

## Immortality 1251

### Chapter 1251: Tracking (3)

"It's time to head back..."

Elder Xun squatted in a tree, stretching his shoulders. He felt it was about time to return to the sect, but when he glanced down, Mo Hua was still completely unaware, strolling through the mountains without any sign of wanting to return.

Elder Xun paused, his brows furrowed.

This kid... could he be planning to spend the night in the mountains?

Any mountains inhabited by Monster Beasts become extremely dangerous once night falls.

The night was pitch black, with the sun setting and the moon rising. Dense Yin Qi filled the air, and Monster Beasts often became bloodthirsty and agitated.

Some eerie Monster Beasts that couldn't move during the sunlit day would emerge in swarms at night, prowling through the darkness to hunt for flesh.

Refining Demon Mountain was no exception.

Thus, there was an unwritten rule in the mountains:

Unless you're at the Foundation Establishment Late Stage and part of a team of five, hunting Monster Beasts should not lead to staying overnight in the mountains except in extreme necessity.

Nighttime in Refining Demon Mountain was incredibly perilous.

During the night, even the Elders on duty would not have enough hands to deal with emergencies. If trouble arose, timely rescue wasn't guaranteed.

Even genius disciples at the Foundation Establishment Late Stage, in teams of five, faced overwhelming danger when staying overnight in the mountains.

Let alone this frail, middle-stage Foundation Building young boy roaming the mountains alone.

Elder Xun's head throbbed.

"This kid is too bold..."

Yet Mo Hua looked completely indifferent.

His reasoning was actually quite simple.

Heading back now meant having to return tomorrow, costing another hundred Merit Points—too much of a loss.

Merit Points, after all, were precious. The more the merrier; better to save them whenever possible.

Mo Hua remained focused, carefully observing the terrain and marking important locations on his map.

Only when night deepened, the sky turned desolate with no stars, and the surroundings became so dark that he couldn't even see his hand before his face, did Mo Hua start thinking about spending the night.

By now, the Monster Qi in the mountain seemed even thicker amidst the cool night air.

Low growls from Monster Beasts echoed intermittently.

In the darkness, countless eerie beasts seemed to stir, ready to act.

Even Elder Xun, a cultivator at the Late Golden Core Stage, felt an unease creeping into his heart.

He turned to look at Mo Hua again, seeing him standing in place and looking around, seemingly searching for a foothold. Unable to hold back a bitter smile, he thought to himself:

"If you're planning to spend the night in the mountain, you should have prepared earlier. At this hour, it's too late to scramble; where are you going to find a decent spot now?"

If it really came down to it, Elder Xun would have to come forward and drag this kid down the mountain...

But doing so wouldn't align with the ancestor's orders.

The ancestor had specifically instructed him to watch over Mo Hua discreetly.

While Elder Xun was mulling this over, he suddenly noticed Mo Hua moving.

It seemed Mo Hua had found a spot to settle.

Elder Xun looked on with some curiosity, scanning through the shrouded night.

What he saw left him shocked—Mo Hua gracefully climbed up a tall tree, leaped onto a mountain peak, scaled halfway up the slope, then jumped across to another cliff, using the cover of dense shrubs to trek a bit further until he found an extremely hidden cave.

Mo Hua headed for the cave.

Elder Xun froze, then sharply inhaled.

A Monster Beasts' lair!

No, this place isn't meant for people! f

This is the den of a fierce Monster Beast! And judging from the remaining Monster Qi, it belonged to at least a Second Grade Late Stage Monster Beast!

You silly child, are you trying to get yourself killed?

Elder Xun immediately prepared to intervene, ready to yank Mo Hua out of the cave. But as his Divine Sense swept the area, he suddenly paused.

"No Monster Beast?"

He scanned again, now feeling somewhat reassured.

It seemed the Monster Beast had gone hunting.

Or perhaps it had "multiple lairs," and this was just one of its dens. Despite the heavy Monster Qi lingering here, the beast clearly wasn't home tonight.

Elder Xun let out a slow breath.

Then he stood dumbfounded as Mo Hua brazenly "occupied the nest," walking boldly into the lair of a Second Grade Late Stage Monster Beast—one that could swallow him whole without spitting out his bones.

Inside the lair, Mo Hua first took out some refreshing herbs and sprinkled them around to cleanse the pungent Monster Beast scent.

Then he chose a safe corner and set up multiple formations.

First was an Early Warning Formation, followed by a Concealment Formation, a defensive Earth Stone Formation, and lastly a counterattacking Di Sha Formation.

After setting up the formations, Mo Hua pulled out some dried meat to fill his belly.

He followed it with a few gulps of fruit wine.

Once fed and hydrated, he pulled out a soft blanket, wrapped himself like a cocoon, and fell into a long, peaceful sleep...

Elder Xun, standing outside, was utterly dumbfounded.

Wait a minute...

This is a Monster Beast's lair! How on earth do you treat it like your own home?

Under such conditions, how are you able to sleep so soundly?!

Your heart is really something else...

Elder Xun let out a deep sigh, lost for words. Eventually, he resigned himself to silently standing guard at the cave entrance.

He didn't dare rest, merely closed his eyes to meditate.

What if a Monster Beast really returned to its den and swallowed this wildly audacious kid whole? That would be a disaster.

The ancestor would skin him alive...

The night grew deeper, the mountain winds colder.

Mo Hua slept peacefully inside.

Elder Xun kept watch outside, anxious and on edge.

And so the night passed until dawn arrived, the east lightened, and Mo Hua opened his eyes and sat up slowly. He stretched and looked invigorated.

Outside the cave, Elder Xun's gaze was dull, his face weary.

The hour was no longer early.

Mo Hua got up, tidied his blanket, erased the formations, and marked the location of the lair with a small "campfire" icon on his map.

He thought about how he could return here in the future if he ever needed to stay overnight in the mountains again.

After eating a quick breakfast, Mo Hua packed his gear and continued on his way.

Time was tight, and he aimed to map out at least another quarter of the area by the end of the day.

Elder Xun rubbed his brow and sighed helplessly, then began silently trailing Mo Hua again.

And so, Mo Hua spent another day exploring Refining Demon Mountain.

Elder Xun diligently followed him throughout the day.

Yet Mo Hua remained completely unaware.

By the end of the day, Mo Hua had completed nearly half of his bespoke map of the mountain, achieving his goal.

Once his week-long field break was over, Mo Hua returned to Taixu Gate.

After cultivating for eight days, another field break arrived.

This time, Mo Hua returned to Refining Demon Mountain, spending another hundred Spirit Stones to purchase the Demon Refining Command and re-entered the mountains.

With his familiarity of the area—the terrain, threatening Monster Beasts, miasma, poisons, and more—Mo Hua advanced rapidly in his survey.

Two days later, the map was fully completed.

Now it was time to start designing a hunting strategy, combining formations and spiritual artifacts into a comprehensive plan.

The goal was to prepare for leading his Junior Brother Cheng Mo and the others into Refining Demon Mountain.

Chapter 1252: Hunting

Cheng Mo and the others are not Monster Hunters, lacking experience, so they must start with the simple tasks and progress step by step.

Within the Disciple's Residence, Mo Hua sat by candlelight, deep in thought.

The Demon Refining Mountain Map had been completed.

He also had a general understanding of the various Second Grade Early Stage Demonic Creatures in Demon Refining Mountain.

Everything was ready; it was time to think about practical action.

Mo Hua studied the Demon Refining Mountain Map, flipping through it for half a day before drafting a route, selecting beasts, and planning strategies.

The next day, Mo Hua wrote a letter and handed it to Master Gu, asking him to help forge a batch of armor.

A few days later, when the armor was ready, Mo Hua approached Cheng Mo and stated frankly:

"The day after tomorrow during the rest period, come with me to Demon Refining Mountain."

Cheng Mo, whose injuries had just healed, felt a chill upon hearing this, his body still aching faintly.

Even now, he dreamt of the slap that bear had delivered.

Refusing to back down despite his fear, Cheng Mo put on a brave face and boastfully declared:

"Junior Brother, don't worry. Once we're in Demon Refining Mountain, I promise to keep you safe!"

But after showing off, he cautiously asked, "Junior Brother, what are you planning to do in Demon Refining Mountain?"

"What do you think?"

Cheng Mo faltered. "It can't be... monster hunting, can it?"

Mo Hua nodded. "You're clever."

Cheng Mo forced a smile, unable to truly laugh.

He glanced at himself—tall and robust, yet bedridden for nearly half a month because of one bear slap.

Then he looked at Mo Hua—slim and refined, though he had grown a bit, still had skinny arms and legs compared to his own.

Cheng Mo muttered under his breath, "Maybe we should reconsider? A gentleman can exact revenge even ten years later; let's spare the beasts in the mountain for now."

Mo Hua replied, "Are you scared?"

Cheng Mo chuckled awkwardly. "It's not that I'm scared; I'm just afraid the beasts might hurt you."

"No worries," Mo Hua said proudly. "Haven't I told you? I'm from a family of Monster Hunters; this skill has been passed down for generations!"

Cheng Mo's expression grew complicated.

Saying it was one thing, believing it was another...



Moreover, the terrain varied, the monsters differed, and the hunting techniques weren't universal.

One can't use an ancestral "sword" to slay monsters in Qian State!

Seeing Cheng Mo's skepticism, Mo Hua sighed. "Fine, I'll find someone else."

Cheng Mo panicked at once.

Whether they hunted monsters or not was secondary, but clinging to a powerful ally was paramount!

After spending quite some time with Mo Hua, Cheng Mo had become relatively familiar with him and knew of his extraordinary intellect, mysterious mastery of formations, and enigmatic background.

Even the stern Elder Master Xun openly supported him.

This was a true "golden thigh!"

Even if Junior Brother only went to Demon Refining Mountain for sightseeing, Cheng Mo had to follow along.

Cheng Mo grinned. "I'm just worried my recent injuries might slow us down. Junior Brother, if you don't mind, I'll gladly accompany you in whatever you do!"

The underlying message: Take me with you, no matter what.

"Fine," Mo Hua nodded in satisfaction.

Cheng Mo naturally roped in Situ Jian and the others as well.

Demon Refining Mountain was difficult to navigate; the monsters were hard to slay, merit points were difficult to earn, and the entrance fee alone cost 100 merit points. With their current cultivation level, entering the mountain would almost guarantee a loss.

Situ Jian and the others had originally given up, deciding to wait until their cultivation improved before venturing into the mountain for hunting.

But upon hearing Cheng Mo say that Mo Hua planned to take them into the mountain, their previously disheartened spirits quietly reignited.

Though they didn't know Mo Hua's exact plans or methods for dealing with the perilous Demon Refining Mountain and its bloodthirsty monsters...

Following Junior Brother's lead was undoubtedly the right choice.

This belief stemmed from previous experiences and proved an unassailable truth.

During the rest period, Mo Hua made a quick trip to the Gu Family's stores in Tai Xu City, picked up some Spiritual Artifacts, drew a few formations on them, and then met with Cheng Mo and the others to head toward Demon Refining Mountain.

At the mountain gate, each person spent 100 merit points to purchase a Demon Refining Command before entering the mountain.

However, as they entered, Mo Hua failed to notice a handsome, relaxed-looking man with a Long Elder's demeanor, who discreetly cast a glance their way.

This man was none other than Elder Xun's assigned overseer, Elder Xun Ziyou.

His surname was Xun, given name Ziyou. He hailed from the Xun family and was a direct descendant of Elder Master Xun. With Late Golden Core Stage cultivation, he served as an Elder within Taixu Gate's Inner Gate.

Watching Mo Hua enter the mountain, Xun Ziyou sighed softly.

"Here we go again..."

He had thought that after two consecutive rest periods spent roaming the mountain, Mo Hua would settle down for a while, but it seemed the moment he had free time, the boy was ready to dive in again.

And this time, he even brought four kids along.

Surely he wasn't contemplating monster hunting now, was he?

In his mind, Xun Ziyou surveyed the disciples' cultivation levels and shook his head slightly.

"This is risky..."

They might stand a chance against Second Grade Early Stage Monster Beasts, but the risk was substantial.

Even within the same grade, some beasts were strong, others weak.

If they encountered weaker ones, escaping would be possible even if they couldn't win.

But coming across stronger ones, failing to defeat them might cost them their lives in Demon Refining Mountain.

Reluctantly sipping his tea, Xun Ziyou murmured, "So much for my peaceful days..."

It had been troublesome enough keeping an eye on just one of them, but now, in the blink of an eye, it had grown to five...

Smacking his lips, Xun Ziyou found the tea tasted bitter. Shaking his head, he instructed the nearby gatekeeping disciples:

"Keep watch over the mountain gate; I'll take a look inside."

The disciples nearby bowed respectfully. "Yes, Elder."

In a flash, Xun Ziyou entered Demon Refining Mountain.

Meanwhile, at the foot of Demon Refining Mountain, Mo Hua and the group were seated cross-legged on a large stone, gathering together.

Mo Hua said, "This time, we aim to hunt a Second Grade Primary Rank Monster Beast called the Cangmu Wolf..."

Chapter 1253: Hunt (2)

Cheng Mo and the others nodded nervously.

Mo Hua continued, "The Cangmu Wolf, a Wood series Wolf Demon within the Five Elements, two men tall, its entire body glistening green, with poisonous claws and teeth, dense demonic power, and wooden-brown pupils that darken with each kill, possibly reddened with blood..."

"The Cangmu Wolf's attacks are similar to ordinary Wolf Demons, focused on biting, pouncing, gnawing, and tail swipes."

"Its saliva is poisonous, and it frequently licks its fur, so the fur itself is venomous."

Mo Hua retrieved a Storage Bag, "Here are four Yimu armors, specifically for defending against Wood series demonic power and equipped with a poison-warding formation. Wearing these will shield you from most of the Cangmu Wolf's attacks..."

Situ Jian couldn't help but ask, "Junior Brother, what about you?"

"It doesn't matter for me," Mo Hua replied, "I rely on movement techniques and concealment; the Cangmu Wolf won't be able to touch me."

Wearing clunky armor would only hinder his mobility.

Moreover, he didn't need to engage it directly; he only needed to support from the shadows. A mere Cangmu Wolf posed no threat to him.

Afterward, Mo Hua briefly explained the Cangmu Wolf's habits.

He emphasized the strategies and procedures for Monster Hunting and reminded them:

"You must follow the plan strictly—no mistakes."

Cheng Mo and the others nodded repeatedly, inwardly astounded.

While they had always trusted their Junior Brother, they hadn't expected that even for a simple Monster Hunt, he could devise such a comprehensive and meticulous plan, one that seemed incredibly "professional."

They had never considered things in such detail.

In the distance, Xun Ziyu gestured a slight nod.

Plan ahead, and act only after preparation.

This was far superior to rashly charging forward with unbridled passion to fight Monster Beasts to the death.

Indeed, it was far better than the usual methods employed by noble family disciples.

Once everything was ready, Mo Hua declared, "Let's go!"

The five of them set off, heading to Refining Demon Mountain to hunt their first Monster Beast—the Cangmu Wolf.

The Cangmu Wolf, a Wood series Monster Beast, favored toxic forests and thickets.

Mo Hua, based on its habits, moved carefully through the mountains while releasing his Divine Sense, searching for traces of the Cangmu Wolf.

Occasionally, they encountered other Second Grade Primary Rank Monster Beasts.

Cheng Mo asked, "Junior Brother, why aren't we killing these beasts?"

Mo Hua shook his head, "The target is only the Cangmu Wolf."

Noticing some confusion among the group, Mo Hua explained, "The goal must be clear, the plan precise, and the execution unwavering. Do not be greedy, and absolutely avoid deviations..."

"Deviation introduces additional trouble, and then the consequences become unpredictable."

"Unpredictable consequences?"

Cheng Mo and the others didn't entirely understand but still nodded obediently.

After half an hour of searching, Mo Hua found traces of the Cangmu Wolf beneath a giant tree.

Black-green fur and traces of grass-and-wood toxic fluid.

Following these leads, they spent another hour tracking down a Second Grade Primary Rank Monster Beast, standing two men tall, with a ferocious gaze:

The Cangmu Wolf.

"Be wary of its poison, don't get overconfident, and watch out for feigned death..."

Mo Hua reminded them again before officially commencing the hunt.

He first observed the Cangmu Wolf's movement patterns and positioned traps along its predestined path, embedding an Array Plate for the Di Sha Formation.

He masked the setup using the surroundings and erased any traces of his work.

Sprinkling grass powder, he suppressed the aura.

All of this was executed with practiced ease, and the formation's setup was flawless.

Afterward, the group hid within a nearby forest.

Thirty minutes later, the Cangmu Wolf arrived, entering the trap and triggering the formation.

Instantly, a thunderous explosion echoed, dust billowing into the air.

The Second Grade Di Sha Formation erupted, streams of Earth series Spiritual Power surged forward like coiling serpents, destroying everything in their wake. Nearby mountain stones and vegetation were crushed into powder.

As the dust settled, the Cangmu Wolf emerged, its body covered in wounds and its venomous green blood dripping through its fur onto the ground. Its monstrous eyes brimmed with fear and rage.

Not giving it a moment to recover, Mo Hua commanded coldly:

"Kill!"

Overwhelmed by the power of the Di Sha Formation, Cheng Mo and the others snapped out of their daze and, remembering Mo Hua's orders, hesitated no longer, charging forward with everything they had.

For a moment, the beast's roars intertwined with the cultivators' shouts.

Demonic power clashed with Spiritual Power.

Cheng Mo, with his mighty aura, wielded his Mountain Splitting Axe with great vigor, engaging the Cangmu Wolf head-on.

Yang Qianjun's spear thrust like a dragon, striking viciously in close range.

Situ Jian's sword flashed with Li Fire, executing devastating attacks from afar.

Hao Xuan, having abandoned his staff, retrieved the Spirit Sword he had trained with since childhood, using Sword Qi from the side to deliver supplementary blows.

Mo Hua seized opportunities to cast Spells, either disrupting the Cangmu Wolf's offense, amplifying its injuries, or restricting its movements.

Cheng Mo and the others wore Yimu armors during the battle.

The Cangmu Wolf's attacks, poisonous and powerful, were greatly mitigated by the armors.

However, the group's strikes proved overwhelming for the Cangmu Wolf.

The tide turned swiftly.

The severely injured Cangmu Wolf couldn't hold out and attempted to flee.

But as its eyes shifted, Mo Hua immediately noticed and called out sternly:

"It's trying to escape—stop it!"

Cheng Mo roared, "Vile beast! Take my axe!"

He swung both axes imbued with the momentum of Mountain Opening, aiming fiercely at the Cangmu Wolf's midsection.

Yang Qianjun focused intensely, his spear tip radiating golden light, stabbing toward the Cangmu Wolf's throat.

Situ Jian and Hao Xuan chased it down with waves of Sword Qi.

Mo Hua cast the Water Prison Technique to temporarily trap the Cangmu Wolf.



The Cangmu Wolf, unable to dodge, took the full force of the strikes and let out one final, resentful roar before collapsing to the ground.

The group's faces lit up in delight, but Mo Hua's earlier caution returned to their minds:

"Monster Beasts are deceitful by nature and often feign death. Be even more careful once it's down..."

Their hearts trembled, and they dared not relax.

Sticking to the plan, Cheng Mo and Yang Qianjun guarded nearby while Situ Jian and Hao Xuan condensed Sword Qi for attacks from a distance.

Chapter 1254: Hunt (3)

The Cangmu Wolf was struck by several waves of Sword Qi and, sure enough, flailed about again.

After another round of attacks from the group, the Cangmu Wolf failed to stir up much trouble and finally collapsed, completely lifeless.

Cheng Mo and the others were drenched in sweat, their arms slightly numb. Staring at the lifeless Cangmu Wolf on the ground, they were simultaneously thrilled and somewhat incredulous.

It's dead!

Had they used their own abilities to slay a second-grade primary-ranked Cangmu Wolf?

Although their Junior Brother had contributed the most, they'd certainly played a significant role.

On the other side, Xun Ziyu also looked a little dazed.

It was so fast... they killed it?

From preparation, to tracking clues, to laying formations and ambushing, to the group assault, and even preventing a fake death at the end.

The entire operation was carried out seamlessly.

This Cangmu Wolf had died without a trace of unexpected deviation.

Was killing monsters really this easy?

Xun Ziyou silently glanced at the crowd, then looked at the composed and meticulous Mo Hua, his eyes filled with a hint of disbelief.

Though his Spiritual Root was mediocre and his Blood Qi weak, his aptitude appeared ordinary. Yet his temperament and intelligence were anything but.

A humble exterior hiding a brilliant core.

If this child weren't limited by his Spiritual Root, his future potential would undoubtedly be limitless.

The discerning eye of the ancestor truly was terrifying.

The Cangmu Wolf was already dead, its blood not yet congealed.

Mo Hua immediately pulled out a clean porcelain jade bottle and used the Blood Drawing Art he had learned long ago from his Senior Sister to extract the Cangmu Wolf's blood.

This blood was intended for mixing Spiritual Ink.

He managed to collect ten full bottles.

Glancing at the porcelain jade bottles, Mo Hua symbolically asked Cheng Mo and the others, "Do you want this blood?"

Cheng Mo and the others, well-versed in social cues, shook their heads, "Nope."

After all, they weren't Formation Masters. What use would they have for monster blood?

Besides, how could they possibly ask for something the Junior Brother had his eye on?

They weren't fools.

Mo Hua nodded, comfortably tucking all ten bottles into his Storage Bag.

He planned to hoard plenty of monster blood to concoct more Spiritual Ink.

That way, he wouldn't have to spend Merit Points—or even Spirit Stones—on Spiritual Ink anymore.

Hoard ink; hoard Spirit Stones; hoard Merit Points.

He aimed to stockpile as much as possible!

After securing the Spiritual Ink, Mo Hua brushed the dust off his hands, looked at the Cangmu Wolf, and then said:

"Let's dissect the body."

Such a massive Cangmu Wolf was certainly impossible to carry back whole. According to the general methods of Monster Hunters, the valuable materials must be dismantled and taken back.

But such work didn't require Mo Hua's hands.

Carrying two large axes, Cheng Mo began dissecting the Cangmu Wolf.

Mo Hua stood beside him, giving directions on where to split with the axe, which bones to extract, and which organs were more valuable...

Though Cheng Mo's technique was a bit clumsy, after laboring for an hour, he barely managed to finish.

The Cangmu Wolf lay there skinned and deboned, disfigured beyond recognition, with blood pooled across the ground.

The scene was rather gruesome, leaving Cheng Mo and his companions momentarily unsettled.

Mo Hua, however, was entirely unfazed. He even advised Cheng Mo:

"For dissecting monsters like this, practice more next time. You must be quick and efficient, or else after all the effort of killing the monster, someone else—another monster or cultivator—might stumble upon it before you harvest the materials. That would be less than ideal."

Cheng Mo nodded repeatedly.

Once the Cangmu Wolf was dissected, its materials were packed into Storage Bags.

As night fell, Mo Hua and the group made their way back to the mountain gate.

At the mountain gate, they sold all the materials from the Cangmu Wolf.

The Cangmu Wolf's materials weren't particularly expensive, and since Mo Hua and his companions didn't primarily focus on Artifact Refining, keeping them wasn't all that useful.

Selling them was fine too. If sold outside, they'd earn Spirit Stones. If sold within Refining Demon Mountain, they'd earn Merit Points.

The Cangmu Wolf's head, damaged fur, spine bone, claws, tail, some liver and gall—all could fetch a price.

The total value translated into two thousand five hundred Merit Points.

Divided evenly, each person received five hundred Merit Points. After subtracting the one hundred Merit Points for the Monster Hunting Token, each person earned a net profit of four hundred Merit Points.

Of course, expenses for purchasing Spiritual Artifacts, armor, pills, or formations had to be deducted.

But since those were bought with Spirit Stones rather than wasting Merit Points, Cheng Mo and the others didn't mind.

With Merit Points now in hand, excitement shone on their faces.

Cheng Mo and company thought of giving Mo Hua two hundred extra Merit Points.

After all, the success of hunting the Cangmu Wolf had largely relied on Mo Hua's assistance in preparing Spiritual Artifacts, crafting plans, and guiding them through the action.

Without Mo Hua's involvement, the Cangmu Wolf would have been impossible to kill.

They also became convinced that Mo Hua must be a seasoned Monster Hunter—his experience couldn't have been that refined otherwise.

Hao Xuan, full of admiration, asked:

"Junior Brother, have you hunted many monsters before?"

Mo Hua humbly replied:

"Not too many... just decent results."

Most of his successes had been dependent on formation-assisted techniques, so his tally wasn't particularly high—though his track record was respectable.

To date, Mo Hua's most illustrious accomplishment as a Monster Hunter was slaying...

An evil demon known as "Feng Xi."

But he refrained from mentioning it.

Because others would just think he was bragging.

The next day, Mo Hua led Cheng Mo and the others and repeated the same process to hunt another Cangmu Wolf.

This time, it went smoothly once again.

After a brief summary, Mo Hua adjusted the hunting strategy according to the habits of the monsters and the terrain of Refining Demon Mountain, finalizing a stable hunting procedure for Cangmu Wolves.

It included what Spiritual Artifacts needed to be prepared before entering the mountain;

How to scout, track, set traps, execute the assault, wrap up, and handle aftermath after entering the mountain...

This procedure specifically targeted Cangmu Wolves.

Every task must be accomplished step by step.

Hunting monsters also had to progress from one target to another in incremental learning.

Most of the sect disciples were beginners. At the start, they certainly couldn't hunt every type of monster.

Letting them start by hunting Cangmu Wolves allowed them to gradually adjust to the monster-hunting process, build confidence, accumulate experience, and steadily develop into qualified Monster Hunters.

Mo Hua nodded, a sigh of satisfaction welling up within.

As the Junior Brother, he truly put his heart into guiding them.

Who else displayed such kindness as he did...

Afterward, Mo Hua approached Cheng Mo: "Take a look and see if anyone else wants to have some fun in Refining Demon Mountain. Let them come and find me."

He intended to promote this hunting procedure across the disciples of Taixu Sect.

That night, Cheng Mo brought several disciples over.

The group stood upright before Mo Hua, greeting in unison:

"Junior Brother, greetings!"

Mo Hua nodded and asked, "You wish to enter Refining Demon Mountain?"

"Yes!"

Mo Hua didn't beat around the bush. He straightforwardly handed them a Jade Slip.

"Start with hunting second-grade Cangmu Wolves. Don't aim too high, and don't be careless."

"This contains the entire procedure. Follow it step by step..."

Then Mo Hua meticulously explained the precautions, from reconnaissance to hunting, to skinning and dismantling, detailing it comprehensively.

He even thoughtfully mentioned where they could buy the formation media and Spiritual Artifacts needed in the procedure.

The disciples were deeply grateful, expressing their thanks enthusiastically:

"Thank you, Junior Brother!"

From then on, at the entrance of Refining Demon Mountain...

Elder Xun began to notice more and more Taixu Sect disciples donning identical armor, carrying the same formations, forming identical formations, and following the same rhythm as they entered Refining Demon Mountain—to hunt the same type of monsters...

Chapter 1255: Charging Forward Like a Pig

At the gates of Refining Demon Mountain.

Xun Ziyou and another elder dressed in a maple-colored robe were sipping tea.

That elder took a sip of tea, then suddenly frowned and remarked in surprise, "Recently, the Cangmu Wolves in the mountain seem to have decreased significantly compared to when I was on duty before..."

Xun Ziyou choked on his tea and coughed lightly.

The elder in the maple-colored robe gave Xun Ziyou a suspicious glance, "Elder Xun, do you happen to know something?"

Xun Ziyou's expression turned complicated, thinking to himself, how could I not know...

A "little senior brother" from our Taixu Sect, along with his group of junior disciples, has been specifically hunting the Cangmu Wolves in Refining Demon Mountain.

Custom formation arrays, specialized spiritual tools, standardized processes, unified strategies—it's like they've turned into Taoist Soldiers...

How could any monster beast withstand that?

The Cangmu Wolves in Refining Demon Mountain must've been plagued with misfortune for eight lifetimes.

Xun Ziyou coughed again, vaguely murmuring, "I wouldn't know... Sect disciples hunting monsters—what they hunt is all the same, a little more, a little less, it doesn't really matter."



"True enough..." the other elder muttered in thought.

Xun Ziyou glanced at him, silently poured him another cup of tea, and said softly:

"As elders, our job is just to maintain order. There are so many disciples from various sects—we can't monitor them all. Let them play as they wish, as long as no major troubles arise..."

"Besides, with the situation in the Southern Wilderness intensifying, who knows when we'll have to traverse mountains and rivers, toiling away. How much longer can we enjoy leisure like this, sipping tea while watching the mountains..."

The elder in the maple-colored robe was stunned, then nodded in agreement, "Elder Xun makes a valid point."

With that, the two of them picked up their teacups and continued to drink leisurely.

But deep down, Xun Ziyou couldn't quite relax.

That troublesome Mo Hua better not push the Cangmu Wolves in Refining Demon Mountain to extinction...

Fortunately, it seemed Mo Hua got the message from Elder Xun and stopped exclusively targeting the Cangmu Wolves.

He decided to turn his attention to other monster beasts.

The Cangmu Wolves in the mountains, after all, only had limited numbers.

A team of five focusing on hunting Cangmu Wolves was still manageable.

But now, his "underlings"—junior brothers and sisters—had grown in number, forming squad after squad, dressed in Yimu armor and armed with sharp Golden-series spiritual weapons, all going after the Cangmu Wolves.

The population of Cangmu Wolves began to noticeably decline.

With more cultivators hunting wolves and fewer wolves to hunt,

Some disciples would spend an entire day wandering the Refining Demon Mountain only to return empty-handed, wasting merit points on entrance fees.

To maintain the balance of the ecosystem and prevent the disciples from leaving empty-handed, Mo Hua personally took action, summarizing his experiences and creating another monster hunting "guide."

This time, the guide targeted a type of monster called the Tianqing Snake.

The Tianqing Snake, being a Wood-series Snake Demon, was similar to the Cangmu Wolf in that it was a Wood-series monster, but it naturally carried venom.

The armor and spiritual weapons used to hunt Cangmu Wolves worked equally well on the Tianqing Snakes.

However, the Tianqing Snakes were more sinister, camouflaging themselves in bushes and blending into their surroundings. Their demonic power mixed with the aura of vegetation, making them harder to detect.

To address this, Mo Hua specially crafted a Wood Spirit Array Plate.

This array plate could identify the general composition of Wood-series spiritual power within a ten-zhang radius.

It could differentiate between natural vegetation aura, cultivator spiritual power, or Wood Poison demonic power.

Though not extremely precise, it was sufficient for locating monsters.

Aside from being inherently venomous, harder to detect, and more challenging to hunt, the Tianqing Snakes weren't particularly powerful.

Moreover, Tianqing Snakes had snake gall, which sold for a higher price and earned more merit points.

Before long, the Tianqing Snakes started sharing the burden previously borne by the Cangmu Wolves.

The Cangmu Wolves were no longer the only monster beasts being "targeted" by Taixu Sect's "little senior brother" Mo Hua and his group of junior disciples.

After the Tianqing Snakes, Mo Hua devised hunting "guides" for several other types of monster beasts.

The scope of these guides expanded even further.

Beyond Wood-series monsters, they included Golden-series Golden-patterned Leopards, Earth-series Grey-spotted Pythons, Fire-series Crimson Flame Hyenas, and others.

These monster beasts all made it onto Mo Hua's "monster hunting guide list."

In conjunction with these guides, Mo Hua also designed refinement array maps for customized spiritual tools, which he handed over to Master Gu for refinement and subsequent sale in the Gu Family's stores.

The quantity of these spiritual tools was astonishing.

The spiritual tools required for monster hunting already exceeded those used for bounties or apprehending Sin Cultivators.

Additionally, hunting monsters was far more efficient than bounty hunting.

After all, Sin Cultivators roamed far and wide, making them difficult to track, while monsters mostly stayed within Refining Demon Mountain and could be found easily upon entering the mountain.

Because of this, Master Gu's Gushan Refining Workshop had its furnaces burning around the clock, bustling with activity.

The customized spiritual tools' array diagrams had been standardized by Master Gu and passed on to his numerous apprentices.

If it had been just one or two pieces to customize, mass production wouldn't have been possible.

But now, with Mo Hua's guides, the spiritual tools required for Taixu Sect disciples to hunt monsters had become standardized, reaching a certain scale of artifact refinement.

These customized spiritual tools could now be produced in bulk as needed.

Meanwhile, the store business flourished more than ever...

As for these developments, Mo Hua wasn't particularly concerned.

During his days off, he would still immerse himself in Refining Demon Mountain, though now he no longer needed to hunt personally.

He had crafted monster hunting guides and promoted them widely.

Over time, more and more Taixu Sect disciples would visit his assembly point, acknowledging him as "little senior brother," receiving a guide, and heading to Refining Demon Mountain.

Of the over a thousand sect disciples, while most had called him "little senior brother" on the surface,

Only a small minority truly regarded him as their senior brother at heart.

They were all Heaven's Chosen Sons—none would easily submit to another.

Some, gifted and proud, would only nod to Mo Hua in passing, never uttering the words "little senior brother."

Chapter 1256: Charging Ahead (2)

This is perfectly normal; Mo Hua doesn't mind.

But things are different now.

These Monster Hunting Strategies cannot be shared without Mo Hua's permission.

If one wants the strategies, they have to go to Mo Hua.

Hunting monsters in the mountains is exceedingly difficult for newcomers.

Initially, everyone stumbled along, struggling immensely.

But now, some disciples, armed with Mo Hua's comprehensive "strategies" and clad in armor, confidently ventured into the mountains, slaying monster beasts one after another, earning merit points until their hands went sore.

Other disciples, no matter how proud or ambitious they were, couldn't sit still anymore.

There's competition among fellow sect members too.

Everyone here is a cultivation genius, none lacking talent.

Battle experience must be honed through personal effort, and cultivation resources must be fought for; lagging behind even slightly means falling further behind with every step.

Now, with Mo Hua's assistance, some disciples are progressing rapidly.

Others naturally wouldn't want to fall behind either.

Moreover, there's an abundance of demon-hunting merit points to be earned.

Merit points are much more important than pride.

So, even some of Taixu Sect's Heavenly Prides, who previously declared they would never associate with Mo Hua, ended up blushing slightly, running up to him and meekly calling out:

"Junior Brother..."

Mo Hua responded with a warm, spring-like smile.

After all, it didn't matter who came to him; he treated everyone equally and didn't hoard knowledge.

He handed over the strategies and carefully explained the important points.

Those Heavenly Prides followed Mo Hua's methods and entered Refining Demon Mountain. To their surprise, everything went smoothly; they successfully hunted monster beasts and were momentarily incredulous.

Monster hunting... is it really this effortless?

When they received their merit points, any lingering resentment in their hearts vanished completely.

The words "Junior Brother" rolled off their tongues more smoothly each time.

In their hearts, they gradually "strategized themselves."

Mo Hua is such a good person—why not call him Junior Brother?

After all, he was personally appointed by Elder Master Xun.

If not for Mo Hua's sake, they had to show respect for Elder Master Xun anyway.

Besides, if others could call him Junior Brother, why couldn't they?

Thus, Mo Hua often encountered unfamiliar disciples greeting him by warmly calling out "Junior Brother" as he walked through the sect.

Especially in Refining Demon Mountain, the calls of "Junior Brother" grew louder and more frequent.

Most of the disciples hunting in Refining Demon Mountain at their current cultivation level had received Mo Hua's strategies or guidance.

One day, while Mo Hua was in Refining Demon Mountain, a fellow disciple saw him and said enthusiastically:

"Junior Brother, we killed a Cangmu Wolf and obtained a Demon Core. Please accept it."

This disciple looked kind-hearted and clever, his gaze lively, exuding sharpness. Mo Hua remembered his surname was Dong, with a given name Shi. But Mo Hua couldn't recall which province he came from.

Mo Hua shook his head and declined, saying:

"A Demon Core is valuable. You should keep it to exchange for merit points."

The disciple named Dong Shi expressed his gratitude earnestly: "Without Junior Brother's guidance, we wouldn't have obtained this Demon Core."

The other disciples chimed in, agreeing enthusiastically: "Exactly, exactly."

"Junior Brother, you should take it; otherwise, we'll feel uneasy."

Although he had guided them, Mo Hua felt slightly awkward taking away something they'd worked hard to obtain. He looked at the Cangmu Wolf's lifeless body on the ground. Suddenly, his eyes lit up, and he said:

"I don't need the Demon Core—give me the Monster Blood instead."

The Taixu disciples froze. "Monster Blood?"

"Yes," Mo Hua nodded. "It's of great use to me."

They thought for a moment and quickly understood.

Junior Brother needs Monster Blood to refine Spiritual Ink and learn formation techniques.

Worthy of being Junior Brother!

Upright and magnanimous!

Not coveting the Demon Core yet considerate of his fellow sect members' feelings, he only took Monster Blood to focus on refining Spiritual Ink and mastering formation techniques.

The disciples benevolently said: "Junior Brother, feel free to take the blood."

Mo Hua smiled and said: "Thank you."

After draining the Cangmu Wolf's blood, Mo Hua bid the disciples farewell.

As Dong Shi watched him leave, he turned to the others and said: "Pass the word: Junior Brother needs Monster Blood."

"Got it!"

And so, the message spread from one person to ten, and ten to a hundred.

Soon, all the Taixu disciples in Refining Demon Mountain knew about Junior Brother's need for Monster Blood.



Many disciples, eager to express their gratitude to Mo Hua, found Monster Blood to be a trivial offering.

Afterward, whenever Mo Hua entered Refining Demon Mountain, disciples approached him every few days, saying: "Junior Brother, we just killed a monster beast and haven't drained its blood yet—would you like it?"

Some disciples even waited specifically for Mo Hua to arrive before draining the blood of slain monster beasts.

This arrangement perfectly suited Mo Hua's goals.

Monster Blood was difficult to extract and couldn't earn many merit points. Most disciples found little use for it.

Mo Hua accepting it seemed only natural.

Thus, Mo Hua kept producing new Monster Hunting Strategies.

As disciples followed his strategies and guidance in Refining Demon Mountain, they made sure to follow the unwritten rule of allowing Mo Hua to drain Monster Blood first.

Gradually, this became an "unspoken tradition."

All of this was observed by Xun Ziyu, Elder Xun.

Elder Xun found it somewhat incredible.

He suddenly realized that this young disciple, Mo Hua—lacking cultivation years and possessing low spiritual root talent—had somehow garnered a certain "prestige" among his Taixu peers, filled with elites from esteemed families, all with top-grade spiritual roots.

And this prestige wasn't one of dominance over his peers.

Rather, it resembled harmonious camaraderie and mutual benefit among equals.

This scenario was something Elder Xun had almost never witnessed before.

Elder Xun even felt it was a little extraordinary...

...

As Mo Hua crafted more and more Monster Hunting Strategies, the lower-tier monster beast zones of Refining Demon Mountain's Outer Mountain became largely dominated by Taixu Sect disciples.

Chapter 1257: Charging Forward (3)

Some sect disciples were dissatisfied and occasionally sought to stir up trouble.

But it was nothing more than minor skirmishes, never causing any real commotion.

The mountains were vast and sprawling, filled with his junior brothers; Mo Hua would occasionally hunt monsters, bleed them, stroll through the hills, and live quite peacefully.

Whenever he had time, he would discuss the customization of spiritual artifacts with Master Gu.

This time, during the ten-day leave, Master Gu made a special trip to Tai Xu City to meet Mo Hua.

"Young Master, the armor you mentioned has finally been crafted..."

Master Gu handed Mo Hua a storage bag.

"Inside are two sets of armor, which have been refined over ten times. Now, they can embed formations and serve as spiritual artifacts. At the same time, they are open-source, controllable by divine thought, positioning them somewhere between 'formation media' and a specialized type of spiritual armor..."

Mo Hua's face lit up with joy.

He took out the two sets of armor from the storage bag and scrutinized them closely.

On the surface, they appeared to be ordinary armor.

But the internal structure revealed hidden intricacies, as Master Gu mentioned, clearly crafted with great effort.

"Thank you, Master Gu!" Mo Hua said with a bright smile.

"Young Master, no need to be so polite," Master Gu replied with a laugh. "In fact, I should be the one thanking you, Young Master."

"If not for the Young Master's clever mind and exceptional formation skills that helped us tremendously, Gushan Refining Workshop would probably still be living in poverty..."

Master Gu spoke wistfully, then sincerely added:

"I wonder, Young Master, when you might have time to visit Solitary Mountain City again. I would like to host you properly and extend my hospitality."

Master Gu chuckled, "Although Solitary Mountain City is poor, it has some local wild delicacies that are quite delicious and unavailable elsewhere."

Mo Hua's eyes brightened as he nodded repeatedly, "Sure, sure!"

He then looked a little regretful, "But Elder Master Xun isn't letting me wander around for now. When I find time in the future, I'll definitely visit."

Master Gu was overjoyed and cupped his hands as he spoke, "Then it's settled."

"Settled!"

After bidding farewell to Master Gu and returning to the sect, Mo Hua began inscribing a First Grade Thirteen Pattern Five Elements Ultimate Formation onto the Five Elements Origin Armor.

After finishing, Mo Hua went to the Dao Room to test it.

His Fireball Technique indeed had its power significantly enhanced.

However, it was hard to gauge precisely by how much.

Besides, since the Fireball Technique was considered a low-level spell, it required little spiritual power. Even with enhancement, its effectiveness seemed limited.

Mo Hua thought about testing out his forbidden technique, Mini Meteorite Skill.

But he felt it might be too dangerous.

After all, it was a forbidden technique.

With the amplification of the Five Elements, if spiritual power spiraled out of control and harmed him, it would create a big problem.

Even if he didn't injure himself, damaging the Dao Room's puppets and formations wouldn't be ideal.

Before entering the sect, he had promised Elder Yi not to mess around, misuse spells, or damage the puppets.

"Better to test it on Cheng Mo and the others..."

After all, this Five Elements Origin Armor was initially meant for them to use.

And since Cheng Mo was a body cultivator with robust blood qi, even if spiritual power backfired or Taoist skills injured him, after resting for ten days or so, he'd likely return to being lively.

Both the Five Elements Source Formation and the Five Elements Origin Armor were relatively stable in design.

Even if something went wrong, it wouldn't be life-threatening.

Especially for Cheng Mo, with his thick skin and strong physique, he wouldn't suffer much. He'd be the perfect "test subject."

Mo Hua called on Cheng Mo and Situ Jian, along with others, his face full of anticipation, saying, "Let's go to Refining Demon Mountain. I'll show you something..."

Cheng Mo was puzzled, "What is it?"

"You'll find out when the time comes." Mo Hua said with a mischievous smile, keeping it a secret.

Cheng Mo looked completely clueless, but deep down, he felt his junior brother might not have the most honorable intentions.

The group arrived at Refining Demon Mountain.

Mo Hua took out two sets of Five Elements Origin Armor, thought for a moment, then handed one to Cheng Mo and another to Yang Qianjun.

Armor should ideally be worn by body cultivators.

Cheng Mo held the armor, inspecting it, and finding its design unfamiliar, asked, "Are we hunting a new type of monster?"

Mo Hua shook his head, "No, still hunting Cangmu Wolves."

"Cangmu Wolves?" Yang Qianjun was also confused. "But this isn't Yimu Armor, right..."

Moreover, he had never seen armor of this design.

Having been raised as a Taoist soldier, Yang Qianjun had some expertise in armor.

This armor, while outwardly simple, had an extraordinarily intricate internal structure, vastly different from any armor he'd encountered before.

"Yimu Armor is meant for defense. This armor isn't..."

Mo Hua didn't elaborate, merely saying, "If this armor proves effective, there'll be no need for defense when hunting a Cangmu Wolf. The fight will end in a single round."

The group was stunned by Mo Hua's words.

A single round, and the battle would be over?

What purpose did this armor truly serve...

Meanwhile, Xun Ziyu noticed Mo Hua and his companions huddled together as usual, whispering something. Assuming they were planning another monster hunt, he didn't think much of it.

Soon after, Mo Hua and his group entered Refining Demon Mountain.

Mo Hua spent thirty minutes locating a Cangmu Wolf. He then followed the usual routine of tracking, setting traps, and arranging formations.

The Cangmu Wolf was caught in the formation and severely injured.

Cheng Mo and the others rushed forward as usual to encircle and slaughter it.

However, unlike previous hunts, they were no longer wearing the defensive Yimu Armor but the Five Elements Origin Armor inscribed by Mo Hua with the Five Elements Sect Protecting Ultimate Formation.

As Cheng Mo and the others charged forward, Mo Hua activated his divine sense, instantly connecting to the Five Elements Origin Armor and triggered the Five Elements Source Formation within it.

His divine thought flowed into the Five Elements Ultimate Formation, merging with formation patterns and spiritual power.

Chapter 1258: Charging Forward Like a Boar (4)

The intricate and peculiar formation patterns on the Five Elements Origin Armor lit up.

Cheng Mo and Yang Qianjun faintly sensed that the aura around them seemed to be shifting.

Spiritual power seemed ready to stir...

But suddenly, everything stopped.

The light on the armor dissipated, and the irregular stirring of spiritual power vanished.

Mo Hua shouted sharply: "Stop!"

Cheng Mo, Yang Qianjun, and the others, who were halfway in their charge, looked back at Mo Hua in confusion.

Mo Hua frowned and immediately said, "Retreat first."

The group was puzzled.

Mo Hua added, "Something big is coming."

At his words, everyone felt a chill in their hearts and promptly released their divine sense, but they couldn't detect anything.

However, Mo Hua's judgment was unequivocal.

Thus, they abandoned the severely injured Cangmu Wolf and climbed up a nearby large tree, scanning the surroundings carefully.

Indeed, moments later, monster qi surged suddenly and intensely.

A massive pig-headed demon burst out from the underbrush, its eyes a deep red, tusks sinister, mouth drooling a foul stench, its gaze locked fiercely onto the injured Cangmu Wolf before it.

Cheng Mo and the others' expressions changed.

Mo Hua also furrowed his brows slightly.

"A Second Grade Middle Stage beast..."

Monster beasts are significantly stronger than cultivators of the same realm.

Their blood qi is several times denser.

Furthermore, the monster beasts of Refining Demon Mountain, due to their often unique bloodlines and rare species, are generally stronger than those from Big Black Mountain.

Sect disciples are inherently not skilled at monster hunting.

Therefore, they usually form teams of five to hunt beasts a full realm lower than theirs.

For instance, Mo Hua's group of five Foundation Establishment Middle Stage cultivators had hunted the Cangmu Wolf, a Second Grade Primary Rank beast.

This approach is both stable and safe.

Moreover, if Mo Hua hadn't thoroughly strategized beforehand, the five Foundation Establishment Middle Stage sect disciples would likely have struggled to kill a Second Grade Primary Rank beast due to their lack of experience.

Let alone a Second Grade Middle Stage beast.

A Second Grade Middle Stage beast is entirely out of their league, presenting considerably greater risk.



Even with the Five Elements Origin Armor enhancing spiritual power, the outcome would be hard to predict.

Hence, Mo Hua had initially planned to use the Second Grade Primary Rank Cangmu Wolf for practice; that way, even if the Five Elements Origin Armor failed, their lives wouldn't be at stake.

But a Second Grade Middle Stage beast is a completely different matter.

Even if it's just one rank higher, its power exists on an entirely different level.

Mo Hua's expression turned grave.

Situ Jian asked in a hushed voice, "Junior Brother, what should we do?"

Mo Hua glanced at the pig-headed demon, radiating monster qi and grotesque in appearance, shook his head and whispered, "Retreat for now."

To confront a Second Grade Middle Stage pig-headed demon would be far too reckless.

This pig-headed demon seemed to have been drawn here by the monster blood of the Cangmu Wolf; it intended to devour the wolf and hadn't noticed Mo Hua and the others.

For now, it was engaged in a brutal battle with the Cangmu Wolf.

The Cangmu Wolf was no match for the pig-headed demon, especially after sustaining heavy injuries from Mo Hua's formation. It was gravely wounded.

The pig-headed demon tore into the Cangmu Wolf's body bite by bite, sucking its blood, gnawing its flesh.

Seizing the opportunity, Mo Hua made a decisive call:

"Move!"

Cheng Mo and the others nodded and followed Mo Hua, quietly retreating from the tree.

As Mo Hua's group began to leave, Elder Xun, who was secretly monitoring them from the distance, slightly nodded, thinking:

"Clear judgment, knows when to advance and retreat—excellent..."

Mo Hua's decisive handling allowed the group to swiftly leave the area.

Only the massive pig-headed demon remained, feasting voraciously on the lifeless Cangmu Wolf, devouring its flesh and bones completely.

The pig-headed demon, greedy by nature, ate swiftly.

Once finished, it still seemed unsatisfied.

Its grotesque pig snout sniffed the air, and suddenly, its deep red pupils constricted.

It had caught the scent of fresh human flesh.

The pig-headed demon's gaze turned icy and merciless as it licked its pig lips, slowly stood up, then let out a piercing howl. Its monster qi erupted violently, entwined with black-red filthy qi, as it charged toward the direction of Mo Hua's retreat, driven by the alluring aroma of human flesh...

Chapter 1259: Source Armor

In the dense forest of the Outer Mountain of Refining Demon Mountain, Monster Qi surged, and black mist filled the air.

The Second-Grade Pig Monster dashed madly, its speed incredibly fast.

The retreating group, including Mo Hua and Elder Xun, also sensed the ferocious Monster Qi behind them.

Elder Xun furrowed his brows slightly.

Mo Hua felt a chill in his heart and said in a deep voice, "Run fast! That pig is chasing us."

Cheng Mo and the others' expressions tightened as they pushed their movement techniques to the limits, speeding up even more. But the Pig Monster was even faster.

The strong aura of the Monster Beast grew closer and closer.

Mo Hua turned back and set down several Array Plates, planting a few Formation Flags to form a Trapping Formation to block the Pig Monster.

The Pig Monster charged straight into the Formation.

The Formation activated, creating a golden light cage that bound the Pig Monster.

But the Pig Monster, undeterred, forcefully rammed forward.

The golden light sliced through its flesh, blood gushing everywhere, but this did little to harm it. Instead, it further ignited its ferocity.

Its saliva grew more foul, and its eyes became even greedier.

Mo Hua kept fleeing while simultaneously employing various methods to obstruct the Pig Monster and ensure the group's safe retreat.

However, the Pig Monster kept getting closer and closer.

"We can't escape anymore!"

Cheng Mo and the others' expressions shifted slightly, turning to look at Mo Hua.

Mo Hua's eyes turned cold. "This fat pig, it's asking to die!"

Hunting a Monster Beast like this, with thick skin and great strength, always carried many variables and high risk. It wasn't advisable to take reckless actions.

Mo Hua had intended to briefly stall it, allowing everyone to escape safely.

But this fat pig, charging relentlessly without stopping, was clearly seeking death—it left him no choice...

"Hao Xuan, you're quick. Lead it away."

"Cheng Mo, you all hold it off a little; don't engage in prolonged combat."

"Give me some time to set up a Formation and slaughter this fat pig!"

Mo Hua's voice was clear and sharp.

Cheng Mo and the others froze for a moment, then nodded solemnly.

Mo Hua disappeared into the forest, using his invisibility technique to vanish from sight.

Hao Xuan followed Mo Hua's instructions, pulling out Demon Smelly Grass to lure the Pig Monster.

At the same time, he reversed his grip and unleashed Sword Qi, striking the Pig Monster's forehead to provoke its wrath.

The Pig Monster roared in fury and charged at Hao Xuan.

Cheng Mo and the others intercepted briefly, attacking and disengaging, merely holding it off without risking their lives.

From afar, Elder Xun, who had been prepared to intervene with Sword Qi to save them, hesitated upon seeing this scene.

"These kids... are they planning to counter-kill this Pig Monster?"

How would they kill it?

Elder Xun frowned slightly.

It seems impossible to kill it...

After pondering for a moment, he silently withdrew his fingers, dispersing the Sword Qi, deciding to observe the situation for now.

The peril of life and death was also a form of training.

Facing a powerful enemy, letting these kids figure out solutions and give their all was also a valuable experience.

If worst comes to worst, he would intervene.

At the critical moment, he'd turn the tide of battle.

It would also be a perfect chance to showcase his skills as a Late Golden Core Stage Elder of Taixu Gate...

Elder Xun nodded secretly.

Meanwhile, Hao Xuan and the others exerted themselves fully, using all their techniques to drag the ferocious Pig Monster.

Mo Hua utilized this time to bury Array Plates and set up the Formation within the forest.

He arranged formations that he had meticulously selected from the various Five Elements and Eight Trigrams Formations inherited from the Shangguan Family, Wenren Family, and Elder Master Xun. These were the most powerful seventeen-pattern Killing Formations he could currently control.

Although Taixu Gate had Killing Formations in its sect's inheritance, they lacked ferocity.

The sect's doctrine focused on spreading the Tao and teaching cultivation, with Formations leaning more towards utility for cultivation and regular sparring rather than pure slaughter.

But the formations inherited from true families had a different nature.

Outside the sect, Formations had no such courtesy—it was kill or be killed. Dead enemies were the best kind.

And the traditions of Formation techniques were complex, coming in countless schools and variations.

The number of Patterns in a Formation was, in fact, not fixed.

For instance, the Melting Fire Formation during the Qi Refinement stage existed in a non-graded version with six Formation Patterns as well as a genuine First-Grade version with nine Patterns.

Killing Formations of Second Grade also had various versions with different Pattern counts.

For example, the Earth Fire Formation came in thirteen-pattern, sixteen-pattern, and higher-grade versions ranging from seventeen to nineteen Patterns.

The Di Sha Formation was similarly varied.

Such formations with differing Pattern counts were scattered across numerous family inheritances.

Mo Hua, proficient in the Five Elements and Eight Trigrams Formation methods, combined the strengths of multiple families' techniques, drawing from their essence to select the deadliest seventeen-pattern Killing Formations.

One was the high-level Second-Grade, seventeen-pattern Earth Fire Formation from the Wenren Family.

Another was the high-level Second-Grade, seventeen-pattern Di Sha Formation, sourced from Elder Master Xun's private collection.

And the third was the high-level Second-Grade, seventeen-pattern Shangguan Golden Sword Formation, clearly derived from the Shangguan Family.

These three formations were pure, refined Killing Formations.

Mo Hua set up these three layers of high-grade Killing Formations, along with several Trapping Formations, before concealing his presence and erasing all traces.

With preparations in order, Mo Hua blew a whistle.

The crisp whistle echoed through the forest melodiously.

The struggling group led by Hao Xuan, upon hearing the whistle, collectively sighed in relief. They immediately turned to lure the Pig Monster toward Mo Hua's direction.

Having been toyed with and led in circles by its "prey," the Pig Monster grew furious, its eyes blood-red and its aura chaotic with rage.

It intended to devour its prey alive, bones and all.

The Pig Monster accelerated even more.

Trees bent and broke, Monster winds roared.

Thus, carrying its wild, savage aura, the powerful Pig Monster charged straight into Mo Hua's meticulously prepared formations.

"Scatter!" Mo Hua commanded.

Chapter 1260: Source Armor (2)

Hao Xuan and the others immediately scattered upon hearing this.

In the blink of an eye, Mo Hua released his Divine Sense, connecting to the Formation Pivot and activating the Formation.

The ground turned into Quicksand, trapping the Pig Monster within.

Then, mountain stones arched upward like a cage, restricting its body.

Grasses and vines coiled like chains, binding its limbs.

The Pig Monster roared and charged furiously, demonic power surging through its limbs as it shattered the stone prison and tore off the wooden locks. It seemed ready to leap out from the Quicksand.

At this moment, Mo Hua's gaze turned cold, and he murmured:

"Explode!"

The earth trembled, and killing intent surged.

Amidst the swirling dust, Earth Spiritual Power coiled and bit down like a dragon, relentlessly twisting and tearing.

Then suddenly, golden light erupted.

Rays of golden light condensed into a Sword Formation, patrolling back and forth, slicing the Pig Monster's flesh inch by inch.

Finally, the Earth Fire Formation exploded.

Crimson flames instantly engulfed the bloodied Pig Monster...

First to trap, then to kill; the Trapping Formation interlocked seamlessly, while the Killing Formation exuded layers of lethal intent.



The powerful Formation's Spiritual Power surged like waves, spreading outward continuously. The spectacle was dazzling and awe-inspiring...

Cheng Mo and his group were utterly stunned, their mouths agape.

Even Elder Xun seemed momentarily dazed, before furrowing his brows in realization.

Wasn't the power of this Formation a bit too overwhelming?

For a cultivator of this Realm, could such a Formation even be set?

The Pig Monster had been annihilated by the triple Killing Formation, amidst flying sand and broken stones, snapped grass and disturbed Spiritual Power. When all the chaos subsided, its body was riddled with wounds.

Its bloodthirsty eyes now held a mix of rage and terror.

Strike while it's weak—finish it off!

Mo Hua's eyes flashed coldly, and he shouted:

"Kill it!"

Cheng Mo hesitated for just a moment before raising his axe and slashing forward. Yang Qianjun, Situ Jian, and Hao Xuan also lunged into action.

The Pig Monster let out a furious roar and grappled with the group.

The Pig Monster was a Second Grade Middle-level Monster Beast, with dense demonic power and superior strength. However, due to the severe injuries inflicted by Mo Hua's Formation, it was evenly matched against Cheng Mo's group for the time being.

Off to the side, Mo Hua attacked with pinpoint precision, using various Five Elements Spells to either restrict, interfere, or deal additional damage.

The situation reached a stalemate.

Although victory seemed to tilt gradually in their favor, Mo Hua knew that Monster Hunting was volatile—anything could happen.

Moreover, the terrain of Refining Demon Mountain was complex, full of unforeseen possibilities.

A quick resolution was essential to kill the Pig Monster in one fell swoop.

Mo Hua's gaze turned profound, his mind calming.

He waited for the right opening.

Finally, after an indeterminate amount of time, the Pig Monster, previously driven into a frenzy by its injuries, suddenly began moving sluggishly.

Mo Hua was momentarily startled, his eyes flickering with doubt, but quickly understood.

The poison from the Cangmu Wolf!

The Pig Monster had drunk the Cangmu Wolf's blood, eaten its flesh, and absorbed the poison contained within.

Monster Beast Blood Qi was inherently impure, so the poison wasn't fatal—it would only take some time for the Pig Monster to digest the toxins.

At most, it would cause slight sluggishness.

But this Pig Monster's greed had sealed its fate. After consuming the Cangmu Wolf, it hadn't fully digested the toxins before deciding to chase Mo Hua's group.

With frantic effort, coupled with injuries from the Formation, surrounded by Cheng Mo's group, the Pig Monster's Blood Qi was now unable to suppress the Cangmu Wolf's poison, revealing critical vulnerabilities.

Mo Hua's gaze sharpened into a blade, brimming with killing intent. He spoke to Cheng Mo and the others:

"Use Superior Taoist Magic!"

Cheng Mo and the rest hesitated briefly.

Though the Pig Monster was indeed gravely injured, its remaining Blood Qi was still potent.

At this stage, even with their full power and ancestral Superior Taoist Magic, they doubted they could slay the beast.

But Mo Hua was their Junior Brother, and his words were absolute.

No longer holding back, the group poured their entire effort into unleashing their skills.

Cheng Mo roared thunderously, his eyes wide and blood surging as exposed muscles took on a deep bronze sheen. His aura transformed into that of a massive axe capable of splitting mountains.

The Cheng Family's ancestral Superior Taoist Magic—Mountain Splitting Axe!

As the magic activated, Mountain Stone Qi enveloped his body, turning his flesh as hard as steel while imbuing his axe blade with the force to cleave through stone.

Meanwhile, Yang Qianjun's eyes shone golden, his spear tip radiating blinding light.

Situ Jian's Li Fire Sword erupted in roaring flames.

Hao Xuan's Spirit Sword was enveloped in swirling winds.

Each of them unleashed their family's ancestral Taoist Magic, attacking the Pig Monster in unison.

But the Pig Monster, now slowed by the Cangmu Wolf's poison, found itself unable to evade.

However, observing from the shadows, Elder Xun silently shook his head.

"It won't be enough."

Though Superior Taoist Magic was undoubtedly powerful, these disciples were only in the Middle Phase of Foundation Establishment—they couldn't fully channel the potential of such advanced techniques.

The combined assault was formidable enough to kill a cultivator, perhaps even a typical Late-stage Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

But against a Monster Beast, it was insufficient.

Especially against a Refining Demon Mountain monster.

Even more so against a Pig Monster, whose Blood Qi was thicker than a typical beast's.

Elder Xun calculated privately.

These techniques, striking the Pig Monster, would likely drain its Blood Qi to the brink, leaving it with only a tenth.

The lower the Blood Qi, the closer to death—but also, the more feral it would become.

At that critical point, these disciples, having exhausted their strength and Spiritual Power in their strongest attacks, would be left defenseless—easy prey for the Pig Monster.

Such was Monster Hunting; advantage didn't guarantee victory.

Even when holding the upper hand, if Spiritual Power was depleted, it was the cultivators who perished.

Nevertheless, these young ones had already performed admirably...

Elder Xun nodded privately.

They knew when to advance and retreat, planned carefully before acting, excelled at ambush tactics, and worked well together, looking out for one another. Even in the face of danger, none showed cowardice or tried to flee...