

Oh My God 61

Chapter 61: Invitation from Dragon City University

The small event had a major reaction.

Everyone forgot about the conflict between Meng Chao and Jin Zhanpeng and rose on their tiptoes to look ahead of them.

Even Ning Xueshi was a little stunned. She scowled. “Yan Feirou? What’s she doing here in a small regional mental strength test?”

The martial arts major of Dragon City University was definitely the strongest major in Dragon City. Every year, the minimum passing score for the course was tens of marks higher than for the second most popular course. It did not need any promotions, and it always looked down on the idea of promoting themselves.

Earlier, they had already sent a few representatives from Dragon City University to talk about their own majors, which made it obvious that Yan Feirou was slotted in spontaneously, so it was really strange.

“Big Sis Xueshi, do you know Yan Feirou?” Meng Chao asked.

“Her grandfather is acquainted with my grandpa. I suppose... we can be considered friends.” There was a rather stiff look on Ning Xueshi’s face.

She was indeed acquainted with Yan Feirou. When they were younger, they were compared to each other.

When it came to looks, both of them had their own specialties. But when it came to their families, the Ning family was slightly weaker than the Yan family. Besides, Ning Xueshi was a harvester. She was in a small field that had a higher requirement for professionalism. She did know a lot of people who were not part of the harvesting circle of Dragon City Agricultural University.

But Yan Feirou was an Internet personality. There were tens of millions of citizens who practiced Ripple Force, and only a few people had never seen her lecture videos before. So her influence naturally could not be mentioned at the same time as Ning Xueshi’s influence.

Hence, their friendship was a little... fake.

“The martial arts course of Dragon City University has never participated in publicity events of this level. They don’t like to acknowledge even the Starlake Region, which is where they’re located, so why did Yan Feirou come to Tiger Forest Region?” Ning Xueshi felt a little displeased. Her spotlight had been snatched from her.

Before she could understand it, the people suddenly burst into a ruckus, and someone cried out in surprise. “Yan Feirou is heading toward Ninth High School!”

“Did she see me?” Ning Xueshi mumbled to herself.

When she thought about this, the lady of the Ning family moved past the excited boys from Ninth High School and the dumbfounded Jin Zhanpeng from Dragon City Construction High School. She arrived in front of Yan Feirou and gave a reserved smile. "Feirou..."

"Meng Chao? Meng Chao!" Yan Feirou did not even look at Ning Xueshi. She just kept waving at the people.

For a period of time, everything fell silent. It was so silent within a circle of ten meters that if a pin dropped, everyone would be able to hear it.

The students from Ninth High School and Dragon City Construction High School, Jin Zhanpeng, and Ning Xueshi went absolutely slack-jawed with shock.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Fierce gazes that were as sharp as knives stabbed into Meng Chao.

With Chu Feixiong in the lead, all the boys from Ninth High School stared at Meng Chao. In their left eyes were the words "Impossible", and in the right eyes were the words, "I really want to eat you while you're still alive."

Even Meng Chao was shocked.

He was really not familiar with Yan Feirou! Honest!

But it did not matter whether he was familiar with her or not. The Ripple Princess had already squeezed her way through the crowd and arrived in front of him. She grinned, took his hand, and did not let go.

"Meng Chao, hi!"

"Hiss!"

The sounds of people sucking in sharp breaths could be heard rising and falling.

Meng Chao's face turned red, and he mumbled, "You can't do this, Senior Sister Yan. We're in public. You can't do this."

Yan Feirou's eyes crinkled in happiness while she drew close to Meng Chao and whispered, "You're the one who gave the demonstration for the Demonicly Modified Ripple Force we saw on the video that day, right? Thanks, Meng Chao. Of course, we're even more grateful to the Old Fire Relayer for contributing so selflessly to Yan Organization."

"Right..." Meng Chao smiled wryly.

Naturally, he knew that Yan Feirou was trying to verify whether he was the person who was in the video demonstration of the Demonicly Modified Ripple Force. That was why she kept holding his hand.

After all, he did not censor his hands in the video, and he even made sure to film them clearly. With Yan Feirou's skills, she would know whether he was the real deal with just a touch.

And he had also deliberately released his status as the Old Fire Relayer's disciple, the one who received all his skills. That was so that it would make it easy for him to pretend to be awesome while taking advantage of the knowledge from the future.

He roamed about the life science forum in the deep web all the time, so he had in-depth knowledge when it came to censoring stuff. He never thought about hiding his true self by just relying on a thin layer of mosaic, anyway.

'The problem is, if you want to touch me, you could have just searched for a deserted place when it's dark outside. It wouldn't be too late for you to touch me all you like at that time! But you're touching me in public! It's indecent!'

Just as he expected, even Ning Xueshi's gaze on them turned a little strange. Like a tiny creature with a sharp beak, she said warily, "Big Sis Feirou, what are you doing here?"

"Huh? Xueshi, you're here too?"

It was at that moment that Yan Feirou saw Ning Xueshi. She was taken aback for a moment, but she quickly smiled and said, "I came to give Meng Chao some information. With his abilities, he's very suited to register for Dragon City University's martial arts course."

"..."

The students were speechless. They looked up.

"Dragon City University's martial arts course?"

Ning Xueshi instantly became aggressive. She looked at Meng Chao, then at Yan Feirou. She was very puzzled and wary. "You know each other?"

"That's right. Last year, Meng Chao made a mistake during his cultivation, right? He was injured badly, you know. Everyone knows that the Yan Family Ripple Force has benefits toward treating wounds and physiotherapy. He asked for my help online, and coincidentally, my grandfather was developing the Yan Family Ripple Force V2. He was in urgent need of volunteers to test the data. Meng Chao's injuries were complex, and he fulfilled our requirements. That's why we decided to work together."

Yan Feirou smiled calmly. "Over the year, Meng Chao worked really hard. His talent and willpower shocked and touched me. We often talked about Ripple Force together, and slowly, we became good friends. Isn't that so, Meng Chao?"

Ripple Princess winked at him.

Meng Chao was a little stunned. 'Yan Feirou's pretty smart. With what she said, she just provided a perfect explanation for my sudden boost of power.' He immediately nodded.

Yan Feirou sighed in relief, and she smiled even brighter.

Before she came over, she had discussed things with her grandfather. Since the Old Fire Relayer did not want to reveal his true identity for the time being, he might also not want to reveal too many things regarding the source of his disciple's strength.

If the Yan family could provide a cover for him, while he might not grow fond of them, at the very least, he would not grow to dislike them. They might even be able to close the distance between them.

After testing it, things progressed just as her grandfather thought they would. Yan Feirou could not help but become even more impressed with her grandfather's experience.

When the students heard this, they were envious and jealous. They did not expect that Meng Chao's luck would be so good. Even when he was injured, he managed to turn into a volunteer for Yan Corporation. He even gained the Ripple Princess' favor. Seriously, he had such a blessing in disguise.

"Big Sis Feirou, even if you know each other, it doesn't mean that Meng Chao is going to major in the martial arts course of Dragon City University," Ning Xueshi said with a cold expression.

"Meng Chao's understanding of the structure of monsters and rare materials is beyond equal among his peers. With time, he will definitely become an ace harvester. By that time, when countless strong martial artists kill superbeasts, they would respectfully ask him to harvest them. Why would he need to practice martial arts?"

"Besides, if he really wants to practice martial arts, Dragon City Agricultural Course has its own martial arts course. With Meng Chao's abilities, he can go for a double major. He can major in the resource course and minor in martial arts. That will pose no problem for him."

"Dragon City Agricultural University?" Yan Feirou's eyes crinkled with amusement.

"What's the meaning of that? Dragon City Agricultural University is a Monster University. The fighting model of the Beast Soul Style our martial arts course created is absolutely comparable to the Overkill Style Dragon City University's martial arts course created." Ning Xueshi glared.

When Meng Chao saw that these friends were about to have their plastic friendship broken, he could only gather his courage to mediate the situation. "Senior sisters, I haven't even gotten through my test yet. Who knows just how many marks I will be able to get. I might just be able to meet the minimum score for university and might even need to take prescribed medicine to regulate my health. How about this? Let's wait until the mental strength test is over before we chat, okay?"

Ning Xueshi and Yan Feirou looked at each other and spoke simultaneously. "Sure, I'll treat you to dinner, and we can talk then."

This double entendre caused all the boys to grit their teeth while they cradled their chests.

"We can talk about it later. Also, if I could just trouble you two to help me search for the information within your universities regarding the courses there? We have plenty of talented people in Ninth High School, and we have plenty of outstanding people. There are plenty of us who want to get into Dragon City University and Dragon City Agricultural University."

When he saw that the boys' gazes were becoming really weird, Meng Chao quickly tried to mend the situation.

"That's a small matter. Sure, no problem."

Ning Xueshi and Yan Feirou agreed to it happily.

After much difficulty, he finally sent the two senior sisters away. Then, naturally, Meng Chao was subjected to the righteous stares from the boys.

“Be honest. What’s going on?” Chu Feixiong demanded sternly and forcefully in the name of justice. “If you dare to hide even the slightest bit of information, I’m going to kill you for the sake of justice!”

“Didn’t you hear her? After I was injured last year, I became a volunteer at Yan Corporation to recuperate. I learned Ripple Force V2. Didn’t I teach that to you some time ago? You can’t return kindness with enmity!” Meng Chao was very serious.

“What about Senior Sister Ning?” Chu Feixiong asked. “Didn’t they say that she’s very aloof? Why are you so close to her?”

“Her grandfather is an executive in Thunderbolt, and my dad recently opened a small resource recovery company. Coincidentally, he signed a contract with Thunderbolt. After they communicated with each other, we got to know each other.”

“No way.” Chu Feixiong was puzzled. “It’s that easy? Why are they so friendly with you, then?”

Meng Chao thought about it. “They might have seen that I have a noble heart and only want to selflessly contribute to society?”

“Tsk!”

With Chu Feixiong taking the lead, all the boys flipped him the bird. “Just tell us how many days of milk tea and supper you’re going to treat us to this time! If it’s anything less than a month, we’re going to break all ties with you!”

“I know, it’s my fault for hiding things from you. It’s only normal that you’re not willing to forgive me. So, let’s just... break all ties between us. From now on, I’ll be the only one who can go to Dragon City University or Dragon City Agricultural University. I’ll look for Senior Sister Yan and Senior Sister Ning and have fun with them.”

Meng Chao had a dejected look on his face. “But without my buddies, even if I have plenty of senior sisters by my side, how can I truly be happy?”

“Don’t! Hang on, Big Brother Meng, Ace Student Chao, we’re just joking! Look at you, how could you not take a joke?”

Chu Feixiong immediately put on an obsequious look and flattered him along with the boys. “Bro, you have to bring us with you when you have fun!”

Meng Chao nodded. “That’s the right spirit. Didn’t I ask the senior sisters for information circulated only within the universities just now? You can use milk tea and supper in exchange for them. We’ll try to get one set for everyone in Ninth High School. Will that do?”

“Yes, of course!”

They might have been joking, but if they could get the internal information about the key courses in the two famous universities, that would be very beneficial when they filled in their application forms. Thus, everyone cheered.

Jin Zhanpeng and the students from Construction High School had yet to leave. They watched everything like dumbfounded chickens. Their expressions were stunned and dazed.

“Hey, Construction High, aren’t you leaving yet?” Chu Feixiong saw them and said with a smile. “Should we photocopy a few sets for you? The internal information from Dragon City University and Dragon City Agricultural University are very hot items.”

“HAHAHAHA!” The students from Ninth High School laughed loudly, and the air was filled with a happiness.

Chapter 62: Mental Strength Index

A large monitoring room was suspended at the end of the underfield field. All of the teachers who led the high schools teams in Tiger Forest Region were gathered there, and they could see the commotion among the students clearly.

“The graduate students of Tiger Forest Region this year are pretty good. Their fighting spirit is really high!”

The monitoring camera followed Ning Xueshi and Yan Feirou and arrived at the square formation formed by Ninth High School. It was just in time to film the conflict between Meng Chao and Jin Zhanpeng.

Quite a number of top students in the key high school in the city had suffered in secret due to Construction High School earlier, which made their teachers feel horrible.

Now, when they saw the students from Construction High return in defeat after facing a key high school in the region, the teachers from the key high school could not help but smile.

“What’s that student’s name? Meng Chao? We’ll have to pay attention to him later,” they whispered... No. They actually discussed it very loudly.

The teacher who led Construction High had a face so dark that it looked as if rain was going to fall from it. He glared at Demon Yan.

Demon Yan had no expression on his face, but he did use his palm to cover his mouth. Only then did the corners of his lips curl up. No one saw it, of course.

“It’s time. The brain cell activation fluid should be effective now. In three minutes, they will begin their second test.”

The main invigilator arrived in front of the control panel.

“All examinees, please return to your spots. Pay attention to your feet. You will find your school name and student number there. Please choose one of the three sitting stances and sit down. Relax and breathe, and enter a deep meditation state,” a cold, mechanical voice said from above the students’ heads.

“One minute later, those who stand, move, or make any sound will be considered to have violated the exam rules. First, you will receive a warning, but if you do it a second time, you will be chased out of the exam hall immediately!”

The thousands of examinees in the wide underground field fell silent.

Meng Chao sat down with his legs crossed. He chose Withered Wood Stance, which was one of the Nine Great Stances. As his breathing became even, he gradually fell into a meditative state.

He imagined himself as a log that had been left behind after being cut. He withstood the sun shining on him and the rain pouring on him. In extreme pain, new life burst out of him, and from his wounds, new shoots grew.

The jokes and laughter from moments ago were now cast aside, and scattered bits of the nightmare rose in his mind once more.

But he no longer felt lost or afraid. He had a firm belief in himself and courage that allowed him to march forward without turning back.

The whirring sounds of a sophisticated machine came from above him.

Rows of metallic frames came down slowly.

The frames had helmets that were connected to flexible tubes. They were placed on each examinee's head.

Meng Chao grabbed the helmet. It was soft and warm, like a crystalline gel. Carved on it were profound and complicated runic symbols. Spirit energy flowed slowly on the runes, and they gave of a mysterious, futuristic feeling.

The sunken part was covered with dense bumps. It looked like an echinoderm, but also like living metal. It looked quite disgusting.

'So, this is a superbrain?'

Meng Chao looked at it carefully.

It had multiple nanochips in it so that the biochemical monster brain could be fused together with quantum algorithms. The newest superbrain model had unprecedented calculation abilities.

What was most important was that it could connect perfectly with the human brain through bionic nerves.

Genetic martial arts, spirit energy technology, and superbrains were the three great pillars of Dragon City used to fight in the Other World.

Meng Chao put the superbrain on his head.

The gel-like activated shell slowly made adjustments to ensure comfort for the wearer. It also made sure that it fit.

The dense bumps that resembled an echinoderm gently stuck to Meng Chao's head and the acupuncture point on his spine. It perfectly connected his human brain to the crystalline superbrain.

Meng Chao's vision was blocked by the superbrain, and it started downloading information straight into his optic nerves.

A loose ball of light appeared in front of his eyes, and a small line of words appeared in the ball of light. [The second national college examination for Type One Universities in the Year 55 of the New Era will begin in one minute.]

His vision was not the only one affected. Even his senses of smell, hearing, and touch were affected.

Meng Chao knew that he was sitting cross-legged, but gradually, he started feeling that he was standing.

He smelled smoke and blood, and he heard wind howling, people crying, and animals roaring.

He seemed to have come to a new world from the safe and comfortable underground field. He felt like he had just walked into hell.

In the monitoring room, the teachers from various schools watched as the chief invigilator implanted the scenario into the main superbrain.

The terrifying scenes caused them to gasp in amazement.

“The difficulty for the mental strength test this year has increased so much? It might be a virtual test, but the realistic information implanted into the children through the superbrains will cause them to feel real fear and pain. How can they endure it?”

“No, it’s not 100%, but 120%. This year, the impact the examinees will endure in the virtual world will be much more terrifying than reality!”

“120%? This is the standard for the Red Dragon Army when they choose elite soldiers for special forces. Isn’t the national college exam this year a little too over the top? The fear and pain level last year was just 90%!”

“We have to make it over the top. You know what the Red Dragon Army discovered in their fog expedition, right? The war is about to turn even more serious. If these children can’t even get through the test in the virtual world, they should not enter the depths of the fog and turn into monster food.”

When the chief invigilator mentioned the discovery in the depths of the fog, all the teachers leading the teams fell silent.

They could only watch as he put savage monsters into the virtual world.

Very soon, the scene implantation was complete.

The mental strength test began.

Fog, ruins, a bloody moon, and monsters could be seen everywhere!

What the examinees saw changed swiftly. They arrived at an unfamiliar battlefield from the underground field.

The students, their teachers, and everything familiar had all disappeared.

They were alone, isolated, and had no help. They could only step on the rotting corpses, torn limbs, and broken limbs as they explored fearfully.

“ROAR!”

The fog was dyed a bloody color that was formed by evaporating blood. Monsters appeared in the bloody fog with monstrous grins.

The mental strength test did not test the examinees' fighting skills. It just wanted to gauge their mental endurance.

Hence, the education department did not choose superbeasts with great fighting power or awe-inspiring or magnificent appearances. Instead, they chose the amalgamations of reptiles, ecdysozoa, echinoderms, and deep-sea fish. They were nightmarish creatures that would cause people to not be able to eat for three days straight after seeing them once.

"AH!"

"Save me!"

"Mommy!"

When many of the examinees, who came from normal high schools and never had the conditions to receive virtual reality training, saw the skinned mutated and disfigured frog-like monsters with organs about to gush out at any moment, they were instantly scared witless.

Those who had better survival reactions turned around and ran, while others stood in their place and shook like a leaf. They were shoved to the ground by the mutated monsters and could only watch as half their bodies ended up in the monsters' gaping mouths.

While the monsters chewed on them, they glared at them with their murky, monstrous eyes.

The examinees were no longer able to endure this. Their eyes rolled back, and they fainted.

"Examinee No. 5501342 Ren Fei From Small River High School has a mental strength index that is lower than 40%... Now, it's lower than 30%. Warning, the examinee's mental strength index is still dropping. It has been lower than the warning line for more than sixty seconds. He has been judged to have failed his mental strength test. He will be forcibly removed from the virtual reality exam room."

The huge monitor screen surrounding the chief invigilator showed each examinee's mental state. Their indices continued jumping about. As long as they were lower than the warning line or above the warning line, the index turned red, and a unique warning sounded.

An examinee started foaming at the mouth in the examination hall. His body twitched.

He was forcibly removed from the virtual world. The superbrain started sending rather gentle bioelectricity into his brain and massaged his cerebral cortex to ensure the stability of his mind.

A few doctors rushed over and brought the examinee whose mind was about to shatter out of the exam hall so that he could be treated.

The teacher leading the team from Small River High School sighed, but he could do nothing about it.

Fifty years ago, the humans' shackles were removed, and their maximum potential was released. The scientists and superhumans realized that the spirit energy in the Other World was one hundred times stronger on the mind compared to whatever medication they had on Earth.

If they put an excessive amount of spirit energy into the body to stimulate the brain cells, they could release an explosive amount of power and supernatural divine abilities, but most of the spirit energy would gather together to form a matter called superbrain endorphin.

There were two types of endorphins in the brain: methionine enkephalin and β -Neoendorphin. They were neurotransmitters in the central nervous system that were similar to morphine. They could increase a person's pain threshold, maintain the balance of their minds, and were even connected to the human brain's limbic system.

Superbrain endorphins were even more mysterious and complicated. The scientists had yet to completely understand their structure and mechanism of action. It was only known that they could control spirit energy to form bioelectricity and stimulate the deepest parts of human cells so that the energy supply efficiency in mitochondrias could increase by a hundredfold.

The large amount of superbrain endorphin secretion was the key to turning a normal person into a superhuman.

But they could not take care of everything. For example, how a person could get water intoxication from drinking too much water, a person who had too much superbrain endorphin secreted into their brain for a long period of time might also get superbrain endorphin intoxication.

The excessive amount of superbrain endorphin would turn around to feed on the human brain. It would corrupt the human mind and twist its willpower, so the human would end up disfigured, their spirits would fall, and they would mutate, turning into crazed a monster.

After decades of research, the Supernatural Tower proposed the concept of mental strength index, emphasising a need for people to control the superbrain endorphins regardless of whether they were training or fighting. They had to maintain a rational mind at all times.

The basic standard for the mental strength index was 100%. It meant that superbrain endorphins were being secreted in the person's body at a normal amount.

When a person received a great stimulus from the outside world or when they saw incredibly terrifying, mysterious, strange, or unknown objects, the brain's self-defense mechanism would start to secrete a large amount of superbrain endorphin.

At that moment, the person's mental strength index would fluctuate between 90% to 110%.

If someone's mental strength index was lower than one hundred, it meant that the person was feeling emotions of fear, anxiety, or other related negative emotions.

If a person's mental strength index was higher than one hundred, the person was strong, fearless, and even bloodthirsty.

Regardless of whether people were terrified or courageous, as long as their emotions did not go overboard, they could all be used and were beneficial.

There was no need to mention the necessity of courage, but even fear could help a person. It would increase their wariness. It could allow them to instantly judge the difference between them and their enemies. If they needed to retreat, they would firmly choose to retreat.

However, when people felt extreme fear, their minds would often turn blank. It meant that the body automatically channeled most of its energy from the brain to the muscles. The person would then use their instincts to run to safety.

However, the terrifying creatures and strange phenomenon in the Other World far exceeded the limits of human knowledge.

And to exploit their potential, superhumans usually secreted too much superbrain endorphins.

It caused their mental strength to easily go past the safety zone, which was between 80% to 120%. It would either be too high or too low.

When a person's mental strength index was lower than 80%, the negative effects of fear would gradually overcome the positive effects. The superbrain endorphins would then turn from good medicine that would stimulate a person's potential into poison that invaded the brain. The person would end up ensnared by fear and feel like they had fallen into a swamp and could not get out.

The more fearful they became, the more superbrain endorphins would be secreted, and they would suffer from superbrain intoxication. Then, they would become even more scared, and the vicious cycle would continue.

When the mental strength index fell below 30%, it would practically be impossible for them to escape with their own strength. An excessive amount of superbrain endorphin would stir up a spirit energy wave that would completely devour the person's mind.

When the mental strength index fell to zero, there were only two outcomes: either the person went mad or their brain died.

Chapter 63: The Monster Harvesting Monsters

Of course, there were people whose superbrain endorphin intoxication resulted in their mental strength index going overboard. Their courage and urge to kill increased by leaps and bounds.

These people usually started howling when they saw monsters and eagerly engaged them in fights.

Their mental strength indices could instantly reach 120%, 150%, or even higher.

The increase in their mental strength index was definitely better than their mental strength index reaching zero, but there was a limit. A person's mental strength index was not allowed to go over 200%.

If it stayed over the limit for too long, the brain cells would be completely immersed in the raging superbrain endorphins. The person would then turn into a bloodthirsty monster. They would not even be able to distinguish friend from foe and would just kill indiscriminately until they died from fatigue.

It was a form of art to maintain one's mental strength index at 180% or 190% for a long period of time but never have it go over 200%. It allowed people to gain an extra boost of power from their brain, but they would not become overly excited and turn into killing machines.

The problem of mental strength accompanied superhumans for life. The higher their realms were, the more superbrain endorphins the brains secreted, and the harder it became to stabilize their minds.

There were plenty of old veterans in Dragon City who began killing monsters right after the transmigration. They once contributed greatly to the city and were loyal, but they could not withstand the impact and turned into old monsters of different forms.

As the cultivation system was perfected daily, the mental strength index test naturally became incredibly important for students who were taking the national college examination.

“Examinee No. 5510336 Zhao Yiqun from Small River High School has a mental strength index that is lower than the warning line for more than sixty seconds. He has been judged to have failed his mental strength test. He will be removed from the virtual reality exam room.”

“Examinee No. 5534113 Fan Changsheng from Diligence High School’s mental strength index dropped drastically to 30% in 1 second. His mind is weak, and he is not suited for cultivation. He has been judged to have failed his mental strength test. He will be removed from the virtual reality exam room.”

“Examinee No. 5524213 Li Xiaojuan from the Affiliated High School of Engineering University’s mental strength index fluctuates drastically. She has not shown signs of stability after three minutes. She has been judged to have failed her mental strength test. She will be removed from the virtual reality exam room.”

As the machine’s cold voice rose, the examinees from normal high schools were removed from the virtual reality examination room.

Their faces were all stark pale. Many of them had tears in their eyes, and blood trickled out of their noses. Every strand of their muscles trembled nonstop.

Their minds were still immersed in the terrifying nightmare, and they did not have the time nor energy to feel disappointed over their failure.

Some of them started feeling around their bodies. When they found that their legs and hips were still around, they released a long breath of relief before they covered their faces and wept.

The road to supernatural powers was terrifying. It would be better if they just went to a higher vocational college.

Very soon, most of the examinees from normal high schools failed.

As more deformed monsters were sent into the exam room, some of the people from the key high schools in the region or the city were also unable to bear with the fear.

“Urgh!”

An examinee from Ninth High School who was rather strong and courageous when in school had ran around madly in the virtual reality battlefield for more than ten minutes, but in the end, he was surrounded by eight large, toad-like monsters.

They spat out foul-smelling acid and melted him bit by bit.

The pain was living hell, and what he saw was a pure nightmare. In the end, his mental strength index fell drastically, and he was judged to have failed.

“The mental strength test this year is a little hard.” Some of the teachers from the key high schools in the region and the city shook their heads with solemn expressions.

“If they can’t even endure such a simple situation, how can they conquer the Other World?” The teacher leading the team from Construction High, which was the high school that ruled over Tiger Forest Region, snorted coldly.

He was right. Even though plenty of examinees froze up or fled, there were also those who had strong hearts. They stepped forward, brought out their weapons, and fought.

The examinees from the key high schools in the region and the city usually shouted while they rushed forward. They might seem bold, but they did not have order in their attacks. They were just using the courage they gained from their vigor to hide their panic.

When they were “killed” two or three times and experienced the feeling of their bodies disappearing into the mouths of the monsters inch by inch and saw how the monsters smiled at them, they were struck with fear, and they could not progress forward.

Their mental strength index would start to behave like a broken boat in a raging ship. It fluctuated madly.

But the examinees from Construction High were mostly calm. They searched for weapons hidden in the ruins and used all sorts of strategies to fight the monsters.

Even if they were killed, they endured the pain, and before they died, they launched counterattacks to drag the monsters to hell with them.

Once they were “revived” in the virtual reality battlefield, they forgot the pain they endured a moment ago and continued to kill without batting an eyelid.

Their mental strength index only experienced small fluctuations and remained between 80% to 120%. They seldom went beyond or below the safety zone. And when they did go past the safety zone, they used their breathing exercises and meditation to quickly regulate their state of mind.

“As expected of one of the three super high schools. All the students there are children blessed by God. Their families and the schools provide them with superbrains and virtual reality training systems. They have also been practicing mental strength techniques since young, so they can somewhat control the secretion of the superbrain endorphin.

“They’ve managed to train their minds until they’re as hard as steel. No matter how terrifying or strange the situation they run into, they can handle it calmly and in a composed fashion.”

The teachers from the other schools might not like the arrogance of the teachers and students from Construction High, but they had to admit that no one could shake their position as the lords of Tiger Forest Region.

At that moment, one of the teachers who led Small River High School suddenly gasped. He cast a surprised look at Demon Yan. “Mr. Yan, Meng Chao’s figures are a little strange, don’t you think?”

The teachers from the other high schools were stunned for a moment. They tapped at the monitor to look at the numbers from Ninth High School.

Meng Chao's figures had only experienced small fluctuations from 95% to 105%. There was even a long period of time where his mental index remained at 100%. It seemed to be fixed there.

His figures surpassed most of those from the students of Construction High.

His index was almost the same as that of the blessed children who were born in families filled with cultivators and had seven powerful people in Heaven Realm.

"These figures..."

The chief invigilator thought about it before he put Meng Chao's test footage on the screen.

The sight on the monitor shocked all the teachers.

"That's it?"

Meng Chao was a little dumbfounded when he saw the deformed monsters that popped up in the depths of the bloody fog in the virtual world.

"Didn't they say that the mental strength test is incredibly terrifying and a lot of disgusting monsters will appear? Isn't it supposed to scare examinees so much that they will pee their pants?"

"These are all average looking. In fact, they're rather pleasant to the eye. Can these monsters really scare someone?"

Meng Chao thought about it for a moment and realized that he was thinking differently from the others.

During the later stage of the Monster War, the monsters evolved and mutated as if they had gone through the Big Bang. In just a few years, countless deformed, mutated monsters popped up.

Among the memory fragments of his previous life, there were many monsters that were uglier. They were hideous and disgusting.

When he activated his Basic Harvesting Kill and Basic Gun Technique, he killed and dissected countless such monsters.

Fear came from the unknown. Since he had once put even more disgusting monsters on the dissection table and harvested them carefully, he knew the use of each of their organs as well as the reason behind their mutated appearance.

Why should he be afraid of such monsters?

"Since I'm already here, I might as well practice."

Meng Chao scratched his head. While the mutated monsters glared at him, he searched through the area calmly. Soon, he found a saber and submachine gun.

"I knew it. This is just a small test, and it's the same as computer games. We're definitely able to find items around and use them.

"Come, no matter how hideous you look, you're just food on the chopping board. I discussed the saber technique with Demon Yan a few days ago, and I already figured out ways to change and improve some of the One Hundred Saber Techniques moves. I'll use you to practice my saber technique!"

Meng Chao held the gun in his left hand and the saber in his right hand. He hummed, smiled, and pounced on the monsters.

He killed them. Regardless if they were the large praying mantises, mutated toads, lizards and jackal amalgamations, or mutts mixed with spider and crocodiles, he killed them all. It didn't matter if they could spit acid or had exploding organs, they were all just moving luncheon meat.

He shot one with his left hand, and with his right, he swung his saber. Due to his ingenious mastery of monster structures, all his moves struck fatal spots. Very soon, a pile of carcasses appeared, and he became the king on a carcass throne.

The first wave of monsters was soon cleared out.

The test had to be fair. The number of monsters each examinee faced was the same, and so was the time at which they respawned. Hence, while the other examinees were struggling while surrounded by monsters, Meng Chao had nothing to do.

"How boring. I can't declare that I've finished my test early either. What should I do now?"

He squatted down in the pile of monster carcasses and yawned. His gaze landed accidentally on the wounds on the monsters; they were left by his saber.

He suddenly noticed that the monsters' muscles, blood vessels, shells, organs, and the other stuff were all very realistic.

'Ah, that's right, I heard that the Monster Research Centre has already started scanning monsters layer-by-layer on a molecular level. They do hundreds of thousands of scans to gather the most detailed data.

'The mental strength test must have used the data from the monster research center. The internal structure of these virtual monsters is the same as that of real monsters.'

After this realization, Meng Chao's fingers grew hot. As he stared at the monster carcasses, his gaze turned incredibly profound.

He searched through the ruins and found a few blades as well as a broken knife.

He removed sharp bone spikes from monsters and attached shell fragments from others to create a set of simple harvesting tools.

After that, he separated the monster carcasses and started cutting open their stomachs to practice his Basic Harvesting Skill and the Seven Dissection Methods Performed in Reverse.

'Very soon, the war will grow in intensity. Humans will face even more unidentified monsters, which contain treasures that could allow humans to evolve limitlessly,' Meng Chao thought. 'Harvesting is definitely the golden support profession. I have to push my Basic Harvesting Skill to Perfect Level before I get into university!'

As he thought about this, he became even more immersed in harvesting. His hands moved quickly, and he separated all the mutated monsters into materials. They were even organized neatly.

Chapter 64: He Really Knew How to Have Fun

All the teachers leading the high school teams in the monitor room and the employees from the education department in the region shuddered.

Many of the top students from the other key high schools had finished killing the monsters by then.

This was especially the case for Construction High School. Many of them had finished killing the monsters faster than Meng Chao.

But after they did so, they sat down in their respective stances and entered a deep meditative state to stabilize their mental strength index.

None of them were like Meng Chao, who hummed with his eyes crinkled in happiness. He even swayed his head around while he cut the monster carcasses into pieces!

As he took joy in his work, everyone finally understood why Ning Xueshi of Agricultural University's resource course would come to him.

The arrogance on the teacher from Construction High's face faded away, but he could not hide the shock in his eyes.

The teachers from the other high schools cast Ninth High School's teachers complicated gazes.

Demon Yan still had a dark look on his face, because that might have been something he inherited from his ancestors. Even so, his eyelids twitched a little. 'That boy is constantly dishing out surprises.'

Once the first group of failed examinees were ejected from the virtual reality exam room, those who remained all had firm hearts.

More monsters came in the second wave, and they were even fiercer and uglier.

The outstanding students who had been gathering their strength opened their eyes and started engaging in an even fiercer fight.

Meng Chao also swung his saber and jumped to his feet.

And then, he died.

When he died a few times, one of the teachers made a comment. "This Meng Chao from Ninth High School doesn't seem to be good at fighting."

The mental strength test only tested the examinees on their mental strength index. It did not test the students on their fighting skills. Regardless of how many times they died, they could be reborn. That is, if they could endure the pain of it.

Meng Chao was reborn repeatedly and rushed forward without batting an eyelid. He swung his saber in a rather clumsy fashion and died repeatedly.

His death count was among the highest among all the examinees.

The teachers from the other schools sighed in slight relief.

But that made sense. His mental strength was ridiculously good. If his fighting skills were also outstanding... There was just no way Ninth High School could produce such a monster.

But the more Demon Yan watched, the more shocked he became. His eyes gradually went wide.

He noticed two things.

First, regardless of how many times Meng Chao died or what great pain he felt, his mental strength index only fluctuated minimally, at a range of 10%.

Second, Meng Chao was not clumsy when he used One Hundred Saber Techniques; he was extreme. The brat was using many of the moves they had discussed a few days ago. They were incredibly extreme and filled with uncertainties. They were all skills that had not been proven useful through experience.

Since Meng Chao was not used to them and his body could not bear the burden, looked clumsy when using them.

'Is he... practicing a saber in such an important exam?'

Demon Yan was first flabbergasted. Then, he felt his skin crawl.

Many of the best teachers from the key high schools watched Yan Qiu. After observing him for a long period of time, they started pondering what they saw, and their puzzlement changed to shock.

"The One Hundred Saber Techniques from Ninth High School seem different from the ones we teach. It seems like it's pretty strong."

"I heard that Second High School gathered a few saber experts and promoted an upgraded version of One Hundred Saber Techniques in private. Did Ninth High School come up with their own version as well?"

"I know a bit about Second High School's version, but I think... it's not as fierce as Ninth High School's version!"

"Ninth High School has been rising in power over the past few years. Principal Sun might be dozing off, but he has been doing a lot of things in the dark, including hiring Yan Dongxing, a former subordinate of his from the military. He went to Ninth High School to reform the education system there. Could it be that Yan Dongxing brought this One Hundred Saber Techniques from the military's secret forces?"

One Hundred Saber Techniques was one of the most important cold weapon techniques that was taught during the students' compulsory education.

So the observant top-grade teachers were naturally able to tell just how extraordinary Meng Chao was.

The more they thought about it, the more interesting they found it.

They were even able to gain epiphanies from his movements.

Hence, while Meng Chao was busy killing in the virtual reality battlefield, he saw a series of notifications pop up before his eyes.

[One Hundred Saber Techniques V7_3_5 is currently spreading among elite citizens. The Dragon City teachers and students in the future will be able to master even stronger saber techniques. The overall strength of Dragon City has been increased. Contribution points increased by 11, 13, 12...]

Meng Chao could not help but whistle.

He had made the right guess.

There were quite a number of top-grade teachers at the same level as Demon Yan paying attention to him in the exam room.

Not only were they elite citizens, they were also in charge of teaching people. If he could spread the future One Hundred Saber Techniques through them, they could spread this technique to others very quickly.

He became even more excited as contribution points nourished his mind. He waved his arms and pounced on the monsters. And he died more than one hundred times.

Did it hurt? Of course it did. But the epiphanies he gained every time he died and the contribution points he acquired allowed him to gain a more thorough understanding of One Hundred Saber Techniques. His Skillfulness with it jumped by leaps and bounds.

When Meng Chao thought about how the Monster War was going to get more intense soon and how Dragon City was going to be at the brink of destruction at any moment, he could endure any bone-crushing pain that was thrown his way.

He remembered what Demon Yan had said.

“The greatest humiliation to a soldier of the Red Dragon Army is to die in his sleep. Since a person is going to die either way, I hope that I can die in a monster’s stomach, and before my consciousness fades away, I will use my very last bone to pierce the monster’s heart.”

This was the best way to die for every Dragon Citizen and every Earthling who fought hard in the Other World.

“You want to eat my flesh? Then I’ll take your life!”

Meng Chao was torn to pieces by two monsters.

Before his consciousness faded, he actually brandished the bone spike of his nearly severed limb and stabbed a monster’s heart. He jabbed it viciously at the creature.

Time passed bit by bit, and two-thirds of the examinees were eliminated.

The remaining one-third passed.

The mental strength test continued on, but its goal changed to just forcing the examinees to their limits. If they could not last, they could retreat at any moment and still be considered to have passed.

The examinees from Ninth High School woke up.

The ones who managed to last until then had rather strong willpower. They just needed to rest for a while before they could recover from the shock.

They eagerly looked at the list of students who had passed on the screen. Once they found their names, they swung their fists excitedly.

The results of those from Ninth High School were pretty good.

Among the one hundred and fifty examinees, more than eighty passed the second test, which meant that more than half of them had passed.

It had to be known that only forty percent of the examinees from Ninth High School had passed the second test last year.

“We’re really good this year... We almost surpassed the two key high schools in the city.”

“Big Brother Xiong, your overall score is so high. You managed to get into the top five hundred in the whole region. You’re awesome! How did you train?”

The students cast Chu Feixiong curious and envious gazes.

Chu Feixiong smiled boyishly. “I didn’t train much. Just now, when I saw all of those ugly monsters, I was terrified as well. But just when I was about to pee my pants, for some reason, I suddenly remembered the two seniors competing for Meng Chao. I pasted Meng Chao’s face on the monsters’ heads, and in an instant, I was overcome with fury. I was so angry that I immediately rushed forward and punched the monsters.

“All of you did the same as me and pretended that the monsters were Meng Chao, that’s why you were filled with fighting spirit, right?”

The students looked at each other at a loss. Someone then said in embarrassment, “I wasn’t as ruthless as you. I just became numb because of the shock I went through before I went into the virtual reality battlefield. Ace Student Chao dealt ten thousand cuts to my heart, so no matter how terrifying the monsters looked, they were just adding another cut to my heart, so there was no difference.”

“Same here. The image of the two seniors fighting for Meng Chao just now was branded deep into my heart. After seeing something so unbelievable, there was no monster that I couldn’t face.”

“That’s right, with how much shock Ace Student Chao dealt us, my heart is now as calm as water. I won’t be thinking about all those ridiculous things anymore. I just want to study properly and conquer the Other World.”

As the students spoke, they noticed that Meng Chao had indirectly increased their mental strength. They could not help but gasp in surprise.

“Wait, where is Ace Student Chao?” The students suddenly noticed that their topic of discussion had not spoken up.

They looked around and discovered to their shock that Meng Chao was still surrounded by monsters.

“No way.” Chu Feixiong sucked in a breath in amazement. “When I got out, the number of monsters had already increased to the point that more than two hundred of them spawned in each round. They could tear the examinees like me in a minute. My mental strength index plummeted because I couldn’t stand the pain anymore. I didn’t get out because I was afraid. And Meng Chao can handle it?”

“The ones remaining to the end of the mental strength test have always been the children of aristocratic families who have been practicing secret techniques since a young age. Meng Chao is the same as them?”

“Wait, look at Meng Chao’s expression carefully. Is he... smiling?”

The superbrain could only cover half of the examinee’s face.

Even though his classmates could not see his eyes, they still noticed that his lips had curled up a little. He did not seem to be in fear and despair at all. He looked like he was eager for a fight.

For a period of time, the students felt a chill running down their spine.

“Just what did he see?”

The students’ expressions were complicated. “Could it be that we didn’t actually enter the same virtual reality exam room. While our exam rooms were filled with monsters, Ace Student Chao’s exam room is filled with senior sisters, and it’s actually testing him on the stability of his mind?”

They waited for around eight minutes before Meng Chao woke up leisurely.

He was in high spirits, and he could even remove his superbrain on his own. He did not look like the others when they got out of the virtual reality battlefield. He was not dazed, his muscles did not spasm, and he did not foam at the mouth. In short, he did not look pathetic.

Chu Feixiong could not help but ask, “Meng Chao, you couldn’t handle it too?”

“Yup, I decided to stop playing.”

Meng Chao’s mental strength index had been stable throughout the test. If he wanted to continue playing, he could have.

But the number of monsters just kept increasing, and the place was already so crowded that he felt like he was trying to fight his way into a subway at peak hours against hundreds of monsters. He did not have any space to practice his saber technique or harvesting skills.

He might not fear death, but he was not a masochist. It was not fun to be brutally murdered by monsters. So he calculated his marks, and he decided that he would have definitely scored enough marks. Besides, he had already obtained so many contribution points that his contribution point wallet was full. So he got out on his own with his pockets full of rewards.

“Play?”

When the students heard the words he used, they could not help but be shocked. ‘Play with monsters? This guy really knows how to have his fun, huh?!’

“Look at Ace Student Chao’s ranking”

Suddenly, someone pointed at the monitor.

The mental strength test for Tiger Forest Region had already ended. The examination division of the education department of the region immediately projected the end results on the monitor.

The first to have their names projected on it were the top one hundred scorers for the two tests.

Ninety among them came from Construction High.

The other nine slots were the outstanding students from the key high schools.

Only Meng Chao alone was ranked among those from the key high schools that were not key high schools in the city.

But this single person made his way beautifully to the top thirty with an unbelievably high score. He managed to leave behind many of the elites of Construction High.

“How is this possible? Many of the top one hundred of those from Construction High have superbrains and virtual reality training systems at home. Every night, before they go to sleep, they fight against monsters. Are you saying those monsters can’t win against Meng Chao?”

For a period of time, the students could not tell just who was the real monster—Meng Chao or the elites of Construction High.

Chapter 65: Three Days Till the National College Examination!

At Construction High’s exam area, Jin Zhanpeng swung his fist. He felt incredibly gloomy. Naturally, he got through the m

ental strength test, but he did not manage to get into the top one hundred in the region.

He was ranked 255th. For others, this would be something worth celebrating, but to him, it was a miserable loss.

“Zhanpeng, what happened to you today? This was something easy, so how in the world did you manage to fail so miserably?” The aristocratic children ranked among the top ten and who also happened to be from Construction High walked over.

Jin Zhanpeng had always been arrogant, but when he faced the elites among elites, he did not dare to show even the slightest bit of his resentment.

There was always someone better. Even though his father was a sniping type superhuman and his family had opened a gun club, the others’ backgrounds were even more inscrutable than his.

Their leader, Luo Hai, was the student council president of Construction High. His father was the six-star superhuman Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu!

Jin Zhanpeng could not afford to offend him!

“I had placed a lot of hopes on you, and I wanted you to be able to fight against the people from First High School and Second High School during the practical test. I didn’t expect that your mental strength would not be able to reach the standards. You really wasted all the resources I fought for you!” Luo Hai rebuked him gently.

“It’s all because of that guy...” Jin Zhanpeng’s face turned red, and he did not dare go into detail.

“Hmm?”

Luo Hai cast a glance at the ranking board. Suddenly, his eyes lit up. "What's with that kid? He's from Ninth High School, and he managed to get into the top thirty in the region?"

"He actually...?" Jin Zhanpeng was shocked.

"Is that Meng Chao born with a thick head? Or does he have his brain mutated? He might be missing his amygdala, you know, the place in the brain that controls fear? He can't sense fear, and it's no wonder why Big Brother Peng couldn't scare him just now."

The students who had followed Jin Zhanpeng for a show of force just now said, "This sort of people are like those born with pain insensitivity. They might look calm, but they're completely useless. They're the ones who are going to die at any moment in the battlefield."

"He's Meng Chao? The one who defeated... what's his name?" Luo Hai cast Jin Zhanpeng a glance.

"Zuo Haoran, my disciple," Jin Zhanpeng quickly said.

"Oh, I saw him in your club last time. He's the pretty boy whose gun technique is normal but whose flattery skills are really good? Zhanpeng, I have to say, you're an elite from Construction High. Can't you raise your standards a little when it comes to taking in disciples?" Luo Hai pursed his lips. "That guy's born slow in the head? Heh, let's go and take a look."

When the elites from Construction High walked over, the students from Ninth High School were coincidentally walking out while surrounding Meng Chao.

Their presences clashed. Ninth High School might be slightly weaker, but since their results this year were good, they managed to withstand the pressure.

Meng Chao immediately saw Jin Zhanpeng, since he was nearly two meters tall. He thought that he was still feeling loathful, so he thought for a moment before he asked for his schoolmates to make way. He walked over.

"Mr. Jin, we might have some misunderstandings between us."

He extended his hand on his own. "We're all hot-blooded youngsters, it's normal that we have slight conflicts and are competitive with each other.

"But Dragon City is a lone army in the Other World. Soon, we're going to face incredibly fierce and cruel monsters in the same battlefield. You saw just how difficult the mental strength test is this year. If it weren't because the war is about to become even more difficult, the education department wouldn't do something so insane in such a short notice.

"War is coming, it's pretty meaningless if we continue fighting against our own, where you threaten me and I humiliate you. What do you think?"

His words caused Jin Zhanpeng to blush red.

The students from Construction High and Ninth High School put on contemplative expressions.

The atmosphere gradually turned more amicable, and Meng Chao felt happy that he managed to make a small contribution when it came to increasing the harmony between the high school students in Dragon City.

Suddenly...

Ning Xueshi and Yan Feirou came over together while they smiled beautifully. They said, "Meng Chao, congrats on scoring so well for the mental strength test! Let's go and eat!"

In an instant, the high school students' young, youthful, and terribly wounded hearts were dealt a heavy blow again.

Jin Zhanpeng's face was full of envy, jealousy, and hate. 'Brat, how dare you say that it's meaningless to humiliate me? If it's meaningless, why are you still humiliating me in different ways?!

Meng Chao found himself feeling depressed. These two seniors were just too good at making people hate him. They were basically affecting the unity among the students.

Luo Hai chuckled softly. He went up to shake Meng Chao's outstretched hand. "Construction High, Luo Hai."

Meng Chao blinked. "Ninth High School, Meng Chao."

He was originally thinking about only giving a cursory shake, but Luo Hai's grip was pretty strong. A wave of heat came from his palm, and he held Meng Chao's hand seriously for three seconds.

"From today onwards, your name will be known in Tiger Forest Region, Meng Chao of Ninth High School," Luo Hai said sincerely, "I hope that you'll be able to get a good result during your national college examination. If that happens, we'll have a chance to meet again."

Meng Chao thought about it and nodded, "Luo Hai, I hope that you'll succeed in the exam, same to you too, Jin Zhanpeng, and everyone from Construction High. You don't know me yet, but once you get a deeper understanding of me, you'll find that I'm actually an easy-going person who likes to keep to a low-profile. I don't really care for fame and personal interests, and I don't like putting up a show to humiliate others. I just like contributing to society. We'll definitely be able to become friends."

Before his voice even faded away, Ning Xueshi and Yan Feirou came to his sides, and like female bodyguards, held his arms and dragged him away.

Luo Hai wrapped his arms around his chest and watched as he left. He smiled faintly. "Meng Chao? He's pretty interesting."

"Big Brother Hai, that brat is too arrogant. Should we do something to him?" Jin Zhanpeng's face was gloomy as he asked this question softly.

Luo Hai cast Jin Zhanpeng a surprised look.

"Zhanpeng, honestly speaking, there's something Meng Chao said just now that is pretty logical. You'd best remember it."

He frowned and said, “We’re competitors in school, because everyone has to fight for resources, and we can even fight until we draw blood from it. But once we step out of the gates of Construction High and are in the region, we’re all comrades fighting in the same battlefield, and we can entrust each other with our backs.

“Similarly, in Tiger Forest Region, we’re competitors with Ninth High School and the other key high schools in the city. We can use every method in our disposal to suppress them, but once we look beyond Tiger Forest Region and look at the whole city, you’ll find that we’re brothers who can fight together to the death. We have to fight against famous schools like First High School and Second High School.

“If we look at an even larger scale, we’ll still be applying the same logic. We might be mortal enemies with First High School and Second High School in all sorts of competitions and the battlefield that will be used for the national college examination, but when it comes to the Monster War and our journey to conquer the Other World, we’ll still turn into comrades who will live and die together. We have to fuse our blood together and fight until our blood runs dry.

“Dragon City martyrs came to realize a brutal truth over the past years, and that truth can be summarized into two words—competition and unity. You’d best think about it seriously and carefully. If you don’t come to understand something from it, you won’t be able to achieve great things in your life.”

Jin Zhanpeng did not expect that Luo Hai would lecture him so mercilessly. He could not help but have his face turn red in embarrassment.

“You refuse to accept what I said?” Luo Hai gave a ghost of a smile. “If you’re not, go on and attack him on your own. I don’t know how high Meng Chao’s maximum punching strength or his results in his one-hundred meter dash are, and I never learned what sort of force execution technique, meditation technique, stances, or strategies he practiced. These are just data on paper, and I don’t care about it, but I can bet you one buck that if I throw you and him into the fog, even if you’re covered head to toe in armor and he’s barehanded, in the end, the one who will die is you!”

In the end, Meng Chao did not go out to eat with the seniors.

The main reason behind it was because everyone had to take the school bus back to Ninth High School, and Demon Yan still had his expression looking as sour as ever.

If he went out to eat with Ning Xueshi and Yan Feirou, he would not be adhering to the code of brotherhood at all. Besides, if he went back to school, hundreds of boys would be vying to beat him to a pulp.

But he did look through the information pamphlets from the university the seniors brought him.

Dragon City University was already famous while it was still on Earth, and Agricultural University was known as Monster University.

Their overall strength was among the top two among all the universities in Dragon City.

Meng Chao’s goal was to get into either of these two famous universities.

He made multiple copies of this information and gave them to many students.

He even shamelessly asked the two seniors to come to Ninth High School to share their experiences on how they should fill in their aspiration forms. The two girls agreed to it happily.

When he said this to Demon Yan, it traveled so fast that even Principal Sun heard about it. He used his connections and asked some of the top graduates of Ninth High School who had gotten into famous universities to come over, causing a spectacle so great that it was much livelier than many of the key high schools in the city. Many of the students were inspired, and Meng Chao happily obtained a lot of contribution points.

These two things helped him repair his friendship with the boys. The sounds of laughter came from the dorms again, and Meng Chao no longer had to live in fear when he went to sleep at night.

But now, every time they trained, there were always a lot of boys who could cry out that they wanted to spar with him, and the one who led this whole entire thing was Chu Feixiong.

He did not mind sparring. Right now, the school paid great attention to him, and they stuffed all sorts of cultivation resources down his throat. Every night, he would feel a terrifying amount of power burning in him, and he had no place to use it. There were basically billions of sparks in him that were waiting to be ignited right now.

He had the help from future martial arts, and his pain senses were already refined by the memories from his previous life. Even the outstanding students from the rocket classes were not his opponent. Everyone said that their focus was no longer on winning against Meng Chao. Instead, their focus was on Meng Chao when he started fighting. When he did, he would instantly turn into someone else. His eyes shone fiercely, but there was cold sneer on his lips. All the moves he used were all moves that would cause him to end up dying together with his enemy. He looked as if he was about to dig out his intestines at any moment to choke his opponent to death.

Meng Chao was clearly not a high school student, it was obvious that he was a veteran who had been fighting for decades in an ocean of blood and piles of corpses.

Many of the students' data on paper was about the same as Meng Chao, but when they were enveloped by the fierce aura, they immediately had their hearts race, and their legs grew weak. How could they even fight against him?

Besides, Meng Chao looked as if he was not afraid of pain in the slightest. Even if the others punched him ten times and covered his face in so many bruises that he looked like an alien, he would still go to the canteen as if nothing happened and eat half a Demonic Halberd Pig.

When he punched others three times, they would be hissing in pain for a long time, and they would even vomit their supper from last night.

The disparity was so great. How could they possibly still continue to have fun together?

Jiang Lei, whose data on paper made him rank at the top of the school, fought against Meng Chao once, and after that, he had to continue increasing the number of people to fight with him against Meng Chao.

In the beginning, Jiang Lei and Chu Feixiong attacked him together, so it was a two against one fight.

Slowly, it was upgraded to three against one, then four against one, and even five against one.

Honestly, if the place was big enough, Meng Chao would not be afraid even if one hundred people fought against him.

No matter how many enemies he had, they needed to be able to land a punch on him for the fight to be effective, right?

As long as they did not use guns and just used their fists and cold weapons, he could move around as much as he wanted in the whole training room and even the whole school. These inexperienced high school students could not even touch a single strand of his hair.

Of course, this would just cause them to lose the meaning of training, and it would also demotivate the students in their learning.

Hence, Meng Chao would sometimes let himself be caught, and he would have to fight against three to five built boys.

In any case, whenever his contribution points increased by a large portion, the miniscule wounds in his body would recover a little. If things were really bad, he could exchange his points for an Initial Stage Healing Skill. Hence, his ability to continue fighting nonstop was insanely good.

When he fought against the students wildly, he could subtly influence their force execution methods. He could also master the three great force execution methods. His contribution points just kept increasing, so there was no reason for him to not do this.

Just like that, three days before the national college examination, Chu Feixiong and the other students recalled their final push over the past half a month. Then, they discovered gloomily that they seemed to have been beaten up by Meng Chao, even though their plan was to beat up Meng Chao.

Chapter 66: Sudden Fog

During the last three days, Meng Chao only improved the skills he had by a small margin. He also traded himself an Initial Stage Healing Skill. After he finished healing all his hidden injuries, he did not activate any new skills.

As of then, his contribution points were at 7,523 points.

He had an unprecedented amount of “money” in his hands.

He thought about it and decided that he should not use up all of his contribution points whenever he gained them. He also had real money, so he did not need to panic.

On that day, fog descended on Dragon City again. It was the largest over the past decade, and it caught everyone off guard.

Since the national college examination was just around the corner, all the examinees stayed in school.

When it was midnight, Meng Chao was startled awake for a reason unknown to him. He felt that the air was stiff, and he could also hear faint shrieks. It was as if something was churning beneath the surface.

Then, a piercing alarm rang through the entire city, and the students got out of their beds.

“What’s going on? I didn’t hear the weather forecast station saying that monsters would be attacking tonight.”

“This is a special-grade alarm. A lot of space-time rifts have been torn in the city. The worst situation has appeared!”

“Didn’t they say that the space and time torrent is gradually stabilizing, and when monsters attack our borders, they seldom use the space-time rifts to appear straight in the city?!”

“Who the heck knows what’s going on?!”

Everyone got dressed in a flurry.

While they were still adjusting their combat boots, Meng Chao had already rushed out.

He saw an incredibly shocking sight in the corridor.

The night sky had been filled with stars, but at some point in time, massive vortices had appeared in it.

Nearly one hundred squirming limbs came out of the vortices. They looked sticky, and their color was bright, making it seem as if the night sky itself had been ripped apart, and now, there were bloody wounds on it.

The stars could no longer be seen. As the black vortices pulsed, huge monsters that could not be described with words flew into the sky above the city.

They swayed about while looking like demonic jellyfish that came from hell or huge, bloodshot eyeballs.

They had veins that were as dense as a spider’s net and strange pupils. The tissues around the eyeballs were bloody. They had everything that made them look disgusting and alive.

The tentacles looked like nerve cords. They hung down as if fishing on the streets and alleys for human souls.

The huge eyes released a strange light that scanned through the entire city like spotlights.

When the blood-red light swept through Ninth High School’s dormitory building, the students in the corridor felt their hearts tremble violently, and their mental strength index plummeted.

“It’s the Demonic Air Ripping Eye. That thing is skilled in mind attacks on multiple targets. Don’t meet its gaze!”

“Focus and calm your breathing. Enter a sitting stance and meditate! Make sure that you execute your breathing technique and meditation technique!”

“Where’s the army? Where are the superhumans? What should we do when there are so many superbeasts around?”

It was the first time that many of the students had seen something so terrifying and they lost their composure.

The booming sounds of propellers came from the sky. Eight armored airships and dozens of superhumans rushed over. They formed an aerial offense unit.

Guns were fired along with heavy artillery. The superhumans rose into the air, and their sabers as well as broadswords were as magnificent as lightning.

The Demonic Air Ripping Eyes were superbeasts skilled in mind attacks but who had weak physical bodies. Once they collected multiple wounds, they were like popped balloons and lost control of themselves. They flew everywhere while shrieking.

A heavily injured Demonic Air Ripping Eye coincidentally flew above an armored airship.

It immediately started swinging its tentacles and wrapped its torn body around the armored airship. While it cackled and shrieked, it fell down with the armored airship.

The sounds of explosions and the light from the fire shocked the students deeply.

The youngsters had grown up in the glorious age where Dragon City was in its most prosperous.

The armored airship is a mighty steel machine with power equal to that of a God, and no matter how strong a monster is, when it runs into an armored airship, it has to flee—this was common knowledge that supported their views of the world.

And now, their steel God fell.

“The Demonic Air Ripping Eyes we learned about in the textbooks aren’t this fast. Their tentacles aren’t that strong either. They’re not supposed to break bullets! Wh-what’s going on?!”

The faces of many students were stark white. Their eyes were dazed, and they could not control their muscles. They were all trembling.

If anyone tested them on their mental strength index right now, they would find that it had dropped by the tens.

They were about to break down.

Fortunately, at that moment, a loud war song rose from the depths of the school.

The familiar melody was like waves of lava that charged into them, flowing into their eardrums and traveling down their nerves, blood vessels, and brain cells. It gave them courage and helped them to calm down.

Meng Chao was the first among those in the corridor to respond to the melody. He threw his head back and started singing at the top of his voice.

He was quite tone deaf, and his singing could not be described as pleasant at all.

But it was a song sung by the martyrs on Earth, and now, it was also sung in the Other World. Songs like that were not meant to be sung with skill nor enjoyed by the ear.

They were to be sung with passionate blood and enjoyed by excited spirits. They were supposed to resonate with the people through their courage and beliefs.

Chu Feixiong was the second to break free from his shock. He moved next to Meng Chao and started belting out his notes toward the school field, the school, and the entire city. He let out furious shouts of a young Earthling at the monsters that covered the sky of the city.

His voice was even more out of tune than Meng Chao's, but that was fine.

When countless teenagers gathered their toneless voices together to form an earth-shattering roar and when these sound waves pushed their spirits so high that they could turn into shocking waves that could sweep through the world, they became invincible.

The students and teachers in the corridors, dormitory building, school building, and the whole school sang together. Their voices turned into an impenetrable defense net that shattered the mind attacks from the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes.

The brainwaves from thousands of youths gathered together to form a sharp golden blade that seemed to have physical form. It launched a counterattack skyward, causing the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes to spasm violently, and they screeched.

All of the monsters suffered a backlash from their mind attacks.

It was not actually that difficult to block off mind attacks.

Certain activities produced certain effects in warding off mind attacks. For example, passionate military songs that stirred up courage, relics from deceased family members that stirred up memories, pictures of children to light up hope, or even debase entertainment could all divert one's attention.

The key was that when hundreds of people were gathered together, someone had to take the lead for these activities to take effect.

If someone took the lead to stabilize their mental strength index and thought of ways to increase morality, they would release brain waves nonstop to resonate with the brainwaves of the crowd. Then, this would turn into a good cycle where everyone would become colder, bolder, and fearless.

Even if a coward was in the midst of people with high morale who were fighting fearlessly and passionately, they would march forward with indomitable spirit as well.

But on the other hand, if someone crumbled instantly, the brainwaves channelling fear would turn into a virus that would affect everyone.

When their mental strength index plummeted, the group would collapse, and the effect would be similar to that of countless fear bombs exploding fiercely. Even Meng Chao could not guarantee that his mind would not be affected if he were caught in such a situation.

Fortunately, they managed to stabilize their minds.

Just like in Ninth High School, the people in the other places gradually recovered with the loud war songs as well.

The citizens managed to break free from their initial panic. They acted according to the emergency procedures and defended against the enemies on the spot while also launching counterattacks.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Countless searchlights illuminated the night sky so brightly that it looked like it was day.

The anti-aircraft machine guns and anti-aircraft guns released thousands of bullets, leaving behind so many holes on the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes that they looked like punctured balls. They started screeching.

However, aside from the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes, there were other monsters as well. They invaded the city through the normal means and engaged the humans in close quarters combat.

For a period of time, the sounds of guns, artillery, shouts for murder, and explosions filled the streets, alleys, and every corner of the city.

A few buildings began burning around Ninth High School.

“Look!”

Chu Feixiong pointed at a building not far away from the school.

Its base had been set on fire, but the top of the building was bound by the tentacles of a Demonic Air Ripping Eye. The residents of that building could neither go up nor down. Many people started crying for help from their balconies. Some of them panicked and jumped off because their mental strength index had fallen too low.

“We have to hurry up and save them!”

Meng Chao and Chu Feixiong led the group from the third year out of the dormitory building like the wind.

At the school entrance, they ran into Principal Sun, Demon Yan, and a large group of teachers armed head to toe in armor and weapons.

Demon Yan held a heavy machine gun that was usually fixed to armored trucks. On his back was a broadsword with ghost heads, and it looked even mightier than the heavy machine gun. He glared at them and shouted, “What are you doing?!”

“Principal Sun, Mr. Yan, you’re going out to fight, right?” Chu Feixiong summoned his courage and shouted, “That’s just perfect! Take us with you!”

“Stop fooling around and go back. Before daylight, none of you are allowed to step out of the schoolyard!” Demon Yan let out a huff and glared.

“Why?!”

“Didn’t the Survival Committee release a law saying that if we run into monsters, we’re to help each other and fight with everything we have?”

“The monsters are wreaking havoc around us. How can we just watch?”

“A few days ago, I met even more hideous monsters during the mental strength test. I’m not afraid! I want to fight!”

After singing the war songs together, everyone had secreted too many superbrain endorphins. Their mental strength indices were all above 120% now, and the side effect was that they were not afraid even of Demon Yan. They started causing a ruckus like people who had received an extra dose of courage, which they had.

“Students, I can understand your feelings, and I absolutely agree with your beliefs that you should fight.” Principal Sun stepped forward from behind Demon Yan.

The shrivelled old man had switched to a loose camouflage uniform. He did not bring any weapons and appeared to be barehanded. He smiled gently.

“But you’re about to take your national college examinations. Many of you have a chance to get into universities and become superhumans. Even if you don’t manage to get into universities, you will be able to achieve great things in many jobs after you go through specialization training.

“The society, the school, and your parents have invested a lot in all of you to cultivate you to this stage. Everyone is looking forward to you blossoming. How can we let you perish meaninglessly before you reach full bloom?”

“Yes, we have to make sacrifices all the time to survive, but sacrifices must be meaningful too. We must be rewarded sufficiently for every drop of blood that we shed. Understood?”

Chu Feixiong was someone easily excited. After his mental strength index went over the safety zone, he feared nothing. “Principal Sun, then why can you go out to fight?”

Demon Yan glared at him, but Principal Sun stopped Demon Yan with a smile and said, “We’re old now. We’re injured and disabled. Every bit of our potential has been wrung out. Even if we die, it’s fine.

“But you’re young. You’re the sun that shines at eight o’clock in the morning. You’re the future and hope of Dragon City. I’m fine with you rushing out to fight, but we should go by order, no? When all of the teachers and I have died, walk over our corpses, pick up our weapons, and kill as much as you want, alright?”

Chapter 67: Right to Be Sacrificed

Chu Feixiong still wanted to argue. “We—”

“Enough!”

Principal Sun suddenly shouted loudly, and his voice was even louder than Demon Yan’s.

His expression instantly turned darker as well. Now, he looked like a demon and not someone harmless.

Flap! Flap! Flap! Flap! Flap! Flap! Flap! Flap!

A moment ago, his camouflage uniform had been loose, but in an instant, it became tight around his body. The cloth at his chest and armpits even tore to reveal a powerful body that shone with a metallic light.

The old principal at his twilight years grew muscle mass so rapidly it was as if someone had inflated him with gas. His body became even bigger than that of Chu Feixiong, and he turned into the fearsome Heavy Cannon who once fought in the Red Dragon Army!

“Hiss!”

When everyone saw Principal Sun’s fists, they found that they were like two hot cannonballs. Meng Chao and the other students sucked in sharp breaths, and they understood why the Heavy Cannon did not need to bring any weapons with him.

His fists were like morningstars packed full of gunpowder. Anyone by whom they brushed past would die. They would die if it just touched them!

“Dying is very easy, but if you march to your deaths without a plan and before you uncover your full potential, that isn’t courage. It’s just another form of cowardice!” Principal Sun shouted angrily.

“Dragon City is a lone army in the Other World. Everyone’s lives don’t belong to themselves, but to all the citizens and to the whole of Dragon City. It belongs to Earth’s civilization! If you want to die, you need to be qualified to do so!

“I, Sun Daxing, joined the army when I was seventeen, and I’ve been a soldier for forty years. I’ve killed nearly one thousand zombies and more than ten thousand monsters. I have hundreds of scars left on my body, and there are fragments from the monsters’ fangs embedded in my spine. I’ve already given away everything that I can to Dragon City, so I have the right to walk generously to my death.

“Chu Feixiong, how many monsters have you killed? How many scars have you obtained? What have you done for the land that nurtured you? You haven’t even grown all your hair down there, so what right do you have to die?”

His unfiltered words were finally able to intimidate Chu Feixiong and the students.

The students at the entrance fell silent. They could only hear the roars of the monsters and humans outside.

Chu Feixiong’s face turned red. He lowered his head in embarrassment. “Principal Sun, I...”

“That’s enough. Students, please stay here.” Principal Sun’s voice became gentle once more. “Please be more confident in your teachers and those of your parents’ generation. We’ll protect this city and buy time for you. Your duty is to use the time, space, and resources we bought for you to train hard and surpass us. Then... you will earn the right to walk to your death with your head held high.”

The students fell into deep thought.

Principal Sun waved his hand and led the school leaders as well as teachers out of the school entrance.

“Wait, Principal Sun!” Meng Chao suddenly jogged over.

“Meng Chao?” Principal Sun turned his head around in slight surprise.

“I was browsing through the life science forum in the deep web a few days ago, and I saw someone boasting on the monster forum. He said that he discovered an Evolved Demonic Air Ripping Eye.

“Their tentacles are very tenacious, bouncy, and possess great power. They can extend to one hundred meters, which means that they can reach the ground if they’re one hundred meters in the air, and it allows them to wrap a person and bring him into the air,” Meng Chao said quickly.

“I don’t know whether it’s true or false, but it’s better to believe it. When you fight, you must be careful of the attacks from above!”

Principal Sun stared at Meng Chao for a long time before he nodded. “I’ll remember it. Thank you, Meng Chao. Go back. Take care of your safety with the other students.”

Meng Chao released a sigh of relief and watched as Principal Sun and the teachers vanished into the depths of the fog and flames.

Suddenly, a notification popped up before his eyes.

[Heroic citizen Sun Daxing has listened to your suggestion. His chances of survival have increased. Increased contribution points by 199.]

‘Hero?’

Meng Chao was stunned. He did not expect that Principal Sun was not an elite citizen, but a heroic citizen, someone who was of an even higher level. With just a small suggestion, he gave Meng Chao 199 contribution points.

Now, he had discovered four different citizen units.

“Normal”, “Elite”, “Special”, and “Heroic”.

The others were easy to understand, but what sort of person was qualified to be declared as a hero?

Meng Chao returned to the students with a complicated expression.

When he turned his head around, he did not know whether his mind was playing tricks on him, but he felt that the flames in the direction where Principal Sun and the others went burned hotter, and the sounds of explosions there were also louder.

But no matter how noisy the explosions were, they could not hide the sounds of Principal Sun’s fists ramming into monsters. They sounded like cannonfire.

He watched in a daze for a long time before he suddenly gritted his teeth and walked forward.

“Meng Chao, where are you going?” Chu Feixiong called out to him.

“I’m not watching anymore. There’s nothing worth watching anyway. Even if we watch until our eyes bleed, we still can’t make the monsters die with our stares. We’re not Demonic Air Ripping Eyes, after all!”

Meng Chao did not turn his head around. “Principal Sun is right. I’m going to the cultivation room. I’ll... fight for the right to die with no regrets!”

Chu Feixiong was stunned. He turned his head around and cast a glance at his hometown, which was being wrecked by monsters, and he stomped his feet. "Wait for me! We'll go together! I'll fight you three hundred times tonight! Whoever cries out in pain is a weakling!"

"We're going too!"

On that night, all the third year examinees of Ninth High School descended into a frenzy in the cultivation rooms.

They treated each other as monsters and beat each other up repeatedly.

The world outside fought for an entire night, and they did the exact same thing. They fought each other until they were black and blue all over. Wounds covered their bodies, but no one cried out in pain. All of them just gritted their teeth and bore with it.

They fought for an entire night, until the Earthlings won in the end. They protected their hometown once more.

When Meng Chao walked out of the cultivation room covered in wounds, he smelled the heavy smell of gunpowder in the air, the foul stench of monsters, and the smell of human blood. It was so thick in the air that it felt as if the air had become stiff.

Even the war songs that had been playing for an entire night gained a grave tone.

The aftermath of a war was always great.

Since a large number of monsters invaded their land, it meant that they gained a large amount of fat and protein. It also meant that all sorts of rare materials and crystals appeared.

Countless warriors had also gained experience with every drop of blood they shed in the midst of the flames. They grew by leaps and bounds.

Many normal people brought out their full potential during the fierce fights and became superhumans.

Many low-grade superhumans shattered the shackles of their genes during moments of life and death and reached new heights.

Even so, Dragon City was filled with sorrow.

It was the most devastating fight Dragon City had encountered over the past decade.

"Based on initial estimations, dozens of superhumans, hundreds of Red Dragon Army soldiers, and thousands of citizens were lost during the monster invasion yesterday. The monsters also destroyed nearly one hundred buildings. We've suffered hundreds of millions in loss.

"The seventh commando squad of Soaring Tiger, the Red Dragon Army's air commandos, were the first to notice the intruders. To buy time, they gathered three armored airships and launched a charge at a dozen Demonic Air Ripping Eyes. They fought until the last soldier perished.

"Four-star superhuman Eagle Saber Meng Ao tried to protect the scattered crowd by himself and fought against a monster hoard formed by hundreds of Desert Wolves. He killed more than one hundred and eighty Desert Wolves, and he is heavily injured. His future in cultivation is bleak.

“The Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower have worked together to release an announcement. They will reward all the heroes who took part in the war this time. Aside from compensating the families of those who sacrificed their lives, they will also treat Eagle Saber Meng Ao and the other heavily wounded superhumans without caring about the price. They will try to retain their possibility to continue cultivating!”

Communications were restored, and the broadcast started sending out somber messages one after another. When the students heard them, they did not even have the appetite to eat.

There were only millions of people in Dragon City, and they had lost thousands this time. The number of casualties was devastating.

Meng Chao was the only one who continued shoving food down his throat as he forced himself to replenish his energy.

He knew that the ambush this time was just the prelude to the Monster War becoming more dangerous in every aspect.

The youths of his generation were familiar with a Monster War where Earthlings trampled on tiny monsters. Soon, this familiarity would be shattered.

And he had to do something before all of that happened.

Meng Chao got on a public bus that sent him back home.

All sorts of monster carcasses were piled up into mountains around the city. They were rotting swiftly.

If they were left alone, they could cause a pandemic.

All schools, enterprises, and public institutions were issued a holiday for the day. Everyone fought hard to sweep through the battlefield to harvest resources so that their hometown would be as bright as the sun once more.

The third year examinees were worried about their families, and they stated that they wanted to go back to see them.

Principal Sun came back after fighting for an entire night while covered in blood. He did not stop them.

Monster carcasses were everywhere in the streets, along with the marks left behind as they had melted or clawed up everything in their paths. There were also bullet holes along with obstacles formed by the remains of shattered war trucks.

The public bus had its bumper strengthened. Its tyres were also changed to those full of spikes, so they looked like solid off-road tyres used to travel on snow. They continuously went over the monster carcasses while letting out loud creaks.

The youngsters in the bus were mostly quiet and in a daze. They stared at the skyscrapers outside. They were wrapped around by mutated vines of all sorts of colors, and it looked as if this human city had become one with the forest of the Other World.

They could not understand how their familiar hometown had become like this.

The middle-aged people and the elderly were much calmer. The older they were, the calmer they acted.

They had experienced Dragon City transmigrating to this place and an age of lacking resources, zombies running rampant among them, ruffians dominating their streets, fog descending on them, and monsters attacking their city. There was nothing that could intimidate the elderly people with their wrinkle-filled faces and heads full of white hair.

“Look, the children are so scared. You lot, you’ve been living too comfortably over the past ten years. Twenty to thirty years ago, this was nothing.”

“That’s right. When I was young, I had to work during the day, and when I got off work, I had to kill random monsters in passing. I even had to pick up my kid from kindergarten. Sometimes, as I held my kid, I had to swing my saber and kill a few more monsters. I also had to cut off their tongues and ears so that I could turn them into dishes for my husband. Tsk, that’s what I call a Monster War!”

“Come, sisters, shall we sing a song for the children of the current era?”

The elderly giggled and sang.

They did not need to sing excited war songs to stir up their passion like the youngsters.

They sang small tunes that were mild, and all of them praised the scenery of their hometown.

Some of them were even pop songs they remembered from Earth.

It was as if no matter how hideous the monsters were and how terrifying the Other World was, it could not stop the elderly from admiring the beautiful scenery outside and search for a burning love.

Before, the youngsters did not like the elderly flaunting their seniority.

But on that day, the children listened seriously.

Even Meng Chao sang along with the elderly. When he got off the bus, he finally felt a little lighter at heart.

The night before, Blessed Heavenly Garden was not the main battlefield. Even so, the number of monsters that came to them was still way higher than what they had faced during the invasion of the Ghost-eyed Golden Winged Flame Beetle.

Fortunately, they were all normal monsters. Aside from shell-type monsters, there were also a lot of Demonic Halberd Pigs and Iron Armored Rhinoceroses. It allowed the residents to earn a lot of money.

When Meng Chao walked into the region, he was just in time to see his father leading the residents to cut up the monsters.

Chapter 68: Granny Wang

“Dad!”

Meng Chao saw that everyone’s faces were solemn but not overly sorrowful, and he sighed in slight relief. He went up to ask about the situation.

Meng Yishan told him that Blessed Heavenly Garden did not suffer a lot of casualties. They lost one resident, and two were heavily wounded. The good news was that they obtained a large amount of monster meat. Next year, they would definitely be able to be graded as a five-star region, and their supply of ammunition would increase by 20%. They would also get a lot of extra cultivation resources, which would allow their descendants to become stronger.

There was another piece of good news as well. Ma Jianjun, who lived in Block 22, Unit 4 and was a young factory worker in a machinery, had reached a breakthrough to save his partner from the clutches of monsters and became a superhuman.

“We have our own superhuman in our region now?” Meng Chao was surprised and delighted.

There were usually two paths for a person to become a superhuman.

The first was to build their foundation from their youth. They were to use stances, breathing techniques, and meditation techniques to repeatedly refine their bodies and get into university. Once they were sufficiently prepared, they could become superhumans and soar to the heavens.

This was the golden path that was peaceful and neutral.

The other path was this: since Dragon Citizens had been nourished by spirit energy for decades and had viruses, their potential was ten times stronger than that of the Earthlings in the past. When they ran into life threatening situations, there was a high possibility that their energy would burst out of them, and they would awaken to supernatural abilities.

Supernatural abilities gained during battle were usually paid for with a devastating price. They were usually limited to a single domain, and they had very limited room for expansion and improving. People who awakened them were known as pseudo-superhumans or broken-star superhumans.

Broken-star superhumans were like premature babies. Before their brains, nerves, flesh, and blood had completely matured, they had to withstand a spirit energy impact that was way beyond what they could take. It was, thus, very difficult for them to cultivate in the future.

Due to long-term considerations, cultivation aristocratic families did not let their children become superhumans too early. In fact, they even deliberately suppress their realms at times.

If anyone’s child became a superhuman at the age of fourteen or fifteen, no one would think that he had extraordinary talent. Instead, they would shake their heads and sigh, because the child was probably already crippled.

But to the normal people in Blessed Heavenly Garden, even if someone became a broken-star superhuman, they were still a superhuman!

“Our region is going to earn big this round.” Meng Chao smiled, but when he saw that his father’s expression was a little off, his smile faded away. “Dad, what’s wrong? Did something happen at home? Could it be... that something happened to my sister?”

Bai Jiaocao was his main worry. He feared that the powerful mental interference brought by the monster invasion might crush her mental strength index and once again push the possibility of her becoming corrupted to 100%.

“Something did happen— No, she wasn’t injured. It’s our neighbor, Granny Wang... Ah, just take a look at it on your own.”

Meng Yishan found himself not knowing what to say, even though the words were at the tip of his tongue.

Meng Chao felt his heart tense. He rushed home and found that his sister was curled up in a corner of the folding bed.

It was hot, but she used two bed sheets and a blanket to wrap herself up.

“Young Cao, what’s going on? I’m here, don’t be scared!” Meng Chao was anxious.

Muffled sobs came from under the blanket and bed sheets. Bai Suxin felt helpless nearby.

Meng Chao comforted the girl with gentle words. After being comforted for a long time, Bai Jiacao finally pushed the blanket and the bed sheets from her face.

The girl wept horribly in the dark. “Big Brother, I was too horrible. I saved Dad, I saved Mom, but I didn’t manage to save Granny Wang. She’s going to die! She’s going to turn into a zombie!”

“What?” Meng Chao turned around to cast a questioning look at his mother.

Bai Suxin explained that there were many monsters yesterday, so all the residents moved to the underground shelter. While they were moving there, a drove of Demonic Halberd Pigs crawled out of a space-time rift and separated the group.

Everyone launched their counterattack where they were. Bai Jiacao was incredibly brave. No one saw what she did, but she used a small kopis and killed two Demonic Halberd Pigs!

However, no matter how bravely the future Dark Witch fought, right now, she was just a girl who had not awakened to her abilities. After killing two monsters, she used up all her strength, and even her kopis was stuck in the monster’s bone. She could not bring it out.

At that moment, the third Demonic Halberd Pig rushed at her.

Their next door neighbor, Granny Wang, had always fought together with their family. Without even thinking, she moved in front of Bai Jiacao as her shield, lifted her extra large shotgun, and fired.

Her accuracy was great. With just one shot, she blasted off the monster’s eyeballs, but it drove the beast into anger. It bared its fangs and pierced the old lady’s stomach. Then, it threw her more than ten meters away.

When Meng Yishan and Bai Suxin managed to save Granny Wang, the old lady was already a mangled mess.

They used medicinal gel to stop her blood in time, but the bacteria on the Demonic Halberd Pig’s fangs stimulated the virus in Granny Wang’s body. With the subsequent collapse of her immune system, the bacteria invaded her central nervous system and her brain tissues. She... could not be saved.

“Granny Wang’s going to turn into a zombie.” Meng Chao’s heart sank.

When Earthlings transmigrated to the Other World, their first great enemy was not the horrible environment or the fights brought by the draining of resources. Instead, it was the mysterious virus and bacteria of the Other World.

The immune systems they brought with them from Earth had never seen such strange bacteria before.

Many of the transmigrators were instantly crippled or their immune systems went through such abrupt changes that they turned into all sorts of deformed monsters.

Later on, with the nourishment of spirit energy, the activity of the cells in Earthlings increased by dozens of times. They unlocked the shackles of their genes and awakened to supernatural abilities, but it had side effects.

For example, if a person's brain died but a large amount of their central nervous system remained highly active, the deceased would turn into a zombie who was filled with the instinct to kill and eat.

They were like the zombies seen in horror movies and games on Earth.

After adapting to the viruses in the Other World and all the research conducted on them, the Dragon Citizens now had all sorts of antibodies in them, which resulted in a brand new immune system.

The zombie research center developed all sorts of medications to fight the viruses and bacteria to ensure that in normal situations, the viruses and bacteria would not be activated. The medication could even make the viruses and bacteria stimulate human genes so that they could break through their limits.

But in special situations, for example, when a person was severely injured, when their immune system was incredibly weak, or when a monster suddenly injected large amounts of viruses or bacteria into the person, that person would still face a certain chance of turning from a carrier to an infected.

Granny Wang might have been hale and hearty, but she was still old. Her organs were also attacked by the Demonic Halberd Pig's fangs, which was the worst possible situation.

"I did this to Granny Wang. I was too weak." When Bai Jiacao saw her older brother, she found a way to vent her emotions. Her eyes were glazed as she kept repeating, "I was too weak. I was too weak. I was too weak—"

"Young Cao!" Meng Chao yanked the blanket away and grabbed her shoulders. He said loudly, "You didn't do this to Granny Wang. She sacrificed her life heroically to protect our hometown. If she was still conscious, she wouldn't want to see you like this!"

Bai Jiacao was still unable to get out of her emotions. She stared at her older brother in a daze before she suddenly smiled and mumbled, "I'm going to get stronger, much stronger, so that this tragedy won't happen again."

"Listen to me, only when your heart is strong will you truly be strong. With your current condition, no matter how physically strong you become, you will be a slave to your strength. You won't be able to save anyone. You'll only bring about an even greater tragedy!"

When Meng Chao saw that his sister was not listening to him, he sucked in a deep breath and asked his mother, "Where's Granny Wang?"

"In her house." Bai Suxin hesitated for a moment. "The army sent someone over. They're from the Eternal Journey."

Meng Chao was slightly stunned. "They're holding a joyful funeral for her?"

Bai Suxin nodded. "Yes."

"Alright, based on procedures, you need a witness for a joyful funeral. We're neighbors. We can bear witness. Young Cao, you're coming with me." Meng Chao yanked his little sister to her feet.

"I-I don't want to go. I don't want to see how Granny Wang looks like right now..." Bai Jiacao struggled with all her might, and her voice quivered.

"Didn't you say that you want to become really strong? Yet you don't even have the courage to look at Granny Wang?" Meng Chao asked. "We've been neighbors for twenty years. We're going to send Granny Wang on her final journey!"

He dragged his sister to No.706. The door was opened, and the house was filled with the residents of the unit. Granny Wang's friends, who usually played mahjong with her, were among them as well.

Three military doctors in white coats were there. Two of them held controllers that allowed electricity to charge through, and the other had a large pistol at his waist.

"Young Juan?"

Bai Jiacao did not dare to go in, but once pushed inside, she saw that Granny Wang's granddaughter had come back. She was schoolmates with Bai Jiacao while they were in elementary school, and they were best friends who grew up together.

Bai Jiacao could only answer the soft call.

"Young Cao, come and keep me company." Wang Xiaojuan bit her lip and extended a cold hand.

Bai Jiacao braced herself and squeezed her way through.

She shut her eyes, not daring to look. She could only hear Granny Wang as she let out rumbling sounds from her throat, along with the sounds of chains turning around.

The girl felt her older brother hold her shoulders. Warmth came from his palm, and his voice spoke from above her. "It's okay. I'm here."

Bai Jiacao leaned against her older brother and finally found the courage to open her eyes.

She saw that a metal frame had been placed on Granny Wang's wooden bed. The old lady was curled up on the frame, and her limbs were tied down by chains.

Her waist was bound by bandages, and her stomach had become one size bigger than before. Even though they had spread a lot of medicinal gel on her wounds, blood still seeped out of them.

The terrifying wounds had instantly taken the old lady's life, but the spirit energy, viruses, bacteria, and the incredibly active cells worked together to keep her miraculously alive.

... No. 90% of the old lady's brain was dying. Her consciousness was gradually fading away.

But the remaining 10% and her body were living in another way. Since they had lost the limitations placed on them by human consciousness, they became more excited... and savage.

Clang! Clang!

Granny Wang suddenly started spasming violently, and the chains holding her down clanged violently.

Thick blood vessels appeared on her wrinkled skin, and balls of blood began moving around in her blood vessels. They looked like rats. The brown age spots had turned green at some point, and dense, small red dots appeared on her livor mortis.

Her limbs twitched madly, and the heaving of her chest grew weaker until it became still.

She no longer needed to breathe. She had turned from a human to another unidentified creature.

Bai Jiacao was shocked. She wanted to move back.

Next to her, Granny Wang's granddaughter and her childhood friend started sobbing.

Bai Jiacao could not hold back her fear and regret as she said stiffly, "It's fine, Young Juan. Granny Wang has already passed away. She... she didn't feel any pain."

"85% of the patient's brain tissues have died.

"The patient will lose 100% of her breathing functions in three minutes.

"The three viruses: T35, T44, and R39 have gone over the critical point in the patient's body.

"With Dragon City's current medical standards and the patient's age, wounds, and body functions, we have come to an overall conclusion that we cannot save the patient. Family members, do you acknowledge this fact?"

Chapter 69: Small Stars

The military doctors operated the portable medicinal equipment tensely. Through various exploratory needles and patches, they obtained Granny Wang's physiological parameters.

But they could do nothing to save her.

They sighed and explained the parameters to the granddaughter.

With teary eyes, Wang Xiaojuan nodded and signed on the emergency rescue report.

"The patient has signed the 'corpse donation agreement' while she was alive. The method of donation she chose is by volunteering to join the Red Dragon Army's Eternal Journey. Based on the procedures, we will need her direct relative and five neighbors to stand as witnesses to ensure that the entire process abides by the rules and laws, and is logical." The military doctor looked around him.

Granny Wang's mahjong friends were willing to bear witness.

Meng Chao and Bai Jiacao stepped forward as well.

“Alright, witnesses, please sign here. Next, we will allow you to watch the video the donor has recorded beforehand to ensure that the next procedure is in accordance with the donor’s will.” The military doctor connected the video to Granny Wang’s TV.

The image jumped to several years ago when Granny Wang was still very energetic.

She sat cross-legged on her bed with her extra large shotgun placed horizontally over her lap. Her biochemical pet, Sword-toothed Hunting Dog called Big Tooth, was right next to her.

“Juan’er, if you see this video, it means that I’m dead, and I even became a zombie!”

In the video, Granny Wang remained as boisterous and lively as ever. “Don’t cry. Are you made of water or something, lass? You’ve liked crying since you were young. You’re completely different from Young Cao, the one living next door.

“Death is a natural process of life. Humans are just mortals. When we die, we have nothing. Rotting away slowly or turning into zombies is just fine.

“You don’t have to be sad for me, really. Dragon City transmigrated more than fifty years ago, and how many people managed to live through these fifty years? We’ve experienced a lot of crazy stuff, and I was fortunate enough to live until my age. I’ve already earned big!

“Don’t stop me. I’m not doing this due on an impulse. I’ve thought about this for a long time. Before I transmigrated, I was the same as you. When I was still in my teens, I had already thought about offering up my body in the future.

“It’s a long story. It started when I was still living in my old home on Earth. At that time, a pandemic happened in my hometown, and the entire city was affected by the virus. Many people collapsed out of the blue, and I was the same.

“But soon, doctors, nurses, and volunteers from all over the world came to help our city, and we received the best treatment and care.

“I’m old now, and I can’t remember a lot of things, but I’ll never forget a nurse with very pretty eyes. She took care of me meticulously, and when she had free time, which happened rarely, she came to tell me stories, sing to me, or dance for me.

“I will never forget how she was wrapped up in multiple layers of protective clothing at that time. Even so, she danced clumsily and looked like a fat swan.

“I also can’t forget the deep, red marks left on her face by the mask. Yet she was constantly smiling. She was happy and beautiful.

“Under her attentive care, I became better.

“But she... did not get to sleep for days and nights. She overworked herself and came into contact with many patients, which meant she caught the virus as well. After fighting it for some time, she did not manage to make it.

“On the last few days she was still alive, I accidentally heard the nurses talk, and it was only then that I learned that she had signed up the corpse donation agreement. She wanted to offer up her infected body to increase the speed of the research.

“I cried. I wanted to see her, but she was already sent into the ICU. Patients with light symptoms could not enter it.

“I was the first patient under her care who recovered. She had paid a lot of attention to me. During her last few days, she even asked the doctors to send me one thousand paper cranes from the ICU. She had folded them herself and even disinfected them.

“I opened all one thousand paper cranes. There were no words on them, just a girl who looked like me standing in a flower field while wearing a red dress. The sky had a smiling star with a smile, and it was very pretty.

“At that time, I was too young, and I couldn’t understand a lot of things. For example, why the nurse had traveled such a long distance from her hometown to mine, why she fought the virus day and night for months before dying quietly, or why she was willing to donate her corpse for the researcher.

“But I kept those one thousand paper cranes. Then, after I grew up and transmigrated to the Other World, I often looked at that picture. I looked at the nurse, who continued smiling even after she turned into a star in the picture. As I looked at it, I thought about what she had told me.

“Every time I ran into hardships I couldn’t get over, I thought about the nurse’s smile, and I felt a power protecting me. That feeling was great.

“That’s why I want to become a smiling star in the sky, just like her. I want to look over you, Juan’er, Young Cao from next door, all of Blessed Heavenly Garden, and all of Dragon City. I want all of you young’uns to be able to grow up safely and happily.”

Wang Xiaojuan was weeping so terribly that she could not say anything. She leaned against Bai Jiacao’s shoulder. “Granny!”

Bai Jiacao’s eyes stung, and all of her negative emotions turned into hot tears that flowed down her cheeks.

“Granny Wang...” she called out softly.

The old lady in the video seemed to have heard the girl calling out to her. She grinned and said, “By the way, Juan’er, aside from you, we only have Big Tooth left in our family now. If I’m no longer around, you have to stay in school and study.

“Let’s ask Uncle Meng and Young Cao to take care of Big Tooth, shall we? Young Cao likes Big Tooth the most. Every day, after school, she could come to our house to play with Big Tooth. She won’t bully Big Tooth, and Big Tooth won’t bully her either.”

Wang Xiaojuan stopped crying and bit her lip. “Alright!”

Bai Jiacao nodded seriously as well. “Granny Wang, don’t worry. I’ll take good care of Big Tooth!”

The Saw-toothed Hunting Dog in the video heard his master call his name and stood up on the bed.

The Saw-toothed Hunting Dog in reality, who was now a few years older, stood up as well. He shook his tail vigorously.

Even though his master had gained a very frightening appearance and his instincts told him not to get close, he still had an urge he could not understand. He wanted to save her from the torment afflicting her.

Bai Jiacao picked up the Saw-toothed Hunting Dog with slight difficulty and hugged him tightly.

Big Tooth struggled a little before he stopped resisting. He let out tiny whines before he buried his head in the girl's shoulder.

The video was about to end.

Granny Wang yawned and looked around, then revealed a mischievous smile. "Ha, when my husband was alive, he always said that he's been in the Red Dragon Army his entire life, and even after he dies, he will definitely join the Eternal Journey. He even started sprouting poetry at me and said something like 'Now, I shall go to Hell and gather all my fallen subordinates. Together, we shall head to kill the King of Hell.' He really knew how to boast. He was just a foot soldier, so where exactly was he going to find subordinates? More like, he was going to become someone else's subordinate!"

"I didn't expect that the old man's luck would be so bad that he'd be torn to pieces by a monster. Instead, I'm the one who has the chance to join the Eternal Journey. When I see the old man again, I'd like to see how he can still toot his horn!"

"Ah... It hasn't ended yet? You recorded this part as well? Oh well, since you recorded it, let it be. Don't delete it. Why should I be worried about the old coot hearing it? Even if he hears it, he can't do anything about it!"

Granny Wang grinned and turned off the recording.

"Family of the donor, was the video clear and complete? Do you have any objections?" the military doctor asked.

"It's clear and complete. I have no objections," Wang Xiaojuan said with red-rimmed eyes.

"Witnesses, do you have any objections?" the military doctor asked.

Meng Chao, Bai Jiacao and all three of Granny Wang's mahjong friends shook their heads. "None."

"Alright, since the family member and the witnesses have no objections, the donor's corpse has now officially become a volunteer for the Eternal Journey. The conversion ceremony will begin now. First, everyone, please bow three times to the volunteer's corpse to show your utmost respect."

The military doctor's expression was stern. He led everyone to take a step back and bowed methodically.

,Granny Wang was gradually turning into a zombie on the metal frame before them.

Her pupils were dilated and she could no longer react to the strong light in the outer world. No spark that suggested a shred of humanity remained in her eyes.

Her shrieks became sharper, and it did not sound like anything that came from a human or a living creature. It sounded like the viruses and bacteria in her were propagating at large quantities and were putting pressure on her organs, deforming them, and mutating them. The shrieks were made by the air flowing in her.

Her bone cells were stimulated, which resulted in her canines protruding from her mouth. Her lips and gums continued withering as well, which made her look incredibly terrifying.

The chains made of alloy made creaking sounds because of how much she yanked at them. They were drawn into a taut, straight line, as if they were about to snap at any moment.

But Meng Chao and the neighbors were not afraid. They slowly and solemnly completed the ceremony to pay respect to Granny Wang.

“Next, we will inject the virus suppression serum.”

The military doctor stepped forward and used a large needle to inject a tube full of faint green medicinal liquid into Granny Wang’s body.

They could clearly see it flowing through Granny Wang’s entire body due to her protruded veins.

The old lady’s violently twitching body calmed down a little.

But her murky eyes still shone with a hungry light.

“For the third step, we will implant her memories. We will implant the volunteer’s mutating cerebral cortex with the automatically generated video she made when she signed the agreement.”

Two military doctors went forward cautiously and placed a superbrain on Granny Wang’s head.

Granny Wang’s fierce eyes were covered by the helmet. As the superbrain started whirring into action, she gradually calmed down, as if she was hypnotized.

Wang Xiaojuan asked timidly, “Military Doctor, sir, I’d like to ask, what sort of video did my grandma generate? Is it about me?”

“No.” The military doctor shook his head. “It’s the video your grandpa recorded when your father was born.”

The group understood what had happened.

The consciousness of the old lady on the bed had disappeared. Her brain had started rotting away, and the terrifying virus was flowing through her veins and nerves of her broken body, reducing her from a noble human to a deformed monster.

But in the deepest parts of her dark mind was a small fire that continued burning. In that fire was the first sigh she emitted when she had just become a mother. That sigh was filled with wonder and joy as she looked at the small, weak, and soft baby in her arms.

If there was a strength that could allow her to win against the rampaging zombie virus, it was memories like these, which were etched deep in a human’s soul.

Chapter 70: Eternal Life in Flames

Three minutes later, Granny Wang's skin was covered in horrifying spots. Her teeth and nails grew sharper as well.

But she no longer twitched nor let out terrifying screeches.

The two military doctors looked at each other and removed the helmet.

Granny Wang's face was as ferocious as ever. Her eyes were still murky, but they no longer let out the fierce light that belonged to wild beasts. There was only a calm look in them.

"Next, we will conduct the final test. Witnesses, please go out. Family member, please go out as well," the military doctor said.

"No, I want to stay here! I want to stay with my grandma!" Wang Xiaojuan said firmly.

When Meng Chao dragged Bai Jiacao out the door, he noticed that her hands were no longer shaking as badly as before.

The military doctor did not close the door. He only drew his pistol and blocked the entrance. The siblings stood on their tiptoes and looked inside. They saw one of the other two military doctors protect Wang Xiaojuan while the last one quickly removed Granny Wang's chains.

The zombified Granny Wang jumped up.

She was now controlled by great hunger and an instinct to kill. With her teeth bared, she pounced at the crowd.

The muscles of the military doctor who protected Wang Xiaojuan bulged out. Even his white coat let out ripping sounds.

The military doctor who blocked the entrance quickly lifted the pistol and aimed at the center of Granny Wang's forehead.

Wang Xiaojuan cried at the top of her lungs. "Grandma!"

It looked like the zombified Granny Wang's soul was struck by lightning. She froze on the spot.

"Citizen Wang Shufen, do you remember your oath when you joined the Eternal Journey? We are noble humans. Our willpower will allow us to win against all physical and invisible enemies. Even if we die, we will not let ourselves be manipulated by viruses and bacteria!" a military doctor shouted. "Standing before you is your beloved granddaughter! Are you really going to tear her apart and eat her?!"

Meng Chao noticed that the military doctor's eyes were shining brightly, and the veins at his temples pulsed rapidly.

By the looks of it, he was a superhuman who was skilled in mind techniques.

He was using his brainwaves to stimulate the part of Granny Wang's cerebral cortex which had yet to completely rot away. It would help him prevent the virus from wreaking havoc on what remained of Granny Wang's brain cells.

A conflicted expression appeared on the zombified Granny Wang's face.

The glory of humanity and the instincts of a beast raged wildly in her.

"Grandma, do your best! You can definitely win against this demon! Grandpa, dad, and mom are all watching you in heaven!" Wang Xiaojuan shouted out in a quivering voice.

Her words struck Granny Wang's rapidly mutating central nervous system.

Her murky eyeballs trembled violently, and a crystalline liquid that resembled tears flowed out of her eyes.

She extended her sharp claws at her granddaughter.

The three military doctors were nervous.

But Wang Xiaojuan went to her grandmother without regard for her safety.

When the sharp claws were about to touch her face, Granny Wang retreated.

She forcibly controlled herself and retracted her fangs and claws before standing in an orderly fashion. She just allowed the cold, crystalline tears to intersect as they slid down her rotting face.

"The mutation of her brain cells has been controlled!"

"The central nervous system was protected perfectly. It wasn't further invaded by the virus!"

"Reaction to sound is normal. Reaction to light is normal. Reaction to fresh blood is normal. The volunteer might have died, but the memory fragments remaining in the depths of her brain cells have turned into instincts that allowed her to control herself!"

"As of now, she is no longer a zombie with no humanity left. Instead, she is an Eternal Being who will fight to the death for her hometown and her family!"

"Some people remain living, but they have already died a long time ago. But some people, in their deaths, will burn with eternal life in flames! Salute the Eternal Being!"

The three military doctors gave the zombified Granny Wang the standard military salute.

Then, one military doctor opened the brain cell controller and the spinal nerve control ring and looped them around the zombified Granny Wang's forehead and neck. Then, with a few circuits, he connected both of them together.

During the entire process, the zombified Granny Wang's eyeballs kept shuddering. Her sharp claws extended and retracted.

She stared at the military doctor's neck, which was right next to her. Her eyes were fixed on the slightly protruding vessels on his neck. She was even salivating a little.

But under her granddaughter's encouraging gaze, the zombified Granny Wang managed to hold herself under control.

When the control system was fully connected, the old lady became completely quiet.

The ruthless expression on her face disappeared, and only calmness remained in her murky eyes.

The military doctor used a controller that was similar to those used for unmanned aerial vehicles to guide Granny Wang out of the house she had stayed in for the past few decades.

The corridor was stuffed full of people. Everyone heard that Granny Wang had completed the Eternal Ceremony, and they came to send her off.

“It’s a joyful funeral! A joyful funeral!” Someone sighed.

“Some people remain living, but they have already died a long time ago. But some people, in their deaths, will burn with eternal life in flames!” another person shouted the oath of the Eternal Journey.

But the majority of the people remained somber and stern as they watched Granny Wang partake in her final journey.

When they arrived at the entrance of the unit, Granny Wang followed the three military doctors into the airtight armored truck, and Wang Xiaojun called out to her grandma for the final time while Bai Jiacao supported her.

“Grandma!”

Granny Wang actually turned around to look at her, and her mostly rotten lips curled up a little.

While the old lady was alive, she caused a lot of fuss. Her voice was shrill and high. When they ran into something, she liked to butt in by telling people what they should do, so quite a lot of people in the area did not quite like her.

But she was dead now, and a lot of people wept for her.

“Citizen Wang Shufeng joined the Red Dragon Army’s Eternal Journey. Based on the rules to give out rewards to the martyrs in the army, the direct relatives of Eternal Beings who have yet to come of age will have ten marks added to their test when they go through their national high school examination, and they will be rewarded with an extra five marks during their national college examination. Go back and study well. Don’t let your grandmother down.”

The three military doctors saluted Wang Xiaojun and left with Granny Wang.

“Young Juan, don’t be too sad. Your grandma is a hero. Perhaps we’ll be able to see her showing off her skills during the next monster invasion.” When Meng Chao saw that his neighbor was deep in the throes of despair, he could not help but comfort her.

He was not lying.

While zombie cells might be highly active, most the zombie’s organs and limbs had rotted away, so the zombies were not actually very strong.

During the first ten years Dragon City transmigrated, normal people could use chainsaws or lawn mowers to deal with zombies. As long as they overcame their fear and avoided being injured or bitten, they could fight against a few zombies on their own.

The military, however, had spent a lot of effort in creating Eternal Journey, so it was impossible for them to send zombies to the frontlines just to be food for the monsters.

When the zombies— No, when the Eternal Beings entered the military camp, they needed to go through more than ten modifications. All sorts of powerful armor, crystal engines, and light or heavy weaponry were fixed to their bodies until they became war fortresses that could be controlled by human brain cells and spinal nerves.

With the continuous development of runic symbols, spirit energy, and crystal technology, the ability to strengthen bones and improve the fighting capabilities of a lone soldier became better. Thus, all sorts of battle armor became popular.

But the human body was a weak sack of flesh. The stronger the battle armor was, the more damage the people wearing it would sustain, because it meant that they would have to endure greater noise, higher temperature, and greater impacts.

With just a thin layer of armor, they had to shift from supersonic speed to absolute stillness. Then, from stillness, they needed to instantly reach Mach 3 or Mach 5. And while doing that, they had to maneuver their bodies and withstand high-speed impacts from monsters. Even if the armor itself could withstand such torture, a normal person's muscles, bones, brain, and organs were not capable of that.

Only the superhuman martial artists who specialized in refining their bodies could withstand such a thing.

But all of them focused on walking down the path of using spirit energy and meditation to create and refine their energy armor.

Since there was no need for them to use physical armor and there were too few people who could use them, there were just not enough people who could fight the rampaging monster hoard.

There were simply too few people in Dragon City. So, for the sake of survival, even the dead had to fight heroically.

Since they were already dead, their reflex system was just impulses granted to them by bioelectricity. Hence, they did not need to care about damaging their own bodies.

The weapon designers could pile up their most insane ideas on the Eternal Beings.

For example, they could install the Eternal Beings' remaining brain cells and spinal nerves on super war trucks that were tens of meters tall, had dozens of crawlers, and dozens of huge cannons.

Because of it, the Eternal Journey became one of the most powerful forces in the Red Dragon Army. They were a frenzied suicide squad.

No... it would not be too accurate to use the word "frenzy" to describe them.

When the Eternal Beings drove the super machines over the monsters, their spirits in heaven should be feeling peace. They should be happy.

The Eternal Journey armored truck had two red crosses painted on the sides. They were surrounded by flames.

Once the truck was driven out, Bai Jiacao mentioned her worries once again. “Young Juan, I was the one who did this to your granny. If I weren’t so useless, Granny Wang might not have died.”

“Why would you say that?” Wang Xiaojuan looked at Bai Jiacao with slight surprise. “When I came back, Grandma still had some semblance of consciousness left. She told me that it’s all thanks to you rushing to the forefront without a care for your own safety and using a small kopis to kill two Demonic Halberd Pigs that she managed to lift her shotgun and fight to her heart’s content.

“If it weren’t for you, many of the neighbors and she herself would have been separated by the Demonic Halberd Pigs. A lot more people would have died because of it!”

Bai Jiacao was stunned. “Really?”

“Of course. Grandma said that you’re the bravest girl she has ever seen, and she told me that I was to learn from you.” Wang Xiaojuan squatted down and touched the Sword-toothed Hunting Dog’s head. She whispered, “Young Cao, I have to stay in school. I’ll have to impose on you and ask you to take care of Big Tooth. Is that okay?”

“Don’t worry. I’ll take good care of Big Tooth.” Bai Jiacao’s eyes sparkled once more.

“I almost forgot.” Wang Xiaojuan removed Big Tooth’s collar and took out a large, heart-shaped pendant.

She pushed down on it gently. The pendant had space inside it, and photos fell out.

One of them was Granny Wang’s wedding photo. The people in it were a young man and woman. They were both heroic looking and appeared to be in high spirits.

There were also a few colored baby photos. The child was smiling, and he looked really similar to Granny Wang when she was young.

A lot of numbers were written behind each photo.

“Granny said that she’s old, and her memory isn’t that good. She always lost things, so she decided to write all the passwords in the house on the pictures and hid them in Big Tooth’s collar. This way, if something happened, I would be able to find them.” Wang Xiaojuan put the pictures into her pocket.

At that moment, a small and very old paper crane fell out of the deepest part of the pendant.