaojiao and the others to queue up for food in the cafeteria because today was the day she had arranged to visit Mengmeng at the hotpot restaurant owner's place. The owner was quite accommodating and had even packed a meal especially for Ji You.

Ji You was not in a hurry to line up for food, so she dilly-dallied and stayed till the end.

At that moment, Mu Jianling was about to step away—

Ji You quickly said, "Teacher, please hold on."

Mu Jianling stopped walking and turned around.

Ji You made a squinting gesture at Mu Jianling and said, "Um..."

Mu Jianling blurted out, "What's with that sneaky look? If you have something to say, just say it!"

Sneaky look?

Where did she have that?

Ji You was stifled by Teacher Mu's comment, then she no longer beat around the bush and directly said, "Teacher, I completely fulfilled your requirements and even performed exceptionally by securing third place, so..."

She stretched out her finger, rubbed it, and said, "Shouldn't I get some kind of reward?"

Mu Jianling glanced at her: "Do you want me to reward you for eating and drinking too?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You thickened her skin, squeezed out a smile, and said, "Teacher, these are two different things which shouldn't be confused. Eating and drinking are basic human functions, but winning a competition isn't."

Mu Jianling snorted coldly: "What's the difference? If I say it is, then it is."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You muttered quietly, "Why don't you go be a domineering CEO?"

A domineering CEO would be tailor-made for you.

Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow: "What?"

Ji You quickly shook her head, squeezed out a smile, and said, "Teacher... let's not talk about food and competition results anymore, um... could you sponsor me some Candy Beans?"

During the competition, to keep those six dummies focused on their work, she had racked up too many debts.

Mu Jianling said, "No."

Ji You: "..."

Such a straightforward rejection, truly ruthless, cold, and cruel.

Ji You stretched out a finger, whispering, "Not many, just 100 would be enough."

Mu Jianling: "..."

Mu Jianling was somewhat speechless; after teaching for so many years, this was the first time she had encountered a student as relentless as Ji You. No matter what was said, how she was scolded or mocked, Ji You would act as if nothing happened, still facing her with jokes and smiles.

Oh!

Mu Jianling kept a straight face and said, "50, not one more."

Upon hearing this, Ji You's eyes sparkled like stars, "Teacher, you are a living fairy! I like you the most."

50!

That completely exceeded Ji You's expectations. She initially thought that even extracting 10 from Teacher Mu would be a pleasant surprise, never expected—

Ji You rubbed her fingers, waiting to receive the Candy Beans from Teacher Mu's hands.

Mu Jianling glanced at her, immune to all her compliments, and said, "Clear debts between father and son, 50 thousand per bean, not a penny less."

"That's right!"

"The money definitely needs to be paid."

"How can we not pay the money?"

"If we don't pay, wouldn't that be eating for free?" Ji You muttered to herself, but her movements to pay were very swift. Mu Jianling looked at the transferred credit points and asked doubtfully, "Where did you get the money from?"

Ji You replied, "I recently opened a small shop on Star Network, selling some handicrafts. These items have been quite popular lately, so I've made some income."

Mu Jianling said, "Having a side business is fine, but studying is what's most important."

Ji You nodded, "Mhm, mhm, mhm... Don't worry, teacher. I know how to prioritize."

Mu Jianling suddenly said, "If your side business stabilizes, remember to pay off your debts in installments." Seeing Ji You so generous with 2.5 million credit points, Mu Jianling guessed that the

income from the handicrafts must be pretty good, and, not wanting to see Ji You being boastful, she added the previous remark.

Ji You: "..."

With a pained expression, Ji You said, "Teacher, don't worry, I remember. I wouldn't dare forget the debts I owe to Principal Hong and Dr. Luo day for even a day. Even in my dreams, I dream about exchanging money."

Mu Jianling replied, "That's good."

During the conversation, Mu Jianling suddenly asked, "Do you still have money left?"

With a troubled face, Ji You replied, "Not much, just enough for meals for a few days."

Seeing her expression, Mu Jianling felt an itch to scold someone and directly said, "Give me 500,000, and I'll give you 5 grams of Cloud Mist Tea."

Huh?

In an instant, Ji You quickly transferred the credit points, afraid that Teacher Mu might change her mind, and even offered, "Teacher, I still have 500,000 here. How about you make it a round number and sell me 10 grams?"

Mu Jianling felt an itch to hit someone, raised her hand, and fiercely knocked on Ji You's head, scolding, "Hurry up and scam."

Holding her Candy Beans and Cloud Mist Tea, Ji You joyfully ran away like she was holding treasures.

Mu Jianling mockingly said, "Rascal."

Ji You securely put away her items and deeply felt that she needed a Space Button, as there was nowhere to hide valuable items. But thinking about the price of the Space Button made her heart ache.

After pondering for a while, Ji You still spent 500,000 to buy a Space Button with only 10 cubic meters of space.

The Space Button was supposed to arrive around eight in the evening. Ji You was not in a rush; she still had to meet Mengmeng, clean the horse and rabbit sheds, return to the dormitory, and do homework for the Material Department. In short, she was very busy, extremely busy.

Ji You hailed an autonomous Floating Car and headed to a hot pot restaurant. Her Floating Car had not even stopped when a nimble figure dashed out from the restaurant—

It was Mengmeng, who dived straight into Ji You's arms, "Baa~"

Ji You grinned, laughing heartily, "Mengmeng, big sister missed you so much."

Mengmeng: "Baa baa~"

Inside and outside the hot pot restaurant, everyone who witnessed this scene couldn't help feeling envious: Could this still be that proud little alpaca? It's more like a clingy hound.

Ji You fiercely rubbed Mengmeng's head and said, "Let's go! Let's eat."

Mengmeng hopped and skipped ahead to lead the way: "Baa!"

Ji You occasionally talked to the owner of the hot pot restaurant, "Has Mengmeng been eating grass obediently recently?"

The owner of the hot pot restaurant replied with a smile, "Oh yes, she's been eating very eagerly."

Hearing this, Ji You felt relieved, "That's good."

The two of them and the alpaca soon entered the ranch inside the hot pot restaurant. The whole ranch was a vibrant green with grass, and Mengmeng joyfully ran around. Watching Mengmeng, Ji You ate the food prepared by the hot pot restaurant, feeling like she was truly living a heavenly life.

The two of them and the alpaca were happily eating when suddenly—

The ranch's gate was pushed open, and a person came in.

Ji You initially thought it was the hot pot restaurant owner, but upon seeing who it was, her whole body froze, and the chopsticks holding a piece of meat just stopped.

Chapter 590: Mengmeng Is Under My Protection

Seeing the person coming, Ji You was startled, not realizing when the meat held by her chopsticks had fallen.

This—

This place is actually inside of the hotpot restaurant, where only staff are allowed, or rather, it's the private area of the owner, not accessible to other employees except the owner and Mengmeng.

This—

How did Liu Fufeng just walk in so easily?

When Liu Fufeng saw Ji You, he was also taken aback, a strange look flashing through his eyes.

After a few seconds of surprise, Ji You quickly recovered. She picked up the piece of meat that had fallen on the table, not wasting it all, and chewed on it delightfully, saying, "Did you go to the wrong place? You need to eat in the main hall outside."

Liu Fufeng remained silent, then turned towards Mengmeng, only to find that Mengmeng was staying motionless right beside Ji You, sticking close like a little bird relying on humans. Seeing this stance, it didn't seem like Mengmeng intended to move at all.

Somehow, Liu Fufeng felt a bit uncomfortable inside.

Liu Fufeng spoke, "Mengmeng~"

Mengmeng tilted its head, "Meh~"

Liu Fufeng beckoned, "Come here."

Mengmeng's large eyes were filled with reluctance, "Meh meh~"

Ji You, seeing this situation, immediately became displeased. This guy was aggressively trying to snatch the alpaca from her! She raised her hand and patted Mengmeng's head, saying, "Good Mengmeng, don't go, he's a bad guy, a poor ghost who wants to trick Yang Tuo's meat."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Liu Fufeng's lips stiffened for a second, then he squeezed out a smile, saying, "Classmate Ji You, Mengmeng is raised by me."

Ji You: "Huh?"

Liu Fufeng's mouth corners lifted in a smile, his eyes filled with certainty: I raised it myself, would I deceive it to go eat meat? Such nonsense, only for deceiving kids, Mengmeng is so smart, how could it be tricked?

But—

Ji You suddenly put down her chopsticks, jumped up, and shouted, "So you are that cursed scoundrel who abandoned Mengmeng!"

Liu Fufeng: "..."

This plot, something's off.

Ji You, hands on hips, fumed, "If you're going to abandon, then don't raise it! If you're going to raise, then don't abandon, don't you even understand this simple principle, what are you raising a small animal for?"

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Ji You initially intended just to scold pretentiously, but once she started, she couldn't hold back her true anger: "Do you know, during the time you abandoned Mengmeng, it got depression and almost starved to death?"

"Do you know how irresponsible you are?"

"You don't know."

"Do you know how detestable and hateful you are?"

"You don't know."

"Do you know who is now taking care of Mengmeng?"

"You don't know!"

"But—" Ji You stepped forward, her black, shiny eyes slightly narrowing as she slowly said, "I'm telling you now, I—Mengmeng is now under my protection! Whoever dares to bully it, ask me for permission first!"

With that statement, her momentum was overwhelming.

Liu Fufeng's eyes sparkled slightly:

He couldn't even provide protection, and Mengmeng managed it?

Liu Fufeng lowered his head, softly said, "Classmate Ji You, you misunderstood. I didn't intend to abandon Mengmeng."

At this moment, Mengmeng, having finished its haughty act, leaned its neck over and gently rubbed against Liu Fufeng's head, "Meh~"

Liu Fufeng raised his hand, stroked Mengmeng's head, his lips unconsciously revealing a smile, the smile as gentle as a breeze, as warm as the sun...

This was the first time Ji You saw this poor guy smile so naturally, momentarily, she was a bit dazzled!

Holy crap!

A guy, does he really need to be this handsome?

Compared to him, my own face is just embarrassing.

Speaking of which, where's Jiaojiao?

As a seasoned beauty-enthusiast, what is she thinking? Can't she see that Liu Fufeng is more attractive than herself? Or does Chu Jiaojiao have selective vision when it comes to people?

Cough cough...

Ji You pushed these thoughts aside. In her eyes, no matter how handsome he is, he's not as attractive as credit points.

Ji You watched Mengmeng getting cozy with Liu Fufeng and couldn't help but asks sideways, "What's going on?"

Liu Fufeng kept his hand on Mengmeng's head, reluctant to move it away. Hearing Ji You's question, he didn't quite know how to start, only saying, "There are some private reasons; it's not convenient to keep Mengmeng by my side."

Ji You wanted to press further, but remembering his sensitive identity, she instantly lost interest. The fallen crown prince's secrets are better left unknown, unaware that many have perished just because they knew the secrets of major figures, even if the secrets were trivial.

Then—

Although Ji You was slightly jealous of Mengmeng's closeness to its original master, she restrained herself, sat back down, picked up her bowl, and continued eating her meat voraciously...

Liu Fufeng: "..."

For some reason, seeing her eat so delightfully and obliviously, Liu Fufeng felt a bit uncomfortable.

And—

He also started to feel hungry himself.

At this time—

The hot pot restaurant owner came in with a tray full of a dozen small plates, all delicious-looking dishes. He quickly spoke up, "Young master, your meal is ready."

Placing the tray down, the owner turned to Ji You and hurriedly said, "I'm so sorry, Ji You, I forgot to inform you earlier that our young master came back. Hope it didn't disturb you?"

Ji You waved her hand: "No, no, no..."

At the same time—

She couldn't help but mutter inside: How many backgrounds does this Liu Fufeng have? Aunt Zhang from the Agricultural College was eager to send him 200 rabbits, and now this hot pot owner turns out to be one of Liu Fufeng's people?

Jeez!

Is this still the same guy who hitched rides and borrowed money out of poverty?

Then, the hot pot owner, slightly apologetic, looked at Liu Fufeng and said, "Young master, these dishes are made to your childhood taste. Do you think they are to your liking? Also— I've talked to Teacher Mu as much as I could, but she only agreed that from now on, you can come here for a meal once a month on this day. In the future, you'll have to fend for yourself."

Saying this, the owner felt a pang of heartache.

Their young master, who had never suffered since childhood, now ended up having to part-time in the cafeteria...

If his late mother knew about this, she would be heartbroken.

"Cough..." Hearing this, Ji You suddenly coughed, nearly choking on her food. She turned away until she swallowed the rice, then turned back and said, "Teacher Mu controls heaven and earth and now even extends her reach to this hot pot restaurant?"

Overbearing!

Truly an overbearing CEO!

"Um..." The hot pot owner's tone turned slightly tense as he explained, "Here on our commercial street, in principle, we also have to follow the school's rules and regulations, and can't act recklessly."

Ji You: "Oh—"

She opened her mouth and gobbled down a piece of meat.

Following that—

Ji You glanced at Liu Fufeng with a bit of sympathy.

Jeez!

Poor guy.

A fallen prince is worse off than a chicken.