

## Scavengers 721

### Chapter 721: Ji You Puts the Greater Good First

Ji You finished packing up, made sure nothing was left behind, and then patted her butt, ready to leave.

But as she turned around, she realized Sheng Qingyan hadn't followed her, and Ji You couldn't help but curse, "Come on, let's go."

Sheng Qingyan was in complete disarray, looking utterly hopeless and distraught:

"No—"

"I didn't do anything—"

"I don't know anything—"

...

Hearing this, Ji You nodded and said with a smile, "Yep! You didn't do anything. You just used the Space Button to store some stuff."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Covering his face, Sheng Qingyan felt like crying for the first time, "You devil, why would you do something like this? Why did you have to drag me into this?"

"Cough cough..." Ji You cleared her throat, a bit uncomfortable, "What do you mean by 'something like this'? I just moved some stuff around. Besides, such a big tent, both comfy and safe, it's a waste to leave it here since Teacher Mu isn't around. What's wrong with me using it temporarily?"

Sheng Qingyan just gaped: "You you you!!"

Irritated, Ji You said: "What a fuss over nothing! It's wasteful not to use the resources we have! That's just stupid!"

Then, Ji You clicked her tongue and said with disdain, "Spicy Eye, I thought you were smarter than this."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Your reasoning makes no sense, yet why do you sound so righteous?

Sheng Qingyan pouted, "Although I'm smart and cute, I really don't like courting death."

"Cough..."

Speaking of courting death, Ji You was not pleased, she bristled, "How is this courting death?"

"Perhaps Teacher Mu will know and even praise me for being clever."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Ji You raised her hand, urging, "Don't just stand there stupidly, let's go!"

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Covering his face, Sheng Qingyan said, "Teacher, if you're listening, it was all this clever devil's idea, it really has nothing to do with me."

"There's someone responsible for the debt, please don't find the wrong debtor..." As he said this, Sheng Qingyan exaggeratedly bowed several times...

Ji You: "..."

Ji You frowned and scolded: "What nonsense are you talking about? And also—" She glared at Sheng Qingyan's comical gesture of worship, speechless, "Don't overact, are you trying to die quicker?"

If Teacher Mu could really see us, you'd have worshipped hundreds, thousands of times without me even being dead.

Sheng Qingyan immediately shrank his neck and rushed to Ji You's side, grabbing her clothes, pouting, "Poor dead guy, if I die, I'll definitely drag you down with me."

Ji You: "Let's go, go, go..."

The two walked in the dark towards their residence, and along the way, they encountered a Patrol Team which included Shen Changqing and Zhang Ye. Ji You greeted: "Hey, everyone, tough day huh?"

The 100 members of the Patrol Team were all on edge, and didn't dare to relax, but after a whole day, everyone was tired, thirsty, and hungry...

At this moment, when the Patrol Team students saw Ji You and Sheng Qingyan, they perked up a bit and responded to her.

Then—

Everyone heard Ji You ask, "Guys, I have a question for you, where can we find a lot of Star Beast corpses?"

Better asking the Patrol Team directly than searching blindly on her own.

Everyone: "..."

Puzzled and slightly shocked by Ji You's question, Shen Changqing and Zhang Ye seemed to understand a bit but were also unsure.

Only Sheng Qingyan seemed on the verge of collapse:

So angry!

Going to collect corpses again!

Though the Patrol Team members found it strange, they answered Ji You's question, saying, "There's a pile of Star Beast corpses at the foot of the eastern mountains."

Ji You's eyes lit up, then she straightened her face and pretended to be serious, "I'll go and check if there are any clues on the bodies of the Star Beasts, how could there be Star Beasts in the farm under normal circumstances?"

As she spoke.

Ji You grabbed Sheng Qingyan and left.

The patrol team watched her come quickly and leave quickly, looking all hurry-scurry, which was a bit strange, but the task of patrolling was still paramount, so they didn't bother about it.

...

Ji You and Sheng Qingyan, following the instructions, came to the foot of the eastern mountain and indeed saw a pile of long-eared rabbit corpses.

Ji You waved grandly: "Spicy Eye! Time to work!"

Sheng Qingyan, with a gloomy face, said, "I've decided, you know, when we get back, I'm throwing this Space Button away."

Ji You upon hearing this said, "Throw it to me!"

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Sheng Qingyan fell silent.

The pile of long-eared rabbit corpses was quickly collected by the two, and fortunately, the last level 3 long-eared rabbit corpse was also there!

After packing up, Ji You didn't delay anymore and immediately headed back home. When Ji You and Sheng Qingyan returned to their temporary lodging, they overheard Lance and Chu Jiaojiao, who had just come back, talking with everyone:

Lance said, "Just now, when Chu Jiaojiao and I passed by Teacher Mu's tent, we discovered the tent was gone."

It seemed they were afraid no one would believe them, Lance earnestly said, "It's absolutely true!"

Yue Qiyuan furrowed his brow, "So, where did the tent go? Could it be—did Teacher Mu come back earlier?"

Yue Qiguang cursed, "So, the Star Beast really was that old hag's doing!"

"Sneaky!"

"Deceitful!"

"Despicable!"

"That old hag left without a sound and came back silently! It's really..."

"Cough..."

Ji You felt a bit embarrassed, cleared her throat, and interrupted their conversation.

Seeing Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao immediately bounced over with a smile, looked up and down at Ji You's face, only relaxed after seeing she still looked as beautiful as before.

Xuzhou had already brought back the treatment instrument, and Ren An was undergoing treatment. His abdominal wound and the bruises on his face were gradually fading, but the Star Beast toxin infection still existed in his body, requiring surgery by professional medical personnel to be cured. The treatment instrument could only alleviate and suppress the toxin spread...

In short, he wasn't going to die.

After getting an update on the severely injured patient, Ji You cleared her throat and said, "The conditions in this temporary residence are too poor, which is not good for the patient's recovery, so—"

She tried hard to keep a straight face while coughing.

Everyone: "???"

Then—

In front of everyone, Ji You pulled out Teacher Mu's ultra-luxurious tent:

"Here—"

"I brought this back for everyone!"

Everyone: "!!!"

Lance: "So it was you who took away Teacher Mu's tent? Cough cough cough..."

He choked a little, not quite knowing what to say next.

Others looked as if they had been struck by lightning, staring dumbfounded at Ji You.

Ji You, with a stern face, rather displeased, said, "What's with those ghostly expressions? Snap out of it! I'm doing my best to provide the best conditions for the patients! Look at you—"

"All so unaccomplished, acting as if you've never seen the broader world!"

"Who am I doing this for?"

"Sigh!"

"Being a person is hard!"

"Being a good person is even harder!"

"Being a righteous, kind-hearted, and overall caring good person is the hardest of all!"

In short—

When it's time to take the blame, none of you can escape.

Humph~

Chapter 722: That's a Rip-Off!

Ji You thought to herself, but outwardly, she put on a selfless demeanor and commanded Zhong Qing: "Zhong Qing, arrange for the seriously injured in your team to be inside the tents."

Although Ji You's dubious tactics scared everyone half to death, nobody could deny the truth in her words. The temporary housing lacked everything, not even a blanket; the injured could not recover here. But with a tent...

Upon hearing Ji You's instructions, Zhong Qing felt a surge of strong emotion. Ji You was doing this for everyone, for her classmates, at the risk of being beaten up by Teacher Mu!

This!

This spirit!

How could it not be admirable?

It wasn't just Zhong Qing; the other students in her team, who had been dissatisfied with Ji You's various fee-charging actions, suddenly felt their discontent dissipate.

Zhong Qing said, "I'll arrange it right away."

Immediately, a few from Zhong Qing's team stepped forward and said, "We'll help."

The tents of the interstellar era are very convenient. There's no need for setup; just unfold them to use. So, Teacher Mu's super luxurious tent was placed next to Ji You and their temporary residence.

Soon, Ren An and a few other students with serious injuries were settled into the tents.

Ji You continued: "Among our students, there are a few whose injuries are similar to Ren An's. Zhong Qing, you and a few others go tell their team captains to also arrange for them to recuperate in the tents."

Upon hearing Ji You's words, Zhong Qing and others were filled with even greater admiration.

What does it mean to grasp the bigger picture?

This is it.

What does it mean to be utterly selfless?

This is it.

...

Thereafter, Zhong Qing's teammates immediately set out to handle this task.

Group 44.

Yue Qiyuan stroked his chin, puzzled: "4444, are you really that kind-hearted? I have a feeling something's off here."

"Cough..." Ji You put on a stern face: "What nonsense? What ulterior motive could I possibly have?"

"I'm asking you all! Besides me, who has the courage, who would take the initiative to touch Teacher Mu's tents?"

Everyone: "..."

No one spoke up for a moment.

Ji You hummed: "Since none of you dare to touch it, don't take the initiative! It's down to me then! That tent, just lying there, is a dead object! It's a waste!"

"And—wasting resources is shameful!"

Everyone: "..."

Unexpectedly... that strangely made sense.

Ji You waved her hands, saying: "Don't worry about such trivial little things."

"Come on!"

"Let's get to work!"

After that, Ji You took out the Star Beasts from the Space Button.

One.

Two.

Three.

...

Seeing this ongoing scenario, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Chu Jiaojiao, Lou, Lance, and Xuzhou couldn't help but look speechless.

Yue Qiguang rolled his eyes: "How much junk did you actually pick up?"

"Junk?" Ji You chuckled, "Ignorance is truly frightening. Do you know how much a pair of long-eared rabbit claws and a complete set of teeth are worth in credit points?"

Before Yue Qiguang could respond, Ji You jumped excitedly: "500 credit points!"

"With such good quality, they can definitely sell for 500 credit points."

Everyone: "!!"

Yue Qiguang's disdain in his eyes immediately withdrew, and in a rather unimpressive manner, he bent over, reached out, and patted the head of a long-eared rabbit at his feet, saying, "Sorry, Daddy didn't realize this junk was so valuable."

Ji You slapped him away and scolded, "Don't touch! These junk items, not worth the trouble for you to lift a finger."

With that, Ji You immediately said to Chu Jiaojiao, Xuzhou, Lou, Lance, "Quick! Start peeling off the claws and teeth."

Several people stood without moving, even the simple-looking, bushy-browed Xuzhou didn't start right away.

Ji You's smile became stiff: "Cough cough... I'll pay you for your hard work."

Only then did the people show some interest. Then, Yue Qiyuan stood out as their representative to bargain and said quite shamelessly, "First off, we won't do it for less!"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You felt a pain in her heart. But—with so many long-eared rabbits, even if she peeled until dawn, she wouldn't finish.

Ji You gritted her teeth and said, "10 credit points per person!"

Yue Qiyuan rolled his eyes: "What, paying like we're beggars?"

Ji You ground her teeth so loud they almost crackled: "Damn it, I wish I could hire some beggars; at least they're satisfied with a mouthful of food and don't want money!"

Yue Qiyuan completely ignored her personal attack and said, "Split it seventy-thirty!"

Ji You's mouth twitched, ready to curse, but Yue Qiyuan stretched out three fingers, saying, "You three, us seven."

Ji You stomped her foot: "Are you robbing me?"

Yue Qiyuan shrugged: "We have more people, too little to split."

Ji You was about to leave: "You think I really can't find anyone to help? As soon as I ask, a bunch of people will come to help. Not to mention, Zhong Qing and her team would be willing!"

Yue Qiyuan remained calm and said, "All of our members have decided not to use the Space Button for you without compensation anymore. Especially Sheng Qingyan's..."

Sheng Qingyan said indignantly, "That's right, I won't be storing your junk anymore!"

The assessment might end at any time, and she might still need to use their Space Button.

With that thought—

"Cough cough..." Ji You squeezed out a smile and said, "Let's negotiate, let's negotiate, how about this..."

Finally, after some back-and-forth, they reached a consensus:

A sixty-forty split.

Ji You four, Yue Qiyuan and the others six.

Then, the group finally started working. Roughly estimating, Ji You and Sheng Qingyan together had picked up about 130 long-eared rabbits, and peeling their teeth and claws was labor-intensive. Fortunately, many hands make light work, and it seemed that it would take about an hour to finish everything.

Ji You looked at her plastic teammates and smiled thinly: "You all must be hungry, right?"

Everyone looked up at Ji You: "???"

This considerate?

In front of everyone, Ji You took out pots, seasonings, and a small bag of rice she had swiped from Teacher Mu, saying, "I'll make something for everyone to eat."

Everyone: "!!"

Everyone's eyes suddenly lit up, especially Yue Qiguang, Lou, and the others starved green with hunger—

"Eating our fill now means we'll have the energy to work, and being full means we'll have the Physical Strength for tomorrow's assessment."

Ji You kept a beaming smile on her face, radiating warmth like a little unrealistic sun...

Everyone: "..."

"Do you really have such good intentions?" Yue Qiyuan asked doubtingly, "Spill it, plainly, how many credit points are you going to charge everyone!"

Ji You: "..."

These guys, getting smart, huh.

"Cough cough..." Ji You said sternly, "What are you talking about, charging money! We're all classmates; under these conditions of food scarcity, we should understand and help each other! And—while you lack food, I lack credit points..."

Yue Qiyuan interrupted her: "Cut the crap! How much?"

Ji You: "1000 credit points per person!"

Everyone: "Robbery!"

Chapter 723: You Can't Force a Deal

Ji You's statement prompted silence all around.

Yue Qiguang was the first to jump up, frowning and cursing: "Even if Dad starves to death, he wouldn't buy food from you!"

Ji You simply shrugged indifferently and said, "Whatever."

Yue Qiyuan knotted his brow and asked in a negotiating tone, "How about lowering it to 500 credit points per person?"

Ji You shook her head firmly and said, "It's up to you, buy it or not."

Yue Qiyuan, Chu Jiaojiao, Lou, Lance, and others exchanged looks, remained silent, neither confirming purchase nor refusing.

It seemed they were planning to see how things play out.

Ji You ignored them and didn't push the sale. She knew a principle: chasing after buyers isn't the way to sell, begging them would only reduce the value.

Then, Ji You leisurely grabbed a water purifier she had managed to get from Teacher Mu, and pulled out a large bucket of river water stored in the Space Button. She began purifying water and filling the purified clean water into containers.

The Black-faced Soldier in charge of the farm warehouse only gave Ji You six 500ml water bottles, not enough for drinking, so finding the water purifier in Teacher Mu's tent, she naturally maximized its use.

In less than 10 minutes, she purified a whole bucket of water, enough for her to drink for a week.

Chu Jiaojiao cautiously came over, eyeing Ji You's face, and said, "Ji You, do you need a laborer? The kind with Physical Strength grade S—"

Ji You glanced at her: "No need."

Chu Jiaojiao giggled: "I think you really need it, I can lift heavy loads and work fast, are you sure you don't want?"

Ji You countered: "Is it for free?"

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

Chu Jiaojiao backed away.

Following this.

Ji You leisurely took out a large pot, turned on the heat, which was not open flame but powered by an energy box, safe and eco-friendly.

She filled the pot with pure water, then dumped in a bag of rice she had sneaked from Teacher Mu's tent, covered the pot.

As the heat continued, the water boiled, the rice softened, and a thick aroma of rice began to diffuse around—

"Gulu Gulu~"

"Gulu Gulu~"

"Gulu Gulu~"

Bouts of unstoppable stomach rumbling resounded in the makeshift living area~

Apart from Sheng Qingyan, who was lying lazily unmoved, Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Lou, Lance, Xuzhou, they looked at each other, and then, everyone closed their eyes again, pretending to sleep.

Ji You sneakily peeked their changing expressions from the corner of her eye, delighted inside:

Ever heard of 'The Fragrant Law'?

Now you don't buy, soon you'll be crying to buy from me!

Ji You held her ground, continued cooking the rice porridge, then she opened the lid, sprinkled in some salt, was about to cover it again, but suddenly, she pulled two dried beef strips from the Space Button.

Chu Jiaojiao and the others: "!!!"

Yue Qiguang exclaimed: "Damn! When did you hide those?"

Yue Qiyuan was also extremely surprised: "How... how did you hide this from Teacher Mu?"

Chu Jiaojiao, with mouth agape: "Ji You, I'm buying! Make an offer!" Having a bite of meat at this point was simply a great fortune!

Chu Jiaojiao couldn't hold herself back.

Even Sheng Qingyan, who was all along lying with eyes closed, suddenly opened her eyes smelling the fragrance of meat: "!!!"

Honest and reserved like Xuzhou, couldn't help but murmur quietly: "That's my beef jerky!"

...

Ji You grinned, ignoring their confusion, continued tearing the dried beef into small pieces, and in front of everyone, tossed the torn beef into the pot...

Ji You hummed: "Beef rice porridge, a nutritious and delicious treat, the best choice when you're starving!"

Everyone: "!!!"

Damn!

This guy is doing it on purpose!

Intentionally!

Yue Qiguang stood up suddenly and exclaimed, "On a dark and windy night, it's the perfect time for murder. Brothers, who wants to join daddy for an adventure?"

Lou jumped over, "Count me in!"

Lance also immediately said, "Me!"

Seeing he got responses from just a call, Yue Qiguang glanced at Ji You somewhat smugly:

[Little guy, can't I deal with you?]

However, Ji You just looked at him indifferently and instantly turned to Chu Jiaojiao saying, "Jiaojiao, someone wants to kill me. You will never see my face again. Are you going to do something about it?"

Chu Jiaojiao immediately jumped over, shielding Ji You, and said fiercely, "Who dares!"

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Sheng Qingyan stood up, dusted off his clothes, and shook his head, "Oh, all this fighting and killing, how bad it is, poor dead, how do you sell this porridge?"

There, a business opportunity has come.

Ji You chuckled and said, "Not expensive, 1000 credit points a bowl."

Sheng Qingyan's mouth twitched.

Then.

Sheng Qingyan gritted his teeth, "Give a bowl to this poor guy."

Ji You: "Alright! Alright."

Saying so, she casually grabbed a bowl next to her. This bowl could hold about 1 jin of porridge, and Ji You generously scooped up a full bowl.

Sheng Qingyan paid and started eating the porridge eagerly while squatting to the side.

Watching this scene, everyone couldn't help but swallow their saliva.

Ji You also filled a bowl for herself and leisurely said, "Just this bit of porridge, when Zhong Qing's team comes back, it won't be enough to sell."

Everyone: "..."

Is there still a scramble for food?

Yue Qiguang had completely forgotten his brave words from before and came over and said, "Dummy, give daddy 2 bowls."

Ji You: "Limit one per person!"

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang clenched his fist and gritted his teeth: "Then give me one bowl!"

Ji You then nodded, "Pay first."

Following that.

Lou, Lance, Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiyuan all couldn't stand it anymore, each stepping forward, paying promptly.

Xuzhou stood still, somewhat hesitant.

Ji You looked up, chuckled, and said, "Little Zhouzhou, here, have a bowl."

Xuzhou: "??"

Free?

Is Number 4444 really so kind-hearted?

Ji You raised her hand, pointing at several big empty buckets nearby, "See those buckets? After you've had the porridge, go to the river and help me fill them. Consider it as settling the meal expenses!"

Yue Qiguang and others: "Damn! 4444, you are clearly playing favorites here!"

Ji You raised an eyebrow: "So what if I am playing favorites?"

Everyone: "..."

Ji You's pot of porridge, with the fragrance of rice and the richness of beef, was honestly too delicious. Those who had just one bowl felt unsatisfied, all holding their stomachs and resentfully looking at Ji You.

After Ji You herself had eaten two full bowls, she burped contentedly before saying, "I'll sell each of you another bowl."

Now, no one hesitated; scared of being late, they competed to pay first, faster than anyone.

As they were almost done with the second bowl of porridge, Shen Changqing and Zhang Ye, who were out on patrol, came back for their shift.

Ji You's eyes lit up:

Business is coming again!

Chapter 724: Crisis Strikes Again

Shen Changqing and Zhang Ye paused as soon as they stepped through the door.

That smell—

Then, they heard Ji You tapping her bowl with chopsticks, hawking, "A bowl for 1,000 credit points, don't miss out!"

Shen Changqing, Zhang Ye: "..."

Aren't these prices a bit too exorbitant?

As if guessing what they were thinking, Ji You chuckled and said, "Even if you have the money, you need a place to buy, right? Aren't you looking at the current location? The occasion? The circumstances? My pricing is really not unreasonable."

Two of them: "..."

Out of words, hunger overcame reason, and both Shen Changqing and Zhang Ye reluctantly paid up.

The quantity of porridge was just enough for two bowls per person for 44 teams.

With food in their bellies, everyone felt better. Ji You was all smiles, not showing her teeth:

Porridge net income: 16,000 credit points.

This kind of monopoly trade is easy money. Shame it can't last.

It was Chu Jiaojiao and Lance who took the second shift. The rest found places in the temporary shelter and hurried to sleep.

The rain stopped, the wind stopped, the thunder stopped...

It was quiet all around.

Gradually, the pitch-black night retreated from the dark, taking on a vague hue, faintly tinged with a hint of light white...

Dawn was approaching.

Mountains and rivers in the distant camp were shrouded in a layer of fog; the fog was thick, obscuring sights too far for the naked eye, allowing visibility of only about five meters or so.

A group of student soldiers on guard patrol stepped out, their morale somewhat depleted after a whole day and night of hardship, and the majority of them were hungry, so their steps were a bit disorganized—

Suddenly—

There was a rustling noise, coming from far away.

At first, no one really paid attention until Xuzhou's footsteps suddenly stopped.

What's that sound?

Lou, following behind Xuzhou, saw him halt and couldn't help asking, "Xuzhou, did you find something?"

Xuzhou furrowed his eyebrows, saying, "Southeast, something doesn't feel right."

Among the 100-person patrol team, only Lou and Xuzhou were in the best condition. They weren't soaked by rain, they weren't hungry, and they'd had a full night's sleep.

Lou became alert at once and said, "Could it be that Student Ji You was right, and something else is going to happen?"

Before they left for patrol, Ji You had specifically warned them, saying, "If nothing happens at night, then the most likely time for trouble is just before dawn because that's when students are the least vigilant. You two are patrolling during this timeframe, so be extra careful."

After hearing this, Lou was somewhat skeptical in his heart.

Really... is it that mystical? Did Ji You predict everything?

Is she some kind of Godman?

Just as Lou was thinking this, Xuzhou's face suddenly changed, and he shouted loudly, "It's coming!"

Lou tilted his head, looking with his deep blue pupils, and asked, "What?"

Xuzhou shouted, "Star Beast attack! All units, be on alert!"

"Quick!"

"Send a signal flare!"

As these words came out, the entire patrol team was shocked and couldn't avoid a bit of chaos:

"Darn it!"

"Again!"

"What the hell?"

"They won't let us live, will they?"

...

Amid the complaints, thanks to their well-trained nature and status as Mechanical Warriors in the reserve force, after a brief panic, everyone quickly gathered their spirits, performed their respective duties, and soon the entire camp was notified.

.....

The students participating in the assessment of the 131st term swiftly sounded the Level 12 alert under the leadership of their respective captains!

At Ji You's side.

The entire team had been woken up by Ji You 10 minutes before the Patrol Team sent out the signal.

Shen Changqing closed his eyes, his handsome face serene; his Spiritual Network continuously expanded:

meters.

meters.

meters.

...

Until he reached the maximum range, Shen Changqing suddenly opened his eyes, his expression slightly off, and said gravely: "I've made it clear, it's a group of Long-haired Pigs!"

Ji You asked: "How many?"

"It's hard to say," Shen Changqing shook his head. This was his first time using his spiritual power without any reservation. He raised his hand to rub his forehead lightly, then continued: "Preliminary estimate, there are about 200 of them."

Everyone: "!!!"

Ji You's expression darkened: "This time, the teacher is really not giving us any time to catch our breath!"

200!

And they are Long-haired Pigs! A type of Star Beast more ferocious than the long-eared rabbit! Also, although long-eared rabbits are also herd-living Star Beasts, they are lazy individually, unlike Long-haired Pigs, which are fond of group activities, ganging up on their prey!

The others' complexions weren't looking great either, but Yue Qiguang, as always, was carefree and boldly said: "What's there to be afraid of? Meet the soldiers with strategy and dam the flood with earth, just go up and do it!"

Everyone directly ignored his words. Chu Jiaojiao clenched her fist, slightly excited, and said: "I've fought with Long-haired Pigs before. They have thick skin and meat, for a Level 1, it takes me about five punches to kill one."

Everyone: "Beast!"

Chu Jiaojiao touched her chin and continued: "I haven't fought a Level 2 before. I wanted to but my second aunt sent someone to cause trouble and dragged me back home."

Everyone: "..."

Invisible showing off is the most lethal!

Chu Jiaojiao chuckled, hopped in front of Ji You, and shouted loudly: "Don't worry Ji You, I'll protect your safety!"

Ji You ungraciously glared at her: "Thanks. But I'll take care of my own face."

Chu Jiaojiao chuckled foolishly: "Then you need to protect it well, otherwise, I won't be able to live on."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You ignored her and turned to Shen Changqing, asking: "Can you determine how many are Level 2 or above?"

The Level 1s were not a threat; the key was those above Level 2, which might be difficult for the students.

Because the students' weapons and equipment were very rudimentary, most only had energy weapons, and some students even used cold weapons.

Plus, the students injured during the night would definitely be unable to join the battle.

The risk factor unintentionally increased significantly.

...

Shen Changqing shook his head and said: "I can't estimate it for now, but conservatively, there are more than 20 of them."

Ji You said: "You take a rest, hurry up and restore your spiritual power, right, do you have Candy Beans?"

Shen Changqing: "Yes. I bought some from Teacher Mu before we set off, just in case."

Teacher Mu had Candy Beans made of High-level Butterfly Honey, which was already an open secret among the students. Occasionally, when she was in a good mood, she would reward outstanding students with them, and sometimes she would sell them cheaply to students in need.

Saying it was selling was actually a form of subsidizing the students. Everyone knew this.

Of course, to successfully purchase Candy Beans from Teacher Mu, you needed certain conditions, such as being on the verge of a breakthrough, or having suffered spiritual damage...

Anyway, Teacher Mu was very capricious and principled in her business.

Let's not talk about this for now.

Ji You advised: "Take one to restore your spiritual power, don't save them for later."

"Quickly regain combat strength!" As he spoke, Ji You turned to Yue Qiyuan and said solemnly: "Yue Qiyuan, while Shen Changqing is recovering his spiritual power, you'll be responsible for monitoring the movements of these Long-haired Pigs!"

Yue Qiyuan snapped his fingers, gravely responding: "Understood!"

Ji You turned to the others, narrowing his eyes: "Everyone, get ready for the second battle—"

.....

Chapter 725: Leader Boar

Sshh~

Sshh~

Sshh~

Faint rustling noises drew closer and closer; Ji You, leading a group of teammates, had already found an ambush spot. Everyone held their breath and focused intently on the direction of the sounds.

"Here they come!"

Yue Qiyuan said in a low voice. Following that, he gripped the energy sword in his hand tightly, with Yue Qiguang, Chu Jiaojiao, and others also clutching their weapons firmly.

Ji You narrowed her eyes and instructed, "Remember, prioritize your safety. Our goal is to disband this pack of Long-haired Pigs! As soon as we scatter them, we retreat immediately!"

The rest replied, "Understood."

Long-haired Pigs preferred to act collectively, whether foraging or attacking, typically moving in groups of dozens or hundreds. Though an individual's power wasn't particularly strong, their cooperation made them a considerable headache for humans.

This group of Long-haired Pigs was around 200 strong, while there were over 900 students, whose numbers were overwhelmingly superior, but the students were all famished and exhausted. Moreover—over 90% of these students had never actually fought a Star Beast, all but a horde of inexperienced weak chickens...

Once the Long-haired Pigs collectively charged at the students, the inflicted damage could be severe.

Thus, Ji You immediately discussed with other team captains among the strongest groups and arranged five teams as the spearhead to scatter the Long-haired Pigs. Once they managed to scatter them, the other students would take the opportunity to encircle them—

second.

seconds.

seconds.

Ji You's dark pupils sharpened: "Sheng Qingyan!"

With a raised hand, Sheng Qingyan, who lay hidden in the darkness, shot an arrow straight ahead!

Whoosh—

The Energy Arrow flew straight towards the bushes, and the moment the Long-haired Pigs broke through, the largest and most majestic pig among them wailed miserably:

"Owow~"

"Owow~"

"Owow~"

Its huge body thudded to the ground, limbs flailing wildly as blood gushed forth—

It was at that moment, Ji You squinted her eyes and drew her Big Bow—

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Three arrows shot off at once!

All hit their marks!

This accuracy—

Everyone was taken aback: In the online competition, number 4444 had already showcased sufficient shooting skills; who could have imagined her real-life marksmanship was so powerful!

Sheng Qingyan, who had seemed a bit careless at first, suddenly became serious. Then, he drew the bow again—

Whoosh—

Whoosh—

Whoosh—

Showing no weakness, he also released three arrows in quick succession, each hit its target!

"Owow!!!!!"

The leader of the group, a level 3 Peak Long-haired Pig, cried out in pain once more, its gigantic body rolling on the grass. The Long-haired Pigs that had been crowding around it had become panicked and ran in all directions the moment their leader was first hit—

Now targeted as an archery dummy by both Ji You and Sheng Qingyan, the leader pig howled in pain, completely disregarding its flock. Besides, the intelligence of Star Beasts below level 5 wasn't high at all; they acted only on instinct. Seeking benefits and avoiding harm is innate to animals, as to Star Beasts!

As the Long-haired Pig herd scattered in all directions, Ji You gently raised her hand and called out in a firm voice, "Move!"

Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Zhang Ye, and Lance—every one of them leaped into action, wielding their respective weapons as they rushed out!

They fought not alone, but rounding up their powers to besiege the targeted Long-haired Pigs, quickly shifting their focus upon frightening one away—

The members of the four other teams coordinating with team 44 also quickly followed Ji You's plan into action.

In the blink of an eye, this herd of 200 or so Long-haired Pigs was fragmented by the forceful charge of the five teams...

Across the vast campsite, the Long-haired Pig herd scattered far and wide, many isolated on their own, with only a few clusters of three or five.

The remaining students, now realizing the situation, gathered in small groups and jointly besieged these stranded Long-haired Pigs.

The situation was turning out very favorably!

...

Over here, Ji You and Sheng Qingyan's Energy Bows and Arrows caused severe damage to the Leader Pig, but it was still not fatal.

Level 3 Peak!

Faintly, on the verge of breaking through to level 4, the Leader Pig rolled around and frantically darted across the campsite, upending some of the students' dwellings with its hard snout and limbs.

Ji You and Sheng Qingyan trailed far behind it, keeping a close watch, ready to land an arrow each time it struggled to fight back!

"Ow! Ow! Ow!"

The harrowing cries were piercing to the ears, almost making Ji You want to cover hers.

On Sheng Qingyan's handsome face was an unprecedented focus, hitting the same spot every time Ji You scored a hit.

It seemed as if Ji You had ignited his competitive spirit, as though he was determined to outdo her.

Ji You couldn't help but crack a smile, saying, "Spicy Eye, who would've thought you're usually so lazy, but you're so serious when it comes to shooting."

Sheng Qingyan rolled his eyes and said, "Poor dead ghost, in terms of archery skills, I'm still a notch above you."

Ji You replied, "Fine, fine... as long as you take it seriously, whatever you say goes..."

Sheng Qingyan's eyes lit up—

Ji You added, "Anyway, it's just a verbal win or loss; what does it cost me to let you have one? I'm not really losing to you."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Visibly annoyed, Sheng Qingyan stomped his foot hard and was about to curse when Ji You suddenly put away her Energy Bow and Arrow and drew out a Big Chopper that gleamed coldly, then gestured towards Chu Jiaojiao and Yue Qiguang:

"Jiaojiao!"

"Yue Qiguang!"

In an instant, both were at her side.

Ji You shouted loudly, "Go!"

Chu Jiaojiao and Yue Qiguang, the two students with the highest combat power, charged at the Leader Pig, whose cries were beginning to weaken!

Ji You followed closely behind!

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

Ji You: "Retreat!"

The three Big Choppers hacked at the Leader Pig simultaneously, and without a moment's hesitation, they retreated after striking!

The Leader Pig took another heavy hit, howling and thrashing wildly. However, with arrows in both eyes, it could no longer see its surroundings clearly and could only chase after those hateful attackers by instinct!

"Spicy Eye!" Ji You leaped several meters away.

With a thud as she landed, Sheng Qingyan timely loosed another arrow from a distance! The Leader Pig's charge was interrupted again, screaming in pain...

Then, the fleeing trio—Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, and Ji You—rushed back again, delivering another simultaneous strike!

All their strikes aimed at the Leader Pig's neck.

Thud—

Thud—

Thud—

Blood poured from the neck...

Once!

Twice!

Three times!

...

The four worked together and after several rounds, the Leader Pig finally collapsed with a thunderous fall, convulsing for a while before stopping all movement.

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, and Sheng Qingyan all looked at each other and let out a sigh of relief.

Ji You was especially exhausted, using the back of her knife to prop herself up as she gasped for air.

Yue Qiguang was still full of energy, as if he hadn't exerted himself at all. He even teased Ji You, "Dummy number 4444, with your weak chicken physical strength, you still dream of being the king at the Peak of the Universe!"

"Tch!"

"It's not that Dad is looking down on you!"

Ji You, with a darkened face: "I don't need to be at the World's Peak to take you down easily!"

Chapter 726: The Corpse-Snatching Squad

Yue Qiguang glanced at Ji You, who couldn't even hold the hilt of the knife steadily, and teased: "Come on!"

"Dad is waiting!"

Ji You opened his mouth: "Jiaojiao!"

Chu Jiaojiao immediately leaned in: "Here!"

Ji You raised his hand and pointed at Yue Qiguang: "Attack!"

Chu Jiaojiao: "Roger that!"

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Hugging his Big Chopper, Yue Qiguang jumped several meters away: "Dad disdains to fight with you!"

Saying that, he picked a target and attacked a lone level 1 Long-haired Pig!

Ji You cursed: "Asking for a beating!"

Even if he couldn't beat him in terms of martial strength right now, didn't he still have Chu Jiaojiao, the shameless face-hound?

Grumbling and cursing, Ji You regrouped with Sheng Qingyan. Their location was the highest point of the camp, offering a wide view, allowing them to see everything happening in the camp...

Chu Jiaojiao and Yue Qiguang stayed near Ji You and Sheng Qingyan—they were snipers—targeting any lone Long-haired Pigs, ready to rush over promptly whenever needed.

Then—

Ji You and Sheng Qingyan set up their bows and arrows, squinted, and shot at the Long-haired Pigs scurrying around the camp.

Their main targets were groups of Long-haired Pigs numbering 3 to 10. After scattering them, the two would immediately switch targets.

Furthermore, when some students were at a disadvantage in fights, the two snipers would seize the opportunity to shoot arrows and assist.

Back and forth, within the vast camp, all the students got a real sense of what shooting skills mean!

Terrifying!

Terrifying indeed!

shots, at least 9 hits; those missed were due to the shots being too far, and the range of the Energy Bow and Arrow couldn't reach, becoming a hindrance.

Weaker students, in groups of 5, were responsible for hunting down level 1 Long-haired Pigs.

Whereas students with S-class talents like Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, Lou, and Lance, concentrated their strength to attack level 2 or higher Long-haired Pigs, and it generally took less than 10 minutes to deal with one!

The Long-haired Pigs were fierce and could have caused significant damage to the students, but the students were well-prepared and worked together in battle. The group leaders coordinated well with each other, and in just a few minutes, they had formulated a battle plan with Ji You.

There wasn't much time, and they didn't know they were facing a group of Long-haired Pigs beforehand, so they couldn't devise a plan based on the characteristics of the Star Beasts. Thus, Ji You's plan was simple and rushed, just four words:

Divide and conquer!

As it turned out, it was very successful.

It took about 2 hours, the dim night faded, the fog dissipated, and the light of the stars shone on the land of planet NY50.

Daylight broke, revealing everything around; the students looked at the messy camp, the ground littered with corpses of Long-haired Pigs, some were lying flat on the ground.

Or in the bushes.

Or supporting each other with teammates.

...

Then.

Everyone looked at each other, especially seeing each other's sorry state, suddenly burst into laughter:

"Holy crap!"

"You look so ugly!"

"Damn!"

"I barely recognized you!"

...

Then—

Everyone exclaimed together:

"Holy crap!"

"We actually took down more than 200 Long-haired Pigs!"

"Holy crap!"

"3 of level 3!"

"30 of level 2!"

"Holy crap!"

"Are we still noobs?"

As soon as this was said, everyone laughed heartily, saying in unison, "No! I'm a king now!"

"Hahaha..."

The hearty laughter filled the entire camp, although the camp they built collapsed, and some teammates were injured, luckily, all were minor injuries...

Happy!

Truly happy!

Then—

The students sprawled on the grass saw Ji You leading group 44 members scavenging corpses around the camp!

Students: "???"

"Holy shit! Why are they picking up that stuff?"

Everyone was utterly confused.

Noticing the students spying on them, Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Lou, and Lance, fearing others might catch on, moved faster than ever.

Especially Ji You with badge 4444, sharp-eyed and quick-handed, was picking up only level 2 corpses!

In the blink of an eye, everyone saw her hauling three level 2 Long-haired Pigs!

Suddenly—

Someone had an epiphany:

"I got it! The materials from Long-haired Pigs can be sold for credit points!"

"Holy shit!"

"Why didn't you say so earlier?"

Instantly, the students were no longer lying around lazily like pigs; they all became energetic and scattered towards the Long-haired Pig corpses around the camp!

Ji You, sweating buckets: "Holy shit! Why are these people waking up so early?"

"Quick!"

"Quick!"

"Quick!"

"Group 44, charge! Use the hand speed of your eighteen years of singledom, charge!"

Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, Sheng Qingyan, and others paused, then Sheng Qingyan curled her lip saying, "Dream on, you poor dead! Give up, whoever finds them keeps them!"

Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiguang: "Right! We won't share with you!"

"Don't even think about squeezing half a credit point from us!"

Ji You: "..."

While running, Ji You cursed: "Plastic teammates!"

"Plastic classmates!"

"I'm totally over you all!"

Just as she was complaining, suddenly a level 2 corpse appeared in front of her, Ji You's eyes lit up, about to pounce—

Suddenly, a gust of wind flashed by, Yue Qiguang grabbed the level 2 corpse and stored it in his Space Button, then dashed far off.

Ji You: "..."

Helpless, Ji You gritted her teeth, settled for the next best thing, bending down to grab a level 1 Long-haired Pig corpse at her feet, only for a slender hand to reach over and deftly snatch it, the level 1 disappeared.

Shen Changqing blushing, softly: "I guess my hand was a bit quick."

Ji You: "..."

Guess? And why the blushing? Can't you not do it if you feel ashamed?

Dammit!

Ji You, infuriated, rushed towards other Long-haired Pig corpses, but alas, she was short and had stubby legs, plus just having been through a fight, her physical strength couldn't compare to others, taller and longer-legged—

So—

In the following moments, Ji You only managed to pick up two.

She was about to explode in anger!

...

As the Corpse Collection Team of over nine hundred people swarmed in, within less than 3 minutes, not a single Long-haired Pig corpse could be seen in the camp anymore.

Watching this scene, Ji You howled: "Dammit! Dammit! My get-rich plan!"

"Ruined! Ruined! Ruined!"

Long-haired Pigs were even more valuable than long-eared rabbits, mainly because their materials are more usable, with teeth, claws, arrow-like bristles, and thick skin all being valuable materials.

Conservatively estimated, the materials from one level 1 Long-haired Pig would be worth about 600-800 credit points.

...

Watching the students sitting on the ground, each with a Long-haired Pig in front of them leisurely extracting materials, Ji You's back teeth ached in frustration!

Then—

Ji You took a deep breath, then pulled out a bucket of pure water from the Space Button, and shouted loudly, "Water for sale! 100 credit points a cup of pure water!"

Thirsty students upon hearing it: "Holy shit! Isn't that a rip-off?"

credit points for one cup?

Are you robbing us?

Chapter 727: Truly Blackhearted

"Water for sale!"

"Pure water, 100 credit points a cup."

...

Ji You shouted huskily, knocking on a bowl, unreservedly hawking loudly.

Surroundings: "..."

A brief silence ensued as students exchanged glances, each reading an expression of indescribable feelings in the others' eyes.

Ji You: "Limited quantity, first come first served, too late and you miss out."

The sunlight was blinding, the heat stifling; students who hadn't tasted a drop of water all felt smoke rising from their throats, but what was more infuriating was No.4444 Ji You, who in front of everyone poured himself a cup of water and gulped it down...

"Cough..."

"Refreshing!"

After drinking, Ji You put down the cup and continued: "Limited quantity, first come first served!"

Students glared with eyes wide, feeling their throats drying out even more:

"Damn!"

"Shameless!"

"Despicable!"

"Black-hearted!"

...

To buy?

Or not to buy?

Everyone was torn over this question, then suddenly, a boy stood up and said loudly: "Give me a cup!"

Ji You smiled obsequiously: "Alrighty!"

From the dispenser, a 500ml cup filled quickly with water, gurgling as it reached the brim.

Ji You handed it over and said with a smile: "Fair deal, no cheating, you get every last drop!"

Others: "..."

"That's enough!"

With one leading the way, quickly followed a second, third, fourth...

In no time at all, more than half of Ji You's bucket of water was gone.

Seeing the business booming, the others also became anxious, saying one after another:

"Number 4444, save some!"

"Save some for me!"

"Why are you all buying so much? Leave some for the rest of us!"

"Don't push! Let's go one at a time!"

...

As the struggle for water ensued, in the blink of an eye, the bucket was almost empty, and many who didn't manage to buy were left pounding their chests and stomping their feet, then—

Then No.4444 Ji You, in front of everyone, pulled out another bucket!

People: "Holy shit!"

There's more?

Ji You laughed with a hehe: "Not much, not much, just a few buckets, once they're gone, they're gone."

Last night, having swiped a water purifier from Teacher Mu, Ji You thought of selling water to make money, so he had Xuzhou help him prepare several buckets.

Really, this monopoly business was easy to run.

Watching the credit points in his account increase one by one, Ji You could hardly contain his happiness.

Ji You felt self-satisfied, even humming a little tune: "Today us ordinary folks, oh boy, truly happy..."

Suddenly—

Silence fell sharply around, and students who were about to pay Ji You hastily backed away several steps, looking behind Ji You with a face full of panic.

Ji You: "???"

Silence.

The atmospheric pressure within miles seemed to drop instantaneously.

Realizing something, Ji You stiffened his smile forcibly and turned his head, saying: "Teacher Mu, so glad you're back."

Standing behind Ji You, Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow, smiling: "Doing pretty good with your little business, aren't you?"

Ji You with a frown: "Just a small business, nothing much, just earning a living."

Mu Jianling drawled, "Oh—I see you've made a few thousand credit points in just a short while."

At this point, she paused for a moment and suddenly asked, "By the way, is my water purifier working well?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You grimaced, took a deep breath, and then said loudly, "Teacher's stuff is, of course, excellent! Teacher, look, I helped you make a lot of money. I just sold 2 buckets of water and made a total of 6700 credit points. Teacher, if you're willing, I'd be happy with just a tip of 700 credit points."

Mu Jianling smiled and patted Ji You on the shoulder, praising, "Well done."

While speaking, Mu Jianling looked around lightly and smiled, "Everyone seems pretty wealthy, buying water at 100 credit points a cup so eagerly. It seems—selling water, selling food, is a good business."

The students felt utterly gloomy upon hearing this.

Who wouldn't know that number 4444's prices are cutthroat, but if it weren't for Teacher Mu confiscating all the food and water, none of us would have let her profit from this extortion.

When all is said and done, isn't Teacher Mu the real culprit?

Cough...

But that, no one dares to say.

Ji You also tried to shrink her shoulders and didn't dare to make a sound. Yesterday, she had also sold rice porridge and made 16000 credit points. She guessed that this matter couldn't be kept from Teacher Mu, what if?

Cough!

There's no what if!

Money eaten and digested, there's no reason to spit it out. Ji You decided to play dead and not bring it up.

But then—

Teacher Mu suddenly knocked on Ji You's head and said, "Keep selling!"

Ji You: "Huh?"

The water isn't being confiscated?

Listening to this, it seems Teacher Mu not only intends to keep profiting from this extortionate money but also seems to plan to monopolize it.

Ji You opened her mouth to hawk, but Mu Jianling suddenly said, "Change to using points, 20 points a cup."

"Cough cough..." Ji You couldn't help but pat her chest and said, "Isn't... isn't that a bit too cutthroat?"

Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow: "Monopoly business, what's this about being cutthroat or not, it's not like it's a forced sale."

Ji You: "..."

The students: "..."

If we had known this earlier, we might as well have bought number 4444's marked-up water earlier!

At least everyone could afford 100 credit points!

points a cup of water, even for a points magnate, it would hurt to spend that much.

...

While the students were grumbling and mumbling internally, Mu Jianling said, "Oh right, I have a few thousand nutrient solutions here, let's just make it 5 points each. You help me sell them together."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You tentatively asked, "Excuse me for asking, Teacher, are your nutrient solutions low-level, Intermediate, or High-level?"

Mu Jianling didn't even look up: "Low-level."

Ji You: "!!!"

Everyone: "!!!"

So nefarious!

This is the true definition of a ruthless profiteer!

points each for a low-level nutrient solution, she has some nerve asking for that!

Ji You looked righteously at her classmates, signaling with her eyes:

[See, what's called being ruthless?

This is it! My tiny profits, and you call that ruthless? They are a bunch of people who haven't seen the world!]

Ji You sighed, shook her head, and mustered the courage to ask a question everyone cared about:

"Teacher, we haven't had food or drink for two meals now, isn't the school planning to provide us with food?"

As soon as the question was asked, everyone perked up and stared at Teacher Mu.

Hearing this, Mu Jianling indifferently said, "What do you mean 'not providing'? Isn't there water and nutrient solutions for you to purchase at will?"

Ji You: "..."

Around them, silence fell.

Dead silence.

Only Teacher Mu could make such shameless, unreasonable statements with such righteousness.

It was quiet for a while, and Mu Jianling didn't seem to be in a hurry. After about 1 minute, she said, "Group 1 is limited to 10 nutrient solutions and 10 cups of water. You only have 10 minutes to eat and rest, and not a minute more."

The students: "!!!"

Chapter 728: Prank

Wind blowing, rain pouring, Star Beast attacks, sun scorching... the tormented students, who had just let out a sigh of relief due to Teacher Mu's arrival, suddenly found reasons to lament because of her ruthlessness.

Earning points, is it easy?

Absolutely not.

Most students of the 131st Combat Department only had around 1000 points, with many having just a few hundred. Only a few, like Ji You, Shen Changqing, and Chu Jiaojiao who earned a hefty sum through competitions, were the exceptions.

Moreover—

The official points from Alliance University are hard currency. They are not only usable at Lanyue Star Military Academy but also within the whole Alliance University network.

Students have to use points to access and study materials from other schools.

Eating, training, materials... Anything in the school can be bought with points.

It is precisely because of this that points are so valuable, and also why schools keep encouraging students to eagerly earn more points.

Of course, every school also adopts various methods to make students spend points, to prevent them from accumulating too many...

With Teacher Mu's arrival, demanding students to pay points for food and water is really—

The students were in agony.

But!!! No other choice, the Overlord clause - you have to sign even if you don't want to, you have to buy even if you don't want to.

Once the 10-minute purchase limit order was issued, no one dared to stand still, and every group sent a representative to make purchases.

Ji You was busy as could be, while Mu Jianling watched with arms crossed.

Soon.

All the food and water, sold out.

Ji You, with an obsequious expression, sidled up to Teacher Mu, "Teacher, any other instructions? If not, I'll take my leave first."

Mu Jianling said indifferently, "I saw your cooking, not bad. Why not bring out my cooking utensils?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You didn't dare to utter any nonsense and honestly took out all the cooking utensils from the Space Button that she had collected the night before.

Mu Jianling, very satisfied, nodded: "Light the fire, get to work."

Ji You: "... Teacher, my cooking skills are poor, maybe—?"

Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow: "I thought your beef jerky congee was quite good, where's the fault in that?"

Ji You's heart trembled violently.

Indeed, this Devil knew everything.

Mu Jianling said with a smile, "But beef congee is too bland. I want something meaty today, cook me hot pot."

After saying that, she began to take out materials:

Chicken, beef, lamb, seafood, meatballs, fruits, pastries, snacks...

The materials were so abundant they dazzled the eyes... In fact, many students felt that some of the items looked very familiar, vaguely resembling what they had brought.

Especially Xuzhou, who recognized his beef jerky right away! This brand of beef jerky, which uses all-natural high-mountain cattle, is not easy to snatch up. Xuzhou had managed to get a few bags only by diligently snapping them up every day.

Watching Teacher Mu casually munching on his beef jerky, Xuzhou kept a straight face, looking utterly calm, but no one knew his inner feelings.

A stove with an open flame heated the water, and in the dual-flavored pot—one red, one clear—aromas wafted richly.

The red oil broth, packed with Sichuan peppercorns, chili peppers, and spices... Spicy and fresh.

The clear broth, made from Long-legged Chicken, had a layer of golden oil floating on the white soup; a gentle stir with the spoon dispersed a rich and tantalizing sweetness...

"Gulu Gulu~"

The area filled with the embarrassing sound of people swallowing their saliva, and even Ji You, the one cooking, couldn't help but drool shamefully.

[This is torture!]

Ji You wailed internally. Once the soup base was ready, resisting the urge to taste it, she approached Teacher Mu with eagerness, "Teacher, it's ready. Would you like me to taste it for saltiness?"

Mu Jianling turned off the melodrama on TV and gestured with her hand, "No need. Just get the dipping sauce ready, and remember, less green onions, I don't like them."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You dutifully prepared the dipping sauces; she often went to hot pot restaurants to hang out with Mengmeng and was familiar with the kind of dipping sauces people liked in this era. Along with the experience from her past life, Ji You prepared three types:

Garlic ginger sauce.

Sesame peanut sauce.

And also cilantro soy sauce with chili.

Once the sauces were ready, Mu Jianling leisurely began to swish mutton rolls, beef rolls...

seconds, pick up with chopsticks.

Watching Teacher Mu's elegant eating, and smelling that strong delicious fragrance, the students holding a cup of exorbitantly-priced water and low-level nutrition suddenly felt they couldn't stomach their food!

Damn it!

So damn it!

Ji You, who stood the closest and had set up the fire-pot meal, felt it the most; she simply couldn't stay put any longer, lifting her foot, she was about to slip away.

"Stand still!" Mu Jianling suddenly said.

Ji You's eyes lit up, she hurriedly turned back, delightedly said: "Teacher, you..." Finally willing to bestow a bite for the small one to eat.

Mu Jianling's lips curved up: "Stand there and watch me eat."

Ji You: "..."

After saying that, Mu Jianling once again started eating at a leisurely pace.

Ji You, the other students, everyone watched with wide eyes as Mu Jianling ate leisurely all by herself.

She...

Really ate all of the laid out food by herself, not a single piece of vegetable left!

After eating her fill, Mu Jianling then looked towards the students, flashing a smile:

"Idiots, want to eat fire-pot?"

Students: "..."

Mu Jianling: "Do you or do you not?"

Although the students were reluctant to admit they were idiots, they also couldn't help but loudly say:

"We do!"

Mu Jianling laughed: "Even if you do, it's useless, not serving!"

Students: "..."

Horrible!

So horrible!

She was deliberately teasing and tormenting the students.

With hands behind her back, Mu Jianling walked around within the group of students, and suddenly said: "Assemble!"

No one dared to delay, and in the blink of an eye, they lined up in groups, neatly arranged.

Among them, there were some students who had been heavily injured by Star Beasts, like Ren An and others, who were unable to be present, which Mu Jianling of course knew.

Teams that were incomplete all felt a little uneasy.

At this moment—

Mu Jianling said: "For the first round of assessment, I am very dissatisfied with over 90% of you."

Last night, the performance of the students was indeed barely passable, as evidenced by how many had been injured; this group of students still lived in an ivory tower, they still hadn't adjusted their mindsets properly, still saw themselves in the role of the protected...

In short, with such a state on the battlefield, they were sure to be easy targets. Star Beasts and enemies, they never stop baring their fangs simply because of your weakness.

The atmosphere around was a bit heavy.

Mu Jianling indifferently said: "All the injured students will receive a zero for this assessment, and each member of their group will have 5 points deducted!"

Students' eyes widened:

This—

Isn't this too cruel?

Not only a personal zero but the group members also get points docked due to association?

Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow: "Any objections?"

Students: "..."

Chapter 729: I'll Protect You!

After Mu Jianling announced the punishment plan, the students dared not speak out in anger, all of them hanging their heads with a listless appearance.

This sight inexplicably infuriated Mu Jianling, and she suddenly shouted, "Straighten your backs!"

Whoosh~

In an instant, all the students lifted their heads and straightened their spines.

Mu Jianling said coldly, "You think the punishment is unfair?"

The students, with their mouths agape, then a few of the braver ones, such as Ji You and others, immediately took the lead and said, "Not at all! Definitely not!"

The others also echoed one after another.

Seeing this, Mu Jianling snorted coldly, "971 fools, dealing with 300 low-level Star Beasts in two rounds, that averages to 3 people facing one beast, and yet so many of you got injured. Do you really have the face to think the point deduction is unfair?"

"Cough..."

Indeed, this was the calculation, but—

But all of this was predicated on the fact that there was no warning whatsoever, and over 90% of the students had never fought against Star Beasts before, that's why they suffered such a big loss...

If it were now, the students would have the experience, the preparation, and certainly wouldn't fall into the same trap again.

...

These words were not voiced by the students, and with just a glance around with her sharp eyes, like a detector, Mu Jianling understood what these students were thinking.

Mu Jianling said coldly, "Do you really think that in the battlefield, the enemy will let you be well-prepared in advance?"

"Do you really think there is someone in this world who is born knowing how to deal with Star Beasts?"

"Do you really think that when you die, Sky will let you choose a good way to die?"

...

Each sentence, each word, struck their hearts, pounding in the ears and minds of all the students...

Mu Jianling's voice, from being stern, turned somewhat powerless. She looked at the students below with shame on their faces, suddenly sighed and said, "The teacher can't protect you, the only one who can protect you in the future is yourself."

Upon saying this, Mu Jianling fell silent for a few rare minutes.

The atmosphere became somewhat heavy, somewhat stifling, somewhat oppressive. The students could also sense the melancholy and helplessness in Teacher Mu's simple words...

Many students felt a hint of panic and sadness:

Could it be—

I'm really so weak as to disappoint the teacher?

Weak enough to make the powerful Teacher Mu sigh?

Weak enough—

...

This feeling of depression and helplessness kept invading the hearts of all the students present.

The silence grew longer.

The oppression got worse.

Suddenly—

Someone jumped up and said loudly, "Teacher! I'll protect you!"

Cough cough—

Who?

Following the voice, loud enough to deafen, everyone looked over—

Wow—

It's number 4444!

Under everyone's gaze, Ji You, without a trace of shame, raised her hand, patted her chest, and shouted, "Teacher! I'll protect you from now on!"

Mu Jianling: "..."

The other students were also somewhat at a loss for what to say, but the bright light in number 4444's eyes was so dazzling, so brilliant it made it impossible for anyone to mock or laugh at her...

Mu Jianling's lips, which had been tightly pressed, relaxed slightly, and the coldness in her eyes quietly softened. She cleared her throat and said indifferently, "First, you should focus on protecting yourself."

Ji You grinned and patted her chest, saying, "I am already learning to protect myself. I will study and train even harder. Eventually, I will be able to protect you, Teacher!"

"Cough..." Mu Jianling said sternly, "Don't get ahead of yourself. With your weak abilities, what can you do to protect me?"

With that, Mu Jianling glanced at Ji You, who was as skinny as a weak chicken, her eyes filled with disdain.

Ji You wasn't annoyed in the slightest and continued to smile brightly, "Don't worry, Teacher. Within a few years, I'll be able to beat you! Just you wait!"

As Ji You spoke, she clenched her fists, her voice brimming with confidence.

Also—

Where on earth did she borrow such ironclad confidence from—the other students wondered to themselves.

"Oh—" Mu Jianling drawled, "We shall see."

As soon as she finished speaking, Mu Jianling suddenly raised her hand, pointing at the cooking utensils nearby, "If you want to protect me, why are you still standing there? Go clean these dirty dishes and kitchen utensils."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You's eyes widened, "Teacher... you misunderstood me, I was not talking about this kind of protection... It's... that kind!"

She didn't sign up to be Devil Mu's little maid!!!

Mu Jianling side-eyed her, "What's the difference? With your current level of ability, I wouldn't even want you to wash dishes. Can you do it cleaner than a household robot?"

Ji You: "..."

That hit home.

Around them: "..."

Pff—

Seeing '4444' with a constipated expression as if she hadn't been able to poop for centuries, many students struggled to hold back their laughter, yet no one dared to laugh out loud, and—

After being disrupted by '4444', the students suddenly raised their heads, looking at Teacher Mu Jianling, and shouted out loud, "Teacher! We will work hard!"

"Yes!"

"Right!"

"We will protect you!"

"We will protect the Alliance!"

...

These voices grew louder, more spirited, and thunderous...

A stark contrast to the previous despondence.

While Mu Jianling did not say much, her expression remained cold and indifferent, but!!!

Hearing the voices rise and fall around her, Mu Jianling couldn't help but raise her hand to rub her temples and then suddenly cursed, "Quiet down!"

The students immediately fell silent.

"Cough cough..." Mu Jianling cleared her throat, saying officiously, "Now, I am giving you 1 hour to re-establish your camp. If you don't set it up in time, your group will lose another 5 points!"

Hiss~

Is 1 hour enough?

Who has time to worry about whether it's enough! Being a coward is useless. One word: [Work!]

All the students immediately started working energetically.

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, and the others were no exception. Although their temporary residence could shield them from wind and rain, it was still too simple inside and very uncomfortable to live in. This happened to be a good opportunity to use the time given by the Teacher to fortify and redecorate.

After some thought, Ji You decided that construction wasn't her forte, so she turned to Shen Changqing and said, "Classmate Shen Changqing, you are more skilled in this area. You lead the way, and tell us immediately whatever you need us to do."

Shen Changqing did not hesitate, nodding and saying, "We need to re-divide the interior space of our residence; the areas for eating and sleeping will remain the same. But first, I think it's essential to add a lookout post."

Hmm?

The eyes of Ji You and the others lit up. Indeed, if Star Beasts were to appear in the camp again unexpectedly, it would be difficult to defend against them. It would be very beneficial to have an early warning, and having a lookout post would undoubtedly be useful.

Ji You promptly said, "Alright! I agree!"

Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Sheng Qingyan, Xuzhou, Lou, and others, after hearing this, all said, "We agree too!"

### Chapter 730: Wholehearted Effort

The entire camp was bustling with activity as the students began construction of their dwellings. They really came up with some ingenious solutions in a highly enthusiastic atmosphere!

After taking a brief look, Mu Jianling suddenly dialed a communication number.

"..."

"Yes, currently there are 13 severely injured and several more with minor injuries... I need..."

After hearing Mu Jianling's requests, the warrior at the other end of the line said sternly, "Received! Arranging it now!"

Mu Jianling ended the communication and, with her arms folded, walked toward her own excessively luxurious tent.

Inside the tent, there were 13 severely injured students in need of surgery, including Ren An, a member of the Zhongqing Group.

When they saw Teacher Mu enter with hands behind her back, their faces involuntarily flushed with red.

Flushed with shame.

They had all heard what Mu Jianling told the other students just now, and this only added to their embarrassment.

Their injuries were indeed a result of recklessness, impulsive actions, and underestimating the enemy.

Especially Ren An, who should not have been injured at all.

This luxury tent, with its sterile environment mode and comfortable settings, was indeed very conducive to the students' recovery. The 13 patients had received preliminary treatment from the treatment instrument to temporarily suppress the spread of the Star Beast virus.

It could be said that Mu Jianling left this tent here as an extra safeguard for the students because she was concerned that they might hesitate to use it.

No. 4444, this idiot, despite being noisy, mischievous, and causing trouble, was indeed reliable when it came to getting things done.

She was able to utilize the limited resources immediately and did not selfishly keep them for herself, but distributed them to other groups of students who were in urgent need. This bravery, composure, steadiness, and sense of the bigger picture greatly comforted Mu Jianling.

As for taking a bag of her rice to make porridge to sell and even keeping a few pieces of beef jerky hidden from her...

Cough cough...

Forget it!

It's just a minor flaw.

Who doesn't have minor flaws?

Besides, No. 4444 managed to scrounge food and drink for her teammates under the conditions of water and food shortage, striving to maintain the strength of her teammates... even though she took a little money, cough cough...

That's also her skill.

These thoughts raced through Mu Jianling's mind as she paced slowly in the tent with an expressionless face...

With every step she took, the hearts of Ren An and the other 13 students couldn't help but twinge.

After a while, Mu Jianling said, "Why are your faces red? Do you feel ashamed?"

Ren An and others: "..."

Mu Jianling said indifferently, "Having a sense of shame means you're not beyond hope."

The students lowered their heads, listening silently.

Mu Jianling continued, "The 13 of you will be taken by the medical department of the Sixth Legion later for treatment. Judging by your injuries, the preliminary estimate is that you'll need 10 days of treatment. Do you know what this means?"

Upon hearing this, Ren An and the others all looked up at once with wide eyes, a trace of panic flashing in their eyes.

But!

Reluctantly, they still heard Teacher Mu's next words.

Mu Jianling said, "It means that you have finished this semester's final exams."

Upon hearing this, Ren An and the others bit their lips hard, some unable to stop themselves from trembling slightly.

Mu Jianling seemed oblivious to the students' panic and said indifferently, "Zero points!"

The 13 students remained silent, and a repressive silence filled the tent.

After a few seconds, Mu Jianling said coldly, "You mark yourselves as zero, and your teammates have lost 5 points due to being implicated."

Ren An and the others opened their mouths—

Mu Jianling, with her hands behind her back, continued pacing, her voice devoid of emotion, "You should be thankful that this is just a school's final assessment and not a real battlefield. If—"

She paused briefly, and upon hearing these words, Ren An and the others bowed their heads silently, their expressions filled with undeniable frustration and regret.

Mu Jianling then said, "On a real battlefield, with your kind of foolish actions, you would have died a hundred, a thousand times over, and your ashes wouldn't even know where the enemy scattered them."

"You even want to kill your own teammates!"

...

Silence.

Still silence.

After Mu Jianling said those few sentences, she stopped and did not speak again, but her every word pierced the hearts of Ren An and the others, leaving a deep mark.

Then, Mu Jianling did not say anything further.

Ren An and the others slowly, very slowly, raised their heads, first carefully glancing at her, and then—

The 13 people seemed to muster up their courage and loudly said, "Teacher, we will work hard!"

The corners of Mu Jianling's lips slightly curved, but she snorted softly, "What's the use of working hard? Stupid cannot be changed."

Ren An and the others: "..."

Loudly, Ren An and the others: "We will learn to be not stupid."

Mu Jianling: "Some people are stupid for a lifetime."

Ren An and the others: "..."

Fortunately, this awkward atmosphere was finally broken after two warriors led a team of medical robots over.

Mu Jianling raised her hand, pointed at Ren An and the others, and said, "Here—Xiao Hei, these are the 13 fools."

Ren An and others: "..."

Mu Jianling waved her hand: "A bunch of annoying fools, get them out of here quickly."

The warrior known as Xiao Hei was the kind-hearted three-star Black-faced Soldier who had previously given Ji You cookies and water in the warehouse, whose full name was Han Zheng.

When Han Zheng heard Mu Jianling calling him 'Xiao Hei,' his dark and resolute face didn't show much emotion, but the skin below his neck turned slightly red.

He kept a straight face and said seriously, "Teacher Mu, rest assured, the medical team here on the planet will properly treat these juniors and not leave any hidden issues."

Mu Jianling frowned and waved her hand, "Hurry up and take them away. Who's worried about whether they have hidden issues?"

Cough cough...

She clearly cares.

But he did not say that, maintaining a serious and stern black face.

Then, he gave the order, and Ren An and the others were quickly taken away by the medical robots in the ambulance.

He also prepared to leave, he glanced at Teacher Mu Jianling, even though he had already been on countless battlefields, faced life and death many times, and even achieved the honor of a three-star warrior, but!!!

Standing in front of Teacher Mu Jianling, the Black-faced Soldier Han Zheng still felt as awkward as he did as a student back then.

"Teacher, I will first take the juniors for treatment, if you have any instructions, please contact me."

Mu Jianling: "Hmm."

As he turned to leave, Mu Jianling suddenly said, "Xiao Hei, stay in the logistics department, heal your injury before returning to the battlefield, the Alliance doesn't lack a three-star warrior like you."

Han Zheng paused in his steps.

Then, he respectfully nodded to Mu Jianling before walking away.

On this end, Ji You saw the Black-faced Soldier leading a team of medical robots, marching into the luxurious tent in a grand manner, and her mind was also at ease; this meant the school intended to treat Ren An and the others' injuries and wasn't abandoning them.

Just then, the Black-faced Soldier passed by Ji You's campsite, Ji You waved forcefully: "Black-faced Brother—what a coincidence!"

Han Zheng: "..."

Han Zheng said, "Not a coincidence, I specifically came over."

Ji You chuckled and said, "Black-faced Brother, when you're free another day, I want to seek your advice, please be ready for my challenge anytime!"

Three-star warrior!

How strong is he?

Ji You's heart itched like a cat's claws to try and see the gap between herself and him!

Han Zheng: "..."

He thought he had heard wrong.

It must be said, Ji You's greatest ability is daring to dream.