

Talent 171

Chapter 171: The First Batch of Core Members!

Lin Ze's home was quite ordinary, just a small, plain bungalow without even a yard. The house was old and dilapidated, the kind that would be considered dangerous.

Upon entering Lin Ze's home, Ye Tian saw a young girl lying on a straw mat bed.

The girl's face was pale, and she appeared extremely weak.

This girl was Lin Ze's sister—Lin Yiyi!

When Lin Yiyi saw Lin Ze, she weakly said, "Brother, you're back. Is this your friend?"

"Yiyi, this is a gentleman from the wealthy district!"

Lin Ze hurriedly introduced her to Ye Tian.

Hearing about Ye Tian's status, Lin Yiyi was so frightened that she tried to get up to greet him, fearing she might offend Ye Tian.

"Don't bother getting up!"

Ye Tian waved his hand.

Lin Ze was preparing to brew medicine for his sister, but Ye Tian stopped him: "There's no need for medicine now. Although your herbs are good and can quickly heal common diseases, your sister's body is too weak. Strong medicine is not good for her right now."

"Ah, then what should I do, sir?"

Lin Ze panicked.

He knew nothing about medicine and had only heard that these herbs could treat most diseases, so he bought them for his sister without considering her frail condition.

Others would immediately seek treatment for illnesses, their bodies not as weak, but Lin Yiyi had been sick for a long time and had poor nutrition, weaker than a normal child. Naturally, she couldn't withstand strong medicinal supplements.

"This illness is nothing!"

Ye Tian flicked his finger, and a drop of white medicine landed in Lin Yiyi's mouth, sliding down her throat into her body.

Soon.

Lin Yiyi's complexion returned to a normal color, and her breathing stabilized.

"Brother, I feel better!"

Lin Yiyi sat up from the bed, very excited.

"Sir, thank you. How much is the medicine? I'll work hard to earn money and pay you back!"
Lin Ze thanked him.

"Forget it, that medicine is not worth much!"

Ye Tian said casually.

But in reality, that single drop, if used for healing or treating diseases, could cost hundreds of thousands, an amount unimaginable to ordinary people.

If Lin Ze really intended to repay, he couldn't do so in a lifetime, even if he became a martial warrior.

"Lin Ze, do you want to become a martial artist, stronger than that Zhang Long we saw earlier?"

Ye Tian suddenly asked.

"Ah, can I also become a powerful martial artist?" Lin Ze was stunned. He was aware of his talent, just a second-rate cultivation talent, making it hard to become a martial artist. Even if he somehow managed to become one, advancing further would be difficult.

As for treasures that could enhance cultivation talent, he had neither heard of nor could imagine such things.

"No, actually, your talent is quite good! If you are willing, I can train you to become a real powerhouse, and even your sister can join my power and receive my training!"

Ye Tian said very seriously.

He wasn't just pitying Lin Ze, as there were plenty of pitiable people. He wouldn't help an ordinary person without reason. The reason he helped Lin Ze and Lin Yiyi was because he saw their potential.

Others might not recognize their talents, but could Ye Tian fail to see it?

Under Ye Tian's talent copying ability, the talents of the siblings were clearly revealed.

Human: Lin Ze

Cultivation Talent: Low

Speed Talent: Top-tier (Unawakened)

Swordsmanship Talent: Top-tier

Strength Talent: Medium (Unawakened)

Human: Lin Yiyi

Cultivation Talent: Morning Star

Speed Talent: Top-tier (Unawakened)

Array Talent: Morning Star

Swordsmanship Talent: High (Unawakened)

Seeing the talents of these two, Ye Tian was incredibly shocked. He had not expected that these two individuals, who fit his recruitment criteria, were actually siblings. Lin Ze's combat talent was excellent; his top-tier swordsmanship talent and medium strength talent could be combined effectively. If his cultivation talent was improved, he could definitely become a powerful contender in the King's ranking of warriors.

Lin Yiyi, though not as combat-talented as Lin Ze, possessed high cultivation talent, not inferior to the true geniuses of Zhonghai Super Base. Her Morning Star level talent was enough to make her a Saint-level entity. Moreover, she had high-level swordsmanship and top-notch speed talents, ensuring her combat abilities were not weak. But what was more important was her Morning Star level array talent!

What did a Morning Star level array talent imply? This was the first time Ye Tian had encountered such a talent. While Zhonghai Super Base might have Morning Star level array masters, they were extremely rare and would be heavily protected by the four major powers. Such talents were too rare and too important.

Ye Tian couldn't believe his luck in discovering such talent. At this moment, Lin Ze was stunned. A person of significance from the wealthy district wanted to recruit him and train him? Was this real or a scam? It couldn't be a scam. He didn't know how much Ye Tian's medicine for his sister was worth, but the fact that it cured her instantly implied it was extremely expensive, worth more than selling both him and his sister.

Moreover, he guessed that Ye Tian's strength was at least at the Grandmaster level, not someone who would deceive ordinary people like them.

"Sir, I am willing to join your power!" Lin Ze knew this was an opportunity, a chance to become a powerful martial artist. Without Ye Tian's help, he would never become one, and once Ye Tian left, Zhang Long would continue to bully them...

"You must understand that once you join my power, you can never betray it," Ye Tian said seriously.

"I will never betray you, sir," Lin Ze swore, and Lin Yiyi also swore not to betray Ye Tian. With this, they joined Ye Tian's power as the first batch of members.

After they joined, Ye Tian learned a bit about their family background. It turned out that they had never met their father, only knowing that their mother was an ordinary woman and their father a powerful martial artist. They had no concept of how powerful he was. At that time, they lived in the civilian area but in a large compound with decent living conditions. However, an accident took their father's life in the wilderness, and he never returned. A few years later, their mother also passed away in depression, leaving them alone. Their parents had left them a considerable sum of money, but as they were young at the time, they were adopted, and that money was taken by the adoptive family.

Years later, that family moved to the wealthy district and disappeared. The siblings were then placed in this small house by the civilian area officials, where they had lived to this day.

"So that's how it is!" Ye Tian guessed that their father must have been a powerful King-level figure, which explained why the children were born with such exceptional talents.

"Ye Tian, sir, what is our power called?" Lin Yiyi asked curiously.

"Let's call it... Tian Pavilion!" Ye Tian decided on a name.

Realizing Ye Tian's hesitation and decision, Lin Yiyi suddenly understood something: "Sir Ye Tian, is this power something you just established?"

Lin Ze was startled and quickly said, "Yiyi, don't be disrespectful to Sir Ye Tian!" He was afraid that her questioning might provoke Ye Tian's reprimand.

"It's fine. It's just a child's curiosity. But Yiyi is right. Tian Pavilion is indeed newly established. However, I believe that in the future, Tian Pavilion will become one of the top

powers in Zhonghai Super Base," Ye Tian said, patting Yiyi's head. Seeing that Ye Tian was not angry, Lin Ze finally relaxed.

Chapter 172: The Inception of Tian Pavilion!

Ye Tian had recruited Lin Ze and Lin Yiyi into Tian Pavilion, his newly established power, and was now preparing to take them out of the civilian area. They had little to pack, just a few clothes, and they followed Ye Tian.

As for Lin Ze's job, he didn't even mention it. Now that he was following a significant figure like Ye Tian, why bother with a menial job that paid a mere 2000 yuan a month?

In Jinghu District, Ye Tian first arranged for Lin Ze and Lin Yiyi to stay in his villa. He then purchased a building to serve as the headquarters of his power and moved Lin Ze and Lin Yiyi into the building.

Next, Ye Tian invited his sister to start training Lin Ze. Ye Yu, being a Grandmaster, found it easy to guide a martial trainee. Lin Yiyi, being only 13, needed nutrition supplements and medicines conducive to her growth, aiming to qualify her for cultivation within half a year.

However, there was another pressing matter. Lin Ze's cultivation talent was too low, merely at low level. Without changing his cultivation talent, it was uncertain when Lin Ze could advance to the level of a martial warrior.

Thus, it was necessary to enhance Lin Ze's talent, but not without a cost. On the 29th, Ye Tian and Ye Yu established a contribution point and credit exchange system, placing a series of treasures in Tian Pavilion's credit exchange system.

From now on, any member of Tian Pavilion could use credits to exchange for treasures, even those that could enhance talents. The acquisition of credits would be based on mission completion, treasure exchanges, and other means, all managed by Ye Yu. Ye Tian's responsibility was solely to find talents.

Once the credit system was established, Ye Tian called Lin Ze over.

"Lin Ze, do you know how cultivation talents are categorized?" Ye Tian asked.

"They are classified as weak, low, basic, medium, high, and top-tier!" Lin Ze replied with what he knew.

Ye Tian nodded and continued, "Actually, top-tier cultivation talent in Zhonghai Super Base is considered ordinary. Above top-tier is the extraordinary level, and those with extraordinary level talents can easily cultivate to the King level, which is above the master realm. With your current talent, it's difficult to even cultivate to the martial artist level, let alone the King level. You're aware of this, right?"

"I am," Lin Ze replied, somewhat dejected.

Ye Tian went on, "There are many treasures in the world that can enhance a person's talent. Your second-rate talent can definitely be elevated to a higher level with the help of these treasures. Currently, Tian Pavilion has a treasure called the Extraordinary Pill, which can elevate one's cultivation talent to the extraordinary level. It's worth 1 million credits. You currently have only the initial 100 credits for joining Tian Pavilion, nowhere near enough to exchange for the Extraordinary Pill. However, I can allow you to exchange for it in advance and slowly repay the 1 million credits over three years. If you fail to repay in time, an additional 100,000 credits in interest will be added each year. You can choose this offer or slowly accumulate credits to buy a treasure that elevates to the basic level, which is easier."

"I wish to exchange for the Extraordinary Pill in advance!" Lin Ze replied without hesitation. Extraordinary level talent surpassed even the top-notch cultivation talent. Zhang Long, who bullied him, had only medium talent. If Lin Ze were to achieve extraordinary level talent, he could easily become a martial artist, elite martial artist, great martial artist, and even a master.

Although he needed to repay the credits within three years, with additional interest if delayed, he was confident he could repay them. What he truly feared was not being able to cultivate, not the so-called credits and debts.

"Alright, sign the contract, and the Extraordinary Pill is yours," Ye Tian said, presenting a contract.

Lin Ze signed the contract, sealing the agreement, and Ye Tian handed him the Extraordinary Pill. Soon, Lin Ze consumed the Extraordinary Pill and acquired extraordinary level cultivation talent. Ye Tian had only a few treasures similar to the Extraordinary Pill. Lin Ze's other talents were promising, making him worth the investment. However, advancing someone's talent to the Morning Star level, something even top powers struggled to achieve, was the limit of what he could offer.

Last time, Ye Tian helped his sister to advance to the Morning Star level of cultivation talent. This was due to unexpectedly gaining a Talent Pill. But there was only one. Such an opportunity was irreplicable.

Even with a Talent Pill, he wouldn't bestow it upon Lin Ze. He was cultivating subordinates, not handing out treasures. If Lin Ze wanted to enhance his talent, he would have to venture out and seek other opportunities.

In the following days, Ye Tian traversed several civilian areas within the Zhonghai Super Base, nearly searching through all the civilians, and eventually found 100 people. Among them, 18 were in their twenties, possessing unique but not exceptional cultivation talents.

They were still ordinary people, but with proper training, they could achieve greatness. The rest were boys and girls around or under 15 years of age, with at least top-tier cultivation talent. He recruited them for their top-tier special talents.

Only three, including Lin Yiyi, possessed the Morning Star cultivation talent. Only three Morning Star talents in the entire civilian area was an incredibly low probability. However, Ye Tian was quite satisfied. Just beginning to establish his power and acquiring three Morning Star talents and a bunch of top-tier special talents was more than satisfactory. Once this first batch of Tian Pavilion members grew in power, spreading Tian Pavilion's reputation, recruiting talents in the future would be easy.

To cultivate these talents, Ye Tian spent a significant amount to build 20 top-tier cultivation chambers. The amount of Yuan Qi stones needed to operate these chambers was immense. Entry into these top-tier cultivation chambers required accumulated points, so a series of missions were assigned, handled by Ye Yu.

The missions mainly involved gathering intelligence. As Tian Pavilion steadily developed, Ye Tian also focused on his cultivation, striving to further unlock his deep brain domain.

Five days later, news came from Tian Pavilion: Feng Luxue was challenging the War God Tower and had already arrived there. This information was gathered by a Tian Pavilion member and was promptly delivered to Ye Tian. This was part of their mission to track the movements of talents at the Zhonghai Super Base. Some Tian Pavilion disciples were specifically assigned to monitor the War God Tower - a high-point mission.

Ye Tian, in the midst of seclusion, immediately headed to the War God Tower. He had been eyeing Feng Luxue's Mythic-grade strength talent, and this was his chance to replicate it, transforming his own strength talent to the Mythic-grade.

Upon arriving at the War God Tower, Ye Tian's presence caused a stir. As a Saint-ranked powerhouse, his photo had been widely circulated, and many recognized him.

"Greetings, Saint Ye Tian!"

"Greetings, Saint Ye Tian!"

"Greetings, Saint Ye Tian!"

One after another, King-ranked powerhouses greeted him respectfully.

From afar, several Tian Pavilion disciples watched their leader with admiration. They now knew their leader's identity as the Saint-ranked Ye Tian, a powerhouse of the Saint rank! They were ordinary people who had joined a Saint-ranked force - what luck! However, they remembered Ye Tian's instruction to quietly gather information without revealing their identities.

...

Feng Lu Xue changed to Feng Luxue

Chapter 173: Sword Intent!

Ye Tian did not wait outside the War God Tower; that would have been too strange. He directly entered the War God Tower. The space within the War God Tower was vast, and he wandered around. The challenge by Feng Luxue did not last long; after two hours, his challenge ended.

“Ranked 37th on the Saint List: Feng Luxue (Battle Axe Mercenary Hall), crossed the 11th floor of the War God Tower, possessing Great Saint strength!”

This ranking sparked much discussion.

“People are saying Feng Luxue’s rank is lower than Ye Tian’s. I remember both Feng Luxue and Ye Tian were about to break through to the Saint level. Why is there such a big gap in their strength? Initially, Feng Luxue was ranked first in the King’s List, while Ye Tian was seventh!”

“The rankings in the King’s List don’t matter much. The difference between first and seventh is not significant; they both have the strength of a seven-star King. Moreover, Ye Tian broke the record for the strongest attack. Perhaps his speed was slightly lacking, which is why his rank wasn’t higher. In terms of attack power, Ye Tian is even more terrifying than Feng Luxue! It’s said that after entering the Saint level, one needs to open deeper brain domains. Maybe Ye Tian obtained some treasure that helped him open his brain domains faster, allowing him to pass the 12th level of the War God Tower!”

“Yes, every 1% of the deep brain domain that is opened greatly increases one’s strength! Regardless of Ye Tian or Feng Luxue, their journey at the Saint level has just begun. In the future, they will both enter the top few ranks of the Saint level list. Who’s faster or slower now doesn’t really matter.”

Inside the War God Tower, Feng Luxue emerged from the virtual challenge space somewhat disappointed. During this period, he had been training in the Battle Axe Mercenary Hall and consumed many treasures that assisted in opening the brain domains, finally achieving a 3% opening. Hearing that Ye Tian had passed the 12th level of the War God Tower, he felt unconvinced and challenged immediately after ending his seclusion.

However, he was far behind! He passed the 11th level but was slain in three moves by the black-clothed warrior on the 12th level, unable to withstand the assault. Ye Tian, who could easily defeat the warrior on the 12th level, could also easily defeat him. Being surpassed and crushed by Ye Tian, a fellow seven-star King-level genius, left him feeling dejected.

“Hmph, Ye Tian must have obtained some extremely precious treasure in the divine space. Maybe he even elevated his pseudo-mystic grade strength talent to a mystic grade and acquired many treasures for opening brain domains, which is why he has such strength!” Feng Luxue thought, but he never considered that Ye Tian’s strength talent was still at the pseudo-mystic grade. It was just that Ye Tian’s sword talent was extremely powerful, and he had practiced two gold-grade sword arts, along with possessing many other talents.

Compared to Ye Tian, he was like an ordinary person to a genius. If Ye Tian wished, he could easily pass even the 13th or 14th levels.

Ye Tian saw Feng Luxue but did not expect him to stay. Instead, Feng Luxue entered the War God Stele space to comprehend the axe intent. With no other options, Ye Tian also entered the War God Stele space. Sitting on a stone slab in the space, Ye Tian pondered what he should comprehend.

Arrays? Although he could continue to comprehend them, he temporarily did not want to focus on arrays. He hadn't even copied Lin Yiyi's Morning Star-grade array talent. In the future, he planned to train Lin Yiyi as an array master and leave array matters to her.

"Comprehend sword intent, perhaps?" Ye Tian thought. His sword intent had already reached 100% completeness, but whether there were higher realms beyond sword intent was unclear.

However, Ye Tian guessed there were, given that his sword talent had reached the Morning Star grade. Perhaps there was even Moonlight and Dawn grade sword talent.

If top-level sword talent could only comprehend sword intent to 100%, wouldn't it mean that Morning Star sword talent could go past that? If not, what use would a Morning Star-grade sword talent serve then? Just for show?

Ye Tian thought that the reason Zhonghai Super Base had not proposed higher realms of sword intent was because they didn't have any Morning Star-grade sword talents.

"Since there aren't any, I'll comprehend it myself!" Ye Tian decided to comprehend further. Thus, he activated his triple time talent and, with the aid of the War God Stele, delved into the realm beyond the intent of swords.

A day passed. Then five days. And then ten days. Ye Tian seemed to have forgotten the existence of Feng Luxue, focusing solely on his comprehension of sword intent. His powerful Morning Star-level sword talent was a significant aid, leading to new insights. The fully mastered sword intent seemed to have given birth to a new force, opening a new door for Ye Tian.

Three more days passed. Ye Tian slowly opened his eyes, joy evident in their depths.

"I've broken through. There indeed exists a realm beyond 100% sword intent. Let's call this realm the Sword Dao Realm. For simplicity, 'Sword Dao' will do." Ye Tian murmured to himself.

Sword Dao encompassed the power of sword laws, an entry-level realm similar to the mystic-grade talent, representing a new level. However, entering the realm of Sword Dao was incredibly difficult, requiring at least a Morning Star-level sword talent. Aside from Ye Tian, no one in Zhonghai Super Base could achieve this.

The process of mystic-grade talent acquisition in Zhonghai Super Base was the following:

People could elevate their top-grade talents to pseudo-mystic grade with treasures and gradually comprehend higher realms with artifacts like the War God Stele. In this process, their Morning Star and Moonlight cultivation talents, combined with various treasures, allowed them to elevate their pseudo mystic talents to 70%. Then, during their transition from a King to a Saint, they could advance from 70% to mystic-grade talents.

Mystic-grade talents had a traceable path, but the birth of Sword Dao had no precedent. Ye Tian was the only warrior in Zhonghai Super Base to have comprehended Sword Dao. However, he had just grasped the basics, merely stepping into the threshold. It would take a few more days to truly enter the first part of Sword Dao.

Yet, this initial comprehension did not significantly boost his strength, as he still lacked golden-grade or higher sword skills. Once he created sword skills of golden-grade or above, Ye Tian's power would receive an unimaginable boost.

After four more days of comprehension, Ye Tian fully entered the realm of Sword Dao. He noticed that Feng Luxue was still comprehending the axe intent, evidently planning to remain in seclusion for a while longer. However, during the early stages of the Saint level, with every 1% of the deep brain domain opened, strength surged significantly. Feng Luxue surely understood this principle and wouldn't focus solely on cultivating axe intent.

As expected, on the eighteenth day, Feng Luxue left, and Ye Tian followed suit. When the two emerged from the War God Stele, Feng Luxue looked at Ye Tian suspiciously, even wondering if Ye Tian had intentionally left with him.

“Great Saint Ye Tian!”

“Great Saint Lu Xue!”

Shouts rang out outside the War God Tower.

Ye Tian seemed uninterested in Feng Luxue, as if his departure was merely coincidental. He walked in a different direction, while Feng Luxue, without greeting Ye Tian, headed towards the Battle Axe Mercenary Hall.

Unbeknownst to Feng Luxue, Ye Tian had copied his mystic-grade strength talent and even replicated his 40% pseudo-mystic-grade speed talent.

Chapter 174: Shocking Turn, The Fall of an Emperor!

Returning home, Ye Tian couldn't wait to start integrating the mystic-grade strength talent he had acquired. His strength talent had already reached the brink of mystic-grade, and with the absorption of Feng Luxue's mystic-grade strength talent, it was destined to transform into a true mystic-grade strength talent.

The integration began with a thought. Boom! The transformation started; the strength 'mystery' merged perfectly with his muscles, becoming an integral part of his body without any barrier. Ten minutes later, the integration was complete. Covered in sweat, Ye Tian checked his strength talent, which had indeed transformed into a mystic-grade strength talent.

【Strength Talent: Mystic】

“Just like the defense talent, once it becomes mystic-grade, there's no division into parts. It seems that the amplification effect of a mystic-grade talent is a hundredfold, and it's impossible to continue improving unless I ascend to a higher level of talent,” Ye Tian speculated.

(TL: Essentially, pseudo-mystic level talents have 'sub-realms', which I have translated as a percent. Mystic realm talents seem to have something called 'Mystery' which is the equivalent of comprehending 'Laws' or 'Daos' in other novels.)

But is there a talent above the mystic-grade? He didn't know, and probably no one else in Zhonghai Super Base knew either.

Next, Ye Tian began integrating Feng Luxue's 40% pseudo-mystic-grade speed talent, finally raising his own 20% pseudo-mystic-grade speed talent to 60%. His speed increased manifold.

After using up his two copying opportunities, Ye Tian began his closed-door cultivation, striving to enhance his Level 820 cultivation.

Thus, Ye Tian continuously opened his deep brain domain in a top-level cultivation room with triple time acceleration. He even used his only pill that assisted in opening brain domains.

In a blink, three months passed, and Ye Tian ended his seclusion. By then, his deep brain domain had opened up to 12%, and he had copied several speed talents from the golden-armored corpse puppets, raising his speed talent to a 90% pseudo-mystic-grade. These corpse puppets were from the batch he had slain in the divine space and preserved in his spatial storage. Now, they served a purpose as he copied their pseudo-mystic-grade speed talents. Unfortunately, their talents were too low to transform his pseudo-mystic-grade speed talent into a mystic-grade.

However, Ye Tian estimated that with one more pseudo-mystic-grade speed talent, he could truly transform his speed talent into a mystic-grade.

In the Tian Pavilion, Ye Tian and Ye Yu sat on the highest floor. By now, Xiao Yu had become a King-level practitioner with her Morning Star-grade cultivation talent, top-tier cultivation methods, and the top-level cultivation room, along with various treasures for tempering her meridians. She had rapidly ascended to the pinnacle of the master level and then stepped into the King level, as Ye Tian had anticipated.

“How is the development of the Tian Pavilion now?” Ye Tian asked.

“Brother, the Tian Pavilion is developing well. Except for Yiyi and a few younger ones who haven’t started cultivating, all other members have become warriors. Zhao Hua and Sun Yu have even become peak Elite Martial Warriors, soon to step into the Great Martial Warrior level,” Ye Yu reported.

Zhao Hua and Sun Yu were the other two with Morning Star-grade talents discovered by Ye Tian at the age of 15. After arriving at the Tian Pavilion, they began cultivating immediately. In just three months, they reached the peak of the elite warrior level, showcasing the terrifying amplification effect of good cultivation methods, top-level cultivation rooms, and Morning Star-grade cultivation talents.

“Good!” Ye Tian was very satisfied with the development of the Tian Pavilion. He anticipated that soon, the Tian Pavilion would see a host of masters and even King-level powerhouses. These talents would be of great use then!

After giving a few instructions to Ye Yu, Ye Tian left the headquarters of the Tian Pavilion. However, just then, a message arrived from the headquarters of the Loose Cultivators Alliance.

“A meeting of Saint experts!” Ye Tian frowned slightly.

The Loose Cultivators Alliance seldom held meetings, at least not since he had ascended to the Saint level, as it was only a loosely organized group.

“Something big must have happened,” Ye Tian speculated.

Thus, Ye Tian headed to the headquarters of the Loose Cultivators Alliance.

In the highest-level meeting room of the Loose Cultivators Alliance’s headquarters, Ye Tian arrived and saw many Saints, including the Frenzied Sword Saint, with whom he had previously conducted transactions. Shortly, the meeting room gathered about 30 Saints. Most of them were ordinary Saints or Minor Saints, with only a few at the level of Great Saint. After all, there were only a few dozen Great Saints in the entire Zhonghai Super Base, so it was impossible for the Loose Cultivators Alliance to have many of them.

“Great Saint Ye Tian!” The Saints greeted him, and Ye Tian responded casually.

Then, the Frenzied Sword Saint approached. “Great Saint Ye Tian, do you know the purpose of this meeting?” he asked with a solemn tone.

“I’m not sure,” Ye Tian replied, shaking his head.

Frenzied Sword Saint conveyed through a secret message, “Great Saint Ye Tian, it’s likely that there’s trouble at the Five Star-level spatial rift. As usual, Great Saints like us must go there.”

“A problem at the Five Star-level spatial rift?” Ye Tian frowned. This was troubling. The Five Star-level spatial rift was a critical juncture. If a rift like that were breached, hordes of ferocious beasts could invade Earth, leading to many Emperor-level beasts appearing on Earth, which would pose a significant danger to many bases. The destruction caused by an Emperor-level beast on Earth would be catastrophic for humanity.

Suddenly, Ye Tian's copy talent enveloped several warriors with Moonlight-level cultivation talents, who emitted terrifying auras, indicating they were at the Emperor level. However, to Ye Tian's disappointment, none of them possessed mystic-grade talents, though one had a pseudo-mystic-grade speed talent. Ye Tian had not copied this individual's talent yet and planned to do so, but he had to wait for about ten more days before he could copy again.

As the meeting room's doors opened, four Emperors walked in. One of them, walking in front, was followed by the other three.

"The Emperor leading the way is the Kuruo Emperor, ranked ninth among the thirty-six Emperors, and is considered the second-in-command of the Loose Cultivators Alliance," Frenzied Sword Saint informed Ye Tian through a secret message.

With this introduction, Ye Tian gained a preliminary understanding of these Emperors.

The appearance of four Emperors made many of the Saints present tense up.

Kuruo Emperor spoke, "The Loose Cultivators Alliance is a loose organization and doesn't compel everyone to attend meetings. However, your presence is appreciated. Some of you might already know, and the rumors are true. There's indeed been an incident at the Five Star-level spatial rift, and one of the thirty-six Emperors has fallen."

"What!" All the Saints were shocked and their expressions changed drastically. The fall of one of the thirty-six Emperors was significant news. How could such an event have occurred without any information being leaked?

"Kuruo Emperor, which Emperor has fallen?" Frenzied Sword Saint asked gravely. He was unaware of this development and was deeply shocked. The fallen wasn't just any Emperor, but one of the thirty-six.

Chapter 175: Soul Attack Talent!

"It was the Tyrant Dragon Emperor who fell!" Kuruo Emperor said with a hint of sadness. As one of the thirty-six Emperors, the fall of the Tyrant Dragon Emperor was a significant blow to him, signifying that he too could meet the same fate.

“The Tyrant Dragon Emperor? He was ranked 25th among the thirty-six Emperors, a very powerful figure with mystic-grade defense and strength talents!” Many Saints were shocked by this revelation.

Ye Tian also frowned slightly, as he knew a bit about the Tyrant Dragon Emperor. The Tyrant Dragon Emperor was a witchman, a member of the Witch God Temple, possessing mystic-grade strength and defense talents. Unfortunately, he didn’t have any weapon or boxing talents to further amplify his combat power, but his strength was still formidable. An Emperor with a mystic-grade defense talent was incredibly hard to kill, as it could amplify defense by a hundredfold. Even without resisting, the Tyrant Dragon Emperor could withstand the attacks of numerous ordinary Emperors without harm. However, now, an Emperor with two mystic-grade talents had fallen, which was shocking news.

“Kuruo Emperor, how did the Tyrant Dragon Emperor die?” Frenzied Sword Saint asked further.

“He was ambushed and killed by three Emperor-level ferocious beasts. The Tyrant Dragon Emperor could have handled them, but unexpectedly, there was a terrifying beast with a soul-type talent. It launched a soul attack that ignored all defenses, annihilating the Tyrant Dragon Emperor’s soul in just a few moves,” Kuruo Emperor explained, his eyes revealing a trace of fear.

“Soul attack talent!” The Saints present changed their expressions dramatically.

This was a fearsome talent that could bypass both attack power and defense. Only those with strong cultivation or soul talents could resist it. A regular Emperor with weak combat strength could potentially use a soul attack to kill one of the thirty-six Emperors. Soul talents were terrifying abilities that could directly annihilate an opponent regardless of their combat strength.

“Kuruo Emperor, does this mean that the thirty-six Emperors, if they don’t have a countermeasure, can’t withstand this soul attack?” A Saint asked in horror.

“Not necessarily,” Kuruo Emperor clarified. “The beast with the soul talent is likely just an ordinary Emperor-level beast, but its soul force amplified by the talent was stronger than the Tyrant Dragon Emperor’s, hence annihilating his soul. We aren’t sure how many attacks it took, as we only received a transmission from the Tyrant Dragon Emperor before his death, warning us about this beast. We speculate that as long as one’s cultivation is high enough and their soul force is strong, they can resist such soul attacks. Moreover, Empress Yue, one of the

thirty-six, has a treasure that can resist soul attacks. She has already gone to the spatial rift to hunt for this beast, and if found, she will spare no effort to kill it! Blood Eye Witch Emperor, with his Blood Eye talent, a kind of eye technique attack, has a similar but not as powerful effect as the soul attack. It can also harm the soul and should be able to resist the beast's soul attack talent."

"Right, Empress Yue! Empress Yue's treasure can easily resist the beast's soul attack!"

"Blood Eye Witch Emperor's Blood Eye talent is also terrifying, containing consciousness attacks. It's a combination of consciousness and eye technique, and with Empress Yue and Blood Eye Witch Emperor, we should be able to counter this Emperor-level beast!"

"It's a pity about the Tyrant Dragon Emperor. If he hadn't been countered, he wouldn't have fallen so easily."

"The Witch God Temple must be thoroughly enraged, as the Tyrant Dragon Emperor was their third strongest figure!"

Ye Tian also frowned. A soul talent of such an overpowered nature appearing, especially on an Emperor-level beast, was indeed terrifying! If it had appeared on a weaker beast, he might have tried to copy it, but with an Emperor-level beast, it was too risky. Though his combat strength was formidable, his soul was relatively weak.

Even Emperors who have opened 100% of their brain domains and ascended to the Emperor level couldn't withstand the soul attack of an Emperor-level beast. With only 12% of his brain domain opened, Ye Tian knew that encountering the beast with the soul attack talent would mean certain death for him.

However, there was a way out. His high-level soul transfer talent had a year's cooldown, and it was now available for use again. If he were to occupy the body of a Saint-level beast and come into contact with that Emperor-level beast, he might be able to copy its soul talent. But this method was extremely risky, and a slight misstep could be fatal.

The Saints discussed fervently, but Kuruo Emperor silenced them with a gesture.

"This time, we're not only facing a single Emperor-level beast with a soul talent but also an increasing number of Emperor-level beasts. A proposal led by the Battle Axe Emperor suggests that more than 90% of the Emperors enter the spatial rift, while the rest guard the

bases. All Saints of the Great Saint level and 70% of the other Saints must enter the rift. In a few days, a list will be announced. Those assigned but unwilling to go will be taken by force, and fleeing will result in pursuit by an Emperor. I'm just here to inform you. You must understand that if we can't hold the line, Zhonghai Super Base is in danger!"

"I understand," the Saints responded in unison.

Kuruo Emperor concluded, "That's all for today. I have other matters to attend to," and left with the other Emperors.

The Saints didn't leave immediately but started exchanging goods and information. Ye Tian stayed and approached Frenzied Sword Saint.

"Frenzied Sword Saint, do you know of any sword skills beyond the golden level?" Ye Tian inquired.

Frenzied Sword Saint curiously asked why Ye Tian was interested in this.

Ye Tian casually replied, "Just curious about what's beyond the golden level. When I fully comprehend sword intent, maybe I can try to cultivate such sword kills."

Frenzied Sword Saint seemed to believe him, doubting that Ye Tian, at his age, had fully comprehended sword intent, as it had taken him decades without achieving it.

"Beyond the golden level, there are indeed more powerful sword skills. I heard that the Battle Axe Emperor has one, which was borrowed by the third-ranked Emperor, Lu Shi. However, Lu Shi only mentioned that such skills was impossible to cultivate. Despite fully comprehending sword intent and mastering ten golden-level sword skills, he failed to cultivate a sword skill of that level. Only the Battle Axe Emperor has access to it, and Lu Shi swore not to disclose its contents," explained Frenzied Sword Saint.

"How can one borrow that sword skill from the Battle Axe Emperor?" Ye Tian showed great interest.

Frenzied Sword Saint advised against it, mentioning that even Lu Shi couldn't learn it and that the price for borrowing it was enormous. Lu Shi had paid the price of ten golden-level sword

skills just for a glimpse, and the Battle Axe Emperor, despite unable to comprehend it himself, guarded it jealously.

Ye Tian outwardly seemed to give up the idea but internally resolved to find a way to borrow that sword skill.

Chapter 176: 24 Treasures!

Ye Tian was certain he would be chosen to enter the spatial rift and guard the frontline. He had no objections to this; humanity needed their strongest to protect it, and choosing to flee in the face of danger would be a disservice to mankind.

Therefore, he wouldn't run or be afraid.

Compared to average Saints, he had many more means to save his life, except in the case of the Emperor-level beast with the soul attack talent.

Three days later, the Loose Cultivators Alliance sent a message. He was required to report to the base at the spatial rift within ten days.

"Ten days, huh? Time to prepare," Ye Tian muttered to himself.

He still had many resources, some of which he had left with the Tian Pavilion, and others he could sell, like the God Forging Pills.

Originally, he had three God Forging Pills. He gave one to Wang Yan and still had two left. These pills were highly valuable in Zhonghai Super Base, especially for the offspring of Emperors with extraordinary cultivation talents who struggled to break through to the Saint level. The God Forging Pills could help them with a high probability of advancing to the Saint level.

"I'll trade the two God Forging Pills for treasures that assist in opening the brain domain. My cultivation speed is already much faster than others, but with enough brain-opening treasures, I can make a significant leap in a short time," Ye Tian planned.

Power was the most important thing, and the God Forging Pills were of no use to him. His sister, Ye Yu, with her Morning Star-level cultivation talent, wouldn't need such treasures. As

for the others in Tian Pavilion, he wouldn't provide them with the pills; they had to rely on themselves.

Soon after, Ye Tian listed the God Forging Pills on the trading platform of the Loose Cultivators Alliance. He offered each pill in exchange for ten brain-opening treasures, amounting to twenty treasures for both pills. The listing was quickly taken up, showcasing the rarity of such pills. He soon met with the traders, one of whom was an Emperor-level being.

"This is..." Ye Tian looked at the Emperor, puzzled. The trader should have been the King-level person, not this Emperor. From his talents, Ye Tian recognized the Emperor as Qin Shan from the Qin Sect, an Emperor-level being from the Qin Sect coming to trade in the Loose Cultivators Alliance, which was against the rules.

"I am Emperor Qin Shan from the Qin Sect. Great Saint Ye Tian, please don't be angry. We know this breaks the rules, but we are willing to increase the stakes of the trade," the King-level person spoke.

Ye Tian asked Qin Shan directly what price he was willing to pay for the two God Forging Pills.

Qin Shan offered 24 brain-opening treasures, each capable of helping a Moonlight-level talent open 0.5% of their brain domain in half a month, equating to 12% in a year. For Morning Star-level talents, it would mean a 4% opening in a year.

"Such treasures are extremely rare, and the value of each, as you know, is considerable. Offering 24 is already a significant gesture of sincerity," Qin Shan stated firmly.

"Agreed!" Ye Tian nodded in acceptance.

"Let's swear on the trade then!" Qin Shan said with relief. He was trading the pills for his children, hoping to help his son, a potential Five Star-level warrior, and his recently ascended King-level daughter, both of whom only had extraordinary cultivation talents.

Therefore, Qin Shan had to prepare treasures like the God Forging Pill for his two children. Such treasures were always in short supply, even for a powerful faction like the Qin Sect, with so many Emperors and offspring with extraordinary cultivation talents. Unable to procure such treasures from the Qin Sect, and with no success in the divine space, Qin Shan resorted to seeking trades, hoping someone would trade a God Forging Pill.

Finally, a King-level member of the Loose Cultivators Alliance, whom Qin Shan had previously helped, provided him with information about the God Forging Pill trade.

After the successful trade, Qin Shan sighed in relief: “Now, my two children have a chance to break through to the Saint level!”

Ye Tian obtained 24 brain-opening treasures, four more than he initially expected, and these treasures were far superior to ordinary ones. It was indeed a profitable trade. Back home, Ye Tian began using the treasures to open his brain domain, simultaneously activating triple time acceleration.

Boom! His deep brain domain opened rapidly under the influence of his consciousness and the treasures, much faster than before.

“With one of these treasures, a Moonlight-level cultivator can open 0.5% of their brain domain in half a month. However, as a Dawn-level cultivator, I can open 0.5% in three days, and with triple time acceleration, I can open 0.5% in just one day in the external world!” Ye Tian murmured.

Sure enough, after one day of closed-door cultivation, Ye Tian opened 0.5% of his deep brain domain. A single treasure could sustain two days of his cultivation, meaning one treasure could open 1% of his brain domain. Twenty-four treasures would be enough for him to open 24% of his brain domain in 48 days.

“This is incredible! Using resources really speeds up the process. I’ve already opened 12%, and with these treasures, I’ll reach 36% of my deep brain domain. My strength will surely surge by then!” Ye Tian exclaimed excitedly.

He continued cultivating, with about nine days left before he had to report. In a blink of an eye, eight days passed, and Ye Tian had opened 16.5% of his deep brain domain.

“It’s time to leave,” he concluded, ending his seclusion to head to the Five Star-level spatial rift.

Before leaving, he gave instructions to Ye Yu and the members of Tian Pavilion and then left Zhonghai Super Base

70,000 kilometers to the southeast lay the Five Star-level spatial rift guarded by Zhonghai Super Base. When Ye Tian arrived, he saw a gigantic spatial rift over a thousand kilometers long, as if the sky itself had been torn open.

Compared to the Three-Star-level spatial rift near the Demon Sea Base, this seemed trivial. Numerous powerful arrays, including Morning Star-level arrays, were deployed around the rift on Earth's side. A large army, along with numerous Kings, Saints, and even Emperors, was stationed here.

Ye Tian could sense several terrifying auras from the fortress, which was quite intimidating. Upon his arrival, a King-level figure approached and greeted him,

“Great Saint Ye Tian, please follow me.”

Chapter 177: Acquiring the Medium Blood Eye Talent!

“Ha!”

Ye Tian followed a King-level guard through layers of security and entered a massive fortress, where he promptly received a token.

This token was one of the credentials to enter the spatial rift. It served as a safeguard against the possibility of ferocious beasts sneaking into Earth. In this era, any kind of talent could exist, including the talent for disguise. The people at Zhonghai Super Base were aware of this disguise talent, hence the need for the token.

If someone perished, their token would shatter. Only the individual carrying their own crafted token could pass through the spatial rift's surface array light screen; otherwise, it was impossible to get through.

Ye Tian crossed the spatial rift and quickly saw a vast base.

This base, compared to Zhonghai Super Base, was undoubtedly much smaller, but in terms of defense, it was even more robust.

There were no high-rise buildings in the base, just massive castles and palaces. Each palace and castle were constructed with extremely sturdy materials and equipped with defensive arrays.

Such construction was costly, but necessary. Without it, a single attack from ferocious beasts would obliterate the base. For example, the many 29-story buildings in Zhonghai Super Base weren't very sturdy. However, since the base's interior was relatively safe, they were constructed in that manner.

Here, at the frontline of battle, it was impractical to build such extravagant but impractical high-rises.

Upon entering the base, Ye Tian, under the guidance of a guard, reported in and officially stationed himself at the base.

Over the next few days, Ye Tian began to familiarize himself with the base.

Firstly, the base's population was not large, mostly consisting of King-level and above powerhouses, with a few Grandmasters. These Grandmasters belonged to the military forces jointly invested by major powers, responsible for handling attacks by top-tier and high-tier ferocious beasts. Many of these beasts, having low intelligence, did not understand the base's strength and would attack upon seeing humans. These issues were handled by the military.

Under normal circumstances, apart from some special missions, King-level and above powerhouses would usually train within the base.

But now, normal training was impossible due to the frequent appearance of Saint-level and Emperor-level ferocious beasts nearby, requiring the Saint-level and above powerhouses to often investigate the situation.

As a newcomer, Ye Tian had a month's rest period, after which he also had to undertake missions.

For Ye Tian, the only drawback of this base was the abundance of pseudo-mystic talents.

Emperor-level and Saint-level powerhouses were common sights here. If he had arrived earlier, he wouldn't have struggled to acquire the Mystic Defensive Talent and Mystic Strength Talent.

At this moment,

Ye Tian's cloning talent cooldown ended, and he could clone another talent.

Thus,

Ye Tian chose an Emperor-level mystic speed talent and successfully cloned it.

“Integrate!”

Ten minutes later, Ye Tian's speed talent transformed into a Mystic Speed Talent.

Now, Ye Tian possessed three Mystic Talents.

【Strength Talent: Mystic】

【Defense Talent: Mystic】

【Speed Talent: Mystic】

Ye Tian was probably the only one in Zhonghai Super Base who possessed three Mystic Talents

He still had one opportunity left, which he planned to use to clone the Blood Eye Witch Emperor's Blood Eye Talent.

The Blood Eye Talent was a pupil technique related to consciousness, capable of countering soul-type attack talents. If he cloned this talent, he might stand a chance against the Emperor-level beast with soul attack talent.

However, he learned that the Blood Eye Witch Emperor and Empress Yue had gone in search of that beast with soul-type talent and had not returned. He could only wait.

Meanwhile, Ye Tian encountered some acquaintances at the base.

Holy Maiden Xiyue and Wang Yan.

Holy Maiden Xiyue had also reached the Saint-level. For some reason, as the Holy Maiden of the Moon God Sect, she was also dispatched here, while Wang Yan, just an ordinary Saint-level, was unluckily chosen.

One day,

Ye Tian and Wang Yan sat in a fortress, sipping tea and chatting casually.

“Ye Tian, are you scared?”

Wang Yan asked.

“What’s there to fear?”

Ye Tian replied with a smile.

“The war!” Wang Yan said gravely. “Given the current situation, a major war might break out between Zhonghai Super Base and the ferocious beasts, even surpassing past conflicts. In such a war, countless Saints will fall, and even Emperors might die in significant numbers. I remember 20 years ago, Zhonghai Super Base fought against the beasts from this five-star spatial rift. We were driven out of the rift and back to Earth for defense. That battle saw the fall of dozens of Emperors, including three from the Thirty-Six Emperors. It wasn’t until ten years ago that we re-entered the rift and re-established this base. I wasn’t qualified to participate in that battle. Unexpectedly, just as I fortuitously advanced to the Saint level, I was assigned to guard here. I’m not sure if advancing to Saint level is a good or bad thing for me.”

“Let’s just go with the flow. Someone has to hold back the ferocious beasts. I am a bit scared, I admit, but I believe I won’t die so easily!” Ye Tian spoke with confidence.

“I hope so!”

Wang Yan sounded less certain.

Ye Tian understood Wang Yan’s worries. After all, she was just an ordinary Saint-level, and Saints of her level were most vulnerable to falling. If war broke out, she would undoubtedly be targeted by Saint-level beasts, and if she encountered a slightly stronger Saint-level opponent, she wouldn’t stand a chance.

If she couldn’t withstand them, her only fate would be death.

Her chances of survival were less than ten percent!

Anyone aware of their slim chances of survival would feel uneasy.

Therefore, all ordinary Saints selected and realizing that war was imminent would not be in good spirits.

In recent days, Ye Tian had seen too many Saints with gloomy expressions.

But there was no choice; the ferocious beasts were invading Earth, and humans had to defend their home. A battle was inevitable!

After Wang Yan left, Ye Tian walked alone on the street.

Suddenly,

There was a commotion ahead. Ye Tian looked up and saw five or six beams of light descending into the base.

Those were Emperors!

Ye Tian's gaze swept around and spotted a stunningly beautiful woman, with a full moon emerging behind her, resembling the Moon Goddess herself.

However, the moon behind her was full of cracks, and her complexion was somewhat pale.

Beside her stood a burly man with a blood-colored eyeball on his forehead, clearly a witch.

He was the Blood Eye Witch Emperor!

“Empress Yue and Blood Eye Witch Emperor have returned!”

Ye Tian quickly moved closer.

Soon,

He was within 2000 meters of the Blood Eye Witch Emperor and checked his talents.

Witch: Xing Yuan

Cultivation Talent: Moonlight

Blood Eye Talent: Medium

Defense Talent: Pseudo-Mystic (50%)

Strength Talent: Mystic

Speed Talent: Mystic

Curse Talent: Basic

The Blood Eye Witch Emperor's talents were impressive, with two Mystic Talents. Aside from the Blood Eye Talent, there was also a basic Curse Talent.

“Curse Talent!”

Ye Tian was curious about this talent, but after careful consideration, he decided it was better to clone the Blood Eye Talent, a life-saving one.

“Clone!”

With a thought, the Medium Blood Eye Talent was his!

Chapter 178: Emperor-Level Combat Power!

After copying the medium-grade Blood Eye Talent, Ye Tian returned to his residence—the third layer of a fortress. He activated the array and began to integrate the Blood Eye Talent. This time, there was no pain, only a slight warmth in his body. Soon, the integration was complete. Now, among Ye Tian's many talents, the medium-grade Blood Eye Talent was added.

Unlike the Blood Eye Witch Emperor, who shot beams from the third eye on his forehead, Ye Tian could activate this talent from any eye. Initially, Ye Tian thought that copying this talent would result in an extra eye on his forehead, but he realized it was a misunderstanding.

With the medium-grade Blood Eye Talent, Ye Tian felt somewhat reassured. In case the Emperor-level beast attacked him with a soul attack, he could promptly activate the Blood Eye Talent to counter it, possibly avoiding instant defeat.

Unfortunately, the true purpose of the Blood Eye Talent was to annihilate the enemy's consciousness and confuse their soul, not directly destroy their soul. In terms of soul attacks, the effectiveness of the Blood Eye Talent was relatively weak. But it was the only talent Ye Tian found to counter soul attacks.

Soon after, Ye Tian contacted the Holy Maiden Xiyue and learned about the whereabouts of Empress Yue, Blood Eye Witch Emperor, and others.

“They actually found that Emperor-level beast!” Ye Tian was astonished.

It turned out that the Blood Eye Witch Emperor went to the site where the Tyrant Dragon Emperor fell, found a hair of the Emperor-level beast, and imbued a curse, determining its approximate location before pursuing it.

The cursed one wasn't the soul-attacking Emperor-level beast but another one. But finding one could lead to the other.

The cursed Emperor-level beast naturally fled and wouldn't stay in one place. Among the human Emperors, some were adept at tracking. By determining the direction and following the scent left by the fleeing beast, the Emperors finally found them and indeed discovered the soul-attacking Emperor-level beast. In the ensuing battle, one Emperor died, but ten Emperor-level beasts were slain, and the soul-attacking beast was rescued by a very fast Emperor-level beast.

In this battle, Empress Yue was seriously injured, and the Blood Eye Witch Emperor's curse talent was temporarily unavailable for further curses, so they couldn't track the whereabouts of that Emperor-level beast.

This time, the Emperors confirmed that the soul talent of the Emperor-level beast couldn't kill Empress Yue or the Blood Eye Emperor. To kill a newly ascended Emperor, it would only take one move. Only Emperors with soul strength ten times that of a normal Emperor could withstand its soul attack; those with less could only withstand a few moves.

Among the Thirty-Six Emperors, besides Empress Yue and Blood Eye Witch Emperor, less than ten had the soul strength ten times that of a normal Emperor. The top ten among the Thirty-Two Emperors were strong in physical combat but not in soul strength, which was bad news.

"It seems that the cultivation levels of the Thirty-Six Emperors aren't very high. Well, they've only cultivated for a little over a hundred years. Although some ancient humans have cultivated for two to three hundred years, they spent the first hundred years at the Grandmaster or King level. Their cultivation only surged after the great change, so it's still not high," Ye Tian thought silently.

From the current situation, if the Emperor-level beast isn't killed, the circumstances will indeed be dire. The beast faction seems to value that beast highly, sending many Emperor-level beasts to protect it. The surprise attack failed, and the chances of a successful attack next time

were even slimmer. If they were not careful, they might enter the enemy's stronghold, which would be disastrous.

"Forget it, I'll focus on cultivating to increase my strength!" Ye Tian resolved to train hard, utilizing treasures to frantically expand his brain domain.

Almost every two days, Ye Tian was able to open up 1% of the deep brain domain. His cultivation progress was many times faster than many other practitioners with Moonlight-level cultivation talents, a rate of improvement they couldn't even imagine.

Unknowingly, it had been a month since Ye Tian arrived at this beast world's defense base. A month of diligent cultivation had significantly boosted his cultivation. Currently, he has opened up 31% of his deep brain domain. His physical strength had reached 3.1 Dragon Power, with his strongest attack reaching 12,400 Dragon Power. The attack power of an ordinary Saint King was about 1,000 Dragon Power, but Ye Tian had achieved 12,400. With his speed and defense also being at the level of profound mysteries, he had no significant weaknesses.

Based on his strength, excluding his space and time talents, Ye Tian's true combat power had already reached peak Saint King level. The attack power of a peak Saint King even surpassed that of an ordinary Emperor, though the speed and defense of an Emperor were significantly stronger. Ye Tian's speed and defense were also slightly weaker than Emperors.

However, if his space and time talents were considered, Ye Tian could even kill some ordinary Emperors.

"I now have Emperor-level combat power, but unfortunately, I still can't threaten the truly top-tier Emperors, unless my talents can surpass Mystic level," Ye Tian sighed. He had tried, but once his talent reached Mystic level, he couldn't copy another talent of the same level. It seemed that Mystic level was the peak.

However, Ye Tian had a vague feeling that there was another level above the Mystic level; he just hadn't encountered it yet.

Ding Ding!

A message came through the communicator about his current mission.

[Inspect the situation of beasts in Area 13, and report the situation. A two-person mission. Duration: three days].

Area 13 was about 300,000 kilometers away, not too far, but in the beast world, a distance of 300,000 kilometers was already very dangerous. Especially under the current tense situation, ordinary Saints wouldn't dare to venture 300,000 kilometers deep, but Ye Tian, being at the Great Saint level, was assigned this mission.

Ye Tian found this mission quite reasonable and didn't request a change. At the base's exit, Ye Tian soon met his partner for the mission.

"Feng Luxue!"

Ye Tian was somewhat surprised to see Feng Luxue, his partner for this mission. But considering there weren't many at the Great Saint level, the chance of them teaming up was quite high.

"Ye Tian, what a coincidence, I didn't expect us to team up on our first mission!" Feng Luxue was also very surprised. Leaving the base, the two didn't fly high but chose to run, as flying in the beast world was too conspicuous, while traveling on land was somewhat more discreet.

On the way, Ye Tian asked, "Feng Luxue, you are a core member of the Battle Axe Mercenary Hall, right? I'm interested in a sword technique from Battle Axe Emperor. Do you know how I could borrow it? If it requires ten golden-level sword techniques, then I don't have them."

"You're talking about the sword technique that surpasses the golden level, right? I'm just a nominal disciple of the Battle Axe Emperor and can't help you get that technique. But if you really want to see that sword technique, it's not impossible!" Feng Luxue said very seriously.

Chapter 179: The Strange Nest!

"How?" Ye Tian asked with interest.

He had only asked casually, not really expecting to get a way from Feng Luxue, but to his surprise, Feng Luxue actually had a suggestion. This piqued his curiosity.

“If it were normal times, it would be difficult to borrow the Battle Axe Emperor’s sword technique. But now, in these special circumstances, if one makes a significant contribution, it might be possible to make this request. There are also a few more challenging conditions, which I guess you might not be able to meet, but I’ll mention them anyway,” Feng Luxue explained.

He listed the possible ways:

“First, if you have a treasure that enhances soul strength, not just borrowing, but even a direct trade for that sword technique could be possible. Second, three golden-level axe techniques might allow you to borrow it, but golden-level axe techniques are even rarer than sword techniques, so the chances are slim. Third, become a disciple of the Battle Axe Emperor. If you’re a direct disciple, naturally, you have the right to borrow that sword technique. But since a direct disciple of his died thirty years ago, the Battle Axe Emperor hasn’t taken any formal disciples, unless it’s a truly exceptional talent. Fourth, a Longevity Pill. Anyone who has a Longevity Pill can trade it directly for that sword technique.”

“What, a Longevity Pill? What does the Battle Axe Emperor need a Longevity Pill for? A Saint with a perfect foundation can live for 1,500 years, and an Emperor can live for several thousand years at least. The Battle Axe Emperor has a long life, why does he need a Longevity Pill?” Ye Tian was puzzled.

“For his wife!” Feng Luxue explained, “This is a secret known to few, except for the older generation of Saints or Emperors at Zhonghai Super Base. The Battle Axe Emperor married his wife before the Earth’s change 100 years ago. Unfortunately, while the Battle Axe Emperor had exceptional talent, his wife had none. Initially, it was very difficult for humans to obtain treasures that could enhance talents. Only fifty years ago did humans gradually begin to obtain many such treasures. Our generation is quite lucky; it’s easy to enhance and even add talents. But for the older generation, it was too difficult. Thus, until fifty years ago, even at great cost, the Battle Axe Emperor could only get his wife a medium talent. By then, she didn’t have much life left, and you can imagine how slow her cultivation progress was. In the meantime, the Battle Axe Emperor used many precious treasures to extend his wife’s life, up to today. Now, although his wife’s talent has reached the Morning Star level, she’s still at the limit of a Great Martial Warrior and can’t break through to the Grandmaster level. Her body is too old; if she tries to break through, her meridians could easily shatter. This isn’t something talent can overcome unless she can obtain a treasure that reverses aging. Otherwise, she has no hope of becoming a Grandmaster.”

“I see!” Ye Tian sympathized with the Battle Axe Emperor.

Age indeed makes cultivation difficult. Even with high talent, if one starts cultivating at an older age, there's not much future. For example, in the civilian area Ye Tian previously visited, he found many elders with excellent special talents, but he didn't recruit them because even if he did, it wouldn't be possible to cultivate them. Their life essence was nearly exhausted, and cultivating would not only fail to improve their strength but would also drain their life essence, leading to an earlier demise.

Age is an insurmountable barrier. The older one gets, the more difficult cultivation becomes. If one doesn't step into the Grandmaster realm when young, there's little potential later. It's already too late to enhance talent in old age. Even someone as powerful as the Battle Axe Emperor is powerless in this regard.

Of course, there are countless treasures in the world, perhaps even ones that can reverse aging, but the Battle Axe Emperor doesn't have them, nor does the entire Zhonghai Super Base.

But for Ye Tian, this was an opportunity. He had a Longevity Pill from the temple space, which could extend life by 100 years. The Battle Axe Emperor wanted to extend his wife's life not only to live longer with her but also in the hope that one day she might become a Grandmaster. What the current Battle Axe Emperor couldn't achieve might be possible in 100 years.

"After this mission is over, I'll go to the Battle Axe Emperor!" Ye Tian decided.

He didn't mention the Longevity Pill to Feng Luxue.

Actually, Feng Luxue was a decent person. At least he was honorable, like when he avenged a fallen King-level warrior by pursuing Sun Qinghe in the temple space.

Soon, Ye Tian and Feng Luxue arrived at Area 13. "Be careful, Ye Tian. Although your strength is now somewhat stronger than mine, in this place, we might encounter Emperor-level beasts at any time. Ordinary Emperor-level beasts are fine; we can handle them. But if we meet one with powerful special talents, we're done for!" Feng Luxue warned seriously.

"Don't worry, with me here, we'll be fine!" Ye Tian reassured.

Ye Tian displayed great confidence. Feng Luxue, not knowing the source of Ye Tian's confidence, still advised caution, "Still, be careful. How should we investigate? Together or split up?"

“Let’s split up,” Ye Tian suggested.

“That’s fine. It doesn’t make much difference whether it’s one person or two. If we really encounter a powerful Emperor-level beast, it’s actually better to be apart,” Feng Luxue agreed, nodding.

Ye Tian understood the implication of his words; if they encountered a powerful Emperor-level beast, being separated might at least save one of them.

But Ye Tian had his own plans. He had many secrets, and being alone would make it easier to use his methods. Swiftly, Ye Tian and Feng Luxue split up, heading in different directions to survey Area 13.

The so-called survey involved confirming the levels and numbers of the beasts in the area without engaging in combat. Thus, the primary requirement was to conceal their presence, meaning they did not even kill low-level beasts.

“Over 100 top-level beasts!”

“Three King-level beasts!”

“Found a Saint-level beast!”

“Discovered a beast nest with about ten Saint-level beasts, several King-level beasts, and thousands of top-level and high-level beasts!”

Ye Tian reported the information he gathered bit by bit. His rapid surveying was due to his use of spatial perception, allowing him to detect even the beasts sleeping underground.

A day passed, and Ye Tian had almost completely surveyed his assigned area.

Just then, Feng Luxue sent a message: “Ye Tian, I’ve found a strange beast nest. My spiritual sense can’t detect the situation inside. The current situation is unclear. Do you have a way to investigate? If you do, come quickly! If not, it’s best not to come.”

“I do!” Ye Tian replied.

Feng Luxue then reported his location, and Ye Tian hurried over. Before long, Ye Tian arrived at Feng Luxue’s position. Feng Luxue was hidden inside a large tree, quietly observing a large mountain. This mountain was pitch black, its stones somehow blocking spiritual perception, but Saint-level beasts were frequently seen entering and leaving the mountain’s caves. This indicated that the nest was no ordinary place.

Seeing Ye Tian arrive, Feng Luxue sent a telepathic message: “Don’t reveal your presence; this nest is unusual!”

Chapter 180: The Golden Winged Peng and the Void Flower!

Ye Tian concealed his presence and entered the tree.

“Ye Tian, the stones of this mountain must be a kind that blocks spiritual sense. They’re very valuable. Many of the top forces’ headquarters in Zhonghai Super Base are made of similar material to block spiritual detection and suppress the extension of spiritual sense. That’s why those Saint-level beasts haven’t used their spiritual sense to detect me, otherwise, I would have been exposed here long ago!” Feng Luxue communicated telepathically.

Ye Tian tried it out and, indeed, his spiritual sense was suppressed, probably to only one-tenth or even less of its usual range. He refrained from using spiritual sense to scout the cave, to avoid being detected.

“Ye Tian, do you have a way to investigate inside?” Feng Luxue asked.

In front of Feng Luxue, Ye Tian immediately activated his invisibility talent.

“This...” Feng Luxue was shocked. He could feel Ye Tian in front of him, but his spiritual sense couldn’t detect Ye Tian’s presence.

“Is this invisibility?” Feng Luxue was astonished. He had seen invisibility talents before, as the Battle Axe Mercenary Hall had talents with such abilities, often assigned to special missions. However, their invisibility couldn’t hide from the spiritual sense of a Saint-level entity.

But Ye Tian's invisibility talent was terrifyingly effective, even Feng Luxue couldn't detect him.

"Indeed, it is invisibility. It can hide from Saint-level beasts," Ye Tian's voice came.

Then, Ye Tian deactivated his invisibility, reappearing in front of Feng Luxue. "With this invisibility, I can go over and take a look," Ye Tian said.

"Okay," Feng Luxue nodded. With Ye Tian's impressive invisibility talent, he was undoubtedly the best candidate for reconnaissance and unlikely to be discovered.

Whoosh!

Ye Tian, now invisible and also using his flight talent, flew over. He chose to use the flight talent instead of relying on his King-level or higher flying ability to minimize air disturbances. Even the slowest Saint-level flight would create some air disturbance, which might be detected by a beast with a special ability to sense minor changes in the air. But a flight talent, being an ability, wouldn't cause such disturbances and was less likely to be discovered.

Before long, Ye Tian reached the entrance of the cave and flew in low. The cave entrance led underground, seemingly connecting to a large subterranean space. At this point, Ye Tian didn't dare to use spatial perception to investigate, as it could not deceive powerful Saint-level beasts, and if any beast also had spatial talents, he would be exposed.

"I'm here!" Ye Tian reached a vast underground space, like a small underground world.

Here, Ye Tian saw many Saint-level beasts and sensed the presence of several Emperor-level beasts in the distance. One of them, a golden bird resembling the mythical Golden Winged Peng, took his breath away. Its wings, likely hundreds of meters long, shone like two small suns. The other Emperor-level beasts seemed like its guards.

"This bird must be the King here," Ye Tian speculated.

As he flew closer, a familiar, intense longing surged within him. It was stronger than any he had felt before, indicating the presence of an item that could evolve his copy talent. Excitedly,

he approached within 2,000 meters of the large bird and used his copy talent to check its abilities.

Type: Golden Winged Peng

Bloodline Talent: Moonlight

Strength Talent: Pseudo-Mystic (30%)

Flight Talent: Mystic

Speed Talent: Top-level

Defense Talent: Mystic

Eagle Eye Talent: Top-level

Slashing Talent: Top-level

Ye Tian was utterly astounded by the talents of the Golden Winged Peng. Its abilities were incredible, certainly on par with the Thirty-Six Emperors, and perhaps even stronger. Its array of talents was extensive.

“I can’t copy talents for a few more days; best not to disturb it for now,” Ye Tian thought to himself.

He was particularly interested in the Roc’s Mystic-level flight talent and its top-level slashing talent, as his other talents were already sufficient. The slashing talent reminded him of something akin to an attack-type talent, possibly with unique effects like slicing through sturdy materials.

Moving his gaze from the Golden Winged Peng, Ye Tian carefully navigated around it, focusing on something behind it. There, he saw a flower growing in the void, rooted deep within the space. Ye Tian decided to call it the Void Flower.

“This Void Flower must be the source of my intense longing; I must obtain it!” Ye Tian resolved.

He figured the Golden Winged Peng was guarding this flower, making this place its nest. The special nature of the mountain above had probably kept it hidden from people or other powerful Emperor-level beasts.

“The Void Flower isn’t fully mature yet, but it’s still hugely beneficial for my copy talent. I won’t wait for it to mature completely, as who knows how long that would be. Plus, once it’s fully mature, the Golden Winged Peng will likely consume it immediately,” Ye Tian planned to seize the Void Flower in a few days.

The Void Flower, capable of evolving his copy talent, was something Ye Tian was determined to acquire at any cost. Of course, he couldn’t let anyone else know about the situation here, as the likes of the Battle Axe Emperor would definitely come to claim the Void Flower.

“Time to leave,” Ye Tian slowly retreated without alerting the Golden Winged Peng. After leaving the underground space and exiting the cave, he returned to where Feng Luxue was waiting.

“How did it go?” Feng Luxue asked upon Ye Tian’s return.

“There are many Saint-level beasts underground and four Emperor-level beasts, including one as powerful as the Thirty-Six Emperors. I didn’t dare get too close. This is definitely a powerful beast nest, and they’re unlikely to leave it unless necessary. We should avoid disturbing them if we can,” Ye Tian reported truthfully, omitting only the Void Flower.

“Four Emperor-level beasts, with one comparable to the Thirty-Six Emperors!” Feng Luxue gasped, relieved he hadn’t ventured down there himself.

“Right, we need to report this to the higher-ups and see how they want to handle it,” Feng Luxue said.

Then Ye Tian suggested, “I have the invisibility talent and can keep watch here. You finish surveying the other areas and then return to the base. Don’t worry; even Emperor-level beasts won’t detect me if they don’t scrutinize carefully.”

“Okay,” Feng Luxue agreed, finding Ye Tian’s plan reasonable. Little did he know, Ye Tian was preparing to challenge the Emperor-level beast comparable to the Thirty-Six Emperors.