

Disciples 901

Chapter 901: What Kind of Arrow is This?

The royal guards looked at the 450-foot Thousand Realms Whirling avatar that had not been seen since 2,000 years ago.

Under the sunlight, the golden astrolabe spun, causing people to shudder. The 36 triangles on the astrolabe would flash from time to time.

A sage-like old man standing near the avatar looked down at Xiahou Sheng in front of the Supreme Heaven Palace.

Xiahou Sheng stared at the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar with wide eyes. The last bit of doubt in his heart had vanished without a trace at this moment. Even if he had high status and commanded 100,000 royal guards, there was only one thought in his mind at this moment: Run!

Swoosh!

Xiahou Sheng did not care about his reputation at all. He fled at lightning speed, leaving afterimages behind.

On the contrary, the two death warriors by Xiaohou Sheng's side did not run. They advanced after crying out in unison, "Lord Xiahou, run!"

The two death warriors hurriedly manifested their avatars.

Two 100-foot red lotus avatars appeared in the sky and charged forward. The two avatars that were only a quarter of the height of the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar looked incredibly tiny.

Lu Zhou did not even want to look at them as he charged forward.

The eyes of the two death warriors reddened as they began to burn their seas of Qi. However, before they could do much, Lu Zhou casually pressed his hand down, launching two golden palm seals from the sky.

Abandon Wisdom!

At the same time, the two Eight-leaf cultivators chose to commit suicide by detonating their energies.

Boom! Boom!

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 500 merit points. Domain bonus: 500 points."

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 500 points. Domain bonus: 500 points."

The ground outside of the Supreme Heaven Palace was paved with the best marble. At this moment, nothing was left except for two 100-foot-long palm-shaped holes. In the centers of both holes was a lump of fleshy pulp.

With a flash, the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar disappeared.

With such a big commotion, the experts in the royal palace rushed over immediately. In Great Tang's royal palace, the experts were as numerous as the clouds in the sky.

When these experts came to the side of the two holes, they were disgusted by the remains they saw inside. Even these cultivators who killed without batting an eye could not help but frown when they saw this scene.

...

Meanwhile, Lu Zhou flew at low altitude with his Thousand Realms Whirling avatar in tow. He was inwardly surprised by Xia Housheng's speed.

He continued to fly, not paying any attention to the eunuchs and palace maids in the royal palace.

Everyone who saw the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar, regardless of age or gender, fell limply to the ground and trembled in fear.

Some palace experts who came gave up immediately when they saw the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar. Many of them were convinced the rumors that Yu Chenshu was killed by a Thousand Realms Whirling expert was true at this moment.

Lu Zhou looked at the ghostly figure fleeing from him and brought the Golden Taixu Mirror out. He shone the mirror on the figure.

A beam of light shot out and illuminated the figure immediately.

Through the Golden Taixu Mirror, Lu Zhou saw a black shadow on Xiahou Sheng's body.

The Puppet Slave Technique? Was it a puppet that was skilled in escaping?

If Yu Chenshu's puppet was good at defense and was invulnerable to swords and spears, then Xia Housheng's puppet moved like the wind and the shadow.

Xiahou Sheng trembled. He looked at his puppet that was revealed under the beam of light and was frightened out of his wits. "Quick! Quick! Quick!"

Lu Zhou shook his head slightly. If he continued forward, he would leave the range of the royal court. He came to an abrupt stop.

At this moment, many people outside of the royal court could see the top of the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar at this moment.

Lu Zhou raised his left hand. In the next moment, Unnamed appeared in his hand. With just a thought, it transformed into a bow.

When he was at the Ten-leaf stage, Unnamed's power was comparable to flood-grade weapons. Now that he had grown stronger, Unnamed's power would only increase and not decrease.

Lu Zhou held the bow that was twice the height of an adult and nocked an energy arrow with his right hand. Both the bow and arrow were much thicker than those he used in the past.

Whoosh!

The energy arrow whistled in the air as it shot out. Its tip shone with a blue light after it had been imbued with the supreme mystic power.

It only took him one breath to complete this series of actions. He watched the arrow sail in the air.

Meanwhile, the sound of wind whistling in the air caught Xiahou Sheng's attention. As he frantically ran for his life, he felt chills on his back so he turned to look. "A Godly Archer?"

However, a joyous expression appeared on Xiahou Sheng's face when he saw the palace wall in front of him. Contrary to expectations, he did not jump over the wall. Instead, he brought his puppet with him and ran into the wall.

A grid-like formation lit up on the wall.

Whoosh!

In just a moment, an opening appeared on the wall.

Just like that, Xia Housheng passed through the wall that was dozens of feet thick and appeared outside the wall.

The opening closed, and the formation flashed once more.

Xiahou Sheng said ecstatically, "I'll be the first person to escape from a Thousand Realms Whirling expert!"

Just as he turned around to look at the towering palace wall...

Bang!

He turned around and took a glance at the towering city wall.

The energy arrow pierced through the wall that was dozens of feet thick and destroyed the formation on it.

The energy arrow accurately pierced Xiahou Sheng's heart without any deviation in its course.

Xiahou Sheng's body stiffened as he grunted in pain!

"..."

A dumbfounded expression could be seen on Xia Housheng's face as he stared at the hole in the wall. He could even see the Supreme Heaven Palace through the hole! How was this possible? What kind of arrow was this?

After a moment, Xiahou Sheng lowered his head and looked at the arrow sticking out of his chest. He could feel his life draining from his body as blood flowed out.

At the same time, the blue light on the tip of the energy arrow that stuck out of Xiahou Sheng's back disappeared. On the other hand, the energy arrow did not disappear.

“Run, run, run...” Xiahou Sheng desperately urged the puppet in his body. Alas, there was no movement from his puppet at all. An indescribable fear welled up in his heart at this moment. ‘The puppet... is dead?’

Xiahou Sheng did not know how this was possible. If the puppet is dead, why was he hurt? Nevertheless, he still felt like he had a breath left in him and wanted to escape.

At this moment, Lu Zhou’s indifferent voice rang from above. “No one can escape from me.”

“Ding! Killed a puppet. Reward: 6,000 merit points.”

The puppet was different from the Birth Chart. Puppets prolonged their masters’ lives, making their masters durable. However, faced with absolute strength, even if the puppet sacrificed its life, it would not be able to absorb all the damage.

Blood continued to gush out of Xiahou Sheng’s wound as he looked at the sage-like old man standing on the palace wall.

Lu Zhou withdrew the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar before he struck with his palm.

The scripts for Abandon Wisdom appeared around fingers before a dazzling golden palm seal shot out.

Boom!

It did not fall to the ground but shot forward at the height of an adult.

A wave of energy swept across the nearby buildings.

Fortunately, there were not many people around. Nevertheless, the huge commotion drew many red lotus cultivators over. They watched the commotion from afar as they discussed among themselves. Naturally, none of them dared to get closer.

“Who’s that old man on the palace wall?”

“There’s someone on the ground!”

“No, wait, there are two people on the ground!”

At the same time, Lu Zhou thought the palm strike would definitely kill Xiahou Sheng’s life. When the dust settled, he looked down.

A person was standing next to Xiahou Sheng at this moment. He stood with his hands on his back, and a smile appeared on his face as he said, “We meet again...”

Chapter 902: He Seems To Have Become Even More Powerful

Lu Zhou saw the other person’s appearance clearly; he was not too surprised. Apart from Yi Yao, who could have blocked the fatal palm strike for Xiahou Sheng?

Yi Yao was dressed in another black robe. One of his hands was raised, his palm facing the sky. His other arm was... broken.

At this moment, the energy arrow lodged in Xiahou Sheng's chest finally dissipated. A joyful expression could be seen on his face as he clutched his wounded chest and knelt on one knee. "Thank you for saving my life, Lord Yi!"

As expected, Yi Yao was colluding with the people in the capital.

Lu Zhou was not surprised. He looked at Yi Yao and Xiahou Sheng calmly. The energy arrow was just slightly lacking. Otherwise, it would have been able to kill two people at once. It could only be blamed on the puppet for having too much life. Nevertheless, this was just a small test of the supreme mystic power.

With that energy arrow, Lu Zhou gained a rough estimation of the supreme mystic power.

Meanwhile, Yi Yao glanced at Xiahou Sheng and said, "You're really useless. You can't even dodge this arrow? To think that I even gave you the puppet."

"L-lord... Lord Yi, I..."

"Scram," Yi Yao barked.

Xiahou Sheng's injuries were so severe that he could barely walk. He could only slowly drag his body to the side.

Lu Zhou stroked his beard as he looked down at Yi Yao and said, "Yi Yao? I didn't expect to see you here. I'm very pleased."

It was indeed a pleasant surprise. Lu Zhou was worried he would not have enough fun testing the supreme mystic power just a moment ago, after all.

Yi Yao retracted his arm and asked, "Since when did those with two Birth Charts become so audacious?"

Lu Zhou said, "It seems like the lesson I taught you previously wasn't enough."

Yi Yao retorted, "I was just careless at that time."

Lu Zhou said, "I destroyed one of your Birth Charts; you only have four Birth Charts left. How can you be a match for me?"

"Four Birth Charts are enough to deal with your two Birth Charts. There's no way you'd be able to use the scarlet pheasant's life heart yet; in the end, you still have to return it to me."

Lu Zhou shook his head and said evenly, "Stupid."

Yi Yao frowned. "You called me stupid?"

Lu Zhou looked down from above as he stroked his beard. "You don't want to go to heaven but insist on barging into hell."

"Stop putting on airs. If I don't take your worthless life today, I won't be able to get rid of the hatred in my heart. Since you destroyed one of my Birth Charts, I'll destroy all of your Birth Charts!" Yi Yao said menacingly.

Bang!

Yi Yao stomped his feet fiercely before he shot up into the sky toward Lu Zhou who was standing on the palace wall.

Upon seeing this speed, the cultivators who were watching from afar widened their eyes in shock.

...

Meanwhile, more and more cultivators had arrived at the Supreme Heaven Palace.

The members of the Evil Sky Pavilion, Li Yunzheng, and the civil and military officials had arrived in front of the Supreme Palace Heaven as well.

All of them saw the two palm-shaped holes on the ground, and the lumps of flesh in the holes, causing them to shudder.

At this moment, Guo Zhengping, the Grand Tutor, asked in confusion, "What's Senior Lu doing?"

"Is there a need to ask? Senior Ji is obviously capturing an assassin. You really don't know anything..." Jiang Aijian, who was holding his sword, said.

"Eh? Why is a commoner here? Stand back! The palace experts will keep you safe. By the way, it's Senior Lu, not Senior Ji," Guo Zhengping said.

"Yes, yes, yes..."

On the other hand, Li Yunzheng, Yu Zhenghai, Yu Shangrong, and Si Wuya who were at the front watched as Yi Yao rushed forward.

When Yi Yao was in front of the palace wall, he struck with his palm.

Lu Zhou met Yi Yao's attack with a single hand.

Bang!

A golden and a black palm seal collided!

Almost everyone cried out in surprise.

"Black lotus!"

"Black lotus!"

There was a huge reason the civil and military officials had come to support Zhang Yuanren; it was the hidden black lotus domain. Although there were rumors of a black lotus Thousand Realms Whirling avatar appearing at the Sky Wheel Mountain Range, no one dared to bring the matter up in the Political Announcement Hall. Who would have expected a black lotus cultivator would still show up in the end?

"Grandmaster..." Li Yunzheng said worriedly.

"Don't worry." Si Wuya turned and looked around before he called out, "Eldest Senior Brother, Second Senior Brother..."

Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong nodded before they walked to the sides.

...

Meanwhile, Lu Zhou did not use the supreme mystic power to deal with Yi Yao's attack. He only fought using his cultivation base.

After the collision of the palm seals, Lu Zhou shot up into the air when he felt a huge force sweeping toward him.

Buzz!

Buzz!

The two opponents manifested their avatars at almost the same time.

The golden Thousand Realms Whirling avatar was about 400 feet tall while the black Thousand Realms Whirling avatar was about 450 feet tall.

Upon seeing this, everyone grew excited and felt their blood boil. However, those with keen eyes wore worried expressions on their faces. They could clearly see the difference in the size of the astrolabes and the number of Birth Charts. Based on these two factors alone, it was clear the black lotus cultivator was stronger.

Yi Yao flew higher into the sky after his palm seal deflected Lu Zhou's palm seal.

Everyone held their breaths as they watched. They had never seen such a spectacle. How rare was it to be able to witness the clash of two Thousand Realms Whirling avatars? They could hardly tear their eyes away from such a scene.

At this moment, Yi Yao frowned. "Three Birth Charts? How did you do it?"

How could Yi Yao not be surprised or confused that Lu Zhou managed to use the scarlet pheasant's life heart?

"If you promise to kill yourself, I'll answer you," Lu Zhou said as he flew backward.

"Unfortunately, the Birth Charts are still not enough," Yi Yao said as his eyes glinted. In the next moment, his Primal Qi surged and formed a dome.

Lu Zhou wondered where Yi Yao got his confidence to appear in front of him again. He did not dwell on the matter for long before he said, "Go!"

Lu Zhou's hand shone with a blue light before he pressed his hand down using the supreme mystic power. "You're too arrogant!"

Yi Yao immediately felt a heavy pressure like that of Mount Tai bearing down on him. That oppressive feeling he felt in the cave under the Sky Wheel Rift Valley appeared again. Most importantly, that oppressive feeling seemed to be even more domineering and fiercer than before.

Bang!

Yi Yao had learned from his mistake. Even then, as he pushed his palm out, he was still pushed down. His speed when falling was like that of a shooting star.

Boom!

Yi Yao landed on the ground heavily, stirring up a cloud of dust.

Meanwhile, Lu Zhou slowly descended. The force of this palm strike was only slightly more than the force he had used when firing Unnamed that had transformed into a bow earlier. He found the result rather satisfying.

Yi Yao looked up and said, "That was a good trick."

At this moment, Xiahou Sheng cried out, "Lord Yi, be careful!"

Lu Zhou said nonchalantly, "Yi Yao, in my eyes, you're already a dead man."

"Is that so? Try and kill me then!" Yi Yao suddenly made a grabbing motion with his hand.

With this, Xiahou Sheng lost control of his body and flew over immediately. He cried out fearfully, "Lord Yi, what are you doing?"

When Xiahou Sheng was in front of Yi Yao, Yi Yao grabbed Xiahou Sheng by the neck and stomped on the ground again before shooting back up into the sky like earlier. The difference was this time he brought someone else with him. When he was high up in the air, the astrolabe at the back of his avatar that had also flown up with him began to spin.

"Huh?" Lu Zhou frowned in confusion. He did not understand why Yi Yao brought Xiahou Sheng up to the sky. Nevertheless, when he saw triangles on the astrolabe begin to light up, he did not hesitate and increased the output of the supreme mystic power.

The Great Dark Heaven Palm!

At the same time, a beam of dark light shot out of the black astrolabe.

"Ah!" The Ten-leaf Xiahou Sheng who was already severely injured was wracked with excruciating pain at this moment.

"Go!" Yi Yao cried out as he pushed Xiahou Sheng out.

Boom!

After the beam of light shone on Xiahou Sheng, he collided with the blue palm seal and exploded into a blood mist instantly.

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 5,500 merit points. Domain bonus: 1,500 merit points."

Yi Yao frowned. Something seemed to be suppressing the beam of light from his astrolabe. Then, he looked at the blood mist, perplexed. He had used his Birth Chart power to boost Xiahou Sheng's strength. Moreover, as a Ten-leaf cultivator, Xiahou Sheng was not weak to begin with. Faced with Lu Zhou, Xiahou Sheng should have been able to stand his ground or have the upper hand.

At this moment, Yi Yao felt a sense of danger radiating from the blood mist. Then, he saw a blue palm seal sailing out of the blood mist, blocking the beam of light from his Birth Chart power. All the beam of light managed to do was slow the palm seal down slightly.

'This is bad!' Yi Yao discovered Lu Zhou's blue palm seal was much stronger than the one before. The color was much darker than before as well, just like the color of the sky. He was puzzled; how did it become so powerful in such a short time?

Yi Yao was about to dodge when he realized to his horror that the palm seal had suddenly increased in size.

Boom!

The palm seal landed on Yi Yao. He did not even have time to dodge!

The Great Dark Heaven Palm stuck to Yi Yao's body.

At the same time, Yi Yao's Thousand Realms Whirling avatar began to shrink rapidly before merging with him. A loud heart-wrenching cry that was brimming with reluctance and resentment ripped out of his throat.

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 6,000 merit points."

Boom!

The palm continued to press down before it smashed on the ground, stirring up a huge cloud of dust again.

...

The cultivators watching from afar held their breaths as they looked at the huge palm seal in shock and disbelief. Most of them were confused. No matter which angle one looked at it, it was clear the black lotus cultivator was stronger. However, why did the old man seem to have the upper hand all the time? The palm seal really taught the black lotus cultivator a lesson!

...

Li Yunzheng whose heart was surging with excitement exclaimed, "The Great Dark Heaven Palm!"

"The Great Dark Heaven Palm is a special cultivation method that can be used with all kinds of weapons. Your Eldest Senior Uncle likes sabers so he has modified the technique and adapted it to the saber," Si Wuya said.

"When grandmaster uses the technique, it's like the raging sea, but when Eldest Senior Uncles uses it, it's like a puddle of pee..." Li Yunzheng blurted out.

"Hm?" Si Wuya glanced at Li Yunzheng.

Li Yunzheng hurriedly slapped his mouth before he said, "I've misspoken. Please forgive me."

However, Si Wuya said, "Although the description is crude, it's accurate. However, remember not to repeat these words in front of your Eldest Senior Uncle."

"Understood."

...

Lu Zhou slowly landed on the palace wall. He stroked his beard and looked down. He was very satisfied with the supreme mystic power at this moment. That palm strike had directly destroyed Yi Yao's Birth Chart.

After the dust settled, Lu Zhou saw Yi Yao who was lying on the ground looking at him in disbelief.

"You still have three Birth Charts... I'm really curious; what gave you the courage to provoke me again?"

Chapter 903: Absolute Zero Degree

Yi Yao was strong enough to dominate the red lotus domain, but based on what Lu Zhou could see previously, Yi Yao was a cautious person. Without sufficient confidence, how could Yi Yao come to provoke him again?

Therefore, Lu Zhou was also very cautious. If he could use the supreme mystic power, he would use it. He treated Yi Yao like an enemy who had eight Birth Charts.

Yi Yao grunted in pain as blood trickled out of the corner of his mouth down his face that was like tree bark. The loss of another Birth Chart caused him to be wary of the old man. He wanted to dismiss it as him being careless, but he had already fought this old man once in the Sky Wheel Rift Valley. However, the reality was the old man seemed to be much stronger than he had imagined. He could not figure it out nor could he understand it. The old man only had three Birth Charts, but the old man's strength was even more domineering than those with six Birth Charts. It was unreasonable and illogical.

Yi Yao spat out another mouthful of blood. He had officially fallen and became a Three Chart Thousand Realms Whirling cultivator.

Yi Yao lay on the ground. He did not need to lift his head to see the old man standing on the palace wall.

'Courage? Confidence?' Yi Yao chuckled. "Over all these years, I've never been in such a sorry state like today. You're the first to cause this, and you'll be the last as well. You want to know where my courage comes from? I'll show you then!"

Then, Yi Yao stroked the ground with one hand before he suddenly stood up like a zombie.

Lu Zhou shook his head and said disapprovingly, "You've never been in such a sorry state because you didn't meet before. Those who oppose me always end up in a sorry state. You're not the first, and you won't be the last. I don't care where your courage came from; you'll die today!"

Yi Yao raised his head and looked at Lu Zhou with eyes that brimmed with killing intent. His breathing quickened, and his chest heaved heavily up and down. After wiping the blood off his face, he said through gritted teeth, "Come on then!"

Whoosh!

Yi Yao pushed his hand out. A chain glowing with red light flew out like a dragon in the air. Wrapped in Primal Wi, it danced in the air and snaked up the palace wall. The formation on the wall instinctively tried to repel the chain, causing thunderous explosions to ring in the air.

Just as the chain was about to reach Lu Zhou, he waved his arm.

An energy sword shot out of his palm immediately.

Bang!

Sparks flew as the thunderous collision of energies rang in the air.

Bang!

The red chain had just formed a web when it collided with Unnamed in Lu Zhou's hand.

Lu Zhou nodded slightly in satisfaction. Unnamed had yet to disappoint him.

The chain fell lifelessly to the ground.

"Huh?" Yi Yao was stunned by this.

Clank!

The chain fell loudly to the ground.

Yi Yao saw his chain had been neatly cut into two.

"So, you have a flood-grade weapon." Yi Yao did not seem surprised by this.

There were no changes in Lu Zhou's expression. 'What nonsense! I have more than one weapon. In fact, I have a pile of weapons!'

Yi Yao looked at the broken chain on the ground. A desolate-grade weapon was destroyed just like that. In fact, he had a slight suspicion that the weapon in the old man's hands was even stronger than flood-grade weapons.

The two opponents faced each other silently for a moment. In terms of cultivation, both of them seemed equal with three Birth Charts respectively.

However, those who were watching were not sure who would come out on top?

Even if Yi Yao only had three Birth Charts now, as someone who had five Birth Charts, how could not have tricks up his sleeve? Did the old man really think he was so stupid so provoke him without any means at all?

Lu Zhou continued to look down at Yi Yao from above. "What other means do you have? Go on and use all of them. I'll accompany you until the end."

Yi Yao inhaled deeply as though he had made up his mind. Then, he lifted his head and said, "Then I'll let you see my true strength."

In the next second, Yi Yao left afterimages on the spot where he stood as he drew level with Lu Zhou in the air.

"Hmm?" Lu Zhou could sense the slight change in Yi Yao's aura. Moreover, Yi Yao's speed was slightly faster than flashing. Even if it was just a little, it seemed like Yi Yao had become stronger.

Swoosh!

A strange light glinted in Yi Yao's eyes, and his body radiated fighting spirit as he charged forward.

Lu Zhou moved his hand. A light shield that looked like curtains appeared in front of him immediately.

Bang!

Lu Zhou flew backward from the huge force.

At this moment, Yi Yao appeared soundlessly behind Lu Zhou.

"Dhyana Mudra."

A golden halo appeared on Lu Zhou's body.

Bang!

Yi Yao slashed at the golden halo with an energy sword until the Dhyana Mudra shattered.

Lu Zhou used his grand technique and flashed away.

Yi Yao's voice rang in the air. "Too slow."

Yi Yao appeared behind Lu Zhou again and brandished the energy sword.

To think Lu Zhou's grand technique was a beat slower.

The Golden Buddha Body!

Bang!

As Lu Zhou attacked, he wondered how Yi Yao achieved this. He took this opportunity to understand the combat ability and strength of the Thousand Realms Whirling. His grand technique had improved by a level; it was not just a simple rise of his cultivation base.

Gold and black light flashed in the air from the golden and black Thousand Realms Whirling avatars clashing in the sky.

Lu Zhou found this very strange. Was this the extent of his strength?

Bang!

...

After an hour of fierce fighting, the palace wall that spanned north to south had long been destroyed by the palm seals that fell from time to time. If the battle was not high up in the sky, the palace wall would have completely collapsed a long time ago.

The members of the Evil Sky Pavilion, the palace experts, and the civil and military officials watched with stunned expressions on their faces.

Li Yunzheng said worriedly, "The black lotus cultivator has unleashed all his strength. I hope grandmaster will be okay..."

Si Wuya said with a smile, "Don't worry. Look carefully. The black lotus cultivator's movement is vicious and fast. He's so fast that it's hard to even catch a glimpse of his shadow. However, haven't you noticed

how your grandmaster always managed to activate his Golden Buddha Body at the right time and block the attack with his own?"

Li Yunzheng asked curiously, "Their avatars are of the same height now. It's as you said, the black lotus cultivator can't beat grandmaster. However, why is grandmaster prolonging the fight?"

"Continue to observe," Si Wuya said, "We know too little about the black lotus domain. Only by knowing ourselves and our enemies will we be able to win a hundred battles."

Si Wuya said, "We know too little about Black Lotus. Only by knowing ourselves and the enemy can we win a hundred battles."

The people who heard Si Wuya's words nodded in agreement.

"Those who are skilled are bold. Only those who have absolute strength would dare to fight in such a manner. It... It seems like Senior Lu is much stronger than we've imagined," Wang Yun said in a voice filled with admiration.

Nie Qingyun stroked his chin and said, "There's something I don't understand. If that's the case, why did Senior Lu use nine leaves during his fight with Ye Zhen? There was nothing worth observing about Ye Zhen, after all, so there's no need for Senior Lu to drag the battle. At that time, if he had manifested his Thousand Realms Whirling avatar, he could kill Ye Zhen in the time it takes to brew a pot of tea."

"Nevertheless, this is amazing," Xia Changqiu said excitedly, "This explains how he killed Yu Chenshu with just one palm strike."

"And the Great General of the North!"

"..."

Boom!

An explosion caught everyone's attention.

Yi Yao no longer flashed around in a frenzy. He had come to a stop and looked at Lu Zhou who had been constantly defending against his attacks. "Do you think I'm unable to see what you're doing?"

"Hmm?" Lu Zhou's advances and retreats were measured. Every move he made was extremely appropriate and without flaws. How did Yi Yao know?

"This time, it's your turn to be careless." Yi Yao suddenly spread his arms.

The 400-foot black lotus avatar appeared and spun in the air. Soon after, a spot of light appeared in the center and grew brighter and brighter.

At the same time, the temperature within the radius of 1,000 meters began to drop sharply.

The cultivators with low cultivation bases watching the battle nearby were instantly frozen into popsicles.

Sharp icicles sprung up from the ground to midair.

Lu Zhou frowned slightly. It seemed like the earlier attacks were all a lead-up to this moment.

Yi Yao smiled.

Cracking noises rang in the air.

“Absolute Zero Degree.”

The black lotus released a terrifying cold energy, freezing all the energy and Primal Qi in the air and turning them into ice.

Lu Zhou struck with his palm using the supreme mystic power.

Boom!

Lu Zhou easily cleared an area around him. He struck again with his palm.

Boom!

Lu Zhou cleared another area again.

Upon seeing this, Yi Yao said confidently, “It’s useless... I prepared this especially for you.”

...

“Sea Spirit Pearl?” Si Wuya’s expression changed slightly.

“Teacher, what’s a Sea Spirit Pearl?”

“According to the ancient books about sea beasts, a Sea Spirit Pearl comes from the king of the sea beasts. The pearl is formed from the essence of the heavens, the earth, the sun, and the moon. Cultivators who have this in their possession can control the four seasons and boost their vitality energy, greatly increasing their combat strength. However, after using it, they would be greatly weakened for a period of time,” Si Wuya explained.

Everyone was shocked when they heard this.

Chapter 904: Who Will Be The Victor?

“Cultivators liked to categorize weapons based on this sentence: Heaven and earth are united; there was no difference between them when they were originally one.”

“At the heaven-grade, weapons will undergo qualitative changes. They might even be able to break the limit if the circumstances are right. One can wield them with cultivation methods from the schools of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism, and unleash great power. For example, bows and arrows can produce energy arrows; sabers can produce saber rays. Desolate-grade weapons see an increase in destructive power, defenses, and a stronger bond. Flood-grade weapons are incredibly tough and have special skills. Some weapons are only useful when they’ve reached the flood-grade. An example of this would be the Confinement Seal.”

Li Yunzheng asked, “So, does this mean that this is the special skill of the Sea Spirit Pearl? Is the Sea Spirit Pearl a flood-grade weapon?”

Si Wuya looked at the frost that kept spreading in the air and shook his head.

Li Yunzheng exclaimed, “Don’t tell me it’s a universe-grade weapon?!”

Si Wuya said, “Since ancient times, they’ve been called universe-grade weapons. The universe refers to everything in creation. Logically speaking, universe-grade weapons should be superior to flood-grade weapons. However, such weapons are rarely seen in the cultivation world. Due to their rarity, not many know of them, and there has never been a fixed name for these weapons. After going through the ancient books in the Sky Martial Court, I found a list of specific weapons. However, instead of being labeled as universe-grade, they used the words ‘constant fusion’ to describe it. The universe is both heaven and earth. The universe is time itself, and time is constant. They can be fused with one’s body and into one’s blood. There are three kinds of fusion...”

Si Wuya stopped speaking as he watched the rapidly spreading frost.

On the other hand, an expression of embarrassment appeared on Li Yunzheng’s face when he heard Si Wuya’s words. He had always claimed to be well-read, but he realized now how ignorant he was. His teacher was like a monster!

During his time in the Sky Martial Court, although Li Yunzheng was busy trying to solve the questions his teacher had given him, he had still taken time to visit his teacher rather frequently. He had seen his teacher reading and researching all day long, but he was usually focused on strange and obscure subjects.

“Will grandmaster be okay?”

“The energy in the Sea Spirit Pearl, which was nurtured in the sea, isn’t infinite. If one doesn’t have sufficient strength to use it, the energy in the pearl would be swiftly depleted. Don’t worry.”

Crackle!

The noises of things being frozen grew even louder at this moment.

Si Wuya did not have time to continue explaining. He quickly shouted, “Everyone, retreat!”

No one questioned Si Wuya and instinctively obeyed him. All of them hurriedly retreated.

The east side of the palace wall that was several meters long and wide had been frozen into an ice wall. At the same time, ice continued to form above the wall.

This was the power of ‘fusion’.

Everyone flew past the Supreme Heaven Palace toward the Political Announcement Hall.

Some royal guards who were standing near the Supreme Heaven Palace had already turned into ice sculptures.

At this moment, Si Wuya grabbed Li Yunzheng and tossed the Peacock Plume out.

Li Yunzheng cried out in surprise, “Teacher, you have a desolate-grade weapon?”

“It’s not worth mentioning. It’s a gift from your grandmaster.”

The Peacock Plume turned into a pair of wings, carrying Si Wuya and Li Yunzheng past the crowd. In just a blink of an eye, the duo arrived at the Political Announcement Hall that was thousands of meters away.

The others were not weak as well, and they arrived one after another.

At this time, Li Yunzheng was looking at the wings on Si Wuya's back in shock. He stuttered, "T-this... This..."

Si Wuya smiled. "Although my weapon isn't as powerful as those of your Eldest Senior Uncle and Second Senior Uncle, I can rely on it to cross the Endless Ocean."

An envious expression appeared on Li Yunzheng's face as he looked at Si Wuya's wings in awe.

Meanwhile, Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong who had landed on either side of Si Wuya looked at Si Wuya's wings and shook their heads slightly. They thought their Seventh Junior Brother really did not have it easy. The Peacock Plume was not powerful and could only transform into a pair of wings. When faced with powerful fierce beasts, how could it compare to their sword and saber?

...

In the sky.

Seemingly stimulated by the spinning black lotus, the Sea Spirit Pearl continued to release its power.

The area within a radius of 1,000 meters was frozen still.

Lu Zhou used a little of his supreme mystic power to shatter the ice that had formed around him. Nevertheless, icicles kept forming and shot toward him from all directions. After a moment, he shifted his attention to the spinning black lotus.

Yi Yao smiled smugly. He left afterimages in his wake as he flashed forward, holding an energy sword in his hand. Frozen projectiles shot toward Lu Zhou from all directions in just a blink of an eye.

"In this area, I'm no different from a god."

Lu Zhou sensed the dangerous auras of the frozen projectiles heading his way. It was the first time he had felt this kind of danger. He confirmed that the unprecedented sense of danger he felt was brought by the glowing pearl in the center of the black lotus. His instincts told him that if he continued to be restrained in this area, things would be unfavorable. At that time, who knew if he would have to waste his Deadly Strike Card?

"Enough," Lu Zhou said in a thunderous voice. He was about to get serious.

Following that, he silently recited the mantra from the Heavenly Writing.

To maintain and manifest samadhi. Like light and shadow, permeating everywhere while staying still in samadhi.

Lu Zhou unleashed all of Heavenly Writing Powers, using up half of his supreme mystic power. At the same time, a blue lotus bloomed under his feet.

The blue lotus rapidly released waves of supreme mystic power in all directions. Each of its leaves contained fatal and terrifying power.

“Huh?” Yi Yao, who had flashed to Lu Zhou’s side, thrust his deadly sword out. He had not time to think about this strange occurrence.

Bang!

The blue leaves broke Yi Yao’s energy sword and pressed down on him.

Bang!

His unbroken hand was broken by the domineering power from the blue lotus before it landed on his chest. He was sent flying immediately.

The supreme mystic power was too strong!

In just an instant, the black Thousand Realms Whirling avatar disappeared into Yi Yao’s body again. Before it disappeared, one could see that another one of his Birth Charts had dimmed.

A miserable cry echoed through the heavens and earth.

“Ding! Destroyed a Birth Chart. Reward: 6,000 points.”

Yi Yao was greatly shocked. His mind was filled with questions. Why is Lu Zhou so strong? When the blue lotus bloomed, he felt as though he was facing an expert with eight Birth Charts!

Lu Zhou was not done. The Heavenly Writing Power permeated the entire place. In just an instant, the frozen area within a radius of 1,000 meters was easily cleared by his wide-range technique.

“Fire control.”

The golden astrolabe began to spin before the third Birth Chart on the astrolabe shot out a beam of light that was shrouded in karmic fire.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

Four consecutive strikes in all four directions.

The karmic fire continued to burn, melting the frost in the area.

“A Birth Chart power with karmic fire?” As Yi Yao flew back, his eyes widened when he saw this shocking scene. Now that his other arm was broken as well, it suddenly dawned on him how powerful his opponent was. There was one thought left in his mind at this moment: Flee!

Meanwhile, Lu Zhou’s avatar had moved; the astrolabe was aimed at Yi Yao.

The feeling of being targeted caused Yi Yao to shudder. He momentarily forgot about the excruciating pain he felt as fear overtook him.

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and said, “Even with your five Birth Charts, you can hardly withstand a strike from me. Now, you only have two Birth Charts. How can you defeat me?”

"It doesn't make sense, it doesn't make sense, it doesn't make sense..." Yi Yao repeated these words over and over again.

"Although things have escalated to this stage, you still remain stubborn and insist on resisting. I'll destroy all of your Birth Charts. Let's see if you still dare to act arrogantly after this!"

Whoosh!

The combination of the karmic fire and the supreme mystic power perfectly countered the Sea Spirit Pearl.

At the same time, the golden astrolabe shot out four beams of light shrouded with karmic fire.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

All four shots accurately landed on Yi Yao's chest.

"No!"

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 6,000 merit points."

Lu Zhou flashed directly above Yi Yao. He shook his head as he looked at the blood-drenched Yi Yao.

"You have one Birth Chart left."

Yi Yao was frightened! He was truly frightened at this moment! His eyes darted around, looking for ways to escape. All of a sudden, he began to say over and over again, "S-save me... Save me... Save me!"

Lu Zhou's heart skipped a beat as he surveyed his surroundings. Was there someone else? However, he did not see anyone within 1,000 meters. There were only the cultivators watching from afar.

Yi Yao lost his composure completely. He said frantically, "You can't kill me! You can't kill me! I'm from the Black Tower Council! I have the support of the council! They will surely avenge me if you kill me! Let me go! Let me go!"

The blue lotus had completely shattered his last hope of victory.

"I want to see who can save you!" Lu Zhou said nonchalantly before he stomped on foot.

Buzz!

Yi Yao hurriedly manifested his Thousand Realms Whirling avatar. However, it was only 300 feet tall now.

Lu Zhou could sense Yi Yao was about to self-destruct. Blue light appeared around his feet immediately as he shot toward Yi Yao, not giving Yi Yao a chance to act.

Boom!

Lu Zhou stomped on the chest of the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar at lightning speed.

Yi Yao began to violently cough up blood at this moment. The Thousand Realms Whirling avatar shrank again and entered his body.

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 6,000 merit points."

Boom!

Yi Yao crashed against the crumbling palace wall, leaving a deep pit on it.

Lu Zhou gauged his supreme mystic power and discovered there was not much left. He was not bothered; there was no need to use the supreme mystic anymore for now.

...

The cultivators watched the battle in awe.

Those who were at the Political Announcement Hall, especially the civil and military officials, were dumbstruck.

...

Lu Zhou landed next to Yi Yao who was riddled with injuries.

Yi Yao's eyes were bloodshot, and they shone with fear. He panted heavily as his breathing grew weaker and weaker. He had lost use of his arms and had depleted all his energy. How could his enemy who only had three Birth Charts remain unscathed?

He finally realized the real difference between their strengths. Despair rose in his heart, and he stopped resisting.

After staring at Yi Yao for a moment, Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "You've been beaten back to the Ten-leaf stage, and I didn't even have to use my full strength."

Yi Yao's eyes widened before he struggled to say, "I... I a-admit defeat."

These words seemed to agitate Yi Yao, causing blood to gush out of his mouth like a fountain.

"Nevertheless, you'll die as well..." Yi Yao said as he used his broken shoulder point to the east of the capital before his head fell limply to the side.

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 8,000 merit points. Domain bonus: 2,000 points."

Chapter 905: To Pursue and Attack

Yi Yao died, filled with unwillingness and resentment.

Lu Zhou looked in the direction where Yi Yao had pointed but did not make any movement.

At this moment, a luminous pearl with the color of ice slowly floated up in front of Yi Yao.

Lu Zhou raised his hand and grabbed it in his palm. As soon as his hand came in contact with it, a chilly sensation came over him. The chill was bone piercing. He could feel that if he willed it, the surroundings would turn as cold as winter.

'So it can control the temperature? If it were on earth, it'd be like a portable air conditioner...'

Cultivators were not affected by the changes of the four seasons. Only when the temperature was abnormally high or abnormally low would it cause harm.

“Ding! Obtained the Sea Spirit Pearl. Fusion. Ability: Absolute Zero Degree. Note: This item has limited energy and can only be used as a forging material.”

“Fusion?” Lu Zhou was puzzled. ‘According to the saying, when the universe was formed, heaven and earth were united, there was no difference between heaven and earth because they were originally one, this should be a universe-grade weapon?’

No matter what, it was definitely a treasure. Moreover, Yi Yao’s confidence to challenge was built upon this thing.

Absolute Zero Degree. This ability was rather good. Even with his karmic fire and supreme mystic power, he could still sense danger from it. If it were another person, even if that person had five Birth Charts, that person would not be Yi Yao’s match.

As Lu Zhou held the Sea Spirit Pearl, he said with a sigh, “It’s a pity that you met me...”

As soon as he finished speaking, his karmic fire burned Yi Yao’s corpse. There was no smoke at all as the karmic fire burned the corpse until there was nothing left.

Whoosh!

Lu Zhou sensed movement from the east direction of the palace wall. It should be from the disintegration of the ice. He looked over. “Something’s wrong...”

He recalled Yi Yao’s words before his death and unleashed his grand technique without any hesitation.

When he arrived at the corner where he sensed the movement, he could sense a remnant of something. Due to the Absolute Zero Degree, the temperature was rather low. However, in this little corner, the temperature was on the higher side. It was obvious to him that someone was just here.

Lu Zhou turned his head slightly and sent a voice transmission. “I’ll be right back. Stay in the palace and don’t leave without permission.”

With that, Lu Zhou disappeared in the direction where the airflow was surging. At the same time, he began to calculate the difference in strength between himself and his enemy.

If it was a Thousand Realms Whirling expert who was stronger than Yi Yao, there would be no need for him or her to run away. Therefore, it was likely that this person was an expert whose strength was roughly around Yi Yao’s level.

Lu Zhou had the enhanced Deadly Strike Card; even an expert with eight Birth Charts was no match for him. However, it would be best if it was someone with less than five Birth Charts. That way, he would be able to gain many merit points.

Lu Zhou recalled Yi Yao calling out to someone to save him; Yi Yao must be calling out to this person. Perhaps, the other party had a change of mind because he could sense his dangerous aura.

...

In front of the Political Announcement Hall.

“Understood.”

When the disciples from the Evil Sky Pavilion heard Lu Zhou’s message, they bowed one after another.

At this moment, everything had returned to normal. The sky was as blue as before. The royal palace that had been frozen in ice was restored as well after Lu Zhou’s large blue lotus appeared.

The royal guards who were frozen solid died; none of them survived. They had long been frozen to death and had no chance of surviving.

After witnessing this battle, Li Yunzheng seemed to have lost the bearing of an emperor. He was cowering in fear. “Teacher, what should we do now?”

Si Wuya said in a low voice, “Now is a good chance for you to take charge of the situation. As long as you don’t leave the royal palace, you can seize the authority.”

“Me?”

“Of course,” Si Wuya said, “This is the best opportunity for you to regain control of Great Tang.”

Upon hearing this, Li Yunzheng cleared his throat before he said, “Royal guards.”

Originally, these royal guards were under Xiahou Sheng. Now that he was dead, they were like headless flies. When Li Yunzheng called out to them, they looked at each other in a daze.

“Impudent!” Li Yunzheng’s voice rose as he said, “Those who disobey will be executed!”

These words pulled the royal guards back to their senses. They were so engrossed in watching the battle that they had forgotten their positions. In just an instant, they fell to their knees.

“Long live the emperor!”

The thousands of commoners fell to their knees as well.

“Long live the Emperor!”

Even if the civil and military officials had tens of thousands of lives, they knew the situation was irreversible. Therefore, all of them fell to their knees as well.

“Long live the emperor.”

The scene was spectacular. Li Yunzheng had imagined this scene countless times. Just like his father, he would govern the country, help the people, and make the world a better place. He would sit on the throne and show his ambition and talent. Now that it became a reality, he could not control his emotions.

As a ruler, Li Yunzheng knew he could not be indecisive. He suppressed his excitement and said in a clear voice, “Rise.”

Everyone slowly rose to their feet.

At this moment, a eunuch rushed over and knelt on the ground before he said, "Your Majesty, the eight Great Generals of the Ten Path and the governor request an audience."

The eight Great Generals and the governor; there were nine people.

Li Yunzheng's heart skipped a beat. Was it a coincidence that these nine people came when his grandmaster was not around?

Si Wuya was the first to speak. "Let them in."

"Yes." The eunuch ran out.

Li Yunzheng said, "Teacher, what if they lead troops to surround us? What should we do?"

Si Wuya said with a smile. "You underestimate the Evil Sky Pavilion." Then, he turned to the side and called out, "Eldest Senior Brother, Second Senior Brother..."

Yu Shangrong who was standing at the southernmost side of the Political Announcement Hall said, "Seventh Junior Brother, please speak." The sun illuminated his face that was devoid of expression.

"Senior brothers are the strongest among the disciples in the Evil Sky Pavilion. Can I trouble both of you to head to the eastern side of the palace wall to have a look?" Si Wuya asked.

Upon hearing this, Conch turned around and glanced at her two eldest senior brothers. She recalled her master's words and could not help but clenched her jade-like hands. She could understand her master's words. However, even her incredibly intelligent Seventh Senior Brother seemed to think that way. This could mean she was really weak.

Yu Zhenghai said to Yu Shangrong, "Second Junior Brother, let's see who's faster..."

Yu Shangrong responded by immediately manifesting his avatar. The golden Nine-leaf avatar flashed and flew toward the east.

Yu Zhenghai did not lag behind. He manifested his avatar and followed suit.

Just like that, the two Nine-leaf golden avatars flew off.

Following that, Si Wuya continued to say, "Elder Zuo, Elder Hua, Third Senior Brother, please have a look at the southern palace wall."

"No problem." Zuo Yushu lightly pounded the Coiling Dragon Staff on the ground. Her body moved at lightning speed as talismans danced in the air, forming a golden dragon.

Hua Wudao looked even more ostentatious. After the Square Box was reforged by the Sky Research Court, it had acknowledged him as its master.

Hua Wudao was even more exaggerated. With the quadrilateral, after being tempered by the research heavenly academy, he acknowledged him as the master again. However, he looked slightly awkward as he flew off on the Square Box.

Upon seeing this, Duanmu Sheng hurriedly picked up his Overlord Spear and followed the two elders.

Although Duanmu Sheng did not manifest his avatar, everyone assumed he was a Nine-leaf cultivator. They thought it was normal. After all, it was not surprising for large sects to have a few Nine-leaf cultivators.

“Fourth Senior Brother... Eh, where’s Fourth Senior Brother?” Si Wuya frowned, looking left and right. He did not even see Mingshi Yin’s shadow. It seemed like he had left a long time ago. He coughed awkwardly before he said, “Elder Pan, Elder Leng, I’ll have to trouble both of you with the northern palace wall.”

“No problem.”

The two elders could not help but manifest their avatars.

In just an instant, two golden Nine-leaf avatars appeared and flew off in the northern direction.

Everyone understood now that Si Wuya intended to have the Evil Sky Pavilion guard the entire royal palace.

At this moment, Si Wuya said, “Ninth Junior Sister, Little Junior Sister, just stay in the Political Announcement Hall. The sun is too bright outside.”

1

Everyone. “....”

Chapter 906: The Evil Sky Pavilion Can’t Be Judged Using Common Sense

Conch bowed and said, “Seventh Senior Brother, I’ll head toward the west on my own.”

“You want to go?”

“Yes. Seventh Senior Brother, don’t worry,” Conch said.

“I’m a little worried about you going alone...” Si Wuya looked at the empty place where Ming Shiyin was standing earlier.

“Why don’t I head west with Miss Tenth?” Jiang Aijian held his sword and walked out of the crowd. He flicked his hair theatrically and said, “Trust me.”

Si Wuya nodded. “That’s fine.”

“I appreciate your outstanding vision,” Jiang Aijian said.

Conch glanced at Jiang Aijian before she shook her head. “No need. I’ll be fine on my own.”

As soon as Conch finished speaking, she stomped one foot on the ground. The Nine String Zither hummed.

Buzz!

Soon after that, a Ten-leaf red lotus avatar with karmic fire appeared in the sky as music permeated the air.

“Huh? T-ten... T-ten I-leaves and t-the k-karmic fire?” Jiang Aijian scratched his head in shock and confusion as he watched Conch flying west.

At this moment, Little Yuan’er said, “Get out of the way! Don’t block my way. I’m going with junior sister.”

“Uh...” Jiang Aijian scratched his head again. It seemed like he was a little redundant?

When Little Yuan rose into the sky, she could only see a speck of red in front of her that disappeared in just a blink of an eye. With the Supreme Purity Jade Slip and the Cloud Treading Boots, she flew off at top speed.

Finally, a palace expert rubbed his eyes and asked, “How many Nine-leaf cultivators are there? I... lost count...”

“How should I know? I feel like I’m seeing things?”

At this moment, Meng Changdong who was also standing at the Political Announcement Hall said, “Mister Seventh, I’ll provide support at the northern wall.”

Si Wuya shook his head and said, “No, head to the southern wall.”

“Understood.” Meng Changdong did not question Si Wuya’s decision. He manifested his avatar and took off to the southern wall without any hesitation. After his time communicating with Si Wuya when Si Wuya was still in the golden lotus domain, he had come to trust Si Wuya’s judgment.

Upon seeing this, Nie Qingyun and Sikong Beichen exchanged a glance. Both of them wanted to head out as well.

However, Si Wuya said, “Both seniors should stay...”

Nie Qingyun and Sikong Beichen looked at Si Wuya and nodded.

The external defense was strong enough so Si Wuya had to make sure that the internal defense was strong as well. Moreover, he could not trust the four Grand Dukes or the palace experts. With two mighty Ten-leaf experts around, the others would not be able to do anything.

Xia Changqiu looked at Jiang Aijian meaningfully before he said, “Wuwu, Ji Fengxing, both of you have to work hard. Otherwise, you’ll be redundant...”

“Understood.” The two disciples from the Thousand Willows Monastery looked embarrassed.

Jiang Aijian. “???”

At this moment, Li Yunzheng asked in confusion, “Teacher, why are there only two nine leaves at the eastern wall...”

Ten-leaf experts were obviously stronger than Nine-leaf cultivators after all.

Si Wuya smiled and walked toward the Political Announcement Hall without saying a word.

Xia Changqiu said with a smile, “You can’t judge the Evil Sky Pavilion using common sense...”

Li Yunzheng. "..."

...

After the others entered the Political Announcement Hall, Li Yunzheng waved his hand.

The eunuch announced in a high-pitched voice, "Announcing the arrival of General Cen to have an audience with the emperor..."

"Announcing the arrival of General Bi to have an audience with the emperor..."

"Announcing the arrival of General Wu to have an audience with the emperor..."

...

Meanwhile, Lu Zhou continued heading east, pursuing the flickering and surging aura.

When Lu Zhou flew past the cultivators in the capital, they only felt a slight stirring of the wind and did not feel anything else.

Lu Zhou's speed was not slow; it did not take long before he left the capital.

...

Many cultivators slowly approached the collapsed eastern wall to have a look at the situation after the battle. All of them were shocked by the aftermath.

Someone muttered, "It's enough to be a Thousand Realms Whirling expert. What need is there for an army?"

...

After leaving the capital, Lu Zhou did not continue to give chase. Instead, he came to halt in the air and surveyed his surroundings. He had long withdrawn his avatar and activated the Purple Glazed Ceramic. Under normal circumstances, no one would be able to detect his presence.

However, Lu Zhou did not expect he would not be able to catch up to that person despite being able to see his or her flickering aura up ahead during the chase.

Three Deadly Strike Cards cost over 80,000 merit points. Given the current situation, it was likely that the only way to catch up to that person was to use his enhanced Deadly Strike Card; he did not think it was worth it.

Lu Zhou fell deep into his thoughts. He closed his eyes, listening to the movements of the wind and the grass in his surroundings.

Perhaps, it was due to the upgraded supreme mystic power, his power of hearing seemed to have improved as well. Moreover, it did not consume much of his supreme mystic power.

The range of his hearing widened rapidly from a radius of 100 meters, a kilometer, a few kilometers...

Whoosh!

Soon enough, Lu Zhou heard the unique sound of fluctuation from vitality energy.

“East?”

Lu Zhou unleashed his grand technique to chase after that person. If he really still could not catch up, then he would spare that person’s life.

It was better to be prudent. The power from the Thousand Realms Whirling could certainly last for a long time, but the prolonged consumption of energy would be difficult to bear as well.

...

Fifteen minutes later.

Lu Zhou appeared in a forest. This place was rather far from the capital.

Soon after, Lu Zhou saw a stone forest within the forest.

‘A giant stone formation? This is somewhat similar to the stone forest that Old Second broke free off previously. Is this how the Black Tower Council keeps track of the Birth Chart Beasts?’

Needless to say, there was no way Lu Zhou could not leave the formation untouched.

Lu Zhou was about to raise his hand to destroy the formation when a slender man dressed in a black robe walked out from behind the huge rock in front of him.

“Wait.” The man’s voice was deep.

Lu Zhou looked over and slowly asked, “You still dare to come out?”

The black-robed cultivator cupped his hands together and said, “I have no ill intentions.”

“You’re Yi Yao’s helper. How can I spare you?” Lu Zhou raised his hand slightly; a card appeared in his hand.

It was precisely this small gesture from Lu Zhou that caused the black-robed cultivator to tremble inwardly. He had no idea why felt this way when there was no fluctuation of energy at all. After a beat, he hurriedly said, “Sir, please wait! It’s true that Yi Yao and I belong to the Black Tower Council. However, we have different ideas. I think he deserves to die.”

“Oh?” Lu Zhou was puzzled. Although he did not shatter the Deadly Strike Card, he did not put it away.

“My objective is to look for a friend here. I’m not here to help him. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have shown myself,” the black-robed cultivator said.

“Look for a friend?” Lu Zhou shook his head. “How can I trust you?”

The black-robed cultivator took off his hood, revealing his half-white hair. “My Name is Yan Zhenluo. I’m a member of the Black Tower Council. This stone forest formation can conceal one’s aura.”

When Yan Zhenluo walked behind the rock, it was as though he had disappeared into thin air. No aura could be detected at all. After that, he walked out again. At this point, what was the point of hiding?

Lu Zhou asked, “Who are you looking for?”

“His name is Lu Li. He’s also a member of the Black Tower Council,” Yan Zhenluo replied.

Lu Zhou was intrigued. Was there really internal strife in the Black Tower Council?

Perhaps that was why Lu Li helped him and lamented about infighting between humans after leaving the Sky Wheel Rift Valley.

Lu Zhou asked skeptically, "You're Lu Li's friend?"

Yan Zhenluo nodded and asked, "Do you know Lu Li?"

However, before Lu Zhou replied, Yan Zhenluo continued to say, "I've known Lu Li for a thousand years. We've been collecting life hearts silently over the years. Not long ago, Lu Li disappeared, but his life stone is intact. I pretended to agree to Yi Yao's request to come to the red lotus domain. I didn't expect to see a golden lotus cultivator in the red lotus domain" He paused briefly and looked at Lu Zhou with eyes filled with admiration as he said, "Most importantly, I didn't expect you to be able to withstand the effects of Absolute Zero Degree!"

Chapter 907: A Deal

Although Yan Zhenluo seemed very sincere with no trace of hostility at all, it did not mean Lu Zhou would easily trust him. The Deadly Strike Card was still in his hand, just in case. How could someone who was capable enough to be Yi Yao's helper had any less than five Birth Charts?

"Is the Sea Spirit Pearl yours?" Lu Zhou asked.

Yan Zhenluo shook his head and said with a smile, "The Sea Spirit Pearl belonged to the Black Tower Council. If members want to use it, they'd have to apply to the council. This thing is above the flood-grade and has become a 'Fusion'."

Lu Zhou took note of the key information in Yan Zhenluo's words. He asked, "Yi Yao is your companion, but you just watched him die by my hands?"

"To be honest," Yan Zhenluo sighed before he said, "The Black Tower Council has long been divided into many factions. The Black Tower Council has existed for so long that no one knows when it was first founded. All the presidents of the past dynasties have lived by the concept of captive breeding. This concept has made the black lotus domain more and more powerful. However, it also brought with it a host of problems such as the wastage of life hearts. Those with special privileges use it recklessly even if they couldn't activate their Birth Charts. The black lotus domain will eliminate those who try to stop the Black Tower Council from carrying out the captive breeding concept. There are also problems such as uneven distribution, waste of resources, internal strife, and corruption. Most importantly, there are more and more conflicting opinions."

"Conflicting ideas?" Lu Zhou asked curiously.

"The supporters naturally want to continue doing things the way it has always been done by monopolizing the life hearts; the reformists want to improve on the concept such as categorizing all the life hearts; the radicals want to carry out the elimination plan," Yan Zhenluo said.

"Which faction do you belong to?" Lu Zhou asked with a frown. Based on this, it seemed like the Black Tower Council was much more complicated than he had imagined.

“None of them,” Yan Zhenluo said with a smile. His deep eyes seemed to be glowing as he said, “I’m like Lu Li. I like freedom. I’m optimistic about the future and filled with hope for everything.”

If Lu Zhou had heard these words before he transmigrated, he would have scoffed at such words. He was surprised to see that Yan Zhenluo was so honest in such a situation. Perhaps, due to his good impression of Lu Li, he lowered his guard against Yan Zhenluo. After a beat, he said, “The weak are prey to the strong; it’s the survival of the fittest. Your idea is rather novel.”

Yan Zhenluo continued to say, “Lu Li often says that people like to fight among themselves. I’m similar to him; I don’t like fighting. There are some things I can’t say. I hope you’ll forgive me for it.”

Lu Zhou asked, “What if I force you to tell me?”

“...” Yan Zhenluo frowned as he sighed heavily. “Huh? Why?”

Then, Yan Zhenluo spread his hands and said, “I’m just a layman. Even if you kill me, you won’t gain anything.”

Naturally, Lu Zhou could not tell Yan Zhenluo that he would gain merit points if he killed him. However, if he used the Deadly Strike Cards, he probably would not earn many merit points.

“Then why did you lure me here?” Lu Zhou asked.

“I want to make a deal with you...”

“A deal?”

“A black lotus cultivator has a time limit when they go on a mission so I can’t stay for long. Therefore, I’d like to ask for your help to look for Lu Li. If I’m not mistaken, you’ve only activated your Birth Charts not too long ago, and you don’t have much combat experience with it. I can provide you with books related to Birth Charts,” Yan Zhenluo said without beating around the bush.

Lu Zhou did not agree to it immediately. Instead, he thought about it. Indeed, he needed more information about Birth Charts. Due to the black lotus domain monopolizing the Birth Chart Beasts in the red lotus domain, the information available in the red lotus domain about Birth Charts was limited. Moreover, there were no records of cultivators’ experience as well. Therefore, he was lacking in regard to knowledge about Birth Charts.

Yan Zhenluo saw through Lu Zhou’s thoughts and continued to say, “You’ve activated three Birth Charts, but you’re able to defeat Yi Yao who had activated five Birth Charts. This shows you’re highly talented. Even Yi Yao with the Sea Spirit Pearl couldn’t turn the situation around. With knowledge, you’ll be able to further increase your strength.”

Yan Zhenluo paused for a moment as he glanced at Lu Zhou before he continued to say, “Birth Charts are undoubtedly powerful. However, if you know what kind of life heart to look for, you bring out the full potential of your Birth Charts. For example, Yi Yao’s weakness was his speed. Therefore, he obtained the life heart of a speedy Birth Chart Beast that increased his speed. In your case, apart from your Birth Chart that granted you the fire-control ability, the other two Birth Charts are essentially wasted. You have to understand that cultivators can only activate a limited number of Birth Charts in their lives.

Therefore, it's important to choose the life hearts with care. Birth Charts can be used to cover your shortcoming or boost your strength."

Lu Zhou could not find any fault in Yan Zhenluo's words. After a moment, he asked, "Yi Yao obtained a speed-type life heart?"

"That's right." Yan Zhenluo nodded.

It would have been fine if Lu Zhou was ignorant about this matter. However, now that he was aware of it, he could not help but feel that he was losing out. If he had known this, he would have left the first two life hearts for his disciples. Defensive strength was not particularly useful to him, and fire resistance was somewhat similar to fire control.

Yan Zhenluo said, "You've already activated three Birth Charts so you have to be careful when activating the subsequent Birth Charts. In order to show you my sincerity, I'll give you a piece of information. Within the next seven days, a Birth Chart Beast will appear near this giant stone formation."

"Aren't you afraid that this old man will snatch the life heart?"

The appearance of a Birth Chart Beast meant that there would be a new Ten-leaf expert in the capital.

Yan Zhenluo smiled slightly and said, "I've always been optimistic."

What a good answer!

"Then we'll talk about it when the time comes," Lu Zhou said.

Yan Zhenluo did not expect Lu Zhou to agree to him so suddenly.

It was not unheard of in history for a fish to slip through the net of Thousand Realms Whirling experts from the Black Tower Council. There were talented and powerful people that appeared in the red lotus domain 2,000 years ago; unfortunately, they were quickly dealt with by the Black Tower Council. Nevertheless, how could someone who was capable of slipping through the net be a fool?

After a moment, Yan Zhenluo said, "There's another thing I should remind you..."

"What is it?"

"You're from the golden lotus domain. From what I know, the golden lotus domain should be weaker than the red lotus domain. Now that there's a golden Thousand Realms Whirling expert, it won't be long before the black lotus domain tries to monopolize the Birth Chart Beasts in the golden lotus domain."

This had already occurred to Lu Zhou, but he did not expect Yan Zhenluo to say such things. It seemed like Yan Zhenluo was treating him like a piece of blank paper. He did not think it was a bad thing. This way, he would be able to obtain more information, regardless if it was just confirming his speculations.

"You only want to find Lu Li?" Lu Zhou asked.

"That's right."

"You're just friends?"

Yan Zhenluo replied, "Friends who have lived and died together."

Lu Zhou nodded and said, "Alright. I've always been reasonable. I'll tell you more about Lu Li once I see the Birth Chart Beast. What I can tell you now is that Lu Li is safe."

Yan Zhenluo cupped his fists together and asked, "May I know your name?"

"My surname is Lu," Lu Zhou said.

"Farewell, Brother."

"Wait," Lu Zhou called out. Then, he said solemnly, "I believe what you said is true. However, if I find out you're lying, I'll take your life. Apart from that, don't threaten me with the Black Tower Council..."

After Lu Zhou finished speaking, the Deadly Strike Card in his hand disappeared. After looking at Yan Zhenluo, he vanished in a flash.

At this moment, Yan Zhenluo was the only one left in the forest. He seemed to be in a daze. After a long time, he murmured to himself, "Is he really just a Three Chart expert? Was I mistaken?"

Yan Zhenluo was inclined to believe that the golden Thousand Realms Whirling cultivator was deliberately hiding his cultivation base and his number of Birth Charts to appear weak.

Yan Zhenluo shook his head gently. After he looked at the sun in the sky, his figure flickered briefly before he disappeared.

...

Meanwhile, at a hillside west of the capital.

A young man leaned against a rock and panted heavily. "Lord Yi is dead! Lord Yi is dead! Fortunately, I was careful. W-what should I do now? How am I going to contact the Black Tower Council in the future? What should I do?"

At this moment, a carefree voice rang from the other side of the rock. "What else do you think you can do? There's nothing you can do."

Chapter 908: Mister Ri's String of Fours

The young man jumped in shock. He looked at the rock warily as he demanded loudly, "Who is it?! Come out!"

A person walked out from behind the rock before he leaned against the rock and asked with a smile on his face, "Why are you so scared?"

The young man frowned as he asked warily, "Who are you? Why are you following me?"

"Don't be so nervous. My surname is Ri. You can call me Mister Ri. Nice to meet you..." The newcomer reached out as though he wanted to shake hands with the young man.

The young man was still shaken and frightened; how could he dare to shake hands with a stranger. He looked at the person in front of him and said, "Don't follow me!"

"Hey, I'm just trying to be nice. How can you be so ungrateful?"

The young man took a few steps back. "Did you come to watch the show?"

As the young man retreated, Mister Ri slowly advanced. "Is there anyone who doesn't want to watch a battle between two Thousand Realms Whirling experts? Why are you so nervous? There's a first time for everything; there's no need for you to be so nervous. What's your name?"

The young man lowered his guard slightly. The person in front of him did not seem like an expert at all. He said with a hint of pride, "I'm afraid I'll scare you if I tell you my name. My master is the Flying Star House's Ye Zhen. I advise you not to make trouble."

"Isn't Yezhen dead?"

"..." Jiang Xiaosheng looked at the person in front of him with a complicated expression. He could not help but feel the person in front of him was strange. "Did you follow me for a long time?"

Mister Ri said, "Well, yes. I was happily watching the show in the palace when I discovered you hiding in a corner. Then, I followed you here..."

Jiang Xiaosheng asked warily, "Are you a member of the royal court?"

"No." Mister Ri shook his head. "I just came to watch the show."

Jiang Xiaosheng heaved a sigh of relief. "That's good. Don't follow me anymore. I have to go now."

"Where are you going?"

"It has nothing to do with you." Jiang Xiaosheng quickened his pace.

"Ye Zhen is dead, but you still dare to come here... Is it for revenge?" Mister Ri asked as though he did not hear Jiang Xiaosheng's words.

Jiang Xiaosheng came to a halt as a tiny sword energy appeared in his hand. As soon as he turned around, the tiny energy sword shot toward Mister Ri.

Whoosh!

The energy sword was blocked by Mister Ri's protective energy before it could do any harm.

Jiang Xiaosheng frowned when he saw the golden energy shrouding Mister Ri. "You're from the golden lotus domain?"

"How observant..." Mister Ri said with a smile.

"No wonder." Jiang Xiaosheng suddenly joined his palms together.

Boom!

Jiang Xiaosheng disappeared into a puff of smoke.

"Damn it! So fast?!" Mister Ri cursed as he gave chase.

The entire place fell silent with Mister Ri's departure.

After a moment, Jiang Xiaosheng emerged from the ground and patted the dirt off his body as he said disdainfully, "This is the extent of the capability of the people from the golden lotus domain. How stupid!"

Woof!

At this moment, a fierce beast that resembled a dog came pouncing over. Its eyes were shining brightly.

"A fierce beast?!" Jiang Xiaosheng raised his hand and launched a palm seal.

The fierce beast's paws collided with the palm seal.

The beast landed on the ground on all fours before it shifted to face Jiang Xiaosheng and growled.

Jiang Xiaosheng was overjoyed. "How lucky! I met a fool and a fierce beast with a life heart!"

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Jiang Xiaosheng chuckled as he said, "Consider yourself unlucky."

Buzz!

Jiang Xiaosheng's avatar appeared in the air. In the beginning, it had a humanoid form, but soon after, it distorted and grew nine heads. Out of the nine heads, only four of the heads were raised. At the same time, a six-leaf red lotus spun under it.

The four heads snarled, baring their fangs and brandishing their claws at the dog-like beast. It looked disgusting and terrifying, like a tentacled monster.

Woof! Woof! Woof!

The dog-like beast that had never been provoked in such a manner barked fiercely; its fur stood on ends like golden needles. It was not intimidated at all. As it pounced over, it suddenly grew a size bigger.

Ripp!

The dog-like beast bit one of the heads.

Jiang Xiaosheng endured the pain and said excitedly, "You fell for my trick. This is exactly what I want! Die!"

The other three heads bared their fangs and made a move to bite the dog-like beast.

At the critical moment, a streak of light sailed past the treetops.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The three heads were pushed back in just an instant.

Jiang Xiaosheng grunted in pain due to the damage to his avatar. He staggered on his feet as he looked up. "Who's it?"

Then, he saw a young man leaning against the tree trunk, shaking his leg and smiling at him. This... Was this not Mister Ri?

"It's you? !" Jiang Xiaosheng exclaimed in surprise.

"That's right. It's me! I was afraid you'd be bored staying underground, but I was also afraid of disturbing you. Hence, I waited on the tree," Mister Ri said as he shook his head, "This dog has a bad habit. Once it clamps its fangs down on something, it won't let go..."

"You!" Jiang Xiaosheng felt the person in front of him was really too strange.

Grrrr!

All of a sudden, the beast exerted force in its bite. Its fangs and claws glinted in the light as it tore into one of the heads in a frenzy.

Jiang Xiaosheng's eyes were bloodshot as he cried out in pain. He controlled the three remaining heads to bite the beast and launched several palm seals at the same time.

A streak of light shot down from the treetop again.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The three heads were repelled again.

The streak of light continued on its trajectory and accurately deflected the red palm seals away from the beast.

Jiang Xiaosheng looked at Mister Ri and asked, "Who are you exactly?"

"It doesn't matter who I am. All you have to know is this dog is mine..."

"..."

Woof! Woof Woof!

It was as though its master's words had boosted its courage, its strength grew as well! It clamped its fangs tightly and shook its head from side to side.

Rrrip!

Soon enough, it forcefully tore off one of the heads on the avatar.

With this, Jiang Xiaosheng was heavily injured. He endured the excruciating pain with a terrified expression on his face. He retreated dozens of meters as he said desperately, "I... I didn't know this beast... this dog belongs to you... Senior, I'm already injured. Why... Why don't we call it even? What do you think?"

"No." Mister Ri waved his hand. "Doggy, go!"

At this moment, the beast looked more like Qiong Qi than a dog. Its speed was like a gust of wind as it charged out.

Realization dawned on Jiang Xiaosheng at this moment. He just discovered what kind of fierce beast and danger he had encountered. When he looked up at the young man standing on the branch of the tree, he saw the young man holding a desolate-grade weapon in his hand.

Mister Ri dove from the tree with a smile on his face at this moment.

Miserable cries began to resound through the forest in just an instant.

After a while...

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Qiong Qi barked furiously at Jiang Xiaosheng.

"He's dead. Stop barking!"

Woof! Woof! Woof!

"What? You want to eat him? No. It's too disgusting," Mingshi Yin said decisively.

Woof! Woof! Woof!

"Alright, let's compromise. You can tear them up as much as you want, but you're not allowed to eat them!"

Qiong Qi's eyes shone in excitement as it pounced on Jiang Xiaosheng.

At this moment, Jiang Xiaosheng suddenly opened his eyes. He tried to crawl away as he shouted, "You're f*cking sick!"

Woof! Woof! Woof!

...

Lu Zhou, who had just returned to the capital, was puzzled when he received the notification that he had received 500 merit points. He wondered if something had happened in the palace.

Soon after, he was notified of another 500 merit points and a domain bonus of 500 merit points.

Initially, Lu Zhou had planned to look around the capital to search for useful clues, but upon receiving these notifications, he shelved the idea and decided to return to the palace.

...

In the Political Announcement Hall in the royal palace.

The eight Great Generals and the governor stood respectfully as they said, "Long live the emperor."

Li Yunzheng who was sitting on the throne looked at them calmly before he said with a sigh, "When I wanted to see you, you didn't come... When I didn't want to see you, you came."

Chapter 909: Establishing Might and Prestige for His Granddisciple

Cen Ranzhi of the Jiangdong Circuit stood at the lead. He did not seem taken aback by Li Yunzheng's words. He calmly said, feigning innocence, "Please forgive me, Your Majesty. After receiving the imperial edict in Jiangdong Circuit, I traveled a day and a night back to the capital. How could I disobey if Your Majesty wants to see me?"

Following that, the Jiangbei Circuit's Great General Wu said, "Your Majesty, it takes at least 10 hours to travel from Jiangbei Circuit to the capital. If I plan to disobey the edict, how could I dare to appear in the capital at this time? Your Majesty, please try to understand!"

Then, the other Great Generals chimed in, "Please try to understand, Your Majesty."

In front of all the civil and military officials, Li Yunzheng naturally wanted to use facts and reasons. He knew nothing about cultivation so it was impossible for him to use force. However, these Great Generals did come to the capital after receiving the imperial edict; he could not refute that. What should he do now?

At this moment, Si Wuya said, "Two hours seemed like ten hours for the distance from each circuit to the capital. Moreover, it seemed like all the distances of the circuits from the capital are the same..."

The Great Generals raised their heads to look at Si Wuya who was sitting on the left side of the hall. He looked young and was dressed in a long robe. At first glance, he looked like a weak Confucian scholar just like Li Yunzheng.

Meanwhile, Li Yunzheng looked at his teacher, filled with admiration for his teacher's wit.

Cen Ranzhi said, "The generals who arrived first waited outside the palace. It's normal that we encountered each other. At that time, the experts were fighting at the east side of the palace wall, blocking our entrance. We were worried about Your Majesty's safety so we took a detour to the north gates to enter the palace. Your Majesty, please bear this in mind."

Si Wuya continued to say, "That's even stranger then. Ten hours ago, Lord Zhang led thousands of commoners into the royal palace. He tried to prove his determination and sincerity with his death and insisted the eight Great Generals wouldn't easily return to the capital. Which one of you is lying then?"

Lying about this matter carried the crime of deceiving the emperor.

Cen Ranzhi looked at Si Wuya again. All of a sudden, he felt that the weak Confucian scholar in front of him was unusually difficult to deal with. However, any of the eight Great Generals present were even more tactful than the little emperor. After a beat, he said, "This..."

Grand Duke Wang Yun interjected, "This is His Majesty's teacher."

"Teacher? His Majesty personally conferred the title? Does the Ministry of Rites have the document for this?" Cen Ranzhi asked curiously.

The civil and military officials began to discuss among themselves in hushed voices. Under normal circumstances, no one would ask such a question. After all, this question was clearly disrespectful.

Li Yunzheng was about to speak when Si Wuya raised his hand. Then, he said in a deep voice, "I might be His Majesty's teacher, but I'm his teacher in private. There's no need for me to be conferred a title nor do I need any documents to prove my identity. Moreover, I'm just a commoner. However, the commoners are like the heavens. The monarch and the officials might change, but the commoners will never change. General Cen, are commoners not allowed to speak in the Political Announcement Hall?"

Upon hearing Si Wuya's words, the commoners who had yet to leave could not help but agree in their hearts.

“Unfortunately...” Cen Ranzhi began to say.

Si Wuya interjected, “You only need to answer this question; can commoners speak in the Political Announcement Hall?”

“Yes,” Cen Ranzhi replied with a frown on his face, clearly reluctant.

Si Wuya said, “Now that we’ve dealt with the matter, let’s return to the question earlier. Between you and Lord Zhang, who’s lying?”

“...”

Cen Ranzhi studied the young man in front of him. The young man was calm, completely unaffected by his words at all. He recalled the information he had received previously. Did Li Yunzheng not gain the support of a cultivation expert? How did it turn out to be a scholar? He had even come up with a countermeasure to deal with the cultivation expert. He would die before he gave up his military power. After all, if he gave up his power, he would be no different from a tiger that had been defanged and declawed. His enemies would rush out and step on him at that time. The entire Cen family would also be trampled to death by countless people. In the end, he said, “I didn’t expect Lord Zhang to be such a person! He actually slandered me like this!”

Si Wuya nodded and said, “In that case, His Majesty’s treatment of Lord Zhang was completely right.”

“...”

“Do any of you have any objections?” Si Wuya asked as he looked at the eight Great Generals looking at each other in dismay.

“No, we don’t have any objections.”

Li Yunzheng’s admiration for Si Wuya grew. They did not need to expend any effort at all to make these tigers nod their heads obediently; all his teacher did was move his lips.

Si Wuya continued to say, “One last question: I stopped His Majesty’s imperial edict from being sent out... Whose imperial edict did you receive?”

“...”

The Political Announcement Hall was as silent as a graveyard at this moment.

Whether it was the civil and military officials, Sikong Beichen, or Nie Qingyun, all of them looked at Si Wuya as though he was a monster.

Perhaps, the Great Generals were used to being dismissive of Li Yunzheng. For many years, Li Yunzheng’s imperial edicts held no weight, after all. They would not even give his imperial edict a second look. It was better to speak to the spies in the palace to find out what was happening.

Indeed, the Great Generals did not wait for the imperial edict to arrive before they had set off for the capital.

As the saying went, ‘The mantis stalks the cicada while the oriole follows behind’.

The Great Generals did not expect Si Wuya to have predicted their reactions.

The atmosphere in the Political Announcement Hall grew heavy.

Cen Ranzhi felt as though his brain had stopped working. After a while, he finally realized a problem. He said loudly, "How dare you stop His Majesty's imperial edict!"

Li Yunzheng said, "This is... This is my intention."

"..."

Cen Ranzhi stumbled a few steps backward.

At this moment, three of the Great Generals fell to their knees and said, "I admit to my mistake!"

Upon seeing this, Cen Ranzhi cursed inwardly. The thing he was trying to avoid had finally happened.

Soon after, another Great General fell to his knees as well. "I admit to my mistake!"

At this moment, a person suddenly walked into the Political Announcement Hall. Although the hall was part of the great inner palace, no one dared to stop him.

Li Yunzheng was the first to stand up.

Following that, Si Wuya rose to his feet and called out, "Master."

Sikong Beichen, Nie Qingyun, and people from the Thousand Willow Monastery rose to their feet. "Senior Lu."

Lu Zhou rested his hands on his back as he slowly walked into the hall. His gaze casually swept past the Great Generals. Despite his aura being hidden by the Purple Glazed Ceramic, the pressure he brought was even greater.

The four Grand Dukes, the Grand Tutor, and the civil and military officials looked at him with varying degrees of admiration.

The crowd parted and bowed.

Li Yunzheng even felt like giving up his throne at this moment.

Lu Zhou raised his hand, indicating Li Yunzheng should sit down.

Si Wuya sensibly gave up his seat and stood respectfully at the side.

After he was seated, Lu Zhou asked indifferently, "What's the situation now?"

Si Wuya clearly recounted everything as Lu Zhou nodded. He was very impressed with his seventh disciple's method of stopping the imperial edict. It completely tore the masks off these people's faces.

Lu Zhou looked at the old man in armor standing at the lead. He said in slight surprise, "You're Cen Ranzhi?"

"Yes, I am," Cen Ranzhi said. "Who are you, Old Sir?"

Lu Zhou shook his head. "It seems like the reminder I gave at the eastern palace wall isn't enough."

As soon as Lu Zhou finished speaking, he raised his hand.

The Great Seal of Fearlessness shot out toward Cen Ranzhi, lighting up the entire hall.

Cen Ranzhi was shocked. He did not expect the other party to kill him in such a direct manner! He raised his hands to block the palm seal.

Bang!

As expected, Cen Ranzhi was sent flying out of the hall, disappearing from everyone's sight. Not even his shadow could be seen.

The Great Generals trembled in fear. Those who had yet to kneel down fell to their knees immediately.

There was no doubt Lu Zhou's method was direct and simple.

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 4,000 merit points.. Domain bonus: 1,000 merit points."

Chapter 910: The Way to Kill Eight Chart Experts

The atmosphere in the Political Announcement Hall was incredibly tense.

Everyone could only watch as this expert 'killed the chicken to warn the monkey'.

Li Yunzheng, Si Wuya, Sikong Beichen, Nie Qingyun, and most people present understood the intention behind Lu Zhou's action.

Was he not establishing might and prestige for his granddisciple?

Although Si Wuya had handled the matter incredibly well, it was still somewhat lacking without this kill.

This Thousand Realms Whirling palm strike was perfect.

Si Wuya opened his mouth and said at the right moment as his eyes swept past the remaining Great Generals, "Does anyone have any more questions?"

Si Wuya stepped forward and raised his voice as he asked again, "I'll ask you one final time; do you have any questions?"

Unless they had a death wish, who would dare to ask a question at this moment?

There were many people who felt they were not afraid of death. However, the reality was different when the guillotine was placed in front of their necks.

Si Wuya waved his hand casually. A piece of paper appeared in his hand before he began to read out loud, "Bi Jing, Di Zian, Ping Gu, Wu Cheng... These four generals can retire and return to their hometowns."

After he was done reading, the paper in hand burned to ashes.

Then, Li Yunzheng said to the people next to him, "Write down my imperial decree."

"Understood."

At this time, everyone's opinions were unusually unanimous.

The four Great Generals who had long expected this outcome prostrated themselves on the ground and said with mournful expressions, “Yes, Your Majesty!”

The others wore bitter expressions as they kneeled on the ground and echoed, “Yes, Your Majesty.”

Lu Zhou glanced at them before he slowly rose to his feet.

Upon seeing this, the Great Generals shuddered involuntarily.

Lu Zhou, “Deal with this matter on your own...”

“Understood.”

At this moment, Lu Zhou finally noticed the absence of the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion. “Where are the others?”

“I asked them to guard the four city walls and gates to prevent accidents. The only one who’s missing is Fourth Senior Brother,” Si Wuya said.

“Alright.” After that, Lu Zhou flashed, leaving only afterimages in the Political Announcement Hall.

Needless to say, all the cultivation experts and civil and military officials were amazed.

...

Back at the Preservation Hall.

Lu Zhou used the Purple Glazed Ceramic to meditate on the Heavenly Writing to replenish his supreme mystic power.

After obtaining the supreme mystic power, the difficulty of comprehending the Heavenly Writing had increased accordingly as well. Even the golden scripts were moving slower compared to before. Nevertheless, his supply of supreme mystic power had increased. Based on this, it was obvious that future Open Heavenly Writing power and privilege from the Heavenly Writing would only increase the difficulty of his meditation.

...

After two hours, Lu Zhou finally opened his eyes after he replenished a portion of his supreme mystic power.

“I only managed to kill Yi Yao by relying on the supreme mystic power. However, I can just rely on my supreme mystic power alone...” Lu Zhou muttered to himself.

Fortunately, Yan Zhenluo was not an enemy. Otherwise, he would have to use the Deadly Strike Card. At that time, not only would he suffer a loss of merit points, but it would increase the price of the Deadly Strike Card as well.

His real shortcoming was a lack of knowledge regarding the combat techniques of the Thousand Realms Whirling.

When he had fought Yi Yao for the first time, he had used the Deadly Strike Card. The card had always been the trump card he was proud of. Unfortunately, the appearance of the Birth Charts had greatly reduced the value of his trump card.

He wondered how those with more than eight Birth Charts kill their peers? If all Thousand Realms Whirling experts had Birth Charts, would it not render all the killing techniques useless?

“Yan Zhenluo,” Lu Zhou muttered. It was not a bad idea to get information about Birth Charts and Thousand Realms Whirling from him.

At this moment, a voice rang from outside of the hall.

“Disciple greets master.”

Soon after, Mingshi Yin walked in with Qiong Qi in tow.

Qiong Qi wagged its tail energetically; it seemed to be in a good mood.

Lu Zhou said, “Where did you go?”

Mingshi Yin said, “I found a little thief so I killed him.” As he spoke, he made a chopping gesture.

“A little thief?”

“Ye Zhen’s disciple...”

“You know Ye Zhen?”

“When I first arrived at the red lotus domain, I heard people talking about how you killed Ye Zhen,” Mingshi Yin explained with a smile, “I didn’t expect Ye Zhen’s disciple to also have a Nine Infants avatar!”

Lu Zhou nodded and said, “Well done.”

“Master, before I killed him, I overheard him saying he’s the contact person for that black lotus cultivator. I found this on his body,” Mingshi Yin said as he brought a map out.

The map was marked with dots.

“These must be the formation distribution points,” Lu Zhou said, “Give this to your Seventh Junior Brother. In order to avoid alerting the enemy, don’t attack these points first.”

“Understood.” Mingshi Yin brought the map with him as he left the Preservation Hall.

Lu Zhou still did not have a clear picture of the black lotus domain’s overall strength. If he destroyed all the points of the formation, it would definitely attract the attention of the Black Lotus Tower. If all of them came, he would be in trouble. When he was strong enough, he would destroy these distribution points. At that time, he would be able to search for life hearts. Not only for himself, but for his disciples as well.

His disciples had the Great Void Seeds in them. Based on their cultivation speed, it was only a matter of time before they reached the Thousand Realms Whirling stage. At that time, where was he going to find so many life hearts?

“Hopefully, I’ll find out something useful from Yan Zhenluo.”

Lu Zhou opened the system interface.

Merit points: 69,500

He had earned quite a lot of merit points this time.

Fortunately, he still had his enhanced Deadly Strike Card; unfortunately, the price of a Deadly Strike Card was 27,000 merit points. How expensive!

“Lucky draw.”

“Ding! Used 50 merit points. Thank you for your participation. Luck point +1.”

“Lucky draw.”

“Ding! Used 50 merit points. Luck point +1. Obtained: Synthesis Card x2.”

Following that, Lu Zhou did not continue with the lucky draw.

Instead, he thought about Yan Zhenluo’s words.

There were many differing opinions in the black lotus domain regarding their ‘captive breeding’ plan. The golden lotus was now developing rather quickly. Once a Ten-leaf cultivator appeared, the Birth Chart Beast would appear as well. At that time, the black lotus domain would definitely do to the golden lotus domain what it did to the red lotus domain.

“How do I stop it?”

After thinking for a while, Lu Zhou decided to check on the golden lotus domain.

He recited the mantra for the Heavenly Writing Power inwardly. The supreme mystic power converged in his eyes, and Ye Tianxin appeared in front of his eyes.

At this moment, Ye Tianxin was standing behind Cheng Huang.

Cheng Huang was sitting on the back of the mountain in the Evil Sky Pavilion, overlooking the mountains and the land.

Ye Tianxin who was dressed in white robes rose up into the sky. Her nine-leaf golden lotus bloomed and golden flames burned everywhere. There was a hint of green in the flames that made it look strange.

“This karmic fire is...” Lu Zhou furrowed his brows, perplexed.

The birds in the sky were instantly driven away by Ye Tianxin’s karmic fire, leaving the Evil Sky Pavilion safe and sound.

Lu Zhou cut off the Heavenly Writing Power before he recited the mantra again.

This time, his target was Zhao Yue.

In a garden in Great Yan’s Imperial palace.

Zhao Yue stood in the garden and smiled at a woman standing near the rockery. "Sister Lian Xing, how long do you plan to stay this time?"

'Lian Xing?' Lu Zhou tried to change his perspective to have a better look at the woman, but he could only see her back.

When did Zhao Yue have an older sister?

The woman said, "I won't be staying for long this time. The cultivation in the golden lotus domain can no longer be suppressed. Zhao Yue, all these years, I've been trying to suppress your cultivation base. However, there's nothing I can do about it now. Did you think about what I told you previously?"