

Oh My God 1531

Chapter 1531: No Escaping the Law

Meng Chao took a deep breath and dived into the turbid spring water.

Enveloped by both his spirit magnet and spirit shield, he seemed to grow into an extremely large mass, and his density became incredibly high.

He sank into the mud deep in the spring water, like a weight sinking into butter.

Very soon, Meng Chao found traces of the underground river water that was hidden under the mud at the bottom of the spring. It was more than ten meters deep.

Judging from the cracks on the broken rock layer that had not eroded, Meng Chao guessed that the underground river water had formed not long ago.

The spring should have formed recently too.

A few months ago, this underground river was probably located in the deeper part of the rock layer. The river channel was surrounded by dense rocks, so strong radiation and high-pollution substances in the river water could not penetrate the rock layer and pollute the surrounding land.

Then, when this underground river secretly flowed farther or split into dozens or hundreds of underground streams, the strong radiation and high pollution broke down and became increasingly diluted.

Even experts with sharp eyes might not be able to see the strangeness of the underground river's upper reaches.

However, ten days to half a month ago, a moderate-sized earthquake occurred there.

Meng Chao and Lu Siya had joined forces to try and stop the Red Radiance Jade vein explosion one year.

Although the intensity of the instantaneous explosion had reduced by 90%, it allowed a great deal of spirit energy to build up in the rock and soil around the vein, slowly releasing the energy over the next three to five years.

It led to an abnormal magnetic environment with constant large and small aftershocks.

While such aftershocks would not have much effect on humans, it was possible that "tidal energy" could help the superhumans raise their level.

However, if a large amount of spirit energy spurted out from the weak point of the earth's crustal surface and cut off the underground river, tearing apart the rock layers around the river, exposing part of it to the ground, or diverting it, it would be a piece of cake for the spirit energy to penetrate the soil in a larger area.

As a result, the river water, which was rich in radiation and highly polluting substances, was flowing everywhere, forming a somewhat eye-catching "blood-colored forest."

"I see!"

Meng Chao thought quickly and figured out the details soon after. "It appears that the guy hiding behind Horizon discovered the unique underground river long ago and used it as a natural sewage pipeline.

"They contracted a piece of land at the source of the underground river. On the surface, they opened a very low-key monster farm, but in fact, they have built a large-scale secret base under the farm to carry out all kinds of dangerous gene modulation and biochemical experiments involving the Blood Flowers.

"The Blood Flowers are the most bizarre existence on Monster Mountain Range.

"It's one of the culprits that led to the birth of 'monsters' and 'zombies.'

"Of course, there are also countless intelligent and outstanding biochemical experts who are trying to tame this demonic lifeform and make it serve humanity. It will become an accelerant that superhumans can use to break through their personal limits and the barriers of life.

"Due to the danger and sensitivity of the Blood Flower, biochemical experiments involving the Blood Flower have to be supervised and approved in the strictest way.

"Almost every step has to be exposed to the eyes of the relevant departments and the public.

"More than a hundred pairs of eyes may even scan a single page of the experimental notes.

"Moreover, such an exploration in the frontier always operates above the law and line of morality. The slightest carelessness will not only lead to disastrous consequences but also ruin the reputation of the researchers concerned. They will be condemned by the public as heinous demons.

"It's inevitable that the research on the Blood Flower will be limited and difficult to carry out legally.

"Hence, it's very normal for some ambitious people who are eager for quick success to attempt to abandon the Supernatural Tower's approval, public supervision, morality, and the law. They'll use the most radical and extreme means to speed up their research at all costs.

"Plus, in such research, it's not surprising to discover traces of the Blood Alliance. It's even not surprising to find the Blood Alliance involved in it from the very beginning."

Meng Chao seemed to see a thin, long, and faintly discernible red line that connected the explosion of the crystal warehouse on the Red Creek Project site to the Blood Flower research base deep in Raging Waves Mountain Range.

He felt that he might be able to catch a big fish this time.

"I have to find the source of the underground river," Meng Chao mumbled to himself.

It was impossible to trace the source directly.

The river channel in the depths of the blood spring had only been formed recently because of the earthquake. It was basically a tributary of a tributary. Even a loach might not be able to crawl through the narrowest part of the river. No matter how proficient Meng Chao was in the art of compressing flesh and bones, it was impossible for him to compress his skull to the size of a coin.

However, that did not present a big problem to him.

Every river had to rely on the situation of the mountains and obey the objective law of “water flowing to the bottom.”

Even if the underground rivers were affected by the high temperature and pressure underground, it was impossible for them to surge upward for a long time.

On top of that, because the earthquake had torn apart the rock layers, the polluted river water seeped into the surface of the earth, forming more than one “bloody jungle.” The only difference was the degree of severity.

Following the distribution of the deformed monsters and the mutated plants, Meng Chao sniffed the scent of the Blood Flower spores, which had a unique stinky and sweet smell. Very soon, he determined the approximate range of the underground river.

In the middle of the approximate range, he found a crack that had opened recently.

The dark crack was not visible. It seemed to go straight to the center of the planet. Hissing noises could be heard from time to time, and bone-chilling air was blowing out of the crack.

The gap was extremely narrow and zigzagging.

It could not accommodate an adult, who wanted to crouch and dive into it for a long time.

Meng Chao simply inserted his arms into the depths of the gap.

Then, he poured his spirit energy into his arms and the joints of his hands.

His muscles and tendons were contracting and bouncing.

His bones were vibrating at a high frequency that one could not recognize with the naked eye or human ears.

Invisible and inaudible waves seeped into the depths of the mountains like surging waves, triggering the resonance of the planet’s magnetic field.

It caused every piece of soil, rock, plant root, and even the carapace and bones of every monster lurking underground within a radius of several dozen miles to vibrate together.

The density and nature of objects were different.

The frequency of the vibrations was also different.

Thousands of vibrating waves pushed and shoved from all directions and returned to Meng Chao’s brain.

So, Meng Chao could naturally use his extraordinary analytical, computational, and modeling abilities to construct a map of the underground rock layers and water system in the depths of Raging Waves Mountain Range in his mind.

Chapter 1532: Underground Sewage Treatment Pool

Soon, Meng Chao scanned the main channel of the underground river, as he could see through the nine layers of rocks. The river was reminiscent of a crouching flood dragon.

“I’ve figured out the location of the underground river!

“Based on the subtle sound of the water, the amount of runoff in this section of the river is high. The width of the channel is wide enough for an adult to sneak in!

“Next, I just need to find a crack that can lead me to the underground river!”

The earthquake that had just passed had torn a lot of cracks in the rocks above the underground river.

Although most of the cracks were so narrow that it was difficult for even a finger to go through them, his hard work paid off.

After more than half an hour of scanning, Meng Chao found a crack that was the most severe and closest to the underground river.

The size of this fissure was still not enough to accommodate an adult as a route to the underground river.

Nevertheless, as long as there was enough space to exert force, the rest would be easy to handle.

Meng Chao inserted his entire right arm, which was wrapped in a spirit magnet, into the fissure.

With the eruption of spirit energy, a raging hurricane surged deep in the fissure. Soon, it burned the indestructible rock into lumps of magma that looked like mud.

Without waiting for the magma to cool down, Meng Chao crawled into the expanding crack with his totem armor on.

He squeezed through layers of rocks and magma, and when he reached a depth of about twenty to thirty meters, Meng Chao suddenly felt light.

The underground space abruptly opened up, and the sound of rushing water entered his ears.

He could vaguely see that in the dark underground world under his feet, a dragon was slowly wriggling, with a layer of scarlet scales.

It was the underground river that was rich in pollutants and where Blood Flowers grew freely.

The thick foam in the river and the piercing smell that caused one’s eyes to hurt sent warnings to any intruder—it was definitely not a world that ordinary carbon-based creatures could enter.

The only outcome for ordinary people or even low-level monsters that sneaked into this blood-colored river was being corroded until they were riddled with holes. Their intestines would be pierced through, and in just a few short hours, they would even turn into crispy skeletons.

However, Meng Chao did not hesitate and jumped into the dark blood river with a plop.

He immediately felt as if he was in a furnace of molten iron, a basin of charcoal, a lump of magma, and a burning wind that could destroy everything in its path.

However, he had already experienced similar sensations countless times in the depths of the Holy Mountain Temple.

He had already tasted such experience and pleasure.

In addition, his totem armor condensed from the spirit magnet covered every strand of his hair and every inch of his skin.

It did not matter how strong the corrosive nature of the underground river water, which contained extremely strong radiation and extremely high pollution substances, was. Even if it could corrode the reaction armor of a main battle tank until it was covered in rust within a few minutes, it would not be able to do anything to him.

Meng Chao used both his hands and feet to tread on flat ground in the depths of the underground river, going against the rapid flow of the river towards its source.

Along the way, he stirred up the water and woke up countless unusual creatures that were lurking in the abyss.

Due to the various waste materials from the Blood Flower experiment, the excrement of the high-level monsters used in the experiment, the deformed and twisted flesh of the monsters, and the monster cells that were as messy as mud, all of them were unscrupulously discharged into the underground river.

This dark blood-colored river that never saw the light of day had long formed its own system, a miniature ecosystem that made one's hair stand on end.

The Blood Flower's mycelium was like the hair of a water ghost.

It had gathered the flesh of innumerable deformed monsters, like mutated cells that were magnified numerous times. It was a mollusk that had tentacles, and it was waving its flagellum.

The edges of its carapace were extremely sharp, so sharp that even rocks could be crushed against it. Besides, there were arthropods with ghostly faces on the carapace.

Such arthropods could even devour piranhas in a few seconds.

All kinds of monsters that would only appear in one's nightmares rushed toward Meng Chao.

Meng Chao did not turn any of them away.

His totem armor gave off a killing intent that was almost tangible.

The killing intent disturbed the river water, producing blood-colored vortexes.

It tore the mutated creatures into pieces, breaking them down into the most basic cells.

Meng Chao controlled his spirit magnet again, extending and opening a huge metal membrane from the end of his finger.

He collected a large number of mutated cells, carefully analyzing their structure and activity.

Sure enough, these monsters had clearly been smashed into pieces.

However, their remaining cells still maintained a high level of activity. They were jumping in Meng Chao's palm like excited tadpoles.

If it were not for the metal membrane's protection in Meng Chao's palm, these tadpoles might have even penetrated his skin, seeped into his flesh, and invaded his central nervous system.

"The activity of these Blood Flower spores is much stronger than that of the pure natural species that I came into contact with before.

"Judging from their tenacious struggle and omnipresent appearance, they can survive for more than twenty-four hours even without a host.

"It shouldn't be a natural species but a man-made 'weapon' bred in the biochemical laboratory through gene knockout and clipping.

"What the hell is Horizon? Has it mastered the technology to weaponize the Blood Flowers?"

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes, and a dark, cold flame shot out of his palm.

In the depths of the blood river, the Blood Flower spores were completely burned.

Then, he went against the current and continued to search in the darkness for more than half an hour. Finally, he heard the hum of a machine coming from the front. Through the turbid river, he saw a faint light.

When Meng Chao, who was covered in dark red mud, quietly emerged from the water, he found that the source of the underground river was an underground cave that was half the size of a football field.

The walls of the cave were still covered in the remnants of the explosion at the Red Radiance Jade vein from several years ago. Marks of melting, squeezing, kneading, and tearing were stacked on top of each other as a result of the shock wave.

In the southwestern corner of the cave, there were seventeen to eighteen huge metal tanks, on which ferocious skulls had been painted. There were also warning signs such as "flammable", "explosive", "highly toxic", "radioactive", "biochemical pollution," and so on.

The metal tanks were connected to each other by dozens of flexible tubes that were as thick as pythons.

Two-thirds of the metal tanks were vibrating violently and emitting low rumbling sounds.

That was because the place was a hundred meters underground.

The monster farm above also had all kinds of heavy equipment that were active twenty-four hours a day to cause sight and sound disruption.

Hence, no one had discovered the place before.

When Meng Chao approached the metal tanks, he could immediately tell from their shape, the frequency of the vibrations, the smell they emitted, and the traces of corrosion that seeped out from the joints that they were all super-powerful special large-capacity sewage treatment tanks.

Chapter 1533: Dragon and Tiger's Den Deep Underground

It was not an ordinary sewage treatment tank.

It was a special kind of equipment similar to a reaction vessel.

The thickness of the outer wall of each metal tank exceeded that of a main battle tank's reaction armor.

During the operation, large amounts of chemicals and gene reagents had to be injected into the pool. That barely neutralized and diluted the experimental residue, monster feces, and various waste materials, enough for it to not cause serious damage to the environment or leave any traces behind.

The valves on top of several metal tanks were creaking and emitting hot scarlet steam.

It was hard for Meng Chao to imagine what kind of dangerous substances they were dealing with that required them to be so cautious as if they were facing a great enemy.

Even after more than ten processes, the sewage that was eventually discharged into the underground river still contained a large amount of Blood Flower spores, strong radiation, and heavy metal substances.

"D*mn it, are these audacious b*stards hiding here and injecting Blood Flower spores into the Apocalyptic Beasts' blood vessels?" Meng Chao muttered to himself.

Apart from that, he also found traces of burning, tearing, and maintenance on several metal tanks.

The bases of several metal tanks had apparently been installed recently.

All the signs indicated that a small-scale explosion had occurred there.

The shock wave produced by the explosion was everywhere, leaving traces of it whistling past.

After pondering for a moment, Meng Chao felt that the small-scale earthquake not long ago had caused a serious malfunction in the sewage treatment system. The malfunction had escalated to a critical level, causing the explosion. Hence, a large amount of sewage flowed along the underground river to the surface.

"Strange. Judging from the style of the manipulator behind Horizon, he should be a very cautious person.

"If a sewage treatment system like this is damaged, it's possible for a large amount of 'evidence' to flow out of his control. His style indicates that he would likely stop the experiment immediately and wait for the sewage treatment system to be completely repaired. He should also figure out the new tributaries of the underground river after the earthquake before he slowly starts work.

"Why? He knows that there's a risk of exposure.

"Why does he still have to carry out high-intensity experiments day and night, releasing so much sewage that he ended up being discovered by Tailless Monkey?

"There's only one possibility.

"This person can't wait any longer.

"He has to produce the results of his experiments in the shortest time possible—the Blood Flower spores have to be used in real combat as a biological weapon!"

Beads of sweat appeared on Meng Chao's forehead.

He could not wait to crawl into the reactor and follow the tubes all the way to the Blood Flower laboratory. It was hidden behind the sewage treatment system, deep within the layers of rocks.

However, that was impossible because the sewage treatment system was filled with burly men armed with guns.

Their bodies were sturdy, like brown bears standing on their hind legs.

Their eyes were sharp, like that of hungry tigers and wolves.

They were patrolling the area silently. Even though they were wearing battle boots with steel plates embedded in them, they were as light and secretive as cheetahs when they walked.

The sewage treatment station, which was buried nearly a hundred meters underground, did not even allow a mosquito to fly in.

They had been on duty there for a year and a half, and certainly, no intruders would sneak in from the underground river. It was filled with super-strong radiation, as well as heavy pollutants, and it was inhabited by deformed monsters.

Nonetheless, their gaze on every corner of the cave was still as cautious and sharp as the first time they were on duty. They did not tire of their duty.

Meng Chao found that the guards' gazes were like scythes that had been polished to the point of being shiny, sweeping past the tip of his nose.

If he had not broken through to the Deity Realm and cultivated the Walking Corpse technique that was especially used to conceal himself, Meng Chao felt that he would have been discovered.

The guards were all experts.

They had definitely killed before and seen blood. They had seen monsters clawing their organs from their chests and stomachs with their own eyes. Yet, they could snatch their organs back without batting an eyelid and stuff them back into their chests. Then, they would cover their stomachs and kill the monsters.

They were definitely different from those security guards who could only be considered passable on paper.

Meng Chao detected a total of eighteen guards.

Their patrol routes overlapped with each other, ensuring that each guard would appear in the field of vision of at least three companions at the same time.

No, it was not eighteen guards.

The last guard was very cunning, hiding in a specially dug hole above the cave wall.

The diameter of the hole was less than one meter.

Its surroundings were as smooth as a mirror and perpendicular to the ground. There was no rock wall to stand on.

The entrance of the cave was sealed tightly with an armor plate that was used specifically for anti-aircraft guns. Only small holes for observation and shooting were exposed.

There was a sniper.

Through the observation hole, he could see the movements of the other eighteen guards clearly.

Even if there was an intruder who could sneak up behind every guard like a ghost and cut their throats before they realized what was happening, the sniper would see everything.

Moreover, Meng Chao had no doubt that there was something strange about his hiding place. It was connected to some kind of alarm system. The changes in his physiological parameters were monitored to determine if there was a need for an automatic alarm.

After all, snipers were extremely calm. Most of the time, they could accurately control their physiological parameters.

If his breathing, heartbeat, blood pressure, and even the oxygen content in his blood changed drastically due to Meng Chao's attack, the alarm would sound throughout the entire Blood Flower laboratory.

It was a scenario that Meng Chao did not want to see the most.

No, the well-trained guards were not the end of it.

Meng Chao also found a dense cluster of surveillance cameras, detectors, and information gathering devices around the cave, including inside and outside the sewage treatment system.

The density of these surveillance devices was like that of a minefield with mines planted repeatedly.

It was not necessarily used to guard against intruders.

It was mainly used to monitor the purification of sewage, the geological changes around the purification system, and to guard against the destruction of mutated creatures.

The vast majority of mutated creatures had relatively advanced intelligence and did not dare to offend this underground dragon's den and tiger's den.

However, under the Blood Flower spores' modulation and stimulation, there would always be some bold and unusual creatures. They were like moths to a flame, seeking their own doom.

Now, the information gathering devices had become an impenetrable iron wall in front of Meng Chao.

Meng Chao closed his eyes and overlapped the patrol routes of every guard that he had just observed, as well as the monitoring range of every heat source surveillance probe and the information gathering devices. Right then, he was shocked to find a scarlet light in his field of vision representing "danger."

Chapter 1534: A Deliberate Show of Strength

"I have to think of a way to attract the guards' attention. At the same time, I have to destroy 80% of the surveillance equipment, or at the very least, 50%!"

If he could destroy half of the surveillance equipment and distract a third of the guards, the experienced sniper would be able to shift his gaze for a few seconds.

Meng Chao was confident that he could enter the heavily guarded “dragon and tiger’s den” as if there was no one there.

Looking at the traces left by the recent earthquake everywhere in the cave, Meng Chao had an idea.

He dived back into the bottom of the river and expanded his vitality magnetic field to its limit.

Then, he scanned the surrounding high-energy materials and the concentration of spirit energy.

Soon, he figured out the hydrology of the underground river, including the number of tributaries and the concentration of spirit energy of each tributary within a radius of several miles.

He used his hands and feet like a giant loach, moving close to the riverbed.

Squeezing through a crack that was only as thick as a palm, he soon found a tributary that was obviously purple in color.

The concentration of spirit energy in this tributary was extremely high.

The river water was also mixed with a large amount of glittering suspended substances.

The deformed monsters and mutated plants that lived on the riverbed looked even more ferocious, ugly, and weird as if they were products of incomplete evolution after suffering from nuclear radiation.

Even Meng Chao’s totem armor was emitting a weak alarm sound.

It warned him that if he stayed in such a harsh environment for a long time, his armor’s performance parameters would drop drastically.

“It’s here!”

Meng Chao’s eyes were shining.

To an ordinary person, it was a pitch-black world. However, in Meng Chao’s eyes, it turned into a colorful painting scroll with its concentration of spirit energy and intensity of radiation.

Following the lines of the “painting scroll,” Meng Chao quickly locked onto the left side of the riverbed. There was an extremely bright crack that looked like a poisonous centipede wriggling and twisting.

Raising his extraordinary vision to the maximum, he could clearly see that streams of spirit energy that looked like ink were spurting out from the depths of the crack, forming a raging whirlpool in the river.

“My guess is right. The biochemical sewage discharged by the Blood Flower laboratory alone is not enough to make the radiation of the underground river and the reproduction of the Blood Flower spores so terrible.

“After all, the enemy has spent a lot of money to buy an advanced sewage treatment system. They just don’t want any clues to leak out.

“It’s a pity that man’s plan isn’t as good as God’s. The small-scale earthquake not long ago not only damaged the sewage treatment system but also tore apart the weaker rock layers below the riverbed. The branches of the Red Radiance Jade lode, as well as the accompanying minerals with complex components and unstable crystals, were directly exposed to the air and river water.

“This place was the main area affected by the explosion of the Red Radiance Jade vein a few years ago.

“Although the Red Radiance Jade vein and the accompanying ore did not directly explode, the spirit energy stored in the jade vein and the accompanying ore has been ‘awakened.’

“Spirit energy had accumulated in the depths of the Red Radiance Jade vein and the accompanying ore for billions of years. Stimulated by the spirit storm, it was activated. It was equivalent to a dormant volcano that had been dormant for several billion years, but black smoke suddenly billowed out as it entered the active phase.

“During the ‘active phase,’ as long as the branches and the companion mines are stimulated slightly, a new, small-scale earthquake would be triggered.

“The earthquake that led to the diversion of the underground river a while ago must have been caused by that.

“After the earthquake, the hosts of the Blood Flower laboratory must have been scared out of their wits. They’re extremely sensitive to the faintest tremors in the depths of the underground.

“In that case, I only need to flap my wings like a small butterfly...”

The only problem was that this associated mineral vein was hidden extremely deep.

It was still more than sixty meters away from the bottom of the river bed.

Moreover, the crevices were zigzagging. Many places were less than a millimeter wide. Not even a strand of hair could go through.

If an ordinary superhuman had been there, he could only use a simple and crude method to open up the mineral vein. He could force his entire way through the crevice and set off raging waves in the underground river. Of course, Horizon would also detect him right away.

Meng Chao, on the other hand, had a secret weapon.

He inserted his right hand, which was wrapped in totem armor, into the crack at the bottom of the river bed.

He spread his fingers apart. Then, with a telepathic thought, his totem armor, which was as hard as iron, immediately softened, disintegrated, and reverted to its liquid mercury form.

His spirit magnet made of countless nanorobots turned into several thousand strands of “mercury” as Meng Chao’s vitality magnetic field restrained it. Like roots that were constantly growing, they penetrated the gap without a sound, heading straight to the associated mineral veins.

The spirit magnet was like an extension of Meng Chao’s limbs.

It was also closely connected to his sensory nerves.

When the strands of “mercury” gently pierced into and wound around the associated mineral veins buried deep in the ground, Meng Chao immediately analyzed the composition of the mineral veins.

“Flame Fluorite, sky-blue color-changing stone, Cristobalite ore, Haze Crystal...”

These were all common associated ores of Red Radiance Jade.

Meng Chao was familiar with their texture, vibration frequency, molecular structure, and spirit magnetic field model.

After 3.5 seconds of calculation, a series of mysterious and complicated formulas appeared in Meng Chao's mind.

He took another 1.5 seconds to build a rigorous resonance model from crisscrossing attacks.

Meng Chao inserted five of his fingers into the crack, and they began to oscillate at different high frequencies.

With the continuous oscillations, five spirit energy streams of different natures flowed into the associated veins along the highly mobile spirit magnets.

The stimulated associated veins were like awakened hidden dragons that were blossoming in different colors of red, orange, blue, and green.

In the beginning, Meng Chao had to burn his cells continuously to stimulate his mitochondria and release increasingly powerful spirit energy to add fuel to the fire.

However, when the concomitant vein surpassed the critical value, the crystal structure of many crystals would change and even experience an avalanche-like chain reaction.

Even if Chao Meng retracted all his spirit powers and the spirit magnet, roaring sounds like rolling thunder from the depths would continue to reverberate and intensify.

The whole riverbed began to tremble.

Countless colorful bubbles were pouring out of the cracks at the bottom of the riverbed.

The cracks grew larger and larger, as though a pair of invisible, weird hands were tearing the riverbed apart.

The bubbles exploded in the river water, turning the river water into colorful, boiling magma.

"This level of vibration should be enough."

Meng Chao stopped near the cracks and observed attentively.

He only wanted to create a small-scale earthquake that was just a bluff.

He did not want to collapse Horizon's Blood Flower laboratory and destroy evidence that could be traced back to the Blood Alliance or annihilate them in the depths of the Earth.

After confirming that the magnitude and trend of the earthquake were exactly the same as the model that he had built in his mind, Meng Chao felt slightly relieved. He dived back to the source of the underground river, directly below the sewage treatment system.

Chapter 1535: Fishing in Troubled Waters

When Meng Chao resurfaced, the sewage treatment station in Horizon was already in a mess.

As large amounts of bubbles gushed out of the filthy river water, the air was filled with a choking and pungent smell. From time to time, clusters of colorful firelight would appear, like numerous ghosts baring their fangs and brandishing their claws. They were dancing above the guards' heads.

Meanwhile, the tremors in the cave were getting more and more intense. A ton of rock powder and crushed stones fell from the cave ceiling with crackling sounds. They smashed onto the biochemical refuse reactor's metal outer wall, causing a series of clanging sounds that were even more terrifying.

Accompanied by a series of hair-numbing cracking, crisscrossing rifts appeared on the rock walls around the cave like spider webs.

Although the initial cracks were only as thick as strands of hair, they expanded at an astonishing rate. Soon, they upgraded from "hairs" to "centipedes," then from "centipedes" to "poisonous snakes," and finally, from "poisonous snakes" to "giant pythons" with hungry stomachs. They were staring at everyone and trying to devour any who were curled up underground from all directions.

Even the metal tanks that had been firmly installed on the base of the reinforced concrete trembled slightly as the vibrations intensified.

The originally smooth running whir suddenly became a stutter, while a few of the metal s emitted a hair-raising explosive sound from within.

A few of the metal tanks that had been repaired and welded were once again crushed by the high temperature and high-pressure poisonous gas from within. It went on until they exploded, shooting out streams of poisonous fog that resembled sharp arrows.

Many surveillance cameras were shaking their heads, and a multitude of instruments was rotating out of control. Ear-piercing beeps could be heard from countless alarms, and the lights above the people's heads began to flicker crazily. The emergency lighting system that was as red as blood had automatically been activated. However, the light that poured down like a blood-colored waterfall still caught the guards off guard. Their increasingly solemn expressions revealed traces of panic.

Monsters also added to the chaos. They had always been more sensitive to earthquakes than humans.

A large number of deformed snakes, insects, rats, ants, water spiders, and water monkeys that were hibernating on the riverbed, formed a black mass of monsters. They swarmed toward the sewage treatment station before the first bubble that smelled like sulfur broke the surface of the underground river.

These monsters did not have strong offensive and combat abilities.

Normally, they would not dare provoke the human guards. Fierce high-level beasts would even be imprisoned and tortured in the laboratory.

However, driven by their desire to survive, they instinctively wanted to get as far away from the restless associated mineral vein as possible.

Compared with the Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon and other powerful, but rare, Apocalyptic Beasts, the snakes, insects, rats, and ants that were as revolting as slugs and as numerous as cow hair were on a different level of trouble.

Horizon's elite guards had fought the most ferocious monsters in the depths of the jungle for many years.

With a light kick, the shock waves around the soles of their feet could stomp dozens of snakes, insects, rats, and ants into a paste.

The problem was, there were currently too many snakes, insects, rats, and ants.

Moreover, there was no clear direction of attack at all.

They just ran around like headless flies.

Even if they could not tear apart the humans' iron walls, it was likely that they would drill into the depths of the sewage treatment system.

They would end up in the crisscrossing pipes, in the blind spots of the human eye, and die there. They would quietly rot and ferment, forming flammable and explosive biochemical bombs!

That would bring great trouble to the sewage treatment system's subsequent operations.

These men, who had once fought ferocious Hell Beast, never batted an eyelid even when their ribs were broken and could even hold on tightly to their broken ribs. Yet, they could only bite the bullet and curse in the constantly shaking cave. They stepped on bugs, killed mice, and killed ghostly entities that had several pairs of wings. Flies did not look like flies, cockroaches did not look like cockroaches, and locusts did not look like locusts.

The best part was that Meng Chao saw a huge crack from the river to the rock wall. After winding and twisting, it actually extended toward the hole where the sniper, whom he was most afraid of, hid.

The rock layer around the hole was about to twist and distort, squeezing the hole to the size of a fist.

The sniper did not want to be squeezed alive into a can of lunch meat.

He could only crawl out of his hiding place, partially in a sorry state and partially in anger.

At this time, the rock wall behind the sewage treatment system suddenly shook nonstop.

The rock wall, which looked exactly the same as the surrounding cave walls, shrank and sank inward, revealing a dark tunnel.

Dozens of workers in full chemical suits and silver gas masks rushed out.

They carried a lot of equipment to monitor the earthquake's magnitude and trend.

There were also a few prospectors in diving suits who were ready to dive into the underground river to explore the source of the earthquake.

At the same time, they brought higher-level chemical suits and gas masks to the guards.

After all, the river water was boiling, the metal tanks were cracking, and blood, as well as acid, spewed out of the twisted snakes, insects, rats, and ants after they were stepped on until their intestines burst. Although they quickly evaporated, the cave was poorly ventilated, hence it was filled with a deadly poisonous fog.

To Meng Chao, it was a pleasant surprise.

He had originally thought that he would spend some time before he could find the entrance to the Blood Flower laboratory!

Since it had revealed itself, the next step would be simple.

Meng Chao closed his eyes before he silently calculated and waited.

As the earthquake's magnitude gradually increased, the damage to the cave continued to worsen. Not only were there crisscrossing cracks on the surface, but the rock layers underneath were also torn and dislocated. As a result, the pipelines that were buried in the rock layers were cut off.

The conventional lighting system had long since been disabled, but the scarlet emergency lights remained flashing.

Every 3.7 to 3.9 seconds, two-thirds of the emergency lights would be extinguished, causing about 55% of the cave area to fall into extremely low-visibility darkness.

The process would last from 0.3 to 0.4 seconds.

For a warrior like Meng Chao, 0.34 seconds was enough to take a comfortable hot bath, eat a hearty meal, and take a nap to recover his energy!

Thus, when the next bout of darkness came, everyone's attention would either be on the snakes, insects, rats, and ants that were running around randomly, or on the metal tanks that were trembling crazily and whistling, or on the index and needle of the instruments that were jumping and rotating crazily.

Meng Chao was like a shadow. He jumped up from the underground river, brushed past everyone's blind spots, and moved forward for a full ten meters. He went under a sewage pipe that led directly to the underground river, in a gap that was at most the width of a palm!

Chapter 1536: Perfect Stealth

After the mud and sand from the riverbed were absorbed by Meng Chao's vitality magnetic field, it became a second layer of skin draped over his totem armor, converging its light and killing intent. He merged perfectly with the foul-smelling mud below the sewage pipe.

There were a total of four guards and workers within ten meters. It was as if they were facing a great enemy and were tired of dealing with it. However, not a single one of them saw Meng Chao.

It was not until a few water rats with two heads ran down the sewage pipe in a panic that everyone's eyes were pulled over.

Meng Chao was already prepared.

He gently flicked out a broken bone that he had picked up from the riverbed.

The broken bone was the size of a grain of rice. It stuck close to the ground and silently hit the joint between one of the water rat's two heads.

The water rat squeaked in pain and jumped.

It seemed to realize that in the darkness ahead, there was a terrifying existence that it could not afford to provoke. Driven by its survival instinct, it changed direction and entered another sewage pipe.

The four guards and workers shifted their attention.

The next two-thirds of the emergency lights went out, and another “dark period” arrived.

The moment darkness devoured the cave, Meng Chao leaped up from the bottom of the sewage pipe.

Like a bolt of black lightning, he darted to the center of the sewage treatment system, where the reactor and the metal tanks were the densest.

It was also the place where the guards were the densest.

The gazes of the seven or eight guards were like thorns, tightly entangling the reactor and metal tanks.

Before Meng Chao arrived, a few pieces of metal that were as thin as cicada’s wings and as sharp as blades were already shooting out of his fingertips.

With precision, they pierced into one of the metal tanks, which had been repaired, and it began to crack.

The metal tank immediately exploded.

A large amount of corrosive liquids that were hundreds of degrees hot and sticky spurted out of the tank.

Due to the sudden change in pressure, it vaporized instantly and turned into a colorful poisonous fog that bared its fangs and brandished its claws.

Even though the guards and staff were wearing three layers of protective clothing, the poisonous fog was still expanding.

Seeing the poisonous fog that seemed to have a life of its own, they were shocked, breaking out in a cold sweat.

They quickly waved the fire extinguisher and the mithril stabilizer spray, spraying white bubbles at the poisonous fog. They tried to keep the poisonous fog contained within a range of three to five meters.

How could they see Meng Chao? Just as they were spraying the foam around, a phantom-like figure flashed into the depths of the poisonous fog and the foam.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The emergency light flashed for the third time and also became extinguished soon after.

This time, Meng Chao hid behind a tall and muscular guard who looked like a humanoid tank.

This guard appeared to have been injected with some kind of gene reagent that had not been approved.

There was a heavy bomb embedded within every one of his muscle fibers.

Normally, one would not be able to train to achieve such a deformed and developed body.

His combat ability was as astonishing as his body size.

Flames of war that were visible to the naked eye gushed out of his lumpy muscles.

It made him seem like he was stuck in the middle of a cave, like a burning torch.

There was no doubt that crouching behind the muscular man was a very risky move.

However, Meng Chao had observed the muscular man's mode of movement calmly and confirmed that he had a certain flaw in his perception. As long as he activated the Walking Corpse technique to the maximum, using the muscular man's surging vitality magnetic field to conceal his movements could be as effective as "darkness under the lamp."

Moreover, the pathway that led from the back of the strong man to the rock stratum and the BloodFlower laboratory was also the closest.

As expected, the strong man was probably the leader of the guards. He was known to be fierce and evil.

Faced with the situation where the earthquake was getting increasingly intense and the entire cave could collapse at any time, the strong man got so angry that smoke was rising out of his seven apertures. His furious face was so twisted that even evil ghosts would break out in cold sweat.

His roar drowned out the loud sounds from the depths of the underground river.

His saliva was also like a dense barrage of bullets, poking holes in the guards' faces.

None of the guards dared to meet the brawny man's gaze.

Naturally, it was even more impossible for them to discover Meng Chao, who was hiding behind that man.

Thus, when the next round of darkness came, Meng Chao was akin to a black arrow shot out by a ghost. He dashed straight toward the entrance and exit of the rock wall.

Before the emergency light came back on, he had already infiltrated the interior of the Blood Flower laboratory.

It was a narrow, high-tech corridor.

The corridor was covered in surveillance cameras, pressure sensors, and infrared scanners.

It was to ensure that even if a mutated rat sneaked into the laboratory, they would be able to scan and lock on to it at the first moment.

However, that was during normal times.

Right now, the sewage treatment system, which was separated from the tunnel by a wall, was being attacked by an earthquake.

Meng Chao had stimulated the accompanying mineral vein, which was hidden in the depths of the underground river, and it was releasing an unrelenting spirit magnetic storm.

Although the destructive energy released by this spirit magnetic storm was far less than one percent of the Red Radiance Jade vein that Lin Chuan had detonated a few years ago, it was more than enough to temporarily disable the monitoring equipment in the underground laboratory within five to ten minutes.

“The monitoring facilities and the precision instruments here should be disabled.

“Next, I just need to be on guard against the staff in the laboratory!”

Meng Chao’s ears were like a radar that was rotating nonstop.

He could hear everything within a hundred meters of the tunnel—breathing, heartbeats, hurried footsteps, angry curses, shouting, the monsters locked in the laboratory, and the abnormal movement of the planet’s magnetic field. Meng Chao went crazy, pulling the chains and hitting the fence hard before he could make a distinction between all the clattering sounds.

Meng Chao heard dozens of footsteps coming from all directions toward the tunnel.

The tunnel was the only way for the Blood Flower laboratory to access the sewage treatment system. There were no forks on either side, so there was nowhere for Meng Chao to hide.

But that was not a problem for him.

He noticed that the propeller-like roar of an armored airship kept coming from above his head.

He determined that it was the underground laboratory’s ventilation system. It was overloading which was why the sewage treatment system’s explosion caused by the earthquake managed to firmly block the laboratory from the outside. Nothing could penetrate it in the slightest.

The ventilation system was the most important thing to any underground structure.

Not to mention, it was a Blood Flower laboratory, which was carrying out biochemical experiments and producing highly toxic gases as well as deadly spores.

Soon, Meng Chao found the ventilation duct’s air outlet.

He raised his arm and casually put his palm, which was wrapped in a gauntlet, on the air outlet.

The spirit magnet that had solidified into the gauntlet immediately melted into mercury, slipping into the air outlet and into the depths of the ventilation duct.

Chapter 1537: Harmless Treatment

In the narrow ventilation duct, the spirit magnet kept splitting into dozens of small strands of mercury, each finding and drilling into an exhaust fan that was running at full power or even at an overload.

The originally rhythmic running sound of the exhaust fans suddenly became uneven, sharp, and ear-piercing. It was as if their internal parts had fallen off. Driven by the high-speed propellers, the inner walls of the exhaust fans were scratched and riddled with holes.

Accompanied by plenty of sparks and smoke, the dozens of exhaust fans that were scattered all over the ventilation duct almost became paralyzed at the same time.

With just a wall acting as separation, the expanding flames and thick smoke in the burning, as well as exploding, sewage treatment station, immediately poured into the underground laboratory. It turned the area around the tunnel into a mess.

Chi! Chi!

The automatic fire protection and antivirus facilities installed above the tunnel were all activated, and they sprayed a large amount of sticky foam down.

The staff in the underground laboratory had already put on three layers of protective clothing. Their line of sight went beyond their gas masks, but their field of vision was narrow and visibility extremely low.

Now, their gas masks were stained with plenty of foam, which they could not wipe clean no matter how hard they tried. Between the bright flames and the black poisonous fog, it was naturally more difficult to detect the presence of intruders.

Moreover, when the fire and anti-virus systems had been automatically activated, a large door had silently opened from the seemingly smooth tunnel wall. There was a small fire station with a variety of safety equipment inside, including fire foam spray cans, negative pressure airproof clothing, gas masks, first aid kits, and many other safety equipment.

Originally, the equipment had been prepared for workers who suddenly got exposed to high temperatures or highly toxic environments and did not have time to escape to the safety zone.

But now, it worked to Meng Chao's advantage.

He retrieved all the strands of the spirit magnet from the ventilation duct and made sure not to leave even half a drop of "mercury" behind.

Even if the people from Horizon checked the exhaust fans that had been burned into scrap metal, they would only assume that the earthquake had been too strong, the flames had been too fierce, and the toxic fog had contained a high degree of erosion. Hence, the entire system became paralyzed as a result.

Before a large number of workers stumbled into the tunnel, Meng Chao quickly put on a full set of equipment and smeared a large amount of foam on his gas mask, turning into a shiny, human-shaped tin.

He leaned against the corner of the wall and coughed loudly, pretending to inhale a lot of poisonous fog, which burned his esophagus and lungs.

Sure enough, the workers were most concerned about the earthquake's energy level and trend, as well as managing the sewage treatment system's damage. They did not care about his life or death.

Only a rather fierce worker grabbed him and asked about the situation outside.

Obviously, he was fooled by Meng Chao's superb acting skills.

When a large number of workers rushed out of the tunnel, Meng Chao moved against the current and went straight into the heart of the underground laboratory.

He secretly poked a small hole under his gas mask, allowing the aura and sound from the outside world to leak in.

At that moment, Meng Chao still did not know the exact structure of this labyrinthine underground laboratory.

But that was not a problem.

As the earthquake waves and spirit magnetic storm kept crashing into the underground laboratory, the monsters imprisoned there all became restless. They let out ferocious, mournful, fearful, and distorted howls from time to time.

They also secreted a large amount of sweat with a very strong smell.

Following the sound and aura, Meng Chao easily locked onto the location where a large number of monsters were gathered.

“The monsters are the best carriers of the Blood Flower.

“Since this is the Blood Flower laboratory, the large number of monsters gathered here are naturally the raw materials for the experiments.

“In other words, as long as we find the monsters, we can follow the clues and find the underground laboratory’s core area!”

The first thing that Meng Chao found was not a living monster.

Instead, it was a large number of bloody, oddly-shaped monster corpses.

They were all piled up in a harmless treatment workshop.

Most of the monsters had gone through high-intensity experiments. After they died, they had to be sent to the acid pool and the incinerator. They had to be decomposed into the most basic particles or even turned into ashes before they were discharged into the sewage treatment system for the next heavy process.

“These... What the hell are they?”

Seeing rows of monster corpses dangling in the air from huge iron hooks, Meng Chao secretly frowned.

He had seen a lot of things.

From Dragon City to Picturesque Orchid Lake, from monsters to Totem Beasts, and even in his fragmented apocalyptic nightmares and the mottled ancient battlefield, he had seen all kinds of strange creatures.

That was especially so when his cultivation advanced to the Deity Realm.

Even if the Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon appeared in front of him, he could still talk and laugh with it.

However, should he extract the ugliest monsters from the depths of his memory, compared with the ferocious appearance of the monster corpses in front of him, Meng Chao still could not distinguish which kind was creepier.

At first glance, these monsters looked like they were part of the Demonic Halberd Pig's subspecies.

There was a large population of Demonic Halberd Pigs. They had strong reproductive and adaptive abilities as well as thick skin. They could withstand all kinds of modulation and were the best specimens for conducting biochemical experiments. They were the lab rat equivalent of monsters.

Agricultural University had previously bred a very special Demonic Halberd Pig. Using gene knockout, the Demonic Halberd Pig's tusks, thick skin, and mane were removed, making the white and fat pig look like a lab rat that had been magnified hundreds of times.

However, the little white pigs hanging there...

Meng Chao spotted a Demonic Halberd Pig. Indeed, with gene knockout, its tusks, thick skin, and mane had been removed at the embryonic stage.

Meanwhile, its entire body was inlaid with hundreds of eyeballs!

Even though the Demonic Halberd Pig had died long ago, most of its eyeballs were still bulging, and they were filled with radiating blood vessels. They were like tumors that still maintained their vigorous vitality.

No, it was not as simple as tumors.

The pig had died with its eyes wide open, and Meng Chao sensed a few wisps of fear from the eyeballs.

He realized that the eyeballs had just released an extremely high-intensity spirit attack.

"These d*mn things are fundamentally different from the Demonic Halberd Pig's natural eyeballs.

"These aren't the eyeballs of Demonic Halberd Pigs at all. Instead, they had apparently shrunk the Demonic Air Ripping Eye by a few hundred times and forcefully grafted it onto the Demonic Halberd Pig's body.

"Could the genes of the Demonic Halberd Pig and Demonic Air Splitting Eye be intertwined through Blood Flower's stimulation?"

"To come up with such a gene modulation method, the person in charge of this laboratory is definitely a genius, an extremely evil genius!

"Nevertheless, there seems to be a slight deviation in his train of thought.

"The Demonic Air Splitting Eye's spirit attack originates from its brain, which occupies more than 90% of the space in its body, not from the eyeballs floating on the surface.

"No matter how many eyes grow on the Demonic Halberd Pig's body through genetic modification technology, if its brain isn't fundamentally modified, it won't be able to release too strong a spirit attack. Instead, the Demonic Halberd Pig's brain would be drained due to overload from the spirit attack.

"This Demonic Halberd Pig must have died of brain edema and brain failure caused by the spirit backlash, right?"

Meng Chao noticed that there were faint burn marks on the pig's nose, ears, and mouth.

It must have been caused by the spontaneous combustion of the brain and the fire escaping from its seven orifices because it could not withstand the spirit backlash.

Although there was a problem with the idea, failure was the mother of success.

Meng Chao could completely imagine that after repeated attempts, the host of the laboratory overcame a series of technical difficulties. He could make a large number of the pigs, and they could be seen everywhere. Their skin was rough, and their flesh was thick. The Demonic Halberd Pig, which possessed considerable physical attack, had mastered the ability to release Fear Bombs at will, just like the Demonic Air Splitting Eye.

At one point, he would have a terrifying “monster army”!

Moreover, this was just the Demonic Halberd Pig.

After all, Meng Chao had extracted a large number of fierce high-level beast remains that were hundreds of times more powerful than the Demonic Halberd Pig from the underground river!

Chapter 1538: Tip of the Iceberg

With an ominous premonition, Meng Chao turned his gaze to the second Demonic Halberd Pig’s corpse.

This Demonic Halberd Pig was also a “little white pig” that had been cultivated with gene knockout technology to change its tusks, skin, and hair, making it appear soft and tender.

However, it had grown extremely thick tendons and muscles. There were circles of blood vessels that looked like tree roots wrapped around it. There were also countless bone spurs growing between the blood vessels on its left forelimb.

Its forelimb was out of proportion to its body size.

It was even longer than the length of the Demonic Halberd Pig.

It looked like it had been torn off from a high-level beast that was several times bigger than the Demonic Halberd Pig and stitched onto it.

Meng Chao also found dense dark red scales on its left forelimb.

Even though the Demonic Halberd Pig had been dead for a long time and most of its organs had been exhausted, there were still fiery ripples between its scales, faintly flowing and surging.

In addition, the end of its left forelimb clearly did not have the characteristics of a cloven-hoofed monster.

Instead, it was the claw of a dragon-type monster.

The huge and sharp dragon claw was like four overlapping death scythes. The bloodstains that had long solidified on its body gave off a terrifying aura that made one’s heart contract.

“This is not the Demonic Halberd Pig’s limb.

“It’s the limb of some high-level flood-dragon-type monster, such as the Demonic Flaming Dragon, the Giant-mouthed Flaming Dragon, or the Volcano Ranger.

“There could even be some relation to the limb of a Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon.

“However, there are no signs of suturing at the joints between the Demonic Halberd Pig’s left forelimb and body.

“This is enough to prove that it wasn’t pieced together after birth. Instead, it’s a product of genetic engineering and biochemical modification.

“This Demonic Halberd Pig was born with part of the bloodline and limbs of a high-level beast!”

Meng Chao clicked his tongue inwardly.

Everyone knew that the higher the level of a beast, the more unruly it would be, and the more unwilling it would be to be tamed and used by humans.

The Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon was like that. The king of the monsters naturally had the pride of a king.

In the face of an overwhelming torrent of steel, it would rather be smashed into pieces by hundreds of railway guns and the bombardment of Deity Realm warriors than become a loyal dog under the feet of humans.

Taming the ferocious Hell Beasts and even the Apocalyptic Beasts had become an urgent problem for the Dragon City civilization to solve.

As far as Meng Chao knew, many organizations, including the Superstar Company and Agricultural University, all tried their hand at it.

But so far, no one had come up with a fundamental solution.

Occasionally, a “beast tamer” would tame a Hell Beast or even an Apocalyptic Beast, but it was only a special case and could not be replicated.

However, the idea of the underground laboratory was the opposite.

Since the Hell Beasts and Apocalyptic Beasts were existences that could not be tamed, they might as well give up on the idea of taming them.

Instead, they would find a way to inject the genes of the Hell Beasts and Apocalyptic Beasts into the bodies of the Nightmarish Beasts that could be tamed and had astonishing fertility. Then, they would be able to create biochemical weapons that were partially nightmarish and partially hellish. They would even be the ultimate bioweapon with “one-third Nightmarish bloodline, one-third Hell bloodline, and one-third Apocalyptic bloodline”!

“By utilizing the characteristics of the Blood Flower spores, the fusion of the different bloodlines will be improved, and a Nightmarish Beast that possesses some of the abilities of a Hell Beast or even an Apocalyptic Beast can be created!

“It does sound feasible.

“Of course, it’s not easy to achieve this.

“Take the Demonic Halberd Pig for example. Since its left forelimb is made up of high-level cells, the daily energy consumption of each cell is astronomical. The Demonic Halberd Pig’s food and digestive system are not enough to maintain the normal functioning of its left forelimb.

“As a result, while its left forelimb became thicker and stronger, its body, brain, and the other three limbs became thinner and withered as the days went by. The originally fat Demonic Halberd Pig was reduced to skin and bones.

“The cause of its death should be malnutrition. It starved to death.”

It sounded ridiculous for a Demonic Halberd Pig that was locked in the laboratory with enough feed to actually die from malnutrition.

However, Meng Chao was not kidding.

It boiled down to the same thing. The experiment was to search for a one in ten thousand success from all the seemingly absurd and unrivaled impossibilities.

Presumably, the host of this underground laboratory had also been repeatedly screening and testing to find the high-level beast bloodline that was most suitable to be mixed with the genes of the Demonic Halberd Pig, right?

In fact, there was no need for such a powerful Apocalyptic Beast bloodline like that of the Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon.

As long as the Tyrant Mammoth Hell Beast gene could be perfectly injected into the Demonic Halberd Pig’s body, it did not even need to be too perfect, provided that the Tyrant-Demonic Halberd Pig could unleash its combat strength for half an hour.

If there were a total of three to five hundred such Demonic Halberd Pigs, or even more, it would be a terrifying force that was no weaker than a flood of steel!

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and turned his gaze to the third demon pig.

No, to be more precise, it was an object that looked like the corpse of a Demonic Halberd Pig.

It had been blown into a bloody mess and was not shaped like a pig.

Every bone, blood vessel, and muscle fiber of this creature had exploded from the inside.

Tremendous pressure had caused the flesh and blood all over its body to bloom from the inside out.

The appalling sight reminded Meng Chao of the man-eating flower that the main tank had crushed.

This creature had experienced an extremely violent self-detonation.

Judging from the degree of the damage, the spirit energy that had gathered in its body right before the self-detonation was no less dense than that of a Level 4 Hell Beast.

“Since its cells were still at the extent of a Level 2 Nightmarish Beast, it was unable to withstand the surging spirit energy that led to the tragedy.

“However, it also proves that the underground laboratory has accumulated pretty advanced technology to allow the Nightmarish Beast to instantly unleash the combat ability of a Hell Beast. It’s just that the power isn’t stable enough yet.”

Meng Chao’s gaze passed the monster’s riddled corpse and landed on the body of a fourth Demonic Halberd Pig.

Compared with its counterpart that had self-destructed, this corpse looked “clean.”

It had already undergone an autopsy. A large amount of its flesh and blood had been neatly flipped to its sides, revealing the bones between its torso and limbs.

Unlike an ordinary Demonic Halberd Pig, its bones emitted a dazzling metallic luster.

One could vaguely see that at the end of its bones, there were metal joints made of gears and bearings of all sizes.

“This is...

“Can the Demonic Halberd Pig’s resistance to impact and survivability be enhanced when its skeleton is replaced by reinforcement alloy and a mechanical skeleton?

“It’s not just a biochemical process.

“It’s a product of semi-biochemical and semi-mechanical processes.

“If the process can be completed, the Demonic Halberd Pig will no longer be a simple monster, but a more complicated and powerful ‘mechanical beast.’ Even if its flesh and blood are torn apart, its organs and brain burned, it will still be able to carry out all the orders given by its superiors without rest. It’ll be driven by the mechanical skeleton, the control chip, and the built-in engine!”

What he saw before his eyes was just the tip of the iceberg.

Meng Chao’s emotions were extremely complicated.

The Dragon City civilization in the apocalyptic nightmare had almost no time to catch their breath after they suffered heavy losses against the monster civilization. They were drawn into the magnificent war between worlds.

Therefore, the Dragon City civilization did not have the time to digest and absorb the spoils of war from the Monster War. As a result, they did not have such advanced biochemical technology and the ability to modulate monsters.

However, Meng Chao himself had changed the future.

Today’s Dragon City Civilization had inherited everything from the monster civilization almost unscathed.

If you gaze into the abyss, the abyss gazes also into you.

The Dragon City civilization had tried to devour all of the monster civilization’s heritage so that the monsters would become the most powerful tool for humans to conquer the Other World. However, the

ghosts of the monster civilization would certainly attach themselves to humans in various ways, and imperceptibly change the appearance of Dragon City and the entire human race in return.

It was a double-edged sword.

If the power of a monster civilization... was put in the right place... by the right people... it had the potential to shatter nightmares... and stop the apocalypse.

It could even promote the evolution of human civilization as well as help mankind to open up an early link between Earth and the Other World.

Unfortunately, if the monster civilization fell into the hands of those with ulterior motives, it would merge with the “monster lurking in the depths of humanity.”

It was possible to create a catastrophe larger than what Meng Chao had experienced in his apocalyptic nightmare. It might even bring the end of the world forward!

After Meng Chao figured that out, he had to find more information.

“Who are the investors and hosts of this underground laboratory? What role does the lingering Blood Alliance play in it?”

Chapter 1539: God Transformation 9.0

At the end of this harmless treatment workshop, there was a huge autopsy table.

Two Reapers, who were wearing sterile clothes and carrying a set of multifunctional exoskeletons for dissection and harvesting, were standing in front of the autopsy table. They were looking at the mountain of monster corpses and operating with full concentration.

Out of curiosity as a Reaper, Meng Chao took a few more glances at the autopsy table.

No matter how chaotic the situation outside got, the two Reapers were still able to stay at their posts. Their professionalism was admirable.

Seeing this, Meng Chao broke out in a cold sweat.

The Demonic Halberd Pig on the autopsy table was slightly bigger than its peers, and it looked a little chubby. Aside from that, it did not have many abnormalities.

The two Reapers then waved their mechanical arms and cut its torso along the middle of its chest and abdomen. When they made a Y-shaped incision, turning its skin and flesh to the sides, Meng Chao saw it clearly—an enormous bomb was actually hidden between its bloody organs!

This bomb should have been modified from a heavy railway gun shell or an aerial bomb dropped by a super-large armored airship.

It was more than two meters long and nearly one meter in diameter.

It occupied almost all the space in the demon pig’s belly, squeezing its internal organs to the side.

From the spirit flame flowing faintly on the surface of the bomb, one could imagine how many crystals were inside it.

At that moment, due to the spirit magnetic interference caused by the earthquake, the bomb trembled faintly, as though a demon was hiding inside and could not wait to break out of its cocoon.

Although the bomb's safety had not been removed and it would not detonate easily under normal circumstances either, the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts were still serious as if they were facing an abyss.

They were so nervous that they did not even dare to breathe. Even their mechanical arms were trembling slightly. Cold sweat meandered and filled the air. Crisscrossing marks were outlined on their sterile clothing.

"How insane does one need to be to think of combining a heavy bomb with a Demonic Halberd Pig?"

"Of course, there's no argument over a Demonic Halberd Pig's combat ability. However, if it's used to launch a suicide attack, it will definitely cause significant damage to the target and leave an unforgettable impression!"

"No wonder the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts have to stick to their posts."

"I guess they already started working when the earthquake hit. Once the bombs are partly dismantled, they can't leave their posts even if the sky and earth are falling. Otherwise, if such a big bomb is left here and its safety is broken by the aftershock from the earthquake and spirit magnetic storm, it'll result in a detonation. Then, half of the laboratory might be razed to the ground!"

The scene before Meng Chao allowed him to have a deeper understanding of how insane the underground laboratory's director was.

At that moment, the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts finally extracted the heavy bomb from the Demonic Halberd Pig's belly, intact.

After completely immersing the bloody heavy bomb into the stabilizer that had been added with mithril, they closed the ammunition box's cover and confirmed something: It was embedded with a lead plate that could isolate more than 90% of the spirit magnetic interference. Only then did the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts heave a sigh of relief.

They opened the one-way diversion valve on their sterile suits.

The sweat that had accumulated in the sealed sterile suits was immediately released from the diversion valve.

The two individuals were at ease, and their tense nerves, as well as muscles, relaxed.

The two of them were so tired that they collapsed on the ground. After a long time, they regained the strength to communicate with each other.

They used the communicator embedded in the sealed sterile suits to speak.

However, when they spoke, the air vibrated, inevitably forming ripples on the sealed suit.

Moreover, the sealed sterile suit could only block most bacteria and viruses, not all of them.

It was impossible to stop the transmission of sound waves 100%, especially in terms of stopping sound waves from reaching the ears of a Deity Realm warrior.

Hence, Meng Chao could vaguely hear the conversation between the two of them.

“D*mn it, earthquakes are becoming more and more frequent recently. Why did our higher-ups find such a godforsaken place to build a laboratory?”

“We had no choice. To keep it a secret, we could only choose a place deep in Raging Waves Mountain Range, where the geological structure and spirit magnetic field are unstable. Moreover, the spirit magnetic storm that’s stirred up from time to time is also beneficial to our experiments. It can frequently stimulate monster cells and induce genetic mutations that are difficult to induce in artificial environments.”

“However, what our project needs the most is a stable magnetic environment. Thankfully, our experiment hasn’t started yet. If an earthquake breaks out after we activate the aerial bomb, no one else will know. Your brother and I will certainly be blown to pieces by the out-of-control aerial bomb coupled with the Demonic Halberd Pig’s spirit energy.

“Just count yourself lucky. The first group’s experiment has already begun. We still don’t know how to end it!”

“What? The first group was conducting the most dangerous experiment for God Transformation 9.0. The combat strength of the monsters that had been injected with God Transformation 9.0 increased by at least ten times more than normal, and the probability of them losing control also increased by ten times. If at this time, those monsters were stimulated by the spirit magnetic storm, who knows how they would respond!”

When Meng Chao heard that, his pupils suddenly constricted.

He had locked onto a keyword from the conversation between the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts.

“God Transformation 9.0”!

Deep in Meng Chao’s brain, there was a memory of something similar.

It was regarding the Deification Capsule that had caused Meng Chao trouble and almost caused the tumor growing in the heart of Dragon City to completely explode.

The Deification Capsule was a special genetic medicine.

It could stimulate the cells of ordinary people and overload the mitochondria. It could instantly output ten times or even a hundred times the energy. It could give an ordinary person a temporary but great extraordinary power for three to five minutes, or at most ten to twenty minutes, which was enough to rival superhumans.

During the Monster War, the monster civilization had secretly concocted a large number of Deification Capsules. They had also gathered a large number of bandits inside Dragon City and used the capsules to turn them into an extremely vicious “suicide squad.” Then, they sent this squad into the Lair and set off a bloody storm.

If Meng Chao and Lu Siya had not joined hands to stop them, the storm caused by the Deification Capsules might have swallowed the Lair and set off a chain reaction that would eventually destroy the entire Dragon City.

However, concocting gene reagents was definitely not an easy task.

At the very least, a large-scale laboratory, corresponding experimental equipment, and experimenters with a certain level of professionalism were needed.

It was hard to imagine that a big and burly monster would wear a white coat and wear gold-rimmed glasses, crouching in front of a microscope and a petri dish to conduct experiments.

At that time, the Abnormal Beast Research Department speculated that the monster civilization had absorbed a large number of humans, who had been thrown out of Dragon City at the beginning of their transmigration and had been stranded in the wilderness.

There were also outlaws, who had committed crimes in Dragon City and were wanted. They had nowhere to hide and had taken the initiative to flee.

Using these people's wisdom and operational skills, they established the monster civilization's genetic laboratory.

The problem was, Meng Chao had been one of the first humans to attack the monster civilization's ultimate lair.

Yet, he did not discover the existence of the monster civilization's genetic laboratory in the Hidden Mist Domain.

Then, where exactly was the large number of Deification Capsules, and who made them?

During the Monster War, Dragon City had almost been given Deification Capsules that "bloomed at the center." However, was the God Transformation 9.0 in front of him related to it at all?

"Thinking about it carefully, the Deification Capsule was more suitable for the monsters to inject and consume than a gene agent that could help human beings improve their strength in an instant.

"After all, the Deification Capsule's principle was to stimulate an overload in the mitochondria and accelerate the burning of the blood and flesh cells by ten times or even a hundred times. It was meant to exhaust one's life potential as much as possible in exchange for combat ability!

"Ultimately, human cells that have not been trained are not as strong as monster cells without the long-term infiltration of spirit energy.

"Most of the monsters are tough creatures with tough skin and extremely tenacious vitality. Even if their hearts or their brains are blown up, they can still continue to fight. They would be driven by the primitive nervous system and cause terrible slaughter.

"Even if such monsters consume ten times the dosage of the Deification Capsules, it won't be that easy for them. Their organs would fail, and they might even explode and die.

“Not to mention, there’s also a weird existence like the Blood Flowers that can turn monsters into undead creatures.

“Monster cells plus the Deification Capsules plus the Blood Flower spores... It’s... a perfect combination!”

An image of an undead creature that had consumed a large number of Deification Capsules and increased its combat power by ten times appeared in Meng Chao’s mind.

The corners of his eyes twitched slightly.

At that moment, the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts felt as if they had been stabbed in the butt by earth thorns that had appeared out of nowhere.

The two of them jumped up at the same time.

“Oh no, Team One has lost control!”

“Hurry up and go over there to support them!”

Chapter 1540: Early Berserk

Following the spasmodic movements of the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts, the four corners of the innocuous treatment workshop also sounded a hurried alarm.

The high-frequency flashing red lights added a bit of tension to the already unstable underground space.

The two Reapers and bomb disposal experts smashed a red button next to the autopsy table.

Behind the autopsy table, at the end of the workshop, a thick steel plate as thick as a bank vault door had been embedded with a large number of rivets. It was pulled along the sliding rail by a hinge that was as thick as an arm, and it slowly slid into the reinforced concrete wall that was more than three meters thick. There, another deep and dark tunnel was revealed.

At the end of the tunnel, the faint howls of a monster could be heard.

The strong smell of blood was like raging flames that almost overwhelmed both of them.

Both of them were focused on Team One, which was about to lose control.

They did not notice that before they entered the tunnel and closed the steel plates, a ghostly figure had sneaked in as well.

It was not the tunnel that the researchers used to enter and exit on a daily basis.

It was a tunnel that was used to transport experimental subjects, or more accurately, monsters.

The reason was, many of the monsters were as large as mountains.

The tunnel had also been built to be exceptionally spacious.

During the transportation process, some of the monsters would constantly struggle, spew out blood and acid, as well as burn and erode the tunnel’s walls until they were mottled and riddled with potholes.

As a result, there were not many surveillance devices that could remain there for three days in one piece.

That greatly facilitated Meng Chao's hibernation and stealth.

He followed the two Reapers and bomb disposal experts like a shadow.

After turning two corners, several forks appeared in front of them, leading to different project teams and research labs.

Right then, with the alarms sounding more and more rapidly, countless workers in airtight suits rushed out of their own research labs toward Team One to provide them support. They were carrying exoskeletons on their backs and were armed to the teeth.

In their anxious state, no one noticed that Meng Chao was not one of them. He was also wearing airtight protective suits and covering his mouth, nose, eyes, and ears.

The howls of the monsters ahead became increasingly shrill and intense.

The tremors caused by the monsters hitting the walls and floors also violently tore web-like cracks on the top of the tunnel.

Plenty of dust and gravel fell from the cracks and smashed onto the rescuers' heads.

Black smoke, thick fog, bloody light, and spirit flames made everyone's faces dirty, and they could not distinguish each other.

Meng Chao heard many researchers cursing and gnashing their teeth.

They cursed the laboratory's director for being inhumane. He only cared about the results of the experiments and did not care about the researchers' lives.

In the past six months, countless researchers had died or been injured in similar experiments. The monsters had gone out of control.

They might have been cursing, but they never slowed down.

After all, they were all in the same boat.

If the monsters that had gone out of control escaped, who knew how big of a tragedy it would cause in the underground laboratory?

Even if they could survive it, once the underground laboratory was exposed because the monsters had gone out of control, they would at least have their license revoked for conducting forbidden experiments.

They would be banned from relevant industries for life and engaging in related research, ending their academic lives.

At worst, they would be punished by the law and end up imprisoned for life.

Besides, everyone had been conducting forbidden experiments that were equally dangerous.

There was a possibility for everyone's subjects to lose control, go berserk, and self-destruct.

No one wanted their subjects to go berserk on their own.

So, while the researchers were complaining and cursing, they whirled into the largest research room at the end of the tunnel.

Rather than a standard laboratory filled with bottles and jars, it was more like a huge monster arena.

The space was half the size of a basketball court. In theory, it was enough to accommodate most monsters below the Hell level. They could flex their muscles and bones there.

However, the reinforced concrete walls that were densely covered in steel cones and even high-voltage power grids were still left with shocking traces of monster collisions and scratches.

Many of the scratches were like small craters, and they were filled with radial cracks from the inside out.

Many of the scratches were deeper than half an arm.

If scratches of the same power were applied to a tank, they could easily tear the tank's front armor in half.

At the center of the "monster arena," there were seven control devices that looked like giant medical cabins.

The medical cabins, or in other words, cultivation tanks, were more than five meters long and more than three meters wide. They were filled with a thick, dark-green potion that possessed a strange fragrance.

In addition, Demonic Halberd Pigs were floating in the dark green potion, which was bubbling inside the tanks, and hundreds of tubes were connected to them.

One end of the tubes was connected to the Demonic Halberd Pigs' blood vessels, bone marrow, and neural network.

The other end that extended beyond the culture tanks was connected to dozens of metal tanks that were marked with "biochemical danger" signs.

Meng Chao smelled very strong ingredients that could calm the mind and relax the muscles from the dark green potion.

It seemed that it was something similar to a hibernation potion.

It could greatly reduce the monsters' metabolism and keep them in a deep sleep for a long time, thus reducing consumption and making control, as well as transport, easier.

However, before the earthquake that Chao Meng had created, the researchers there had already diluted the concentration of the hibernation potion.

They had injected a large amount of dangerous gene potions, including God Transformation 9.0, through several hundred catheters into the Demon Halberd Pigs' bodies.

Then, they had probably used simple and crude methods such as bioelectric stimulation to wake the Demon Halberd Pigs up from their deep sleep, causing them to enter a state of excitement and even fury.

Usually, such “activation” would be controllable.

However, the spirit magnetic storm that had been triggered by the artificial earthquake caused the Demonic Halberd Pigs to enter a state of excitement and fury at a speed and degree that far exceeded the researchers’ expectations.

In addition, the earthquake had a negative impact on the entire underground laboratory’s overall structure and defense system.

As a result, the researchers were somewhat caught off guard by the Demonic Halberd Pigs’ sudden state of frenzy.

At that moment, the furious Demonic Halberd Pigs were ramming into the ten cultivation tanks.

Looking through the side of the cultivation tanks and the observation window inlaid with tempered glass, Meng Chao discovered that all the Demonic Halberd Pigs were erupting with mutations visible to the naked eye.

They had originally been “little white pigs” without tusks, manes, and hard skin during the embryonic stage thanks to gene knockout technology.

Now, these little white pigs had taken on the most primitive, brutal, and barbaric appearance of their ancestors in just a few minutes or dozens of seconds.

Some of the little white pigs had tusks that were as sharp as those of the Tyrant Mammoths protruding from the sides of their noses.

As the tusks tore through their faces, their originally harmless “cherry mouths” were ripped all the way to the ears, turning into a bloody mouth full of sharp teeth.

Some of the little white pigs grew a layer of dense, incomparably sharp mane. Their manes emitted a faint metallic luster, and there were even barbs at the end of their manes. With just a light rub against a human body, a large piece of bloody flesh could be torn off.

Other little white pigs even grew scales and carapaces that did not belong to a Demonic Halberd Pig, turning themselves into monster warriors in armor.

No matter what form they turned into, these Demonic Halberd Pigs’ were filled with explosive power. It was as if they were driven by endless pain while they crashed into the interior walls of the cultivation tanks.

Including the gene reagents, the cultivation tanks that weighed more than ten tons swayed like empty matchboxes in a violent wind under the Demonic Halberd Pigs’ impact.

Crisscrossing spider web cracks began to appear on the observation windows of several cultivation tanks. They would shatter at any time.

A few cultivation tanks also resembled lone boats in a stormy sea. They were at risk of capsizing.

Finally, an exceptionally strong Demonic Halberd Pig with scars all over its body and a protruding spine that looked like the sharp bone plates of a stegosaurus smashed into the observation window on one side of the cultivation tank. Then, it used its sharp claws to lean on the edge of the observation window. It tore the tank's outer shell, which was made of super-strong alloy, into pieces before it crawled out.

At the same time, another thin monster with shiny scales all over its body finally overturned its cultivation tank after repeated violent shaking. It did not look like a Demonic Halberd Pig but more like a mutated crocodile. It took the opportunity to flip over the cover and crawled out!