

Soul Pets Bk2 321

Chapter 321: Decisive Fight, New Hunting King (1)

“Let’s push forward the time of the trade.” Ting Lan saw that Chu Mu had already put up the hand signal, but didn’t care about this rude gesture as she spoke to him.

Chu Mu didn’t think anything of it either. Challenging his limits was one thing, while challenging someone who potentially wasn’t his opponent at his current level was another thing. There was nothing wrong with conceding; in any case, given another one or two years, Chu Mu had absolute confidence that he would surpass the woman in front of him.

Chu Mu handed over the soul capture ring to the woman and asked: “I want to obtain an eighth rank title. Is there a fast way to do so?”

If he could obtain an eighth rank title, Chu Mu would be able to buy the Nine Tail Inferno Flame Fox’s Heart for 70 million, which was something he could afford.

Ting Lan laughed and shook her head before teasing: “If you donate your soul pets, you should have some hope of doing so.”

“....” Chu Mu had now lost a match so he had to win the next two, otherwise he wouldn’t be able to enter the top ten.

Ting Lan took the soul capture ring Chu Mu handed over and poured her soul remembrance in. Upon checking that the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail that she wanted was in there, a gentle and beautiful smile rose on her face.

It was possible to see from her expression that she really did like this Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail.

“If you want to quickly raise you title, it’ll be faster in Tianxia City. Tianxia City will provide you with even more opportunities.” after Ting Yu satisfiedly put away the soul pet, she spoke to Chu Mu.

“I feel like before my strength is adequate, I won’t go to Tianxia City.” said Chu Mu.

“I can see that you should be some soul pet trainer who has spent a long time training in the wilderness. In truth, many soul pet trainers spend relatively long times training in the wilderness and upon finding that their strength increase has slowed down, they will return to the city and using an extremely direct method of strength increase which they will already know of, they will increase their strength. This method is relatively effective. Furthermore, inside a city, no matter if it’s people with similar strength to you or much stronger, you’ll always be able to find a satisfactory opponent.”

Ting Lan didn’t seem to be someone who enjoyed speaking. Most likely it was because she had obtained the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail and her mood was good so she gave some advice out of goodwill to Chu Mu who had just entered Soul Palace, but was a young man with limitless potential.

“Ok, I’ll think about it.” Chu Mu nodded his head.

Ting Lan’s words weren’t wrong. At a level like Chu Mu’s where all his soul pet’s ranks had reached the monarch rank, the resources that could appease Chu Mu’s high standards were slowly growing less even though he would always encounter someone competing against him for these resources.

Although the wilderness was the best test to incite potential, when searching for a place to train with ample resources, Chu Mu had imperceptibly wasted a lot of time.

“Young master, I also avidly support the proposition for you to enter a city of experts to train. Just like right now, if you hadn’t entered this city where experts were congregated, you never would have known that such of such a strong female soul pet trainer’s existence.” Old Li’s voice slowly transmitted to him.

“Then you propose that I directly head to Tianxia City?” said Chu Mu.

Chu Mu felt that if he were to presently enter Tianxia City, even disregarding people older than him, there probably were many people of the same age that could defeat him.

“Young master, you’re honestly in a very awkward position. In truth, you should’ve placed more importance on raising your soul pet phases and stages in the past instead of strengthening their attributes... now all of your soul pets have fighting strength at the monarch rank, but their phases and stages are all relatively low. Frankly speaking, if you go to an average training ground, you won’t be able to obtain the spirit items required to strengthen your soul pets and it’ll become purely

battle training. However, since your soul pets all have too low phases and stages, you aren't willing to enter higher level training grounds like monarch rank areas." said Old Li.

"Then I should be very upset due to my soul pet's high fighting strength ranks?" within Chu Mu's words were that Old Li should have warned him earlier instead of mentioning it now.

"Of course not. High fighting strength ranks are an advantage. You can fully skip over a sixth rank bewildering world and directly into a seventh rank bewildering world. To normal experts, seventh rank bewildering worlds happen to be just perfect, but to someone like you who has already cultivated an extremely high ability to survive in the wilderness, it's an average challenge."

"If you had time, you could definitely slowly train and after raising your soul pets to the eighth phase, you could directly head to an eighth rank bewildering world. The problem right now is that you need to quickly raise your strength. However, your strength is at an awkward spot where a seventh rank cannot meet your requirements, while you don't dare head to an eighth rank... therefore, the best method is to go to a city and fight against various experts. After you surmount this threshold, you can plan even greater things..."

Old Li was still a experienced fellow all things said and done. He was still able to analyze such details. Liu Binglan having this rotten old fellow follow Chu Mu really did help his training and lessened the amount of wrong paths he took.

It wasn't that Chu Mu didn't want to fight against Tianxia City experts. The problem was that Chu Mu was determined not to let Mo Xie appear when she was in her Royal Flame Nine Tailed Inferno Fox rank state.

This also included the White Nightmare, whom Chu Mu didn't want to easily have to show. It was only by training in the wilderness could Chu Mu be at ease when he summoned these two soul pets.

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After leaving the battlefield, Chu Mu intentionally reflected on the matter earnestly for a while. Ultimately, he felt that he still had to enter Tianxia City and combine his fights with other people and his training in the wilderness together. When he fought against others, he would do so under the identity of Soul Palace's young master Chu Chen and while in the wilderness, he would be Prison Island King - Chu Mu. This way, he would afford his soul pets ample training.

However, since he had two identities, Chu Mu had to strictly differentiate his soul pets.

Chu Mu had already thought of this question before. When he assumed the identity of Prisoner Island King, Chu Mu, his soul pet formation would be: The White Nightmare, Mo Xie, the Ice Air Fairy and the Devil Tree Battle Soldier...

When he assumed the identity of Soul Palace's young master, Chu Chen, his formation would be: Zhan Ye, the Ice Air Fairy, the Devil Tree Battle Soldier, the Night Thunder Dream Beast and the Ghost King.

Zhan Ye, the Ice Air Fairy and the Devil Tree battle Soldier were all mainstream soul pets, and replicating them in both identities wouldn't have any large repercussions. Of course, due to Zhan Ye's special fighting ability, it would easily become some sort of a symbol, so Chu Mu could only allocate it to one identity.

Zhan Ye's potential was limitless. As long as he raised its phase and stage, it would definitely be able to hold its own just like the White Nightmare and Mo Xie. Therefore, the identity of Soul Palace's young master Chu Chen probably would have to rely on Zhan Ye to deal with powerful opponents.

Regardless of such, the Chu Chen identity was somewhat weak, so young master Chu Chen had to diligently train!

As for the Prison Island King, Chu Mu, he had to train even harder because the enemies this identity had to face were unreasonably strong!

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In the seats...

"If I had known earlier she wanted a Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail, I wouldn't have run off somewhere else. I should've taken the opportunity to display my hunting excellence..." Luo Peng rubbed his chin as he muttered to himself. His gaze was fixated on Ting Lan slowly walking over.

"It's so rare I get to see you, you small wilderness person." said Ting Lan after she saw Luo Peng and let out a smile that wasn't a smile.

Luo Peng cracked a laugh and his face full of arrogance let out a seldom seen bashful and awkward expression.

The young man Teng Hai slipped a glance at Luo Peng, and instantly saw through this fellow that was horrible at covering up his emotions. He suppressed his voice as he secretly laughed.

“It shouldn’t be a problem for sister Ting Lan to be first this time, right?” Luo Peng was afraid he would reveal too much so he hastily began to speak.

“There are still two more rounds, it’s hard to say...” said Ting Lan.

“At the very least you’ll be in the top ten. I don’t believe that your fourth round opponent will be your opponent.” laughed Luo Peng mysteriously.

“I wish.” Ting Lan felt that Luo Peng’s tone was a bit strange, but didn’t think too much of it.

After casually chatting for a short while, Ting Lan seemed to urgently want to sign a soul pact with the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail, so she didn’t stay too long and went back to Soul Palace.

After Ting Lan left, Teng Hai stayed beside his idol and gave a meaningful look at Luo Peng: “Even I can see what you’re thinking in your heart. My smart sister can definitely see it too...”

“Fine, I’ll admit it. But I won’t be so careless again.” Luo Peng quickly recovered his original appearance.

“Indeed, before your strength surpasses my sister, you can only hold it back in your heart. How long do you feel you need to surpass her? Although my sister has high standards, in the worst case scenario someone even stronger will make a move first...” said Teng Hai.

“I don’t know either, so this time I wanted to see my difference in strength with her.” said Luo Peng.

Luo Peng was Dun City’s new Hunting King, and found it very hard to find opponents of the same age in the surrounding kingdoms. However, this peak young expert had even higher aspirations and wasn’t satisfied with his current accomplishments.

“This time? You mean that you participate this time? Moreover you’ll encounter her in the competition?” said Teng Hai in shock.

“Yes.” the new Hunting King, Luo Peng, nodded his head.

“Oh, so the fellow who wore a mask was you. You... you aren’t looking to be embarrassed are you?” said Teng Hai.

“Don’t worry, I only want to try. I won’t actually truly go and fight; at least, I can’t have her recognize my identity. When the time comes, I’ll concede. I don’t want to have to fight my fifth opponent all tired. My goal this time is top ten. If I can’t achieve that, then I feel that I’m not worthy of her.”

“Your expectations of yourself are too high. This is a middle aged generation competition. How can it be so easy to obtain top ten? Moreover, you can’t swap out soul pets during fights so this is detrimental to someone like you whose soul pet strength is average...” said Teng hai.

“Don’t worry, only by unceasingly fighting challenging fights can I make myself stronger.” said Luo Peng extremely seriously.

Teng Hai looked at the man who was only a few years older than him, and felt his conviction and steadiness. Within the depths of a heart, the initial seed of an intense desire to become stronger began to grow...

“Do you know who your fifth opponent is?”

“My opponent should be the Soul Pet Palace member, Qi Mo, who will beat Chu Chen in the fourth round.” said Luo Peng.

Chapter 322: Decisive Fight, New Hunting King (2)

Chu Mu’s fourth fight was against a Soul Pet Palace expert. The fight wasn’t as easy as before, and it could be said that he obtained victory with difficulty.

All three of Chu Mu's soul pets, the Night Thunder Dream Beast, the Ice Air Fairy, and the Devil Tree Battle Soldier, had sustained injuries. Fortunately, the final fifth fight had two days of rest before it. In these two days, Chu Mu could use the opportunity to adjust the condition of his soul pets.

After the fourth fight, Chu Mu came up with a bit of a summary. These middle aged experts were clearly more proficient at using their soul pet's techniques and the opponents Chu Mu came across this time had all laid down traps that Chu Mu nearly fell into. Fortunately, the long fights allowed Chu Mu to maintain his most vigilant fighting awareness that wouldn't let him be defeated in the fourth fight.

The fifth round was on the seventh day after the start of the competition. The Night Thunder Dream Beast and the Ice Air Fairy hadn't recovered from their injuries so the main fighting strength this time fell to Zhan Ye and the Devil Tree Battle Soldier. Furthermore, Chu Mu ultimately decided to have the yet to be recovered Night Thunder Dream Beast participate in the fight.

Although this wasn't the strongest fight, the fight for top ten would be of great interest because the person that entered top ten this time could very well be a young generation member. Moreover, this young person was only twenty!

It was extremely hard to imagine a young expert obtaining a top ten spot in a middle aged competition!

"This Chu Chen unexpectedly won two in a row, lost one, then won one to make his way into the decisive fight for top ten..." when the young man, Teng Hai, saw Chu Mu stand on the battlefield, he opened his eyes wide.

Him and Luo Peng expected Soul Pet Palace's Luo Qi to stand on this battlefield, and they never expected this slightly famous Luo Qi to lose to this young expert...

Luo Qi losing wasn't important, but this round now became a fight between the new Hunting King, Luo Peng, and Chu Chen!

Teng Hai stared at Luo Peng wearing a black mask, and he felt helpless for a moment. It unexpectedly ended up being a final decisive fight between these two fellows of comparable age...

"What's the matter? Why do you have a strange expression?" Ting Lan saw her brother's strange expression and asked a question as she didn't understand why.

“Oh, it’s nothing... I just never expected Chu Chen to stand amongst the competition for top ten.” Teng Hai couldn’t give away Luo Peng’s identity, after all, even if a man had absolute confidence he would surpass the woman he liked, he still wouldn’t like to admit that he had lost to her in the past. It wasn’t that Luo Peng felt this was a huge loss of face, but instead he was afraid that Ting Lan would take this experience of him losing as a first impression which would become an obstacle for him in the future. Therefore, Luo Peng intentionally told Teng Hai not to reveal his identity.

“Mhm, it really is a surprise. This time Soul Palace really did admit someone with incredible potential. When we return to Tianxia City, you should mention it to your father.” Ting Lan nodded her head and praised Chu Mu.

“However, he’ll probably only make it here.” said Teng Hai.

The person wearing the black mask was the new Hunting King - Luo Peng. Of all the young twenty year old people in the surrounding kingdoms, did any of them have the guts to boast they could beat him?

Teng Hai understood Luo Peng’s strength very well, so he figure Luo Peng had the fight for top ten in the bag.

“Sister Ting Lan, I heard you were here so I intentionally came here.” a woman’s voice suddenly came in. Immediately after an average looking woman, but wearing beautiful clothing, walked in and sat next to Ting Lan.

Along with the woman were four men. After they saw Ting Lan, their eyes lit up, but shortly after they revealed an embarrassed expression.

“Young sister Yu Sui...” Ting Lan amicably called out a greeting.

“Young lady Ting Lan, I’m very sorry that we weren't able to capture that Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail for you...” the team leader, Da Kun, firstly expressed his inability to finish the posted mission.

“In truth we were just a tiny bit short, only, we we never expected another brat would get there first...” angrily said Zhang Ying.

Their team this time hadn't only taken the mission for its high reward, but instead to leave a good impression in front of this extremely famous woman. They ended up taking the reward in high spirits, but returned empty handed. The four men present all felt a bit shameful.

"No worries, I already bought a Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail." Ting Lan saw their expressions and faintly smiled as she explained.

Ting Lan was stronger than the five of them put together by a lot, but she didn't understand how to hunt. Hunting put huge emphasis on technique. For instance, if she didn't know to track a child pet's tracks and observe a young pet's habitat environment, she could very well alarm an even stronger soul pet in a monarch rank territory...

Ting Lan knew that she needed specialists to hunt, so she had intentionally put up a reward, and had the five people help her catch the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail.

"You've already bought it? Who did you buy it from?" Yu Sui immediately let out a shocked expression before hastily asking a question.

The other four people looked at each other, but quickly realized that Ting Lan could very well have bought it from the brat that beat them to it.

"The person on the battlefield." Ting Lan pointed at Chu Mu as she indifferently spoke.

The five of their gazes seemingly simultaneously fell on Chu Mu and very soon, they all opened their eyes wide.

"It's him! Team leader it's him! What's he called... yes, Chu Chen!" Zhan Ying was the first person to begin yelling and in his tone was a bit of annoyance and indignance.

"Zhan Ying, calm down." Da Kun's expression turned serious as he simultaneously reminded Zhan Ying not to get too emotional.

The others were shocked at first, but all remained quiet.

Aside from Zhan Ying who had overreacted, the other four were all very clear that the young man called Chu Chen wasn't someone they could provoke!

This person had outstanding hunting talent while his strength was also extremely strong. Him currently standing in the decisive fight for the top ten in the annual competition was the best proof of this!

Asking themselves earnestly, even if they had a few more years, none of them dared say they could stand in the decisive battlefield for top ten!

Ting Yu was able to guess that Chu Chen had fought over the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail with Da Kun's team, and his team had gotten to it first. These sort of things would sometimes happen so Ting Lan couldn't say anything more. She merely tactfully said: "The fight has started. Let's sit down and watch."

The five of them were extremely sullen, but could accept it. Right now they could only watch the stage and see what outstanding soul pets that young man had.

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When Luo Peng saw Chu Chen, his face was also full of shock. This was a middle aged competition so he felt that his opponent should have been an experienced thirty year old soul pet trainer. Ultimately, it ended up being a man whose age was similar to his.

As the new Hunting King, Luo Peng had always surpassed people of his age and it had been a long time since he had fought someone his age. He never expected to encounter a same age expert in this competition. Aside from surprise, he also carried the excitement of finding someone evenly matched.

Since the opponent could make it thus far, his strength was definitely not over-glorified. Rather than fighting against a middle aged expert who was technically on a different level, Luo Peng would much rather fight against another young expert who was also at a peak rank!

"Why haven't I heard of your name before?" asked Luo Peng.

"I've never heard of your name either." retorted Chu Mu.

A light smile rose on Luo Peng's face. The opponent naturally hadn't heard of his name because he had made up his name. If it was his real name, he could be sure that this man called Chu Chen would be shocked and speechless.

Looking at Chu Mu's casual expression, Luo Peng silently laughed: "He definitely thinks I'm a middle aged soul pet trainer, and thinks that losing to me won't be a loss of face. Haha, when the fight ends I'll quietly let him know my identity. I expect his expression when that time comes to be glorious."

Luo Peng understood the mentality of a young peak expert. They could lose to experts who were older than them, but couldn't to people of the same age. If they lost, it would be a huge blow to them. Luo Peng felt that the present situation was a bit laughable and laughed because the opponent was still in the dark right now.

"Both sides summon your soul pets!" loudly yelled the main judge!

"Both sides summon your soul pets!" repeated the two vice judges!

Chu Mu and Luo Peng simultaneously chanted incantations. Swapping soul pets in the fight was not allowed so each soul pet had to be summoned with extreme caution. Especially the first soul pet because it would be the turning point of the entire fight.

"Devil Tree Battle Soldier!"

Chu Mu decisively chose the seventh phase seventh stage Devil Tree Battle Soldier to participate. Its wounds could be healed through Life Force Absorb and although it had sustained wounds in the previous fight, they had already completely healed.

The Night Thunder Dream Beast was still wounded and didn't have its full fighting strength. It was unsuitable for it to fight first, while Zhan Ye's phase and stage were relatively low. Chu Mu was afraid that Zhan Ye would encounter a relatively strong demon summoned by the opponent that could restrict its abilities. If this happened, the effects of Zhan Ye's Brave Stinging Heart wouldn't be able to manifest.

Roots slowly appeared in the pattern Chu Mu used. The cyan natural wood carrying a bit of blood color slowly transformed into a thick natural wood armor.

The natural wood armor formed a shape first and the Devil Tree Battle Soldier slowly appeared through the natural wood armor.

“It’s still the Devil Tree Battle Soldier as expected.” said Teng Hai.

“A Devil Tree Battle Soldier?” Da Kun and the five others all revealed astonished expressions. Could it be that this fellow had relied on a high class general rank soul pet to pass through the narrow passage?

“Take a careful look.” Ting Lan looked relatively favorably on Chu Mu’s Devil Tree Battle Soldier. As a soul pet trainer, being able to disregard one’s soul pet rank and strengthen it to the monarch rank was extremely hard to come by.

In truth, amongst species rank, only the high class general rank Devil Tree Battle Soldier had truly strong strength. It was not inferior to some monarchs and Chu Mu really had used this species rank of a warrior soul pet to pass through the narrow passage.

Chapter 323 - Glamorous Counterattack, Natural Wood Trap

At the same time Chu Mu summoned his Devil Tree Battle Soldier, the black masked Luo Peng finished his summon as well.

Luo Peng summoned a very mainstream elemental world soul pet - Hurricane Fairy.

Hurricane Fairy: Elemental World - Wind type - Fairy species - Hurricane Fairy subspecies - Commander rank

The Hurricane Fairy’s body was purely a coiled stream of air. In fact, a gaze could look straight through its body and see what was behind the fairy.

The Hurricane Fairy almost didn’t have a true body, but the moment any object neared it, it would get tossed away by powerful swirling air.

When the Hurricane Fairy stayed still, it was like constantly having a Wind Dragon Bind around it, protecting the Hurricane Fairy.

The Hurricane Fairy Luo Peng summoned had a Wind Dragon Bind of eighth rank. Thank goodness Chu Mu didn't summon his Zhan Ye, or else the Zhan Ye would never have been able to attack the Hurricane Fairy who permanently had an eighth rank Wind Dragon Bind around it.

"Eighth phase first stage - Pseudo-monarch rank. Thank goodness your Devil Tree Battle Soldier had gone from pseudo-monarch rank to low class monarch rank, or else it wouldn't be a match for this Hurricane Fairy." Old Li's voice floated in.

Chu Mu's expression became solemn. Wood type and elemental type soul pets couldn't create any type advantage. Stage and ranks were similar on both hands too. The Devil Tree Battle Soldier and the Hurricane Fairy, if neither have some trump card, this battle may become a battle of stamina that won't easily end.

"Begin!"

The main judge sent a command and the battle started!

A dozen Natural Wood spikes flew through the air, and crossed with a dozen turbulent wind blades in the air, marking the start of this battle.

Just as Chu Mu had guessed, the Devil Tree Battle Soldier and the Hurricane Fairy couldn't determine a winner. The Devil Tree Battle Soldier's defense was very high, already reaching eighth rank. Any technique the Hurricane Fairy had with a chant time under two seconds couldn't harm the Devil Tree Soldier.

Yet, the Devil Tree Battle Soldier's techniques similarly couldn't truly trap the shapeless soul pet. The battle between the two soul pets became very careful.

The Devil Tree Battle Soldiers had many techniques to interfere, and the Hurricane Fairy didn't make the low level mistake of letting the roots entrap it.

Single control battle, it was completely a test of the two soul pet trainers' basic grasp of their soul pets. No flashy techniques, no superior tactics, just a back and forth exchange that expended both sides' fighting strength.

"Going this way, the Hurricane Fairy definitely won't be able to out-sustain. As long as the Devil Tree Battle Soldier still had stamina, it can continuously release techniques. The Hurricane Fairy's mental strength is constantly being used." Someone quickly made a judgement.

"Both people aren't summoning a second soul pet, I wonder how long this stalemate will last....." Yu Sui said.

"The Storm Fairy had a wind vitality technique, so its mental strength recovers quick, yet the Devil Tree Battle Soldier's defense was high, life force was powerful, and isn't giving the Hurricane Fairy a chance to cast an eighth rank technique, so it's hard to say who's weaker and who's stronger." Ting Lan quietly commented.

"It'll fall to who loses patience first and makes a mistake. But, this Devil Tree Battle Soldier is powerful. If one put it in a huge soul pet group, it would definitely be a killing machine....." Leader Da Kun said.

Just as everyone was talking, suddenly the battlefield situation changed!

Invisible wind blew at Luo Peng's hair. At some point, this black masked Hunter King had started an incantation without anyone realizing!

“Evil Flame Print!”

Seventh rank soul technique was finished in a mere second. Instantly, two flame beams appeared on the two sides of the Hurricane Fairy!

The red glow appeared and two light beams flew around the Hurricane Fairy in different paths, making two flame arcs. These flame arcs connected in front of the Hurricane Fairy and quickly, they burst into flames, completely covering the Hurricane Fairy inside the flames!

“Nine Hurricanes!” Just as the Hurricane Fairy was finished being protected, Luo Peng sent the command for an eighth rank technique to it!

Eighth rank wind type technique, a chant that only needs three seconds. Clearly, the Evil Flame Print was there to protect the Hurricane Fairy's technique casting!

Chu Mu had known Luo Peng's intentions the moment he started chanting, but he chanted too quickly, leaving Chu Mu no time to interrupt.

Chu Mu knew that Devil Tree Battle Soldier couldn't break through the Evil Flame Print's defense within three seconds, so he very decisively jumped in front of the Devil Tree Battle Soldier and let it cross its arms and curl over to protect him.

“Root Web!”

“Natural Wood Tangle!”

“Wood Finger Prison!”

Triple Cast. Chu Mu knew the damage of eighth rank wind type techniques. Once he protected himself, he didn’t dare to let the Devil Tree Battle Soldier save any techniques. He used Root Net and Natural Wood Tangle to create a defense while using Wood Finger Prison to keep its body in place.

“Chong Mei - Towering Ice Armor!” These technique weren’t enough. Chu Mu didn’t save any soul power, even replicating the Ice Air Fairy’s defense technique, layering the Devil Tree Battle Soldier with a thick layer of Towering Ice, increasing the Devil Tree Battle Soldier’s defense even further.

Finally, the Nine Hurricanes finished!

In three seconds, the entire battlefields’ defensive net showed clear shaking. All the pieces of rubble on the battlefield were thrown into the air, causing the area to become muddied and full of a destructive aura!

Nine powerful hurricanes formed while the Evil Flame Print’s protection automatically became a part of the hurricane, becoming a biting cold and heated power!

“Huhuhuhu~~~~~”

Devil Tree Battle Soldier's Wood Finger Prison firmly held itself onto the ground. The powerful flow had already thrown a few layers off the ground, threatening to rip the Devil Tree Battle Soldier into a pile of shreds!

"Eighth rank complete stage power....." Hiding under the protection of the Devil Tree Battle Soldier, Chu Mu bit down hard. This eighth rank complete stage power will clearly do major damage to the Devil Tree Battle Soldier. The Devil Tree Battle Soldier's natural wood armor was shredded, and its skin was hurt greatly too.....

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"Pretty quick reaction speeds, knowing to give his soul pet an ice type defense." Luo Peng smiled.

Chu Mu clearly realized the eighth rank technique was going to suck the fire type Evil Flame Print as well. Without the Towering Ice Armor, the flames would create even greater harm to the wood type Devil Tree Battle Soldier!

However, the current effect was decent. Luo Peng could definitely create large damage to the Devil Tree Battle Soldier. The opponent would have to summon their second or even third soul pet to make up for this disadvantage.

"Ye!"

Indeed, Chu Mu had to summon a second soul pet!

The Hurricane Fairy had already finished resting and continued to cast techniques. After a few hits, the wounded Devil Tree Battle Soldier couldn't turn the situation around again!

A black diagram flipped light and dark. After the devilish Night Thunder Dream Beast was called upon, it appeared out of the light and shadow. Its white, elegant feathers floated by lightly.....

Night Thunder Dream Beast immediately casted Tired Dream, very quickly breaking through the Hurricane Fairy's next wind type technique.

"He was still the first to summon a second soul pet. Seems like the opponent is very powerful, I wonder which older generation it is....." Da Kun said.

"And helping us get vengeance!" Zhang Yin was still angry at Chu Mu. Seeing Chu Mu's soul pet wounded, she shouted in delight.

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Since he took the advantage, Luo Peng would naturally follow up. Since Chu Mu summoned a dark type demon, Luo Peng very decisively chose his Light Rattan!

Light Rattan: Plant World - Vine type - Light Rattan subspecies - Commander rank

"Eighth phase fourth stage - high class commander rank - Light Rattan. Its stage and phase are clearly weaker than your seventh phase ninth stage pseudo monarch Night Thunder Dream Beast, but no matter its main vine type or second light type, your Night Thunder Dream Beast was completely countered!" Old Li's voice floated out.

The second pet summon was clearly crucial. If the opponent had a soul pet of perfect type counter, even if the stage and phase are slightly lower, one will still decisively summon and quickly control the entire fight situation!

Chu Mu's monarch rank Night Thunder Dream Beast was clearly more powerful than the commander rank Light Rattan.

"I think the victory will be decided soon." Many people were sure that the situation was clear now.

"One small mistake, and you lose the war. Their soul pet strengths were similar, but on the usage of soul pets....."

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"Natural Wood Trap, activate!"

Suddenly, Chu Mu's voice sounded!

Before anyone made further comments, Chu Mu quietly used his voice to send a command to his soul pet!

Natural Wood Trap, Seventh level trap technique!

The hurt Devil Tree Battle Soldier's eyes suddenly blazed green. This special radiance matched with the green glow that had suddenly appeared under the Hurricane Fairy's feet!

“Ao!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

With an angry roar from the Devil Tree Battle Soldier, the Natural Wood Trap was activated!

The ground under the Hurricane Fairy suddenly collapsed, becoming countless cyan snakes that wriggled within the ten meter wide Natural Wood trap. The Hurricane Fairy couldn't make any reaction before being tightly tangled by the roots, getting dragged into the trap!

“Quadruple cast!!”

Luo Peng's eyes went wide. Seeing his Hurricane Fairy getting pulled into the trap, he had just realized that the Devil Tree Battle Soldier had only casted three spells in defense!

The Devil Tree Battle Soldier only casted three, not because it lost its composure in face of an eighth rank technique, but because it hid the fourth technique!

Chu Mu said aloud for his Devil Tree Battle Soldier to cast “Root Web, Natural Wood Tangle, Wood Finger Prison”, and then used his remembrance to tell his Devil Tree Battle Soldier the fourth technique, “Natural Wood Trap”.

And this technique had quietly appeared under the Hurricane Fairy's feet as it was excitedly casting its eighth rank technique!

Chu Mu's counterattack started another ripple of discussion!

No one would've thought that this teen was so meticulous in thinking. Facing a powerful eighth rank technique, he had not only thought of how to defend but had planned his counter attack at the same time already!!

"Such powerful controlling abilities!" Even Da Kun, who was somewhat angry at Chu Mu, let out an exclamation from the bottom of his hearts!

Everyone nodded heavily. This was an unexpected glamorous counterattack.

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"I remember his Devil Tree Battle Soldier still has some special Blood Suck technique....." Ting Lan contemplated.

Chapter 324: I Used to Kill, Hunting was just a Hobby (1)

The traps weren't much, but the Life Force Absorb was the lethal blow.

With the casting of Life Force Absorb, the Devil Tree Battle Soldier's wounds caused by the eighth rank Nine Hurricane quickly healed. Its life force was healing at 10% per second, while its fighting strength was healing at the same speed!

The Devil Tree Battle Soldier's life was about 1.5 times the Hurricane Fairy's. With two seconds of life absorb, the Hurricane Fairy had already lost thirty percent of its fighting power!

"Light Shattering Vine!"

Luo Peng's Light Shattering Vine finally finished. A couple of malleable golden glows danced along the vines on the ground as they travelled to destroy the Natural Wood Trap that the Devil Tree Battle Soldier had set.

"Night, Destruction Ray!"

"Hui~~~~~"

The Night Thunder Dream Beast lifted its head and, after gathering dark energy in its mouth, sent it straight towards Luo Peng. Chu Mu didn't try to stop the Light Vine, but instead attacked Luo Peng unexpectedly!

Just as Luo Peng was about to cast an incantation to save his Hurricane Fairy, the eighth rank initial stage Destruction Ray had already come. He had to change his incantation to adopt a defensive stance.

"Light Chant!"

A golden screen appeared around Luo Peng. The Night Thunder Dream Beast's Destruction Ray collided with the light screen, scattering the dark energy.

"Ning!"

His soul pact incantation was almost finished instantly. Blue towering ice started condensing within the air as the Ice Air Fairy's body was quickly constructed from this powder.

"Towering Ice Ice Sword Formation!"

Almost without chanting, the Ice Air Fairy's translucent hands waved. Immediately, thirty ten meter long towering ice swords dominated the skies of this battlefield, looming menacingly!

"Overlay!"

"Ying~~~~~"

Around thirty ice swords appeared the blue glow of towering ice again, which quickly became another thirty massive swords!

Sixty towering ice ice swords hung upside down in the air. Each was ten meters long and emanated a frigid air that even the audience could feel!

Yet, Chu Mu's series of planned techniques wasn't finished. The moment he finished his Ice Air Fairy summoning, he again spent his soul power lavishly in another incantation!

"Chong Mei - Ice Sword Formation!"

Twenty percent of his soul power instantly disappeared. Chu Mu's eyes slowly glazed over with an icy blue color. With Chu Mu's control of the ice crystals, even more towering ice powder filled the skies!!

Sixty ice swords was already astonishing, but with Chu Mu's control of ice, another thirty swords appeared!

"It's intermediate towering ice!" The pure blue towering ice swords were interlaced between the sixty light blue swords. The clear difference in color represented an even more powerful ice type!

The Ice Air Fairy controlled only the initial stage Towering Ice, yet Chu Mu copied intermediate towering ice. This was the result of constant ice type soul item usage over the past year!

The Ice Air Fairy's overlaid Ice Sword Formation reached the eighth rank middle stage. Adding on Chu Mu's intermediate towering ice sword formation, the combined power reached the eighth rank complete stage, making it even more powerful than the Nine Hurricane that the Hurricane Fairy had casted previously!

Luo Peng's face became pale. A light screen technique couldn't possibly block this eighth rank complete stage ice type technique. Watching as the ninety destructive swords were about to fall, Luo Peng quickly summoned his third soul pet in the shortest amount of time!

"Centipede Tail Boulder Devil!"

With a rumble of advanced Sturdy Rock, the four meter long Centipede Tail Boulder Devil appeared in front of Luo Peng just in time!

“Pengpengpeng!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

Sword after sword constantly landed with the control of the Ice Air Fairy and Chu Mu!

The four meter tall body was virtually a giant, yet every ice sword’s length was ten meters, more than double the giant’s height!

The ice swords slammed into the Centipede Tail Boulder Devil, and shattered into countless pieces. Every time it took a hit, it would step backwards heavily. Luo Peng similarly had to withstand the push from the massive ice swords, causing him to be unable to cast any soul technique to block for the Centipede Tail Boulder Devil!

“Seventh phase ninth stage - top tier commander rank - Centipede Tail Boulder Devil. Though rock type counters ice type, the second level rock type crystal Sturdy Rock was no match for the third level ice type crystal Towering Ice!”

Centipede Tail Boulder Devil’s defense was very outstanding, as its entire body was covered in advanced Sturdy Rock. However, the Ice Air Fairy’s Ice Sword Diagram was made with the even more powerful initial stage Towering Ice, not to mention Chu Mu’s intermediate towering ice!

Crack after crack appeared on the Centipede Tail Boulder Devil. Its Sturdy Rock skin was full of ice shards, some already seeping into its body, creating an aura that slowed its body down!

The Centipede Tail Boulder Devil’s fighting strength was only peak commander rank. If it were any other seventh phase commander rank, this overlaid technique may have instakilled it already.

“Night, restrict the Centipede Tail Boulder Devil and its owner. Devil Tree Battle Soldier deal with the Light Vine. Ice Air Fairy finish off the Hurricane Fairy!” Chu Mu made swift and decisive action. The moment he finished wounding Luo Peng’s third soul pet, he immediately changed his battle plans!

Chu Mu taking the initiative was very key.

Switching his soul pets' opponents was key; the monarch rank Night Thunder Dream Beast against the commander rank Centipede Tail Boulder Devil was like an adult playing with a six year old. Its excess mental strength could completely restrict Luo Peng from casting soul techniques too!

The Devil Tree Battle Soldier against the Light Rattan, it was still a seventh phase monarch rank vs an eighth phase commander rank. Whoever's stronger and weaker will depend on each soul pet's other abilities.

The Ice Air Fairy vs the Hurricane Fairy, they were both pseudo-monarch. Seventh phase seventh stage vs eighth phase first stage, there was no type counter. If both were in their best states, the Ice Air Fairy would lose for certain.

However, the Hurricane Fairy had been drained of thirty percent of its life by the Devil Tree Battle Soldier. Adding on the fact that it had fought the Devil Tree Battle Soldier for a very long time in a battle of attrition, its fighting strength was definitely not even 60% of its peak. The Ice Air Fairy, on the other hand, had just entered the battlefield, only using the energy needed for one Ice Sword Formation!

"Such keen thinking! He should have had two soul pets countered by the opponent, but after snatching an opportunity, he didn't give the opponent a chance to turn it around anymore. I imagine the black masked man wanted to use his rock type Centipede Tail Boulder Devil to suppress the Ice Air Fairy, but now he can't switch up the battle. Each battlefield was getting more and more separate." Now, Da Kun had to show respect from the bottoms of his heart towards the young man who had stolen his soul pet!

The others were thinking the same thing as their leader. To have such battle awareness, just how many battles did the person have to go through before he could meticulously yet adeptly execute this whole series of positioning, techniques, and summonings.

"Indeed powerful. This needs a very good understanding of one's own soul pet, as well as a large amount of practice before one can reach such perfect yet calm cooperation between soul pet trainer and soul pet. I imagine this is the advantage of raising a warrior rank soul pet to monarch rank..... Even Luo Peng hasn't reached Chu Cheng's level." Ting Lan said quietly.

"Luo Peng won't lose!" Teng Hai said hurriedly. Even though his sister thought Chu Cheng would win, but Teng Hai still remained that the person he worshipped won't lose to a random person from nowhere.

Chu Chen didn't have fame, nor identity, nor title. He was but a young man who had just joined Soul Palace. Teng Hai couldn't possibly accept that Luo Peng, with all his fame and achievements, would lose to him. Even if Teng Hai had to admit that Chu Cheng was very powerful, Teng Hai still adamantly thought that Luo Peng was undefeatable for his age!!

"Luo Peng?" Yu Sui heard the name and immediately seemed confused, not knowing why Teng Hai had suddenly mentioned the new hunter king so eagerly.

"Oh, oh, nothing. I've just used him to compare to Luo Peng." Teng Hai realized he leaked information, and quickly saved it.

"Speaking of which, I've seen Luo Peng fight. Why do I feel that this Chu Chen is even more severe in his attacks? Especially this dark and killing characteristic that emanates from Chu Chen's bones!" Leader Da Kun said to himself.

"Heng, Luo Peng must be stronger, much stronger! If he were to fight against Luo Peng with the same soul pets, the results would be completely different!" Yu Sui was the first to let out an unsatisfied sound.

"I'm..... I have the same viewpoint as leader....." Qin He said very quietly.

Yu Sui had a steely face!

"Heng, they will definitely meet up. Then, whoever is stronger will be decided!" Yu Sui let out a cold humph.

Emotions and adoration can very easily affect a person's judgement. Ting Lan saw that Yu Sui and Teng Hai were both being extreme, and lightly shook her head.

In reality, when Ting Lan and the Black Masked man's battled, she had already guessed Luo Peng's identity. She also thought that Chu Chen had an even more piercing aura than Luo Peng. Even though he tried to hide it, it still showed itself in battle.

Such sharp killing intent and quality of finishing opponents off was already showing naturally in battle.

With such a comparison, Ting Lan was also secretly surprised. Luo Peng was already an expert at surviving in the wilderness, often being called “small savage”, or else he wouldn’t have received the title of “Newcomer Hunter King”.

“This Chu Chen’s realm is higher than his, so under what environment did he train under? While fighting, he naturally reveals killing intent. Where on earth would he have cultivated this from?”

“Who’s stronger and who’s weaker is hard to tell. No matter what, though, he was able to enter the valley’s inner lake and obtain the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail. This should tell you that this brat, like Luo Peng, has madly trained in the wild.

“Himself? Wasn’t it a team?” said Ting Lan after hearing Da Kun.

“He was by himself.” said Da Kun, self-ashamedly.

Ting Lan was stunned. Her perpetually beautiful, gentle, and warm eyes finally flashed with a shocked expression!

Chapter 325: I’ve Killed People Before, Conveniently Hunting (2)

Luo Peng’s strength was practically unrivalled amongst same aged people in the surrounding kingdoms. If his strength was placed in the huge environment amongst the countless large factions in Tianxia City, there would still be people who could reach his level, but Luo Peng’s uniqueness came from the aspect that he could hunt monarch ranks with his strength!

This uniqueness of Luo Peng was something at least Ting Lan didn’t think many people of the same age in Tianxia City could accomplish.

However, someone who had entered a monarch rank territory alone and captured a monarch rank soul pet had appeared! This person’s age was similar to Luo Peng’s and most importantly, no one knew where he was from. It could be said that he was an incredible genius that was capable of making others sigh with praise!

“Could he be some elder’s disciple?”

Ting Lan already began to imagine that Chu Mu was the disciple of one of Soul Palace's extremely high statused elders, because she felt that only an elder could raise such a superior young man.

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The situation of the fight was already extremely clear cut. After Chu Mu acquired the absolute advantage earlier, he didn't give the opponent any opportunity to emancipate himself from his state.

As the Ice Air Fairy defeated the wounded Hurricane Fairy, the fight gradually reached its end.

Under the black mask, Luo Peng's emotions were extremely mixed.

The vexation in his heart was not because his three soul pets had been firmly suppressed by Chu Mu, but that he had undoubtedly reached the spirit master level, but Chu Mu didn't give him a chance to summon his fourth soul pet!

The fourth soul pet. As long as he could summon his fourth soul pet, Luo Peng had absolute confidence that could immediately turn the tide of the fight!

However, he couldn't summon it because the opponent simply didn't give him that chance!

Finally, Luo Peng couldn't bare the mental suppression Chu Mu was using on him. Seeing the Light Rattan being wounded by the Devil Tree Battle Soldier, he let out an angry shout and forcibly chanted an incantation under Chu Mu and the Night Thunder Dream Beast's incantation!

"Why did he summon his fourth pet only now?" yelled some people who were unable to see that Luo Peng had been restricted.

All of the soul pets on the battlefield had been strengthened to the monarch rank, but there weren't any true monarch rank soul pets. Therefore, everyone believed that both of them were spirit teachers. They didn't expect the black masked man to have reached the spirit master level!

When Chu Mu saw that Luo Peng could no longer hold back, a demonic smile rose on his face!

Chanting an incantation, an indistinct white devil flame slowly emerged in Chu Mu's hand. The ball of devil flame strangely floated from Chu Mu over to Luo Peng!

“Hu~~~~~”

The soul devil flame burned. Luo Peng was in a state of forcible summoning, and now that he was being burned by a high temperature soul devil flame, the severe pain caused him to let out a miserable cry!

“Night, Destruction Ray!”

Chu Mu definitely wouldn't give Luo Peng the chance to summon his fourth pet and firmly had the Night Thunder Dream Beast use a technique!

The black colored energy transformed into a dark light that possessed a destructive attribute. As the Night Thunder Dream Beast let out a high pitched cry, the light instantly flew towards Luo Peng!

The Centipede Tail Boulder Devil's speed was very slow and could only smash its fist into the ground, forming a rock wall as defense in front of Luo Peng. However, the rock wall was destroyed by the Destruction Ray of dark energy.

“Beng!!!!!!”

Luo Peng was knocked flying by the Destruction Ray's energy. He continuously tumbled in the air and flew a few tens of meters away...

The Light Rattan's rattans were extremely long. After seeing its master being knocked flying, it hastily stretched out and protected the location where he had fallen...

“Ao!!!!!!!!!!”

The Devil Tree Battle Soldier had followed Chu Mu for many years, and had a very good understanding of when to ruthlessly attack.

Taking advantage of the Light Rattan's distracted state, the Devil Tree Battle Soldier took a huge step forward, closing the gap. It simultaneously used four techniques, and firmly suppressed the Light Rattan as its demon wood roots consecutively caused injuries to the Light Rattan's body!

"The fight has ended!"

Suddenly, the main ref's soul remembrance appeared!

The current state of the battle was exceptionally clear. The main ref ended the fight very timely, and moreover used soul remembrance to forcibly enter Chu Mu's mind, preventing him from moving!

The main ref was a third remembrance spirit master. He originally thought he could directly prevent this young competitor from ordering his soul pets, but when his soul remembrance entered the mind, it was met with an extremely terrifying soul feedback that couldn't help but cause his soul to tremble!

"Third remembrance spirit master!" the main ref immediately determined Chu Mu's strength!

"The opponent soul pet trainer doesn't have the ability to protect himself. Please stop your attack!" after being startled for two seconds, the main ref finally gave a serious shout to Chu Mu!

Chu Mu obviously had felt the main ref's interference. As for his mental feedback on the main ref, it was completely an instinctual action. This also had to do with his body gradually becoming a half devil.

Chu Mu knew that Luo Peng could not get up. Upon restraining his soul pets, he suppressed the evil tendencies in his heart and prevented his soul pets from killing.

"The fight has ended. Soul Palace's Chu Chen has won and entered the top ten!" the main ref announced the result of the fight loudly once more!

After the decision rang out, exhales could be heard from the field because everyone had just witnessed a twenty year old young man obtaining a top ten rank in the annual competition!

“Impossible... impossible. Something definitely happened somewhere. Definitely...” the person who found it most hard to accept the outcome of the fight was Teng Hai, who worshipped Luo Peng with excessive blindness.

This incredible fellow had defeated the soul pet trainer who he thought couldn't be defeated by him!

“The fight has limits... the fight has limits... if it was a free fight where he could arbitrarily swap soul pets, Luo Peng definitely wouldn't have lost, he definitely wouldn't have...” the expression on Teng Hai's face was even more emotional than everyone else's, and it seemed extremely strange.

Noticing her brother's strange expression, Ting Lan stretched out her hand and held his hand. Using a gentle tone, she said: “Every soul pet trainer will encounter someone stronger than him or her on his or her cultivation path. No soul pet trainer can escape the experience of defeat. Only by facing the defeat head on and then continuing to walk forward can one have a hope of regaining one's honor...”

“But... he's...” Teng Hai didn't control his emotions well as he still wanted to vigorously deny the outcome he had witnessed.

“I know who he is.” softly said Ting Lan. After speaking, she pointed at the man who was slowly crawling to his feet on the battlefield...

Teng Hai's mind was still full of disbelief, but he didn't notice that the arena had turned quieter and the spectators, including Da Kun and the others were staring fixedly on the fight with expressions full of both shock and stun.

“Isn't this person...”

“Luo Peng... the new Hunting King Luo Peng...”

Luo Peng!!

This name represented the peak of this Dun City's young generation. Everyone recognized this new Hunting King.

However, right now, he was standing on the arena of a defeated person!

“It really is the new Hunting King... no wonder I felt his three soul pets were very familiar...”

“Two young generation experts are fighting for top ten... and Luo Peng lost...”

Sounds of discussion erupted for a moment, as no one expected that such a shocking scene would appear in the fight for the top ten in the annual competition!

Yu Sui who also blindly worshipped Luo Peng had a pale face right now. She moreover would have rather believed that the man in a miserable state standing up on the ground wasn't Luo Peng, because the Luo Peng in her mind was an incomparable genius who definitely wouldn't lose to people of the same age!

The other members of the team were unable to say anything. They merely stared at the two peak young experts, while it took a while for their hearts to calm.

They had continued to compare the young man called Chu Chen with the same aged Luo Peng, but didn't expect it was actually Luo Peng who was fighting!

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Finally, Luo Peng stood up. He hadn't suffered any serious wound, but his face was extremely grim.

In front of the strange and complicated gazes of so many people. Luo Peng could only suffer from the humiliation of a genius who was instantly defeated, and he recall his wounded soul pets all back into their soul pet spaces.

At the moment, Luo Peng's eyes were bursting with a wild beast-like savagery. His entire being seemed to have fallen into a savage creature that could counterattack at any moment!

“It turns out it was a young person...” indifferently said Chu Mu.

Chu Mu had killed people before so hunting was nothing to him. How could the killing intent of the hunting Luo Peng suppress Chu Mu?

Chu Mu's tone made those who heard it very uncomfortable. As for Luo Peng, he felt that this fellow was simply looking down on him with a middle aged person's eyes!

Luo Peng knew that this was a normal arena and no matter what, he had to suppress the anger of his honor of an expert being trampled. After a few breaths, his breathing returned more to normal and he said: "Let's continue fighting!"

"Maybe later." Chu Mu waved his hands and didn't accept Luo Peng's challenge.

"Don't look down on me, I haven't summoned my fourth pet!" loudly roared Luo Peng.

In truth, Chu Mu knew that he could be defeated by Luo Peng if he summoned his fourth pet. It was precisely that he was unable to summon his fourth pet that made it hard for Luo Peng to accept his defeat!

"Young master Luo Peng... although I'm very unwilling to deal a blow to you right now, I must tell you that this Chu Chen is a third remembrance spirit master..." the main ref's voice slowly transmitted into Luo Peng's ears.

Luo Peng's expression instantly changed into one of disbelief.

A third remembrance spirit master. Didn't that mean he was two remembrances higher than him and could also summon a fourth soul pet?!

Chu Mu saw Luo Peng's expression freeze and didn't say anything more. He recalled his soul pets and slowly walked off the battlefield, leaving behind the new Hunting King standing alone in the arena, not knowing what excuse to use to reclaim his honor.

Chapter 326: Battle of the Realm's Strength Ranking

"Congratulations on becoming top ten." Ting Lan saw Chu Mu slowly walking over and a faint smile rose on her face.

"Thank you." Chu Mu nodded his head, "Young lady Ting Lan, you seem to know the host of the competition, can I ask for your help?" asked Chu Mu.

“Hmm?” Ting Lan raised her delicate eyebrows.

“I’ve ordered a spiritual item worth 100 million, and today is the last day to claim it. However, there seems to be a slight delay before my 30 million reward from the annual competition seems to be distributed. I want to obtain the funds for it today.” said Chu Mu.

“This is a small matter. I’ll just tell them to do it.” lightly laughed Ting Lan.

In truth, when Ting Lan found that Chu Mu needed her help, she thought it was going to be a rather difficult matter. She didn’t expect it to be something so small. She felt that the man in front of her wasn’t someone who easily sought the help of others, especially when it wasn’t with friends.

“Why do you have a worried expression despite winning? Could it be you don’t have enough money?” Ting Lan was rather good at determining things from body language.

“Yes, I’m still lacking 10 million. I’m going to go to an auction to pawn off my soul pet’s soul equipment. I’ll head off first, and I’ll request the matter just now to young lady Ting Lan.” said Chu Mu.

Chu Mu didn’t have a choice. He had to wrong Zhan Ye this way by having it remove its equipment in order to buy the Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart. Then, after he acquired enough money, he would buy Zhan Ye another piece of equipment.

“I have a bit of spare change on my hands. How about I lend 10 million to you first, and when you have enough on your hands, you can pay it back to me.” Ting Lan saw Chu Mu’s anxious expression and decided to help him out.

Ting Lan honestly wanted to get to know Chu Mu, this young expert. 10 million wasn’t too large of a sum of gold to her, and she also happened to not want to buy any very expensive item. Lending 10 million to Chu Mu could also be considered selling a small favor to him.

“We’re both Soul Palace people. Helping each other is something we should do.” softly explained Ting Lan.

Chu Mu hesitated a while. He felt that there was a chance he may not be able to sell the full form offensive soul equipment for 10 million in the market; thus, perhaps it was better to borrow 10 million from Ting Lan since he would be able to pay it back very soon.

“That works. I give you my thanks.” Chu Mu nodded his head.

“Hello, Chu Chen, we met each other before.” Da Kun spoke at a very timely moment. He expressed an amicable appearance, as he clearly wanted to become friends with Chu Mu.

Chu Mu gave a simple reply and didn’t talk any longer with them. He hastily left the arena to meet with the person who had the Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart.

Ting Lan watched Chu Mu leave. Associating it with the enormous sum of money to purchase a 100 million gold strengthening spiritual item, she began to silently conjecture whether this young man still had even stronger soul pets. Imperceptibly, she began to feel that this zero rank title Chu Chen was shrouded in even more mystery.

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After obtaining the funds for 100 million, Chu Mu was rather excited as he went to Soul Palace. One had to know that it was a spirit item that could raise Mo Xie from the seventh phase fifth stage directly to the seventh phase ninth stage. And the moment Mo Xie stepped into the eighth phase, Chu Mu’s strength would hugely increase!

“Wu wu wu~~~~~” the small Mo Xie lay on Chu Mu’s shoulder in an extremely excited state. It had been so long since it had had such a tasty meal. After eating the Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart, the small Mo Xie wouldn’t have to look at the White Nightmare’s gloating eyes and could properly teach it a lesson!

“I’m very sorry, that senior had to leave at the last moment because he had something.” explained the female palace affairs member softly.

“What? How can he just run off like that? Where’s the Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart then?” said Chu Mu with a bit of anger.

“It was also taken by the senior. Since he cancelled the transaction this time, he was willing to compensate a 5 million gold penalty. But senior said that if you want to continue the transaction,

you can go to Tianxia City where he can leave it for you, and you can also negotiate the price.” said the female palace affair admin.

Chu Mu’s face was unsightly because he had gone through painstaking efforts to acquire sufficient gold. He was in high spirits as he was going to buy this fellow’s Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart, but the fellow ultimately ran off leaving a sentence behind.

“Do you want to continue the transaction, or cancel it? If you cancel it, I will give the 5 million gold penalty to you. If you wish to continue, I will tell senior to keep it for you.”

“Continue the transaction, I happen to be going to Tianxia City.” the five million penalty gold wasn’t needed by Chu Mu. He wanted the Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart instead!

Chu Mu made his plans and proceeded to head directly for Tianxia City.

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Chu Mu asked Old Li how long it would take for him to head to Tianxia City’s kingdom if he went without stop.

“At least three months...” said Old Li.

“... spending three months of time to travel...” bitterly laughed Chu Mu.

The route to Tianxia City was extremely long. Chu Mu had continued east for the past year. He had also heard from Old Li that Tianxia City wasn’t at the center of all kingdoms but rather an ultra city that had a gathering of all the large factions...

No matter how large this world was, Chu Mu felt that Tianxia City would probably become a standing point for him. He would also spend a very long time in the environment surrounding this city where all factions were congregated.

“Wu wu wu~~~~~” having not gotten to eat a delicacy, the small Mo Xie let out a bitter cry, and wore a dispirited expression on her face.

Chu Mu softly stroked the small fellow throwing a soft tantrum and explained: “Don’t worry, that thing will be yours eventually. Perhaps it will also become an opportunity for you to evolve from the seventh phase to the eighth phase.”

“Wu wu wu wu~~~~~” mentioning the eighth phase, a few twinkles of radiance sparkled on the small Mo Xie. Evidently, she really wanted to reach that level soon.

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Chu Mu returned 10 million to Ting Lan. Ting Lan intentionally expressed that she wanted to head to Tianxia City, as well and could travel with Chu Mu.

Travelling with Ting Lan was Luo Peng as well as a few other young experts. Chu Mu needed to increase all of his soul pets’ strengths, so he declined their good intentions. He still decided to travel alone to Tianxia City.

“Chu Chen, half a year later in Tianxia City, I want to fight you again!” said Luo Peng to Chu Mu as he was about to leave.

Chu Mu was the only person of the same age that had defeated Luo Peng so, no matter what, he had to retrieve his honor.

“Sure, but I hope at that time you’ll be able to summon your fourth pet.” Chu Mu nodded his head.

Luo Peng’s face quickly turned dark. Not being able to summon his fourth pet had continuously been an aggrieved and an unreconciled area for Luo Peng. Only, when he recalled that the opponent was also a spirit master and moreover two remembrances higher than him, Luo Peng’s confidence was delivered another blow.

After saying goodbye to Ting Lan and the others, Chu Mu quickly descended into a pondering state.

Just imagining if all of the Battle of the Realm experts were like Ting Lan, then wouldn’t it mean he wouldn’t even have a tiny chance at winning?

Moreover, Chu Mu remembered Old Li saying before that amongst the young generation, there were definitely people that had a tenth phase soul pet. These tenth phase soul pets, even if they were

commander rank, were capable of easily defeating all of Chu Mu's soul pets. Thus, before the Battle of the Realm arrived, would he have the qualifications to participate in the most prestigious competition of the young generation?

"Young master, there's still a year before the Battle of the Realm. Honestly, in this Battle of the Realm, there's probably no chance of young master obtaining a ranking, after all young master's soul pets have yet to truly evolve to their most mature state. The Battle of the Realm happens once every six years so young master will still be a young generation member when the next Battle of the Realm arrived. When that time comes, it will probably be extremely hard to find someone in this world who can prevent young master from obtaining that emperor rank soul pet!" said Old Li.

"You mean that you don't support me participating in the Battle of the Realm?" asked Chu Mu.

"Of course you should participate. This is a training opportunity hard to come by. When you arrive at Tianxia City, you'll learn that the Battle of the Realm isn't merely as simple as a contest between the young generation." said Old Li.

"Isn't it a prestigious competition?" asked Chu Mu, confused.

"How can the Battle of the Realm be a competition..." said Old Li as he rolled his eyes.

"Then what is it?" asked Chu Mu who didn't understand.

"Before your form the numerous concepts of factions, strength, gold, soul pets, power, and other unknowns, there's no way of explaining it to you..." said Old Li.

"..." Old Li's words made Chu Mu feel very ignorant.

Then again, Chu Mu previously thought that the Battle of the Realm was the most grand competition where all experts gathered. However, after listening to Old Li, he began to doubt this and wondered exactly what form the Battle of the Realm took...

"Does young master plan on spending a year to slowly train on your way to Tianxia City, or use three months to immediately go to Tianxia City and begin to increase your strength there in that huge environment." asked Old Li.

When speaking of Tianxia City matters, Chu Mu naturally thought of Nightmare Palace's Princess Jin Rou whose age was similar to his. It was thus reasonable to say that she would be at a disadvantage if she participated in this Battle of the Realm. Then, could it be that her thinking was also that she would be there only to participate?

However, Chu Mu also felt that Princess Jin Rou didn't want to merely participate, instead she seemed like she absolutely had to obtain something.

"Young master, did you hear what I said?" Old Li waved his ugly tail, scattering several very uncomfortable pieces of fur in front of Chu Mu...

Chu Mu was in the midst of thinking about Princess Jin Rou. After he came back to his sense, he immediately asked Old Li a question.

"The Battle of the Realm truthfully has many grades. The grades at the very front aren't suitable for young master to fight over. However, the latter grades are of great benefit to young master's current level. In my opinion, that small girl from Nightmare Palace should be aiming for those items from the other grades. The young generation is split into different grades and I feel that as long as young master can distinguish yourself in the third grade, it will bring honor to both my lady and you. Of course, if young master is bold, you can try and touch the second grade. Haha, then young master will be about the same as your father that year."

"My father also participated in the Battle of the Realm?" asked Chu Mu, astonished.

"Of course. Chu Tianmang participated twice. In the first one, he obtained an extremely good achievements in the second grade. In the second one, he was even more shocking, stunning all the large factions, and ultimately obtaining that emperor rank soul pet. However, for some reason later, the emperor rank soul pet he obtained was taken back and then afterwards, his main pets that were already mature were tragically sealed. Then afterwards, in dire straits, he took my lady's child for her." said Old Li.

Chapter 327: Travelling East, Putting Out a Net

"Aren't you all-knowing? Why is it that the only thing you don't know much about is my father?" Chu Mu asked Old Li.

"Young master, Soul Alliance isn't just a decoration. If they don't want others to know something, even if you enter the top levels of Soul Alliance, you won't figure out just what they rely on to stand

at the top of this world. Chu Tianmang must have committed a horrible crime, a crime that the Soul Alliance can't publicize." Old Li said.

Crime, Chu Mu didn't care about any crime. The fact that Soul Alliance was this overbearing, forcing his father's three main soul pets to commit suicide inside the sealed towers, such an action was even more painful than killing the soul pet trainer upright. It only caused Chu Mu to hate Soul Alliance even more!

In reality, Chu Mu had already gotten the impression of a hegemony or monarch from Soul Alliance just from the Empyrean Cyan Hidden Dragon events.

"Young master, you seem to have some spare money. Why don't you grab the sixth level title from Soul Palace first." Old Li reminded Chu Mu.

"Yes, the sixth level title seems to only need five or six million." Chu Mu nodded.

To Chu Mu now, five or six million wasn't too hard to offer. No matter what, this sixth level title comes with a free commander rank soul pet and a soul technique.

"No need, your Competition Second Strongest is worth five title points, which is enough for a sixth level title." Old Li said.

"Good." Chu Mu nodded.

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Without any strengthening, a commander rank soul pet's price was between 100,000 and 10 million. This was a very big range. Many soul pet trainers' economic abilities could only sustain an amount of around 1 million. Without enough gold strengthening soul pets or buying more powerful soul pets, they will choose to take up a position within a faction or city and slowly increase their own strength through their steady salary.

Hunting in the wild is a way to get rich, but not every soul pet trainer could train and live the process of bringing expensive soul items and soul pets back into the city. Even if they were alive, many times their soul pets would die. Most soul pets who don't have the strength couldn't withstand the huge loss of soul pets, even if they did have some gains.

Hunting was a very dangerous career. Many soul pet trainers would have near death experiences and never dare to go adventuring anymore, choosing to go about the rest of their lives peacefully. After all, in their own small realm, as long as they reached some level, they would be satisfied.

Chu Mu's main income was from hunting. To avoid making himself so impoverished in the future, Chu Mu used his sixth level title from Soul Palace to get into the Hunter's Alliance.

The Soul Palace faction wasn't contradictory to the Hunter's Alliance. Chu Mu's duties on both sides won't affect each other. And with the benefits from the Soul Palace sixth level title, he could gain lots of hunting information from the Hunter's Alliance.

Hunting information was a very key step. If one knew where soul pets would appear, bringing experts over and carefully handling things could usually net you the soul pet.

If one walked around in the wild without any leads, one may go several months without any gain. Especially at the level Chu Mu was, a normal commander rank may not even spark Chu Mu's interest to capture.....

Chu Mu had only met the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail after half a year of running around in the mountains randomly. This was already very lucky. After all, the Star Phoenix Butterfly Tail didn't have a mature monarch rank soul pet near it.

"Looking around, they're all soul pet information worth about 5 million....." Sitting in the Hunter Alliance main hall, he looked helplessly at the benefits he got from his sixth level title.

Chu Mu was Soul Palace's sixth level title, so the highest information he could see was just sixth level. Five million gold was very normal.

"Once you reach seventh level, you will have the right to see seventh level rewards. Seventh level rewards are around 20 million in value, which would fit your level better." Old Li said.

"20 million is still a bit less. I can't spend a month running around just for 20 million....." Chu Mu said.

“Then you should consider eighth level hunting bounties. Eighth level bounties are worth 60 million and up.....Yet, young master is still at the sixth level, so these people won’t give the bounty to you.” Old Li said.

Bounties were all given by owners. The Hunter’s Alliance served as appraisers to figure out bounty difficulties and reward levels and then gave basic information in the Hunter’s Hall. Those who think they can do it could then accept the bounty.

Any information must be kept secret. Only those who truly took the bounty would be given complete information.

Of course, the owners couldn’t possibly wait in the Hunter’s Alliance for too long. The owner usually just paid the Hunter’s Alliance to take their place.

The staff would ensure that the bounty was completed well. They also had many of these bounties to process, so they couldn’t observe each and every hunter’s skill level. This was why title had become the most straightforward way of selecting hunters. Without reaching a certain level, the staff wouldn’t give a bounty to you.

Chu Mu was sixth level in Soul Palace, so he also had the power to take sixth level bounties. Seventh level bounties needed Chu Mu to reach seventh level title.

“Young master, you still have to hurry on your journey. Accepting bounties isn’t good. After all, bounties are usually 1 to 1, with secrecy and personal. Even if you complete the mission, you still have to find the owner to finish the transaction with them. You can definitely just go and gather hunting information. Such information can be seen with gold as well. Once these soul pets are captured, you can then sell it to trading houses, Soul Pet Palace, or Soul Palace. It’s a trading process with more freedom.” Old Li said.

“En, I also think that if you have to get a bounty, you must take a very high salary one, or else it wastes too much time.” Chu Mu nodded.

Sixth level hunting information was somewhat public, meaning any sixth level title owner who pays a little can see it. Such hunting information has lots of uncertainty and has a lot of competitors, causing it to have many downsides.

With Chu Mu’s current situation, this was better for him. After all, Chu Mu couldn’t waste his precious time on just one five million dollar sixth level bounty.

.....

“Palace Assistant, are you sure you’re purchasing all these sixth level hunting information?” Hunting female employee opened her pretty eyes wide.

“En, any issues?” Chu Mu nodded.

Sixth level soul palace title was Palace Assistant, seventh level was Palace Foreman, while eighth level was Palace Official. Ting Lan had an eighth level title, so she was the Soul Palace’s female Palace Official.

“This.....there aren’t any issues, but I just feel as if you truly spread your net.....a little too wide.” The female employee said in a very small voice.

This hunting female employee had never seen anyone buy 100 pieces of hunting information at once!

She had worked here for some time now. From her experience, a sixth level title owner needed about a month or two to complete a sixth level bounty. Though wild hunting was semi-public, finishing them wouldn’t take much less time, and had lower success rates as well.....

“100 pieces of hunting information to the east, it totals 10 million, are you sure you don’t want to think about this further?” The hunting employee said in a low voice.

Sixth level hunting information wasn’t cheap. Chu Mu truly was being generous.

“Help me compile the hundred pieces of information. I’m going east and taking the route headed towards Tianxia City. Help me throw away those that are too far away or may waste too much time.” Chu Mu took out a map and pointed out the route he was going to take.

“.....” Hunting female employee looked on dully, “You’re just conveniently hunting along the way?.....”

“En, be quick, I’m leaving tomorrow morning.” Chu Mu said.

.....

After leaving Hunting Alliance, Chu Mu went back to Soul Palace and spent 10 million to buy his soul pets' food for the next three to four months.

Now, Chu Mu needed an average of 3 million to feed his soul pets, and it wasn't even counting soul crystals.

Chu Mu truly couldn't imagine that, once his soul pets were eighth phase, just how much would he have to spend on these soul pets with hearty appetites.

Seventh level medicine, Chu Mu spent another 5 million. Just in case, Chu Mu even bought a few very expensive eighth level recovery and healing medicine. This was another 5 million. Just medicine alone costed 10 million.....Chu Mu could only hope that high investments meant high returns.....

"I'm again left with just 60 million. Good thing the person delayed the trading, or else how would I deal with normal expenses?" Chu Mu laughed bitterly as he shook his head.

"Wuwuwuwu~~~~~" little Mo Xie sat on Chu Mu's shoulder, showing an expression that suggested she was happy that she wasn't a soul pet trainer and was just a soul pet.

The spending on medicine was almost same as soul cores. If they encounter any accident, it may become even higher. At this time, Chu Mu couldn't help but miss Ye Qingzi.

With Ye Qingzi, Chu Mu would almost save all of this expense, and she could also concoct most seventh level soul items, being able to make it at at least half the market price.

Now, eighth level soul items were worth tens of thousands. Sometimes, it could go up to the hundreds of millions. If Ye Qingzi could reach eighth level soul teacher, with a half discount.....

Of course, Chu Mu missed her person even more, so he hoped he could see her again in Tianxia City.

Chu Mu hadn't stayed with Ye Qingzi for long, but the feeling she gave him was always very good. Especially the determination she showed in front of Duan Xinhe.....

.....

After buying everything everything, Chu Mu returned to the Hunter's Alliance.

"I finished compiling everything." The hunter female employee smiled attractively.

Chu Mu nodded, putting away the organized and precious information the female employee had gathered.

"This.....this actually isn't part of what we're supposed to do." The female employee looked at Chu Mu and said in a small voice.

Chu Mu looked at the woman and quickly understood what the female meant. Taking another stack of money out, he handed it to her, "This is your extra reward."

The young woman looked at the extra money Chu Mu was handing over, blanked, and immediately went bright red. "I.....that's not what I meant.....I meant, I saw you during the Competition Second Strongest battle.....you're very powerful....." Her face was red hot.

Chu Mu wasn't completely blind of situation. He quickly took back the "extra reward" embarrassingly and smiled.

"I..... I'll be moving to Tianxia City soon, so if you have any needs, you can.....I'll be willing to be of help again....." Hunting female employee said.

"En, what should I call you?"

"Just call me Little Qin."

Saying goodbye to this warm-hearted girl, Chu Mu packed up his luggage and started his journey towards Tianxia City, while conveniently hunting.....

Chapter 328: Tenth level, Folding Skies Bewildering World

Tianxia City's territory size was definitely not something a region or Kingdom capital could compare to. Tianxia City was named the City Beyond Kingdoms, meaning that it was a city beyond all Kingdom Capitals, an ancient capital city above all other cities.

This city gathered luck and love from everywhere into one.

Thousands of years of human civilization and soul pet history, a central node of pathways that connected dozens of regions, and a location that sat inside an incredibly resourceful Bewildering World.

This was the cradle of experts, a place that could give birth to truly unique experts. No matter how far a soul pet trainer got, they would return here in the end, because glory here was the most authoritative. Only people here had true power, status, and wealth!

Tianxia City never had a lacking of experts. Many soul pet trainers spend a big half of their lives training outside, but when they come back to Tianxia City, they may find that they have come back to their most beginning state again.

Other than the competition between experts within Tianxia City, the nearby Bewildering World was also the reason that Tianxia City had stood for thousands of years and have always stayed as the greatest city.

“Every path goes towards Tianxia.” Though Tianxia City was the connection hub of all Kingdoms, The Bewildering Worlds around Tianxia city were countless. Many were still unknown worlds that humans couldn't step into easily, a mystery waiting to be uncovered.

All these Bewildering Worlds were above the seventh level. Soul pet trainers who could train in these worlds were all people of a certain skill level. These people get lost in the vastness of the soul pet world. After flipping over one mountain, the feeling they would get was often not of looking behind at all the small obstacles before, but instead that of staring at an even higher mountain ahead.

Maybe it was these Bewildering Worlds that were connected seamlessly that made so many resilient individuals climb unceasingly, ultimately creating countless experts!

.....

Chu Mu's strength had already reached a certain level. The bewildering worlds that he could truly learn from were often too far apart. Knowing that Tianxia City's nearby had countless places in which he could train in, Chu Mu was excited. To a man full of vigor and belief like Chu Mu, what could get his blood going more than a good challenge?!

.....

The skies were spotlessly blue and vast beyond measure.

Raging winds howled. In the upper skies, a couple of wing type soul pets spread their wings in flight, occasionally letting out birdcalls as they spiralled high up, echoing far and wide.....

"Can you see the muddied swirl in the sky over there." Old Li pointed at the horizon with his stubby finger.

At the end of this wide view, a winding path of unknown energy leaped from the ground into the clouds, situated between heaven and earth. It was like an arrogant beast borne from the heavens and earth, standing at the end of the earth and skies, shocking all those who laid their eyes upon it!

Chu Mu stood at the edge of the mountain as he looked at the surprising spiralling air that seemed infinitely far.

They were so far away, yet Chu Mu could smell the terrifying aura that gushed out of it. Chu Mu knew that this was just an illusion, an illusion that stemmed from the huge pressure that this unknown Bewildering World gave Chu Mu. Yet, at the same time, it piqued Chu Mu's interest of pursuing it!

"That's the Folding Skies Bewildering World, the sacred grounds of all wing type and wind type soul pets!" Old Li said.

"Folding Skies Bewildering World, what level is it?" Chu Mu asked.

Such an immense and eternal presence that traversed heaven and earth made Chu Mu's yearning for it unbounded. One could imagine, at the very top of this eye-shocking Bewildering World, just how

powerful of an organism laid there. Would this organism look down at the entire land with a look of superiority? Could it literally turn foolish people to ashes with just a look?

“Tenth level Bewildering World, the Folding Skies Bewildering World was a special space that stood between the skies and the earth. It was created from an unknown source of wind type which made a swirl like heavenly power. This heavenly power devoured all of the nearby mountains and, because of the stronger and weaker forces of the heavens, the different weighted mountains also appeared in stairs, creating tens of thousands of mountains that floated by heavenly power. The time should be about right, so young master watch carefully…….” Old Li said.

Old Li didn't explain in detail. Chu Mu couldn't hear his description clearly. Yet, as the heavenly forces slowly became weaker, through the countless muddiness, Chu Mu saw an unmatched shocking scene!!

Thousands upon thousands of mountains!

These mountains weren't on the ground, but all hovered in the imposing cascade of skies!

These massive mountains were all moving along the path that the energy swirled in, showing different levels of speed and orbits.

At the bottom of the Folding Skies Bewildering World were small mountains. These small mountains moved at an extremely slow pace in a massive circle!

As a soul master, Chu Mu's vision was incredibly wide, but standing at this high point, Chu Mu was shaken to find that he couldn't even estimate how large the foundation of the Folding Skies was!!

The Folding Skies Bewildering World again showed change. When Chu Mu saw the bottom of the heavenly swirl creating a clear split between bottom and middle, Chu Mu finally realized why it was called Folding Skies.

At the bottom of the air swirls, tens of thousands of tiny mountains swirled and floated. Yet, in the middle section, even greater mountains appeared from within the muddiness. They also swirled within the heavenly forces!

Even higher up, the black cloud like murky substance didn't dissipate, but a towering mountain ridge floated in and out of visibility, like a massive dragon laying on top of the black clouds. One couldn't see its full body, but could already imagine the vastness of it!

Suddenly, an unknown organism darted out of the muddiness. It beated its powerful wings and flew to the other end of the mountain against the immense force of the air swirl, leaving an unerasable mark in Chu Mu's memory!

"This.....this....." Chu Mu could no longer use words to describe the shock he felt.

That world was just within Chu Mu's vision, yet it was so far off!!

"This is a tenth level Bewildering World. In such a world, what lived there, what organism ruled, and who could truly reach the peak of these clouds and mountains!" Chu Mu let out a sigh.

"If young master would like to go into this Bewildering World, you still need a very long time of training. In reality, even in Tianxia City, not many could enter this Folding Skies." Old Li said.

Folding skies- it brought Chu Mu an immensity that almost stopped Chu Mu's breathing. At the same time, it reinforced Chu Mu's adamant heart towards power, because in the unknown distance of clouds was where Chu Mu laid the beliefs of his final destination!

At this moment, Chu Mu wished that he could stand upon the skies and battle that soul pet who appeared and not do what he did now, simply staring from afar and gasping.....

Chapter 329: Challenging One's Limits, Eighth Rank Bewildering World

Chu Mu knew that there was still a very long ways before he would truly be able to step into the mysterious tenth rank bewildering world, Folding Skies. It was just like the distance with the sky way above him that was hard to surmount.

However, Chu Mu was confident that there would be a day when he would bring his wind and wing type soul pets and contravene the stream of air that would allow millions of mountains to hover in the air, all the way up to the top of the clouds. There, he would truly feel the exhilaration of being on the summit!

“If you head towards Tianxia City, you should encounter a seventh rank bewildering world, which should be connected with an eighth rank bewildering world. There should be a valley nearly as wide as a kingdom in between them. Young master can train in the seventh rank bewildering world, but it wouldn’t be best to go to the eighth rank one.” Old Li quickly brought Chu Mu back to reality.

The tenth rank bewildering world that was far away in the horizon was only something he could look forward to. What he really should be doing was looking down at the path underneath his feet.

Tianxia City’s territory were much larger than several kingdoms put together. On this expansive earth, there were several bewildering worlds that could make Chu Mu’s heart beat rapidly and these were all optimal locations for him to train. Therefore, even if he only needed half a month to reach Tianxia City, he was more willing to spend a month in these bewildering worlds. On one hand it was to raise his strength while on the other it was to accumulate enough gold.

After several months of travel and training, Chu Mu’s White Nightmare had increased to the seventh phase ninth stage. Its fighting strength was still Chu Mu’s strongest soul pet.

Mo Xie, being incited by the White Nightmare, didn’t stop exceeding herself. In these few months, she raised her strength to the seventh phase eighth stage, and Chu Mu predicted that once he arrived at Tianxia City and completed the transaction with the person with the Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart, Mo Xie would be able to evolve to the eighth phase after eating it.

The Royal Flame Nine Tail Inferno Fox species rank was a high class commander, but its fighting strength reached the low class monarch level. As the majority of soul pet’s fighting strengths increased, Chu Mu felt that he had to increase Mo Xie’s fighting strength to a middle class monarch. This way, when he encountered an expert like Ting Lan, he would have at least something to fight back with.

The 100 million gold Nine Tail Inferno Fox’s Heart would allow Mo Xie to evolve to the eighth phase second stage and should increase her fighting strength from a low class monarch to somewhere in between that and a middle class monarch.

Items that increased the fighting strength of monarch rank soul pets were extremely expensive. Chu Mu estimated that even if he spent the 100 million to do so, it would still be extremely hard to raise her fighting strength from a low rank to middle rank monarch.

Apart from her, Zhan Ye was currently at the seventh phase fourth stage. Its fighting and defensive strength were exceptionally outstanding, so if he wanted to allow Zhan Ye to burst forth with stronger strength, Chu Mu felt that he had to give it a full form equipment.

A seventh level full form soul equipment was approximately 50 million gold while a seventh level soul armor was approximately 30 million. These two soul equipments would allow Zhan Ye's fighting strength to reach low class monarch.

Most importantly, Zhan Ye could also use the Brave Stinging Heart to continuously increase its strength. As long as it was wearing full armor, Zhan Ye could exhibit its Brave Stinging Heart. Thus, reaching the eighth phase with low class monarch rank fighting strength definitely wasn't a problem.

Aside from Zhan Ye, the Night Thunder Dream Beast had stagnated at the seventh phase ninth stage for a very long time.

Chu Mu felt that he had to spend 50 million to buy a spirit item that could make it break through.

The Night Thunder Dream Beast had reached a bottleneck, and it was extremely hard for the demonic aura of normal demons to satisfy it at its current rank. The best method to strengthen it was still incomparably valuable spirit items, after all, the Night Thunder Dream Beast presently didn't lack fights.

In the past few months, in hopes that the Night Thunder Dream Beats would become his first soul pet to reach the eighth phase, Chu Mu had it participate in fights extremely often. He was sure that as long as he found a suitable spirit item, its phase and stage would increase.

The Ice Air Fairy was presently at the seventh phase ninth stage. Having obtained benefits from Chu Mu's unceasing absorbing of the ice type spirit item, the Ice Air Fairy's towering ice crystals had already reached the middle stage, and its fighting strength was already very near a middle class monarch.

Chu Mu estimated that if he had the Ice Air Fairy control glazed ice, its fighting strength would probably reach a high class monarch.

There was a huge discrepancy in strength between a low class and a high class monarch. What was very clear was that it wouldn't be as simple as Old Li had previously said for the Ice Air Fairy to control glazed ice and reach high class monarch in strength.

The Devil Tree Battle Soldier's phase and stage were the same as the Ice Air Fairy's. There evidently was a difficulty to surmount bottleneck between the seventh and eighth phases. It required soul pets to perpetually fight while also requiring extremely effective spirit items. Most of Chu Mu's soul pets were presently stuck at this stage and if they could surmount it, Chu Mu's strength would advance by leaps and bounds. If they couldn't surmount it, Chu Mu had to miserably continue to wander the seventh rank bewildering world and earn a profit that was clearly not enough for his expenses...

In truth, Chu Mu's ability was already exceptionally strong. Soul pet trainers of his age or older were still wandering sixth rank bewildering worlds in groups and only obtained rewards in the millions each time.

As for many seventh rank title soul pet trainers, when they entered seventh rank bewildering worlds, they would always form teams that were extremely adept at surviving in the wild. Thus, their profits would have to be split and each time, each individual's profits would be about 10 million.

As for Chu Mu, he had the ability to enter a seventh rank bewildering world by himself. Although he perhaps would spend more time, he would reap all the profits which were about 40 million.

In the eyes of twenty year old soul pet trainers, this strength and these profits were simply a fantasy. However, Chu Mu was able to do this; Nonetheless, he still believed that only by continuously surpassing himself could he raise his strength by huge amounts in the shortest period of time.

Chu Mu had calculated, including the 20 million gold spirit item that the sixth phase ninth stage Ghost King needed, and the 50 million spirit item the White Nightmare needed to reach the eighth phase, that he approximately needed for his soul pets stuck at the seventh phase ninth stage...

"Mo Xie needs 200 million, Zhan Ye 80 million, the Ghost King 20 million, the Devil Tree Battle Soldier 50 million, the Ice Air Fairy 50 million, the Night Thunder Dream Beast 50 million, the White Nightmare 50 million... in total that makes 500 million!!" Chu Mu used his fingers to count and while doing so, he opened his eyes wide.

"I have 60 million on hand and including the captured soul pets I have another 40 million at most. Altogether that's 100 million. There's still another 400 million though..." the more Chu Mu calculated the more his heart trembled.

Chu Mu had only bought sixth rank hunting information and he wasn't lucky enough on his route to have encountered any precious spirit items. Therefore, aside from increasing his soul pets' strength

in the past three months, he had reduced his usual consumption of water, food and spirit items. By doing so, he had made 40 million. Of course, his main goal had been to continue on the path; if he had been concentrating on hunting, he definitely wouldn't have only made this much...

.....

If his soul pets were unable to surmount the seventh phase threshold into the eighth phase, Chu Mu would have to spend a whole 400 million in order to quickly raise his soul pets' strength. The question was where he would get this 400 million from?!!

If he wandered a sixth rank bewildering world, without any surprises, he would profit somewhere in between 5 to 10 million. A seventh rank bewildering world would be about 40 million.

For 400 million, Chu Mu probably had to wander 10 seventh rank bewildering worlds in order to obtain this much. Furthermore, he couldn't afford any losses during any of these 10 times.

"Young master, the danger of this seventh rank bewildering world isn't very high. If you're careful, you should be able to come and go unobstructedly." said Old Li.

Chu Mu stood on a tree branch, and stared at the huge basin in front of his eyes...

In a seventh rank bewildering world, there would always be eighth rank commanders protecting the area Chu Mu wanted to obtain spirit items and soul pets in. Occasionally, a ninth phase commander would appear.

All of Chu Mu's seventh phase monarch soul pets could face an eighth phase commander one on one. Therefore, if he was careful, he would easily be able to obtain the items he wanted.

As for an eighth rank bewildering world, the profits would be over 100 million, but Chu Mu would have to face: tenth rank warriors, ninth phase commanders or eighth phase monarchs... one careless mistake and there potentially could even appear a tenth phase commander, ninth phase monarch...

"One trip through a seventh rank bewildering world requires nearly a month, but the rewards are limited to a measly 40 million. There's still nine months before the Battle of the Realm. In these nine months I pretty much want to spend all my time here... Old Li, if I can't raise the average strength of my soul pets to the eighth or ninth phase, how will I even have the qualifications to enter the Battle of the Realm's second grade?" asked Chu Mu.

“This... this is definite... however, young master can't be overhasty. You must increase your strength one step at a time. I propose that you spend the remaining nine months training in the seventh rank bewildering world or fight against Battle of the Realm experts. Your soul pets do not have to surmount their bottlenecks through spirit items; they can also do so by continuously fighting. Moreover, as long as you ensure that you raise the strength of the White Nightmare, your small fox, Night, Ning and the old tree to the eighth phase or above, then obtain first place in the third grade, that will already be extremely impressive.”

“After the Battle of the Realm, you can then focus on raising your soul pets to the tenth phase. Tenth phase soul pets are ones that have evolved to the most perfect phase and stage. When that time comes, you can wholeheartedly focus on increasing the rank of your soul pets to a middle class monarch, high class monarch, peak monarch, or even raise a new soul pet...” said Old Li.

Chu Mu shook his head. If Chu Tianmang had already distinguished himself in the second grade the first time he participated in the Battle of the Realm and now he was unable to surpass him, then how could he speak about reclaiming his honor?!

Finally, Chu Mu made a decision and said one word at a time:

“I want to enter the eighth rank bewildering world!”

Chapter 330: Nearing the Perfect Phase and Stage, Ninth Phase Terror Wolf

Powerful soul pets all had their own territories which were sometimes were divided by clear dividing lines. Outside of these clear dividing lines was a peaceful and quiet world, but inside these lines, danger was everywhere and it was an environment fraught with death.

At the moment, what lay in front of Chu Mu's eyes in this extremely narrow and long valley was the clear boundary marking of a territory!

Chu Mu was standing in a seventh rank bewildering world, but the moment he crossed this narrow valley and stepped onto the flat desolate plain, he would begin to face soul pets stronger than his by a level. Although there was a certain probability he would encounter these creatures in a seventh

rank bewildering world, in an eighth rank bewildering world, practically every one of the creatures he encountered would have been a leader of soul pets in a seventh rank bewildering world!

Chu Mu was able to wander the seventh rank bewildering world because the fighting strength ranks of his soul pet had all reached the monarch rank. Despite this, Chu Mu wasn't able to do make whatever rash action he wanted in the seventh rank bewildering world because if even a little bit inattentive, there would be a life threatening danger.

With Chu Mu's current strength, training alone in a seventh rank bewildering world was already a challenge. As for an eighth rank bewildering world, he would truly step into a zone of death!

Having been influenced by the tenth rank bewildering world, Folding Skies, Chu Mu felt that en route to Tianxia City, staying only in the seventh rank bewildering world would require at least nine months to raise the strength of his soul pets by a level!

However, in the Battle of the Realm, there would be tenth phase commanders and ninth phase low class monarchs. Thus, he would still be a level lower than them and he could further only triple summon.

Chu Mu was unresigned to continue like this! He had to surpass himself! Therefore, no matter what, he had to step into an eighth rank bewildering world ahead of what he had originally planned!

.....

"Young master, you can walk in a little bit to test it out. I think that it won't be very long before you come back from you own volition." said Old Li in a low voice.

Chu Mu was still determined. No matter what, he couldn't retreat. Promptly, he summoned his Night Thunder Dream Beast.

"Step over to that side, the sun is just about to rise." said Chu Mu.

The dark clouds hung over the long valley. As the clouds slowly disappeared, the sun began to break up the shadows...

"Hui~~~~~"

The Night Thunder Dream Beast let out a whiny and leapt up into the air, gracefully jumping into the deep valley.

Without wings, the Night Thunder Dream Beast would make people think that it would fall right to the bottom of the valley the moment it leapt into the air. However, it began to lightly step onto the dark layer of clouds. Its graceful body, after stepping into the air, gave people a feeling of beauty and spiritual grace, almost as if it was flying...

When the sunlight shone down on the valley, the Night Thunder Dream Beast stably landed on the other side of the valley.

"Hu hu hu hu~~~~~"

Chu Mu was met with a barren wind that swept sand and dirt into his clothes that caused his body to sway.

The biting cold and irascible barren wind was like the guardian of a territory. It tyrannically pushed out people from here and when it found that the intruders were not leaving, it would contemptuously and mockingly linger around beside the person...

“Eighth rank bewildering world...” Chu Mu took a deep breath of turbid air.

Chu Mu had been in an eighth rank bewildering world before and even lived for a very long time in one. Back then, he was nothing more than an insignificant person searching for survival. He could only hide in the most lowly places in the eighth rank bewildering world and tread with careful attention around the eighth rank bewildering world’s creatures. He would hardly ever near a soul pet that would live in the eighth rank bewildering world...

But right now, Chu Mu could finally face the creatures that made him tremble with fear back then on Prison Island’s bewildering world!

“Mo Xie!” Chu Mu knew that if he were to continue having reservations in this kind of environment, he would definitely die. Thus, he decisively summoned Mo Xie in front of him.

“White Nightmare!”

A white devil flame sprung up beside Chu Mu and gradually began to burn his body.

When Chu Mu took a step back, the flames continued to burn in the shape of Chu Mu, slowly transforming into a Chu Mu devil flame figure that chillingly and demonically stood there.

Although the White Nightmare would sometimes not listen, it had the superior species rank and had always been Chu Mu's strongest fighting strength soul pet.

There was an extremely large difference between a middle class and low class monarch. A seventh phase ninth stage middle class monarch could directly face off against an eight phase low stage low class monarch. Therefore, the main fighting force this time in the eighth rank territories would be the White Nightmare!

"Night, take note of the surrounding environment." Chu Mu said to the Night Thunder Dream Beast.

Chu Mu also perpetually kept his soul remembrance released to detect the state of the surrounding two hundred meters.

This was a barren plain and as far as he could see, it was bleak and dark.

Withered trees cracked and swayed in the wind, broken pieces of rampart corroded off were swept into the horizon... a creature lying on the broken wall roared into the wind!

"It's a Terror Wolf, young master needs to maintain a certain distance away. I'll see what phase and stage it is." Old Li responded very fast.

In the turbid and vast horizon, the azure wolf lay alone in the violent wind on the broken wall. Its majestic fur fluttered wildly in the wind!

It seemed to be in deep thought, waiting for prey to walk across its field of vision. It seemed to be lying there in full majesty, its untamed and indifferent aura gave Chu Mu a completely different

feeling from those immature Terror Wolves he had seen before. It's ice cold aura of a wasteland hunter was virtually emitted!

“Young master... this is Terror Wolf that hasn't been strengthened. It's a high class commander, eh... it hasn't reached the tenth phase, but it's not far. It should probably be ninth phase middle or high stage... young master... we should probably go around...” whispered Old Li.

Chu Mu was silently shocked. The eighth rank bewildering world is indeed terrifying. He had just entered, but had already encountered a high class commander very near the tenth phase!

Chu Mu stared at the commander near the tenth phase. As he was in his shock, suddenly, an enchanting brown lustre flickered on the wind corroded broken wall on the Terror Wolf's back!!

A brown lustre reflected from the sunlight. Chu Mu was extremely familiar with this light as it was the same light coming from a soul crystal.

A rock type elemental crystal! Moreover, it definitely couldn't be just a seventh level elemental crystal because the halo it emitted wouldn't travel so far!

“An eighth level elemental crystal!” Chu Mu's heart violently beat.

In a seventh rank bewildering world, Chu Mu had to spend at least half a month to encounter such a spirit item of value. However, in this eighth rank bewildering world, it seemed to be visible everywhere as he encountered it not long after walking in!

An eighth rank elemental crystal price was the same with an eighth rank soul crystal which was approximately 15 to 30 million!

As long as he could kill this Terror Wolf, he would be able to reap such a generous reward. If things continued like this, wouldn't he be able to accumulate 400 million in one month to increase all of his soul pets?!

He could attain nine months worth of work in one month! Chu Mu's heart was moved and he was even sure of his choice of stepping into the eighth rank bewildering world!

"Young master. It's a ninth phase middle stage Terror Wolf that hasn't been strengthened. Are you sure want to fight it..." whispered Old Li.

"Could it be that you didn't see the eighth level elemental crystal?" said Chu Mu.

Something worth about 20 million was just in front of him. Back then he had spent a week in Dun City's annual competition just to obtain 30 million.

As long as he could get rid of the wolf or make it run away, he would be able to obtain the eighth level elemental crystal. The temptation was too great!

"Although things like this aren't everywhere in an eighth rank bewildering world, it's not too hard to find. Your White Nightmare is a middle class monarch and it shouldn't be a problem to deal with a commander at or under the ninth phase, but dealing with a ninth phase middle stage high class commander is too difficult. I feel that you need to have three eighth phase low class monarchs in order to beat it." said Old Li.

Chu Mu ignored Old Li as everytime, the only thing he wanted was safety.

Only if Chu Mu was safe could he hand him back to Her Majesty. However, if things continued like this, Chu Mu would never be able to become an expert that stood above others.

Just like Old Li had said before, the moment he entered a ground where experts were as many as the clouds like Tianxia City, his vision would become even more wide. Only by doing so would he realize that there was an even stronger group of people standing in front of him. If he didn't incite his own potential by challenging his limits, how could he surpass this group?

A fortuitous encounter was something that occurred every one in ten thousand times, but there were an innumerable number of soul pet trainers. There would always be several young generation soul pet trainers that had luck that would make the others of eyes red. Chu Mu was already certain that there were other people of his age that could traverse seventh rank bewildering worlds and the most immediate example that came up was the new Hunting King - Luo Peng.

But right now, if all of these people that ceaselessly challenged their limits and were lucky were gathered together, there would definitely be people stronger than Luo Peng. Thus compared to them, wasn't Chu Mu just average?

As such, Chu Mu had to surpass his limits!

Only by entering the eighth rank bewildering world that other people didn't dare enter and only by facing creatures even his three strongest soul pets together couldn't defeat could he have a chance of surpassing these experts that had their own fortuitous encounters!!

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Chu Mu could summon three soul pets to fight and the coordination between the three soul pets could make up for a slight difference in strength. Soul pets could also counter others through attribute and further, as long as he had soul power, he would be able to swap them in and out...

With the advantage in number, ceaseless changing in fighting tactics, definite countering through attributes as well as Chu Mu could use soul techniques, even if there was a certain gap in strength, as long as he utilized it well, he had a definite chance of defeating the ninth phase Terror Wolf!