Oh My God 331

Chapter 331: A Satellite City that Descended into Darkness

Meng Chao sank into deep thought.

With the population of tens of millions of people, Dragon City was much larger than any of the prosperous capitals on Earth, and it also had a perfect light and heavy industrial production chain. So it could not be compared to a mere spaceship.

Dragon City was so large that it could maintain the normal operations and continued existence of human civilization.

But when they had just transmigrated, that was not the case.

At that time, Dragon City was divided by fog, viruses, zombies, and monsters.

Many of the survivors could only live in lairs, and their circle of activity did not go past a building.

When they looked around, they only saw broken walls full of holes, thick, black smoke coming from roaring flames, or fog so thick that they could not even see their own hands.

Many of the diaries from the survivors stated that at that time, they felt that they had been abandoned by the world. They even suspected that not all of Dragon City had transmigrated, and only their region or building had been sent alone to the Other World.

The lairs were made of sealed off buildings, with each building being a unit, and this formed a lair civilization. It was similar to the spaceship civilization that wandered about alone in the vast galaxy.

And compared to the spaceship humans, the transmigrators faced an even worse situation.

At the very least, the spaceship civilization did not need to deal with viruses that could invade bodies through every opening and zombies that went mad and howled as they attacked them.

They also did not face the risk of spirit energy invading their brain and causing spirit energy deviation, which turned humans into human-shaped monsters.

Ye Xiaoxing sighed. "The maintenance of one's status as human while standing at the entrance to hell is very difficult. Humans were born as animals, so it's natural that they can instantly revert to something inhuman, like a wild beast or a monster. It's all so that they can survive, even for one more second.

"When Dragon City just transmigrated, it faced its darkest era, and all morals, laws, and humanity's glory were torn to pieces. Countless people turned into zombies and countless spirits were twisted under the numerous threats, which turned those humans into demons in human skin.

"Women sold their bodies seven times for one cracker. Men spilled seven buckets of blood in a fight for one barrel of gasoline. Both ate their own children in dark corners, then killed each other so that they could eat each other.

"The nine great mega corporations that gave birth to the Survival Committee were not pure and innocent lilies when they were just formed. After all, they were born in an era where everyone did whatever they could to accumulate capital. At best, they were slightly better than the absolutely rotten bandits. They knew to think about their long-term development and maintained order to protect their own interests.

"If an Earthling from the twenty-first century saw the first ten years after Dragon City transmigrated, they would definitely shudder at the hellish life. They would also never admit that Dragon Citizens at that time were part of Earth's civilization. They would even go as far as not to call them human at all.

"Fortunately, we managed to get past that stage.

"We rebuilt order and restored law as well as the dignity of morals. We judged many of the criminals from the dark age and suppressed the demons who committed heinous crimes. We also came to regret the mistakes we made because we were forced to do them.

"Dragon City returned to the embrace of Earth's civilization, and we were finally able to raise our heads to declare with dignity that we are still Earthlings and are the expeditionary forces of Earth's civilization!

"But Dragon City didn't manage to get past the dark age because we were born kind. It's not because of the morals and laws on Earth being embedded deep in our genes, either. It's also not some bull like justice definitely prevailing. It's simply because we were numerous enough.

"Even if Dragon City was on the verge of destruction, we had more than ten million people and a lot of facilities for industrial work and technology. Many of the elderly who came from Earth were alive, and they helped us maintain our style of living, laws, and morals. They pointed our civilization forward, and when there was no other choice, they told us how to die with dignity.

"Meng Chao, have you ever thought about how the transmigrators would have ended up if Dragon City wasn't as large as it was, like say if we shrunk one hundred times? When invaded by viruses, zombies, monsters, and spirit energy, would we still have been able to retain our identity of Earthlings after half a century?"

Meng Chao thought about it deeply.

He remembered Wu Wu. She was brought up by Ghost Leopards.

She had forgotten her human identity and did not even know how to speak human language. She was fortunate to be discovered by the exploration team from Dragon City, but she could only blend into human civilization after a few years' worth of work.

But the results of being brought up by monsters still left marks on her. She might never be able to get rid of them as long as she lived.

"Not all people are as lucky as we are," Ye Xiaoxing said. "Before Dragon City transmigrated, it was a large urban cluster. Aside from the core city area, it also had a large number of satellite cities, feature towns, mega factories, and research centers scattered in the shape of a hoop around the core city area.

"Before Dragon City transmigrated, Earth was also on the verge of another war. A lot of the technology innovated towns, industrial towns, and military towns along the coastline were moved near Dragon City.

"Many of the satellite cities had biotechnology, technology to create supercomputer chips, and automatized machine technology that was far more advanced than in the main city area. Some of these towns were turned into independent university cities. They had a lot of experts, students, and researchers, all of whom were smart people.

"Unfortunately, the dimensional vortex brought by the transmigration caused the dimension around Dragon City to be incredibly distorted. It was just like a wave that crushed a ship and flung dozens of dinghies far away from it.

"Dragon City was separated from the satellite cities, and because of the obstruction created by the fog, mountain ranges, and monsters, over the past few decades, we were not able to obtain any news about them. It's hard to imagine what they have gone through.

"Based on expert evaluation, there's little chance for the satellite cities to have survived independently when faced with the invasion from the Other World, because their populations were only from a thousand to tens of thousands. At most, they might have had a few hundred thousand people.

"But even if they did manage to survive, they would lack water and electricity. They wouldn't have the strength to defend their home, and when dealing with despair of being invaded by all sorts of enemies every day, the tragedies that happened in Dragon City would definitely be mirrored in their areas too. Famine, chaos, cannibalism, collapse of order, death of morals... All of this definitely happened in the satellite cities.

"The difference between us is that the main city area was large enough, and it had the ability to get through the most difficult and darkest times. We could also correct our mistakes and regain the glory of human civilization.

"But the satellite cities weren't large enough. Once they fell into darkness, it was very difficult for them to rely on their own strength to regain their humanity."

Meng Chao fell silent for a while, then asked, "Didn't Dragon City's exploration team find a lot of our satellite cities and save their survivors? Even though they're more barbaric and fierce than the people from the main city area, it's not as if we couldn't save them.

"I have a friend who is a student from Agricultural University's monster controller course. She's a panther girl who grew up in the wild since young, and after a few years of education, she has successfully regained her humanity."

"You're talking about Wu Wu, right?" Ye Xiaoxing said. "She's a special case. The monster research center gathered a large amount of manpower, material resources, and countless other resources to save her. Most of the humans who were brought up by monsters don't have her talent and her conditions.

"As for the lost towns you mentioned, they were broadcasted in the news and all of them were close to Dragon City. The paths leading to them were relatively smooth. The fighting power and resources from Dragon City could easily reach those places, and the degree of invasion from the Other World they suffered is rather light. That's why they could still be saved.

"In truth, the exploration team discovered far more satellite cities than what has been mentioned by the news.

"Many of the satellite cities were quite far from Dragon City when they transmigrated to the Other World. The paths leading to them were shrouded by fog, and monsters raged there. It was not suitable for the Red Dragon Army to mobilize a large number of soldiers to those places and spread out to attack the monsters.

"Why didn't we reveal it to the public? Our abilities were not strong enough, so we couldn't save all the citizens in those cities.

"Besides, after half a century, the satellite cities had become completely different. It's difficult for us to tell whether their citizens are still humans, monsters, or creatures who are half-man and half-beast. We can't tell whether their civilization can still be considered as a human civilization.

"If we recklessly reveal the current situation of these satellite cities, it might have a huge impact on the order in Dragon City. It might even throw the definition of Dragon Citizens and human civilization into chaos. So..."

Meng Chao scratched his head.

In his previous life, he had encountered elves and dwarves, so his definition of humans was pretty open.

He thought about it and said, "Is it really that bad? Over the course of human history, there were countless dark periods of history where people ate their own children, but we still managed to get over them!"

"If it was something as simple as people eating their children, it would be good."

Ye Xiaoxing sighed and tapped the table for a long time. Finally, he made a decision. He brought out a safe from beneath a pile of messy documents and took out a folder from inside it. There was a thick stack of files within it, and he handed it to Meng Chao.

Meng Chao cast a glance at the files.

The first set had some rather blurry pictures.

An incredibly large tree grew out of a skyscraper. It was situated in a dilapidated city full of broken walls covered in vines and brambles.

The branches of the tree blanketed half of the town, and there were large pouches hanging down from them, which resembled tentacles. The pouches were as thin as cicada wings. Their surfaces were covered in bloody veins and looked like huge insect cocoons, but they also looked like the fusion of fungi and fruits.

"What is this place?" Meng Chao cast a puzzled gaze at Ye Xiaoxing.

"This is Dragon King Town. It's one of the satellite cities affiliated to Dragon City. It's a production town that was incredibly industrialized. The town had two big machine production industries and three branch campuses of an institute of technology. It also had tens of thousands of youths and a certain degree of defensive abilities.

"The problem is, the male to female ratio in Dragon King Town was at a great imbalance.

"Most of the students and employees in the institute of technology and machine production industries were men, and due to the pollution from the industry as well as other factors, the female family

members who taught there or were in charge of the management of the industry preferred staying in the main city area of Dragon City or commercial towns nearby. When they transmigrated, the male to female ratio in the town might have gone from 8:2 to 9:1.

"You should be able to guess what conflict started among the strong men in the town when they transmigrated out of nowhere. The gender ratio was incredibly imbalanced, they were surrounded by fog, and isolated for decades. You should also be able to imagine what sort of problems they faced when they wanted to continue their civilization."

Chapter 332: Divine Tree

Meng Chao sucked in a sharp breath. "Could it be?"

"Yes. It's just as you imagined."

Ye Xiaoxing plucked out a second photo.

It was a picture of more than one thousand sturdy men around a burning fire. Within it, a young and beautiful girl was tied-up to a wooden post.

Even though it was just a picture, Meng Chao could tell from the girl's twisted features that she was enduring indescribable pain.

"What are they doing? Why are they using such brutal methods to kill their own kind?" he asked in shock.

"They're executing judgment on a witch."

Meng Chao was in disbelief. "Who's a witch?"

"All women are witches," Ye Xiaoxing said.

Meng Chao was dumbfounded for a long time. He could not wrap his head around it. "How could this happen?"

"Dragon City's exploration team discovered Dragon King Town four years ago, but their civilization had already turned into something completely different from ours. So, the exploration team did not come into contact with them. Instead, they lurked in the dark and observed them for a year.

"Then, they thought of a way to get a large number of diaries, wills, selfies, videos, and other information left by people of Dragon King Town. Based on the clues, they finally formed the picture of what had happened in Dragon King Town during the fifty years after it transmigrated."

"When Dragon King Town transmigrated, due to the push from the dimensional vortex, it was located pretty far away from its relative position to Dragon City's main city area. It ended up in a corner isolated by mountains. Hence, the people in the town didn't know that there were tens of millions of their own kind who had transmigrated alongside them. They thought that only the tens of thousands of people in the town were affected by this horrible fate.

"During the first few years, Dragon King Town continued with its own strength.

"At the start, the dimensional vortex formed a wall of fog which blocked the fierce monsters outside. Even though the viruses of the Other World violently attacked their immunity system and created some zombies among them, Dragon King Town was really lucky. They didn't run into any pandemics. They only had a few zombies, and soon, once they set up strict plans to kill them, the zombies were cut into pieces.

"I told you just now that there were a few machine processing factories in Dragon King Town and a few machinery and civil engineering schools. This means that the citizens didn't have a lot of problems processing weapons and building forts. Before the fog faded away and monsters invaded them, they set up battle fortresses that surrounded Dragon King Town like iron walls.

"The problem was within-there were too few people who could produce offspring.

"Based on the wills left behind by a lot of Dragon King Town citizens we can tell that they were full of despair. They believed that they could never return to Earth.

"Most of them didn't even realize that they had transmigrated to a brand new world. They thought that they would forever be trapped in the small town surrounded by fog.

"And there were too few women who were of age. Hence, even if Dragon King Town could survive as a whole, as individuals, most of the town members could not pass on their genes.

"Women who were of age became incredibly rare resources. The hot-blooded men surrounded these rare resources and soon split into different factions. They fought and killed each other.

"In just a few years, even if zombies and monsters did not pose a major threat to them, nearly half of the strong men in Dragon King Town died at the hands of their comrades.

"Of course, aside from women, clean drinking water, food, machines that could allow them to create weapons, and raw materials all became rare resources.

"You can say that while it was surrounded by fog, Dragon King Town could not contain nearly one hundred thousand strong men. They had to kill each other and cut down their population by half to continue maintaining the town.

"After a few years of internal conflict, Dragon King Town used the institutes and factories to form five major factions of power. They were similar to the gangs that formed during the bloody and dark era in Dragon City.

"And the women of age, who were rare resources, died in the fights between gangs or committed suicide because they did not want to accept the tragic fate. Only a few of them survived.

"This meant that the citizens still did not manage to solve the problem of the continuation of their civilization.

"And the internal conflicts were like cultivation of poison. In the end, an incredibly terrifying Queen of Poison was born—a woman who had all the men dancing in the palm of her hand.

"We don't have much information about this woman. We just know that later, the members of Dragon King Town came to refer to her as the most wicked witch. "But based on our understanding, in the beginning, this 'witch' just wanted to protect her friends. She used her inborn charms to mingle among the leaders of the five gangs. She charmed all of them until they were completely entranced with her.

"She even used some really extreme methods such as uniting all the women of age to monopolize the resource of reproduction so that they could get more power and status.

"Even though the men had absolute advantage in terms of numbers and had greater fighting power, if women didn't give birth to their offspring, Dragon King Town would soon cease to exist.

"Just like that, the 'witch' ingeniously used the conflict among the five gangs to stir up the internal conflict in Dragon King Town.

"During the second internal war, another half of the strong men died. Two of the five gangs were completely destroyed. Many of those who lost the war were chased out of Dragon King Town and disappeared into the depths of the fog.

"And the 'witch' managed to temporarily seize the highest seat of power in the town, which led to Dragon King Town entering something similar to matriarchy.

"The women of age who were lucky enough to survive seemed to have welcomed the best time.

"Their status was far higher than anyone else, and they could choose tall, handsome, gentle, considerate, or brutish men as their partners. They could also use the need of cultivating their offspring as a reason to occupy the best resources and deliver the harshest punishments to the perverse, ugly, and unattractive men.

"Unfortunately, during the short period of time the women lived in a dream where they enjoyed being treated like empresses, they forgot to think about a problem."

"What problem?" Meng Chao asked.

Ye Xiaoxing sighed. "Compared to handsome and gentle men, there are too many average men who have perverse personalities.

"Once they realized that they could never get the women and pass on their genes, the perverse men launched the third internal war in Dragon King Town.

"Their numbers were the greatest in the town, and after the two internal wars, the humanity in the town members was basically gone.

"Their brains were occupied by androgens and turned into foul-smelling, useless mush. The sleazy men launched indiscriminate attacks. They treated all women as 'witches' and all the handsome men taken care of by the witches became 'warlocks'. Both 'witches' and 'warlocks' were criminals who had launched the third internal war in Dragon King Town, so they were all killed in the end.

"Women were problems. If even one single woman remained alive, the internal chaos in Dragon King Town would never die down!

"This was the slogan of those sleazy men at that time."

"But if that's the case, Dragon King Town would have no future," Meng Chao said uncertainly.

"Yes. After the frenzied fervor died away, the survivors looked at the torn up Dragon King Town and its population, which led to a quick realization that they were all men. The survivors then regained some of their rationality. They became aware that they had personally destroyed their own future.

"At that moment, the fog around Dragon King Town dissipated a little, and all sorts of monsters as well as etherealized plants appeared one after another, which started a new crisis," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"Dragon King Town could not survive it. Even if they managed to fend off a few waves of the monsters' attacks, without any offspring, they would lose their most basic motivation to survive.

"Fortunately, the Divine Tree appeared."

"What is this Divine Tree?" Meng Chao asked.

"It's an incredibly unique plant, or rather, it's something between a plant and a fungus. It's a new life form that does not exist on Earth."

Ye Xiaoxing pointed at the first picture with the towering tree that had a tree crown covering half of the town. "This isn't the real form of the Divine Tree. It resided in a banyan tree, whose genes it has changed. The Divine Tree should look like a bryophyte or a mushroom.

"You should have guessed by now. This strange life form has an incredibly advanced ability to change genes. It can even... help humans pass on their genes."

As he spoke, Ye Xiaoxing slowly flipped over the third picture.

It showed fruits growing all over the branches of the tree. Some of the branches almost reached the ground because of the weight, and quite a number of humans were harvesting the fruits.

Those humans were different from the people who judged the witches in the second picture. Most of them did not wear clothes. They only had a simple loincloth covering their groin.

Their skins were an unnatural green, as if they had a faint layer of moss.

Their upper limbs were clearly longer and thicker than those of normal humans. Their lower limbs were shorter, but their toes were incredibly well-developed.

They were like gibbons. They relied on their arms to jump about the branches while their toes handled a lot of meticulous work.

However, what surprised Meng Chao the most were the things they harvested.

They were cocoons that were as thin as cicada wings and covered in bloody veins.

...No, they were neither fruits nor cocoons.

In the fourth picture, one of them was carefully cut open and a person was taking a baby out of it.

"How... How could this be?!" Meng Chao cried out.

He had never seen something so bizarre in his previous life.

"Now, you should understand why we didn't want to publicly announce that we rediscovered Dragon King Town, right?" Ye Xiaoxing said. "Over the long course of the past half a century, Dragon King Town seems to have formed... some sort of symbiotic relationship with this strange Other World life form so that the town members can pass on their genes.

"The Divine Tree helps them pass on their genes while it takes resources from underground. It also grows branches with toughness and strength that doesn't lose to metal, which they can use as raw materials for machines and weapons.

"Dragon King Town are the Divine Tree's hunters and guardians. They make up for what the Divine Tree lacks in mobility and offensive power. They hunt monsters for it as food so that it can grow faster.

"As of current, the Dragon King Town members have a tight working relationship with the Divine Tree. You can say that the humans in Dragon King Town have become one with the life form of the Other World and created... a brand new civilization."

Chapter 333: 2D Civilization

Meng Chao looked through the photos in his hands and said nothing for a long period of time.

"We observed them for a few years," Ye Xiaoxing continued. "The new generation of Dragon King Town has a couple characteristics. They're all men, or rather, they resemble men. In truth, due to them reproducing asexually, the concept of gender has long since disappeared in Dragon King Town."

"Wait." Meng Chao frowned and said, "Even if all the women who transmigrated from Earth died, the new generation born in the Other World should have a relatively balanced male to female ratio, right? This asexual reproduction should at most last for only one generation. How could all of them be men?"

"You're smart, so you must have guessed that the Divine Tree does not give the humans the chance to reproduce on their own; otherwise, how would they continue to have a symbiotic relationship?" Ye Xiaoxing said.

"We don't know what sort of method the Divine Tree used. It could be genetic modification or something else, but in any case, it decided the gender of the new generation of humans and ensured that humans lost the concept of gender and ability to reproduce themselves so that they would rely on it to pass on their genes.

"Similarly, through genetic modification, the Divine Tree carved a large amount of machinery and civil engineering knowledge into the genes of the new generation humans so that they don't need to learn but are born with a lot of knowledge and skill. This allows them to be excellent workers and fighters.

"But if the disadvantage of this is that they know how to use those skills, but don't know the reasoning behind it. The humans it created no longer have creativity. Their skills are simple imitations of their fathers and grandfathers' skills. They don't know the principles behind them at all. Of course, to them, it's enough if they can use simple machines and skills for civil engineering.

"One more thing about them, this new generation of humans has also lost the ability to directly digest food. After they hunt monsters, they cut them up and bring them to the roots of the Divine Tree so that it can enjoy the juiciest parts of the monster first. Then, the Divine Tree excretes a substance that is similar to nutritional fluid, and the new generation humans survive on the juices of the Divine Tree. "In time, the new generation humans' digestive system changed because of that. They became really weak. Aside from the Divine Tree's juices, they can't digest anything else. You can see a new generation human's mouth in this photo. Their teeth have degenerated pretty badly. They practically lost the ability to bite.

"Naturally, the new generation humans worship the Divine Tree. They treat it as the giver of life. The entire civilization is based on the Divine Tree, if you can even consider their small world as a civilization.

"After the Divine Tree modified their genes, they forgot the glorious past on Earth and their identity as Earthlings. They treat themselves as the citizens of the Divine Tree. It is their queen ant, their master, and their God.

"Meng Chao, do you think that these Dragon King Town members are still real humans and our comrades?"

Meng Chao had nothing to say to that.

He pointed at a picture and asked, "What are these people doing? Peeing?"

In the photo, a row of Dragon King Town members had their backs turned to the camera. They stood facing the Divine Tree with their loincloths removed. They seemed to be peeing.

Ye Xiaoxing was silent for a while before he shook his head slowly and said, "No."

Lu Siya coughed softly by the side and Meng Chao looked at her.

Lu Siya met his stare with an expressionless mask.

Meng Chao then instantly understood.

Truly... humanity had become distorted, and morals had died!

"What is this?"

Meng Chao pointed at another photo.

It depicted something like a funeral in Dragon King Town. One of the humans had died, and the other town members were digging a shallow pit near the roots of the Divine Tree to place him there.

By the looks of it, they wanted the Divine Tree to completely digest and absorb the corpse.

They lived in a world shrouded by fog where resources were limited. In order to survive, even corpses were valuable resources. They could not waste even a single bit of them.

Meng Chao could understand and accept this sort of burial custom.

What he could not understand was why the deceased's corpse had a huge poster on it with a cute anime girl.

Based on the bright colors of the poster, it was impossible for it to be a product from before the transmigration. It was something that had just been printed.

This meant that even though Dragon King Town had become completely different decades after transmigrating and the new generation humans had forgotten the glory of Earth's civilization, they still had the ability to print large posters of cute 2D anime girls?

This was too strange!

"This is a unique belief and custom among the new generation of Dragon King Town members," Ye Xiaoxing explained. "Since their world was nearly destroyed by women, they hate and fear women in reality. To prevent the appearance of new women, the Divine Tree also strengthened this hate and fear in their genes.

"'Women are demons'—this is a psychological brand printed in the hearts of the new generation Dragon King Town members.

"But a heterosexual's longing for someone of the opposite sex cannot be completely wiped out by any psychological brand.

"Besides, to maintain some degree of fighting strength so that they would hunt more monsters, the Divine Tree needs to maintain the androgen levels of the new generation humans at a rather high level. But that inevitably leads to people having wishful thinking.

"Coincidentally, Dragon King Town had a few institutes of machinery and civil engineering. Many of their students liked anime girls.

"The women in reality are witches and demons who can cause men to kill each other, which led to the near destruction of Dragon King Town, but anime girls are different. They're gentle, cute, and harmless.

"Of course, reality has a different art style from anime. Even if the Divine Tree placed psychological brands, they can still tell that anime is fake.

"But humans are amazing at deluding themselves. Since they live in a world filled with despair, anime girls turned into their solace.

"In the unique views of the new generation humans, the anime world is heaven.

"As long as they fight bravely for the Divine Tree and bring back more monsters, once they die, they can enter an anime world and be surrounded by countless anime girls... I believe that's what they believe.

"Now, there are all sorts of anime products in the current Dragon King Town. This poster is one of them. There are also vivid dolls. They're practically the only mental support and entertainment of the new generation humans."

"Got it, Captain Ye. I agree with you. These people are completely different from us." Meng Chao frowned. "But is Dragon City going to watch Dragon King Town continue to fall and do nothing about it? We should save our comrades from the evil rule of the Divine Tree!"

"How are we supposed to save them?" Ye Xiaoxing demanded. "Dragon King Town is too far away from Dragon City. If we want to go there, we have to pass a few mountains infested with monsters. We can't spread out a large army through the area either.

"More importantly, the humans over there have already formed a symbiotic relationship with the Divine Tree, and it cannot be broken. Right now, all of the Dragon King Town citizens are born from the Divine Tree. If Dragon City sends powerful fighters to destroy the Divine Tree, they're going to fight against us to the bitter end.

"Also, don't forget what I just said, the digestive system of the humans in the town is very weak. They can't digest anything besides the juices of the Divine Tree.

"We suspect that there is a mysterious substance that we don't know in the juice the Divine Tree excretes. It can't be replaced by any high-nutritional fluid. If we destroy the Divine Tree, we might end up starving all of the town members to death.

"Even if they don't starve to death, they have lived in that sort of environment their whole lives. Their culture, morals, customs, states of mind, and beliefs are centered around the Divine Tree. If we destroy the Divine Tree, their minds will break, and they will suffer a pain worse than death. Would that be saving them?

"Regardless of whether or not we're willing to accept it, when Dragon King Town was nearly destroyed, the Divine Tree's arrival saved the survivors.

"It doesn't matter whether it's original goal was to look for a group of qualified worker ants and soldier ants. In the end, it helped Dragon King Town preserve human civilization, albeit in a very deformed and twisted way.

"If it weren't for the Divine Tree, Dragon King Town would have been destroyed decades ago in the hands of humans themselves.

"If you look at it from another angle, crudely labelling the Divine Tree as an enemy isn't suitable, especially when we already have so many enemies to handle."

Meng Chao thought about it carefully. He had to admit that Ye Xiaoxing made sense.

If he treated survival as the most important thing for a civilization, the Divine Tree did allow Dragon King Town to survive.

Over the decades, it had provided shelter for the humans and helped them reproduce. It even helped humans fend off against monster invasions as well as provided raw materials and gave them a way to pass down their intelligence.

If Dragon City recklessly destroyed the Divine Tree, they would only bring Dragon King Town's destruction. All of the townspeople might die with the Divine Tree.

Even though Meng Chao thought that the current Dragon King Town was deformed and twisted, this was not a good reason to destroy them. The new generation of Dragon King Town's people were not the men who had killed each other in the past. Loving anime was not a crime!

"So, what is Dragon City going to do about Dragon King Town?" Meng Chao asked.

"For the time being, we're only going to observe them from afar," Ye Xiaoxing said. "Once we absorb the fruits of the northern offense and steadily expand Dragon City's territory as well as upgrade our technology and fighting power, we'll handle the situation appropriately.

"Fortunately, the Divine Tree isn't an Other World creature with high offense and desire to expand its territory. It's satisfied by just staying in Dragon King Town and controlling this small colony. Besides, after observing it for a long period of time, we noticed that the Divine Tree doesn't have any intelligence or consciousness. It just has instincts which are familiar to those of a queen ant or queen bee.

"But not all Other World creatures are like the Divine Tree. Many of the high-grade monsters are incredibly offensive and possess high intelligence, or at least, they have the ability to eventually possess super intelligence.

"Think about it, if another satellite city similar to Dragon King Town ended up in the hands of a highly intelligent monster that is much more aggressive, and to survive, formed a symbiotic relationship with them, would this also give birth to a brand new civilization after decades of development?"

Chapter 334: Clash of Civilizations

Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath.

Even if he had memories from his past life, he still felt that his views of the world, his self, and morals had been strongly challenged.

But when he calmed down and thought about it with a clear head, Ye Xiaoxing's started sounding plausible.

If they were on Earth, in just half a century, it was not enough time for human civilization, including individual humans, to change in terms of their nature.

But they were in the Other World where materials and spirits were incredibly unstable. Everything was growing at high speed and evolving even faster. They had to get rid of what was weak and retain what was strong in the brutal competition of survival.

Dragon City had managed to gather a lot of advanced technology, unlock the secrets of runic symbols and spirit energy, and produce superhumans who could soar freely in the skies in a short fifty years.

He wondered whether any of the satellite cities that were scattered all around the Monster Mountain Range were as lucky as they were.

Ye Xiaoxing continued, "Meng Chao, you're a harvester. You should be able to tell that many of the monsters shouldn't exist from a biological standpoint, right? For example, the Seven-star Wolf Spider is a fusion of a canine-type monster and arachnid. Is it possible for anything to evolve naturally into that state in the wild?

"All signs point to the fact that many of the monsters didn't evolve naturally. They should have been biological weapons created by a civilization of the Other World that existed long ago.

"Of course, that prehistoric civilization collapsed a long time ago. Based on the results from the ancient ruins research center we built under the Supernatural Tower, this is something that happened more than a million years ago. Most of the current monsters are still controlled by their beast instincts. They don't have a lot of intelligence nor the intention to completely destroy us. "But no matter what, they have brains. They are not like those of mammals, but are complicated neural networks like those of the Ultimate Sandworm. This passes the requirements for them to possess intelligence.

"In other words, some of the high-grade monsters can possess intelligence based on their 'hardware'. However, aside from the support of their 'hardware', they also need a software to possess intelligence, and that is teamwork.

"They need a division of work in society and continuous merging of ideologies and culture for tens of thousands of years. It's only then that they would be able to gain true intelligence.

"We've taken down a lot of Apocalyptic Beasts and found that even though their minds are clearly very well-developed and possess ganglions and sulci that far surpasses those of humans, they have not awakened to intelligence. The reason is that they lack software.

"The problem is, we can't be certain just how much of Dragon City's territory transmigrated. Was it only the main city area and a few of the new city areas in the suburbs or did all of the satellite cities come with us? Did the dozens of towns and hundreds of villages under Dragon City also transmigrate?

"You must understand, even our smallest village had hundreds of people, which could form a relatively complete human societal system. It might be small, but it would have all the functions.

"If that one small village after transmigration ended up in the hands of a monster with mind control powers and that monster had a brain developed enough for it to possess intelligence, which, for some reason, didn't eat all the villagers like a brute but instead... investigated their brains, read their memories, learned their language, customs, culture, societal structure, ruling methods, war tactics, and in the end, mastered all the advantages and weaknesses of humanity, just how terrifying would this monster be?

"Or perhaps no monster evolved to the point that it possessed intelligence and a sense of self. Instead, to survive after the transmigration, the villagers did a lot of things that went past morals, such as eating the corpses of their own kind, and were twisted into something inhuman by the brutal environment. Once they discovered Dragon City's existence, wouldn't they use monsters' strength to fight against Dragon City?"

Meng Chao thought about it. "No matter what, all of us are comrades who transmigrated together half a century ago. Are you sure that the members of these satellite cities will definitely be hostile toward us? Didn't you just say that the members of Dragon King Town aren't really aggressive and just love anime?"

"Dragon King Town is a unique case because the town members there formed a symbiotic relationship with the Divine Tree. They're life forms who are similar to plants. The town members have been eating the juice of the tree for a long period of time, which has diminished their aggressive nature," Ye Xiaoxing said calmly.

"Based on the predictions of the sociologists in the abnormal beast research department, if there are truly other satellite cities that have transmigrated into the depths of the fog and survived for fifty years in the wild, it's highly likely that they will be hostile and highly aggressive toward us."

"Why?"

"It's simple. Think of the sci-fi story of the spaceships that escaped from Earth. If you were a captain of one of those spaceships and killed thousands of your comrades by attacking other spaceships to snatch their resources, you'd be walking down an incredibly dark path.

"But right then, imagine if you discovered another spaceship. It appeared to be larger than your spaceship and with greater firepower. The people in that spaceship also still retained the moral views and laws from Earth. Now, ask yourself, would you have any other choice aside from attacking first to gain an advantage?"

Meng Chao fell silent.

He had to admit that Ye Xiaoxing was right.

Once a person crossed certain boundaries, there was no coming back.

"Dragon City can't leave all satellite cities alone and let them end up as hellish dens that will leave people without any humanity," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"We can tolerate Dragon King Town's existence because they're harmless for the time being. It's as you said, killing one another and executing the witches happened in the previous generation, and it has nothing to do with the new generation born from the Divine Tree, and for the time being, we haven't discovered the new generation doing anything bad that crosses our limits, aside from loving anime too much.

"Then, out of love for our comrades and respect for this brand new custom, there is no need for us to carry out any forceful measures against Dragon King Town. We'll let them remain immersed in the world of anime and live in pure happiness and peace.

"But what if a satellite city formed a symbiotic relationship with a carnivorous monster or ended up with the culture of cannibalism, burying people alive, or sacrificing humans to monsters because of a monster's influence? Should we sit by and do nothing even then?

"Don't say that it's impossible. It's now the 56th year of the New Era. In the long course of history, half a century is a short moment, but if you calculate things based on a human's childbearing age, even if you start bearing children at the age of eighteen, you can create three generations in fifty six years.

"There's this thing called a generation gap on Earth, right? And they say a generation gap happens once every ten years. The evolution speed in the Other World is at least ten times faster than on Earth. The time required to produce three generations of people is enough to create a civilization that we cannot understand nor accept.

"Let's think of this from the point of benefits. Don't they always say that no one can tolerate others encroaching on their territory? If we consider things from Dragon City's existence standpoint and the beliefs of our civilization, it's impossible for us to tolerate a den of demons that wishes to trample on our great civilization.

"The problem is, we haven't discovered such a monstrous place yet.

"But if such a place exists, it'll have an easy time discovering us. After all, Dragon City is huge. Since the time of the Great Expedition Era, we've left many clues of our existence in Monster Mountain Range.

"As long as they remember some of the tactics from human civilization, they'll know that attacking us first will be their only chance for survival."

Meng Chao broke out into cold sweat as he listened. "Captain Ye, are you saying... that these twisted and mutated humans may use the monsters' strength to completely destroy us?"

"If they won't wish to completely destroy us, they'll want to turn us into their image," Ye Xiaoxing said. "If there is one person among one hundred who has a tail, that person is a monster, but if ninety-nine people out of the one hundred have tails, the person who doesn't have a tail is the monster.

"Those people can't go back to how they were. Once they realize that Dragon City is too big and they can't destroy us directly, the best course of action for them will be to cause chaos in the city. They will think of ways to drag us into the mud with them and break our humanity. They'll attempt to make us all the same."

Meng Chao shut his eyes and gently rubbed the bridge of his nose. He did not want to believe this.

But he had the memories from his previous life and knew better than anyone else that Ye Xiaoxing's vicious conclusion was infinitesimally close to the truth.

"Meng Chao, please don't blame me for painting our past comrades in such a bad light. When it comes to the problem of clashing civilizations, kindness and evil are no longer important. Even if the other party is not evil but full of kind will, treats us as kindred, and even wants to save us, we might still end up with incredibly intense fights," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"Let's use Dragon King Town as an example. Let's say that by sheer luck, Dragon King Town produced a peerless fighter, and this fighter discovered Dragon City's existence. This man is full of kind will and wants to save us. So, what do you think he will do?"

After a moment's pause to give Meng Chao time to think, Ye Xiaoxing asked, "Won't he sneak into Dragon City and kill all the beautiful female celebrities?"

Meng Chao was stunned. "What?"

"Let's look at this from the viewpoint of the powerful fighter from Dragon King Town. All women are demons, and the more beautiful a woman is, the more dangerous she is. When women appear in public, they make men kill each other, which can destroy the entire civilization.

"This isn't some bigoted, crazy thought. The history of Dragon King Town has carved this into its people's genes. The heroic man's forefathers have also taught him this since young. It's a firm belief that cannot be destroyed," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"So if this kind Dragon King Town fighter really wants to save us, he will go to burn all the witches so that the Divine Tree can bear its fruit in Dragon City and all the men can throw themselves into the holy embrace of anime girls. He will do that for sure, don't you think so?

"No matter how we explain it to him, he won't understand what is a normal relationship between a man and a woman. He will just think that we are bewitched, and his determination to burn all witches will become even stronger. Perhaps he will even expand his attack range and burn all heterosexual couples as well! After all, in the eyes of Dragon King Town's civilization, all heterosexual couples are witches and their loyal dogs!

"This example might not be appropriate, but as long as it can make you understand my meaning, it's enough. Each civilization has its own internal logic that will allow them to justify their actions. They also have the need to spread it outwards and influence other civilizations.

"That's why we can't avoid clashing ideologies with the satellite cities that we lost contact with for many years. The clash may have even already happened and we just don't know it yet."

Chapter 335: Group 9

Meng Chao understood what Ye Xiaoxing was trying to imply.

In the memories of his previous life, the Survival Committee had said that they ended the Monster War with a Pyrrhic victory. The monsters had been continuously evolving during the war, and they came to possess intelligence that was greater and even more mysterious than that of humans. Hence, they could infiltrate human society and assassinate important people, throw the city's order into chaos, and break their tactical facilities.

The monsters in the wild even came to possess strict organizations and gradually started developing a monster civilization.

In his previous life, Meng Chao was just a normal human during the Monster War, so he believed those words when he heard them.

After he accepted the harsh training in Ghost Tribe and became a third-class fighter, the Monster War had long since ended, so there was no need for him to be conflicted about it.

But now that he thought about it, there were two strange things about it.

First, if monsters had relied purely on themselves, could they become smarter than humans in just a short fifty years? Could they so quickly understand human society and the development of civilization, which allowed them to discover the most fragile parts of human society?

Even if they did manage to find them, different species of monsters were competitors who treated each other as enemies they had to kill. It was just as Lin Chuan kept on saying, there was no way Nine-headed Crystalline Dragons and Demonic Halberd Pigs could work together. So how could they possibly start a monster civilization?

Second, Meng Chao just could not imagine how monsters could infiltrate human society.

Even if they crept into human brains and turned humans into puppets or used some ingenious method to create a perfect human body, it would not be easy for them to understand human language, culture, customs, slang, and popular Internet phrases.

After all, even real humans who lived in one culture had a hard time imitating humans of another culture, so it would be even more difficult for monsters.

So, during the second stage of the Monster War, their enemies could not have been pure monsters. Instead, they were humans who had a symbiotic relationship with monsters. They were people from

satellite cities who had transmigrated over fifty years ago but lost their humanity because they were too small and because the Other World was too harsh. Was that the truth?

The greatest enemy of mankind was its own people.

It was no wonder then why the results of the Monster War in his previous life were so devastating.

It was akso no wonder why the Survival Committee could not reveal the truth.

Once the truth that "the enemy is other humans" got out, it would definitely cause confusion and chaos in the city.

"The Survival Committee has been set up for more than thirty years, and ever since then, most of the Dragon Citizens, regardless of whether they're superhumans or normal people, have become united against the major threats from the outside world. We do it for our survival.

"We have very few internal conflicts. Even if we occasionally have superhumans who go through spirit energy deviation and commit crimes, they are soon be killed by the adjudicator court," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"But over the past few years, as there were less external threats, many of the citizens became egotistical and restless. A lot of the descendants of the superhumans have also grown up, and the concept of aristocratic cultivator families popped up. They are in control of major power and have formed their own interest groups, which is creating multiple problems in Dragon City. This has reached a point where the adjudicator court can no longer control the situation.

"Multiple pieces of evidence show that highly-intelligent monsters are behind a lot of our problems. The abnormal beast research department was formed in order to reduce the pressure on the adjudicator court and specifically deal with the crimes made by the highly-intelligent monsters.

"But no matter how we strike at the highly-intelligent monsters, they never stopped fanning the flames and worsening our conflicts. In fact, they just keep on getting worse.

"It's only through the White Spirit Case and Gao Ye's case that we realized to our shock that the highlyintelligent monsters have a strict organization. They are not the abnormal beasts we originally thought they were. Instead, they might be abnormal people who were born in the wild and formed symbiotic relationships with monsters—people from satellite cities who have become twisted.

"There are already a lot of abnormal beasts and abnormal people who have infiltrated our city.

"They bewitch good and promising people like Lin Chuan and Gao Ye, which is why they went through spirit energy deviation and fell from grace.

"And a lot of conflicts that could have been minimized have become situations without a solution because of the monsters fanning the flames and worsening the ordeal.

"To handle this situation, the abnormal beast research department set up the Ninth Special Investigation Group.

"Group 9's immediate task is to use the clues from the White Spirit and Gao Ye's cases and find the organization of abnormal people and abnormal beasts who have infiltrated Dragon City as well as crush their schemes.

"If we can uproot their organization, we will be able to accurately locate their nest and find the satellite city that has turned into a den of demons. We will then get rid of the problem that's been lurking within Dragon City and stopping us from conquering the Other World!

"Meng Chao, I can say that without your hard work, the White Spirit and Gao Ye's cases would have gone in a completely different direction. We would have needed a longer time to unravel the mysteries and would have suffered many losses before we realized the enemy's true identity. I thank you once again on behalf of the abnormal beast research department and all of Dragon City for your contribution!"

Ye Xiaoxing stood up and bowed to Meng Chao earnestly.

Meng Chao's face turned a little red, and he said sincerely, "Captain Ye, Dragon City is our one and only hometown. We shouldn't even be talking about contributions when we do something for our hometown. Just tell me when Group 9 needs me to do something in the future. I won't run from my duty!"

Kindling shone at the corner of his eyes and showed the progress for the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities increasing to 20%. Meng Chao then knew that he made the right choice.

As long as they dealt with the problems of the satellite cities, they could win the Monster War without a problem.

The White Spirit's plan was stopped and Gao Ye's scheme was revealed. Right now, the Supernatural Entities' organization was not as large and meticulous as it was in his previous life when it finally revealed itself. The remaining of the Seven Great Supernatural Entities were unlikely to be in their final form already.

It was the perfect chance to stop them.

If being honest, Meng Chao's acceptance level toward other types of humanoid civilizations was pretty high.

In the memories of his previous life, he had seen strange humanoid creatures like dwarves, elves, and demons. Many of them had customs that crossed the limits of morals from Earth.

At that time, however, Dragon Citizens also did whatever it took to survive. They had lost their identity and lived like roaches, just like what the instructor with the black skull had told them.

Hence, Meng Chao did not think that it was absolutely necessary to destroy the satellite cities which had completely different civilizations compared to Dragon City.

But regardless of whether they were going to save them, form alliances with them, merge with them, or launch a full out war against them, they had to find them before the enemy could seize the initiative.

Meng Chao had returned from the apocalypse, so he would never hand over his fate to someone else.

Ye Xiaoxing smiled. "We're not in a hurry to do this. Group 9's current task is investigations outside. Don't worry, we won't be brutes and send a rising star with a bright future into a fight against the sinister and cunning abnormal beasts. "If you're willing, we will arrange a three-month long training session for you. Normally, if you want to officially join the abnormal beast research department, you should receive at least half a year's worth of secret training. But you're a special case. We think that we should keep you at an arm's length so that it would be easier to conduct some secret investigations.

"I know that you have a lot of work in university. So, every day, we will just ask you to give us from three to five hours of your time at night. We'll be mainly teaching you stealth tactics, tailing tactics, reconnaissance and anti-reconnaissance tactics, how to invade abnormal beasts' minds and how to ensure that your mind won't be invaded by abnormal beasts, as well as ways to interrogate abnormal beasts.

"You have lots of knowledge about the biological structure of monsters, since you're a harvester, so you will definitely become a good abnormal beast interrogator and dig out all of their secrets."

Meng Chao was slightly taken aback and scratched his head.

"Is something wrong?" Ye Xiaoxing asked.

"No." Meng Chao shook his head. 'Why does it feel like I've learned all of that before?'

It took him a moment to come to an answer. He had taken similar classes in the Ghost Tribe in his previous life.

Ghost Tribe should have been a secret squad formed a few years later compared to the abnormal beast research department.

This meant that the stealth tactics, assassination skills, reconnaissance tactics and interrogation tactics he learned from the Ghost Tribe should be more advanced compared to those of the current abnormal beast research department.

Unfortunately, his memories were still fragmented. Aside from Walking Corpse and Bizarre Stab, he did not remember much of the other tactics.

But that was fine. Once he received training in the related fields in the abnormal beast research department, he should remember more skills from the Ghost Tribe. If not that, he should at least be able to use his contribution points to activate them.

After thinking about it, Meng Chao said, "Captain Ye, don't worry. If it's just for a few hours at night, I'm fine with it. In any case, grabbing the subway from Nine Sands University City to the western parts of the city is very convenient. Once I'm done with lectures, I'll rush over."

"You don't have to go through that much trouble. The abnormal beast research department has a dedicated area in Agricultural University. I often go to the university too. We have a few external instructors who are lecturers from Agricultural University, so you can receive your training straight in Agricultural University or in the branch training camp in Nine Sands Region," Ye Xiaoxing said.

Meng Chao was a little shocked. "Does the abnormal beast research department have a close relationship with Agricultural University?"

"Of course. Agricultural University is the Monster University. Since we formed an investigation organization that targets highly-intelligent monsters, we definitely need Agricultural University's support," Ye Xiaoxing said with a smile.

"More than half of our investigators are from Agricultural University, and you're the best freshman in this batch of students in Agricultural University. When you led the alliance of the five universities to a victory against Dragon City University during the inter-university tournament, you have no idea just how many higher-ups and veteran investigators from Agricultural University who are now in the abnormal beast research department cheered for you!

"It's precisely because you're from Agricultural University and have brought a lot of benefits for Agricultural University through the inter-university tournament, the promotion of the Ultimate Style, and other things that you had the right to learn all that I told you today. Otherwise, do you really think you would have been able to join Group 9 so easily?"

It was only at that moment that Meng Chao realized that it was not only because he had both courage and wisdom as well as crucial evidence in his hands that Ye Xiaoxing invited him to join his group.

He puffed out his chest and said loudly, "Don't worry, Captain Ye, I won't embarrass my university!"

"I believe that, soon, you will become Agricultural University's greatest pride."

Once they settled the matter of Meng Chao's training, Ye Xiaoxing put away all the files. They talked to each other for a while more before Meng Chao as well as Lu Siya were about to get up and leave. At that moment, Ye Xiaoxing suddenly stopped them.

"By the way, Meng Chao, there's something else..."

Chapter 336: Broken Star Club

Meng Chao and Lu Siya turned around and saw Ye Xiaoxing searching through his drawer. It took him a while to fish out a rumpled envelope, which contained a stack of documents. He took a few glances at it before he said, "I heard that you and your friends formed a club called Broken Star Club. Is that true?"

Meng Chao was a little surprised.

They had formed the Broken Star Club at the start of the year.

When the Ultimate Style was just born, the main volunteers of the experiment were Meng Chao and the students working in society from the refresher course of Agricultural University. Ma Hong, the scout from the Red Dragon Army, was the one who led the team.

Most of the people in the refresher course were broken-star superhumans.

This meant that when they awakened to their superpowers, they used too much strength and their spirit energy went out of control. Most of their main meridians were burnt, and they were pseudo-superhumans.

Their cultivation speed was slow and they did not have a high upper limit. It was difficult for them to go past being one-star superhumans, and they were often considered to be at the bottom of the superhuman circle.

The birth of the Ultimate Style coincidentally solved this pressing matter for them.

They could rapidly increase their fighting strength through cultivating the branch meridians and nourish their main meridians by repeatedly stimulating and expanding their branch meridians. This gave life to their shrivelled up main meridian.

Hence, Ma Hong and the other broken-star superhumans joined the Ultimate Style experiment with 120% gusto. They obtained different levels of improvement from it.

Later, the northern offense began, so Ma Hong and the other soldiers had to return to the Red Dragon Army and go to the northern frontlines.

The powerful fighters working under various mining companies, resource companies, and construction companies also had to return to their companies and become active at Shattered Starlake in their various occupations.

Their comrades and colleagues knew well just how strong they were.

When they saw how their strength had grown by leaps and bounds after a few months at the university's refresher course and how they seemed to be completely different people, many of the broken-star superhumans who were in the same situation as them and sympathized with them were surprised.

Most of the refresher courses were just places for people to get a cert without doing anything. They could not help broken-star superhumans change their fighting power in essence.

No one had expected that Agricultural University's martial arts refresher course would be the real deal, so they were envious as well as tempted into joining it.

Ma Hong and the rest told them the truth and said that it was all thanks to the Ultimate Style.

Around the same time, Meng Chao also revealed his brilliance at Shattered Starlake by organizing the Ultimate Style Exchange every night and leading the alliance of the five universities to victory against Dragon City University during the inter-university tournament. It imprinted the name of Meng Chao and the Ultimate Style in countless broken-star superhumans' minds.

In the end, before the northern offense even ended, the door to the Agricultural University's martial arts refresher course was almost destroyed by broken-star superhumans because of how often they visited the place.

The power of an example was indescribable. After being spurred on by Ma Hong and the rest, many of the broken-star superhumans wanted to learn from Gu Jianbo and Meng Chao.

Originally, the refresher course did not have any requirements for results for enrollment. As long as the student could fork out money, they would be taught indiscriminately. No student was ever rejected.

A problem with this popped up when countless broken-star superhumans applied for the course. There was a limit to the number of Ultimate Style's cultivation cabins in the lab of Project 1024. Even if they were used twenty-four hours a day, they could not support the simultaneous cultivation of more than one hundred broken-star superhumans.

Hence, Gu Jianbo, the lecturer of the refresher course; Ma Hong, the course rep of the refresher course; and Meng Chao, who was not part of the refresher course but was Gu Jianbo's one-and-only true disciple and was also the one who pushed the Ultimate Style forward, ultimately allowing it to be born, discussed with each other for a long time before they came to a conclusion. They asked the university to expand the scale of the refresher course while they formed the Broken Star Club to help with the immediate situation.

Just as the name implied, it was an organization for broken-star superhumans to exchange experience and become friends with each other.

The main reason behind it was for them to tell each other of their experiences practicing the Ultimate Style and healing the shrivelled main meridians. It could also help them coordinate the time they spent in the cultivation cabins to practice the Ultimate Style.

Of course, through the Broken Star Club, they could also gather more experiment data, so the Ultimate Style could evolve continuously and become the strongest cultivation and fighting model.

There were not many requirements to join the Broken Star Club. As long as a person was a broken-star superhuman and was willing to share his or her experience in cultivation, they were welcome to join.

Since Gu Jianbo was not a broken-star superhuman, he was not in the club. He was just a supervisor in name.

Ma Hong was the course rep of the refresher course, and he also had a lot of connections in the Red Dragon Army and society. Many of the broken-star superhumans joined because of his recommendation, so he naturally became the club leader.

As for Meng Chao, everyone strongly suggested that he should be the vice-leader. He was Gu Jianbo's true disciple and the person who brought forward the birth of the Ultimate Style. He was also doing everything he could to spread the Ultimate Style in the northern battlefield. It was something hard to do and a great contribution to the Ultimate Style.

Besides, he became a broken-star superhuman when he killed a Bloody Moon Wolf King during his national college examination. This was a hair-rising feat, but also very touching.

There were few broken-star superhumans in the city who did not know Meng Chao's name.

Meng Chao originally wanted to reject it. After all, he was just a freshman, and aside from cultivating, he also had to harvest monsters. After lectures, he spent most of his time looking for and riding the coattails of various powerful people to solve the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities. He simply had no time to become a vice-leader, and he had no experience in this field either.

But Ma Hong told him that the Broken Star Club was built for the sake of everyone learning the Ultimate Style. Mr. Gu Jianbo could not join because of his identity and could only be a supervisor in name. But as the one disciple who would inherit Big Brother Bo's legacy, if Meng Chao did not take up the position, it would not make sense.

Besides, there were only hundreds of people in the Broken Star Club, and the main purpose for it was to help everyone book the time to use the Ultimate Style cultivation cabins. This was basically the same as

online queuing and appointment systems. Regardless of whether someone was the club leader or the vice-leader, their positions did not mean much. They did not need any experience to take them up.

Meng Chao thought about it and found it true, so he agreed to it.

Since then, the Broken Star Club had not done anything major. It hired a person to design a website and set up an appointment system for the cultivation cabins, which solved basically all problems.

They had a few groups on the club website. They had thousands of people and were almost full.

The admin was very responsible, so the broken-star superhumans in the groups just cracked jokes all the time, boasted, sent emojis, or captioned gifs. Meng Chao ignored them most of the time.

Ma Hong had a lot of work in the Red Dragon Army, so he seldom had time to come to the refresher course. He did not pay a lot of attention to the Broken Star Club either.

Besides, investments had been piling up for the creation of new Ultimate Style cultivation cabins, which solved the problem of broken-star superhumans lacking resources to cultivate, and hence, the Broken Star Club lost its main purpose for existence.

Then, one day after Superstar Resource Recovery Company merged with Prosperous Resource Recovery Company, Qin Hu had suddenly run over to tell Meng Chao that he wanted to become the director of the Broken Star Club.

Ever since he received the dual attack from the Red Radiance Jades and Blue Origin Crystals, Qin Hu's problem of his spirit energy going stagnant did not go away. His strength had plummeted, and he was in an even worse state than broken-star superhumans.

Due to him contributing to stopping the White Spirit and indirectly saving Meng Chao by discovering the Blue Origin Crystal cave in his previous life, Meng Chao introduced Qin Hu to Gu Jianbo in hopes that the Ultimate Style could solve his problem.

Qin Hu cooperated well. He gritted his teeth and endured a lot of incredibly painful experiments.

Gu Jianbo wanted to use the Ultimate Style to help a veteran fighter who lost his strength reach Heaven Realm and gain more valuable experiment data.

He tried his best to treat Qin Hu and used every trick up his sleeve.

Unfortunately, he did not manage to achieve what he intended. After hundreds of attempts, Qin Hu's spirit energy did not recover in the slightest.

With Qin Hu's state, he could not even be considered a broken-star superhuman.

But the Broken Star Club was not some high-end, grand, and high-class organization. If he wanted to join out of respect for Meng Chao, then Meng Chao let him join. It was good for him to get rid of his gloomy feelings by chatting with the numerous broken-star superhumans.

And somehow, he seemed to have discovered some sort of treasure in the Broken Star Club. He was constantly chatting up a storm with the broken-star superhumans. He often even went out and treated those broken-star superhumans to meals.

Qin Hu had been quite famous in society before this. He was the vice-captain of Frenzied Saber, after all.

In the eyes of Heaven Realm elites who were born in powerful families like Lu Siya, he was nothing, but most of the broken-star superhumans came from poor families. They didn't have much of a background and not a lot of resources. Otherwise, they would not have gone out of control when they awakened and gotten injured.

Qin Hu, however, had been at the peak of Earth Realm and could sympathize with them. He also came from a poor family, but had gotten quite a lot of it from the expedition under Raging Waves. He was now quite rich and when he gathered together with the broken-star superhumans, he treated money as if it was nothing, so almost in no time, the broken-star superhumans had a great impression of him.

Hence, when he told Meng Chao that he had gained the support of many broken-star superhumans, including Ma Hong, Meng Chao did not suspect his words.

However, Meng Chao could not understand it. The Broken Star Club was not some mega corporation that could earn a bucket of gold every day. It was not a powerful organization that could do whatever it wanted either. It was just a loosely organized social welfare organization.

There was not even the position of a director. Why was then Qin Hu being so passionate about getting involved in the club? Was he really just contributing to the large number of broken-star superhumans?

"Look at you. Are you the only one allowed to contribute? Am I not allowed to contribute to the public for once?" Qin Hu said sadly, as if he had been wronged. "Right now, I lost all my power, and I'm basically useless. I no longer have any hope of becoming a hunter, and no superhuman squad will take me in. After you took my company, I don't have any interest in fighting for control with your father, either. You have to let me look for entertainment and how to spend my time, okay?

"I know that I have money, but my wife keeps a tight leash over it, so even if I'm rich, I can't spend any of it. Mr. Gu tried treating me hundreds of times from top to bottom with methods that are basically torture, but there's no signs of me recovering my strength. What if I'm going to stay like this for the rest of my life? It's depressing, man!

"The Broken Star Club itself isn't much, but those broken-star superhumans? Heh, they're from everywhere and are part of all sorts of industries. They tell me insider information from all sorts of industries, including a lot of secrets from the streets of Dragon City.

"They even tell me amazing stories from decades ago, which are really interesting and addictive. If I were the director and managed the club, we could often gather together and eat as well as boast about our achievements. There's nothing wrong with that, right?"

Meng Chao remembered himself saying this at that time. "It's precisely because there's no problem that there's a problem.

"Mr. Hu, you're the type of person who won't wake up early unless it benefits you. It's not as simple as eating together and boasting about each other's achievements, right? How much money would you have to spend to manage the club?"

"What the heck? Are you suspecting that I want to get money from this? I already got money for the mining rights of the Red Radiance Jade mine from Lu Siya. Why would I want that bit of money from the club?"

Qin Hu found himself not knowing whether to laugh or cry. "Besides, the Broken Star Club isn't a company or an organization. It doesn't have a single cent in its account. Where am I supposed to get money even if I want it?

"I'll tell you the truth. I don't want a single cent from this. I'll be using my own money to manage the club and contributing to the large number of broken-star superhumans. Is that good enough for you?"

Meng Chao had been really puzzled at that time.

Even though he felt that Qin Hu was definitely aiming for something because there was no way he would be so passionate about it if there was nothing for him to gain, half of Qin Hu's wealth came from the former Prosperous that had merged with Superstar. Meng Chao had a tight control over the money Qin Hu could get.

The other half of his wealth came from Lu Siya's Red Radiance Jade Mine mining rights. That money was not something he could take just because he wanted to.

Even if Qin Hu did something wrong, no matter where he ran, he could not escape. If he really had some sort of ulterior motive, Meng Chao would have ways of dealing with him.

If he wanted to become the director of the Broken Star Club, then so be it. Meng Chao was okay with it as long as he did not use the name of the Broken Star Club to go out and deceive people. But even if he did, it was fine, Qin Hu was definitely rich enough to pay the people he deceived. Besides, Meng Chao believed that Qin Hu would not be that stupid, especially after he lost his strength.

In Meng Chao's eyes, the director of the Broken Star Club could not even be considered a proper position that held any significant meaning in society.

But Qin Hu was really gungho about it. He went everywhere all the time without telling anyone what exactly he was doing.

By the looks of it, he could not get used to life of a normal human and was doing something completely unnecessary.

There were a few times when he even seriously came to Meng Chao to report his work, because Meng Chao was the vice-leader.

But it was during the case of the murderous pets in Blessed Paradise, so Meng Chao was occupied with the thoughts of the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities and did not have the time nor energy for talking nonsense.

That is why he did not expect that he would hear the Broken Star Club's name from Ye Xiaoxing, and his heart clenched.

Chapter 337: Anonymous Donation

"Captain Ye, is there a problem with the Broken Star Club?" Meng Chao asked while thinking, 'If abnormal beasts infiltrated the Broken Star Club, that would be hilarious.'

But when he gave it a second thought, that should not be the case. Qin Hu's morals were completely different from those of Lin Chuan and Gao Ye!

Just as he expected, Ye Xiaoxing smiled and shook his head. "Meng Chao, you misunderstand. Director Qin of the Broken Star Club is very capable. Over the past two months, he has made the club really lively and full of laughter!

"Speaking of which, we are quite regretful. Broken-star superhumans are part of the superhuman family, but due to the damage to their main meridians, they have to deal with people looking at them differently. When they cultivate, they also run into all sorts of problems that no one helps them solve.

"This is the responsibility of the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee, but due to various reasons, we have always overlooked them.

"In the end, it was Agricultural University's martial arts course that developed the Ultimate Style and formed the Broken Star Club, which brought new hope to the large number of broken-star superhumans.

"This is a negligence of duty from the Supernatural Tower. We should apologize properly to you."

Meng Chao did not understand what Ye Xiaoxing meant. He waved his hand and said, "Dragon City has to make choices that will determine our survival. I can understand that they have to pour most of their resources on superhumans who have potential."

"It's one thing that you understand, but it's another matter that the Supernatural Tower wants to apologize. Compared to the Heaven Realm fighters and Deity Realm elites who stand high above us, the fighting power of the broken-star superhumans is naturally nothing special, but you make up the largest number of superhumans," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"Most of the superhumans are stuck in Spirit Tattoo Realm, and among them, most are broken-star superhumans. If superhumans are to be the weapons of human civilization, then broken-star superhumans would definitely be the sturdy backs.

"The back of the weapon might not be as sharp as the blade, and people often overlook its existence. But it's the basis of the weapon. The thicker and tougher the back of the weapon is, the more power it has when swung to cut.

"Besides, the birth of the Ultimate Style has allowed the fighting strength of broken-star superhumans to increase dramatically. As long as they go up by 70%, the fighting strength of the entire Dragon City would increase in terms of quality!"

Meng Chao nodded.

He himself was also a broken-star superhuman, so he knew the benefits of the Ultimate Style toward clearing the branch meridians and repairing the main meridians.

It was one of the reasons why he had staked everything he had to develop the Ultimate Style together with Gu Jianbo.

While speaking, Ye Xiaoxing brought out a normal-looking black card from the envelope and handed it to him with a serious expression.

Lu Siya sucked in a sharp breath.

Meng Chao quickly took the card with both hands and asked curiously, "Captain Ye, what is this?"

"There's one million Supernatural Coins in this card. Hurry up and bind it to your bioinformatics."

Ye Xiaoxing tapped the card lightly, and the surface of the originally black card shone with rows of profound and complicated runic symbols. They were interconnected with each other and formed the symbol of the Supernatural Tower.

"One million Supernatural Coins?!" Meng Chao was shocked.

Supernatural Coins were quasi-money that could only be used in the Supernatural Tower.

But their purchasing power was ten times greater than that of the fiat money in Dragon City.

They could be used to buy a lot of valuable treasures, secret medicine, and materials that could only be harvested from Apocalyptic Beasts and were not sold on the market.

"This is some funds for the Broken Star Club to help with the club's development. The donor hopes that you can make Broken Star Club better and help more broken-star superhumans increase their fighting power so that they can contribute more to Dragon City!" Ye Xiaoxing said.

"Don't be in a hurry to reject the offer. This isn't for you. It's for the thousands of broken-star superhumans in Dragon City. Besides, it's not money from me or the abnormal beast research department. I was just asked to hand it to you."

Meng Chao was surprised. "This is... Which senior did this? He's... way too generous!"

"Well... the donor wishes to remain anonymous, so I can't tell you the name for the time being. You just need to know that there are plenty of people watching your contributions to Dragon City. Everyone has high hopes for you as a rising star and want to help you."

Ye Xiaoxing smiled faintly. "By the way, I heard that there are still an inadequate number of Ultimate Style cultivation cabins, right?"

"We're already in a much better condition compared to the start of the year. At that time, the brokenstar superhumans had to make an appointment a week in advance, and even then, they could only use the cultivation cabins for three hours at most!"

Meng Chao thought about it. "The problem is that it's really troublesome to create the Ultimate Style cultivation cabins. We're still trying to figure out a lot of the parameters for the design. Besides, the factories can only produce a limited number of them since they have to settle other deals as well. There is indeed not enough of the newest model cultivation cabins, and we can't satisfy the needs of the broken-star superhumans and the Ultimate Style enthusiasts."

"How about this? Send a namelist of the factories that can produce the Ultimate Style cultivation cabins to me. I'll coordinate with them so that they will prioritize handling the Ultimate Style cultivation cabin

deals," Ye Xiaoxing said. "This donor who gave you one million Supernatural Coins also wishes to donate one hundred Ultimate Style cultivation cabins to the Broken Star Club."

Meng Chao's jaw fell slack. He no longer knew what he should say.

Ye Xiaoxing brought out a data storage device from the envelope.

Meng Chao took it with puzzlement.

"This anonymous donor has watched all of your fighting videos, and while the donor has heaped praises on the Ultimate Style, the donor has also discovered certain problems," Ye Xiaoxing said. "The data in here targets the flaws and suggests ways to modify the Ultimate Style based on your fighting style. It'll be very useful to you and the Ultimate Style. You can go back and go through this with Mr. Gu Jianbo. Once you digest it fully, you can teach it to the other broken-star superhumans."

Meng Chao nodded with a contemplative expression.

Ye Xiaoxing stood up and gave his shoulder a hard slap. He said gravely, "Work hard, Meng Chao. Your generation will be the one protecting the future of Dragon City!"

After they left the training camp of the abnormal beast research department, Meng Chao eagerly turned on his tablet while in Lu Siya's car and inserted the data storage device.

A flood of information appeared on the screen, and it came cascading down like a waterfall from the top of the screen.

A large number of incredibly detailed diagrams, models of spirit energy magnetic fields, and analysis of vitality magnetic fields showed up. Meng Chao could not take his eyes off of them. He broke out in cold sweat, and at the end, he could not help but exhale long and hard.

"What's wrong?" Lu Siya sized him up in her peripheral vision.

"The value of this data... is too high!" Meng Chao gulped and mumbled, "When I helped Mr. Gu research the Ultimate Style, I thought that while it can't possibly be perfect, it should at least not have major weaknesses. I didn't expect that in the eyes of this senior, it'd be full of flaws anyways. There are so many places where it can be improved.

"This... This is practically a cultivation guideline customized for me. He or she gathered all the mistakes I made in my fighting videos!

"If I digested all of the data in here, my fighting strength would definitely increase by 100% and I'd even have the chance to instantly reach Spirit Gathering Realm and become a three-star superhuman, someone at the peak of Earth Realm!

"He or she actually managed to create such a cultivation guideline... Just who is this senior? Why did they do this? He or she even donated one million Supernatural Coins and one hundred cultivation cabins to us! Why?"

"It's definitely the mastermind behind the abnormal beast research department!" Lu Siya tilted her head up and looked with smugness. She said, "Since you come from Agricultural University, you can be considered to have stepped on a ladder that will rapidly bring you up the ranks in the abnormal beast research department.

"You're also one of the most outstanding students in the current batch of freshmen in Agricultural University. If the leaders who also come from Agricultural University don't cultivate you, who else are they supposed to cultivate?

"I'm worse off because I come from Dragon City University. I would be able to find many university mates who have great power in the adjudicator court or other organizations and ride on their coattails, but I'm a pitiful existence in the abnormal beast research department. I have to bask in your limelight to join Group 9. Perhaps in two years' time, things will change, and I'll be the one riding on your coattails."

"Big Sis Ya, don't say that. We'll be riding on each other's coattails."

Meng Chao paused for a moment and said, "Then, why didn't you join the adjudicator court?"

"Didn't I tell you last time? First, it's because there are people from the Lu family in the adjudicator court, and they're my rivals, so I don't want to go there to suffer." Lu Siya pursed her lips. "Second, when I saw that the development of the abnormal beast research department was going great and it looked like it was going to be a competitor for the adjudicator court, I wanted to see if I can climb up the ranks over here.

"After that, I ran into you, a future star who carries the hopes of many leaders and possesses endless potential. I'm prepared to ride on your coattails in a few years' time, which is why I chose to stay in the abnormal beast research department!"

Meng Chao coughed dryly and changed the topic. "Just who is the leader of the abnormal beast research department? Do you know him or her?"

"Nope." Lu Siya shook her head. "The abnormal beast research department has managed to get a few Deity Realm elites to help us, such as Captain Ye's big brother, but he's a pure fighting-class elite. He doesn't seem like someone who will do something like this at such a large scale.

"You must understand. Originally, the adjudicator court was the one handling the cases related to supernatural crimes in Dragon City. It could hide its deeds from the eyes of the public and had a lot of power.

"But this year, we used the reason that abnormal beasts have infiltrated Dragon City and snatched a lot of cases from the adjudicator court. Of course, we also snatched away a lot of power from them.

"Without the peerless elites at the highest positions in Dragon City supporting us, it would have been impossible for the abnormal beast research department to gain so much power. So, just be at ease and do your job properly. As long as you perform well, you'll definitely be able to get a lot of benefits."

Meng Chao nodded.

Based on the memories from his previous life, the research department was one of the two powerful organizations in Dragon City and stood on equal grounds with the adjudicator court.

It was only natural then that it would have powerful elites supporting it.

If he rode on this powerful coattail, it would not be much of a problem. He would just need to work hard and climb up the ranks. Then, he could naturally change Dragon City's future.

But... Meng Chao's head ached.

It was as if someone had poured boiling oil on his sulci.

Through the pain, he remembered something very strange.

'Why is it that I stopped hearing about the abnormal beast research department after the Monster War ended?

'Is it because the research department was dissolved after the threat from the abnormal beasts was gone? Or is it because of something else?'

Lu Siya keenly noticed his troubles. She frowned a little. "Meng Chao, what's wrong with you?"

"No. It's nothing." Meng Chao shook his head and temporarily flung away the puzzlement he had concerning the fog clouding his memory fragments. He switched to another topic. "By the way, do you know what Qin Hu has been doing recently?"

Chapter 338: Situation Becoming Good

Lu Siya pursed her lips. "Isn't he your friend? How would I know? But what is it, is he short of cash lately?"

Meng Chao was a little surprised by the question. "Why did you say that?"

"Half a month ago, he came to me and asked to get all the money he would get from the mining rights of the Red Radiance Jade mine," Lu Siya said. "You know just how many crystals there were in the Red Radiance Jade mine under Raging Waves. Even if the quality of the crystals had dropped considerably after the explosion, we could still mine them for decades.

"I had no intention to break my promise and I didn't take even a penny of what Qin Hu should get. If he received the dividend every year, it'd be enough for his entire family to live comfortably for a few generations.

"But he wanted to sell me the mining rights that would last him decades. Of course, he offered a very low price."

"How could this be?" Meng Chao was shocked. "Right now, Superstar is doing well in terms of business. He's the second biggest shareholder, and can definitely live a leisurely life. Besides, he lost his powers, so he doesn't need to buy any expensive cultivation resources. Why would he want to sell the moneygenerating treasure that will last him decades and get all the money in one go?"

He thought about this for a while, then recalled Qin Hu asking him about Broken Star Club.

"Vice-leader Meng, you finally have the time to listen to a report about my work?"

Qin Hu giggled on the other end of the call. It was noisy around him. Some people were calling out to him while talking to each other. "Director Qin! Director Qin!"

Meng Chao frowned. "Mr. Hu, what are you doing? Why is Broken Star Club?"

How in the world did Broken Star Club manage to get such a huge donation and so many cultivation cabins in the form of a donation?

"Ah. I'm at the headquarters of Broken Star Club. If you're free, you can come over to talk. We can also eat with the directors!" Qin Hu yelled.

"Head... quarters?"

Meng Chao felt even more puzzled.

Broken Star Club was an organization for people to make appointments for the cultivation cabins. It had been located at the old lecture building for Agricultural University's martial arts course, which only the refresher course students used for their activities. Even though there were few cultivation cabins there, the place was considered large, and it was easy for them to teach the Ultimate Style.

When did they get a headquarters? Was it necessary? Who paid for it?!

"I want to take a look too."

After Meng Chao hung up, Lu Siya became interested. "Qin Hu is sometimes quite the interesting fellow."

Meng Chao frowned. "Is he?"

"Of course, don't underestimate him," Lu Siya said. "On the surface, he's just the vice-captain of Frenzied Saber and a normal hunter. Now, he even lost his power and appears to be unable to turn the tides.

"But think about it carefully. At that time, there were plenty of people underground. Both of the teams practically died, including all of the Heaven Realm elites aside from me. But he managed to survive, even though he was just at the peak of Earth Realm. He even obtained a blessing. Do you actually think that this is pure coincidence?"

Meng Chao became contemplative.

"Everyone has their own strength," Lu Siya continued. "Qin Hu's strength is his beast-like intuition. Every time, he stands on the side of the victor. If he was in one of those battlefields during ancient times, he would be what they call a lucky commander.

"I really want to know what he has managed to calculate and what made him think that there is something even more valuable compared to the mining rights of the Red Radiance Jade mine that would last him decades."

Based on the address Qin Hu gave them, they arrived at the factory area in the north of Dragon City. Then, they walked to a few dilapidated warehouses.

One of the large warehouses was being remodelled. The exterior had already been painted anew. The white walls had the words Broken Star Club written in bold strokes and were decorated with a signboard and neon lights.

The inside had been split into five floors, but they were still being built. There were renovation materials everywhere, and workers moved in and out. The noise from the remodelling echoed incessantly in their ears.

"Qin Hu, that guy..."

Meng Chao did not expect that when Qin Hu mentioned a headquarters, he really meant using an independent building.

Even though he was just remodelling an old warehouse, the rent would end up in astronomical figures if he did things at such a large scale, since there was a lack of space in Dragon City.

Meng Chao exchanged a glance with Lu Siya, and both of them went inside.

Once the warehouse had been turned into the headquarters of the Broken Star Club, the first floor was turned into an exhibition hall, or rather, a hall of fame. The walls had all sorts of photos and posters.

Meng Chao drew closer to take a look and discovered that they portrayed various heroic deeds of broken-star superhumans.

Many of them were originally normal citizens, who awakened to supernatural powers when their lives were threatened, because they wanted to protect their families and homes.

Naturally, since they awakened to supernatural powers during battle, they were able to kill monsters that were much stronger than them and became heroes that caused a ruckus for a time.

Qin Hu had gathered news articles about hundreds of broken-star superhumans and placed them in the hall of fame with apparent seriousness, which helped him manage to instantly stimulate a sense of glory in all broken-star superhumans.

And at the center of it all was the news article about Meng Chao killing the Bloody Wolf Moon King during his national college examination.

"..."

Meng Chao's face turned a little red.

"Vice-leader Meng!"

"You're here, Vice-leader Meng!"

"Vice-leader Meng, the Broken Star Club you created is a great thing for all the broken-star superhumans!"

A few broken-star superhumans saw Meng Chao and strode over to give him passionate bear hugs.

The last few months, Gu Jianbo had been in isolated training, so Meng Chao was often the one who taught the numerous broken-star superhumans the beginning techniques for the Ultimate Style, since he was the true disciple.

Meng Chao was also the one who created some of the cultivation videos and livestream classes.

Hence, he was very close to a lot of the broken-star superhumans. But recently, he had been really busy with the case of the murderous pets in Blessed Paradise and had not contacted them much.

When faced with the really friendly broken-star superhumans, Meng Chao found himself really confused, so he just chose to ask about Qin Hu's whereabouts.

"Director Qin is on the third floor. He has a meeting with the other directors. We'll lead the way. They're still renovating the place here, so there's no railing on the stairs. It's really messy."

The broken-star superhumans led the way, and Meng Chao followed them while wondering about what he just heard. 'When did the Broken Star Club get new directors? Wait, I think Qin Hu mentioned it last time. I had my head full of the Giant Sandworm back then so I didn't pay attention to this tiny matter.

'By the looks of it now, Qin Hu has made the Broken Star Club into a real club. The first floor is a hall of fame, the second floor is a buffet style restaurant, the third floor is an assembly hall and a small meeting room, while the fourth and fifth floors are cultivation centers. Even though they're currently under renovation, the situation has become much better compared. It looks like a legit club and seems pretty grand.

'Still, the question remains the same. Where did all that money come from?'

With a head full of questions, Meng Chao reached the third floor.

The door of the meeting room was not installed yet. There were no tables or chairs inside either. Everyone sat on wooden boxes.

While at the entrance, Meng Chao already heard Qin Hu's loud voice. "Brothers, I don't have anything else in my mind! Since young, I've been a really considerate person and spent my money like it's nothing for others. I love my hometown, and I'm willing to contribute to my fellow citizens!

"This time, thanks to all of you trusting me, even if I end up breaking all my bones and lay down my life, I will definitely fight for the benefits, development, and dignity of all of our brothers and sisters who are broken-star superhumans!"

Meng Chao could not continue listening. He strode inside.

He looked around and sighed a little in relief.

Fortunately, the other directors sitting on the wooden boxes were people he knew. He had talked to them when he taught them the Ultimate Style. They were all the grassroots pillars in various industries. They worked hard and did their duty as good citizens, so they should not be fooling around with Qin Hu.

"Vice-leader Meng, you're here!" Qin Hu's eyes lit up and clapped his hands before he said, "Everyone, give him a warm welcome!"

Clap, clap, clap, clap!

The other directors clapped.

Meng Chao felt a little troubled. He said, "You don't have to be so polite, everyone. You're all seniors in various fields. Besides, I'm just the vice-leader, and even if I'm a vice-leader, I'm just—"

"And we were just about to come to you about that." Qin Hu interrupted him and said, "Leader Ma wants to resign from his position. The directors and I talked about it. Everyone is in favor of you becoming the second club leader of Broken Star Club, so you definitely have to take this position!"

Meng Chao was stunned. "What?"

One of the directors explained, "So this is what's going on. Leader Ma said that since he's part of the Red Dragon Army and since the situation is tense at the frontlines, it's very difficult for him to find the time to serve the Broken Star Club. Besides, while the Red Dragon Army doesn't stop the soldiers from joining normal societal organizations, the Broken Star Club is becoming bigger. It won't be very appropriate if he continues to be the club leader.

"So, he wants to resign from the position of the club leader and only remain as a normal club member. From now on, we'll have to rely on you, Leader Meng."

"That's right, Leader Meng, the Broken Star Club was built by broken-star superhumans because we want to learn the Ultimate Style. You're Mr. Gu's true disciple, and you've been promoting the Ultimate Style really enthusiastically. You're also a standard broken-star superhuman. Aside from you, there's no one else who is more suited to be the club leader."

"That's right. Most of the broken-star superhumans have begun to slowly figure out the amazing properties of cultivating their branch meridians after watching your cultivation videos and livestream classes. We heard that you were also the one who gained inspiration and thought of the very first Ultimate Style cultivation cabin. You helped us open a brand new door for cultivation. If we don't trust you, who else are we supposed to trust?"

The directors began talking together.

Meng Chao coughed dryly and scratched his head. "We can talk about this later. Right now, I have something urgent to talk to with Director Qin. Could you wait for us for a while?"

Before the group could react to his words, Meng Chao dragged Qin Hu out of the meeting room and went into a washroom that was not fully renovated yet. Then, he locked the door.

"Mr. Hu, you didn't go behind my back and start collecting membership fees, right?" Meng Chao asked with a dark expression.

Qin Hu widened his eyes. "What do you mean by membership fees? What in the world are you talking about?!"

Meng Chao pondered it for a moment and asked, "You didn't deceive others in the name of the Broken Star Club to get sponsors or set up some membership card that the members can only get by forking out a large amount of money, right?"

Qin Hu sighed. "Kid, am I really that deplorable in your eyes? We even fought together and trusted our backs to each other!"

"Then, I don't get it," Meng Chao said in puzzlement. "Where did you get the money to build the headquarters of the Broken Star Club? Did you really fork out your own money?"

"Of course I did. What else?" Qin Hu retorted.

Meng Chao stared at Qin Hu for half a minute. The longer he stared at him, the more awkward he found it. He felt that the face in front of him was really strange, but he could not say what was strange about it.

Chapter 339: The Overlooked Strength

"What's wrong?" Qin Hu touched his face.

"Did you... trim your beard?" Meng Chao asked in astonishment. "You're even wearing a pair of goldenrimmed glasses. Your skin has also become smooth and fair. Did you go for plastic surgery?"

Before, Qin Hu had a mighty beard. He had been fighting against monsters in the wild for years as well, so even if he was nourished by spirit energy, he had rough skin. When he glared at people with his huge eyes, he looked like a murderous tiger that had come down a mountain.

Ever since he lost all his power and returned to Dragon City, he had been resting. But even after he used all sorts of gene medicine that contained great supplements, they did not help him recover his cultivation base. Instead, they made him really fair and plump. He even had tender skin.

Besides, he had now trimmed his aggressive beard until it was neat. IHe gave the impression that he was someone worthy of trust.

How should he put it... Qin Hu did not look like a hunter who was all brawn and no brain.

Instead, he looked like people who could weave fantastic lies for three days and three nights without their expression changing or blinking. And once they scammed more than one hundred million worth of cash from their investors, they would run off with the money and hide.

"Big Sis Ya, look closely." Meng Chao turned his head around and spoke to Lu Siya. "Is he really Qin Hu? Did he have his brain invaded by an abnormal beast? Or is an abnormal beast disguising itself as him?"

Lu Siya removed her sunglasses and observed Qin Hu closely.

Qin Hu did not know whether he should laugh or cry. "Are you kidding me? I'm wearing glasses because after I lost my powers, my eyes are no longer nourished by spirit energy, so my eyesight plummeted. My nearsightedness is around six hundred.

"My skin turned fairer because I no longer need to go to the wild to kill, and I was also nourished by the Blue Origin Crystals. I cut my beard because I never liked beards. They stink and are troublesome. When I ate, I had to pull it up. My wife didn't like to get intimate with me when I had a beard too. Now that I got the chance, of course I shaved it."

"Is that it?" Meng Chao frowned. "Then why did you keep a beard for so many years?"

"I was a hunter, so I had to create a mighty and domineering image. If I had a cool beard, it was easier for me to get sponsors and investments. Besides, you have to snatch prey from others in the wild, and it helped me hold the fort!" Qin Hu said in a matter-of-fact tone.

"Then, what's the entire thing with the Broken Star Club?" Meng Chao narrowed his eyes. "If you say something like you want to contribute again, I'm going to treat you like an abnormal beast and suppress

you. You're someone who doesn't get up from bed if it doesn't benefit you. You definitely saw some major benefit, which is why you're willing to throw so much money into this, right?"

Qin Hu looked around. Fortunately, since the washroom was not fully renovated yet, there was not even a toilet inside so there was no one else around them.

He cleared his throat and dragged Meng Chao as well as Lu Siya to a corner. Then, he grinned and said, "Of course there's a benefit. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw it. Kid, are you saying that you didn't see such a major business opportunity when you personally built the Broken Star Club? You're still too young!"

"Enough with the nonsense," Meng Chao said sternly. "We've entrusted our backs to each other before. You're also the second largest shareholder of Superstar. But if you dare to use the Broken Star Club as a cover to trick the broken-star superhumans out of their money, I'll never forgive you!"

"Kid, even if you don't believe in my moral character, you should at least believe in my appetite for money. How much money could these broken-star superhumans possibly have? Is it even worth me throwing all my money in here?"

Qin Hu cackled coldly, then lowered his voice and said mysteriously, "Don't worry, I won't deceive even a single cent from these broken-star superhumans. It's the exact opposite. I'm sincere in getting the Broken Star Club up to shape. Even if I have to pay for it, I'm going to provide the best services for the large number of broken-star superhumans so that they can feel at home here and be happy.

"You're right about something, though. Even if you can take up business deals that are a major risk to your life, you can't take up deals that will cause you major losses. What I fancy is the market behind the broken-star superhumans."

Meng Chao exchanged a glance with Lu Siya.

"What do you mean by that?" Lu Siya asked with great interest.

"In the superhuman field, the fighting strength of broken-star superhumans is really weak. Even if one hundred broken-star superhumans charged forward, they couldn't win against one Deity Realm elite. Besides, their cultivation speed is slow, their upper limit is low, they can use few skills, and there are many other reasons that make them weak. Hence, they have always been overlooked."

Qin Hu counted with his fingers before he said with great interest, "But didn't you realize that the broken-star superhumans have their own strengths?

"First, there's a lot of them. I mean, Deity Realm elites are strong, sure, but how many people are in Deity Realm in all of Dragon City? Even if one hundred broken-star superhumans couldn't win against one Deity Realm fighter, what about one thousand? Ten thousand? One hundred thousand?

"Of course, I'm not planning to ask the broken-star superhumans to risk their lives in a fight against a Deity Realm elite. I'm just using this logic: quantitative change can bring about qualitative change.

"Second, most of the broken-star superhumans came from poor families, like me and you, kid. That's understandable. Someone like Ms. Lu is from a rich family, so she naturally has a lot of cultivation

resources as well as famous teachers providing her with guidance. She could never burn her spirit meridians and end up as a broken-star superhuman, right?

"This means that we speak a common language with the numerous broken-star superhumans. We're on the same level, so it's easier for them to trust us and stand on our side.

"Third, the broken-star superhumans might be neglected existences in the superhuman circle, but among the people, the grassroots community, and grassroots units, they're the amazing people in the eyes of their neighbors, and they're also their pride. They're the backbones of their industries who work at the frontlines.

"Let's talk about you, kid. You're currently a two-star superhuman. In the entire circle, that's nothing. But you're one of the only two superhumans in Blessed Heavenly Garden, right? And I remember that aside from you, the other superhuman was also a broken-star superhuman, yeah? If both of you spoke up, your neighbors would listen to you and accept your commands easily, no?"

Meng Chao nodded slowly. "They'd listen and would be very easy to command. You're right," he said with a contemplative expression.

"Most of the broken-star superhumans have common backgrounds. Since their cultivation realms aren't high, they usually do not break free from the common ranks either. Instead, they fight at the frontlines of various communities and grassroots units.

"You can say that broken-star superhumans are the superhumans who come into contact with the largest number of citizens in their daily lives. They're also the superhumans who are trusted the most and are needed the most by people."

"That's exactly it!" Qin Hu slapped his thigh. "Battle God Lei Zongchao is naturally invincible, but when monsters invade a community, Lei Zongchao can't possibly personally come over to save all the citizens. The ones who rush to the forefront are usually the superhumans from the community itself. And the ones who appear the most among the normal citizen residential areas are broken-star superhumans.

"If a broken-star superhuman saves its community often or is a grassroots pillar working in some business unit and often solves some problems faced by workers at the frontlines, their neighbors and colleagues will trust them a lot. You're following me, right?

"In other words, the broken-star superhumans are the nerve endings and capillaries of the entire superhuman society. And behind each of these broken-star superhumans is the trust of an entire community or business unit! That's the trust from thousands of people!"

Meng Chao mulled over it for a while and agreed with Qin Hu's words. "So?"

"So, these broken-star superhumans are incredibly great influencers and have great bargaining power!" Qin Hu waved his hands around, and spit flew as he spoke. "Let me give you an example. You're working together with Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu's son on Surging Lightning. You're even the spokesperson for it, right?

"Soul Break Saber Luo Wu is the saber master here, and he's at the peak of Heaven Realm. His fighting power is much higher than yours, so why didn't he become the spokesperson and help his son?

"It's simple, because Luo Wu's image isn't as great as yours among the target consumers for Surging Lightning. The clients will not think that the saber that can be used by Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu is something that will suit them as well!

"But do you have the trust of all the citizens? That's impossible. The citizens of Blessed Heavenly Paradise naturally treat you as their pride and hero, but that's not the case for other communities. They treat their own broken-star superhumans as their pride and heroes.

"Think about it. If we make the Broken Star Club flourish and attract all the broken-star superhumans in the city, we can eat, sing, and connect with each other. We can also talk about our daily lives over here.

"And when we need to sell products like Surging Lightning, each of the broken-star superhuman can take one Surging Lightning on the way to their communities, units, or squads so that their neighbors, people in their residential areas, colleagues, and comrades would personally experience it. Think about it, just how good at influencing would they be? As long as the product reaches the communities and units, the sales would not be a problem, right?

"I'm not talking about just Surging Lightning, either, but all products related to cultivation, and of course, there's also martial arts like Ripple Force and the others.

"As long as Broken Star Club manages to expand, all the factories in Dragon City will be crying and begging us to put their products in the club so that the broken-star superhumans can use them for free, which will then promote them to many citizens!

"At the same time, the price for buying one item and buying one thousand items at the same time will definitely not be the same. If we can control the purchasing power of the hundreds of thousands of citizens behind one hundred thousand broken-star superhumans through Broken Star Club, we will definitely be able to get a group purchase price that is much cheaper than the market price.

"I'll use the same example. If we buy one hundred thousand Surging Lightnings in the name of Broken Star Club, would you still give it to us at market price? You'd at least give us a 15% discount, right?

"In other words, the broken-star superhumans and citizens behind them will get material benefits in terms of getting to save their money, and we will be able to control this space for profit and earn clean money on a good conscience!

"And one more thing. Once someone is a superhuman for a long time, it's inevitable for them to take on an air of superiority. They can no longer connect with the common people and understand the needs of normal clients. It's especially the case for those who are born in powerful families and have reached above Earth Realm... Urk, Ms. Lu, I'm not talking about you."

"It's fine." Lu Siya smiled. "I think you make sense. Please, continue."

"If even you think it makes sense, that this business will really be worth doing!" Qin Hu said excitedly. "Broken-star superhumans are the friendliest with common people. They're the ones who understand the consumer needs of normal people and their thoughts. By getting together regularly and exchanging information, we can provide the freshest and most detailed data as feedback for the factories. Right now, cultivation methods have to go through digitization and informatization, so the one who has the largest amount of data is the ultimate winner!" "I think I understand what you're saying now," Meng Chao said. "The ones who win the favor of the people win the world, and the broken-star superhumans are the ones who best understand the hearts of the Dragon Citizens. After all, we're the superhumans who are the closest to the normal citizens and who were born in normal families."

"That's right, and more importantly, the purchasing power of broken-star superhumans is also very impressive," Qin Hu continued. "In the past, the broken-star superhumans were neglected, and since their fighting strength wasn't high, many people gave up on continuing to reach higher cultivation realms once they understood their situation. They were usually satisfied if they could retain the fighting power they already had. This meant that they didn't buy cultivation resources.

"But now that the Ultimate Style was introduced to the world, the broken-star superhumans have seen a chance for them to increase their fighting strength and reach higher realms. For that, they naturally need more cultivation resources.

"This market is something that no one has noticed for the time being because the major industries are still stuck with the inflexible impression of broken-star superhumans, which had formed over the past few decades.

"But we're close to this market right now and we can seize it, so there's no reason for us to not keep it tightly in our grasp!"

Chapter 340: Base

Qin Hu's words were like a huge stone cast into the ocean in Meng Chao's heart; it stirred up a lot of waves.

Fuzzy images of Ghost Tribe's training camp popped up in his mind again. He saw the instructor with the black skull, who had faked cutting his throat before.

What did the Black Skull Instructor want to tell him this time?

Qin Hu did not notice that Meng Chao's eyes had turned incredibly dark. He continued speaking rapidly, "Kid, I should really thank you. You're the one who gave me this reminder.

"Originally, I have been living a muddle-headed life. I only knew how to train hard, fight, and put on a facade to climb up the social ladder.

"But I wasn't thinking. I am just someone at the peak of Earth Realm who has no power or authority. I'm not young anymore, either. My spirit meridians and affinity are already set in stone.

"Even if I manage to reach greater heights, I won't be able to climb much further! Even if I reach Heaven Realm, I'm just going to be a four-star superhuman, and in the eyes of the cultivation families and mega corporations, it's nothing. Even their dongs are thicker than mine, so how am I supposed to fight against them?"

Lu Siya frowned a little and cleared her throat.

"Ms. Lu, I'm sorry. But you know me. I'm a brute, and I don't think before I speak. Still, even if my words are crude, my logic is right!" Qin Hu said.

"When I lost my powers, you kid told me how I should be as a person and how I should stand in the shoes of the normal people to think of their problems. After that, I suddenly saw light and came to understand things. Really, I've understood them!

"If I compare myself to the Heaven Realm and Deity Realm elites in powerful families, I can't even be considered a bug under their shoes. At least bugs are still worth something, you know?

"But when I compare myself to the broken-star superhumans and normal people, my experience, connections, skills, resources, and all other aspects pop up as strengths.

"So, I shouldn't compete with Heaven Realm and Deity Realm elites. Instead, I should sink to the middletier and low-tier market and unite as well as lead all the broken-star superhumans. As long as half... No, one-third of the broken-star superhumans in the city are willing to join the Broken Star Club and spread the word, products, and share the necessary channels, we'll be rich!

"Ms. Lu, you're knowledgeable. Tell me, is this business model doable?"

Lu Siya thought about it for a moment before she nodded. "When you put it this way, it is indeed plausible, and there's plenty of room for imagination. Even I am slightly tempted by it. So, is this the reason why you were willing to give up on the decades of mining rights for the Red Radiance Jade mine?"

"Ha! Decades of mining rights? I might be greedy, but I'm not stupid." Qin Hu shrugged. "I've lost all my powers, so I'm basically useless. What's the use no matter how much money you give me? It's the same as giving a three-year-old child boxes full of gold and asking him to walk about the city. Not only is it not good, it will also bring me misfortune.

"If you don't spend money, it's just going to end up as paper. Even if you use it to wipe your butt, it's too hard. Instead of having decades worth of money from the mining rights of the Red Radiance Jade mine lying around and waiting for others to covet it, it would be better for me to get all of it in one go and invest in the Broken Star Club. It would at least get me the trust and friendship of the broken-star superhumans.

"One of these days, if I get one hundred thousand broken-star superhumans' trust and friendship, I might be able to rise to power again in another way."

Lu Siya chuckled. "One hundred thousand broken-star superhumans? Aren't you greedy?"

"One hundred thousand is already a conservative estimate. Ms. Lu, do you know how many broken-star superhumans have applied to join the club over the past month?"

Qin Hu did not wait for Lu Siya to answer him. He stroked his beard and said, "Fifty thousand! Four zeros behind a five!"

Lu Siya's expression changed. "That many?"

"Yup. You aren't a broken-star superhuman like the kid, and you aren't like me, who lost their powers. You don't understand how we feel.

"If we never awakened to supernatural powers and experienced the feeling of cutting mountains or killing monsters, it would have been fine. But we awakened, yet we're just broken-star superhumans.

The gloom, vexation, and desire we feel is much stronger. There's a saying, right? Something about seeing light and enduring darkness, whatever it is."

"'If I had never seen light before, I would have been able to endure the darkness,"' Lu Siya said.

"Yeah. That's what I meant. If there is a slightest chance, broken-star superhumans will want to repair their spirit meridians and increase their fighting strength. Then, we will be able to puff out our chests and be of high spirits in the superhuman circle!

"But in the superhuman circle, the broken-star superhumans are not just overlooked, they're basically looked down upon. Many think that since they only have around five main meridians cleared and can only use one or two skills, they aren't real superhumans. When broken-star superhumans learn, work, get promoted, and experience everything else in life, they face prejudice.

"So, the broken-star superhumans actually long to have an organization so that they can help each other and even form an alliance to protect their lawful rights.

"There are plenty of superhuman organizations in Dragon City, such as the Hunter's Association, Monster Controller Association, Machine Master Association, Harvester Association, and others. But these organizations are mostly limited to one job, and the things they talk about are also related to their field.

"What about the Supernatural Tower? It's too big, and there are all sorts of people inside it.

"The Broken Star Club, however, is built for broken-star superhumans like us. It encompasses people of all industries, and it can cover most of the regions in the city.

"Once broken-star superhumans join the Broken Star Club, they can practice the Ultimate Style to increase their fighting power and exchange information with the members working in other fields, but who sympathize with their plight.

"From there, they can create business opportunities and get rid of the gloomy feelings festering in their hearts. It's as the saying goes, 'With each new friend, another path opens up before you.' There's no way the people won't respond to the club enthusiastically.

"I'm telling you, Ms. Lu, the Broken Star Club has just started getting on track. We haven't even finished renovating the headquarters yet. Once this place gets a new image and we help the broken-star superhumans solve one or two real problems beautifully as well as get a few major deals, forget about getting one hundred thousand members, we'll even be able to gather two hundred thousand or three hundred thousand members easily!"

Lu Siya nodded repeatedly. Just as she was about to speak, she suddenly noticed that there was something off about Meng Chao.

As a Spirit Senser, she could keenly sense that Meng Chao's vitality magnetic field was erupting like a volcano, and it was especially prominent in his brain.

"Meng Chao, are you okay?" Lu Siya asked with concern.

"I'm okay. I suddenly remembered some unrelated stuff. You don't have to care about me. Go on with your discussion." Meng Chao massaged his temples gently to get rid of the sharp pain.

The memory fragments from his previous life were like broken shards of a mirror in his mind. They reflected the face of the Black Skull Instructor.

"The first thing all of you will go through in Ghost Tribe's training camp is assassination training."

Meng Chao could hear the Black Skull Instructor shouting in his ears. "But in the path of Dragon City's conquering the Other World, assassination is the last step. It's the most crucial attack that will decide the battle in one blow. It's the horn that will sound humanity's charge!

"The races of the Other World have experienced thousands of years of bloody war. Many of them were even born for war. Killing their leaders alone won't do anything. It's very easy for them to find a new leader to lead them, and that new leader might be even more cunning and brutal than the last.

"Before we assassinate the leaders of the intelligent species of the Other World, we must first infiltrate their civilization and create chaos as well as intensify their conflicts. We also have to support the factions that are pro-Earth in the civilizations of the Other World and build up organizations that are friendly to Dragon City.

"No matter what, there are too few people in Dragon City. If we want to conquer all of the Other World, it's impossible to do so without relying on the local organizations here.

"Next, I'm going to give you simple introductions on the basic methods of infiltration and forming organizations..."

"Meng Chao? Meng Chao!"

Lu Siya spread her fingers and waved them in front of Meng Chao.

He sucked in a deep breath and snapped out of his daze. He blinked, and the spark in the dark pools of his eyes disappeared.

"Are you sure you're okay?" Lu Siya looked at him with a puzzled expression. "Did you know that your expression just now was really sinister and terrifying?"

"No way." Meng Chao rubbed his face and said with great effort, "I'm clearly a naive university student. Sometimes, I'm especially kind and childish!"

But he had suddenly seen light.

He realized that he had made a mistake after he returned from the apocalypse.

He kept thinking about climbing up.

After he awakened to the memories of his previous life, he constantly looked for the peerless elites who ruled Dragon City to influence them and change the future.

It was a very logical plan, but it had a few major problems.

First, it was not that easy to find peerless elites.

Regardless of whether they were the leaders of mega corporations, veteran politicians in the Survival Committee, or the Deity Realm elites who were constantly in isolated training in the depths of the Supernatural Tower, they would not meet him and speak to him.

Second, peerless elites had their own worldviews and methodology. They would not be affected by him so easily.

Take Lu Siya as an example. She was nothing compared to them, but she did not listen to his every word. She had her own ambitions.

Even if Meng Chao was sincere, there was no way to ensure that the peerless elites would act according to his plan.

Third, the more powerful a person was, the more their actions would be tied to the interests of various parties. Their actions would be restrained for various reasons. Besides, those at the top were lonely and had no companions, which meant that they were not united. There were plenty of times when the development of Dragon City was not decided because a few powerful people had other ideas.

'The future of Dragon City might not be decided by the politicians in the Survival Committee, those who control the mega corporations, and the peerless elites in the Supernatural Tower.

'Instead, it may be decided by millions of normal citizens.

'What I should change isn't those at the top, but the millions of normal people, right?'

If he had to ride on a coattail, Meng Chao would definitely do so without hesitation.

But if a blacksmith needed a strong body to forge iron, he would also need a pair of strong legs to ride on the ace coattails.

'Since I'm just a normal university student, even if I have a lot of fortuitous encounters, manage to stop many schemes, reveal many truths, and am received by the peerless elites, they won't treat me as anyone important, will they?

'But it'll be different if I'm the club leader of a club that has hundreds of thousands of members. I might not be able to be of equal standing to them, but at the very least, I'll be able to make those peerless elites listen to me with patience and talk about the future more seriously.

'Qin Hu is right. I'm a broken-star superhuman, and I can understand as well as sympathize with all broken-star superhumans. We're born to be allies. If I were to speak in Lin Chuan's words, we're kindred!

'These broken-star superhumans and the normal people they protect are the strength that I can truly rely upon. Lu Siya and I may mutually ride on each other's coattails, but they are the ones that can become my base, since we're all connected through our souls!"