Oh My God 201

Chapter 201: Lu Siya

Meng Chao found himself filled with respect for this man.

He did not expect that Lin Chuan was not doing everything for himself, but for the children living in public renting houses in Blessed Heavenly Garden, Joyous Heavenly Garden, Longevity Heavenly Garden, and Happiness Heavenly Garden.

But it made sense too. Lin Chuan fought in the wild most of the time and did not use up a lot of money. Besides, because he was an internet celebrity, the weapons factories paid him to do marketing, which was enough to ensure that he could live a lavish life.

If he were not thinking about renovating Blessed Happiness Street Elementary School, he would have not needed to take the mine exploration mission from Sky Pillar Corporation.

But... Meng Chao had the feeling that Lin Chuan was going to be in great danger during this trip.

He did not remember Blessed Happiness Street Elementary School going through any large renovations in his past. There were also no ace lecturers and veteran fighters to teach the children.

Even though at that time, Meng Chao had been fully focused on taking care of his mother and practicing his harvesting skills, which meant that he did not pay attention to anything, Blessed Happiness Street Elementary School was right in front of his doorstep.

He saw it when he passed through Blessed Heavenly Garden on his way to the hospital. Sometimes, when he ate at the entrance of his house, he even ran into his teachers from elementary school.

If his elementary school had truly been renovated and even reconstructed, there was no way he would not remember it.

So, just where did the problem lie?

As Meng Chao pondered this, a deafening alarm rang out above their heads.

Meng Chao looked up, and his pupils shrank swiftly.

'What a beautiful armored airship! No, it's not an armored airship. It's an aerial fortress. It might have sixteen propellers pushing it forward, but there aren't any huge gasbags to provide buoyancy.'

Instead, circles of profound and complicated runic symbols were carved on the walls. They shone among the dark clouds and looked like light hoops that lifted it as if it weighed nothing.

"Maglev technology!"

Meng Chao knew that the University of Technology was researching maglev technology so that they could get rid of the large and clumsy gasbags on the armored airships. They wanted the normal people to also enjoy the pleasures of standing in the air, just like if they were Heaven Realm elites.

But this was the first time he saw an aerial fortress that used maglev technology in real battle. He felt as if a huge black mountain came down on him. The weeds in the area were blown to the sides by the

raging wind stirred up by the propellers. Countless small pests fled in a panic, and goosebumps broke out even on Meng Chao's skin, because the aerial fortress came with the might of an Apocalyptic Beast.

As it descended slowly, a picture of an arm stretching upward like a pillar to support the heavens and earth entered Meng Chao's sights.

"That's Sky Pillar Corporation's emblem! It's so domineering!"

Meng Chao thought of something. Sky Pillar Corporation was one of the greatest forces of power in Dragon City. There were plenty of powerful fighters in the corporation, and its elites were as numerous as the stars in the sky. Many of the higher ups were also leaders of various fields. Some of them were even part of the Survival Committee.

If he could get affiliated with them, it would definitely be beneficial for him when he wanted to learn about the political direction and possibly change it.

In an instant, the aerial fortress descended until it was about five meters above their heads.

When it was at that height, Meng Chao could tell just how big it was. If he had not seen it with his own eyes, he could not imagine that a steel beast like this could levitate in the air so quietly.

At that moment, a folding ladder slowly lowered from under the aerial fortress. There was even a thick, red carpet on it!

The first thing that entered Meng Chao's sights was a pair of high heels that gave off a crystalline quality.

Then came a pair of long, straight, and perfect legs.

After that was a handmade suit the color of blood.

Finally, to finish the picture, came a matchless, beautiful face that gave off an incredibly aggressive feeling.

The woman was dressed in high heels and a red suit. She had a small sling bag, and her makeup was immaculate. All of this should not be things seen in the wild.

The young woman had a pair of eyes as fierce as those of a lion. With her aura, no matter what she wore and where she appeared, everyone would think that it was only logical for her to suppress all the creatures in the area.

"Lin Chuan!"

However, the moment she saw Lin Chuan, her aggressive presence faded away. A smile that could make half of the people in Dragon City fall for her bloomed on her face, and she did not even care about the mud. She just strode over and hugged Lin Chuan.

"..."

Meng Chao sighed rather gloomily in his heart.

He finally experienced the feeling that his classmates had when they saw Yan Feirou and Ning Xueshi squealing and charging at him before they were all to go through their mental strength tests half a year ago.

"Let me introduce you. This is Miss Lu Siya. She was my classmate during middle school and high school, and she is also my employer this time."

Lu Siya hugged Lin Chuan passionately like an octopus for a long time before he managed to break free. With a slightly awkward smile, he introduced the both of them. "This is Meng Chao, my—"

"I know. Your young assistant!" Lu Siya winked at him. "I'm sorry. It's just been too long since I last saw you, and I missed you so much. That's why I had the urge to come to the wild to look for you. I didn't interrupt you spending time alone with your assistant, did I?"

"Um..." Meng Chao murmured.

Lu Siya laughed boisterously. "I was just joking, Meng Chao. Don't mind it. Right now, you're almost as famous as Mr. Weeping Reaper over here. Even I hear about you occasionally at Sky Pillar Corporation. Hello, I am Lu Siya."

She extended a hand to Meng Chao.

Her fingers were very tough, and her palm was very coarse. Her grip was strong, and it was in stark contrast compared to her pretty appearance.

"Lin Chuan, your introduction really hurt me, you know? You only remember that we're classmates from middle school and high school, and you even mentioned that I'm your employer? Why didn't you mention that I'm your best friend?"

Lu Siya was the type of woman who wanted to take reign over a situation no matter where she was. While she held Meng Chao's hand, she turned her head and put on an angry expression.

"Of course, we're best friends." Lin Chuan immediately smiled. "My father was a normal miner working under one of the mining companies of Sky Pillar Corporation. At one time, the mine collapsed while he was working, and he unfortunately passed away. There were five children at home, and our father was our pillar, so our lives should have been really difficult.

"To our surprise, when Sky Pillar Corporation learned of our plight, Ms. Lu's father, who was the person-in-charge of the mining company at that time, would personally come and visit us. He handled our living and educational expenses. Later, he discovered my talent and wrote a few recommendation letters for me. That's why I was able to go to the same middle school and high school as Ms. Lu, and in the end, got into Agricultural University's martial arts course.

"Without Ms. Lu's father, I wouldn't be where I am today. I'm eternally grateful to them."

"You sound like a stranger when you speak like that, and you're even calling me Ms. Lu? The more I hear it, the more I find it awkward." Lu Siya pouted and pointed at them before she said, "From now on, you will call me Siya, and you will call me Big Sis Ya. If either of you dares to call me Ms. Lu, I'm going to turn on you!"

"Siya!" Lin Chuan immediately said.

"... Big Sis Ya." Meng Chao frowned slightly and followed Lin Chuan's cue to address Lu Siya.

"That's more like it. Also, what do you mean by 'Without Ms. Lu's father, I wouldn't be where I am today.'? At that time, I was the one who discovered your talent and pestered my father to cultivate you, get it? If you want to thank anyone, you should be thanking me! What does this have to do with that old man?!"

Lu Siya then waved her hand. "But it's fine. We shouldn't talk about those old things. I'll send you both back to the base. I'll also give you a briefing about the mission tomorrow."

For some reason, Meng Chao felt that Lin Chuan had become wary.

In the beginning, he thought that his mind was playing tricks on him. But when he took a glance from the corner of his eye, he saw that goosebumps had broken out on Lin Chuan's nape. It was only then that he realized: Lin Chuan and Lu Siya's relationship was definitely not as simple as it seemed.

One of them was a talented but poor boy, and the other was a lady who could order people about. Could it be?

Meng Chao's mind instantly came up with a plot worth thirty thousand words.

All of them were full of *censored*, *censored*, and *censored*, and some of them were even full of *censored*.

'What about Meng Chao?" Lin Chuan frowned and said, "This is a trade secret. It will not be good if he hears it, right?"

"Why would it be? We're not going to kill people. Besides, I trust your judgment when choosing an assistant. He's definitely someone with good moral standing. Even if we were really going to kill someone, he wouldn't snitch on us." Lu Siya grinned and extended her hand. "Go on, Meng Chao."

Lin Chuan took half a step forward. His expression was gloomy, and he wanted to stop him.

But Meng Chao had already made up his mind. He got into the aerial fortress.

Since it deployed maglev technology, it did not face the limitations imposed by the buoyancy of gasbags. The space inside the aerial fortress was much larger than in the pods of armored ariships, and it was set up in the manner of a command center. Dozens of military-grade computers were next to the walls, while the center had a huge sandbox. It formed the map of Shattered Starlake, Graveyard Forest, and Raging Waves. At the end of the sandbox was a large curtain which projected the complicated layout and alignment of the underground mines.

The people in the aerial fortress were dressed in a completely different manner compared to Lu Siya, who had immaculate makeup, was dressed in a business suit, and wore high heels. They were dozens of built men with gloomy eyes and bodies covered in tattoos and scars.

Even the women in the group had the sides of their heads shaved off. They had a tall mohawk at the center and toyed with guns thicker than their thighs, which made them really fierce.

When they saw Lu Siya bringing a young freshman, they did not hide their sharp stares, as if they were curious as to why she decided to bring a burden who was probably still sucking on his mother's breast to such a dangerous mission.

But they only glared at Meng Chao for a moment before they lowered their heads and continued with their tasks. They were disassembling or modifying their guns, sharpening their weapons, reading military-issued maps, or toying with strange and rare-looking trinkets that Meng Chao did not recognize.

'Who are they? They're so fierce. Regardless of their realms, all of them look as if they crawled out from under a pile of corpses.

'They shouldn't be from the Red Dragon Army. They give off an even wilder presence than soldiers. Could they be the private army of Sky Pillar Corporation?'

He became even more curious about Lin Chuan and Lu Siya's exploration mission.

"My brothers and sisters, all the people are here now."

Once Lin Chuan entered the aerial fortress, the hatch slowly fell shut. Lu Siya walked among the burly men and women dressed in camouflage uniforms and clapped her hands as she spoke loudly. "Now, I'm going to tell you just what target we're pursuing that requires so many experts from various fields to take action!"

Chapter 202: Red Radiance Jade

The light in the pod turned dark, but the layout and the alignment of the underground mines on the screen turned clearer.

Various colors shone. The dazzling crystal mine was a treasure trove worth cities. Whosoever managed to discover a new crystal mine would turn rich overnight and acquire cultivation resources that cost insane amounts of money.

Lu Siya said, "Everyone, you know that the main goal of the northern offense is to explore and excavate the neverending mines hidden under Shattered Starlake to Raging Waves.

"Over the past ten or so years, Sky Pillar Corporation and the other mining companies in Dragon City sent hundreds of mine exploration teams, and we found dozens of mines that contain an astonishing number of crystals and rare metals. If we excavated all of them, it'd be enough to push Dragon City's technology, industries, and military power to a brand new level.

"But nature remains very generous with its gifts to us. There are still treasures we know nothing about hidden in the ground under our feet. They're waiting to be discovered by humans who have a good eye, courage, and wisdom. Our clues begin from the Blood Flowers."

She tapped the table gently, and the screen showed a Blood Flower settlement. It dyed the entire place red like blood-red mold.

"Everyone, you must have heard about the news that a lot of Blood Flower parasites have appeared in the northern battlefield, right? These pseudo-fungus parasites can enter anything they want, and they're very difficult to deal with. "But Blood Flowers didn't evolve all of a sudden from Blood Grass. Over the past few years, while we were exploring Shattered Starlake and Graveyard Forest, we didn't discover any tracks of Blood Flowers. Why is it that while the northern offense is going on like raging fire, the Blood Grass in the depths of the wild would suddenly mutate into Blood Flowers?

"Sky Pillar Corporation's biology lab has got itself some Blood Flower bacterial floral to experiment on, and we managed to discover slight amounts of Red Radiance Jade in them. This is it."

Lu Siya removed her earring and gently opened the metal sheet that was as thin as a cicada's wings.

It had a blood-red crystal.

Even though it was only the size of a grain of rice, the blood-red light from it immediately filled up the entire room like a flood, and it attracted everyone's gazes. In fact, it even captured their souls.

The crystal was too beautiful.

Even Meng Chao gulped.

Red Radiance Jade contained the most spirit energy among the hundreds of crystals that Dragon Citizens had discovered to this date. It was also the most suitable crystal for carbon-based lifes and could promote their mutation.

Even if the crystals were of the same grade, the value of a Red Radiance Jade was still worth ten times or dozens of times more than Blue Amphibolite, Lightning Crystal, Metal Dolomite, or any other crystal.

Forget about adding an entire Red Radiance Jade into gene medicine, for even if someone added a tiny pinch of its powder into gene medicine, it would turn normal medicine into miracle medicine.

"Red Radiance Jade can stimulate the mutation of pseudo-fungus parasites. The Blood Grass should have been influenced by the Red Radiance Jade, which is why they evolved into Blood Flowers. We've already found more than one hundred Blood Flower infested monsters in Shattered Starlake and Graveyard Forest. There's a large number of them, and they've spread out through a large area. This means that there must be a Red Radiance Jade mine containing a lot of Red Radiance Jades hidden underground!"

Lu Siya smiled faintly and continued. "Here lies the problem. If Red Radiance Jade mine has been hiding underground, why is it that the Blood Grass was never affected by it in the past and only now mutated into Blood Flowers?

"My theory is that in the past, this Red Radiance Jade was deep underground. It was closed off by thick stones and isolated from the world. It couldn't be used by Blood Grass and other monsters, which is why our mine exploration teams couldn't find it either.

"But during the northern offense, the humans and monsters' fierce fights, especially the fights between Deity Realm elites and Apocalyptic Beasts at Raging Waves resulted in a clash between vitality magnetic fields. It stimulated the crystal mine underground and resonated with it, which resulted in a series of chain reactions.

"Everyone, you know that crystals contain a lot of spirit energy. Hence, they're special materials that are incredibly unstable. While crystals release spirit energy, they usually cause strange changes in the world as well, such as lightning, violent winds, and even earthquakes.

"The storm a month ago, the fog that is still causing us trouble, and the powerful spirit energy magnetic field interference is the best proof.

"So, while the spirit energy ley lines underground have been releasing bursts of energy, which raised the rampaging magnetic fields and all sorts of extreme weather changes, it might have also torn through the stones and changed the terrain. It would have then resulted in the Red Radiance Jade mine being pressed from all sides and being lifted close to the surface. Hence, it was revealed.

"You can't deny this theory. Otherwise, how could the Blood Grass get into contact with the Red Radiance Jades and evolve into Blood Flowers just now? After all, they don't have roots and can't crawl underground.

"Now, everyone, please close your eyes and imagine it. What does the inference I've laid out for you entail for us?"

Lu Siya's voice seemed to contain some sort of mysterious magic power.

The burly and fierce men and women in camouflage uniforms actually shut their eyes obediently, and greed as well as longing appeared on their faces.

"That's right. We have before us a mine that has an astonishing amount of Red Radiance Jades, which is incredibly easy to mine, and might be open to mining at any moment we want!"

Lu Siya snapped her fingers, which created a pleasant and clear sound that seemed to snap the people out of their beautiful dreams. But she soon brought them into another dream that was even more practical.

"Everyone, if we are the first to discover the Red Radiance Jades, all that you want—money, fame, status, and power—will be in your grasp. No matter how crazy your dreams are, you can turn them into reality without much effort. In fact, you might even be able to end this war early and become a hero in everyone's eyes.

"This is the reason why I asked all of you to gather here. Are there any further questions?"

"Yes," A woman with a hot figure and a mohawk spoke up. She was chewing gum and wore an army green vest. "Red Radiance Jades are worth cities, and we might not be the only ones who know of them. Perhaps many other mine exploration teams have already headed into the depths of Graveyard Forest and are searching for this Red Radiance Jade mine. How can you be certain that we will discover it ahead of them?"

"That's right. There are already more than ten mine exploration teams searching around in the depths of Graveyard Forest, and once Sky Pillar Corporation learns of the existence of the Red Radiance Jade mine, it will send three more mine exploration teams. There're also the other mining companies involved. We have a lot of competitors, but compared to them, we have at least three advantages." Lu Siya pointed at her own eyes and said calmly, "First of all, I'm a Spirit Sensor."

Quite a number of the elites who were hired temporarily were stunned. Then, they started talking in excitement.

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes at the back of the group.

The full name of Spirit Sensors was Spirit Energy Sensors. They were born with incredibly sharp senses toward spirit energy. Despite being normal people, they could see the colorful, wispy spirit energy ripples floating in the air. Once they awakened to supernatural powers, they could also detect the faint changes in spirit energy.

There were only a handful of Spirit Sensors, and there were less than one-one thousandth of them among superhumans. They might not be very strong in combat, but they were very great support classes or researchers. They also often become harvesters, etherealized plants botanists, mine explorers, crystal specialists, and spirit energy academicians.

With the help of a Spirit Sensor, searching for an underground mine that was exposed to the air would indeed be much easier.

"Second, I invited Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan to join this operation." Lu Siya grinned and looked at Lin Chuan. "Not only does he have great combat powers of a four-star superhuman, he has been exploring Shattered Starlake, Graveyard Forest, and Raging Waves for years while hunting and training. A large part of the military-issued map and virtual sandbox that the northern offense is using was drawn based on the data he provided.

"He knows the area better than anyone else, and with him as our guide, we will naturally move ahead of the others and be the first to discover this Red Radiance Jade mine!

"Third, I have your help. You're all experts from various fields that I have selected meticulously. You're even better than the private squad from Sky Pillar Corporation!"

Lu Siya's voice became grave and filled with an enchanting power. Her gaze was intense as she looked at the people.

"Among you are veteran hunters who have fought for more than ten years in the wild and killed tens of thousands of monsters."

She looked at a built man with a moustache.

The man instinctively puffed out his chest.

"There are also machine elites who have tens of thousands of blueprints stored in your heads and can instantly build more than one thousand guns and machines."

A small man with arms going past his knees and really long fingers wrapped his arms across his chest with great pride.

"Some of you are crystal experts who have been in the field for decades."

A middle-aged man with messy hair and a red electronic prosthetic eye in his left eye socket smirked a little.

In an instant, everyone nodded subconsciously due to Lu Siya's reasoning.

But a handful of them remained puzzled. "But will there be Blood Flower settlements near the Red Radiance Jade mine? Would they have infested more monsters because of it? We're not strong. At most, we've just entered Heaven Realm. Most of us are only at the peak of Earth Realm. If there are many creatures infested with Blood Flowers, we might be able to handle them."

"The chances of that aren't high," Lu Siya said. "Even though Red Radiance Jades can promote the evolution of carbon-based life, if something gets too close to a Red Radiance Jade mine, their magnetic fields will run wild. The radiation is too strong there, and carbon-based lives will have a hard time spending long periods of time in the area.

"It's just like how plants require water but will die if they get too much of it. Humans need fire, but if they jump straight into a fire, they will be burned to death. This is the same logic.

"As long as we can find the Red Radiance Jade mine, there will not be many Blood Flower settlements around it.

"And since the Red Radiance Jade mine has just risen from the depths of the ground, the high-grade superbeasts who reside on the ground should not have had the time to discover its existence. As for the pests underground, even if they have a certain degree of chance to mutate, they won't be too strong.

"Of course, there will be risks, but riches only come to those who take risks. All powerful people obtain their status by leaving a trail of corpses in their wake. I will be going underground with all of you. There is nothing for you to be worried about."

Chapter 203: Key of the Battle

The group discussed everything, and what Lu Siya said made sense. If the outstanding member of the third generation of Sky Pillar Corporation was willing to go underground, what did they need to be afraid of?

"Then, do the other mine exploration teams have anyone great among them?" A veteran who was the type to only take action after he carefully thought through everything looked over with a strange light shining in his eyes.

"The mine exploration teams from Sky Pillar Corporation don't have anyone strong enough to be our competition," Lu Siya said. "The spirit energy ley line underground contains powerful and wild spirit energy. It's like a snowy mountain or an airtight storage room filled with flammable gas. The slightest movement will cause an avalanche or an explosion.

"When superhumans enter an underground spirit energy ley line, their brain waves and vitality magnetic fields are easily intercepted by spirit energy. The higher their realm is, the greater is the risk of them being intercepted. If a fight occurs underground, the possibility of them going through spirit energy deviation is higher by dozens of times compared to when they're on the surface. In fact, their spirit energy might even destroy their brains and turn them into idiots or lunatics.

"In the most extreme situations, the vitality magnetic fields from peerless elites might resonate strongly with the underground spirit energy ley lines, and they will rampage so much that they will rush to the

surface like a volcano eruption. If energy that can be mined for decades instantly vibrates at maximum power, the results will be devastating.

"So, the mine exploration members do not possess high cultivation bases. Four-star superhumans are the limit.

"Besides, those at the peak of Heaven Realm and the Deity Realm are busy in Graveyard Forest and Raging Waves while fighting against Apocalyptic Beasts. So, even if we run into competition underground, at most, they'll be superhumans who are at the same level as us.

"And I believe my squad will definitely be invincible against those who are at the same level as they are!"

The group laughed at her words.

"Alright, we'll be resting at the east lake base tonight. Gather your strength. Tomorrow, we will head beneath Graveyard Forest. Once we locate that Red Radiance Jade mine, the world will be ours!"

Lu Siya gave a few more instructions before she strode over to her latest acquisitions.

Lin Chuan was just thinking about pulling Meng Chao to the side to speak to him when Lu Siya interrupted him. "Lin Chuan, might I say a few words to Meng Chao?"

Lin Chuan's pupils shrank. Without a word, he made way for her.

"Meng Chao, help me out." Lu Siya went straight to the point and spoke without bothering with any formalities. "I'm aware that you know quite a number of people in the harvesting field. Could you recommend a harvester for me? It'd be best if he or she was at the east lake base and could take up this mission at a moment's notice.

"That person doesn't need to have a very high cultivation base. It'll be fine even if he or she is just a onestar or two-star superhuman, but that person must have a lot of experience in surviving in the wild and have harvesting skills above their superhuman realm. It'd be best if that person had a certain degree of fighting skills so that he or she can protect themselves and avoid being a burden to the squad.

"If you have a candidate like that in mind, I'll sign a contract with that harvester right now. You've heard about the mission details just now. Once we find the Red Radiance Jade mine, I guarantee you that I will definitely pay that harvester an exorbitant sum of money!"

Meng Chao was slightly stunned.

"The mine exploration team will be staying in the wild for a long period of time. It'll be far easy for us to run into problems like lacking food and materials. Harvesters are standard members in all squads venturing into the wild, but the two veteran harvesters I've contacted had something to do at the last minute and can't come." Lu Siya shrugged. "So now, I can only look for someone on the spot."

Meng Chao thought about it. "The harvester doesn't need to have a high cultivation base? What do you mean?"

"The higher that person's cultivation base is, the stronger his or her vitality magnetic field is. It'd make it much easier for him or her to be affected by the spirit energy ley line. It is often that even four-star

superhumans like Lin Chuan do not dare to act recklessly in mines where crystals gather, because those places have airtight spaces where spirit energy is very thick. At that time, an amateur who is only a one-star superhuman will have an amazing effect."

Lu Siya stopped talking for a moment before she provided further explanation. "Don't go thinking that our goal is just to get rich. If we really find the Red Radiance Jade mine, we will have the chance to end the northern offense earlier and save countless lives."

Meng Chao could not understand it. "What do you mean?"

"I told you just now. It's precisely because of the clash between the vitality magnetic fields between our peerless fighters and the apocalyptic beasts that caused the spirit energy waves, which led to the resonance of the spirit energy ley lines. It resulted in all sorts of extreme weather changes, and the spirit energy magnetic field interferences have become really strong," Lu Siya said.

"Rain poured from the sky, and lightning cracked. Fog is thick, and our communications are crippled. The Red Dragon Army's mechanized army can't do its job. Our pride, the steel army, is deep in the trenches of mud. This is the main reason why the northern offense is going so slowly.

"Right now, the spirit energy ley line is still resonating with the spirit energy, and it's not showing signs of stopping before the harshest winter arrives. If humanity wants to gain full victory, we will have to pay a devastating price for it.

"But if we find the Red Radiance Jade mine, the crystal specialists and spirit energy specialists will naturally find a way to use it to calm the resonance from the ley lines around it, because it's the ley line with the greatest spirit energy.

"At that time, the clouds and fog will scatter, and the skies will become clear. Our steel army will be able to sweep through Shattered Starlake and use their cannons to clear out Graveyard Forest. It will reduce our losses to the minimum, and we will be able to win this battle beautifully!

"You hope that we will be able to gain a glorious victory in the northern offense as soon as possible as well, right? Come, give me some names. Is there such a harvester in your circle of friends?"

Meng Chao stared at Lu Siya for a long time.

Lu Siya looked like she knew she was definitely going to get someone.

Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath and said, "Big Sis Ya, I don't know many harvesters, and if you limit them to only one-star superhumans, I don't think that there's anyone else who is stronger than I am!"

Lu Siya smiled. "Are you promoting yourself?"

Meng Chao said, "Big Sis Ya, you invited me into this aerial fortress and let me listen to such a detailed mission introduction. Weren't you already thinking about recruiting me?"

"You're smart, and I like working together with smart people like you. That's right, after I learned that Lin Chuan has an assistant like you beside him, I checked your background and skills, and I felt that you're the most suitable person for this mission," Lu Siya said. "But you're still in university. This mission has a certain degree of danger to it. Will your tutor agree to it?"

Meng Chao shrugged and said, "The children in Dragon City can kill monsters while they're just teenagers, and there is a casualty and fatality index every year for the national college examination and universities. Even here in Shattered Starlake, which is a relatively safe area, more than one or two students got injured or were sacrificed.

"The northern offense is connected to the survival of millions of Dragon City citizens. If we fail in this battle, the people back in the city will also be in danger.

"As long as you're willing to take me, I'll talk to my tutor. Right now, Shao Jianqing, Wu Wu, Han Xing, and Xu Sheng are already fighting in the depths of Graveyard Forest with the other powerful fighters. They're facing the threat of death with every step they take, but that's how powerful fighters are created, no?"

"Well said!" Lu Siya said with a smile. "Then, I'll wait for your news. If you need any help, please tell me. Sky Pillar Corporation has a certain degree of influence at the alliance of the five universities. As for the contract and fees—"

"As for that, I'll trust you. Even if you're just doing it as a sign of respect to Big Brother Lin, you will definitely not pay me below what I deserve." Meng Chao smiled nonchalantly.

When Lu Siya left, Lin Chuan went to him anxiously and dragged Meng Chao to the side.

"What did she say?" he asked anxiously.

Meng Chao told him the truth.

"You shouldn't have agreed to it. She must have had her eye on you for a while and was just waiting for you to volunteer." Lin Chuan was frowning so much that his face scrunched up. "She loves using people like us."

Meng Chao had come back from the apocalypse, so he could tell that Lu Siya did not come up with the idea on the spot.

But her final words had made him change his mind.

As long as they found the Red Radiance Jade mine, there was a possibility of quelling the resonance of the spirit energy ley lines and getting rid of the extreme weather as well as spirit energy interference on the surface, so their steel army could advance with loud, rumbling sounds under the guidance of their tactical network. It would allow them to win the battle.

After all, the victory of the northern offense in his previous life might have gone up in smoke because of the resonance of the spirit energy ley lines.

He now had the chance to attack the key of the problem, so there was no way he could back down.

He thought about it and pretended to not understand what Lin Chuan said, "People like us?"

"Poor people like us who don't have rich backgrounds and powerful families supporting us," Lin Chuan explained. "The succession in Sky Pillar Corporation is very complicated. Lu Siya might be one of the members of the third generation, but there are around five people in the second generation of the Lu family who are at the prime of their life and are extremely powerful. She also has more than ten siblings

in the third generation. They're all fighting for the seat of power, and that competition is even fiercer than the competition in the palaces on Earth.

"Lu Siya might be a Spirit Sensor, have ambition and strength, but she's definitely not the one who is favored the most.

"The mine exploration teams that Sky Pillar Corporation sent publicly to find the Red Radiance Jade did not include Lu Siya, so she could only organize her own exploration squad in hopes that she can produce a miracle and win.

"This matter can lead to a great outcome, but it can also lead to nothing. Still, there is a high possibility that it can change her fate in Sky Pillar Corporation and the Lu family, so she didn't look for powerful people born in aristocratic families.

"The skills of those from aristocratic families might be great, but they might have connections with her siblings and even uncles and aunts. If they found out about the Red Radiance Jade mine and the astonishing number of crystals inside, she might not be able to control it firmly in her hands.

"We're people with poor backgrounds, and we don't have a lot of connections with the rich and influential people. If we really discover the Red Radiance Jade mine, we won't have any other thoughts, so aren't we just the best people for her?"

Meng Chao looked pensive. "I see. But Big Brother Lin, why do I feel like you don't have a good opinion about Big Sis Ya? Aren't you best friends? Or are you saying that... you know, she's actually a bad woman, and she once did... some terrible things to you?

Lin Chuan stared at Meng Chao for a long time before he finally figured out what Meng Chao meant.

His peerlessly handsome face instantly turned red. If it were not because there were many people around, he would have caused a scene. "What exactly is in your mind?! What do you mean 'terrible things'? Of course not!

"Ms. Lu and I are truly good friends. She took care of me while we were in school. How should I say this? She's definitely not the type of terrible woman you're thinking about. But she's from an aristocratic family, and it's unavoidable that she's a little overbearing. She doesn't accept other opinions when it comes to certain things. I believe you've sensed it too, right?"

"If you think that Ms. Lu isn't a bad person, I don't think there's a problem, then," Meng Chao said. "Since she's the leader of the squad, it's normal that she won't accept second opinions. I'm not that naive. If we're going to be part of society, we have to learn how to communicate with people like that."

Chapter 204: You'll Regret It

Lin Chuan paced about and asked a little anxiously, "Do you lack money? I can get you some other missions. They'll offer quite a lot of money as well."

"I don't lack money." Meng Chao shook his head.

He had gotten capital stock in Yan Organization with the future version of Ripple Force as technology investment. He was working on Surging Lightning with Luo Hai, and the profit was starting to pick up. He might be promoting the Ultimate Style for free, but he already had ways to earn profit from additional

services. Through the connections he created, he had also managed to make his father's resource recovery company flourish.

Besides, he had been fighting madly, and the feat of killing the Will o' the Wisp Dragon and harvesting the Blood Flower sclerotia had earned him a lot of monster coins, which were even more valuable compared to gold.

If he were to say that he lacked money, then he would only be lacking money to make risky investments, expand the scale of promoting the future versions of the martial arts, and reach a higher cultivation realm.

But he no longer faced any financial difficulty in providing for his family's daily lives as normal people, money to treat his mother, to buy a car for his father, or for his little sister to get the best education.

"I didn't join this mission for the high fees," Meng Chao said seriously. "I just want to fight together with my idol."

Lin Chuan was stunned, and his face turned red. "You'll regret it." His voice was a little hoarse.

"Why?" Meng Chao quirked his eyebrows.

Lin Chuan sucked in a deep breath, and with a rather tormented expression, he said, "Haven't you heard that my luck is really bad? Every time I form a team with someone, they run into some sort of accident. There have been a few times when our entire squad was eliminated, and I was the only one who escaped.

"Many people have said that I'm a person destined for loneliness. In fact, they said that I'm... cursed. Whoever forms a group with me will not end up well."

"No way, Big Brother Lin, do you believe in that sort of thing?" Meng Chao laughed in spite of himself. "It's because you stay in the depths of the wild all the time and volunteer for the most dangerous missions. That's why you have run into accidents more often. If you were like the other superhumans who look for a good job in the city after they become famous, you'd definitely be safe, because you'd only fight when monsters attack our city!

"The mortality rate of superhumans is higher than of normal humans. Then, are all superhumans destined for loneliness?

"Besides, there have been a few times when you managed to save a few of your comrades from the claws of high-grade monsters. I remember that there was once a time when you ran three hundred kilometers in the wild while carrying an unconscious comrade and fought your way out of a few monsters' territories.

"You were so tired that you nearly collapsed from fatigue, but in the end, you saved your comrade's life. Many of those in the field gasped at this after they learned of it and claimed that it was a miracle, while you're a real hero.

"Big Brother Lin, I want to fight beside you and witness a legendary Hell Beast. I have a lot of fighting experience, and I will definitely not drag you down. Let me have the chance, please!"

"You..." Lin Chuan sighed and smiled bitterly. "You still don't understand. Do you think that you have a lot of fighting experience just because you have been killing Nightmarish Beasts for three months in Shattered Starlake? I'm telling you, you're far from being experienced!

"The 'real fights' we're going through here have support from the military in terms of firepower, and we stay with numerous comrades. We can even return to the base every night to reorganize and rest. This is just a game in the ivory tower, and it has no relation whatsoever with real fights.

"A real fight means that you'll be going into the wild and staying away from society. Every night, you'll be sleeping in the cracks between rocks or a swamp. You'll be staying among squirming plants and the roars of monsters. Gradually, you'll forget everything about Dragon City. In fact, you'll even have the misconception that Dragon City doesn't exist, and you're just a monster wearing human skin.

"I'm telling you, the depths of the wild are a world ruled by the law of the jungle, and no other law exists there. Your enemies aren't just monsters, either. They're also... other humans.

"After all, the veteran hunters who hunt in the wild all year long have some sort of mental disorders. And dense spirit energy as well as crystal mines can affect human brainwaves. They amplify our emotions and desires. When you're in a place with no CCTVs and witnesses, death is common.

"When two superhumans meet each other because they're hunting the same superbeast that is worth cities, do you think that they work together? Even if they force themselves to work together while facing the superbeast baring their fangs at them, what will happen when the superbeast is at its last breath?"

Meng Chao was stunned by Lin Chuan's hints. "What?"

Lin Chuan spoke softly. "The schools naturally don't tell you everything. They only mention things like human civilization, how we're comrades from Earth, how we're supposed to stand together against a common enemy, and make it sound as if we're all family who are really close to each other. But in truth, just like how monsters are never a single unit, humans are never a single unit too.

"Our goal is Red Radiance Jades. Their value is much higher than that of superbeasts. All the mining companies have sent their own mine exploration squads. The ones who discover the Red Radiance Jade mine first will have the right to mine it first. The profit from this will amount to an extraordinary figure, and it's enough to make anyone cast aside the fake mask they call civilization.

"I'm not afraid of not obtaining anything. I'm worried about discovering the Red Radiance Jade mine with some other mine exploration squad. Trust me. At that time, the situation will become very ugly."

Meng Chao became pensive.

Lin Chuan thought that he did not believe in him, so he sneered and said, "Before you step into society, you're all flowers in a greenhouse and elites in an ivory tower. You haven't witnessed the truly ugly side of Dragon City just yet!"

Meng Chao instinctively touched his neck.

In his mind, the image of the instructor with the black skull and the bad breath cutting his throat appeared again.

He sucked in a deep breath and said calmly, "Big Brother Lin, after you said that, I only want to witness it more. I don't want to live in a greenhouse and an illusion for the rest of my life. Regardless of whether it's beautiful or ugly, I want to see the world in its truest form."

Lin Chuan bit his lip and remained silent for a long time before he repeated, "You'll regret it."

"If I go, I might end up regretting it. But if I don't go, I'll definitely regret it," Meng Chao said clearly and firmly.

He was not certain whether Lin Chuan and Lu Siya's trip would be related to the success and failure of the northern offense.

But it was the only chance he could take.

If he missed this chance and the failure from his previous life reoccurred while Lin Chuan, a pseudo-hero citizen, died once more, he would definitely regret it his entire life!

Their gazes clashed in the air, and sparks could be seen.

Both of them were very firm in their stances, and neither of them was willing to back down.

"Lin Chuan?" Lu Siya sat comfortably in the distance in a chair fit for bosses and absolutely did not fit into the command center. Her long and straight legs were placed on the table, and she beckoned Lin Chuan over in a rather lazy fashion. "It's been a long time since we met, and I don't know how you've been. Come over and chat with me!"

Lin Chuan cast Meng Chao a deep glance before he looked away. Then, without a word, he walked to Lu Siya.

Meng Chao felt that Lin Chuan still had something to say, but in the end, he let his words die in his mouth. He seemed to have come to some sort of decision.

When he returned to the east lake base, Meng Chao looked for Li Yingzi and contacted Gu Jianbo. He told them that he had been hired by Sky Pillar Corporation to participate in a mine exploration mission.

As for the details about the Red Radiance Jade mine, it was a business secret, so he could not reveal them.

Mine explorations were one of the most common missions for superhumans in the wild.

After all, if humans wanted to develop their civilization, it was not enough for them to rely solely on monster materials. It was only when they mined crystal mines at a large scale could they help their civilization develop to conquer the Other World and explore the endless space so that they could search for a way to return to Earth.

Over the past two months, many of the wealthy mining companies and heavy industry companies had released a lot of mine exploration missions in the east and west lake bases.

Most of the mine exploration missions did not require the participants to venture deep underground. They only needed to escort professional explorers and mine engineers to places with exceptionally thick

spirit energy and use unique exploration devices to drill into the ground and extract samples. This would be considered completing the mission. The difficulty and danger rate was not high.

Hence, even the outstanding freshmen such as the four specially recruited students for the fighting courses of the alliance of the five universities and the Four Great Kings from Agricultural University's martial arts course had received such missions.

When they learned that Meng Chao had gained the favor of Sky Pillar Corporation, Gu Jianbo and Li Yingzi did not voice any disagreement.

University students in Dragon City were different from students on Earth. Their statuses as superhumans allowed them to stand above 95% of Dragon Citizens, and they could be independent in society. Forming connections with rich, mega corporations was extremely good for their future development.

Besides, they could not use normal education to restrain the development of monsters like Meng Chao. The best way for him to learn was to improve by leaps and bounds in real battle.

And when they learned that Lin Chuan would also be joining the mission, they became even more at ease.

When they looked for Lin Chuan to understand the situation, things went slightly against Meng Chao's expectations. Lin Chuan's atittude went through a full 180-degree turn. He slapped his chest and promised that he would definitely take care of the junior brother who went to the same school as he did.

Li Yingzi and Gu Jianbo knew that they were close with each other and came from the same neighborhood and were taught by the same homeroom teacher in elementary school.

Besides, Li Yingzi and Gu Jianbo were in a relationship, and they were already thinking about quickly getting married after the victory at the northern offense. Meng Chao and Lin Chuan were their students, and it would be accurate to say that they were a senior-junior pair who studied under the same tutors.

With Weeping Reaper leading the team, there would definitely be no problems, and both of them agreed with no worries.

When Chu Feixiong and Meng Chao's other friends learned of this, they were happy for him as well.

Chu Feixiong said that he would be with Shao Jianqing over the next few days, and they would go to Graveyard Forest to fight. They might end up running into each other there, and if they had the chance, they should fight together.

Meng Chao looked forward to this.

After resting for an entire night, he went to the equipment center in the base and bought the best harvesting tools and outdoor survival equipment. He had to say, Lu Siya was really rich and generous. With just a swing of her hand, she told Meng Chao to choose whatever he wanted. She would bear all the expenses.

Meng Chao did not hold back with the lady of Sky Pillar Corporation either. He brought with him bags of various sizes and got himself all the tools, regardless of whether he was going to use them or not. He practically brought the entire equipment center into Lu Siya's aerial fortress.

After lunch, the runic symbols floating around the aerial fortress shone brilliantly again. The magnetic field surged and negated gravity. It floated up while swaying and flew to Graveyard Forest.

Chapter 205: Reached Graveyard Forest

While they still had time, Lin Chuan introduced the other members in the team to Meng Chao.

The first was a professional mine exploration squad led by the veteran mine explorer, Zhang Weiyan, who came from Sky Pillar Corporation.

Most of them were support class superhumans who were skilled in blending their spirit energy magnetic fields with the planet's magnetic field so that they could sense the slight changes in the world. After doing that, they could outline the alignment of the spirit energy ley lines and identify thousands of minerals.

The best mine explorers could even inject their spirit energy ripples into the depths of stones to change the particle structures of the stones and affect the geographical structure within thousands of meters.

They could then display the effect of a human tunnel boring machine and dig out a tunnel that had a diameter of more than two meters in length. They could also create rockfalls and stalagmites to seal up or support cracks that were about to collapse. They could even create weak earthquakes.

Hence, even though they were weak, no one dared to underestimate them. Instead, they were the key parts of the squad and the targets that the fighting class superhumans had to protect.

Then, there was a woman called Professor Ye.

Meng Chao had a deep impression of her from yesterday.

It was because she had a red hair clip with her. At first glance, it was a red flower in full blossom, but when he looked at it carefully, it was in the shape of a Blood Flower.

Lin Chuan told Meng Chao that Professor Ye was a mate of theirs from Agricultural University, but she came from the biochemical course and was a specialist researching Blood Flowers. She was the "secret weapon" of their team.

Lu Siya firmly believed that Blood Flowers only mutated because of the radiation from Red Radiance Jades.

Hence, if they searched based on the tracks of the Blood Flowers, they would be able to find the source of the Red Radiance Jades.

Besides, Professor Ye knew how to deal with Blood Flowers. She had created a special suppressant that could decrease the activity of Blood Flowers in carbon-based life, which would make them enter a state that was similar to hibernation.

"Blood Flowers are not pseudo fungi that can reproduce endlessly," Professor Ye told everyone. "In truth, they are smarter than viruses and bacteria. They know that they can't drain their host to keep reproducing. If they split and reproduce endlessly and infest all living creatures, it will lead to a lack of food. The hosts and Blood Flowers would then both die.

"Usually, when the host's brainwaves are really strong and their vitality is great, the Blood Flowers will not try to take over their bodies. Instead, they will enter a semi-hibernation state and will only stimulate their host's metabolism and increase their fighting power.

"Many of the hosts don't hate being infested by Blood Flowers. Instead, they welcome this win-win parasitic relationship.

"It's only when the host dies that the Blood Flower completely awakens. They occupy their host's body, so you can say that they're a pseudo-fungus that is very 'reasonable'.

"My suppressant can affect Blood Flowers and make them think that the hosts are still alive, so they won't react in extreme ways.

"So, even if we run into Blood Flower infested creatures deep underground, we don't have to worry. If we kill them and inject the suppressant in time, the chances of them turning into undead will be very low."

Her explanation relaxed most people.

After the support-class specialist superhumans were the fighting-class superhumans.

Lin Chuan told Meng Chao that the main fighting power in the squad was from a superhuman squad called Sharp Blade.

They were a veteran fighting squad which had fought for more than five years in the wild. They killed countless monsters and took up many escort missions for exploration teams, mining teams, and all sorts of missions issued by labs focusing on research regarding the wild. They were very experienced fighters.

The nicknames of the members in the fighting squad were also very unique. They were named after all sorts of cold weapons. Their leader, Scimitar, was a four-star superhuman like Lin Chuan. He had a secret skill called Spirit Energy Resonance.

He used it to stimulate the mitochondria in the cells and make them release even stronger energy as well as modify the particle structure of weapons and equipment, which turned normal weapons into amazing weapons that could cut hair and release burning flames that could destroy everything. Of course, he could also use the principles of maglev to levitate in the air and could be considered to have officially entered the ranks of first-class fighters.

However, Scimitar had a dark expression on his face, and he did not seem to want anyone to get close to him.

"Lin Chuan, I heard that this is the first time your junior will neter the wild?" Scimitar stared at Meng Chao but spoke to Lin Chuan. "I don't understand why Ms. Lu would spontaneously stuff a brat at Spirit Tattoo Realm into our team. Taking care of those mine explorers and that Blood Flower expert is already troublesome enough. So, it'd be best if you kept an eye on your junior. Anything can happen in the wild, and if he walks to his own death, I won't risk my life to save him."

"Scimitar, just pay attention to your own business," Lin Chuan retorted stiffly. "He's my junior, and it's not your place to make him know his."

Scimitar's moustache was like two black scimitars. They curled up as his face muscles moved when he glared at Lin Ghuan. Then, he walked away.

"Half a year ago, Sharp Blade received an escort mission to protect a small biology research group to set up a temporary lab in the wild.

"I heard that someone in the biology research group decided to be wilful and refused to listen to the commands from Sharp Blade. He provoked an incredibly fierce high-grade superbeast and caused devastating losses to Sharp Blade. They were practically crippled by it.

"Sharp Blade returned to Dragon City to lick their wounds after that. They've been resting for a few months and only accepted Lu Siya's employment because they want money to rebuild their group. That's why Scimitar is a little paranoid. He is extremely skeptical towards all amateurs who don't seem like they have any experience in fighting in the wild.

"He might sound harsh, but he's very professional. Sharp Blade has always had a very good reputation. So, try to listen to his arrangements as much as possible. Observe his movements and think about why he does certain things. Learning from him would be good for you."

The team was made of support-class superhumans led by Zhang Weiyan, fighting-class superhumans led by Scimitar, Lin Chuan (the guide), Meng Chao (the harvester), and Lu Siya.

Based on what Lin Chuan said, Lu Siya herself was a veteran mine explorer and crystal specialist. She was a support-class superhuman and did not possess great fighting strength.

But she had a female bodyguard who stayed by her side all the time. Her name was Lu Fengying, and she was taken in by Lu Siya's father and taught carefully. Then, she was sent to all sorts of training camps to learn professional killing methods. She was in Heaven Realm and was a four-star superhuman in Spirit Wielding Realm.

They had three fighting-class superhumans in Heaven Realm and at least eight people from Sharp Blade at the peak of Earth Realm. This was enough to explore the depths of Graveyard Forest.

As they spoke, the aerial fortress started quivering.

Through the porthole, they could see that Graveyard Forest was right underneath them, and Raging Waves was in front of their eyes.

They were now close to the place where the spirit energy ley lines were gathered. Hence, the extreme weather changes caused by the spirit energy resonance were even more intense there. Thunderclouds crackling with lightning surged like raging waves to Graveyard Forest from Raging Waves. Each one was higher than the last, and the aerial fortress swayed. It was like a lone ship in a raging sea. One moment, it was raised to the top by a wave, and in the next, it dropped dozens of meters and practically landed in the forest.

There was fierce fighting in Graveyard Forest despite the strong winds and rain.

Humans used napalm bombs to repeatedly burn the depths of the forest, and the carnivorous etherealized plants screeched and swung their vines like demons in a lake of fire.

As the light from the fire illuminated them, wisps of black smoke rose into the sky. It squirmed as it possessed life.

Based on Lin Chuan's explanations, Meng Chao knew that the smoke was not actually smoke. Instead, it was formed of clusters of mutated pests and insects. The smoke suffocated them, so they fled.

If the Dragon City did not use napalm bombs to smoke out the terrifying insects and if they really crawled into the strengthened exoskeletons, they could suck a human dry.

But while the insects flew away, there were still a lot of Hell Beasts lurking deep inside Graveyard Forest, which made the place into real hell.

But even real hell would not be able to take away hope.

If they looked into the distance, even though they could not hear the whistles from artillery, they could see balls of colorful light exploding in the forest. The waves of impact traveled with a momentum that could tear through everything and tore down the towering trees like weeds. Even black mushroom clouds rose into the air.

The rising and falling of explosions was even louder than the roaring thunder and howl of the rain.

The roars came from Heaven Realm humans as they suppressed the Hell Beasts in Graveyard Forest.

As human civilization continued its perilous journey of expansion, several patches of large, empty spots appeared in the originally dark Graveyard Forest. All the carnivorous etherealized plants in the place were cut down and burned, which allowed humans to turn those places into battlefield airports that could accommodate armored airships and aerial fortresses.

A large number of heavy construction machines were sent over by armored airships. The forts which had been constructed modularly and broken down into parts by the rear could also be built completely within a short twenty-four hours. The battle fortresses could then be stationed like needles deep in the territories that had belonged to the monsters for thousands of years.

The aerial fortress slowly descended in a battlefield airport in the southeast of the Graveyard Forest.

More than ten fortresses were built around the airport. Three trenches were dug around it, and double-layer electrical fences were set up. There were also automatic gun towers and high-voltage defense towers. The defense was incredibly tight, since it was one of the forward operating bases in the Graveyard Forest.

There were already more than ten armored airships parked there, along with two aerial fortresses that employed maglev technology.

Meng Chao saw that most of the outer shells of the armored airships and aerial fortresses had the emblem of Sky Pillar Corporation or some other major corporation painted on them.

By the looks of it, this place was the gathering place of a lot of mine exploration teams.

If they went further into Graveyard Forest and got closer to Raging Waves, the spirit energy magnetic field would turn even more chaotic. The extreme weather would be even more dangerous, and there was a high possibility that the aerial fortress would be torn to pieces in the air.

Hence, the mine exploration teams could only park their armored airships and aerial fortresses here. Then, they would split up into their respective squads and start exploring.

Their goal was the same, and they were competitors, so it was only natural that there was no harmony among them.

Meng Chao saw Lu Siya pridefully walking to another aerial fortress with Sky Pillar Corporation's emblem painted on it and started pointing and giving commands to the mine explorers left over there to guard the aerial fortress.

By the looks of it, Lin Chuan was not exaggerating things when he said that the competition in Sky Pillar Corporation was very fierce and that the fight for power among the second generation and third generation was even more complicated than palace fights during ancient times.

In just a moment, Lu Siya came back. Her expression was a little gloomy, but her gaze was even more intense.

"There are five mine exploration teams ahead of us, and among them are two of my idiotic brothers. But they went the wrong way. We should hurry. We must find the Red Radiance Jade mine ahead of everyone else!"

Chapter 206: Finding the Blood Flower

Bone-chilling rain fell in the squirming forest.

There was thick smoke everywhere, and only the occasional lightning tearing through the clouds illuminated the vague figures of the monsters.

The group walked with great trouble in Graveyard Forest.

It was a typical primary forest. The towering trees had their roots deep in the ground, and their branches intersected with each other. Hidden under the thick humus were countless caves and quagmires. Forget about the main fighting tanks and crawler-type infantry carrier vehicles, even the spider fighting vehicles could not get through this place.

The only vehicle that hunters and mine explorers could rely on were four-legged military machines known as mules.

The weight of the machine mules was no more than three hundred kilograms, but they could carry a load weighing more than half a ton. Then, with a speed of twenty kilometers per hour, they could travel more than one hundred kilometers. They had solar panels to charge their energy and could get energy from crystals. In emergency situations, superhumans could even inject spirit energy directly into their mobility core.

Humans did not have satellites in the Other World. Hence, it was only natural that they did not have a global positioning system, but biochemistry scientists and machine engineers worked together to insert a large amount of monster nerves into the mules, so they possessed a low-level intelligence. They could understand commands and follow their masters.

Lu Siya's mine exploration team brought with them a total of fifty machine mules, which carried most of their resources, so the mine exploration team members were able to enter the forest while carrying little weight.

But this did not mean that their journey was a lot easier, because Lu Siya chose a road with few people. Or rather, there was no road at all in the path they traveled. Everyone, including the crystal experts and mine explorers had to swing their weapons to cut down vines, weeds, and other strange things between the trees as they moved forward with great difficulty.

Quite a number of mine explorers grumbled. How long were they supposed to stay in this god-forsaken place, and where they were going?

Whenever they moved several kilometers, Lu Siya would stop and ask Professor Ye, the Blood Flower expert, to gather samples from the ground in search of a Blood Flower settlement.

Meanwhile, she would also focus. Trails of bewitching spirit tattoos would appear beside her temples and swirl behind her eyes before gathering at the center of her forehead. Then, as if she had opened a third eye formed purely from spirit energy, she would search the depths of the forest. Then, she would point them in a new direction.

"Professor Ye has found traces of a Blood Flower settlement growing here in the past. I can also sense spirit energy gushing out from underground at a spot not far ahead of us. It's as strong as a volcano eruption. There's definitely a mine with a lot of crystals there!"

With Lu Siya's guidance, the group gradually left the area with a lot of human activity and entered an unexplored world.

Even though Heaven Realm deities had already cleared the area repeatedly, it was inevitable that they missed a few Hell Beasts, and there were also pests that they could not kill no matter how many of them they slaughtered. They lurked in the dark and stared at the moving pieces of meat with greed.

But compared to the pests and surviving Hell Beasts, the most commonly seen dangerous creature in Graveyard Forest was...

"Snake Vine!"

Scimitar, who walked ahead of the group, suddenly shouted. The leader of Sharp Blade drew his scimitar as quickly as lightning and delivered a layer of bone-chilling slashes above their heads. In an instant, he cut apart the eight vines that fell down from the branches.

When the "vines" coughed up liquid that was as red as blood and started squirming and twisting about like venomous snakes on the ground, the group noticed that they were not normal plants. They were instead highly active carnivorous etherealized plants.

Snake Vines ate monsters. They were giant trees like curtain figs and could turn into a forest on their own. One single Snake Vine could split into thousands of vines that could move on their own. Venomous spikes grew on their surface, and once the vines touched their prey, they would bind them like pythons and tear them into shreds. They were one of the reasons why the forest turned into a graveyard.

Snake Vines also never appeared alone. In an instant, a rustling sound that made everyone's skin crawl rose. Countless vines shot out from the darkness and went to bind the mine explorers.

The fighting-class superhumans from Sharp Blade were positioned around the squad. Layers of cold light instantly shot out around them and formed a wall that was so densely packed that not even a drop of water could escape. They cut down hundreds of Snake Vines.

But there were just too many of them. The Sharp Blade members and their leader had to protect the safety of the ten or so crystal experts and mine explorers, so they could not attend to everything, and they were a little flustered.

At that moment, a creature that was even thicker than a python shot out from the humus under their feet. Its head split into four and turned into a gaping mouth that pounced on a mine explorer!

Slit-mouthed Anaconda was a Grade Two superbeast. It often wandered around Snake Vines and helped them deal with prey that was too big and could not be strangled to death. They shared a typical symbiotic relationship.

Even though Slit-mouthed Anaconda could compare to a python in size and was even called an anaconda, it was not a snake-type monster. Instead, it was a mutated vermin similar to a huge earthworm. It was great at digging holes and hiding. It loved lurking deep in the humus in forests, and even Hell Beasts or Heaven Realm elites whose fighting strength was much higher had a hard time sensing their presence.

Once it succeeded in an ambush, it would immediately crawl into a hole under the humus while protected by the Snake Vines. Then, it would instantly disappear without a trace. It was an incredibly dirty and difficult monster to handle.

The shocked mine explorer was about to have his waist snapped by the Slit-mouthed Anaconda.

Even if he did not die, he would lose dozens of kilograms of flesh.

Scimitar wanted to save him, but dozens of Snake Vines targeted his vitals at the same time, which slowed him for half a second.

Then, a chain surrounded by lightning, and another surrounded by fire shot out of nowhere, perfectly binding the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mouth. Then, as if the user was reigning in a horse, he bound it tightly.

The runic symbols on the chains shone, and through the vibrations on the atomic electron shell, electricity that was more than ten thousand volts and heat that was thousands of degrees Celsius high surged out. Like red hot iron wires, the chains cut through the Slit-mouthed Anaconda like they were cutting beancurd.

No matter how slow the Slit-mouthed Anaconda was in terms of reaction, it could still sense the searing pain, and it hissed.

The chains shuddered and loosened their hold, allowing the creature to have a moment to breathe.

But that was just the prelude before the fatal attack.

At the end of the chains, two arc-shaped sabers shone with a strange and dim light that looked like a blood moon. They intersected with each other and cut into the gaping mouth, which looked like a chrysanthemum, and sliced the top half of its body, which was several meters long, into four.

The mine explorer was still stunned from fear when Meng Chao calmly pulled his chain sabers back.

Scimitar's eyes shone with shock and admiration.

Meng Chao went forward and knelt down on one knee. He did not care about the struggling Slitmouthed Anaconda. Sparks flew between his fingers as he inserted lancet knives and exploratory needles inside it.

"Slit-mouthed Anacondas have a unique acid in their digestive gland. It's a very valuable material. Could you buy me some time to harvest it?" he asked Scimitar.

"... Alright." Scimitar agreed to it instinctively. Then, he thought about it and added. "How long do you need? The Snake Vines are still moving around. We can't keep waiting for you."

"I'm done."

While saying that, Meng Chao brought out the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's digestive gland. Then, he tossed the shuddering and thin organ into a mithril-based stabilizing solution.

Scimitar's moustache curled up. He did not turn his head around as he grumbled while he cut down another eight Snake Vines.

"It's useless to continue cutting them like this. To Snake Vine Trees, Snake Vines are like the aerial roots to curtain figs. No matter how many you cut off, it won't be a heavy blow to the main body. It can create more at any moment."

Meng Chao used his searchlight to point into the depths of the forest. "If my guess is correct, the ninth tree from here, the one that looks like a crooked pine, is a Snake Vine Tree that has disguised itself perfectly. I'm pointing at it right now with my searchlight.

"It's the core of all these Snake Vines. If we destroy it, these Snake Vines will instantly die."

Scimitar frowned. "How do you know?"

"With my nose and eyes," Meng Chao explained. "After a Snake Vine binds a prey, it will deliver it near the Snake Vine Tree to digest and absorb it. That's why there's a bloody stench that you can't get rid of around Snake Vine Trees. It doesn't have the refreshing scent nor the scent of mud that normal plants have.

"And when some of the larger monsters are bound by Snake Vines, they aren't killed by poison right away. While being dragged over, they struggle madly and leave marks on the brambles, trees, and stones.

"I first relied on my smell to pinpoint the suspicious areas. Then, I started observing which tree has the most friction marks. That will naturally be the main body of the Snake Vines."

Scimitar cast Meng Chao a deep glance.

A few of the veteran Sharp Blade hunters pounced on the etherealized plant Meng Chao had pointed out.

Countless vines shrieked, and the etherealized plant started burning.

It let out a screech that sounded like that of a monster. Lots of liquid poured out that looked like blood, and it looked terrifying.

Once Scimitar cut the tree in half, the dancing Snake Vines around them stopped moving. They started shriveling and rapidly rotting away.

"You do have some skills. No wonder you're regarded highly by Ms. Lu."

Once they broke free from the Snake Vines' harassment, the members of Sharp Blade became friendly to Meng Chao.

"Lin Chuan's junior will definitely not be an ordinary person," Lu Siya said with a grin.

They traveled through the night and ran into ambushes from etherealized plants and low-grade superbeasts three times.

But with three Heaven Realm elites and the Sharp Blade members working together, they managed to get through them with no danger.

As for the Grade Four to Grade Six Hell Beasts, they possessed a certain degree of intelligence, and they saw this group that was clearly not to be easily provoked and did not dare to attack.

When dawn arrived, they hunted down a Blood Flower infested creature and found that it had fresh Blood Flower bacterial flora in it.

This meant that they were heading in the right direction.

Professor Ye used the Blood Flower infested creature to conduct an experiment with her suppressant on the spot.

Just as she expected, once the monster was injected with the suppressant and killed, it did not turn into an undead creature. Instead, along with the Blood Flower bacterial flora in it, it died.

With Lin Chuan's guidance, they soon found the nest of the Blood Flower infested creature.

They also discovered a primary Blood Flower settlement that had not found any hosts in the area.

It grew in the darkness of the shrubs like red moss and were so thick that it looked like blood was about to start dripping from them. The settlement extended all the way to a large, sparkling lake.

Chapter 207: Lion Dragon Fish

After moving through the dark forest for an entire night, their field of vision became wider, and the group's spirits lifted.

While wearing an airtight protection suit, Professor Ye knelt down on one knee beside the lake to carefully collect a water sample. She wanted to know whether the original strain of the Blood Flower was in here.

Scimitar and Lin Chuan protected her by the sides in case an aquatic superbeast suddenly shot out of the mysterious lake.

The results of the analysis showed that the original strain of the Blood Flower did indeed come from the depths of the lake and not the other way. It did not grow into the lake from the ground.

"My guess is correct!" Lu Siya said excitedly. "The original strains of Blood Flowers might like to grow in dark and humid areas, but they cannot grow for long periods of time in water. There is no river around this lake either, so it's impossible for it to have grown all of a sudden from the bottom of the lake.

"This means that there must be a subsurface stream under the lake, and at the end of the stream must be a large underground space. It should have fresh oxygen and the Red Radiance Jade mine that is very easy to mine. It's only when these conditions are met that Blood Grass can evolve into Blood Flowers.

"It's no wonder why so many mine exploration teams have returned without any results. They've been looking for the wrong place. If we want to get the treasure, we must go into the depths of the lake and through the subsurface stream to reach our destination!"

Lin Chuan looked around him warily and said, "If there's a lake in a forest, it should be the heaven of monsters. The living creatures within a circular area of dozens of kilometers rely on water to survive, but while coming here, we didn't discover a lot of tracks. It's either that the lake is very strange, or there are really fierce high-grade superbeasts residing in the lake. We have to be careful."

"That's only natural. I've long since predicted that the Red Radiance Jade mine would be under a lake, and I brought a full set of equipment. Scimitar!"

Lu Siya swung her arm. The superhumans from Sharp Blade smoothly removed a large amount of ammunition boxes from the machine mules. They took off the lid, which revealed deep water bombs with the logo of skulls spray painted on them.

"These are crystal bombs newly invented by the Red Dragon Army. The impact waves they create are very powerful. Everyone, it'll be for the best if you circulate your spirit energy to protect your ear drums, teeth, and organs."

As Scimitar spoke, he picked up a deep water bomb and tossed it into the center of the lake.

Most of the Sharp Blade members were powerful fighters at the peak of Earth Realm. They were built like bears, and their arm strength was greater than that of an average person. When they used their arms to throw the deep water bombs, they were no weaker than launchers specifically built to launch certain missiles. In just a short half a minute, they tossed dozens of deep water bombs at the center of the lake, where they sank while swaying.

Scimitar commanded his team members to toss a few scientific instruments with round heads and exploratory needles stuck in them into the lake as well. They sank in.

Lu Siya said that they were shockwave feedback readers. They could use the shockwaves created by the explosions of the deep water bombs crashing against the bottom of the lake to map out the lake. Then, they could figure out where the crack and the subsurface stream were.

The group retreated into the forest and hid behind a towering tree. They poured their spirit energy to their ear drums, teeth, and organs and held their breaths as they waited.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The deep water bombs invented on Earth treated the endless ocean as their battlefield. After crystals were added to them along with runic symbols, their power increased ten times. Explosions that caused the earth to tremble arose, and they nearly overturned the entire lake.

Dozens of water pillars shot into the air, making it look as if a storm had just started. The "rainwater" was mixed with all sorts of strange-looking aquatic monsters. They landed in the forest with loud splashes, and even though they were powerful, when they were on land, they were just prey. They turned into meals for the pests and etherealized plants.

The team looked again at the lake before them. After exploding for half a minute, the water level had decreased by dozens of centimeters. Blood covered the surface of the lake. Torn flesh of all sorts of colors was mixed in it. Clearly, the large monster at the bottom of the lake was badly battered by the explosions and was now mangled.

Blurp, blurp, blurp, blurp.

The next instant, the lake started to boil, and bubbles appeared on the surface.

"What a strong spirit energy reaction... It's the presence of a Hell Beast!"

The three fighting-class Heaven Realm superhumans, Lin Chuan, Scimitar, and Lu Siya's personal bodyguard, Lu Fengying jumped at the same time to the side of the lake.

A bizarre-looking fish with red scales that was as built as a lion appeared in the boiling lake. It was more than ten meters long, and when it opened its mouth, it looked even fiercer than sand tiger sharks.

"Lion Dragon Fish!"

It was a Grade Five aquatic superbeast. It could bite through an iron fishing boat and could control water currents. It often caused trouble in Red Dragon River and used the unique structure of its mouth to release Ripple Blasts, which sent water currents at supersonic speed to tear its prey to pieces.

An adult Lion Dragon Fish was huge, and it loved large rivers or streams with rapid currents. It seldom appeared in lakes and swamp areas. This further proved Lu Siya's theory. There was definitely a subsurface stream at the bottom of the lake. When the Lion Dragon Fish was very young, it should have accidentally swam through the subsurface stream and entered the lake. As its body grew bigger, it could not swim back, so it got trapped.

Even if Lion Dragon Fishes had developed brains, it had grown up in the lake, and it did not have any communications with its civilization, so it was impossible for it to have high intelligence.

It was caught off guard and attacked by deep water bombs, which left it utterly confused, and it descended into rage.

The three Heaven Realm elites stepped into the air and arrived above it.

Lin Chuan was the first to attack. His body was supported by his burning beast soul. Spirit energy wings grew out of his back, and they looked as beautiful as an Undying Bird's. His chain spear shot out, and like a red bolt of lightning, it pierced the Lion Dragon Fish's eyeball. With a loud plop, the Lion Dragon Fish's eye, which was already bleeding because of the explosion, popped.

Above the chain spear were four sharp blades that looked like wings. They shot up, and like fish hooks, they stabbed deep into the Lion Dragon Fish's eye socket.

The Lion Dragon Fish started swaying its head and tail madly.

Lin Chuan did not fight head-on against it. Instead, as if he was fishing, he pulled back the chain spear while sometimes letting go slightly. He patiently engaged in a war of attrition.

Scimitar's scimitar cut at the Lion Dragon Fish's fins and tail in a very sinister angle. Even though the superbeast managed to sense it, the blade cut its fins into pieces, which reduced its agility in the water.

"Blurp! Blurp! Blurp!"

The Lion Dragon Fish opened its mouth and released a flurry of Ripple Blasts that were like artillery.

But moments ago, it had been blasted off kilter and blinded by Lin Chuan. It also lost the ability to remain stable after its fins and tail were struck. It could not control its trajectory accurately, and the three water balls grazed past the three Heaven Realm elites.

At that moment, Lu Siya's personal bodyguard, Lu Fengying, landed on the Lion Dragon Fish's head. She twisted her limbs into a very strange angle.

Waves of spirit flames surged out, and her spirit energy appeared in the form of very profound and complicated runic symbols. Her spirit energy magnetic field became visible.

Siiiiizzzllllllleeeee!

The moment she finished creating her spirit energy magnetic field, thousands of spirit energy threads that looked like electrical arcs charged at the Lion Dragon Fish as if they had been given life. They were so dense that they looked like snow falling from the sky.

The Lion Dragon Fish instantly froze up.

The next ten seconds, it was cut more than one hundred times by an invisible but sharp blade. Its head, which was as mighty as a lion's was cut to pieces, and only its lower body remained. It sank slowly to the bottom of the lake.

The three Heaven Realm elites had worked together and smoothly killed a Grade Five Hell Beast!

Meng Chao's eyes went wide. All he could see in his head was Lu Fengying's might when she released her killing move.

'So, Lu Siya's personal bodyguard is an Overkill Style martial artist.

'This is the real Overkill Style, which has been reigning supreme in Dragon City for decades. It does indeed live up to its name.

'Using the chain attacks from the Ultimate Style to search for the moment the Overkill Style user accumulates power, stiffens up, and cools down to cancel their killing move and thereby gain victory is theoretically possible.

'But it's just like performing a crouch slide to kill a tiger. No matter how ideal the dream is, I still need to turn it into reality. I will need to continue training and make this a reality!'

Meng Chao thought that he did not come on this trip in vain. He had already learned a lot.

After they killed the Lion Dragon Fish, the lake became calm once more. No other aquatic monster showed up.

But that was normal. No tyrant would tolerate the existence of another that could threaten their position. The lake was not big, so once a Lion Dragon Fish, which was one of the hunters at the top of the food chain, came here, it was basically impossible for there to be another high-grade superbeast in the same area.

At that moment, the shockwave feedback reader, which used the feedback from the shockwaves, finished drawing the terrain of the lake.

Lu Siya's tablet showed a detailed 3D map.

"Look, there is a subsurface stream here. It's fifty or so meters deep. The subsurface stream is narrow, long, and dark, but there is a huge space inside!" Lu Siya pointed at the map and grinned. "I brought full-body diving equipment. We made the right gamble!"

Before beginning their operations, they had already done targeted practice to handle the environment that the Red Radiance Jade was most likely to appear in.

With the superhumans' body constitutions and their precise control over spirit energy, it was not difficult for them to swim while dozens of meters deep.

But Lin Chuan gave them a reminder. "This lake's depth is more than five hundred meters, and the environment at the bottom of the lake is very complicated. Even the reader isn't able to draw out the entire thing. We have to be careful about there being other superbeasts."

"How could that be?" Lu Siya pointed her nose skyward and said confidently, "Lion Dragon Fish are kings of aquatic monsters, and they're not fond of living together with other high-grade aquatic superbeasts. It's not a native freshwater aquatic life either. It can only have come here from somewhere else. It was by pure coincidence that it came here. It can't have possibly brought its family here, right?"

"But-"

"No buts!" Lu Siya had already switched to her diving suit with Lu Fengying's help. "Even though we discovered this lake, there's no certainty that there is only one path leading to the Red Radiance Jade mine. While we're here dilly-dallying, someone might have already beaten us to the draw and started dancing in our Red Radiance Jade mine!

"Even if a second Lion Dragon Fish appears, it's fine. Didn't you already kill one? I hired all of you here by promising a lot of money to solve problems like this!"

She cast Lin Chuan a profound glance. Then, without turning her head around, she was the first to jump into the lake.

The mine explorers and crystal experts looked at each other. With the help from the Sharp Blade members, they put on their diving suits.

The Sharp Blade members then removed numerous boxes from the load carried by the machine mules and set up various underwater vehicles.

They could carry from four to six people at once. They could even be connected to military-grade computers. Once the destination they marked on the map they drew was uploaded to the military-grade computer, the vehicle could reach the destination on its own.

Even the superhumans who had never received diving training before could complete the task as long as they fixed themselves to the underwater vehicle.

"Are you alright?"

After seeing most of the team jump into the lake, Lin Chuan felt resigned. He turned his head around.

Meng Chao rubbed the center of his forehead and examined the memory fragments from his previous life. They had jumped out just now. He shook his head and said, "It's fine. I... quite like playing with water."

Chapter 208: Change at the Bottom of the Lake

The surface of the lake and the bottom of the lake were two different worlds.

The sky was covered by dark clouds, which made the forest dark. It also made it difficult for sunlight to shine through.

When the team was around five meters deep, they felt like they had sunken into a swamp and could not see a thing.

Even if superhumans' visual cells were more developed than normal humans' and they could see when normal humans would be blind and sense spirit energy fluctuations, they could only see waves of colorful undercurrents flowing at the bottom of the lake. They illuminated all sorts of strange aquatic creatures and bewitching aquatic etherealized plants.

Fortunately, the aquatic life and plants sensed the powerful presence from the superhumans and were baffled by the deep water bombs earlier, so they did not dare to go forward to bother the humans. They just hid away from them.

As for stronger hunters? It was just as Lu Siya said, no tyrant would allow another creature that could threaten its position. There was no space for such creatures in the lake.

The group held onto the underwater vehicles and listened to the sound of the propellers turning as they sank deeper.

The vanguard with the best swimming abilities sent good news through the communication channel. He had already discovered the subsurface stream and was scanning the situation in the depths of the cave.

Soon, an even more detailed map appeared on everyone's military-grade tactical watches. It pointed them to a winding path.

"Congratulations, everyone. We're close to our treasure." Lu Siya's laughter rose in the communication channel. It was as if she already had victory in her grasp.

At that moment, the walls of the lake not far away from the group squirmed, and something opened its mouth at them.

The group was shocked. Eight searchlights gathered on the area and lit up a gigantic clam-type monster. It had been startled by the propellers.

Clam-type monsters were usually fixed on walls or huge aquatic-type monsters. They did not pose much of a threat.

The group laughed.

"We found the entrance to the subsurface river. Just as we expected, there's a huge underground space up ahead, and there's a lot of fresh air in it. We can breathe there!"

The Sharp Blade vanguard's excited shout came through the communication channel again.

Suddenly, the giant clam-like monster closed in a panic.

The insignificant aquatic life that had been swimming around the group also fled helter-skelter.

Even the bewitching etherealized plants that had been dancing around curled up and started trembling.

Whoosh!

An incredibly quick water current charged at them from the bottom.

The group was caught off guard. One of the underwater vehicles was struck by the water current, and it was smashed to pieces on the spot. All the people attached to it were thrown off.

"It's another Lion Dragon Fish!" a fighting-class superhuman cried out in surprise in the communication channel.

The vision of fighting-class superhumans was better than that of the support-class superhumans. They saw another Lion Dragon Fish in the dark, seemingly bottomless lake. It was larger and looked even fiercer. It swung its head and tail, and like a torpedo with hundreds of kilograms worth of explosives stuffed in it, it charged at them.

And in the water, the Lion Dragon Fish was at home. Its fighting strength there did not increase by a mere five times, either.

While it rushed at them, it opened its mouth and fired water blasts repeatedly, which created a terrifying whirlpool of death. The creature wanted to rip the humans to shreds.

The three Heaven Realm elites were sent scattering away by the undercurrents. They could not work together like they did on the surface of the lake.

Their spirit flames were affected by the current, and they could not bring out their strength to destroy it effortlessly.

The Lion Dragon Fish seized the chance to charge into the crowd. It bit a mine explorer's lower body off and swallowed it whole. While doing so, it caught that mine explorer's upper body with its sharp teeth and threw it at the humans.

It was a show of force, and it was also a way to affect the humans' minds and distract them.

Sharps inhales instantly rose in the communication channel.

"Head to the subsurface stream!" Lu Siya immediately made her decision. "It is narrow and bumpy, while this Lion Dragon Fish is large! It won't be able to enter!"

Her personal bodyguard, Lu Fengying pounced on the Lion Dragon Fish without hesitation.

With the protection from the Heaven Realm elite, everyone started racing to the subsurface stream.

Meng Chao originally wanted to use the dual chain sabers he had just obtained for himself and the past memories he had just awakened—which showed him how to fight underwater—to face the Lion Dragon Fish.

But with a simple and crude water blast, it had basically made him deaf, and his organs were forced to his throat, which made him understand the true power of a Hell Beast.

"Do you want to die?!" Lin Chuan dragged him from the fangs of the Lion Dragon Fish by a hair's breadth. With all his power, he threw Meng Chao in the direction of the subsurface stream. "I'll be here, fighting! Go!"

When he saw the light of the Undying Bird shining stubbornly in the dark lake, Meng Chao gritted his teeth and swallowed the blood that had surged to his throat. Then, he turned around and swam to the subsurface stream.

He did not know how long he had been swimming in the raging lake. It felt like he was swimming in murky water or mud.

But he could sense a tsunami behind him. The shockwaves traveled forward in waves and struck his back like a warhammer.

When he crawled into the entrance of the subsurface stream, which was a crack in the wall of the lake, he refused to swim any further. Instead, he used his chain sabers to drag in the other mine explorers who arrived after him.

Lin Chuan was the last to arrive.

He used his beast soul to make the lake surge, and like a small fish with a fiery red tail, he swam in a zigzagging motion.

The Lion Dragon Fish swam madly after him. It was about to bite his legs!

No matter how Lin Chuan threw his chain spear forward, it was affected by the current formed by the Lion Dragon Fish.

A few times he nearly even lost his spear.

"Big Brother Lin, here!"

Meng Chao threw his chain saber out.

Lin Chuan reacted and grabbed the chain.

With a vicious pull, Meng Chao helped Lin Chuan break free from the Lion Dragon Fish, and both of them tumbled into the subsurface stream.

Whoosh!

The Lion Dragon Fish charged into the subsurface stream regardless of the cost.

But since its mighty head was just too large, it got stuck between the rocks. The more it struggled, the more it became stuck.

Meng Chao hesitated. He wondered whether he should use this chance to harvest its mouth.

Lin Chuan grabbed him and hissed, "Go!"

And just as Lin Chuan expected, when they swam a dozen meters forward, they heard a loud bang that made the earth tremble behind them.

The Lion Dragon Fish had finally broken free of the wall. Even though it did not swim inside, it used all its strength to fire an incredibly fierce water blast.

The shockwave it stirred up felt like a main fighting tank ramming itself into Meng Chao's back.

He felt the taste of copper in his throat, and he could not help but cough up blood.

In his heart, he thanked his lucky stars. If Lin Chuan had not stopped him, he would have been torn to shreds by the Lion Dragon Fish.

'It's no wonder why that creature is known as a Lion Dragon Fish. I remember now. It didn't gain its name because of its looks, but because of its greatest talent known as Lion's Roar. It can release a deafening roar underwater!'

Meng Chao's heart pounded in fear. He and Lin Chuan supported each other and gradually cast the Lion Dragon Fish and its raging roars behind them.

They did not know how many times they ran into deadends in the complicated subsurface stream, but at last, they saw faint light ahead of them.

It was the searchlight that came from the mine explorers who had climbed to the surface ahead of them.

Both of them swam with all their strength to the light and appeared above the water. Then, they crawled to the shore and lay sprawled on the ground with their limbs splayed.

The dark stream behind them continued surging and did not calm down even after a long time had passed.

Meng Chao panted for a full five minutes before he sat up and observed his surroundings.

It was a cave half the size of a soccer field.

It had stalactites and stalagmites, which contained bites of crystals that let out faint light.

The air might have been humid and smelled sour and foul, but it was perfectly fine for a person to breathe it. It seemed like there was a crack that led to the surface.

They did not know what was above their heads. Could it be that they were already within the area of Raging Waves?

Meng Chao, Lin Chuan, and the other fighting-class superhumans recovered very quickly.

The pale-looking mine explorers and crystal experts lay limp on the ground for more than ten minutes. They could not get up.

Lu Siya was the first to regain her composure.

Or rather, even when the second Lion Dragon Fish opened its mouth, she had not trembled in the slightest.

She, her bodyguard, and Scimitar did a head count and started packing up their equipment.

The sudden ambush resulted in the loss of two mine explorers and a hunter from Sharp Blade.

Another hunter's left arm was torn off at the shoulder by the Lion Dragon Fish; he only survived because his teammate had risked his life to save him. At that moment, he was injected with a sealing agent, and medical gel was smeared on his wound. For the time being, his life was not in danger.

They also lost half of their food.

Miraculously, their exploratory equipment was in perfect shape.

But when they faced such great losses, even the expressions of mine explorers from Sky Pillar Corporation and a hunter as experienced as Scimitar turned dark.

"Ms. Lu, you shouldn't have cared only about the exploratory equipment just now and given up on the underwater vehicle that carried our food supplies," he said.

"Right now, our exit is sealed by the Lion Dragon Fish, and we don't know how long we'll have to stay underground. We'll need food."

"Once we find the Red Radiance Jade mine, we'll get everything."

After saying that, Lu Siya opened her palm and showed the loot she had obtained just now. It was a crystalline mineral that looked like a crystal flower bud.

Red Jade Pearls were not worth much, but they were commonly associated with Red Radiance Jades. Usually, if someone discovered Red Jade Pearls and Blood Flowers at the same spot, they would also be able to discover a Red Radiance Jade mine.

Everyone in the place was an expert, so their eyes immediately lit up.

"I know that two of our teammates lost their lives just now, and we will have a hard time finding their corpses. My heart hurts too when such a thing happened."

Lu Siya sighed and raised the Red Jade Pearl tightly while saying loudly, "But there are bound to be sacrifices in the fight between humans and monsters. The path of Earth's civilization expansion in the Other World must be built by the spirits of countless brave warriors. We're all superhumans here, and none of us are afraid of sacrificing ourselves, because we know that even if we die, someone else will inherit our spirit and complete our mission.

"The two brave warriors died for the sake of the Red Radiance Jade mine, so it's only when we find the Red Radiance Jade mine as quickly as possible that we can comfort their spirits. It will allow us to calm the extreme weather on the surface so that our steel army can enter the fray and win this battle, thereby saving more of our comrades.

"And all of us, including the families of those sacrificed, will not just become heroes, but the richest heroes in Dragon City. This is the only thing that I, Lu Siya, can do for you!"

Chapter 209: Mystery of Runic Symbols

The group said nothing.

Lu Siya gritted her teeth and said, "Elder Zhang, I will make an application to the corporation for the mine explorers we lose, and I will give them double the normal blood money. Scimitar, I'll do the same for your teammates. Even if they're just injured, I will increase the wages by 30% according to the basic wage we agreed upon on the contract.

"I have to repeat my earlier words: As long as we find the Red Radiance Jade mine, the whole world is ours!"

The group looked at each other and cast aside their unprofessional emotions before they started acting again.

They used a specialized underground soundwave reader to scan the walls in search for the highest reaction and a crack that would lead them to a larger area.

One of the mine explorers who came from Sky Pillar Corporation sat down in a meditative position and started mumbling. Fine spirit tattoos appeared nonstop at his temples, eyes, and the center of his forehead.

Lin Chuan told Meng Chao that this mine explorer had a special ability. He could sense the slightest changes in wind speed and wind direction, and he could also accurately feel the difference in temperature and humidity. He was basically the same as a human weather station.

With his guidance, the group quickly went to a corner of the cave.

The seemingly sturdy wall was covered in winding cracks. Wind blew through the black cracks. The walls were wet, and there were also creatures that looked like moss growing on it. The most crucial thing was that there was a beautiful, bewitching and dangerous Blood Flower settlement growing at the foot of the crack.

"Behind this crack should be an even larger space. The wall isn't too thick. The Blood Flowers reached this place from behind it." Lu Siya formed her conclusion.

The feedback provided by the soundwave reader supported her theory.

After Professor Ye collected her sample, two Sharp Blade superhumans brought out flamethrowers and burned all the Blood Flower strains.

Zhang Weiyan and the other veteran mine explorers from Sky Pillar Organization moved forward. They first placed their hands on the wall and shut their eyes before they released their spirit energy to sense the thickness of the wall, its structure, and components.

After discussing for a while with each other, they used geological hammers and knifeblades to carve runic symbols on the walls.

The runic symbols they knew how to draw were all support-based and related to geological structures. Meng Chao understood absolutely nothing about them.

He just watched the men move their hands in a flurry. In a short half an hour, they drew more than one thousand profound and complicated runic symbols that were connected to each other in the space that had a diameter of around two to three meters. They formed a complicated runic matrix.

Then, they brought out rune ink made of superbeast blood and spirit energy liquid. They slowly poured it into the runic matrix from the mouth at the top of it.

A miracle happened. The runic ink did not spill all over the wall. Instead, it was led by a mysterious power and flowed in an orderly manner through the runic symbols. Very soon, it covered every line and shone with a faint light.

The veteran mine explorers sat down cross-legged and chanted while they released powerful brainwaves.

Their vitality magnetic fields resonated with the spirit energy magnetic field created by the runic matrix. It stirred up powerful spirit energy contained in the runic ink, which reached the atomic electron shell of the stones and changed the properties of the stones on an atomic level.

An unbelievable scene occurred. The originally sturdy rock softened as the spirit energy surged through it and turned into something similar to gravel. It quietly collapsed and revealed a long and narrow tunnel.

The stones that were not covered by the runic symbols retained their sturdy structure and supported the tunnel.

This was not the first time Meng Chao saw how runic symbols worked.

But every time he saw the amazing power that allowed them to gather sand into towers or turn stones into gold by changing the structure of the atoms, he gasped in amazement just like everyone else and could not understand what was going on.

Even the superhumans who used this power only knew how to use them but did not understand the logic behind it. They could only make vague statements about runic symbols being surface-level

projections of spirit energy magnetic fields. They could connect with humans' vitality magnetic fields and the planet's magnetic field. They could even connect with the universe's magnetic field, which existed between stars.

No one quite understood it.

Up to this date, the principles of runic symbol remained in a black box.

Earthlings had only discovered words in the ancient ruins under the Supernatural Tower after they transmigrated to the Other World and learned that they were amazing symbols that could stimulate great power.

This was one of the reasons why humans were so interested in the true nature of the Other World.

Many people believed that it was not an uncultivated planet where only monsters resided.

Millions of years ago, a highly-developed civilization should have existed in it.

But due to unknown reasons, it was destroyed, and only ruins that recorded its glorious past remained. Earthlings had inherited them when they transmigrated to this place.

But why were they so certain that the ancient civilization was ruined?

It was very simple. If a whole city from outer space transmigrated to Earth, even with the technology developed during the second half of the twentieth century, it would be discovered within twenty-four hours, regardless of whether they descended in the Sahara Desert, the Amazon rainforest, or any other place with few people around. At most, humans would spend three days making preparations before they made contact with the city from outer space.

However, Dragon City had transmigrated to the Other World more than half a century ago.

Even so, they had still not met any Other World local tribes that possessed intelligence.

Even if the fog had been surrounding them all this while, it still did not make sense.

Hence, even if there was an Other World civilization existing in the depths of the fog, its society and technology would not be highly developed, so they were destined to be suppressed by Earth's steel army.

"We'll conquer the Other World and explore as well as inherit the strength from the ancient civilization. Then, we'll bring this incredibly advanced ancient technology back to Earth in a mighty manner so that we can help Earth's civilization move from living on one planet to living on multiple planets. We'll become the lords of the entire galaxy!"

This was the greatest dream hidden deep in the hearts of many Dragon City youths.

Meng Chao was the same before he returned to the past.

Right then, he naturally knew that this dream was far-fetched.

The Other World did possess locals who were organized and possessed intelligence.

Even though they had long since forgotten about the glory of the ancient civilization and even treated their ancestors' extraordinary technology as magic and curses, destruction was always far simpler than construction.

The semi-automatic rifles in the hands of the primitive people could also kill a fully equipped modern man

After the Monster War, the intelligent locals of the Other World would bring great trouble to Earthlings.

If they wanted to completely get rid of this problem, they had to pay the smallest price and use the shortest time possible to win the Monster War so that Dragon City could fight against the multiple tribes of the Other World while at "full health".

They had to obtain victory in the northern offense.

And the key to it all might lay just in front of them.

This was the reason behind why Meng Chao was willing to take the risk to enter deep underground.

It was definitely not for the money.

And it was absolutely not to ride Lu Siya's long, luscious, smooth, and beautiful coattails.

Instead, he did it for his comrades, for the future, and for Earth's civilization.

"What are you thinking about?" Lin Chuan asked in a whisper.

Meng Chao was stunned. "No, I'm not doing it for the coattails."

Lin Chuan was taken aback. "What tail now?"

Meng Chao scratched his head. "I'm talking about a Demonic Halberd Pig's tail. I'm hungry."

"... You have to be careful. We're about to enter where the spirit energy ley lines are gathered. I can sense the spirit energy magnetic fields around us getting stronger. It might affect our hearts," Lin Chuan said sternly.

"The closer we get to a spirit energy ley line, the more likely it is for a human's brain to be affected. Our most primal emotions and desires will be magnified, and we'll gradually reveal our true nature. In truth, even our logic may be devoured, so we'll become someone else entirely.

"So, don't let your thoughts wander. Focus on the mission. Remember to take a meditative stance and think for a while once every half an hour or an hour. Make sure that your mental strength index is constantly around 100%."

"Got it. Thanks, Big Brother Lin."

"We're brothers. We even saved each other's lives just now. There's nothing to thank for. Let's go. Everyone has already gone in."

The mine explorers moved through the tunnel.

Once every few steps, the veteran mine explorers carved runic symbols into the walls and turned the stones into gravel so that the tunnel could continuously extend into the rock formation.

When support-class superhumans used such "magic", it was not at all easier compared to fighting-class superhumans releasing killing moves.

The faces of veteran mine explorers, including Zhang Weiyan, soon began to wither. They had to take gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid as well as meditate to recuperate.

Fortunately, there were a lot of fighting-class superhumans in the team.

Based on the investigations of the geologists, the rock formation in this area was very sturdy and could withstand powerful shockwaves.

The three Heaven Realm elites and the Sharp Blade members who were at the peak of Earth Realm took turns attacking the rocks with the most simple and crude attacks.

Even though their methods were not as elegant as those of the veteran mine explorers, they continued expanding the tunnel.

A strange light sparkled in Lu Siya's eyes. She encouraged her teammates and said that she could sense an increasingly stronger spirit energy reaction. It was not far ahead of them, and it was definitely where the spirit energy ley line was.

In the end, after three hours in the place, they cleared the tunnel and entered an even wider underground space.

Boom!

The first mine explorer who stumbled into the place was so shocked by the grand and beautiful spectacle in front of him that he sucked in a sharp breath.

The people who came in after him were also dazzled and stopped absolutely dumbfounded.

What appeared before them was a colorful crystal palace.

Regardless of whether it was the stone walls, the stone pillars, or stalagmites, all of them gave off a semi-transparent, crystalline feel. They also shone with a dim light. It was like a reflection on water and flowed slowly in the air.

Forget about ever seeing such a thing on Earth, even in the Other World, veteran mine explorers like Zhang Weiyan seldom saw such a beautiful sight.

"Red Pillar Crystals!"

"Multi-blue Lightning Crystal!"

"Heavenly Green Bronze!"

"Violet Snake Stone!"

"Fire Glow Stone!"

"There're so many crystals and minerals here, and their purity is very high. The difficulty in mining them is very low as well. As soon as we get rid of the Apocalyptic Beast on the surface, we can use large drilling devices to reach this place. This is basically a treasure trove already at our fingertips!"

Zhang Weiyan's white beard started trembling.

The fatigue that had settled into his bones after carving dozens of runic matrices and stimulating them was gone. His dried up blood vessels seemed to have been filled up by the power in the crystals, and he became more than ten years younger.

Scimitar and the other Sharp Blade members were also delighted.

Even the team member who had one arm bitten off by the Lion Dragon Fish and had a pale face looked happy.

Under the illumination of the ever-changing light from the crystals, every single one of their face muscles trembled.

Chapter 210: Racing Against Time

The Survival Committee had set up a law called the Resource Act. The mines discovered within Dragon City by Dragon Citizens were shared treasure that belonged to the entire civilization and had to be used for the grand cause of Earth conquering the Other World.

The first people who discovered a spirit energy ley line had the right to mine it first. They could form their own groups to mine it or give the right to mining organizations with great power so that they could earn high transfer fees.

Also, there was an unspoken rule.

All people who discovered a spirit energy ley line could pick a crystal with the highest purity, the best looks, and the most spirit energy from the mine as a souvenir.

Based on the types of crystals, the size of that "one" piece would also differ. To retain its value, it was enough to make the mine explorers so motivated that they would search for mines wave after wave without regard for their own safety.

After all, it was very difficult for the first-class elites who were above Heaven Realm to explore the depths of spirit energy ley lines.

Hence, it became a shortcut for Earth Realm elites to reach Heaven Realm or pseudo-first class elites who were at the early stages of Heaven Realm to become true powerful fighters.

It was no wonder then why the experienced and mature mine explorers and hunters who had experienced hundreds of battles would be unable to help but feel delighted.

"Did you see it, everyone? Our sacrifices were worth it!" Lu Siya jumped on a crystalline Heavenly Green Bronze and swung her fist. "Our past mining experiences have told us that the crystal mines are usually in the formation of multiple types of crystals surrounding the most valuable crystal. If there are dozens of crystals and minerals gathered together, then it must be because there is a super crystal mine that has even greater spirit energy inside! That's the Red Radiance Jade mine!

"My senses won't be wrong. I can already feel a beautiful red light shining underground. The value of the Red Radiance Jade mine is definitely ten times higher than of the crystals you're seeing right now. We—'

She wanted to motivate them a little more when a mine explorer stumbled over and told them a shocking bad piece of news.

Three minutes later, everyone gathered at the brightest corner of the mine.

The vugs here blossomed as beautifully as flowers and formed an incredibly luxurious crystal throne.

And if there was not a metal plate in front of the vugs, all the people would want to sit on it to record this unbelievable sight and boast about it decades later.

But the bold words carved on the golden plate crushed all of their excitement.

[Mine Explorer Unit 122 of Universe Corporation, 25th of December, Year 55 of the New Era.]

And below it were the names of the mine explorers.

Along with them were the records of their preliminary exploration as well as the names of the crystals they had managed to identify in the mine, along with the components of the associated ores.

Universe Corporation was another major corporation that was about the same size as Sky Pillar Corporation. The two of them stood on equal grounds.

Just like Sky Pillar Corporation, soon after Dragon City transmigrated, Universe Corporation rose to power during the bloody era when societal order collapsed. They helped build the new order and were also giants who created the Survival Committee.

Universe Corporation and Sky Pillar Corporation were very similar in the road they took to become mega corporations. Both of them started off by exploring spirit energy ley lines and mining crystals.

Up to this date, the mining industry was still the core industry of these two corporations.

Naturally, if they were in the same field, they were enemies.

And the day before was the 25th of December.

The mine exploration team from Universe Corporation had been the first to discover the crystal mine.

This meant that all the excitement and delight Lu Siya and her mine exploration team experienced a moment ago turned into a colossal joke.

They had lost the right to mine the place first.

Logically speaking, unless Lu Siya's team ran into life-threatening dangers and needed the crystals to save their lives, they could not touch a single stone.

Everyone's faces instantly turned as dark as thunderclouds.

Their gazes burned with rage as if they wanted to burn the metal plate to a crisp.

Of course, all of them knew that even if they destroyed the metal plate, it was useless. The mine exploration team from Universe Corporation would have recorded the process of finding the crystal mine. They would have also taken a lot of samples and left behind a lot of evidence to prove that they were the first to discover the place.

Once they brought all the proof back to the surface, Universe Corporation would definitely not need to worry about any of the methods Sky Pillar Corporation might deploy against them.

"Damn it, we were a step late!"

"There were clearly no signs of a camp by the lake, and the two Lion Dragon Fishes wouldn't have just watched them sneak to the bottom of the lake. Just where did these bastards come from?"

"Could there be a second path leading underground?"

The group gritted their teeth, and their faces turned savage.

Lu Siya sucked in a deep breath. A flush of red rose on her pale face, showing her stubbornness.

She gritted her teeth and said, "Everyone, we haven't lost just yet!

"The mine exploration team from Universe Corporation just discovered the associate ores ahead of us. They haven't discovered the real Red Radiance Jade mine.

"Don't forget our primary goal. The value of the Red Radiance Jade mine is much higher than of these normal crystal mines.

"Right now, we're hidden from our enemy, while they've revealed themselves to us. We already know about the existence of Universe Corporation's mine exploration team, but they don't know that there is another mine exploration team that is close to them.

"Raise your spirits and let's seize every second we have. We will definitely turn the tables!"

This time, under the illumination of the dim light from the crystals, Lu Siya easily managed to boost the group's morale.

The mine exploration team continued forward based on her instincts.

The terrain of the underground cave was complex, and it was a hundred times more dangerous than the surface.

There were cracks whose end could not be seen, subsurface streams with rapid currents, small holes leading to larger holes, and sudden drops that often made them fall dozens of meters. Even if natural tunnels sometimes appeared, they were winding paths which had multiple branches. The place was like a maze.

There were also a lot of underground creatures resembling pests. They were nourished by the spirit energy ley line and evolved into monsters. They were not like the monsters on the surface, who had learned of the might of humans and knew to choose fights when they were at an advantage, and were fearless and ignorant. They kept launching attacks at the mine exploration team.

The group lost two more people while traveling further down the mine.

One of the superhumans from Sharp Blade was overrun by a wave of venomous scorpions while taking rear guard.

When his teammates saved him, the scorpions had already left multiple holes in his body and the venom caused his body to swell up so much that he turned into a black and blue meat ball. No matter how many antidotes and gene medicine they injected in him, it was useless.

The other one who perished was a mine explorer. While using a rope to cross a deep crack whose end could not be seen, he was swept down by a huge bat that lived at the ceiling of the cave. He fell into the crack, and his body could not be found.

The wings of the large bats were as sharp as blades, and they could even release infrasound at a unique frequency that interfered with the spirit energy magnetic fields created by the superhumans, which turned them into troublesome enemies.

Even the faces of the three Heaven Realm elites turned stark pale after they killed hundreds of the large bats. They were short of breath and had no spirit energy left.

Lin Chuan told Meng Chao that they were deep in the mine. There were different types of crystals here, and they created spirit energy tremors at different frequencies. When they intersected with each other, it resulted in huge interference to a superhuman's vitality magnetic field.

The higher the realm of a superhuman, the greater the interference.

For example, Lin Chuan was constantly hearing deafening booms. He could also see light spots like those in kaleidoscopes. His thoughts were a jumbled mess, and it felt as if every single brain cell of his was about to lose control. It was very difficult for him to focus, and at most, he could only bring out 30% of his fighting strength.

Instead, Meng Chao, who had just started his superhuman journey and was only a one-star superhuman, could still maintain the stability of his mental strength index and bring out 100% of his fighting strength.

Perhaps that was the reason why Lu Siya insisted on bringing a one-star superhuman for the trip.

Meng Chao secretly observed the expressions of the remaining superhumans.

He noticed that their faces were sometimes painted with rage while at other times, they would grit their teeth. Occasionally, they would smile in a crazy fashion, as if they were immersed in the dream of discovering the Red Radiance Jade min. They looked to be already hypnotized by the treasure and did not even notice it.

What Lin Chuan said was the truth.

Wealth could tempt human hearts. Even those who claimed to have transcended worldliness could not help but succumb to their desires.

Fortunately, aside from the pests and large bats, they did not run into any high-grade superbeasts along the way.

Besides, with Lu Siya using her instincts as a Spirit Sensor, Professor Ye searching for the tracks of the Blood Flowers, and the tracks left behind by Universe Corporation's mine exploration team, they never

lost their way. More signs pointing to the existence of the Red Radiance Jade mine appeared around them, and their morale remained high.

After they crossed the deep crack where the large bats resided, they trekked forward for another half an hour. Then, the area ahead of them widened up, and they reached an underground forest formed by large fungus.

They were thinner and longer than the Shriekers Meng Chao had seen in his memories. There was also moss shining faintly on them, making them look mysterious and dangerous.

Even the experienced mine explorers had never seen fungus like this before.

They should all be newly mutated species.

The group did not know whether they posed any unknown dangers.

Zhang Weiyan suggested that they camp here and rest for around six hours to recover their strength and investigate the mysterious fungus to determine whether they were poisonous, acidic, or aggressive. They could also figure out whether there were even more dangerous monsters lurking in the shadows.

But Lu Siya did not agree. "We don't have time. The mine exploration team from Universe Corporation is ahead of us by at least twelve hours. If we continue delaying matters and they discover the Red Radiance Jade mine ahead of us, the four warriors who sacrificed themselves for us will have died in vain!

"There is only one path here. The mine exploration team from Universe Corporation must have passed through these fungi, and if they could do it, we can naturally do it too. Even if we have to reorganize and rest, we'll do it after we get through this underground forest!"

Just like how she had jumped into the lake where the Lion Dragon Fish resided in the past, she once again decided to lead the charge and was the first to enter the mysterious fungi forest.

Lu Fengying jumped up. Since she faced great interference to her vitality magnetic field, she swayed as she flew in the air. Her spirit flames turned into blades that cut fiercely through the mysterious fungi.

A lot of the fungi fell because of her attacks and spewed out a lot of sticky liquid.

But aside from being slightly disgusting and sticky, the liquid was not poisonous or acidic.

Lin Chuan and Scimitar looked at each other. Then, they too flew above the underground forest. They released their attacks and cut down the mysterious fungi.

The mysterious fungi never moved. It was as if they were just giant-sized mushrooms waiting to be harvested by humans.

The group formed their battle formation and stepped into the underground forest.

As they moved between the mysterious fungi, they stepped on the sticky, pink liquid. Even so, nothing strange happened. Their hearts had been thundering in trepidation, but gradually, they calmed down.

But at that moment, the past memories in Meng Chao's head became restless. For some reason, he had a bad feeling.