

Dragon King 671

Chapter 671: You're Too Weak...

Bang!

A group of demon beasts that were transformed from small demon kings shot up into the sky from the sea, and they fell back into the water and created huge waves as high as dozens of meters.

Each of these demon beasts was about 1,000 meters long, making Hao Ren who stood on the golden boat which was about 90 meters long look like a small insect.

However, the power of the heavenly lightning bolts opened their hard skin and struck their demon souls.

When these demon beasts fell into the sea, it looked as if more than ten small mountains crashed into the ocean, surging up high waves.

The level 10 demon beasts hidden under the sea were elated when the broken-off heavenly lightning bolts struck them.

These level 10 demon beasts had reached the top realm and would face the Heavenly Tribulation any minute. However, due to a large number of level 10 demon beasts in the Demon Sea, they must wait for their turns since the lightning energy had to be replenished.

The cultivators on land usually didn't fly in storms for fear of triggering heavenly lightning bolts. However, the demon beasts in the Demon Sea were eager to receive heavenly lightning bolts. Even the smaller lightning bolts that wouldn't transform them were welcomed. These smaller lightning bolts could get them used to lightning bolts and prepare them for Heavenly Tribulations.

After the successful transformation, they would become small demon kings and got out of the demon beast forms. They could scare off level 10 demon beasts and venture deeper into the inner area to get enlisted by big demon kings. Also, they could occupy a small area in the outer sea to establish a small force.

Crack! A bolt of purple lightning exploded in a white flash on the sea.

About a dozen level 10 demon beasts close to the center were struck by the sufficient but not fierce lightning energy, and they began to emit demonic light, the first sign of transformation.

Snap! The demon beasts which were transformed by small demon kings fell in the sea and launched their demonic aura, hacking the nearby demon beasts into two halves including nine level 10 demon beasts which were about to transform.

The surging ocean was turned into a sea of blood instantly.

The small demon kings that were struck down by the heavenly lightning bolts wouldn't allow the level 10 demon beasts to take their advantage and reach the Transformation Realm so easily!

Two level 10 demon beasts fled swiftly with lightning energy still shimmering on their bodies.

Crack!

One small demon king attacked again, and one of the fleeing level 10 demon beasts was killed.

The last one fled faster without looking back but was shattered by another small demon king.

The level 10 demon beasts which could have transformed were all dead in the blink of an eye!

With the limited resources of the Demon Sea, brutal killings were the norm. After all, the small demon kings wouldn't allow the other demon beasts to reach the Transformation Realm so easily!

Among the tens of millions of demon beasts, only a small portion could reach level 10 from fierce battles. Then, a tiny portion of the level 10 demon beasts could pass the Heavenly Tribulations while only a few could survive until they become big demon kings!

That was the cruelty of the Demon Sea!

Standing on the golden boat, Hao Ren watched the death of more than a dozen level 10 demon beasts and was astonished by the cruelty of the small demon kings!

If not for the great speed of the purple gold hairpin and the lightning cultivation technique of the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll, he would have died here!

No wonder the other human cultivators and dragon cultivators didn't dare to venture into the Demon Sea!

"Go!" Hao Ren urged.

It was close to noon. If he didn't get out of here soon, he wouldn't get out after it turned dark!

The dual-elemental nature essences in his body were put into the golden boat, and it left a series of afterimages while it flew swiftly to the west.

Swoosh... Seeing over a dozen level 10 demon beasts being struck back into the sea, the golden shield returned to Hao Ren's side.

Since Hao Ren helped it pass the Heavenly Tribulation, it owed a favor to Hao Ren. However, for simple-minded dharma treasures, they would fight when they thought that they would win but would flee when they felt like it was dangerous.

After just passing the Heavenly Tribulation, the golden shield looked blackened like a rusted iron plate when it didn't use its powers. It probably would look like this in the future.

Hao Ren looked at it and didn't scold it for not doing its best. After all, it was good enough that it helped him, and he couldn't expect it to risk its life for him when he wasn't its owner.

"In the future battles, the golden shield can launch some sneak attacks as a helper even if it can't be counted as part of the main force..." While Hao Ren thought about this, he struck down more than a dozen small demon kings emerging from the sea with sword energies.

Staying close to Hao Ren, the golden shield shot out several golden beams, killing several small demon kings and some level 7 and level 8 demon beasts that tried to rush out.

As a supreme spiritual treasure, its spiritual senses were more powerful than Hao Ren's and could clearly see the demon beasts hidden in the sea.

While the purple gold hairpin traveled at top speed, they shot out white sword energies and golden lights.

Bang! Occasionally, a level 10 demon beast would rush out, and Hao Ren would launch hundun sword energies to summon heavenly lightning bolts, striking the demon beasts on and under the sea into the depth of the ocean.

For the small demon kings with lower realms, he attacked them with sword energies; for the demon beasts with higher realms, he attacked them with lightning bolts. Despite the great number of small demon kings, none could block Hao Ren.

Hao Ren calculated the time silently and estimated that he could fly out of the Demon Sea in two hours.

"Since you are here, you may stay here. Brother, since you've come into the Demon Sea, you'd better stay!"

A resonant voice crashed down with great power.

The nature essence in Hao Ren's body paused abruptly, and he couldn't circulate the Treasure-Controlling Scroll smoothly. Consequently, the purple gold hairpin lost its source of nature essence and slowed down abruptly.

Hum!

A huge purple net appeared in the high sky.

Hum!

The golden shield released a wave of golden light toward the huge purple net. Although it had just advanced and hadn't solidified its realm yet, it could easily defeat ordinary dharma treasures.

However, the golden light went through the purple net without any effect!

Swoosh... The golden shield flew away from the side.

"Our king is inviting you to his home. You can come with me now!" the voices sounded again.

He sounded calm and unimpressed at the fact that Hao Ren had a supreme spiritual treasure as his helper.

Hao Ren knew the newcomer was not a small demon king but a mighty figure. When the huge purple net crashed toward him, he immediately took out the realm-breaking note and shot it out.

He reacted very fast, knowing that since the golden shield's lights couldn't touch the huge purple net, it wasn't a dharma treasure but an array formation.

Bang.

The huge purple net disappeared in the high sky.

“Well...” The voice in the void sounded surprised when Hao Ren had easily broken the purple array formation.

Hao Ren now had four more realm-breaking notes in it.

Despite their ordinary looks, the realm-breaking notes were excellent in battles!

Zhen Yuan Zi, who was Penglai Island Master, had given Hao Ren new clothes and his necklace back to him when he returned to human form from the dragon form.

Hao Ren took the opportunity to check his necklace and saw a small golden token in it; it was the Penglai Immortal Token!

“This token probably isn’t a gift but something for me to bring back to the Dragon God Shrine!” Hao Ren thought.

Suddenly, Hao Ren understood why this powerful demon king tried to catch him in the outer area!

With the Penglai Immortal Token, Hao Ren could land on most of the remote celestial mountains in the Demon Sea, and the demon kings couldn’t go to these places to catch him since they had agreements with the independent cultivators.

However, in the outer area where it was only two hours away from the edge of the Demon Sea, there were no remote celestial mountains!

“If you can get out of the Demon Sea safely...”

Hao Ren remembered Zhen Yuan Zi’s words. Zhen Yuan Zi had known the journey would be dangerous, but Hao Ren had to take his chance since he didn’t want to stay in Penglai Island to avoid the dangers.

Crack... Disregarding the damage to his body, Hao Ren released the peak Qian-level power.

More than 40,000 sword energies shot out at the same time!

Faced with powerful enemies, he couldn’t conceal his strength anymore and must kill with one attack! The more he delayed, the more dangerous the situation would get!

“Come out!”

Standing on the boat, he shot 40,960 sword energies into the high sky.

The sword energies were so dense that they reflected the sunlight, giving the illusion of hundreds of thousands of sword energies.

“Hehe. Not bad.”

A young man who looked to be 19 years old appeared slowly from the void behind a golden fan.

Mid-tier Nascent Soul Realm.

Looking at him, Hao Ren felt his true realm.

Since he had reached mid-tier Nascent Soul Realm after transformation, he was a master among the small demon kings!

It must be noted that the cultivation of the demon beasts was more difficult than that of the human cultivators. They had to pass the Transformation Tribulation after cultivating from level 1 to level 10, and then they had to cultivate again. This small demon king's mid-tier Nascent Soul Realm was much more powerful.

After all, Zhen Congming had just reached Zhen-level which was equivalent to the Core Formation Realm!

"You show no appreciation to kindness! In the territory of the Demon Sea, you'll die without knowing why!" The small demon king who was standing in the void put away the golden fan and pointed it at Hao Ren.

Hao Ren was at peak Qian-level, and this small demon king was only at mid-tier Nascent Soul Realm which was equivalent to Xun-level. However, this small demon king had re-cultivated after transformation and thus cultivated twice!

A black light shot from the golden fan toward the spot between Hao Ren's eyebrows.

Hao Ren's 40,960 sword energies rushed over with the full force and lightning energy.

Hiss... Ear-piercing noises sounded, and the small demon king retreated half a step in the high sky and spread out the fan abruptly.

Bang! Two surges of powerful nature essence exploded in the air.

In the surging heat waves, Hao Ren retreated ten meters on the golden boat which almost touched the sea water.

"Hehe. Your attack is useless against me." The small demon king waved the fan, looking relaxed. "Of course, you can try attacking me with heavenly lightning bolts."

"Heaven lightning bolts..." Hao Ren touched his necklace and thought.

Suddenly, Hao Ren saw two black dots flying toward him from a distance.

Chapter 672: I Want Him Alive!

The two black dots were so fast that they covered almost 10,000 meters in the blink of an eye.

"Humph! Even the small demons who are under Gui Che ¹ want to take a share!"

With the golden fan in his hand, this small demon king looked angry, and he sounded as if Hao Ren were already his prey, untouchable to other demon kings.

Guang! When he was distracted, Hao Ren's hundun sword energies shot into the sky and summoned three heavenly lightning bolts.

The three heavenly lightning bolts struck toward the small demon king who was hovering in the sky with the golden fan and the other two demon kings who were running toward them swiftly.

“What can you do with these heavenly lightning bolts...” The first small demon king raised his gold fan casually.

This powerful small demon king had attached himself to a big demon king. With his high realm, he had been gifted many dharma treasures, and the golden fan in his hand looked to be a top-tier dharma treasure!

Having cultivated to the mid-tier Nascent Soul Realm, this small demon king was way more powerful than the low-realm small demon kings in the outer sea without dharma treasures, and that was why he showed no regard for the heavenly lightning bolts!

Swoosh... Hao Ren shot out several notes!

The arrogant small demon king raised his finger and created a green round wall.

Boo.

The note broke a huge hole in the translucent green round wall.

Hao Ren used another realm-breaking note!

The following notes traveled through the huge holes.

“Humph! Just dharma notes!” The small demon king waved his golden fan toward the heavenly lightning bolts while focusing his attention on the two demon kings who were flying toward them swiftly.

However, instead of being blown off by his fan, the notes entered his body, and he felt some blockage in the circulation of his nature essence!

Those were the last essence-locking notes that Hao Ren had with him!

Bang! Without the support of his nature essence, the dharma treasure was useless, and the heavenly lightning bolts struck him on the head, shattering him into pieces!

“Go!” Stepping on the golden boat, Hao Ren injected the metal-elemental and water-elemental nature essences into it, and it began to fly toward the west with the traveling speed of the Soul Formation Realm.

When the two small demon kings arriving at the spot of battle, they looked at each other in surprise when they saw the shattered golden fan on the sea.

“Go after him!”

Two black clouds rose beneath them while they chased after the golden boat which was emitting radiant light.

With Lady Zhen’s hairpin, they knew that this cultivator was her guest. In the past, no one would have dared to work against Lady Zhen, but the Immortal Physique would improve the realms of small demon kings in the outer sea if they ate him.

If he were captured by a big demon king of the inner sea, the latter could make an Immortal Pill with his Immortal Physique and become an eternal demon king!

This was why the few big demon kings in the Demon Sea had sent their trusted subordinates to hunt down Hao Ren at the risk of offending Lady Zhen.

If they could gain another eternal demon king under their control, it was worth it even if they displeased Lady Zhen! If that happened, they believed that she wouldn't dare to declare war on them!

Splash! Riding on the force of the waves of the Demon Sea, the golden boat flew faster.

Hao Ren had thought of flying in the high sky, but the higher he flew, the scarcer the nature essence was, and thus the slower the boat would be.

In contrast, the closer he was to the surface of the Demon Sea, the more abundant the nature essence was, and the faster the boat.

Hao Ren looked back at the two black spots and found that they had gotten even closer. After all, the Demon Sea was the demon kings' territory, and they could replenish their nature essence faster than Hao Ren, making their speed the same as that of the Soul Formation Realm!

Besides, Hao Ren's peak Qian-level realm wasn't his own strength. After a while, the realm would be locked, and he would fall back to top-tier Dui-level with damages to his body!

Bang! Bang!

Hao Ren shot out two waves of sword energies.

Chasing after him, the small two demon kings waved their arms and shattered Hao Ren's sword energies. Since their realms were higher than Hao Ren's, they were not afraid of his sword energies!

He could do nothing but flee!

"You two idiots! You can't even catch up with a peak Qian-level dragon cultivator!"

In the high sky suddenly came a huge yell.

Bang! Bang! Two lightning balls fell from the high sky and crashed onto the two small demon kings who had been chasing Hao Ren. They tumbled on the sea surface and fell into the water.

Hao Ren looked up and saw a Kun Peng blocking the sky and the ocean!

In the northern ocean, there was a fish called Kun. It was unknown how many thousand kilometers it was in size. When this Kun transformed into a bird, it got the new name, Peng. Its back was thousands of kilometers in length, and its wings covered the sky like massive clouds when it opened its wings.

Its body was as big as a giant mountain, one couldn't see the end of its wings!

"You can't flee. Stop fighting, and I won't maul your flesh!"

Boom! The Demon Sea turned pitch black under its shadow!

Big demon king!

Hao Ren felt like he was choking under the overwhelming suppression!

"Dive!" Hao Ren managed to circulate his nature essence and maneuvered the golden boat into the sea.

The ocean was full of high-level demon beasts, and Hao Ren wouldn't have entered it if he had another option.

"Hahaha... Do you think I'm afraid of water just because I'm in my bird-form?" Kun Peng crashed into the sea, exploding up a huge wave that was as high as hundreds of meters!

The level 7 and 8 demon beasts were knocked into the high sky like toys.

Kun Peng tuned into its fish-form! Its eyes were as big as hills!

Standing on the boat that was almost 100 meters long, Hao Ren felt like he was a small ant in front of it!

The 40,960 sword energies pierced through water and dashed toward one of its eyes with crackling lightning energy.

"I'll swallow you and bring you back to my big brother to make pills!"

Booming noises rose from the bottom of the sea, numbing Hao Ren's head. He almost fainted.

Kun Peng opened its mouth suddenly, and tons of seawater poured into its mouth.

Standing on the golden boat, Hao Ren was sucked in with the water currents like in a storm.

In front of this super powerful force, all attacks were futile!

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a wave of fire shone from the high sky and lit up the pitch-black ocean bottom.

"Kun Peng, how dare you kill my people!" A furious and shrill voice suppressed Kun Peng.

"Gui Che! You don't deserve the Immortal Pill. Get out of here!"

The black fish suddenly rose to the sea surface, and the surging water took Hao Ren to the surface as well and almost made him fall from the golden boat.

On the sea, a cold-looking man in a luxurious robe looked at Kun Peng that was floating on the sea, red demon flames burning on his hands.

With a sharp chin, this man looked to be in his fifties, and his eyes emitted terrifying demonic fires.

"I only killed two small demon kings, and you dare to come after me for that?" Kun Peng spat out a mouthful of seawater into the sky.

The seawater turned into burning water vapor the moment it was shot out. With the huge size of Kun Peng, this beam of water vapor had the power to destroy a city!

Hovering in the sky, the man shot out a flame from his palm and burned up the water vapor completely.

"If you're smart, get out of here before my big brother gets here!" Kun Peng waved its body and shouted.

The ocean waves surged up with huge booming noises.

“Even if I can’t have the Immortal Pill, I’ll leave a mark on you!” The man shot out a wave of flames from his palm.

The fire grew as big as a mountain while it crashed toward the sea, and its heat instantly evaporated several inches of seawater!

The golden boat immediately created an energy sphere, but it shattered beneath the heat wave.

“You tried to destroy the pill!? Gui Che, you are seeking death!” Seeing the edge of the fire sweeping toward Hao Ren, Kun Peng immediately shot out a sea wave to block the heat wave for Hao Ren. Then, it turned into its huge bird-form and spread out its super huge wings, crashing toward Gui Che.

The man was forced more than thousands of meters into the air by Kun Peng’s move.

“You’ll die if you don’t fight me with your demonic form!”

Kun Peng released a wave of vicious black light toward Gui Che.

As a big demon king close to the peak realm, he was ecstatic when Hao Ren appeared with his Immortal Physique. Kun Peng could have the chance to advance to an eternal demon king if he took the Immortal Pill which was best when it was made while the cultivator was still alive. After catching Hao Ren, he even wanted to keep Hao Ren alive for a while, so the latter could reach a higher realm before he was made into a pill.

This was why Kun Peng was furious when he saw Gui Che trying to kill Hao Ren when he couldn’t get him.

Under the suppression of Kun Peng, Gui Che finally changed into its demonic form.

Bam! A colorful nine-headed bird!

Its wings were dozens of meters long when spread out, and its eye shot out blinding light!

With a shriek, it spat out nine fire wheels.

While Kun Peng’s black light rose suddenly, the nine fire wheels lit up like nine suns and struck on the huge body of Kun Peng.

“Auch!” Kun Peng screamed, and nine neat colorful marks appeared on its dark grey back.

The nine colorful marks formed an array formation, shrinking Kun Peng’s skin and flesh. The colorful fire burned not only its flesh but its soul as well!

Bang! Bang... Huge noises appeared in this area as if a giant were stomping on the land.

As big as six mountains, a huge black bull crashed forward on the waves with horns as thick as big trees!

Wherever it stepped on, the seawater turned into iron blocks that were as big as millstones and sank into the bottom of the sea. Those clumsy level 6 and level 7 demon beasts got their heads broken by the iron blocks when they weren’t careful.

“My big brother, Taotie, wants to take this Immortal Pill. Do you have any objections?!” The giant bull crashed toward Hao Ren with booming sounds.

“I have an objection!” A crisp voice came from the distance.

With an ancient green lamp in her hand, Duan Yao appeared on the horizon while sitting on a red, three-legged bird.

Chapter 673: The Green Lotus Ancient Lamp

Hao Ren was surprised to see Duan Yao, thinking that it was dangerous for her to appear here in front of the big demon kings who were powerful when she was still weaker than him.

However, it seemed that the three-legged golden bird which she rode on wasn't an ordinary demon beast.

“Ji...” The three-legged bird that Duan Yao rode let out a shrilling-cry.

A sound wave detectable by the naked eye pierced the sea surface and created a slight ripple.

The huge black bull which had rushed to Hao Ren's side was struck by the sound wave, and its iron-like skin was cut open.

Gui Che and Kun Peng who had been fighting in the high sky saw the three-legged bird and shot out two thick demonic light beams at it together.

Ding!

The three feathers on the tail of the three-legged bird lifted slightly, and a red energy sphere engulfed it.

The two different demonic lights were all bounced back.

As a descendant of the godly bird in the ancient Kunlun Mountain, the three-legged bird couldn't change into human form but possessed great powers.

After the nature essence got thinner, many ancient beasts had moved into the Demon Sea, taking big pieces of territories for themselves.

The three-legged bird had come to the Demon Sea a long time ago. Then, it was tamed by Lady Zhen and became her guardian godly beast.

With Duan Yao coming to the battle with the three-legged bird, it meant that Lady Zhen had intervened.

Hua... Suddenly, a big group of green demonic bees swarmed toward the area.

Then, a big wave of fire clouds moved this way from the distance.

Also, a terrifying roar came from one side, frightening away the high-level demon beasts of the outer sea.

In another direction, overwhelming grey shadows swallowed the nature essence of the Demon Sea like dark clouds while moving over.

Several big demon kings in the Demon Sea had come!

Hua! Hua!

Two sea waves rose beside Duan Yao.

A beautiful woman with a snake's body appeared on Duan Yao's left, and a huge man with a horse body appeared on Duan Yao's right.

These two demon kings had wings and looked dominant.

"Hua She! Ying Zhao!"

The nine-headed bird, Gui Che, cried out in surprise as it flew in the high sky.

As the two messengers of Lady Zhen's Heaven-Facing Palace, these two demon kings rarely appeared in the outer sea. However, they were now accompanying a young girl who was riding on the three-legged bird, making everyone wonder about this girl's identity.

Besides the big demon kings, Hao Ren who stood on the golden boat was also astonished.

Only one day ago when Duan Yao left his home, she was at the Core Formation Realm. But now, she was at low-tier Nascent Soul Realm!

One day apart seemed like three years! That was how Hao Ren felt!

More importantly, the two big demon kings whose realms that Hao Ren couldn't detect stood beside Duan Yao, looking very powerful!

"My master has a message for you. If you let him go now, your lives will be spared." Standing up on the back of the three-legged bird, Duan Yao said to the three big demon kings.

The size of the three-legged bird was smaller than Little White's snow lion form and could only carry Duan Yao. Also, her petite figure made her look like a small worm when she talked to the three giants who were as big as mountains.

However, the three big demon kings looked incredulous.

"Lady Zhen had taken a young disciple!"

The Heaven Demon who could defeat these big demon kings without changing into her original form had taken a young disciple!

No one knew what Lady Zhen's original form was since all the big demon kings who had battled her were dead!

In the Demon Sea, Bai Ze, Tao Tie, Tao Wu, Teng She, and Bai Xi were all eternal demon kings. Kun Peng followed Tao Wu, but it had been waiting for a long time to become an eternal demon king due to the lack of opportunities. It was only half a step from this realm.

Including Lady Zhen, there were six eternal demon kings in the Demon Sea. Gui Che and the nine-tailed fox worked with each other and ranked in the lower end of the ten big demon kings due to their skillful techniques.

The last two on the list of top-ten were Qi Qiong and Hou; both ancient fierce beasts had separate territories. Their positions at the end of the rank didn't mean that their strengths were the weakest. They were as powerful as Gui Che and the nine-tailed fox who were a couple.

Due to Lady Zhen's unfathomable strength, her force's name was Purple Sea, and it was the No.1 Force in the Demon Sea, far more powerful than the Five-Colored Sea jointly controlled by Teng She and Bai Xi.

This was why the other eternal demon kings didn't dare to mess with Lady Zhen!

Swoosh! Standing on the back of the three-legged bird, Duan Yao came to Hao Ren's side in the blink of an eye.

She glanced at Hao Ren, but her gaze and expression were cold.

Hua She and Ying Zhao, the two big demon kings, followed and stood behind her.

"Hahaha! Will we fear a little kid?" A deep voice came with a wave of fire clouds.

A mid-aged man with fierce eyes landed on Kun Peng's wide back while a group of weird, green bees surrounded him.

These demonic bees were poisonous, and one sting could kill a level 10 demon beast instantly.

A white light traveled in the sky, and a beautiful woman in white appeared suddenly beside Gui Che, looking at Hao Ren with a smile.

With the ancient green lamp in her hand, Duan Yao repeated, "My master has a message for you. If you let him go, your lives will be spared."

"Brother Kun Peng, don't worry. I'll get the Immortal Pill for you!" The mid-aged man standing on Kun Peng waved his sleeve and said, "It seems that Lady Zhen doesn't think this young cultivator is worth her time!"

"Tao Wu! We must share it. The Immortal Physique is rare, and you can't take it all for yourself," the beautiful woman floating beside Gui Che said suddenly.

"My big brother is on its way here. Do you want to fight with my big brother for the prey?" The huge black bull shook its iron body and roared.

"Zi Tie, you don't qualify to talk to me. Even if Tao Tie is here, I'm not afraid of him!"

While he spoke, the mid-aged man shot out a red ring which broke one horn off the huge black bull and crashed off half of its head!

"Tao Wu, you hit Tao Tie's little brother. Aren't you afraid that Tao Tie will make trouble for you?" The beautiful woman said gloatingly to the mid-aged man on Kun Peng.

The mid-aged man laughed. "Little white fox, your concern is touching! How about coming home with me and becoming my queen? Your husband looks lame!"

Bang!

Gui Che's sharp claws shot out a golden fireball. Although he hadn't reached the realm of eternal demon king, he could cast nine spells at the same time and thus probably wouldn't lose to Tao Wu in a fight!

The beautiful woman in white suddenly turned into thousands of fiery red foxes, each with nine long tails.

While Tao Tie was still on the way, they began to fight fiercely!

It seemed that they felt like Hao Ren was already in the bag, and the only issue was to determine who could get him!

Hao Ren turned the golden boat to the west, but the four demon kings shot out demonic lights.

The demonic lights exploded the spot about ten meters in front of the golden boat, shattering the demon beasts in the deep ocean!

If they didn't want Hao Ren to be alive so that the pill could be more effective, this attack would have turned Hao Ren into dust!

These super powerful demon kings could even kill Soul Formation Realm cultivators easily, let alone Hao Ren who a cultivator at peak Qian-level!

The small demon kings would be exploded immediately by the demonic lights if they ventured into this area!

Shortly, all the demon beasts in this area were killed while the demon beasts within a diameter of 10,000 kilometers had fled!

While the big demon kings battled, even level 10 demon beasts couldn't survive.

They had put four to five energy spheres around Hao Ren, afraid that he would be killed by mistake in the battle, and none would get him!

Standing on the back of the three-legged bird, Duan Yao had two big demon kings protecting her on both sides. Although Hua She and Ying Zhao were not as powerful as Kun Peng, they were well-known big demon kings in the Demon Sea.

Ceng!

Duan Yao suddenly lit up the ancient green lamp.

"Hell Fire!"

The four demon kings who were fighting fiercely suddenly shouted.

"I've delivered my master's message to you. If you let him go, your lives will be spared." Duan Yao blew at the green lamp lightly.

The sparks in the green lamp floated into the high sky.

"Only take demonic souls," Duan Yao said.

The sparks in the high sky grew to limitless heavenly fire.

The four demon kings immediately turned to flee. The lamp was the ancient treasure of the Kunlun Mountain, and it was made to suppress these powerful demon beasts!

Duan Yao brought two fingers together and pointed them at Tao Wu who had fled tens of thousands of meters. The pure fire-elemental nature essence in her body burned like a candle while the green light from the green lamp grew so long that it reached Tao Wu.

Crack!

The green light cut off Tao Wu's right arm and a portion of his black demonic soul.

Gui Che and the nine-tailed fox used their techniques and changed into shadows. However, the burning of the heavenly fire forced them out. Then, two green lights struck them, and they spat out blood and dived into the depth of the ocean with the loss of hundreds of years of cultivation strength.

Kun Peng tried to flee, but Duan Yao shot out three green lights; one on its head and two on its wings. Then, one green light returned with Kun Peng's complete demonic soul!

Pu... The weak flame in the ancient green lamp brightened as if someone put more fuel in it.

"Ok. Now, I'll escort you out of the Demon Sea," Duan Yao turned to look at Hao Ren and said.

Chapter 674: Target Is a Big Demon King!

Hum! Hum... A big group of green demonic bees was hovering 1,000 meters away.

Duan Yao returned to the back of the three-legged bird and didn't speak another word to Hao Ren as if she were deep in thought or sulky.

Hao Ren drove the golden boat toward the west following the three-legged bird. After his realm dropped back to top-tier Dui-level, all kinds of nature essences ran through his meridians randomly. In this state, he probably couldn't even defeat small demon kings.

Hua She with the snake body and Ying Zhao with the horse body stayed beside Duan Yao while they traveled in the water. Duan Yan was now Lady Zhen's disciple, and her status was much higher than theirs.

Sensing the two big demon kings sweeping across the sea, the small demon kings under the sea all kept low, not daring to show their faces.

Hiss... The golden shield returned from wherever it had gone, following Hao Ren's golden boat dully.

Hao Ren glanced at it, not sure how to react to it. He guessed that it was okay since it still came back.

The golden shield hovered in front of Hao Ren as if it wanted Hao Ren to acknowledge it.

Hao Ren shot out a sword energy, and the golden shield immediately swallowed it.

After spinning two circles, it followed Hao Ren quietly.

Hao Ren had never thought to rely on the golden shield, so he didn't blame it when it refused to help.

To defeat powerful enemies, one had to rely on themselves.

“Well... The Immortal Spirit Island is ahead of us,” Duan Yao said suddenly after a long while of silence.

Hao Ren looked up, and sure enough, there was a small dot in the distance. It was the Immortal Spirit Island, signifying the border between the Demon Sea and East Ocean.

In the one hour that they flew on the vast ocean at high speed, Duan Yao had spoken only these words to Hao Ren.

“Ugh... Thanks a lot,” Hao Ren looked at Duan Yao and said.

Hao Ren had thought that he would be safe in the Demon Sea with Lady Zhen’s purple gold hairpin, not expecting the journey to be dangerous.

Standing on the three-legged bird, Duan Yao looked at Hao Ren coldly and said, “You saved me once from the golden dragons, and I returned the favor to you this time. In the future, we’ll meet as enemies.”

After a pause, she continued, “Your life... is mine.”

Looking at her, Hao Ren didn’t know how to answer her since she seemed very hostile to him.

However, since Duan Yao cultivated in the Demon Sea and he cultivated on land, they probably wouldn’t see each other even if he went to the Demon Sea again.

“You... be careful on your way back,” Hao Ren said.

The side of the Demon Sea was far from its center. Despite the protection of two big demon kings and a green lamp, it was hard to say if other big demon kings would return for revenge.

“It’s none of your business!” Pale-faced, Duan Yao shouted back at him before turning toward the direction of the center.

The green demonic bees were still hovering in the distance. Duan Yao lifted the green lamp and shot out a wave of green light, and dozens of demonic bees that even level 10 demon beasts didn’t dare to touch dropped into the sea.

A wave of green light entered the green lamp, and the flame in it grew several inches.

The rest of the demonic bees fled.

As Tao Wu’s spies, these bees were equivalent to small demon kings and could move freely in the Demon Sea. When these demonic souls were taken into the green lamp, it meant that Duan Yao had killed dozens of small demon kings with one attack.

With a cold expression, she looked moody as she flew away on the three-legged bird.

Hao Ren’s appearance had attracted several big demon kings, and the impatient ones fought with each other over Hao Ren and became enemies.

Tao Wu, the No.5 Demon King in the Demon Sea, was severely hurt this time. Not only was his demonic soul injured, but the demonic soul of Kun Peng, his little brother, had been taken away as well.

Gui Che and the nine-tailed fox whose strengths were next to Tao Wu's had also been seriously wounded. It seemed that the balance of forces which had existed in the Demons Sea for thousands of years had been broken in one day.

Zi Tie, the little brother of the No 4 Demon King Tao Tie, was beaten half dead by Tao Wu. Now that Tao Wu lost a significant portion of his demonic soul, it was a perfect chance for Tao Tie to retaliate!

Tao Wu was no match for Tao Tie, but he had some connection with Qi Qiong, the No. 7 Demon King...

The hidden waves were surging up in the Demon Sea!

Meanwhile, Lady Zhen was leaning on a luxurious lounge chair and writing small, exquisite characters on a jade slip with a little ink brush.

The big demon kings were messing with her by attacking Hao Ren.

"I'm a generous person and will not be angry with you, but you must beg for my forgiveness by each offering a sea territory of 50,000 square kilometers! Well... If you don't agree to this condition, I'll get angry and send troops." Lady Zhen touched her lips with her finger and continued writing after some consideration.

She would wait for a while before sending out the jade slips since Tao Tie and Tao Wu, the two old enemies, would surely battle each other in a couple of days. Also, other big demon kings would get involved as well.

"I'll settle accounts with them when they are done fighting..." she thought.

She raised her hand and yawned, thinking it was almost time for Duan Yao to return.

"After all, it wouldn't even take this long if she is seeing off her lover..."

Meanwhile, on the edge of the Demon Sea, Hao Ren looked at Duan Yao who was dashing away and inhaled the nature essence of the Demon Sea before flying toward the Immortal Spirit Island on the golden boat.

"Hehehe... The chance has finally come!" A shadow shot out of the Demon King.

This demon king looked like a vague shadow that was wearing a red robe, and the sharp horns on his head made him look like a small ghost.

Despite his insignificant look, he was a big demon king! Good at disguises, he had followed Hao Ren in the sea, and even Hua She, Ying Zhao, and the three-legged bird hadn't noticed him!

"Go!" Hao Ren released all his nature essence, and the golden boat dashed forward quickly.

"Hehehe..." The demon king laughed while his big shadowy hands extended indefinitely like a dharma treasure toward Hao Ren.

Hurriedly, Hao Ren shot out 640 sword energies, but they went through his palms as if the hands were shadows!

A chilling sensation got close to Hao Ren! If the hands caught him, he wouldn't be able to escape with his current realm!

This demon king had followed Hao Ren to the edge of the Demon Sea and launched the sneak attack after Duan Yao and the two big demon kings left.

"Realm-breaking note!"

Hao Ren took out three realm-breaking notes from his necklace and launched them all!

However, this demon king's body wasn't an illusion created by array formations, and Hao Ren's dharma notes were useless on him. However, the dharma notes made him pause for half a second since he thought they were dharma notes that could suppress him!

Bang!

At this critical time, the golden shield shot out a golden light from above.

Mingled with the bright energy of the supreme spiritual treasure, the golden light shot onto the ghost-like demon king with power thousands of times greater than the Sun!

White smoke rose from the demon king's shoulder, and Hao Ren flew over to the Immortal Spirit Island on the purple gold hairpin while he paused.

Crack!

Furious, the demon king shot out a black shadow, intending to kill Hao Ren instead of catching him alive!

The golden shield shot out golden lights from its edges, trying to block the black shadow.

However, the wide range of golden lights couldn't block this black shadow!

Ding!

Suddenly, a transparent energy sphere that was engraved with all kinds of complicated patterns appeared.

The black shadow turned into traces of black smoke when it touched this energy sphere.

Frustrated, the big demon king tried to grab Hao Ren, but half of his body was cut off when he crashed onto the energy sphere!

The golden shield flew out of the energy sphere to Hao Ren's side without meeting any obstacle.

With his red robe half burned, the big demon king stood on the other side of the Immortal Spirit Island and bared his chilling white teeth at Hao Ren.

The energy sphere returned to its invisible state, and the Immortal Spirit Island was surrounded by nothing but a vast ocean to the naked eye.

Hao Ren looked at the demon king and shot out a wave of sword energies which pierced the body of the demon king.

Looking furious, the demon king couldn't rush over, and he vented his rage by tearing two demon beasts that were 1,000 meters away into pieces with his ghost hands.

Hao Ren checked himself and found that he got a scratch on his back close to his shoulder. If he hadn't accelerated the purple gold hairpin, he probably would have been caught or killed.

One day, he would come back to avenge himself. Hao Ren shot another wave of sword energies toward the demon king before flying toward the distant land.

The demon kings in the Demon Sea were horrifyingly powerful. They were confined in the Demon Sea and fought with each other because a super powerful array formation engulfed the entire Demon Sea.

This array formation could block the small and big demon kings as well as level 9 and level 10 demon beasts.

The small demon kings outside of the Demon Sea had escaped when they were level 7 and 8 demon beasts and had passed the Heavenly Tribulations outside of the Demon Sea.

"What kind of big array formation could engulf the entire Demon Sea? The center of the array formation should be outside of the Demon Sea, right?" Hao Ren thought as he took out and ground a detox pill before putting it on the wound in his back. The elixir pills in his necklace had almost run out, but the round Penglai Immortal Token was still inside.

Hao Ren looked back at the vast ocean and thought of Duan Yao who now lived in the Demon Sea which was full of dangers.

When they meet again, they would be enemies.

Hao Ren shook his head slightly and accelerated the purple gold hairpin. At his current realm, he couldn't venture into the Demon Sea again until he grew much stronger!

After he practiced the Mystic Water Sword Techniques to the top level, he would be able to battle with the big demon kings!

Chapter 675: The Happy Little White...

When Hao Ren got home, Grandma and the girls were eating steaming dumplings in the living room.

"Grandma! I'm back!" Hao Ren called out.

"Bad boy! You went out early morning and came back at this late hour!" Grandma pointed at the kitchen with a long face. "Go and get yourself a bowl of dumplings!"

"Ok!" Hao Ren heaved a sigh of relief, thinking he was lucky that he could return. Otherwise, Grandma would never see her beloved grandson again.

"Why is there a tear in your clothes?" Seeing the tear in his shirt on the shoulder, Grandma looked concerned and asked.

"I slipped and fell; the road is too slippery," Hao Ren said.

“You’re too careless!” Grandma walked over immediately and checked Hao Ren’s shoulder. She only relaxed when she saw no wound beneath the tear.

Zhao Yanzi and Xie Yujia looked at Hao Ren, wondering where he had been. If they knew Hao Ren had ventured into the center of the Demon Sea, they would be astonished.

“Where are my mom and dad?” Hao Ren asked.

“Your dad went out immediately after eating the dumplings. Your mom went to the meteorological station to see the data or something,” Grandma said.

With only the Lu sisters, Zhao Yanzi, and Xie Yujia keeping Grandma company, it was quieter than yesterday.

It began to drizzle, and Hao Ren saw a pale rainbow-like light outside of the small garden of the house. He thought it was the array formation built by Zhen Congming.

“Where’s Congming?” Hao Ren asked Grandma.

“Little Xue’s family returned from their trip, and they picked up Congming in the morning to take him to the amusement park,” Grandma said.

It seemed that Zhen Congming was doing well in his love life.

Hao Ren filled a bowl with dumplings, still feeling unsettled when he thought about his experience in the Demon Sea.

Rumble... Little White devoured the dumplings with meat filling from a china bowl at Hao Ren’s feet.

The lazy and food-loving Little White lived a comfortable life with Hao Ren on land. If it lived in the Demon Sea, it would have died hundreds of times with its weak strength.

“Ruff! Ruff!”

After devouring ten dumplings, Little White raised its head and barked at Grandma. It didn’t like the usual food but seemed to like the newly-made dumplings with meat filling.

“Little White’s appetite has grown!” Grandma moved the last six dumplings in her bowl into Little White’s pan.

“Bad dog!” Seeing Little White’s shameless look with its tongue sticking out, Hao Ren patted it on the head.

“I risked my life in the Demon Sea, and you stayed home enjoying the comforts,” he thought.

Little White looked at Hao Ren with innocent eyes as if it were saying, “What? Can’t I eat a bit more than usual?”

“Linlin, Lili, do you still have the rice paper and ink brush left from last time?” Hao Ren asked.

“We do! Gongzi!” Lu Linlin and Lu Lili jumped up and took out everything from the drawers below the TV.

“Hehe! Ren, have you begun practicing calligraphy?” Grandma asked while helping the Lu sisters spread the rice paper.

“I’m doing it for fun...” Hao Ren said. Tomorrow would be the first activity hosted by the Calligraphy Club, and it would be a good chance for the dragon cultivators to bond with each other. However, he wondered if Xu Ke would come and make trouble.

Xie Yujia brought over a glass of water to soak the ink brush.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili ground the ink for Hao Ren, and the black ink began to accumulate on the inkstone quickly.

“Grandma, you say the words, and I’ll write them,” Hao Ren said to Grandma.

“Well...” Grandma’s face wrinkled with a smile. “Then, I’ll say something simple. ‘The bright sun is setting behind the mountain; the yellow river is running into the ocean. If you want to see one thousand miles further, you need to climb one story higher.’ Ren, I want you to get better and better.”

Hao Ren remembered that this was the first Tang Dynasty poem which Grandma taught him. Having just fled from the Demon Sea full of demon beasts, he felt like his morale was boosted after hearing this poem.

The ink flowed from the tip of the ink brush, and the neatly styled characters appeared on the paper.

“Ren, your calligraphy is quite good!” Grandma said happily when she saw the characters.

“This is just a warm-up; I’ll do them properly in a minute.” With a smile, Hao Ren stared at the white rice paper, writing the characters on his mind. Then, focusing his attention on the ink brush, he wrote down the characters smoothly.

Hao Ren used the Mystic Water Sword Techniques when he was writing, and each of the 20 characters was elegant. As a whole, they looked grave.

[Hao Ren]

He signed his name, and the two characters were elegant. After the name, he wrote the date with ‘mid-autumn’ behind them.

Looking at the poem, Grandma was amazed. Ink brush writing was difficult since the pen was soft. However, Hao Ren’s wrist moved with such skill as if he had complete control of each ink drop on the Xuan paper.

The 20 characters were impressive.

“Excellent!” Staring at the paper for a few seconds, Grandma finally found her voice.

She was surprised that her grandson was so skilled in calligraphy.

“Gongzi, this is wonderful!” Lu Linlin and Lu Lili said immediately.

Studying the characters, Xie Yujia felt like each of them was perfect; neither too full nor too thin. She felt like the characters formed a picture together.

Zhao Yanzi looked at the rice paper and then at Hao Ren, wondering how Hao Ren could write such awesome calligraphies.

In fact, Hao Ren had used the Mystic Water Sword Techniques in his writing, in which each stroke of the characters contained sword spirits, full of ambitious aspirations.

The elegant sword spirits in the characters were obvious even to the people who didn't understand calligraphy.

"Well..." Hao Ren exhaled. "I still have an errand to run. Linlin, Lili, frame the writings, and I'll take it to school."

"Ok, Gongzi!" Lu Linlin and Lu Lili puffed their pink cheeks and blew at the rice paper before rolling it up carefully. "We'll frame it for you."

"You're going out again? You must spend some time with the girls," Grandma complained when she saw that Hao Ren was about to leave.

Hao Ren smiled and said, "Tomorrow, the school has a club event. Grandma, come and visit with Mom and Dad."

"Ok. Are you a member of the club, Ren?" Grandma asked.

"It's the Calligraphy Club that I created, Grandma," Hao Ren answered.

"Ren, you established a club! Is the club something like an interest group?" Grandma asked happily.

"Yeah, like that," Hao Ren smiled. Since they were all going to school tomorrow, Grandma would be left at home alone. It would be better if she went to school and saw the event.

"An interest group. Then, there won't be a lot of people. Good, I'll take the opportunity to visit Little Su," Grandma said. She had never been to Hao Ren's school and missed Su Han as well.

Seeing Grandma in high spirit, Hao Ren gave a kick to Little White who had been hiding under the table.

Now that he had delivered the elixir pills to Penglai Island, he wanted to trade the contribution points for things in the Dragon God Shrine and get some rest.

After his narrow escape from the Demon Sea, he hoped that he could trade for some good stuff that would make his dangerous adventure worthwhile.

Little White rolled out from under the table and trotted to the door with Hao Ren.

Bang! After walking a few steps, Hao Ren created an array formation, and Little White changed into its snow lion form.

He thought it would be better not to use the purple gold hairpin to travel to the Dragon God Shrine. Besides, he wanted Little White to get some exercise since the latter was getting lazy.

After reaching level 4, Little White had grown bigger, and its speed was faster. Hao Ren hit its rump with a sword energy, urging it to fly faster.

"Wu..." Little White grumbled, sounding like its feeling got hurt.

“Don’t fake it! You’re a level 4 demon beast now, but you’re still so lazy! Here, I got you a gift.” Hao Ren bumped its head with a fist. Then, when it began to fly earnestly, he took out a red bead from his necklace.

The fist-sized bead looked like a crystal ball with dark red light and intense demonic essence!

It was the demonic core of a level 10 demon beast!

In the narrow escape from the Demon Sea, Hao Ren was not without any rewards. When the big demon kings fought with each other, they had killed many level 10 demons, and Hao Ren had collected several demonic cores that floated on the sea!

These were the demonic cores of level 10 demon beasts and thus were beneath the notice of the big demon kings. However, to ordinary cultivators, they were super precious materials!

Hao Ren felt pity that he didn’t have the chance to collect the demonic cores of the small demon kings who had died in the battles.

When that small demon king with the golden fan got killed by Hao Ren’s realm-breaking note and the lightning bolts, the demonic core had fallen into the sea. If Hao Ren had been quick, he could have picked it up with his sword energies. However, with another two small demon kings chasing after him, Hao Ren didn’t have the time to collect this demonic core, leaving this precious core to the level 10 demon beasts under the sea. Of course, they must have fought for it fiercely.

However, when the four big demon kings fought in the high sky, Hao Ren had taken the opportunity to collect six demonic cores!

A demonic core of a level 10 demon beast could sell for at least 100,000 spirit stones in the black markets on Fifth Heaven!

Hao Ren had collected six of them!

Due to his dangerous situation, Hao Ren had only picked up the demonic cores of the dead demon beasts near the golden boat. In fact, at least hundreds of level 10 demon beasts were killed!

When Little White saw this demonic core, its eyes lit up.

Chapter 676: Selecting Treasures

The demon beasts’ cultivation method was unique since they could swallow the demonic cores of other demon beasts to strengthen themselves. However, some evil cultivators also improved their realms by swallowing others’ nascent soul while ordinary cultivators usually refined other cultivators’ nascent soul before using it.

For the demon beasts, swallowing demonic core was the most common way to increase their realm.

“Ruff... Ruff...” Little White played cute most of the time. Since it was still a demon beast, that was why it looked so eager when it saw the demonic core with intense demonic essence.

Xie Yujia had regularly fed it elixir pills, but Little White had to convert the nature essence into demonic essence, so its demonic essence growth was slow. However, this demonic core in Hao Ren's hand contained a level 10 demon beast's life-time demonic essence! Little White would become very powerful if it absorbed only one-third of the energy contained in the core!

The most precious thing in the demon beasts were the demonic cores that were containing demonic essence. Then, it was the demon souls that could improve the quality of dharma treasures. Lastly, it was the bones and skin which could be made into dharma treasures.

Hao Ren didn't have the techniques and treasures to absorb demon souls, but he had collected six bead-shaped demonic cores.

If Little White hadn't come out with Hao Ren, it would have been still rolling in the mud in the Lion Cave and probably could never reach level 2 in its lifetime.

"Be good, and this is yours," Hao Ren said.

These demonic cores were not very useful to him. He could give them to Xie Yujia to make elixir pills, but she usually used spiritual herbs and probably didn't dare to use the demonic cores from demon beasts.

He could also sell them on Fifth Heaven for lots of spirit stones, but they were meaningless to him. If he traded them for other stuff, there was nothing that he liked on Fifth Heaven and Sixth Heaven. Besides, he could trade for things with elixir pills in the name of Herb King Master of Ethereal Summit.

Seventh Heaven might have some good stuff, but Hao Ren didn't want to deal with the more powerful sects there and thus wouldn't reveal the level 10 demonic cores to them.

The demonic cores of level 10 demon beasts were tempting even to the sects on Seventh Heaven. After all, even Soul Formation Realm cultivators didn't dare to venture into the Demon Sea, and there were no level 10 demon beasts outside of the Demon Sea. Even if there were, who could kill them?

"Ruff! Ruff... Little White swayed its body, and its long tail almost touched Hao Ren who was sitting on its back. It was impatient when it saw the big demonic core in Hao Ren's hand but couldn't reach it.

"I got it for you at the risk of my life. You must be obedient, ok?" Hao Ren lifted the demonic core and asked.

"Ruff!"

Little White knew what Hao Ren meant and nodded enthusiastically.

Hao Ren lowered the demonic core and placed it near Little White's mouth.

Little White was a Bin-level demon beast with both ice-elemental and fire-elemental attributes. The demonic core must have belonged to a Jia-level demon beast since it had cultivated to level 10 in the Demon Sea.

The ice-cold red demonic core contained a trace of fire elements, so it could help Little White a lot.

Gulp!

Little White opened its mouth wide and devoured the demonic core, so eager that it almost ate Hao Ren's hand.

While Little White swallowed the demonic core, a thought occurred to Hao Ren, "Level 10 demon beasts are close to the Transformation Realm, but a Bin-level demon beast's top level is only about level 6. Little White might transform into a human after eating this demonic core..."

Grumble... With a noise coming from its belly, Little White shook its tail and continued to fly with no sign of discomfort.

It seemed that this demonic core's elemental attribute suited Little White, but Little White would need time to absorb the demonic essence.

If that level 10 demon beast was still alive and fought with Little White for the demonic core, Little White would have exploded if it swallowed that level 10 demonic core when it was only a level 4 demon beast. However, since that demon beast was dead, and its demonic soul was destroyed, Little White just took the demonic core as a big elixir pill, and it could absorb the demonic core little by little.

"Hu..." After eating the demonic core, Little White flew faster than before. Since the demonic core's power wasn't in effect yet, Little White's acceleration showed that it hadn't tried its best at flying.

"Bad dog..." Hao Ren pulled at its ear.

Little White and the golden shield were a perfect pair since they were both lazy.

When they got close to Kunlun Mountain, Hao Ren detoured. Although Kunlun Mountain was not as big as the Demon Sea, the Soul Formation Realm cultivators in there were tough to deal with.

After flying for a long distance, Hao Ren took out the inspector's token to pass the array formation before arriving at the gate of the Dragon God Shrine.

The black Dragon God Shrine looked the same as before. After leaving Little White at the gate, Hao Ren walked into the Dragon God Shrine.

With his level 3 inspector's token, he was greeted by the level 1 and level 2 inspectors on the way.

In the Inspector System of the Dragon God Shrine, the relationship between the different level inspectors was very formal.

Entering the small room in the grand hall, Hao Ren saw a level 2 inspector looking through the mission booklet. When he saw Hao Ren's level 3 inspector token, he backed away respectfully.

"Elder, I'm here to report the completion of my mission." Hao Ren placed the Penglai Immortal Token on the table and said politely, "I've delivered the object to Penglai Island successfully."

"Oh?" Elder Luo who had been making a list looked up in surprise and picked up the round golden token from the table before staring at it for a while.

"You didn't disappoint us. Now, I'll put 600 contribution points under your name." Elder Luo took out the name list and wrote 600 under Hao Ren's name.

"Then... Can I go trade for something?" Hao Ren asked.

The golden shield had had its eye on some objects in the warehouse of the Dragon God Shrine. Hao Ren had come here in a hurry since he was afraid that other inspectors would take them.

“Of course.” Elder Luo stood up with a smile and led Hao Ren into the underground warehouse.

Each of the treasures had its price written in contribution points below.

“You can register the things that you choose when you’re done.” Elder Luo bowed to Hao Ren slightly and walked out of the warehouse.

In fact, Hao Ren didn’t want Elder Luo to walk with him. After Elder Luo was gone, he released the golden shield from his necklace and said, “Little shield, it’s all you!”

In theory, all these treasures could be taken and hidden in his necklace, but the Dragon God Shrine had its ways to make sure that the treasures couldn’t be stolen.

Any of the treasures here would make the low-level cultivators green with envy, and that was why so many young cultivators attended the general exams of the Dragon God Shrine, hoping to become an inspector.

The golden shield flew from Hao Ren’s hand and began to sweep across the shelves.

Ignoring the rare elixir pills and dharma treasures, it turned to one corner and hovered above a white cloth.

The white cloth was on the lowest shelf. If not for the price tag of 60 below it, Hao Ren would have thought it was a rag for cleaning the shelves.

Everything in the warehouse was expensive since they generally cost above 100 contribution points. However, each mission usually was worth 40 to 50 contribution points, and only those dangerous missions were rewarded with 80 to 90 contribution points.

In short, it was quite difficult to trade for one treasure with only one mission. Only after completing two to three missions could an inspector choose a powerful dharma treasure or a special cultivation technique.

The white cloth looked like it didn’t have any nature essence, and no one knew its functions. That was why no sane inspector would trade this object with the contribution points they earned at the risk of their lives. After all, 60 contribution points wasn’t a low price.

“Little shield, are you sure?” Hao Ren asked it.

It was hard to tell if the golden shield understood Hao Ren’s words, but it hovered above the white cloth.

Hao Ren trusted the judgment of the golden shield which had elevated to a higher level and was quite sensitive to spirit properties.

After Hao Ren took the white cloth, the golden shield floated away in satisfaction toward a shelf in the front.

This time, it stopped before an old, used glove. Without hesitation, Hao Ren took it as well. This glove cost 80 contribution points. Even though it cost a lot, and even the appraisers of the Dragon God Shrine couldn't determine its functionality, it must be unique in some way since these rare and unidentifiable items must have been dug out from some ancient ruins and tombs by inspectors.

One old rag and a broken glove had cost Hao Ren 140 contribution points. The golden shield spun around to continue its search, but Hao Ren ignored it and walked directly to a shelf that he had noticed the last time, picking up a red jade thumb ring which cost 450 contribution points.

The objects on this shelf were all radiant with abundant nature essence, and each of them cost more than 400 contribution points.

In the warehouse, several other inspectors were selecting treasures, and some of them were level 4 inspectors.

They looked surprised when they saw Hao Ren picking up the red jade thumb ring which cost 450 contribution points. Hao Ren was only a young man with a realm of top-tier Dui-level, but he had accumulated over 400 contribution points!

They didn't know that Hao Ren had earned 600 contribution points with one mission! It was extremely dangerous to deliver things to the Demon Sea, and few people could accomplish it. That was why the reward was so high!

Spinning fast in front of Hao Ren and releasing layers of golden light, the golden shield seemed to be asking Hao Ren to choose some other objects.

However, Hao Ren wasn't too greedy. The golden shield had had its eyes on a blue elixir pill and a piece of black mineral which were probably very valuable, but Hao Ren had no use for them right now.

After taking the red jade thumb ring, the white cloth, and the broken glove, he had only 10 contribution points left. Since he couldn't take anything else, Hao Ren walked out of the warehouse.

Then, the golden shield followed Hao Ren out of the warehouse.

The other inspectors looked astonished when they saw that the ugly round disk was a supreme spiritual treasure!

"That guy is Hao Ren. He is the East Ocean cultivator who defeated the official inspector Qin Shaoyang in this year's general exams."

"His realm grew so fast! He's indeed a genius!"

Oblivious to their talks, Hao Ren walked out and showed the objects to Elder Luo for registration.

He had spent almost all of the 600 contribution points in one go. If he wanted to make use of the remaining 10 contribution points, he would have to take on more missions, but he didn't have time right now.

"Please wait a minute!" When Hao Ren put away the things and was about to leave the small room, Elder Luo called out hurriedly, "The Shrine Master wants to see you."

Chapter 677: People Have Different Ambitions

“The Shrine Master?”

Hao Ren stopped and looked back at Elder Luo in surprise.

“Inspector Hao, please follow me.” Elder Luo stood up and led Hao Ren out of the small room.

The Shrine Master and Deputy Shrine Masters’ cultivation rooms were on the top floor of the Dragon God Shrine, higher than the rooms of the level 4 inspectors.

As a level 3 inspector, Hao Ren wasn’t supposed to enter the area for the level 4 inspectors, but he met no obstacles with Elder Luo leading the way

As an administrator responsible for the registration, Elder Luo had been a senior member in the Dragon God Shrine ever since the establishment of the organization, which was why he could move in the place freely.

The higher they went, the more abundant the nature essence was.

Having returned from Demon Sea, Hao Ren wasn’t astonished at the great nature essence intensity.

It was extraordinary that the nature essence intensity on the top floor of the Dragon God Shrine was almost half of that of the inner area of the Demon Sea. The nature essence intensity was much more abundant than Sixth Heaven, and no other place on land had the same amount of nature essence as this place.

Elder Luo ushered Hao Ren to the entrance of the top floor and backed out deferentially, asking Hao Ren to go in by himself.

“Thank you, Elder.” Hao Ren watched Elder Luo walk down the stairs before turning and walking down the corridor.

Built with black rocks, the Dragon God Shrine looked very grave. Walking in it, he saw no light from outside, which meant that no nature essence could leak out. It was like a huge cave with many cave rooms.

Hao Ren walked straight to the big stone door furthest to him. Counting the rooms on both sides, he found that there were nine of them which should belong to the nine deputy shrine masters.

Hao Ren placed his token into the dent in front of the stone door, and it opened automatically.

In the big dim room, there were nine armchairs set on both sides, and nine cultivators sat in them. Yue Zilong sat in the third chair on the right, wearing a black robe with a lively five-clawed golden dragon embroidered on the shoulder.

Hao Ren had never met the remaining eight cultivators before and couldn’t sense their realms or even their elemental attributes.

Among the nine deputy shrine masters of the Dragon God Shrine, it's said that three had reached the pinnacle stage of the Qian Level and Hao Ren thought the remaining six must have been at the top-grade of the Qian Level.

On both sides of the room, six bright pearls emitted white light.

Before the stone wall at the back of the room sat a man with a broad back. Instead of facing Hao Ren, he faced the black and cold stone wall.

On the stone wall were two characters, 'Heaven' and 'Earth'. The characters were so magnificent that Hao Ren felt moved when he looked at them.

"You...are Hao Ren?" the man facing the stone wall said abruptly.

"Yes," Hao Ren answered as he stood in the middle of the secret chamber.

With the dim light from the bright pearls inlaid in the walls, the nine deputy shrine masters were in the shadows. Vaguely, Hao Ren recognized Yue Zilong, but he couldn't clearly see the faces of the other deputy shrine masters except for their different shadows.

"You can keep this Penglai Immortal Token." A golden round token rose from the Shrine Master and floated toward Hao Ren.

Hao Ren took the golden token and placed it into his necklace.

The nine deputy shrine masters in the secret chamber looked at Hao Ren in a new light. Yue Zilong was especially surprised that Hao Ren could return from his trip to the Demon Sea within half a day.

He knew Hao Ren had connections with Lady Zhen, but there were other big demon kings in the Demon Sea besides her, and they probably wouldn't spare Hao Ren for her, which made Hao Ren's trip into the Demon Sea very risky since he was only at Dui-level.

If no inspector took this mission, one of the deputy shrine masters or the Shrine Master would have to make the trip personally, but they would feel shameful in front of Zhen Yuan Zi ¹.

As an inspector, Hao Ren had won respect for the Dragon God Shrine by venturing into the Demon Sea and delivering the elixir pills to Zhen Yuan Zi, showing that despite the dangers in the Demon Sea, the Dragon God Shrine still could send people in there and back safely.

"Did the Penglai Island Master let you go easily?" The Shrine Master asked again.

"He set up a Seven Killing Array, and I broke it with luck," Hao Ren said.

Hearing Hao Ren's words, the nine deputy shrine masters who were sitting in the armchairs shook slightly.

They knew the eccentric temperament of Zhen Yuan Zi who would test the strength of the inspector from the Dragon God Shrine, but they were astonished that he used the most powerful Seven Killing Array.

More amazingly, Hao Ren had broken the array formation!

“Very good. Very good...” The Shrine Master nodded with satisfaction while facing the wall.

By delivering the elixir pills, Hao Ren had gone into the Penglai Island in the Demon Sea as an envoy. The more powerful Hao Ren was, the higher Zhen Yuan Zi thought of the Dragon God Shrine.

It showed that the Dragon God Shrine was full of masters since a Dui-level cultivator could venture into the Demon Sea!

Of course, these deputy shrine masters thought Hao Ren had returned immediately from his mission, not knowing that he had attracted the attention of the big demon kings under the sea and almost caused a war among them!

“Since you accomplished this impossible mission, you are qualified for rewards. Besides the contribution points, you will get a promotion from a level 3 inspector to a level 4 inspector,” the Shrine Master continued.

The nine deputy shrine masters were a bit surprised. After all, Hao Ren had become a level 3 inspector directly after the general exams. Then, in less than two months, he was promoted to a level 4 inspector. It was a rocket-fast promotion!

In the history of the Dragon God Shrine, only Su Han had the fastest promotions. When Su Han entered, she was already a Kun-level cultivator. Then, she had quickly become a Qian-level master. She hadn’t been punished for any mistakes except the war between East Ocean and the West Ocean.

Now that Hao Ren had become a level 4 inspector, he was one level higher than Su Han, becoming her boss instead of her assistant.

“Zilong, do you guys have any objections?” the Shrine Master asked.

“Hao Ren is the first inspector who could venture into the inner area of the Demon Sea and return safely. With his courage and intelligence, he is qualified to be a level 4 inspector,” Yue Zilong said.

The other deputy shrine masters didn’t have any objections either.

Since the Shrine Master wanted to keep Hao Ren close, and they could even give him a couple of powerful treasures, let alone promoting him to a level 4 inspector.

“Since you have no objections, change his token, Zilong,” the Shrine Master said.

Yue Zilong raised his hand slightly, and the black token in Hao Ren’s hand was taken suddenly before a new token appeared in his hand in the next instant. This new black token had a golden edge and a four-clawed gold dragon engraved on it.

The promotion to level 4 usually required the approval of the Shrine Master and all nine deputy shrine masters after the candidate passed strength tests. However, Hao Ren’s promotion was proposed by the Shrine Master and approved by the nine deputy shrine masters instantly, making it the quickest promotion in the history of the organization.

Before he could react, Hao Ren had suddenly become one of the level 4 inspectors and the only level 4 inspector who was lower than Qian-level or Kun-level.

“You guys are free to go, and I want to talk to him in private,” the Shrine Master facing the wall said suddenly.

The nine deputy shrine masters all stood up and walked past Hao Ren out of the secret chamber.

Hao Ren couldn't feel any nature energy from them, showing that the nine deputy shrine masters' stealth techniques had reached a great level!

With their strengths and the aids of dharma treasures, they could sweep across the Demon Sea without being noticed by the demon beasts and the demon kings.

The stone door closed slowly, leaving Hao Ren and the Shrine Master alone in the room.

Thinking that the Shrine Master would turn around, Hao Ren was expecting to have a look at his face.

However, the Shrine Master still kept his face toward the stone wall, only releasing waves of nature essence.

“I see you have the Immortal Physique; your cultivation speed must be very fast. Did Zhen Yuan Zi ask you to be his disciple?” the Shrine Master asked.

“He did. But after I broke his Seven Killing Array Formation, he didn't mention it again,” Hao Ren answered.

“Zhen Yuan Zi is the leader of all Earthly Immortals, and his Immortal Fruit can increase one's cultivation strength by 1,000 years. If you want to progress fast, I'm willing to take you as my disciple,” the Shrine Master said.

Hao Ren looked at the Shrine Master's back and hesitated.

Governing the Dragon God Shrine, the Shrine Master was almost the overlord of the Dragon Tribe. If Hao Ren became the Shrine Master's disciple, he would almost become the second most powerful person in the Dragon Tribe.

“Thank you for your kindness, Shrine Master. However, I can't accept,” Hao Ren said after some consideration.

If he became the disciple of the Shrine Master, he might be able to take whatever treasures he wanted from the warehouse of the Dragon God Shrine, and the nine deputy shrine masters would try their best to tutor him in cultivation. However, Hao Ren didn't want to get too close to the Dragon God Shrine.

He still felt like he was a member of the East Ocean Dragon Clan.

“People have different ambitions... I won't ask you again,” the Shrine Master said mildly.

After a few seconds of silence, he saw that Hao Ren was still standing in the secret chamber and said, “If you have nothing else to say, you are free to go.”

“I'm afraid I have one thing...” Hao Ren said.

“Speak.”

“When will the Dragon God Shrine return the item that it borrowed from the East Ocean Dragon Clan?” Hao Ren asked.

Facing the stone wall, the Shrine Master inhaled deeply, and the nature essence released from his body suddenly increased.

Hao Ren stood steadily on the floor. Now that the nine deputy shrine masters had left, and he faced the leader of the Dragon God Shrine directly, he asked the question that he had been holding inside for a long time.

“There are two things in the world that you can believe, and they are strength and rules.” The Shrine Master lifted one hand. “Which do you believe in?”

Chapter 678: Level 4 Inspector!

“I believe in rules,” Hao Ren answered.

“In this world, rules are made by powerful people.” The Shrine Master released a wave of pressure from his palm.

The force hit the stone wall and bounced back onto Hao Ren who was standing in the middle of the secret chamber.

Hao Ren was sent flying backward for five meters before he crashed heavily on the closed stone door.

“I’ll give you a chance. When you are sure that you can block 20 strikes from me, I’ll give you that thing back.”

The Shrine Master said coldly toward the stone wall.

“Ok.” Hao Ren regained his balance and brushed the dust off his clothes.

“The level 4 inspector’s robe has been delivered to your room. I see your meridians are injured, and you need to heal,” the Shrine Master continued.

Hao Ren touched his chest and found that his meridians that had been damaged due to his forced use of Zhao Haoran’s peak Qian-level in the Demon Sea had returned to their original state.

Hum!

The stone door opened suddenly, and Hao Ren was tossed out instantly.

The dominant force sent him flying along the long corridor and to the side of the spiral staircase.

“20 strikes...” Hao Ren clenched his fists and thought.

Although the Shrine Master didn’t injure him, he insulted Hao Ren by tossing him out of the room.

A white misty energy sphere suddenly rose around the entrance of the top floor. Hao Ren reached out to touch it and immediately withdrew his hand when he felt stinging lightning bolts enter his body.

The inspectors in the Dragon God Shrine rarely saw the deputy shrine masters and never entered the secret chamber where the Shrine Master cultivated.

In fact, it was the first time that the Shrine Master had summoned an inspector and made an agreement.

Which inspector dared to fight with the Dragon God Shrine Master?!

Hao Ren wasn't afraid!

After all, 20 strikes would only take a short while during battle!

Hao Ren cleaned and straightened his clothes and walked downstairs.

Below the top floor was the cultivation area for the level 4 inspectors. The nature essence intensity there was almost as abundant as that in Ethereal Summit on Fifth Heaven.

The floor below was the prison with thin nature essence, and all kinds of criminals were locked in there.

Further down was the cultivation area of level 3 inspectors and the stations for regional inspectors.

Hao Ren walked to the room that he shared with Su Han and saw three silk robes including black, red and blue hanging at the stone door.

The robes had four-clawed golden dragons embroidered on the shoulders, which signaled that the wearer was a level 4 inspector.

Hao Ren picked up the robes, opened the stone door with his token, and saw Su Han cultivating on the white jade bed.

Su Han turned her head, startled by Hao Ren's sudden arrival.

When she saw the level 4 token at Hao Ren's waist and the three robes in his hands, she looked surprised.

However, Su Han was cold and didn't ask him anything.

Hao Ren looked at Su Han on the jade bed through the square door and vaguely saw her skin beneath her thin robe.

"Go!" Su Han frowned, and her longsword on the side of the bed stabbed at Hao Ren suddenly.

Hao Ren immediately blocked it with his palms in which the lightning energy formed a hard sphere, but he was still forced back three steps by Su Han's longsword.

When he regained his balance, Su Han had already put on a black robe.

Su Han got down to the ground from the jade bed and summoned the longsword back to her hand.

"The top-tier Dui-level..." Su Han said after looking at Hao Ren while emphasizing each word.

"I was lucky," Hao Ren said shamelessly.

"Good. Now you are qualified to enter the Nine Dragon Palace with me." Su Han looked calm, but she was secretly relieved. Now that Hao Ren had reached top-tier Dui-level, she didn't have to use the essence transfer technique that Lady Zhen had given her.

Su Han's gaze rested on Hao Ren's level 4 token as she asked, "Which one of us is the boss?"

"You are. You are," Hao Ren answered immediately.

"Ok..." Su Han nodded with satisfaction.

She was displeased that Hao Ren had been promoted to level 4 while she remained a level 3 inspector. However, Hao Ren still listened to her.

"I'll leave the robes here; I have to head back to deal with some business." After handing the three robes to Su Han, Hao Ren said hurriedly.

"Ok..." Su Han nodded coldly. When Hao Ren walked out of the stone door, she suddenly realized that he had wanted her to hang the robes for him.

Su Han gritted her teeth and walked into the inner chamber before putting Hao Ren's three silk robes into the wardrobe.

She had appointed Hao Ren as her assisting inspector, but he had now been promoted to a higher position than her. This brought some dissatisfaction to her.

Meanwhile, Hao Ren had dashed down the stairs swiftly back to the hall on the ground floor.

The level 1 inspectors who had been cultivating in the hall were astonished when they saw Hao Ren's level 4 token.

Several low-level inspectors saw his token and immediately stood aside to give way to him.

Hao Ren had arrived a while ago as a level 3 inspector, but now he had been promoted to a level 4 inspector!

Although there was only one level between level 3 and level 4, it was quite difficult to get the elevation!

The Dragon God Shrine were quite picky with the selection of inspectors and had tight control of the number of inspectors. From the dragon cultivators all over the world, it only selected hundreds of inspectors in which only about 100 were level 3 inspectors. In addition, there were only about a dozen level 4 inspectors!

One could reach level 3 by accumulating contribution points, but the promotion to level 4 must be proposed by one deputy shrine master and be agreed by the other eight deputy shrine masters and the Shrine Master.

Since the Shrine Master rarely showed his face, not even at the annual general exams, level 4 inspectors were in the top of the pyramid in many low-level inspector's minds.

Hao Ren hurried toward the gate, oblivious to the envy in the eyes of the low-level inspectors.

The golden shield went out from Hao Ren's necklace and sucked in some of the abundant nature essences in the Dragon God Shrine. However, it didn't dare to suck too much, knowing that they were in a unique place.

"Is that a supreme spiritual treasure..."

“Yeah... I guess...”

Seeing the small black shield following Hao Ren, the low-level inspectors asked each other in surprise.

Although they were older than Hao Ren and joined the Dragon God Shrine earlier than him, they had never seen a supreme spiritual treasure which could move freely like spirit beasts!

“This Hao Ren is not only a level 4 inspector but has his own supreme spiritual treasure as well!” they thought to themselves.

Comparing themselves with Hao Ren, the cultivators who had been proud of being official inspectors of the Dragon God Shrine felt ashamed!

They probably would never become level 4 inspectors or possess a supreme spiritual treasure all their lives!

“Well... It’s you?”

Hao Ren was about to walk out of the Dragon God Shrine when Qin Shaoyang walked in with a fiery red coat.

Hao Ren was surprised to see Qin Shaoyang, but he ignored him and walked to the gate with a cold snort.

“Humph!” Qin Shaoyang snorted with a louder voice and reached his right hand toward Hao Ren.

He had come to the Dragon God Shrine to do his routine report and was surprised to encounter Hao Ren. If he hadn’t lost to Hao Ren in the Dragon God Shrine’s general exam, he wouldn’t have been sent to such a remote place to be a regional inspector!

Now seeing Hao Ren, Qin Shaoyang wouldn’t let him go easily, especially when he saw that Su Han wasn’t with Hao Ren!

Bang!

Hao Ren punched on Qin Shaoyang’s arm heavily.

He was still displeased that the Dragon God Shrine Master had tossed him out of the door, and he encountered Qin Shaoyang.

“Dui-level... top-tier?!”

Qin Shaoyang widened his eyes, astonished that Hao Ren had elevated from Zhen-level to top-tier Dui-level in the short period since they last met!

When he saw the golden token with the four-clawed golden dragon hanging on Hao Ren’s belt, he backed off three steps in shock!

In the strict system of the Dragon God Shrine, Qin Shaoyang, a level 3 inspector, had committed an offense by attacking a level 4 inspector!

“This...” Qin Shaoyang looked at Hao Ren in astonishment.

He wondered how Hao Ren had become a level 4 inspector with his current strength.

Hiss... Bang!

The golden shield which had been following Hao Ren closely spun and shot a golden light at Qin Shaoyang.

Not noticing this black shield which had been absorbing nature essence, Qin Shaoyang was hit on the shoulder by the sudden attack and fell to the ground!

Despite his Kun-level, he was no match for the supreme spiritual treasure which had elevated to a higher realm!

With his Kun-level, Qin Shaoyang could block the attack of an ordinary dharma treasure with his body, but the attack of the golden shield made him dizzy!

“How could it be like this! How come Hao Ren has become so powerful in such a short period!” Holding his shoulder in pain, Qin Shaoyang thought to himself when he realized that Hao Ren’s temperament had changed completely!

“Humph!” Hao Ren snorted and walked around Qin Shaoyang before heading toward the exit of the Dragon God Shrine.

Holding their breaths, the low-level inspectors in the hall looked at Qin Shaoyang from the corner of their eyes.

The dragon cultivators including inspectors were forbidden from fighting each other, but they had witnessed a level 3 inspector getting struck to the ground after challenging a level 4 inspector.

Qin Shaoyang used to be a level 4 inspector and a dominant figure in the Dragon God Shrine, but Hao Ren had made him fall with one attack!

Seeing the low-level inspectors sneaking glances at him, Qin Shaoyang gritted his teeth and stood up, but he almost stumbled at the acute pain in his shoulder.

Hao Ren had walked out of the gate, and a snow lion flew over from a distance and carried him to the sky.

“That black, crooked small shield seems to be my uncle-master’s Heaven-Reaching Shield...” Qin Shaoyang was deep in thought as he looked out of the gate.

Chapter 679: The Golden Shield Must Do Work!

Sitting on Little White’s back, Hao Ren flew out of the array formation of the Dragon God Shrine and toward the seashore.

He was surprised to encounter Qin Shaoyang in the Dragon God Shrine, but he didn’t mind fighting the latter to test his own strength.

However, he had just returned from the Demon Sea and hadn’t recovered his full strength yet. Besides, he wanted to go back and ask Zhen Congming to appraise the things that he took from the Dragon God Shrine, thus having no time to fight with Qin Shaoyang.

Since Qin Shaoyang remained at mid-tier Kun-level, Hao Ren thought that he could win against Qin Shaoyang if he could get to Gen-level and learned the third sword strike of the Mystic Water Sword Techniques.

The golden shield stayed by Hao Ren's side and occasionally shot thin golden light beams at Little White. Now that it had advanced in realms, it felt freer than before.

Although it didn't belong to Hao Ren, it favored him emotionally. Otherwise, it wouldn't have attacked Qin Shaoyang when the latter tried to attack Hao Ren.

At level 4 which was equivalent to top-tier Core Formation Realm, Little White bared its teeth at the golden shield and spat out fireballs when the latter provoked it.

Ignoring their playful fight, Hao Ren took out the Mystic Water Sword Techniques from his necklace and began to study it in peace.

Different from the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll, the Mystic Water Sword Techniques must be opened layer by layer according to the practitioner's spiritual senses and realms, which meant that if Hao Ren lost this jade slip, he couldn't learn the rest of the techniques.

In the dangerous journey to the Demon Sea, it was fortunate that he didn't lose the jade slip which contained the Mystic Water Sword Techniques.

Hao Ren merged his spiritual senses into the slip and saw the words and pictures of the second passage which had been vague to him.

It consumed lots of energy to read the jade slip with spiritual senses. After memorizing the first nine variations of the second sword strike, Hao Ren had used up his energy.

If not for the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll which forced him to cultivate all five elements and controlled thousands of sword energies with far better spiritual senses than ordinary cultivators, he probably wouldn't be able to finish reading all 18 variations of the first sword strike with his current realm of Dui-level.

It had taken Zhao Haoran who was a peak Qian-level cultivator many years to break the array formations on the jade slip. With his high realm, Zhao Haoran couldn't read all the information, which showed that the jade slip had a much higher standard for cultivators than all the other precious techniques stored in the East Ocean Dragon Palace. This jade slip could very well be called an Immortal Object.

After disengaging his spiritual senses from the jade slip, Hao Ren put it back into the necklace carefully.

Little White had returned to the sky above East Ocean City, but it didn't land without Hao Ren's order. The sky was getting dark while the city was still engulfed in a drizzle.

"Let's go back!"

Hao Ren put away the golden shield and patted Little White's head.

In the small house, Zhao Yanzi and the others were waiting for his return. The moment that he entered the house with Little White in its puppy form, he was greeted by Grandma's complaint.

“Little Xue’s family came to visit us and left after dinner. You bad boy! You were out for the whole day!” Grandma waved the cane in her hand as if she were going to hit Hao Ren with it.

“It’s my fault. My fault...” Hao Ren surrendered immediately. Then, he saw the rosewood cane in Grandma’s hand and asked, “Where did you get this?”

“Little Xue’s mother gave it to me. She brought it especially from another city!” Grandma poked Hao Ren lightly with the tip of the cane, not wanting to hurt him.

Hao Ren was surprised that Wu Luoxue’s family had come to visit. However, upon the second thought, the two families were close because of Zhen Congming, and it wasn’t so strange that Mayor Wu came to visit them.

Hao Ren hadn’t met Wu Luoxue’s mom yet, and he felt bad that he wasn’t home when her family came to visit his family.

“Grandma, come and visit my school with Mom and Dad tomorrow. I’ll go back to school tonight! Afraid that Grandma would hit him again, Hao Ren said in a hurry.

“Ok. I’ll go with your mom and dad. Will Little Su be in the school?” Grandma asked.

“Yeah...” Hao Ren sweated, knowing that Grandma missed Su Han.

Xie Yujia and others were ready to return to school as well, and they had their bags ready in the living room. They had been waiting for him to return. Otherwise, they would have gone back to school in Mayor Wu’s car.

“I’ve packed clothes for you. It’s getting cold, and I packed several thick jackets for you,” Xie Yujia lifted the bag and said.

She was a careful and considerate girl, and Hao Ren didn’t have to worry about anything in everyday life.

“Ok... Wait a minute.” Hao Ren walked to Zhen Congming’s room after pushing open the door.

Using the keyboard and the mouse skillfully, Zhen Congming was sitting in front of a brand-new laptop, playing an online game.

Hao Ren didn’t remember his parents buying a laptop for Zhen Congming, so he guessed it must be a gift from Wu Luoxue’s parents.

It seemed that Wu Luoxue’s parents liked Zhen Congming. Of course, they also wanted to be in a good relationship with Hao Ren’s family.

“Hey! Have a look at these two things for me.” Hao Ren dug out the white cloth and the glove that he got from the Dragon God Shrine and placed them in front of Zhen Congming.

Zhen Congming stopped gaming for a second and glanced at the two things in Hao Ren’s hands, saying, “Garbage.”

“Look carefully!” Hao Ren pushed the things before his face.

Zhen Congming took them up and turned them around in his hands impatiently.

“This cloth is made with heavenly silk spat out by Heavenly Silk Worms, Ding-level demon beast. The silk threads are very hard, and the things made with them are water-proof and fire-proof. Besides, no matter how dirty it gets, it will get clean again when you burn it with fire or put it in water.”

“How about its functions?” Hao Ren asked immediately.

“It’s obvious...” Zhen Congming looked at Hao Ren in disdain and said, “It’s just a high-level rag used to clean dharma treasures!”

“Ugh...” Hearing Zhen Congming’s words, Hao Ren felt as if he choked on a fish bone.

At the moment, the golden shield came out from Hao Ren’s necklace and hovered in the air around Hao Ren. As a supreme spiritual treasure, it had some intelligence and knew that it shouldn’t come out when mortals were present.

Since only Hao Ren and Zhen Congming were in the room, it jumped out in a hurry when it realized that Hao Ren had taken out the white cloth.

Hao Ren looked at it furiously, finally knowing that it had paid special attention to the white cloth because the cloth could clean its body!

The golden shield flew in front of Hao Ren’s chest and emitted soft golden light. Although it had advanced to a higher realm, it had turned into a black plate from the previous form.

If Hao Ren cleaned it regularly, it probably could return to its previous form.

“Get off!” Hao Ren pushed the golden shield away, not in the mood to serve the golden shield which was even more shameless than Little White.

However, the golden shield flew over and rubbed against the white cloth in Hao Ren’s hand itself; it looked more shameless than Little White.

“Anyway, it’s an item from ancient cultivators, and the Heavenly Silk Worms are extinct now, at least in the mortal world. This square cloth can fix the cracks on the dharma treasures and nurture dharma treasures’ spirit properties, which makes it a good treasure,” Zhen Congming continued.

The golden shield was still rubbing forcefully against Hao Ren’s palm. Hao Ren tossed the white cloth onto the windowsill, and the golden shield immediately flew over and continued stroking itself on it.

“Then... How about this?” Hao Ren picked up the broken glove.

“This is also an item from the ancient cultivators, but it is damaged. There are lots of similar stuff at the bottom of the Demon Sea. They are used to operate dharma treasures, increase their powers, and catch the opponent’s dharma treasures. If you want to use it, you must fix it first. Its value is mediocre,” Zhen Congming said lightly.

Zhen Congming said the value was mediocre, but Hao Ren was satisfied with this appraisal, knowing that Zhen Congming was very picky. Since he intended to give this glove to Xie Yujia, it was a good fit for her.

“Well... Can you fix it for me?” Hao Ren asked him.

“Fix it?” Zhen Congming arched his eyebrows. “I don’t have time for that! I have homework to do!”

Hao Ren looked at him, thinking, "You have homework to do, but you're still playing games. With your lazy attitude, do you think you can make Wu Luoxue like you?"

Zhen Congming turned his head and looked at the golden shield which was rolling on the windowsill as if it were easing an itch. "This supreme spiritual treasure can fix this low-level dharma treasure!"

"It... can fix?" Hao Ren looked at the golden shield in surprise.

"It's nothing to be surprised about. In fact, the golden shield is more powerful than you, and it's nothing for it to fix a damaged dharma treasure," Zhen Congming curled his lips and said before returning to his game.

He sounded as if Hao Ren were even less useful than a dharma treasure!

Glancing at him, Hao Ren didn't retort since he had gotten all the information that he wanted. Despite Zhen Congming's cutting words, he had great knowledge and sharp eyes after staying with Qiu Niu for years.

Seeing the golden shield still lying on the white cloth, Hao Ren picked up the white cloth. Immediately, the golden shield followed it.

Then, Hao Ren put the broken glove in front of the golden shield, but it spun to Hao Ren's back.

"It's the same as Little White, wanting only enjoyment instead of contributing..." Hao Ren tossed both items into his necklace, and the golden shield followed them in.

He walked out of the room and saw Xie Yujia and the others waiting for him with packed bags. He smiled and said, "Let's go back to school."

If the golden shield wanted to become pretty, it must help him fix the glove. However, he would leave such time-consuming job of dealing with dharma treasures to Xie Yujia.

Thinking of the lazy personality of the golden shield, Hao Ren didn't want to take it as his natal dharma treasure. However, if he wanted to block 20 strikes from the Dragon God Shrine Master, he must have a powerful dharma treasure!

Chapter 680: The No.1 Club of the Dragon Tribe

The drizzle continued.

Few students walked on the big square before the library of East Ocean University.

At the entrance of the hall of the library hung a Tang-Dynasty poem calligraphic work mounted with gold threads. It was the work that Hao Ren had done yesterday.

The 20 characters were elegant and full of strength, looking excellent in the distance and at close range.

Walking in from both sides of this piece of work, visitors found many more calligraphic works on the walls of the library.

There were hundreds of pieces of works being displayed in the warm library!

It looked like a forest of calligraphic works!

Wang Xizhi's Preface of the Orchid Pavilion, Yan Zhenqing's Praise to Ji Mingwen, Su Shi's Script on Hanshi Festival in Huangzhou... All the works mimicking the great calligraphers' famous pieces were so well done that they resembled the original scripts!

As to the creative pieces, they were more note-worthy with different styles!

In the 'forest of calligraphic works', Hao Ren handed items to the members of the Calligraphy Club.

These items were taken from the Dragon God Shrine according to the list approved by Yue Zilong. Now that all the members of the Calligraphy Club were gathered in the library, Hao Ren took the opportunity to hand the items to them according to the list.

Since the elixir pills, dharma treasures, and cultivation techniques from the Dragon God Shrine were better than those outside, the club members were happy to get the items that they wanted.

They were excited beyond words that they could get things from the Dragon God Shrine even though they were not inspectors.

Helping Hao Ren hand out the items, Lu Qi glanced at Hao Ren in astonishment, almost not believing his own spiritual senses.

Only after a weekend, Hao Ren had reached top-tier Dui-level!

Undoubtedly, he was the most powerful young cultivator in East Ocean University!

The club members who were getting items from Hao Ren and Lu Qi were also amazed by the realm that Hao Ren released.

Hao Ren's crazy cultivation speed convinced them!

"Did you know that Brother Hao has become a level 4 inspector?"

"Level 4 inspector!"

"My second uncle is an official inspector of the Dragon God Shrine, and he told me that Hao Ren is now a level 4 inspector."

"That's awesome..."

The cultivators who had gotten their stuff gathered in groups and talked amongst themselves.

They came from different dragon clans, and some of them had relatives in the Dragon God Shrine. That was why the news about Hao Ren becoming a level 4 cultivator had begun to circulate within half a day.

Although Hao Ren didn't reveal his level 4 inspector token, the club members got the news from different dragon clans.

Only joining the Dragon God Shrine this year, Hao Ren had become a level 3 inspector directly after the general exams and became a level 4 inspector after a few months. The speed of his promotion was unprecedented!

Level 4 inspectors could have direct contact with the deputy shrine masters. As the high-level representatives of the Dragon God Shrine, they were greeted by dragon kings with respect everywhere.

The club members were secretly elated with Hao Ren's advancement in strength and position since it proved that they were following the right person in East Ocean City even though they were not valued in their own respective dragon clans!

"Brother Hao, I want to introduce someone to you." After helping Hao Ren hand out the items, Lu Qi said to Hao Ren while putting away the name list.

"Oh?" Hao Ren looked at him.

"He's Chen Su, the Royal Prince of Taibai Mountain, a fire-elemental dragon clan. He's a good friend of mine and has transferred to East Ocean University today. I told you about him," Lu Qi said.

Hao Ren nodded since he remembered Lu Qi mentioning it to him before. Now that the East Ocean Dragon Clan was on the rise, and the rivaling West Ocean Dragon Clan had been struck down, the different dragon clans were trying to be on friendly terms with them, and sending their descendants to study in East Ocean City was one way to get close to the East Ocean Dragon Clan.

However, the dragon clans usually sent their younger generations to East Ocean City and rarely sent their precious Royal Princes.

However, the Royal Prince of Taibai Mountain was trying to get close to Hao Ren by coming to study at East Ocean University.

"Lu Qi!"

While Lu Qi and Hao Ren were talking, a cheerful voice sounded from the gate of the library.

Hao Ren turned his head and saw a clean-looking young man in sporty clothes putting away an umbrella and walking inside.

With a long case in his arms, he walked to the side of Lu Qi and looked at Hao Ren with joy on his face.

"Here you are." With a smile, Lu Qi pulled him toward Hao Ren and said, "This is our club president, Hao Ren. You may call him Brother Hao as I do."

Lu Qi turned to Hao Ren and said, "This is Chen Su, the Royal Prince of Taibai Mountain."

Hao Ren looked at Chen Su. Before he could speak, Chen Su greeted him with warmth, "Brother Hao!"

"Hi." Hao Ren was feeling a bit awkward, but he felt like Chen Su was a simple guy, much better than the arrogant Zeng Yitao of the West Ocean Dragon Clan.

Taibai Mountain was a small dragon clan in a remote place. Since Lu Qi was a fire-elemental dragon, he and Chen Su knew each other and were good friends.

The more remote a dragon clan was, the more power the local dragon clans had. The Taibai Mountain Dragon King had placed great trust in the East Ocean Dragon Clan by sending his son to study in East Ocean City.

While Hao Ren was talking with the Royal Prince of Taibai Mountain, Zhao Guang walked into the library with a mid-aged man.

Spotting Hao Ren in the center of the hall, Zhao Guang pulled the mid-aged man toward Hao Ren and said, “Hahaha! You young men are already talking.”

Pointing at Hao Ren, Zhao Guang introduced, “Brother Chen, this is Hao Ren, the Fuma of East Ocean.”

The mid-aged man looked at Hao Ren with appreciation and said, “Indeed a great young man!”

Then, he turned to look at Zhao Guang and said, “Brother Zhao, you’ve got a good fuma!”

Hearing their words, Hao Ren knew that this man must be the Taibai Mountain Dragon King. Obviously, he had come in person to bring his beloved son to study in East Ocean City.

“Uncle!” Hao Ren greeted him politely.

“Well! Well...” The mid-aged man waved his hand with a smile. Then, he turned to Chen Su with a serious expression and said, “Su, when you are studying in the city, you must behave yourself. Be friendly with your peers in the school and learn from General Hao.”

“I got it, Dad!” Chen Su answered with a smile.

Seeing the young men getting along well with each other, Zhao Guang and the Taibai Mountain Dragon Palace smiled.

“Brother Hao, this is my calligraphic work. I hope you like it.” Chen Su pulled out a scroll from the long case and spread it out; it was an elegant calligraphic work.

The writing looked smooth and graceful, showing the excellent skills of Chen Su, the future Taibai Mountain Dragon King.

Lu Qi summoned two club members and asked them to hang up Chen Su’s calligraphic work.

By bring his writing to the event of the Calligraphy Club, Chen Su showed his intention of joining Hao Ren’s club.

All the dragon cultivators including Xu Ke were members of Hao Ren’s Calligraphy Club.

“Lu Qi, deliver the message to each member: they can invite their elders to visit the show,” Hao Ren whispered to Lu Qi.

“Ok!” Lu Qi nodded immediately and ran over to find the other vice presidents.

Chen Su scratched his head with a smile and said, “Brother Hao, I’ll go and check out the writings of other club members.”

It was his first day in East Ocean University, and he was eager to talk to other young cultivators. Situated in a remote place, the Taibai Mountain Dragon Clan didn’t have a lot of cultivators and fewer young ones.

Seeing over 500 young cultivators from different dragon clans in the library, Chen Su was excited.

The Taibai Mountain Dragon King smiled when he saw this, and he thought, “After all, young people must explore the world by themselves.”

Only managing a small dragon clan in a remote place, the Taibai Mountain Dragon King brought Chen Su to East Ocean City but hadn't expected to meet the East Ocean Dragon King.

Although the dragon kings seemed to enjoy the same prestige, they had different ranks according to their level of forces.

He was touched that Zhao Guang had welcomed him in person and even came with them to East Ocean University. He had heard that the East Ocean Dragon King was kind and generous despite the wealth, and he felt like the words were all true from what he witnessed today!

The Taibai Mountain Dragon King wouldn't submit to the East Ocean Dragon Clan, but he would lean toward it in the future!

With his humble attitude, Zhao Guang released a message: Despite the great force of East Ocean, it still treated others with respect!

"Does a club event need to occupy the entire great hall of the library? Lu Qing is too lenient with the management of the school clubs!" A slightly scolding voice suddenly came from the main gate of the library.