

## Chapter 111: The Change at the Final Moment!

The lecturers saw the top five scorers of the national college examination working together from the rostrum.

During the competitions in the previous years, it was very common for the strong to work together, but the results were usually bad. They did not trust each other since they were each other's strongest competitors. The slightest abnormality resulted in the alliance completely dissolving.

"That Meng Chao is pretty interesting. I think he was the one who pulled the strings just now and made Sun Ya and the other three outstanding ones decide to work together." Jiang Ming smiled. "It's a pity that he is a broken-star superhuman. Otherwise, I think I'd take him in."

"Being a broken-star superhuman is nothing," Li Yingzi said. "Realms are important, but they're not the only standard determining whether a person is strong or weak. If he manages to get nineteen thousand monster coins, I won't mind becoming his personal tutor."

Among the two ace lecturers in the martial arts course, Li Yingzi was a five-star superhuman. She was only in her thirties, but she had already risen to fame with her beast soul fusion. She was already showing signs of surpassing Jiang Ming.

Hence, when she said that realms were not important, her words were a little thought-provoking.

Jiang Ming coughed dryly. "It's easy for the strong to form teams, but it's very difficult for them to make their alliance last until the end. During the past admission tests, most of the outstanding ones would turn against each other at the end— Huh? What is he doing?"

The lecturers watching from a high spot noticed that Meng Chao had taken up a strange stance.

He was accumulating power using the Dragon Snake Force.

Among the three basic force execution methods, the Dragon Snake Force leaned toward accumulating power the most.

The future Dragon Snake Force Meng Chao mastered was twenty percent more effective when it came to accumulating power compared to the current popular version.

Besides, he had four main meridians cleared in his right arm, so his spirit energy surged madly there. His right arm swelled up visibly, and with the amplification from the biochemical fighting suit, his arm looked like Principal Sun's Heavy Cannon.

The problem was, there was no enemy around him. Who was he preparing to hit if he accumulated power in such an exaggerated fashion?

The lecturers soon learned the answer.

Boom!

A deafening sound rose, and the entire field swayed.

Meng Chao's right arm rammed into the ground like a spiral drill. It created a hole in the ground.

He reached in to test it and found that the depth was just right. He dug out the shattered stones and dirt and punched a second hole right next to the first one.

Just like that, in half a minute, he had created five holes that were about the length of his forearm.

He then divided the monster coins Sun Ya and the rest had given him into five equal portions and put them into the holes.

After he was done with it, he grinned. He patted away the dust on his body, and with a relaxed expression looked around himself.

The students were dumbfounded.

The field was huge, and many of the students ran around like headless chickens. When they fought to the point of exhaustion and stopped to catch their breath, they noticed that the Four Great Kings had decided to work together, so even if they wanted to stop them, it was already too late.

And Meng Chao had never revealed his strength. The students did not see any shiny monster coins in his cup, so they did not regard him as a threat.

It was only at this moment that they noticed that Sun Ya and the others all sent the monster coins they snatched into the holes by Meng Chao's feet.

But it was too late to do much about it.

There were only around seven minutes left, but most of the students were exhausted.

Based on their strength and the number of monster coins they had, the students were generally divided into three types.

The first type were slightly weaker than the Four Great Kings, but had cleared from thirty to fifty main meridians. They had snatched around one hundred monster coins, but did not have any place to put them. They could only keep them on their heads, which was a burden they had to carry with them. Hence, they had reached the limit of the number of monster coins they could take.

They were the greatest threat to Meng Chao and the others, and they naturally started eyeing the monster coins Meng Chao kept hidden.

But it was very difficult for them to even protect themselves from the many students eyeing them hungrily, so how could they possibly go and challenge Sun Ya and the rest?

The second type was quite strong, but lacked luck. They had run into Sun Ya and the others, who stole from them. Now, they only had dozens of monster coins on their heads.

These people were the most active and battle hungry people on the battlefield.

However, when it came to choosing their targets, they hesitated as well.

The main reason was because Meng Chao's method of storing the monster coins was just too shameless. He actually dug a few holes in the ground and buried the monster coins deep inside.

Even if they launched a group attack and broke through Sun Ya and the others' defense line, when they reached Meng Chao, they would still have to bend down and stretch an arm into the hole to grab the monster coins.

The diameter of the holes was about the size of a fist. If they wanted to dig out all the monster coins, they would have to grope around for a few seconds.

For three-to-five seconds, the person looking for the coins would be pinned to the ground and become an unmoving target.

If they tried to get coins from there, their own coins might end up becoming someone else's. No one wanted to be the first to try it.

'This guy is too cunning, despicable, and shameless!'

As the students looked at Meng Chao's grin, they started cussing in their hearts.

They weighed the pros and cons. Instead of falling into this shameless guy's trap and landing themselves with an unlucky streak, it would be better to try their luck by targeting someone who had around one hundred monster coins.

As for the third group of new students, they were people who had not become superhumans yet, and they had long since been beaten to the point that their minds were dizzy. They just lay at the perimeter while gasping for breath. Even if they wanted to attack, they did not have the organizational skills nor will to do so.

Hence, when there were only three minutes left to the admission test, Meng Chao and the other four had managed to get a total of one hundred thousand points, and everyone could get twenty thousand.

"That's enough! Everyone, come back and protect these one hundred thousand points!" Meng Chao shouted at the top of his lungs. "Everyone gets twenty thousand! You can choose whichever ace lecturer you want! If you continue snatching, the other students are going to end up fighting us!"

Sun Ya and the others were stunned when they heard this, but they quickly pulled back their defense line.

Jiang Rui felt a little disinclined to follow Meng Chao's instructions, but when he saw that the other three had returned to Meng Chao's side, he knew that he could not make a stance with just himself and could only obey the orders.

When the other students heard Meng Chao's words, they knew that they had one hundred thousand points with them, and their eyes turned bloodshot with greed.

"There are more than one million monster coins in the field. Even if we take away one hundred thousand, there's still more than one million left! It's enough for you to split among yourselves!" Meng Chao shouted loudly. "Of course, if you feel that our one hundred thousand points are more enticing, you can try and get them from us! I'll welcome you with open arms!"

When the greedy students saw Sun Ya and the rest standing on guard around the five holes and remembered Meng Chao's right arm swelling up to the size of a huge cannon, they hesitated.

'That's right.' They were given a reminder by Meng Chao and started calculating in their minds. 'With Sun Ya and the others' strength, it's only logical that they can get from fifty thousand to sixty thousand points. That means that there are only a few ten thousand points missing from the field. We don't have to miss the big picture for the smaller deal.'

Since they could not take the coins from Sun Ya and the others because the guards were too tough, the students could only brace themselves and cause trouble for each other.

It was not as if there was no one who wanted to imitate Meng Chao and form a party with someone to ram holes into the ground to store monster coins.

But they were pressed for time, and in their haste, they could not settle the problem of trust and the distribution of coins.

There were also people who back-stabbed each other in the name of working together, and the area filled with angry shouts and chaotic fights.

Sun Ya and the others had a chance to catch a breath and recover their strength.

"You should be at ease now, right?" Meng Chao said with a smile. "As long as the students aren't stupid, no one will attack our camp. We just need to wait in comfort until the last ten seconds. Then, everyone can reach into their own holes. At that time, your hands and cups will be stuffed full, but by then, there will be only some three seconds left, so no accident should occur."

Sun Ya thought about it and smiled. "It's not foolproof, but it's the most logical plan. I agree with it."

"I agree with it as well." Duan Lian looked impressed. "Meng Chao, you're awesome."

Xie Feng smiled wryly. What could he say, anyway?

Jiang Rui still felt indignant. "We were the ones working hard, while all you did was ram five holes into the ground. You got those twenty thousand monster coins too easily."

"Makes sense." Meng Chao nodded. "Alright, then I'll allow you to take your portion first. Go on."

He made a gesture in a very gentlemanly manner.

Sun Ya and the other two stared at Jiang Rui with intense gazes.

There was no way Jiang Rui would extend his arm into his hole before the three hungry wolves. It would be the same as him handing all his coins to these people.

He threw his head back and let out a huge sigh before he sat down obediently with his features scrunched up.

It was just as Meng Chao predicted. During the last three minutes, the students fought incredibly fiercely, but no one tried to challenge their iron wall.

During the last half a minute, aside from the five of them, everyone lay exhausted and spasming on the ground. They bared their teeth in pain.

Sun Ya and the others sighed in relief.

Jiang Rui was impatient. "Now, we can take our monster coins out, right?"

"Don't be in such a hurry," Meng Chao said. "There's still half a minute left. If we take them out now, someone among you might be greedy. Let's wait until the last ten seconds."

Jiang Rui really wanted to say 'Who the heck are you that we have to listen to you right until the end?'

But since the other three did not move, he could only grit his teeth and bear with it patiently.

The final ten seconds arrived.

The five people looked at each other and put their arms into their holes.

There were two hundred monster coins in each. Naturally, they were not able to get all of them in one go. They had to make three grabs before they could fill up the cups on their helmets and their hands.

Nothing happened during the first grab or the second one.

There were five seconds left.

The group sighed in relief. They thought, 'Gosh, we finally got through this damn "game" without any danger. We can now choose the lecturer we want.'

But suddenly, something happened.

"Jiang Rui, you—" Duan Lian cried out.

Before he could finish— No, in truth, when Duan Lian started the word "Jiang", Meng Chao had already attacked.

Slap!

He had more than twenty monster coins in his left hand, but he had been waiting to attack since a long time ago. The monster coins shot forward like bullets.

But they did not go toward Jiang Rui, who had been hostile to him all this while.

Instead, they went toward Duan Lian, who had spoken up in warning.

Duan Lian was caught off guard, and he instinctively shut his eyes to avoid the missiles.

But he had more than one hundred monster coins on his head, so he could not help but be a little slower.

Because of it, the monster coins that came at him hit his eyes.

Even if Duan Lian had already trained his body to the point that it was as hard as steel, his eyes were not that much stronger than those of a normal person. Tears immediately sprung from his eyes because of the hit.

Meng Chao showed no mercy once he gained momentum. His right arm, even though he had reached into the hole with it, wasn't holding anything. He hadn't even thought about getting monster coins. Instead, he used the hole as a cover to prepare for Demon Subduing Slash.

He drew his arm from the hole, and as all four of his main meridians surged, he finished forming his spirit energy magnetic field. Now, the blade was unsheathed. He drew up his arm, which was like a saber but also a whip. He swung it like a gigantic pillar and sent it flying at Duan Lian's face!

## **Chapter 112: You Get What You Deserve**

Under Sun Ya, Xie Feng, and Jiang Rui's shocked gazes, Duan Lian was hit by Meng Chao, and blood started gushing madly from his nose. His built body weighed one hundred and fifty kilograms, but he fell limply, like a tall tower that had just suffered an earthquake.

The monster coins in his cup naturally spilled out.

Meng Chao moved forward and extended his arms. With the lightning speed he had developed because of his Basic Harvesting Skill and the Seven Dissection Methods Performed in Reverse, his fingers turned into two vortices that allowed him to gather nearly one hundred monster coins.

He had turned dozens of monster coins into hidden weapons, but managed to grab nearly one hundred monster coins from Duan Lian. His total number of coins went over twenty-five thousand, and he was ranked at the top of the martial arts course.

But Duan Lian was in a bad condition. He only had dozens of monster coins left on his head and some more in his large hands. In total, he only had a little more than one hundred coins.

If a normal student had this number of coins, they might be popping open champagne bottles in celebration, but to one of the prideful Four Great Kings, this was basically the beginning of a nightmare!

Duan Lian was built tough, and his defense could compare to that of a superbeast, so he was not defeated by a single punch from Meng Chao.

With fierce eyes, he jumped up.

But at that moment, beeping sounds rose. The countdown reached zero, and thus came the end of the admission test.

Meng Chao moved some eight meters back. He raised his hands and made a gesture. "The game has ended. If you attack me now, you'll be breaking the rules."

Duan Lian became dejected.

Sun Ya, Jiang Rui, and Xie Feng were dumbfounded.

Everything had happened in five seconds. It went down so rapidly that it was already over when they learned of what had happened.

Even Sun Ya, who had a very quick mind, felt puzzled.

They were shocked by Meng Chao's fighting power, even though he was just a broken-star superhuman. He had not done anything outstanding throughout the fights, but when he did move, he delivered an incredibly fierce murderous attack. Even the bystanders broke out in cold sweat after seeing it.

What puzzled them, though, was why he would take the initiative to snatch Duan Lian's monster coins. Meng Chao did not seem like someone short-sighted. He clearly had twenty thousand monster coins, which was enough for him to enjoy the most lavish treatment during the start of the semester. Was there a need for him to act recklessly and form a grudge with another student?

"You're despicable!" Duan Lian stared at Meng Chao. He looked dazed but also full of frustration. "You said that we would divide the monster coins equally and no one should play tricks! How could you treat your allies like this?!"

Sun Ya and Jiang Rui frowned a little.

Indeed, when the five of them formed an alliance, Meng Chao did not fight at all. How could he not be satisfied after getting two hundred monster coins without doing anything and betray them? He lost their trust by going overboard.

Xie Feng wanted to say something. 'Based on Meng Chao's performance during the national college examination, he shouldn't be so greedy.'

Meng Chao smiled and said calmly, "Why did you mention Jiang Rui's name just now?"

When he said this, the other three were a little stunned.

Sun Ya's eyes sparkled. Then, she suddenly narrowed her eyes.

"That's right." Jiang Rui was puzzled. "Duan Lian, why did you call out to me?"

Duan Lian stammered and said nothing.

"He said it for me." Meng Chao calmly answered for him. "His words were 'Jiang Rui, you—', and he even looked shocked. He was trying to warn me, which would make me think that you were trying to attack me, thereby shifting my attention to you."

"What?" Jiang Rui jumped up. "I didn't attack you!"

"I know. If you had been harboring ulterior motives, you would have been preparing to attack me a long time ago," Meng Chao said faintly. "It's because you had been hostile to me all along that I was certain that you're the least likely to break the alliance."

"Instead, whoever thought about using you to divert my attention would be the one who wanted to destroy the alliance and snatch my monster coins."

"If you want to snatch from me, I'll snatch from you, and we'll just see who is faster. After all, the one who strikes first is stronger. It's very fair, right?"

Sun Ya, Jiang Rui, and Xie Feng looked at each other.

The three of them saw the shock in each other's eyes.

Then, they trained sharp gazes on Duan Lian.

It was as if they were saying, "I didn't expect that even though you look stalwart and honest, you're actually a traitor!"

Duan Lian's face turned red, and he tried to defend himself. "Meng Chao, even if I was too sensitive and misunderstood Jiang Rui, I was just trying to give you a friendly reminder and said three words. I did nothing, yet you attacked me. Isn't that too much? What if you made the wrong judgment and injured a good person?"

"I wouldn't make a wrong judgment," Meng Chao assured him. "I used the rules of the game to bother all of you into working with me, but I didn't move a single finger. Yet I was able to get as many monster coins as you did. Someone would definitely be angry because of that.

"At this moment, even if any of you noticed that Jiang Rui wanted to attack me, what would you do? Naturally, you would not do anything. You would just sit by and watch the show. In fact, you would probably use the chance to steal my coins!

"Honestly, we've never met before, and this is an important event which will decide our lecturers. Who would be so kind as to put their noses into other people's business in such a situation?

"Besides, just now, I worked together with Xie Feng to get rid of all your monster coins. You must be angry about it.

"Under that sort of situation, would you 'be so kind' as to give me a reminder? Duan Lian, think about it, does it sound logical to you?"

Duan Lian found himself speechless. He thought about it for a long time and realized that he could not find a single word to defend himself.

"Stop thinking about it. I saw through your plan a long time ago. Among the four of you, I was the most wary of you, because you just looked too honest." Meng Chao smiled faintly.

"There are plenty of people who often have this sort of misunderstanding: Those who are built must have simple minds. If they're stalwart, their minds must be simple. Since you're two meters tall and weigh one hundred and fifty kilograms, you must be a simpleton.

"But if one thinks about it carefully, they should know that if you managed to be one of the top five scorers in the national college examination in our course, how could your written test results be bad? There's no way you're a valiant fighter with just a simple mind!

"That's why, the more honest you were, the more problematic you seemed, and naturally, I was even more on guard against you.

"Yup, I don't have proof. You can deny it all you want. After all, Zhu Bajie won against his opponents in verbal fights by refusing to admit to his wrongdoings and accusing his opponents of doing something wrong instead. You can say that I was just thinking about stealing from you, but I believe that Sun Ya, Jiang Rui, and Xie Feng have their own thoughts."

Duan Lian's face was pale. He sat on the ground and did not manage to regulate his breathing even after a long time had passed.



Sun Ya looked at the wound on his face, then at Meng Chao's right arm. She smiled and said, "I didn't expect that you would have a saber technique fused into a fist technique, Meng Chao. Your attacks are sharp. Looks like I will have to take back my words. You're not just smart. In a one on one fight, we would have a hard time fighting against you."

Jiang Rui shook his head. "Duan Lian, why did you do it?"

Duan Lian waved his hand powerlessly. He looked bitter.

Honestly, he seldom played these sort of tricks.

If there was only Sun Ya, Jiang Rui, and Xie Feng in the alliance, he might have actually carried on with the alliance until the very end.

But he was just like Jiang Rui. He could not accept Meng Chao joining their alliance, especially since he came from Ninth High School, was a broken-star superhuman, and did not attack even once. Yet despite all that, he would get the same treatment as the prodigies who came from the super high schools.

He wanted to let this guy understand the power of the Four Great King and get what he deserved.

Duan Lian hit the ground fiercely. He felt incredibly regretful.

But it was now too late for changes. The lecturers had already gotten into the field, and the new students all stopped attacking.

There were chips in the monster coins. Through wireless location technology and scanning, the lecturers could instantly calculate the number of coins each new student had.

The monitors by the field started coming up with the ranking board.

The name of the student who was ranked at the top made the hundreds of new students stunned for a long time.

Then, a ruckus broke out.

"Meng Chao? It's him!"

"How could that be?"

"Even if he worked together with Sun Ya and the others, those four monsters wouldn't have any reason to let him claim first place. Isn't he a broken-star superhuman?"

"Also, where is Duan Lian? Why does Duan Lian only have one hundred and twenty-two monster coins? What happened?"

Most of the new students did not notice what had happened at the center of the field, so even after they thought about it a lot, they could not understand what could have happened.

The lecturers had watched from above and could see everything clearly. Their impression of Meng Chao became even better than before.

“The admission test has ended. I believe that all of you have seen your rankings and experienced the learning atmosphere in university. You should now have a clear understanding of university life now, I presume?” Jiang Ming said loudly.

“Those who won, do not be arrogant. Those who lost, do not be vexed. The path of the supernatural is not a hundred meter dash. Even if some people manage to take the lead for the time being while others fell behind, it doesn’t mean anything. As long as you train hard, you will have a lot of chances to take the lead.

“In the future, we will often organize competitions like this. Aside from the competitions in the course, you will also be able to challenge other students freely using monster coins as your gambling chips after you get through the protection period of the first month. As long as you’re strong enough, you will be able to stand out at any moment and create miracles. So, grit your teeth and train hard!”

As Jiang Ming spoke, he walked down the rostrum with Li Yingzi and the other ace lecturers to the center of the field, where Meng Chao and the rest were.

This was a custom of the admission test. Those who stood out could choose their tutors, classes, dorms, and tasks ahead of the others.

This was the right of the strong, and it was the motivation to make the other new students train hard.

“Meng Chao, you’re ranked at the top among the new students this year. You have a total of 25,100 worth of monster coins. You have the right to choose any lecturer you want from the martial arts course as your personal tutor.”

Li Yingzi did not hide the admiration in her eyes and strode forward to stand next to Jiang Ming. Her intentions of cultivating Meng Chao’s talent was obvious in her actions and expression.

The new students discussed among themselves.

Everyone was very envious of the way Meng Chao was treated.

He had monster coins worth more than twenty-five thousand. It was enough for him to choose Lion Vulture Li Yingzi, who was currently very popular, as his personal tutor. He could also live in the grandest dorm and eat five-star meals.

This sort of treatment would make him even stronger. It would help him earn more monster coins, which would form a good cycle. In the end, he would improve by leaps and bounds and rise to power in one go.

“He has so many monster coins! That guy is so lucky!”

“He managed to get more monster coins with the Four Great Kings coveting his coins. You can’t do that with just luck.”

“That’s right. How did he manage it? Isn’t he supposed to be a broken-star superhuman who has only cleared a few main meridians? Why is he stronger than Sun Ya and the rest, who cleared over sixty main meridians?”

“He killed a Bloody Moon Wolf King during the national college examination! No matter how vicious Sun Ya and the rest are, could they be fiercer than a Bloody Moon Wolf King? Didn’t you see that Duan Lian’s face is covered in bruises because of him?”

“Hmph, broken-star superhumans are just a bit stronger in the beginning. Right now, everyone has just awakened, so even Sun Ya, who is a monster who cleared seventy-seven main meridians, hasn’t learned to create a lot of spirit energy magnetic fields. The number of skills she has is about the same as Meng Chao, that’s why he can act all cool and stuff. As we continue training, Sun Ya will learn dozens of skills, while Meng Chao will only learn one more move. Naturally, he won’t be able to win against her at that time.”

“That’s right. Broken star superhumans improve very slowly. Their tactics are rigid, and they don’t have enough power. Their upper limits just aren’t high. Forget about Sun Ya, if I train hard during the ‘new student protection period’ and learn all sorts of skills, I might be able to win against him. At that time, I’ll be the first to challenge him!”

The students talked excitedly. All of them were eager to fight.

It was as if they could already see themselves improving drastically in a month, and when they faced Meng Chao, who was unable to improve, a month later, taking away all his monster coins.

### **Chapter 113: Fight in the Canteen**

Meng Chao ignored the complicated gazes on him and searched among the lecturers.

He did not manage to find the handsome but slightly gloomy man who also looked a little stubborn in the pictures on the official website.

Lin Yingzi misunderstood his gaze. She smiled and said, “Meng Chao, are you thinking about choosing Dean Zong or the other two deputy deans? They’re deity realm elites, and they seldom take care of department affairs. They have to go to the ancient ruins under the Supernatural Tower to explore it. They have to deal with a myriad of affairs every day, so they seldom have the time to guide new students.

“Of course, if you manage to perform outstandingly and break all the records in the martial arts course or make great contributions in the competition between courses, you will naturally have the chance to obtain guidance from the Deity Realm elites.

“Now, you should choose a lecturer from among us.”

“Thank you, Ms. Li.” Meng Chao could not find the man he was looking for, so he went ahead and said, “I’m looking for Mr. Gu Jianbo to provide me with guidance. Is that alright?”

Silence fell.

Many of the students looked lost. “Who is Gu Jianbo? I’ve never heard of him before. Is there such a lecturer in the martial arts course?”

Some of the students, however, had heard of him before. "I heard that more than ten years ago, there was a genius in Agricultural University's martial arts course by that name, but he faded into obscurity a long time ago. Is he a lecturer in the martial arts course now?"

There were also some who knew what was going on. "He's not choosing Jiang Ming and Li Yingzi, but Gu Jianbo? Is Meng Chao mad?"

The ace lecturers and three deans were stunned as well.

But they had a lot of students in front of them right now, so they could not talk bad about one of their own staff members.

Li Yingzi frowned a little. "Meng Chao... why do you want to choose Mr. Gu? Could you tell us the reason?"

Meng Chao naturally could not tell them that it was because in the near future, Gu Jianbo's Ultimate Style would defeat the Beast Soul Style, and anyone who stayed by him would have a bright future ahead of them!

He thought about it and said, "I've read some of Mr. Gu's articles and feel that his martial arts ideals fit my style. Besides, Mr. Gu is researching how to quickly repair spirit meridians, right? You know about my situation, so it's only logical that I would choose Mr. Gu."

When he said this, the expressions of all ace lecturers turned even stranger.

They looked at each other, and Li Yingzi coughed dryly. "Meng Chao, you have just joined the university and don't quite understand the importance of the tutor system.

"You will be joining lecturers with dozens or hundreds of people, so you will naturally get in touch with most of the lecturers in the martial arts course, and we will teach you everything that we have. We won't hide anything at all.

"But the martial arts course requires a lot of direction from a tutor as well as a lot of practical experience. If you don't have a personal tutor watching your situation and guiding your spirit meridians as well as regulating them, it will be very difficult for you to bring out the full power of a spirit energy magnetic field.

"Besides, lecturers like us often have a lot of chances to bring our students into the fog to kill monsters and gather a lot of fighting experience. Your fighting skills and realm will increase very quickly like that, but Mr. Gu Jianbo... has been focusing his attention on school work in the past two years. He doesn't have a lot of chances to go for practical fights. Do you want to rethink your choice?"

If anyone in Li Yingzi's position said this, her hint would basically be an outright declaration.

Meng Chao shook his head. He looked at her with clear eyes and insisted on his decision. "Ms. Li, thank you for your suggestion, but I've already decided to choose Mr. Gu."

"... Alright."

The students and lecturers had to choose each other. Usually, an outstanding martial arts genius was also a wild and untameable person. The university could not force them to choose a lecturer.

Even though Li Yingzi admired Meng Chao's ruthlessness, she could only say, "Mr. Gu isn't here. You can go and rest for a while and change your clothes. I will notify him to come and settle this."

Meng Chao nodded. He returned to the preparation room and took off his fighting suit. He also had the university doctor check to make sure that he had not received any internal injuries.

He changed into the martial arts course's uniform. It was black and made to fit his body. It had the orderly manner of a fighting suit and the handsome look of a suit. It also had the picture of the monster skull on the chest, and the more Meng Chao looked at it, the more handsome he found it.

He posed in front of the mirror for a long time before he returned to the field.

Many of the students were still wondering about which lecturer they should choose.

The lecturers happily answered their questions and told the students about their martial arts ideals to attract the talents that caught their fancy.

Li Yingzi told Meng Chao that Gu Jianbo was currently eating at the third floor of Canteen 4. Once the students chose their lecturers, she would personally bring Meng Chao to meet him.

Meng Chao saw the chaos in the field and knew that it would take quite some time before they would be done with it. He did not want to waste even a single second, so once he learned where Canteen 4 was, he decided to go over on his own.

He hoped that he could give Gu Jianbo the impression that he had come impatiently from far away just to leap into his arms.

'Looks like the Blade Dancer in this era doesn't have a good life. He didn't even join the admission test. I think it's because he knows that no one will choose him as their tutor.' While Meng Chao walked on the road, he fell into deep thought. 'No one understands him, so he's facing great pressure and his research environment is horrible. Even so, Mr. Gu is still researching the Ultimate Style quietly on his own.

'It'll take him years to complete his research, but in the end, everyone will know about him. As expected of a master of an era!'

Blade Dancer Gu Jianbo's image rose in Meng Chao's mind.

He imagined the thin and aloof man sitting quietly in a corner of the canteen while keeping a low profile. Even so, he was not dejected. Gu Jianbo would not be bothered by the noise around him, but be completely immersed in his own world. For the sake of the truth, he would continue moving forward without caring about burning his own life for it. Yes, this definitely had to be his image.

'Mr. Gu, don't worry. Let your student come and give you guidance!'

While thinking about it, Meng Chao increased his walking speed.

Canteen 4 was not far away from the field. It was basically the designated canteen for the martial arts course.

The martial arts course was full of built people. Their canteen was also the largest in Agricultural University.

Five minutes later, Meng Chao appeared on the third floor.

'It's just as they said, "All the good food is in Agricultural University." It's so awesome!'

As he looked at the dazzling canteen that could fit one thousand people and the superbeast blood and meat piled up in the cupboard, then sniffed the aroma, Meng Chao's stomach rumbled. It churned like a water pump.

'As expected of the martial arts course's designated canteen. Even when the seniors eat, they look angry and murderous. This must be because their training has seeped into their daily lives as well. They refuse to take even a second's break. Is that why they can reach the highest heights?'

Meng Chao gasped in amazement and looked around for a senior to ask about Gu Jianbo's whereabouts.

As he walked into the crowd, he suddenly noticed that something was off. Why was no one eating but holding their plates and looking as if they were about to engage in war?

Meng Chao gulped. He looked around and found that there were two groups of people. Each group occupied a side of the canteen and glared at each other. Spirit flames gushed out from them, causing the air to burn.

There were more than one hundred people to the left. They were dressed in the uniform of those from the martial arts course, but they looked and felt younger. Some of them had bruised faces, and they seemed to be the sophomores and juniors who had lost in the competition between courses.

There were also more than one hundred people to the right. They were dressed in casual clothing of various colors, and they were all older. Based on their presences, they came from everywhere and were all sorts of people. They were clearly too old for university and did not look like students.

Since he had been focused on looking for Gu Jianbo, Meng Chao had coincidentally walked in between them.

Cold sweat broke out on his forehead, and he whispered, "I came to—"

"Comrades, attack!"

Before he could say that he was only here to look for someone, both sides yelled at the same time, and more than one hundred trays with soup and water flew past him.

Then came more than one hundred stools.

They were followed by more than one hundred built and murderous people charging at each other.

Meng Chao instinctively sided with the people who wore the same uniform as he did, and he became the first target of the other side's charge.

He had just managed to avoid the soup and water being thrown at him when he felt wind charging at him.

Meng Chao yelped and activated the Ultimate Level One Hundred Saber Techniques. He instinctively flung his arm.

This technique had been regulated by Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu, who was at the peak of Deity Realm. Meng Chao had also used his contribution points to max out his Skillfulness with it. He even used his entire holiday to train it repeatedly in Thunderbolt's youth camp while beating up the reserve Thunderbolt members so much that a lot of them could only cry bitterly. He had long since reached the point at which he could use the technique at will and without showing any weaknesses.

The built man that came charging at him saw that he was not a familiar face and looked like a greenhorn, so he did not treat him like any problem. He just tried to use his shoulder as a platform to reach his real target.

But against his expectations, Meng Chao's hand moved like lightning. He used the heel of his palm to fiercely cut at his crotch. The built man dressed in woodland camouflage uniform instantly fell and covered his crotch while he bared his teeth.

"Ma Hong!"

A few of the built men were stunned for a long time before they growled and pounced at Meng Chao.

"Hey! Look closely! He's the one who came charging into my hand!" Meng Chao turned around and fled.

Fortunately, the seniors behind him were quite helpful. They pounced forward and fought against the built men.

The chaotic battle in the canteen was much more interesting compared to the admission test in the field. That was mainly because both sides had a certain degree of fighting experience and looked really angry. When they attacked, they did not hold back at all. In no time at all, everyone was covered in bruises and saw stars.

If there was a surplus of something in the canteen, it would be greasy trays, soups, and all sorts of kitchen utensils. When boys and girls weighing more than fifty kilograms became entangled with each other and started rolling about like road rollers, people soon started falling all over the place with vegetables on their heads, barbecue roast pork stuffed in their nostrils, and really greasy uniforms.

"What's... What's going on?"

Meng Chao hid behind an overturned table and watched the fight with puzzlement and excitement.

Both sides were martial artists, and they used all sorts of major moves. Dazzling light and electricity as well as greasy food intersected with each other. Occasionally, a built man weighing around one hundred kilograms would be sent flying through the air. The scene was like more than one hundred hippopotamuses fighting against more than one hundred rhinoceroses. Even Meng Chao, who was famous for being ruthless, felt his skin crawl at the sight

Were all university spars this exciting?! They were much more straightforward than when he was in high school!

Crack!

A sophomore dressed in the martial arts course's uniform was thrown over. He crushed the table Meng Chao used to hide behind into pieces.

A man with a scruffy beard and a camouflage uniform pounced forward, but while he was still in the air, another martial arts course student charged at him and knocked him away.

“Senior...” Meng Chao quickly helped the sophomore up and asked softly, “I’m a freshman. I came here to look for someone. What’s going on?”

“You’re a freshman? You were the one who knocked Ma Hong over just now! Not bad, you’ve got guts!” The sophomore’s eyes lit up. “You don’t have to be in a hurry to look for anyone. We have to beat up these bastards from the refresher course first! Those bastards are even worse than the bastards from the monster controller course!”

#### **Chapter 114: The Grudge of Those in the Refresher Course**

With just a few words, Meng Chao understood.

The people who seemed to have come from everywhere and were composed of all sorts of men and women were students from society, who joined the refresher course in the martial arts course.

Refresher courses in universities were concepts that existed even on Earth.

There were a lot of superhumans who only awakened after being twenty-eight years old. There were also those who only awakened while they were thirty or forty years old. They needed to cultivate as well, but they did not have the time nor energy to adhere to the full-time university education that would last for a few years. They never reached the standards for full-time education either.

And half of the fees used to maintain universities came from the education budget given by the Survival Committee. As for the other half, the universities had to gather them themselves. They faced quite a lot of pressure because of that. After all, peerless elites could only be created if people piled up money on them, and no one would ever complain if they had money in their hands to create these peerless elites.

To the authorities, the superhumans created by universities were not enough to deal with the large monster hordes.

Agricultural University’s martial arts course recruited hundreds of new students every year.

Dragon City University’s martial arts course was of an even larger scale, so it would recruit around one thousand new students.

If the war was about to get worse, this number would not be enough. If any one person died, their hearts would ache for a long time.

Hence, all sides came to an agreement, and a lot of night universities, special training classes, independent universities, CEO refresher courses and other such organizations were born to specifically train the superhumans born among people who were already working in society.

The labels these organizations used were very frightening. For example, the one used in Agricultural University was Agricultural University’s elite martial arts refresher course. At first glance, the people in there were even greater than the proper undergraduate students. It sounded like they were attending the legendary MBA classes.



But in truth, the resources, teachers, and classes they had and the graduation certificate they obtained at the end were completely different from an MBA.

The undergraduate students who got into university after studying hard for years usually looked down on those from refresher course students who were members of society.

They felt that those people used the label of being students in the martial arts course to throw their weight around and cause trouble. They destroyed the reputation of the martial arts course and were just a group of fake martial artists.

The students who were members of society also looked down on the undergraduate students. They were the ones who had awakened to supernatural abilities while fighting for their lives. They nearly lost their lives for it, so there was no way a brat who had yet to fully grow up could compare to them.

The conflict between both sides ran deep, so the two sides fought often and hard. On the first day of the new semester, they also decided to greet each other with the new semester by drawing blood.

“Junior, you have no idea just how disgusting these bastards are,” the sophomore said angrily and in an aggrieved manner. “Just now, didn’t we fight against the monster controller course? These people from the refresher course naturally don’t have the right to join it, but they actually started betting with each other as to who would win or lose.

“But that’s not all. The university doesn’t forbid us from gambling during the competitions, after all. This is also a way for them to test the students’ judgment. The problem, these guys actually bet that the monster controller course would win all the matches!

“They’re in the refresher course for the martial arts course, so they’re martial artists! How could they betray us like this?! Do they even have the pride of a martial artist?

“We were defeated by the monster controller course and were feeling gloomy, but these traitors won a huge load of monster coins and came to the canteen to celebrate. They ordered a whole bunch of good food and started shoving it down their throats while talking happily to each other. Isn’t that the same as rubbing salt into our wounds?

“Junior, don’t you think that these shameless bastards are just horrible and deserve to be beaten up?

“Um...”

They were indeed quite horrid. Meng Chao felt that he had beat up the right people.

But he had something else more important to do. Once he found the Blade Dancer, he could fight against them.

“Senior, do you know Gu—”

Before Meng Chao could finish his question, the sophomore picked up a spoon with a long handle and charged forward with a yell.

And Meng Chao was targeted by a person who eyed him with hostility.

It was Ma Hong, the one he had hit in the air and made foam at the mouth.

This person was in his thirties and had a wound that ran deep into his left cheek. It tugged at his lip, making it curl up, and it made him look as if he was constantly sneering coldly.

He gave off a really fierce presence, and his skin shone with a bronze glow. He looked like a saber which had killed hundreds of monsters and was now sent back to be refined because its blade was bent.

Even if Meng Chao had struck him hard with the heel of his palm, it had only taken him half a minute to recover his fighting strength and come to challenge Meng Chao again.

He first gave Meng Chao a thumbs up to praise his knifehand strike. Then, he took up a stance and made a gesture. "Again!"

Meng Chao sighed. He nodded and suddenly picked up a stool to throw at Ma Hong while he turned tail and ran.

Ma Hong avoided the stool and launched the first strike. His leg tore through the air and swept at Meng Chao's neck.

Meng Chao yelped and fell to the floor in a very uncool manner. He used the greasy floor and slid under a few tables.

Ma Hong's roundhouse kick was like a saber that cut a table in half.

It grazed Meng Chao's back. There was only a hair's breadth between them.

Meng Chao felt as if his butt had just been whipped. His muscles rippled like a wave, and he instantly slid more than ten meters away.

Ma Hong snorted coldly and moved like lightning. He chased after Meng Chao.

Two undergraduate students came to block him, but he smoothly put them down.

Even though he had never gone through full-time studies in university before, killing intent seeped through his every pore. He seemed like someone created from piles of corpses and someone a greenhorn of a university student could compare to.

Meng Chao scurried away through the crowd like a small creature fleeing from the fight between hippopotamuses and rhinoceroses. In just a moment, his body was covered in soup, water, vegetables, and rice. He looked really pathetic.

Even so, he was still forced into a corner by Ma Hong.

"Bro, it's a misunderstanding!" Meng Chao turned his head around and found himself wanting to cry, but having no tears. "I'm a freshman, and I'm very much a greenhorn. I don't know anything, so why do you keep chasing after me?"

Ma Hong was stunned, and his killing intent disappeared for a moment.

Meng Chao flung his arm, and the contents of a bottle of pepper came splashing in his face.

Ma Hong was shocked. He shut his eyes to avoid it, but he still sucked in quite a lot of the stimulative powder into his nose.

Before he could sneeze, Meng Chao suddenly spat out two toothpicks from his mouth that went straight for his eyes.

Ma Hong was shocked and angry. He lowered his head a little, and the two toothpicks snapped when they crashed into his head.

A bowl of hot red oil came at him.

In truth, Meng Chao had been searching for these hidden weapons while he was fleeing earlier.

Pepper, toothpicks, and chili oil. Hidden under the chain attack from the three items in the canteen was Meng Chao's real killing move.

"Demon Subduing Slash!"

When Ma Hong came charging at him in anger, Meng Chao had already finished creating his spirit energy magnetic field. Spirit tattoos surrounded his right arm. The spirit magnetic field rotation energy turned into electrical arcs at his fingertips, and they gathered together to turn into cracking electricity!

Ma Hong sensed great danger. The hair on his skin stood up, but it was too late for him to avoid the attack. He could only grit his teeth and gather the spirit energy in his left leg. His roundhouse kick was like a battleaxe that went at Meng Chao's knifehand strike.

In terms of physical strength, roundhouse kicks were stronger than knifehand strikes.

But Ma Hong had attacked hastily. He did not have time to create his spirit energy magnetic field.

Meanwhile, Meng Chao had been accumulating power, and his strength burst forth like a tidal wave. In fact, from the moment he turned around and fled, he had already calculated each of his opponent's moves.

Their "weapons" clashed. Spirit flames and sparks flew, and the sound of metal clashing could be heard.

Ma Hong was sent flying again.

He fell among around eight rhinoceroses and hippopotamuses. For the time being, he could not get out.

Meng Chao sighed in relief and looked around himself. Everyone was fighting fiercely and had soup as well as vegetable gravy blurring their sights.

He quickly hunched his shoulders and crawled behind a barrier in the corner created by a few tables.

'Huh? There's a greasy looking fatty hiding here.'

The man appeared to be in his thirties or forties and had a huge face as well as a thick neck. He appeared like a chef in the canteen, but he wore a suit and had all sorts of accessories. He was dressed up really crudely.

He even had four rings with crystals embedded in them on his really thick fingers. All that was missing were the words "nouveau riche" stamped on his face.

When he saw Meng Chao jump over, the chef-like nouveau riche shrank into the corner and put on an awkward smile.

By the looks of it, the meticulously put together barrier was the fatty's work.

Meng Chao saw him staring at his right arm, which was still surrounded by spirit flames after he had just released his Demon Subduing Slash. He intentionally flung his arm. "You saw it?"

"I saw it." The fatty gulped and gasped in amazement. "Ma Hong is an elite scout from the Red Dragon Army. He fought three days and nights in the fog and killed hundreds of monsters. At that time, he became a superhuman and was sent for advanced studies in Agricultural University's martial arts course. What's that move? You actually managed to put him down twice."

"Demon Subduing Slash," Meng Chao said. "You're in the refresher course as well. Do you want to try it?"

The fatty was stunned and shook his head so much that it almost fell off. "No, I wouldn't dare to. Peace is the key to success and we should keep to it!"

The fatty's facial features were squashed together, and he looked like a meat bun with a lot of creases. Meng Chao really wanted to laugh. "What's wrong? I heard from my senior that all of you students working in society are really fierce and violent."

"That's other people like Ma Hong. He's from the Red Dragon Army. When he was a normal person, he had already carried out dozens of missions and slept among monster carcasses. When he became a superhuman, he naturally only got fiercer!" the fatty said pitifully.

"But there are also many students working in society who are normal white-collar workers or chefs working in canteens. We just awakened to supernatural powers out of the blue and want to get a cert from a refresher course so that we can get promoted, get an increase in wages, and get higher ratings. How could we be fierce?"

"What's your situation? You're really fierce, and even Ma Hong was defeated by you. Why aren't you beating down everyone?"

"Ah, forget about it. I'm only a sophomore, and I came here to look for someone. I don't even know how I got into a fight against all of you. What's going on?!"

Meng Chao finally found someone he could talk to, and he sighed in relief. "Move your butt over a little, will you? We'll squeeze in together. Don't be afraid, I'm actually very gentle and elegant."

"Kay." The fatty obediently moved into the corner and sized up Meng Chao curiously. "You're a freshman, so shouldn't you be going through your admission test? Who are you looking for in the canteen?"

"The test is over," Meng Chao said. "I came to look for Mr. Gu Jianbo in hopes to be his successor. Do you know him?"

The fatty was stunned. "You want Gu Jianbo as your personal tutor? What's going on? Was your admission test that bad that you couldn't get a single monster coin? With your Demon Subduing Slash, that shouldn't be the case!"

"No. I got monster coins worth twenty-five thousand," Meng Chao said.

“Twenty-five thousand?” This time, the fatty was really shocked. “You can then choose Jiang Ming or Li Yingzi as you like, right? Do you have some problem you can’t say that caused you to look for that bastard?”

Meng Chao blinked. Did the Blade Dancer have a bad reputation in this era and was not actually just someone who had faded into obscurity?

“Bro, do you know Mr. Gu?” Meng Chao sized him up.

“Of course! He’s in charge of teaching the refresher course!” The fatty rubbed his face and grinned.

“Those in the refresher course of the Agricultural University are basically children taken care of by stepmothers. If you have money, you can enter, so there are all sorts of people here. You won’t learn profound martial arts principles with them. You’ll just learn to make a few fixed spirit energy magnetic fields and learn some basic skills to hunt monsters and get some experience hunting them.

“That’s enough for students in society who awakened accidentally. But you’re an undergraduate student, and you got yourself twenty-five thousand worth of monster coins. You should be ranked at the top in the martial arts course, right?”

Meng Chao nodded. “First place.”

“Oh my goodness!” The fatty slapped his thigh. “Think. He’s someone who’s sent to teach the refresher courses, so how could he be good? You’re an undergraduate student ranked first in the martial arts course, but you came to be Gu Jianbo’s disciple? You’re really sick in the head, kid!”

### **Chapter 115: Fatty, Don’t Run!**

Meng Chao was stunned. “Bro, you seem to have quite some prejudice against Mr. Gu. Isn’t he teaching the refresher course? Why are you still talking bad about him if that’s the case?”

“It’s precisely because he’s designated to teach us that I know his true character!” the fatty said in no uncertain terms. “Gu Jianbo is the typical person who decided to give up on hope after he couldn’t improve in his academic studies and decided to just earn money. The realms of the students who work in society aren’t high, but they have a lot of connections in society.

“Gu Jianbo thinks about how to take our money all the time. In fact, he has used the label of Agricultural University’s martial arts course to organize training classes outside in secret. When he earns money, he spends it lavishly and just has fun. Think, can a person who stinks of money and has no aspirations become your tutor?”

Meng Chao looked at him with puzzlement.

The fatty’s words did not fit the image of the “creator of the Ultimate Style and the pioneer who found the way alone in the dark” based on the memories of his previous life!

“You don’t believe in me?” The fatty blinked and whispered in a very mysterious manner, “Let me tell you something, and you’ll know just how rotten this person is. Do you know why these two groups of people fought today?”

“Yeah.” Meng Chao nodded. “Because the students working in society bet that the monster controller course would win, and they won a lot of monster coins. So they came over to eat good food, and this provoked the martial arts course students who lost.”

“That’s right. Now think, who gave us the guts to bet all our money that the monster controller course would win? You must know that it’s really difficult for the students working in society to earn monster coins. It’s at least ten times more difficult compared to all of you proper undergraduate students!”.

Meng Chao was stunned. “Could it be?”

“That’s right. It’s Gu Jianbo!” the fatty said. “He’s a martial arts course’s lecturer, so it’s not appropriate for him to publicly bet that his competitors would win, but he provoked us in the dark and even analyzed the strengths of both sides in great detail. He managed to predict that the monster controller course would win seven rounds. Just like that, the refresher course managed to earn a lot of money. Of course, we got into this trouble as well.

“Alright, I gambled as well, and I managed to earn some money. But that’s that, and this is this. We must be impartial when doing things. He’s really despicable, and I can’t bear watching you jump into the fire. You have to think carefully!”

Meng Chao scratched his head for a long time.

“But I heard that Mr. Gu has researched deeply the fighting with branch meridians, and I really admire his ideas, which is why I really want to explore the related fields with him. I’m serious!” he said.

“Rubbish,” the fatty said in disdain. “We’ve all heard of Gu Jianbo’s research before. It’s that stupid Project 1024. He lauds it to the high skies, but it has been abandoned a long time ago. He just mentions it for advertisement to the refresher course students to attract the ignorant ones working in society. He’s just trying to get money!”

“No way,” Meng Chao said firmly. “I think that your prejudice toward Mr. Gu is too great. The real Mr. Gu is definitely not someone you speak of. He’s someone who has been walking alone for years in the dark but was not defeated despite all the troubles. He’s a prideful pioneer who will not mind sacrificing his own life!”

This time, it was the fatty’s turn to be dumbfounded. He stared at Meng Chao for a long time as if he had just seen an idiot. He said, “How do you know that? Do you know each other?”

“He’s a friend in spirit. I just haven’t met him yet,” Meng Chao said. “I’ve been Mr. Gu’s spiritual friend for a long time, and I’m definitely going to become his student!”

“Kid, why do you insist on suffering like this?” The fatty instinctively rubbed his bum. “Look, over the past two years, Gu Jianbo has only taught the refresher course and not picked a single undergraduate student. And you’ve just defeated Ma Hong, the most popular student in the refresher course. Do you think that you’ll have a good time beside Gu Jianbo?”

“On the other hand, the undergraduate students hate the students from society the most. Because of it, they hate Gu Jianbo as well. If you insist on becoming Gu Jianbo’s student, you will naturally be hated by both sides. At that time, both sides will target you, and you will have a hard time living!”

"I'm not afraid!" Meng Chao said firmly. "He's reforming the concept of fighting, not taking a walk in the park and talking to friends. I'm prepared to be targeted by countless people, and I will use truth and reasoning to convince them. As long as I'm sure that old Mr. Gu's direction is correct, before long, he will turn the brand new fighting style written in his articles, with which one can win all fights, into reality!"

"Old..." The fat on the fatty's cheeks trembled a little.

As they spoke, the students' fights grew fiercer.

"We can't just keep hiding like this. Look over there. Ma Hong has come over. He's looking for you!" the fatty whispered. "We have to run, or else things will be bad for us. If we're lucky, we'll just be beaten up, but if we're not, we'll be captured by the deans. Let's do this. We have to fight!"

Meng Chao was puzzled. "What?"

"This is a fight between students, not a life and death fight between monsters. We have some rules here. Look, everyone is fighting one against one. No one is ganging up on a person," the fatty explained. "We can pretend to be fighting and secretly move to the window and jump. This may be the third floor, but since you can get twenty-five thousand worth of monster coins, this height should be nothing to you, right?"

Meng Chao thought about it. "Makes sense. Okay."

"Come on, then," the fatty said. He removed his suit and wrapped it around his head.

"What's that for? Are you afraid of someone recognizing you?"

Meng Chao really wanted to say, 'It's useless even if you wrap your face. With your size, if you wore a skin suit, you could pretend to be a Demonic Halberd Pig. Everyone can recognize you!'

"I just did my hair, and it cost me 580!" the fatty said and kicked away the table. He shouted, "Come on!"

Meng Chao hesitated for a moment before he started fighting against the fatty.

He thought that the fatty was just a student working in society and was not a Red Dragon Army scout like Ma Hong, so he might really be a chef from some hotel who had awakened accidentally while working with food, so Meng Chao did not dare to fight seriously. He only made a few casual moves.

"Are you putting up a play now?" the fatty reminded him softly. "Do you think that the others are stupid and can't tell? Hurry up, use more strength and make it more real!"

"I'm worried that you won't be able to stand it," Meng Chao said. "I'm really fierce."

"Rubbish. I'm a member of society. How would I not have that bit of resistance to hits?" As the fatty spoke, he threw a punch over.

He might have been plump, but he had a lot of power. His punch nearly knocked the wind out of Meng Chao's lungs.

Meng Chao gritted his teeth and launched his counterattack. He used his hand as a saber and activated his Ultimate Level future One Hundred Saber Technique. His attacks came like endless waves, and each wave was greater than the last.

“Oh ho, not bad. As expected of the top scorer in the admission test!” The fatty’s eyes lit up, and like a Demonic Halberd Pig wearing skates, he started dancing around in the shadows of Meng Chao’s punches.

Since Meng Chao was at Ultimate Level, he could naturally use his attacks at ease. He was very confident that he could control every inch of his and the fatty’s muscles. He could make sure that the situation looked shocking, but he would not harm the fatty in the slightest.

But against his expectations, the fatty’s spins seemed to contain some sort of mysterious power. Unexpectedly, it caused Meng Chao to lose his center of gravity and his composure, and he had to keep increasing his speed and strength.

A short ten seconds later, Meng Chao had to use every cell in his body and grit his teeth as he fought at full strength.

But the fatty still looked as if it was nothing. He just kept egging Meng Chao on. “Hurry up! Hurry up! You have to put up a convincing act! Your attacks can’t be so weak!

“That slash just now was pretty convincing, but too slow. It makes your act seem exaggerated, and it all boils down to one word—fake!

“Aim at the heart! I gave you such a huge opening, but you didn’t aim at my heart! Are you blind and giving me a massage?”

During that short minute, Meng Chao was toyed around by the fatty, and he became even more tired than during the admission test. Even if that test had lasted for half an hour!

He really wanted to throw his head back and shout, “I’m already using all my strength! Why are you so nimble even though you’re so fat?! That doesn’t make sense!”

But before he could say anything, he sensed an intense gaze stab into him.

‘It’s Ma Hong!’

Meng Chao’s heart shuddered.

He really did not want to fight against the elite Red Dragon Army scout out of the blue.

But against his expectations, when Ma Hong noticed him fighting against the fatty, a really strange look appeared on his face. Without another word, he turned around and searched for another opponent.

The other students working in society also saw Meng Chao “dancing” around with the fatty, and they were stunned. They did not come to bother them.

“Do they really obey the rules so much?” Meng Chao was a little dumbfounded.

“Of course. Everyone is in the martial arts course, and fighting is daily entertainment. It’s not as bad as you think it is. It’s only natural that they will obey the rules.”



The fatty easily avoided the ruthless upward swing Meng Chao had learned from the experience in his previous life. Instead, like a venomous snake, he bit down on Meng Chao's wrist. "One, two, three! Jump!"

Meng Chao was absolutely baffled. He found himself dragged out of the window, which was on the third floor, by the fatty.

Fortunately, there was a parterre below, and they landed on the dirt.

Meng Chao left two footprints that were half an inch deep, but the fatty was like a balloon. He landed gently and did not leave behind a single mark.

"You..."

Meng Chao stared at the fatty in puzzlement. He felt that this person had unfathomable strength and was an even better fighter than Ma Hong.

"It was shocking, but we're out of danger. At least we broke free." The fatty sighed in relief and said with a grin, "Bye, kid. Here's a last warning for you. If you look for Gu Jianbo as your tutor, you will definitely run into a deadend. It's better if you look for someone else.

"I think you'll have a bright future if you look for Griffin Li Yingzi. She's elegant, as beautiful as a flower, kind, serious, responsible, and her beast soul fusion is peerless. She's definitely a shining beacon of light in your cultivation path. Don't thank me and just go on ahead!"

As he spoke, he covered his head and tried to sneak away.

"Wait, bro," Meng Chao quickly said. "We clicked pretty well, didn't we? We also had a good time fighting just now. What's your name? How can I find you? If we have the chance, let's spar again!"

"There are plenty of cultivation maniacs in the martial arts course. There's also the monster controller course, the military school at the edge of the town, the University of Technology, University of Science, and Medical University. All of them have their unique fighting courses and genii who love fighting so much that they might as well marry martial arts. Since you're the top scorer in the admission test, they will definitely look for you soon. You'll have plenty of people who will spar with you later."

The fatty swung his arms, and like a Demonic Halberd Pig that had just survived a disaster, he jogged off and vanished behind a corner.

Meng Chao wanted to say something, but he did not in the end.

He felt that there was something strange, but he could not put it to words.

Before he could figure it out, the fatty ran back at twice the speed. In a panic, he ran past Meng Chao.

"Gu Jianbo, stay where you are!"

Griffin Li Yingzi came after him from behind the corner and hissed through gritted teeth.

Meng Chao looked as if he had been struck by lightning. His jaw fell open.

"Kid, move aside!" The fatty swung his arms.

“O-oh, okay.” Meng Chao quickly moved to the side, but he extended a leg before the fatty’s feet.

### **Chapter 116: So, This is How You Are, Gu Jianbo!**

“You—”

As the most nimble fatty in Dragon City, it was only natural that Gu Jianbo would not trip because of Meng Chao. Like a ball, he jumped into the air at lightning speed, but he still slowed down by half a beat, and he was caught by a Griffin in the air.

Griffins knew how to fly, so Li Yingzi’s aerial combat skill was naturally outstanding.

“Ms. Li, please be gentler.” The fatty hunched his shoulders and bared his teeth. “There’s a student here. Please let me retain some of my dignity.”

“You have the guts to say you want dignity?!” Li Yingzi was about to go mad with anger. “As a lecturer of the martial arts course, you instigated your students to bet on the monster controller course during the competition between courses, which resulted in a huge ruckus. Gu Jianbo, how are you going to explain things to the dean?!”

“I’m just utilizing trash and reducing our losses to the maximum degree. There’s no way the good-for-nothing kids in the martial arts course could win against the monster controller course. It was inevitable that they would lose,” the fatty said with a grin. “Since they’re bound to lose, it’s better if someone earns a whole lot from gambling on that and gets a bunch of monster coins. We snatched a victory out of a loss, which is what you call a blessing in disguise!”

Li Yingzi was shocked by his shamelessness.

“As for the dean, I’ll go and explain things to him, of course. Speaking of which, I have no choice.” The fatty spread his arms. “The refresher course is different from the standard undergraduate course. We have to be responsible for the money we have, and the chances we have to earn monster coins are few and far between.

“If I don’t seize the chance to earn big, how am I supposed to get cultivation resources? And if I don’t have resources, who will be willing to spend money to come to our refresher course? It’s not as if Dragon City University and the University of Technology’s refresher courses are not popular.

“In the beginning, when the old dean gave me the refresher courses, he did not give me any good people to use, and neither did he give me a lot of cultivation machines, much less monster coins. If I didn’t use my head and think of ways to earn money, would I have made our refresher course so popular that the military would even send their superhumans to me?

“As for the fights between students, it’s completely normal. We’re in the martial arts course. If we don’t fight, how can we say that we’re in the martial arts course? If I have to say, our undergraduate students lack fighting experience. They’re all as green as weeds. They’re perfect for the veterans in the refresher course to shape them up. Being bruised in university is better than losing their lives in the wild, right Yingzi?”

“Don’t call me Yingzi,” Li Yingzi hissed.

Then, she trained her sharp gaze on Meng Chao.

Meng Chao looked as if he had just woken up from a dream. He stuttered and said to the fatty, “Y-You’re Mr. Gu Jianbo!”

The fatty sighed and looked as if he surrendered to fate. “If you say I am, then I am.”

“That’s not right!” Meng Chao was in disbelief. “Isn’t Mr. Gu supposed to be thin, aloof, handsome, and have a gloomy air around him? I’ve seen your picture on the official website before!”

“Oh. That should be a picture from ten years ago. The information about me on the official website hasn’t been updated for a long time.”

The fatty— No, Gu Jianbo said in a very irresponsible manner. “Besides, haven’t you heard of the really mysterious technology called photoshop? The picture has been photoshopped. I’ve been really busy over the past few years, and I’m now middle-aged. It’s very normal for me to have gained more than fifty kilograms.”

Meng Chao’s head was absolutely muddled.

The memories from his previous life exploded like popcorn.

He thought about it carefully. He had indeed never seen Gu Jianbo in his previous life.

Gu Jianbo displayed his glory during the later stage of the Monster War.

And in his previous life, during the entire Monster War, Meng Chao was just a citizen who only fought against monsters that weren’t a huge threat.

Then, when Gu Jianbo died, he saw a few videos of the Ultimate Style.

But the videos were filmed from a spot really far away. They were not very clear, and at that time, Gu Jianbo had become much thinner. Besides, his memory fragments were jumbled up and blurry. That was why he had not managed to recognize Gu Jianbo at first glance.

Oh well, it was fine regardless of whether he was thin or fat. From the short half a minute when they fought, Meng Chao was certain that the greasy fatty in front of him was the Blade Dancer who would shock Dragon City in the future.

“Mr. Gu, I want to be your student!” Meng Chao declared as he stared at the fatty’s thigh, which was even thicker than an elephant’s thigh.

“Hang on, kid, do you have some trouble that’s bothering you and you’re taking it too hard?” Gu Jianbo found himself not knowing whether he should laugh or cry. He pointed at his nose. “I’m like this, and you still want to come under my tutelage?”

“Mr. Gu, please explain,” Li Yingzi said with a dark look. “You can talk about betting on the monster controller course on your own to the dean. I can’t control you when it comes to that, but Meng Chao is the top scorer in the martial arts course admission test. What trick did you use to deceive him and make him so loyal?”

"I swear on my conscience that I don't know him!" Gu Jianbo threw his head back and howled. "Besides, I know myself. I wouldn't be able to bear harming such a good talent. When he came to me just now, I painted myself as scum, a failure, and a shameless bastard! Meng Chao, tell me, wasn't that the case?"

Meng Chao nodded. "That's right. Mr. Gu criticized himself really badly just now. He also used the type of words that would move a person. It left a really deep impression on me."

Li Yingzi was stunned. "If that's the case, why do you insist on him and no one else to be your tutor?"

"Because I've already met Mr. Gu and have a special bond with him." Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath and said seriously, "This isn't an impulsive decision. I've thought about this carefully for a long time."

"In truth, when I filled up my aspiration form for Agricultural University's martial arts course, I did it with the mind that I want to be under Mr. Gu's tutelage. Otherwise, with my marks, I could have gone to Dragon City University's martial arts course or the ace course in any other famous university. Ms. Li, please fulfill my wish. I hope that the university will allow me to fulfill my wish."

"I didn't— I'm not— Who the heck met you once and has a special bond with you?!" Gu Jianbo rubbed the goosebumps on his arms. His expression was of utter confusion.

Li Yingzi swept her gaze between them multiple times and found the situation really baffling. "Fine. Then go with Mr. Gu and understand his martial arts ideals. It won't be too late for you to come to a decision by then."

"Mr. Gu, I'll let you handle this. You won't want the tragedy that happened with Xu Fang, Zhou Tianrui, and Li Feiyu to happen again, right?"

Gu Jianbo's expression instantly turned dark, and his presence turned completely different from earlier.

His face became full of wrinkles, and each one was releasing deep gloom and regret.

"Don't worry, I won't repeat my mistakes," he said softly.

Li Yingzi did not reply. She left behind the dejected Gu Jianbo and his confused student.

Meng Chao had a head full of questions, but when he saw Gu Jianbo looking as if his stuffed bun had fallen on the ground and someone crushed it, he could not ask what was going on.

In a short moment, a large group of lecturers and assistant lecturers came over, and the fight in the canteen came to an end.

The students were covered in bruises and looked really disheveled. The undergraduate students and students working in society were separated into two groups, and in familiar motions, they lined up.

"Sirs, we didn't fight. We just understood a brand new martial art and had a sparring session between students!"

"That's right, the students from the refresher course are all our seniors in society. They have a lot of fighting experience, and we wanted to use our new techniques to learn something from them. We learned from their strengths to get rid of our weaknesses and improved together!"

“Perhaps we had been too focused while fighting just now, and we didn’t pay attention to the time, environment, and methods we used, which is why we created unnecessary damage. It’s fine. We will pay for it and restore it to how it previously looked like!”

“We’re really happy about the sparring session today. Thank you for the guidance, let’s continue in the future!”

The leaders from both sides stood forward and started talking one after another.

They even shook hands in all apparent seriousness and bowed to each other before thanking each other. Their faces were full of sincere smiles. The anger from a moment ago was completely absent.

It was just as Gu Jianbo said. They were in the martial arts course, so sparring sessions among students were normal and even good for the body.

If the reason for the fight was not because the refresher course students had betted on the monster controller course students even though they were martial arts course students as well, this would not have been a matter worthy of any concern.

The lecturers knew what had happened. They just checked to make sure that no one had used any weapons and no one was heavily injured. Then, based on procedures, they yelled at them before the personal tutors brought them back to punish them.

“You’re the one who beat up Ma Hong twice, right?”

“I heard that you’re a freshman called Meng Chao. I’ll remember you now!”

“Let’s eat together when we’re free!”

The undergraduate students were seized by their tutors and walked past Meng Chao. When they did, they patted his shoulder with friendliness.

The students who were already members of society stared at Meng Chao with profound gazes. Their smiles were very sincere, friendly, and harmonious, to the point that Meng Chao shuddered even though it was not cold, and he broke into cold sweat.

“Let’s go! I’m going to teach you a lesson when we go back!” Gu Jianbo glared at them. “If you want to spar, go and spar in the cultivation rooms. What’s the deal with causing such a ruckus in the canteen? You’re already past your twenties, and a lot of you are from the Red Dragon Army. How could you be so disorganized and undisciplined?”

“When you go back, take a two hundred kilogram load and run a fifty-kilometer obstacle course. I have to punish you for this small offense to warn others from following your bad example, understand?!”

“Understood!” The students working in society stood at attention at the same time and responded loudly.

But while they were on their way back to the refresher course, they started grinning just like Gu Jianbo.

“Big Brother Bo, are we really running a fifty kilometer obstacle course with a two hundred kilogram load?”

“Well... did you win just now?”

“Of course we won! Do you even have to ask that? Those undergraduate students might have cleared dozens of main meridians and say that they can create dozens of spirit energy magnetic fields, so they act all smug and stuff, but they don’t have real fighting experience. It’s pointless even if they have a lot of skills. At the end, they ended up scurrying away like rats because of us.”

“Alright, since you won, go and run!”

“Huh?! Why do we have to run even after we won? Didn’t you say—”

“Duh, who’s the one who sold me out? You usually call me Big Brother Bo like we’re best friends and stuff, but when it comes to the critical moment, you don’t adhere to the bro code at all. Tell me, who’s the one who told Ms. Li that I told you to gamble?”

“That happened? We don’t know about that! None of us know! Besides, you didn’t adhere to the bro code either! We were fighting so fiercely just now, and you went to jump out of the window!”

“I’m a martial arts course lecturer, you know? If I don’t run, what am I supposed to do? Fight with you against the martial arts course students? If Ms. Li learns about it, I can stop thinking about mending my relationship with her!”

Meng Chao followed behind them quietly. As he listened to their chatter, he felt that Gu Jianbo and the students from society did not share the typical student-teacher relationship. Instead, they were like a very lively group who lived at the edge of law.

“That’s how the refresher course is. It doesn’t have a lot of rules. I mean, many of the students from society are already in their thirties or forties, and some of them have killed more monsters than I did, so how can I put on airs as their lecturer?”

Gu Jianbo turned his head around to explain things to Meng Chao. “I don’t like people calling me Mr. Gu either. Annoys me when I hear it. They call me Big Brother Bo. Call me that too. Once you get to know me, you’ll understand that I really don’t have the right to be known as a lecturer.”

## **Chapter 117: Project 1024**

Many of the students from society had noticed Meng Chao following, but when they saw that Gu Jianbo did not mind, they did not speak about it.

At that moment, a few pairs of fascinated eyes gathered on Meng Chao.

Some people rubbed their fists in eagerness to fight. They really wanted to vent all the energy they had not used up on Meng Chao.

“What are you doing?! Stop with the fierce looks! He’s just a freshman, don’t scare him off!” Gu Jianbo frowned.

“A freshman?” The student was stunned. “He beat up Big Bro Ma twice!”

“Oh yes, speaking of which, Ma Hong, come out!” Gu Jianbo pointed at the Red Dragon Army scout’s nose with anger. “I told you that I don’t mind you fighting. You’re free to treat these fights as your normal practice sessions. No matter how much you beat up those undergraduate students, I’ll protect you, but you have to fight with style and standard!”

“The other students managed to perform well today and showed off their fighting standards along with the martial art spirit of never giving up. But you, Ma Hong, you were defeated twice by a freshman. Even if you and I don’t feel embarrassed, the Red Dragon Army would feel embarrassed!”

While the crowd laughed, Ma Hong walked out with a red face.

“Are you really a freshman?” He looked at Meng Chao with disbelief. “That’s impossible. While you were fighting, your muscles were tense, and it looked like you were ready to be injured at any moment so that you can get a chance to turn the tides. It’s a fighting move that’s almost instinctual to you, and if you haven’t been fighting for decades in the fog, how could you get that habit? Forget about a freshman, even an upperclassman would not be able to get that sort of instinct after their practices in the wild!”

“Big Brother Ma, I’m Meng Chao. I’m really a freshman. If you don’t believe me, you can look at my student ID.” Meng Chao smiled and extended his hand. “We’d have never gotten to know each other if we didn’t fight. My dad was also a soldier. Big Brother Ma, you’re not the type to hold a grudge, are you?”

“It’s just a sparring session, why would I hold a grudge? But you’re a vicious kid. My crotch is still hurting!”

Ma Hong was completely unbothered by what happened earlier and held Meng Chao’s hand. He thought about things for a while, then his eyes lit up. “Meng Chao? You’re the mad kid who killed a Bloody Moon Wolf King during the national college examination?”

Many of the students from society gasped.

The national college examination was the hot topic last month, and a lot of people watched the news as well as interviews. As they observed him, they found that he was really the kid from the news. They could not help but give Meng Chao a thumbs up.

“Not bad, kid, you’ve got guts! Big Bro Ma, you didn’t lose against him for no reason!”

“Yeah, I don’t feel like I lost for no reason against him anymore. I just feel a little gloomy. If I knew that you’re such a dangerous person, I wouldn’t have shown mercy.”

Ma Hong rubbed the bruise on his chest and said with a wry smile, “Bah, I was blind, and I deserve becoming the laughing stock. By the way, you’re an undergraduate student, so what are you doing here at the refresher course?”

“He’s blinded by stupid talk and insists on me being his tutor. This is a real mess.” Gu Jianbo sighed. “It’s my fault for being so outstanding on a daily basis. I’m just too brilliant. That’s why I always attract geni. They come crying and begging for me to be their tutor so that they can ride on my coattails. I just can’t chase them away.”

"It frustrates me, you now. Come, help me persuade Meng Chao to change his mind and go to Ms. Li. Otherwise, when can I get together again with her?"

With that one sentence, he managed to make all the students from society laugh.

"Meng Chao, you heard that? That's how Big Brother Huo is. Do you really want to have him as your tutor?"

"That's right. He's a four-star superhuman. Li Yingzi is a five-star superhuman, and Jiang Ming is a six-star superhuman. Any fool who makes the simplest calculation would know what they should choose!"

"We're all uneducated people, and we're not cultured people, that's why we couldn't get into proper universities and had no choice but to end up in his hands, but what about you?"

"Our Big Brother Bo is no good. Every time the martial arts course lecturers organize a competition among themselves, he is beaten up by Li Yingzi. All he has is numerous tricks when it comes to cheating, deviant fighting styles, and earning money. But if you train properly with an ace lecturer and become a high-class superhuman, you'll definitely earn a lot of money anyway!"

They talked one after another and mercilessly revealed Gu Jianbo's true situation.

Gu Jianbo could remain smiling in the beginning, but soon, his expression turned dark, and he coughed dryly before he said, "Hey, that's about enough!"

"Weren't you the one who asked us to persuade Meng Chao?" the students working in society said.

"But you have to do so in a reasonable manner. I'm not as horrid as you just said, right?" Gu Jianbo felt a little wronged.

"Don't be so humble. You're definitely that horrid." Everyone smiled.

Ma Hong said seriously, "Meng Chao, this is how the refresher course is, and that's how Big Brother Bo is. This is a class for superhumans who coincidentally awakened to supernatural powers. It's a place that allows you to refine your skills superficially, exchange fighting experience, increase your connections, and teach you some basic knowledge about supernatural powers.

"This place doesn't have any facilities, teaching resources, or cultivation resources. It's much inferior compared to a proper undergraduate course. We might be reluctant to admit it, but we know that's how it is.

"Most of us have been fighting in society for decades, and we're injured. Even if we awakened to supernatural abilities, that's all there is to us for the rest of our lives. Becoming Heaven Realm elites or peerless fighters is not our fate. We'll be learning for about a year here to get a skill or two and become third-class fighters, and that's enough for us.

"But you're different from us. You're young, and you're a proper undergraduate student. You have a bright future ahead of you. Why are you mingling around with us greasy old farts?"

Meng Chao could hear the sincerity from the students working in society.



“Bros, uncles, you’re all broken-star superhumans, right?” He thought about it. “Did Mr. Gu... Big Brother Gu teach you the way to cultivate your branch meridians?”

The ones who accidentally awakened in society most likely also had damaged main meridians, which made them broken-star superhumans.

During the chaotic battle, Meng Chao could tell that these students from society mostly used their spirit energy to strengthen one or two of their limbs, and their skills were rather monotonous.

They relied on their rich fighting experience and the advantage of the undergraduate students being unable to use major moves because there were hundreds of them stuffed in the canteen. That was why they could beat up the undergraduate students so thoroughly.

Before the crowd could answer, Meng Chao took the initiative to say, “I’m a broken-star superhuman too. I’ve only cleared four main meridians in my right arm.”

The students from society were shocked, then they put on sympathetic expressions.

“I understand why you came here now. We also heard that Big Brother Bo had been dealing with research related to using branch meridians to fight, but he seems to have failed a few years ago,” Ma Hong said in a tone as if he couldn’t bear to reveal this to Meng Chao.

“That’s right, Meng Chao,” Gu Jianbo said sincerely. “While I was young, I had indeed indulged in wildest fantasies and wanted to create a brand new fighting style with my friends. The articles you saw online were published at that time.

“But adapting theories into practical fights is a path full of hardships. The road is long, and the path is as difficult as trying to climb to heaven!

“Regardless of whether it is martial arts or research, most researches end up in failure, you know? This is very common. It means that this path is not possible, but that’s a good thing too.

“If you’ve clearly run into an iron wall but keep using eggs to hit it, then it’s not called persistence, but idiocy. You have to pay a harsh price for it, but in the end, it’s all meaningless.

“I’ve given up on Project 1024 for a long time. I really can’t help you when it comes to cultivating branch meridians to fight.

“Perhaps my articles have given you impractical thoughts and even affected you when you filled up your application... and I’m truly sorry.”

He took half a step back and bowed deeply to Meng Chao.

The people fell silent.

If it were anyone else, they might believe in him and become dispirited.

But Meng Chao did not believe it.

Because a few years later, Gu Jianbo would successfully create the Ultimate Style, and his name as the Blade Dancer would ring through all of Dragon City!

If someone truly gave up on a project, it would be very difficult for them to launch it again. It would be impossible for them to succeed within a few short years.

In other words, Gu Jianbo was definitely still continuing with Project 1024 and was researching the Ultimate Style despite all the difficulties he faced!

“Big Brother Bo, I don’t know the current progress for Project 1024, and I don’t know what sort of problems you’ve encountered, but I believe in the importance of this project and the risk to push it forward,”

Meng Chao gritted his teeth. “I’m a broken-star superhuman, and the other students in the refresher course are also broken-star superhumans. Most of the superhumans who awaken accidentally in society are also broken-star superhumans.

“The lucky children who have a lot of resources and easily become superhumans under the protection of peerless fighters and in cultivation rooms filled with spirit energy look down on us and think that our main meridians are damaged, which means we don’t have enough potential to progress further and our upper limits aren’t high. Even if we cultivate for our entire lives, we will only be third-class fighters.

“Indeed, with the current cultivation system, what they say is right. Only those who clear more than one hundred main meridians can reach the peak.

“But I think that those who have managed to break down the limits of life by sacrificing their lives in a frenzy during a life and death struggle and are willing to give up on everything to protect those worthy of protection are the ones who truly live up to the name of being a superhuman!

“It’s a pity that the superhumans who awakened through this method only have willpower and determination. Since their main meridians are damaged, they can’t cultivate fighting strength that is equal to their mental strength. Big Brother Bo, don’t you think it’s a pity? Everyone, are you willing to forever be third-class fighters?

“Also, you must have seen it. Lately, the fog has been appearing at an increasing frequency. The monsters’ attacks are also becoming fiercer. The war might become more intense soon, and we’ll need more superhumans. They’ll need to be stronger too.

“The full-time courses in universities can only bring up a limited number of superhumans. The blessed children who are born into cultivation families and have a large amount of resources are rare, while most of the normal soldiers who awaken in the battlefield damage their main meridians and become like us.

“We can’t win a war with just one or two peerless elites. How can we make a large number of broken-star superhumans bring out their greatest fighting strength? This is the key that will decide the fight and even our lives and deaths!

“Big Brother Bo, I truly believe that the importance of Project 1024 far exceeds your imagination. It is the hope of all broken-star superhumans and those who are fighting against fate because they’re not willing to be controlled by it!

“If you’ve run into any problems in your project, we can think of a way to solve it. If you don’t have enough money and resources, I can do my best to gain them from various areas. If you need volunteers

to go through your experiments, I'm someone with a strange talent. The recovery ability of my cells is much stronger than that of a normal human, so I'll be fine no matter what sort of experiment you throw at me. You can use me to conduct your experiments.

"Even if you've run into an iron wall, that's fine. I believe that even the hardest metal in the universe isn't as hard as a human bone!"

Meng Chao's words filled all the students working in society with admiration for him.

Even Gu Jianbo had a contemplative look on his face.

He watched Meng Chao in silence for a while before he sighed and said, "Kid, you're really good at heading to a dead-end. Alright, come with me. I'll bring you over to take a look... at the results of Project 1024."

### **Chapter 118: Pioneer**

To the southeast of the martial arts course was a corner hidden away by a tree that was dozens of meters tall.

There, a seven-floor building made of reinforced concrete and as thick as a fortress was covered by mutated Boston ivies. Some vines came out of a window, which made the place look desolate.

It was once the main lecture building for the martial arts course.

There were seven floors above ground and three floors underground, which served as the martial arts course's research labs.

Later on, Agricultural University grew to power and became the Monster University. It obtained monetary and resource support, and it built more lecture buildings and research labs that were bigger and more lavish. This place was slowly emptied out and turned into the refresher course student's dorms and classrooms.

Gu Jianbo made the students from society settle down before he brought Meng Chao to the deeper parts of the lecture hall. He opened a door that was covered in rust and creaked when opened. Then, through a winding staircase, they reached a dark and humid area underground.

"Big Brother Bo, you have a secret spot like this?"

It was the first time Ma Hong and the other students in society had saw it, and they made a fuss, saying that they wanted to go down to take a look.

Gu Jianbo could not win against them. He made Ma Hong the representative, who was the only one allowed to go down together with them.

The underground third floor was as cold as a morgue.

When they sucked in a deep breath, the air they inhaled was as cold as ice.

Dark lights lit up on both sides of the long and narrow corridor. There were tubes containing blood vessels and nervous systems that had been perfectly removed and immersed in preservatives on the walls. Everything could be seen in detail, and there were so many of them that anyone's skin would crawl upon sighting them.

Gu Jianbo brought Meng Chao and Ma Hong into a research lab that required a password to be opened.

It had all sorts of cultivation machines that looked like torture tools.

At the center was a machine that looked like an electric chair for executing criminals.

Gu Jianbo brought out two huge stacks of experiment notes and drafts from a safe in the corner, along with two really huge case folders.

In the case folders was a stack of really thick medical records, all sorts of physiological parameters from examinations, and scans performed at various levels of the body.

There was also a yellowing picture.

It had a handsome and cool Gu Jianbo from ten years ago. He was holding hands with the beautiful and charming Li Yingzi.

They stood together with another young man who was full of high spirits. They looked in the direction where the red sun shone, as if they saw a bright future there, and smiled happily.

"That's Zong Ye. He was the most brilliant student in our batch, and he was far stronger than me."

Gu Jianbo touched the edge of the picture gently and mumbled, "In truth, he was the leading force behind Project 1024. I was just dragged into it by him."

Meng Chao nodded. "He was the author of the first published articles."

"Yeah. Now, many people say that more than a decade ago, Agricultural University's martial arts course was the strongest due Ms. Li and I, the 'dual stars', displaying our might and suppressing the monster controller course. In truth, there was no such thing as 'dual stars'. At most, we were just two satellites who reflected the light from Zong Ye, the supernova."

Gu Jianbo smiled and said, "Zong Ye was Dean Zong's youngest son, and he was the most outstanding person. While being a junior, he already reached Heaven Realm and became a four-star superhuman."

"What?!" Meng Chao was shocked.

When it came to supernatural realms, the third stage of each realm was a huge step.

During their time in the undergraduate courses, many of the talented prodigies reached three stars before their graduation and hit the peak of Earth Realm.

But if someone wanted to go from Earth Realm to Heaven Realm, it was not as simple as accumulating their spirit energy points, clearing more main meridians, and strengthening a few more organs.

They had to gain a deep understanding toward their vitality magnetic fields, the energy of their souls, minds, and will. Then, they had to push their state of an intelligent carbon-based lifeform to a brand new level.

It was impossible for someone to reach Heaven Realm while being a junior.

“Zong Ye’s talent and skills were much greater than mine, and his rebelliousness and ambitions were like a volcano that could erupt at any moment. He brought terror to others, but was also highly attractive,” Gu Jianbo said. “Zong Ye considered himself really highly, and he believed that only Li Yingzi and I alone in all of Agricultural University’s martial arts course could understand his thoughts. We usually came together to talk about the foremost martial arts ideals.

“In the eyes of others, we formed the ‘iron triangle’ that was constantly together and were about the same in terms of strength, but only Li Yingzi and I knew that we were completely shocked by Zong Ye’s ideals and decided to follow him.

“Soon after he reached Heaven Realm, on a night that poured with rain, he suddenly came to me and Li Yingzi and said that he went down the wrong path.

“We were naturally shocked.

“At that time, he had already defeated the monster controller course by fighting one against ten and had renewed many of the records formed over the years by the martial arts course. Even the universities in the area and Dragon City University, which is far to the west of the city, had heard of his name.

“If even he had walked down the wrong path, who was walking the correct path in all of Agricultural University’s martial arts course?

“But without another word, he brought out a notebook filled with almost illegible handwriting. Written in it was a brand new fighting concept. Look, it’s this book.”

Gu Jianbo lifted a notebook with a peeled-off cover made of monster hide. He carefully flipped the book to the title page.

A row of large letters was written there in a handwriting full of life. [Only death is ultimate in life!]

The words were written so fiercely that the strokes had sunk into the paper. It was as if the words had been embedded into the paper itself.

“Zong Ye spoke at length about this, sharing his revelation for an entire night with us. In the beginning, we didn’t agree with his thoughts.” Gu Jianbo sighed and said, “Cultivating branch meridians to fight sounds like a brilliant idea, but if you think about it carefully, it’s impossible. The branch meridians are really thin and weak. How could you cultivate them like main meridians? You can’t clear them with a crude and rough method.

“Even if you do manage to clear them, the runoff volume of branch meridians is really small, so it’s impossible for them to deliver powerful enough spirit energy. You can’t release a single skill like that, so how could you fight against elites who practice Beast Soul Style and Overkill Style? Those people can launch killing moves all over the place.

“If someone else had brought up such a ridiculous thing, Li Yingzi and I would have thrown it into the trash immediately. But it came from Zong Ye, a brilliant martial arts genius.

“Once again, we were convinced by his fantastical thoughts and eloquent arguments. Then, we were dragged into a high-speed train and charged forward at light speed to an unknown territory. That was Project 1024.”

Meng Chao was entranced. “What happened later?”

“Later, he died,” Gu Jianbo said calmly.

Meng Chao was shocked. “What?!”

“The cultivation method the superhumans have developed over the decades in Dragon City rely on eating secret medicine with rich spirit energy. Then, through meditation, stances, and fighting, they refine that spirit energy.

“Universities and other mega corporations provide cultivation cabins for their superhumans. These things use bioelectricity to stimulate the cultivators’ nerves and blood vessels in order to increase the circulation of spirit energy to stimulate and strengthen their spirit meridians. But this method is only suitable for the main meridians.”

Gu Jianbo sighed. “Zong Ye was filled with fantastic dreams. He changed the formula for the medicine and the structure for the cultivation cabins. He lowered the density of the medicine and the strength of the bioelectricity drastically in hopes that he could clear and strengthen the 1,024 branch meridians.

“But he grossly underestimated the complexity and fragility of the branch meridians. He also underestimated the insane pain of clearing the branch meridians. It was strong enough to affect a person’s mental strength index.

“In the end, before our graduation, his spirit energy deviated during an experiment. His body exploded, and he died. The only thing he left behind is a half-written graduation dissertation, and a whole bunch of medical and research reports.

“It’s only when we looked at the medical reports that we learned that the extreme experiments had long since severely damaged his body. Fine internal injuries had covered his blood vessels and various passages in his body. He might have seemed healthy, but he was just madly draining his life away, to the point that he burned himself out, even though he might have been able to live to one hundred years old otherwise!

“He knew very clearly that he would soon die.

“In a letter he wrote to us, he stated that he knew just what sort of devastating price he would have to pay if he pushed Project 1024 forward.

“But he optimistically estimated that he still had a few years left in him, and that it would be enough for him to last until Project 1024 was completed. The brand new martial arts ideal would shine with glory then. At that time, even if his body was crushed to bits as an offering for this project, it would be worth it.”

Meng Chao took the medical report Gu Jianbo handed to him with trembling hands, and read through it in shock.

The terrifying data and images showed just how a talented and peerless martial arts genius ruthlessly destroyed his own body and walked to his own destruction step by step.

Each experiment made him jump into a meat grinder on his own so that he could dissect himself and remove every organ and nerve.

It was only when he did this that he could get firsthand data that would guide him on how to change the density of the gene medicine, on how to adjust the minute strength of the bioelectricity and change a cultivation machine that was suited only to clear main meridians into one that was suitable for cultivating branch meridians!

“Honestly, I didn’t believe that Project 1024 would succeed. From the first day itself, I was highly skeptical of it, and I often complained about it to Zong Ye.” Gu Jianbo smiled. “But when I saw the bloody mess every time he came out of the cultivation cabin, I thought that I had to inherit his will. I couldn’t let Project 1024 come to an end just like that. Otherwise, Zong Ye would have died in vain.

“As for Li Yingzi, she was filled with great distress by Zong Ye’s death. She believed that Project 1024 was the reason his spirit energy deviated and that we were accomplices in harming him. She was filled with deep regret, and from then on, she moved to beast soul fusion technology and refused to look at Project 1024 again.

“By that time, Dean Zong Yue had already become in charge of the martial arts and life science department. His heart was naturally crushed by his youngest son’s death, but he had lived through an age of war, and people like that don’t place a great importance on the matters of life and death. He did not completely reject Project 0124.

“Since I was willing to continue Zong Ye’s research, he did not object to it. Instead, he brought quite a lot of resources to support me. If the project succeeded, Zong Ye might be able to smile in peace in heaven, right?”

When Meng Chao heard this, he asked curiously, “If that’s the case, why has the project come to a halt?”

“Because I don’t have the talent for it,” Gu Jianbo said with a vacant look in his eyes. “After Zong Ye died, many people shifted the praises and honor they lavished on him to me. I also swore that I would bear his will and complete the task he did not manage to complete.

“But in my heart, I knew very clearly that Zong Ye and I were too different.

“A ‘talented student’ like me could only walk down the path someone else has already planned for them. I could only get full marks in tests that had just one correct answer, and I could only win when I had perfectly understood all the rules of a game.

“But if I had no test papers, no rules, and only a blank piece of canvas, I couldn’t do anything.

“For the next few years after that, I sloppily pushed Project 1024 forward. I might have seemed to come up with a lot of formulae for medicine, modify some cultivation machines, even cure some patients

whose spirit meridians had shriveled up as well as help them clear up to five main meridians, and published some articles to make up the number of articles I had to publish, this way obtaining a lot of glory and praises, but all of that was superficial.

“I’m not Zong Ye. I can’t touch the spirit of Project 1024. I can’t launch a revolution that will change the current fighting model!

“I became impatient, and my spirit was tormented. When I slept at night, I dreamt of Zong Ye looking at me with expectation, and I even became jealous of him. We were both known as geni and both were pathfinders for Project 1024, so why was there such a huge difference between us? The real geni died, while I got to continue living. I had nothing, yet I was being showered in undeserved fame!

“I got entangled in evil thoughts and became impatient for results. My research direction gradually turned extreme, and in the end, I made a huge mistake.”

### **Chapter 119: Big Brother Bo’s Determination**

Gu Jianbo told Meng Chao and Ma Hong about how when he stayed in the university to become a lecturer, he was full of vigor and displayed his splendor. He was just like Griffin Li Yingzi.

Zong Ye had just passed away, so his influence remained. Many new students came over after hearing about his fame and were willing to join Project 1024.

The new students were fearless due to their ignorance. They brought with them new ideas and gave him a lot of inspiration. By sheer coincidence, they managed to come up with a brand new formula for a medicine which could increase the speed at which branch meridians absorbed spirit energy by three hundred percent.

Gu Jianbo tested it repeatedly and came to the conclusion that there was nothing wrong with it. He was overjoyed and believed that the project had gained a major breakthrough.

Under his guidance, a few students trained and improved significantly. They won repeatedly against students who practiced the Beast Soul Style.

But just when Gu Jianbo was compiling his experiment data and prepared to release his article so that he could help Zong Ye rest in peace, an accident happened.

The spirits of three students who took the medicine and practiced the brand new cultivation method deviated. Their cultivation dropped, and they nearly became cripples.

One of their lives was even endangered. He needed a lot of metal joints and machines to replace his normal limbs and organs. His path as a martial artist was destroyed.

After the tragedy, Gu Jianbo made repeated experiments, only to find out that there was a very strange side effect to this medicine. It slowly accumulated a special poison in a person’s body. The first few times a person cultivated, nothing strange happened. It was only when the poison reached a certain degree that it would explode fiercely.



The path of cultivation was filled with unexpected dangers. All the people who stepped into the world of superhumans, regardless of whether they were students or soldiers, had a certain degree of resolution to face death with a smile.

The national college examination was not the only place with a cripple and death index. All universities had a certain cripple and death index each year as well.

Hence, the university did not punish Gu Jianbo. They only sent him to the refresher course so that he could calm down and polish himself for a few years.

But Gu Jianbo could not get over his trauma. He could only think about how his research had gone wrong and how he had destroyed three students' futures.

He was tied down by guilt and self-doubt. In his dejection, he terminated Project 1024 and put all his drafts and research data into the shelf so that he could focus on becoming a lecturer for the refresher course.

"Xu Fang, Zhou Tianrui, and Li Feiyu were youngsters as outstanding as you are. They also had great enthusiasm when it came to researching martial arts. They trusted me as well, which is why they joined Project 1024, but I let them down." Gu Jianbo smiled bitterly.

"I'm sorry, Meng Chao, I'm not a martial arts genius who can shock the world like Zong Ye. I'm just a normal person with undeserved fame. Even if Project 1024 has a slight chance of succeeding, it won't become reality in my hands.

"You don't have to try and go all chicken soup for the soul and give me motivation, saying that God will reward the faithful. I've overestimated myself before and tried to walk down the path Zong Ye created. In the end, you heard what happened."

He opened another experiment record.

The first thing that entered Meng Chao's sights was a bloody picture.

The left half of the person's body looked like it had been torn off by a meat grinder. He was also struck by high-voltage electricity on top of that, which had roasted him.

Even if the youth's face and body were covered by a mosaic, Meng Chao's heart still skipped a beat.

"This is Zhou Tianrui, the one who was injured the worst among the three students." Gu Jianbo's cheeks trembled, and he said hoarsely, "Sometimes, I wish I was the one whose spirit had deviated. Why did it have to be Zong Ye, Xu Fang, Li Tianyu, and Zhou Tianrui? They were all genii with bright futures ahead of them.

"Did you know, Meng Chao? When you were waving your arms and speaking with an excited face just now, you looked just like Xu Fang, Li Feiyu, and Zhou Tianrui. When I saw you, I remembered them, and I don't doubt that you are just as smart as they are. In fact, you have the chance to reach Zong Ye's heights.

"It's precisely because of this that I won't become your personal tutor, and I absolutely won't launch Project 1024 again so that the tragedy can repeat itself. I won't let you end up like them!"

Meng Chao's expression changed.

The path for the truth of martial arts was just like a war against the monster hordes in the wild. Many pioneers had to sacrifice themselves for humanity to gain final victory.

Zong Ye, Xu Fang, Li Feiyu, and Zhou Tianrui were all pioneers of the Ultimate Style. They deserved to be remembered by people.

And in Meng Chao's previous life, Gu Jianbo stepped on the path of those pioneers as well. He used his life as fuel to light up a brightly burning flame so that martial arts could further develop.

But how did all this happen?

Meng Chao was puzzled. His nose twitched. Suddenly, he smelled a different scent in the air.

He swiped his finger over the seemingly smooth table and rubbed his fingers together. He brought them to his nose to sniff, and a strange light shone in his eyes. "I see. Mr. Gu, so this lab hasn't been used for a long time, right?"

"I told you not to call me Mr. Gu. I don't have the right to be called a lecturer," Gu Jianbo said bitterly. "Ever since that accident, Project 1024 has been completely abandoned. I will occasionally come down here to clean up the place to remember and honor my friend and students.

"Even if I wanted to continue with the research, though, I don't have the resources, money, and manpower. The cultivation machines have not been maintained for years, and the research data is from a few years ago. You won't be able to use them. It's best that you give up!"

"Is that so?" Meng Chao seemed to be deep in thought. "So, why is it that I can smell a very faint scent from Bronzecup Flowers, Bluesilver Grasses, and Mysterious Scorpion Venom?"

"They're ingredients for very powerful painkillers and stimulants. They should have been taken orally or injected into a person when conducting experiments here.

"This medical report from Senior Zhou is from five years ago. If the project has been abandoned until now, there's no way that residue from the medicine back then would still be here after five years, right?"

Gu Jianbo was stunned. He averted his gaze.

"Also, these cultivation machines don't have a single sign of corrosion or rust. By the looks of it, someone has been constantly cleaning them so that they shine as brightly as new."

Meng Chao squatted down in front of the terrifying cultivation machine that looked like an electric chair. He carefully investigated the leather straps on the back of the chair and the handles that were used to tie a person down.

The leather straps were made from the toughest monster tendons. They could even tie down Iron-armored Rhinoceroses.

But they were covered in thin cracks, and Meng Chao could smell the faint but pungent smell of sweat and blood.

“And what’s going on with these leather straps? The smell of sweat and blood on them is fresh. It’s clear that someone has been sitting here and going through incredibly painful experiments. To avoid jolting, they even tied themselves down. While they struggled against the bonds, their sweat and blood flowed out and seeped into the straps.”

Meng Chao looked back to stare at Gu Jianbo. “Also, I just found powder on the table. If my senses are correct, it’s bone powder from superbeasts, and they were all above Grade Three. The bone powder of Hell Beasts is not cheap.

“If this place has really been shut down for years and you just come down here to clean, why would there be such things on the table?”

Gu Jianbo was speechless. His face varied between shades of white and red.

“Wait...” Meng Chao suddenly thought of a possibility and said in disbelief, “Big Brother Bo, could it be that you’ve ended this dangerous project on the surface to chase away all your students while you took the reins in the dark and trained using this crazy method?”

Gu Jianbo slowly sat down on the cultivation machine that looked like an electrical chair and shed all his disguises. He seemed to have lost his strength.

“No wonder.” Ma Hong, who had been quietly listening to their dialogue suddenly spoke up. “Big Brother Bo, sometimes, you’d suddenly disappear for a few days and even ask us to provide you with cover. When you reappear, you look exhausted as if you had all your blood drained.

“We thought that you went to have a good time with a girl, so we even tried to advise you to control yourself a few times. We told you not to act so wantonly just because you have supernatural powers, but you never listened to us. Once every few days, you’d come back weakened. Could it be that you never went to look for girls but had been here, cultivating?”

“Also, you always act so greedily and think of all sorts of ways to get money. You used us to form connections, and always act like you want to ride the coattails of major business tycoons. But even after you’ve gotten so much money and bought so many cultivation resources, your qi never increased. You didn’t buy yourself a luxurious car or a mansion either.

“Did you throw all that money into Project 1024?”

“Of course I didn’t. Quit your yapping! What do you mean by training madly? I went to look for women. As for the money, I saved it because I’m a scrooge. Is that illegal now?” Gu Jianbo refused to admit even after facts were thrown at him.

A thought flashed in Meng Chao’s head.

Gu Jianbo’s descriptions, the stories the lab told him, Ma Hong’s words, and the future he remembered from his memory fragments gelled together and allowed him to understand everything.

As he looked at the fatty with oily skin, he became full of emotion.

So, this was the truth.

He suspected that he was not good enough and was worried that he would harm even more students, so he shouldered his friend's dying will alone and continued moving forward quietly in the dark. And then, in the end, before his life burned out, he lit up with the most brilliant flames. This was Gu Jianbo, the master of the Ultimate Style!

Perhaps it was just like he said. He was not an incredibly smart genius like Zong Ye but a normal person with nothing but a normal talent and great determination.

But if the constant dripping of water could wear away stones and ropes could saw away wood, the quiet determination allowed the pioneers' genius to turn into reality.

Meng Chao teared up.

"Big Brother Bo, I didn't expect that you would be a good man who values your relationships, is loyal to your friends, and perseveres to the end even if their bones are crushed!

"What a coincidence. I'm also a guy who doesn't care about fame and only loves contributing to society. Let's turn Senior Zong Ye's dying will into reality and make it into the most brilliant light of hope in the future!" Meng Chao said firmly.

Gu Jianbo felt really irritated. "Are you all mad?! I'm not that type of person!"

"If you insist on not taking me in, I'll have to go to Ms. Li and tell her what I discovered here," Meng Chao said. "I don't think Ms. Li knows about it; otherwise, she would have stopped you. Isn't that right, Big Brother Bo?"

Even though Meng Chao felt really mean doing this, if he did not hurry up and join the project, Gu Jianbo would die soon after coming up with the Ultimate Style.

Meng Chao felt that even if Gu Jianbo was not a heroic citizen like Principal Sun, he would not be too far behind .

How could he watch Big Brother Bo walk the path of self-destruction just like Zong Ye?

## **Chapter 120: Moth Flying to Flames**

Gu Jianbo regretted bringing Meng Chao and Ma Hong down now.

He had wanted to make the boy turn back after he found out how difficult it was, but who would have known that the youth's observational skills would be so good.

Was the kid really just a freshman? Why did he really seem like he had been fighting at the borders of life and death for decades, just like Ma Hong had said?

"Alright, I admit. Sometimes I come here to cultivate." Gu Jianbo's expression changed a few times, and he leaned back against the electric chair. "But my cultivation won't produce any results."

Meng Chao and Ma Hong looked at each other. "If it produces no results, why do you still cultivate?"

“Because... I’ve let down Zong Ye, Xu Fang, Zhou Tianrui, and Li Feiyu. They’ve given up their futures and even their lives for Project 1024. If I give up halfway and run away, how am I supposed to face them in the future?” Gu Jianbo smiled in anguish.

“Project 1024 isn’t a proper cultivation project that is supported by the university. It’s my personal project and a fight that I must face alone. And I’m the only one required for this destructive venture. There’s no need for me to drag more people into this, especially outstanding talents like you.”

Meng Chao shook his head. “As long as you’re still fighting, there’s a possibility of winning. How can you say that you’re heading to your own destruction? Big Brother Bo, let me help you!”

Gu Jianbo’s old wounds were uncovered, and his emotions became unstable. Despite him earnestly trying to persuade Meng Chao against it, the boy refused to listen to reason, and he became a little vexed.

“Alright, since you want to join Project 1024 so much, I’ll let you see what exactly branch meridian cultivation is!”

As if he had given up on all hope, he resached into the depths of the safe and brought out a large stack of research data, drafts, disks, and storage chips, and slammed them on the table.

He also activated three huge work stations, and a data stream that poured out like a waterfall showed up on the monitor.

It was data from the past few years, the latest information about the experiments as well as the progress of the project.

Meng Chao read it quickly.

His brain had been strengthened by Kindling, and it greedily absorbed the initial form of the Ultimate Style, along with its brilliant ideals.

The information he read also gradually overlapped with his memories regarding the future Ultimate Style.

“Big Brother Bo, you haven’t been training here occasionally. It’s not as simple as you said! Based on your experiment logs, you’ve practically been here every day!” Meng Chao cried out in surprise.

“What’s with this high-speed cell growth hormone? I know that these medicines are very beneficial when it comes to promoting the healing of wounds, but the side effect is that your endocrine system will go haywire. You’ll go out of shape and either become too fat or too thin.

“Wait, could it be?”

Could it be that the handsome and elegant man in the official website turned into the fatty with oily skin because he paid the price for researching topnotch technology on his own?

Gu Jianbo schooled his plump face and said nothing. He removed his suit and unbuttoned his shirt.

His suit had seemed to be covering fat that resembled tyres, but it was actually covering deformed muscles that had swelled up and looked as strong as those of Juling Shen. [1]

However, each inch of his skin was covered in red scars.

They formed when his body imploded, and they looked like terrifying red flowers.

“This is...”

Meng Chao and Ma Hong’s expressions changed.

In their era, medical technology was very advanced. As long as a person was not poisoned or a wound was not repeatedly inflicted in the same spot, causing tissue hyperplasia and their tissues overlapping with each other, it was impossible for someone to have such terrifying scars.

The scars looked like red hot medals burned into Gu Jianbo’s flesh. They also looked like armor created through great pain with the power of one’s mind and will.

A thought appeared in Meng Chao’s head and he cried out. “Big Brother Bo, more than ten years ago, you were as famous as Ms. Li, but today, Ms. Li is about to reach six stars, but you’re still stuck at four stars. Could it be because you have been conducting these insane experiments and destroying your own body?”

Gu Jianbo’s eyelids twitched. He said nothing.

Meng Chao looked at the dense network of scars that were Gu Jianbo’s medals, and his blood burned. He was filled with all sorts of emotions.

In his previous life, he hadn’t known that so many pioneers had paid such a devastating price to give birth to the smooth and incredibly elegant Ultimate Style.

And now...

‘I’ll change everything. I can’t let the pioneers bleed in vain. I have to save the hero who is about to fall and send him to the peak so that he can shine even brighter than back then!’ Meng Chao swore in his heart.

He sat down in the corner and quietly read all the information regarding Project 1024.

“There’s nothing worthy for you to examine there. Once you see how I cultivate, you’ll know to give up,” Gu Jianbo said coldly.

He turned on the ventilation system and brought out a dozen raw ingredients from a cold storage.

First, he made a hot medicine and drank it.

His blood vessels immediately popped up on his skin. Large, fleshy bumps also started rolling under his skin.

“Whew...”

With a horrendous expression, he let out a puff of white air. It looked like a sharp arrow. Then, he stuck numerous magnetic patches with wires attached to them on his body.

Next, he sat down on the electric chair and tied himself down with the leather straps made of superbeast tendons.

His movements were very smooth. It was clever that he had done them countless times.

He pushed down on the recording button. "20th of August, Year 55 of the New Era. 992nd experiment for Project 1024. Today, I've drunk Gene Medicine No. 104, which is made of Ghostly Shark Blood and Golden-winged Insect Blood. As of current, pain level is 4. My mental strength index is 103%. My mind is clear, and I can stand the pain.

"Commencing experiment."

Shizzle!

Powerful bioelectricity surged into his body through the magnetic patches. They activated the rampaging spirit energy contained in the medicine.

In an instant, Gu Jianbo started jolting like a frog which had jumped into a boiling pan, but he was kept in place by the leather straps.

His eyes went wide, and his expression twisted from pain.

His right arm swelled up in a deformed manner and turned red. More than one hundred drops of blood seeped out of his pores.

Meng Chao and Ma Hong were so shocked that they turned pale. They wanted to go up to help him, but he stopped them with his eyes, telling them that he was fine and this was normal.

The torturous experiment lasted for a total of five minutes. Then, Gu Jianbo shut the power while trembling and covered in sweat. He lay limp on the electric chair with white smoke pouring out of his seven orifices. He could not say even a single word.

"Big Brother Bo, did it work?" Meng Chao asked nervously. "Did you manage to clear fifteen branch meridians?"

Gu Jianbo took a long time to raise his right arm with great difficulty. He activated his spirit energy and made it flow slowly.

Spirit tattoos appeared on his right forearm, at the part near his wrist.

However, compared to the clear and brilliant spirit tattoos that were formed when main meridians were cleared, this circle of spirit tattoos was scattered and blurry. It was like ink that fell on a rice paper.

"I managed to clear two branch meridians. The others were all crushed."

Gu Jianbo carefully observed his wrist and tried to channel his spirit energy to his fingertips. Small spirit flames gushed out.

Yet they changed between eight colors, which made it clear that they were mixed with inferior fuel additives. He could not control them at all. Very soon, they exploded.

Meng Chao and Ma Hong could not help but sigh.

But Gu Jianbo looked calm. He removed himself from the electric chair and rapidly typed out a string of data in his computer. Then, he put his right arm under a small instrument so that he could scan it. He seemed to be used to such failures.

“Don’t worry, branch meridians might be weak, but their recovery speed is very fast. Even if they’re crushed, they’ll recover and regrow in no time,” Gu Jianbo said faintly. “On the other hand, if you clear a branch meridian forcefully and don’t stimulate it often, it will shrink soon and you will have to redo everything.”

In the subsequent two hours, he did eight experimental cultivations in various parts of his body.

Every time, he was in so much pain that he would spasm and be drenched in sweat. Smoke even gushed out of his pores.

When he removed the leather straps, he was so weak that he had to use the chair as support to walk forward.

But when Meng Chao and Ma Hong wanted to go forward to help, he waved them off with great resolution. He would rather move forward slowly one step at a time to the research table to record the data and adjust the parameters than get their assistance.

“You saw it, right? I don’t have the talent. I can just use this foolish method to test different formulae, the strength of the electricity, and find out the locations of spirit apertures. There’s nothing that I can teach you.”

Gu Jianbo looked impatient. “I’m a four-star superhuman. I’ve got a determined heart and a strong body, that’s why I can withstand this stupid cultivation method. You’re a new superhuman who hasn’t even become a full adult yet. You can’t even go through a single cultivation process, and you want to help me? How arrogant!

“Are you done watching? If you’re done, hurry up and get lost! When I see brats like you who don’t know the complexity of things, I just get annoyed!”

Meng Chao ignored him and focused on quickly reading through the experiment logs with a gaze so intense that he could burn through paper.

Now, just like the Bloody Moon Murderer quest, the Fight for the Ultimate Style quest was no longer just a simple quest.

It was no longer something that would give him tens of thousands of contribution points and clear his main meridians.

Instead... it was a real battle!

‘What’s the problem? Logically speaking, the thought process is correct. We have to use bioelectricity to stimulate the intersecting spirit apertures in the branch meridians. That’s what they did in my memory fragments.’

Meng Chao grabbed his hair and thought hard.

He was not as professional as Zong Ye or Gu Jianbo.



He could only think hard and dig into the deepest depths of his brain to search for the fully developed Ultimate Style from his previous life in the crystalline memory fragments to figure out just what was different about it compared to the current cultivation method.

After an unknown amount of time, he was finally able to grasp a weak thread of light shining toward the answer.

“The medium...”

At that moment, Meng Chao’s face was pale, and his eyes were red. He looked like someone who had ventured too far into the unknown world and even his soul had been sucked into the experiment logs.

Gu Jianbo’s eyes went wide. “What did you say?”

“Big Brother Bo, have you ever thought of not using bioelectricity to directly stimulate the spirit apertures?”

Meng Chao had a dazed look. He was still trying to grab hold of the dancing memory butterfly in his mind. “If you cultivate main meridians, you can use this method, because main meridians are strong and their runoff volume is high. They can deal with the dual stimulation from high-voltage and rampaging spirit energy.

“But branch meridians are thin and fragile. No matter how much you lower the power to stimulate them, it’s still very easy to destroy them.

“Then, what if used some sort of medium to spread the stimulation as much as possible?”

“I know that many medical cabins have the function of using electricity to stimulate recovery. First of all, they put in a lot of high-calorie medicine. Then, the patients lie down inside until the medicinal fluid submerges them. After that, the personnel charge up the medicinal fluid with electricity instead of the spirit apertures.

“With this method, you could lower the intensity of the stimulation and you use it through the whole body. Then, you could clear all 1024 branch meridians in one go!”

Translator’s Note:

[1] Juling Shen: Juling Shen is a gigantic river god in Chinese mythology. He is usually associated with the Yellow River.