

Astral Pet Store

Chapter 16: Money Made

Translator: Henyee Translations **Editor:** Henyee Translations

Su Ping looked up at him. It was an aged man wearing a Tang suit with a bird pet about half as large as a human.

This bird was covered with crimson feathers and it looked like an ostrich with its head dangling down. The bird seemed to be lifeless.

Su Ping was surprised the moment he saw this bird.

“Sir, do you have some unique bird food? Something tastier?” Fan Shangde looked at the seemingly young Su Ping who was behind the counter and stepped forward to talk to him.

“Tastier pet food?” Su Ping didn’t expect this question. But Su Ping understood after he looked at the depressed bird. “Its appetite is not good recently, is it?”

Fang Shangde nodded. He sounded vexed. “It began to eat less a few days ago. I don’t know why. I took it to the doctors but none of them found any results.”

Su Ping said that he understood the problem. He turned around and took out a bottle of “Scarlet Stone Fruit.” “I think it will like this,” Su Ping proposed.

“Oh?” Seeing that Su Ping was confident, Fan Shangde picked up the Scarlet Stone Fruit and took a look. “What is this pet food? How come I’ve never heard of it?” Fan Shangde asked.

Su Ping didn’t know how to explain the details. After all, he had no idea whether the cultivation planes the system sent him to were in the past or still in existence. Maybe this food was from ancient times.

Either way, he trusted the system’s judgment.

“You can let it try the food,” Su Ping added.

Fang Shangde had his fair share of bird food studies, and yet, he failed to recognize this type. On second thought, he believed Su Ping would not sell something that could

harm a bird given this was an official store. He opened the lid and poured two grains out.

The moment he opened the lid, the upset fire bird suddenly flapped its feathers. Then, the bird looked up. The depressed and lazy looks in its eyes turned into a radiant glow. The bird was staring at the two Scarlet Stone Fruits in Fan Shangde's hand.

"What?" The bird's reaction took Fan Shangde off guard. He felt confident about the food. He lowered his hand and fed the fruits to the bird.

The fire bird pecked on his hand quickly and ate up the two fruits. As soon as it finished, the bird began to chirp happily. Its short wings were flapping quickly. Next, the bird turned its sight to the entire bottle of fruits placed on the counter, glaring at it with passionate anticipation.

Fan Shangde was stunned. This little guy had been suffering from a loss of appetite for days. It was a surprise that the bird could gobble down the food and it seemed to be wanting more.

Since the food was good, Fan Shangde had no more concerns. He asked Su Ping at once, "Sir, what kind of food is this? Give me several bottles, please."

Su Ping saw that the fire bird was licking its chops as if it was going to pounce on the food because it could no longer wait. Calmly, Su Ping grabbed the bottle and moved it back to his side. "This is the Scarlet Stone Fruit, the most favorite for Vermilion Birds. This is the only bottle available in the store. One fruit is 130 coins and we have 34 here. Do you want all of them?"

"Well, 130 coins for one bottle..." Fan Shangde felt this price was reasonable. He came to his senses in the next second. "For one fruit?"

Su Ping nodded. "For one fruit."

Fan Shangde was speechless. He looked into Su Ping's eyes; since he saw that Su Ping was serious and composed, Fan Shangde was sure that he wasn't hearing things.

At the same time, from the corner of his eye, Fan Shangde noticed the other products behind the counter. He was taken aback as he saw the prices. The food he had chosen was not the only pricey one. There were others even more expensive!

He then understood that Su Ping was not deliberately ripping him off.

"Is there anything special about the pet food here?" Fan Shangde restored his calmness soon and asked curiously.

Su Ping was surprised that this customer could stay this collected. “The food available has different effects, but the majority can help pets to improve their abilities. Some of the food varieties can produce extra effects. They are far from being mundane pet food. Your money will be well spent,” Su Ping said honestly.

“They help pets improve their abilities?” Fan Shangde was intrigued. Pointing to the “Colored Buddha Leaf” with the highest price, he asked, “This price is over 20,000 coins. What can it do?”

“This one can enhance a pet’s power of understanding,” Su Ping answered.

“Improve the power of understanding?” Fan Shangde was dumbstruck. His eyes flickered but soon, he covered up his interest. “This Scarlet Stone Fruit... give me ten. I will come back if my pet likes it,” Fan Shangde said.

Su Ping didn’t see this coming. Was this man placing an order?

That was to say... he was making money, right?

Su Ping felt a surge of emotions as if he could see the energy points waving at him. On the outside, he remained calm. He did the calculation fast. “Ten fruits will be 1300 and your Vermilion Bird has eaten two, so that is 260 coins, which makes for a total of 1560 coins.”

Fan Shangde nodded and transferred the money to Fan Shangde. “How long can the ten fruits last?” Fan Shangde asked.

Su Ping gave it some thought. “If you want it to be full... the ten won’t not even be enough for one meal. But, if you want to save, you can mix the Scarlet Stone Fruit with other pet food. This way, those will be enough for 10 meals.”

“Eh...” Fan Shangde didn’t find this food pricey to begin with, but he realized it was expensive after considering Su Ping’s suggestions.

He was not in want of money but when he thought about 1500 coins for one meal...

“Thank you, sir.” Fan Shangde left the pet store after this gesture of appreciation. When he was about to step away, he turned around and took a look at the shop sign—Pixie Pet Store.

“...”

Having sent away the customer, Su Ping checked his account immediately. There was an addition of 1560 coins!

If converted, it would be 15.6 energy points!

6For him to collect the pet breeding mission, it would only cost him 10 energy points and he could breed a pet. That was to say, he could already finish his mission!

“Lucky for me, the cultivation plane I chose was not desolate. It would have been a bad start if I had chosen a barren world...” Su Ping felt fortunate.

3...

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Azure Bay Garden.

This was a neighborhood that seemed quite ordinary. The buildings were shabby and aged.

Fan Shangde walked with his hands clasped behind his back. He was in a superb mood. He walked the Vermilion Bird back to the neighborhood, leisurely and carefree. Along the way, he met some old friends, some with their pets, or with their better halves. They were also strolling in the neighborhood park.

“Old De, you’re walking that silly bird again...”

“You’re walking your better half as well...”

“Pff, you’re walking your better half!”

“Old De is old but still licentious. Let’s go...”

An old couple hurried away.

Fan Shangde laughed once their bickering was done. He took the Vermilion Bird back to his building; then he took out his keys and opened the door.

He stepped into the elevator and rode to the sixth floor.

He lived in room 601.

As soon as he opened the door, Fan Shangde could tell that someone else had arrived. The most obvious mark was that the several pairs of dirty socks he threw by his door were gone!

“Was it a burglary?”

Fan Shangde did not panic; rather, he was quite calm. He changed his shoes at the foyer and headed to the living room. He saw two people sitting there and smelled some delicious dishes coming from the kitchen.

“Grandpa, you’re back.” The two young people sitting on the couch stood up at once.

From their reactions, the girl was livelier. Her eyes glowed as she saw Fan Shangde. She ran over cheerfully and said, “Grandpa, we’ve been waiting for you for a long time.”

Fan Shangde smiled and patted the girl’s head. “How come you have time to visit me today?”

“I missed you, grandpa,” The girl said with honeyed words.

“Well, aren’t you sweet?” Fan Shangde pinched her nose.

The other young man that was standing by the couch smiled fatuously. “Grandpa, didn’t you say that your Vermilion Bird had no appetite and would not eat? I asked someone in my team to get something birds of the fire family love. I’m here to deliver them to you today.

“Thank you for your trouble.” Fan Shangde nodded.

“You’re welcome. This is what I should do.” The young man scratched his head, smiling quietly.

The girl ran to the side of the living room and took out a metal case. She waved at the Vermilion Bird. “Xiao Huo, come here. These are all for you.”

She opened the case and over a dozen varieties of pet food were revealed, including flowers, fruits, grasses, and even sealed cans with worms in them. All of it was food favored by birds.

Fan Shangde threw a look and said to the Vermilion Bird behind him. “Come on and take a look. Someone brought you some nice food.”

Being an intermediate-rank pet, the Vermilion Bird was quite intelligent. It had been showing a lack of interest and only stepped over reluctantly after Fan Shangde had said so. The Vermilion Bird stuck out its head and took a look at the goods, then it turned around right away. Its eyes were filled with laziness. The bird nestled on the ground, not intrigued at all.

“Well...”

The girl was surprised. She didn’t foresee that the Vermilion Bird would ignore her like this. How come it wasn’t interested when there were so many delicacies?

The young man standing next to her was stunned as well. He felt the situation was awkward.

Fan Shangde, on the other hand, was not taken aback. He tried coaxing the Vermilion Bird into eating several of the treats the young man had brought but none of them worked.

“Grandpa, your bird is not coming down with something strange, is it?” The girl couldn’t help but consider the possibility as she saw the Vermilion Bird lying on the ground, low-spirited.

Fan Shangde raised his eyebrows. He would have had the same idea on any other day. However, he was convinced that it was because of the food, after he witnessed with his own eyes how happy the Vermilion Bird was when it enjoyed the food in the pet store.

“It has been losing appetite recently and will not eat any of the usual food. I suppose it will be better after some time.” Fang Shangde answered calmly and sat down on the side to rest.

The young man’s eyes flickered. Building on what Fan Shangde said, the young man proposed, “If so, grandpa, why don’t you bring it uptown with us. We have the best hospitals for Astral Pets there and it can be cured. Problems should be solved timely to avoid things to go wrong in the future. It will be quite convenient.”

Fan Shangde snorted. “I already said my piece, I’m not going anywhere.”

The young man expression’s changed. He said nothing else.

“Grandpa, you don’t want to go but you have to consider it for Xiao Huo’s sake. It won’t last long if it continues to go on a hunger strike like this. You cannot simply wait for it to starve to death and do nothing about it!” The girl tried to persuade him from another perspective, using a different way to solve the problem.

Hearing this, Fan Shangde raised his eyebrows. Somehow, he felt smug. “It won’t starve. I already took it to get quality food today. It’s just unwilling to eat this average pet food you brought here. That doesn’t mean that it won’t eat anything else,” said Fan Shangde.

The young man was speechless. The food he brought was considered average? Every item was considered precious pet food!

“You bought food for it?” The girl sounded surprised. “Will it eat other pet food?” There was an odd look on her face.

“Of course.” Fan Shangde laughed.

"I'm not convinced." Fan Xiaoyu was still in disbelief. She believed that her grandpa was just making up excuses. After all, in all those years, her grandpa had come up with many strange excuses just to avoid living with them in the uptown area.

Fan Yujing, the young man, was just as baffled after that exchange.

Fan Shangde puckered his eyebrows. He reached into his pocket and grabbed the little bottle. He pulled out the cap and poured out one fruit.

"Come here," Fan Shangde called the Vermilion Bird.

The Vermilion Bird had turned over the moment Fan Shangde opened the bottle.

The fruit was thrown to the Vermilion Bird.

The Vermilion Bird caught it with its mouth and swallowed it at once.

This scene shocked the siblings.

Soon, Fan Xiaoyu came back to her senses. She would not believe what had happened. "It must be because the food we brought was placed on the ground and Xiao Hou doesn't find any of it interesting. I've used the wrong way to feed it."

With that said, she took out some fruits from the case and said, "Xiao Huo, here."

The Vermilion Bird turned over.

A big pile of fruit was forced onto its beak.

Fan Xiaoyu: "..."

Fan Xiaoyu was in a cold sweat as she saw the Vermilion Bird about to fly into a fit of rage. Her hair was standing on end; she didn't dare to try again.

"Now you believe me," Fan Shangde said, laughing with satisfaction.

Fan Xiaoyu looked at him speechlessly. She knew that her plan of using Xiao Huo as a leverage to persuade him had fallen through.

"Grandpa, what kind of food is this? I've never seen it before. Where did you get it?" Fan Yujing checked the fruit carefully. He was confused. He had the confidence to say that he had been out for many battles so he was well-informed. Yet, he had never seen this bird food before.

Fan Shangde answered casually, "I bought it in a pet store nearby. It's called something like Scarlet Stone Fruit."

“Scarlet Stone Fruit?” Fan Xiaoyu pondered about the name. The name didn’t ring any bells, even though she was a well-versed straight A student. “I have never heard about this fruit before. Is it real food? I’m afraid that it may produce side effects,” she said, wondering.

Fan Yujing nodded. “She’s right. Some unethical pet stores will pass some weed off as pet food. There are strict regulations in the uptown area regarding this, unlike here. Grandpa, don’t put Xiao Huo in harm’s way just because you bought something unknown.”

“What?”

Fan Shangde felt nervous once they put it this way.

The Vermilion Bird was his baby; it was of great significance to him. He could not imagine what would happen if something were to happen to it.

“I don’t think that is the case. I bought it in a formal store. They have a business license.” Fan Shangde tried to keep a calm appearance while inside he was fearful and trembling.

Fan Xiaoyu thought about it. “I heard that some gangster shops will mix some special chemicals in the pet food so that the food they sell tastes better and the pet would crave for more. Pets would lose their minds once they can’t get such food, but they may suddenly die if they eat such food for a long time, or suffer from other ailments.”

Fan Shangde was dumbstruck. He had seen such reports on the news. He became anxious.

“Right. The pet food I brought is the favorite for birds of the fire family but Xiao Huo won’t even look at it. It’s only interested in the fruit you have, grandpa. This is too strange.” That simple smile vanished from Fan Yujing’s face as his sister explained. Taking that simplicity’s place was something malicious and severe.

“Well, grandpa, how much did it cost you?” Fan Xiaoyu asked all of a sudden.

Fan Shangde was surprised by this question. Out of instinct, he answered, “1500 coins...”

“One bottle costs 1500 coins?” Fan Xiaoyu was shocked. A layer of ice came onto her pretty face. “This is not uptown. There cannot be pet food this expensive. That has to be a gangster shop!”

“Grandpa, where is the store, and what is its name?” Fan Yujing asked directly.

“The Pixie Pet Store...”

Chapter 18: Breeding Beast Kings

Translator: Henyee Translations **Editor:** Henyee Translations

Inside the Pixie Pet Store.

After the old man left, Su Ping could not wait to head to the Chaos Spirit Pool for Incubation behind the pet store, since he had just made some energy points.

“I wonder what kind of Astral Pet can be bred.”

Su Ping was filled with anticipation and nervousness. The rarer the Astral Pet coming into being was, the higher the rent would be when he leased it. This could be a source of substantial income!

The system reminded him, “[Chaos Spirit Pool for Incubation] is currently at the first level. During every breeding process, one part per one hundred million of ‘chaos aura’ can be imported. Activate?”

“Chaos aura? What is that?” Su Ping found it unfamiliar.

“Chaos aura is the most fundamental energy in the universe, the origin of everything.” The system’s explanation sounded a bit fantasy-like.

6Su Ping didn’t understand it fully. He frowned. “But, isn’t it too stingy to import only one part per a hundred million of this source energy?”

“The host can upgrade the spirit pool,” the system suggested calmly.

The requirement for upgrading the spirit pool sprang to Su Ping’s mind at once, along with the effects of spirit pools at different levels.

Currently, the Chaos Spirit Pool was at the first level. A hundred energy points would be needed to upgrade it to the second level and the chaos aura that could be imported would be increased to one part per ten million. In the best of chances, the pool would give birth to Astral Pets with higher rank bloodlines!

To upgrade the Chaos Spirit Pool to the third level would demand ten thousand energy points, which would increase the percentage of chaos aura imported to one part per million. There would be a small chance that an Astral Pet with a beast king’s bloodline could be bred!

1A hundred million energy points would be needed to upgrade to the fourth level, and the imported chaos aura would reach one part per one hundred thousand. There would be a bigger chance of breeding an Astral Pet with a beast king’s bloodline and a very low possibility that the Astral Pet could be even more powerful!

Following the fourth level, there was the fifth, sixth, etc. and the highest was the ninth level!

In a ninth level Chaos Spirit Pool, a large amount of chaos aura could be imported. The ancestors of the mythical beasts, the Archaean Deities, could come into being!

3Su Ping was completely astonished once he reached the latter part of the introduction. Beast ancestors? Archaean Deities?

Judging by the names alone, Su Ping could tell that such beings were horrifying. Those creatures had to be more terrifying than those legendary Astral Pets in that illustrated book of feral Astral Pets. Any one of such beings could endanger the whole world!

Could such beings also be regarded as Astral Pets?

4Su Ping felt light-headed the moment he saw the energy points required for an upgrade to the ninth level. He knew that this was way out of his league at the moment. To upgrade to the third level was already in the distant future.

4Besides, the effects of a third level Chaos Spirit Pool were already shocking.

With merely one part per million of chaos aura, there was a chance of breeding an Astral Pet with a beast king bloodline!

What was a beast king bloodline?

That was to say that such an Astral Pet would already have the strength of a beast king!

1No matter how poor the Astral Pet's aptitude was, or how poor its level of understanding was, as soon as the Astral Pet reached adulthood, it would have the strength equivalent to a beast king. The only difference was the ranking among Beast Kings.

This did not refer to the Astral Pets that had a percentage of beast king bloodline fused in them. Such Astral Pets were, for the most part, of mixed blood and the beast king's bloodline would only account for a small ratio. It was almost impossible for such Astral Pets to evolve into Beast Kings.

“Breeding Beast Kings...”

While he stared at this Chaotic Spirit Pool that looked like a dried-up well, his mouth felt parched and his tongue scorched. Beast Kings were creatures that could run wild across the entire land and they were extremely hard to tame. All Beast Kings were violent and cruel. If he could breed one, then he could have a skyrocketing rise!

Su Ping had finally calmed himself after a long time of excitement. At the moment, he could only use the first level of the Chaos Spirit Pool. Lucky for him, even at the first level, the Chaos Spirit Pool would have a tremendous effect. There was a small chance that an Astral Pet of the intermediate level could be brought to life!

One Astral Pet of the intermediate level would be sold at one hundred thousand coins or more at the federal establishments!

“Activate the spirit pool.” Su Ping looked at his 15.6 energy points. He made up his mind and invested the points.

-10 energy points.

The dry Chaos Spirit Pool began to absorb the energy. As such, a glow suddenly broke out. There was a trace of dark light that glimmered for an instant but then disappeared without a trace. Everything quieted down again.

Crack.

Something seemed to have fallen apart.

Su Ping looked over in surprise.

From the edge of the Chaos Spirit Pool crawled out a Little Skeleton that was off-white in color and about 20 cm in height. It was lower than a human’s knee. The skeleton used great efforts to crawl out from the spirit pool. Then, it fell on the ground and shattered into pieces.

“A skeleton of the demon family?”

Su Ping was stunned speechless.

Pets of the demon family were highly popular for battle pets. They were loved by battle pet warriors because of their fierce abilities. But this Little Skeleton... was a pet of the lowest level in the demon family!

Su Ping was wishing that he could hit the jackpot and get a pet of the intermediate level on his first try. As it turned out, instead of the intermediate level, this skeleton was the lowest of the lowest level!

While he felt like weeping but had no tears, Su Ping wanted to take the chance. He cast an identification spell on the skeleton.

Little Skeleton

Property: pet of the demon family

Rank: the lower position of the first rank

Combat Strength: 1.1

Aptitude: poor

Abilities Mastered: Severed Limb Reassembly

6“...”

1This panel revealed information that couldn't be more average. Su Ping felt an urge to cry.

“Ding! The host has finished the breeding quest. The host will receive a random book about battle pet warrior skills,” the system reminded him.

Su Ping came back to his senses. That was when he remembered the reward of the quest. His depressed mood turned for the better. At the very least, he could just think of the Little Skeleton as a tool for accomplishing quests.

4“Where is the skill book?”

“In the host's storage space.”

Su Ping entered his storage space to check at once. Not surprisingly, he found a skill book with a light blue color.

“‘Killing intent’, skill for elementary battle pet warriors.”

1Su Ping found this surprising. It was “killing intent.” As he recalled, this seemed to be a rare battle pet warrior skill.

1Generally speaking, among the skills that a battle pet warrior could master, first and foremost, there were four skills of augmentation effects: strength augmentation, blast augmentation, firmness augmentation, and perception augmentation!

1The four skills of augmentation effects were essentials for all battle pet warriors!

To learn the four skills alone would take a long time. Apart from the four, the other battle pet warrior skills could have other special effects.

Take the skill book of this “killing intent” for example. This skill meant that through the power of the contract, the pet's desire for homicide would be externalized. The pet would sink into a crazed state and become fearless. The pet would attack violently, without any fear, even when the pet had suffered serious injuries.

4It could be said that this was quite an aggressive battle pet warrior skill. When dealing with some threatening pets, this skill could produce miracles.

“This appears to be a quite difficult battle pet warrior skill. Battle pet warriors below the fourth rank may not be able to learn it.” Su Ping found this surprisingly pleasant. While the breeding failed to some extent, the reward he drew was good. But he wasn’t a battle pet warrior at the moment, so he couldn’t use it yet.

Crack, crack!

At the moment, the Little Skeleton that fell by the Chaotic Spirit Pool crawled up again and was stumbling its way to Su Ping. It looked at Su Ping with its empty, dull eyes.

Su Ping forced a smile and picked up the Little Skeleton. He went to the counter and asked the system, “What is the lending rate for this Little Skeleton?”

“Pet, Little Skeleton, rent: 1 coin per hour.”

One coin...

Su Ping’s mouth twitched. This was the rental price. But if anyone would be willing to rent the Little Skeleton was yet to be seen!

After all, who would rent a Little Skeleton at the lower position of the first rank to go into battle?

Su Ping’s forced smile had yet to fade away when he heard some footsteps. In the next second, the door was smashed open by two people who dashed in.

1Su Ping was stunned. He placed the Little Skeleton on the chair by the side and asked the male and female that had come in with overweening arrogance. “And you are?”

“You unscrupulous merchant, come clean and tell us, what did you add in the pet food you sold?” the young man said, glaring at Su Ping coldly.

1The ones that came were none other than Fan Yujing and his younger sister Fan Xiaoyu.

They hurried over right after they got the address from their grandfather.

Su Ping frowned after a moment of astonishment. “I don’t understand what you’re saying. Besides, are you my customers? Do I even know you?”

He went through the memories of the previous owner of the body but failed to recognize the two.

"I am saying this for your good. Don't be stubborn and reluctant to admit mistakes or defeats. Or else, you will land yourself in serious trouble!" Fan Yujing looked askance at Su Ping, continuing in a cold voice, "The food you just sold to an old man, some Scarlet Stone Fruit. What did you mix in them with?"

2"Right," Fan Xiaoyu rested her hands on her hips and chimed in arrogantly.

At the mention of the Scarlet Stone Fruit, Su Ping remembered which customer it was. He understood what was going on at once, judging by the manners of those two.

"Are you suspecting that I tampered with the pet food?" Su Ping pulled a long face. He harvested that food at the risk of his life. How could anyone question him?

All of a sudden, the system's sound alerts sprang in his mind. The system that could always remain composed sounded quite cold, and even furious at the moment.

"Ad hoc quest: the store is being slandered for no reason. The host must prove innocence personally and demonstrate that there is nothing wrong with the pet food. The host must protect the reputation of the store against any defaming!"

2"Reward if the quest is accomplished: a chance to enter any cultivation plane with an unlimited number of deaths for five days!"

8"Punishment for quest failure: a 10 points deduction from the host's grade!"

Eh?

Su Ping stood in amazement.

There were ad hoc quests?

5Besides, for this quest, the reward was a one time access to any cultivation plane for five days with unlimited number of deaths?

Previously, Su Ping did not cherish that opportunity presented to him and regretted it later. Surprisingly, there was another chance given to him again. This was a chance to train a low-rank pet to a pet of the highest grade easily!

4

Chapter 19: Break Your Arm

Translator: Henyee Translations **Editor:** Henyee Translations

Just as Su Ping was reading the quest, Fan Xiaoyu smashed the table and her face was contorted with anger. “If there’s nothing wrong with the food you sold, how come a pet with no appetite cannot stop eating that food? You’d better come clean!”

1“Come clean?”

Su Ping came back to his senses. His eyebrows twitched when he looked at the hand on the counter. A glint of coldness flashed past his dark eyes, but he contained his fury.

The two people were battle pet warriors and he was no match for them.

“The host doesn’t have to worry. There is nothing inside this store that can threaten your life. Anything and anyone that shows killing intent towards you will be erased, even when the Immemorial Savior arrives!”

8Su Ping was stunned speechless. He didn’t know that the pet store had such abilities. Didn’t it mean that this store was his strongest shelter?

With the system’s promise, Su Ping felt less worried. Looking at the two indifferently, he said, “Do you have proof that there is inappropriate stuff mixed in my pet food?”

“Proof?”

Fan Yujing’s glare turned colder as he went on, “My words are the proof. Believe me. I will have the Pet Food Association come here to investigate at once and your dirty little store will be shut down!”

Su Ping raised his eyebrows.

He wasn’t afraid of the Pet Food Association. After all, all the food was natural and harvested by him; there was nothing wrong with it.

1That being said, the investigation procedures of the Pet Food Association would be complicated and it would affect his business. Besides, that would also harm the store’s reputation. That would put him at a disadvantage when it came to finishing the system’s assignments.

At the same time, Fan Xiaoyu noticed the many pet food bottles placed on the shelf behind the counter. When she saw the prices, she cried out in alarm, “Brother, look, this is a clip joint indeed.”

1Su Yujing took a glance. He pulled a long face at once. “I didn’t know gangster shops were this bold in the outer town. This is a place where there are no rules nor laws.”

1“Hmm!”

Su Ping snorted. "A high price invariably means that this is a clip joint? Don't buy or come here and defame people just because you cannot afford it. The things I sell are attractive in price and quality. You get what you pay for. The price is more than reasonable!"

1"I can't afford it?"

Fan Xiaoyu laughed out of extreme anger.

Even if the price were set ten times the amount, it would be nothing but a casual buy for them. How could he accuse them of not being able to afford anything?

Besides, the pet food he had was ten times more expensive than regular pet food. Who gave the owner the courage to call it "attractive in price and quality"?

"You get what you pay for. Nice try. I'd like to know what that thing priced at 20,000 coins can do. Can it make someone live forever?" Fan Xiaoyu burst into laughter out of fury.

Su Ping answered calmly, "Only 20,000 coins and you want to eat it and live forever. You're not looking for crap to eat, are you?"

1"You!"

Fan Xiaoyu opened her beautiful eyes and bellowed, "Say that again?"

"Am I wrong?" Su Ping shrugged.

"How dare you insult my sister." Fan Yujing's eyes glared in coldness. He made a swift move and reached his hand to grab Su Ping's neck at lightning speed.

However, right at that moment, a sense of fatal danger rose in Fan Yujing's mind.

Before Fan Yujing could think about it, he heard a cracking sound. It was as if his arm had been pushed down by something. The bones in his arm were fractured from the elbow down.

The dull pain reached him in an instant. Fan Yujing gasped in pain. He stepped back at once to keep a distance from Su Ping.

"Brother?"

Everything happened too fast. Still angry, Fan Xiaoyu only saw how her brother was about to teach the other guy a lesson, to then see him suddenly step back as if something had struck him.

Fan Xiaoyu turned pale with fright as she saw Fan Yujing with a broken arm. Her brother was not an average boy. He had graduated and joined the rangers as a powerful battle pet warrior. He was far superior than her. How could his arm be broken?

Su Ping was surprised by this as well. Inside, he heaved a sigh of relief. The system was freaking awesome and this was a system of words.

1"If it weren't for the fact that you didn't mean to end my life, it wouldn't be just your arm that would be broken." Su Ping sneered.

He was a guy that had died over a hundred deaths in cultivation planes. He had an acute sense of killing intent. Previously, Fan Yujing only intended to teach Su Ping a lesson and did not mean to murder him. Therefore, the system's punishment was not the most severe.

"Was it you who did this?" Fan Xiaoyu turned around and stared at Su Ping, shocked.

Who was this person that could easily break her brother's arm?

Also, judging by his looks, she could tell that Su Ping was in his early twenties, younger than her brother. Wasn't it an indication that Su Ping was more talented than her brother?

*2*Fan Yujing was a person that had undertaken countless battles himself. While the pain from the broken arm was sharp, he managed to endure it. He was even more shocked than Fan Xiaoyu. Previously, in that instant, the sense of danger was still lingering in his heart like a needle and it was hard to be erased.

He didn't doubt that he had just visited the gates of hell!

"Who exactly are you?" Fan Yujing took a deep breath, putting on a stern look. This person that could break his arm and was younger than him had to be a genius, not a halfpenny the worse than those glamorous talents in the Federation. This person was far from an unknown anonymous guy!

"As you can see, just a normal guy, a pet store owner," Su Ping said, calmly, "Now, I believe we can communicate like equals."

*2*Fan Yujing's countenance changed. He kept a low voice. "We didn't mean to offend you. It's just that this matter is related to our family. We were too anxious."

1"It's funny." Su Ping chuckled.

At the same time, inside, he was sighing.

Right, only the powerful could have a say. Otherwise, people wouldn't even have the patience to listen to the explanation. The fist ruled even when the words were wrong!

"Didn't you ask me what the function of this is?" Su Ping revisited that subject, saying in a nonchalant tone, "These are Colored Buddha Leaves and can be regarded as a form of pet food. But this is disposable food. The only effect is that it can enlighten a pet's intelligence and increase the pet's power of understanding."

"Enlighten intelligence?"

Fan Yujing's expression changed once he heard this.

All the items that could enlighten intelligence were sold at 100,000, at the very least.

Why would this one only cost 20,000?

Fan Xiaoyu, who was supporting her brother, was also stunned. She didn't expect that this garish thing would be a treasure that could enhance intelligence.

"Which pet ranks can be enlightened by these Colored Buddha Leaves?" Fan Yujing voiced another question.

Right at this moment, he was no longer regarding this owner as a shady businessman. What kind of trickster was able to break his arm without leaving a trace?

1Su Ping shrugged. "It can be applied to all pets below the Beast King rank."

"Well..."

The siblings stared dumbfounded.

All pets were inferior to Beast Kings.

Didn't it imply that even pets of the ninth rank could use this?

What treasure could enlighten the intelligence of a pet at the ninth rank? Such a treasure could not be purchased with one million, not to mention 100,000 coins!

7For a moment, the siblings were looking at Su Ping in a weird way. If this man were a fraud, he was unusually powerful; such people were seldom con artists since they wouldn't have the need for it.

But if he weren't a fraud... then why be so stupid as to sell such a top-level treasure at only 20,000 coins?

1 Su Ping's mouth twitched as he noticed the funny glares the siblings threw at him. His heart was aching. Of course he knew that the price of 20,000 coins was low. Only the wealthy and ostentatious could regard this kind of price as "reasonable."

2

Chapter 20: Evolution

Translator: Henyee Translations **Editor:** Henyee Translations

"I told you. The items in this store are attractive both in price and quality. It is completely fair." Su Ping kept a poker face.

The siblings could not utter a word.

If Su Ping were telling the truth, then this was far from just being attractive in price and quality. He was practically selling at a sacrifice!

The siblings looked at each other. They were shocked at the strength Su Ping demonstrated in that strike, but this matter still seemed surreal.

Su Ping could tell that this pair was not convinced. He frowned. All of a sudden, he thought of an idea. "If you don't believe me, I have something here that can prove it to you," He calmly said.

"What is it?" Fan Xiaoyu was confused.

Su Ping took out a transparent glass bottle from behind the counter and two blue fruits were found in the bottle. Su Ping explained, "These are Blue Element Fruits, with a low rank rating. This is a kind of food that is favored by advanced pets of the water family. With long-term administration, advanced pets of the family can have their abilities enhanced. If the low-rank pets of the water family can consume such a fruit, they will be directly promoted to the next rank!"

"Promoted to the next rank directly?"

The siblings were startled.

Things that could enable a direct rank promotion were extremely expensive, even those that were only for low-rank pets.

"The Blue Element Fruit can only be consumed by pets of the first, second, and third rank and only the first-time administration can show effects. The price is 8700." Su Ping added indifferently, "If you guys can find some low-rank pets of the water family, you will see the truth with one test."

“Only 8700?”

Once again, the siblings were speechless due to the appallingly low price.

And yet, compared with the Colored Buddha Leaves, they found it understandable.

“Well, as for low-rank pets of the water family, I don’t have to get one elsewhere. I have one with me.” Fan Xiaoyu blinked. “Sir, can we test it now?” she questioned.

2Su Ping raised his eyebrows. “Of course.”

“Good.”

Astral powers began to surge over Fan Xiaoyu. She lifted a hand and grabbed at something in the air. A vortex appeared, from which a light blue figure hopped out and landed on her shoulder.

This was a blue dotted pet the size of a fist, shaped like a water polo ball. Only its big head could be seen; its four limbs were so short that they were hardly visible.

1“Fountain Beast?” As soon as Su Ping saw this little guy, he recognized it as a first-rank pet of the water family. This pet was extremely common and ordinary, so ordinary that almost every family had one.

1While those pets were merely at the first rank and their abilities could be practically ignored, they were loved by everyone. The reason was that Fountain Beasts could shoot water jets that were of no offensive value. To a large extent, they could help people save on household water.

3Many adventurers could also ask the Fountain Beasts for help when they were exploring and wanted to wash their hands, drink some water, or take a bath. Owning a Fountain Beast was like carrying a small water source.

2“Sir, will this work?” Fan Xiaoyu held the Fountain Beast in both hands and placed it in front of Su Ping.

Su Ping answered, “Sure. But you have to pay for the Blue Element Fruit first.”

“Well...”

Fan Xiaoyu was hesitating.

Fan Yujing stepped forward and took out a card. He transferred the money to Su Ping. “Sir, please commence.”

Su Ping heard the beautiful prompt tone of money entering his account. A faint smile climbed to his otherwise frigid face. He opened the bottle and took out a Blue Element Fruit from it.

In his store, this was the pet food only inferior to the Colored Buddha Leaf in terms of price.

“Little guy, here you go.” Su Ping handed the fruit to the Fountain Beast.

The Fountain Beast had already smelled the Blue Element Fruit. When Su Ping handed over the fruit, the Fountain Beast could not wait to open its mouth and gobble it down before asking its master for permission.

The fruit with the size of a thumb was stuffed into its mouth. It was as if there were a drum filling the Fountain Beast’s mouth, but soon the fruit was gone; the pet had swallowed it.

Three people had their eyes glued on the Fountain Beast, waiting for the effect to kick in.

Su Ping had thought that the Fountain Beast would need some time to digest it. However, in less than three minutes, something began to happen to the Fountain Beast.

The light blue spots on the Fountain Beast began to flow, like liquid. Then, the Fountain Beast’s entire body swelled a bit.

This swelling was painful for the Fountain Beast, so it began to roll around on the counter. While it rolled, the Fountain Beast would eject some water arrows.

Su Ping used his hand to fend off the arrows. He noticed that it was somewhat painful when the water arrows struck his palm.

Whoosh!

All of a sudden, a much thicker water arrow was discharged.

Su Ping had no time to defend against it but in the next second, that water arrow was stopped by some invisible shield.

On the other side, Fan Xiaoyu noticed something as she realized the fact that the water arrows ejected by the Fountain Beast were aggressive. She held up an astral shield to protect her brother and herself.

The water arrows provoked ripples as they smashed against the astral shield. Her astral shield was of a high level and could fend off the water arrows easily

A moment later, the Fountain Beast stopped rolling around. Right then, it was two times as large as before. The four limbs that could not be seen earlier were still not visible. The limbs were short, but they were enough to support the Fountain Beast.

“It has evolved...” Fan Xiaoyu opened her eyes wide.

1Since Fountain Beasts were highly popular, even a seven or eight-year-old kid could tell exactly what Fountain Beasts looked like from the first rank to the third rank. Naturally, Fan Xiaoyu would know.

A flash of surprise appeared in Fan Yujing’s eyes. This Blue Element Fruit was an item that could facilitate evolution!

While the fruit was only effective for low-rank pets, it was rare!

“Done.” Su Ping breathed a sigh of relief inside as he saw the result. “Do you have any other questions?” Su Ping asked.

The siblings came back to their senses. They looked at each other and their expressions were troubled.

1“Sorry. We offended you in the beginning,” Fan Yujing said, resisting the pain of his broken arm, slightly gnashing his teeth.

Fan Xiaoyu’s expressions changed again and again but eventually, she gave tacit consent to the status quo.

They knew that a person that could sell such items for evolution and probably an item for intelligence enlightenment could never be a bad businessman. As such, the fruits this person sold to their grandpa could not be the usual kind, either. That was why the Vermilion Bird loved them.

“No problem.”

Su Ping nodded. He accepted their apology. For the time being, it was the other party that had taken a beating. However, without the system’s protection, he would have been the one suffering humiliation. After all, given the other party’s domineering attitude, they would never listen to him.

1Awkwardness ensued with a short moment of silence.

Fan Xiaoyu hesitated for a bit as she saw the Colored Buddha Leaf. “Sir, will that work?” she asked.

Su Ping raised his eyebrows. Was she still doubting him? “I already made the introduction. I won’t repeat myself,” he said, gloomily.

Fan Xiaoyu saw that Su Ping had misunderstood her so she wanted to explain at once. Before she could, Fan Yujing suddenly did something. He transferred the money to Su Ping and said, "We will take it."

No amount of explanation could work better than an actual purchase.

1Fan Yujing felt it worthwhile to test it by spending 20,000. If this article was genuine, then it would be money more than well spent!

If it was fake, 20,000 was nothing for him. He could make tens or hundreds of times more with any trip made for opening up virgin soil.

2Fan Xiaoyu was surprised by her brother's action but she soon understood his intention. She said nothing more. Still, she felt a bit reluctant inside.