

Scavengers 821

Chapter 821: Stench!

Mu Jianling snorted coldly, "Trying to escape?"

After saying that, she raised her hand, about to fire the cannon, but suddenly shivered all over. Just as she pressed the firing button, Mu Jianling hurriedly tightened her facial protective shield and pinched her nose, saying, "Smelly..."

But!

Even with her nose pinched and the protective shield tightened, the strong stench did not dissipate immediately.

This penetration...

It's simply—Even though Mu Jianling had already heard about it, she never imagined it could smell this bad, penetrating her facial protective shield!

Mu Jianling's sudden pause caused several particle cannons to miss, and seeing this, the Carrion Vultures knew that if they didn't run now, when would they?

Run!

Whoosh whoosh~

In an instant, they ran a long distance away. These Carrion Vultures were vastly inferior to Mu Jianling in strength, instinctively driven by fear of the strong and the desire to avoid harm, they used the speed of their lives to escape.

Seeing them about to disappear from the detection range of the Mecha—

Ji You quickly said, "Teacher, quickly eliminate the root!"

Mu Jianling squinted her eyes, "You're going to... cough..." spoke—

Smelly!

Mu Jianling decided to shut her mouth and not speak anymore, just act.

Then, several particle cannons fired towards the distance.

Swish—

Swish—

Swish—

All hit, but due to the distance, only one Level 4 was killed, while the other four particle cannons only hit without striking the vital points of the Carrion Vultures, they all suffered serious setbacks, flapping their wings to continue running, but now their speed had already slowed down. Mu Jianling was about to fire more shots when a pair of huge wings suddenly fanned towards her Mecha.

Boom—

Mu Jianling squinted her eyes, immediately drew her sword, and engaged in a battle with this perfectly combat-ready Level 8 female Carrion Vulture.

In the close combat, both sides were very fast. Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, and a few others widened their eyes but still couldn't catch the figure of the two sides fighting in the starry sky. However, this wasn't important; what was important was their confidence in Teacher Mu!

Defeating this Level 8 Carrion Vulture was only a matter of time for Teacher Mu, and all they could do was ensure there were no worries left for her, protecting themselves while also protecting their comrades.

At that moment, on the entire battlefield, from the original 9 Carrion Vultures, Teacher Mu had killed 2 in one move, and Sheng Qingyan had successfully killed 1 as a finishing blow. Thus, among the remaining Carrion Vultures, there were six 4 and 5 Level ones still alive.

Among these six, all were injured, four lightly, two heavily.

For the four lightly injured, their flying ability remained unaffected. At this point, who would dare stay any longer? They all hurriedly scattered in all directions, taking advantage of the moment when the enemy hadn't pursued them yet...

Ji You said, "Ignore the four lightly injured, the heavily injured ones will be held by Sheng Qingyan while we five work together to encircle one swiftly!"

No one objected.

Then.

Ji You was the first to board the Mecha, connect the Spiritual Connector, and charge into the starry sky.

As soon as she rushed out, a stench greeted her, and Ji You immediately held her breath, "Wow, this thing, slightly improved, the stench is like a Level 12 jump." But it was so strong, yet ineffective against the Carrion Vulture?

The more Ji You thought about it, the more unwilling she became.

Then.

Her cannon lock mercilessly targeted the prey.

This heavily injured Carrion Vulture had wounds mainly on the wing position, its two large wings were almost totally ruined, completely losing the ability to fly, relying solely on its formidable physique to endure against the enemy.

The saying "Seize the opportunity to take one's life" applies here, against such a ferocious enemy, Ji You had no sympathy, only a life-or-death scenario!

Boom—

Following Ji You, Shen Changqing, Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, and Yue Qiyuan all followed suit, quickly firing, causing the dark starry sky to burst into incredibly splendid gunfire.

Rumble~

The sparks burned out, revealing a charred Carrion Vulture corpse.

Ji You pinched her nose dissatisfied, "Bald, all the feathers are gone, wings are scorched, claws are charred, sigh! It's worthless now."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiguang: "Still have time to complain?"

Ji You waved her hand, "Let's go, kill the second one!"

At this point, the four lightly injured Carrion Vultures had already fled without a trace. Ji You and the others' target was the heavily injured one blocked by Sheng Qingyan.

Sheng Qingyan fired several shots in succession, though not directly killing it, they further injured it. When the five of them arrived, this Carrion Vulture attempted to flee, only to be overwhelmed by Ji You and the others' concentrated gunfire.

Boom~

Boom~

Boom~

...

On the battlefield, there's no concept of conserving here; only the utmost effort to survive. Thus, Ji You, the Old Miser, didn't bother conserving particle cannons, firing at the target as if they were free.

Needless to say, for other tycoons.

When the sparks burned out again, revealing the corpse of a Carrion Vulture, everyone couldn't help but turn their eyes away:

Yue Qiyuan: "Too tragic, unbearable to watch."

Chu Jiaojiao: "Too ugly, don't want to look."

Yue Qiguang: "Too dumb, no wonder it died early."

Shen Changqing remained silent, but his handsome face was full of excitement and thrill: Level 5! Level 5! Another successful kill.

Ji You, unlike the others, approached a bit closer, manipulated the mechanical arm, and lifted the corpse of the Carrion Vulture, inspecting it carefully for a few seconds before becoming irritated: "Damn, didn't any of you hold back? The beak, claws, feathers, all burned to ashes."

How can this be sold?

All turned to ash; even selling to the junk collector wouldn't work.

"Wastefulness!" These are Level 5 Star Beast materials! Level 5 at least means several thousand credit points. Thought of this made Ji You's expression darken, as she cursed outright, "Does your family own a mine? So many of you are so willing to spend? Next time, remember to control your power, if not leaving a complete body, at least save the valuable parts!!!"

Chu Jiaojiao also felt a bit heartache, saying, "Ahem... next time, I'll control a bit."

Yue Qiyuan didn't speak, but rolled his eyes at Ji You, next to him Yue Qiguang expressed his thoughts in a flash, saying, "You act as if you held back, Dad saw clearly, you fired more shots than Dad!"

"Ahem ahem..." Ji You coughed lightly, denying, "Nonsense! You were seeing things, it was a mistake."

Yue Qiguang pointed to his eyes, "Dad's vision is fine, apart from Shen Changqing, you fired the second most cannons."

Ji You immediately turned to Shen Changqing, asking, "Classmate Shen Changqing, why did you burn its wings and claws?" Ji You clearly saw that the culprit for burning the wings and claws was Shen Changqing.

Shen Changqing: "..."

Completely unexpected that the fire would implicate him, indeed, silent people tend to be the scapegoats.

Secretly murmuring in his mind, Shen Changqing's handsome face subtly flushed with a hint of blush, he pursed his lips, saying, "Teacher Mu is about to finish there, should we continue pursuing those who fled, or return to the spaceship?"

Chapter 822: Materials

This battle, from start to finish, kept the students on edge the entire time. It was only when they saw Teacher Mu slay that Level 8 female Carrion Vulture with a single sword strike that Ji You and the others finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Following that, everyone saw Teacher Mu's Mecha's cannon split into four, aiming in four directions, and then—

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

After four blasts, the four fleeing Carrion Vultures were all killed.

Ji You raised a hand: "Quick! Salvage!"

Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, along with Ji You, hurriedly salvaged the bodies of the Carrion Vultures before they drifted too far in the starry sky.

Ji You salvaged the one with the flower crown, and when she got close to observe the tragic state of the flower crown, she couldn't help but feel a pang in her heart: head, feet, wings, feathers, skin... almost nothing was intact.

This...

This is completely ruined.

Ji You couldn't help but mutter 'wasteful', as she raised her mechanical arm, intending to grab the flower crown and drag it back to the spaceship. Just then, Mu Jianling, who had just finished the battle,

arrived beside Ji You like an agile eagle, reached out, and picked up the flower crown's head. Ji You was stunned: "Teacher, you..."

Mu Jianling was silent. With one mechanical arm holding the flower crown, she suddenly drew a small but sharp knife with the other, and then, in less than a second, she quickly sliced around the flower crown's head. Ji You didn't even see what she was doing.

Then.

Mu Jianling put the knife away.

Next.

Mu Jianling tossed the body of the flower crown into the depths of space, and it drifted away, disappearing in the blink of an eye.

Ji You: "..."

Ji You was so anxious she almost stomped her feet: "Teacher, why did you just throw it away?"

Mu Jianling responded without raising her eyes: "It's useless."

Ji You choked and said, "How is it useless? The claws, beak, wings... if you pick through it, you might find something valuable!"

Saying this, Ji You was genuinely heartbroken.

Mu Jianling: "Do you think I, Mu Jianling, am some kind of junk collector?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You almost choked on her words, taking a deep breath, she said with a slight grievance, "But I am a junk collector."

If you don't pick it up, I will.

Mu Jianling: "..."

"Oh—" The tone was a bit prolonged, with a clear hint of amusement in Mu Jianling's eyes, as she said, "Got it. Next time there's junk, I'll throw it to you."

Ji You: "..."

At first glance, there didn't seem to be a problem with the words, but upon further thought, something felt off. It seemed, perhaps, that Teacher Mu was being sarcastic and mocking her again?

However, Ji You genuinely didn't see anything wrong with collecting scrap. Scrap can be sold for money, improving living conditions. Moreover, these scraps are valuable items that, once recycled, can benefit the Alliance.

So, faced with the obvious mockery in Teacher Mu's eyes, Ji You suddenly raised her chin with pride and said, "There's nothing wrong with collecting scrap, I don't steal, I don't rob. I collect scrap with my skills, and I'm proud, I'm esteemed."

Mu Jianling shot her a sideways glance, "Let's go."

After speaking.

She took the lead and headed for the spaceship.

Ji You glanced around, seeing that all the Carrion Vulture corpses had been fully salvaged, she quickly piloted her Wind Wing to catch up to Teacher Mu Jianling. However, Mu Jianling's speed wasn't something she could match.

Ji You could only watch her dust trail in the distance.

Five minutes later.

Xuzhou and Zhang Ye, along with Lou and Lance, controlled the spaceship, bringing it alongside Mu Jianling. The ship's hatch opened, and Mu Jianling piloted her silver-white Mecha to leap onto the hatch. Then, she retracted the Mecha, revealing her face filled with a murderous aura. Yet, the moment she saw the students, that aura vanished instantly, reverting to her usual indifference.

Mu Jianling kept silent, glanced back at the starry sky, spotted Ji You's Wind Wing, and then turned back to the other students, saying calmly, "You all performed well today, I'm quite pleased."

Suddenly receiving praise from Teacher Mu, everyone felt a bit awkward, lowering their heads to hide their blushing faces.

Then.

A clear voice rang out from the starry sky behind Mu Jianling:

"Ahhhh!!!"

"Teacher, you actually praised us?"

"Teacher, how about a reward?"

"Compared to verbal rewards, we'd be happier and more motivated with some tangible rewards..."

Ji You, piloting her Wind Wing, hurriedly climbed up the ship's hatch, and without having the time to retract her Mecha, she anxiously walked over to Mu Jianling's side, staring at her with star-filled eyes.

Mu Jianling: "..."

Mu Jianling felt an inexplicable itch in her palm, then she suddenly curved her lips and smiled: "Alright."

Ji You grinned broadly.

The next second, "Bang!"

Her forehead received a heavy flick.

Mu Jianling said: "Roasted chestnut."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You, clutching her forehead, gave her a sideways glance: "Teacher, that wasn't fair. If you weren't going to give us anything, at least don't hit us?"

Mu Jianling: "I'm happy."

Ji You: "..."

Mu Jianling glanced at her, speaking calmly, "Besides, do I need to be fair?"

Ji You: "..."

This world, perhaps only this domineering, charming, and reckless Teacher Mu can be so unreasonable yet so justified.

Ji You felt quite speechless.

Then.

Mu Jianling said: "Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Lou, Lance, continue flying the spaceship at maximum speed."

Having said that, Mu Jianling walked into a private room in the cabin and never came out again.

Ji You thought about Teacher Mu's earlier solo battle against two Level 8 Star Beasts and how she wiped out that Star Beast's entire brood. The whole ordeal, from start to finish, was actually very brief, less than an hour.

The drain on spiritual power and physical strength was enormous.

Teacher Mu went to rest, and neither Ji You nor the other students disturbed her. After a round of task assignments, Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiguang, and Yue Qiyuan squatted on the hatch, processing the materials from the Carrion Vultures.

The materials from the Star Beasts are mostly used for manufacturing and producing Mechas, Starships, spaceships... Their usage is broad and crucial. Star Beasts above Level 4 have even more valuable materials.

The pile of Carrion Vultures in front of them had materials worth a lot of money.

Ji You's eyes first targeted the Level 8 female Carrion Vulture. This Carrion Vulture was killed by Teacher Mu Jianling, who directly stored it in her Space Button and brought it back to the spaceship. As the mate of the flower crown, it was lucky enough not to receive the same treatment as the flower crown. Its body remained very intact at this point, with the bird's head, body, feathers... all seeming complete, without major damage.

Ji You reached out her hand, ready to dismantle the materials off its body, suddenly pausing in surprise.

Chapter 823: Doubts

Ji You was startled, thinking she must have seen it wrong. She quickly leaned in closer, examining the head of this Level 8 female Carrion Vulture, and found that indeed there was a small hole in the position of its bird crown.

This small hole was shallow, as if it had been cut open not long ago, with traces of blood on it. Judging by the shape of the incision, Ji You guessed it was made by a small knife. Ji You opened her mouth: "Huh?"

Based on the observed situation, wasn't it the very small knife Teacher Mu used just now?

Linking to Teacher Mu holding a small knife and what she had done to the Corona Corpse Vulture's body, Ji You rubbed her chin:

Could it be that Teacher Mu deliberately used a small knife to cut open the head of this Level 8 Star Beast and took something from inside?

What could it be?

Ji You picked up the carrion vulture's head, examining it carefully, looking over it several times, and found nothing missing. Ji You had dismantled materials from Carrion Vultures twice before, and was very familiar with all its organs, so she was very sure that nothing else was missing from this carrion vulture except for a hole in its head.

Was her guess wrong?

But—

Ji You certainly saw Teacher Mu use the knife to do something to the bird's crown, it's just her moves were so fast that Ji You didn't see clearly.

Guessing again and again but unable to figure it out, Ji You left the Level 8 carrion vulture behind and quickly went to see the other Level 4 and 5 carrion vulture corpses. She checked them one by one and found they were all intact with no holes in their heads.

This means Teacher Mu only took something from the heads of two Level 8 carrion vultures?

Thinking of this, Ji You raised her hand to point at the carrion vulture's head and asked the surrounding classmates: "By the way, did any of you see Teacher Mu take something from here just now?"

The others, hearing this, seemed a bit confused.

Chu Jiaojiao asked: "Take what? Isn't everything here?"

Yue Qiguang muttered: "Who had time to watch her, too busy killing enemies to even manage that."

Yue Qiyuan shook his head, saying: "I didn't notice."

Shen Changqing also shook his head, saying: "I was too far away earlier, couldn't see clearly. Ji You, what are you trying to say?"

Ji You pointed to the hole in the carrion vulture's head, saying: "Nothing much, just, look here, there's a hole. I saw Teacher Mu take something, but didn't see clearly what it was."

Shen Changqing was startled.

The others showed a bit of curiosity: "There's something here?"

"Yeah." Ji You waved her hand, saying: "Don't dwell on it, quickly dismantle the materials, everyone get to your positions, hold down the spaceship and the flight path, we need to get back to the examination site as soon as possible."

"As for this issue..." Ji You thought for a moment, then said: "Once Teacher Mu is rested, I'll ask her."

Everyone nodded: "Alright."

Thus, a party of 10, excluding Sheng Qingyan who was focused on watching the turrets, and Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Lou, and Lance who were navigating the spaceship, Ji You, Shen Changqing, Chu Jiaojiao and 4 others quickly extracted all the materials from this batch of carrion vultures.

While dismantling, all of them held their noses, feeling quite disgusted. Because, after using the stinky bomb to drive away these carrion vultures — though it wasn't successful — they all carried the smell of stinky bomb, a lingering odor that was hard to describe.

Yue Qiguang said: "In my life, I've never smelled such a stench."

Ji You laughed: "Congratulations, you've smelled it now."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Yue Qiyuan kept his mouth shut, wearing a face-shielding mask, looking as though he didn't want to say another word.

Chu Jiaojiao wanted to speak, but as soon as she opened her mouth there came a waft of stench. She had endured the smell earlier to say a few words, but now she really didn't want to talk. Still, after staring at Ji You's face for a while, she said: "Ji You, your face sure is beautiful. By the way, did you make that stinky bomb yourself? Really amazing, you truly live up to who you are, even if it stinks, it stands out from others, reaching a higher level, a higher realm."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You rolled her eyes: "Jiaojiao, aren't you afraid of the smell? Say less."

Shen Changqing had been keeping his head down, silently dismantling materials. Upon hearing this topic, he looked up at Ji You, saying: "The stinky bomb is effective on Viper Worms and Sea Iron Bulls, but seems to fail on carrion vultures. Do you know why?"

Ji You asked eagerly: "Do you know why, Shen Changqing?"

Shen Changqing shook his head, saying: "I don't know, but I checked on the Star Network just now, it seems it's because the carrion vulture's taste and smell senses have degraded. Due to the failure of these senses and their robust bodies, they can survive in very harsh environments. Plus, as species that mainly feed on decaying materials, most of them live on smelly garbage planets for long term..."

As someone from a garbage planet, Ji You said: "I haven't seen them on Garbage Star No. 101. So, they are immune to the stinky bomb mainly because their taste and smell senses have failed?"

Shen Changqing nodded: "Almost certainly."

Ji You rubbed her chin and after a while, her eyes suddenly brightened: "So, my stinky bomb could potentially be effective against all Star Beasts with sensitive taste and smell senses?"

Shen Changqing was slightly surprised, nodding: "Yes."

He hadn't expected Ji You not to fall into the frustration of the stinky grass's failure and instead immediately see the advantage from another angle.

Shen Changqing felt somewhat sincerely impressed by this.

Ji You asked: "Shen Changqing, do you know which Star Beasts currently have failed taste and smell senses like carrion vultures?"

Shen Changqing thought carefully, then said: "To my knowledge, there are about thirty Star Beasts with similar conditions, most like the carrion vulture, with some specific exceptions..."

At this point, Shen Changqing said: "When I have time, I'll organize this list and send it to you all."

Ji You squinted and smiled: "Great."

Shen Changqing truly lives up to being the promising young genius of the school, apart from being too honest, in terms of thinking, talent, strength... in every aspect, he well deserves the title of genius.

Ji You's favorite aspect about Shen Changqing is his attention to detail and broad knowledge, for example, in the problem just now, he knew more clearly and comprehensively than other classmates.

Before Ji You could speak, Shen Changqing thought for a moment, then continued: "I'll also organize a list of Star Beasts with especially sensitive taste and smell, and send that to everyone as well."

Ji You: "Great."

Sea Iron Bulls and Viper Worms are two of the Star Beasts with top-notch taste and smell senses. Ji You's stinky bombs had magical effects against them. In battles with high-level Star Beasts, every minute, every second, is crucial. Any mistake, or a slight advantage, might turn the tide of the whole battle.

Chapter 824: Handover

Thinking of this, Ji You took out a stink bomb she made from the Space Button. At this moment, she looked at the stink bomb without any disdain. On the contrary, she gazed at it with a smile she couldn't suppress. Her eyes, mouth, and cheeks were all filled with a smile, looking at the Stinky Grass with a gaze, an expression full of endless love and kindness, as if she was looking at her own child.

For a moment, Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, and several others felt a bit of tingling on their scalps.

Yue Qiguang, enduring the stink, cursed, "4444, enough already. Stop smiling at a bomb; it's seriously creepy."

Ji You: "Ahem..."

She looked at the stink bomb in her palm, her gaze unwavering, and with a cheerful smile said: "What do you know, idiot? Do you know what this is?" She waved the stink bomb in her hand, beaming, "This is money!"

"This is full of, countless credit points."

Yue Qiyuan asked, "Is the formula difficult?"

Ji You heard this and hesitated, saying, "Maybe, probably, not difficult?"

This stink bomb was devised by Ji You and Xiao You together, and it wasn't particularly hard to make. It didn't really require much advanced technology or use spiritual power...

Yue Qiyuan said, "Since it's not difficult, you can't do exclusive business."

Ji You's face turned slightly dark, "That's indeed a problem."

With today's technology, the formula, ratio, and method for making the stink bomb, if someone wants to crack it, it can be easily done. Given this, Ji You's business couldn't last long.

Thinking about it, Ji You waved her hand decisively, "Forget it, I don't plan to earn money from this anyway. I won't earn a penny. To prevent unscrupulous merchants from profiting illicitly off my invention design, I plan to give all my designs and concepts to the Alliance Military for free, let the Alliance Military manufacture them in bulk, and supply them to all warriors on the front lines."

Hmm?

Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Shen Changqing all looked at Ji You with slight surprise.

Yue Qiguang asked, "You're this generous?"

Ji You rolled her eyes and casually said, "A gentleman loves wealth but acquires it righteously. I, Ji You, have the ability to earn money. Sacrificing my minor profit for the greater good of humanity is something I would definitely do."

"Moreover——" Ji You's tone changed, very seriously said: "Who says I, Ji You, am making a loss? I—— the king standing at the Peak of the Universe, Ji You, never do business at a loss! The Sixth Legion, the Fifth Legion... All Alliance legions, all warriors on the front line, as long as they use the stink bomb invented by Ji You, it increases their survival chances. I, Ji You, am buying back the life of all Alliance, even all humanity's warriors, with just a stink bomb!"

"Am I at a loss?" Ji You stared at everyone present, boldly asked.

Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, Shen Changqing were all shaken.

Silence.

The quietness where a pin drop is audible.

Several seconds later.

Chu Jiaojiao stared at Ji You, blinking, "Ji You, your aura today is three hundred eight!"

Yue Qiguang muttered, "Height one point six meters."

Ji You: "..."

Yue Qiyuan glanced at his brother, intentionally said, "Knowing she's short, don't keep poking at her sore spot."

Ji You: "Enough already~"

Shen Changqing's eyes sparkled, quietly stared at Ji You, said: "Ji You, you're really amazing." Whether it's combat power, thinking, mindset, perspective, or awareness... all very impressive.

Hearing Shen Changqing's praise, Ji You's face turned red instead, she waved her hand casually said, "Merely small matters, hardly worth mentioning."

Resolutely, Ji You contemplated, said: "I intend to give Teacher Mu the formula for the Stinky Grass, and have Teacher Mu pass it to the Alliance Military." Doing it this way means that Teacher Mu can transfer it to the Alliance's management, gaining more attention and swiftly applying it to the front line battle zones.

Name and profit, Ji You truly doesn't care, even somewhat indifferent towards them.

Having died once, Ji You deeply understands the importance of living in the present. No matter how much money or high social prestige you have, it all can't be taken when the time comes. Therefore, in her limited lifetime, she aims to do everything she most wants to do and can do.

And—

The thing Ji You wants to do most now is slaughter all Star Beasts, giving humanity a peaceful world.

Ji You knows, as a small person, this wish seems so unaware of heaven and earth, but for this world to maintain its fraction of peace for human reproduction and survival, it's precisely because countless small people like her always have such unrealistic, unaware-of-the-world ideas and have worked hard, even sacrificed their lives for it...

Like Senior Brother Yang Bin.

Like Senior Brother Lu Zhen.

Like Senior Brother Han Zheng.

Like Captain Tang Qi.

Like Old Chen, Teacher Mu, Principal Hong...

Like every warrior she's met but never seen again...

...

The spaceship sped onward, Mu Jianling entered the rest area and didn't come out, as Ji You and the students remained vigilant, guarding against every crisis during the voyage.

Since leaving the White Horse Junction planetary belt and far from the perilous front line, Ji You and the rest began to see their luck improve, encountering neither a single Star Beast nor other anomalies along the way.

But Ji You didn't dare relax, always maintaining caution.

Finally, they arrived at the final Jump Point of this journey.

Xuzhou, responsible for keeping a close watch on the route, issued a reminder, saying: "5 minutes until entering the Jump Point."

Ji You: "Stay alert."

Some remote and sparsely populated Jump Points are surrounded by hidden interstellar pirates waiting to ambush, specializing in robbery. Hastily entering the Jump Point without notice of surroundings could lead to disaster.

Additionally to human threats, there's also potential ambush from Star Beasts.

Once Star Beasts advance to Level 4, they can withstand cosmic radiation and survive for a period in space. The higher the level, the longer the survival time, with many high-level Star Beasts roaming long-term, specifically hunting humans and other species as prey.

...

For humanity, the starry sky is both opportunity and crisis.

Upon hearing Ji You's alert, Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Lou, and Lance all heightened their vigilance, prepared for any unexpected situation. Ji You and Shen Changqing, Chu Jiaojiao, all five spread their Spiritual Network and kept probing...

No.

No.

Nothing at all.

From the feedback of Six Spiritual Threads, Ji You knew there's currently no danger around, her own sixth sense also didn't indicate any particular threat.

Then——

Xuzhou said, "Everything ahead is calm, temporarily ruling out danger. 3 minutes until entering Jump Point, should we accelerate?"

Ji You said, "Accelerate."

As soon as the words fell, the spaceship sprinted at full speed, darted into the Jump Point.

Chapter 825: Stingy

When they smoothly sailed into the 38th jump point, the tension in the students, including Ji You, slightly eased.

Main control room of the cockpit.

Ji You, Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Lou, and Lance sat in the driver's seat. Xuzhou stared at the navigation chart, his coarse and slightly childish face having matured somewhat through this period of honing, becoming more stable, giving the impression of increased maturity.

Inside the monitor.

The spaceship steadily traveled along the preset course. Xuzhou said in a deep voice, "Estimated entry to Kite Space Station in 30 minutes and 53 seconds. Our energy reserves are currently: 65%. Power system, weapons system... inspections completed, everything is running well, should we enter Kite Space Station?"

Arriving at Kite Space Station means leaving the most dangerous area, temporarily lifting the crisis.

Ji You thought for a while and said, "Can you work with Zhang Ye, Lou, and Lance to keep the spaceship running at full speed?"

Xuzhou said, "I can."

Zhang Yedao said, "I can."

Lance said, "I can."

Lou said, "I can."

Four voices with a unified 'I can,' powerful and sonorous, resonated.

Ji You looked at the navigation chart and said, "Then, move forward at full speed."

This meant deciding not to enter Kite Space Station for resupply and to continue navigating.

Xuzhou and the others straightened their backs and said, "Yes."

As the words fell, suddenly a slightly cool voice came from beside them: "I'm hungry, let's head into Kite Space Station to eat later."

Ji You was stunned, turned his head, and found it was Teacher Mu Jianling, quickly saying, "Teacher, did you rest well?"

Mu Jianling had her arms crossed, still with a serious expression, and walked into the cockpit. She raised her eyes, glanced around, and slightly nodded with satisfaction; then she checked the navigation chart, finding everything normal.

Hearing Ji You's concerned inquiry, Mu Jianling raised her brows and said lightly, "Hmm."

However, she hadn't truly slept, entering the rest room to avoid contact with the students in order to observe their subsequent performance.

Facts proved that they were a group of very excellent children.

When she had clearly stepped back, not involving herself in anything. Without her reminders, orders, or help, they still managed to steer the spaceship steadily into the target course.

All the students maintained high vigilance throughout the ship, with no one relaxing or slacking off, all meticulously completing their tasks.

This is growth.

Mu Jianling felt very gratified inside.

Beside her.

Ji You asked, "Teacher, are you hungry? How about I cook something for you to snack on now?"

Mu Jianling: "Okay."

Then.

Ji You stood motionless.

Mu Jianling glanced at Ji You with some confusion: "Not starting yet?"

"Ahem..." Ji You grinned: "Well, Teacher, you haven't given me the ingredients yet."

Mu Jianling: "..."

To think this little rascal had such filial piety, willing to offer up food from her Space Button for her own cooking, actually, the ingredients had to be provided by herself.

Mu Jianling thought for a while, and then she decided that Ji You's cooking was pretty good.

Hence, Mu Jianling said nothing and directly took out her stored ingredients: chicken, duck, fish, beef, lamb, pork, various seasonings, assorted vegetables and fruits...

Looking at these items, Ji You's eyes widened, his throat involuntarily moving: "Um... Teacher, I'm also hungry. Can I get some labor fees?"

Mu Jianling's mouth twitched.

Beside her.

Zhang Ye held back but couldn't help saying, "Teacher, I'm also hungry."

Lou and Lance didn't speak, but all stared eagerly at Mu Jianling.

Xuzhou didn't say anything or look; he tried hard to act calm, even wanting to ignore all the ingredients, but his twitching fingers still betrayed his thoughts.

Mu Jianling, with an itchy hand, raised it and knocked Ji You on the head: "You wish!"

Then.

Mu Jianling actually began to clean up stuff, she first put away the grapes from Yuna Star, then picked the big apples from Barnes Star - Beikena Mountain, followed by bananas, oranges, pomelos, cherries...

In the blink of an eye, they were all stored in her Space Button.

Ji You: "..."

Mu Jianling's actions didn't stop; she began to move toward the vegetables.

A while later, all the vegetables were also packed away.

Next.

Mu Jianling's hand turned to various meats, and Ji You couldn't help asking: "Teacher, why are you so stingy?"

Mu Jianling said: "I can't finish it alone, so of course it's put away. It's not called stingy, it's called frugal."

Ji You: "..."

Xuzhou and the others: "..."

Mu Jianling's action of taking out ingredients was quick, while the action of putting them away was even faster. Ji You wanted to stop her but couldn't make it in time; eventually, there was only a piece of lamb, a piece of beef, and a potato left on the table.

Mu Jianling said: "Time is tight, be quick, just simply make some grilled lamb skewers, and grilled beef skewers."

Ji You asked: "What about this potato?"

Mu Jianling said: "Grilled potato."

Ji You asked again: "What about mine?"

Mu Jianling said righteously: "You don't have any."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You dropped the work and decided not to do it.

Mu Jianling said: "I want to eat within 10 minutes."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You took a deep breath and said: "Teacher, you can't be so willful. How can you only care about eating for yourself, and not us?"

Mu Jianling raised her brows: "You have objections?"

Ji You quickly shook his head: "No! No! No!"

Mu Jianling finally nodded slightly satisfied, and then she didn't leave, simply found a sofa, and lay down in a very boss-like posture, then opened her Light Computer to watch TV shows.

Facing this scene, Ji You and the others felt speechless.

Thinking about Teacher Mu having just gone through a tough battle, although she seemed fine on the surface, there was a faint dryness and slight whiteness on her originally rosy lips.

Ji You understood that feeling well, it's the fatigue after spiritual power was excessively consumed, needing some time to recover.

Thus.

Ji You promptly began to prepare the barbecue, cutting beef and lamb into evenly sized chunks, skewering them with iron sticks, cutting the potato into slices, skewering them too, then setting up the grill, lighting the fire...

Sizzle sizzle~

Sizzle sizzle~

Sizzle sizzle~

The aroma of meat spread, permeating around...

Xuzhou, Lou, Lance, and Zhang Ye all uncontrollably drooled.

Ji You, as the barbecue master himself, also uncontrollably drooled. He tried hard to restrain himself and secretly wanted to taste a piece, but no sooner had the thought surfaced than he heard Teacher Mu on the couch say: "There are 78 skewers of barbecue in total, 1 skewer of potato slices, and each barbecue skewer must have 10 pieces of grilled meat, without a single piece missing."

Ji You: "..."

Chapter 826: Coupons

Devil!

This is the devil!

Ji You thought, grimacing and gritting her teeth.

"Hand it over." Mu Jianling raised her hand, tapped the table, and said.

"Okay. Coming right up." Ji You forced out a tiny smile and quickly placed the grilled skewers on a tray, aligning them neatly one by one. Then, she also prepared a glass of lemon tea.

The lemons, as it happened, were personally provided by Ji You at her own expense.

Ji You carried the tray over to Teacher Mu's side, put it down, and smiled, "Teacher, enjoy your meal."

Mu Jianling glanced at her and said, "Not bad."

Instead of eating the skewers, she picked up the lemon tea, took a small sip, and said with a smile, "The taste is pretty good."

Ji You: "!!!"

Ji You asked, "Don't you find it sour?" This cup of freshly squeezed lemon juice had no sugar at all, and not much water added either, so it was pure lemon flavor.

Mu Jianling gave her a wry smile, "It is a bit sour indeed."

After saying that, she suddenly took out a small packet of sugar, tore it open, and poured it all in.

Ji You: "..."

Mu Jianling stirred it lightly with a spoon, took another sip, and said with a smile, "Now it's sweet and sour, just right."

Ji You patted her forehead, cursing inwardly, "Why am I so dumb? I didn't gain anything, ended up with labor costs, not to mention a glass of lemon juice."

A losing business!

Ahem...

Even though it's not a business.

Mu Jianling turned off the Light Computer, sat up straight, and began eating the skewers. She ate slowly, chewing carefully, giving these street-side barbecue skewers the elegance of a French gourmet meal.

Ji You swallowed her saliva.

Gulu~

Gulu~

Gulu~

...

Beside her, there were four synchronized sounds of stomach growling.

Xuzhou, Lou, Lance, and Zhang Ye were trying hard to stay calm, but the pervasive aroma of grilled meat and the crisp chewing sounds made it impossible to remain composed.

In response.

Mu Jianling seemed to pay no mind. She ate while leisurely sipping her lemon tea.

Ji You started rummaging through her Space Button.

Apart from a few lemons, she had no other fruits. As for meat? Ji You did have plenty of beef jerky, but here and now, she didn't dare take it out, fearing Teacher Mu might find a reason to confiscate it.

Lou, Lance, Zhang Ye, and Xuzhou also rummaged through their Space Buttons, finding no food comparable to grilled meat, so they gave up and focused intently on the flight route.

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Halfway through her skewers, Mu Jianling suddenly paused. She wiped her hands gently with a soft napkin and softly said, "These skewers are cold now, reheat them for me."

Ji You: "..."

Indeed, a little cool down and the aroma of the meat has faded.

Just when Ji You, Xuzhou, and the others felt less tormented, Teacher Mu demanded the grilled meat be reheated.

This!

This is literally the devil!

Ji You mumbled, "No time."

Mu Jianling: "Hmm?"

Ji You immediately stood up, "Coming right up!"

Mu Jianling: "Good girl."

With a compliment, Mu Jianling suddenly turned to Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Lou, and Lance, her eyes darkening, scolding, "What's with the sneaky looks? It's not your stuff, no matter how tempting it is, it won't fall into your mouths, so get back to focus and steer the spaceship properly."

Zhang Ye, Lou, Lance, Xuzhou: "..."

Distracted but avoiding Teacher Mu's notice, the four of them blushed slightly with embarrassment.

Then.

The four of them quickly focused and tried hard to block all the meat aroma in the cabin.

Ji You grilled the meat, the aroma filled the air, Mu Jianling ate leisurely and said, "You fools, let me teach you another lesson. In such wild space, you need a strong soul to resist the temptation of food."

Ji You and the others: "..."

The spaceship steadily moved forward.

In the cockpit control room, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, and Yue Qiguang, unaware of the situation, kept watch on the turret, and even Sheng Qingyan didn't know.

In any case, until the spaceship was about to enter the Kite Space Station, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, and the others had no idea what Ji You, Xuzhou, and the others just went through.

Outside the artificial atmosphere.

After submitting a docking request to the Kite Space Station, the space station approved Ji You's group's docking request.

Ji You raised her hand, "Prepare—"

Xuzhou and Zhang Ye, as the main pilots, got ready immediately.

Ji You said, "Go."

Whoosh—

The spaceship zoomed into the artificial atmosphere of the Kite Space Station following a specific trajectory.

Dock.

Once Ji You and her team disembarked the spaceship, a service bot immediately approached. Ji You noticed the robot's serial number, recognizing it as the same one that tricked them into dining at the 'Haolai' restaurant last time, her expression immediately soured, "Thanks, but we don't need any services."

The robot smiled, "Esteemed guests, you misunderstood, I'm just here to provide docking service, I'm not recommending any purchases."

Ji You cast a sidelong glance, clearly unconvinced, "Yeah, right."

The robot smiled, "Your spaceship has been docked, here is your card, please keep it safe. You need to return it when you leave the space station."

Ji You: "What if I don't return it?"

The robot smiled, "If you don't return it, you won't enjoy the charging discount rights."

Ji You: "..."

This card was a discount coupon the space station gave them during their last visit, promising a 30% discount on refueling for their next trip.

Then.

The robot smiled, "Guests, do you need any other help?"

Ji You immediately shook her head, "No thanks, we're good."

She hurried away.

However, as soon as she turned around, she found her teammates all staring at the 'Haolai' restaurant not far away.

Chu Jiaojiao said, "I got a 30% discount coupon from my last visit, haven't used it yet."

Yue Qiyuan said, "I got a steamed hairy crab voucher last time, haven't used it yet."

Yue Qiguang said, "Dad got a 5000 credit points discount coupon last time, applicable to the whole venue."

Lou said, "I have a beer voucher."

Lance laughed at that, "Funny thing, I have a beer voucher too."

"Mine is a sunflower seed voucher." Zhang Ye asked Xuzhou beside him, "What about yours?"

Xuzhou clenched the voucher in his palm, muttering, "Mine is a beef jerky voucher, buy 10 pounds, get 1 free, no cap."

Shen Changqing paused for a moment, then mumbled, "I have a 5000 credit points dessert voucher, no threshold, as long as I enter the store, I can use it." He could order a 5000 credit points dessert and use the voucher to offset it, essentially eating for free.

Shen Changqing barely managed to hold his fist, determined to resist this time.

To withstand the temptation of food.

Upon hearing this, Sheng Qingyan rolled his eyes and said, "Stop dawdling, let's hurry in and eat... then we'll find a barbershop to get a trim..." His head had a bald spot, needing a barber's skillful touch.

Ji You bit her lip, carefully clutching her palm, silently counting: she had a 1-pound free hairy crab voucher worth 500 credit points, a 5% off for every 50,000 credit points spent in-store, a buy 10, get 1 beef jerky voucher, a 1000 credit points drink voucher, a 500 credit points candy voucher, and even a free haircut voucher...

Ji You couldn't finish counting.

Chapter 827: Defeated by Schemes

Damn merchants, so heartless.

But!!!

With so many coupons, can we waste them?

No!

These coupons, with enough self-discipline, can definitely get us a free meal.

Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing... Everyone turned their heads, staring at Ji You, the captain, with eyes full of desire...

Ji You: "..."

Ji You was conflicted.

Then.

Ji You turned to Teacher Mu Jianling, who was standing off to the side with arms crossed, completely uninvolved, and asked, "Teacher... what do you think?"

Mu Jianling snorted lightly: "Don't ask me, I also have a lot of coupons waiting to be used."

Ji You: "..."

Everyone: "..."

Damn merchants, even tricked Teacher Mu! Ji You gritted his teeth and waved his hand:

"Let's go!"

Everyone suddenly became excited, Mu Jianling was the first to step forward, striding to 'Haolai', Ji You hurriedly followed, and the other students all excitedly tagged along.

When Ji You and everyone arrived at 'Haolai', several waiters were already waiting by the entrance. Upon seeing Ji You and the others, the robot smiled: "Honored guests, welcome back."

Ji You said: "Find us a private room."

Upon hearing this, the robot smiled: "Guests, we are very sorry, the store is full today, all the private rooms are occupied, only the lobby has a few seats left."

So popular?

Ji You glanced over and found that the lobby was already packed. She turned to Teacher Mu Jianling for her opinion: "Teacher, should we switch to another restaurant or sit in the lobby?"

Mu Jianling said indifferently: "If we switch restaurants, how will I use my coupons?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You was immediately choked up. She never expected Teacher Mu Jianling's domineering, wicked, and unruly appearance to conceal such a stingy soul.

Ji You opened her mouth and hurriedly said: "Ahem... Then let's dine here."

Mu Jianling was indifferent.

Then.

When Ji You and the others found their seats, just as they were about to invite Teacher Mu Jianling to sit down first, they looked up to see that Teacher Mu hadn't followed. She was stepping onto the stairs of a nearby ultra-luxurious private room.

Ji You was taken aback and quickly shouted at Mu Jianling: "Teacher, where are you going?"

Mu Jianling: "To eat."

Ji You pointed to the table and said, "The table is here."

Mu Jianling smiled: "You all sit there. I have a supreme VIP card here, and I can enjoy independent private room service at any time."

Ji You: "..."

Everyone: "..."

Ignoring the students' surprise, Mu Jianling reached out and pushed open the door to the private room, and all they heard was—

Bam!

The door closed in front of all the students.

Silence.

An eerie silence.

...

After a while, Ji You shouted: "Damn it! That's excessive."

Chu Jiaojiao: "Very excessive!"

Yue Qiguang: "Extremely excessive!"

Yue Qiyuan: "Especially excessive!"

...

Everyone was wide-eyed, speechless, Ji You angrily said: "Teacher Mu enjoys a feast alone, enjoys VIP service alone, yet doesn't take us along. It's awful, absolutely awful!"

Ji You suddenly clenched her fist, gritted her teeth, and loudly declared: "Classmates, let's gather to—"

The air suddenly chilled, and Ji You instantly changed her words: "Have a big meal!"

Yue Qiguang rolled his eyes: "Tch."

Ji You looked at Yue Qiguang disdainfully and said: "Tch what tch, dare to shout it out loud?"

Yue Qiguang shut his mouth and started focusing on the menu.

The others didn't bother with it either, and everyone began flipping through the menu, secretly calculating how to use the discount coupons to get the maximum discount, and Ji You was no exception.

She first looked at the candy menu, selecting the most economical options to use up the discount coupons. Then, she turned to the fruit menu...

After selecting everything, Ji You took a look at the total amount she needed to pay and was suddenly frightened. She quickly reselected, removing some expensive and unnecessary items and retaining only the economical ones.

After the adjustments, the total amount decreased, but she realized there were still a few extremely valuable coupons that hadn't been used.

Then.

Ji You quickly reevaluated her shopping cart.

...

Several times over, Ji You once again deeply felt the joy and sorrow of a past Double Eleven experience—wanting everything but having no money to buy anything.

At the dining table, there was an atmosphere of endless calculations and constant button-pressing on small calculators, except for Sheng Qingyan. This guy calculated nothing and directly ordered a large variety according to his preferences. Soon, the waiter brought the food to him.

Sheng Qingyan started eating large mouthfuls.

His swallowing speed was fast, finishing one portion after another, and the food in front of him disappeared almost in seconds, yet his movements were not hurried at all, instead appearing with a certain elegant beauty.

Everyone watched Sheng Qingyan, feeling a bit unbalanced, especially Yue Qiguang, who couldn't help but curse: "You filthy rich!"

Sheng Qingyan took a gentle sip of juice and smiled: "Ah Guang, don't curse. Cursing won't get you to eat, after all, you're poor."

Yue Qiguang's face darkened: "You're the poor one, my dad has plenty of money!"

Beside him, Yue Qiyuan: "Pay me back the money you owe me first before eating."

Yue Qiguang: "Ahem... I'm just saying, truly poor."

...

The dishes Ji You ordered began to arrive. 'Haolai' Restaurant employs a relatively traditional business model—whether it's serving tea and water, or delivering dishes to the table, the store's robot waiters personally carry the trays to the customers, so the store has batches of busy robots carrying delicious food, continuously shuttling throughout the store.

The robot placed a plate of steamed hairy crab weighing 150 grams ordered by Ji You, and on its tray was a massive, approximately 1,500-gram large blue crab. Just looking at it makes one salivate.

Then.

The robot turned to leave.

Ji You whispered to Chu Jiaojiao: "Who's the wealthy person who ordered that? It's too extravagant!" She was holding the 150-gram crab, after discount coupons and various deletions, it still cost 4,500 credit points.

That 1,500-gram large blue crab, completely natural food, starts at 30,000 credit points per kilo.

Chu Jiaojiao's eyes were full of envy, then she and Ji You watched as the robot carried the tray straight to Teacher Mu Jianling's luxurious private room, knocked on the door, entered, and when it came out, the large blue crab was gone.

Not just the large blue crab, but also various exquisite dishes, flying in the sky, running on the ground, swimming in the water... all whisked away into Teacher Mu Jianling's private room.

Ji You swallowed: "Teacher Mu is so extravagant."

Chu Jiaojiao's throat moved: "I really want to sneak in for some food and drinks."

Yue Qiguang glared and said: "Sneak in for what? As long as Dad goes in, just sipping some soup is fine."

"Ahem..." Yue Qiyuan cleared his throat, "Alright, poor folks stop dreaming, aren't what's here enough for you?"

Chapter 828: The Old Man

No comparison, no harm.

When everyone was penny-pinching, pressing their calculators to figure out how to save money and still eat more delicious food, Teacher Mu Jianling wasn't saving money; she eats as much and whenever she wants, whatever she wants...

Heartbreaking.

Too heartbreaking.

In the silence, Xuzhou said, "Now I understand why Teacher Mu is the supreme VIP of this restaurant." With such lavish spending, not treating credit points as money, how could she not be a supreme member?

As soon as Xuzhou finished speaking, Ji You said, "Now I understand why Teacher Mu doesn't let us follow her; clearly, eating solo is tastier."

"Cough, cough..."

"Cough, cough..."

"Cough, cough..."

Sheng Qingyan rolled her eyes and said, "You're not allowed to talk about Teacher Mu like that." Being so close, even if the soundproofing is excellent, if she wanted to eavesdrop, she could easily hear everything clearly.

Shen Changqing suddenly said, "By the way, aren't you curious why Teacher Mu is a supreme VIP here?"

As a teacher, Mu Jianling spends most of her time at the Lanyue Star Military Academy, and Lanyue Star is far from Kite Space Station, so it's basically impossible for her to come here for a meal.

Even like now, when she occasionally brings students for assessments and eats here, but the location for each year's student assessment is not fixed. Shen Changqing specifically checked the records of past

assessment locations before the end of the semester, and the last time first-year students came nearby for an assessment was 50 years ago...

So—

This is a question.

Everyone became very curious after Shen Changqing's remark.

Ji You waved her hand, laughing: "That's not strange. Did you forget Senior Chen Ke? He mentioned that after Teacher Mu graduated, she served at Eagle Space Station at the first checkpoint of the Sixth Star System."

Hmm?

Everyone suddenly understood.

The first checkpoint is the most border part of the Sixth Star System frontline and serves as the final defense line between humans and the Star Beasts. There are many warriors stationed there. It is furthest from the Star Beasts, yet there is no shortage of them attacking. It's the most suitable training area for new recruits. Therefore, many new recruits come here to be stationed every year.

The commercial area closest to Eagle Space Station is Kite Space Station.

Whether new recruits or veteran warriors, they drive their mechas here during breaks to improve their meals, treat themselves...

Ji You laughed: "Teacher Mu, as a rookie, was unlucky enough to meet the stingy Captain Chen Ke. Probably she didn't have good food usually, so she had to come here to feast once a week, and after eating here so often, she naturally became a supreme VIP."

All these VIP and supreme VIP memberships are just business tricks with the purpose of keeping you coming back to consume.

Shen Changqing said, "Probably that's it."

Ji You said, "But I wonder how someone like Teacher Mu, who looks so clever, fell into the business trap."

No one else spoke, and Yue Qiguang loudly said, "What's strange about that? Just dumb."

Upon hearing this, Mu Jianling, in the luxury private room, darkened her face and stopped her chopsticks.

Opposite her, an elderly man smiled and said, "Can't eat anymore?"

Mu Jianling replied irritably, "I'm full of anger."

The elderly man had deep wrinkles on his face, and besides his face, his neck, hands, feet... all had age spots, signs of aging that even modern medical technology cannot change. Hearing Mu Jianling's slightly childish words, the old man chuckled, his eyes weary as he gazed through the window of the private room at the chatting and youthful children in the hall, and he said, "Kids are always lively and cute."

Mu Jianling's face sank, she didn't respond.

Then.

Mu Jianling reached out again with her chopsticks and continued to pick up food.

Nom nom ~

Nom nom ~

Nom nom ~

Mu Jianling was absorbed in eating, not even sparing a glance at the elderly man opposite her, focusing only on the delicious food before her.

The atmosphere fell into oppressive silence once more, with the old man furrowing his brows, he sighed and said, "Jianling..."

Mu Jianling threw down her chopsticks, saying, "I'm full."

Having said that, she packed up a bag placed on the table and stored it in her Space Button. Then she tossed two small, rice-sized transparent crystals to the old man, stood up, and said, "I'm leaving!"

The corner of the old man's mouth stiffened slightly, he said, "So many years, you're the only one who's ever turned your face at me."

Mu Jianling straightened her back, "So what?"

Without turning her head, she lifted her foot to leave.

The old man said, "Jianling, I know you've always opposed me, but what I've done has significant meaning for all humankind, maybe..."

Mu Jianling stopped abruptly, yet she didn't turn back, only stood facing away from the old man, unmoving: "There's no 'maybe' in my dictionary, Mu Jianling. In my eyes, it's all illusion."

"But—" Mu Jianling's tone held obvious dislike as she said, "But everything you do is not just illusion but hypocrisy. Your purpose is nothing more than—"

She stopped and didn't continue the last sentence.

Nonetheless, hearing her willing to acknowledge him, a glimmer of joy flashed on the old man's face, he said, "Jianling, all this time, you haven't supported me, you oppose me, you never seek me out proactively. Grandpa understands, comprehends... It's fine if you dislike Grandpa, or whatever you say about him, Grandpa just hopes you can..."

"Stop." Mu Jianling raised her hand, saying, "My grandfather has long passed away."

The old man's entire body jolted.

Mu Jianling unclenched her palm, then she pulled open the door handle, leaving without turning back.

Bang!

The door closed.

The old man's weary eyes were full of suppressed, gloomy pain, he opened his mouth, then said, "Grandpa just wishes you could take a look at this old man who's on the brink of demise."

After finishing words he hadn't gotten to say earlier, the old man lowered his head gently, leaving only silence in the room, along with a table full of complete dishes, untouched...

Later, the door to the private room was pushed open from the outside, and a young man walked in. At first glance, he saw the emotionally downcast old man and hurried over, whispered, "Elder Mu, should we return now?"

The elderly man raised his eyelids upon hearing the voice, and after seeing it wasn't Mu Jianling, his expression darkened slightly.

The young man felt pity upon seeing the old man's demeanor, "Elder Mu, shall I go talk to Teacher Mu on your behalf?"

Elder Mu heard this and raised his hand, saying, "No need."

The young man, "But—"

Elder Mu replied with a wistful smile, "She's really cold-hearted."

After speaking, Elder Mu smiled again, sighed, and said, "Let's go. Let's head back."

...

Mu Jianling exited the luxury private room, hugging her elbows, walking boldly towards the hall where Ji You and the others were. When she reached the table, without needing Ji You and the others to invite her, she sat down directly, picked up chopsticks, and began eating.

Ji You: "..."

Everyone: "..."

Ji You weakly asked, "Teacher, did you sit at the wrong place? You... you shouldn't be here."

Mu Jianling glared at her, "Didn't get it wrong."

Ji You pointed to her continuously picking chopsticks hand, "This..."

"Not full." Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow, "Got a problem?"

Chapter 829: Star Level Spaceship

"Ahem ahem..." Ji You cleared his throat, pointing at Teacher Mu's hand holding the chopsticks, and whispered, "There's... a little bit of opinion."

Mu Jianling: "Speak."

Ji You said, "Ahem... Teacher, you ate two slices of my salmon, a chicken leg, two skewers, and a tea egg in one go... this meal cost 5735 credit points."

Mu Jianling's face darkened.

Next to him, Yue Qiguang muttered, "You also ate three of my grapes, two cherries, and..."

Mu Jianling glared at him, and Yue Qiguang instantly dared not open his mouth.

Ji You: "Ahem ahem..."

Ji You winked at the others, but the result was, following Yue Qiguang, none of them dared to speak up. Ji You took a deep breath and said, "Teacher, even the landlord's family has no surplus grain now. If you have money, why don't you return me the money you just ate?"

Mu Jianling: "..."

Mu Jianling raised his eyelids and looked at Ji You, Ji You straightened his back: "Teacher, please have pity on your poor student."

Mu Jianling ignored her, turned to Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, Sheng Qingyan, Xuzhou, Zhang Ye, Lou, Lance... several people immediately sat up straight, not daring to move.

After scanning the students one by one, Mu Jianling's gaze finally fell on Ji You, then, she snorted coldly and cursed, "Poor dead."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You felt slightly aggrieved, "I'm poor, I don't want to be, boohoo..."

Mu Jianling said, "Shut up."

Ji You was choked, wanted to say something, but closed his mouth in grievance.

Mu Jianling said, "I'll treat this meal."

Everyone: "!!!"

Everyone's eyes widened, Ji You hurriedly asked, "Are you treating everything we ate?"

Mu Jianling snorted, "What, unwilling?"

Everyone immediately said, "Willing, willing, willing..."

Everyone hurriedly started eating big bites, Ji You kept a mind, eyeing Teacher Mu and asked, "Teacher, why don't you settle the bill for us now?"

Mu Jianling: "..."

Mu Jianling raised her hand and knocked hard on her head: "Go eat."

Ji You holding her head, stuffing food into her mouth while laughing, "I'm just afraid."

Teacher Mu's tricks are endless, making it defenseless, what if she suddenly found an excuse to go to the restroom and never came back?

Ahem ahem...

Fortunately, Ji You's worry was redundant, Teacher Mu Jianling kept her promise, paid for all the students' orders today, and even deliberately floated, giving the robot waiter a tip of 500 credit points.

Ji You looked at the total bill and was stunned: in such a short period, these 10 students, plus Teacher Mu Jianling, a total of 11 people, spent 680,000 credit points, and this was the price after all kinds of coupons were deducted.

Hiss~

Black-hearted merchants.

Truly worthy of being black-hearted merchants.

...

After eating and drinking, preparing to return.

Ji You stood up, said: "Let's go."

Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, Sheng Qingyan, and others all stood up, touched their round bellies, said: "Returning."

This trip, originally thought to be just a small task, unexpectedly encountered so many accidents, causing a long delay, when Ji You and the others rushed back to NY50 planet, the assessment over there should be completed.

Regarding assessment results, Ji You and the others were a bit anxious.

No one delayed, all stood up and swiftly walked to the dock. Mu Jianling folded her arms, walked in the front, Ji You and others followed behind her, everyone's pace was quick, within 3 minutes, reached the dock.

Just at this moment, there was a pitch-black spaceship, ready to take off, Mu Jianling suddenly paused, stopped.

Then.

Mu Jianling turned around, facing away from the pitch-black spaceship.

Ji You was stunned: "Teacher?"

Mu Jianling said: "This spaceship is too ugly, an eyesore."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You specially glanced at it, found that this black spaceship looked very valuable, just that streamlined body, and several lines of markings on its body, a symbol.

This symbol is a pattern of a star. This symbol means the spaceship's power system adopts a star-level life reactor.

The power system, except for the chip, is the core for a Mecha, spaceship, starship... these high-tech devices to function. Only with it can it drive Mecha and other devices to operate.

Also, currently all the Alliance's spacecraft, Mecha, battleship... use power systems of 5 levels. The lowest is the basic thermal hydrogen power system, known as Level 1 power system, generally used in low-energy floating cars or small machinery.

After Level 1, Level 2 is the storm propulsion power system, can be used in medium energy-consuming devices.

Level 1-2, all are used in human life range, such as clothes, food, housing, travel, and the like.

Level 3, Level 3 and above power systems can be used on Mecha, spaceship, starship.

Level 3, full name satellite-level super power reactor. It can drive large energy-consuming devices, common military equipment, mostly adopts Level 3 satellite power reactor. For example, Ji You chose Mecha Wind Wing for this final exam, its power system is Level 3.

Level 4, planet-level energy reactor.

Level 5. Star-level life reactor.

Level 5 is currently the officially disclosed highest level power system by the Alliance. Besides, manufacturing materials, technology for Level 5 power system... are very expensive, so its price is also very high.

...

Seeing the Level 5 power system mark on this black small spaceship, Ji You couldn't help but click her tongue and said: "It isn't ugly, it is full of the two big words money."

Speaking, Ji You seemed to think of something, slightly lamented: "So the teacher also resents the rich, huh."

Mu Jianling: "..."

Mu Jianling was too lazy to deal with this little rascal.

About 1 minute later, this black spaceship took off, breaking through the artificial atmosphere, leaving the Kite Space Station.

Only then did Mu Jianling turn around.

The spaceship docked at the port, now replenished energy, Ji You handed that discount card to the service robot, and then received a small card from the other side, which said: [30% discount card, only for next entry use, use period: Star Calendar 1307 to **]

Schemes!

Ji You returned the card, smiled and said: "Thank you, but I think we shouldn't need this."

The robot smiled and said: "Guest, our discount card use period is 10 years, within 10 years you can use it for deduction, instead of throwing it, better to keep it." Saying this, the robot was very enthusiastic and handed the card back to Ji You.

Ji You: "..."

Chapter 830: The Old Man's Condition

Kite Space Station is actually an energy supply station, equivalent to a gas station in Ji You's previous life. The robot gave Ji You a discount coupon that would be used to deduct money when refueling.

A 10-year validity?

Cough cough...

Ji You thought about it and put it into her Space Button.

Then.

Ji You silently counted the coupons in her Space Button: a 1-year seafood coupon, a 2-year validity fruit voucher, a 3-year validity barbecue deduction coupon...

All sorts, a wide variety, and numerous names...she couldn't bring herself to throw them away!

Ji You cursed under her breath with a dark face: Truly deserving the title of a profiteer, the owner of this Haolai, who knows who they are, can come up with so many promotional names to boost consumption. These don't matter, they're not the most important, the key is—

The food at this place is super delicious!

One bite and it stays on your mind.

Cough...

The reason why the business of this place is so good, why it holds so many guests, price and variety aren't the reasons, it's mainly because the food is good enough.

Today's Kite Space Station seems especially crowded. After a black spaceship left, two flying devices immediately departed.

But, simultaneously, five spaceships sailed in.

Coming and going, never stopping, the entire dock was very busy and most people seemed rushed, dining, completing energy replenishment, and then quickly leaving the Space Station.

...

Ji You composed herself from her scattered thoughts, then replaced her frivolous smile with seriousness: "Prepare to board the spaceship."

At this time, the boarding gate of the spaceship was already open.

Based on the result of the discussion at the table, Lou, Xuzhou, Lance, and Zhang Ye were still responsible for piloting the spaceship, so the four of them first lifted their feet and entered the spaceship, heading straight to the main control room of the cockpit.

Then.

It was Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, and others who boarded.

Ji You was last in line.

Mu Jianling seemed to have composed herself, she stepped towards the boarding cabin, in just a few steps, she entered the spaceship.

Seeing this, Ji You couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief. Teacher Mu Jianling had been acting very cold and indifferent since arriving at Kite Space Station, no different from usual, but Ji You clearly felt something unusual.

She didn't know the reason nor did she want to delve into Teacher Mu's secrets.

However, when she saw Teacher Mu Jianling enter that luxurious box, less than 10 minutes later and walked out again, Teacher Mu acted casual and continued to make fun of the students for enjoyment, the whole atmosphere at the dining table was exceptionally relaxed and lively...but in Ji You's Spiritual World, the Six Spiritual Threads shrunk to less than an inch, crowded together in the corner of Spirit Space, shivering...

Ji You felt very unusual, these Spiritual Threads are very slippery, general danger wouldn't scare them like this...

Finally, after Ji You's investigation, the reason was found, —the arrow pointed directly at Teacher Mu Jianling, because her emotions seemed to be in an extremely oppressive, imminently explosive, clouded atmosphere.

Very bad.

...

Ji You was a bit worried.

Then.

She unwittingly saw at the door of that luxurious box, a young man walked in, then less than one minute later, the young man pushed a wheelchair, seated in it was an old man, dressed in black cloth, extremely thin, silver hair, face full of wrinkles, even his eyes were about to be covered by the folds on his eyelids...

The two didn't catch the attention of people in the hall, directly left from the VIP passage on the other side of the restaurant.

Who is this young man?

Who is this elderly man in the wheelchair?

Ji You has been here for a long time without seeing such old and aged individuals, most people, even like Old Chen who is two hundred and eighty-eight years old, still maintain the appearance of around fifty or sixty years old.

How can this old man be so old?

And, Teacher Mu Jianling entering a private box wasn't to enjoy food alone, but actually to see this old man, right? Is this old man Teacher Mu's relative? A friend?

Or?

Ji You felt a bit strange, but she didn't delve into it.

Originally, Ji You thought everything was over, unexpectedly saw that black spaceship again here in the dock, at that time, the door of the boarding cabin was open, Ji You clearly saw the elderly man in the wheelchair.

When she and Teacher Mu Jianling's party arrived, only then did the old man order the spaceship to take off.

This is—

Especially waiting for Teacher Mu?

Ji You thought to herself.

But!

Upon seeing the old man momentarily, Teacher Mu's mood clearly worsened, in an instant, Ji You felt a chill invade her bones, horrifying! Yet it was just a moment, Teacher Mu Jianling immediately collected her emotions. This all happened too quickly, Ji You even thought her previous feeling was an illusion, she specifically glanced at Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang, and others, finding nothing unusual with them.

Both Shen Changqing and Yue Qiyuan, two S-level mental power Talents, were also calm.

...

Watching Teacher Mu enter the spaceship, Ji You put away her worries, prepared to lift her feet, suddenly, a clear voice came from behind: "I know that old man."

Ji You: "Hm???"

Sheng Qingyan shed his prior flippant and lazy demeanor, his face serious, tone earnest: "This is the head of the Alliance Research Institute—Munong City. Elder Munong is 398 years old, he's the longest-lived individual not only in the Alliance but in the entire human society, on the verge of surpassing 400 years old."

Ji You was startled: "Surname Mu?"

Her point of interest wasn't on Elder Munong's age or profession, but rather his surname.

Sheng Qingyan said: "Indeed. You're surely wondering about his relation to Teacher Mu?"

Ji You nodded: "I am a bit curious."

Sheng Qingyan said: "Elder Munong is a very great scientist, during his life, he conducted countless researches that benefited human society. Although neither he nor Teacher Mu publicly disclosed their relationship, they didn't intentionally keep it secret. If one wants to investigate, it's possible to find out."

Ji You: "So?"

Sheng Qingyan glanced at her, saying: "Wouldn't you go check it yourself?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You also rolled her eyes: "You've revealed so much, isn't it faster for me to ask you?"

Covering his mouth disdainfully, Sheng Qingyan said: "Teacher Mu is Elder Munong's granddaughter, his only granddaughter."

Upon hearing this, Ji You was slightly stunned, then she smiled a bit knowingly. As suspected, Teacher Mu and this old man are related, their relationship was basically as Ji You guessed.

With beautiful eyes glistening, Sheng Qingyan remarked: "But, their relationship seems very bad."