

Oh My God 1521

Chapter 1521: Clues

It was a typical simple residential building that had been renovated during the Monster War.

In order to fit as many people as possible into the building, each unit was divided into very small units, but the walls were extremely thick.

Many of the outer walls had interlayers, and steel plates could be put down at any time to block the windows.

As a result, the room had poor lighting and ventilation. It was more of a bunker than a residence.

Meng Chao only took a few steps before he had a clear view of the entire room.

The room was very clean. Aside from a military bed and a folding table that could be used for both work and meals, there were almost no additional furnishings.

The kitchen was covered in a thick layer of mud. It would have taken more than ten years to accumulate, but there were no signs of a recent fire.

There were only three to five stacks of newspapers piled up in the corner, and there were newspaper clippings that were being produced on the table. That meant Tailless Monkey had once lived there.

Meng Chao flipped through the half-cut newspaper on the table.

He found that the latest issue was yesterday's evening newspaper, which should have been published yesterday afternoon.

Although Dragon City's information technology was advanced, due to the strong spirit and magnetic interference from the Other World, the monsters often gnawed on the cables and Internet wires.

It was definitely not possible to rely solely on the Internet to transmit information.

During the Monster War, to allow the soldiers and citizens at the forefront to receive each other's messages when the spirit and magnetic interference were the strongest and the monster attacks were the craziest, a lot of newspapers appeared in Dragon City.

They printed newspapers and leaflets twenty-four hours a day.

Many citizens of Dragon City had the habit of reading physical newspapers.

Even though they had won the war, this habit never changed.

It was a very common practice for a broker like the tailless monkey to use newspaper clippings to gather information and analyze intelligence.

Meng Chao asked Ai Lei and confirmed that the tailless monkey indeed had the habit of newspaper clippings.

If the newspaper clippings were not deliberately forged, the tailless monkey would still be here until last night.

“Last night, there was no big explosion in the Red Creek Creek project.

“This morning, Gao Chuang’s men came here and found that the tailless monkey had disappeared.

“Who could have reacted so quickly and accurately locked onto and captured the tailless monkey almost at the same time as the explosion at the Red Creek Project?”

Meng Chao continued his search.

Soon, he made an unexpected discovery.

When he opened the greasy cupboard door in the kitchen, he found a secret passage at the back.

To be more precise, it was a partition.

He moved the partition and went to room 317 next door.

It was different from the empty room 316.

317 was like a big warehouse.

It was filled with drinking water and canned meat.

Meng Chao saw several boxes of canned meat of synthetic monsters produced by Superstar Group.

With these materials, even if the tailless monkey didn’t leave the house for three to five months, he wouldn’t starve to death.

This was a cunning rabbit with three burrows.

It seemed that the tailless monkey had a very clear understanding of his situation.

Unfortunately, he still couldn’t escape the vicious hand.

Meng Chao closed his eyes and took a deep breath.

When he opened his eyes again, there were already several rings of light that were slowly rotating in the depths of his eyes.

He raised his extraordinary vision to the highest level.

He did not let go of the slightest trace.

Soon, a large amount of shiny evidence appeared in Meng Chao’s field of vision in the two seemingly clean suites.

The first was the trace of a large amount of oil being wiped.

Humans secreted sweat and oil all the time.

No matter what they came into contact with, the sweat and oil would leave tiny traces on the surface of the object.

These traces that could not be identified by the naked eye could not even be considered fingerprints.

However, godly state experts or the most professional trace investigators could use genetic testing tools to firmly lock onto someone who had disappeared.

Meng Chao found a large amount of traces of grease in 317.

Especially on the boxes of canned monster meat.

It seemed that the tailless monkey had spent quite a bit of effort in moving these boxes.

As a result, the sweat and grease secreted from his fingers increased, leaving dozens of extremely shallow fingerprints on the boxes.

Following the traces of the grease, Meng Chao returned to 316.

Here, he found more traces of human activity.

Meng Chao lay on the ground, pressed the tip of his nose to a mark, and took a deep breath.

The physical qualities of humans were different.

Their past experiences were also different.

Their grease scent was as unique as fingerprints, which could clearly reveal the identity of their owners.

“The scent of glue and ink on the grease marks of the tailless monkey suggests that he often wrote and used glue to make newspaper clippings.

“Moreover, his grease marks are very deep, and fingerprints have been formed in many places.

“This means that he is not worried about leaving any evidence. At least, he is not worried that the law enforcement agencies will come looking for him.

“However, the shallower and lighter traces of the oil contain traces of the mithril stabilizer.

“The mithril stabilizer is a very common storage medium for monster materials. It is used in the Reaper circle and the underground black market. It is inevitable that it will be contaminated by the practitioners.

“This means that Gao Chuang is not lying. His people have indeed been here before.

“Then, did Gao Chuang’s men capture the tailless monkey?”

Putting aside Gao Chuang’s dead-end argument, Meng Chao did not think so either.

He had asked ai lei. Although the tailless monkey was not a powerful character, its vigilance was higher than many monsters in the depths of the jungle.

Since the tailless monkey was already prepared to be a cunning rabbit in three caves, it would not be easily caught.

Even if it was caught, it would still struggle a few times.

Meng Chao had also met Gao Chuang’s subordinate before.

Although his skills were not bad, it was still not easy to quietly capture the tailless monkey.

If there was a conflict between the two sides.

There should be more and more traces of oil and sweat secreting in the room.

But now, Meng Chao didn't find any similar traces, as well as scratches and collisions caused by the fierce fight.

This meant that the tailless monkey had been captured by an even more powerful character.

When it was captured, there was almost no room for resistance.

With this suspicion, Meng Chao continued to search.

He didn't let go of every corner and every crevice, every hair and every mark.

Soon, he found 357 hairs, 66 fresh scratches, and three collision marks that were invisible to the naked eye in the seemingly empty room.

"Among the 357 hairs, 332 of them are very thin and withered.

"Master's strength should not be that strong, and the nutrition did not keep up.

"The location of the discovery was mainly on the camp bed and behind the toilet.

"They are all the hair of the tailless monkeys.

"There are also 21 hairs, which are obviously thick and flexible. Although they have fallen off from the human body, they still maintain a certain degree of cell activity.

"These should all be Gao Chuang's subordinates, which fell off when they searched this place this morning.

"The other four hairs are very interesting.

"Three of them are more lustrous and flexible than Gao Chuang's subordinates, and their cells are more active. They must have come from experts of a higher level.

"If I'm not wrong, at least one of the three hairs belongs to a heaven-tier expert.

"As for the last reddish hair, it's not even human hair or hair. It's the beast hair of the hellbeast, the Dreadclaw Tiger!

"The Dreadclaw Tiger's body was enormous, and its temperament was brutal. Its roars could be heard from three to five streets away. Naturally, it was not brought here.

"Therefore, the people who captured the tailless monkey came here earlier than Gao Chuang's subordinates. They often interacted with the dreadclaw tiger. As a result, their bodies were stained with the Dreadclaw Tiger's hair?

"That's weird.

"Following the victory of the Monster War, many wild monsters disappeared without a trace.

“As for the Dreadclaw Tiger, as far as I know, it is one of the wildest and most untamed wild monsters that are difficult to raise and reproduce artificially.

“What kind of person would have the opportunity to come into contact with the Dreadclaw Tiger more than a year after the victory of the Monster War?”

With this thought in mind, Meng Chao returned to the kitchen and lay down on the ground.

Ai lei asked in surprise, “Senior, what are you doing?”

“I’m thinking.”

Meng Chao stared at the dazzling incandescent lamp on the ceiling and said thoughtfully, “When the tailless monkey was captured, it should have been lying on the floor like this. Maybe it was trying to crawl to 317 to get the canned food, or maybe it found someone sneaking in and wanted to escape to 317.

“I want to maintain the same posture and restore the situation at that time.”

“How do you know?”

Ai Lei was stunned for a moment. “I saw that you collected a lot of hair and found some scratches and marks, but none of them were in the kitchen

“It was because there weren’t too many hair and marks left in the kitchen that it looked so weird.”

Meng Chao said, “Judging from the date of the newspaper clipping, the date of the production of the canned food, and the consumption, the tailless monkey must have stayed here for a few days, and the kitchen was the only way for him to travel between 316 and 317. Therefore, he must have left a lot of hair and marks here.

“But now, there are too few hair, fingerprints, footprints, and scratches in the kitchen.

“The thickness of the oil mud on the floor and the thickness of the oil mud on the stove are also obviously disproportionate.

“This is enough to prove that someone wanted to cover up the place and cleaned and disguised the kitchen.

“Therefore, this is the first scene where the other party captured the tailless monkey!”

Meng Chao closed his eyes.

A virtual “Room 316” suddenly appeared in his mind.

According to the evidence, he could easily restore Gao Chuang’s underling. After arriving here, he would carefully rummage through the boxes and search for the tailless monkey.

However, it was very difficult to restore the entire process of the real captor taking the tailless monkey away.

The other party was very professional.

Although there were inevitably some scratches and collision marks, they were not too obvious. They were considered invalid evidence. They were even deliberately left behind to distract the investigators.

The truth was still shrouded in fog.

“But, that’s not right!”

Just as Meng Chao could not find any clues to the investigation, Ai lei suddenly muttered softly.

Meng Chao suddenly opened his eyes. “What did you say?”

Ai Lei was shocked by him. “No, it’s nothing. Maybe I misheard.”

“What misheard?”

Meng Chao retracted his aura and lowered his voice. “It’s alright. No matter what the problem is, tell me.”

“It’s not a big problem. It’s just that you said that the tailless monkey was like this, lying here and being taken away.”

Ai lei said, “However, your current position is not ‘lying’, but ‘lying’!”

“I’m sorry, senior. It’s a habit of mine. I prefer to stick to my words. This shouldn’t have anything to do with the tailless monkey’s whereabouts, right?”

Chapter 1522: Clues Regarding Tailless Monkey

“No, it’s related. It’s very related!”

Meng Chao’s eyes were bright. “I’m certain that when Tailless Monkey was captured, he was lying on his back in this position.

“The marks where he lay are completely different from the marks on the ground.

“The former would be on his back, the area of friction with the ground would be larger, and the rubbed sludge would be shallow.

“The latter would land on his knees or elbows. When someone catches you, your ten fingers will definitely struggle and scratch wildly.

“Such a huge difference is impossible for the captor to fake no matter how carefully he tries to stage it.

“The problem is, if a person wants to enter the cupboard, isn’t it more convenient for them to lie down and crawl forward?

“Even if Tailless Monkey discovered that someone had broken in and wanted to escape to the next room, he would still lie down and crawl in. It would be easier for him to exert force and be faster.

“How could he be lying on his back? It’s such a weird posture.

“By the way, has this Tailless Monkey ever served in the army?”

Ai Lei shook her head

"I don't think so. I've never heard him talk about it. He usually looks loose and shameless, and he doesn't seem like someone who has served in the army."

She asked curiously, "Is there anything particular about being in the army?"

"Yes, there is."

Meng Chao explained, "People who have been in the army sometimes have to carry a large number of guns, ammunition, and special tools in front of their chest to pass through barbed wire or very low shrubs and thorns. In order not to damage the guns and trigger the ammunition, they will receive special training. They will lie on their backs and use the squirming muscles on their back to move forward silently."

"If the tailless monkey had never been a soldier, he probably wouldn't have moved in such an awkward position. Then, there is only one answer."

"When the intruder caught him, he didn't want to go through the cupboard and crawl into the next room. He was just lying here."

"Lying in the kitchen?"

Ai Lei looked around and then looked at the ceiling. She couldn't understand. "The tailless monkey doesn't cook. The kitchen is so dirty and the floor is so greasy. Why is he lying here?"

"Yes, the kitchen is so greasy..."

Meng Chao stared at the ceiling for a long time. Then, he suddenly stood up and removed half of the ceiling.

However, he did not find anything hidden inside the ceiling.

Except for a crystal-driven tape recorder that had been burnt.

It seemed that the tailless monkey had made a 'insurance' for himself.

Whatever was happening inside the room could be faithfully recorded by the tape recorder as evidence and bargaining chips.

Unfortunately, the people who took him away had swept the entire room carefully with high-powered interference devices before and after the operation.

They had made sure that all the highly sophisticated electronic and spiritual equipment had been scrapped by force.

Meng Chao was deep in thought.

The last two words that he was mumbling suddenly had an epiphany.

"Right. Greasy!"

Meng Chao lay down again.

His head crawled into the cabinet and stared at the top of the cabinet.

This was a blind spot.

If he had not been lying on the greasy floor in such an awkward position, his head would have crawled into the cabinet, and he would have been focused on looking up.

Even if he had lived here for thirty to fifty years, he might not have known what the top of the Cabinet looked like.

At first glance, there was nothing on the top wall of the cabinet except for the seams of the inferior wooden boards and the scars of insects biting mice.

Meng Chao raised his extraordinary vision to the limit and scanned it inch by inch like a microscope. After scanning for a full five minutes, he found a few crooked marks in the corner.

The marks were very fresh.

The details were also very rich.

It could not have been accidentally scratched during daily use.

It was more like using matches, toothpicks, or pencil lead, dipped in oil, and gently applied it.

Perhaps he was afraid of being discovered by intruders.

The marks were very faint, so faint that ordinary extraordinary people would not be able to see it with the naked eye.

Or perhaps it was done too hastily, and before it was finished, it was taken away by the other party.

The traces were very messy, and the overall composition was severely distorted. It was even harder to recognize than a child's graffiti.

However, Meng Chao was still invigorated.

"This is it!

"This is the clue left behind by the tailless monkey!

"When it discovered that someone had broken in, the tailless monkey realized that it had encountered an expert. It was impossible for it to crawl into the next room through the cupboard and then escape from the next room.

"Therefore, it pretended to crawl into the cupboard to escape. In reality, in just a few seconds, it used the oil sludge in the kitchen to leave such a pattern on the top of the inner wall of the cupboard!"

Meng Chao copied the mark left by the tailless monkey on the paper.

The main body was an oval with a horizontal line in the middle and a large number of radiating lines around it.

Because the tailless monkey's drawing was very obscure and sloppy.

Meng Chao didn't dare to add too many details without permission.

After looking at it for a long time, he still couldn't get the gist of it.

"It seems to be a sun."

Ai lei said, "Dragon City uses the Sun as the main body. There are too many trademarks or badges designed. It's impossible to lock onto the target with just this sketch."

"I have an idea."

Meng Chao said, "Since the tailless monkey has a clue, why didn't he say it earlier?"

"Of course, he's not stupid enough to expose the unverified clues to the public."

"He's just a broker, not a vigilante who upholds justice. As long as the other party doesn't harm his interests and safety, there's no need for him to fight to the death with the other party."

"However, as soon as possible, write down the clues clearly and store them in a safer place, or even in online forums and e-mail accounts. Once he hasn't been online for a long time, he will enter a specific password and automatically release it. Only then will such 'insurance' be effective, isn't it?"

"The picture in front of him was scribbled and easily discovered by his captors. It could only be a desperate gamble and not a part of an elaborate plan."

"I only have one explanation for this."

"The tailless monkey only just got this clue. He didn't have the time to preserve the clue in a way that he thought was safe enough."

"As you said, after introducing you to interview Shen Yulin, the tailless monkey went into hiding and never showed up in public."

"Then, the main channels for him to collect clues can only be newspapers and online media."

"It just so happens that the tailless monkey has the habit of cutting newspapers."

"Can we reasonably infer that the tailless monkey has found some clues in a newspaper in the past few days?"

"In other words, instead of finding all the trademarks and emblems of the Sun in Dragon City, as long as we flip through the newspapers in the past few days, it is very likely that we will find similar patterns!"

Meng Chao and Ai Lei returned to the living room.

According to the date, they began to flip through the newspapers, magazines, and newspaper clippings left by the tailless monkey from the back to the front.

Meng Chao wrapped the stack of newspapers with his spiritual energy.

Like a pair of invisible mechanical hands, he flipped through them at lightning speed.

A tremendous amount of information was immediately imprinted into his eyes.

He did not have to worry that his fingerprints, hair, and grease would be left on the newspapers.

Just like that, Meng Chao flipped through the newspapers and magazines that the tailless monkey had collected over the past month in less than twenty minutes.

Ai Lei had also finished browsing through the tailless monkey's newspaper clippings.

Unfortunately, neither of them found a similar pattern.

"Could it be that I guessed wrong?"

Meng Chao took the newspaper clippings from Ai Lei's hands.

He scanned them page by page.

With this scan, he immediately discovered a problem.

"There are a few strands of fibers between these two binding threads.

"It seems that someone was very careful and removed a page from the notebook.

"In other words, someone didn't want others to see what content the tailless monkey had pasted into the newspaper clippings."

Meng Chao wrapped two threads that were thinner than spider silk with his spiritual energy and brought them to Ai lei.

Ai lei nodded. She thought for a moment and asked, "But the other party has already removed the entire page. How do we know what content the tailless monkey has pasted

"It's very simple. Look, the newspapers and magazines in the past few days are all here. Many newspapers have 'skylights' open. The parts that have been cut down are all pasted in the notebook."

Meng Chao said, "If there are only one or two skylights on a newspaper, the tailless monkey will still keep the newspaper.

"But if there are too many skylights open and the newspaper is broken into pieces, the tailless monkey will throw it away.

"Therefore, we can see that many of the newspapers here are missing some page numbers.

"Next, we just need to find the corresponding dates based on the time of the newspaper clippings and see which newspapers are missing these few days. Then, we can go to the Internet to find their electronic editions and browse through them."

The person who took the tailless monkey did not dare to tear too many page numbers from the newspaper clippings.

Therefore, the time frame was quickly reduced to the last three days.

Just browsing through the electronic editions of newspapers and magazines that could not be found in the past three days was not too much work for the two extraordinary humans.

Soon, Ai lei cheered.

"Found it, senior!"

Ai lei pointed at a piece of news report that was the size of a tofu. "It's this company, Horizon Biological Technology Co. , Ltd. !"

Chapter 1523: Smell of the Same Kind

Before Ai Lei could finish her sentence.

The hair on the back of Meng Chao's neck stood on end.

Something was wrong.

His heart rate had increased by 15% in the last half a minute.

His breathing rate had also increased by 7%, whileadrenaline secretion rate had increased by 11% .

All of this was an instinctive reaction.

Before his brain realized it, his body had already smelled danger.

Meng Chao's pupils instantly contracted into two needle tips.

As Ai Lei stared with her mouth agape, he seemed to turn into a wisp of smoke and disappear from the room.

Three seconds later, Meng Chao appeared on the rooftop.

His vitality magnetic field was like the shock wave of a heavy bomb. It spread in all directions at an astonishing speed and instantly covered an area of a hundred meters or more.

The affected area plunged into silence.

Even the idlers who had been talking loudly in The Dumpling House had gone home to sleep.

Meng Chao held his breath and listened carefully. He could only hear the uniform heartbeat and breathing sounds nearby and from afar.

The sources of the sounds remained on their bed obediently.

However, the feeling of being stabbed in the back was still lingering.

It was like a predator with an extremely sharp sense of smell hiding in the depths of the forest. When it was studying the footprints of its prey, it smelled the scent of its own kind.

Meng Chao's eyes were shining.

The virtual area structure that he had just constructed in his mind was emitting a crystal clear light.

Seven of the coordinates were particularly eye-catching.

"If I was a spy or an attacker who wanted to hide near the tailless monkey's residence and wait for him, I would definitely choose one of these seven coordinates!"

In the darkness, Meng Chao was like a poisonous lizard as he shot toward the seven coordinates.

He didn't find anything in the first three coordinates.

When he was 50 meters away from the fourth coordinate, his breathing and heartbeat suddenly accelerated.

This was the seventh floor of a building diagonally opposite Rainbow apartment.

From a high vantage point, through the gap between the two buildings, he could see the window where the tailless monkey was hiding.

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Meng Chao was like an army that had lifted its cannon, locked onto its target, and deactivated its safety.

He was prepared to fire at full force.

But he still found nothing.

From the traces left on the dusty ground, it seemed that someone had been here for a long time.

But from the cigarette ends in the corner, it seemed that this was the "Smoking corner" of the building. During the day, it was normal for someone to be bored and smoke while enjoying the scenery on the other side.

The next three coordinates were the same.

Meng Chao did not find anyone, shadows, or any suspicious clues.

So, was he being overly sensitive?

To be able to provoke such a strong reaction from him, the other party's strength was definitely not much weaker than his.

In other words, if the spy really existed.

He was at least a godly state expert.

The question was, what kind of secret was hidden in the tailless monkey's residence that was worthy of a godly state expert guarding it?

With many doubts, Meng Chao did not return to room 316 of Rainbow apartment.

Instead, he chose a location from above that could monitor the entire scene. He sent a message to Al lei, "It's not safe here. Let's talk when you come out!"

It was undoubtedly a very troublesome matter to be targeted by a god-level powerhouse whose enemies and friends were unknown.

For the sake of safety, Meng Chao did not look for a fixed place to stay.

Instead, he used a fake ID to rent an off-road vehicle that looked tattered on the outside, as if it had changed hands 17 or 18 times. However, after being strengthened and modified, the vehicle's condition was considered pretty good.

With the great victory of the Monster War, the wilderness and jungles that were once regarded as a forbidden area of life became a paradise for more and more adventurers.

In order to meet the needs of ordinary citizens working in the wilderness, this kind of operation was simple, sturdy, durable, modular design, and had strong passability and modification, off-road vehicles that could be casually equipped with caterpillar tracks, crawling feet, and even rock shredders were popular

The off-road vehicle that Meng Chao rented also came with a fully enclosed compartment. Inside the compartment was a huge freezer.

It was originally used to freeze the monster materials to ensure the freshness of the flesh and blood.

However, it was used to isolate sound and heat, preventing the life magnetic field of the strong from penetrating in. It was also quite suitable to scan the existence of Meng Chao and Ai Lei.

“Senior, what exactly happened just now?”

On the newly built highway around the city, Meng Chao asked Ai Lei to speed up to 130 kilometers per hour. Only then did he heave a sigh of relief.

Ai Lei finally couldn't hold it in anymore and asked curiously.

Meng Chao shook his head.

Until now, he still couldn't figure out if he was being paranoid or if he really smelled his own kind.

If it was another godly state expert, what did he want from the tailless monkey? Did he discover his existence?

There was still no answer to this question.

However, one thing was certain.

The value of the tailless monkey and the clues he left had increased significantly.

“What kind of company is Horizon Biotechnology Limited?”

Meng Chao carefully studied the information that Ai lei had found.

The symbol of this company was actually not a red sun, but a huge moon that rose from the sea.

The horizontal line drawn by the tailless monkey on the oval was the sea.

The wavy lines that Meng Chao thought represented “Sunlight” were the reflection of the Moon on the sea.

At first glance, there were many differences between the company's logo and the pattern left by the tailless monkey.

However, Yesterday's Monster Weekly published an article about Horizon Biotech, which was about the size of tofu.

The content was not surprising.

It was that the company was doing a lot of scientific research and innovation, developing a new type of monster fecal degradation technology, which could turn the excrement of highly toxic monsters into nutrient-rich fertilizer, increase the yield of spiritualized plants per mu, and so on.

They also interviewed a head of the company's scientific research.

Monster Weekly was a relatively well-known weekly in the industry, combining professionalism and entertainment, and it sold quite a lot.

It was published twice a week, and the period of the tailless monkey was always there.

On his clippings, there were often cut and pasted content from monster weekly.

Including the issue that was just released last Saturday, the tailless monkey had also cut three or four articles and pasted them into his notebook.

The problem was that the first issue of Monster Weekly had more than thirty pages.

According to the habits of the tailless monkey, if he had only cut out three or four articles, at least more than twenty pages would still be intact.

There was no reason for him to throw away this issue of Monster Weekly.

What was even more suspicious was that there was a heavyweight interview on the same page as the press release "Horizon Biotechnology Co. , Ltd. has successfully developed the technology to degrade monster feces." It was an interview with a professor at Longcheng Agricultural University, a major breakthrough in the field of synthetic monster venom.

From the electronic version of the interview, once this professor's major breakthrough could be commercialized,

He could produce monster venom on a large scale in a relatively cheap way.

It could be of great value in both industry and military.

And before it was commercialized, he could seize the patent agency rights of this professor.

That would be the business scope of a broker like the tailless monkey.

"From my understanding of the tailless monkey and his cutting style, he wouldn't miss this news."

Ai lei said, "Logically speaking, he would definitely cut out this news and paste it into his notebook.

"But now, since we haven't found any newspapers after the cutting, last Saturday's issue of Monster Weekly has all disappeared.

"In his notebook, we haven't found the page number that pasted this piece of news. Why is that?"

Meng Chao thought quickly.

He immediately understood what ai lei meant.

“Because the tailless monkey cut and pasted the piece of news about the ‘Synthetic Venom’ together with the news about Horizon’s research on the technology that can degrade monster feces onto the same page.”

Meng Chao said, “The person who took the tailless monkey did not want Horizon Corporation to be exposed, so he could only take away an entire page.

“In order not to arouse suspicion, he could only take away the entire ‘monster weekly’ that the tailless monkey had cut.

“In the beginning, even if someone discovered it, it would have been difficult to lock onto horizon corporation through such vague clues.

“At least, it would be impossible to lock onto it in a short period of time.

“I didn’t expect that the tailless monkey would leave the logo of ‘Horizon Corporation’ on the top of the cabinet’s inner wall. This time, the other party’s attempts to hide it had instead become self-disclosure.”

However, there was pitifully little information about this company on the internet.

From the public information, Horizon Biotechnology Limited’s main business was the artificial breeding of Nightmare Beasts, as well as the research and development of technologies related to how to improve the quality of the monsters’ flesh and blood while artificial breeding.

Simply put, it was best for artificially bred monsters to be as docile and obedient as poultry and livestock. They would sleep when they were full and give birth when they were full. Even the halberd demon pig and the armored rhinoceros could be like rodent monsters, it would be great if they could give birth to more than ten to twenty of them in one litter!

At the same time, these artificially bred monsters had to maintain the cell activity of wild monsters so that humans could use their hormones and flesh to refine high-quality gene reagents.

The problem was that with the victory of the Monster War and the number of wild monsters, the number of wild monsters fell like a precipice.

The technology related to “How to make artificially bred monsters maintain the cell activity of wild monsters” had entered a period of great interest and became the target of all kinds of capital.

Almost overnight, hundreds of “Biotechnology limited companies” or “Cutting-edge gene laboratories” appeared in Dragon City, all boasting that they had mastered the core technology and were exploring the frontier, everything had been prepared for a long time. With only three to five hundred million in startup funds, the flesh and blood of the halberd demon pig would have the cell activity of the nine-headed Diamond Dragon.

Most of them were, of course, shell companies.

Ai Lei had never heard of ‘Horizon’ before.

Meng Chao was born in Dragon City Agricultural University. He was considered an expert in the circle of Reapers.

His Super Star Group had also acquired the leading spirit creation creature in the industry.

However, he didn't remember the name horizon.

Chapter 1524: Revisiting the Past

The corporate representative of the company was a nobody.

Apart from the interview manuscript the size of a piece of dried tofu in Monster Weekly, it was hard to find news related to Horizon online.

Meng Chao found several articles in Monster Weekly, related to monster fecal fermentation technology, from more companies in the same industry. There were longer articles, more pictures, and interview videos.

It was a series of reports.

Horizon was only one of the subjects of the interview. It was an insignificant supporting role.

Therefore, it was likely that the writer had come to Horizon's door and forced Horizon to accept the interview.

"This company is very low-key!"

Meng Chao discovered that Horizon was registered in a high-end office building in the Financial District.

However, Ai Lei told him that the office building was famous for being a "cutthroat building."

The companies there were all swindlers that boasted about their abilities to awaken extraordinary powers without much effort or trouble.

If Horizon was an actual business, it definitely would not operate there.

The two searched using various keywords for a long time and finally found that Horizon Biotech Limited had a breeding base for Nightmarish Beasts in Raging Waves Mountain Range.

Raging Waves Mountain Range was where Meng Chao had entered the ranks of experts after receiving the baptism of the spirit waves.

It was also where he had met Lu Siya.

It was also where he had taken the crucial step to change the future and saved the main force of the Red Dragon Army, as well as the training hopes of countless middle-level and low-level extraordinary individuals, thereby profoundly changing the face of Dragon City.

Because of the explosion of the Crimson jade vein, a large amount of spiritual energy had escaped into the air, greatly reducing the quality of the crystals stored at the bottom of the Wild Waves Mountains. The scale of the mining was far from what was expected.

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However, the increase in the density of the spiritual energy of heaven and earth allowed the soil and water to be nourished, which was greatly beneficial to the growth of monsters and Spiritualized plants.

As a result, many biotechnology companies set up gene laboratories and monster breeding bases in the raging waves mountain range.

The local industrial chain also shifted from the planned mining of crystals and metal smelting to the fields of biochemical technology such as monster breeding, reproduction, and modulation.

Along the highway that had just been built, Meng Chao and Ai lei rushed to the raging waves mountain range overnight.

Meng Chao remembered that just a few years ago, the road from the main city to the raging waves mountain range was still bumpy and uneven. On both sides of the road that was barely opened up were endless dark jungles, there were countless ferocious monsters lurking in the jungles. They dared to charge at the armored train that was constantly spewing fire at a speed of more than two hundred kilometers per hour.

At that time, the road was repaired and broken again and again. The roadbed was soaked in the blood of countless humans and monsters.

It was not unusual for supplies from the main city to take three days and three nights to be sent to the front line.

But now, the road was straight, flat, and sturdy. Even without the off-road mode, it could still travel at a speed of nearly 100 kilometers per hour.

The jungles on both sides of the road had been carefully pruned, and special gene reagents were sprayed every day to ensure that snakes, insects, rats, ants, and carnivorous plants that were harmful to human civilization could not survive.

Although the roars and howls of monsters could still be heard from time to time in the depths of the jungles.

But these monsters simply did not dare to appear in the sight of humans, let alone cross the line of lightning.

Such a change allowed Meng Chao to see the unyielding strength hidden in the depths of Dragon City.

It made him believe that even if dragon city needed to scrape bones to heal injuries or even break a warrior's wrist, they would definitely be able to survive the surgery to become stronger than before.

Before dawn, the two of them arrived at the biochemical technology industrial park at the foot of the WUTAO mountain range.

The WUTAO mountain range was magnificent and undulating. Regardless of its scale or severity, it was one of the best within a radius of hundreds of kilometers around Dragon City, second only to the hidden fog domain, which owned the god of fog mountain range.

This was because the main industries shifted from crystal mining and metal smelting to Monster Breeding and modulation.

In addition to the laboratory and residential area at the foot of the mountain, the depths of the mountain range still maintained a lush appearance.

However, the forests were dotted with white inflatable tents that were more than a hundred meters in length and width, with the largest being three to five hundred meters.

Some of the tents were even built with steel beams that could withstand a level-twelve gale and become semi-permanent buildings.

Meng Chao knew that the tents were made of special materials. They looked thin, but they could lock spiritual energy inside and even change the concentration of spiritual energy inside and outside the tents for a long time while keeping the air flowing, it could be artificially created into a small "Paradise".

A few years ago, the cost of building this kind of tent was very high.

Meng Chao remembered that at that time, the Spirit Plant Department of Nongda wanted to build a few similar tents and use them as sheds for the production of Spiritualized plants.

In the end, due to insufficient funds, they could only reduce the size of the sheds.

Now, Meng Chao could see at least thirty to fifty white tents within his sight.

The small ones were the size of a basketball stadium, and the big ones could fit into a football field.

On one hand, it was true that technological progress had brought about continuous reductions in costs.

On the other hand, it also meant that after the victory of the Monster War, the relationship between humans and the defeated, conquered, and domesticated monsters had undergone a subtle change.

It had changed from a fight to the death, to how to maximize the value of the monsters.

Because each tent had its own corporate logo.

Meng Chao and Ai Lei soon found the breeding base of Horizon Biotechnology Co. , Ltd. .

This base was located in the deepest part of the entire biochemical industry park.

It had almost penetrated into the hinterland of the raging waves mountain range.

It was seven to eight hundred meters away from the breeding base of the nearest other companies.

At first glance, the mountain was high and dense, far away from the water source, and the spiritual energy was not as dense as the central area of the biochemical industry park. Transportation could only rely on a narrow path, behind it was a cliff that was thirty to forty meters below the ground. It was not a good place without space for second-stage development.

However, if the horizon was really weird, this was the most suitable location.

"It is located in the heart of the forest, at the end of the road. Any vehicle that enters it will be discovered and controlled immediately.

"With my back against the cliff, I don't have to worry that someone will come up from behind.

"Although the space on the ground is not large, the underground of the furious waves mountain range is full of caves. After the explosion of the Crimson Brilliance Jade Lode, many of the caves were further torn apart and expanded, forming a complicated maze. With the intense interference of the spiritual

magnetism, even an entire army with high-precision exploration tools might not be able to map every crevice in the underground, let alone find out what kind of unspeakable tricks some ill-intentioned people were up to in the crevices!

“In the worst-case scenario, if something unexpected happens, one only needs to jump off the cliff and dive into the depths of wild waves mountain. It will be easy for one to escape from the endless primeval forest.

“In fact, a lot of traps and armories have already been set up in the depths of the forest. One can use the forest as their home ground and fight to the death with the intruders!”

Meng Chao also noticed that the defense here was very tight.

At the periphery of the breeding base, there were not only seven or eight layers of high-voltage power grids and dozens of crossfire points, but also more than ten sentry posts with high-power searchlights.

There were also two-digit drones buzzing in the air.

At this moment, the sky was just beginning to brighten.

It was reasonable to infer that these drones were on duty day and night without stopping.

Of course, in the field of monster breeding and gene production, safety was definitely the most important issue.

If the safety measures were not in place, if the gene production went wrong and the wild and untamable monsters escaped from the breeding base, it would be a huge disaster.

However, Meng Chao still felt that compared to the size of the breeding base where horizon could at most fit a basketball stadium, the safety measures here were a little too strict.

Moreover, many of the security measures, in Meng Chao’s professional opinion, were external and not internal.

This was a problem.

If an accident happened in the monster breeding base, the monsters could only charge out from the inside. Therefore, the focus of the firepower was definitely on the inside.

A large number of searchlights and crossfire points were faintly aimed at the outside world, especially the only road. who was he guarding against?

To avoid alerting the enemy, Meng Chao didn’t get too close.

Moreover, he believed that even if he swaggered into the white tent, or even sat in the “Horizon” laboratory, he wouldn’t be able to detect any abnormalities on the surface.

After all, this was a legitimate registered and operated business.

It was also engaged in a certain dangerous special industry.

It often had to deal with inspections from various departments and associations.

It was not convenient to refuse all interviews, including those from major media outlets.

Therefore, horizon certainly did not leave any loopholes on the surface. It was impossible to be easily seen through.

Meng Chao Thought for a moment and circled half a circle around the breeding base of “Horizon” from afar.

As expected, he found the sewage pipe.

The half-underground sewage pipe was like an extremely long python. After leaving horizon, it extended all the way to the foot of the mountain where the white tents were denser.

Meng Chao extended two fingers and flicked the exterior of the sewage pipe.

“The casting material of this sewage pipe is different from ordinary pipes. It should be used to transport monster feces.”

Meng Chao told Ai Lei, “Monster feces contain a large amount of spiritual energy residues. They are inflammable and explosive dangerous goods. If they are casually piled inside the enterprise, the slightest carelessness and excessive fermentation will easily lead to various accidents such as poisoning, fire, and even explosions.

“Special containers and equipment must be used to carry out controlled fermentation and deep treatment in order to ensure safety and turn waste into treasure. Only then can they pass the approval of the relevant departments and carry out normal production and business activities.”

Meng Chao’s family did this, so he was naturally familiar with it.

“There are two ways to deal with monster feces.

“If it’s a large-scale enterprise that raises more than a thousand monsters and has a relatively large monster body size, they will usually build a monster feces treatment workshop. Although the investment is larger at one time and it will be diluted over a long period of time, the cost is still relatively controllable. Moreover, at critical moments, it won’t be held by others. If there’s no own treatment workshop, what if the treatment capacity of other places is limited and their own monsters are especially capable of excreting? A living person can’t possibly let their urine suffocate to death, right?

“As for medium-sized enterprises, they don’t have the ability to deal with it themselves. They can only use special sewage pipes to transport the monster feces to places that have the conditions to deal with it.

“As for small-scale start-ups, they don’t even need sewage pipes. They can just use dangerous goods transport vehicles.

“Based on the area of horizon company’s cultivation shed, the number of monsters raised by their family is at least around 500 to 600. That means they have to set up a sewage pipe. Otherwise, they won’t be able to get a business license.

“On the other hand, in this biochemical technology park where the industry is concentrated, there should be a public monster excrement treatment center as a supporting facility to attract investment and provide services to manufacturers.

“That means, as long as we follow the sewage pipe and find the public monster excrement treatment center, we will know how many monsters and what kind of monsters horizon has raised. Then, we can confirm whether there is a problem with this company!”

Chapter 1525: Cost Problem

The smell of monster feces was much stronger than that of ordinary beasts.

No matter how harmless the treatment was, it still had a smell.

Therefore, it had to be placed downwind.

Meng Chao was an insider and very familiar with the layout of this type of biochemical industrial park.

Soon, he found the intersection of dozens of sewage pipes. There was a glint from something silver, like the closed fermentation tank of a reactor.

It was dawn.

Many monsters were sleeping.

It was not yet the peak period of excretion, and the public treatment center was running at a minimum.

There were only a few sleepy and lazy workers.

The place was for small- and medium-sized enterprises that raised less than five hundred to six hundred monsters.

It was not a heavily guarded military area.

Meng Chao easily avoided the staff's attention.

From his empty office, he stole the inventory list of consumables from the past month, as well as the related data table.

This was because there had been a great explosion in the Red Radiance Jade vein around Raging Waves Mountain Range.

Until now, the spirit magnetic interference had been very strong.

Many instruments and equipment were easily interfered with, resulting in data loss and system paralysis.

Therefore, most of the data still required manual records and physical ledgers.

Meng Chao flipped through the two ledgers labeled “Horizon Biotechnology Co. Ltd.” from beginning to end, then closed his eyes and did some mental calculations.

When he opened his eyes again, a suspicious glint flashed in his eyes.

“Strange.”

He muttered, “The data in here doesn’t seem to follow common sense.”

“What do you mean?”

Ai lei asked, “Senior, did you notice anything unusual?”

“It’s just that there’s nothing unusual. That’s why it’s So Strange.”

Meng Chao patted the warehouse receipt on his left hand first, “In this ledger, it records the various biological additives and chemicals used in the past month to ferment and degrade the monster feces transported over from Horizon.

“I took a look and found that most of them were common goods such as bacillus, Acetobacter, protease, growth-promoting factor, and so on.

“Judging from the types and amounts used, these additives and chemicals can at most handle the feces of three to five hundred ordinary monsters, such as the halberd demon pig and the iron-armored rhinoceros.

“The higher the level of the monster, the more psionic residues there are in the feces. Using these common goods won’t solve the problem at all.”

After pausing for a moment, Meng Chao opened the account book on his right.

“This account book records the return points that the public processing center should give to Horizon. Because after the monsters’ feces are processed, they can become a very good fertilizer. Therefore, not only does the public processing center not have to collect processing fees from the farmers, but it can help the farmers find a market. After the farmers sell on behalf of the farmers, they can use the sales to deduct the processing fees, the farmers’ rent, and the management fees for operating in the park.”

Meng Chao pointed at the figures for the past three months and explained to Ai lei, “Judging from the flow of water in the past few months, the selling price of the monster feces at Horizon isn’t too high. If we extrapolate from this price, they would only be raising 300 to 500 normal monsters.

“If they weren’t raising the sword-halberd demonic boar but the tyrant mammoth, or if they were raising more than 1,000 monsters, the monster feces wouldn’t have been sold for such a small amount of money.”

Ai Lei agreed with Meng Chao’s point of view.

But she still did not understand. “So, is there a problem? What if Horizon is really a small and medium-sized enterprise that is operating legally, and it really only raises three to five hundred halberd demon pigs

“If Horizon is really relying on these three to five hundred halberd demon pigs to make a living, then there’s no need to set up the breeding base in the depths of Raging Waves Mountain.”

Meng Chao analyzed calmly, “The artificial breeding technology of the sword-halberd demon pigs is already very mature. In the market, the price of pre-processed pork is almost cheaper than that of chicken breast. There’s not much profit at all.

“Moreover, the omnivorous monsters with thick skin and meat are very adaptable to the environment. They can set up a large-scale breeding farm with tens of thousands of animals in a place where transportation is convenient and birds don’t shit.

“In fact, because the technical threshold is very low, the related farming industry has long been slaughtered into a red sea for the common beasts that can be raised easily and produce a lot of meat like the halberd demon pig and the iron-armored rhinoceros.

“Those who can survive in the highly competitive Red Sea are all super-large enterprises that can raise tens of thousands or even hundreds of thousands of animals.

“After all, Wild Waves Mountain is a blessed land with abundant spiritual energy. Setting up a breeding base here would be very expensive just to buy or rent the land.

“Horizon is located deep inside wild waves mountain. The rent might be a little cheaper, but no matter how cheap it is, it is still as cheap as a deserted area. Moreover, the cost of building and maintaining the highway and setting up such a tight defense system has been raised by a lot.

“May I ask, in such a place, what is the core competitiveness of raising only three to five hundred sword-halberd demon pigs? Can they be compared with the powerful large-scale breeding enterprises?

“By the way, speaking of the impregnable defense system — if we are only raising sword-halberd demon pigs and iron-armored rhinos, there is no need to pull up so many high-voltage power grids and set up so many machine gun turrets.

“Even if these pigs, dogs, cows, and sheep run out, perhaps the cleaning lady in the park will wave her broom and chase them back. Is there a need to surround the breeding base so tightly that it’s impenetrable?”

“That makes sense!”

Ai Lei suddenly came to a realization.

She thought for a moment and then said., “Then, is it possible that Horizon is researching some kind of high-tech technology, such as making the demon pig taste more fresh and tender, or making the demon pig’s flesh have the quality of the flesh of a tyrant mammoth, and so on?

“If it’s such an experimental project, it doesn’t seem like there’s a need to raise too many monsters.

“Or perhaps, Horizon is a shell company with a big appetite. On the surface, it has a decent breeding base, but in reality, it’s just to cheat the investors of their money. In that case, it doesn’t matter what kind of monsters it raises. Of course, the cheaper and easier it is to raise the monsters, the better

“First, if we are developing more advanced breeding technology, Horizon’s location is too bad.”

Meng Chao said, “The more spiritual energy is concentrated in a place, the easier it is to stimulate the cell division and genetic mutation of the monster to produce a new subtype of the monster.

“Look, this is the layout of the biochemical industrial park that I just got from the Office of the public processing center.

“These are all serious, small-scale start-ups that are researching high-end technologies. They are all gritting their teeth and building their breeding base in the center of the industrial park, the place closest to the Honghui jade vein where the spiritual energy is densest.

“Even if Horizon doesn’t have that much money and can’t afford to buy or rent the Fengshui land in the center of the park, they wouldn’t have gone to such a remote corner.

“If the money chain is really that tight, they shouldn’t have set up such a waste of money project in the first place.

“Secondly, if they’re selling dog meat just to cheat the investors of their money, what’s the most important thing? Of course, it’s publicity!

“Look at other shell companies. which one of them doesn’t have to boast in the major media and boast to the Sky?

“Their registered capital is only three to five million, yet they dare to say that they can beat the universe with their fists and kick the sky with their feet.

“There are only two to three one-star transcendents in the company. They’ve only bought a few battle videos of godly state experts, and they’re even pirated. Yet, they dare to say that they’ve received the careful guidance of godly state experts.

“They can even raise the halberd demon pig to death, yet they dare to say that they’re about to overcome the technical problem of artificially cultivating the diamond nine-headed dragon.

“There are even people who claim that they have solved the core technical problem of the ‘space-time bridge’ from the Otherworld to Earth. Now, they are only short of hundreds of thousands of startup funds to open the space tunnel and return to Earth!

“Only such audacious swindlers can cheat the investors of their money.

“But look at Horizon. Since when did they do any publicity?

“They are not even willing to do door-to-door interviews. They only came up with a press release the size of tofu. How can they cheat money if they keep such a low profile?”

Ai Lei often dealt with shell companies.

She was very familiar with the style of these scammers.

After Meng Chao’s advice, she indeed felt that Horizon Biotech’s business strategy was completely illogical.

“All the possibilities have been eliminated. There’s only one answer.”

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and said, “Horizon’s legitimate business on the surface doesn’t make money, and it doesn’t need to make money at all, because it’s just a cover.

“I guess that there must be an even larger underground space under Horizon’s breeding base, where some secret projects that can earn high profits are being run.

“But to get to the bottom of this secret project, I have to do aerial reconnaissance.”

Meng Chao explained to Ai Lei that Horizon Biotech’s secret project must be big.

Otherwise, there is no need to go to the mountains and forests to build a secret base, in the Dragon City to find a random biochemical laboratory can do.

And large-scale R & D projects, no matter which field they involve, must consume a lot of psionic energy, and discharge a lot of wastewater, waste gas, produce crystal ore slag and monster feces, and so on.

Since Horizon had been so secretive, it was impossible for them to do so.

It was impossible for them to build a pipeline of spiritual energy openly through the regular channels.

It was also impossible for them to release real waste to the public treatment center.

In that case, they must have their own crystal reactor and a secret sewage pipeline.

However, no matter how secretive they were, as long as their waste entered nature, even a gram of crystal slag would have an impact on the environment.

However, many changes would be hard to notice from the ground, since they did not know the real face of the mountain.

Even if they did, it would be difficult to connect them to Horizon.

Only when he looked down from the sky did Meng Chao have absolute confidence that he could catch Horizon by its tail in the shortest time possible!

Chapter 1526: Low-Level Reconnaissance

It was not easy to approach the breeding base of Horizon Biotech from the air without anyone noticing.

The other party’s drones had sealed off the entire airspace.

If there really was something shameful in the breeding base, the performance of these drones would definitely be better than the industry standard.

The direction of surveillance was not the ground, but any intruder who dared to approach Horizon from the sky.

If Meng Chao flew too high.

It would be difficult to see the details on the ground.

If he wanted to see the details on the ground, it would be easy for the other party to notice him.

Just as Meng Chao was in a dilemma, he heard a faint buzzing sound.

Looking in the sound’s direction, Meng Chao found that it was a few armored airships taking off and landing.

The Raging Waves Mountain area had become an important source of crystals for the Dragon City civilization, a monster breeding base, and a high-tech industrial park.

It was closely related to the main city area, as well as the surrounding dozens of satellite cities, development zones, military bases, and even the forward bases outside Monster Mountain Range.

In addition to relying on roads and railways, dozens of air routes were also needed to transport people and goods.

There was a medium-sized airport in the bio-industrial park.

Even though it was not even eight in the morning, there had been a steady stream of armored airships in the sky.

However, Horizon had placed the breeding base in a very clever location.

It just so happened to avoid a few main routes.

Even if a few armored airships occasionally passed by the sky above Horizon, they would have to be above the clouds. Only that area, where the airflow was relatively stable, allowed them to enter a cruising state.

The clouds around Raging Waves Mountain Range were extremely thick.

In fact, Raging Waves Mountain got its name from the layer of clouds in the area that covered the entire world like raging waves.

It was especially so in the hinterland of the mountain range where Horizon was located.

It was shrouded in clouds all year round, and the visibility was extremely low.

“Even if I snuck into an armored airship and climbed to a height of thousands of meters, when I was closest to Horizon, it would be difficult for my vision to penetrate the surging clouds and scan the details on the ground clearly.

“Unless I can force an armored airship to lower its altitude, close the distance, and observe it closely.

“If that’s the case, this armored airship will definitely be discovered by Horizon’s drones.”

Meng Chao pondered for a long time.

He put the account books and information that he had just stolen back into his office intact.

Then, he and Ai Lei arrived at the airport at the southeast corner of the biochemical industrial park.

The airport was much livelier than the monster excrement processing center.

The security was also slightly tighter.

However, it still couldn’t stop a sneaky god-level powerhouse.

Meng Chao followed suit and got a flight schedule of the air routes and the latest airspace information.

He found the closest flight route to Horizon and the closest armored airship, as well as figured out the weather information this morning, including the wind speed, direction, and wind force within an hour.

Following the map, he found this armored airship on the tarmac.

This was a PEGASUS-2 type armored airship.

It was a popular model produced in large quantities during the monster war.

It was originally a combat boat that was used for aerial hunting missions.

The uneven monster collision and tearing marks on the body of the airship could be seen from its vicissitudes of life.

However, with the victory of the Monster War, the threat in the air ceased to exist, and a large number of combat airships lost their use.

Many combat airships were equipped with airbags and engines to reduce the speed and increase the cargo load, turning them into civilian transport airships.

This was the case with the armored airship in front of them.

Judging from the paint on the hull, it belonged to the universal group.

A few workers were delivering the freshly slaughtered and cleaned monsters to the special water-locked preservation cabinets inside the armored airship.

Through eavesdropping on the conversation between the two workers, Meng Chao learned that the armored airship was dedicated to transporting raw materials for the canteen of the Universal Corporation in the Crystal Mine in the hidden fog domain.

The Universal Corporation was a big corporation. It had its own monster farm in the Wild Waves mountain range.

The monsters that were freshly slaughtered every morning were transported to the hidden fog domain by armored airships. When they were delivered to the kitchen of the canteen, the flesh of the monsters was still jumping crazily.

Crystal mining was a heavy physical labor.

Other than accidents that could happen at any time, the frontline workers had to endure the ubiquitous interference of spiritual magnetism.

It was inevitable for them to be depressed, grumpy, and even mentally deranged if they stayed in the operations for a long time.

As far as possible to ensure the food of the first-line employees, is to increase productivity, reduce the accident rate, one of the most effective ways.

But, this "Pegasus-2", has been in service for many years, maintenance is not very good.

It was originally a war era, in order to deal with the overwhelming beast tide, can only "Quantity against quantity", working day and night to rush out.

After several soul-stirring aerial battles and bone-breaking major repairs, the interior was already riddled with injuries.

After switching from military to civilian use, the airbags and engines that were attached to them also conflicted with the original design concept.

This caused the failure rate of this type of armored airship to be extremely high.

Fortunately, it was only in the vicinity of Dragon City, carrying out short-distance transportation operations.

There was no need to consider the problem of being attacked by monsters.

Moreover, armored airships were famous for their tough skin and thick flesh.

Even if there was an accident and seven or eight engines were destroyed, at most, they would be paralyzed in the air and wait for rescue.

After all, the airbags of armored airships were filled with inert gas.

The outer skin of the airbags was also made of special materials that could not be burned by raging flames.

Even if it was destroyed by human beings, it would be difficult for it to fall freely and cause a tragedy.

Considering the cost, the armored airships that had been flying for more than twenty years and were riddled with patches or altered beyond recognition were still in service.

Therefore, it was not surprising that the armored airship in front of them had blown up one or two crystal engines and deviated from its course when it was climbing up because it had exceeded the limit of mechanical fatigue.

Taking advantage of several staff "Keng-chi-keng-chi" will be a few small mountain-sized special sword halberd demon pig, carrying the armored airship.

Meng Chao like an invisible electric current, accurate into their blind spot, flash into the cargo hold of the armored airship.

It's a transport. It doesn't take into account the passengers.

Huanyu group's home-bred sabre demon pig, although the cell activity and the psionic content of the unit of flesh and blood, are a little bit higher than the market.

However, it was not high enough to attract people's attention.

There was only one escort in the cargo hold.

His attention was focused on the freshness of the monster's body parts that had just been delivered, as well as the normal operation of the preservation facilities.

He did not notice that an uninvited guest had sneaked in.

When the armored airship slowly floated in the air and was about to accelerate, the slightly noisy roar from the crystal engines convinced Meng Chao that his plan was feasible.

The 'Pegasus-2' carried twelve crystal engines.

But only eight high-speed engines were original.

The four heavy engines that were later attached were designed for long-distance transportation under heavy loads.

Two engines of different models, different uses, and different design ideas were roaring at the same time. As a result, their spiritual and magnetic fields interfered with each other, causing the engines, the engine supports, and even the hull to tremble, it was far beyond the limits of 'comfort'.

The armored airship was like an aging steel behemoth.

It was gasping for breath.

But it was still struggling to climb higher and higher, flying faster and faster.

Of course, it also brought more pressure to the crystal engine.

Meng Chao even heard the noise of metal tearing because it was too tired.

The pilots and escorts had long been used to the deafening noises.

They all wore earmuffs and helmets to prevent the brain from vibrating.

It was even more impossible to detect the movements of uninvited guests.

As the armored airship was about to drill into the clouds, the paint on the surface of the airbag could no longer be seen clearly from the ground.

Meng Chao drilled out of the cargo hold.

The humidity in the wild waves mountains was extremely high. The surface of the airbag of the armored airship was covered with water droplets the size of needle tips. It was wet and slippery.

However, Meng Chao did not need to cling to the surface of the airbag in the first place.

He only needed to cover his flight path with the help of the enormous airbag.

His limbs were always 0.1 millimeters away from the surface of the airbag.

He 'floated' to the six crystal engines on the left and back of the armored airship.

Meng Chao first plucked a strand of his hair and let it fall freely to test the current wind speed and direction.

Then he looked down at the rolling raging mountains and confirmed the approximate position of Horizon Corporation.

Finally, he calculated the most accurate timing according to the direction and speed of the armored airship.

With a large number of formulas and virtual trajectories, they poured down from his mind like a waterfall.

Meng Chao solved the answer.

Three minutes and 17 seconds later.

The armored airship flew to the airspace closest to Horizon Corporation.

The wind direction and speed were also just right.

Meng Chao was like a giant gecko that was firmly attached to the main engine on the left side of the armored airship.

His palms gently pressed on the shell of the main engine that was shaking violently.

Spiritual energy gushed out of his palms like magma and poured into the core components of the main engine without any resistance.

The vibration and noise of the main engine were suddenly raised by a level!

Chapter 1527: Guilty Conscience

The interior of the crystal engine, which had experienced an overload many years ago, was filled with cracks that were not visible to the naked eye.

Under Meng Chao's guidance, countless components resonated and immediately tore the cracks to the extent that hair or even fingers could pass through.

Spirit flames surged out of the cracks and spread to the propellers and the spirit gas pipes behind the engine that carried energy.

The propellers and spirit energy pipes caught fire as expected.

Under Meng Chao's delicate control, the heat and kinetic energy were compressed into an extremely small space.

After the destructive energy was accumulated to the limit, it was released instantly, forming a small-scale explosion.

Boom!

Countless sharp-edged components, including the shell fragments of the main engine. They turned into a torrent of steel with a temperature of over a thousand degrees, shooting toward the airbag's skin.

Although the skin was made of special materials with extremely high ignition points and was filled with inert gas, it would never burn or even explode.

However, the shards that were as sharp as blades tore dozens of large holes that were seven or eight meters long, or even more than ten meters long.

In the air hundreds of meters high, the airbag began to leak and shrivel at a speed visible to the naked eye.

The airbag of the Pegasus-2 was designed with a zoning structure. The main airbag was divided into six separate areas with four auxiliary airbags attached.

Even if half of the inert gas in the airbag leaked out and the airbag completely shriveled up, the airbag would still be able to land on the ground slowly.

However, under Meng Chao's careful calculation and ingenious guidance, a large number of shattered airbags were all concentrated on the left side.

After the main engine on the left side exploded, due to the imbalance of the propulsion force, the load of the other engines on the left side suddenly increased. Two more engines caught fire, and thick black smoke was emitted from the inside of the other two engines.

In other words, the left airbag and the engine were almost completely destroyed.

Just like a speeding car, the left wheel suddenly had a flat tire.

Naturally, it deviated from the normal direction.

The pilot of this Pegasus-2 was also experienced.

Back then, in the airspace where dozens of space-splitting demon eyes were floating, they could kill their way in and out, dyeing the sky red with blood.

Even if there was only one engine left, they still had a way to drive the armored airship back to the airport.

The small scene in front of him was naturally not difficult for him.

In order to ensure balance, the pilot took the initiative to release 10% of the inert gas in the right airbag.

He also reduced the output power of the right engine by 70% .

It almost turned the armored airship into a hot air balloon, hovering in the air, slowly descending at a very safe speed.

At the same time, he also made contact with the airport not far away.

Under the command of the airport, he was rescued by two armored airships on the nearby flight path.

This was all routine operation.

Everything was under control.

There was no need to panic.

But before the rescue arrived.

It was affected by the strong wind.

The lost power of the armored airship, swaying and drifting, was blown directly above Horizon's breeding base.

This was unavoidable.

The wind was very fast and strong today.

The whole 'window period' was only a few minutes.

Right below the burning main engine.

Meng Chao was not affected by the flames of thousands of degrees at all. He blinked quickly, his eyes glittering like the camera system of a spy satellite.

In a few minutes, hundreds of high-resolution aerial images were 'captured' from different angles.

All of the jungle's details within several dozen kilometers of Horizon were deeply engraved on the cerebral cortex.

Horizon's drones had noticed the abnormality of the armored airship.

However, when the buzzing bees flew near the armored airship, Meng Chao had already ended his aerial reconnaissance and returned to the cargo hold.

Soon, the rescue team made up of two larger armored airships also rushed to the scene.

The fault of the Pegasus-2 was too serious. It lacked the ability to continue carrying out missions after aerial maintenance.

The rescue team could only throw out a rope as thick as an arm and drag it back to the airport.

The Pegasus-2, which landed in the open-air maintenance workshop attached to the airport, was still emitting thick black smoke.

With the cover of the black smoke, Meng Chao easily escaped everyone's sight and met up with Ai lei.

Although the air reconnaissance plan was quite successful,

There was no joy on Meng Chao's face.

Instead, he frowned and looked confused.

"Senior, how is it?"

Ai Lei nervously asked, "Have you seen the situation around Horizon clearly?"

"I have, but there is a certain deviation from my guess. I didn't find too many anomalies. At least, there aren't any anomalies within ten kilometers of Horizon."

Meng Chao told Ai Lei that there was nothing suspicious about the terrain or the vegetation within ten kilometers of the company.

He did not find any traces of man-made construction, such as secret entrances, airstrips, heating wells, sewage pipes, and other facilities.

He did not find any signs of radiation, pollution, or mutation in the vegetation either.

On the other hand, in the northwest of Horizon, deep inside the furious wave mountain range, there were several forests that were colorful as if they had been contaminated or mutated by spirit radiation.

But it was too far away.

It was more than thirty kilometers away from Horizon.

After the explosion of the Red Radiance Jade vein, Raging Waves Mountain had been riddled with holes in the first place. The surface of the mountain was full of crevices, which made it look like an old, broken boiler.

The spirit energy contained in the underground lode could easily seep into the surface through the crisscrossing cracks, affecting the local animals and plants, and changing the shape of the jungle.

It was too difficult to link the change of the jungle twenty to thirty kilometers away with Horizon's strangeness.

"It is unlikely that Horizon would build a secret sewage pipeline more than thirty kilometers away. The amount of work involved is too large. It would definitely be discovered when it's built," Meng Chao said

"It is important to know that Raging Waves Mountain Range is rich in vegetation and many kinds of monsters. It is the hunting ground that the monster hunters are most passionate about, second only to the hidden fog domain.

"Even today, many monster hunters still like to hunt, meditate, and train in the hinterland of the wild waves mountain range.

"Horizon is low-key. It is far from being so huge that it can cover the sky with one hand. How can it not be discovered if it is being built in the depths of the jungle?"

"However, without an energy source, a cooling well, and a sewage pipeline, it is impossible for Horizon to be so big no matter what tricks it is up to. How could it attract the attention of the tailless monkey?"

Meng Chao began to doubt if he had overlooked any clues that led to his speculation being wrong.

Just as he was about to completely overturn his idea and start all over again...

Suddenly, he saw a familiar face out of the corner of his eye.

The airport was not big.

The passenger waiting area and the open-air maintenance yard were next to each other.

After all the trouble just now, it was already past ten in the morning.

The number of passengers waiting to board the plane gradually increased.

Everyone was bored and gathered together to watch the Pegasus-2 perform maintenance.

Then, they heard the pilot of the Pegasus-2 complaining loudly with the maintenance staff that he had long known that there was something wrong with the armored airship. He had heard strange noises from the main engine during the last few flights, he had made several reports requesting for major repairs, but recently, the operations of the crystal mines in Dragon City had been very heavy. The transportation capacity was too tight, so the date of major repairs had been delayed, and so on.

"I know him."

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and locked onto a seemingly ordinary passenger.

But he only glanced at the passenger before pulling ai lei aside.

“What? Who?”

Ai Lei’s gaze passed over Meng Chao’s shoulder, but she did not see him clearly. “Senior, did you meet your old friend?”

“Not before, just now.”

Meng Chao said, “In your nine o’clock direction, the second one came from the right. He had dark skin, a buzz cut, and some big and small eyes. He was carrying a hiking bag and a travel bag. I saw him at 6.47 am.”

Ai Lei thought for a moment and said in surprise, “At that time, we were observing Horizon’s breeding base!”

“That’s right.”

Meng Chao said, “At that time, the guy was wearing camouflage clothes and carrying a taser gun. He was patrolling the few guard towers outside the breeding base.

“Judging from his appearance at that time, he should have been a security guard of Horizon.

“Moreover, I remember that the security officers on the Watchtower were a little nervous when they saw him at that time. Their muscles could not help but tense up.

“Judging from his breathing and heartbeat at this moment, his strength is not weak either. He has at least reached the peak of the Earth realm.

“He should be the head of the security officers, acting as a safety supervisor or something like that. At least on the surface, he should be the safety supervisor.

“Here’s the problem. A security supervisor who was on duty at six or seven o’clock in the morning is now wearing casual clothes and carrying bags. He looks like he’s going home to visit his family or go on a vacation. is that reasonable?”

Ai Lei Thought for a moment.

Although she couldn’t rule out the possibility that this security supervisor had just finished his night shift and was going to take a few days off.

However, it was more likely that Horizon had discovered an armored airship deviating from its course. Since it was now possible to discover the secrets of that company, they sent a security supervisor in disguise to find out why the armored airship had deviated from its course.

That was where the problem lay.

Was it necessary for a legitimate and aboveboard company to be guilty of a crime? Just because the armored airship flew over their heads, were they nervous enough to get to the bottom of it?

Chapter 1528: The 24-Hour Absolute Protagonist!

“It looks like it’s necessary to go deep into Raging Waves Mountain Range and trace the source.”

Meng Chao contemplated for a moment and said to Ai Lei, “If Horizon really has the ability to build a secret base in the depths of Raging Waves Mountain Range without anyone noticing, their influence must be even greater than we imagined.

“Even the security supervisor who was sent out to scout for information on the surface has the strength of a peak Earth Realm warrior. The hidden force in the secret base is even more important.

“Therefore, you don’t have to sneak into Horizon with me. Networking in Dragon City is more suitable for you to display your talent.

“I need you to do a few things.”

Ai Lei had been a little nervous when she heard that Meng Chao was going to sneak in alone. She thought that this golden thigh that she had finally latched onto was going to leave her and work alone.

However, once she heard that Meng Chao wanted her to do something, she quickly nodded. “Please tell me about it, Senior. I’ll do anything!”

“There’s no need to put yourself in danger. Just do what you do and help me investigate some things.”

Meng Chao pondered for a moment and said, “First of all, of course, pay close attention to the battle between the Azure Alliance and the nine corporations, which revolves around the National Training Act and North Advancement Plan.

“I want you to collect all the news. Don’t let any information slip by. Don’t worry about the information collected being too complicated. Most of the time, the truth is hidden in the details.”

Ai Lei nodded.

The argument regarding the National Training Act and the North Advancement Plan had been the hottest topic in Dragon City recently. Even if they did not deliberately collect information on it, there would still be an overwhelming amount of pop-up information that would bombard every citizen’s cerebral cortex without restraint.

After their victory in the Monster War and the opening of the gate between worlds, all the citizens obviously had their own ideas about Dragon City’s future. They could not wait to tell it to anyone who would be willing to listen patiently.

It was overkill to ask Ai Lei to collect that information.

“Second of all, I want you to investigate a group of people.”

Meng Chao said, “I don’t know their names at the moment. I’m not even sure of their scope. All I can do is point out a few rough criteria.

“For one, these people have a certain level of authority in the nine corporations and relevant departments of the Supernatural Tower, or they’re fighting on the front lines. Their positions aren’t high, and they don’t even have much authority, but they are the people by the side of important figures—drivers, secretaries, private doctors, and cultivation assistants.

“Also, their cultivation has been stuck at a certain stage for a long period of time. It might seem like their potential has been fully tapped, but in the past few years, they have rekindled a second spring in their cultivation. Their combat strength has soared, and they have broken through bottlenecks and ceilings.

“Next, these people also seem to have God’s help in their careers. They’re able to turn misfortune into luck. In a very short period of time, they have grasped authority that they did not even dare to think of in the past.

“Basically, it’s just those three things. Find them using available public information. Don’t be afraid of errors in the specifics, and don’t be afraid of finding too many people. Can you do it?”

Ai Lei’s mind raced.

“So, you’re saying, people like Shen Yulin?” she asked with bright eyes.

Meng Chao looked at her in surprise.

The more he thought about it, the more he felt that she was a promising talent.

“Yes, people like Shen Yulin.”

Meng Chao said, “However, don’t fall into the wrong mindset. The nine corporations are not the only ones that can produce someone like Shen Yulin. The rising Azure Alliance might also have a similar hidden role.”

Ai Lei blinked.

She hesitantly asked, “Senior, are you talking about Lu Siya?”

“No, you can investigate anyone but not Lu Siya.”

Meng Chao said, “This woman is very dangerous. You can’t win against her. If you act rashly, there’s a high chance that she’ll find out.

“When that happens, not only will your safety be compromised, but you might also be led by her nose and be confused. If you’re not careful, you’ll lose the whole game.”

“Understood.”

In the later stage of her career as a monster hunter, she had been seriously injured and her cultivation had plummeted. That made Ai Lei respect those she could not afford to offend in her pursuit of profit.

She nodded obediently and said, “I’ll find those who have similar experiences with Shen Yulin in Dragon City, except for Lu Siya. I’ll leave her to you, Senior.”

“There’s one more thing.”

Meng Chao said, “It’s the information age now. Those who can control the channel of information delivery will have the advantage. I want to know how much power you can mobilize in this regard?

“What I mean is, if I want to make as many citizens of Dragon City, low-level and middle-level superhumans personages, and even the nine mega corporations as unsatisfied with the current situation and worried about the future as possible. Can you do it?”

“About that...”

Ai Lei hesitated.

Hesitation was not denial.

“You can do it, but there’s a problem?” Meng Chao asked.

“There’s not much of a problem, but...” Ai Lei continued to hesitate.

Meng Chao understood what she meant.

He took out a stack of crystal-clear cards from his pocket.

They were anonymous bills of lading distributed in more than ten large warehouses in the north, south, east, and west of Dragon City.

With these bills of lading, it had been easy to extract the crystals and monster materials that were stored in the warehouse in the beginning.

Now that cultivation resources were scarce and the price of the black market skyrocketed, one might not be able to buy high-level crystals and top-grade materials even with real gold and silver.

These anonymous bills of lading were hard currency, so hard that it clanged...

Meng Chao had stolen this hard currency from Gao Chuang or Giant-toothed Crocodile’s office.

As one of the most powerful black market businessmen in Dragon City, Gao Chuang’s wealth was far less than that of the big figures from the nine cultivation families.

The wealth accumulated by taking risks was not something that ordinary folks could imagine.

Gao Chuang knew the risks he had taken.

He was ready to run away at any time.

The anonymous bills of lading were his life-saving talismans.

Unfortunately, Giant-toothed Crocodile’s life-saving talismans turned into Meng Chao’s campaign funds.

Each bearer ticket was made of a composite material between metal and crystal.

At first glance, it was as thin as a cicada’s wing. When placed in the hand, one could clearly see the lines on his palm through the bearer ticket.

However, when facing the sunlight, one could also see that there were carvings of beasts that bared their fangs and brandished their claws within the bearer ticket. They were vivid and lifelike.

Ai Lei was knowledgeable.

She knew that the value of these bills of lading was astronomical.

There was no need to go to the warehouse to pick up the goods. Through various channels, she could exchange them for real gold and silver, cultivation resources, and anyone who was willing to do anything.

Meng Chao understood the principle of “an emperor not needing hungry soldiers.” He did not even count the bills of lading and stuffed a stack of them into Ai Lei’s arms.

Ai Lei was so excited that her hands were trembling and her breathing was rapid. She had always been sharp-tongued, but she was stuttering at that moment. “Senior, this... this is too much, too much.”

“What? You don’t think you can spend them all?” Meng Chao frowned.

Ai Lei shuddered and nodded heavily. “I can spend them all. In this day and age, why would I be afraid of not spending money?”

“Don’t worry, Senior. As long as money is not a problem, there won’t be any other problems. I promise to spend this money beautifully and give you a thousand extra eyes, a thousand pairs of ears, and a thousand mouths in Dragon City!”

“That’s good. This is only the first budget for the event. Money is definitely not a problem. The main concerns are safety and confidentiality.”

Meng Chao said, “During this period of time, it’s best that you keep your fake identity and mask. Don’t let anyone find out that you’re still alive, including the friends you want to contact. Will that be difficult?”

“It won’t be difficult.”

“My friends recognize money but don’t recognize people,” Ai Lei said bluntly.

“What about their guts?” Meng Chao asked again.

“Are they bold enough to risk the world’s condemnation?”

“If they can have a lot of money, they’ll be bold.”

Ai Lei said, “As long as they have enough money, my friends will be bold enough to expose the stories that the Deity Realm warriors and the seventy-two concubines have to tell!”

“...What about their safety?”

Meng Chao continued to ask, “Do your friends know how to change their names, conceal themselves, and ensure their own safety?”

“Of course.”

Ai Lei said, “My friends are still alive and kicking after exposing the stories that the Deity Realm warriors and the seventy-two concubines of the three palaces and six courtyards had to tell. No one can find anything on them, not even their real identities. Even I might not know their real identities and appearances, just as they don’t know my real identity and appearances. We are all professionals in this field.

“In short, don’t worry, Senior. Although my friends and I don’t have any great skills, we can easily use sensational, shameless, and groundbreaking topics to attract as much attention as possible with the right amount of funds.

“Isn’t there a saying that in the information age, anyone can have their five minutes of fame?”

“With our full support and your absolute strength, you can at least be Dragon City’s absolute protagonist for twenty-four hours!”

“That’s good.”

Meng Chao muttered to himself, “When necessary, twenty-four hours is enough to make a final decision and seal someone’s throat with a sword!”

Chapter 1529: Mysterious Jungle

In the hinterland of Raging Waves Mountain Range, within the primitive jungle that was as dark as ink...

A few years ago, the Red Radiance Jade underground had erupted, causing a spirit magnetic storm that swept thousands of troops away. It had semi-permanently changed the terrain and topography of the place.

However, the spirit energy that shot out directly destroyed the old life, and at the same time, gave birth to even more vigorous vitality.

In just a few short years, the plants that had been blown away and burned in the past grew back in an even more exuberant and demonic manner.

Since there were no high-level monsters roaming freely in the jungle, trampling on the thorns and tearing the vines, the jungle seemed to be even denser and deeper than before. It was like an iron wall with sharp thorns.

Of course, no matter how strong the iron wall was, it could not stop Meng Chao from walking on flat ground.

He was like a flying insect that was hundreds of times larger.

His feet brushed past the branches without touching their dust.

He could even quietly fly dozens of meters with a light tap on a spider’s web.

Along the way, Meng Chao found some monster hunters’ encampments.

There were even a few hunting and training teams.

However, regardless of their strength or scale, they were far from what they used to be a few years ago when the Monster War was at its most intense.

The main reason was that the cost-benefit ratio of training on Raging Waves Mountain Range was not high.

All the Hell Beasts and Doomsday Beasts there had been killed by the humans after they were surrounded by humans.

Only a few Nightmarish Beasts that were particularly good at camouflaging and escaping were left.

As for superhumans above that level, the Nightmarish Beasts had no effect on their cultivation.

Instead, they were like two bad chess players, wearing down the competitive state of middle and high-level superhumans

Even such Nightmarish Beasts were pitifully rare.

One would often have to hack at thorns and vines for several hours in the depths of the jungle, dripping in sweat, before one could find one.

It was simply a waste of time.

Besides, there were better training grounds around Dragon City now.

Whether it was the Hidden Mist Domain or Monster Mountain Range, the vast and boundless Other World was a stage for ambitious superhumans to show off their skills.

Therefore, Horizon had set up a secret base in Raging Waves Mountain Range not far from the main city.

At first glance, it was incredibly risky.

Thinking about it carefully, it really felt like something close by that no one noticed.

Meng Chao traveled in the depths of the jungle for half an hour, and the surrounding campsites became fewer as time went by.

Gradually, he could no longer hear the monster hunters' movements.

His surroundings appeared exactly the same as if the plants had been copied and pasted on.

If one looked at them for a long time, not only would it be easy to lose one's direction, it would even cause one to feel as if the world was spinning.

Meng Chao knew that it was not an illusion.

It was the effect of the semi-permanent change in the planet's magnetic field caused by the explosion of the Red Radiance Jade lode.

Similarly, when extreme geological disasters or extreme weather phenomena caused changes in the Earth's magnetic field, they would disrupt the homing pigeons' sensory systems and prevent them from returning to their nests.

"If it weren't for the aerial reconnaissance, which allowed us to lock onto the abnormal area in advance, we definitely wouldn't have been able to find any clues in the jungle with ground observation."

Meng Chao mumbled to himself, "Even if I could succeed, it would be very difficult to locate the exact coordinates of the abnormal range."

Of course, it was different now.

The holographic map of the entire forest had been imprinted on Meng Chao's cerebral cortex long ago.

Following the map, he moved forward in an almost straight path and soon arrived at the abnormal area.

Compared with the surrounding forest, the plant roots there were more developed, like tangled giant pythons.

The tree trunks were even more twisted, as though they had been manipulated by a demon.

On the cracked bark, there were also rings of translucent vines.

The vines seemed hollow, and there was a suspicious viscous liquid flowing inside slowly. They resembled the blood vessels or intestines of some giant beast.

Even the branches and leaves of different plants were emitting the same off-putting and even terrifying scarlet color.

If you looked closely, you could see that the branches and leaves were covered in a dense layer of scarlet fluff.

That was not the way a normal plant should be.

The scarlet fluff almost prevented the leaves from absorbing energy through normal photosynthesis.

Many leaves did not show signs of phototaxis at all.

That was enough to show that these plants did not need or rely mainly on photosynthesis to survive.

Their life energy came from underground.

It came from the overly fertile soil.

Meng Chao squatted down and grabbed a handful of slightly moist red soil. He rubbed it with his fingers first, then placed it under the tip of his nose. He sniffed it carefully for a moment, then stuck out the tip of his tongue to lick it.

He smelled faint spirit energy.

He also detected the taste of hundreds of complex and rare ingredients.

“The soil in this area, which covers hundreds of meters in circumference, is more fertile than the dirt in many paradises. The concentration of spirit energy is an order of magnitude higher than the surrounding area. It’s obviously abnormal.

“However, this alone doesn’t mean that the soil here has been artificially polluted.

“After all, this is the disaster area of the Red Radiance Jade lode explosion. Along the way, I saw several crevices that led directly underground, as well as cliffs with drops that were dozens of meters high.

“If a certain associated mine of the Red Radiance Jade lode is torn apart by the spirit magnetic storm and exposed to the surface, causing spirit energy to escape in all directions, it’s also possible to cause ecological anomalies in a small area.

“I have to find the place with the highest concentration of spirit energy and look for more evidence.”

Meng Chao’s nostrils opened and closed.

The invisible and untouchable spirit energy seemed to form a shining band of light under the stimulation of the mucous membrane cells in his nose.

Following the band of light, he moved forward, approaching an area where the thorns got sharper, the bushes got denser, and the branches got increasingly twisted.

Most of the time, there was no road ahead at all.

The mutated vines wriggled on their own like the tentacles of an octopus, sniffing out the heat of living things and hissing while blocking every gap.

However, Meng Chao was like mercury. He miraculously penetrated through the indestructible vines without leaving any trace.

All of a sudden, Meng Chao stopped.

Above his head, a mutated vine as thick as a thigh with colorful stripes on its surface hung upside down from the branches that blocked the sun like a boa.

Its tip was like a man-eating flower. It split into eight petals, and each petal was filled with fine and sharp sawteeth.

In between the sawteeth, there were even remnants of meat and bone spurs from its last meal. It gave off a partially fishy, partially sweet, and nauseating smell.

Meng Chao was expressionless. He glanced at the mutated vine that had opened its bloody mouth.

He did not make any unnecessary movements or release too much killing intent.

The mutated vine, however, seemed to receive a red alert from the depths of its genes and began to tremble slightly.

After a moment of hesitation, the mutated vine closed its mouth politely and retreated obediently.

Chapter 1530: Blood Spring Water

“This mutated vine is highly evolved!”

Meng Chao thought, “It can automatically detect the strength of its prey’s vitality magnetic field, judge its strength, and control its predatory instincts. It’s not something that ordinary mutated plants can do. I’ve never heard of such intelligent mutated plants growing in the depths of Raging Waves Mountain Range.”

Continuing forward, Meng Chao discovered dozens of highly evolved insect-type monsters and mutated plants one after another.

This included a Longhorn beetle, whose shell was extremely hard and whose strength was comparable to composite armor.

Its entire body was covered in colorful patterns. After it slowly squirmed, it would leave a trace of lethal poison behind. Then, it would slowly use the traces of poison to restrict its prey’s route of escape, and finally, it would strangle its prey to death.

There were also many delicate flower buds in the area. Behind the flower buds were human-eating flowers that had huge mouths and blood-sucking thorns.

They blended in perfectly with the plants, so was hard to tell if they were earthworms or tree roots.

Many deformed and twisted insect-type monsters were new species that Meng Chao had never seen before.

However, most of the new monsters seemingly possessed a mix of characteristics from several monster types. For example, the blade limbs of a mantis, the abdomen of a spider, and the carapace of a ladybug. At first glance, they looked fierce and ferocious. In reality, they did not have a strong survival rate.

They were the products of genetic mutations that had been triggered recently by the outside world.

They had not yet been eliminated in the cruel competition of natural selection and the survival of the fittest.

When Meng Chao stepped into the swamp, a leech-like insect monster with purple stripes all over its body finally hissed and attacked him.

When it was hiding in the mud, it was only as thick as a finger.

However, in the process of jumping like lightning, it absorbed a lot of air and expanded to the thickness of Meng Chao's arm. Its lumpy surface was covered with suckers made of sharp teeth.

It was reasonable to assume that once it bit someone in the flesh, the air in its body would be injected into the blood vessels of its prey.

Its prey would probably die instantly.

Of course, such a small trick was not enough to make Meng Chao block or dodge.

Even if he extended his arm to let the leech bite him, its sharp teeth would not be able to penetrate his skin, which was stronger than the front armor of a main battle tank.

Meng Chao shook the hair on his arm gently, and the leech immediately seemed to be entangled by hundreds of invisible single molecular crystal wires.

It was instantly cut into hundreds of fingernail-sized pieces.

However, the severed leech did not die.

Among the hundreds of fingernail-sized pieces, one-third of them grew scarlet mycelium, which looked like the long hair of a demon, and they continued to dance.

"Undead creature, Blood Flower spores?"

Meng Chao's eyes lit up.

The Blood Flower was an extremely special living creature.

It did not possess much attack power and predatory ability.

However, it could greatly increase a monster's ferocity and vitality.

One could say that it was the "catalyst" that stimulated the mutation of the monster's cells, and it could also transform the monster into an even more ferocious and powerful "undead form."

“Since the blood-sucking leech contains the spores of the Blood Flower, there must be a large number of Blood Flower colonies around here.

“Ai Lei told me that one year after our victory in the Monster War, the Dragon City civilization developed a pesticide specifically to suppress the Blood Flower.

“Although the Blood Flower can’t be completely destroyed, the pesticide can be sprayed three times a day in places with miasmas, like the Hidden Mist Domain and Raging Waves Mountain Range, as well as places where the terrain is complicated, and the monsters come and go. That can suppress the activity of the Blood Flower spores and the birth of the immortal creatures to the greatest extent.

“I didn’t smell the scent of undead creatures on my way here just now.

“Why did I find the traces of the Blood Flower here?”

With such a question in mind, Meng Chao gently pushed aside a cluster of dark red thorns.

He found a mouthful of blood-red spring water hidden in the middle of the deformed and twisted mutant plants.

There were a lot of Blood Flowers growing around the spring water.

At first glance, they were crystal clear and beautiful, like blooming buds, tumors, and hearts. They were filled with soul-stirring magic power.

Before the Blood Flowers parasitized high-level monsters, their offensive power was not strong.

Sensing Meng Chao’s vitality magnetic field that was stronger than that of the Apocalyptic Beasts, as well as his undisguised hostility, the Blood Flowers were like frightened mimosa pudicas, trembling and curling up together.

A few more Blood Flowers extended several mycelia toward Meng Chao tentatively.

They seemed to be flirting with him, enticing him to absorb them into his body and form an incredible symbiotic relationship.

That way, they could break through the limits of life together and explore the path from “human beings” to “gods” or “demons.”

Meng Chao appeared to be bewitched, and he walked toward the deepest part of the spring, where the Blood Flowers were densest.

Instead, the Blood Flowers were greatly encouraged, and they twisted even harder.

However, when Meng Chao extended his hand toward the spring, countless clusters of Blood Flowers and fungi rushed toward him.

A layer of liquid metal that looked like mercury was secreted from his pores, forming a gauntlet as thin as a Cicada’s wing. It protected his entire arm tightly.

The clusters of Blood Flowers and fungi wrapped around the gauntlet without knowing what was good for them.

Not only did it fail to tear the “Mercury Line” it is eroded, assimilated, and pushed back by a liquid-like metallic substance.

For a time, Meng Chao’s arm did not become blood-red.

Quite a few clusters of blood-streaked fungi had given off a faint silver glow.

You know, Meng Chao was not equipped with ordinary armor.

It was the Turan civilization’s ultimate defense against the Holy Light for thousands of years—the totem armor.

It had also received the Mother of Origin’s blessing, the best of the totem armor!

The essence of the totem armor consisted of several billion molecular-level or even nano-level ultra-micro robots.

These nano-machines had been instilled with all the information about the bloody trials and cruel wars of Turan civilization’s bloody trials and cruel war for over several dozen thousands of years.

It had also received the powerful reinforcement of Meng Chao’s incomparably surging life magnetic field.

Naturally, the wild flora of Blood Flowers could not compare to the one that had not been artificially modified.

For a moment, the Blood Flowers’ hyphae, clusters, flora, and even the spores that were flying in the air While riding on the blood mist, it seemed to have been swallowed by a ball of bright silver flames.

Meng Chao had also planted the liquid-like metal substance into the deepest part of the Blood Flower cluster. Through the information he had gathered, he had peered into the real world hidden under the blood-colored spring water.

“I see!”

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes. With help from the liquid metal-like substance, his line of sight penetrated all the way underground. “An underground river is hidden here. Although the flow of water isn’t that large, and it’s barely between a ‘stream’ and a ‘river,’ the water in the underground river is highly contaminated and highly radioactive. It has dangerous substances including Blood Flower spores!”