

### 361 PLEASE TURN AROUND, BABY

Lu Shu intended to look for them on his own. Based on their records, they did not sell any magical stones or weapons, which meant they had them all in their own pocket!

At that moment, Lu Shu felt that his power gave him greater responsibilities. Just watch, people! He was the one who would take care of the dangers!

Honestly speaking, although Zhong Yutang told him not to reveal his power and military ranking, Lu Shu only intended to run some errands for his team and steal goods when necessary. With his humble character, he would not be that noticeable in a group of arrogant geniuses.

But even Nie Ting and Shi Xuejin did not expect that Lu Shu had won his reputation in the Heavenly Network through the running fights in the Capital.

Regardless of his aptitude, his ability as a Class C already spoke volumes of his hard power, the top-tier under the Heavenly Kings.

In addition, in the running fights, he even had the guts to fight back against over a hundred veterans, it was an impressive act.

It might be an exaggeration to crown him as the first man below the Heavenly Kings, because there were a few Class C freaks in the Network, who were double trained in cultivation and power awakening.

However, at the very least, Lu Shu was above average among the Class C's. At first, Hao Zhichao attributed his failure to the prohibition on the use of his flying daggers. But after second thoughts, Lu Shu's speed could still very well defeat him if he failed to fatally wound Lu Shu with his first move of daggers.

As a result, Lu Shu was soon highly respected by all students. Everybody knew that the veterans held him in high regard, and that he managed to escape the chase of over a hundred veterans.

Moreover, at the present moment, Chen Zuan's stand was clear. Whenever someone suggested an investigation, Chen Zuan would insist that he should wait for Lu Shu.

Chen Zuan's lack of courage was obvious. He would never dare to complete the mission without Lu Shu, and thus no one took action.

Then, the team wanted to follow Cao Qingci as the new leader, who was at the peak of Class D and with military merits on her record. After the urban survival, the geniuses had relinquished their airs and learned humility.

Since Cao Qingci had both experience and power, the team was expecting a response from her.

However, she did not express any disagreement with Chen Zuan's plan to wait for Lu Shu.

Therefore, be it playing cards or sleep, everyone was waiting for Lu Shu's return in the past two days!

That made Lu Shu even more mysterious. With so many veterans discussing him everyday, it was an open secret now that he was a Class C...

The first Class C in the Daoyuan Class! A Major! He was the epitome of the word "invincible"!

Since he had made a wise guess that the target's stronghold was concealed underneath the market, Lu Shu was tempted...

Would a person die only when his neck was twisted 180 degrees? Maybe not... If the purple golden gourd was used directly on top of someone, it might not break his neck, but would surely sprain it...

Hiding in a private place, Lu Shu retrieved his gourd from his Seal of Lands. Ever since the flying dagger went in, Lu Shu had respectfully changed its address from the head-twisting gourd to the purple, golden gourd. As for whether he had remembered the name of the dagger correctly, Lu Shu was still uncertain. If he could not, wouldn't it be a shame on him?

A scan with his magical instincts revealed that the filth on the dagger had already been removed, and it was hovering in the gourd, glimmering with celestial sparkles on its blade.

Instead of making it more powerful, the sparkles felt more like a connection between the dagger and Lu Shu himself...

However, although he had not mustered enough courage to directly call out its name, Lu Shu felt an expectant stir in his heart. Needless to mention how mighty the master in the Investiture of the Gods was, no one could stop him if he wanted someone dead.

Of course, Lu Shu believed that it was partially due to the master's power as well. According to the legend, he was the fiery spirit of the Sun and the son of the Elf Emperor Jun, the Prince of the elf race. He was omnipotent. He could slay his opponents effortlessly without even a weapon. Lu Shu was well aware that the

lethality of magical weapons was directly proportional to the wielder's power.

In reality, it would not make sense if a Class F weakling could hack a Class A with some supreme weapon. It was not realistic either.

But! That was still awesome! It was the master's treasure!

Holding the purple, golden gourd in his palms, Lu Shu's face was full of anticipation. Success or failure was dependent on the moment. With all sincerity, he whispered, "Please turn around, baby!"

In the next second, there was a disturbance in the gourd. Suddenly, the flying dagger... turned around inside...

Lu Shu was utterly confused, I told you to turn and you really turned in the gourd?!

What the hell!

Lu Shu did not buy it!

"Please come out, baby!"

"Please kill, baby!"

"Please dance, baby!"

"Please say something, baby!"

"Please... please screw yourself!" Lu Shu was frustrated. The dagger completely

ignored him except for the first sentence!

He wanted to control the gourd and the dagger. But now, they did not seem to listen to him!

Sure enough it was an unreliable gourd!

At that moment Lu Shu had the urge to smack the gourd on the floor, but did not really want to...

Stuck in an awkward situation, Lu Shu totally had no idea how to lure it out of the gourd. He could see it but could not use it.

What happened to this world? Even flying daggers had become so cunning?

So what now? To confront the twenty-one people head on? Looking at the market below from a building nearby, Lu Shu was hesitant. He was uncertain about the circumstances down there and reckless moves were never in Lu Shu's dictionary.

He had confidence, though, about how to locate the targets precisely.

If the head-twisting gourd was still functioning, he could make use of his celestial powers to pinpoint his rivals.

When he bought it at the black market that time, he sensed Spirit Qi waves welling up the gourd when Li Dian pronounced Yue Yunpeng's name.

And now, he needed to confirm whether the five missing people were really underneath the market.

Lu Shu opened his digital memorandum, "Pan Hongyang!"

No reaction...

"Zhang Jinglin!"

No reaction...

### **362 A CLASS B IDIO**

To tell the truth, Lu Shu hoped Lu Xiaoyu would send Anthony to Tongguan, so that he could have a look at the situation underground without having to be there himself. But Luo Cheng was more than two hundred kilometers away, way outside of Lu Xiaoyu's controllable range.

Furthermore, Anthony should not be too active. When his identity as friend or foe was unclear, the Heavenly Network would probably perceive him to be neutral, and Nie Ting would definitely not tolerate the presence of an unruly Class B expert.

What if one day Nie Ting set a trap and slashed him? He was more suitable of the title the First Assassin in the East than the First Expert in the East!

Lu Shu was playing with his gourd on the rooftop, with despair on his face. No matter what he said, there was no more reaction in the gourd, even if he called it baby.

Could it be a bloody duplicate passed down from Li Dian's ancestors? If so, could you please make it more real? What was with turning the dagger around in the gourd? Could it not sleep well on its left?

Actually, now thinking about it, Lu Shu could not take all the advantages himself. Although he was already a Class C, the mission itself had hidden threats, and Lu Shu

would certainly not risk his life in such situations. He still had to go home in one piece to look after Lu Xiaoyu.

At that moment, he heard a calm voice from behind, "Lu Shu, who's your baby?"

"From Lu Xiaoyu's distress, +666!"

Lu Shu turned, astounded, "Why are you here? I thought I told you to stay at home?"

Lu Xiaoyu sat down besides Lu Shu at the edge of the rooftop, "I came to look for you, of course. Anthony can transport me via the earth. No one will notice that I'm here."

Anthony arrived back in Luo Cheng yesterday. Bored at home, Lu Xiaoyu made use of Anthony's skill to travel silently hundreds of miles to Lu Shu's side. She only needed to be careful of surveillance cameras, and she was damn good at it.

However, she got lost in Tongguan, which doomed her plan to give Lu Shu a surprise. But Anthony solved her concern. Every piece of dirt could serve as his eyes and ears after a wind swept through the town.

It was not a commonly seen ability among the earth-type Metahumans, as very few had reached the same level as Anthony.

As soon as Lu Xiaoyu found Lu Shu, she heard him repeatedly calling something baby...

Lu Shu explained everything about the gourd in a light mood. Afterwards, Lu Xiaoyu asked, "I thought you'll need to cup one hand in the other in front of your chest, bow

and then say 'please turn around, baby'?"

Lu Shu was stunned. So many rules?!

He stood up and took another try. Placing the purple golden gourd in front of him, he made a deep bow, "Please turn around, baby."

And then, the dagger turned again in the gourd...

At that moment, a person hastened secretly towards them from the east. Judging from his cap and sunglasses, he was either an idiot or trying to hide his identity.

Lu Xiaoyu was surprised, "Why is he here?"

Lu Shu could not recognize the man without Anthony's shared vision, "Who?"

"The Mianchi factory director!"

Lu Shu froze, "Didn't the other team wipe them out? What is he doing here?"

"I left once I got the stuff last night. I don't know what happened afterwards," Lu Xiaoyu's eyes widened innocently, I did whatever you told me to do...

As for what she took, she had not informed Lu Shu yet. Everything was stored in their house.

Then, the director sneaked into the market, knocked on the door of the innermost room and was allowed to enter. The person inside the dark room deliberately took a glance around to ensure there were no followers.



"There's some sort of connection between the two markets," Lu Shu mused, could it be the man had escaped Mianchi to seek sanctuary here?

Checking against his memorandum, the director's name was Liu Dazhe while the person in charge of the agricultural market was Liu Dakun. Eh? Could they be cousins or siblings?

Also in that moment, a group of seven geniuses, who were tasked to suppress the Mianchi black market, were hurrying towards them, and one person was sticking up his nose, as if catching smells...

What a unique power he had awakened to...

Sensing that something was up, he called to Xiaoyu, "Send Anthony down and rob them if you have the chance!"

After that, he quickly went back to the inn. Probably the Mianchi team was completely ignorant of Liu Dazhe's meeting with Liu Dakun, and the twenty plus Metahumans below.

From their perspective, the director was their only target. Their victory was certain.

But the reality was that he had reinforcements!

Unwilling to send them into danger, Lu Shu directed Xiaoyu to take advantage of the commotion. If the two sides really engaged in a fight, no one would have the spare time to care about cash and safety boxes, and that was the "chance" that Lu Shu was talking about.

In a few minutes time, he would bring his team and join the group below to kill all their enemies. Thus, who would know that something was missing?

Absolutely perfect, Lu Shu thought excitedly.

...

The director climbed down a narrow ladder and started weeping the second he saw Liu Dakun, "My dear brother! Everything in Mianchi is gone! My men, my money... Everything! We were robbed by an idiot at first, and then we were encircled by the Heavenly Network!"

His brother Dakun stared at him in bewilderment for a long time, "Which idiot? You let an idiot rob you?"

"A Class B idiot... Black shadow, earth-type Metahuman, with a white matted bracelet on each of his wrist... The idiot forced us to giggle for thirty minutes and could punch a hole in my foot with one grain of sand when he's displeased..." It took him a long time on his way there to understand that the shadow was at least a Class B. His brother was a Class C and he knew Class C's could never have such power!

However, on the materials given by the Heavenly Network, Liu Dakun was only a Class D.

Liu Dakun was a sensible man and he knew better than to confront a Class B. His smooth, peaceful life should be attributed to his low-key personality.

Liu Dakun gathered himself, "Did your pursuers follow you here?"

He was worried that his younger brother might lead the Heavenly Network here. But Liu Dazhe pressed his lips tightly, as the only thing on his mind was to live...

His concern was verified at the sight of his brother's expression. With a slap on Liu Dazhe's face, Liu Dakun's voice was irritated, "Damn you! Do you know how much effort I have put into this place?"

Everyone else shot frosty stares at Liu Dazhe. If the Heavenly Network had found out about their location, they would need to flee for the rest of their lives.

"How many?" Liu Dakun calmed himself down.

"Seven. Mid-Class D students," Liu Dazhe replied.

"Kill them all and run northwest tonight. Pack up, brothers!" at Liu Dakun's command, a tinge of ferocity suddenly appeared on everyone's face. Magical stones in flannel bags and cash in sacks were collected in the center of the room to be carried by a strength-type Metahuman. The rest were in preparation for a killing spree.

At that instant, a black shadow, giggling, rose from the floor...

Lu Shu had instructed Lu Xiaoyu to find an appropriate time, which he referred to as when they were busy fighting.

But to Lu Xiaoyu, any time was a chance. Who could defeat her Class B Anthony?

Thus, was this not a good chance since they had carried everything out...

Lu Dazhe suddenly started laughing wildly, which startled his brother quite a fair bit, "Hahahaha, laugh! Everybody bloody hell laugh! Hahahaha!"

Totally in shock, Liu Dakun threw a smack on the back of his brother's head, "Hush!"

But soon his attention was diverted to the shadow. Who the hell was the one over there that had the guts to come in?!

Wait a moment... What did my brother say? Black shadow, earth-type Metahuman, a white matted bracelet on each wrist... The idiot forced us to laugh for thirty minutes and could punch a hole in my foot with a grain of sand if he's displeased...

"Hahaha, laugh! Everybody bloody hell laugh! Hahahaha!" Liu Dakun trembled. Didn't he say only the Heavenly Network was here? Why is the Class B expert here too?

White sand gathered in front of the shadow, "Very good."

Then, Anthony took away everything in the center of the room, wasting no time.

Staring at the empty floor, Liu Dakun was about to cry, But it was not the time to mourn. He would rise again with his power.

Laughing loudly, he led the entire group to the surface. But at that moment, they heard a pounding sound on the door. The director's face was ashen, "Hahahaha they are here!"

Outside, the geniuses were deeply disturbed by his laughter!

### 363 BODYGUARD IN THE DARKNESS

By right, for someone who had painted a target on his back, and whose men were all dead, he should be trembling in terror.

But the director looked like an emotionless beast who feared nothing...

What the hell are you laughing for?!

Solely based on his laughter, those unfamiliar with the situation might be expecting a Class A master hiding behind him.

Honestly speaking, it was really a mere misunderstanding. The director himself did not want to laugh as well...

The geniuses exchanged startled looks. Last time, the man's laughter tricked them into thinking that there was an ambush, which turned out to be a false alarm.

Obviously that was a scam. But the question was, how could you use the same trick again on those Heavenly Warriors?

Laugh! Laugh harder! You'll be crying later!

This time, the geniuses did not fall into his trap, "Burst in and kill him!"

Their chase was not smooth either. Some were injured along the way and were still sulking.

As for the other side, Liu Dazhe's people had made up their mind to kill their way out. Initially the Heavenly Network had arranged for Lu Shu to deal with them, which should not be a problem at all. But who would expect that the Mianchi team would

run into the Tongguan black market, the most knotty of all, by chance.

Liu Dakun was aware that there were seven Class D experts from the Heavenly Network outside. But with more people on his side and his ability as a strength-type Class C, they did have a higher chance of breaking out of the encirclement. As long as they could flee to the great northwest with their identities well concealed, they would be safe and in trusted hands.

In the past, there was no shortage of people trying to persuade him to join some Metahuman association for a good life outside. But Liu Dakun declined the offers as he preferred building up his own power in Tongguan.

Although he still objected to the idea of being someone else's follower, but he did not have a choice now!

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As for Lu Shu, he sprinted to the inn, which was only a stone's throw away from the market, and started shouting, "Come down! Quick! Someone's here to steal our mission!"

Clever trick. It was a bitter hatred that someone intended to deprive them of their ladder to Class C!

Chen Zuan and the rest hurried to the stairs, whereas Cao Qingci directly jumped off from the fourth floor, with her sword and Lu Shu's spears in her hands!

Cao Qingci had already arrived downstairs before Chen Zuan got to the door...

Sometimes one's mentality was hard to change even if you had special powers, for instance taking the stairs to go down...

In the next second, Chen Zuan and the rest immediately dashed back and threw themselves out of the window. Four floors was really a piece of cake for them.

Cheng Qiuqiao's face darkened at his side, "Brother Zuan, I'm here." His face was seriously dark...

Chen Zuan directed his gaze to the source of the voice and drew a startled breath, "During the day I never realize you were so dark!"

Not bothered to waste anymore time on him, Lu Shu smacked him on the back of his head, "He's your bodyguard in the darkness!"

"From Chen Zuan's distress, +666!"

"From Cheng Qiuqiao's distress, +666!"

Are you saying my face is coal black?

Cao Qingci tossed the spears to Lu Shu, "Go!"

Taking his spears out, Lu Shu started running at the top of his speed. Lu Xiaoyu had already messaged him about the situation in the room, and alerted him of the presence of a Class C, who appeared to be of the strength type.

Lu Shu was confused after reading the text... Had Lu Xiaoyu begun her move? So fast?!

But there was no time for concern. Leading the six people behind, Lu Shu hurried on his journey. If they were too late, the Mianchi team might...

Before they reached the market, they saw the seven students running in their direction, with a group of people chasing and shouting behind, "Hahahaha, stop there!"

Since when was the black market so arrogant?! I thought they were a low-profile group? Lu Shu was puzzled.

In fact, it was not Liu Dakun's original intention to chase them. But since they had lost all their money and magical stones, his evil plan was triggered at the sight of the seven standard swords in those students' hands. Abroad, one single sword could be exchanged for a huge sum.

Unexpectedly, though, one of the students awakened to his power and fended them off for a while.

When the Mianchi team saw Lu Shu and Cao Qingci's group, they shouted, "Run!"

They were all aware that they could not win against the Class C man. But at the same instant, Lu Shu suddenly sprung into the air, his body bending like an iron bow, propelling his two spears towards Liu Dakun and his people!

Liu Dakun was immediately alarmed. He himself was a strength-type Metahuman, but it seemed the young man's ability was not below his! He knew he could never fling the spears so hard that it blew up a big cavity in the ground after piercing through a man!



In a split second, Cao Qingci dove herself into the crowd. In the blink of an eye, her sword had already slit open a man's throat, the blade glistening in the darkness.

Fast and elegant. But it was actually her first kill. She had only killed skeletons before!

Cao Qingci had seized the right opportunity. When everyone was disoriented by the spears, she slipped in like an assassin, reaping lives like a ghost dancing under the moonlight.

Chen Zuan and the other members were dumbstruck. Their collaboration was almost seamless, as though any external help would be unnecessary, "Awesome!"

Chen Zuan, "Brilliant!"

Cheng Qiuqiao: "Bravo!"

The Mianchi team was in shock, are you not going to help, are you cheerleaders?!

Before the Mianchi team could react, Liu Dakun suddenly turned, "Hahahaha, run!"

Lu Shu, "...?"

What was so funny? Am I a joke or have you lost your mind?

Lu Xiaoyu had not told him the truth, so he did not think along that line at all. Thus, his first reaction was, fine, you may run as you wish, but why the hell are you laughing?

As a strength-type Class C, Liu Dakun could actually run away if he decided to abandon his men.

But before he could get far, a strong-built man suddenly emerged from the corner. He stood there and lowered his waist, lifted his arms and threw a punch.

In the next instant, a tiger sign sprung out from his back. With a loud growl, the punch swept across the streets, yanked the leaves off the branches and rolled forward with an unstoppable power!

Lu Shu let out a sigh of relief. He should have seen it coming. In the central area, how would Li Yixiao forgo an opportunity of babysitting?

### **364 END OF ASSESSMEN**

Although Li Yixiao looked like an amiable person most of the time, his fists were unconquerable in real combat.

With no time to dodge the blow, Liu Dakun had no choice but to bear it with his folded arms. But strength-type Metahumans were not that fragile, as enduring attacks was their forte.

Liu Dakun knew he was not going to survive the night. Hence, the devil in him compelled him to drag someone to hell together. With blood welling up from his throat, he mustered all energy left and dashed towards Cao Qingci. But before he could come near enough, everything in his vision slowed down. It was not an illusion in his last minutes. It was the girl's true power!

Even the world changed as time passed by. Perhaps nothing could defy the rule of time. But what if someone could master that power?

It might not harm him if he were uninjured, as he could use his own strength to guard against element-type powers. After all, the girl was no master of time.

But now everything was too late. He could only stare as the effect of time was unlimitedly magnified on himself. As if in a slowed down recording, a sharp sword perforated his heart effortlessly and emerged from his back.

From a bystander's perspective, Lu Shu had already realized how terrifying Cao Qingci's power was. No wonder at that previous time he perceived it more like a rule.

Of course, Cao Qingci could only reduce Liu Dakun's speed to the same level as hers when he was injured. If he were not, she would have been dead.

Undeniably, though, it was an impressive skill... Moreover, how would she be like after her ascension to Class A?

That marked the end of the students assessment. Just when Lu Shu was about to greet Li Yixiao, the latter immediately dashed to the market.

Was he going to seize his spoils?

The students followed him to the spacious basement, which was an altered bomb shelter, upon which sat the market. After the construction of the shelter, it was sealed by the government, and was later transformed into Liu Dakun's secret base.

It was a large space, with distinct traces of careful redesigning. The room was separated into compartments, in which beds were arranged neatly and tidily.

Li Yixiao almost flipped the entire room upside down, "Where is it?!"

The geniuses had taken away the bandits' magical weapons, which were required to be surrendered. They knew very well that they were here for military credits, and nothing was important other than cultivation methods.

But Li Yixiao thought otherwise. He came for the money!

How was it possible that such a sizable black market had no savings? Could they have deposited them in the bank? Unlikely. People like them would probably bring their money with them, or at least bury it somewhere.

He pulled Lu Shu aside, "Why did you make the move before finding out where they hid their money!"

Lu Shu shrugged, "I'm not strong enough. Besides, we would have to surrender everything found here."

"Bullshit," Li Yixiao scratched his head, "Who knows how much money a black market has? I have the say whether to hand it up or not!"

Lu Shu cast him an innocent look, actually, I have the say...

Lu Xiaoyu had been hiding underground all along with Anthony's help, and she left once Liu Dakun's spirit was captured. In fact, it was a rare case for a Class B spirit to materialize, and Lu Xiaoyu already considered herself lucky to have one of strength-type mid-Class C like Liu Dakun's.

Time to go home and count the money! With such a fortune, she could buy a big television, together with many TV boxes. One new box whenever Lu Shu hides one.

The Mianchi team began the narrative of their story, many parts of which stunned their audiences. Honestly speaking, theirs was a real combat experience, killing everyone under the director. At first, many became depressed after their first kill, but who would indulge in remorse knowing that there was still someone on the run?

It was precisely this kind of high-pressure environment that accelerated their growth.

The moment Li Yixiao appeared, Lu Shu understood that there had been assigned a "babysitter" to each group. After all, it was a foolproof method to equip each team with a Class C veteran or above, who would lend assistance in times of danger and remain quiet otherwise.

Judging from the time when Li Yixiao showed up, Lu Shu believed that he would have gone to the market early for spoils if there were no Class C enemies.

At the end of the day, the ultimate goal of the Heavenly Network was fast cultivation of those geniuses when their safety was ensured.

Was the situation out there so serious right now? It did make sense after some thought. Nowadays, the number of remains in the country was constantly on the rise, which must be the same outside as well. Therefore, all Practitioners would strive to be the first to reap the benefits.

If the Heavenly Network veterans ran into trouble outside, new local powers would be needed to be substituted in at once. The battle in the cultivation realm was rather one-dimensional, as the losers always died.

But, the queerest point in the Mianchi team's story was why they laughed...

At a time of life and death, they still maintained their heroic spirits, as if death was none of their concern...

"If they weren't led astray, they could be considered real men," Chen Zuan exclaimed.

Lu Shu's gut feeling told him that something was off. Mianchi's side laughed, and Tongguan's laughed too. Could it be something to do with Lu Xiaoyu...

Li Yixiao left sullenly. He had expected to reap a good fortune there, but ended up getting nothing! He felt as if a piece of the puzzle had been hidden on purpose and disrupted the entire flow of logic. After a while, he came to a conclusion, he was not good at thinking...

Now, all those who had witnessed Anthony were dead. Lu Shu was delighted about his new killer weapon and stealing tool.

Li Yixiao called Lu Shu aside before he left, "Interested in an overseas trip?"

Lu Shu hesitated, "Overseas? Where? To do what?"

### **365 IT'S GETTING WINDY**

Overseas?

It was Li Yixiao's first official invitation to Lu Shu since the last time they talked about bringing Lu Shu to the remains for some good stuff.

In fact, it was Lu Shu who had forgotten about that appointment, not Li Yixiao...

In any case, the Salt Lake remain was so far away and now as a Major, Lu Shu could visit any remain as he pleased. Coupled with the absence of new remains in the central

area, the two had rarely brought up their plan again.

But this time when the topic returned, it seemed they were going overseas...

Until then Lu Shu was still unaware of where they were going. But based on Li Yixiao's expression, it was highly likely the Heavenly Network had dispatched him there. Lu Shu was at a loss, "Why don't they send a Class A there? They'll surely win."

Li Yixiao grinned, "Is unbridled use of nuclear weapons acceptable? There's a tacit agreement among organizations and we can't really kill them all, can we? Sooner or later the external cultivation organizations will have a Class A too."

Lu Shu nodded, the efficiency of the formation of the agreement was unexpected. It was understandable, though. Li Xianyi's last fight had aroused a storm on the global scale, as his act of killing a Class B with merely one blow was way too scary. Thus, all organizations without a Class A had established a united front, there would be no Class A participation in foreign affairs. If not, they would join forces after the birth of their own Class A's and launch a grand attack. Unless one could wipe out their seeds and side against all cultivation organizations across the world, no one would send a Class A.

Could they be wiped out? No. Moreover, Nie Ting seemed to have no interest in waging a war, but was purely curious about the remains.

To put it frankly, those external organizations were both scared and unable to fight back, hence they could only start a unified protest...

"So as long as we get into that remain, don't we have the final say about how much we

take from it?" Li Yixiao was fascinated by his daydream.

"Let me consider it," Lu Shu did not choose to accept the invitation at once.

"Sure, no rush. We still have some time before it's opened," Li Yixiao left.

Lu Shu's hesitation stemmed from his worries.

If the reality was indeed like Li Yixiao's description, it would be perfect. But Lu Shu was well aware that it was not.

In such a short timespan, he had already encountered two foreign Class B Metahumans, Anthony and the one who could control flood peaks.

Remains were commonly known as the party for world class experts. They all had a rough idea of what to expect in a remain, so how could it be that simple?

Indeed, Lu Shu loved money. But the question was could he get it? He himself did not have full confidence in surviving in a remain populated with Class B's.

He was not slower than any Class B, and could probably win in a one versus one combat situation. But his enemies had more people.

After all, Lu Shu was not a rogue. He was merely an ordinary citizen whose biggest ambition now was to graduate safely and enter a university for Practitioners.

The school on the Beimang remain was rapidly gaining strength, and its architecture suited Lu Shu's taste as well. He really wanted to visit there someday.



Currently, however, he was going abroad to enjoy himself while his peers were busy training and studying? Lu Shu would like some more time to think it through.

Up until now, Lu Shu had certainty of success in all his plans. But he had no such confidence in an overseas remain.

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Gradually, the group thinned out as other geniuses returned to the Capital for mission submission. Those who completed their tasks were rewarded with the Class C cultivation method, Yinyang Kinship of the Three, which was their greatest temptation for the entire journey.

Unlike their original mindset prior to the progress report, the desire for fame and power, Nie Ting only used one and a half months to instill in them calmness and composure.

Were the assessment and the urban survival test necessary?

That was akin to asking whether standing still like a soldier and turning left and right everyday was necessary in an army. One would only know its significance when its effects were seen over time.

Based on the outcome, the training for the Class A aptitude geniuses had been successful.

After everyone was gone, Lu Shu headed straight back to Luo Cheng. He had no need for the cultivation method, which Li Yixiao had communicated to the superiors in advance.

It was finally over. Lu Shu was suddenly relieved. On the train back to Luo Cheng, he saw the fields joining the sky in the far horizon, the clouds dangled low over the vast lands.

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In a courtyard along the Liuhai Lane, in the Capital, Nie Ting was studying his documents under a walnut tree, while Shi Xuejin was lounging casually in a deck chair beside him, reading his book. His pace was very slow. What took other people a few minutes to read would take him an hour in total.

Next to Shi Xuejin was a stack of precious thread-bound books, and he would get himself a cup of tea from the Zisha pot when he was thirsty. It was as if his sole interest in the world lay in the books alone.

Nie Ting's gaze remained glued to the pages, "If you didn't give that red fruit to Lu Shu, you wouldn't have to spend so much effort trying to figure out an alternative. When you are done, you probably won't have much time left."

Shi Xuejin smiled, "I wouldn't steal something from a kid. It's fine. As long as I find it, I will be able to rest in peace. However, I'm curious about one thing. As someone who cares only about the grand picture, why do you pay so much attention to a kid this time?"

"I can foresee that he may become an indispensable link in the entire situation," Nie Ting replied calmly, "Li Yixiao isn't that dependable, Chen Baili is too honest while aggressive, Feng Yeming is not fond of violence, and the other three are focused on their ascension. Meanwhile, I have to take the helm, but the Heavenly Network needs

someone to take care of external affairs."

"Li Xianyi used to be the best suit, but sadly he shares a different ideology," Shi Xuejin's eyes twinkled, "But why do you think Lu Shu can live up to that role? Speaking of which, do you think he will follow Li Yixiao overseas? You sent Li Yixiao there just to indirectly coax him into going. I'm afraid Li Yixiao himself had no idea of that."

"Li Yixiao will convince him," Nie Ting rose, his gaze turned to the walnut tree beside him. It was planted by his teacher, who had already passed away, and he himself was no longer the boy that squatted under the tree everyday, as he waited for the fruits to ripe.

Shi Xuejin remained non-committed, "Chen Baili had broken free of the Heavenly Shackles. I'm afraid the day of the birth of new Class A's overseas is drawing close."

### **366 TRANSPLANTING CHIVES**

In the Liujiazhai Village, Lu Shu was leisurely lounging on his deck chair, "Plant the chives sprouts evenly!"

"From Little Fury's distress, +399!"

In front of the courtyard that Lu Shu bought, Little Fury was holding a bunch of chives in its arms, planting them into the soil. The chives were even taller than itself...

Little Fury wrote on the soil, "Why don't you plant!"

Lu Shu shot it a glance, "Do I look like a farmer?"

"From Little Fury's distress, +666!"

Little Fury had learned most of the words. But just when it thought it could finally embrace its hard fought liberation, Lu Shu returned with even more work...

By right, sowing was the best way to farm chives on a large scale, but Lu Shu could not find any vendors selling chive seeds. Thus, he resorted to the current method. He himself did not have to do the labor anyway...

Under normal conditions, chives for sale should be cut at most six times. But Lu Shu wanted to know how chives would grow in a magically rich land. In any case, their life cycle was short, so they did not have to worry about the waste of time.

Lu Xiaoyu had brought Naughty Pig and Big Cat into the mountains for some fun. Although Little Fury planned to join them, it was forced to stay and sweat away for Lu Shu... Before it could convince Lu Shu to make Big Cat plant chives together, the latter had already run far away.

At that time, Lu Xiaoyu had become familiar with the Heavenly Network members stationed at Beimang, and she loved to receive snacks from them. Every time when she returned from the mountains, Naughty Pig would be fully loaded with snacks on its back, as though they had just gone through a round of snacks hunting...

Little Fury suddenly could not take it anymore. It called in a dozen of its minions, and gave the farming duty to them. Suddenly, it realized the benefits of having some followers...

To Lu Shu's surprise, there appeared more than ten Class F rats in a month after Little Fury disseminated diluted refresher fruit juice to its rodent minions.

Was the effects of refresher fruits so powerful on the beasts?

In the past, Lu Shu was already impressed with its ability to improve one's aptitude. Honestly speaking, though, Chen Baili's and Li Xianyi's breakthrough was not solely due to refresher fruits, but mainly their own accumulated power. They had been trapped at the bottleneck for a long time before the restoration of their foundation. After the repair of their foundation with the help of refresher fruits, they wasted no time in ascending to Class A.

But now, Lu Shu was wondering, if all Little Fury's minions could climb to Class F, how scary would it be?

He decided to add more investment in Little Fury some time...

After the assessment, Lu Shu had more than three million yuan, over sixty magical stones and an extra standard sword at his disposal.

With so much cash in his pocket, his interest drifted to opening a hotel again. As the only household in the vicinity, he had more than enough land.

After all, sooner or later a Practitioners school would be established there, so why not take care of their accommodation first? It seemed a promising business...

Currently, Lu Shu was hiding in the mountains only to avoid Li Yixiao, who had cast aside his school duties and become a frequent visitor of Lu Shu's house, trying to persuade Lu Shu to join him for his adventure overseas.

Li Yixiao was dead broke now. He could not sell his Black Dragon Spear anyway.

Despite his status as a prestigious Heavenly King, Li Yixiao could not reap any monetary benefits from the missions, but Lu Shu seemed to be having luck all the time. Nie Ting had told him that Lu Shu was highly likely the person behind the Gongyi black market incident and that the kid probably had all the money.

At that moment, Li Yixiao was pondering, his lack of money-making brains was precisely what landed him in such a poverty stricken situation!

For so many years, he had been walking on blades. Combats were his strength, but besides robbery, he knew next to nothing about earning money via other means.

Although he lacked the brains, he could find someone with the brains!

Li Yixiao would seldom ponder about a question too, which was why Nie Ting had mentioned Lu Shu when he assigned him the mission. However, since he could not come up with a logical explanation, he might as well give up his attempt. After all, Lu Shu must go with him!

Li Yixiao was not a man of reason. When Lu Shu rejected his invitation, he decided to stay at Lu Shu's house. When he was hungry, Lu Shu also had no choice but to attend to his growling stomach...

The next morning, all the chives in the magical field were ready to be harvested. More eerily, the ends of the chive leaves were as red as fire!

It was a drastic difference from ordinary chives. There were villagers crowding around when Lu Shu stepped out of the house.

To the natives, Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu were like aliens. Let alone the fact that the

enormous alpha boar and the leopard cat were meekly following the little girl, many had witnessed how Little Fury planted chives the day before.

In fact, they were aware that Lu Shu was a Daoyuan Class student, but did the head not claim that there was nothing special about that piece of land? Why did it suddenly change after this student came?

Thus, this student was the key!

It was none of Lu Shu's concern, though. The general rise in the number of new, magically rich lands could be a reasonable explanation. If he was really questioned, he could argue by saying he was of the sensory type, which enabled him to discover its magical potential. After all, sensory types were an open secret.

Now, he had learned to hide the main secrets while covering himself with insignificant ones.

"Guard the house and don't let anybody steal our chives," Lu Shu left the words and went out with a bundle of chives. He was heading downtown to look for any potential buyers for his chives.

Nonetheless, his worries turned out to be redundant. With Naughty Pig and Big Cat around, ordinary villagers did not even dare to lay a finger on his land...

In the past, there was a villager who came close for a curious look, but ended up being chased around the hills by Naughty Pig. Actually Naughty Pig did not mean to harm him either, it simply felt like chasing after people...

Lu Shu had chosen the fine arts market as his location. Although the connection

between a bunch of chives and fine art seemed nonexistent, there were people trading botanic items, such as walnuts, gourds and bracelets. But still, chives sounded like a total mismatch in this context...

### **367 SELLING CHIVES**

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

The fine art street of Luo Cheng was situated in the old district. Lu Shu went there by bus. In the past, he held deep reverence for that industry. Just imagine, hundreds of thousands of yuan were flowing between the vendors and customers every minute, and a single item could be worth a good sum. His impression remained unchanged until he paid a visit to the Xijing fine art street...

Lu Shu walked inside the place after he alighted from the bus. It was about the same as his expectation, with only some stalls in operation. On both sides of the road, there were antique-looking items and the most welcomed customers were the foreigners...

But the times had changed. Nowadays, the vendors favorite buyers were Daoyuan Class students...

At first, they were perceived to be smart, discerning individuals. But over time, the owners had noticed that the only difference between them and ordinary students were their physical power, not intelligence.

Moreover, Daoyuan Class students were actually even more gullible.

The most typical example was that a fake, ancient jade, disguised in fluorescent powder, was sold for over 50 thousand yuan, while the product only cost the owner 150 yuan.

With that incident as a pioneer, students soon became the best-loved guests. Every



stall would be equipped with rare magical weapons, transforming the fine art street into the arsenal of the cultivation realm.

Sometimes foreign Metahumans would come as well. Deeply intrigued by the profoundness of the Eastern culture, they would always be fascinated by the vast range of magical weapons there. Not long after, a post appeared on the Golden Foundation, I never expected that the Chinese cultivation realm was so affluent!

But within an hour, the man realized he might have been a fool. The vendor claimed that the gourd he bought would produce a powerful spirit, which could possibly breathe fire and water, and was even capable of saving a grandpa...

At that moment, he himself could not understand what kind of special function that was. Why the need to save a grandpa?!

Afterwards, he found out it was only a scam. But the fine art street never accepted returns or refunds. Coupled with the fear of the Heavenly Network, the man could only suffer the loss by himself.

He was a legal tourist, who had informed the Heavenly Network of his entrance. But of course, he could not reap any benefits if he was involved in a local conflict. What if the Heavenly Network came when he was upholding his rights? Should he call an ambulance first?

In the external Practitioner's eyes, the Heavenly Network was a mysterious and influential organization, and Nie Ting's people earned the reputation with their sweat and blood.

It was a universal situation across the globe. Be it ill or well-intentioned, it was hard

to prove one's innocence after a foreign Practitioner got into trouble.

At a time of high tension, it was actually not in line with the working ethics of the Heavenly Network. The foreign Metahuman in this case was only worrying too much...

Lu Shu walked to the fine art street full of swagger, with his chives in his bag. Someone immediately called out to him, "Young man, are you here for fine art or magical weapons?"

Apparently he was confirming Lu Shu's identity, whether an ordinary or Daoyuan Class student.

Unexpectedly, Lu Shu put on an enigmatic smile, "I'm not buying. I'm selling something."

"Sell what?" the vendor was surprised, did he bring some precious stuff? Last time, an old farmer came with a bronze sword. Just when it was thought to be a fake, it was sold for twelve thousand yuan, and was later discovered to be a real magical weapon!

That deal alone was enough for the seller to live a good life!

The man was curious, "Let me take a look for you. What's in your bag?"

Lu Shu whispered, "Chives, the fine art!"

"From Wang Kunbao's distress, +299!"

He paused for a long moment. Since when were chives considered as a fine art

object... Why? Your chives can sing and dance?!

“Go away. Don’t waste my time,” the man waved his hand.

Without a word, Lu Shu started setting up his own stall in the adjacent space. Once he took out his chives, the man drew a startled breath at the extraordinary redness, “Brother, was it grown in a magically rich land?”

The color was as bright as flames, capturing one’s eyes and attention at once!

Nowadays, such chives were sold in sticks, not kilograms!

In the earliest days, it was sold for 80 thousand yuan per kilogram, and was very well-received due to its clear effectiveness in improving one’s health, including promotion of digestion, raising of spirits and suppression of sweating. It was especially popular among the rich in the sub-healthy state.

Afterwards, the price plunged due to increased supply. To counter this, the sellers began the retail trade...

As a result, one stick cost 100 yuan, affordable even for the masses. This had revived the chives market and the current market price was 130 per stick.

However, typical magical chives only had a tinge of redness on their tips, but Lu Shu’s were exceptionally bright.

“How much is it, young man?” the man asked, planning to buy one stick out of pure curiosity...

In the past, a dish of fried chives with eggs had more leaves than eggs. But now, it'd be more appropriate to call it scrambled eggs with chives...

Lu Shu threw him a glimpse, "200 per stick. No bargain."

He certainly knew how good his chives were. Lu Shu would never fight an unprepared battle.

Just when the owner was about to haggle over the price, two youthful students walked in, looking like undergraduates.

Their eyes brightened at the sight of Lu Shu's chives. One of them squatted down and greeted Lu Shu in English, "Hello!"

Lu Shu froze, how should he reply?

Thinking for a few seconds, he replied in English, "Hi. How are you?"

The person hesitated too, "I'm fine, thank you. And you?"

In proper English, Lu Shu answered, "I'm fine too. Where are you from?"

The conversation caught the onlooking man off guard. What kind of communication technique was that?

The student pondered, "I'm from China."

After two seconds of silence, Lu Shu switched back to Chinese, "... then why did you act smart?"

“From Wang Qian’s distress, +199!”

“From Meng Yunbang’s distress, +166!”

Squatting in front of Lu Shu, Wang Qian was confused, what’s wrong with greeting people with a “Hello”? However, he had no intention to pursue further on the topic, “How much are your chives?”

“200, if a man eats it, his woman suffers; if a woman eats it, her man suffers,” it was an advertisement line that Lu Shu had wanted to use since a long time ago. Finally, after almost half a year, it was proven apt in the given context. But then, the two students exchanged startled looks, as if at a loss. Suddenly Lu Shu realized it was because his advertisement was not intense enough!

After a total of five seconds, he added, “If a man eats it, his man probably suffers too...”

“From Wang Qian’s distress, +399!”

“From Meng Yunbang’s distress, +499!”

### **368 FAMILY SEARCH**

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Feeling offended, Wang Qian suddenly swung his fist at Lu Shu...

Meng Yunbang immediately held him back, “Don’t. We are here to bring our younger sister home, not to fight! So please don’t cause Father any trouble. Besides, it won’t reflect good on you as a Practitioner if the story of you hitting a commoner was spread to the south.”

“Fine. For Father’s sake, let’s go,” Wang Qian finally calmed down.

Lu Shu could sense that the two’s abilities were both at the peak of Class E, a typical standard of Daoyuan Class students who were unable to break through due to insufficient military contributions.

Lu Shu resumed his business. Based on the popularity of such chives on the Golden Foundation, he knew there were no shortage of buyers. Although he could have developed new variations of the species, Lu Shu preferred a less risky approach.

If it was a smooth sail, maybe in the future he could stay at home waiting for his customers to collect chives directly from his house. How convenient!

Regarding the safety of his chives and his magically rich land, Lu Shu did not have to be concerned at all. With the Seal of Lands in his hand, which self-conceited moron would dare to do that...

However, 200 yuan per stick was indeed slightly exorbitant. But as patient as Lu Shu was, he sat in the fine art street for the entire day. Only those who have a taste of my chives will know how good they are, Lu Shu thought, and they definitely will fall in love with it...

In the morning, Lu Shu’s bag was filled with chives and at night, with money. He and Lu Xiaoyu had agreed to spend the night at their Xingshu Road house, and Lu Xiaoyu would be back after she fully enjoyed herself on the hills.

On the bus home, a thought suddenly struck Lu Shu... What the hell, has Lu Xiaoyu’s school term already started?!

He himself was excused from lessons due to his progress report, which caused him to totally forget about Lu Xiaoyu's school reopening date as well. No wonder Lu Xiaoyu had been so happy these days in the mountains!

When Lu Shu was about to reach home, he saw three men standing in front of his door, two young and one of middle age. Unexpectedly, the two young men were Wang Qian and Meng Yunbang, from the unpleasant encounter earlier that day!

Suddenly, Lu Shu felt that the road lamps in the courtyard were unusually dim today, as if a layer of grayish gauze had shrouded them, and his emotions too.

His heart skipped a beat, as he recalled the young men's words in the morning. We are here to bring our younger sister home.

Stepping up, Lu Shu inquired in a soft voice, "Hello. May I help you?"

The middle-aged man smiled gently, his suit trim and his leather shoes shiny, "Hello, boy. You must be Lu Shu, I suppose?"

"Yes, I am," Lu Shu replied calmly. Honestly, he had no idea what mood he should be in.

Generally speaking, it was extremely bad.

"Hello, I'm Meng Yue. May I know if Lu Xiaoyu is at home? I heard from the orphanage that she has moved out and has been staying with you. It took me great effort today to find your location," the man was very courteous, without sounding condescending at all. But he still made Lu Shu uncomfortable.

In the past, Lu Shu used to chase Lu Xiaoyu back to the orphanage due to his own plight. But he never hated her. He knew he would not have done that if he had been able to give Lu Xiaoyu and himself a good life back then.

But now, someone was here to take Xiaoyu away.

Lu Shu had thought about it before. One day, Xiaoyu's parents might come for her, bring her home and provide her with a better life.

He believed, at that time, that he would certainly wish her well if the day really came. Yes. He would.

Now, however, in spite of the person's politeness, his voice was like a dagger in Lu Shu's defenseless heart. He was bleeding.

He had thought so because he was poor back then, but now... Why are you here now, when I am doing my best to earn money, to give Lu Xiaoyu a life comparable to other girls...

"Yes. Xiaoyu will be back soon. Please wait for a moment at our house," Lu Shu smiled. There was neither rage nor sorrow in his heart, only peace. But he still grasped at the last glimmer of hope, "How are you certain that Lu Xiaoyu is your girl?"

Meng Yue grinned, "Back then, I lost my money from a deal in the south, and Xiaoyu's mother could not find me when she was about to give birth. Without a choice, she put our daughter at the doorstep of an orphanage. Now, I have reunited with her mother and we have confirmed the clue in our daughter's swaddling clothes, a slip with her name 'Meng Xiaoyu'. We also know the birthmark on her body. We



came here after all the confirmation with the orphanage.”

There was another wrench in Lu Shu’s heart. He was aware of the existence of the slip, and Xiaoyu had changed her surname from “Meng” to “Lu” all by herself. But what birthmark was the man talking about?

“You...”

Meng Yunbang interjected, frowning, “Lu Xiaoyu is not your younger sister. She has nothing to do with you. Please don’t question this so much. I already wanted to teach you a lesson in the morning...”

Instantly, Lu Shu turned and fixed his gaze on him, “Second Lieutenant of Class E, I’m afraid you have no right to talk to me in such a manner. If Xiaoyu has confirmed that you are her family, I will not stop you. But that’s after it’s done. Here, now, I am the boss.”

At that second, Lu Shu’s eyes were burning fiercely, like a young demon, whose enemies’ blood was dripping down his chest. Seriously, though, Lu Shu had killed a handful of people.

Lu Shu flashed his Major Military ID in front of Meng Yunbang’s face. All three of them were silenced at once. They did not conduct any thorough investigation of Lu Shu, hence they had no idea who Lu Shu was. But, normally, a seventeen-year-old teenager should be an ordinary student, or even a gangster, perhaps a thief? After all, many kids from the orphanage ended up like that.

They thought patronizingly.

But the reality was beyond their imagination. Meng Yunbang once heard that there was an extraordinary Major student in the Yuzhou Daoyuan Class. He was a Class C!

But he could never have expected that the legendary genius was actually selling chives that the same morning!

Lu Shu knew very well that he should have revealed his identity after Lu Xiaoyu was back. But even he could not explain why he was so annoyed by these people's vibes.

He could have chided them for abandoning Xiaoyu, and questioned their right to be Xiaoyu's brothers and father. But he did not want to.

It was because he was crystal clear that the root cause was his selfishness. He did not want to let her go. Thus, those hypocritical excuses might as well be spared. It was his fault for being selfish, but he did not regret it.

Still, it was not necessary to make amendments even if you were in the wrong.

Everything was up to Xiaoyu. If Xiaoyu wanted to leave, he would respect her choice.

But if she did not, no one could take her away.

The day had come way too sudden for Lu Shu. He was just wondering, why did the three find them at their house without any prior notice?

At that moment, they heard Xiaoyu's crystal-like laughter, "Little Fury, did Lu Shu ask you to transplant chives today?"

Meng Yue walked outside the yard, looking at the adorable girl, his face lit up in

happiness. He couldn't help but let out a cry, "Xiaoyu..."

Xiaoyu raised her eyes, "Who are you? Don't be so over-familiar."

Meng Yue gathered himself, "A few years ago, your mum left you at the doorstep of an orphanage..."

Lu Xiaoyu immediately understood at this obvious hint. Her face was emotionless, "Then go. I'm fine now. If I have any family, Lu Shu is the only one."

Her reply was crisp and non-negotiable, as though she had made up her mind long ago, regardless of the truth.

The decision seemed way too rash for a little girl, but again given the circumstances it was as if it was only right...

In this world, Lu Xiaoyu only trusted Lu Shu, and the rest was not important.

Meng Yue was anxious, "You don't believe me? Do you have a red mole behind your ear!"

Suddenly, Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu exchanged a startled look, but he could not figure out why.

Grinning, Lu Shu went back to his room and returned with his spears on his shoulders, eyeing the three people with a smile.

Lu Xiaoyu explained patiently, "Back then, I was jealous that people in the TV series had ear studs, so Lu Shu agreed to help me draw one with a red pen. But he

accidentally drew it behind my ear, which was seen by the orphanage caregiver and she thought it was a mole...”

Therefore, there was no red mole behind her ear. She had washed it off a long time ago.

Meng Yue immediately lowered his head and prepared to leave, “We have got to go now.”

Lu Shu curled his lips, “Where are you going? The entirety of China has been emancipated!”

But at that moment, a voice mumbled in Lu Shu’s heart, luckily it was a lie.

And luckily, Lu Xiaoyu had made her choice.

“From Wang Qian’s distress, +999!”

“From Meng Yue...”

“From...”

### **369 LU SHU THE KILLER**

"I appreciate your visit to the orphanage. My apologies for the trouble," Lu Shu smiled, his face eerily peaceful.

Their lies were already exposed at the mention of the red mole.

The slip in her swaddling clothes was known to all caregivers at the orphanage, which took good care of personal belongings for the kids and would return the items to their

owners after they grew up. Lu Shu got back his pendant in the same way.

As for the red mole, only Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu knew that it was there thanks to Lu Shu.

Thus, if they had really found Lu Xiaoyu's birth mother, she would have never given this piece of wrong information.

Lu Shu had seen a news article detailing Li Xianyi's extermination of a Practitioner-trafficking organization just a few days ago, and he had run into one today. No matter what hidden agenda they served, Lu Shu would expect the worst. Hence, the three people would soon be dead.

Reflecting on the day's events, Lu Shu mulled over why he had trusted those people subconsciously, and over thought so much when they simply stood at his door? The reason was obvious, the conversation between the two young men at the fine art street, "We are here to bring our younger sister home."

The coincidence of their reappearance at night caught Lu Shu off guard. Nonetheless, it turned out to be a carefully considered trap.

Lu Shu's promotion was always a well-known fact inside the Heavenly Network. But the Network itself had strict confidentiality rules, and many who failed to keep secrets had been expelled as a warning.

Therefore, they should know his identity if they were affiliated to a powerful external organization or turncoats inside the Network. But in reality, they did not. They were scammers who tried to abduct Xiaoyu!

According to the black market information given to them earlier, a number of gangs were engaged in illegal transactions involving not only magical stones and weapons, but also people with favorable aptitudes. It was completely unethical and intolerable.

The two people's student-like appearance and peak of Class E ability gave Lu Shu the wrong impression of typical Heavenly Network students, but they... had never admitted it themselves.

The incident had made Lu Shu wiser. Although he was a relatively mature man most of the time, admittedly there were deceptive gimmicks he had never seen before.

However, they had chosen the wrong target.

The middle-aged man Meng Yue was a commoner, and it remained unclear whether the other two were Practitioners or Metahumans... But, they were too weak!

Meng Yunbang and Wang Qian's blood went cold. One of them suddenly conjured up a mirror-looking wall, and the other threw the other two over his shoulders and prepared to retreat. In fact, both of them were Metahumans, not some Daoyuan Class students!

Too weak!

All of a sudden, Lu Shu's spears were in the air, and Meng Yunbang and Wang Qian crashed to the floor without a chance to catch their breath. Meng Yue was not much better either, as the mirror splintered into pieces under Lu Shu's attack.

To kill, or not to kill, Lu Shu was in deep thought.

He was not a killer. But the question was, what if Xiaoyu was really taken away by them?

Maybe she would be fine. Under Anthony's protection, few could harm her. But what if she could not use her power, if she were only an ordinary little girl?

They probably had heard of Lu Xiaoyu's aptitude or her talent as an animal whisperer at the Salt Lake remain, which made her a profitable good, and hence the trap.

Regardless, to Lu Shu, the three of them were unforgivable.

Once he thought of what might have happened to Xiaoyu if she were a commoner girl, Lu Shu's inner peace was disrupted, as though a monster suddenly emerged from his serene mental lake, ready to devour the world.

Maybe it was something buried deep in his heart, a beast that craved blood once awakened.

"For so many years, we are never apart. And now, you want to take her away just like this. Thus, I have to say, you probably have some misunderstandings with yourselves... and with me too. I don't really want to hand you over to the Heavenly Network, because I'm afraid they won't let you die," Lu Shu's mind was calmer and clearer by every second.

He could be the Lu Shu that the breakfast vendor Uncle Li knew as someone who worked his way through school, or the unfriendly Lu Shu in his classmates eyes. He was actually never a dangerous figure. Nothing would happen even if you had an argument with him. Even for someone like Li Dian, Lu Shu only viewed him as a normal scammer who tried his best chance at survival. In Lu Shu's opinion, Li Dian

did not deserve to die despite his acts of cheating and stealing.

At that moment, Lu Shu only wanted to give Lu Xiaoyu and himself a stable life. Innocent, maybe a little annoying at times, but not quite dangerous.

But now, he was Lu Xiaoyu's Lu Shu. He would not think twice before staining his hands with blood, if it was necessary for Lu Xiaoyu.

"I have killed so many, and I won't mind adding you to the list," Meng Yue and the other two were struggling on the floor. Lu Shu spared no mercy in his attack. Then, pointing the tip of the spear at Meng Yue's heart, Lu Shu suddenly exerted strength. Instantly, the air reeked of blood, a pool of purple black liquid quickly collected beneath Meng Yue's stiffened body.

Indeed, Lu Shu did not want to hand them over to the Heavenly Network, because they might not let them die.

It was only then, that Wang Qian and Meng Yunbang realized how serious a mistake they had committed. In the past, they could flee when things went wrong, but now, they had never expected that this teenager would kill them without hesitation.

Next, Wang Qian. Only blood could wash away the hatred in Lu Shu's heart.

Yes, Lu Shu detested these three people who tried to sell Xiaoyu.

Lu Shu whispered, "Discard the Class C. Take their souls and look through their memories. One by one. Don't allow them the chance of reincarnation, though I'm not sure whether hell exists."



Meng Yunbang could not understand his words, but he could feel his heart almost stopped due to fear.

At that moment, Li Yixiao suddenly appeared at the end of the lane. He came to persuade Lu Shu into that overseas expedition. But he immediately froze at the bloody scene, "Who are they! Don't kill them first!"

But Lu Shu completely ignored him, and his spear pierced through Meng Yunbang's heart. Then, he raised his head, his face emotionless, "Scammers who tried to abduct Xiaoyu. They deserved to die."

Meanwhile, many neighbors were gathering outside, pointing their fingers at the site. Some of them were horrified, corresponding to a surge in Lu Shu's background distress points.

Li Yixiao cast a look at the crowd, "It would be just fine if you killed them indoors. Now, you've brought bad public influence. I think you'd better follow me overseas and stay away from trouble..."

The point on public influence was pure bullshit. Since when was it part of Li Yixiao's concern? After all, he still needed Lu Shu to help him earn money...

Lu Shu shot him a calm look, "Okay. I'm going."

Li Yixiao did not know why his heart gave a throb at Lu Shu's glimpse.

...

Lu Shu's killing affair was reported to the superiors one by one. But due to his

extremely high military ranking, it was passed to the Liuhai Lane of the Capital for processing. After all, it was a serious misconduct in the cultivation realm to exert capital punishment on one's captives.

Unexpectedly, however, Nie Ting did not say a word after scanning through the document and signed a "Noted". The person beside him was confused, so did he mean to punish or not?

Just when he was about to ask, another person pulled him aside, "Don't need to ask. The Heavenly King himself felt that they deserved to die."

### **370 CLUES OF THE GOLD LORD**

The Heavenly Network called it Lu Shu's Killing Affair, the incident where Lu Shu killed the three scammers who tried to abduct his sister.

Since it was witnessed by so many neighbors, the Network was under immense pressure from public opinion, but it still exhausted all means to minimize its effect.

As a matter of fact, no one inside the Network who knew the actual situation faulted Lu Shu for his doings. Human traffickers deserved to die, they said. What was more, the fact that they wanted to sell Lu Xiaoyu, a girl with cultivation aptitude, made their act even more unforgivable.

In addition, Heavenly King Chen's confidants were all aware that he wanted to accept Lu Xiaoyu as his apprentice. Thus, the matter infuriated Chen Baili...

Actually, the most enraged were the Heavenly Network fighters stationed on the Beimang Mountain. Did someone say they wanted to take Lu Xiaoyu away while they were giving her snacks all day? No way.

For the entire month, a heated topic was widely discussed inside the Capital's and Beimang's Network, well done, nice kill... All of a sudden, the public indignation was mounting rapidly...

Was it not? Recently Lu Xiaoyu had not been to the mountains for a while all thanks to the bloody human traffickers! Now, they had no one to give their huge piles of snacks to!

Soon, a group was formed on the Beimang Mountain, called "Lu Xiaoyu's elder brothers and sisters", eager to protect Lu Xiaoyu personally...

But Lu Shu did not know any of that. All he knew was the change in attitude of his neighbors. To tell the truth, they had witnessed Practitioners combats on the Golden Foundation forum, but it still instilled fear when such violence happened in such close proximity.

Therefore, Lu Shu's third star had been lit, and he was halfway towards the fourth.

What was the most terrifying was Lu Shu's merciless killing when he had the chance to capture them alive.

But that was none of Lu Shu's concern. He believed he was right. It was never on his mind how strangers might view him.

People liked to judge others with their own sets of principles due to one single reason, everyone thought that theirs was the sole truth.

Lu Shu was more extreme in this aspect. His rules could never be shaken by others' opinions.

If even the Heavenly Network disagreed with him, he would not think twice about migrating elsewhere with Lu Xiaoyu.

They could leave underground with Anthony's help, their greatest trump card at the moment.

Fortunately, the Heavenly Network sided with him without any hesitation.

It was a strange yet amazing feeling, that strangers came to support, approve and care for you as your "comrades-in-arms".

It was also something foreign to Lu Shu. But at that moment, he suddenly realized the Network might really have a place for him.

...

It was their favorite time of the day in the past. Watching the myriad of twinkling lights afar, the world felt small, as if there were the two of them only.

"Do you really have to go, Lu Shu?" Lu Xiaoyu was curious.

"Yea, the influence was bad. I need to leave for a while. It's said the Heavenly Network is under pressure due to that too," Lu Shu explained.

After that day, Li Yixiao had become an even more frequent guest at their house, as though the intensity had been escalating and Lu Shu should not stay any longer...

Lu Shu was skeptical, was it really so serious? But Li Yixiao did not seem to be

joking at all. Furthermore, Lu Shu did not want to cause the Network too much trouble. As the center of attention, he must be considerate for their plight as well.

As for Nie Ting, it was a timely event, like a much needed pillow when he was feeling sleepy. The three ran into Lu Shu just when he was having difficulty trying to indirectly persuade the kid into the overseas remain.

Moreover, it was not done for Lu Shu.

Lu Xiaoyu's current ability only allowed two spirits to be incarcerated simultaneously. At first they were Anthony and a pig, which was later replaced with Class C Liu Dakun at Tongguan. This time, Lu Xiaoyu captured Wang Qian, Meng Yunbang and Meng Yue one after the other to probe into their memories.

After they had obtained all the information, she let them vanish into the air. Lu Shu was unsure whether reincarnation was real. If it was, he hoped they could never be reborn in this world.

Sometimes violence is necessary to free one from sin, a thought suddenly struck Lu Shu, if the world could not give you justice, you need to earn it yourself.

Lu Shu was, after all, a selfish person. He had always been.

This time the memory obtained was rather complete as it was pieced together by three people's recollections.

Lu Shu had made an educated guess. Indeed, they were unaffiliated scammers. Unexpectedly, though, the commoner named Meng Yue, whom Lu Shu had thought to be a puppet, actually had the highest position there.

According to their original plan, they would take Lu Xiaoyu to the south, where she would be brainwashed and tamed by another group.

Their accomplices were not that strong either, a handful of Class D's. Lu Xiaoyu was a Class D based on their information, thus their evil plan was infallible if Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu were convinced of her "background".

Subsequently, they would smuggle Xiaoyu into South East Asia and sell her by auction on the Darkness Kingdom.

Every time he thought of them auctioning Lu Xiaoyu, it made Lu Shu exasperated. But in return, Lu Xiaoyu would eye him with a smile.

Lu Xiaoyu had become less naughty in this period of time. She volunteered to sell and harvest chives for Lu Shu, and even started doing house chores. She seemed to be in high spirits all day...

On the other side, Lu Shu was notified of the confirmation of the three people's identities, which turned out to be already on the Heavenly Network's blacklist. Although their intentions were unclear, they would not get away from Yuzhou even if they had Lu Xiaoyu.

Their accomplices in the south had been wiped out as well...

But even so, Lu Shu's anger was not pacified. And it was at that time when Lu Xiaoyu dug out information about the person working behind the scene from Meng Yue's memory fragments.

That would explain Meng Yue's exceptionally high status despite being a commoner.  
He was a representative of a Gold Lord downstream.