

Oh My God 321

Chapter 321: Instructor Ye

“Meng Chao, hi there!”

At that moment, a gentle voice interrupted his thoughts.

Meng Chao looked up and saw a man who was not tall, had a baby face, and black hair. He was smiling while looking at him.

Meng Chao blinked. He was then certain that this was the man who had been fighting fiercely underground. Had had swung a thin saber shaped like a drying rack, delivered nearly one hundred silver glares, and whose killing intent did not lose to that of Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu.

Once he pulled his spirit energy back into his body, his hair returned to a normal shade of black. The sharp killing intent and the pressure given off by a powerful fighter were also completely gone, tucked safely in his body once more.

At that moment, he looked like a normal office worker who had just graduated and was under such a huge workload that he was tired all the time. His kind could be found in any office building and often seen ordered around by their leaders.

“Instructor Ye!” Lu Siya stood up.

“Sit down, why are you still trying to keep up a strong front? You’ve drained your spirit energy, so you need to rest, or else, you’ll end up having to deal with complications.”

Instructor Ye waved at Lu Siya before he turned back to Meng Chao and said with a smile. “Allow me to introduce myself. I’m Ye Xiaoxing from the abnormal beast research department. I’m in the information analysis sector.

“When Lu Siya received her training in the abnormal beast research department, I taught her for a period of time, so we became pretty good friends.

“I participated in the investigation of the case under the Raging Waves, back when you fought against the White Spirit and stopped the Red Radiance Jade mine from creating a large explosion.

“So, I’ve been hearing your name for a long time. I’ve been looking for a suitable chance to ask Siya to introduce us. I didn’t expect that we would end up such a pathetic sight when meeting you. I even ended up losing the clue that you managed to find after going through great trouble. The criminal actually managed to flee. It’s really... a little embarrassing!”

Ye Xiaoxing looked quite embarrassed.

Meng Chao quickly stopped him. “I was only suspecting him. I didn’t have a single clue. My suspicions cannot be considered a clue. You mobilized so many people based on just my intuition, and you even came over personally. This trust alone is enough to make me feel touched.”

Ye Xiaoxing’s smile was a little wan. “Investigating the activities of highly intelligent monsters and whether they will endanger Dragon City has always been the main job of the abnormal beast research

department. During the White Spirit Case and the case of the murderous pets in Blessed Paradise, the department did not do much. Instead, we ended up relying on you, an outsider, to turn the tides and figure out the culprit. It's a real regret of ours.

"But don't worry, Meng Chao. The abnormal beast research department won't let you down and waste the clues you found for us. We will definitely investigate Gao Ye and the organization behind him. You've also contributed to Dragon City in these two cases, so your contributions won't be buried in the shadows. You will definitely obtain the glory and rewards you should have."

Meng Chao had never expected this.

Since the White Spirit's creator had yet to appear and the case was treated as confidential because it was still under investigation, Meng Chao's contributions could not be announced completely. However, the abnormal beast research department had rewarded him a lot of monster materials, gene medicine, and a lot of treasures through Lu Siya.

He was a harvester and had a discerning eye that far surpassed the eyes of the current generation when it came to the appraisal of materials, so it was only natural that he could tell that the rewards the abnormal beast research department gave him were top-quality rare materials. They were all items that could not be bought in the market even if someone was rich.

By relying on the gene medicine and monster materials, Meng Chao could cultivate his branch meridians until all of them gave off a crystalline quality and became incredibly sturdy so that more spirit energy could instantly pass through his entire body. This would allow him to be able to release the fighting power of someone at the peak of Earth Realm, even though he was only a two-star superhumans.

He had given part of the materials to Gu Jianbo, his personal tutor. It was all so that Gu Jianbo would have a smoother time when he went into isolated training and paved his way to become the Blade Dancer.

Meng Chao knew that the abnormal beast research department was rich and did not lack money, so there was no way they would be stingy but instead would give him a shock through material items.

"Glory and rewards aren't important," he said politely. "Did Big Sis Ya tell you that I'm actually a man with big dreams and don't care for fame? I don't want any material rewards, but wish to contribute to Dragon City."

"Compared to material rewards, I'm more interested in getting into contact with information regarding highly-intelligent monsters. In fact, I would like to join the related cases and defeat all the evil beings who want to attack Dragon City. I want to get rid of all these monsters who have human intelligence and protect Dragon City's peace!"

His brave words and the pure sincerity in his eyes made Ye Xiaoxing unable to resist smiling.

"Siya has indeed mentioned it to me. She said that you're... a very different young man." Ye Xiaoxing ruffled his choppy hair. "Normally, with the regulations in the abnormal beast research department, we are not allowed to reveal a lot of insider information to normal citizens, but both the White Spirit Case and the case of the murderous pets in Blessed Paradise are related to you. You're also the last person to be in contact with Gao Ye. It's impossible for us to exclude you in the subsequent investigations."

“How about this, Meng Chao? Let’s talk about what happened today. If you don’t mind, could you begin with how you went to Drizzle Studio?”

This was the logical course of action.

Meng Chao did not hide anything. He told everything from the start to the end and mentioned all the major and trivial stuff.

Of course, he hid the fact that he dreamt of the second Supernatural Entity in his nightmare.

Ye Xiaoxing listened to him patiently. Unless it was absolutely necessary, he did not interrupt Meng Chao.

When he tossed out a few questions, all of them hit the core of the case, so they helped Meng Chao clear up his story and narrate it more accurately.

They talked until it was late at night, and even then, they felt like they could continue talking.

“How about this, Meng Chao?” Ye Xiaoxing had admiration in his eyes when he looked at Meng Chao. “Both you and Siya have spent much energy during the fight today, so both of you need to rest and recuperate.

“As for me, I need to investigate some clues and apply for greater authority before I can carry out subsequent operations as well as reveal even more important information to you.

“I hope that you can keep what you experienced today a secret for the time being. Once we have some clues, we’ll ask for your help.”

Investigating the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities was Meng Chao’s goal, so he agreed to it readily.

After Ye Xiaoxing left, Lu Siya looked at him with delight. “Instructor Ye seems to be really impressed with you.”

“I’m a good young man who doesn’t care for fame or profit and just wants to contribute to society. I’ve always been admired by people. But you seemed to be really respectful of him just now. Is Instructor Ye really powerful?”

“He’s the person-in-charge of the information analysis sector in the abnormal beast research department. Of course he’s great,” Lu Siya explained. “The abnormal beast research department is divided into more than ten operation teams based on the administrative regions in Dragon City. Each team is in charge of one region. For example, these firefighters belong to the special duty operations team in Nine Sands Region.

“The information analysis sector is tasked to handle all the cases that seem to be related to abnormal beasts.

“Most of the cases end up being false alarms at the end. They’re either the doings of evil superhumans or normal monsters causing damage to the area.

“But a handful of cases are usually masterminded by abnormal beasts with incredibly high intelligence and malicious motives. They pose a major threat to Dragon City’s safety.

“The information analysis sector is the core sector in the abnormal beast research department. They are not deployed under normal circumstances, but once they are, they’re usually involved in major cases.

“So, the information analysis sector doesn’t only contain amazing fighters with outstanding abilities. They also have the authority to mobilize the manpower and resources of the special duty forces in the various regions.

“Since he is in charge of such a department, he’s definitely not someone you can easily befriend on the street.”

“I see,” Meng Chao said. “You actually managed to get someone so great to come? Looks like you’re pretty respected.”

Lu Siya shook her head. “It’s not because I’m respected. Of course, it’s not because you’re respected either. After I told Instructor Ye about the situation, he immediately made the judgment that you’re right. There was something wrong with Spirit Creation Creatures, so that’s why we rushed over himself. But unfortunately, we were still half a step too late.

“If we had been slightly earlier or Instructor Ye’s brother could have come, then it would have been different!”

She seemed to find the situation really regretful.

“Who is his brother?”

“He’s a true elite,” Lu Siya said. “Do you remember how we found an Apocalyptic Beast that resembled a mammoth when we fled from under Raging Waves? That creature had its head split open by a long and thin saber, or you could say, a large embroidery needle, right? It had died in one hit, remember?”

Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath and said, “Of course I remember. That’s the most unbelievable wound I’ve seen in my life.”

“The one who killed that Apocalyptic Beast is Instructor Ye’s brother, Broken Sword Ye Xiaoyue, a Deity Realm elite,” Lu Siya said. “He is really amazing. It’s said that he has the record for the longest time fighting alone in the wild, but the decades of fighting have left him crippled, and his disabilities are even worse than Gao Ye’s.

“But with some unimaginable secret technique, he relied on his handicapped body to release matchless vitality magnetic fields and became a pillar of strength in the northern frontlines.

“Unfortunately, he is far from handsome and is eccentric. He’s a sword maniac who cares about nothing else but the art of the sword. He spends a lot of time in isolated training in the Supernatural Tower to prevent himself from going through spirit energy deviation, so it’s not suitable for him to promote himself in a flashy manner. That’s why he’s not very famous.

“But the people in the field know that Broken Sword Ye Xiaoyue is one of the top fighters in Dragon City.

“Instructor Ye’s best skill is his ability to analyze information, and he has a brother who can cover up for anything he lacks in terms of fighting power. That’s why he became an important person in the abnormal beast research department.

“He might seem like your average person, but that’s not true. You left a good impression today, so it’ll be highly beneficial for us when trying to get in touch with more core secrets and participating in the subsequent investigation of the White Spirit Case.”

Chapter 322: Two Coattails

Meng Chao was not interested in the benefits Lu Siya mentioned, but getting to know more important people like Ye Xiaoxing was good.

When he returned to Agricultural University, it was already next morning. The news had already spread out, and the students were talking in the cafeteria.

All they knew was that a major accident had happened in Spirit Creation Creatures’ lab and there might be poisonous biochemicals spilling out, which was why the entire area had been blocked off.

There was no mention of Gao Ye turning into the Ultimate Sandworm.

Meng Chao only cared about burying his head in food. When he heard Xie Feng and the other students who were “up-to-date” with the news ramble on about “insider information” they heard from somewhere, he smiled. He did not have the heart to bring out the truth to boast about it.

Over the next few days, he paid constant attention to news about Spirit Creation Creatures.

From the news, he learned that the research center of Spirit Creation Creatures suffered great damage, and Gao Ye, the person-in-charge of the labs, had unfortunately died in the accident. The construction deal for Subway No.20 would be up for bidding again.

Meng Chao could not help but sigh a little.

Since he had not stopped this in his previous life, Gao Ye’s plan must have succeeded partially.

The construction deal for Subway No.20 would have given Spirit Creation Creatures enough resources for him to fulfill his insane dream and turn into an Ultimate Sandworm that was even more terrifying than the one Meng Chao met earlier. It was the real Supernatural Entity.

If Meng Chao were to be honest with himself, he did not completely disagree with Gao Ye’s beliefs.

The placing of a human’s consciousness eternally in a monster’s shell was definitely a crazy and treasonous thought to the current Dragon Citizens.

But to Meng Chao, who had witnessed the arrival of the Apocalypse, survival was all that mattered. As long as he could continue living, it did not matter how his body looked.

“Live! Continue living! Like a cockroach!”

These were the words that the instructor with the black skull had constantly yelled into his ears in Ghost Tribe’s training camp.

The twenty-year-old Meng Chao might not agree with these words, but the broken soul that returned from the apocalypse had them branded in its broken soul, regardless of whether it was done willingly or not.

Unfortunately...

'Gao Ye failed in my previous life. No matter how "noble" his ideals were, how "great" his spirit of self-sacrifice, how "amazing" the consciousness transferring technology, he couldn't bring his ideal to fruition. Normal people and superhumans did not come to live together in harmony and did not conquer the Other World.

'Instead, he and his comrades kept on stirring internal conflict in Dragon City, which diminished our fighting strength and the Monster War dragged out. Dragon City then walked out of the "rookie village" severely wounded and could not avoid its destruction.

'Madness wasn't your problem, Gao Ye. Being weak is your undoing. That's why I have to stop you!'

Meng Chao looked forward to meeting Ye Xiaoxing again.

When he ran into the abnormal beast research department again, he received a piece of good news... No, more accurately, he received three pieces of good news.

First, his personal tutor, Gu Jianbo, had finally understood a deeper meaning of the Ultimate Style after entering isolated training for half a year and managed to become stronger by reaching Spirit Gaze Realm and becoming a five-star superhuman.

In this life, Gu Jianbo cured his internal injuries in time and Meng Chao had memories from the future to make minor adjustments to the experiment and the steps to practice the Ultimate Style. He had also shared a lot of gene medicine from the abnormal beast research department, which helped Gu Jianbo refine the 1,024 branch meridians in his body and bring out the glory of the Blade Dancer a few years earlier than in Meng Chao's previous life.

At Spirit Gaze Realm, a superhuman could move their consciousness into their limbs and organs. Then, with an incredibly profound method, they could observe the pulse of their organs and even cells. They could be meticulous and stimulate special cells and nerves to activate unbelievable power.

Once someone became a five-star superhuman, they were considered to be one of the first-class fighters and could start aiming for the peak, where the strongest were.

Based on Meng Chao's understanding, Gu Jianbo was a true martial arts genius. He would definitely not stay a five-star superhuman for long. In a year and a half's time at most, he would definitely reach Spirit Armor Realm and become a six-star superhuman. He might even be able to make up for the regrets of his previous life and reach the legendary Deity Realm.

As his officially known eldest disciple, Meng Chao could now be considered to be riding on Gu Jianbo's golden coattails.

The second piece of good news was that a day before Gu Jianbo emerged from isolated training, Griffin Li Yingzi became a six-star superhuman and turned into an elite at the peak of Heaven Realm.

Li Yingzi's talent should be just as great as Gu Jianbo's.

She was an ace lecturer in Agricultural University's martial arts course, and there was a high possibility that she would take over Black Tortoise Zong Yue's legacy over the course of the next ten years and become the person who would manage Agricultural University's martial arts course.

She had fought for some time in the northern offense, so when Meng Chao helped the Red Radiance Jade bring benefits to all the people in the area, Li Yingzi had also obtained her blessing. After she returned to Agricultural University, her beast soul fusion technology started showing signs of reaching perfection, and she soon managed to reach the strongest realm under Deity Realm.

Originally, Griffin Li Yingzi did not have much of a connection to Meng Chao.

There was a period of time when she had a hostile look on her face whenever she saw him because he had publicly refused to come under her tutelage when she offered the chance to him during the freshmen admission course and tricked her into taking off Gu Jianbo's trousers.

But Meng Chao was the person who had helped her get back together with Gu Jianbo.

The third piece of good news was that both of them had shamelessly gone to the civil registry office to get their marriage certificate after they reached a new realm.

Gu Jianbo and Li Yingzi did not host a grand wedding.

They only invited Black Tortoise, Dean Zong Yue of Agricultural University's martial arts course, and a few of the lecturers they were close with, and ate a simple meal together.

Among the students, only Meng Chao was invited.

If he had not shamelessly insisted on following Gu Jianbo, it would have been impossible for the Ultimate Style to have become known so swiftly. It would have also been impossible for the pair to have cleared their misunderstandings if he had not used such a brutish method.

When the two of them took the red marriage certificate in their hands, they remembered what Meng Chao had done and found it unbelievable. This kid seemed to have fallen from the heavens to give them a blessing and insisted on getting them back together.

From that day onwards, Meng Chao could openly call Li Yingzi his master's wife and ride on her coattails in an upright manner.

His personal tutor was a five-star superhuman who led a new trend in the martial arts.

His tutor's wife was one of the youngest fighters at the peak of Heaven Realm in Dragon City.

Both of them had endless potential and high hopes of reaching Deity Realm.

With these two golden coattails under his feet, Meng Chao felt that aside from the Supernatural Tower and the women's toilet, he could go wherever he wanted in all of Dragon City. He became even more confident in securing the cooperation with the adjudicator court and the abnormal beast research department.

Some day half a month later, Lu Siya finally obtained information from Ye Xiaoxing regarding the newest development regarding the White Spirit Case and the Spirit Creation Creatures Case. He wanted to talk to Meng Chao.

"I heard that Instructor Ye took the lead and gathered the elites in the abnormal beast research department. He also brought a few of the fighters from society who have amazing skills to form a special

operations squad to investigate the White Spirit and Gao Ye,” Lu Siya said. “If you’re really interested in this matter, you must seize this chance.”

Over the half a month, Meng Chao had tried searching for information about the Supernatural Entities online, but he found none.

The progress for the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities was also stuck at 18%.

If there was a special group that could help him solve the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities, it would be a good thing.

But that night, Meng Chao wanted to meet a person in the hospital first.

It was Xie Xiaolei.

When he saw Xie Xiaolei lying in a lavish single ward in the hospital, Meng Chao was shocked.

A month ago, President Xie was still handsome, elegant, and full of high spirits, but now, he looked like a living skeleton who blended with the bed.

Not only did he look withered away, most of his hair had fallen off. He was completely different from the last time Meng Chao had seen him.

Meng Chao was shocked for a long time and did not dare to say anything. ‘When Lu Siya saved Xie Xiaolei, Gao Ye had yet to kill him. He was only a little shocked, so how did he end up like this?’

But he immediately thought about it from another angle. Xie Xiaolei had wanted to use the construction deal of Subway No.20 to reach the peak of his life and was full of high spirits.

However, his partner suddenly became corrupted and turned into a terrifying worm that destroyed the entire research center.

Now, forget about Subway No.20. It was highly likely that he had lost all his other deals as well.

Even if someone else would be willing to work with him, he did not have the core technology in his hands, because he had been focused on operating and promoting the company. He could not just start anew.

To someone as ambitious as Xie Xiaolei, such a heavy blow was the same as falling from heaven to earth

It was no wonder why he looked so dejected and like a walking corpse.

When he saw Meng Chao, Xie Xiaolei forced himself to summon some energy and struggled to sit up on his bed. He said that he had learned from the related departments that Meng Chao had persisted in investigating the whole matter and arrived in time to save him. Because of it, he had even nearly been killed by Gao Ye after he turned into the Ultimate Sandworm.

No amount of money could express his gratitude to Meng Chao for saving his life.

Unfortunately, right now, Spirit Creation Creatures’ reputation was down in the dumps. He was having a hard time protecting even himself. He did not know how he should thank Meng Chao.

He paused for a moment before he asked Meng Chao whether Superstar still intended to work with Spirit Creation Creatures.

Meng Chao said that there was no need for Xie Xiaolei to thank him. He had always been a considerate person who loved contributing to society. He longed to fight against evil forces and save hundreds of innocent citizens, so Xie Xiaolei was just another one of them he saved.

He knew that Gao Ye's corruption had nothing to do with Xie Xiaolei, so he was naturally willing to continue working with him, but Spirit Creation Creatures had suffered a huge blow and had to face the related departments' endless investigations. No one knew when they could go back to its business, so how were they even going to begin "working together"?

Xie Xiaolei was silent for a while, and the light of someone struggling to survive shone in his eyes. "Spirit Creation Creatures is going to sell a batch of assets. Would Superstar be interested in buying them?"

"What?" Meng Chao was unable to understand what Xie Xiaolei meant.

"Meng Chao, you're currently a super freshman from Agricultural University and have great power. You have more connections than many veteran elites who have been working in society for years," Xie Xiaolei said. "With your current resources, don't you think that it's a real waste for you to just purely gather and recover monster materials?"

"Why don't you consider taking in some of Spirit Creation Creatures' businesses and its research team so Superstar may become a mega corporation that does everything in the monster production chain, including gathering, recovering, researching, and gene editing?"

Chapter 323: Swallowing a Dinosaur

Meng Chao stared at Xie Xiaolei for a long time before he asked uncertainly, "President Xie, are you joking?"

Xie Xiaolei's smile was bitter. "Do I look like I'm in the mood to joke around? That bastard Gao Ye dealt a huge blow to Spirit Creation Creatures. Not only did he destroy the research center we've built through much hardship over the years and blew the construction deal for Subway No.20, the most crucial thing is that he completely destroyed the trust we had in the eyes of the public and the government!

"Biochemical modification has always been a very sensitive industry. If you don't have complete trust in monstrous-looking biochemical beasts working obediently, it'll be difficult for you to accept them.

"Now that a lunatic, monster, and traitor has come out of Spirit Creation Creatures, it's the same as us being blacklisted twice in the government and public's eyes. It'll now be difficult for us to do any business or research.

"If we don't want to declare bankruptcy right away, the only choice we have is to have someone take over this problem."

"Is that so?" Meng Chao thought about it. "There are still plenty of rich and powerful corporations in the biochemical modification field, right? I believe that they would be interested in buying Spirit Creation Creatures or at the very least, part of your company's assets."

"I don't want to look for those big companies," Xie Xiaolei shook his head. "We have yet to fully investigate Gao Ye's matter, and Spirit Creation Creatures is a really problematic baggage. Even if those big companies would be interested in taking over, they would offer a very low price.

"And when I say price, I don't mean money. To me, money isn't a problem. Even if the company goes bankrupt immediately, I have ways to ensure that I can live the rest of my life comfortably.

"But it's just not my ideal life to shoulder a tainted reputation and live the rest of my life with no excitement whatsoever. I'm not even forty yet, damn it!

"I hope that Spirit Creation Creatures can continue existing in a relatively independent manner. Even if we're no longer known as Spirit Creation Creatures, it's fine. I don't mind it as long as it can continue existing.

"But this is practically impossible if I work with a large company. They will tear Spirit Creation Creatures to shreds, like how hyenas tear apart antelopes. With you, though, I think that we can work in a rather equal fashion and that you will allow my company to retain its basic dignity and independence."

"Is that so?" Meng Chao sank into deep thought.

"Of course. Our research center might have been destroyed, but even when a skilled person is struck with hardships, he's still better than someone with no skill, right? Everyone from our research team besides Gao Ye is still around. This group of experienced biochemical experts is a huge piece of treasure.

"Besides being able to help Superstar reach new heights, they can also be beneficial for your cultivation," Xie Xiaolei said. "Think about it. They're dozens of experienced specialists who you can use as your personal cultivation consultants. They can customize a cultivation plan solely for you and search for secrets in your cells and genes. How much faster would your cultivation then become?"

Meng Chao was tempted. "Are all the researchers in your company... not planning to leave?"

He had thought that Spirit Creation Creatures was going to collapse after it went through such a catastrophe.

And when a tree fell, all its occupants would leave. The researchers had no reason to fall together with Spirit Creation Creatures, right?

"Where can they go after they leave Spirit Creation Creatures?" Xie Xiaolei sighed. "Meng Chao, you know what happened. They definitely helped Gao Ye create that Ultimate Sandworm. Even though I can swear with my life that they didn't know anything about Gao Ye's plan, which was also confirmed by the results of the investigation, at the end of the day, they still indirectly helped Gao Ye with his crimes!

"Now, they're being kept in isolation for investigation, but even if the investigation ends, this matter will turn into a stain they can never erase from their resume.

"With it around, even if they join other biochemical modification companies, do you think that they will be able to get in touch with the main projects and continue to stay at the top of the industry?"

"The ones who are only of average talent may be willing to become nameless researchers for the rest of their lives, and that's fine, but I personally recruited most of them. They're all the best graduates from Agricultural University and all of them are prideful people.

“They hope to have a few achievements related to their name and will not tolerate having this sort of stain getting in the way of their life. They won’t stand for other people looking at them differently and living the rest of their lives achieving nothing.

“That’s why they’re not willing to leave. They will grit their teeth and persevere until the day Spirit Creation Creatures rises back to power.”

“Got it.” Meng Chao nodded slowly. “Honestly speaking, Spirit Creation Creatures was in the limelight in the biochemical modification circle. It has a lot of technology, experience, and businesses. Even if Gao Ye dealt you a heavy blow, the remaining assets are still a very tempting slice of pie.

“But I know myself. Superstar is just a small company that was created last year. Since its creation, we have been focusing on low-grade or middle-grade harvesting jobs. We’ve never been in touch with biochemical modifications before. Also, our company is still small. We can’t compare to Spirit Creation Creatures in terms of our capital or resources. This pie is too big and greasy. We can’t eat it.”

“During the start of the year, didn’t you take in Prosperous? You did beautifully when you ate that giant. It was basically a classic, stereotypical case described in textbooks,” Xie Xiaolei said.

“That’s different.” Meng Chao shook his head. “Superstar had broken free from Prosperous, so we were connected to each other. We were competing in the same area, so we understood our tasks very well. I also share a good personal relationship with Prosperous former owner, President Qin. We are ready to sacrifice our lives for each other. All these factors were like blessings, and it’s what brought about this deal.

“Spirit Creation Creatures is far larger than Prosperous. If I try to merge with you, I won’t be trying to eat a giant, I’d be eating a dinosaur.

“President Xie, forgive me for being blunt, but you’re just acting in desperation. I want to help you, but Superstar can’t give Spirit Creation Creatures a lot of things.”

“No, you can.” Xie Xiaolei insisted. “At the very least, you can bring one thing to Spirit Creation Creatures—trust.”

Meng Chao decided to listen to him quietly.

“I told you just now that the most fatal blow to Spirit Creation Creatures from Gao Ye’s betrayal is not Gao Ye leaving and not the reduction of our current businesses, but the loss of trust. The government’s trust is the most important, because the northern frontlines is going to be developed now, and we’ll also be launching major counterattacks in the eastern, western, and southern frontlines. If we want to get any deals, we must have trust from the government,” Xie Xiaolei explained.

“Based on what I know, the Red Dragon Army is planning to form a solo monster army. They’ll be using modified biochemical beasts to fight against normal monsters and open up the eastern, western, and southern frontlines. If we want to take this business, it’s impossible without trust.

“Spirit Creation Creatures has received major damage and its reputation was stained. It no longer has the ability to exist alone. The only way for it to continue existing is by affiliating itself to a powerful fighter that the government trusts completely. It would be best if they were a hero everyone knows, since only then could we take our time to wash away the stain and rebuild the trust.”

Meng Chao started laughing. "President Xie, your analysis is correct, but I'm not a powerful fighter the government trusts completely and a hero known to the public!"

"You're too humble, Meng Chao." Xie Xiaolei smiled faintly.

While talking, he gradually regained his spirit and some of the elegance of the president who planned all the operations of the company. "First, you performed outstandingly during the northern offense and contributed under Raging Waves. Even though your contributions have not been announced publicly due to them being classified information, I know of them from different channels. Plenty of strong people and people from all forces of power are impressed with you.

"Second, you have been involved in the case of the murderous pets in Blessed Paradise from the start to the end. You're the last person to have talked to Gao Ye as well, and you too spoke for a long time. If the related departments try to understand the event clearly, they cannot exclude you from the case. In other words, there's a good chance you'll get in contact with the secret hid by Gao Ye. It's impossible for the related departments to not trust you.

"Third, your personal tutor, Gu Jianbo, has just become a five-star superhuman, and he stirred up the trend by releasing the Ultimate Style. Anyone with a discerning eye can tell that the Ultimate Style can challenge the Overkill Style. It's already showing signs of becoming the leader of all martial arts aside from the Overkill Style.

"You're Gu Jianbo's personal student, so not only do you receive lessons from him, your relationship is much tighter when compared to usual teacher-student relationships. You're going to be the person who will take over Gu Jianbo's legacy in the future and become the head of the Ultimate Style. I believe that you won't stay a two-star superhuman for long, either.

"Besides, Mr. Gu just got married. His wife is another powerful person in Agricultural University's martial arts course, Griffin Li Yingzi. As long as their relationship remains strong, this married couple's authority will be incredibly high in Agricultural University's martial arts course.

"You share a really good relationship with Agricultural University's resource course as well. Elder Ning worked with Agricultural University's resource course to form the Fire Relayer Foundation, and you're deeply involved in it as well.

"In other words, you basically have all the resources of the powerful courses in Agricultural University.

"The biochemical modification circle is not big, but it's not small either. It's formed mainly of people from Agricultural University. Even the biochemical experts in the government are mostly our seniors or juniors. As long as you have Agricultural University's trust, you basically have the government's trust as well.

"I also heard that you have a good relationship with Yan Organization. The Red Dragon Army has announced that they will research Ripple Force V3 together with Yan Organization and turn it to the primary force execution technique for the grassroots forces. By the looks of it, Yan Organization will be working with the military from now on.

“But even more importantly, you saved my life. Instead of tearing apart Spirit Creation Creatures and feeding it to the hungry hyenas, I would much prefer to benefit you. It would be my way of repaying you.

“After considering this problem for half a month, this is the only way I could think of to save Spirit Creation Creatures. Don’t you think it will work?”

Chapter 324: Seize A Rare Chance

Xie Xiaolei was frank and sincere in his words.

His main point was that Spirit Creation Creatures’ brand was ruined. If they wanted to make a comeback, they had to get a clean brand to put on themselves.

But he did not want to lose his control over Spirit Creation Creatures, so he did not want to get affiliated with some mega corporation.

If they joined Superstar, they would lose some immediate benefits, but would retain a chance to rise from the ashes.

Of course, to Meng Chao, this trade was not a loss.

Right now, no matter how Superstar developed its business, it would be stuck in the field of harvesting monster materials. It was a field that did not require a high skill level and where competition was very fierce.

This was especially the case since the northern offense. To target the lack of harvesters, many of the businesses, including Agricultural University, set up night schools and training classes to quickly train up low-grade harvesters.

They had rather crude skills, but their fees were also really low.

Many of the resource recovery companies were going all out to hire people, which created a price war, so Superstar’s profit was much lower than they had anticipated.

Middle-grade and high-grade superbeasts like Hell Beasts and Apocalyptic Beasts did not often end up in Superstar’s hands.

They could not handle the difficult monsters, but they did not want to be stuck harvesting low-grade monsters either. Hence, there was a hidden problem in Superstar’s development.

In a few years’ time, the Monster War would come to an end. To solve the problem of tens of millions of people’s employment and development, Dragon City would definitely not stop and launch the colonization war.

At that time, Superstar would die, because it only knew how to harvest monsters.

They had to be in control of necessary skills and set up their plan ahead to ride the tides.

Xie Xiaolei’s suggestion was basically the same as him handing Meng Chao a free lunch.

There were naturally risks that came with it, however.

Xie Xiaolei was an ambitious person who had a lot of tricks up his sleeves and Spirit Creation Creatures was too big for Superstar.

If Meng Chao were the slightest bit careless, their cooperation would end up with Xie Xiaolei supplanting him, and he would have done something as stupid as inviting an enemy into his abode.

But as long as his strength continued increasing and the coattails he was riding on remained strong, the chances of this happening were not high.

If Meng Chao had no knowledge of the future, he might have rejected Xie Xiaolei's offer just to avoid any unnecessary danger.

After all, with Superstar's current state, it was enough for his family to live comfortably for the rest of their lives.

But since he knew that the apocalypse was around the corner, he had to gamble everything he had time and again to expand his power so that he could influence Dragon City's development.

Compared to the survival of Dragon City, being in control of Superstar was insignificant.

After coming to this conclusion, Meng Chao said, "I need to think about this carefully. But President Xie, you need to be prepared for the worst. I'm not part of the real operations of Superstar. My father and President Qin might be among the shareholders, but Elder Ning, Yan Organization, and Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu are among our shareholders. Recently, a company under Sky Pillar Organization has also begun working with us. This is an important matter, and I can't make the call alone.

"Besides, even if we're as thick as thieves, it's useless. Right now, Spirit Creation Creatures is still under investigation. Who knows when you'll be released? We don't know whether you will be allowed to break down your company to sell it either."

"Got it. But the fact that you'll consider it is enough for me." Xie Xiaolei smiled with confidence. "Don't worry. As long as both parties have the will, the government will do its best to make the cooperation work. You're worried that Superstar does not have enough capital and skill to merge with Spirit Creation Creatures, right? Don't worry about that. The government will think of a way to solve it. All the industries in the biochemical modification field will help you."

Meng Chao was stunned. "Why?"

"It's simple. Gao Ye's betrayal doesn't just affect Spirit Creation Creatures, but the entire biochemical modification field," Xie Xiaolei explained. "Look. Once the truth of this matter comes out, not only will Spirit Creation Creatures face the threat of destruction, the entire biochemical modification field, countless genetic editing companies, biotechnology industries, and our beloved Agricultural University will suffer a huge blow.

"The runic symbol machines faction will regain the upper hand, then. This is something that the biochemical modification faction will not just watch happen without doing anything.

"Right now, the most important thing for us to do is solve this problem as soon as possible so that it will not fester. It's fine even if Spirit Creation Creatures loses the construction deal for Subway No.20. I'm

fine with letting any other biochemical modification company take it, but we can't let it fall into the hands of the runic symbol machines faction.

"So, you should talk about this with your tutor and the higher-ups in Agricultural University. Trust me, you'll get the green light in all areas, and they'll provide you with various resources. This is a once in a blue moon chance, so you must seize it!"

"I will." Meng Chao nodded.

Strategies in the business field were not his field of expertise.

But he could ask a lot of people for advice, like Qin Hu, Ning Shewo, Yan Hengbo, and Lu Siya. Of course, he could also go through Gu Jianbo and ask Black Tortoise Zong Yue.

If he could get the support from the various leaders in the field, he might actually be able to swallow the dinosaur.

Once they were done with serious matters, the two men relaxed and started chatting.

Of course, the moment they started, their topic couldn't help but stray to Gao Ye.

"That bastard... I've been friends with him for more than ten years, so how could he attack me?" Xie Xiaolei sighed sadly. "He's mad. The viruses invaded his brain and he went through a complete spirit energy deviation. How could I not tell? I should have been able to tell. I should have been able to tell a long time ago that he's a complete lunatic!"

This caught Meng Chao's interest. "What's wrong? Did Gao Ye often do something shocking?"

"Yes!" Xie Xiaolei gritted his teeth. "He's a cultivation maniac and a mad scientist. When he was still in Agricultural University, he spent entire days going only to the labs and the cultivation rooms. He didn't even go to the cafeteria often. I was the one who brought him his food every day and he just took a few bites in some corner of the lab.

"After graduation, he got his own lab, and it became worse. Not only did he sleep at the lab, he also conducted all sorts of crazy experiments. Because of bacteria spilling out and the drugs rushing into him, he turned into something that resembled neither a human nor a ghoul. From that moment onwards, he had already turned into a monster!"

Meng Chao could not help but laugh. "President Xie, there are plenty of powerful people who are also cultivation maniacs. That's not exactly shocking behavior."

"Well then, there's another thing." Xie Xiaolei drew closer. He had a mysterious look on his face as he said, "Due to an accident in his experiment, Gao Ye was heavily injured. He suffered disabilities from it and his organs were damaged. He had to deal with endless neuropathic pain.

"To repair his organs and reduce the pain, he had to stay in the hospital for a few days every month to receive treatment.

"With Spirit Creation Creatures' financial power, we could send him to a quiet, private hospital for his treatment, but he never went. He insisted on going to a hellhole that is a government hospital!"

Meng Chao was slightly stunned. "It... is a hellhole?"

"Of course. Let's talk about their suite ward. They don't have an air ventilation system, so the air here is the same as in low-grade wards. I can even smell the scent of rot," Xie Xiaolei grumbled. "If I had a choice, I would never stay here!"

Meng Chao looked around.

Even though it was a single ward, the air and environment were indeed not comparable to the VIP suite wards in Feng Shui Medical Center.

Xie Xiaolei was kept in isolation to be investigated. The abnormal beast research department placed him here, and there were two stoic, large, and built men standing guard outside the door. Xie Xiaolei could, thus, not do as he pleased and nitpick loudly.

"I wouldn't have minded him going to a government hospital to receive treatment, but at the very least, he should have stayed in a single ward, right?" Xie Xiaolei asked. "But Gao Ye refused it. I don't know what's wrong with his head. Every month, when he was admitted to a hospital, he insisted on staying in a low-grade ward, which has the worst possible environment. It's the type where more than ten people stay in a single room. No matter how I tried to convince him otherwise, he refused to change wards.

"He told me that he's spent too much time in the lab where he faces cold research equipment or monstrous-looking biochemical beasts. He has to be in touch with normal people and breathe in the scent of the world. But this is a hospital we're talking about! I've seen those low-grade wards with more than ten people inside. Those places aren't for people. Scent of the world? Bah! He's absolutely nuts!"

"Something like that happened?"

Meng Chao remembered how he had often accompanied his mother to the hospital for her physiotherapy, and she had stayed in a ward with more than ten people.

He knew what sort of environment it had.

It was not as if Gao Ye did not have money. He had a lot of Spirit Creation Creatures shares and had developed all sorts of tech, which he had personally patented. He did not spend much usually either, so why would he do this to torment himself?

Meng Chao could not understand it.

Xie Xiaolei continued bitterly rebuking Gao Ye's actions for a while more.

After some time, Meng Chao got up to bid farewell.

"By the way, President Xie." When he reached the door, he suddenly remembered something Gao Ye had mentioned before and asked casually, "Let's say, hypothetically, Spirit Creation Creatures really has the chance to rise from the ashes and you manage to turn it into a mega corporation with a lot of power and wealth. Once you have an astronomical amount of money in your hands, what will you do with that wealth?"

"Of course I'm going to buy cultivation resources and reach Deity Realm!" Xie Xiaolei blurted out without thinking.

Meng Chao nodded and followed up with another question. "What if you really manage to reach Deity Realm. What are you going to do next?"

"If I reach Deity Realm, I'll be in control of more resources, and I'll develop Spirit Creation Creatures even more. I might even expand the company throughout all of the Other World."

Xie Xiaolei became excited. He paused for a moment and added. "Of course, if we can really end up with a full-on cooperation, it would be Superstar expanding throughout the Other World. I don't care about superficial reputation. I just want to enjoy the feeling of expansion."

"What then?" Meng Chao insisted with his line of questioning. "Let's say you manage to expand the company all over the Other World. What are you going to do after that?"

"Then... I'll definitely accumulate more resources and reach a higher realm," Xie Xiaolei said matter-of-factly.

"But you've already reached Deity Realm."

"That's nothing. Deity Realm is not the end. There's no limit to life." Xie Xiaolei's eyes shone, and he said with longing on his face, "Isn't that the dream of all superhumans? To see the world behind Deity Realm?"

Meng Chao's lips moved. He really wanted to say 'At the very least, that's not Gao Ye's dream', but he held it back.

While thinking about it, he pushed the door open and left without turning his head back.

Chapter 325: Professor of Sandworms

Meng Chao did not return home immediately.

For some reason he could not fathom, he went down the stairs and visited the other wards.

He was in an inpatient building with more than fifty floors. The top two floors were suite wards. They had television, fridges, couches, living rooms, attached bathrooms, and bathing equipment. Aside from the faint smell of antiseptic, they were not that much different compared to a hotel room.

If he went downwards from the forty-eighth floor, all the wards he saw were normal wards from different departments.

But the normal wards were also divided into different grades.

The single wards were expensive. Even though they had no fridges, couches, and living rooms, they had their own attached bathrooms.

There were also double wards and triple wards. These could ensure the patients' basic dignity.

But most of them were six-people wards, eight-people wards, and ten-people wards.

Theoretically speaking, ten-people wards should be the limit.

But after Dragon City transmigrated, all forms of matter were no longer stable. Due to cells mutating and new viruses, there were a lot more people infected by all sorts of diseases compared to the time they were on Earth.

The invasion of monsters also caused all sorts of secondary disasters, such as houses collapsing, fires, corrosive gases burning the lungs, and other things. It led to the government hospitals being filled to the brim.

The standard ten-people wards were usually stuffed full with twenty or thirty people until they were like sardines in a barrel.

Some of the patients were in dire need of a bed, but had no space in a ward, so the hospital could only put beds in the corridors or stairwells. But this was something only done if they begged for it and had certain connections.

It was the time when visitors were allowed, so Meng Chao casually went to a floor and entered it.

There were temporary beds on both sides of the narrow corridor. The wrinkled sheets had skeletal bodies, and even if there was a thick scent of antiseptic in the air, it could not hide the smell of death and decay.

A married couple dressed in simple clothes were at the nurses' station. They were discussing something with distressed expressions.

Meng Chao listened to them. Apparently, their child was very ill and there were no longer any beds in the cheapest ten-people ward. There was one bed left in a single ward, but it was expensive, and they could not claim insurance for it. As the nurses urged them to make their decision, they calculated the medical fees and hospitalization costs.

The door to a ten-people ward was by the nurses' station.

Meng Chao swept a glance inside through the open door and noticed that even though the ten-people ward was really cramped, it was divided into around thirty small cubicles with curtains. It was like a hornet's nest.

Both men and women stayed in it.

The moans of the patients, the sounds of them excreting, the stench of rotting blood and flesh as well as excretion, and the cries as well as sighs from the family members gathered together into a wave that the curtains could not block, and it came charging at Meng Chao.

Some of the patients and their family members had even given up on preserving their dignity. They did not even bother closing the curtains completely and Meng Chao could see the strange-looking bodies. Some of them were handicapped or looked even more hideous than monsters.

Meng Chao shut his eyes and sucked in a deep breath of the foul-smelling air. It stimulated his nerves and stirred up memories of his past.

Humans were forgetful creatures.

Meng Chao had accompanied his mother to a hospital a lot of times. If they had to be admitted, his mother always insisted on staying in a ten-people ward despite all their protests.

So Meng Chao was very familiar with the environment. He had even stayed in one of such wards before.

However, once he awakened to supernatural powers, he had the power to send his mother to Feng Shui Medical Center. In just half a year, he got used to life with clean windows, fresh air, nurses being polite and patient, doctors being elegant and gentle, and an environment full of people who exercised professional behavior.

The memories from the ten years before that gradually disappeared because of it. When someone mentioned a hospital to him, Meng Chao now thought of Feng Shui Medical Center, or at the very least, a suite room like the one in which Xie Xiaolei was staying.

It was only when he stood there, his nostrils filled with the breaths exhaled by dozens of patients, his ears listened to the sound of family members arguing with nurses, patients peeing and farting behind the curtains, and heard moans and weeping did he remember the past. Most of the hospitals in Dragon City were like this.

‘Gao Ye... Is this the world you wanted to carve into your memory?’

Meng Chao had all sorts of complicated emotions in his heart while he quietly thought about Gao Ye’s psychological state.

Perhaps Gao Ye was right.

Humans were never born equal.

Life was not some invaluable treasure, either.

Human lives and dignity could be measured, and the scale was pretty accurate.

Once someone applied for reimbursement for a ten-people ward, the hospitalization fee would be around 24 dollars a day.

If it were a six-people ward, it was around 52 dollars a day.

The price for double wards and single wards went up to more than 200 dollars.

And the price for suite wards like Xie Xiaolei’s was 2,550 dollars per day.

The VIP rooms in Feng Shui Medical Center were naturally even more expensive.

If you deducted 24 from 52, you had 28.

If you deducted 24 from 2,550, you had 2,526.

This meant that the value of human dignity fluctuated between 28 dollars to 2,526 dollars.

The amount of money you were willing to fork out represented the amount of dignity you would receive.

As they sped up their actions to conquer the Other World and the cultivation system got perfected, the strong would continuously break the limits and the difference between people would continue widening... wouldn't it?

Yes, that should be the case.

At the very least, based on what Meng Chao remembered of his previous life, decades later, the powerful in Dragon City were so great that they might as well be gods and normal people had no hope to catch up to them with just their hard work.

As the distance between people continued widened, the difference in treatment also became more obvious.

Of course it did.

He was sure of that based on what he saw right now. He didn't even need the memories of his previous life to know that it would end up like that.

From what Meng Chao knew, many of the powerful forces were developing high-end medical equipment and technology. There was one medical cabin in particular that was made entirely of the highest-grade crystal. It was practically on the same level as the Blue Origin Crystal Cave. It could form an amazing spirit energy magnetic field that resonates with a human's vitality magnetic field so the cells' regenerative power works at maximum capacity.

No matter how badly a person was injured, if they stayed in this sort of medical cabin, they would get better even without the administration of drugs.

Of course, it would also cost an astronomical amount of money.

The patients who stayed in the ten-people wards and were trapped in this sort of horrible environment would never be able to enjoy the crystalline super medical cabins.

In truth, normal people did not even dare to dream about staying in single wards like Xie Xiaolei's.

What was Gao Ye thinking about when he saw this every time he came to the hospital?

'Since the powerful are supposed to shed their blood for the weak, why can't the powerful first build some larger inpatient wards for the weak so they can retain their basic dignity?'

Gao Ye's ugly face rose once more in front of Meng Chao.

It was only at that moment that Meng Chao noticed that there was always a slight hint of mockery on Gao Ye's face.

And when his intentions were revealed, that mockery turned into indignation.

Meng Chao sighed, turned around, and left.

When he walked past the nurses' station, he noticed that the distressed parents were still arguing with the nurse.

Right when they made up their minds to have their child stay in a single ward, it was taken by some other patient. They lost the ward because they had hesitated for too long.

While on his way back, Meng Chao kept on thinking about Gao Ye's psychological state.

He also thought about how Dragon City would bring about its own end. It would happen because the difference between people would keep on growing and the tear would end up too wide to cross.

Perhaps it was because he had been thinking about it, but when he returned home, Meng Chao found a very strange email.

Meng Chao had an official account on the largest broadcasting platform in Dragon City. He had inherited a lot of fans from the Weeping Reaper, so he handed his account to Yan Feirou's group to operate it. His exposure rate was pretty high, and if he ignored the ghostwriters and lurkers, the remaining active fans still sent him hundreds of passionate emails every day.

But the email he received was sent to the account Meng Chao had used during high school. It was a pretty private account.

The person who sent him the email was Professor of Sandworms.

Meng Chao stared at the name for a long time before he held his breath and opened the email.

It contained the experiment log that started half a month ago.

There was a large amount of experimental data, detailed diagrams, biological neural network scans... as well as Gao Ye's changes in sense of self.

[28 April, New Era Year 56.

[The growth of organs is far faster than what I imagined. My wounds are about to recover. The self-regenerative abilities of annelids have further research value. If a human being came in possession of them, we could regrow lost limbs, which would increase Dragon City's fighting power.]

[30 April, New Era Year 56.

[The brand new nervous system gave me a new cognitive experience. Since my nerve bundles are ten times thicker, have myelin sheaths a, and are independent existences in different sections, I possess something similar to multithreading. I've never felt as smart as I am currently.]

[1 May, New Era Year 56.

[It's my greatest oversight to not have created a few tentacles for this body. It must be known that the first sparks of human civilization were created by neanderthals, who freed their upper limbs from the ground and learned to do things with them.

[But it's not necessary for me to create a few pairs of tentacles like those of an octopus.

[In the next stage of evolution, as long as I can get some sturdier nerve bundles and connect them to mechanical arms, I'll be able to handle the loss of arms.

[My past self was truly foolish. There was simply no need for me to be conflicted about choosing a body of flesh and blood or one of metal.

[The soul itself is the only proof of human existence.]

[3 May, New Era Year 56.

[This accursed phantom pain. I didn't expect that after I transferred my consciousness, it would still cling to me like a shadow. It's even stronger than before.

[I keep thinking that I'm still a human and that I still have my arms, legs, and head. These non-existent limbs are constantly reminding me of their existence through pain.

[It might be because the human soul is not compatible with monster nerves. As my calculation abilities and mental power increased, the pain has also increased ten times. It feels like my soul is submerged in powerful acid, and I can't bear it, not even for half a second.

[It seems like there is a reason behind why human nerves and human souls were never used to their full potential.

[If I want a soul that is ten times stronger, I must pay a price that is ten times larger.

[But this is fine.

[At the very least, I found out that there is another fatal flaw in the consciousness transferring technology—phantom pain. I had never considered it.

[I hope that my calculation abilities and mental power will be able to last for a long time.

[Before the phantom pain defeats me, I must defeat it.]

Chapter 326: Two Sides of the Same Coin

That was the end of the experiment log.

Beneath it, there was a message from Gao Ye.

[Meng Chao, I told you that this is a consciousness transferring experiment and something that only happens once in a blue moon. It's a brand new evolutionary path for human civilization.

[I sent you the first experimental log detailing the past half a month, and I will keep sending new experimental logs to you at irregular intervals. I hope that you will send them to the experts in Agricultural University, which, I believe, will provide some help to the research they're currently conducting.

[Due to the limitations of my experiment, many of the measurements of my data aren't very accurate. The research methods I can use are also very basic. But at the very least, I can obtain personal experience from it. This is something no high-end research lab will be able to get.

[After trying to adapt to my new body over the past half a month, my soul has now completely integrated into my new body.

[I can clearly sense that my intelligence has increased. I can easily solve many of the problems that I had pondered for years. I solved quite a number of difficult problems of life science and came up with a summary of most algorithms, formulae, and models of magnetic fields.

[I will compress the results into a zip file and send them to you. If you trust me, you can use it to cultivate. I believe that it will help you reach new heights.

[If you don't trust me, you can send the file to Black Tortoise Zong Yue, the dean of Agricultural University's martial arts and life science department. You can then train under his guidance.

[Of course there is a price for this intelligence—the phantom pain is getting worse.

[My IQ fluctuates. If I conduct five standard IQ tests at random points of the day in twenty-four hours, the points vary greatly. This means that the fusion between my nervous system and soul is not perfect. My body might separate from my soul at any point in time.

[My memories seem to have become worse as well. Every time I wake up from sleep, for around ten minutes, I do not remember anything of the human world.

[I don't know whether it's because my soul is not compatible with my body or whether it's because I'm far from human society and have been staying too long in the dark.

[I'm afraid that I will turn into a monster, perhaps even fall from grace and end up as a demon.

[But what does it matter? Since the beginning of the experiment, I've already predicted this.

[There were a few times when I woke up in the rotting darkness and thought of myself as a wounded member of a guerilla squad who died in a forest.

[Before being killed by the enemy, he left his will to the people who came to find his squad.

[The government will now help you build schools and hospitals, and they will also increase your salary and benefits, but that's not because of their guilty conscience from letting the squad die. It's not because they've become good people, either. It's because the squad cleared the path for them to build things.

[Heh. Guardian angels and demons have always been two sides of the same coin. If there were no demons, the guardian angels would never be willing to protect humans.

[Superhumans are the weapons of human civilization, and the blood of the strong flows for the weak. What touching slogans. But the more touching a slogan is, the more obvious it should be that there is no way a dream will come true without reason.

[Normal people will not just wait around for the superhumans' protection and salvation.

[If normal people do not hold onto my weapon tightly, blades will pierce their chests. They might come from monsters, but might also come from superhumans.

[Normal people must obtain the power to become demons so that they can keep superhumans in check and give them an impetus. Then, the superhumans will turn those two slogans into reality and build a better future together.

[So, I'm willing to become that bullet and saber. I'm willing to become the demon who lurks around in the superhumans' hearts.

[Of course, I don't know how long I will be able to maintain my beliefs.

[Perhaps as the phantom pain grows stronger, the problem of my soul not being compatible with my body will continue rising. Before long, I may go completely mad and lose my sense of self.

[But before that can happen, I will send my coordinates and weaknesses to you. Please bring a group of superhumans to destroy me, but also to witness my power.

[Take note: Do not come alone, or else, I might end up killing you.

[Once I die, I hope that you will be in charge of dissecting and harvesting my body. I believe that with your skills, you will be able to unravel all the secrets in my body and help our civilization brave the waves and continue forward.

[Professor of Sandworms, 13 May, New Era Year 56.]

That was the end of the email.

Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath. He got up, turned off the lights, and sat for a long time in the darkness.

He imagined himself as a Giant Sandworm with a human soul. He kept to himself and lurked in the darkness underground while evolving and thinking about things.

"Just what... are Supernatural Entities?"

The next morning, Meng Chao joined Lu Siya in her race car and went to a training camp that the abnormal beast research department had built in the west of the city.

On the way, Lu Siya was very excited.

"Xie Xiaolei still has a few tricks up his sleeve. His guess is correct. The higher-ups don't want to cause a ruckus about Gao Ye turning into a monster because this will deal a heavy blow to the biochemical modification faction, and it will cause the runic symbol machines faction to become restless again after they just entered a ceasefire.

"They've only just suppressed a conflict. If it's lit again, it will not be beneficial to all the people in Dragon City.

"So, if a company pops up at this moment to take care of the problems left by Spirit Creation Creatures, the higher-ups will definitely do everything they can to support it, even if it's a small company like Superstar.

"I think that Xie Xiaolei's suggestions are very tempting and doable. Let's not talk about the skills he will bring to you. The man himself is a general who has gone through multiple battles in the business world.

"Superstar doesn't have a lot of people who are skilled in managing a company, right? We can exclude your dad, and Qin Hu doesn't have enough knowledge in this area either. If we rely on his code of brotherhood to operate, you won't be able to grow your company.

“If Xie Xiaolei manages the operations of Superstar, I believe that in a few years’ time, it won’t be unlikely for the company to be ten times larger than it is now.

“Of course, an ambitious veteran in the business world might not be someone you, your dad, and Qin Hu can control. If you’re careless, you’ll end up inviting an enemy into your place and will have to face the risk of him taking over your company.

“So, at the end of the day, it still depends on whether you have the confidence. If you’re worried that you can’t control Xie Xiaolei, I don’t mind taking Spirit Creation Creatures.

“Hey, I’ve been talking for a long time, but you just stay with your head propped up on your hand while you look outside with a contemplative look on your face. You look like you’re thinking while being all emo and stuff. Are you listening to me?

“Meng Chao, I noticed that you’re becoming really rude. Even if we no longer share the relationship of an employer and employee, I’m still older than you by a few years, so I can be considered to be your big sister. What’s with that attitude?!”

Meng Chao finally looked at her.

He pointed outside the window and said, “Look over there.”

Lu Siya was slightly stunned.

She looked outside the window. The reflection glass curtainwalls of the skyscrapers beside them had formed huge monitors.

They showed video ads made by the Supernatural Tower.

The screen flashed, and a veteran hunter with a beard showed up. He was fighting fiercely against a monster in the wild.

When he finally ended the monster’s life with one slash, he turned around and grinned at the screen with his pearly white teeth. “I’m a superhuman!”

The screen flashed. Now, it showed a thermal power plant. The flames in the huge furnaces looked like magma. They seemed alive with how fiercely they danced. They originated from highly unstable and violent fire-type crystals that could only be suppressed by the vitality magnetic fields from superhumans. Then, through multiple stages of energy conversion, they were converted to electricity and transferred to thousands of families.

The superhumans, who were working hard, were covered in soot. They, too, faced the cameras and smiled. “We’re superhumans!”

The screen flashed. This time, it was an operating theater.

A doctor had his eyes shut tight while mumbling. Dozens of scalpels, hemostats, suturing devices, and surgical equipment floated around his body. After a while, he suddenly opened his eyes and said calmly, “I’m a superhuman.”

A few other clips showed up after that. They were all about superhumans from various industries working hard.

At the end, the monitor showed two lines.

[Superhumans are the weapons of human civilization.]

[The blood of the strong flows for the weak.]

“Recently, the Supernatural Tower has been showing more advertisements. They’ve been showing these two slogans all the time on every street.” Lu Siya cast Meng Chao a rather puzzled glance. “What’s wrong with them? Are you telling me that this is the first time you saw them?”

“Of course not. The TV and broadcasting platforms constantly show promotions related to these two slogans. The Supernatural Tower even put these two slogans on banners, which are everywhere in the city. It’s impossible for me to not see them.”

Meng Chao paused for a moment and said, “I just want to ask, do you believe them?”

Lu Siya snickered.

Meng Chao frowned. “What’s with that? You don’t believe in the slogans and think that they’re lies?”

“I didn’t say that. Don’t go accusing me of something I didn’t do,” Lu Siya said. “It’s not that I don’t believe in the slogans. It’s just...”

“Just what?”

Lu Siya thought about it and said, “Let me put it this way. You’ve never seen the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee putting on advertisements or banners in the streets saying ‘the sun is round’, right?”

Meng Chao frowned further. “Of course not. What’s with the question?”

Lu Siya just continued without answering Meng Chao’s question. “That’s right. The government never put up a slogan like ‘the sun is round’ because this is an obvious fact. When you look up, you know that.

“Then, have you ever seen the Supernatural Tower or the Survival Committee saying anything like ‘passionate youths must look for someone to date’?”

“...” Meng Chao looked at her. “No.”

“That’s right. You’ve never seen something like that, because it’s impossible for them to do it, and there’s no need for it, because what would be the point of that sort of announcement? Once the opportunity arises, the passionate youths will definitely chase after their love. They don’t need to be motivated by a slogan for it,” Lu Siya said.

“Do you understand now? If you don’t need slogans for clear facts like ‘the sun is round’ and things that are normal for humans, like chasing after love, then, do you think I’d believe in the two slogans the government is pushing on us right now?”

Meng Chao sighed. “So, after all that, you’re just saying that you don’t believe them.”

“Nope. I do.” Lu Siya gave a sly smile. “As long as I’m the first to believe in these two slogans, then more superhumans will believe in them, and when most of the superhumans believe in them, it’ll no longer matter whether I believe them or not, get it?”

Meng Chao snorted coldly and turned his face away so that he could hide the fact that he absolutely did not understand what Lu Siya was trying to say.

The race car came to a stop in front of a worn down office building with twenty floors.

Written on the signboard in front of the building was: Monster Research Department, Center of Statistics.

Hidden behind this seemingly normal signboard was the training camp of the abnormal beast research department.v

Chapter 327: Brand New Fighting Style

Both of them wore sunglasses and restrained their vitality magnetic fields to get on a rusty elevator while watched by guards who pretended to be normal office employees.

To Meng Chao’s surprise, the elevator did not go up. Instead, it went straight down.

Clanging sounds reached his ears. The elevator trembled a little. The journey did not seem to have an end to it. Meng Chao reckoned that they had gone at least one hundred meters underground.

The door opened and revealed a winding, dark, small tunnel.

Based on the mottled walls, it was an underground defensive facility that had existed under Dragon City since it was on Earth and was as complicated as a maze.

When it was first designed, it had to have been used to fend against nuclear weapons. A group of lucky people would be able to stay here for decades or even more than one hundred years, and when things had settled down outside, they would go out.

Hence, the entire place looked crudely made, tough, and cold. It was very militarized.

With Lu Siya in the lead, they went through three doors that were thicker than half a meter, and finally, the area ahead of them became brighter.

The tough walls on both sides of the tunnel were replaced by strengthened glass.

Through it, Meng Chao could see labs with monsters.

The first lab was a 3D maze that slowly rotated in the air. It had a small rat with a body as white as jade. It was moving around the maze, which was quite complex.

Even humans might have a hard time finding the exit.

There were also researchers controlling the forks in the maze. They randomly opened and closed the barricades to change the way out.

The rat could remember each path clearly. It always chose the right path, and it never hesitated when it made its choice. When it reached the end, it enjoyed good food.

The second lab was filled with a faint blue liquid. A colorful eight-tentacled octopus that could change its color like a chameleon floated inside it.

It was currently doing sudoku.

Meng Chao blinked to make sure that his eyes were not playing tricks on him.

The octopus was indeed holding a marker pen that could be used underwater. With a tentacle wrapped around the pen, it was focused on solving a sudoku puzzle on an incredibly large white board.

The third lab had a monster that looked like a combination between a sloth and an anteater.

It was curled up lazily in a corner of the lab and snoring loudly.

Meng Chao listened to it closely and soon realized that the monster was not snoring, but reciting poetry in a strange voice. "The bright moon shines through the window next to the bed, its light on the floor is like snow on the ground; I look up and see the moon, and I cannot help but look down to remember my home."

Meng Chao looked at Lu Siya in shock.

"It's just imitating speech like a parrot," Lu Siya explained. "It doesn't really understand the meaning of the poem. They did a simple stimulation, and this is what happened when it reacted to it based on nervous impulse. Speaking of which, imitation is also a very important method of learning. Who knows whether it will gain enlightenment after it receives multiple stimulations in continuous waves and understands the beauty of the poem?"

There was no monster in the fourth lab.

A lone human was standing inside and staring at Meng Chao with a depressed look.

Meng Chao was just about to ask Lu Siya what was going on and why they trapped a human inside when he realized that the human's facial features were a little strange. His face was very stiff, as if he was wearing a human skin mask.

And that mask was a copy of Meng Chao's own face.

The next moment, the "human" suddenly blinked and became transparent. "His" entire body slumped down and "he" turned into a pile of goo.

It trembled about and looked like an extra large sticky pudding.

Meng Chao realized that all monsters locked up in the lab were not normal monsters.

Their fighting strength might not compare to Hell Beasts or Apocalyptic Beasts, but they had high intelligence or strange abilities.

Meng Chao saw Ye Xiaoxing in an office at the end of the corridor.

The office was not big to begin with, but now it was full of files with many years' worth of dust on them. It looked like a warehouse that a tornado had visited recently.

Ye Xiaoxing was curled up among a pile of old books. He wore two detachable sleeves, which made him look like an old accountant who did not care about the affairs of the world rather than a powerful fighter who could fight fiercely against the Ultimate Sandworm.

“Meng Chao, we meet again.” Ye Xiaoxing shut a folder with lots of monster information. He removed the detachable sleeves and released a long breath before he smiled and said, “First, a piece of good news. We’ll be giving you a huge amount of support in regard to Superstar taking over Spirit Creation Creatures’ remaining business, technology, and employees.

“Siya should have mentioned it to you along the way. I don’t want this matter to blow up again and stir up another internal conflict between the biochemical modification faction and the runic symbol machines faction.

“More importantly, you fought under Raging Waves and your persistent investigation of the case of the murderous pets in Blessed Paradise has proven that you’re a loyal and brave warrior who is fighting for Dragon City and human civilization.

“Unfortunately, the explosion in the Red Radiance Jade mine destroyed most of the marks left by you, Siya, and Qin Hu during your fierce fight underground. We can’t tell the citizens the whole truth so that all of you would get the glory you deserve.

“But we won’t let our heroes suffer losses. We also want to see industries like Superstar become bigger and stronger. Since they’re controlled by heroes, they’ll become pillars that will defend Dragon City.

“Also, you don’t need to worry about the cooperation, like who is the more dominant and who is the more submissive, that you don’t have business talent, and whether Spirit Creation Creatures will take over the company because you’re busy with cultivation and fighting.

“With the abnormal beast research department protecting you, I believe that Xie Xiaolei will not do something that will destroy him. After all, he’s smart and knows that we have information on him. He has already made a mistake once.”

Meng Chao’s thoughts raced.

He knew that the investigation regarding the White Spirit and Gao Ye would definitely involve him, because he had been personally involved in the matter. The abnormal beast research department seemed to have decided to treat Spirit Creation Creatures as a huge slice of pie and place it right beside his mouth so he would eat until he was full and his mouth was covered in grease. Then, he would work for the research department willingly.

Based on the memories of his previous life, even though the abnormal beast research department was not large right now, it would soon develop at insane speeds and become an organization with real power that could stand on equal ground with the adjudicator court. In certain areas, it could even do whatever it wanted with no one being able to say anything about it.

Meng Chao would definitely not complain if he could be on the same side with this golden coattail. After all, it was a golden coattail that others could only wish for.

He nodded and said readily, “Thank you, Section Chief Ye.”

Ye Xiaoxing waved his hand in dismissal and said with a smile. "You aren't considered an official member of the abnormal beast research department, so you don't need to refer to me as section chief."

"The abnormal beast research department has formed a temporary team to specifically investigate the White Spirit and Gao Ye's cases. We've invited some experts and powerful people working in society to investigate the cases. I'm in charge of it for the time being. You can call me Elder Ye or Captain Ye."

"Honestly speaking, Meng Chao, you gave me a really difficult problem. You must understand, our members usually have to go through intensive training for more than half a year in the abnormal beast research department and pass all sorts of tests before they have the right to come here."

"But you had close contact with Lin Chuan, the White Spirit, and Gao Ye. Gao Ye even sent his experimental log to you after he turned into the Professor of Sandworms. It's impossible for us not to include you."

"I believe in your loyalty to Dragon City, but I still have to give you a reminder. What you will come into contact with is top-secret information, and that includes countless past events that were sealed during the dark era. If any of this goes out, it might threaten the safety of Dragon City. Countless people will die, even though they've done nothing wrong."

"So, while you can fail a task, remove yourself from it, or use fierce opinions to go up against us, you are not to leak these secrets. Can you accept this?"

"Of course," Meng Chao said. "I know what is important and what is not. I won't reveal those secrets."

If being realistic, who had more secrets than him in all of Dragon City?

"Alright. Then, allow me to introduce the abnormal beast research department to you. I believe that you have already gotten to know from Siya that we're an organization that has just been formed and handles monsters with high intelligence. You must have a lot of questions for us, and I will answer all of them, but only within the limits of authority."

Ye Xiaoxing paused for a moment before he asked, "Meng Chao, do you think that the Monster War will end like this?"

Meng Chao was a little taken aback. He wanted to laugh.

If anyone else were asked this question, even a strategist with the highest aims would have a hard time answering.

But he knew the correct answer.

"No." Meng Chao shook his head slowly and said, "I know we've killed the Apocalyptic Beasts residing in Raging Waves in the northern offense and a lot of superhumans became stronger in terms of fighting power. This ensured that the monsters around Dragon City were unable to launch any organized large-scale attacks."

"But I don't think that Dragon City can sleep without worry and just wait for the final victory to land in our hands."

Ye Xiaoxing exchanged a glance with Lu Siya. There was surprise in his gaze. He did not expect that Meng Chao would be this calm. He could not help but ask curiously, “Why do you say that?”

Meng Chao smiled faintly and said, “It’s very simple. If the Monster War could be won so easily, there would be no need for the government to set up the abnormal beast research department.

“While on the way to this room, I saw a lot of abnormal beasts. Their fighting strength should be nothing special and cannot compare even to that of Nightmarish Beasts, but they have extraordinary intelligence and even the ability to pretend to be humans.

“So here are my thoughts. If monsters remain without any organization, they will never be able to deal with humanity’s steel army when it comes to a full-frontal attack. After all, it’s impossible for their bodies to continue growing with no limits. No matter how strong they become, they won’t be able to handle a blow from Huge Dragon’s Might Cannon.

“But Dragon City is small, and we have a huge population. There are plenty of skyscrapers, but they’re all very fragile and are easy targets. They could become prey to endless terrorist attacks.

“If there was even one monster that has human-like intelligence who learns about the advantages and weaknesses of human civilization and how to control or imitate humans, it would be able to lurk among us without anyone noticing it. It would be free to detonate bombs, create earthquakes, assassinate important officials, specialists, and academicians. It could use all sorts of tricks to throw Dragon City’s order into chaos.

“It might not be able to win the war in one go with this tactic, but it could create chaos and panic, which would leave Dragon City in a constant state of weakness.

“Besides, as long as it’s smart enough, it would stay in places like Golden Tooth Lair and use thousands of innocent citizens as its shield and hostages. It’ll be very difficult for us to find it, and even if we could accurately locate it, the cost for capturing and killing it would be so high that we couldn’t bear it.

“If there were a lot of such highly intelligent monsters, even if we won the Monster War, we would do so while heavily wounded. It’d make it hard for us to begin colonizing the Other World.

“To sum it up, we’re now at the second stage of the Monster War, and we’re facing a brand new style of battle. If we’re careless, we’re going to face the risk of total defeat!”

Chapter 328: Dragon City’s Problem

Ye Xiaoxing nodded repeatedly as he listened to Meng Chao.

“I knew it. It’s impossible for you to have relied only on luck to stop the White Spirit and Gao Ye.” Ye Xiaoxing was impressed by Meng Chao. “You’re completely right. Even though we shouted that we would conquer the Other World during the era that gave us the greatest despair, that was just to gather the hearts of people and point them in the direction with the strongest ideal. It doesn’t mean that the war can be won easily and that the Other World will be conquered in no time.

“Many of the academicians in the Survival Committee, Supernatural Tower, and the Red Dragon Army have made predictions about the next stage of the war, and the endless terrorist attacks you mentioned

just now might replace the simple and crude full-frontal clashes over the past few decades. This will become the main tactic the monsters will use against the humans.

“However, terrorist attacks on material things are not a fatal threat to Dragon City. What is troubling us even more is the mind attacks.”

Meng Chao thought about it and asked, “Are you talking about monsters like the Demonic Air Ripping Eye? The type who are skilled in mind attacks and can make humans’ mental strength index plummet?”

“No. Even though the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes are very strong, they’re not smart enough. Even though they can make a human’s mental strength index plummet to zero, at most, they can only turn people brain-dead or make them go completely mad. They can’t damage the core of Dragon City.

“The mind attacks I’m talking about strike directly at humans’ thoughts.”

Ye Xiaoxing pointed at his temple.

Meng Chao frowned a little. “Thoughts?”

“That’s right. The sturdiest fortresses are always destroyed from within, aren’t they? The thing that can be easily interfered with, invaded, changed, and completely twisted in a human are their thoughts.”

Ye Xiaoxing was quiet for a while before he said, “Meng Chao, you’re just a freshman and you haven’t truly joined society yet. The education you received from primary to high school should have described Dragon City as... a city with its people united and a bright future.

“I have to admit. After half a century’s worth of people’s sacrifices and never-ending hard work, Dragon City has walked out of the darkness and created a glorious present we didn’t even dream about in the past. We wouldn’t lose to any of the metropolises on Earth.

“To achieve this, many superhumans led the fights and wore themselves out with all the fighting. They offered all their strength so that the fires of human civilization would burn brightly in the Other World.

“But... a perfect world doesn’t exist. No matter what sort of society we live in, there are always all sorts of problems and conflicts. You can understand that, right?”

Meng Chao nodded to show that he was not a naive university student and was mentally prepared to listen to the problems Dragon City currently faced.

Ye Xiaoxing nodded and told him about Dragon City’s main conflicts.

The first was the conflict between superhumans and normal people.

Or rather, the difference between the powerful people and the weak was getting greater. The social strata might soon be torn apart, which would end up causing all sorts of societal problems.

Humans were never equal, and it was a fact known since ancient times. A “paradise” of absolute equality would only be a hell with even more tragedy.

But no matter how unequal the humans on Earth were, they were only facing an inequality in terms of wealth, authority, and societal positions.

In terms of individual fighting strength, lifespan, and other basic aspects, even the top hundred richest people on Earth were not much different compared to a homeless man who did not have a single penny to their name.

Money could do anything and even buy lives, but even so, a rich person was still only able to live around a hundred years.

No matter how much money a person had and how much authority they possessed, it was not enough to destroy a main fighting tank with one punch.

It was also impossible for them to use their own magnetic fields to hoven hundreds of meters in the air among the white clouds in the blue sky.

Because of it, even though the normal people knew that there was a distance they could not hope to close with the rich, they could still bear the existence of this distance.

However, after Dragon City transmigrated to the Other World, new things like spirit energy and superhumans popped up. The difference between individuals was no longer limited to only money, status, authority, or other external objects. Even the basic things that made up a human, like strength, life, and physical constitution, became vastly different between individuals.

An office worker who worked a nine to five job watching his boss driving a good car while having a beautiful woman in his arms was one thing, but if he could also see his boss soaring high in the sky and being able to destroy the world with just a swing of his arm, perhaps even having a lifespan that was twice as long as his, then it was something else.

Besides, when they had just transmigrated and all order had crumbled, the temptation to have lovers became much stronger for the powerful. The traditional system of having only one partner was challenged, and it became common for the powerful to have multiple lovers.

Even now, there were people who were willing to be lovers of the powerful even if they were not acknowledged so that they could obtain descendants with powerful genes. They did not want to be lovers with the weak and give birth to normal children in a world where zombies and monsters wandered about and where the apocalypse might arrive at their doorstep at any moment. This knowledge was always at the back of everyone's head.

Over the twenty years, Dragon City had faced a baby boom.

But in the last two years, one particular phrase sprung up on the Internet: "You must awaken to supernatural powers. Otherwise, if you give birth to children as a normal person, you're being irresponsible to your children!"

It was because after the population grew, they faced a lack of space and resources. The competition between people grew, and so did the pressure. This was normal since everyone was now trying to right a wrong after they went way over the mark when they tried to increase the population.

But when even the most basic right of reproducing was challenged, it was very difficult for the normal people to look at the difference between themselves and superhumans with a calm outlook.

“Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan’s thoughts gradually turned extreme because the difference between normal people and superhumans has become too great. It’s the reason why he went on the wrong path, right?”

Ye Xiaoxing sighed and said, “It’s not as if the Survival Committee and the Supernatural Tower don’t see the distinction between the strong and weak becoming clearer day by day. It’s not as if they don’t want to solve this problem either.

“But this is a new problem that humanity has not faced over the hundreds of thousands of years of human civilization on Earth. So how could they solve it quickly, completely, and perfectly while Dragon City is still at war?

“Here is something simple. Even if we won the northern offense, Dragon City still faces the danger of being surrounded by monsters, and beyond Monster Mountain Range is the endless Other World. How can we guarantee that there are no enemies who are even more dangerous than monsters out there?

“If we don’t prioritize allocating most of the resources to the superhumans, who will take care of those enemies? The Red Dragon Army? I’m not trying to look down on the Red Dragon Army’s fighting strength, but it’s impossible to send millions of soldiers tens of thousands of kilometers away while ensuring that the supply line will remain smooth.

“We have to rely on the superhumans, who then have to face life-threatening risks. After they fight against all sorts of monsters, shouldn’t they enjoy rewards that they deserve?

“If we force the superhumans to hand over their rewards and share them with the normal citizens, we might be able to achieve superficial equality, but will we stimulate the superhumans’ fighting spirit and desires? I don’t know. We might have to rely on brainwashing at that point.”

“That’s right.” Lu Siya could not help but butt in. “Twenty or so years ago, most of the normal people could only shudder while curled up in trenches, ruins, and lairs. In the meantime, the superhumans of my grandfather’s generation fought against monsters and got us a lot of resources so that we could rebuild all of Dragon City.

“At that time, all the normal people were very grateful toward superhumans and sincerely idolized my grandfather and the others.

“But some of the normal people whose standards of living are much higher than twenty or thirty years ago don’t understand the concept of being content with what they have. All they see are things being unfair, and they’re dissatisfied with everything. At one moment, they say that the promotion channel is shut, and in the next, they say that superhumans are greedy and spend lavishly.

“What a joke. My grandfather worked hard to mine crystals outside Dragon City. He often had to fight monsters and lost count of just how many times his intestines were dug out. My father ran into a few accidents in the mines too. Every time, he had to brush shoulders with death. Even I nearly died under Raging Waves. Is it a sin now for the three of us to enjoy life a little after all our sacrifices and hard work?

“I say, those normal people must be bewitched by the highly intelligent monsters who are skilled in mind attacks. That’s why they’re so ungrateful.”

“You can’t say that,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “No one is ever bothered by whether you get a few resources, so long as the distribution is fair, and no one is ever worried about living in a poor state, as long as they live safely. This is a human weakness. No one can overcome it completely.

“Besides, there are also black sheep among superhumans. They use their superpowers to commit crimes, and it destroys the interests of the normal people. The adjudicator court does whatever it can to subjugate the evil superhumans, but all of the superhumans have great skill and can deal lots of damage, so the adjudicator court has to be wary, even though they want to defeat them.

“And usually, good news never gets told, but bad news spread like wildfire. Superhumans fighting against the monster invasion quietly in the wild is no longer news, but if a superhuman uses his or her superpowers to commit crimes beside normal people in the city, this is definitely a major news.

“Not only does it make the normal people stand against superhumans and further tears apart the social stratum, it also gives the highly intelligent monsters the chance to attack us while we’re weak. This is an opportunity for them.”

Ye Xiaoxing tapped his messy desk with his finger and cast a glance at Meng Chao’s expression. When he saw that he was calm, he continued describing the situation to him.

Not only was there a conflict between normal people and superhumans, there were also divisions among superhumans in regards to the development of Dragon City.

The largest division came with the question as to whether they should limit the scale of the nine great mega corporations.

Everyone knew that the current Dragon City’s order was built by the nine great mega corporations with Battle God Lei Zongchao bearing witness to it.

Up till then, the nine great mega corporations had developed to the point where they not only controlled the economic lifelines but also had their own schools, hospitals, and even fighting power that was even better than the Red Dragon Army. They also had more than half of the seats in the Survival Committee, and the ones in control of the mega corporations were also Deity Realm fighters—the peak of human evolution.

When the viruses raged among humans, zombies went about on a rampage, and monsters invaded the city, the Dragon City was divided into lairs scattered all over the place, so it was inevitable that mega corporations rose to power. They were beneficial toward the continued existence of human civilization.

But as of now, the existence of the mega corporations reduced the Survival Committee’s power while also reducing the survival space for middle and small businesses. They might also place the interests of their corporation above the interests of Dragon City during the colonization war in the future.

Should they put limitations on the nine mega corporations or even split them up so that the greatest authority was gathered in the hands of the Survival Committee?

This was a topic that the ones with knowledge in this matter talked about without end.

But since there were at least nine Deity Realm elites standing behind the nine mega corporations, this sort of discussion was something that would only be discussed verbally.

Chapter 329: The Dinosaur Crushed by Its Own Weight

“Honestly, many of the middle-grade and low-grade superhumans have opinions about high-grade superhumans as well,” Ye Xiaoxing told Meng Chao. “You should know that most of the Deity Realm elites in Dragon City are considered to be tactical weapons. Unless there are incredibly important battles like the northern offense, they seldom appear and join real battles, right?”

“I can reliably tell you that these Deity Realm elites aren’t sitting around doing nothing. Instead, they’re conducting all sorts of explorations in the ancient ruins under the Supernatural Tower. The dangers and importance of this doesn’t lose to any of our battles. Many of the Deity Realm elites have paid a heavy price for it, but they also gained a lot from it.

“We can create a lot of spirit energy magnetic fields now, understand more runic symbols, link many of them together to form different commands to activate all sorts of divine arts with their never-ending variations, and we can even use all sorts of unbelievable ‘sci-fi’ technology, right? That’s all thanks to the hard work of the Deity Realm elites as they explore the ancient ruins.

“But you will definitely encounter failures when it comes to explorations and experiments. There is also a chance that your project will fail even if you dump an astronomical amount of resources into it.

“Also, many of the projects only bring benefits twenty or thirty years into the future, sometimes even later.

“In the eyes of quite a number of the middle-grade and low-grade superhumans, the powerful people are just wasting resources. Instead of dumping their resources into a project that is bound to fail, it would be better to give them to a large number of middle-grade and low-grade superhumans. This would develop more powerful people and we would be able to gain true victory in the battlefield.

“In fact, there are even more absurd beliefs. Some people think that the Deity Realm elites have monopolized a lot of valuable resources and hide under the Supernatural Tower in isolated training. They say that they only care about increasing their own cultivation realm and won’t allow people at the peak of Heaven Realm become Deity Realm elites since it’s only by doing so that they can forever control Dragon City.

“Of course, this is a despicable rumor. But it did cause a new rift between some of the middle-grade and low grade superhumans and the Deity Realm elites.

“This rift is especially prominent among some of the middle-grade and low-grade superhumans working in small and middle-sized businesses and the Deity Realm elites in the nine great mega corporations who monopolize the traditional businesses. They’re competing in the business field and they have a strong desire for valuable resources. There’s a limit to the size of the pie, so no matter how you cut it, there is someone who will be displeased.”

Meng Chao nodded. Many of the problems in Dragon City had the same root cause—the pie was not big enough.

There were many people who wanted resources, but they were limited. No matter how well you teach greedy humans to have noble character, to be united, and to be of one mind, it is useless.

Going out to hunt and bringing back more of the pie was what they needed to do.

The problem was that the “pie” of the Other World was not easy to bring back...

Ye Xiaoxing sighed and shifted his speech to the Red Dragon Army.

The Red Dragon Army itself was fine. The problem with it was that it had no money.

Dragon City was a foreign force, and all the people in it knew how to fight. Their army was larger than that of a country on Earth that poured all its resources into the military.

To encourage everyone to fight against monsters, the soldiers who were still in service or retired and their families were able to enjoy all sorts of benefits and special privileges.

The subsidy for injured and handicapped soldiers and the compensation fees for the soldiers who died also reached astronomical figures.

When normal citizens killed monsters, they could also get rewards. Their achievements were tabulated, and they could enjoy all sorts of benefits.

For example, when Meng Chao killed the Bloody Moon Wolf King in his national college examination, he received medals from three organizations—the military, the Supernatural Tower, and the Survival Committee. Then, because these medals, he was prioritized when he applied for a house, got preferential prices on cultivation resources, and would have been prioritized if he had applied for a position in the army or other related departments where he had to compete against other applicants with similar qualifications, along with many other benefits.

This was very good, and when he ran into monsters next time, he would have more motivation to kill them.

But to the Red Dragon Army, the compensation fees for the wounded and the resources required for the rewards were an increasingly heavy burden.

“The crux of the problem is that right from the start, the Red Dragon Army set the standards of the rewards too high,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “But they had no choice. When Dragon City faced the greatest danger, we weren’t in possession of any advanced tech or cultivation techniques. When we fought against the monsters, we were placing our lives at risk. If good rewards were not set up, the Red Dragon Army would have been letting down the brave souls who sacrificed themselves.

“Besides, at that time, most of Dragon City had fallen into the hands of the monsters. Even when we recovered an area, it was usually a ruin. The collapsed buildings had to be demolished and rebuilt before they could be distributed to the citizens.

“Whenever we recovered an area, we had to immediately build all sorts of houses and distribute them to the warriors and family members who had contributed to the war effort. The war achievement reward system in Dragon City then created a virtuous cycle and allowed the Red Dragon Army to continuously develop.

“But the present is different from the past.

“As of today, we’ve recovered most of the main city areas of Dragon City. Our construction has extended all the way to the border, and the forces of power are all claiming their own territories. They’ve constructed so many buildings in Dragon City that it’s basically saturated in here.

“After a baby boom that lasted for twenty years, our population has also increased by leaps and bounds. Our number of citizens is higher than at the peak of our population while still on Earth.

“We don’t have any more space we can make use of to provide more rewards for the people who contributed to the war effort.

“And when you add together the soldiers who have contributed to the war, were injured, and sacrificed over the past few decades and make a comparison, you’ll find that the number has been increasing. There are one million of them, and the subsidies, benefits, and compensation fees make the Red Dragon Army spend most of their budget on them, so it doesn’t have the money to renew its equipment, develop new technology, or upgrade the fighting strength of the powerful soldiers in its ranks.

“The Red Dragon Army has constantly been bothered by the fact that it doesn’t have the peak fighting power in Dragon City and hope that it can be of better use during the war.

“This is normal. Since ancient times, no army could tolerate the thought of not being the strongest offensive force in the country.

“But if it wants to increase its fighting strength, it needs resources.

“If it wants resources, it has to continuously attack and take the initiative to launch attacks on the monsters.

“The Red Dragon Army is not afraid of fighting, but every time it attacks, it suffers casualties, and the compensation fees cannot be reduced. Not only that, they must continue going up.

“Hence, things are only getting worse for the Red Dragon Army’s budget.

“In other words, the Red Dragon Army is now a dinosaur that is more than five hundred meters long. You can’t say that it doesn’t have any fighting power, but when it bares its fangs, it is crushed under its own weight. Most of the time, it can only drag its swollen body and lay on the ground in resignation.”

Meng Chao nodded with a contemplative expression on his face.

Nations formed through war achievements all faced this problem.

During the development stage, they could stimulate the citizens and make them bring forth the strongest fighting power, which would allow the country to win battle after battle.

But once it developed to the peak and could not find any resources to reward those who contributed to the war effort, the war machine would crumble immediately.

When the Qin state launched the war of unification on Earth, it had defeated other states and armies effortlessly. It was really domineering.

But the Qin Dynasty collapsed after the reign of only two emperors. There were many other factors contributing to its collapse, but it was also related to the fact that it could no longer maintain its war achievement reward system.

Based on Meng Chao's memories of his previous life, after Dragon City got out of Monster Mountain Range, it lived gloriously for a period of time and shocked all of the Other World as the Extraordinary Disaster.

However, at the end, the apocalypse had still arrived. Meng Chao wondered whether this was related to the fact that the war achievement reward system had become deformed as it was forced to continue growing.

"Right now, many of the grassroots soldiers in the Red Dragon Army are really displeased with the Survival Committee. They're demanding the Survival Committee to increase the annual budget of the Red Dragon Army so that it can upgrade."

Ye Xiaoxing smiled wanly and said, "The problem is, the Survival Committee faces too many problems and faces a financial collapse every year. How can it possibly fork out more money?"

"In truth, the best plan for the Red Dragon Army is to get rid of some soldiers and replace numbers with quality.

"But no one dares to mention this. Even if we ignore all other problems and just talk about eliminating more than one million strong soldiers who know nothing else besides killing, it wouldn't end well. There's already a severe lack of jobs, and the unemployment rate for youths under thirty has always been high with no signs of falling. No one can say what would happen if this suggestion went through.

"At the end of the day, in a world where a superhuman can do whatever he or she wants to fulfill his or her own goals, it's also hard for a normal human army to figure out how they should continue maintaining its existence, use, and dignity. This is a problem no other army on Earth has ever faced!"

Ye Xiaoxing told Meng Chao that aside from those problems, Dragon City also faced all sorts of other conflicts.

One of them was the conflict between the Colonization Party and the Return Party. One of them believed that they should pour all their resources into expansion and continue with the colonization war until they conquered all of the Other World.

The other party believed that it was a pipe dream for a city to conquer an entire plane; it was an impossible task. Dragon City should stop its expansion once it conquers Monster Mountain Range. Then, they should use a small amount of resources for defense while using most of its resources to figure out how they could control transmigration.

Once they opened the tunnel connecting the Other World and Earth, they would have Earth with its support of ten billion people as well as an endless amount of resources and could think about conquering all of the Other World.

There was also the conflict between the biochemical modification faction and runic symbol machines faction, the conflict between the Ultimate Style and the Overkill Style, the conflict among the four major fighting occupations when it came to which was the strongest, and the conflict among Ripple Force, Reckless Bull Force, and Dragon Force Force. But these were all differences in terms of skill, so there was no need to mention them.

In any case, Dragon City might seem to have reached a peak after half a century and be prosperous and thriving, but under the surface, they still faced internal and external troubles. Their road ahead was made of thin ice and they needed to tread on it while trembling in fear.

“Meng Chao, after listening to me grumble so much, are you a little disappointed in Dragon City?” Ye Xiaoxing asked.

Meng Chao shook his head.

If he were a normal university student living in an ivory tower, his views of the world, his morals, and his sense of self might have shattered after he found out that there were so many problems and conflicts in Dragon City.

But Meng Chao knew that the apocalypse was right around the corner.

Since Dragon City was bound for destruction in his previous life, there had to have been all sorts of problems inside aside from all the powerful enemies they had to face outside.

But he was not afraid of problems, because there were always more solutions than problems.

“Captain Ye, I’ve heard netizens mention this in the forums of the dark web. It’s normal for there to be conflicts. We have tens of millions of people squashed into a small city. It’s impossible for us to not have any conflicts, unless we were all dead,” Meng Chao said. “But what do the conflicts you mentioned have to do with the job of the abnormal beast research department and the matter concerning the White Spirit and Gao Ye?”

Chapter 330: Humans or Monsters

“Meng Chao, your maturity and calmness has repeatedly exceeded my expectations,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “You’re right. Even though the current Dragon City still possesses all sorts of problems, compared to the great development over the past half a century, these problems are inconsequential.

“Dragon City’s achievements and conflicts can be likened to an elephant and an ant. The black sheep among the superhumans and the greedy among the normal people are bound to only be a small number. They can’t signify most of the prideful, rational, and united humans.

“Besides, we’ve never avoided mentioning the problems to the people. We believe wholeheartedly that Dragon City is facing a major change that human civilization has never encountered over the course of ten thousand years worth of history.

“In this era filled with turmoil and a bleak future, each citizen has the right and responsibility to think about Dragon City’s future. No matter how childish the problems or solutions they present, they have the value of being explored and carried out.

“You mentioned before that there are plenty of discussions regarding the problems and future of Dragon City.

“There are even more high-end and fierce discussions in universities, research centers, industries, the Supernatural Tower, the Red Dragon Army, and the Survival Committee. They hold these discussions every day, and everyone argues to the point that their faces turn red. It’s all because they want to figure out a way for Dragon City to flourish.

“And there is a most fundamental requirement for the birth of these thoughts and exchanges. All of us sincerely want Dragon City to become stronger and even more glorious. We want Dragon City to continue developing and solve the problems while it’s being developed.

“Let’s talk about you and Siya. Even if you perceive certain problems from different angles, at the very least, both of you hope that Dragon City can be prosperous and continue improving day by day, right?”

Meng Chao exchanged a glance with Lu Siya, and both of them spoke simultaneously. “Of course.”

“That’s the spirit. As long as everyone fights for the future of Dragon City together, we will be seeking common ground and we will be able to figure out a solution for all conflicts.”

Ye Xiaoxing sighed. “But that’s not the case for some people with ulterior motives. They hide in the dark and fan the flames to worsen the conflict. They don’t do this for the development of Dragon City, much less to provide benefits to normal people. Instead, they want to throw everything into chaos and destroy Dragon City.

“Lin Chuan and Gao Ye were youths with a lot of potential. Given time, they could have turned into pillars of strength for Dragon City.

“Their thoughts and problems they mentioned are not entirely illogical. If they were willing to trust the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee and discuss the problems as well as solve them in an upright manner, perhaps they might have been able to push Dragon City to a brighter future.

“Unfortunately, they were bewitched by people with ulterior motives. They were controlled by the mind attacks of the abnormal beasts and found themselves in a dead end.

“Because of it, they became puppets of the abnormal beasts in terms of their thoughts. In the end, with their beautiful dreams, they did things that were detrimental to Dragon City’s interests and the interests of tens of millions of citizens.

“Lin Chuan and Gao Ye aren’t the only ones like that, either.

“Over the past year, we’ve found that the abnormal beasts have penetrated deep into Dragon City and many citizens have been bewitched by them. Lin Chuan and Gao Ye are just the tip of the iceberg. There’s a scheme that is even more dangerous brewing in the dark.

“In fact, we believe that the existence who created the White Spirit and the person who bewitched Gao Ye are related to each other. They’re hiding in the dark and are a large organization with a stringent structure.

“This organization’s goal is to use the internal conflicts in Dragon City to tear apart the social strata and the interest groups so that we will be destroyed from within without them having to do anything.

“The main task of the special group I’m in charge of is to uncover this organization and completely dissolve the enemies’ scheme.

“We don’t have a lot of clues right now. This organization is also very skilled in bewitching and controlling normal humans. It’s difficult to find and deal with this organization by relying on brute strength. Even if we had five Deity Realm elites, it would be up to avail.

“But people like you, who have... a unique intuition, have more hope of finding clues through other paths, even if your cultivation realm isn’t high right now.

“So, I asked Siya to bring you here. I hope that you can lend us your strength.

“Due to the unique nature of the special group, the needs of the investigations, and the fact that you have not graduated yet, you can’t be considered to have officially joined the abnormal beast research department.

“But I will fight for how you should be paid, regardless of whether it’s in terms of what you need for your cultivation or the development of the Ultimate Style and Superstar. It’s just as I’ve said just now. We’re willing to see a hero who is loyal to Dragon City and human civilization be in control of more power and authority.

“Naturally, you have the right to make your own choice. We still don’t know the scale and ability of our enemy. But based on Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s cases, the enemy is incredibly mysterious and dangerous. Once you’ll be categorized as their enemy, I won’t be able to guarantee your safety.

“You still have time to get out of this. All you need to do is sign a confidentiality agreement, and I will have Siya send you back.”

Meng Chao was silent for a while.

Kindling shone at the corner of his eyes.

After talking with Ye Xiaoxing, the progress for the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities had actually increased by 1%.

When he noticed the increase of his contribution points as well as the pleasure of spirit energy flowing through his spirit meridians, he answered firmly. “Captain Ye, I swore to Lin Chuan that I will find the mastermind and will continue protecting Dragon City in his place.

“I’m a superhuman, so there has never been a guarantee that I’ll forever be safe. I’m willing to join your group and investigate the organization hidden behind Lin Chuan, the White Spirit, and Gao Ye.

“The problem is, can you tell me precisely as to who our enemy is?”

Ye Xiaoxing was stunned for a moment, then he said, “Thank you for contributing selflessly to Dragon City, Meng Chao, but we don’t have a lot of information in our hands and don’t know the true nature of our enemy.”

Meng Chao stared at Ye Xiaoxing. “At the very least, you should tell me whether our enemy is an abnormal beast or is another group of humans.”

Ye Xiaoxing and Lu Siya looked at each other and sank into silence together.

After some time, Lu Siya asked, “Meng Chao, you think that our enemy is another human?”

“The three holes on the White Spirit’s spine is a human way of modification from more than ten years ago,” Meng Chao said. “And while Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s beliefs were extreme, they had circular logic. Unless the mastermind had deep knowledge of human civilization and understood the various conflicts

at the different social strata of our society, it would have been impossible for them to poison their thoughts to this extent.

“I can accept the fact that monsters possess intelligence. It’s not strange for a monster to be able to solve sudoku puzzles or win against a human Go player in a Go tournament after training.

“I can also accept Apocalyptic Beasts living in the wild gradually understanding the properties of human weapons and how humans work together to create strategies against us. Perhaps they can even come to understand human language.

“But I can’t wrap my head around how a monster would be able to infiltrate the various social strata in Dragon City without any obstacles and poison the thoughts of elites like Lin Chuan and Gao Ye. No matter how developed its brain is and how many mind-related skills it has, how could it understand the concept of civilization without human help? And how would it learn, evolve, and disguise itself as a human?

“So, there must be someone helping it. Captain Ye, if you want me to help you find more clues, you should at least tell me whether our enemy is a monster or a human.”

Ye Xiaoxing tapped his office desk silently.

Half a minute later, he said with slight difficulty, “Meng Chao, forgive me for hiding it from you. One of the reasons is because we just don’t have concrete proof and all of it is just speculation. The second reason is because what I’m about to mention next is a core secret of Dragon City. If you hear it, you will really have no chance of getting out of this anymore.”

“I’ve never intended to back out. So, is our enemy really human?” Meng Chao asked.

“I don’t know.” Ye Xiaoxing shook his head slowly. “We don’t know whether their current selves are humans or monsters.”

“Their?” A thought popped up in Meng Chao’s head. “Are you saying... that there are more people like Gao Ye? Though I suppose I should refer to him as Professor of Sandworms now.”

“No. They might be even more terrifying than Gao Ye.” Ye Xiaoxing stayed quiet for a while. “Meng Chao, have you read a really famous sci-fi novel from Earth that has a plot like this? For some reason, a few spaceships from Earth had to flee to the deep-sky. They were unable to return to Earth even after thousands of years and became a pure spaceship civilization.

“The problem is, they left in a hurry, so none of the spaceships had enough resources to sustain the humans to reproduce in the dark and cold universe for thousands of years.

“The moment the crew noticed this problem, they had no other choice but to open fire on the other spaceships.

“Once they defeated the other spaceships, they killed all the people there and took all their resources. After they gathered the resources from all the spaceships on one single spaceship, they could guarantee the continuation of the spaceship civilization.

“Have you read this novel before?”

It was indeed a very famous sci-fi novel.

Besides, it provided some guidance and inspiration for thoughts about human civilization as well as how they might solve problems they faced after Dragon City transmigrated.

When many of the Dragon Citizens lived in lairs and could only endure the roars of zombies and monsters outside, they spent their time reading various novels.

Meng Chao had read this novel before, and he had even discussed the plot Ye Xiaoxing mentioned with his classmates.

“Since you’ve read this novel before, you should know that from the moment this spaceship civilization was created after the spaceships destroyed each other, it moved in a completely different path compared to the civilizations on Earth. The people who survived by killing most of their kind were no longer Earthlings. In fact, they no longer had the right to be known as humans.”

Ye Xiaoxing stayed silent for half a minute before he said with great reluctance, “But have you ever thought about whether Dragon City might be a super large spaceship that had been fired in haste into the Other World?”