

# The Interstellar Queen of Scavengers

*Chapter 9: Chapter 9: Aunt and Cousin*

credit points.

One!

Ji You: "..."

She stared in shock, a single apple weighing less than half a pound actually selling for 810 credit points each, even more expensive than a level 1 Mechanical Energy Box. In fact, a level 2 energy box was only priced at 600 credit points.

The energy dagger that Ji You had always coveted, boasting decent performance, was priced at only 300 credit points!

Apart from this apple, the origins and weights of the other five fell short, yet their prices had also reached a staggering 500, 520, 650, 740, and 560 credit points respectively. All were exorbitantly expensive, truly maddening.

Bananas, oranges, grapes, pomelos... their prices could all rival the apple's.

Comparing these items also subtly highlights a distinctive feature of the interstellar era: the prices of food are generally higher than low-level weapons.

Of course, there's a reason why natural food is expensive, as science has proven: consuming natural food over the long term significantly enhances human spiritual power.

Many people with spiritual power levels F, E, and D have improved by 1-2 levels after maintaining a habit of eating natural food over time. For those at levels C, B, A, and even S, although the speed of improvement is slower, natural food still facilitates an increase.

This was the reason why natural food was so coveted by humanity.

But these prices...

Sigh~

Ji You covered her heart, telling herself to leave quickly, this place wasn't for her.

Before leaving, she heard ongoing discussions around her.

"These apples from the Beikena Mountains, I heard they just arrived this afternoon. Once news of them hitting the shelves spread, I came to queue up early in the morning. It would be truly amazing to manage to snag one."

"Hey, I'm eyeing those potatoes from Sibel Star. Make them into baked potato pancakes, the taste is indescribably delicious. My daughter eats them often, and her spiritual power has now reached level C."

"Ha~ That said, don't you guys compete with me for Mobei Star's cauliflower and lettuce, which make for my son's favorite vegetable salad. His spiritual power has just hit the critical point of reaching level C..."

Ji You couldn't stand it any longer, indeed, nowhere is devoid of the poor and the rich. These wealthy individuals were discussing food ingredients and methods inaccessible to her imagination. Ji You covered her face, hurrying to leave.

One thing to mention here; the marketplaces of the interstellar era are highly advanced. All goods here are protected by an invisible barrier; you can see, smell, and touch them... except for food which cannot be tasted, clothes, mechas, and weapons can be tried on and tested... All items cannot be taken by customers without purchasing, so theft simply cannot occur.

Those apples, grapes, oranges, and chili peppers that Ji You just saw, although with various types and exorbitant prices, were all in very limited quantities. They were now displayed on the shelves, but the official sales time hadn't commenced. Once it did, both offline and online customers could participate in the rush to buy; whoever was quickest would get the goods.

Of course, customers in physical stores had a 10% speed boost pack to improve their chances in the rush, which was also a reason why brick-and-mortar stores could still attract clientele.

However, this had nothing to do with Ji You. As a poor soul without wealth, she could not participate in these buying frenzies.

Ji You took a step to leave, when suddenly she heard a shriek of delight: "Ah! Beikena apples, I managed to grab one! Oh my~ I'm so lucky today."

Envious voices instantly permeated the surroundings.

That screeching female voice sounded vaguely familiar to Ji You. Curiously peering over, she suddenly saw a slightly short and chubby middle-aged woman with gold curly hair, a rather large nose, and a conspicuous black mole beside her mouth.

Wasn't that Aunt Xu Ping? Standing next to Xu Ping was Ji You's cousin, Ji Yan, who resembled her mother closely with a large nose, sharp chin, and small eyes, yet her

physique was tall and slender like her father, Ji Weimin. At that moment, she sported seductive large curls, and her face also wore an unmistakable look of joy, straining her neck looking around eagerly...

Ji You inwardly cursed at her bad luck; what were the chances of running into her unbearable relatives in such a vast Zone 6? It was almost like a karmic retribution.

She knew she couldn't stay here long, so Ji You turned to leave.

Suddenly—

"Ji You?"

"Is that you?" A voice exclaimed in surprise, and the newcomer grabbed Ji You, who was trying to leave. Ji You reluctantly turned around to face her cousin Ji Yan. She was about to speak when Ji Yan yelled out, "Mom~ look, it really is Ji You!"

Xu Ping's reaction was far from pleasant. She looked at Ji You and sneered, "Such an impolite brat, not even knowing to greet your great-aunt and sister when you see them."

"..." Ji You's brow twitched, holding back her irritation, she retorted, "And what are you? Something worthy of a greeting from me?"

Xu Ping felt her authority as an elder being challenged, and she burst out furiously, "You wretched girl! You little tramp! A thing without a mother's teaching, your tongue has gotten so much sharper, hasn't it?"

Was this still the same girl who always nodded agreement, who let others scold and hit her without daring to talk back?

Ji You's eyelid twitched and she spoke indifferently, "Thanks to your teachings and mistreatment, great-aunt, I've learned how to protect myself. Rest assured, I'll work hard to learn from you, to master the art of slandering so well that my every word turns foul, just like yours."

"And another thing—"

"I wasn't brought up without a mother; didn't you boast years ago that you would treat me as your own daughter, just like my mom would? Have you forgotten? If I'm the 'wretched girl' and 'little tramp'... then what are you? An old tramp? An old shrew perhaps?"

Xu Ping's hand trembled, "You— shut your mouth!"

Ji Yan could no longer stand it, scolding, "Ji You, my mom is your elder. You should show at least the basic respect to your elders."

Ji You, unfazed and without glancing up, replied, "The premise of respecting elders is that kindness precedes filial piety. Does your mother look anything like a respectable elder to you?"

Ji Yan argued, "Your disrespect and irreverence is the real issue here."

Xu Ping, so angry she was practically distorted, kept cursing, "You wretched girl! You little tramp! Wretched girl..."

Ji Yan insisted, "No matter what, you can't talk back to my mom. By doing so, you are in the wrong."

Ji You raised her hand, interrupting her, "I don't have time to listen to you two spew dirt and accusations. Now, please be a person and let go of my arm."

On hearing this, Ji Yan instead tightened her grip on Ji You's elbow, insisting, "Apologize to my mom now!"

Ji You raised her eyes, looking at her coldly, "Are you sure you want me to apologize?"

As she spoke, Ji You suddenly made a slight move, as if trying to break free from Ji Yan's hold. Seeing this, Ji Yan unconsciously increased her grip, securing Ji You once more.

And in her heart, Ji Yan was not afraid of her cousin's intimidation at all. After all, she was already in the Mechanical Material College of Lanyue Star last year, her Body Technique was at E-level, but her spiritual power had reached C-level after years of consuming natural foods. And Ji You? She was nothing but trash; even if they fought here, Ji You was no match for her.

So, Ji Yan blocked Ji You, insisting that she apologize.

Xu Ping, sensing that the situation was in their favor, shrieked, "I won't accept her apology! Don't expect me to accept an apology from such a rude creature!"

"Heh~" Ji You curved her lips in a cold sneer, not wanting to waste her breath arguing with them. She suddenly lifted her hand and, with a swift reversal, turned the tables and restrained Ji Yan's arm. Then, with the speed of lightning, she kicked out at Ji Yan's joints, and in an instant, Ji Yan, completely unprepared, was kicked to the ground.

*Chapter 10: Chapter 10: Turning the Tables on the First Army*

"Ah!"

Ji Yan suddenly shrieked as she uncontrollably slammed onto the floor. Xu Ping quickly squatted down to help her, anxiously asking, "Ah Yan, where did you hurt?"

At that moment—

Buzz—

A short, sharp alarm went off. Ji You struck successfully and quickly let go of Ji Yan, and at the instant the mall's alarm blared, she dropped her hands, displaying a non-resistant demeanor.

The mall's police robots soon arrived, their shiny Energy Guns pointed at Ji You and Ji Yan, who were fighting in the mall. Ji You, with her hands down, assumed a surrendering posture and said, "Officer, she started it. I was only defending myself."

Ji Yan, in pain on the ground and hardly able to get up, quickly spoke out amidst her pain, pleading, "Officer, I didn't, she was the one who attacked first."

The robot ignored both of their defenses, its cold gaze sweeping continuously over Ji You and Ji Yan.

The robot, devoid of emotions and uninfluenced by words, dealt with the matter strictly based on facts and law, treating both parties impartially. Seconds later, after pulling up the scene's video and conducting a 360-degree analysis and judgment, the robot's guns suddenly turned towards Ji Yan, declaring, "Madam, you are suspected of initiating an attack. Please come with me to the police station and pay a fine of 500 credit points."

What?

Ji Yan cried out, "I did not! You are framing me!"

Police robot: "Please cooperate promptly or else I will enforce and additionally detain you for 15 days."

Ji Yan glared hatefully at the robot, shouting, "You're framing me, I will go to court to seek sanctions against you, you unjust, messed-up machine, I'll make you restart from scratch!"

The robot paid no heed to Ji Yan's threats. Its program ran continuously and detected Ji Yan's intent to resist. It promptly raised the Energy Gun and, without hesitation, struck Ji Yan. Just as Xu Ping had helped Ji Yan to her feet, she fell to the ground again, her body twitching once before losing all strength to resist.

The duty robot's Energy Gun contained a type of Material that inflicted mental paralysis; once hit, the suspect would lose control over their body, obediently surrender, and await arrest.

Ji Yan's physical condition was only Level E; even if her Spiritual Level was C, she could not resist the Energy Gun imbued with mental paralysis wielded by the police robots.

Seeing this, Xu Ping became frantic, yelling, "You damned machine, what are you doing? She was the one who hit first!" She pointed at Ji You, shouting loudly, "Why are you not arresting her? Why arrest my Ah Yan?"

Seeing Xu Ping pointing at her, Ji You spread her hands, forced a helpless smile, and said, "Really, you're too kind. I truly was defending myself."

The robot immediately said, "This lady was defending herself," and then showed the case determination results and the attached evidence to the perpetrator Ji Yan's family—

Xu Ping: "That's impossible!"

It was clearly Ji You who started it.

Police robot coldly stated: "If you have doubts, please follow the proper procedure to file a lawsuit. In the meantime, please do not obstruct police matters, otherwise, I will take necessary actions against you."

Then, several police robots took away Ji Yan, who had lost her ability to resist. Seeing this, Xu Ping hurriedly followed, casting a fierce glare at Ji You before leaving.

Ji You shrugged, making a gesture as if to say she would accompany to the end.

Xu Ping left with a livid face.

The crowd that had gathered and witnessed the dispute gradually dispersed. The three involved in the dispute, who, as they said, were relatives, turning a family dispute into such a drama!

Sigh~

Watching Ji You and Ji Yan being dragged away, followed by Xu Ping breaking into a jog, a crowd of onlookers all shook their heads.

Thick-skinned, Ji You ignored the scrutinizing looks of everyone and left the mall directly.

It wasn't until she had completely left that her suddenly abnormal thumping heartbeat gradually stopped. Ji You placed her hand over her chest, quietly feeling for a moment; her heart was indeed beating very steadily now... After pondering for a moment, she was certain that her heart felt unusual when she first saw Xu Ping and her daughter,

especially when Xu Ping started scolding her. Her heartbeat wasn't just abnormal, but carried a mixture of anger, helplessness, and sadness—

Personally, Ji You had no particular feelings towards Xu Ping and her daughter; the only explanation was that it was the original owner's feelings driving the abnormal fluctuations of her heart.

Especially, when Ji You started retorting back, her heartbeat spiked in an instant. Subsequently, the peak came when she knocked Ji Yan to the ground; her heart trembled continuously, making Ji You almost thought that if it kept beating this way, she might die of heart disease. Fortunately, after the incident was resolved, her heartbeat quickly stabilized.

This—

Is the original young mistress happy?

Ji You boldly guessed, and after a bit of thought, she softly said: "Don't worry, we won't let ourselves be at a disadvantage from now on, if they confront us one on one, we will confront them the same, if two, then both."

"Anyway, if people do not offend me, I will not offend them. But if anyone offends me, I must respond!"

As her words fell, her heart leaped again, but this time it felt very light. Clearly, the other party seemed quite happy.

Ji You was now sure, it was indeed the original owner's consciousness.

So, she and the original owner, are they sharing the same body now?

Thinking this way, if it was true, Ji You was not only not fearful or scared, she even felt a bit of joy and delight, because her guilt for taking someone else's body was slightly alleviated.

Moreover, she felt that her relationship with the original owner was now one of mutual dependence... This feeling, wasn't bad at all.

Seemingly feeling Ji You's happy emotions, her heart also fluttered slightly.

This made Ji You even happier.

Speaking of which, in her past life, Ji You's personality was the type that wouldn't cause trouble, but also wasn't afraid of trouble. As long as her bottom line wasn't crossed, she could hold her breath and step back to keep the peace... But Xu Ping and her daughter were just too much, especially Xu Ping. Utilizing her status as a senior, she insulted Ji

You with foul language and even wanted Ji You to beg humbly? Ji You could endure it, but she was unwilling.

Because at that moment, she felt the original owner's sadness, grief, indignation, and helplessness, which made her feel really bad inside, instantly dispersing any ideas of keeping the peace.

Isn't it just confronting someone?

She could do that too.

Who's afraid of whom?

Thus, Ji You suddenly acted, tricking Ji Yan. Of course, being tricked was Ji Yan's own fault, for not knowing better and stubbornly clinging to Ji You; this very action could make it easy for the robot police to determine that Ji Yan initiated the attack.

The robot police, unclouded by personal feelings and acting justly with highly sophisticated programs, therefore maintain, thus in this era, in the citizen living areas, the majority of police on duty have been replaced by machines.

At that time, the scene was Ji Yan already had grabbed onto Ji You and didn't let go for several minutes, Ji You deliberately displayed a slight resistance action, and the average person's reflex would be to escalate restraining the resisting individual, hence, the robot police determined Ji Yan as the first to attack Ji You, assigned the blame to Ji Yan, and imposed a penalty.

The severity of the penalty was relatively light because Ji Yan did not cause any physical or psychological harm to Ji You, so it was settled with a penalty fine of 500 credit points. Of course, if Ji Yan continued to act foolishly at the police station, the severity of the punishment could increase.