

Oh My God 1581

Chapter 1581: Clause 507

Shen Yuanbao was immediately angered by Shen Yuhe's fearless attitude.

Pa!

He smashed the chair's armrest into pieces and growled. "My second child, what is the meaning of this? Are you going to quit your job, retreat at the last minute, and become a deserter?"

Many of the successors were frightened by Shen Yuanbao's spittle.

However, Shen Yuhe did not have much hope in the first place. He did not have much hope of winning the throne of power in the Shen family and Universe Corporation.

As the saying went, "If you don't have any desires, you will be strong." He was not afraid of anything.

"It's not that I want to quit. It's just that my ability is limited. I don't know what to do."

Shen Yuhe spread his hands and looked straight at Shen Yuanbao without a trace of fear.

If he was the mastermind of the assassination, then, at least in terms of acting skills, he was definitely the most outstanding one among the many heirs.

"You make it sound like you've been wronged," Shen Yuanbao said coldly.

"Let me teach you how it's done. It's true that there are a lot of rats hiding in our pharmaceutical factory, abusing public and private interests, isn't it? Find them all! Kill each one that you find. Kill them until everyone's heart palpitates. I refuse to believe that there are people who don't care about money and their lives!

"Motherf*cker, do you really think that I, Shen, would no longer be able to carry a knife after the end of the Monster War?"

"That's all I've been doing."

Shen Yuhe calmly said, "Ever since the Xinhui Business Center incident broke out, three executives in our family's pharmaceutical organization have committed suicide. Two executives have gone missing. Oh right, a person in charge of the accounting firm that we are working with has also gone missing. I'm certain that he'll be missing forever. No one will be able to find even a single strand of his hair.

"However, these people are all small fish and shrimps. The amount of gene reagents they have released is less than one-tenth of the total amount of gene reagents that our family has released to the black market.

"Even if we exterminate all these small fish and shrimps, it won't solve the fundamental problem."

"Oh?"

Shen Yuanbao narrowed his eyes. "Those smell rats have only released one-tenth of the gene reagents? Then, who's the source of the remaining nine-tenths?"

“Me,” Shen Yuhe said calmly.

Shen Yuanbao remained silent as he waited for an explanation from his eldest biological son.

“I have the account book in my hand. Every single transaction is recorded clearly. Father, would you like to take a look?” Shen Yuhe asked calmly.

“No need.”

Shen Yuanbao stared at Shen Yuhe for a long time, and his tone softened. “My second child, I know you well. You know your limits. Besides, with your physique, even if you really lose your public and private benefits in exchange for astronomical benefits, you can’t use them all on yourself, am I right?”

“Yes.”

Shen Yuhe said, “The astronomical benefits that I earned from the black market were indeed not used on myself.”

“Then, why did you do it?”

Shen Yuanbao asked, “What were the enormous benefits used for?”

A strange light emanated from Shen Yuhe’s eyes.

He asked, “Father, do you still remember Special Clause 507?”

“Hmm, 507...”

Shen Yuanbao pondered for a moment, “Are you talking about the one where employees of Universe Corporation had to reduce their cultivation time during the war and devote more of their time, as well as energy, to their work, and the losses that they suffered would be doubled after the war?”

“That’s right.”

Shen Yuhe said, “Cultivation and work are always in conflict with each other. You can’t have it both ways.

“Putting aside those talented individuals who have had many fortuitous encounters and are as rare as Phoenix feathers and unicorn horns, for most of the superhumans, whose aptitude is above average, the cultivation realm is always proportional to the cultivation resources and cultivation time.

“In the case of limited cultivation resources, the longer the cultivation time, the higher the cultivation realm. That is certain.

“However, for a mega corporation such as Universe Corporation, every employee is like a part in a precision machine that requires him to operate steadily for a long time. It is impossible to give him too much private time and space to improve his cultivation.

“To be specific, as the scale of the company continued to expand, the fields involved started to become more specialized, and the work processes became increasingly standardized as well. The skill range that every employee has actually been growing narrower and narrower.

“Often, the more they work, the more hindrance they have to their training.

“Even if the management, who isn’t responsible for front line operations, has to run around all day, drink until their liver explodes, and then use spirit energy to repair it, how will they have the time to focus on their training?”

“Under such circumstances, many employees naturally raised their opinions. They demanded an eight-hour work schedule that guaranteed two days of rest per week, during which all contact with work would be cut off. They also demanded that all on-site meetings and video conferences after work be cut off. If they really had to work overtime, the overtime pay would have to be paid according to industry standards. Even so, they could not work overtime more than four times per month. There was also the annual leave, which had to be fully utilized. Money could never be used as a substitute because many employees had to use the annual leave to cultivate to higher realms, and so on.

“We can’t say that the demands of the employees were unreasonable.

“But at that time, Universe Corporation was in a period of rapid development, and Dragon City was also facing a serious threat from the monster civilization. We had to gather all our resources and make Universe Corporation strong enough to crush the monster civilization at all costs. How could we possibly satisfy the demands of the employees?”

“How could an enterprise that didn’t even have employees working overtime grow into a mega corporation that was destined to conquer the entire Other World one day?”

“Therefore, back then, under your leadership, we signed Special Clause 507 with the employees, Father. We agreed that during the Monster War, the employees and management would unite and work together to fight for the great goal of defeating the monsters and conquering the Other World. For the time being, we did not care about personal gains and losses. We didn’t care about the level of our cultivation either.

“As for the risk of realm stagnation and even spirit energy deviation caused by the long hours of work, the compensation would be doubled after our victory in the Monster War. The employees of Universe Corporation were guaranteed to achieve the highest realm in the circle of superhumans in Dragon City.

“At that time, 90% of the employees signed Special Clause 507.

“Now, the Monster War has ended with our complete victory.

“It’s time to fulfill our promise and fulfill the clause. Don’t you agree, Father?”

“Cough cough! Cough cough cough cough!”

Shen Yuanbao started to cough violently.

As a “personal doctor,” Meng Chao hurriedly stepped forward to help him.

He leaned close to the old fighter’s ear and considerately asked, “Do you want me to knock you out directly to avoid any embarrassment?”

Shen Yuanbao glared at Meng Chao.

His voice was hoarse as he said, “Continue.”

Chapter 1582: Victory Came Too Early

Shen Yuhe reported a series of numbers.

It was the total number of employees who had signed Special Clause 507, as well as the overtime pay, cultivation allowance, and paid vacation that should be cashed in so that they could focus on cultivation. There were also cultivation resources that were promised to be compensated to them, and so on.

In total, it was such an astronomical figure that even Shen Yuanbao's face turned pale and his heart stopped beating when he heard it.

"It's... It's that much?" Shen Yuanbao could not believe it.

"This is how much it has accumulated over the past few decades."

Shen Yuhe said, "Back then, the promise was that once we won the Monster War, the terms would be settled and the employees would be given a high reward. Perhaps, back then, no one expected the Monster War to end so quickly and smoothly, right?"

Shen Yuanbao was silent for a moment.

The other successors did not say a word either. They did not even dare to breathe loudly.

Shen Yuhe had already said so much anyway. He simply continued to speak in one breath. "The employees who signed Special Clause 507 include skilled workers, who have worked on the front lines for seven to eight years or more than ten years, as well as those who have been the backbone of our various business lines on the grassroots level. There are also quite a number of people who have climbed to the management positions of our branches and subsidiaries.

"There's no way to deny this debt.

"If we can't fulfill Special Clause 507, I'm afraid that the entire Universe Corporation will fall apart overnight!"

"B*stard!"

Shen Yuanbao was furious. He beat his chest and said, "The reason why I'm able to achieve what I've achieved today is because of the word 'trust'. All the employees of Universe Corporation are my brothers and sisters. As long as I, Shen Yuanbao, am still alive, I will guarantee that they will live a glorious and good life!

"What are you talking about? I will keep my promise even if I have to sell everything I have!

"However, although the Monster War is over, Dragon City is going to expand to the outside world soon. There is a high possibility that a new war will break out. We will have to spend a lot of money on everything. This is also a great opportunity for Universe Corporation to develop further and dominate the entire Other World.

"Therefore, is it possible to sign new terms with some of the employees and delay the payment date for a while? The terms can be improved. At most, we will compensate them with double, triple, or even ten times the cultivation resources after we conquer the foreign world!"

“We’ve looked into it. Most of the employees do not agree with delaying Special Clause 507’s payment date, no matter what it takes.”

Shen Yuhe said, “The golden period of cultivation for superhumans only lasts for ten to twenty years. Many employees have worked hard for Universe Corporation for so many years and are at the tail end of their golden period of cultivation. If they don’t seize this last opportunity, they might not be able to break through their current realm for the rest of their lives. What’s the point of giving them more cultivation resources when they are in their seventies or eighties?”

“Some of the employees are already middle-aged. They stopped thinking about how far they can cultivate a long time ago.

“However, the children of these middle-aged employees are mostly still of schooling age and are facing middle school selections as well as college entrance exams.

“During such a critical period, one more cultivation resource means one more score. They will stand on the critical score line and completely change their fate.

“Under such circumstances, it is impossible for the employees to consider the issue of completely dominating the foreign world after ten or twenty years and rewarding them for their contributions.

“People nowadays are very realistic. Two birds in the bush are better than one bird in the hand. Everything is fake. Only real gold, silver, and cultivation resources are real!”

Shen Yuanbao was speechless.

“Father is right. Although we’ve won the Monster War, the economic problems of Dragon City and Universe Corporation have not been solved. On the contrary, because we are in a new phase of expansion and rapid development. Dozens of projects have been launched inside and outside Monster Mountain Range at the same time. All the funds and resources needed are astronomical.”

Shen Yuhe said, “Under such circumstances, if we use the corporation’s original funds and resources to fulfill Special Clause 507, it will only slow down our development. In the end, Universe Corporation will be dragged down by traditional competitors like Sky Pillar Corporation and aggressive new players like Superstar Company.

“I have no control over the funds, but I should compensate the training resources for the employees, especially the genetic drugs. As the person in charge of the pharmaceutical administration, I have to come up with a solution.

“After much consideration, I can only rely on the mountain’s support and adopt a solution from the black market.

“Yes. I know that there are a lot of illegal operations here, and I’ve let down the consumers who bought the training resources from the black market at a high price.

“However, the consumers in the black market are on one side, while the employees who have been supporting us for decades are on the other. If I’m forced to make a choice, I can only grit my teeth and choose the latter!”

Hearing this, Shen Yuanbao leaned against the back of his chair weakly. He closed his eyes and rubbed his nose.

“Is there anything else?” Shen Yuanbao asked tiredly.

“Aside from filling the deficit of Special Clause 507, are the profits from the black market being used for anything else?”

“Not much.”

Shen Yuhe said, “It’s mainly the expenses of the Shen family’s own people. It’s the resources needed for the third and fourth generations to cultivate, build the foundation, awaken, and reach the Heaven Realm.

“The problem is that the Shen family is getting larger and larger. The third and fourth generations have been increasing in number, hence the expenses in this area have accumulated over time. It’s difficult to settle them with a completely compliant method.”

As soon as he uttered those words, disgruntled discussions immediately came from behind Shen Yuhe.

It was not just the adopted children who were scowling at him.

His uncles, brothers, and even his nephews who were related to him by blood all frowned slightly.

“I have no intention of blaming anyone.”

Shen Yuhe had already thrown caution to the wind. In such a situation where the Shen family was constantly scheming, it was not necessarily impossible for him to survive as a lonely person whom everyone hated.

He said, “It is human nature to wish for a son to achieve great heights. If I had a talented son, I would risk everything as well. I would use all means to request the person in charge of my own pharmaceutical administration to provide me with a few extra sets of top-quality cultivation resources.

“Besides, it’s not just the Shen family doing this. Which of the nine great cultivation families doesn’t have their own cultivation resources?”

“If only our family is honest and reports all our cultivation resources to the Supernatural Tower, after paying sufficient resource taxes and obtaining the Supernatural Tower’s approval, it is likely that the Shen family’s disciples will become weaker in a few years. They will be left far behind by the other eight great cultivation families.”

Chapter 1583: Different From the Past

With that said, regardless of whether they were the adopted children or blood heirs, their expressions turned lively.

“Second Brother is right. All the nine great cultivation families do this. If the Shen family operates too honestly and hands over all the cultivation resources to the Supernatural Tower, it would be foolish. We would be selling them for so cheap!”

“No matter how bitter the situation is, we cannot let our children suffer. We cannot allow the descendants of the Shen family to lose at the starting line!”

“The competition in the future is ultimately a competition of talent reserves. Isn’t the Lu family, which is dominating Sky Pillar Corporation, doing everything they can to plunder resources and throw them at their own people?”

“Looking at how the Lu family is now well-armed and full of talent, even Lu Siya, who has betrayed the Lu family, can stir up trouble and create such a grand array. If the Shen family doesn’t hang on to its cultivation resources, how can we fight the Lu family?”

“Father, the inside story of the black market transaction is indeed complicated. Second Brother may be wrong, but his motives are definitely for the good of the Shen family. He is loyal to you, the Shen family, and Universe Corporation!”

Everyone chimed in.

Shen Yuanbao’s frown deepened.

“Enough!”

Shen Yuanbao extended his finger and pointed at his successors. “You bunch of useless humans. Don’t I know the importance of nurturing my descendants? Have I ever mistreated you and deducted your cultivation resources?”

“However, in private, you have to do your best and prevent things from getting so ugly, at least on the surface!”

“I understand. Our family’s pharmaceutical factory only sends ten thousand to twenty thousand units, or even less, to the official direct store under the Supernatural Tower. It can only satisfy thirty to fifty units. At most, it can satisfy the needs of a hundred or so consumers. Most of the consumers have waited in line for a day, but they are unable to buy any genetic medicine. As time passes, how can there not be a huge commotion?”

“Look at the big picture, and don’t put all your eggs in one basket. The image of a company may sound illusory, but at times, it’s more important than anything else.”

“Don’t be petty, don’t be unwilling, and don’t be a stingy person. When it’s time for us to pay, don’t even blink!”

“Let’s say that the cheap gene reagents we send to the Supernatural Tower for sale can satisfy 20% to 30% of the consumers’ needs. Then, we can create a lottery. Even if we can’t buy cultivation resources, we can only blame our bad luck. How can the consumers vent their grievances on us if they don’t win the lottery?”

“Think about how your father made his fortune back then. If I had been as stingy as all of you back then, would the Shen family still be where it is today?”

“You bunch of short-sighted and insatiable idiots. Don’t you understand such simple logic?”

“This...”

Many of the successors looked at each other and retreated in embarrassment.

“Father, it’s not that we haven’t thought of increasing affordable supplies in the Supernatural Tower at an equal price. However, there is a limit to ‘bloodletting.’”

Shen Yuhe remained calm as he patiently explained, “Do you know what the biggest difference between the issue of providing genetic medicine at an equal price and the issue you had back then is?”

“The biggest difference is that there are too many superhumans now. Their realms are too high, and it has even made dying difficult!”

“Oh?”

Shen Yuanbao was slightly taken aback as he narrowed his eyes and said, “What’s the logic behind this?”

“To protect the cultivation rights of all superhumans, the prices of many cultivation resources, including genetic medicine, have not risen since the Supernatural Tower’s establishment. Decades have passed, and the increase in the official prices is at most 200%. On average, it does not exceed 150%. One could say that if the official retail prices are strictly enforced, all the pharmaceutical manufacturers and cultivation resource providers will be making a loss.”

Shen Yuhe said, “When you were showcasing your skills, the Supernatural Tower was just established. It was also the most intense and dangerous era of the Monster War.

“At that time, the entire Dragon City was in a life-and-death situation. Everyone was trying their best to become stronger. They were trying their best to awaken and cultivate.

“First of all, in that situation, the raw materials for genetic potions, namely monster flesh, bones, spinal cords, and brain matter, were relatively easy to obtain.

“Second of all, the cost of labor was relatively low. Many Reapers were willing to work day and night when they had food to eat. Even if they were infected by monster venom, resulting in injuries or even death at work, most of them would admit that they were unlucky and simply pay the price.

“Third of all, the number of superhumans wasn’t very high. Most superhumans were in a similar situation. The genetic vaccine that they had to consume every day, regardless of quantity or quality, did not have high requirements. Very few Heaven and Deity Realm powerhouses were active in the most dangerous front lines for a long time. The mortality rate was extremely high.

“That meant the major pharmaceutical manufacturers only needed to provide limited gene reagents at a fair price.

“We were making a loss. However, for the image of our company and Dragon City’s survival, we could afford to make a loss.

“But the situation now is completely different.

“As the spirit energy training system is being perfected, all kinds of training equipment are being upgraded, and bizarre training techniques are emerging one after another. Both the absolute number of superhumans and the proportion of superhuman individuals in the population are much higher than when the Supernatural Tower was first established.

“A One-star Spirit Tattoo superhuman, who started with consuming relatively little cultivation resources, has gradually upgraded to Two-star, Three-star, or even the Heaven Realm. The daily cultivation resources required has exponentially increased.

“The end of the Monster War meant most of the dangers that threatened the lives of superhumans ceased to exist. In the past year, the survival rate of superhumans skyrocketed, soaring into the sky and walking up in a steep straight line—except for a few unlucky people who became deranged, exploded, and fell into a trap when they were cleaning up the monster remnants, most of the superhumans survived and became increasingly strong.

“With the addition of various factors, compared with when the Supernatural Tower was first established, the demand for cultivation resources on the market has increased by a hundredfold.

“Plus, with economic development, the entire industrial chain has become more formal and welfare-oriented. The annual high-risk industry insurance premium paid to employees alone makes for an astronomical figure.

“Thanks to the rapid urbanization of the wilderness, the monsters’ habitat is shrinking, increasing the cost of labor and the difficulty of obtaining monster materials.

“If we still insist that all the major pharmaceutical manufacturers provide cheap gene drugs unconditionally and without limit as they did decades ago, it will not merely be a loss-making proposition. Instead, we will have to drain our blood and die from excessive blood loss!”

Chapter 1584: Profit First

Those words stirred up the successors’ emotions.

Although the other successors did not manage the pharmaceutical system, the various businesses under Universe Corporation, including its main business, the crystal mining and smelting industries, faced the same problem.

While costs soared, the strategic materials that the Supernatural Tower purchased and distributed still implemented the same outdated standards from decades ago. It was not an operational setup.

If they were to strictly follow the official price for the purchase and sale of all the resources, even if they were to fill in the entire Universe Corporation, they might not be able to plug the hole that had been caused by the loss.

With the support of many of his successors, Shen Yuhe’s sallow complexion shimmered, as though he had gained new strength.

He said, “Does the genetic medicine factory under Universe Corporation have a problem with using its hands to harm public and private interests? That has definitely happened.

“Within the Shen family, has anyone ever plucked feathers and taken advantage of any opportunity to profit? That has definitely happened.

“However, did these giant rats cause the black market’s price to soar so that the majority of consumers could not afford the genetic medicine? Or would killing these giant rats completely solve the problem of Dragon City’s lack of cultivation resources? Of course not, it was also absolutely impossible!

“In the end, the problem lies with the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee.

“The Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee do not produce gene potions themselves. They do not need to bear the cost of producing gene potions, so they would not be at a loss.

“And in order to rope in the majority of mid- to low-level superhumans, in order to establish the glorious image of ‘speaking righteously, fearless of authority, and upholding justice’ among the ordinary citizens, be it the Supernatural Tower’s managers or the survival committee’s members, they all have a very strong motivation to manipulate our nine companies, in an attempt to force us to spend a lot of money to suppress the price of cultivation resources.

“To put it bluntly, it is to turn our profits into the capital for them to fish for fame.

“Originally, just these managers and members wouldn’t have been enough. After all, be it the Supernatural Tower or the Survival Committee, there are a large number of people from the nine great cultivation families.

“But now, an ‘Azure Alliance’ has appeared out of nowhere. With Superstar Company as the spearhead, Broken Star Club and Blue Home as the backbone, the Red Dragon Army and Battle God Palace as the backers, they are the troublemakers who are destroying the rules of the game. They are stirring up trouble, hoping that the world will not fall into chaos.

“Humph. is the Azure Alliance really as dignified, righteous, and selfless as they say they are on the surface? Are they wholeheartedly seeking benefits for the ordinary citizens and the superhumans who come from humble backgrounds?

“Of course, that is impossible.

“All the people in the world come for benefits, and all the people in the world are fighting for benefits. Many seemingly complicated things are nothing more than ‘benefits’.

“What profits? It’s very simple.

“In the past three years, Superstar Company, which has risen miraculously, has successfully occupied more than 50% of the market for medium-and low-end monster materials in Dragon City with the support of organizations such as Broken Star Club, the Red Dragon Army, and Battle God Palace.

“Since all the raw materials are in the hands of Superstar Company, the next step is naturally to move toward the middle and upper reaches of the industrial chain, which is more valuable and high-tech.

“That is the genetic medicine industry.

“The problem is that, compared to the established pharmaceutical companies under Sky Pillar Corporation and Universe Corporation, Superstar Company’s foundation is shallow after all. Neither the R & D Team nor the sales chain is mature enough.

“Not to mention that among the nine companies, there are already giants who specialize in the field of pharmaceuticals. They are deeply involved in the universities, hospitals, and training centers. They have mastered many key technologies and a lot of patents.

“In addition, the nine companies are united. No matter how fierce the competition between them is, when they encounter new challengers, they will still work together and face the outside world together.

“We have already defended the entire genetic pharmaceutical market like an impregnable fortress.

“If the Superstar Company attacks from the front, it will be impossible for them to break the industry barrier that we spent decades to build.

“Therefore, the Barbarians decided to take the risk and flip the table. They took advantage of the Xinhui business building incident and smashed the rules of the game that the nine corporations had been maintaining for decades.

“This is called ‘cake that I can not eat, and you can forget about eating it, too’.

“It has to be said that, for a new challenger in a mature industry, this is the simplest and most direct and effective move. Superstar Company, Lu Siya, impressive!”

Shen Yuanbao turned his head and glanced at Meng Chao.

However, he found that Meng Chao seemed to be immersed in his role as a private doctor. On the surface, at least, there was not the slightest change in his emotions.

Shen Yuanbao closed his eyes and rubbed his nose in exhaustion.

He sighed and said, “Regardless of their standpoint, whether it was Meng Chao in the past or Lu Siya today, these formidable young people are all talents that I admire very much.

“I’ve also asked you to extend an olive branch to the Superstar Company more than once—how to make the cake, how to divide the cake, and the relevant details. We can sit down and talk about it slowly. Dragon City is very big, and the foreign world is extremely vast. It can accommodate ten super enterprises. As long as you are willing to abide by the rules of the game and let the meat rot in the pot, no matter how you play, everyone will be the winner. Isn’t that good?

“It is just like how Universe Corporation and the Lu family’s Sky Pillar Corporation have been at loggerheads for decades. In the field of crystal mining and refining, there has always been a standoff. There has never been a third strong competitor. This is a win-win situation!

“I don’t understand why the young people nowadays are even more aggressive than I was in the past. They don’t understand the logic of making money with kindness, but they choose the most radical and dangerous way to play

“Because the other party’s ambition has never been limited to commercial interests.”

Shen Yuhe’s eyes flickered with a dangerous light. “If it’s only for the interests of the field of genetic medicine, even if it’s an astronomical figure, everyone can ask for a sky-high price, pay back the money, and talk about it slowly.

“Just as Father said, Dragon City is very big and can accommodate ten super enterprises. As long as you follow the rules, what’s the harm in sharing your share?

“However, forgive me for being blunt, Father, but you have underestimated Lu Siya.

"If she only wants commercial interests, she doesn't have to betray the Lu family at all.

"With her means, level, experience, reputation, and age, if she stays in the Lu family, the entire Sky Pillar Corporation will fall into her hands in a few years.

"If you think that her goal is to create a new super enterprise after abandoning an old super enterprise, you are underestimating her!"

"Oh?"

Shen Yuanbao leaned over and asked with great interest, "As you said, even Superstar Company is not Lu Siya's target. What does she want exactly?"

"She wants the entire Dragon City," Shen Yuhe said casually.

Chapter 1585: Game

Shen Yuanbao suddenly opened his narrowed eyes, and they emanated a light that scared even his own son out of his wits.

"Lu Siya is just a young girl. How can she have such an appetite?" Shen Yuanbao asked casually.

"Perhaps Lu Siya doesn't have such an appetite. Even if she does, an intelligent person like her who knows how to judge the situation will also lurk in the dark and develop in secret. Similar people will wait until their wings are fully grown and they are in the right place at the right time before they launch an attack."

Shen Yuhe said, "However, just because Lu Siya doesn't have such an appetite doesn't mean that other people don't as well."

"Who then?"

Shen Yuanbao asked, "Who has it?"

"The Supernatural Tower, the Survival Committee, Battle God Palace, and the Red Dragon Army." Shen Yuhe's words were, once more, astounding.

Shen Yuanbao's expression became more serious as his gaze turned deeper.

It was as though he had instantly calculated many things in his mind.

"The Supernatural Tower is not a person," said Shen Yuanbao.

"The Supernatural Tower is indeed not a person but a puppet. It's the same as the Survival Committee. In the beginning, it was just a puppet pushed to the forefront by the nine corporations."

Shen Yuhe said, "At that time, although the Blood Alliance had been killed by the nine families, Dragon City continued to be in a state of chaos. The threat of zombies and monsters was growing stronger both inside and outside Dragon City.

"To prevent the nine families from killing each other and causing the total destruction of the entire civilization, we accepted Battle God Lei Zongchao's proposal. We set up a Supernatural Tower to manage all the superhumans. We also set up a Survival Committee to control Dragon City's direction.

The nine families also turned into nine companies through a series of corporate operations. From then on, the bloody battles turned into equally intense but more civilized business competitions.

“In the beginning, the dual management system of the Supernatural Tower and Survival Committee worked very well. The superhumans who originally belonged to the nine major families were finally able to break free from the severe internal strife. In addition to fighting against monsters, expanding their living space, and gathering strategic resources, they could also free up enough time to devote themselves to cultivation and break through to the heaven or even the god realm one after another, gradually forming the nine major cultivation aristocratic families today.

“However, as the nine companies and the nine families continue to rise, we have also overlooked a very important point.

“Even if they are puppets, the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee are nominally the highest management organization for all the superhumans and even the entire Dragon City.

“As time passes, the Supernatural Tower has been gathering more manpower, resources, and power. The influence of the Survival Committee among all the citizens is also growing. It is inevitable that there will be various interest groups within the two. There will be conflicts with the interests of the nine companies.

“Power is like alcohol. As long as one has experienced the feeling of being in heaven, no one can truly give it up.

“Therefore, regardless of whether it is the Supernatural Tower or the Survival Committee, they are trying to get rid of the control of the nine corporations and their status as puppets. They are even trying to turn the tables and control the nine corporations instead. This is an inevitable trend.

“Recently, there is a hot topic on Dragon City’s Internet called, ‘Does Dragon City own the nine corporations, or does the nine corporations own Dragon City?’

“From the humble superhumans to the ordinary citizens, many netizens have participated in a very heated discussion, and the outcome of the discussion is very unfavorable to the nine major enterprises. Father, brothers and sisters, do you think that this topic came out of nowhere?”

“Not to mention, there’s also Battle God Palace and the Red Dragon Army.

“The behind-the-scenes master of Battle God Palace is Battle God Lei Zongchao.

“On the surface, this gentleman is a righteous man, but in fact, he is an ambitious man.

“In the past, he and the nine families broke the rule of the Blood Alliance. When it was time to share the cake, he would be rewarded.

“He knew very well that he didn’t have the power of the nine families. Even if he was the number one expert in Dragon City, he still had no chance of winning against the nine families.

“Secondly, his peerless martial strength also comes from the Blood Alliance.

“Although he claims to be the experimental subject of the Blood Alliance and the victim of a series of cruel cultivation experiments conducted by the Blood Alliance, he still has a long way to go.

“Most of the core members of the Blood Alliance have already died, and many of them were killed by him. Who knows what kind of role he plays in the dark ancient ruins?”

“From this point of view, Battle God Lei Zongchao was born with the original sin and was not suitable to be the leader of Dragon City.

“If it were an ordinary boor, he might have jumped out and competed with the nine major families.

“However, Battle God Lei Zongchao is indeed a once-in-a-hundred-years extraordinary figure. He actually played a trick of retreating in order to advance. On the surface, he refused all official positions and even gave up all the inheritance he inherited from the Blood Alliance. He became a semi-reclusive and unworldly figure.

“In this way, he reaped the unconditional trust and endless worship of almost all the citizens of Dragon City.

“It also made all the experts of the nine major families gradually lower their vigilance.

“He was even more indifferent to fame and fortune, and he was able to maintain his image for decades without collapsing. After all, an unworldly expert who never participated in the fight for benefits would never expose any scandals.

“In the dark, Battle God Lei Zongchao used the name of ‘teaching without discrimination’ to recruit disciples and buy people’s hearts. He attracted the talented disciples of the poor families to make long-term investments in them and cast long-term plans to catch big fish.

“In the end, decades later, when the disciples of Battle God Lei Zongchao surfaced under Battle God Palace’s name, this astonishing power had expanded to an unstoppable degree.

“Now, the number of people in Battle God Palace is even greater than the total number of employees in Universe Corporation.

“They are everywhere in corporations, universities, the Red Dragon Army, the Supernatural Tower, as well as the various martial and genetic laboratories. Even within Universe Corporation, there are many employees who have received guidance from Battle God Lei Zongchao and received his funding. Their loyalty to Lei Zongchao is clearly greater than their loyalty to Universe Corporation.

“And we just can’t say anything about it. After all, Battle God Palace is a legal civil organization that has been registered in the Supernatural Tower. Battle God Lei Zongchao has given up everything for Dragon City. He has almost become the symbol of dragon city. Those who have received his favor and guidance can form a civil organization to support him in his retirement. Who can find fault with that?”

“With the support of Lei Zongchao and Battle God Palace, those who lurked within the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee, unwilling to be controlled by us forever, naturally could not wait to jump out and seize control of Dragon City.

“However, they also know that the nine corporations have been operating Dragon City for many years. They are deeply rooted and can not be easily shaken overnight.

“That’s why they introduced Superstar Company and Lu Siya as the vanguard generals and challenged us in the first round.

“Superstar Company was able to expand from an unknown reaping team into a new force that was second to none in Dragon City in only a few years. A barbarian who was capable of disrupting the rules of the game did not rely on luck alone, much less the so-called ‘miracles’ boasted by Meng Chao. Instead, it was a freak that was created by all the people in Dragon City who opposed the nine corporations, the nine families, and the godly state experts like father.

“Therefore, father, the issue of the black market has to be resolved.

“However, our eyes must not only be on the black market and the giant rats in the enterprises. We must not even focus on Luu Siya, Superstar Company, and Azure Alliance.

“We must deal with the issue that could decide the life and death of the Shen family and Universe Corporation from a higher level and from the perspective of the great game!”

Chapter 1586: Motley Crew

The long speech made all the successors look at Shen Yuhe in a very different way.

It was not that no one could figure out the reason behind it.

In fact, the successors who were qualified to stand in that large assembly hall were all the cream of the crop among the several hundred members of the Shen family.

Even if they appeared to be well-developed and simple-minded, they were only creating a persona that was brave but not scheming so that their competitors would let down their guard.

These successors more or less felt that with the continuous development of the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee, these two organizations that had originally been puppets of the nine corporations had gradually developed their own wills. There was an increasing number of friction and conflicts when they carried out the nine corporations’ orders.

In the year that the Monster War was won, Dragon City had gradually stirred up a tide of opposition against the nine corporations and the nine families.

A storm that could decide the fate of Dragon City’s future was about to fall on everyone’s heads.

However, the old man’s assassination was too sudden.

The rest were not like Shen Yuhe, who had sorted out all the clues in just a few hours and hit the bull’s eye with an arrow.

It was not until Shen Yuhe revealed the “great game” that many of the successors felt annoyed.

They knew that the purpose of today’s meeting was not just to find out the true culprit behind the old man’s assassination.

It was more likely that the old man was screening the future leaders of the Shen family and Universe Corporation.

Regardless of whether the old man had suffered any fatal injuries in today’s shocking assassination, he was already old and senile.

After decades of accumulated injuries, coupled with the fact that he had suffered heavy injuries during the decisive battle with the monster mastermind, how many more days could the old man live?

And the old man's cultivation life would only end earlier than his actual life.

Therefore, choosing a suitable successor for the Shen family and Universe Corporation was something that the old man urgently needed to do.

Originally, Shen Yuhe had no chance at all.

Putting aside the fact that he had once been possessed by the devil and his strength had remained at the peak of the heavenly state, he had not made any progress.

He was the main person in charge of Universe Corporation in the black market scandal caused by the Xinhui Business Center incident. If he really had to take the blame and sacrifice the flag, he would be duty-bound and unable to escape the disaster.

However, Shen Yuhe had taken a risk and sought survival in the face of death, linking the black market scandal to the great game about the future path of Dragon City.

It had the meaning of "Digging deep into the black market scandal is to shake the foundation of Universe Corporation. It is to destroy the Shen family."

Everyone thought quickly and felt that Shen Yuhe's words made sense.

The Shen family should of course investigate Universe Corporation's internal affairs. They should be able to profit from the issue of selling gene reagents.

However, it was one thing for them to conduct an internal investigation.

It was another thing for them to be forced by the Azure Alliance to conduct such an investigation under the Supernatural Tower and Survival Committee's supervision.

The latter would greatly damage the reputation of Universe Corporation and the morale of the Shen family members. It was something that was absolutely not allowed to happen.

Shen Yuhe, who was the first to point this out, would definitely be viewed differently by the old man. He might even be able to benefit from this misfortune and become the successor that the old man desired?

With this in mind, many of the successors hurriedly came forward to clarify their views.

Some of them were furious:

"Second brother is right, father. We will definitely investigate the internal problems of Universe Corporation, but we must not let the Azure Alliance lead us by the nose!"

Some of them gritted their teeth:

"Our Universe Corporation is one of the nine pillars that defend Dragon City. During the Monster War, we made great contributions and saved countless lives! Now that a small problem has appeared, it's nothing more than 'a tree with a withered branch.' It's nothing out of the ordinary! In the end, we were used by those with ulterior motives and publicized as a heinous crime. They are trying to step on our

Universe Corporation's face to climb higher! It's something that can be tolerated, but what can't be tolerated!"

Someone narrowed his eyes.

"The black market is rampant. The problem of rampant smuggling should indeed be solved, but the cost is right here. Selling the gene potions at the official price set by the Supernatural Tower decades ago is like cutting off the flesh and blood of our Universe Corporation. They want to cut us into a thousand pieces!

"If cutting off our flesh and blood can make others think of us, that's fine, but father, please consider carefully. What if we really yield under the pressure of the Azure Alliance this time? If we give in and take out a large number of cheap gene potions at a loss, who will the consumers thank? Us or the Azure Alliance?"

Someone lamented bitterly:

"That's the reason. Not only will our retreat not make people think of us as good, it will only make the Azure Alliance's reputation grow higher and higher, becoming more and more terrifying competitors. It will make more and more people who oppose the nine corporations and the nine great cultivation families unite under that d*mn azure war flag!

"Also, after consuming the low-priced gene reagent, those ordinary superhumans might become stronger. After that, those ordinary superhumans who become stronger, don't they need more cultivation resources? Would their appetites be satisfied because of our goodwill? No, they would only know the taste and continue extending their hands to us until they completely devour Universe Corporation and even the Shen family!

"Cut five cities today, cut ten cities tomorrow, and then have a good night's sleep.' Father, we can't do such a stupid thing!" some people said righteously.

"The key is not commercial interests or even the gains and losses of the Shen family, but the future of the entire dragon city and even the entire human civilization!

"The Shen family has the most outstanding bloodline, the most perfect family education system, the strongest sense of honor that has been cultivated through decades of bloody battles, and the determination to sacrifice everything for Dragon City.

"We Are Dragon City!

"Whether it is the gene drugs or other training resources, they can only be used to the greatest effect on the members of the Shen family. Only then can dragon city's overall combat ability be raised to the maximum.

"As for the rabble instigated by the Azure Alliance, they are nothing but a bunch of mediocre idiots!

"If it were decades ago, these people wouldn't have had the chance to awaken at all.

"It's all thanks to the fact that they are living in an era of unparalleled luck. Spirit martial arts are flourishing, and gene drugs are all over the place. All kinds of training facilities and videos are appearing one after another. Only then did they barely manage to climb over the superhuman threshold.

“In my opinion, since these people were able to awaken, they should be grateful to the nine corporations. They should just stay in the One-star Spirit Tattoo Realm obediently. They should know their place!

“In the end, they were too greedy to satisfy their desires. They even wanted to break into the Two-star, Three-star, or even the Heaven Realm?”

“How many cultivation resources would it take to break into the Heaven Realm? If the same amount of cultivation resources were used on us, the disciples of the prestigious families, how amazing would we be? How much would it raise the overall combat ability of Dragon City?”

“When I think of the extremely precious cultivation resources that will be wasted on these mobs, I feel extremely angry and desperate. This is not only a waste but also a crime. It is a crime that will greatly weaken the overall combat ability of the Dragon City civilization and lead us to the end of the world!

“Father, in the face of the survival of the human civilization, the future of the Shen family and Universe Corporation is not important. But as the Guardians of Dragon City, we really can’t sit back and watch the Azure Alliance incite those mobs to make trouble!”

Chapter 1587: The Misfortune of the Zhang Family

“Enough!”

Shen Yuanbao did not stop the excitement of the heirs.

Instead, he observed the subtle expressions on the heirs’ faces, as if he was judging whether the heirs were loyal or treacherous, whether they were following the general trend, or whether they really had their own opinions and strategies.

After he sifted through the heirs, he waved his hand and said, “The problem you mentioned is not only the problem of the Shen family and Universe Corporation but also the problem that the nine big families and nine big enterprises have to face.

“There’s no reason for the Shen family to shoulder the responsibility for this matter.

“Don’t worry. I’ll discuss it with the other eight families, including that old fart, Lu Zhongqi. We’ll advance and retreat together and come up with a solution together.

“Fortunately, those old men who made great contributions to Dragon City in the past and entered the Deity Realm are not all dead yet. Their words still carry some weight in Dragon City.

“Dragon City has been protected and built by us all the way until today. We will never allow anyone to lead Dragon City on the wrong track and lead it to the end of the world!

“We welcome all new blood to join us. However, we still say the same thing. If you want to play, you can play according to the rules of the game. We absolutely welcome you and are willing to protect the new players. However, if you break the rules of the game and completely flip the table, heh, you won’t be a player but an enemy. You will be the enemy of the entire Dragon City civilization, just like zombies and monsters!”

Saying this, Shen Yuanbao’s eyes, imperceptibly moved to Meng Chao.

Meng Chao's face was calm as they were eye to eye.

No matter how much energy there was in Shen Yuanbao's eyes, Meng Chao was still like a bottomless ocean, not affected by the slightest bit.

In the end, Shen Yuanbao hummed softly and cast his eyes back on his successors.

"Yufeng, come out."

Shen Yuanbao's brows were tightly knitted, and dark clouds covered his face.

A slightly plump middle-aged woman, who still retained her charm and aura of nobility, came out.

Meng Chao knew that her name was Shen Yufeng. She was Shen Yuanbao's eldest biological daughter, Universe Corporation's Director of Staff. She was also in charge of the assessment, rewards, punishment, and education of the Shen family's children. One could say that she had a high position and power, just like Shen Chenglie, who was in charge of the Blood Flower laboratory, and Shen Yuhe, who was in charge of the pharmaceutical system. She was one of the successors that Shen Yuanbao valued the most.

"Yufeng, you disappoint me!"

Perhaps it was because the previous two successors had been entangled with each other for too long that Shen Yuanbao's extremely limited patience had been completely exhausted.

As soon as his eldest daughter stepped out, he immediately said, "I left Universe Corporation's personnel work as well as the rewards, punishments, evaluations, and education of the Shen family's children to you. I originally thought that as the eldest sister, you would be able to nurture the younger ones into talents and work together to fight for the Shen family, Universe Corporation, and the Dragon City civilization.

"In the end, look at the current Shen family's children. One or two of them, what have they become?"

"I was still recuperating in the depths of Raging Waves Mountain Range when I saw on the Internet that a large number of Shen family members were indulging in extravagance and even committing crimes for the sake of wealth.

"Someone used a priceless gene reagent to take a bath, and after the bath, he flushed the gene reagent into the sewers. Just that alone was enough. This motherf*cker actually dared to take photos to show off!

"Someone drove a luxury sports car decorated with the bones of Hellbeasts and even apocalyptic beasts in the middle of the night, calling friends and swaggering through the market. They chased each other, creating a deafening roar. They even shot a video and posted it on the Internet. They were afraid that others would not know that our Shen family had so many top-grade monster materials!

"There are also people who have fun every night, hugging each other on the left and right. Whether they're happy or not, of course, there's no problem. Our Shen family's genes are so outstanding. Of course, we should find a few more members of the opposite sex to spread out and strengthen our family. Only then can we add a new force to Dragon City in the future.

“But if you want to find a woman, then find a woman. What’s the need for that? Why did you take so many unsightly selfies and even post them on the F * cking internet? “Don’t you know how many ordinary people in the current Dragon City can’t find a wife? And how twisted, dark, and deformed are the mentality of these people?”

“Back in that era when order was broken and there was no law and order, I understood one thing — the most terrifying creatures in this world are neither zombies nor monsters, but men who can’t find a woman!”

“These people who are full of envy and jealousy saw the photos of the Shen family hugging each other, and they became extremely angry with us. The b*stard who did this really thinks that the Shen family’s reputation is too good. Universe Corporation’s business reputation is too high, and the ordinary citizens are too supportive of us, right?”

“It’s precisely because of such unfilial descendants that the Shen family and Universe Corporation were so heavily infiltrated by others. That’s why when the Xinhui Business Center incident broke out, so many unfavorable news suddenly appeared on the Internet.”

“Of course, you must say that it was all caused by the Azure Alliance.”

“However, ‘flies don’t bite seamless eggs’. If the Shen family’s descendants were all cautious and kept a low profile, the Azure Alliance wouldn’t be able to catch us so easily even if they wanted to!”

“In this regard, I’m going to mention Lu Siya again. Whether or not she’s really ambitious, at least her public image can not be any more positive. For so many years, there has never been any scandal. She even used her relationship with Meng Chao to create the image of ‘no one is going to marry you until death do us part’. From then on, she took over the huge legacy left by Meng Chao. Now, she even calls herself ‘Dragon City’s daughter’. Listen, listen. Just based on this situation, you can count each other as one. Who can compete with her?”

“Lu Zhongqi, that old fart, is really lucky to have raised such a good granddaughter.”

“I’ve been fighting with him all my life. I’m not satisfied with anything else except this.”

“I don’t beg you all to have the pattern and ability of Lu Siya. I only beg you to stop being arrogant and bullying others. You should also stop posting those messy photos and videos on the Internet, so as to attract hatred and burn yourself, okay?”

“Humph. Now that I think about it, it’s my own fault.”

“All these years, I’ve been focusing on the development of the Shen family and Universe Corporation, but I neglected the strict discipline of my family and raised a bunch of useless people and demons by myself!”

“As the saying goes, ‘knowing the smallest details.’ It is not surprising to see the ugly things that the Shen family has done on the internet. Why is it that the time and route of my departure from the recuperation place are known to everyone? Also, the people around me, the people I trust the most, are being used by others and are harming me instead”

Chapter 1588: Flirtation

That sentence was a little too harsh.

It connected the education issue of the Shen family children to the shocking assassination of Shen Yuanbao.

It almost announced that Shen Yufeng would be eliminated early in the battle for the position of the next Shen family head.

Shen Yufeng's face instantly turned deathly pale.

Her entire temperament had changed from graceful to flustered and malicious.

However, she was used to big storms.

In any organization, those in charge of managing rewards, punishments, evaluations, promotions, and denunciations were the most resourceful and talented people.

It only took Shen Yufeng half a second to recover her poise.

She first admitted her mistake in a neither servile nor overbearing manner.

Just like Shen Yuhe, she was willing to take responsibility for her mistake.

Shen Yufeng said that since the end of the Monster War a year ago, the entire Shen family, like the other superhumans in Dragon City, had relaxed their nerves, which had been so tense that they were on the verge of breaking, after decades of bloodshed.

They were so impetuous that they lost their discipline and even caused a series of chaos because of post-traumatic stress.

It was true that she, as the eldest sister, did not fulfill her management responsibilities and lead by example.

All the mistakes were her fault.

However, no matter how her father punished her, she did not care. However, even at the risk of provoking her father's even more intense anger, she still had to speak up for her younger brother, sister, and even the third generation of the Shen family.

Of course, following the victory of the Beast War, many members of the Shen family became proud and arrogant. They began to show off their might and even act recklessly.

However, other than a few black sheep, most of the members of the Shen family were putting on a show and could not help themselves.

The crux of the matter was that everyone was in the same circle.

Among the nine great cultivation families, there were so many descendants of godly state experts and peak heaven state experts. Which one of them was not ostentatious? Which one was not arrogant and despotic? Which one was not extravagant and extremely lustful? In the words of the circle, this was called "doing as one pleases and having a clear mind"!

After all, humans were social animals.

As the descendants of the aristocratic families, the third generation of the Shen family was naturally duty-bound. They had the obligation to build a good relationship with the aristocratic families of the other eight great cultivation families.

Everyone was the future, and they had to support and defend the entire Dragon City.

Many times, orders worth hundreds of millions of Yuan, which were related to a certain decision of the future of Dragon City, were casually decided at the wine table while they were chatting and laughing with each other.

If the descendants of the other eight great families were all “Free to do as they please and have a clear mind”, then the other eight great families would not be able to make such a decision.

Only the descendants of the Shen family were fishing for fame and acting alone, pretending to be low-key and not understanding the principle of “Living in the same light as the dust”.

Wouldn't they be standing on the opposite side of the other eight great families, or even slapping the other eight great families hard?

If they were so incompatible, how could the future Shen family and Universe Corporation continue to be one of the “nine great families”?

Also, Universe Corporation had made a fortune through the crystal mining industry.

Many of their partners were, frankly speaking, a bunch of nouveau riche and country bumpkins.

It did not make sense to talk about low-profile, content, and elegance to these people.

To these country bumpkins, one had to talk about strength. One had to use the simplest and most straightforward method to display the strength of the Shen family and Universe Corporation in front of them.

They had to go to the most luxurious clubhouse, eat the flesh of the rarest Apocalyptic Beasts, sleep with the most flirtatious mouth, and drive the most luxurious sports car.

Not only did they have to be shocked, they had to be afraid. Only then could they be convinced and obediently cooperate with Universe Corporation, not daring to have any other thoughts.

“Especially...”

Shen Yufeng paused for a moment, pretending to hesitate, and still continued the second half of her sentence, “Ever since father was in the depths of the hidden fog absolute domain, during the decisive battle with the monster mainframe, he was heavily injured and unconscious. He had to go into seclusion to recuperate. All kinds of rumors and slanders about the Shen family and Universe Corporation have never stopped.

“Many people said that father might not be able to survive this. The Shen family and Universe Corporation are about to lose the support of the few peak fighting forces in Dragon City and become second-rate forces. They might even be pushed out of the ‘nine great forces’.

“If at this juncture, the Shen family's disciples are all acting out of character and acting cowardly.

“Others will not think that we are diligent, thrifty, approachable, and low-key.

“They will only think that father, this towering tree, is about to fall. The Shen family and Universe Corporation are about to lose their greatest reliance.

“I remember that Father has taught us more than once that confidence is more precious than gold.

“Once everyone loses confidence in the Shen family, don’t look at how glorious Universe Corporation is today. It’s one of the top five behemoths in dragon city in terms of overall strength. It’s only a matter of time before it falls apart.

“Therefore, the more father goes into seclusion to recuperate, the more the outside world has different opinions about Universe Corporation’s future. They are so worried that they are even waiting for a good show. Only then will the Shen family’s disciples put up a show. The more high-profile, the more flamboyant, the better.

“I would rather others be jealous of us in the dark. I’m so jealous that I’m gnashing my teeth and my eyes are bleeding.

“I don’t want others to laugh at us in the dark. They would laugh at the fact that the Shen family has already fallen into despair. We can be eaten by a group of hungry wild dogs anytime, Anywhere!”

Even Meng Chao could not find anything wrong with Shen Yufeng’s reasoning.

Shen Yuanbao also frowned. Apparently, he was deeply attracted by his eldest daughter’s words, “With the fall of their peak combat power, the buildings of the Shen family and Universe Corporation could fall apart at any time.”

At this moment, only he and Meng Chao knew.

His injuries were far more serious than they appeared.

Even if he could escape death’s search for him temporarily,.

It was impossible, or perhaps never, for him to display his peak combat power.

Shen Yuanbao stared at Shen Yufeng.

His gaze, which was as sharp as a scalpel a moment ago, became a little gentler.

Shen Yufeng heaved a sigh of relief in her heart.

She changed the topic and changed to a more intimate title. She continued, “However, father, after my investigation, there is something very strange.

“That’s right. There are indeed people from the Shen family who gather together with other wealthy families and enjoy things that ordinary people can not touch.

“However, even if they take photos as a memento, they can only communicate with people of the same path in a small circle.

“They would never be so stupid as to post it in public.

“If there really was an unfilial descendant who was so arrogant, I wouldn’t even need to do anything. His parents would have broken his legs and knocked out his teeth long ago.

“So, who was it that separated the top-secret information that was originally only circulated in a small circle and sorted it out before packaging it and posting it on the public network?”

Chapter 1589: Reasons for Betrayal

Shen Yufeng’s questioning set off waves of discussion.

Indeed, everyone was smart. Ever since the Xinhui Business Center incident broke out, a lot of unfavorable news about the Shen family had appeared on the Internet within twelve hours.

Most of the news was about how the Shen family’s disciples were extravagant, arrogant, and even had their own pockets full.

These scandals were not just rumors that did not exist.

Instead, there were a large number of photos, videos, and even copies of key information to prove it. Regardless of whether it was public credibility or sedition, they were all legitimate.

It was like a sword had been stabbed through one’s throat, and one would never be able to turn the situation around.

Even the Shen family and Universe Corporation had been affected, with their establishments suffering damage.

The scandal had just spread, and many members of the Shen family were already discussing it. It was definitely not easy for outsiders to obtain that much evidence from the Shen family.

There must be a mole.

Now, based on Shen Yufeng’s words, she had already discovered who the mole was?

Shing! Shing! Shing!

For a moment, numerous gazes were cast on Shen Yufeng’s face. They were cold, scorching, sharp, and deep.

They realized that what Shen Yufeng was going to say next would likely change the power struggle in the Shen family.

Whether it was the “foster children faction” or the “blood descendants faction,” all of them tightened their muscles, held their breath, and clenched their fists.

It was as if those in front of them were not brothers and sisters who were supposed to be on the same page but monsters with ulterior motives.

“Who is it?”

Shen Yuanbao narrowed his eyes. “Yufeng, do you know who took the initiative to expose the Shen family’s internal scandals to the outside world?”

“Maybe not all of them. I will only give you one name.

“Shen Lixin!” Shen Yufeng said out loud.

Shen Yuanbao was slightly startled.

He had too many children.

They were as numerous as the hairs on an ox.

In addition, he usually tempered his muscles and bones, forged his flesh and blood, and spent twenty-four hours a day. At least twelve hours were used for cultivation and combat. The remaining twelve hours were used to deal with the complicated affairs of his family and Company.

How could he have the time to enjoy his family like an ordinary person?

Other than a few extremely talented people, Shen Yuanbao’s impression of most of his grandchildren was very vague.

After recalling for a long time, he finally connected the name ‘Shen Lixin’ to a tall, thin young man with sunken cheeks and a slightly pale face who looked like he was fuming all day long.

There was nothing he could do. Shen Lixin was only an ordinary person among Shen Yuanbao’s countless grandchildren.

Even his father, “Shen Chengxiu,” was only Shen Yuanbao’s foster son.

He was not considered outstanding among his foster sons.

Shen Yuanbao remembered that he had not summoned Shen Chengxiu for a long time.

Even Shen Chengxiu was not qualified to attend this important meeting that was likely to decide the future of the Shen family.

Therefore, Shen Yuanbao did not understand. “Shen Lixin... why did he expose the internal scandal of the Shen family to the outside world?”

“On the surface, the reason is that he and his fifth brother’s eldest son, Shen Wanjun, are fighting for a key position in the investment department of Universe Corporation. He is far from Wanjun in all aspects, whether it is in terms of his personal ability, cultivation realm, or external resources.

“In order to get such an important position, Shen Lixin took the risk and exposed a scandal related to Wanjun, which ruined Wanjun’s reputation.

“As for the other people involved in the scandal, Shen Lixin just didn’t want to make it too obvious. As a result, the investigation was traced back to him. That was why more and more Shen family members were dragged into the scandal to confuse the public.

“In other words, Shen Lixin didn’t hesitate to sacrifice his family’s interests for his own future. He took the initiative to deliver the evidence to our biggest competitor!”

The ‘fifth brother’ that Shen Yufeng mentioned was naturally her biological brother.

As soon as she said this, both the ‘foster son Camp’ and the ‘blood descendants camp’ were like a swarm of bees that had been provoked. They were all humming loudly.

The capable officers of the ‘foster son Camp’ all slapped the table and stood up, reprimanding Shen Yufeng for slander.

The ‘Blood Descendant Camp’ was heartbroken. Indeed, blood ties were the most unbreakable relationship. Without blood ties, no matter how loyal they appeared to be on the surface, it was impossible to know a person’s face without knowing their heart.

“Enough!”

Shen Yuanbao was not in the mood to watch the performance of these successors. He hit the nail on the head, “Yufeng, you said that the ‘ostensible’ reason was that Shen Lixin sold out his family in order to fight for a key position in the investment division and defeat his competitors.

“So, there is a ‘practical’ reason?”

“There is, indeed.”

Shen Yufeng said calmly, “Shen Lixin is just a minor character. He has never played with his blood-related brothers, such as Shen Wanjun. How could he possibly get such detailed and true information?

“Based on the evidence that I have, I can make a bold guess that Shen Lixin is just a marionette. Everything that he has done was ordered by his father, Shen Chengxiu!”

“What?”

Shen Yuanbao shook the armrest of his chair so hard that cracking sounds could be heard.

The heirs all took a deep breath at the same time, regardless of their camps.

The betrayal of a godgrandson who wasn’t related by blood and a godson—even if it was a godson who was ranked at the bottom, the severity of the betrayal couldn’t be compared.

The latter meant that the Shen family, as one of the nine great cultivation families, could have fatal problems in the entire system.

“Chengxiu...”

Shen Yuanbao muttered, “I remember that I saved him from the monster’s bloody mouth with my own hands. I asked myself, although he didn’t put in all his effort, he was not mean at all. What reason did he have to betray me?”

“Benefits, benefits are enough to make anyone betray anyone.”

Shen Yufeng explained, “Shen Chengxiu didn’t work for Universe Corporation. He was in charge of the research and development of the strengthened exoskeleton in an independent research and Development Department of the subsidiary company of the group.

“However, in the entire Universe Corporation, the research and development department of strengthened exoskeletons is not just Shen Chengxiu’s department. There are three or four other projects that are pushing forward similar projects.

“This is also according to Father’s instructions. First, internal competition, the best of the best, and then a large amount of resources will be concentrated in the best projects and put into the market. Only then can one be invincible.

“Shen Chengxiu once studied mechanical engineering at Dragon City University. To be honest, he really has a bit of a genius in design and manufacturing. The new generation of strengthened exoskeleton that he designed does indeed have a lot of unique features. In the first few rounds of competition, he did not meet any overly powerful opponents.

“Perhaps, it is precisely because of this that he is arrogant, overconfident, and believes that he is sure to win.

“So much so that when the new generation of enhanced exoskeleton design proposal that he had single-handedly led was rejected in the final internal review, his state of mind was out of balance and he simply could not accept this cruel result!”

Chapter 1590: Eating It Inside Out

This internal competition mechanism that Universe Corporation had was called “horse racing,” but in reality, it was very cruel, especially on the popular race track that seemed to lead to a bright future.

First, they would create seven or eight, or even ten project teams within the group and explore in different directions. Then, they would filter out eight or nine out of ten of them. The winner would have boundless glory, and the loser would leave the stage dejectedly. Those were all normal things.

Most of the people present had experienced a project being rejected before. They could only watch as their competitors received plenty of resources and soared to the sky.

It was not that they could not understand how Shen Chengxiu felt after being vetoed by a single vote.

However, the rejection of a project was not a strong reason for him to betray Universe Corporation and his family’s interests!

“Just because of that?”

Shen Yuanbao was also unable to accept it. “Chengxiu Society betrayed the Shen family because of a failure in a project?”

“Of course it’s not that simple.”

Shen Yufeng changed the topic and said, “I don’t know if you have studied the list of strategic partners of Broken Star Club. If you have, you will find that Broken Star Club signed a long-term supply agreement with a company called Shenxiu machinery more than half a year ago. Shenxiu Machinery became the supplier of artificial limbs designated by Broken Star Club.

“As we all know, the Broken Star Club has attracted most of the broken-star superhumans in Dragon City. Many of the broken-star superhumans have lost part of their limbs, so there is a great demand for artificial limbs.

“And what brand of artificial limbs will the broken-star superhumans use? It will have a great impact on ordinary disabled people.

“The Monster War has been going on for decades, and there are more than a million disabled people in Dragon City?

“With the development of spirit mechanical technology, the cost of artificial limbs has been decreasing. Almost all the disabled people are no longer satisfied with ordinary artificial limbs that they can not move freely. Even if they need a loan, they would like to buy a lightweight, sturdy, beautiful, multi-functional artificial limb that surpasses the limits of their limbs and has a strong combat ability.

“Therefore, I can fully imagine how much value the supply agreement signed by Shenxiu Machinery and Broken Star Club holds.

“It is indeed the case.

“Ever since they became the strategic partners of Broken Star Club, Shenxiu Machinery, a little-known brand, has risen to prominence in the field of artificial limbs. In less than half a year, their brand strength has reached the top three in the same industry. It has even surpassed the brands under Universe Corporation that we have been painstakingly running for many years.

“Right now, they are not only the first choice for many ordinary citizens and broken-star superhumans when they are choosing the artificial limbs.

“It is said that, with the help of Broken Star Club, they will also become one of the contractors of the Red Dragon Army. They will tailor-make powerful artificial limbs for the disabled veterans of the army who have been through hundreds of battles.

“Up until now, the Shenxiu Machinery has already possessed unfathomable strength before it is even on the market.

“Once the Shenxiu Machinery is ready to speed up and extend an olive branch to the financial market, I really don't know what kind of terrifying existence it will evolve into!

“However, do you know who the real boss of Shenxiu Machinery is?”

The successors were slightly stunned.

A few successors who were involved in the field of machinery manufacturing and medical treatment immediately reported the names of the corporate representatives and major shareholders of Shenxiu Machinery.

There were a few members of Broken Star Club, a few veterans of the Red Dragon Army, and two members of Battle God Palace who had been following Lei Zongchao, the Battle God.

They sounded ordinary.

They fit the position of the strategic partners of Broken Star Club.

Shen Yufeng smiled and shook her head.

“These people are just a smokescreen in front of the stage.”

Shen Yufeng said, “Just to be clear, if you purchase Shenxiu Machinery’s main product, the ‘seven-series multifunctional mechanical arm of the Dragon Clan’, disassemble it into parts, and then restore the complete design, you will be surprised to find that its design philosophy, the logic of the layout of the spiritual circuit, and the patents involved are all very similar to the design of the strengthened exoskeleton that Shen Chengxiu rejected.

“No, it’s not ‘very similar’. It’s just like a withdrawal!”

Everyone was stunned when they heard that.

“Although the artificial limbs and the strengthened exoskeleton are two different products, they are both extensions of the limbs that can make up for and greatly enhance the movement of the human body. Many manufacturers of machinery will launch the complementary product lines of the artificial limbs and the strengthened exoskeleton at the same time. Many parts are also common to both product lines.”

Shen Yufeng said, “In order to cover up and bypass Universe Corporation’s patent, Shen Chengxiu made a lot of modifications to the design of the Dragon Clan’s seven series multifunctional mechanical arm. He also made a lot of side-steps and replaced some parts. However, everything is the same. As long as you are a qualified mechanic, you can tell the origin of the two different products at a glance.

“Therefore, I can guarantee that Shen Chengxiu is definitely the main designer of Shenxiu Machinery. The Dragon Clan’s 7-series multi-functional mechanical arm is his work. It is the work that he created by using Universe Corporation’s intellectual property and research equipment!

“The question is, with Shen Chengxiu’s identity and status, how many bargaining chips does Shenxiu machinery have to offer in order to tempt him to steal Universe Corporation’s intellectual property and design the main product for Shenxiu machinery at the risk of public condemnation? Moreover, the main customer is Broken Star Club?

“I’m afraid that no matter how high the price is, it won’t be enough to make Shen Chengxiu lose his mind to the extent of betraying the Shen family and Universe Corporation, right?”

“Then, there is only one answer.

“Shenxiu machinery did not spend a single cent.

“Because the big boss behind Shenxiu Machinery is Shen Chengxiu himself!

“Shen Chengxiu has stayed in Universe Corporation for so many years. Most of the projects he has hosted were eliminated in the internal competition. Even if he was lucky enough to succeed, they were marginal products that did not cause too much trouble in the market or bring too many benefits to him personally.

“However, this time, he betrayed Universe Corporation and took a risk. He secretly set up a company outside and cooperated with Broken Star Club. However, he earned an astronomical profit. He was no longer restricted by Universe Corporation, and he did not even have to look at his father’s face anymore.

“Father, do you think that such a motive is enough for Shen Chengxiu to betray you?”

Shen Yufeng’s words were like killing someone’s heart.

Naturally, it triggered the dissatisfaction of the “adopted children.”

“Everyone, don’t be so indignant yet. I dare to make such a conclusion. Of course, I have irrefutable evidence.”

Shen Yufeng replied calmly, “Other than the source of the funds of Shenxiu machinery and the connection between them and Shen Chengxiu’s secret bank account, I also have visual evidence that proves that Shen Chengxiu has met Lu Siya many times with the shareholders of Shenxiu Machinery!”