

Scavengers 911

Chapter 911: Apology and Compensation

The girl's eyes widened instantly: "!!!"

She could hardly believe her ears... A price of 4.24 million, plus a low-level soul artifact crafted by Master Lin Feng! Such a high cost, just to purchase this disposable soul artifact from her hand?

This...

Is this true?

For a moment, the girl felt a mix of surprise, joy, and a bit of unsure trepidation and unease... The surprise was truly shocking. The joy, a pleasant surprise that the soul artifact she held was valued so high; originally, she felt stingy spending 2.12 million and even had some regrets, regretting the purchase. Now, the person in front of her offered her a chance to regret, not only without a loss but also a gain of 2.12 million, along with a low-level soul artifact. This low-level soul artifact was no ordinary one; it was personally crafted by Master Lin Feng, a disciple of Master Kong Zhe...

Trepidation and unease? Because she feared the actual value of Green Glaze Master's soul artifact might be even higher, and if she exchanged now, she might suffer a loss.

What is the reason for offering such a high price?

Should she exchange?

At the moment, the girl was very hesitant.

The boy speaking was tall and upright, with a handsome face; as he looked at the girl, there was a hint of undeniable coldness in his brow, saying: "When you speak, I hope you've thought it through clearly. The low-level soul artifact in your hand is not as valuable as you imagine. I am willing to buy it only because I dislike the woman next to you."

The girl was taken aback.

Xu Siyu's brows were already tightly furrowed. Her identity on the Star Network was impossible to expose, so this boy definitely couldn't know that she was the infamous Xu Siyu, accused of framing, slander, plagiarism... So his dislike of her must be because of Augustine Nolan?

Xu Siyu raised her head and took a look at the other party.

The boy shrugged, indifferently raising his eyebrows, saying: "You can try to increase the price, see if I continue to raise my bid."

Xu Siyu furrowed her brow tightly.

The opposite party was clearly insisting on a conflict with her... What if she raised the price, and in the end, the opposite party was just mocking her, without increasing the purchase?

Over 4 million, plus the cost of a soul artifact, was not for Xu Siyu to decide.

Xu Siyu thought it over, she didn't reply, instead she messaged Senior Nolan, explaining the situation.

While Xu Siyu was messaging, the boy turned back to the girl, asking, "What have you decided? Think it through, once you miss this opportunity, it won't come again. You must know one thing: if I don't raise the price, the woman next to you definitely won't buy your item according to my terms."

The girl was indeed hesitant.

The soul artifact from Green Glaze Master, and the data provided by 'Ah Da brings you Taobao', clearly indicated it was a disposable item; aside from a higher compatibility, other values were quite average...

If she used it herself, the chances of breaking through the level barrier were a bit higher.

If she agreed to the exchange with the other party, she could get a low-level soul artifact for free. Although Master Lin Feng wasn't the most renowned soul artifact maker in the Alliance, he was an outstanding disciple of Master Kong Zhe, the strongest in the Alliance. Although Master Lin Feng hadn't touched Mid-level or High-level Soul Devices yet, the quality of low-level soul artifacts he crafted had always been very good, making his soul artifacts sought after and popular.

Additionally... she would also get 2.12 million for free!

Her parents had worked hard all their lives, the whole family living frugally, saving all their lives, and had only accumulated just over 2 million. She had bought this soul artifact, making the whole family eat poorly for many years...

If...

After weighing for a long time, the girl was really tempted.

The boy did not say anything further, just looked at the girl with a slight cold gaze.

Xu Siyu saw the girl's expression loosening and became anxious; she had just sent the message and Senior Nolan hadn't replied yet...

At this moment, the girl nodded and said, "I am willing to exchange."

The boy said, "A wise choice."

Upon hearing this, Xu Siyu hurriedly said, "Wait a moment."

The boy glanced at Xu Siyu, saying, "Tell your master, he won't get this soul artifact, nor will he get the next one."

Xu Siyu wrinkled her brow...

The boy turned and walked back to his previous position.

Xu Siyu followed his direction, realizing: it turns out this boy was a companion of the Wei family heir who had just competed with Senior Nolan, and his actions were clearly instructed by the Wei family heir.

Xu Siyu knew that the current situation wasn't something she, a small pawn, could decide, she turned and wanted to walk back, only to find Senior Nolan already approaching the Wei family heir.

Then —

Xu Siyu saw with her own eyes Senior Nolan apologizing to the other party, even in apologies, Senior Nolan's every word and action remained refined and elegant, dignified without being obsequious. On the other hand, the opposite party's attitude was so arrogant and rude...

For a moment, Xu Siyu's heart felt complicated.

A moment later, Augustine Nolan returned to his original position, Xu Siyu looked at him and said, "Senior Nolan, sorry, about that soul artifact..."

Augustine Nolan said, "No need to apologize, the matter is resolved, the Wei family heir won't target me anymore."

Xu Siyu's eyes widened: "Senior, is that really true?"

Augustine Nolan nodded lightly, "Yes."

To quell the anger of the Wei family heir, Augustine Nolan used two low-level soul artifacts as a gift to apologize, and spent a price of 10 million to buy back the soul artifact the Wei family heir had just purchased from the girl.

The opposite party agreed to put this matter to rest, not only because of the gifts and high purchase price he offered but also due to his identity. No matter what, as a member of the Augustine family, the Wei family had to show face to the Augustine family.

Augustine Nolan naturally did not explain this to Xu Siyu, and he had no need to explain to someone of Xu Siyu's status. As for the rest, he felt no need to explain.

Elsewhere.

King's Expedition, also known as Wu Jingyue, said to Wei Xiaoxiong: "Xiaoxiong, as you expected, the boy from the Augustine family actively came to offer money."

Wei Xiaoxiong said calmly: "He wouldn't dare not come."

Although he was only a prospective heir of the Wei family, he represented the Wei family. He personally came forward to discuss the ownership of the Mid-level Soul Device with the other party. The fact that they refused outright had already put him in a difficult position; if they continued to be at odds...

The other party wouldn't be so reckless, nor were they foolish. To stand out now and apologize was the best way to let bygones be bygones. And as for his side?

Wei Xiaoxiong, who was still developing his wings, certainly didn't want any real conflict with the Augustine family.

So —

Their gift apology must be accepted.

Wu Jingyue said, "Earned a soul artifact, plus 6 million credit points. The boy from the Augustine family is really willing to spend."

Wei Xiaoxiong said, "You take it."

Wu Jingyue was stunned: "Xiaoxiong?"

Wei Xiaoxiong laughed: "It's your running fee."

Wu Jingyue: "..."

Wei Xiaoxiong watched a subtle hint of pleasure flash across Wu Jingyue's face, with a slight squint of his eyes: He must develop his own forces, and Wu Jingyue is an excellent choice.

Giving little favors to one's own people is quite necessary.

Chapter 912: Artworks

A low-level soul artifact, even if the compatibility is high, has a very limited effect for Wei Xiaoxiong at present. So, without much thought, he gave the low-level soul artifact sent as a compensation by Augustine Nolan to his classmate Wu Jingyue. Wu Jingyue was naturally happy, as any feelings of displeasure from being bossed around by Wei Xiaoxiong disappeared instantly.

Wu Jingyue didn't put on any airs; he simply stored away the soul artifact. As for the 6 million, he returned it to Wei Xiaoxiong.

Upon seeing this, Wei Xiaoxiong persuaded him a little before pocketing the money, silently noting: Knowing when to advance and retreat, understanding etiquette... Wu Jingyue truly is an ideal subordinate.

After one round of the auction ended, two sales clerks from the Qingyou Shop went backstage, seemingly discussing something. During the wait, Wu Jingyue thought for a moment and asked, "Xiaoxiong, what do you think the Augustine family is doing by going to such great lengths to buy back the soul device from the Green Glaze Master?"

This is indeed a question that piques curiosity. Wei Xiaoxiong considered the reasons and with a thought said, "I haven't heard of any younger members in the Augustine family urgently needing a soul device

upgrade. However, I have heard that this branch family member from the Augustine family is quite talented in soul artifact manufacturing. I guess he plans to buy it back to dismantle and research it."

Wu Jingyue was startled: "Talent in soul artifact manufacturing?"

Wei Xiaoxiong said, "So they say."

Wu Jingyue said, "To have talent in soul artifact manufacturing? That's quite remarkable. If the Augustine family produces such a talent, it would disrupt the balance of the main powers within the Alliance."

Speaking, Wu Jingyue murmured, "No wonder the direct line of the Augustine family has been using resources to cultivate this kid, so that's why."

Wei Xiaoxiong slightly lowered his gaze, saying, "It's just talent, it remains uncertain whether they'll be successful." Then, he raised his eyes and glanced towards the display platform, continuing, "It's unfortunate that the Mid-level Soul Device was taken by unknown individuals. Otherwise, the research value of the Mid-level Soul Device is far more important than the disposable low-level soul artifact."

Luckily... It was taken by unknown individuals.

Yet—

Who is this person?

Wei Xiaoxiong furrowed his brows, pondering before instructing the person next to him, "Investigate who just purchased the Mid-level Soul Device. 10 billion in cash isn't something a regular family can casually produce. There must be traces of evidence."

The nearby subordinate said, "Understood."

Wei Xiaoxiong thought it over, saying, "For safety's sake, release information in the black market offering a high price to purchase the Mid-level Soul Device from the Green Glaze Master and see if the other party is willing to reveal themselves. If they do, trace their movements to determine their true identity."

The subordinate was stunned and asked, "If the other party is willing to sell to us at a high price, should we really buy it?"

Considering the soul device was auctioned for 10 billion, unless the price exceeds 10 billion, why would the other party be willing to sell to us?

So, how high is this high price?

Wei Xiaoxiong said, "Buy."

Seeing the subordinate's expression, Wei Xiaoxiong frowned and said, "11 billion, 12 billion, ... 15 billion... Set the price according to the situation."

The subordinate instantly understood.

Then.

The subordinate went to carry out the task.

...

Inside the shop.

Ji You and Cheng Yu discussed, and then the two returned to the display platform, Cheng Yu looking at the crowd, cleared his throat and said, "Today's soul artifact auction is completed. Did many people feel regret at not winning any bids? Feel the prices were too high to afford? Now... We have new products to show everyone, are you excited?"

"More?"

"There's more?"

"What is it?"

"Is it another soul artifact?"

All at once, the audience said, "Stop the nonsense, get on with the new items!"

Cheng Yu smiled slightly and continued, "Don't rush, did everyone think the Dream Catcher from earlier was beautiful? Do you want it?"

The audience: "???"

Cheng Yu raised his hand, snapping his fingers, and Ji You immediately lifted the veil covering the display platform, revealing a series of beautiful, exquisite Dream Catchers before the audience.

The audience: "!!!"

The audience's mouths gaped wide: "Whoa!!!"

"No way?"

"Are my eyes deceiving me?"

"Are they... all soul artifacts?"

"So many!!!"

The audience clutched their chests, scarcely daring to believe their eyes, turning to gape at those around them with jaws agape.

Hearing the crowd, Ji You and Cheng Yu maintained a calm demeanor, with Cheng Yu doing well; being a popular streamer, he's already experienced various large events, so this little scene doesn't faze him at all...

As for Ji You?

Ji You kept a straight face, with no visible signs of challenge.

Then.

Amidst the astonishment, delight, and shock of everyone, Cheng Yu said nonchalantly and without skipping a beat, "These are all handmade by Master Green Glaze—"

The audience subconsciously pricked up their ears.

Cheng Yu smiled, "Art pieces."

The audience: "..."

The audience nearly didn't dare believe their ears, exclaiming in unison, "What?"

"Art pieces?"

"What on earth are art pieces?"

"If I'm not mistaken, art pieces = merely decorative, utterly useless?"

"Upstairs, you are not mistaken."

"Yes, art pieces are only decorative and have no practical use."

...

As Cheng Yu's words fell, an awkward atmosphere engulfed the venue, and the initially expectant audience suddenly deflated like a pricked balloon, losing their excitement.

"Ahem... ahem..."

"Such beautiful, lovely, enchanting Dream Catchers, the symbolism behind them is so wonderful. With one, you possess countless beautiful dreams. Come... let's appreciate their beauty together."

Cheng Yu's passionate speech did not resonate with the listeners.

"Ahhh!!!"

"Why isn't it a soul artifact?"

"How great would it be if it were a soul artifact!"

"Why can't it be a soul artifact? It looks just like one, there's no difference."

"This is supposed to be a soul artifact."

On the display platform were 6 Dream Catchers, each exceedingly exquisite, such that they drew one's gaze and wouldn't let go. But...

Unfortunately...

They were merely ordinary decorations.

Watching as one audience member after another felt utterly disappointed, Cheng Yu said, "Although they are art pieces, they are handmade by Master Green Glaze and are absolutely worth collecting. Now, they're priced at 5000 credit points. For those interested, snap them up while they last. It's first come, first served, while supplies last."

Silence.

An utter silence.

The 6 Dream Catchers hung quietly without any movement, with no one buying.

"..." Cheng Yu finished his lines and turned to Ji You, signaling for Ji You to say something to ease the atmosphere.

Ji You suddenly picked up a knife, placed it on the display stand, and said seriously, "These are excellent Dream Catchers, buy them."

Cheng Yu: "..."

Alright!

Don't expect this person to help with sales.

Chapter 913: Hidden Identity

Got it!

Letting this Rag Queen say a few words to ease the awkward atmosphere, and what happened? She ended up saying two sentences that were so unpleasant. At this rate, when are these artworks going to sell, the year of the monkey?

Cheng Yu had no choice but to step up himself. He was just about to speak when someone said: "I'll take one."

Cheng Yu: "..."

Face slap!

Then.

The second person said: "I'll take one too."

In the next second, the third person said: "I'll take one too."

...

Cheng Yu: "..."

The audience scrambled, each getting one, and quickly, all the artworks in the shop were sold out.

Some audience members were still in a daze, 5000 credit point artworks were gone in the blink of an eye. For a moment, everyone's expressions were somewhat complex. Not just the audience, even Ji You felt a bit complicated:

Ahem ahem...

These six Dream Catchers were really just ordinary, plain decorations, not artworks at all. They were made by Ji You from scraps that were discarded during the production of Soul Devices. Ji You felt it was a waste to throw them away, so he patched them up, redesigned, and processed them again, turning them into these exquisite, beautiful Dream Catchers.

Selling price 5000 credit points, cost?

The cost was less than 100 credit points, but they sold for 5000 credit points!

Huge profit!

Absolutely huge profit.

All of a sudden, Ji You's eyes lit up, feeling like he had discovered a shortcut to making money!

The surrounding audience started discussing in groups, a few of the buyers gathered together, seemingly discussing something, then one person said: "Do you think I bought this artwork just because I had money to burn? I bought this artwork because I wanted to get close to the Green Glaze Master, hoping that the master might be in a good mood and casually gift me a Soul Device."

"Cough... me too," said another buyer next to him.

Everyone: "..."

"So you had this little thought in mind?"

"Is this what they call getting the moon first when you're close to the water tower?"

"Why didn't I think of that?"

"What use is it, with so many fans of the Green Glaze Master, who would remember who you are? Whether you're a person or a green onion, she absolutely won't read messages, and definitely won't treat you differently just because you bought one of her artworks."

"Anyway, I don't buy artworks."

...

Ji You listened to the discussions around him, his expression remained unchanged:

[Ahem... as a universally famous Soul Artifact Master, how could I feel dejected over such a small setback? Absolutely not! So, the artworks must still be sold.]

...

The lively auction ended, Ji You logged off the Star Network, took a sip of water, and then he logged back into the Star Network and accessed the backend of the Qingyou Shop using the Green Glaze identity.

The first thing he did was check the order information, wanting to find out the identity of the little weak chicken who spent 10 billion to buy his Dream Catcher, checking if his express order had any related information.

The result——

There was nothing.

Nothing at all.

The little weak chicken didn't manually fill in the receipt information when he bought the Soul Device; he supplemented the receipt information while leaving with the virtual receipt of a successful auction.

The information is all hidden.

To protect personal privacy, when shopping on the Star Network, consumers have the right to choose whether to disclose or hide their personal information. If the customer chooses to hide their identity, neither the merchant nor anyone else, including the internal personnel of Light Speed Express, can know who the buyer is.

No visible personal information, like recipient, communications number, contact address... how can they send the express?

Light Speed Express is connected to the main server of the Star Network. As long as the customer enters the receipt information into the Star Network, when he has something to receive or send, Light Speed Express will dispatch the goods to the recipient based on the default receipt address from the system... without any additional process.

This is very convenient, and very user-friendly.

Ji You used to understand completely, but now, it's his turn, and he feels a little frustrated.

That damn little weak chicken!

He'll eventually get caught by me.

On the other side.

The people of Wei Xiaoxiong had two preparations. One team went to search for information on the little weak chicken, and the other team spread the word in the black market about buying Green Glaze Master's Mid-level Soul Device at a high price. Unfortunately, after the message was spread in the black market, there was still no reply.

Immediately after, the second team also returned, but all the information was unavailable. This person seemed to have appeared out of nowhere, with no information on him at all.

Wei Xiaoxiong frowned: "Who on earth is this person?"

Wu Jingyue thought for a moment and said: "If it's not the few big families of the Alliance, then it could be someone from places like the Galaxy Empire or the Blue Light United States, or even——"

At this point, Wu Jingyue suddenly stopped, seemingly thinking of something unpleasant, and said: "Or even——he might be a member of the interstellar pirates."

Wei Xiaoxiong said: "Hmm. Very likely."

Wu Jingyue hesitated a bit and said: "Do we still need to continue searching for the other party's whereabouts and identity now?"

Wei Xiaoxiong thought for a moment, nodded, and said: "Yes!"

No matter who the other party is, it's necessary to know. If the other party is an interstellar pirate, then it's even better. Wei Xiaoxiong is worried about not finding a way to showcase the strength of the Wei family. There's no better way than successfully taking down interstellar pirates.

Wu Jingyue nodded after listening and said: "I will also try to help you find him, the more people, the bigger the strength."

Wei Xiaoxiong, in a rather sincere tone, said: "Ayue, thank you."

...

Augustine Nolan wasn't really interested in someone willing to spend 10 billion to buy a Mid-level Soul Device. What he was interested in was the low-level soul artifact he got from the hands of the Wei family's heir.

After waiting for a moment and finding that there were no more soul devices being auctioned in the Qingyou Shop, Augustine Nolan logged off without hesitation. When he logged off, it took less than half

an hour for the high-priced low-level soul artifact to be delivered to the Nolan Laboratory. He couldn't wait to unwrap the soul artifact's packaging gift box, and what came into view was a smoothly polished alloy steel soul artifact, and Augustine Nolan's gaze instantly focused.

Just by looking at this soul artifact, it gives off a very comfortable feeling. It has a faint glow, constantly flashing, the array diagram is very simple, but its structure is very solid.

He initially thought that the claim of being made with ordinary alloy steel was just false advertising by the shop, but it really was made of alloy steel. Despite being made from such a simple, common, and ordinary material, how was it manufactured?

Augustine Nolan stared closely, unwilling to move his gaze away for even a second.

Chapter 914: Following the Trend

The auction concluded, even a few Dream Catchers, which were purely decorative and had no practical use, were sold off, and now Ji You had a billion in her pocket, suddenly feeling like the wind accompanies her as she walks.

With her head high and chest proud, she went back and forth in the shop's backstage, counting her account balance carefully, one zero, two zeros, three zeros... The more she counted, the bigger the smile on her lips.

It feels great to be rich.

...

Afterward, Ji You wore a stern face, bracing herself against the pain, and transferred a million credit points from her account to Teacher Cheng Yu.

Cough cough...

Originally, the commission agreed upon for hiring this salesman was a thousand credit points each time, cough cough... then, depending on circumstances, a bit more could be given as a bonus. Now, the

million, Ji You transferred it with her heart clutched, eyes shut; if she didn't shut her eyes, she feared she might regret it.

But——

Cheng Yu is her teacher after all, though he teaches arts and humanities... he's still a teacher, and Ji You knew the least about respecting one's teachers.

Cough cough...

She wasn't worried that someday she'd be exposed for hiring her teacher at a low rate.

Absolutely not.

...

Once the credit points were transferred, Ji You logged off immediately to sleep.

The next day.

Just at the break of dawn, Ji You got up for a morning run; her Physical Strength is now B-level, and her spiritual power is also B-level. It seems there's still a long way to go before advancing to A-level, but now Ji You can run around the dormitory area in merely 10 minutes or so, at most 20 laps in a morning, which, compared to before, was unimaginable for Ji You.

Mind you, half a year ago, she couldn't even complete one lap the whole morning on her first run, slowly it increased to merely 3-4 laps or so.

...

During the run, unexpectedly, she ran into Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiguang, and Yue Qiyuan, these five often accompanied Ji You in running, which wasn't surprising, but—Liu Fufeng, the sickly one, was also spotted.

At the back of the running squad, Liu Fufeng ran taking three breaths for each step, seemingly about to collapse at any moment, yet stubborn like a tumbler, not falling over...

Chu Jiaojiao was the first to finish 20 laps, followed by Yue Qiguang, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, and Yue Qiyuan, while Ji You brought up the rear; as for Liu Fufeng? Liu Fufeng was still strong and solo-running...

When Ji You reached the flower bed beside the dormitory building as the finish line, Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan, Yue Qiguang... all 5 were squatting next to the lotus pool in the flower bed, each holding the same item.

This thing... had beautiful mesh and feather tassels that looked very familiar to Ji You.

—What else if not a Dream Catcher?

Ji You's lips twitched, "What are you doing with this thing so early in the morning?"

Sheng Qingyan, unhappy, pouted, "This is a Dream Catcher, you know? Such a beautiful item, how dare you speak about it in that tone."

Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, and others: "We don't allow you to talk like that either!"

Ji You: "..."

Being a completely smitten fan of the Green Glaze Master would be one thing for Sheng Qingyan, but Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan, Chu Jiaojiao, and even Shen Changqing, the honest kid, saying that left Ji You a bit speechless. She couldn't help but retort with a pout, "What's beautiful or not beautiful about it? It's just a decoration."

Sheng Qingyan glared at her and scolded, "Although a decoration, designed by the Green Glaze Master, even decoration would be something special," he said, touching his Dream Catcher like a treasure.

Seeing this, Ji You reached out, but Sheng Qingyan backed off a step, vigilantly, "This was acquired through much effort, I'm not letting you touch it."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You scoffed lightly, "What's so special?" She was tempted to say—Isn't this thing in your hand made by myself?

Sheng Qingyan wouldn't let her touch it, but with a glance, Ji You could make out the contour, structure, and materials of his Dream Catcher, and the barely visible signature of her own design, the special trademark of the Green Glaze Master at the knotted end.

It's made by herself.

Then.

Ji You took a few more glances at the Dream Catchers of Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiyuan... realizing they weren't made by herself. Puzzled, she asked, "Where did you buy them?"

Chu Jiaojiao replied, "On Star Network."

Ji You asked, "When did you buy them?"

Chu Jiaojiao chuckled gleefully, "Bought them before going to sleep."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You drew a deep breath, turning to Shen Changqing, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, "All of you?"

Three nodding heads: "Yes."

Ji You's lips twitched, "These days, following trends gets too swift, doesn't it?"

The Dream Catcher, which she had put on sale on Star Network only yesterday, had been knocked off by nighttime, and these replicas were just like the ones she crafted, save for the trademark.

Shen Changqing raised the Dream Catcher gently, letting it dance in the wind as he looked at Ji You and said, "Last night's auction by the Green Glaze Master was thriving; everyone wanted the Soul Devices but couldn't compete for them. Among those, only 6 ordinary Dream Catchers were available, and besides Ayan, none of us got one. Not long after you logged off, the Star Network had replicas, many went to buy, and we joined in the fun, so we bought them too."

At this point, Shen Changqing paused, then earnestly said, "This, it really looks nice."

After logging off, such a thing happened? Ji You asked, "How much did you buy it for?"

Shen Changqing replied, "5000 credit points."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You drew a deep breath, unable to hold back, "5000, and you spent that? If you said earlier, I'd make them for you! Just ask, I'll make as many as needed!"

Sheng Qingyan smirked, "You can do it?"

Ji You blurted out, "Can't do it now, but can learn!" Considering her hand speed, these ordinary Dream Catchers, dozens could be mass-produced in a day, selling at 5000 credit points each, how much is that for a hundred?

500,000!

A hundred pieces, finished in about two days. Earning 500,000 in two days, where else can one find such a good deal? It's a better strategy than scouring Star Sea for scraps or collecting Star Beast corpses.

Ji You was genuinely tempted.

Sheng Qingyan rolled his eyes, "By the time you learn, it will be too late."

Hearing this, Ji You indignantly put her hands on her hips, "You underestimated me! Something like this, I could make hundreds in minutes."

Chu Jiaojiao sidled up, grinning, "Ji You, why not make one for me?"

Ji You pushed Chu Jiaojiao's head away, "Ugly rejection. Just talking, ain't got time." Turning, Ji You pointed at Liu Fufeng, who seemed on the verge of collapse, "And him? Until when does he intend to run?"

Chapter 915: Drawing Circles

Ji You threw out this question, and everyone, including Chu Jiaojiao, shook their heads: "No idea."

Ji You said: "Should we wait for him?"

Chu Jiaojiao: "No idea."

After saying this, Chu Jiaojiao immediately looked at the others, and everyone shrugged, indicating it didn't matter. Shen Changqing thought for a moment and said, "Let's wait. Since we agreed to take him on the mission, given how poor his physical condition is, we must ensure he coordinates well with us. Otherwise, it could be dangerous. When we discuss departure arrangements later, let's include him."

Neither Yue Qiyuan nor Yue Qiguang had any objections. Sheng Qingyan was idly stroking the Dream Catcher in his hand, and upon hearing this, he shrugged indifferently.

Then.

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing... six people squatted by the flowerbed, waiting for Liu Fufeng to finish running.

minute.

minutes.

minutes.

...

A full hour and a half passed before Liu Fufeng completed a lap. As he dragged his heavy footsteps to the flowerbed, Sheng Qingyan had already fallen asleep by the bench, drooling...

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, and Yue Qiguang were gathered, playing a card game. Ji You gritted her teeth and cursed harshly: "I can't believe I lost again! Jiaojiao, you must have cheated! You definitely cheated!"

Chu Jiaojiao chuckled: "I really didn't cheat. Just lucky, I guess."

Yue Qiguang rolled his eyes and scolded, "Can't take it? Just hand over the Candy Beans." The three of them wagered Candy Beans on their card games, so each time someone lost, they'd have to hand over beans to the winner, inevitably leading to a squabble after each game.

With trembling hands, Ji You took out the Candy Beans, and Chu Jiaojiao and Yue Qiguang instantly reached out to snatch them away.

Ji You pouted, "Why are you so quick to grab them? I'm not going to back out."

Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang: "You would!"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You cursed: "As if you two wouldn't."

The three of them were bickering, while Yue Qiyuan and Shen Changqing were squatting nearby, each holding a book. Shen Changqing was reading about Mechanical Manufacturing, and Yue Qiyuan was reading about Physical Strength training methods. They both looked up at the three, Yue Qiyuan with a hint of envy in his eyes, said: "So Candy Beans are that easy to earn. I should have joined."

Beside him, Shen Changqing said seriously: "Gambling is wrong."

"Ahem..." Yue Qiyuan said: "I was just saying."

Liu Fufeng watched this scene, his pale face showing no color. He opened his mouth to speak, but suddenly, he wobbled and was about to fall into the flowerbed pool—

Ji You was standing in that direction. Seeing this, she picked up her Big Chopper and blocked Liu Fufeng's fall with the flat of the blade.

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Liu Fufeng looked down at the Big Chopper across his waist, and his pale face flushed red!

In frustration.

Ji You swiftly sheathed the knife, then scratched her head and grinned at Liu Fufeng: "Bro, don't mind, I wasn't trying to chop you, just trying to save you."

Liu Fufeng gritted his teeth: "Thanks."

When Liu Fufeng said these words, his teeth were trembling, clearly frightened by the moment just now. Ji You chuckled, saying: "You're welcome."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Liu Fufeng said softly: "I thought you would use your hand to pull me—"

Ji You laughed: "My hands are short, couldn't reach, the knife was faster. Haha..."

Liu Fufeng: "..."

Liu Fufeng squatted, gasping for breath, and started drawing circles on the ground...

Ji You: "..."

What a petty kid, drawing circles on the ground to curse me just because I didn't reach out to pull him?

Beside them, Chu Jiaojiao and the others looked on curiously. Yue Qiguang bluntly asked: "Student Fufeng, what are you drawing?"

Liu Fufeng's fingers paused.

After a second, Liu Fufeng honestly replied: "Drawing circles to curse Ji You to have one less piece of braised pork."

Ji You: "..."

Yue Qiguang: "..."

Everyone else: "..."

Awkward.

Endless awkwardness.

After a moment.

Ji You rolled her eyes and said: "You cafeteria temp worker, why are you so malicious? Lucky you're not working there now or you'd be careful of being sacked and beaten up."

Liu Fufeng looked up, his beautiful eyes seriously gazing at Ji You, saying: "After school starts, I'll continue working in the cafeteria."

Ji You: "..."

Beside them, Chu Jiaojiao immediately handed over a bottle of water, grinning and asking: "Student Fufeng, thirsty after running? Here—take a sip. And help your Sister Jiao Jiao with the meals later, okay?"

Liu Fufeng shook his head: "Can't accept favors without a price, I won't drink."

Chu Jiaojiao: "..."

This guy is tough to deal with.

Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan... all gave up trying to win him over.

"Ahem..." Shen Changqing cleared his throat and said: "Today, we're gathered to discuss the departure time. How does leaving three days from now at six in the morning sound to everyone?" This was everyone's first mission, and the group task was on Bee Head Star, quite far from Lanyue Star. To minimize risks during the journey and mission, everyone wanted to be well-prepared, so the departure time hadn't been formally set.

Ji You listened and said: "I have no objections." Her spiritual power and physical strength hadn't reached a critical breakthrough point, so she didn't need special time to breakthrough, and could leave anytime.

Chu Jiaojiao also nodded: "No problem here either."

Sheng Qingyan suddenly yawned from sleep. After yawning, he said: "No problem for me either." Then he continued to close his eyes and started snoring... It wasn't clear if he was really asleep or just pretending.

Yue Qiguang frowned and thought for a moment, saying: "Dad's at the critical point of a Spiritual Level breakthrough, trying to break through will take about 2 days, successful or not, we can leave then."

Through the connection with Ji You from No. 4444, he acquired a Soul Device made by the Green Glaze Master. As soon as he got it, Yue Qiguang felt the long-static barrier of his spiritual power loosen a bit.

Yue Qiguang wanted to seize these two days to push for a breakthrough, adding a layer of security for himself and the others while executing the mission.

After Yue Qiguang spoke, Yue Qiyuan said: "Yue Qiguang is too dumb, I need to watch over him for the breakthrough. Departure in 3 days suits well."

Liu Fufeng looked up seriously at everyone and said: "I'll follow your lead."

Since everyone had no objections, Ji You immediately decided: "Then it's settled, we'll set off three days later."

Chapter 916: Training Room

After agreeing on the departure time, the group immediately indicated that they could disperse, yet Chu Jiaojiao, Ji You, Yue Qiyuan, Yue Qiguang, Shen Changqing, and Sheng Qingyan all stepped in the same direction — the school's training room.

Ji You was about to step into the self-service Floating Car, but upon seeing this, she immediately stopped, changed course, and jumped into Sheng Qingyan's car.

Sheng Qingyan complained, "Poor dead, you can't possibly be broke, isn't the money for the Soul Device's hard work enough for you to take a Floating Car for 10 credit points?"

Ji You replied, "Saving one is still saving, all savings are money."

Sheng Qingyan raised her hand and pointed at Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing, and others, saying, "Then why don't you take their car?"

Ji You shrugged and said, "Because they certainly wouldn't take a cab either."

Indeed —

Before Ji You finished speaking, Chu Jiaojiao took the lead and jumped into the car, saying to Sheng Qingyan, "Since it's on the way, give me a ride."

Sheng Qingyan: "..."

Next were brothers Yue Qiguang and Yue Qiyuan. Yue Qiguang walked in first, looked at Sheng Qingyan, and rolled his eyes, "If I knew it was to the training room, dad wouldn't have spent the extra money!"

Sheng Qingyan was momentarily speechless: "So dad should waste money?"

Yue Qiyuan was busy finding a self-service Floating Car to refund the recently deducted 10 credit points. After completing the appeal, Yue Qiyuan followed and stepped in, unable to help but lament, "The school is becoming more inhumane. I didn't even use the car. I just appealed for a refund, and they only refunded me 8 credit points, saying 2 were deducted as vehicle wear and tear fees. So stingy!"

Hearing this, even Ji You couldn't help but glance at Yue Qiyuan with disdain, "Fussing over 2 credit points."

Yue Qiyuan slanted her, "You wouldn't pick up 2 credit points if they were thrown on the ground?"

Ji You's eyes lit up, saying, "Why don't you throw 2 for me to try?"

Yue Qiyuan: "..."

Yue Qiyuan ignored Ji You and turned to Sheng Qingyan, saying, "Spicy Eye, give me a ride."

After speaking, he found a seat and sat down.

Sheng Qingyan angrily glared at Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, and the uninvited guests, turned and looked at Shen Changqing standing by the car door, saying, "Aqing, aren't you getting in? They're about to drive off."

"Oh —" Seemingly thinking about something, Shen Changqing suddenly snapped back to reality, quickly sat down, placed his hands on his knees, and sat very upright.

Sheng Qingyan glanced at him, scoffed, "Don't pretend, I know you just zoned out, not thinking about anything."

Shen Changqing: "..."

Shen Changqing: "Ahem... Ayan, I need to go to the mecha training room."

"We're all going to the mecha training room," Sheng Qingyan said disdainfully, gesturing, "Let's go."

As they were about to drive away, Sheng Qingyan suddenly turned to ask Liu Fufeng nearby, "You're really not coming?"

Liu Fufeng sat alone on the park bench, looking up at the sky as blue as a washed cloth. When he heard Sheng Qingyan's question, he slightly turned his head and replied, "Not going."

Sheng Qingyan immediately started the car, speeding away like the wind.

Liu Fufeng's beautiful eyes stared blankly at the rushing Floating Car for a long, long time...

...

When Ji You and her group arrived at the freshman training room, because it was already holiday time, the usually bustling training room was now so quiet you could hear a pin drop. Just as Ji You and the others thought there wouldn't be anyone here, suddenly —

A very tiny mecha clattered and fell to the ground —

"Eh?" Chu Jiaojiao wondered aloud, "Who is that? It's holiday already, and still training?"

Flat on its back, facing Ji You and the others.

Yue Qiguang raised an eyebrow, saying, "Get up, no need for such a big bow to daddy."

Upon hearing this, the mecha scrambled to get up, but the operator was obviously very inexperienced, and the driving skills were terrible. This struggle didn't only fail to get them up, but instead led to a belly flop again...

The scene became a bit awkward for a moment.

Yue Qiguang patted his thigh, "Daddy said, no need for such a big bow, why don't you listen?"

Ji You kicked towards Yue Qiguang, but missed, "Yue Qiguang, you idiot, can you say less? Otherwise, fight me?"

Yue Qiguang deftly dodged Ji You's sneak attack, sneering, "4444, are you courting death? Come on — daddy is just missing a punching bag."

Ji You ignored him and instead turned to the mecha on the ground, softly asking, "Student Liu Beibei, do you need help?"

In the mechanical cabin, Liu Beibei's face was completely flushed, and her voice was small, thin, and slightly trembling, "N-no, thank you, Ji You."

Chu Jiaojiao: "Eh? It's actually Liu Beibei?"

Liu Beibei was the only student who didn't meet the qualifications for the final exam yet didn't take the advice to switch departments.

This girl, who seemed soft and gentle... her character was truly tenacious, the kind who knew there were hardships ahead but still stubbornly persisted, refusing to give up.

Such a person commands respect.

Failure.

Still failure.

Having tried for a month but still unable to successfully control the mecha to run a lap, Liu Beibei felt a bit discouraged, but then she clenched her fists, tapped the control panel, opened the cabin, and walked out of the mecha.

Ji You and others saw the tall and slender Liu Beibei, head down and face red, with a noticeable bruise on her fair forehead from a previous bump, until completely out of the mecha. Liu Beibei slightly raised her head and quietly asked, "Ji... Ji You and Chu Jiaojiao, Shen Changqing... Sheng Qingyan, haven't you gone home for holidays?"

Ji You squinted, smiling, said, "No, we're not planning to go home, preparing to take collective tasks. Liu Beibei, are you also not planning to go home?"

Liu Beibei quietly replied, "Mm. No, I want to stay at school to continue training, Teacher Mu agreed to my request, she... she swapped me to a mecha for training, I... I practice every day."

This shy girl, under very nervous emotions, made a strong effort to speak a complete sentence.

Ji You heard this and looked at the mecha Liu Beibei was using — a modified, relatively simple standard mecha. Clearly, Liu Beibei still wasn't able to drive a fully combat-ready mecha, so Teacher Mu specifically adapted it to her situation.

For a moment, Ji You felt quite emotional: Teacher Mu, how to say? The devil is truly a devil, but good, is truly good. Out of over nine hundred students in the Combat Department, Teacher Mu pays attention to each one of them.

Chapter 917: Laboratory No. 10

Teacher Mu Jianling is impeccable as a person, but if only she weren't such a con artist.

Ahem...

As for Teacher Mu Jianling, Ji You has really mixed feelings of love, hate, and respect...

Listening to Liu Beibei, Ji You smiled and encouraged, "Don't be disheartened, keep it up! Victory is waiting for you ahead. You can definitely do it."

Liu Beibei blushed, lowered her head, "Thank you, I will work hard."

Chu Jiaojiao also clenched her fist and encouraged, "Keep it up! Victory is yours."

Yue Qiguang, a bit annoying, said, "Even though you're quite dumb, dumb people have their own ways too. Keep practicing, and you'll eventually get there."

Yue Qiyuan: "Keep it up!"

Shen Changqing: "Work hard!"

Sheng Qingyan: "Go for it~"

The top students of the Combat Department, Liu Beibei hardly interacted with them. She originally thought they were fierce, but unexpectedly, they were all as approachable and kind as Ji You.

Liu Beibei blushed and whispered, "Thank you, I will work hard."

Then.

Liu Beibei returned to her mecha and continued her training.

Bang!

Clang—

Bang!

...

The sounds of the mecha falling, wave after wave, never stopping.

Ji You, Chu Jiaojiao, Sheng Qingyan, Shen Changqing, Yue Qiguang, Yue Qiyuan each found their own mecha and started training. Everyone trained independently without interference.

The training movements repeated over and over... dull, uninteresting, tedious... yet no one quit halfway, nor did anyone complain of hardship or exhaustion. Everyone stuck to training for the entire day.

Since it was the holidays, all the classrooms used for training were closed. The training room Ji You and her friends were using was specially opened by the school for students who needed extra practice during holidays and after school hours.

Of course, it wasn't free; it required credit points or points for deduction. 100 credit points or 1 point per hour. If this had been before Ji You entered school, she definitely couldn't afford it.

When Ji You first entered school, Xie Lingzhi specifically reminded her to earn more points as points could be used for all consumption items on campus. After a whole day's training, excluding meal times, Ji You and her friends trained in the training room for a total of 10 hours, only leaving when it was completely dark outside.

Liu Beibei's condition was worse than Ji You's, but she also stuck with Ji You and her friends until the night. Liu Beibei's level of effort left Ji You and the others genuinely impressed...

Sheng Qingyan had already found a self-service floating car. Chu Jiaojiao, Yue Qiguang... the others didn't even need to say a word, each jumping onto the car. As Ji You passed Liu Beibei, who was lying exhausted on the ground and was about to jump into the car, she suddenly saw Liu Beibei dialing Teacher Mu Jianling's contact number. Ji You paused and asked, "Are you calling Teacher Mu?"

Liu Beibei blushed and nodded, "Yes, I'm... I'm reporting today's training progress and situation to her."

Ji You asked, "Do you report every day?"

Liu Beibei whispered, "Yes, Teacher Mu asked me to call her every day."

Sheng Qingyan impatiently asked, "Hey poor dead, are you coming or not? If not, we're leaving."

Ji You thought for a moment and said, "You guys go ahead; I'll return later on my own."

For why Ji You, this poor dead, suddenly decided to stay, Sheng Qingyan wasn't curious at all and just let the self-service floating car go.

At that moment, the call connected, and on the holographic screen, Teacher Mu Jianling's face appeared, cold enough that air conditioning wasn't necessary: "Send over the data."

Liu Beibei quietly said, "Teacher... I've already sent it to you."

Mu Jianling: "Okay."

Then, Mu Jianling lowered her head, carefully reviewing Liu Beibei's training results for the day, entirely focused, not even noticing Ji You standing nearby. Ji You wisely didn't disturb her.

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Mu Jianling quickly finished reviewing all the data in less than 30 seconds. It was only then that she looked up at Liu Beibei on the other side of the screen. When she noticed the elongated neck and the exposed forehead, Mu Jianling was clearly taken aback. She quickly composed herself and calmly said, "Very good, today's progress is apparent, but your strength application is still poor. Remember to focus on balance; it is crucial..."

Mu Jianling spoke earnestly, and Liu Beibei listened attentively.

After their exchange, Liu Beibei sneakily glanced at Teacher Mu's expression and then at Ji You standing beside her. As she hesitated about whether to end the call, Ji You had already cheerfully bid goodbye to Teacher Mu Jianling with a laugh.

Mu Jianling raised an eyebrow and asked, "What's the matter?"

Ji You straightened up and said seriously, "Teacher, I'd like to talk to you about something. Are you available now? Is it okay if I come see you?"

Mu Jianling glanced at Ji You and replied indifferently, "Laboratory No. 10."

Ji You: "Huh?"

Laboratory No. 10, isn't it the lab specialized in mechanical manufacturing? What's Teacher Mu Jianling doing there?

Ji You found it a bit strange but hurriedly said, "I'll come right away."

After hanging up the call, Ji You looked at Liu Beibei beside her and said, "Thank you, Liu Beibei. I have to rush to Laboratory No. 10 now, so I won't be heading back to the dormitory with you."

Liu Beibei: "Okay."

Just as Ji You was about to leave, Liu Beibei suddenly said, "Thank you, Ji You! The soul artifact I won last time has helped me tremendously, and now I have the hope of piloting a mecha."

Ji You was stunned, "Huh? What soul artifact?"

Liu Beibei explained, "Last time, you mentioned the Qingyou Master's shop was having a lottery event. I... I was lucky enough to win a soul artifact during the draw. This soul artifact has had an effect on my spiritual power, and I've successfully broken through to Level 1... really, thank you so much, Ji You."

Ji You, hearing this, remembered something about such an event and waved her hand, smiling, "We're classmates; no need to be polite. As long as my information can help you, I'm happy."

At that time, when Ji You organized the free lottery, her heart softened at the thought of Liu Beibei working so hard, yet always feeling disappointed and crying alone in a corner. So, she orchestrated a small scheme, allowing Liu Beibei to win a low-level soul artifact.

Unexpectedly, it turned out to be so effective.

Ji You felt very happy.

With this happiness, she walked briskly, and thinking about the string of zeros in her bank account, she was even more delighted.

Whistling and humming a song, riding the small floating car, Ji You sped along and soon arrived at Laboratory No. 10. The laboratory was a fortress-like building. After passing the verification, Ji You entered the lab and was immediately taken aback—

Chapter 918: Cool Mecha

Lab 10, 99th floor.

As Ji You stepped in, she couldn't help but shudder, exclaiming, "Oh my heavens! This is just too awesome, isn't it?"

A towering giant mecha stood before her, its entire design a gigantic beetle, with sleek, black armor that looked robust and powerful. Its iron arm-like wings spread open in the wind, resembling two sharp blades ready to slice through anything, with rows of sharp teeth on its fierce mandibles and two deep, chilling eyes glinting coldly, as if they could erupt in fury at any moment—

More terrifying were its eight legs, clawing at the air...

This—

At first glance, it seemed like a real Star Beast! Ji You was startled; if she hadn't known it was a mecha, she might have fled without a second thought.

Suppressing her excitement, Ji You glanced around but didn't see Teacher Mu Jianling anywhere. Besides the Beetle Mecha, there were rows of components and random clutter everywhere...

"Huh?"

"Is anyone here?"

Ji You took a step towards the Beetle Mecha, when suddenly its antenna moved. Ji instinctively backed up several steps, and it turned out to be a wise move because the Beetle Mecha's tentacle suddenly fell, crashing onto the ground.

BANG—

A loud noise reverberated through the floor.

Ji You patted her chest hard; if she'd been a second slower, well, even a few milliseconds slower, she could have been flattened.

Turned into a squashed meat patty!

Ji You looked up at the Beetle Mecha, and from one of the mecha's eyes, a head unexpectedly popped out.

—It was Teacher Mu Jianling.

Ji You's eyes lit up, then she slightly frowned, loudly saying, "Teacher, one of the tentacles has fallen!"

Mu Jianling was crouched within one of the mecha's eyes, repairing parts of its inner wall. Without looking up at Ji You, Mu said nonchalantly, "Oh—slipped, it fell, didn't crush you, did it?"

Ji You: "..."

Ji You's mouth twitched, forcing a weak smile, she said, "Haha...luckily, not crushed..."

This teacher really dares to try anything. Isn't she afraid if Ji wasn't quick enough, she'd really get crushed?

Just as Ji You was about to complain to Teacher Mu Jianling, she heard Mu casually say, "Since you're not dead, shouldn't you help clean up this mess."

Ji You: "..."

With a serious tone, Ji You suggested, "Teacher, shouldn't this be handled by the housekeeping robots?"

Mu Jianling: "I don't like using housekeeping robots."

Ji You swallowed hard, slightly speechless, "Teacher, you're really good at lying through your teeth, aren't you? Just a few days ago, your dorm had so many housekeeping robots, making tea, serving water, massaging..."

Every time she'd call Teacher Mu post-class, Mu was like a lord on her sofa watching TV, surrounded by rows of robots serving her...

And she says she doesn't like using housekeeping robots?

What's this if not lying through her teeth?

Mu Jianling, upon hearing this, didn't feel the least embarrassed about being caught in her words. She simply shrugged indifferently, saying, "Right now, I don't like using robots as assistants."

Fine.

After all, she's my teacher; I can't beat her, can't scold her, and she's shamelessly stubborn with a thick skin.

I can only indulge her.

Ji You, resigned, donned her cleaning uniform and began cleaning dutifully.

Lab 10 has 99 floors in total, and Ji You was on the 99th floor, a very spacious area with solid railings around, a transparent ceiling where you could look up to see the azure sky...

Under the night sky, Ji You worked diligently for an hour to clean this floor, and this was using cleaning tools; if it had been manual labor alone, it would have taken a whole day and night.

Meanwhile, Mu Jianling was still inside the mecha, tinkering and repairing, and Ji You, having taken off her cleaning attire, sat in the lounge area on the sofa, leaning her shoulder against the backrest, without disturbing Teacher Mu Jianling's work.

minute.

minutes.

minutes.

...

As time slipped by silently, Ji You suddenly sat up, realizing she was deeply sunk into the soft sofa cushion, surrounded by vast open space, with thousands of stars overhead...

"Thump!"

"Thump!"

"Thump!"

Nearby, the Beetle's body continued to echo with the sounds of hammering and knocking.

Ji You was momentarily confused:

Is Teacher still working?

She looked down at the time, realizing it was already 1 a.m.

Just then, a swift figure leaped down from the top of the mecha, a near hundred-meter drop, landing firmly!

Ji You's mouth hung open: "Damn, what kind of terrifying physical strength is this?"

Mu Jianling walked over with large strides, raising a brow, "Woke up?"

"Huh?" Ji quickly responded, "Yes."

Mu Jianling nonchalantly said, "Wipe the drool off your face."

"Huh?" Ji reached up to wipe, finding no drool at all, "No drool?"

Mu Jianling had a hint of a smile in her eyes, quickly suppressing it, asking, "What's up?"

Ji You raised a hand, scratching her head, showing Teacher Mu a goofy smile, "Teacher, I wanted to ask, do you still have my contracts for sale?"

Huh?

Mu Jianling raised a brow, asking, "You're planning to buy them all back?"

Ji You laughed sheepishly, "All of them, yes."

Mu Jianling was taken aback, but still maintained a cool expression, saying, "Oh—10 billion."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You's mouth twitched again, looking somewhat unsteady as she said, "But...but I remember I only owed 5 billion."

Mu Jianling casually threw out a question, "Aren't you counting interest?"

Ji You trembled, saying, "But...No matter how high the interest, it shouldn't rise to 10 billion!" Plus, the 5 billion debt Ji You owed wasn't just to Teacher Mu, but a combined debt with Principal Hong, Dr. Luo.

Originally, Ji You was thinking of finishing off Mu Teacher's side, tearing up the contracts, then heading to settle with Principal Hong and Dr. Luo...

This—

Just then, the Beetle Mecha beside them suddenly flapped its wings and soared towards the sky with incredible speed. As it was about to hit the ceiling, it stopped, and in that instant, transformed into a giant dragon, clinging securely to the smooth ceiling!

Looking at the mecha hovering above, Ji You was startled, mouth agape:

"Oh my goodness!"

"So...so awesome, isn't it?"

"A transforming mecha?"

"Two forms?"

If the beetle form was formidable, the mighty Golden Dragon form was truly imposing!

Ji You stared wide-eyed, drooling helplessly!

...

Chapter 919: Too Useless, Nobody Wants It

Ji You wiped the drool from the corner of his mouth and couldn't help but ask Mu Jianling beside him, "Eld... Teacher... What Star Level is this mecha?"

Mu Jianling said calmly: "5 Star."

Ji You suddenly widened his eyes: "!!!"

Star mechas are the highest level in the Alliance and in human history. Across the eight Star Systems currently occupied by humans, you can't find 20 of them because — the cost of 5 Star mechas is too high, too high, and their production difficulty is too great, too great...

After taking a deep breath, Ji You turned to Teacher Mu Jianling, opening his mouth: "5 Star mecha!!! You actually mentioned it so calmly! You... you you you... you're not even a bit excited!!!"

Mu Jianling glanced at her, and said coldly: "How excited should I be? I'm tired of seeing them, I've long since grown weary of the aesthetics."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You gave up.

Mu Jianling no longer paid attention to Ji You. She lifted her head, gazing at the lifelike Golden Dragon above. The Golden Dragon seemed to sense something as its vertical pupils slowly, slowly turned toward Mu Jianling.

Cold.

Aloof.

Ruthless.

...

One person and one dragon, separated by a distance, silently stared at each other. This scene inexplicably evoked a feeling of melancholy.

Ji You's wide-open mouth snapped shut.

second.

seconds.

seconds.

...

Time slipped by quietly, yet when Ji You snapped out of it, it was only for a moment.

The Golden Dragon overhead suddenly wobbled, its limbs failing to grip on, and fell from the ceiling.

Bang!

The huge crash was so loud it nearly deafened Ji You.

Mu Jianling sneered, mocking unreservedly: "Weakling."

The Golden Dragon quivered at his words, and then...

The Golden Dragon slowly, slowly shrunk to a size of just 1 meter, and up close, it lost all its majestic dragon form, resembling nothing more than a golden bug.

Then.

The Golden Dragon spoke, with a magnetic male voice saying: "Long time no see, Teacher Mu, your words remain as sharp as ever."

Mu Jianling said calmly: "Long time no see, you remain as incapable as ever."

The Golden Dragon flicked its tail somewhat sulkily, then suddenly turned to Ji You, asking: "Teacher Mu, is this your new student?"

Mu Jianling neither affirmed nor denied.

The Golden Dragon said: "So short."

Ji You: "!!!"

Did shortness offend you?

Did I eat your rice?

Ji You was displeased, and hurriedly asked Teacher Mu: "Teacher, what breed of bug is this? Can it be slaughtered?"

Mu Jianling hadn't spoken yet when the Golden Dragon appeared startled by the words, proactively said: "Few humans meet me wanting to possess me, rather wanting to slaughter me. Child, you're quite interesting."

While speaking, its eyes fixated on Ji You, and after a serious look for 1 second, it smiled: "Very well, you've successfully caught my attention."

When Ji You heard this, goosebumps spread all over, saying: "What's with this? Your speech sounds strange, overly dramatic and edgy."

Even more suffocating than a domineering CEO.

The Golden Dragon said: "You needn't strive to gain my attention, I won't belong to you."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You hastily asked Teacher Mu Jianling: "Teacher, are you certain this is a mecha? Not some strange thing?"

Mu Jianling said calmly: "During its initial design, the main chip of this bug had a bit of an error, causing it some mental issues, just ignore it."

Upon hearing this, Ji You felt relieved.

Otherwise, Ji You would suspect some hapless domineering CEO transmigrated into a mecha.

Hearing Mu Jianling say this, the Golden Dragon promptly corrected: "Teacher Mu, my name is Heavenly Dog. Please call me Heavenly Dog, thank you, and—after rebooting, my brain passed all checks successfully without any issues. Please don't cause misunderstandings with others."

Mu Jianling: "Noise!"

With that, Mu Jianling pressed the power-off button.

The Golden Dragon panicked, swinging its tail vigorously: "Teacher Mu, you can't treat me like this, please let me turn on! Let me speak."

Dingdong~

The Golden Dragon went completely silent.

At this point, it looked just like an ordinary, pale-golden toy snake, with none of its earlier majesty and authority.

Ji You stared wide-eyed at Mu Jianling: "Teacher, is this really a mecha?"

According to Ji You's limited knowledge, mechas don't come with intelligent systems, they operate entirely based on the pilot's Spiritual Silk.

This one right in front...

No matter how you look at it, seems like an evolved True Dragon.

Entirely absent of mechanical stiffness and coarseness.

Mu Jianling said: "This is a Biological Mecha, the only one in the Alliance, indeed in the whole world."

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

Oh no!

It's the feeling of excitement!

Ji You clutched her chest tightly, asking: "With a Biological Mecha, can it fully control itself?"

Mu Jianling shook her head and explained patiently for once: "No. If it could entirely control itself, it wouldn't fall under the category of machinery, but become equivalent to another species."

And—

Humans cannot allow such new species to emerge.

If its intelligence surpasses humans, its power stronger than humans, if it loses control, the damage it inflicts on humans could be even more severe than Star Beast disasters!

Thus, humans would never design such a species.

Ji You couldn't help but ask: "So, it does have a pilot, right?"

Mu Jianling paused at this question, nodded, "Yes."

This single 'Yes' inexplicably cooled the atmosphere.

Ji You opened her mouth, still couldn't help but ask: "Then, where's its pilot?"

To qualify as the Alliance's, and indeed humanity's only Biological Mecha, its pilot must surely be an extremely formidable individual.

Mu Jianling said calmly: "Dead."

Ji You was taken aback.

After a second, Ji You didn't dare pursue the matter further and carefully glanced at Mu Jianling's expression, seeing no special reaction, softly asked: "Teacher... then currently who is this mecha's Master???"

Mu Jianling looked at the golden dragon and said: "Too useless, no one wants it."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You blurted out: "I want it."

Mu Jianling glanced at her and said: "You're dreaming."

Ji You pleaded: "But you just said no one wants it."

Mu Jianling raised her hand to knock on Ji You's forehead, cursed: "Even if I sell junk, I wouldn't give it to you."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You took a deep breath: "I'm switching professions to collect junk."

Mu Jianling retorted irritably: "How much money do you have, to dare think about redeeming the contract?"

Ji You honestly said: "1 billion 300 million."

Mu Jianling: "..."

Mu Jianling said: "Truth."

Ji You coughed slightly and said: "1 billion 300 million and 250 credit points."

Mu Jianling's face darkened, cursed: "If you dare continue with nonsense, I'll kick you out."

Ji You patted her pocket, laughing slyly: "Absolutely true, not a single lie, I didn't even round down the small change."

Chapter 920: Weighing the Options

"Oh?" Mu Jianling dragged out her tone, without lifting her eyes, said, "10 billion 3 million 250 credit points?"

Ji You nodded, "That's right, that's right."

Upon hearing this, Mu Jianling's expression became even calmer. She raised her hand and pulled out a thick stack of contracts from the Space Button, casually drawing one from it, and said indifferently, "In that case, start by using 5 million to redeem one."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You craned her neck to take a look, and immediately, her smile vanished!

sheet.

sheets.

sheets.

...

She couldn't keep counting.

At a preliminary glance, this stack of contracts has at least more than 200 sheets, and one piece requires 5 million; isn't 100 sheets...

Ji You stared wide-eyed, couldn't help but say:

"What the hell!"

"Teacher, did you get it wrong? When did I sign so many contracts?"

"That can't be right?"

"I don't recall having this many!"

"Hmm?" Mu Jianling lifted her eyelids, "Are you questioning me of forging them?"

"Cough..." Ji You forced a smile and said, "Of course not, how could I suspect the teacher of forgery?"

Mu Jianling was about to lower her eyelids when the bothersome brat next to her said, "Even if the teacher did forge them, I wouldn't dare say anything."

Mu Jianling's face darkened, without thinking, she lifted her foot and kicked towards Ji You's buttocks.

Ji You deftly dodged aside, just barely avoiding it and not having had a chance to breathe out in relief, when suddenly a merciless smack descended down!

Ji You had actually been on guard, but unfortunately, Teacher Mu Jianling's iron palm was too swift, swinging countless times in the blink of an eye, practically airtight, leaving no defense!

Smack!

Ji You rubbed the sore back of her head, looking a bit resentful at Mu Jianling, said, "Teacher, your hand is too quick?"

"Hmm." Mu Jianling said blandly, "After hitting brats too many times, it became trained."

Ji You: "..."

Ji You showed no signs of being self-aware as a brat, she eagerly leaned forward, continuously winking at Mu Jianling, "Teacher, let's discuss something, 1 billion, to get those contracts in your hand, what do you say?"

Mu Jianling gave her a sidelong glance, "Looking ugly, wanting to gain beauty."

Ji You raised a hand to touch her face, grinning, "No, I don't think I look ugly. Jiaojiao keeps saying I look good, I think I am beautiful, wanting something even more beautiful, hehe..."

Eyes constantly on the sluggish 'Golden Dragon', Mu Jianling was already a bit impatient, spoke in a cold voice, "Speak if you have something to say, otherwise get lost."

Ji You quickly said, "Teacher, I'm serious, I'm here to redeem my contracts."

Looking at her cheeky grinning face, it didn't seem at all like she was here to redeem contracts, more like she's here to promote something. Mu Jianling frowned, said, "I know you're a poor ghost, you can return your debts whenever you have the money."

"But don't recommend me any nonsense." Mu Jianling waved her hand, said, "Don't interrupt my work."

After speaking, Mu Jianling picked up a pair of pliers, walked beside the 'Golden Dragon' mecha, took a look up and down, and realized why it seemed odd — a material part was installed wrong on this miniature version, so she crouched down to reconfigure it...

At this moment—

Ji You suddenly stood in front of Mu Jianling, blocking her, "Teacher, I really came to pay back the debt."

Mu Jianling casually said, "Without 10 billion, don't come hanging around me."

billion?

This poor ghost, scraping by might not even be able to save up in a hundred years.

Thinking this, Mu Jianling was about to start dismantling the mecha, but suddenly—a light screen appeared in front of her, flashing with a string of digits...

Mu Jianling: "..."

Ji You flaunted the account balance in front of Teacher Mu, her eyes had a hint of smugness, said, "Teacher, take a good look?"

Mu Jianling frowned without speaking.

Ji You made the light screen come closer, giggled, "Didn't see clearly, take another look, I'm not in a hurry."

Mu Jianling's slightly curved lips flattened, her indifferent eyes suddenly became very sharp, she looked down and asked: "Where did the money come from?"

Ji You lifted her face and said, "I sold."

Mu Jianling's brows furrowed deeply, "Just you?"

Saying—

She glanced up and down at Ji You, in a cold voice said, "Just your material, counting even the dandruff, isn't worth much." Saying this, Mu Jianling crossed her arms, her tone extremely harsh: "Spill, how did it come?"

"Cough cough..."

"Teacher, I must correct something, dandruff generally has no value, and no one would buy it, cough cough..." Ji You initially wanted to be playful but seeing Mu Jianling's face grow darker and darker...

So, Ji You slowly, her voice vanished.

Mu Jianling lifted her eyelid, coolly said, "Speak."

Two words, not as intimidating as before, but still imparted a strong sense of pressure.

Ji You had considered many times on the way here, whether or not to repay Mu Teacher, Dr. Luo, and Principal Hong's debts, and how to repay them. Yet... if not repaying, holding such a large sum of money, still refusing to clear the debts owed to three mentors, she felt uncomfortable, uneasy.

But if repaying, once displaying this much money, she'd surely need to explain where it came from, otherwise, given the three mentors' vigilance and character, they absolutely wouldn't accept dubious money.

...

So, how exactly should it be repaid?

This—

Is truly a headache.

Thinking this and that, after discussing with Xiao You, both felt it was better to simply be honest. Of course, not everything should be revealed, but selectively honest.

Like the Iron Plate in the Spirit Space, like Ji You being a person who traveled through worlds, like Xiao You's existence. These three things, by no means, would be disclosed to anyone, even someone as revered as Teacher Mu, she'd never tell her.

However, being honest about the money being earned through creating Soul Devices was doable.

100% Spiritual Silk Cleaning Rate, and 6 strands of Spiritual Silk with independent consciousnesses... this kind of anomaly, claiming an autodidactic skill in crafting Soul Devices, this point, Teacher Mu, Dr. Luo, and they wouldn't be able to fully understand, nor appraise thoroughly.

Moreover, given the mentors' character, even knowing Ji You can create Soul Devices, they wouldn't resort to dissecting and studying her.

Cough cough...

Perhaps, maybe, Teacher Mu and they might specifically conduct some examinations and studies on her, but it'd definitely be after seeking her consent, ensuring first and foremost her life's safety and maintenance of her abilities before doing any research.

...

After discussing it thoroughly in her mind with Xiao You, Ji You suddenly raised her head, looking at Teacher Mu Jianling, her expression very serious, said, "Teacher, here's the thing—"