

861 INTEGRATE WITH THE SWORD

Zhang Weiyu slept on a kang, while Lu Shu took some dry grass and lay them on the floor for him to sleep on. Not long after, Zhang Weiyu fell asleep.

Lu Shu rested his head on his arms, but did not fall asleep. He had mysteriously come to this world. He had experienced many things in just one day. He forced himself to quickly sort out his thoughts and hoped to understand what this world was.

He had only eaten a single bun today. He ate half in the afternoon and another half at night.

His muscles started to ache, just like when he had worked after getting out of the orphanage.

But back then, he still had Xiaoyu. Lu Xiaoyu would obediently help him to wash his clothes. When he saw the clothes outside the window, he would feel calmer.

But now, he was alone in a dangerous place. He was searching for a way to return home.

He did not know what Lu Xiaoyu was doing. Would she be very upset...

Lu Shu wanted to flip through his record of distress points and see if there were anything related to Lu Xiaoyu. If there was just one sentence at the back, it would be a huge relief. It was fine even if it was a complaint from Lu Xiaoyu.

But he discovered that it was as if distress points could not go through the barrier between the two worlds.

Lu Shu got up and walked to courtyard. He slowly crawled on the ground and started to do push-ups. Even if his arms were shaking, he persevered.

Sweat dripped from his chin to the ground, until Lu Shu had no more strength to support himself.

When he could no longer continue doing push-ups, he simply sat with his legs crossed on the ground and rested. Zhang Weiyu leaned against the wall and folded his arms. He asked, “Do you want to become strong that badly? Honestly, it’s fine even if you are not strong. Didn’t the old King of Gods die even though he was so strong? Just be a peasant. If you can’t stand the hunger, just become a slave. Either way, you’ll be able to live.”

Lu Shu looked at Zhang Weiyu. “That is not living a life. That is living for a few moments. If I live just to eat, then what is the meaning of life?”

There were still more reasons that Lu Shu did not reveal. He wanted to go home and find Lu Xiaoyu.

There were no techniques that were suitable for Lu Shu. He could only train. Since other beings could strengthen their physique by absorbing Spirit Qi, humans could as well, right?

Lu Shu had also thought of a problem in the past. An ordinary person on Earth had realized that after the dawn of the magically rich era, their aptitude increased by leaps and bounds as a result of training, much more than in the past. Thus, in the two years since the dawn of the magically rich era, some athletes had achieved the speed and strength of a Class F.

Zhang Weiyu looked at Lu Shu. He did not express his opinion and walked back into the house. “If you want to train, then train. Just don’t neglect your work. I didn’t expect you to be so fierce with your pale and clean appearance. Go ahead and train. In this world, those who succeed are called kings, and those who fail are called bandits. Those who succeed are often very fierce.”

Lu Shu looked at Zhang Weiyu and said, “Brother, you are a peasant with a worse life than a slave. Stop criticizing me.”

“From Zhang Weiyu’s distress, +399!”

Zhang Weiyu angrily went back to sleep. He wanted to praise this youngster for his hard work, but his compliments did not go through!

After Lu Shu finished resting, he stood up again. He found a piece of firewood and recalled how he had trained with Li Xianyi. But as he prepared to train, he suddenly had an idea.

He slowed down his movements. As the piece of firewood slowly fell, Lu Shu lowered his waist and raised his arms. He had changed from a smash to a pick.

Although Lu Shu’s power was gone, his swordplay was still as awe-inspiring as before. No one on Earth was as skilled in swordplay as Lu Shu, except for Li Xianyi.

He had memorized diverse variations of the 13-letter rhyme by heart. Back then, he trained like Li Xianyi. He would slow down his movements. This was the process to integrate with the sword.

Lu Shu occasionally sped up and slowed down. There were times when his body

could not keep up.

But every time he could not keep up, it was as if he was aligned with the world. Spirit Qi gently seeped into his muscles and bones, nourishing his body.

In the past, Spirit Qi completely could not enter his body, because the celestial map was too powerful.

Now, Lu Shu's swordplay was more powerful than his actual strength. This was the result of waking up at 3am every day to train. This was the reward the world had given him for his efforts.

He would be able to communicate with the heaven and the earth when he reached Rank One. Lu Shu pondered. He had the boundary, but not the strength. Then why did Spirit Qi enter his body as he trained? Was the world slowly helping him to make up for what he lacked?

The Spirit Qi simply helped him to strengthen his physique. Lu Shu felt that throughout this training process, his body was growing much stronger.

After this incident, Lu Shu realized that there were some gaps in the training of his body. He wanted to make up for them.

But no matter what, he desperately needed this method to protect himself.

When dawn broke, Zhang Weiyu walked out and stretched. When he saw Lu Shu, he was taken aback. "Did you train the whole night?"

Lu Shu thought about it and said, "I was too tired, so I slept in the courtyard."

“Didn’t I say?” Zhang Weiyu laughed. “Ordinary people like you who are obsessed over training should take appropriate breaks.”

In reality, Lu Shu had trained the whole night. Most importantly, he realized that the more he trained, the more energetic he became. All the fatigue that he had felt after a day of work had disappeared.

He felt fortunate that back then, he was not afraid of the difficulties he would face when training in swordplay. Thanks to that, today had taken a turn for the better. Although he was far away from even reaching Rank Six, Lu Shu knew that it was only a matter of time. At least he had a shortcut in this world, where techniques were controlled by class!

At that moment, a group of men on horses dashed over. When they came to Zhang Weiyu’s door, their leader said impatiently, “My owner sent me here to deliver this gift. Will the handsome young man accept it?”

Before they set off, their owner had told them that people with the strength of character would not accept these kinds of gifts. If Lu Shu did not accept it, they would bring it back. Thus, they were just here for formalities. They did not want to waste too much time.

Lu Shu looked at their seals. They were from the Yu family. Lu Shu furrowed his eyebrows. Yesterday, he had just established himself as someone with strength of character. He could not destroy his image just like that. “Is there anything to eat inside?”

“From Zhang Weiyu’s distress, +666!”

862 ALL FAIR-SKINNED PEOPLE ARE PRETTY

In front of Lu Shu, a narrow path ran through the countryside view. Clay walls and simple wooden fences lined the sides, outside of which stood tall horses and slaves armored with a saber each. The slaves kept an untidy hairstyle and were dressed in robes and boots.

At that instant, Lu Shu had the feeling that he had traveled back to ancient times. Honestly speaking, it felt more like he had traveled across time, rather than space.

In fact, Lu Shu would have rejected the gift from the Yu family if it had happened before that night because practically speaking, he needed their protection.

Yet, he did not care that much, and neither would he willingly become a slave. After all, he had initially turned Nie Ting down on his offer to make him the ninth Heavenly King, let alone becoming a slave.

But it was a different case now. Lu Shu had the confidence to attain Rank Four abilities, equivalent to Class D on Earth, in one month. The longer he spent there, the stronger he could be.

According to Zhang Weiyu, the most powerful landlord in town was merely a Rank Four. Rank Three and above could only be attained by aristocrats because the necessary techniques for high-level cultivation were only reserved for the upper class.

Nevertheless, Lu Shu was equipped with a complete set of cultivation skills. While the aristocrats could only achieve Rank Two at most, he would be able to climb even higher.

Moreover, he was no longer the rookie who was new to society. Given his rich life experience, he could make sounder decisions than many landlords and aristocrats in

the town. Therefore, he decided to forgo the protection for food...

The slaves, who were there to send him presents, looked at each other in confusion. They had not expected him to accept their offerings, as their landlord had described him as a man of integrity...

But before they could react, Lu Shu had started to give orders. "Come on. Put everything in the room. Don't dirty the food."

The slaves did as instructed. Zhang Weiyu warned him softly, "You will lose the Yu family's protection if you continue on like this. In fact, a pretty face can't promise you safety in this world. Let me tell you, there are three major landlords in the town and the Yu family doesn't call the shots. Without the Yu's protection, the other two families can snatch you away as they wish. They are pretty nasty. Besides, the aristocrats, who are the real bosses here, are not interested in negotiating with you. Everyone has to listen to him!"

Lu Shu gave a silent nod of acknowledgment. Now he learned that the major forces in Tiangeng Town were an upper-class man and three influential landlords. Moreover, the entire town was the aristocrat's feudal estate, rendering him the real person in charge of this land.

However, Lu Shu had suddenly come to the realization that the people in the Luniverse were rather dark in skin color, and he... was one of the very few with fair skin.

Was this why it was thought that all fair-skinned people were pretty? Lu Shu pondered over it... Instantly he developed a good disposition towards this world...

Yet, Zhang Weiyu noticed that Lu Shu had not taken his words seriously.

After the slaves delivered all the items to the room, they seemed dissatisfied with the shabby condition of Zhang Weiyu's house. The leader of the group strutted out of the house and said, "We're done here. We are going back to report."

When he had just finished speaking, he saw Lu Shu already unpacking the present boxes in the room. The box was wrapped in red paper, which gave it a festive vibe...

The slaves were rendered speechless. Then, they shouted loudly again, "We are going back!"

"Sure. Go!" Lu Shu dismissed them with a wave. He removed the wrapper to reveal a box full of desserts. What a pleasant surprise!

After the slaves left, Zhang Weiyu swallowed his saliva as he watched Lu Shu munching on the food.

Lu Shu pushed an unopened dessert box over to Zhang Weiyu and said, "Here. It's for you."

Zhang Weiyu rejected the offer with a shake of his head. "Keep it to yourself. You need a good diet for cultivation training. Besides, eating this is not helpful to me." As he said that, Zhang Weiyu's expressions suddenly changed. "But I would suggest you do not finish all of it in a hurry. The Yu girl is not someone you imagined to be. I doubt she will be so kind to you ever again."

Lu Shu smiled but did not stop eating. He knew that Zhang Weiyu was smart, warm-hearted but straightforward when speaking.

However, Lu Shu did not mind him. The only thought in his mind now was to carry on with his swordplay practice.

Furthermore, he actually hoped that the shackles over his celestial map and the sea of chi could be removed at a slower pace so as to allow more time for training his physical strength with the rare introduction of Spirit Qi.

If the celestial map was freed too early, the Spirit Qi in his body would be overpowered by the celestial powers, terminating his physical training prematurely.

In fact, Lu Shu felt lost. But he had to comfort himself this way since the shackles could not be removed in the near future...

After a while, Zhang Weiyu could no longer stand the temptation of watching Lu Shu munch on the good food. He threw a hoe over his shoulder and yelled, "Okay. You've eaten enough. Let's go and farm the land!"

"Nah." Lu Shu rejected him. "Wait till I finish all the desserts."

After a short pause, Zhang Weiyu let out a cold laugh in contempt. "Do you really think you can live on well like this? They won't send you any more stuff after knowing your personality today. So what will you eat if you don't farm the land?"

Lu Shu shook his head and insisted. "I'm going after I finish the food."

He was not slacking off. Instead, he was busy replenishing his powers and he did not wish to waste his time, the most precious resource in this dangerous world, on anything unnecessary.

Earlier in the morning, Lu Shu had calculated the time and concluded that he would be able to reach Rank Six in two days, given that he could only practice at night. Yet, if he could make use of his time in the day, he would be able to achieve Rank Six by the next morning!

In Tiangeng Town, most of the slaves were lower than Rank Six.

Zhang Weiyu looked at Lu Shu with a cold sneer. Now, his impression of Lu Shu had changed to a lazy good-for-nothing. He said, “Stop dreaming. We only have one life. How can you practice cultivation with this attitude? Nonsense.”

After he left, Lu Shu started practicing his swordplay in the yard with breathless attention.

As the surrounding Spirit Qi flowed with his movement, Lu Shu could sense the increasing strength in his muscles and bones. The operation of his organs had become stronger too.

Invisibly and inaudibly, his blood pumped through his veins powerfully like rolling drums.

863 THE BROTHEL

Zhang Weiyu walked into the house. Their house was separated into two areas, one for sleeping and the other for cooking.

Inside the small room, Lu Shu was boiling water on top of a kitchen range. Zhang Weiyu leaned his hoe on the wall and asked, puzzled, “What are you doing?”

“Boiling hot water for drinking. I can use the remaining for a hot bath too,” answered

Lu Shu with a smile.

Zhang Weiyu gasped in shock. “For drinking? Can’t you just drink it directly? Besides, you can wash yourself in the river. It took me great effort to carry the water here. Why are you wasting it?!”

There was a giant water vat in the room. Usually the vat was not full because Zhang Weiyu was not strong enough to carry too much water everyday. He already had to struggle to carry enough water for daily use. Thus, water was a precious resource in his household.

If the water was used up, he had to walk to the river over 3km away for more water.

Lu Shu replied with a grin. “Untreated water is not potable. Too dirty. But don’t worry about me finishing your water. The vat is almost full now.”

Finding it hard to believe, Zhang Weiyu shot a glance at the vat and realized it was really full to the brim.

He stared at Lu Shu in disbelief. “Did you carry it home?”

Zhang Weiyu found it incredible that a slacker like him would suddenly be willing to traverse long distances and bring back enough water to fill the vat. It was no easy job after all!

Lu Shu laughed it off. He took a bowl and poured himself some boiled water. Honestly speaking, untreated water had an intolerable smell that made it hard to

swallow for Lu Shu.

However, the folks in the Luniverse had gotten used to living with low-quality food and water supplies. A couple of decades ago, countless people died from the bacteria in their diet and only those with a certain type of antibody survived the disaster. Hence, without his original powers, it would be wiser for Lu Shu to exercise extra caution in this world.

Zhang Weiyu mumbled, “Slaves like you are so picky.”

Lu Shu’s expressions darkened at once. “What slaves?!”

Lu Shu was stunned. He genuinely suspected that this old King had visited Earth before!

Wait, that’s actually possible as the two worlds were literally connected! As the strongest man in the Luniverse, that guy could simply visit Earth like how earthlings traveled overseas!

Who knows!

For some reason, Lu Shu suddenly felt that the “King” was more humanized now. It was as though he was no longer a deity who distanced himself from the masses and proudly received their worship. Instead, he was more like a human being

Lu Shu asked casually, “What else did the old King do?”

That caught Zhang Weiyu’s interest. He eagerly went on. “The old King lived a legendary life and he had so many stories to tell. He bravely led his soldiers and

fought on the battlefield for 3,000 years, slaughtering countless enemies. After that, he ended the war fast and sweet. The story that I love the most is in fact well-liked by everyone here and I've gotten bored hearing it over and over again. One time, on his way to visit the East Lord of Heaven, Yu Fuyao, he walked past a brothel..."

Lu Shu's face brightened. "I didn't know there were brothels here!"

"Don't go there if you want to practice cultivation," said Zhang Weiyu, as he cast Lu Shu a look of contempt. Then, he continued, "As the old King walked past, a girl purposely threw a wooden club, the one used to keep a window open, at him, in an attempt to catch his attention. The old King looked up, and the girl said, 'Sir, could you send the club up, please? In return for your favor, you can do anything to me.'" In the end, the old King went up to her with the club and then asked the girl to write 'I will never throw a wooden club again' 30 times! Hahahahaha..."

Lu Shu drew a startled breath. Why did the old King seem to share the same personality as him?! Yet, Lu Shu felt that if he were the old King, he would probably make the girl cry... No, he should not be that mean to a brothel worker...

However, through Zhang Weiyu's stories, Lu Shu had developed a liking towards the old King of Gods. In any case, he maintained his manners before beauties.

Speaking of which, was he the Puppet Masters' King? Or was there another one? Lu Shu was inclined to believe the latter as Nie Ting, Shi Xuejin and Li Xianyi had all refused to talk about the King as though he was a taboo. Yet, from Zhang Weiyu's narrative, he did not seem scary at all. Or was it because Lu Shu had never experienced the wars during his reign?

At night, Lu Shu resumed his sword practice after Zhang Weiyu went to sleep. Before

that, Zhang Weiyu earnestly advised him that he had to be down-to-earth and save some desserts for the future and that Lu Shu had to start farming with him if he wanted to be rich...

Lu Shu laughed it off. He insisted on his own plan.

He picked his weapon from a pile of firewood. He had broken quite a few branches during the day when he unleashed his force. It was at that moment when Lu Shu realized that his strength control had not reached perfection yet.

The first step to achieve supreme control over sword energy was to control one's own strength.

The next day, Zhang Weiyu asked Lu Shu in surprise as he walked out of the room, "Did you sleep outside again?"

Yet, Zhang Weiyu also noticed that Lu Shu had become more refreshed over the days. Lu Shu was unconscious when they just met, and looked low in energy after he woke up. Now, however, he seemed fully energized.

Lu Shu smiled. "I'm not going to the field with you today. I need to finish the remaining desserts."

Zhang Weiyu warned again, "You'll finish it today! You have to prepare for the future!"

At this moment, they heard the clatter of horse hooves from afar. Zhang Weiyu's jaws dropped in astonishment. Could that be...

The slaves from the day before appeared in their sight. The leader said in a muffled voice, “My owner asked us to send you more presents and invites you to her mansion. Would you be willing to come?”

Lu Shu laughed. “Leave the presents. But I’m not going.”

864 HOW FRAGRAN

Lu Shu looked as the slaves urged on the horses using their whips. He sighed and said to Zhang Weiyu, “I think we can eat for a few more days.”

Zhang Weiyu felt that since this young man had appeared, his life had entered a fictional world. It was very bizarre. Not only had dim sum[1] been delivered, they had received a pig trotter as well.

Furthermore, this young man had even been invited to visit their house! How rare!

Forget it. But after Lu Shu rejected the offer, the slave revealed that Yu Die had already told them. Since Lu Shu was good looking, she would let him off!

Zhang Weiyu looked at Lu Shu in shock. “I have always thought that people with strength of character depended on their skills to survive, but you depend on your looks!”

Lu Shu modestly laughed. “I have no choice. The Heavens have given me food to eat.”

“From Zhang Weiyu’s distress, +481!”

This way, Lu Shu patiently integrated with the sword according to the prescribed

order. Thankfully, he no longer needed to plant crops. Everyday, people would give him food. Zhang Weiyu was rather puzzled. Was this a story where the daughter of a rich family fell in love with a poor boy?

Such stories narrated love that transcended social classes in an extravagant manner, as if this was the only form of love.

Furthermore, it seemed that the head of the Yu family had read too many books. She might have actually believed in such stories.

On the first day, Lu Shu gave the dim sum to Zhang Weiyu, but Zhang Weiyu did not eat them.

On the second day, Lu Shu gave the dim sum to Zhang Weiyu, but Zhang Weiyu did not eat them.

On the third day, Lu Shu cooked a plate of pork for Zhang Weiyu. Zhang Weiyu ate very happily.

It was very difficult for Lu Shu to cook this plate of pork. Other than salt, there were no other seasonings in this barren land.

Typically, people would only kill a pig on New Year's Day or other festivals and sell the pork to slave owners and aristocrats. They would use the small amount of fat to extract some oil. They could not bear to use the oil to cook. If they were greedy, they would mix a small amount of oil with their food.

As Zhang Weiyu ate the pork, he excitedly said, "Let me tell you, this pork is not the best. I once ate the glazed flaming chicken at the palace. Now that was a delicacy!"

Lu Shu glanced at Zhang Weiyu. “Have you been to the palace?”

Zhang Weiyu did not speak and continued to eat.

The palace was in the middle of the manors that belonged to the four Lords of Heaven. They were neatly divided and arranged in a square.

But that was what had happened in the past. After many years of war, the boundaries were unclear.

No wonder Zhang Weiyu had said that if a war happened, he had to run away with him. This place was along the border. If a war occurred, the first place to be affected would be their fields.

“What is the palace like?” Lu Shu asked.

Zhang Weiyu wiped his mouth. “The fields are terrible compared to the palace. Over there, the houses are arranged in tight rows. The slave owners there don’t dare to speak loudly. If you spray water there, you might accidentally wet somewhere. Over there, the ground is covered with limestone bricks. The children of the slave owners can play on the streets. There are even people who teach them songs. Rich families have wide and majestic doors. There are even red lanterns on each side of the door and slaves who guard their houses.”

“Back then, the streets were full of people during festivals. The masters of the slaves would all go out on the streets. Why? Because only then could they see how the female aristocrats look like. Heh heh.” Zhang Weiyu laughed boorishly. “In the past, I thought that the female aristocrats all looked like goddesses. But after I took a look at

them, I started to question my existence. Why are they so ugly?"

Lu Shu thought about it and said, "Are you afraid that you wouldn't be chosen because the families are related by marriage?"

Zhang Weiyu gave him a thumbs-up. "I didn't expect a slave like you to have knowledge to come up with that!"

"Go away," said Lu Shu.

Now that Zhang Weiyu depended on Lu Shu for food, he was not as offensive as before. Lu Shu chatted with him like a friend.

Zhang Weiyu suddenly said, "I have to visit my relatives tomorrow. Help me to take care of the crops."

"No." Lu Shu did not even have to think before rejecting. "The crops will be the same even if no one takes care of them. It's only one day. Will the crops be able to grow that much?"

Zhang Weiyu shouted, "Don't take for granted that the Yu family is sending you good food. Just wait until they're bored of you. You'll still have to rely on my crops to survive."

"I won't do it even if you describe it like that." Lu Shu expressionlessly rejected him.

He had been here for almost half a month. Lu Shu was about to reach Rank Five. When he reached Rank Four, he would be able to walk sideways along the fields.

The strongest person in these fields was a Rank Three aristocrat. But Lu Shu understood that even if the aristocrats here were high in Rank, they did not have the outlook and techniques. Although he was only a Rank Four, he had the confidence to kill a Rank Three.

But Lu Shu suddenly felt that Zhang Weiyu's trip would not be as simple as visiting his relatives. He had far too many mysteries. It was as if a civilian suddenly went to the palace, which was thousands of kilometers away. How would they go there? How would they return? There were no planes or trains here!

Zhang Weiyu did not avoid him, but did not speak in detail either.

But all these had nothing to do with him. He was just a visitor in this world. He would eventually leave after finding a way out.

At the same time in a hotpot restaurant in Quanzhou, Tiger Zhi wiped his oily mouth and said, "This tripe is amazing. Simply cook it in boiling water and add oil, vinegar, and mashed garlic, but it's so good. Even the glazed flaming chicken in the palace cannot compare to this."

"After coming here, I understood why the old King of Gods loved to come here."

Cloud Yi sighed. "It's a world of difference in terms of food."

"I feel that it's the seasonings. The methods of using seasonings there are terrible..."

Tiger Zhi sighed. "But are you not at all worried that something will happen to him there? Will he be angry if he finds out that we are here eating and drinking?"

Cloud Yi pondered for a long time. "The old King of Gods still has many secret weapons there. If they are used, his safety can be assured. Now, we have returned to

Rank One. If we want to go through the celestial gate, we will have to reduce our class. The celestial gate was left behind by the old King of Gods so that we could come here and eat. He can come and go as he wishes, but we cannot. If Big Brother had not told us, we might not even know where the door is... now, we have used up all the fruits that the old King of Gods have left for us. If we forcibly reduce our class, we might not be able to go back!”

Tiger Zhi scratched his head. “Then what do we do? My conscience can’t rest easy.”

Cloud Yi thought about it. “Should we tell Xiaoyu where the gate is? Her blood can be used to activate the gate...”

“Good idea.” Tiger Zhi’s eyes lit up. “She has not reached Rank One, but she has the combat power of a Rank One. It will be just as nice!”

“The lamb kidneys are cooked. Be careful of the pepper inside.”

“Waiter, bring us another plate of tripe!”

865 AN ENTIRE WALL OF POEMS

Zhang Weiyu headed west. Lu Shu did not know whether he had deliberately headed north before going in another direction. In the west was the territory of the West Lord of Heaven, Duanmu Huangqi. He would reach after crossing a hill and a river.

Zhang Weiyu had told Lu Shu that in the past, the female slaves who lived in the peasant households nearby would bathe in the river. These female slaves were much more good looking than the aristocrats.

Lu Shu understood. For some reason, Zhang Weiyu was unhappy with the aristocrats.

It was like in the Journey to the West, where the characters headed to the Western Heaven. When they reached it, they were greeted with “Welcome to Tie Ling”... they had walked in the wrong direction! They had gotten it completely wrong!

There were no accurate boundary lines here. Towns were used instead. After a war, if a town was seized, this meant that they would lose the ground occupied by the town.

Lu Shu felt that no matter what Zhang Weiyu did, it was not important. This person was very strange. Lu Shu discovered that even slaves who had not undergone training had three to four times the physical strength of ordinary people on Earth. But Zhang Weiyu was different. Lu Shu felt that he was weaker than ordinary humans.

This was an unusual state. It was as if there was a story behind it. But all these had nothing to do with Lu Shu. More importantly, he had to firmly and succinctly progress to Rank Five.

When he trained in the morning, he suddenly thought that even if he could only eat buns here, he would eventually be able to find a method of cultivation when the time came. He used a tree branch to write on the ground. One day, I will be able to fulfill my dreams 1 !

His words were bold and strong. They possessed sword energy within them.

If those who practiced swordplay saw these words on the ground, they might be able to realize something. This time, the branch did not break in Lu Shu’s hands. It was as if his physical power made everything he wanted possible. His swordplay rapidly improved.

Lu Shu was somewhat happy, because the better his swordplay was, the faster the rate

at which the world supplied him with Spirit Qi. He would need only 20 days to reach Rank Four instead of a month.

As he was training, the sound of horses galloping could be heard from the end of the road. They had arrived as planned.

What would he receive this time...

He looked out and saw that the lady called Yu Die had come in person.

Yu Die stopped her horse and stood beside Lu Shu. She looked down at Lu Shu. “This peasant. Do I have to personally come down before you are willing to accept my invitation?”

With his swordplay in hand, Lu Shu was more stubborn. “Even if you personally come, I might not accept your invitation.”

Lu Shu looked back at his words. Did Yu Die actually understand them? Would he become the Immortal Poet 1 in this world? After that, would he attract aristocrats as his followers and reach the peak of his life? Then, people would feed him everyday. He would be able to safely train and reach Rank One, before breaking free!

In this world, intellectuals were regarded as important by the aristocrats. According to Zhang Weiyu, a slave who could teach could be worth a ranch. This was very valuable.

Furthermore, those slaves who were able to teach would be regarded as important by the head of the family as well. They would be treated much better than the other slaves. Furthermore, some peasants would be crowned as guests of honor due to their

knowledge. This was an established practice by the old King of Gods.

Subordinates followed the example of their superiors. If the old King of Gods placed high importance on scholars, the lower levels would do the same. In the past, a slave owner's family became aristocrats because their son was very smart. This rapid progress in social class was very tempting.

Furthermore, Zhang Weiyu had said that scholars were well-received in brothels. A good poem, even if it was incomplete, would allow the poet to eat and drink well at the brothel for a month.

When Lu Shu heard about this, he felt that this world was not bad...

Lu Shu stood tall and proud. He wanted to make himself seem like a casual poet. Suddenly Yu Die said, "I didn't expect that you like the old King of Gods' poems as well."

Lu Shu was dumbfounded.

Wait. Something was wrong. He wanted to act like the Immortal Poet. But someone was even more shameless than him!

Lu Shu was slightly puzzled. He asked, "Which of his poems do you like best?"

Yu Die excitedly said, "I didn't think that I would meet someone who knows poems in this town! I like 'Ru Meng Ling 1'. On, we rowed! On, we rowed! Startling the gulls and herons on the beach!"

"Ha ha." Lu Shu's expression darkened. He had copied poems from both male and

female poets. The old King of Gods had a very broad range. He simply did not give others a chance...

How shameless!

Thus, he had normalized language and standardized writing so that everyone could read his poems! This history did not even make sense. Why were you so insistent on copying?

Yu Die looked very excited, as if she had encountered someone who understood her. “None of these crude slaves understand the talent behind these poems. You are very good!”

Lu Shu thought about it and said, “I only know a little. Do you have a collection of the old King of Gods’ poems? I want to take a look.”

He had said so because he wanted to see whether the old King of Gods had missed out anything that he could make up for. If he knew what the old King of Gods had copied, their poems would not overlap.

“Then follow me to the palace.” Yu Die said excitedly, “It is too inconvenient to transport an entire wall of poems back and forth!”

When Lu Shu heard “an entire wall of poems”, he started to despair...

How long had the old King of Gods lived for? Was he bored because he had lived for so long? Yes or no? Huh?

Lu Shu suddenly felt that when the length of his life was no longer important to the

old King of Gods, his life was like a game. Since he was the strongest and had a long life, he could play as he wished.

“Okay, I will accompany you to the palace. But let me say this first. I will not sell myself to be a slave,” said Lu Shu calmly. He suddenly wanted to understand the old King of Gods.

On the other hand, it seemed as if Yu Die had completely changed her attitude. “From now on, you are my friend. Don’t talk about being a slave!”

Lu Shu thought. Had he benefited from the king... needless to say, Lu Shu was suddenly very curious about the old King of Gods. He was the head of the world, but he was very down to earth. He had angered a prostitute at a brothel and even copied poems...

Interesting. This was Lu Shu’s review.

866 EXPERT OF THE KING'S TEACHINGS

Finally Lu Shu had a chance to visit the central area of the town. Although the floor was muddy and the ground tiles were laid in a haphazard arrangement, at least the environment looked more civilized.

In the countryside where Zhang Weiyu lived, Lu Shu could hardly see anyone else. Most of the people there had yielded to the pressures of life and sold their farms, their land and even themselves in exchange for a better life and Zhang Weiyu was among the few exceptions. Over time, Tiangeng Town had become the landlords’ farmland.

There were not many food stalls along the streets. Most of them were business ones. Inside, the workers had marks on their body – a knife for the Yu family’s, a gold ingot for the Lin’s, and a fish for the Zhang’s. The aristocrats had an even more

complicated symbol which consisted of two criss crossing swords.

Major landlords were only allowed to have one symbol, but the aristocrats could have two. The hierarchy was apparent in every detail of their daily life.

However, it was said that the original symbol for the Lin's was not the gold ingot. They had changed it because Wen Zaifou, the South Lord of Heaven, gifted the Lin's with a gold ingot after he stayed at their backyard during his land inspection.

From this story, Lu Shu learned that the family symbol was not permanent. Thus, it required a fair bit of art skills to design a good family logo...

Moreover, the Lin's was pretty good at toadying up to powerful people.

Yu Die invited Lu Shu for a horse-ride, but was rejected. As a result, she walked the horse together with Lu Shu. It was then that Lu Shu suddenly realized that Yu Die was only 3-4cm shorter than him. She had attractive curves as well.

In this world, ability was the only thing that mattered. Despite the landlords' high social status, their luxurious gowns were tight-fitting and specially designed for combat effectiveness.

As she walked, Yu Die tended to lean towards Lu Shu subconsciously, almost forcing him off the road...

All of the workers in the roadside stalls sized them up secretly as they walked past the town.

After a few days, the entire Tiangeng town knew that the landlord of the Yu family

was interested in a commoner and that no one was allowed to mess with him.

Furthermore, the Yu landlord sent him presents everyday and rumor had it that he was rather handsome.

In fact, stories like this had happened before among the landlords. They liked to exploit every means possible to get the commoner woman or man they wanted and they would even trade with other landlords for their slaves.

However, in those cases, the landlords would usually force the commoners to obey them and leave them with little or no room for negotiation. But this one sounded more like a romance story...

There was discrimination among the slaves as well. The more powerful ones looked down on the weaker ones, and those who received cultivation techniques from their landlords despised those who could only do the chores in their family business. Those in the business despised the farmers and the farmers despised the commoners.

Logically the slaves had a lower social standing than the commoners, but they disagreed. They disliked the commoners' dignity and pride as they believed that they were equally incapable of earning a decent living.

People like Zhang Weiyu, who would rather struggle in their miserable lifestyle than to give up their freedom to someone else, was like a stark contrast to the lack of character of the slaves.

In fact, all of the slaves in Tiangeng Town regarded Zhang Weiyu as a pain in their ass. That was how this society worked.

As a matter of fact, the hefty taxes was not the only reason that contributed to Zhang Weiyu's difficult lifestyle. He would have led a better life if only that were the case, given that he was free from the burdens of family.

Nevertheless, many slaves liked to destroy his farmland when they happened to walk past.

Lu Shu had learned about it from Yu Die, who admired Zhang Weiyu for his perseverance and positive attitude towards life even when his crops were destroyed by the slaves. In the worst case scenario, he would not mind eating tree roots to keep himself alive.

When Yu Die told Lu Shu about that, his impression of Zhang Weiyu had changed as well. His stories were reminiscent of Lu Shu's childhood, when he refused to steal like the other kids from the orphanage even when he was about to be starved to death in the outside world.

The Yu family had a spacious backyard. When Lu Shu followed Yu Die inside, the slaves guarding the mansion studied him curiously. There was a faint look of disapproval on their face.

In their impression, Lu Shu was merely a weak, incapable boy with a pretty face that attracted their landlord... Now that they saw him in person, they realized that his skin was indeed very fair 1 .

As Lu Shu walked in, he asked, "Can you tell me more about the old King of Gods?"

Yu Die shook her head and said, "The old King was a mysterious man and all of our knowledge about him is from unofficial historical documents. It's said that someone

had once advised the old King to set up a department specially dedicated to documenting his daily life and his history, but the old King refused. He said that his life needed neither comments nor records and he did not want to be documented in any written form or whatsoever because words and books are insufficient as tools of expression. As a result, a profession has formed just to study the poems left by the old King, in an attempt to peek into his life and his philosophies. Those people are called experts of the King's teachings..."

"Oh well." Lu Shu was amused. "Experts of the King's teachings"? It would truly be absurd if they could figure anything out from those poems! By the time they finally reached a conclusion, they would realize that either the old King or the experts themselves had gone mad!

At that moment, Lu Shu felt that the old King was a bully who teased the Luniverse folks for their ignorance. He would have been condemned and reprimanded if he were on Earth.

Yu Die diverted the topic. "How do you find my yard? The Lord of Heaven demanded that no landlords' yards could be bigger than seven acres. I've put in much effort and thoughts just to ensure that my yard does not exceed that limit. Take a look here. All the flat stones on the ground bear a story. This is how much thinking I invested in my yard. As for the Lin's and the Zhang's, they disobeyed the rules set by the Lord and recklessly expanded their yard. Who knows when the Lord will slaughter their entire families!"

"So serious?" Lu Shu gasped in shock. He had not expected the hierarchy system to be so insanely strict in the Luniverse. They had rules over the size of their own yards and the landlords' lives depended on someone else's moods as well.

However, he felt like doubting the intelligence of the people here when he saw the whole collection of poems in the study.

There were over 30 volumes of “300 Poems from the King”, over 40 pieces of “Complete Collection of the King’s Poems” and over 20 “Complete Collection of the King’s Articles”, together with many other books and files...

Yu Die sighed in deep emotions. “The King was fabulously imaginative. Some of the places he mentioned in his works are not from the Luniverse. Thus, we speculate that there must have been a beautiful land of the Gods in the old King’s mind!”

“Yes. Sure. Absolutely,” said Lu Shu. He was having serious thoughts over the sanity of the people of this world.

“There’s another argument that the old King of Gods was actually from another world, and he was missing his hometown when he wrote those lines,” said Yu Die, “Some people believe that the King was very lonely.”

Lu Shu was stunned. This theory was actually possible. Could the old King be an earthling? How else could it explain the fact that the Puppet Masters had gone to Earth?

867 BLACK FEATHER ARMY

Lu Shu’s brains throbbed the moment he saw the full collection of poems. What should he do so that he would not expose himself? In fact, he could not even recite all the poems in one book, let alone so many of them!

This was blatant cheating!

Yet, Yu Die was totally unaware of Lu Shu’s thoughts. She turned to Lu Shu and

asked, “What’s your favorite poem by the old King?”

“Well,” mumbled Lu Shu, as he put on an awkward face. He thought to himself that they would have a collection of his very own poems if he had come to this world earlier...

Meanwhile, Lu Shu was pondering whether the King that the Puppet Masters talked about was the same person as this old King of Gods because it made sense chronologically!

The new King came into power 18 years ago, the same year in which the Puppet Masters arrived on Earth. Lu Shu would not buy it if this was a pure coincidence.

Thus, it seemed that it was a wise choice to not admit his acquaintance with the Puppet Masters because they would not have fled to Earth if they were on good terms with the new King after all.

Now that the new King had assumed power, what did the Puppet Masters mean when they said they were waiting for “the King’s return”? Would the King return from Earth?

The thought sent chills down Lu Shu’s spine. He wanted to go back at once and warn Nie Ting that the King might be on Earth right now!

“Why don’t,” Yu Die said, lowering her voice, “you stay here tonight, so that we can analyze the poems together?”

Lu Shu let out a cold laugh under his breath. Was she expecting him to help her with comprehension questions after he had spent so many years on Earth studying Chinese

literature? Wishful thinking!

“See you next time,” said Lu Shu, as he left the room.

“From Yu Die’s distress, +299!”

Yu Die did not force him to stay. Yet, she reminded Lu Shu before he stepped out, “The borders are not safe recently. You and Zhang Weiyu can seek refuge from me if war really comes.”

Lu Shu did not look back as he pondered over her words. Zhang Weiyu once mentioned that the conflicts between Wen Zaifou and the West Lord of Heaven Duanmu Huangqi had escalated to the stage of war.

Judging from Yu Die’s reaction today, it appeared that the landlords had just received the message from their superiors that they were on the brink of a war!

In fact, Lu Shu had noticed that some of the slaves were pointing fingers at him from the roadside stalls, as if the entire Tiangeng Town knew that he was the Yu family master’s gigolo.

Lu Shu did not mind at all. He stared back at them in contempt, confident that they would learn sooner or later that a pretty face was all that counts...

Truth be told, Lu Shu had never expected his appearance to be of use one day...

He wanted to know how a legendary King like this had fallen all of a sudden. Nevertheless, the fact that the Puppet Masters could escape meant that there were other cards in the Luniverse.

Lu Shu wondered if he could see a show of revenge staged by the Puppet Masters together with their newly returned King of Gods if he could go back to Earth later.

In fact, he had developed a disposition towards the Puppet Masters and the thought of befriending them was no longer that detestable. He also admired the old King for having such faithful people by his side.

However, the more Lu Shu thought about it, the more he was convinced that the old King had probably remained on Earth because the Puppet Masters would have been guarding him in the Luniverse if he were there.

Lu Shu decided to cast all the irrelevant thoughts aside and focus on his sword skills training as at the end of the day his powers were the only thing that mattered the most.

With enough practice, Lu Shu's progress in the control over his sword energy was apparent. He would no longer break a piece of firewood by mistake.

Yet, there was one more problem that he was concerned about. He had no weapons at hand as his Seal of Lands remained tightly sealed.

Night had come. Yet, Zhang Weiyu had yet to reach home, though he had said that he would be back before sunset.

But Lu Shu was not worried either. During his practice, he spotted Zhang Weiyu limping on the road. At first, he thought Zhang Weiyu was bullied, but after he came close, Lu Shu realized that he was drunk.

Zhang Weiyu blocked Lu Shu's hand when he wanted to offer support. Very drunk,

Zhang Weiyu mumbled, “I, Zhang Weiyu, do not need anyone’s hel...”

Before he could finish his sentence, he tripped and collapsed on the floor. Lu Shu stared at him in silence as Zhang Weiyu struggled on the floor for a long moment but still did not manage to get up. Then, Zhang Weiyu looked at Lu Shu and pleaded, “... Please lend me a hand...”

Lu Shu laughed and carried the man onto the clay kang. Then, he sat on the table and said, barely hiding his laughter, “Don’t drink so much if you know you easily get drunk.”

“What do you know? I would never get drunk last time!” Zhang Weiyu yelled angrily. Then, he lay flat on the kang and was absorbed into his own drunk world.

Lu Shu did not answer. He looked at Zhang Weiyu quietly, wondering how much hardship he had gone through alone.

He had to chew tree roots during the most difficult times of his life. He had to bear the humiliation from all of the slaves in town and was bullied as the slaves destroyed his crops. Yet, he persevered on, just for his worthless dignity.

Lu Shu sighed. Who was he to chastise Zhang Weiyu’s dignity as worthless, since he was equally obstinate himself?

“Why did you do that?” Lu Shu asked. It was a question to Zhang Weiyu, and to himself too.

“I’m waiting,” replied Zhang Weiyu, who was lying on his bed with his eyes closed. Then, he laughed, waving his arms and legs. “But my patience is wearing out.”

Lu Shu was stunned. He kept quiet and waited for Zhang Weiyu to continue his speech.

Zhang Weiyu said, “Gone are the golden old days. Today, I went to visit an old friend, only to realize that he had ended himself on a rope in his house. I pushed open his door and saw a half eaten tree root on the table. I don’t blame him. I don’t blame anyone.”

Lu Shu was dumbfounded. Before Zhang Weiyu left the house earlier that day, Lu Shu gave him some boxes of desserts as a house visiting gift.

Zhang Weiyu thanked him wholeheartedly, as if Lu Shu had done him a great favor. Zhang Weiyu also said that he owed Lu Shu for that.

At that moment, Lu Shu was simply confused and thought Zhang Weiyu was being too dramatic.

Yet, he did not expect him to be paying his last visit to an old friend. However, his friend had left this world before he could have a taste of the desserts. Lu Shu thought that Zhang Weiyu’s friend must be a man of dignity who would rather die than to be a slave.

After a long silence, Lu Shu asked, “What are you waiting for?”

Zhang Weiyu was dead drunk. But he suddenly laughed hysterically after hearing Lu Shu’s question. Then, he said, “Everyone under the throne is...”

In the next instant Zhang Weiyu bolted upright alertedly, squinting his eyes

dangerously at Lu Shu. He became sober at once. “Why did you ask that?”

Suddenly Lu Shu sprang into movement and wrenched Zhang Weiyu onto the floor.

Almost at the same time, an arrow punctured the clay wall and pierced through the bed where Zhang Weiyu was lying. The black feather on its tail was still shivering due to the impact.

Zhang Weiyu’s face turned ashen. “Duanmu Huangqi’s Black Feather Army!”

868 EXPLOSIVE POWER

Lu Shu knew that a war might occur here, but he did not expect it to come this quickly!

He looked at the quivering arrow and tried to estimate their power. Although the walls of the mud brick house were weak, not everyone would be able to shoot an arrow through. After the black arrow pierced through the walls, it could hit the kang and still have surplus energy.

Before Lu Shu could finish analyzing, Zhang Weiyu suddenly said, “It’s a Rank Four expert from the Black Feather Army. The arrow came from the northwest direction. They should be the first batch of scouts. They came from the mountains. Under typical circumstances, scouts from the Black Feather Army are made up of one Rank Four and four Rank Five soldiers. They are all elites of the army!”

Lu Shu was dumbfounded. He looked at Zhang Weiyu. From the beginning, Lu Shu knew that he was not an ordinary person. Although he had given up halfway, he could explain so many things just from one arrow. He already knew from the very beginning!

Before Lu Shu could speak, Zhang Weiyu crawled on the ground towards the door.

“Let’s hurry up and leave. They are still 99 kilometers away. They will not rashly approach us. When we go out, we have to speed up. There might be people on guard who are waiting for us to go out. This arrow might not have been shot to kill someone. They want to force us to flee in panic!”

“Since there are people on guard outside, why are we still going out?” Lu Shu asked.

“If we don’t go now, we won’t be able to escape when the Black Feather Army comes. There is a narrow chance that we can survive. But even then, there is still a chance,” said Zhang Weiyu hurriedly

Lu Shu suddenly realized that Zhang Weiyu kept his cool even among the chaos. This was not something an ordinary person could do.

The next moment, Zhang Weiyu turned and said to Lu Shu, “You go out first. I’ll follow behind you!”

Lu Shu’s expression darkened. “Are you trying to bluff me? Whoever goes out first will be shot first. There will not be many people on guard outside. Perhaps after I am shot by the first arrow, you will seize the chance while they are reloading to run away. Am I right? Since we are both trapped here, what use is there for you to follow behind me?”

Zhang Weiyu was shocked. “You’re actually quite smart.”

But as Lu Shu was speaking, Zhang Weiyu pushed Lu Shu towards the door. He tried to push Lu Shu out to bear the brunt, but... there was nothing...

“Ha ha.” Lu Shu laughed coldly.

Suddenly, Lu Shu heard the sound of something flying through the wind. Bam! There was another big hole in the mud brick wall behind them.

Four black arrows pierced through the wall in succession. Thankfully, Lu Shu reacted quickly and was able to dodge them.

But the next moment, Zhang Weiyu gasped in shock. Lu Shu suddenly bent over. His robust body was full of strength, like a stretched bow. Then, he took a big stride forward and leaped out!

In a flash, a black arrow landed on the ground behind Lu Shu. The guard from the Black Feather Army had missed!

Zhang Weiyu swore that throughout his entire life, he had seen very few people who were able to fully use every bit of their strength like Lu Shu. The scout on guard outside the house was a Rank Five.

Zhang Weiyu had not seen Lu Shu actually train, but from that eruption of power. Zhang Weiyu could see that Lu Shu was not a Rank Five!

In this game of chess with a great disparity in strength, Lu Shu had made a guard, who had been aiming for a long time, miss!

He was puzzled. One would only be able to use their strength to such an extent after they had progressed to a certain level and undergone delicate exploration.

Was an ordinary person able to completely use their strength? Impossible. This was not something a low leveled Practitioner could achieve.

But Lu Shu was a low leveled Practitioner!

But Zhang Weiyu had no time to think about this. The moment the arrow missed, Zhang Weiyu leaped out as well. The guard was reloading his bow. If he did not go out now, Zhang Weiyu would not be able to escape!

Lu Shu did not run on the dirt road. Instead, he hid in a field beside the road. The crops, which were half his height, was perfect protection for him to hide in at night. Zhang Weiyu made the same choice.

The scout troops from the Black Feather Army, dressed in leather armor, silently surrounded the field. No one spoke. They all had serious expressions on their faces.

They did not expect themselves to fail. They were just in front of them and were not even worth mentioning. But they had failed!

The five of them carried their arrows on their backs. They drew their podao 1 from their waists at the same time and charged towards the field. The wind blew, full of murderous intent.

These two slaves had to die here. If not, the Black Feather Army's plan would fail!

They had thought that Lu Shu and Zhang Weiyu were slaves. This was understandable, since there were not many peasants now.

Zhang Weiyu bent over and ran wildly among the crops. He was about to cry. Everyone understood one thing. When there was a beast chasing you, you do not have to run faster than the beast. You just had to run faster than your companions... but Lu

Shu ran very quickly...

But to be honest, Zhang Weiyu did not blame Lu Shu. When such danger came, one would not sacrifice their life for a person they had met under a month ago. If Lu Shu really did, Zhang Weiyu would scold him for being an idiot.

Zhang Weiyu knew that he would not be able to run away. He was an ordinary person, but Rank Four and Five Practitioners were chasing him. Suddenly, Zhang Weiyu felt a sense of relief, as if he would be freed.

The five Black Feather Army scouts got closer and closer. They were 20 meters away from one another and quickly searched the field.

Unlike Zhang Weiyu and Lu Shu, who had to bend over and run, they were very fast.

At that moment, Zhang Weiyu was suddenly dumbfounded. He realized that he might have passed by a shadow lying on the ground.

Wait. Zhang Weiyu was dumbfounded. That was Lu Shu, right? Why would he be there?

The Black Feather Army approached at a high speed. Zhang Weiyu slowly gasped. The moment a soldier from the Black Feather Army reached Lu Shu, Lu Shu used a tree branch like a sword and attacked with a mysterious form. It was as if he was about to pierce the heavens!

The young man was full of explosive power. He looked very beautiful under the moonlight. It was as if he was using every bit of strength to the extreme, like a thunderbolt!

The tree branch, which seemed weak and fragile, slashed the gap in the leather armor of the Black Feather Army soldier. Zhang Weiyu felt that Lu Shu's hand had only quivered slightly. This energy had then been transferred to the end of the tree branch.

There was moonlight and there was blood. A young man had used a tree branch to kill!

869 EMERGENCE OF SWORD ENERGY

Zhang Weiyu did not expect Lu Shu to hide and kill people. This field was very large. If Lu Shu took the chance while Zhang Weiyu was being killed and ran away, he might be able to survive.

Furthermore, he did not expect Lu Shu to be able to kill someone!

What was Lu Shu holding? He was holding a tree branch!

If an expert killed someone with a tree branch, it would still make sense. It was said that the North Lord of Heaven did not use weapons to kill slaves. He would use anything available. But he was a Rank One expert!

When news of this spread, everyone was amazed!

How about Lu Shu? He was a small Practitioner who had not even reached Rank Five. Yet, he was able to kill someone with a tree branch! This was too puzzling. It was so puzzling that Zhang Weiyu could not even believe his eyes!

The tree branched slashed the gap in the leather armor. He then pierced the chin of the soldier and continued going upwards, killing him.

The tree branch was like a sword. Although this young man was not powerful, it was

as if he was the best in swordplay.

This was very strange. It was like a three year old child with the knowledge of a scholar.

Not only was Zhang Weiyu dumbfounded, the rest of the scouts silently looked over. Then they rapidly surrounded them and went for the kill!

They held their podao at the most appropriate angle to strike. It was perfect.

The podao slashed through the crops in the moonlight. Although they did not use much strength, the crops were easily chopped off diagonally.

These were the most elite troops. The distance between the four of them was just nice. When they approached Lu Shu, they were like a net inching closer and closer to him.

The young man remained calm and composed. He took the podao from the corpse and threw it to Zhang Weiyu in front of everyone. Lu Shu said, "I cannot defeat them. You do it."

The four soldiers turned to look at Zhang Weiyu at the same time. They pointed their blades at him!

Zhang Weiyu was shocked. "... what the!"

"From Zhang Weiyu's distress, +999!"

But at that moment, Lu Shu took the chance while the four soldiers were looking at Zhang Weiyu to draw another tree branch from his waist. He charged towards the

soldier closest to him as if he was a hunter. “Attack!”

The strength of the four soldiers had been dispersed. They did not know exactly how strong Zhang Weiyu was and had to fight in order to determine his combat power.

Two soldiers faced Zhang Weiyu, while the other two faced Lu Shu. Lu Shu was already in front of the two soldiers and he could even see the stitches on their leather armor.

All the muscles in Lu Shu’s body suddenly grew taut. It was as if they formed a sculpture instead of the human body.

When the two blades attacked, Lu Shu stood still. Suddenly, he squatted down. Then, the moment the two blades brushed past him, it was as if reality had been defied again.

He struck with his tree branch. For some reason, Zhang Weiyu felt that the tree branch was like a sword. Its movements coincided with the way of the Dao.

This was swordplay! Zhang Weiyu was shocked. Lu Shu had showcased the way of the Dao!

As long as typical Practitioners had techniques, aptitude and resources, success in cultivation would be achieved naturally. The higher their aptitude, the faster the rate of cultivation.

But the way of the Dao was on another level. This was a sign that one had learned effectively. One would only have the hope of achieving Rank One if they had entered the Dao!

This was the same as on Earth. Back then, Chen Baili desperately wanted to take Lu Xiaoyu as his student as he had seen the importance of Lu Xiaoyu's aptitude. The higher one's aptitude, the easier it was for them to integrate with the sword. Some people stopped at Class B or Rank Two for this reason.

Under the moonlight, the tree branch in the young man's hands was like a pupa that was slowly breaking. It was as if it could no longer bear the thunderous strength. Then, the tree branch broke cleanly into pieces!

The tree branch turned into dust, but the sword energy dazzled under the moonlight. It was as if a butterfly had broken out of its pupa!

Zhang Weiyu was dumbfounded. "This is my first time seeing sword energy emerge from a tree branch by a Rank Six Practitioner!"

How frightening! A Rank Six Practitioner had produced sword energy from a tree branch!

The sword energy slashed the necks of the two soldiers with great ease. Blood started to spurt out from their aortas. Then, they slowly leaned back and fell to the ground.

Zhang Weiyu felt that tonight, a lot of his knowledge had been subverted. He no longer dared to look down upon Rank Six Practitioners in the future. But after some thought, he understood that there were strong Rank Six Practitioners in the world, and Lu Shu was one of them!

Where did this freak come from?!

But he did not know that to Lu Shu, who was able to kill seven Class B's in eight hours, strength was important, but it did not mean everything.

If Rank Threes appeared tonight, Lu Shu might be scared. After all, his life was more important.

If he did not have sword energy, Lu Shu would never dare to kill the scout troops from the Black Feather Army. Sword energy could kill people, but it could also scare people.

But there were no if's.

Now, the two remaining soldiers from the Black Feather Army could not kill with the same determination as before. There was hesitation in their eyes. Lu Shu, who seemed like an expert, stood in the field with his hands by his side. He stared at them.

At that moment, Zhang Weiyu took the podao and smiled. He slowly walked towards the soldiers. "Now, it's my turn."

The two soldiers turned and ran. Lu Shu caught up to him. Zhang Weiyu shouted, "Don't let them run away!"

The two soldiers quickly ran away. The crops in the field did not slow them down. With Lu Shu's physique as a Rank Six, he could only dream of catching up to them.

After the two black shadows disappeared, Zhang Weiyu's legs became jelly and he almost fell to the ground. "I was so scared!"

Lu Shu laughed cheerily. "I couldn't tell. You seem quite reliable at the most crucial

moments.”

Zhang Weiyu thought about it and said, “Thanks.”

“No problem. Your acting was quite useful. You scared them away. Heaven saves those who save themselves,” said Lu Shu with a smile.

To be honest, it was fortunate that the two soldiers had run away. If not, they would be a pain to deal with. There was one Rank Four and one Rank Five. Although Lu Shu could use sword energy, and could kill Rank Fives, Rank Fours were another story...

Sword energy could kill Rank Fours, but they were very fast. Before he could even deliver a blow, they might be able to attack several times...

870 A FALL IN THE PIT, A GAIN IN YOUR WI

Zhang Weiyu squatted on the ground and panted. He had used too much physical strength while running. Thankfully, he ate well for the past few days. If not, he might not even have been able to run.

Lu Shu looked at Zhang Weiyu. “You’re not a normal peasant.”

Zhang Weiyu laughed. “You’re not a normal slave either.”

Lu Shu’s expression darkened. Why did he feel as if Zhang Weiyu was always scolding others...

“What do we do now?” Lu Shu looked at Zhang Weiyu. “The Black Feather Army is here. How long will the rest of the troops take to come?”

“Under typical circumstances, there will be a distance of about 15 kilometers between the scout troops and the vanguard of the main forces. But usually, the Black Feather

Army will not kill people, unless the army is behind and wants to capture people to understand the situation in the area!” Zhang Weiyu analyzed. “We have to hurry up and run now. But there won’t be too many people in the vanguard. The fields are not very important in terms of their strategy either. Come. Since you saved my life, follow me and you will escape this war!”

Lu Shu was dumbfounded. After Zhang Weiyu finished speaking, he walked towards the forest in the south. He curiously asked, “Wait, shouldn’t we tell the others in town about the army?”

Zhang Weiyu shook his head. “Which war doesn’t have fatalities? Furthermore, if the people in town die, then so be it. This is a game of chess among the Lords of Heaven. Who cares about the people below? We are ants to them.”

“Do you not have any feelings for this place? What will happen to your crops if they come here?” Lu Shu could not understand.

“My crops are not fully grown yet. They will definitely leave them as they are. They want to capture this territory for a long time. When they do, they will need peasants and slaves to plant crops, right? The war has nothing to do with us. As long as we escape the first wave and return after they have seized this territory, we will be able to plant crops again like before,” said Zhang Weiyu with indifference.

Lu Shu understood. The aim of this war was to kill slave owners and aristocrats, and expand their territory. On the other hand, peasants and ordinary slaves were at no harm. The land was still more important.

This was like the change of leadership in a workplace. No matter what, they still needed people to work. They would not kill everyone.

This was not hatred between two races, to the point that they would not stop until they had killed everyone. Even the peasants and ordinary slaves were used to this.

According to Zhang Weiyu, the previous war had lasted for over ten years. All the unimportant people who had survived more or less had survival knowledge.

He deliberately tried to avoid Yu Die. He even pretended not to understand Zhang Weiyu's hint. But since he had come here, he had relied on the food that she had sent so that he could train without a worry.

He should tell her that there was danger. He would not lose anything either.

When Zhang Weiyu saw that Lu Shu was full of justice, he said, "Then go. I will take my leave first."

Zhang Weiyu then turned to leave, but... he did not move...

"Go away..." Zhang Weiyu was speechless.

"Where are you going?" Lu Shu laughed buoyantly. "Come with me. I know that you definitely have a place to hide from the war. After we're done, bring me there."

Lu Shu would not let him go. Zhang Weiyu was shrewd, but he was not a bad person. Lu Shu needed him. If he had a unique place where he could hide, Lu Shu could hide there and continue to train his swordplay.

By the time the battle was over, his abilities might progress rapidly.

Lu Shu was not willing to participate in this battle. He was just a visitor. No matter how many people died, it had nothing to do with him. Thus, it was only right to hide with Zhang Weiyu after informing Yu Die of the danger. He could not let go of Zhang Weiyu.

Now, Zhang Weiyu did not even have the physique of an ordinary person. He was a few hundred meters behind Lu Shu and looked as if he had nothing else to live for. His legs formed a path behind him. If the Black Feather Army was behind, this path would be like the arrows...

Later on, when Zhang Weiyu realized that he could not run away, he gave up. He walked into the town and panted as he followed behind Lu Shu. "It's just some food. Don't tell me that you've fallen for her. Don't believe what happens in novels. Those things fool little children. Although your swordplay is not bad, but have you thought about your future? Peasants can only become slaves for aristocrats. Even if you are amazing, you will still be a slave for the South Lord of Heaven, Wen Zaifou. Your social classes are different. She will not marry a slave."

Lu Shu asked curiously. "I have no feelings for her. But didn't you say that if you developed your own techniques, you would become outstanding?"

"That was when the old King of Gods was still alive. No such thing exists now. The slave owners and aristocrats are still fighting over territory. Will they have the time to care about you? Furthermore, how long do you need to train for? Ten years? Or twenty years? Or even longer? There are too many variables here." Zhang Weiyu mocked him. "If the Black Feather Army comes here, the whole town is done for. You won't even have the time to think about escaping."

Lu Shu expressionlessly pointed the podao at Zhang Weiyu. "Nonsense! What are you

saying? Hurry up and say bah.”

“... bah.”

“From Zhang Weiyu’s distress, +666!”

What was this person?!

Zhang Weiyu said softly, “Even if your swordplay is good, can you kill a thousand people with one sword?”

Lu Shu glanced at him. Zhang Weiyu might not believe him, but he had done it before...

Suddenly, Lu Shu heard the galloping of horses. The Yu family was about to leave, with Yu Die in the lead.

When Yu Die saw Lu Shu, she was dumbfounded. She seemed pleasantly surprised.

“Why are you here? Have you come here to find me?”

Lu Shu was also dumbfounded. “Where are you going?”

“I received orders from the guards to patrol the borders,” said Yu Die.

The guard was the Rank Three aristocrat at the fields.

“Don’t go,” said Lu Shu. But he did not know how to explain this. He looked at Zhang Weiyu. “Uncle, please explain.”

Zhang Weiyu smiled. He knew that this young man had the ability to quote out of context. He was no match for him. A fall in the pit, a gain in your wit...

“From Zhang Weiyu’s distress, +481!”

At that moment, Zhang Weiyu heard the sound of horses galloping in the distance. There was also the drumming of war drums. He could even visualize the pitch black flag of the Black Feather Army fluttering in the wind.