

Tang Sect 546

Chapter 546: Destruction of Heavenly Soul City

The Sun Moon Empire might be the best in terms of soul tools, but they had their own problems too. In terms of soul masters, there was a large difference between them and the three empires of the original Douluo Continent. If not for the fact that they had recruited a batch of soul masters from the Heavenly Soul Empire, they would probably not have been able to form these four new armies. Furthermore, many of those three-ringed soul masters had relied on medication to reach their cultivations. It wasn't stable.

However, whether their abilities were stable or not wasn't important. The most important thing was whether they could use soul tools. Because of this, the Sun Moon Empire had used all its resources to manufacture soul tools, and hoped to quickly equip its new soul engineer legions. With these legions and their soul formations, they would be strong everywhere!

Xu Tianran nodded. He knew it very well in his heart, and quickly said, "Quickly equip the first two armies with the newly manufactured soul tools. They must be prepared to obey any orders."

"Yes, Your Majesty!" The Military Chief acknowledged his words.

Xu Tianran turned to his Chief Minister and said, "Chief Minister, please continue."

The Chief Minister said, "We have to quickly tap into our strengths if we want to find those guys. I suggest we deploy the Preparatory Troops to the north to conduct a carpet search. At the same time, we'll activate the farmers to search the wilderness. Whoever can provide satisfactory information will be greatly rewarded. We can first determine where they are before taking them out in one fell swoop!"

"Your Majesty, I suggest that you quickly give orders to send rations to the north. Eastern Sun City and Oak City have been looted, causing rations in the north to be sorely lacking. We need to supplement them quickly. Otherwise, there'll be chaos among the people."

Xu Tianran nodded and said, "Alright, we'll follow the Chief Minister's suggestions."

"Report!" Outside the palace, an anxious shout could be heard.

All the officials broke out into a cold sweat as they watched the reporting soldier. If he had come earlier, when Xu Tianran was still furious, his life would have been in danger!

That soldier didn't wait outside, but charged into the palace holding a token instead. The guards outside the palace quickly gave way when they saw his token. They didn't stop him at all.

All the officials were also astonished when they saw the token in this trooper's hand. A Flying Blazon!

This so-called Flying Blazon was an information transmission method invented by the Sun Moon Empire. Whoever carried this Flying Blazon was at least a six-ringed soul engineer. He would be equipped with a powerful flying-type soul tool. Under urgent conditions, he would be allowed to use this Flying Blazon. It was the fastest way of transmitting information.

Xu Tianran set a rule. As long as the messenger had a Flying Blazon, it had to be presented in front of him no matter when it arrived. This was even if he was sleeping in the middle of the night. Every Flying

Blazon soul engineer had such a token. In the Sun Moon Empire, he would be given any help he needed no matter which county he passed through.

The soul engineer quickly entered the palace and knelt down on one knee in the middle of the hall. "Your Majesty, a Flying Blazon from the front lines."

"Report!" Xu Tianran became a little tense. At such a time, only Ju Zi had the right to use such an information transmission method. This also meant that this Flying Blazon had come from her.

Under what circumstances would such a transmission method be used instead of long-distance transmission through aerial surveillance soul tools?

The bad news from the north had already dampened Xu Tianran's mood. He was really afraid of further bad news.

A box that was formed using a confidential soul tool was brought in front of Xu Tianran. There was a secret marking on the box, an arrangement between Ju Zi and Xu Tianran. Only he knew how to open this box.

After pressing the box a few times and entering a series of words, the box 'clicked' and opened, revealing a neatly folded piece of paper.

At this point, all the officials were quiet. They were really afraid of bad news coming from the front lines.

Xu Tianran opened the piece of paper. It only had two lines of writing on it. He glanced at it before he stood up suddenly. As it affected his prosthetic leg, his body even shook a little before he managed to stabilize himself as he shot up from his throne.

All the officials shuddered at the same time when he stood up. What was going on...

Xu Tianran stood where he was with an indescribable, complex look on his face. After a full minute, he slowly put the piece of paper down. Then, his gaze swept across his officials.

Even the Chief Minister knew that something big had happened. He slowly stood up from his seat too.

Xu Tianran said, "The War God Empress sends news that our army fought the Heavenly Soul and Dou Ling Empires during the wee hours of the morning, defeating them! The Imperial Family of the Heavenly Soul Empire has been wiped out, and all surviving members of the regime have been removed. The remaining troops of the Dou Ling Empire have all fled under the protection of Shrek Academy! In three days, our army will occupy the entire Heavenly Soul Empire apart from Shrek City!"

Inside the palace, it was so silent that one could hear a pin drop!

The Chief Minister's beard shook, and he immediately fell to his knees. He exclaimed, "The heavens have blessed the Sun Moon Empire!"

"The heavens have blessed the Sun Moon Empire. Long live His Majesty!" All the officials only reacted now, and they all fell to their knees.

Xu Tianran laughed. His laughter was filled with coldness and excitement. The paper in his hand had already been crushed.

The Heavenly Soul Empire, one of the empires with the longest history in the Douluo Continent, has been wiped out by me! The territories of the Sun Moon Empire have expanded once again! In the near future, the entire Douluo Continent will be under me. When that happens, I'll rename the entire continent the Sun Moon Continent!

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Tang Wutong sat quietly beside Huo Yuhao and only watched him silently.

Both of them had been here in this underwater world for some time, but she didn't know how many days had passed.

After that mermaid completed her Spirit Fusion, Huo Yuhao went into deep meditation, and released strong spiritual undulations from his entire body.

Li Ya, the mermaid, was the first pure spiritual-type Spirit that Huo Yuhao had fused with. She had even been a hundred thousand year soul beast. Her spiritual origin and soul energy were strong, far beyond Huo Yuhao's expectations. Although her soul was critically hurt, her fusion with Huo Yuhao still managed to upgrade his spiritual sea significantly.

In his deep meditation, Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea was seething. His solid spiritual sea also started to revolve like a whirlpool. His soul core became more stable, and its internal revolutions actually slowed down by more than ten times compared to before. However, the compressed soul power in it also became ten times more viscous too.

The tier of his spiritual strength was increasing, enabling him to be completely immersed in his deep meditation. He even obtained the different types of secret tricks that Merfolks used to control spiritual power from Li Ya. It was a very magical feeling for Huo Yuhao. To him, this was extremely important.

I believe eldest senior and the others must be very anxious now.?Tang Wutong silently thought to herself. However, she liked this feeling for some reason. She was just silently protecting Huo Yuhao and watching him cultivate. It was a very nice and peaceful feeling.

In this deep underwater world, no one would come to disturb them.

Regarding Spirits, Tang Wutong had already had a detailed chat with the Princess of the Sea about them. Since Huo Yuhao was cultivating, she replaced him in completing the mission.

With her earlier Sea God's Descent, and how Huo Yuhao had offered Li Ya an alternative way of living, everything was very successful. The Princess of the Sea agreed to coordinate with humans when it came to Spirit Fusion in the future. However, this was only an outlook. After all, the Ice Sea could only be entered from the Ice Sea, whereas the ice plains of the Extreme North were in the Douluo Continent.

When Yuhao wakes up from his cultivation, he should be thrown into the war again. I wonder what the situation is like outside. The Sun Moon Empire should know what we're doing over here by now. I wonder if they'll pull their troops back. Perhaps not. After all, we've not done enough yet.

We haven't made contact with the spectral demiplane. Eldest senior and the rest must certainly be anxious. However, the warehouses are full of food. It can support three soul engineer legions for a long time. As for water, Yuhao specially constructed a reservoir when they initially entered the demiplane. At

the same time, he used necromancy to cleanse it. Bei Bei is personally in charge of watching it. He should be able to maintain at least three months of clean water.

Just as Tang Wutong was deep in her thoughts, she suddenly furrowed her brow, and subconsciously turned to Huo Yuhao

The immense spiritual undulations coming from his body suddenly retracted, and his entire body shuddered.

“He’s about to wake up.” Tang Wutong was delightfully surprised as she looked at him.

At this moment, Huo Yuhao’s body started to shine extremely brightly. The bright light even caused Tang Wutong to shut her eyes temporarily and turn around. The entire underwater world turned extremely bright.

Strong spiritual undulations were released, and a golden figure separated from Huo Yuhao’s body.

This figure was around two meters tall, and she was ravishing. The paleness and weakness from before had completely vanished. She had sky-blue eyes and hair, which flowed behind her back. There was a golden crown on her head. When she appeared, it seemed as if captivating music was playing in the sea.

Yes, it was Li Ya!

When the Princess of the Sea and Li Jing sensed this, they immediately rushed over.

When the three of them reunited once again, they all hugged and cried.

Huo Yuhao also finally opened his eyes now. The color of his eyes hadn’t changed, and he no longer exuded bright light anymore. However, Tang Wutong sensed something indescribable when she saw his eyes again. Something in his eyes had changed. It was as if they could cut through heaven and earth.

The surrounding seawater separated on its own, and allowed Tang Wutong to finally have a feel of the ground.

Huo Yuhao drifted up and came in front of her, giving her an embrace. “My love, sorry to have worried you.”

Tang Wutong was a little astonished as she looked at him and asked, “You can control seawater too?”

Huo Yuhao smiled and answered, “Of course not. But Li Ya can. She’s now my Spirit. I can control some of her abilities. Take a look!”

As he spoke, Huo Yuhao lifted his right arm. There was a thin layer of golden scales on it. Clearly, it was the same type of scales as were on Li Ya’s tail.

All this while, Huo Yuhao had already possessed the rest of the soul bones he needed. He even had the Darkgolden Terrorclaws. He only lacked a right arm bone. Li Ya had possessed the last soul bone he needed. After the fusion was completed, he finally had a soul bone for every part of his body. This was the best a soul master could achieve.

As Huo Yuhao had not yet become a Titled Douluo, Tang Wutong felt that her abilities were a little better than his. However, even she couldn't see through him after this fusion, even though she was the most familiar with him. She couldn't tell exactly how strong he was.

Huo Yuhao pulled Tang Wutong and only proceeded forward after the three mermaids had separated from one another. Then, he bowed to the Princess of the Sea.

Li Ya's eyes were red. Although she wasn't nourished by the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence like Huo Yuhao's other Spirits, it was important to note that Huo Yuhao had managed to successfully form a spiritual soul core. After Li Ya fused with him, he benefited greatly. However, his pure and immense spiritual power didn't just nourish her soul. It also enhanced it. It was crucial not to forget that there was a streak of divine sense in Huo Yuhao's soul!

Although it was only just a little, it was still very helpful for a spiritual-type soul beast.

Li Ya nodded gently at Huo Yuhao and she became slightly embarrassed, "Thanks, Yuhao. You gave me a new life. You cleansed my hatred. You are my benefactor. I'll follow you forever."

After listening to her words, Tang Wutong felt that it was a little awkward. Fortunately, Li Ya didn't adopt the appearance of a female human. She managed to calm herself down. She clearly knew how deep Huo Yuhao's feelings were for her. Even Wang Qiu'er, who looked exactly like her, couldn't win him over!

Huo Yuhao nodded at Li Ya and smiled. "Your Highness, it's fate that decreed you were able to survive."

The Princess of the Sea sighed and said, "From now on, I'll be in your care."

As she looked at Li Ya before looking at Li Jing, who had just inherited Li Ya's lineage and whose tail had just turned golden, the Princess of the Sea let out a long sigh. This was the best result they could get, the fortunate part out of the misfortune.

Huo Yuhao also didn't know how long he had been here. He quickly asked the Princess of the Sea, who shocked him with her reply.

Chapter 547.1: Repeated Blows

"What? We've already been here for ten days?" After hearing her words, Huo Yuhao's expression immediately changed.

After completing his fusion with Li Ya, he had clearly felt his spiritual power growing until its limit. Furthermore, he was also certain that his spiritual soul core had reached the tier of a Transcendent Douluo. He even wanted to use this opportunity to form his second soul core. This was because there was no safer place than this underwater world.

However, after listening to the words of the Princess of the Sea, he immediately removed that thought from his head. He could not delay any further. Things outside were probably much more chaotic after ten days. He didn't know what the situation was like at the front lines. He was also unable to deal any repeated blows to the Sun Moon Empire. The earlier strategy that he came up with was likely to be greatly affected. In addition, his teammates were also waiting anxiously in the demiplane.

Huo Yuhao couldn't be bothered about the reluctance of the Princess of the Sea to leave her daughter right now. He quickly bade goodbye to them. Under the personal escort of the Princess of the Sea, he drifted towards the surface.

No matter how unwilling the Princess of the Sea was, she needed to part ways with her daughter. After the pair bade each other farewell, Li Ya fused back into Huo Yuhao's body. Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong unleashed their Class 9 flying-type soul tools and immediately activated them to reach their highest speed. They flew towards the Sun Moon Empire.

Tang Wutong grabbed Huo Yuhao's hand tightly as she felt how tense he was. "Since time has already passed, there's no point brooding over it. Although ten days isn't very short, it's also not that long over the course of a war. You don't have to be too worried either. When we return, we can immediately begin our operation."

"Alright." After this buffer period, Huo Yuhao finally calmed down. Being anxious wasn't going to solve the problem. The best way was to continue his operation.

The return journey was much smoother than coming to the Ice Sea. The entire aquatic world treated Huo Yuhao as their best human friend because of his fusion with Li Ya.

Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong only took an hour before they returned to shore as they drained their soul power without any further thought.

Huo Yuhao revealed a mysterious look on his face before he even stepped on land. He immediately muttered a few incantations before opening the spectral door.

Ten days had also passed in the spectral demiplane.

Bei Bei, Xu Sanshi and Jiang Nannan were still very emotionally stable. However, they were still a little anxious, given that a long time had passed.

Why is Huo Yuhao still not back or contacted anyone yet? Something must have happened to him. Don't tell me that he's met with danger in the Ice Sea? *n@Ve(LB).In*

Furthermore, they couldn't leave the demiplane without him. All they could do was wait around. If something really happened to him, they would most likely be trapped here for their entire lives, or at least until their supply of food and water ran out.

Just as everyone was becoming more and more anxious, the spectral door finally opened, much to their relief. Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong had finally returned.

"Yuhao, where have you been? Why are you back only now?" Jiang Nannan snapped as she saw Huo Yuhao. It would have been great even if he had only sent a letter! Over the past ten days, they had felt very tortured. They still had to train the members of the three soul engineer legions.

Huo Yuhao immediately called for a meeting and recounted everything he had experienced in the Ice Sea.

After hearing his words, everyone stopped blaming him. They only had lingering fear in their hearts. Huo Yuhao felt the same way too.

“Eldest senior, before I carry out any mission on my own in the future, I must first release all of you from this demiplane. Otherwise, if I...”

“Alright, quit this depressing talk. Now is not the time to talk about that. What should we do next? Do you have any ideas?” Bei Bei said.

Huo Yuhao nodded and opened up a map. He said, “I’ve been delayed in the Ice Sea for ten days. It’s both a good and bad thing. Because of this ten day buffer, the Sun Moon Empire will definitely subconsciously think that we passed through their borders in the same manner as when we appeared in the south, just that we used some kind of method to avoid their aerial surveillance soul tools. We must be quick, and deal them a heavier blow.”

“Xu Tianran is an anti-hero. If we don’t inflict pain that’s intolerable on him, he won’t pull his troops from the front lines easily. That’s why we must be quick and vicious. I just don’t know what the situation at the front line is right now.”

Only Huo Yuhao could return to Shrek Academy to gather intelligence. Under such a circumstance, returning to gather intelligence was meaningless. He would waste more time if he went there and returned. Even if he knew what was going on at the front lines, wouldn’t he still need to return to target the Sun Moon Empire if he wanted to change the situation of the war?

This was why Huo Yuhao quickly figured that he needed to stay and continue to inflict internal damage on the Sun Moon Empire. In that way, they would be forced to pull their troops back. This was the real strategy.

After a simple communication of the plan to the rest, Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong left the demiplane again after the meeting ended.

In fact, the three soul engineer legions in the demiplane should be let out for a short breather. However, time was tight. There was a lack of time for them to do so. Only news of Huo Yuhao’s return was relayed to them, and they were allowed to watch as Huo Yuhao left again. At the same time, they were informed that the next fight was about to break out again.

After hearing that a fight was about to break out soon, the members of the three soul engineer legions all rubbed their palms in excitement. Their morale was boosted once again, which left Huo Yuhao in shock.

What Huo Yuhao didn’t know was that Bei Bei had set up a merit system while he had been gone. The main point of this system was to reward those who contributed significantly.

The resources, gems and gold soul coins that they had obtained earlier were mostly given out by Bei Bei. Bei Bei told every soul engineer in the three soul engineer legions that they would be handsomely rewarded once they attained victory in any fight. They could choose from gold soul coins, soul tools, and other resources. As for how much they were rewarded, it depended on the merit they accumulated.

After setting this system up, he immediately handed out rewards. Over the past ten days, morale didn’t fall because of the presence of these rewards. In addition, with the news that they were about to fight, how could these soul engineers not be excited, given the potential benefits they could reap?

These soul engineers were all intelligent. Many of them chose not to take gold soul coins. Almost all of them wanted soul tools. From the earlier looting sessions they had participated in, which soul engineer didn't manage to equip himself with more soul tools? The stronger a soul engineer was, the more advantages he would have. This was because more advanced soul tools could only be used by stronger soul engineers!

Huo Yuhao's Fort Soul Engineer Legion reaped the greatest rewards. The Fort Soul Engineer Legion inherited all the heavy soul tools they had looted in the fights earlier.

The other two soul engineer legions had no use for these heavy soul tools. Since this was the case, the Fort Soul Engineer Legion didn't stand on ceremony, and took control of all the heavy soul tools. After all, Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons couldn't move very quickly. What was the disadvantage of having more heavy weapons? As a result, the Fort Soul Engineer Legion's strength grew the most. It was just that they became more and more inflexible as a result.

After leaving the demiplane, Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong held hands as they rose into the sky. They proceeded towards the south of the Sun Moon Empire.

As they flew in the air, Huo Yuhao also unleashed his Spiritual Detection.

The overall size of his spiritual sea had grown by a third. His soul core and spiritual power had also changed dramatically. The most direct benefit that he obtained was that his Spiritual Detection's effective range had reached a diameter of more than twenty thousand meters, twice what it was before. This number even exceeded the effective range of the most advanced aerial surveillance soul tool that the Sun Moon Empire could manufacture. Just this skill could be considered an absolute divine skill in war!

Very soon, Huo Yuhao found many soldiers from the Sun Moon Empire in the wilderness. They were scattered, and seemed to be searching for something.

While things were bleak in Eastern Sun City, the city wasn't too chaotic. However, no soul engineer legion was present there.

It seems like the Sun Moon Empire has responded quite quickly. Rations should have been sent to re-supply Eastern Sun City. Otherwise, things wouldn't be so stable.

Huo Yuhao wasn't going to attack Eastern Sun City at this point. The benefits that could be reaped from so were very small. Furthermore, that would only serve to expose his tracks.

He unleashed his Imitation, which concealed both him and Tang Wutong in the air. Under the effect of Huo Yuhao's immense spiritual power, even oscillation detectors couldn't detect his presence now, much less aerial surveillance soul tools. As for spiritual power detectors, they could at most cover the size of a military camp. Huo Yuhao had made himself completely invisible to the Sun Moon Empire.

They flew quickly through the air. Huo Yuhao didn't rest at all as he flew with Tang Wutong. They flew for four hours before they slowed down and returned to the ground to rest.

Huo Yuhao opened the map and conducted a simple check of where they were. Through the changes in the air temperature, Huo Yuhao was completely sure that they were in the south of the Sun Moon Empire.

Chapter 547.2: Repeated Blows

Huo Yuhao sensed the humid air and was annoyed as he commented, "I still prefer the cold in the north! Over there, my fighting strength is higher by at least thirty percent."

Tang Wutong covered her mouth and laughed. "Didn't your journey to the Ice Sea teach you enough lessons?"

Huo Yuhao nodded deeply and replied, "Of course it has. This journey has taught me not to run and fight in someone else's place. I won't even stand a chance. While the Princess of the Sea is powerful, we might still have stood a chance of fleeing even if we can't defeat her on land or at a fairer venue. However, in the depths of the sea, we were really trapped, and had nowhere to run."

Tang Wutong asked, "Have you chosen a target?"

Huo Yuhao nodded and pointed at the map.

Seajoy City!

A smirk appeared on Huo Yuhao's lips. It was not his first time visiting this place. When he and the others from the Tang Sect snuck into the Sun Moon Empire by water to save the young talents who were participating in the Continental Advanced Soul Master Soul Dueling Tournament, they passed by this city. They had even rented a boat there.

Huo Yuhao chose to attack this city for two reasons. First, it was an important port in the south of the Sun Moon Empire. Second, it was a way to confuse the Sun Moon Empire. At least, they might be misled that enemies could be trying to invade them from the sea.

After half a day, Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong appeared in Seajoy City.

Huo Yuhao re-exited the city after making one round around it. He opened the spectral door outside the city and summoned the three soul engineer legions.

The city was very small. There was no need to deploy so much manpower. However, the soul engineers had been stuck in the demiplane for too long. Hence, Huo Yuhao wanted to let them out for a breather. Seajoy City was the perfect place to do so.

The defense in the south was much slacker than in the north. This was because the aquatic soul beasts in the south were weaker than those in the north. Furthermore, they were only active in the deep sea. The Sun Moon Empire had specialized fleets to capture oceanic creatures in the southern sea regions. After all, there weren't any icebergs or other such extreme weather in the south. It made carrying out operations much easier.

There were only two thousand soldiers stationed in Seajoy City. They were only ordinary soldiers, and their abilities were all mixed.

Thirty Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons were fired at the same time. One side of the city walls was immediately destroyed. Next was a simple step – pillage!

The three largest warehouses in Seajoy City were completely cleaned out. Not only were there rations in these three warehouses, but there were also many special products and money that came from several

southern coastal cities. Compared to the north, there was much more money, and much fewer rations. After all, the city was by the sea, which meant that food was not in short supply.

After pillaging the entire city, Huo Yuhao didn't even usher the soul engineers back into the spectral door. Instead, he directly sent them out.

The Tang Sect and Fort Soul Engineer Legions scattered in two different directions, attacking two different nearby cities.

The southern cities were richer than the northern cities, and there were many more of them too. From the situation in Seajoy City, it could be inferred that the defenses in the other nearby cities weren't going to be very strong either. This was especially so since the two nearby cities that they attacked were even smaller.

In just one day, three cities were completely plundered. As food wasn't scarce in the south, Huo Yuhao even decided not to rob the food from these cities. He only targeted the money, as well as trying to find rare metals. Although there weren't many rare metals in these southern cities, there were still some aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky. Taking them down was equivalent to obtaining rare metals!

After the three cities were completely plundered, Huo Yuhao re-opened the spectral door in the wilderness and sent the three soul engineer legions back into his spectral demiplane.

After this one day of activity, they became much more refreshed and energetic. This was especially since a lot of the money that was looted was divided and given to them directly.

These soul engineers were very free inside the demiplane. Under the organization of those from the Tang Sect, the three soul engineer legions even started to explore the boulder houses in the demiplane. Even though this demiplane wasn't the most aesthetic of places, it had great utility. It was beginning to develop some scale. They could even leave their valuables in the demiplane when they went out to fight. This enabled them to be equipped properly for fights.

After returning to the demiplane, Huo Yuhao checked the map and chose other, more populous cities. These cities were their targets for the next day.

Just like this, Huo Yuhao mysteriously led the three soul engineer legions and overran twelve medium-sized cities in the south of the Sun Moon Empire.

He didn't choose major cities, as they were likely to be better defended. In addition, the medium-sized cities were lacking in manpower, as the front line needed men. Those twelve cities were plundered completely. The amount of money that was taken could fill countless giant warehouses. Right now, the soul engineers weren't even tempted by gold soul coins anymore; there was a mountain of them in the demiplane.

From those twelve cities, quite a lot of rare metals were also taken from the private collections of the nobility. Twenty-six various aerial surveillance soul tools were also obtained. Although most of them were directly shot down and were damaged beyond repair, the rare metals used to construct them were still useful! It was all good stuff.

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“Bang!” Xu Tianran smacked the table beside him, and there was a strong killing intent in his eyes.

Five days ago, good news came from the front lines. The Sun Moon Empire had completely overrun the Heavenly Soul Empire. This also meant that the Heavenly Soul Empire was utterly ruined, and annexed into the Sun Moon Empire.

This good news left Xu Tianran, a person who craved power, in very high spirits.

However, bad news started to pour in only a few days after he heard the good news.

There weren't any traces of the soul engineer legion that had caused chaos in the north. It was as if they didn't exist at all. Then the south was subjected to a barrage of attacks. In just a few days, twelve emergency reports were received from twelve different cities in the south. The coastal cities in that area were all in danger, causing a crisis.

It was important to know that those cities were very important to the Sun Moon Empire's economy. The yearly revenue from a medium-sized city in the south was equivalent to that of a major city in the north.

Although there weren't many casualties in those twelve cities, fear quickly spread, and the amount of destruction that those cities had been subjected to was also very great. Those living in the south were all terrified, which served to destabilize Xu Tianran's reign!

Don't tell me that those people who were still in the north a few weeks ago have mysteriously gone to the south? How is that possible?

“Your Majesty! I believe that those thieves must have travelled by water.” The Chief Minister said.

Xu Tianran looked at him, “By water? They attacked the north previously. How can they reach there by water?”

The Ice Sea was to the north of the north of the Sun Moon Empire. Moreover, the Ice Sea was adjacent to the ice plains of the Extreme North. The conditions in the ice plains were very rigorous. No one knew what a further place would be like. To move across the ice plains through the north was impossible.

The Chief Minister said, “Your Majesty, it's not impossible. What if they didn't come from the north right from the start? We have a lot of troops at our borders in the north. We also have many aerial surveillance soul tools. It's not easy for a fly to enter, much less a soul engineer legion. The only place that our surveillance soul tools can't reach is the sea. If those thieves moved out from the southern ports of the Star Luo Empire and moved around our southern sea using a ship before proceeding to the north along our western shoreline, they would be able to move around two-thirds of our shoreline and reach the north. Although there are icebergs in the Ice Sea, there are very few of them nearer to land. We also have few aerial surveillance soul tools installed there. It's possible that Oak City and Eastern Sun City were taken down that way.”

“These fellows are very cunning. After they overran Oak City and Eastern Sun City, they immediately escaped on their ship and returned via their original route. They went all the way to the south. When they reached the south, they attacked once again. The journey from north to south is thousands of kilometers long. It gave us the feeling that we are facing many enemies. Once they finished their attacks, they can immediately escape on their ship again. We wouldn't be able to find any traces of them. From the south, it's also possible to return to the Star Luo Empire at any time. It's a brilliant plan!”

After hearing the Chief Minister's words, Xu Tianran was shocked. That's indeed possible! It's actually very possible. If that was really the case, it could well explain why he was so confused.

"But why are they not attacking our western cities?" Xu Tianran was a little confused.

The Chief Minister answered, "The reason why they are not attacking our western cities is mainly because they're too far from the Star Luo Empire. Radiant City is also quite close to the west. Once we discover a real-time situation and send a strong soul engineer legion to deal with them, they would be exposed. Furthermore, it's much easier for us to guess what their purpose is if they move from north to west. If they directly return to the south, they can attack and defend. It's more advantageous for them."

Xu Tianran squinted. "Chief Minister, what do you think we should do then?"

A cold look flashed across the Chief Minister's face and he said, "Your Majesty, we must be decisive. These thieves are very cunning. Their commander must be very intelligent. Our shoreline is so wide. In the depths of the sea, it's almost impossible to find any traces of them. Since they can move from north to south in just over ten days, it's likely that they've already calculated for the presence of icebergs in the Ice Sea. Thus, their ship must be protected and moved by soul tools. It's likely that there's a soul formation on their ship. Since they can't challenge us directly, they are taking the indirect way. Such an enemy is like a parasite. We must get rid of them quickly. Otherwise, they'll cause more destruction, and shake the foundation of our economy."

?Chapter 547.3: Repeated Blows

Xu Tianran squinted and said, "Do you mean..."

The Chief Minister nodded. "Your Majesty, we must be decisive. No matter how strong these thieves are, they won't be able to challenge our Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion. They have been active in the southern coastal cities this time, so they are likely to still be there. We can send more aerial surveillance soul tools to watch that area, and also silently send out the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion. At the same time, we can send a few members of the Worship Hall to follow them. Once we discover their exact location, we'll destroy them as quickly as possible. We can then regain everything we've lost and stabilize the south."

After pausing for a moment, he added, "The Empress is making a lot of progress at the front lines right now. We must stabilize things at the back and give her the appropriate support."

Xu Tianran hesitated for a moment, then said, "Alright, we'll follow you then."

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He Caitou looked at all the soul tools that were piled up like a mountain, and couldn't stop grinning. Although only some of them were still usable, the rare metals that could be obtained from these soul tools were already considered very valuable.

"Yuhao, I'm a little regretful. Before we set out, we should have brought our manufacturing line from the Soul Tool Hall with us. When everyone is bored and has nothing to do, they can manufacture soul tools in the demiplane. In this way, wouldn't it be more effective?"

Xu Sanshi chuckled at one side. "Caitou, this isn't a bad idea. It's a constructive suggestion. The past few days have been good. I wonder what Xu Tianran is feeling right now. We've caused so many problems in the south. Yuhao, where are we going next?"

After attacking twelve cities, the three soul engineer legions of Shrek were unhurt. This greatly boosted their confidence. The Sun Moon Empire's defenses were simply too weak. No one from the three soul engineer legions had even been hurt so far, and they hadn't suffered any significant losses. The damage they had caused to the Sun Moon Empire couldn't be measured by money alone either.

The last few cities among the twelve that were taken down even had all their city walls destroyed before the three soul engineer legions retreated. The soul tools used by the soul engineer legions were powered by the soul power of the soul engineers. They quickly recovered their soul power after they returned to the demiplane.

Huo Yuhao said, "We've attacked for five days straight. Radiant City should have received news. Along with our earlier attack on the north, I believe the Sun Moon Empire must be devising a plan to deal with us. However, we've not shaken their foundation yet. If we want to them to pull their front line troops back, we need Xu Tianran to be fearful. That's why we need to continue with our mission."

Bei Bei smiled at Huo Yuhao and asked, "What's the plan?"

Huo Yuhao replied, "The only way to make Xu Tianran fearful enough to recall his troops at all costs is by attacking Radiant City."

"What?"

After hearing his words, all the members of Shrek's Seven Monsters were astonished. They all opened their mouths wide in shock.

Although their previous victories had left them extremely confident, they weren't so confident that they believed they could take down Radiant City.

What kind of place was Radiant City? It was the capital of the Sun Moon Empire. It was also the biggest city in the world. They had all been to Radiant City before. Tall buildings were everywhere, and many powerful soul tools were hidden there too. Huo Yuhao even claimed that there was a terrifying soul tool that could gather soul power before unleashing it when he went there last time. It definitely wasn't inferior to the Death God. Given this, wasn't attacking Radiant City suicide?

After all, Radiant City had the Sun Moon Empire's trump card, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion. At the same time, many powerful individuals were guarding the city.

After sensing everyone's astonishment and doubts, Huo Yuhao smiled and said, "Don't panic. I'm not talking about a literal attack. As long as we make Xu Tianran fear for his life, it's enough."

"Xu Tianran is an anti-hero. The Sun Moon Empire's research into soul tools is definitely well beyond the other three empires of the original Douluo Continent. However, Xu Tianran can't do anything without them. We attacked the north before the south, but did not encounter any effective resistance. This means that the Sun Moon Empire is actually very hollow at the back. Furthermore, as soul engineer legions become more and more important in wars, the Sun Moon Empire is becoming more and more

disinterested in recruiting ordinary soldiers. Even with many soldiers, they wouldn't be able to pose a threat to us."

"And we've also continuously caused a lot of damage and losses to the Sun Moon Empire. They can't just sit back and do nothing. Even if things are going smoothly at the front lines, how can Xu Tianran govern his empire if things are bad at the back? As a result, they'll definitely target us. To doom our soul engineer legions, the Sun Moon Empire can only resort to sending their strongest fighting force, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion."

"While the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion holds an important position in the Sun Moon Empire and cannot be deployed easily, they can still be moved at critical moments. Although I don't know how many soul engineer legions there are in the empire, I'm afraid only this elite soul engineer legion can truly defeat us. This is why we must wait for an opportunity, and wait for the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion to come out. When that happens, Radiant City will be empty! Even if there are soul formations there, Wutong and I can still sneak in and perform an ambush. We don't need to really attack Radiant City. As long as we leave some marks in Xu Tianran's palace, I believe he won't be in a good mood."

After hearing Huo Yuhao's analysis, everyone looked at each other, and there were rich emotions on their faces.

Xu Sanshi asked, "Yuhao, did you think of this a long time ago?"

Huo Yuhao chuckled and replied, "Not really. I only made several discoveries during this period of time, which led to the development of such an idea."

Bei Bei asked "Yuhao, if that's the case, I suggest we expose ourselves more. How can we bait them without leaving traces of ourselves?"

Huo Yuhao said, "That's what I think too."

Bei Bei smiled and said, "Since that's the case, let's continue to run riot in the south. The southern coastal cities are the furthest from Radiant City. Next, our mission will be completed by the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion."

Huo Yuhao also looked at him and smiled. The others also wore devious smiles.

Huo Yuhao's plan was to attack the enemy at a spot that needed to be preserved. If the Sun Moon Empire sent any other soul engineer legion, they would only suffer defeat. Once the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion arrived, their opportunity would have arrived as well.

Heavenly Sea City!

It was an important port in the south of the Sun Moon Empire. There was a plot of land in the southeast of the Sun Moon Empire that extended all the way into the sea. It was a natural harbor. Heavenly Sea City was built on this plot of land. It was also an important training and mustering ground. The biggest shipyard in the Sun Moon Empire was also at Heavenly Sea City.

Ever since the war began, the navy that was stationed at Heavenly Sea City was sent out to seal the surrounding regions around the Star Luo Empire. However, Heavenly Sea City remained the most defensively sound city in the south of the Sun Moon Empire.

Ten thousand soldiers and a large-scale soul formation were also deployed here. There were also seven medium-sized warships here too.

Such a deployment wasn't because of the Star Luo Empire. Rather, it was used to defend against aquatic soul beasts like Oak City and Eastern Sun City.

There were many aquatic soul beasts, but very few of them were truly strong. The truly strong ones were mostly in the deeper waters. They rarely came to the shallower parts. However, even so, it didn't hurt to be wary. This was because there were simply too many aquatic soul beasts. Once a beast wave started, it would likely lead to heavy losses to the port.

Things were also more jittery in Heavenly Sea City over the past few days. There were two hundred soul engineers stationed here. They were responsible for protecting and using the soul formations.

The soul formations in Heavenly Sea City were not in the city, but outside, less than three kilometers from the harborfront.

While Heavenly Sea City was built on a plot of land that extended into the sea, it was elevated. Even when storms and typhoons raged, the waves that formed didn't really affect the city. There was a cliff close to five hundred meters high close to the sea.

The soul formations in Heavenly Sea City were all activated during this period of time. Their linked defenses remained active, while the aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky were constantly drifting around. They were used to guard against any enemies that might suddenly appear.

It was no wonder they were so worried. In just a short five days, twelve cities had been overrun and completely looted. Although Heavenly Sea City was still fine, everyone became very anxious when news of their mysterious enemies spread. These mysterious enemies had even formed a soul engineer legion. The city gates were sealed, and businessmen, as well as citizens, were checked more stringently as they passed.

The mayor of the city even requested that the soul formations to be moved into the city. However, he was denied.

Was it so easy to move large-scale formations? Some of the larger soul formations were extremely heavy. Furthermore, what if their enemies took the opportunity to strike when they were moving?

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That was the reason why this soul engineer legion's commander vehemently denied the master of Heavenly Sea City's request. Even though he was the commander of a soul engineer legion that wasn't up to standards, he could hold his own against the master of Heavenly Sea City, who was a Count. Soul engineers had the highest status within the Sun Moon Empire.

They were on high alert and preparing themselves, but could they really stay safe?

Huo Yuhao was standing on the shore less than five kilometers from Heavenly Sea City. He gazed in the direction of the city's harbor as he couldn't help but admire it. "What a excellent harbor! The land that Heavenly Sea City has been built on is relatively elevated, but the ground around them slopes downward. They can build a harbor near the ocean, and look over it comfortably from Heavenly Sea City. The harbor has trade coming in from both sides of the city. What a fantastic place!"

Tang Wutong rolled her eyes. "Are you crying crocodile tears? Are you not going to attack them after praising their magnificent harbor?"

Huo Yuhao replied casually, "Praising and admiring it is one thing, attacking and destroying it is another. It's not my fault that this empire's ruler has insisted on starting a war and invading our country. Why do I have to be the villain here if not for that fact?"

Tang Wutong said, "Heavenly Sea City is on high alert, and they are sufficiently prepared. They are more well-equipped than Eastern Sun City was. This may not be easy!"

Huo Yuhao smiled faintly and said, "Nothing is impossible! Heavenly Sea City's defensive capabilities are better than Easter Sun City's defenses, but its weakness is also very obvious. Their soul tool front isn't inside the city, so what does that mean? That means their linked defensive formations can't effectively defend the city. Why do we have to do things the hard way?"

Huo Yuhao grabbed Tang Wutong's hand as he spoke and disappeared into thin air.

Darkness covered the skies, and that was good news for Heavenly Sea City's soldiers.

Heavenly Sea City was a developed commercial city, and it was also where an important military harbor was located, and their armies were of a high quality. The southern regions were flourishing and bustling, and life was peaceful. Soldiers were treated extremely well from day to day, and there were rarely days when they were especially exhausted.

Ever since the recent appearance of that mysterious enemy who had broken through twelve cities and pillaged them, Heavenly Sea City's atmosphere had become extremely tense and nervous.

Heavenly Sea City was one of the largest cities along the Sun Moon Empire's southern shore. There were docks and battleships, and it was rich with resources.

Those twelve cities were wealthy, but there was still quite a gap between them and Heavenly Sea City.

That was the reason why Radiant City had sent a strict order that Heavenly Sea City had to be defended. They were to relay any information as soon as they obtained any. Heavenly Sea City had also become one of the cities along the empire's southern shores which was most likely to be attacked.

The city defense army became vigilant for that very reason. They increased their daily patrols, and their inspection process for merchants and civilians coming and going also became much tighter. Every single individual entering the city had to go through both soul power detectors and spiritual power detectors. They would have to go through more interrogation and investigation if they were found to be soul masters.

The city hustled for a day, and the sun was finally setting as it went down towards the west. Their tense and busy day was about to end.

The city's thick gates were slowly shut, and that meant the city defense army could finally get to rest.

The sky gradually turned dark. On some plains five kilometers from Heavenly Sea City, light began to bend and contort.

Aerial surveillance soul tools couldn't discover such fine details by looking down from above. As for oscillation detectors that conducted searches closer to the ground, they would only be activated once those aerial surveillance soul tools discovered something. Naturally, they wouldn't be scouring this area.

Shadows and figures popped out one after another under the cover of those contorting light rays, as nine large pitch-black doors opened up at the same time.

Huo Yuhao was standing in front of these nine doors, and those contorting light rays were a result of his Spiritual Interference Domain.

His domain's strength allowed him to cover a thousand square meters. That was sufficient to cover the nine large doors, which were his spectral gates.

Huo Yuhao wouldn't have been able to achieve this before. First, his Spiritual Interference Domain wasn't that strong, and it was hard for him to cover himself if he had to use this domain and necromancy at the same time. His domain's area of effect was also much smaller before.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power had undergone a qualitative change once more after he fused with the mermaid princess. Now, his Spiritual Interference Domain had truly matured into an extremely powerful domain-type ability.

Furthermore, a thousand square meters wasn't his limit. What he was doing with his domain's formidable interference capabilities was equivalent to rendering everything within this area invisible.

Even though Spiritual Interference Domain still left traces and wasn't as intricate and fine as Imitation, it had a range and area of effect that Imitation couldn't match up to at all.

Two hundred armed soldiers from the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion stepped out soundlessly from those spectral gates under the cover of his Spiritual Interference Domain.

Nobody made a sound, and they immediately formed up with guidance from Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection after they appeared and waited quietly.

Huo Yuhao looked up at the sky, and the corner of his mouth curved into a faint smile.

The others from Shrek's Seven Monsters had stepped out from those spectral gates one after another, along with the rest of the Tang Sect's stronger individuals.

"Second senior brother!" Huo Yuhao acknowledged He Caitou.

He Caitou chuckled. He shook his hands, and a series of metal clanging sounds could be heard as a heavy cannon appeared on each of his shoulders.

He raised those cannons and pointed them towards the sky.

Faint golden light flickered in Huo Yuhao's eyes.

“Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom...” A series of dull booming sounds could be heard as black cannon shells were fired one after another. They couldn’t be told apart from the darkness because the sky had already turned dark, and not even aerial surveillance soul tools could identify them.

Fireworks exploded through the sky after several seconds as the eyes above Heavenly Sea City were shattered.

Bei Bei waved his hand and shouted, “Move out!”

The Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion surged into the sky at the same time. They opened their flying-type soul tools behind their backs as they flew towards Heavenly Sea City.

Heavenly Sea City no longer had any eyes in the sky to monitor the situation, so nobody could possibly know where this soul engineer legion had come from. Those aerial surveillance soul tools that were detonated triggered the alarm, but so what? Heavenly Sea City’s soul tool front was on the other side of the city.

Several minutes later, the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion, which was spaced out in a horizontal single file, appeared outside Heavenly Sea City. They didn’t stop at all as they immediately assaulted Heavenly Sea City’s thick city walls. More accurately put, they were bombarding the city’s walls with everything they had!

A Class 5 high-powered soul cannon had enough strength to blow a hole more than ten meters wide and three meters deep in those thick city walls.

What about two hundred Class 5 high-powered cannons?

Two rounds. Only two rounds of bombardment were required before Heavenly Sea City’s northern city walls had become a pile of rubble.

“Enter the city!” Bei Bei gave the order as the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion’s soul engineers immediately charged into the city. Huo Yuhao’s Spiritual Detection guided them straight to the city’s warehouses.

Huo Yuhao commanded the soul engineer legion while locking onto the city’s soul tool front, which was outside the city, at the same time.

There was no way the soul tool front wasn’t aware of the tremendous disturbance on this side. However, they no longer had their aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky, so what if they had a soul tool front? They were blind. Did they dare to bombard their own city to deal with their enemies? That wasn’t a possibility at all.

The soul tool front couldn’t defend the city, so Huo Yuhao would just let it defend the harbor.

The master of Heavenly Sea City had just gone to sleep before he was jolted awake by deafening booming sounds. He had just gotten dressed when the reports came in.

The northern city wall had been broken through, and their enemies had appeared. There were at least two hundred soul engineers, and they had already charged into the city, where they were going straight for the city’s warehouses. Heavenly Sea City had lost contact with all their aerial surveillance soul tools; they were likely to have been damaged or destroyed, judging from the explosions in the sky.

The Sun Moon Empire had put in a lot of effort to improve their aerial surveillance soul tools' cover. However, any cover was futile against Huo Yuhao's otherworldly Spiritual Detection.

"Quick, request aid from the soul engineer legions!" The master of the city could only make that one exclamation.

The messenger swiftly departed as the city master sat back down on his bed. His eyes had become a little vacant.

"Why? Why didn't we discovered any traces at all before the enemy appeared right in front us? What are those aerial surveillance soul tools for? No wonder! It's no wonder those twelve cities have fallen before us, and not a single piece of information was obtained before they fell. This enemy is too frightening. Does this mean they can render themselves invisible? Why are those aerial surveillance soul tools so useless against them?"

He lamented agonizingly. He was very clear what the city's fall meant for him, and the situation that he was most afraid of had happened in the end.

This wouldn't have happened if those soul engineers had been willing to shift their soul tool front into the city! But it was far too late to think about any of that.

The Count was a smart man. He knew that the soul tool front over there couldn't do anything without the aerial surveillance soul tools, and it was impossible for them to send their Class 3 soul engineers out of their soul tool front to rescue the city. Their superiors wouldn't fault them as long as they defended their soul tool front, and if their superiors had to blame somebody, it would just be him.

A pained smile appeared on the Count's face. Heavenly Sea City had fallen.

Yes, everything was within Huo Yuhao's calculations. What he wanted to execute was a hit-and-run. They were to strike the city once and quickly before retreating at once without any delay. Huo Yuhao's aim was to pillage the city. Destroying the soul tool front outside the city would of course be fantastic. He would very much rather the soul tool front's soul engineers come to rescue the city.

Chapter 548.2: The Spiritual Force in Plants

No matter how advanced or formidable the Sun Moon Empire's soul tools were, everything would be futile if only Class 3 soul engineers were using them.

Both legions had the same number of people. One side was filled with Class 3 soul engineers, while the other was filled with Class 6 soul engineers, and it wasn't hard to imagine what the outcome would be if both sides clashed.

Therefore, Huo Yuhao was hoping for the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineers to get aggressive and charge out from their turtle shell. He was hoping they would charge into the city and fight with him.

If they dared to come, Huo Yuhao and the others would probably annihilate those two hundred soul engineers with several mass attacks. They would probably destroy the harbor outside at the same time.

Unfortunately, whether it was because the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineers were smart or cowardly, they didn't appear on the battlefield in Heavenly Sea City after all. All they did was activate their linked defensive formations to the highest possible level.

Heavenly Sea City was a large city, and the pillaging continued until daybreak the next day.

When the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion's two hundred people who were like kings of the night retreated, Heavenly Sea City had descended into utter chaos.

Huo Yuhao didn't know before he came that there was an underwater mine in the ocean close to Heavenly Sea City, and it produced a kind of rare metal known as Deep Sea Silver. This rare metal was extremely valuable, and it was an excellent material for forging stationary soul cannon shells. This metal was very tough, and it was most suitable for constructing long-range stationary soul cannon shells.

Huo Yuhao found a warehouse in Heavenly Sea City that was half-filled with these things, and he packed them into his spectral demiplane.

As for other resources and money, how much did they actually pillage? Huo Yuhao wasn't sure himself. He opened a spectral gate inside Heavenly Sea City's warehouses and flew away dramatically after pocketing everything.

The soul tool front outside Heavenly Sea City didn't attack at all from the beginning to the end, and the pillaging was now complete.

Huo Yuhao left the city, and stopped at a place that was relatively far away. There were no aerial surveillance soul tools in this place, and he wasn't afraid of being discovered at all.

A spectral gate opened as the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion's two hundred members returned to their spectral demiplane as quickly as they could.

Huo Yuhao didn't go back. Instead, he remained outside and found a relatively obscure place before he went into hiding by himself. He didn't even bring Tang Wutong this time.

They had pillaged thirteen southern cities continuously, and the Sun Moon Empire's southern shores were in complete disarray. That was sufficient for now.

What Huo Yuhao had to do next was wait. He had to wait and see if his judgment was correct.

The mission at Heavenly Sea City had been delayed by a day compared to the twelve cities which came before. Everything had been smooth and successful, so he had to wait and see if his strategic goal would be realized.

Huo Yuhao found a small hill and quietly lay down in a thicket. He stared at the blue sky and the rolling white clouds above him, and he felt a certain inexplicable comfort and satisfaction.

The most luxurious thing for him was to just sit there and daydream without thinking about anything, and he was enjoying that rare but wonderful moment right now.

All kinds of images and pictures flashed before his eyes, and everything that had happened in his life surfaced continuously. He was most unwilling to reminisce about his experiences with Wang Qiu'er and Wang Dong'er, but those memories appeared uncontrollably in his mind. n(-0V&Lb1n

Qiu'er, are you truly part of Wutong? Wutong isn't just Dong'er. I can sense your presence in her. If that's the case, then that's just fantastic.

There were several important women in Huo Yuhao's life. His mother was most important to him when he was a child, and his mother's passing dealt a heavy blow to him. The most fortunate thing that had ever happened to him was when he had met Wang Dong'er, and being together with her gradually made him forget about his hatred and resentment, and helped him find peace. That was the reason why he could accomplish what he had today.

What about Qiu'er? She's still an integral part of my life that I can't live without. Qiu'er has taught me many things, and I didn't accept her love from the beginning to the end. Even so, she had always been quietly giving and giving. Soul beasts have feelings too! The person that I have let down the most is Qiu'er.

What will the Continent be like in the future??Huo Yuhao felt a little lost in his heart. Their plan was probably their last chance, and if they couldn't achieve their goal, the Douluo Continent's three native empires would be in danger.

The Sun Moon Empire's soul tools were too strong. Unless Huo Yuhao could destroy the entire empire, the Douluo Continent's three empires would be swallowed sooner or later.

It seemed impossible for them to close the gap in soul tool technology for now. The gap was too great. The Sun Moon Empire's royalty had been holding back for so long, and they probably had sufficient strength long ago. But they were always just suppressing themselves.

Huo Yuhao had fought the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineer legions. He had to say that even though the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion consisted entirely of Soul Emperors, they had no chance of victory if they had to fight against one of the five legions from the Sun Moon Empire's Hand that Protects the Nation, if both sides had equal numbers. This wasn't just because of the gap in their technology. It was also because of the discrepancy in the soul engineers' understanding of soul tools.

Furthermore, the Sun Moon Empire still had Ju Zi. Ju Zi's talent at commanding on the battlefield was extraordinary. She was still holding back a little when she faced him, but what about the Douluo Continent's three empires? How powerful could she be if she unleashed her full potential?

Huo Yuhao could still vividly remember when the Ming Dou Mountain Range was first broken through. Who would have thought that that event was just a diversion?

The Sun Moon Empire's armies were powerful, and they had an intelligent commander. The Sun Moon Empire was practically invincible on the Continent! The truth was, there wasn't much that could hold their own against them in direct battle.

Everything will be futile if we don't destroy the Sun Moon Empire's main forces. The Sun Moon Empire's surveillance soul tools haven't been able to detect me, but after suffering huge losses, they probably won't need too long to come up with a soul tool that can find me, considering how advanced their technology is. What I can do now is delay things as much as possible, and prolong the time that the Sun Moon Empire needs to sweep over the entire continent.

A bitter expression appeared on Huo Yuhao's face as his thoughts stopped there.

He was starting to understand the Heavenly Sun Douluo, who he had participated in the same mission with. Those Titled Douluo were undoubtedly very proud and arrogant. How could they make a move

against an infant unless they really had no other choice? They clearly didn't try to stop Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong with their full strength when the two of them were breaking out.

Huo Yuhao was still very confident in his own abilities before he ventured to the Ice Sea. But after that expedition, he understood that Titled Douluo were just Titled Douluo, while Transcendent Douluo were just Transcendent Douluo. Back at the Ming Dou Mountain Range when he was breaking out with Tang Wutong, more of why he was successful was because those Titled Douluo and Transcendent Douluos didn't work together to attack him and Tang Wutong! Otherwise, it would have been almost impossible for them to leave.

Before, a single Ultimate Douluo could intimidate and threaten an entire country. Following the development of soul tool technology, personal fighting strength was waning continuously.

Many soul masters still didn't properly understand that fact. At least, the Holy Ghost Church hadn't grasped that reality yet.

Back when Huo Yuhao had encountered the Holy Ghost Church for the first time, he didn't understand why the Sun Moon Empire would work with such an evil sect. Those evil soul masters were so cruel and evil, and their existence would undoubtedly bring calamity to all life. What would the Sun Moon Empire be like if the Holy Ghost Church held power in the end?

But as he continued to fight the Sun Moon Empire, Huo Yuhao witnessed more and more of their truly formidable soul tool technology. He gradually understood that the Holy Ghost Church was just one of the Sun Moon Empire's chess pieces. Two Ultimate Douluo were extremely powerful, but how would they fare against a soul engineer legion's linked soul tools? Would they still emerge victorious? Whether the Holy Ghost Church wanted to or not, and even if they were sufficiently prepared, could they really threaten Xu Tianran's rule?

Xu Tianran was a terrifying figure. The deep-seated and hidden strength of the Sun Moon Empire's royal family was even more frightening. Only places like the royal palace and the worship hall were considered the Sun Moon Empire's true core!

The Sun Moon Empire had made sufficient use of the Holy Ghost Church, and they were making use of them to fight the Douluo Continent's soul masters. When the Continent was truly united under one ruler in the future and when their soul cannons were turned around, how could they not have enough reason to deal with such an evil sect?

Huo Yuhao was starting to feel cold sweat breaking out through his shirt. He slowly realized that he seemed to see through some things only when he truly sat down quietly to think.

The Sun Moon Empire is so terrifying!

I wonder how the front line is doing. Can combining the Star Luo Empire, the Heavenly Soul Empire, and the Dou Ling Empire's strength cause some trouble for Ju Zi?

Ju Zi was also one of the most important girls in Huo Yuhao's heart, for no other reason than the fact that she was the first woman who had entered his heart, and that was enough.

Huo Yuhao could still vividly remember how he had felt when he first met her, and their experience of going through life and death together afterward left a deep mark in his heart. He still didn't know that

Dong'er was a girl back then. He couldn't even imagine what the future would have been like if Ju Zi had chosen him back then, and whether he would truly be with her.

Huo Yuhao couldn't answer that question, and his mind was always filled with mixed emotions when he thought about her.

Ju Zi said he was too soft-hearted. Yes, Huo Yuhao was soft-hearted when he was facing her. But wasn't she the same when she was facing him? But she was wife to the Sun Moon Empire's emperor, and the Sun Moon Empire's War God Empress. If the Sun Moon Empire continued to invade in the future, he would have to face her sooner or later.

Huo Yuhao's eyes became a little dim when he thought about the future. He truly couldn't see how the future would unfurl.

Chapter 548.3: The Spiritual Force in Plants

Personally, his aim was to become a member of the God Realm. But what about the Douluo Continent? Would the Sun Moon Empire really conquer everything, and rename it the Sun Moon Continent?

No, absolutely not! The Douluo Continent will be the Douluo Continent, and I am part of the Douluo Continent. I cannot let that happen no matter what price I have to pay.

Huo Yuhao took a deep breath as his thoughts stopped there. He gathered his mind once more, and his spiritual power transformed into countless tentacles as they stretched across the ground in all directions.

Of course, he wasn't lying here to rest. He was waiting, and he was hoping that the Sun Moon Empire's main forces would appear.

Heavenly Sea City was the Sun Moon Empire's most important coastal city in the south. Furthermore, this place was very far from Radiant City. Once the Sun Moon Empire's main forces appeared, the next part of his plan could continue. If his plan was successful in the end, he could see some hope for the Douluo Continent.

The thing that Huo Yuhao hoped for most was what the Body Douluo had sacrificed himself to achieve, and that was to kill Xu Tianran!

Xu Tianran was a ruthless and ambitious character, and Huo Yuhao still felt a little fearful towards him. He didn't know why he felt like that, but he was certain that the Sun Moon Empire would fall into disarray if he died. The Douluo Continent could at least catch their breath if that happened.

As for Ju Zi, even though she was formidable commander, Huo Yuhao never treated her like an enemy in his heart for some reason.

Huo Yuhao was aware of this problem. He knew that the reason why he couldn't become a commander of an army like Ju Zi was because his heart was too soft.

"Eh?" Huo Yuhao was still contemplating as he released his spiritual power, but a strange feeling suddenly appeared in his spiritual sea. nove.1B)In

This sensation was very unique. He realized to his shock that there were countless faint spiritual undulations within his Spiritual Detection's range.

They were fearful and afraid. They were trying to dodge away, but couldn't run away at all.

Every spiritual undulation was extremely fine and delicate, and a single thought from Huo Yuhao could destroy them. But this was the first time Huo Yuhao had felt so many instances of his spiritual power at the same time. This was his first experience after his spiritual power had completely entered a very detailed and intricate level.

These faint spiritual tentacles didn't come from his enemies, or from a formidable individual. They came from the plants that were growing in the earth!

These plants ranged from a small blade of Bluesilver Grass to a large tree that was several dozen meters tall. Every plant possessed its own spiritual power. Some were strong, while others were weak, but they were mostly weak and frail. They were evidently feeling frightened because they could feel Huo Yuhao's powerful spiritual power.

That feeling was just too strange. Huo Yuhao discovered for the first time that plants had spiritual power; even the small Bluesilver Grass was no exception.

That feeling was just too magical. Huo Yuhao subconsciously expressed his friendliness, while he made his spiritual power gentler as he stretched it out even further.

His friendliness was instantly returned. Those frightened and fearful spiritual tentacles immediately stopped trembling, and conveyed excited and happy thoughts to Huo Yuhao.

Their thoughts and minds were so simple. But Huo Yuhao's heart was still filled with happiness and satisfaction in this moment.

A single spiritual tentacle didn't count for anything, but when thousands and millions of spiritual tentacles were conveying their happiness, how could you not be happy? Huo Yuhao was like that, and so he was happy and elated that the friendliness he had released was immediately returned. Furthermore, those strange spiritual tentacles were fusing with his spiritual power, to the point where his Spiritual Detection could vividly sense the intricate changes that were happening to these plants.

That sensation was extremely strange and unique, like Huo Yuhao had become the leader of all the plants within five kilometers around him, and his minions and subordinates were reporting their feelings to him. The plants' spiritual tentacles amplified him, and Huo Yuhao was consuming less and less spiritual power from using Spiritual Detection. Furthermore, the more spiritual tentacles that returned his friendliness there were, the less spiritual power he consumed.

That's so magical. Spiritual power can actually be used this way. Huo Yuhao finally understood how, during his previous encounter, so many aquatic soul beasts could be linked together. That was especially so for the merfolk's martial soul combination skills. The reason why they could complete their martial soul combination skill probably wasn't because their blood and descent were very similar, but because their spiritual power was extremely well-connected.

Huo Yuhao seemed to have grasped some of the spiritual world's profundities.

He no longer held back as he pushed his Spiritual Detection outward as much as he could, and the benevolence in his heart increased continuously. He felt the feedback that those plants were giving him, and he expressed his love for them at the same time.

Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection was unwittingly extended very far, and his spiritual power gradually reached its limit. But Huo Yuhao was completely stunned at this point.

Yes, he was astonished. He realized to his intense shock that his spiritual power's range could reach more than fifty thousand meters in diameter.

Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection normally had a limit of twenty thousand meters! That was already a stunning figure, but that figure now stood at fifty thousand meters.

Even though this diameter was calculated with his body at the center, and it couldn't be used in a single direction, he had already surpassed everything in history, and created another miracle. Huo Yuhao believed that not even Ultimate Douluo could stretch their spiritual power across fifty kilometers!

A diameter of fifty thousand meters meant a diameter of fifty kilometers. What an extraordinarily vast area of effect!

Not only was Heavenly Sea City within his senses, but several other cities were also within range of his senses as well.

Furthermore, his Spiritual Detection worked differently this time. It didn't project everything into his mind three-dimensionally. After reaching fifty thousand kilometers, everything in Huo Yuhao's vision came from the plants that were cooperating with him. He was viewing the world through their feelings and vision. But that was already sufficient! Even though Spiritual Detection like that wasn't as complete as his three-dimensional Spiritual Detection was, conducting investigations through those plants' spiritual undulations was a lot more discreet.

What kind of spiritual detectors would conduct investigations against a plant's spiritual power? A plant's spiritual power was too weak, it was entirely negligible.

Huo Yuhao had unwittingly discovered such a mystical ability. How could he not be happy? Furthermore, he could obtain some simple information from these plants. Even though that information wasn't much, it was direct and easy to understand.

Huo Yuhao relaxed as he felt his spiritual power extend outwards. He was like the king of all the plants within his Spiritual Detection, and all the plants around him were reporting their thoughts and feelings to him.

A plant's thoughts were very simple. If you expressed your benevolence to them, they would express their friendliness to you. Furthermore, Huo Yuhao's spiritual power was extremely strong.

There were some plant-type soul beasts within his Spiritual Detection, but most plant-type soul beasts were extremely weak. Their subordination to Huo Yuhao was even more complete, because they could sense exactly how formidable his spiritual power was.

Suddenly, a thought occurred to Huo Yuhao. He asked a question with his Spiritual Detection, and used his consciousness to reach all the plants within his spiritual power's range.

What Huo Yuhao didn't expect was, after several minutes, a single consciousness that was responding to him appeared in his mind. He was so excited that he jumped to his feet from the thicket he was in.

The question he had asked those plants was simple. "Have you seen the Bluesilver Emperor? The king of the Bluesilver Grass?"

Plants understood each other best, and Huo Yuhao only had a tiny shred of hope that his question would be answered. But he received a very definite reply after a few short minutes! Yes, he received a definite reply!

Tang Ya's body was still very weak and frail. Even though ingesting the Qiankun Fortune Pill meant she was no longer deteriorating towards death, her abilities were completely gone. She even needed to lean on something for support when she walked. How could Huo Yuhao be willing to see her like that?

He never expected that the Bluesilver Emperor, which he had tried so hard to find within the Douluo Continent's three native empires to no avail, would be discovered in the Sun Moon Empire. This was truly an unexpected surprise!

Huo Yuhao regulated his breathing and tried his best to stabilize his emotions. Afterwards, he expressed benevolence towards that spiritual undulation that was giving him a definite reply, and concentrated his Spiritual Detection in that direction to search for the living being that was answering him.

Huo Yuhao was very calm. He knew that he had to be very careful. He knew from how sensitive the plants' spiritual tentacles were that if overly eager emotions appeared in his spiritual undulations, he could very easily be removed from his current state. Establishing a connection once more would probably be extremely difficult.

Gentle spiritual undulations that were filled with friendliness travelled soundlessly towards that living being that was giving him a definite reply.

Huo Yuhao quickly discovered that plant, which had conspicuously stronger spiritual undulations than typical plants. When his spiritual power locked onto it, he realized to his surprise that it was a datura flower.

This flower was no longer just a flower. It was a soul beast, and its cultivation rank was close to a ten year soul beast. Its intelligence was just starting to open up, and there was a single thread of it. It was like an infant which had just been born for a little while, and it only possessed but a few basic and blurry instincts.

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Plant-type soul beasts' intelligence was activated more slowly than animal soul beasts. They could only be considered intelligent after they had a hundred thousand years of cultivation.

Huo Yuhao didn't go near, because he was afraid that he would startle this large flower. He was a human after all, and soul beasts were very sensitive towards humans.

Huo Yuhao's benevolent spiritual power circled over as he conveyed his emotions to that datura flower and inquired patiently.

The datura flower told him that its pollen had sensed the Bluesilver Emperor at a valley not far from this place.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power could almost cover fifty kilometers! He quickly found that valley.

He hadn't discovered anything different about that place, but under the datura flower's guidance, he immediately sensed how different the plants in this valley were from the outside world.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power could reach fifty kilometers in diameter because of these plants, but there weren't plants in every single corner within this range. He couldn't feel any spiritual tentacles in places where there were no plants, so he couldn't get their help from those areas.

But when he inspected that valley closely, he noticed that there were many plants growing in this valley. However, not a single plant released their spiritual tentacles to merge with his.

Seems like that must be the place!

Huo Yuhao could feel himself getting excited. They had been searching for so long, and they had announced so many bounties over the past two years, while they had increased the rewards more than once. Even then, they couldn't find the Bluesilver Emperor at all. He hadn't expected to find a clue in this place.

He was just about to stand up and proceed towards that valley to search when he sensed something, and lay back down in the thicket. He was using Imitation, and he was just like a bush himself, as he didn't release any part of his aura at all.

Huo Yuhao widened his eyes in surprise. ?Damn, the Sun Moon Empire is worried after all!

Beyond the horizon at the limits of his senses, Huo Yuhao could feel a large mass of aerial surveillance soul tools flying towards Heavenly Sea City.

There were aerial surveillance soul tools both high in the sky and closer to the ground, and some were only five hundred meters above the ground. He didn't use Spiritual Detection to detect them directly because they were too far away, so he could only observe them through the plants around them.

Huo Yuhao noticed several dozen surveillance soul tools that were extremely close to the ground roaming around by observing everything, and many silhouettes surged high across the sky at the same time.

Seems like my judgment is correct. The Sun Moon Empire is concentrating their stronger forces to eradicate us.

A faint smile appeared at the corner of Huo Yuhao's mouth. Two pieces of good news had appeared one after another. How could he not be happy?

He had to take a rain check for that valley, but the valley wasn't about to uproot itself and run away. He would execute his mission first before returning to search for the Bluesilver Emperor.

Huo Yuhao was just lying there quietly, and it didn't take long before those lower surveillance soul tools reached his location and swept past him!

Those surveillance soul tools that were responsible for surveillance lower to the ground contained thermal detectors, oscillation detectors, and even spiritual detectors.

Even though there were relatively fewer spiritual detectors, there were enough to give Huo Yuhao a surprise. Has the Sun Moon Empire really understood? Even if they haven't yet understood, they must have considered problems in that respect, and they've increased their spiritual detection capabilities.

How lucky!

Those spiritual detectors swept across Huo Yuhao, but didn't react at all. Their spiritual undulations didn't discover anything out of the ordinary.

Of course, Huo Yuhao wouldn't give them a chance to discover anything. His spiritual aura had become identical to the plants around him, like he was completely assimilated into the thicket. Huo Yuhao also regulated his body temperature to be identical to everything around him, and his soul power was completely shut off. In addition to Imitation, he was just like a shrub. Spiritual detectors wouldn't detect his presence even if they were just a foot in front of him as long as he didn't move.

Those lower surveillance soul tools quickly flew by, and the aerial surveillance soul tools appeared immediately afterwards.

Huo Yuhao didn't have to use Spiritual Detection to conduct a deep investigation. He could use his own Spirit Eyes to see those aerial surveillance soul tools very clearly.

It didn't take long before he witnessed hundreds of aerial surveillance soul tools whiz by in the sky above him. They were dispersed as they flew in all directions, and all kinds of surveillance waves covered a tremendous surface area as they were like an enormous web that blanketed everything around Heavenly Sea City.

A faint smile appeared on Huo Yuhao's face. Go search! You'll never find us.

Huo Yuhao's eyes suddenly froze in this moment.

Shadows formed neat lines roughly a thousand meters in the sky as they flew rapidly in Heavenly Sea City's direction. Dark golden colors flickered on their bodies, and they were still relatively conspicuous as the sun shone on them. Their silhouettes would become especially blurry during nighttime, and the light around them contorted faintly.

Huo Yuhao drew a cold breath at what he saw. A single term appeared in his mind: human-shaped soul tools!

Has the Sun Moon Empire really developed human-shaped soul tools?

Yes, those dark golden shadows were soul engineers who were all covered in dark golden armor.

How could Huo Yuhao not tell if that armor was just normal armor, or human-shaped soul tools? Yes, those were human-shaped soul tools.

Every single human-shaped soul tool was about three meters tall, and they were completely covered in dark golden armor. There were three pairs of flying-type soul tools outstretched behind their backs as they raced through the air.

There were three hundred people. Three hundred people raced above him in an instant, and every single person emanated frightening auras.

The location of the eyes on their helmets radiated faint red colors. Light bent around them, and they seemed to assimilate into the air around them. Except, they were in the sky, and they didn't seem like they could find anything to integrate into.

Huo Yuhao swallowed some saliva. What he was most worried about had happened after all. The Sun Moon Empire had finally made a breakthrough in their research into human-shaped soul tools, and their development seemed extremely strong.

According to his investigations, the strongest legion in the Sun Moon Empire's Hand that Protects the Nation was the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Legion, and they were formed from three hundred soul engineers who were at least Soul Kings.

But when these soul engineers flew over him, how could Soul Kings compare with their soul power undulations?

Not even Soul Sages could match up to the strength of those soul power undulations. They clearly belonged to Soul Douluo, and that was especially so for the several dozen soul engineers who were flying at the forefront. Every single one had auras that were so deep and profound that they were undoubtedly Titled Douluo.

Huo Yuhao had always known that the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion was strong, but he didn't expect them to be that powerful.

A soul engineer legion like that could reach Heavenly Sea City from Radiant City in less than four hours if they flew with their full strength.

They quickly flew over Huo Yuhao's head. Huo Yuhao stood up quietly, and took a deep breath as he gazed in the direction they were flying in. The Sun Moon Empire! This is the Sun Moon Empire's strength!

Huo Yuhao pursed his lips tightly as he forced down the helplessness in his heart. He surged into the sky, and his Class 9 flying-type soul tool opened and activated at once.

"Boom—" A dull boom could be heard as Huo Yuhao's body broke the sound barrier and raced in Radiant City's direction.

Time, time! What he needed most was time. He wanted Radiant City to feel alarmed and fearful, so time was most important for him. He had to complete his mission before the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion returned to Radiant City.

It was already afternoon, and evening would come in two hours. Huo Yuhao could reach Radiant City before evening if everything went smoothly. The Imperial Soul Engineer Legion would take some time to search for them, and they would also need about four hours for their journey. It was likely that they couldn't return to Radiant City by tonight.

And once he started operating inside Radiant City, he trusted that the Sun Moon Empire would find a way to inform the Imperial Soul Engineer Legion and seek their aid. From that moment onwards, he

would only have four hours. What he could accomplish within those four hours was up to his own ability.

Huo Yuhao was resilient and determined. After his initial shock from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion's formidable equipment, he quickly calmed down as he tried to recall everything he had seen while he surged through the sky.

The Sun Moon Empire couldn't possibly have more than three hundred Soul Douluo. That was impossible! Not even the Star Luo Empire, which had the most soul masters, had so many high-level soul masters.

But the Imperial Soul Engineer Legion's soul engineers had auras that were clearly no different from that of a Soul Douluo. This meant that the soul engineers' armor possessed excellent amplification effects, and they were probably Class 8 soul tools.

A single Class 8 soul tool wasn't much, but what about three hundred of them? What kind of power was that? The Sun Moon Empire had enough power to fight the Holy Ghost Church with just this single soul engineer legion. At least, they would have enough to intimidate and deter them from making any rash moves.

But the Sun Moon Empire didn't have what many eight-ringed individuals, so how were they using these Class 8 soul tools? This was a doubt that Huo Yuhao couldn't wrap his head around.

Using soul tools which belonged to higher classes wasn't impossible under normal circumstances, but a single class was the limit. Soul tools with higher classes had more requirements and conditions, and they became increasingly harder for soul engineers of lower classes to use.

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Huo Yuhao was referring to normal soul masters. Graduates from Shrek Academy almost all possessed the ability to use soul tools above their Class, and that was due to their stable and consolidated foundations with their cultivation. But what about the Sun Moon Empire? Most of their soul masters relied on medicine or certain auxiliary soul tools to boost their soul power. But what about their foundations? They probably didn't have any foundations, and everything was the result of undue haste. Many soul engineers found it difficult to improve further after obtaining three soul rings, not to mention using soul tools above their current Class. Only several three-ringed soul engineers using a single Class 4 soul tool could be successful.

Under such circumstances, if the Imperial Soul Engineering Legion's soul engineers were all Soul Kings, how could they cross three Classes and use Class 8 soul tools that only Soul Douluo could use?

Even if the Sun Moon Empire had some way to raise their cultivation to six-ringed Soul Emperors, they still couldn't use Class 8 soul tools. Boosting a soul master's cultivation beyond Soul Emperor using medicine was futile unless the medicines used were natural treasures. Normal medicine wouldn't be useful at all. Huo Yuhao didn't believe that the Sun Moon Empire could forge something like the Qiankun Fortune Pill. If that was possible, Xu Tianran himself would probably have become an Ultimate Douluo a long time ago.

These doubts circled in Huo Yuhao's mind, and it was clear that he wouldn't find the answer. Unless he faced the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Legion head-to-head, all he could do for now was speculate.

Facing them head-to-head?

Huo Yuhao laughed bitterly as that phrase occurred to him. How were they going to fight?

Three hundred soul engineers who were at least Class 8 didn't even need linked soul tools. If they gathered their fire, even the Death God Douluo, Ye Xishui, and the Dragon Emperor Douluo, Long Xiaoyao, would have to run away, not to mention himself. If they used linked soul tools and locked onto their target, that destructive force could probably incinerate and vaporize an entire city in the blink of an eye.

Such ultimate power hadn't been used on the battlefield yet. It wasn't hard to imagine the outcome if they appeared on the battlefield.

Compared to this soul engineer legion which was fully equipped with human-shaped soul tools, the equipment of Shrek Academy's three soul engineer legions was no different from that of a beggar.

Huo Yuhao felt his heart sink when that thought occurred to him. His good mood because his plan was successful and because he had found the Bluesilver Emperor's whereabouts vanished into thin air.

Huo Yuhao wanted to maintain prolonged flight, so he kept his speed at the speed of sound. This was the only way that he could fly continuously while expending a lot of soul power.

A Class 9 soul tool firing at full power could achieve an incredible speed. Huo Yuhao could see Radiant City far in front of him after a little over the hour.

There were aerial and low-altitude surveillance soul tools in the skies above and around Radiant City. The Sun Moon Empire had become even more wealthy after they conquered more than two-thirds of the Heavenly Soul Empire's territory. Over the past two years, they had probably used all the wealth and resources that they had obtained from the Heavenly Soul Empire on developing soul tools to reach where they were today.

Huo Yuhao didn't fly directly into Radiant City. He didn't fully understand Radiant City's soul tools, and could even feel a tinge of fear from the bottom of his heart. He didn't know how advanced the Sun Moon Empire had become with their soul tool technology. That was especially so when he witnessed their successful construction of human-shaped soul tools.

Huo Yuhao descended to the ground when he was about twenty-five kilometers from Radiant City. He used Imitation and hurried along, and he was a much smaller target on the ground. He used Spiritual Detection as far as he could to avoid any surveillance soul tools that could discover his traces.

Radiant City was a city without walls, but that didn't mean it didn't have strong defenses. On the contrary, Radiant City possessed high-energy compression array soul tools, and the city's offensive and defensive capabilities were the absolute best on the continent.

Huo Yuhao found an unassuming bush five kilometers from Radiant City and stopped. He lay down on the ground and replenished what he had consumed from flying at high speeds while attempting to extend his consciousness once more to feel the plants' spiritual undulations around him.

Huo Yuhao quickly succeeded following his previous experiment. These plants' situations were similar, especially so because Huo Yuhao directly released benevolent spiritual undulations and quickly attained their approval. Huo Yuhao's spiritual tentacles swiftly merged with those plants' spiritual tentacles as he stretched them out into the distance.

This was undoubtedly the safest surveillance method. Huo Yuhao risked being discovered by abilities like spiritual barriers if he used Spiritual Detection for surveillance, but extending his spiritual tentacles through those plants meant there was no way he could be discovered.

Radiant City was a city like a forest of metal and steel. But even then, there were quite a few plants within it, and they were evenly distributed throughout the city.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power stretched out and quickly entered Radiant City. However, his spiritual power could stretch out with himself at the center when he connected with those plants, though he couldn't project his spiritual power in a single direction. Therefore, he could only reach twenty-five kilometers in Radiant City's direction. In addition to the five kilometers between Radiant City and himself, he could only reach twenty kilometers into Radiant City.

Twenty kilometers could cover typical cities several times over, but Radiant City was just too large. Huo Yuhao was twenty kilometers in, but he couldn't even reach half of Radiant City.

But that was sufficient for now.

Radiant City's aerial surveillance soul tools were mostly located around the city. But Huo Yuhao would be making a grave mistake if he thought this meant that they had fewer surveillance soul tools inside the city.

The surveillance soul tools inside Radiant City were all on the ground, and they seamlessly covered every single corner.

Radiant City lived up to its reputation after all! Large cities along the southern shores like Heavenly Sea City were a far cry from Radiant City. Huo Yuhao's first thought after his spiritual power reached its limit was that Radiant City was impregnable.

Yes, Radiant City gave him a feeling that it was impregnable.

That was just incredible. A city as large as that could give him a feeling that it was impregnable? That almost made him feel a little abnormal.

This wasn't Huo Yuhao's first time at Radiant City, and every visit gave him different sensations. There was no doubt that Radiant City had changed a lot over the past two years, but one couldn't observe those changes simply by looking with his or her eyes. Only someone who could investigate and observe every inch of the city could discover the city's frightening hidden strength.

Perhaps not even the Holy Ghost Church is aware...

The corner of Huo Yuhao's mouth curved into a mocking smile. If the Death God Douluo, Ye Xishui knew of the strength hidden within Radiant City, who knew how she would feel.

Huo Yuhao couldn't reach the royal palace from his current position, but he tried his best to stretch his spiritual power ever further. He discovered something that piqued his interest: a high-energy compression array soul tool.

Huo Yuhao was currently on Radiant City's southern side, and the high-energy compression array soul tool he had discovered was also on Radiant City's southern side. A patch of buildings and structures encircled this high-energy compression array soul tool, and there was also an enormous soul tool front deployed in the area. A hundred and fifty soul engineers were responsible for guarding it, and Huo Yuhao could tell from this soul tool front's scale that their offensive and defensive capabilities could probably cover half of Radiant City.

Radiant City's four corners were probably arranged in similar fashion.

Back when the Body Douluo had launched a hysterical assault which he had paid for with his life, Xu Tianran had relied on the tremendous soul power stored within these high-energy compression array soul tools and unleashed the largest protective barrier in history to protect himself.

Even though those defenses didn't allow him to completely dispel the Body Douluo's attack, that was mostly because they were far too scattered. Huo Yuhao had witnessed how frightening high-energy compression array soul tools could be from that episode, and the soul power contained within such soul tools was just too vast. It wasn't hard to imagine the kind of explosive fighting strength that a single soul tool front could achieve by relying on even one such soul tool.

Four such high-energy compression soul tools were enough to make Radiant City impregnable.

No, not four. There must be more than four!

Huo Yuhao suddenly thought of how Radiant City's imperial palace suddenly became like a stronghold when it came under attack. That transformation could only be achieved with tremendous power, and it had to be supported by an equally vast power. This also meant that there was likely to be another high-energy compression array soul tool inside the imperial palace.

Impressive, Sun Moon Empire! Radiant City could truly be described as impregnable with defenses like that. That was especially so if the Imperial Soul Engineer Legion was inside Radiant City. This meant that, in this world, only a God would probably have the strength to damage and destroy Radiant City.

Huo Yuhao couldn't help but think about the God of Emotions, Rong Nianbing. His strength was far from enough. At least, he didn't have enough strength to unleash the Morning Dew Dagger's full potential. Otherwise, how the Princess of the Sea force him into such a sorry position in the Ice Sea?

Huo Yuhao circled around Radiant City for about a quarter of its circumference before he laid down in the vegetation and continued his investigation. Radiant City's circumstances were almost identical to his speculations, and there was a large soul tool front deployed on every side, each of which drew power from a high-energy compression array soul tool, while there were soul engineers operating it from within.

Huo Yuhao discovered after several attempts that if he wanted to use his spiritual power to detect the plants' spiritual undulations, his body also had to be in contact with plants.

For instance, he would have to lie down in Bluesilver Grass, or in a thicket. He could also lean against a tree trunk. If his body wasn't touching any plants, there was no way he could sense their spiritual undulations.

Chapter 549.3: Opening – Phantoms in the Sky

Huo Yuhao wasn't in a hurry. At least, the Imperial Soul Engineering Legion wouldn't return tonight without an alarm. Therefore, he still had enough time.

He didn't enter Radiant City, instead relying on his Spiritual Interference Domain and Imitation as he hid behind a large tree, opened a spectral gate, and returned to his spectral demiplane.

Huo Yuhao had already informed everyone about the plan, so all three soul engineer legions had made their preparations to take off inside his spectral demiplane.

Huo Yuhao immediately called a meeting once he returned, and gathered all the Tang Sect's senior members.

Huo Yuhao didn't tell Bei Bei that he had discovered the Bluesilver Emperor's whereabouts. Now was not the time to tell him about that, because it would affect his mood. Huo Yuhao simply told everyone what he had discovered in his surveillance of Radiant City.

Everyone's faces turned black as they listened to his description, and that was especially so when they heard Huo Yuhao describe the Imperial Soul Engineering Legion.

"This is more troublesome than we thought," Bei Bei frowned as he spoke. "The Sun Moon Empire can't possibly guess our plan, but Radiant City's defenses are probably already at their weakest. This is the Sun Moon Empire's capital, and their defenses are undoubtedly tight and strict. Judging by the current situation, it'll be very difficult for us to cause any significant losses to Radiant City. It's hard for us not to be discovered even with your Spiritual Interference Domain, unless we can destroy the aerial surveillance soul tools around Radiant City as soon as possible. But if we do that, the city will be warned."

Huo Yuhao nodded and said, "It is quite difficult to destroy the aerial surveillance soul tools around Radiant City, because they're all linked to a soul tool front beneath them. That enormous soul tool front will attempt to intercept as soon as an attack is discovered."

Xu Sanshi said, "It is hard for us to succeed with the current situation. Why don't we choose another target? Even if we don't attack Radiant City, I believe that they will bring their armies back as long as we can cause utter chaos within the Sun Moon Empire."

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, "The Sun Moon Empire is already placing a lot of emphasis on us. The only thing is they don't understand how we operate. This opportunity will only come once in a blue moon, and the Sun Moon Empire will be a lot less mobile without the Imperial Soul Engineer Legion around. The Sun Moon Empire losing their flexibility and mobility gives us a chance to retreat. Therefore, we cannot give up this opportunity, no matter what. We will never know when another opportunity like this will arise again."

Bei Bei smiled faintly at Huo Yuhao and said, "Seems like you already have a plan, little junior brother. How do we go about it?"

Huo Yuhao's eyes closed into slits. "We have to start from those aerial surveillance soul tools. Aerial surveillance soul tools are very expensive, and destroying one will already give the Sun Moon Empire some heartache. Furthermore, we can only complete our ambush by destroying those aerial surveillance soul tools. My plan is as such..."

Huo Yuhao briefly explained what he was thinking.

Everyone nodded as they listened to his description, but Tang Wutong was the only one who frowned. "That's too dangerous, Yuhao. If you're discovered, you will be immediately attacked by linked soul tools. Even though we all trust in your ability, those linked soul tools' offensive powers are far too strong."

Huo Yuhao replied, "I wouldn't have the confidence before getting Li Ya as my Spirit, because the Sun Moon Empire has advanced their research into spiritual detectors. But fusing with Li Ya has elevated my spiritual power to a much more intricate level, and I can mask and imitate everything around me more perfectly. This means that the Sun Moon Empire's surveillance soul tools will have a hard time detecting me, while only spiritual detectors can do that in the first place. However, the greatest problem with a spiritual detector is its range. I can tell from the Sun Moon Empire's current deployment of spiritual detectors that their current research product only has a range of about five hundred meters. Under such circumstances, I can just do what I need to do high in the sky, and target those aerial surveillance soul tools and ignore the low-altitude ones, and they won't discover me. Those aerial surveillance soul tools linking together with the soul tool front on the ground is most effective because there's sufficient space for the soul tool front to intercept any attacks against them. Those low-altitude surveillance soul tools are a lot easier to deal with."

Everyone nodded continuously as they listened to Huo Yuhao's convincing discussion. Tang Wutong was the only one who still had some hesitation in her eyes as she stared at him.

"Alright, since that's the case, it's settled. You have to be careful, Yuhao. Nobody can help you on this, and you have to prioritize your safety above everything else. You have to leave as soon as something goes wrong. At most, we'll just abandon this opportunity altogether." Bei Bei reminded Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao nodded. "Don't worry, eldest senior brother. I will be as careful as I can. The Sun Moon Empire is too confident in their aerial surveillance soul tools. After this mission, they will realize that we aren't moving quickly from place to place by sea, and they will be confused about our abilities. Since that's the case, we shall give them a good one this time."

Tang Wutong arrived beside Huo Yuhao and said, "Let me go with you. We can back each other up if we're together." $n/\sigma-V-e/(l-B)l.(n$

Huo Yuhao shook his head. "No, Wutong. It's different this time. I'll be a more flexible by myself, and I won't be discovered so easily. With my current spiritual power, it's likely that I won't be discovered even if spiritual detectors sweep over me. But if you're around, the spiritual detectors and oscillation detectors can easily spot you if they sweep over you. Don't worry, I'll be careful."

Tang Wutong quietly reached out and pinched his waist as she glared at him threateningly.

Huo Yuhao's facial muscles twitched. "Don't worry, I'll be as careful as I can possibly be, for you."

Tang Wutong gently leaned into his arm. "I'll be waiting for you. Be careful."

"Yes."

Huo Yuhao pulled He Caitou with him and went straight over to the warehouses. Bei Bei immediately gathered the three soul engineer legions and prepared for battle. He ordered the Heavy Artillery Soul Engineer Legion and the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion over to the warehouses to shift something.

The sky had already turned completely dark when Huo Yuhao came out of the spectral demiplane an hour later. He gazed at Radiant City in the distance, and he could see light and fire across thousands of homes. He had to concede that this city, which was the largest one on the continent, would leave a very deep impression on anybody coming here for the first time. The city's scenes at night were the most beautiful that Huo Yuhao had ever seen.

Huo Yuhao heaved a faint sigh. "I'm sorry, Radiant City's peace is destined to be broken tonight."

Huo Yuhao already had his Icy War God's Armor on by now. He used his spiritual power to control the dark blue hues so that they didn't shine, and his entire body seemed to disappear into the night sky. Not a single trace of his armor's intense chills was released.

Huo Yuhao would be extremely careful even without Tang Wutong's reminder. His life and death was linked to the three soul engineer legions, because his spectral demiplane was a double-edged sword. If Huo Yuhao was alive, everyone inside his spectral demiplane could become an army of ghost soldiers, but if he died, then everyone in the Tang Sect and the three soul engineer legions would never leave his spectral demiplane.

This wasn't because he didn't want to release everyone before he came out. They were too close to Radiant City, and everyone would be easily discovered if they came outside.

Therefore, he had to take this risk. He wasn't taking this risk for himself. He was representing several thousand soul engineers. He was also representing the Douluo Continent's last hope. He didn't have a choice not to be careful!

With his Icy War God's Armor, Huo Yuhao could vividly feel thick soul power flowing through the armor and entering his body continuously. The armor was almost like part of his skin, and perhaps even part of his skeleton. He didn't feel any discomfort or difference, besides the fact that his entire body became a little fatter.

Huo Yuhao controlling the Icy War God's Armor was different from when the Snow Empress was doing it. The reason was because unleashing this human-shaped soul tool's full potential required Huo Yuhao's spiritual power. The Snow Empress didn't understand it enough, so she could only use it to amplify her abilities and defend herself.

The armor's wings gradually opened behind it. It was a Class 9 soul tool, but it was different from Huo Yuhao's flying-shaped soul tool. The Icy War God's Armor didn't consume Huo Yuhao's own soul power, so it could take him over seven thousand meters in the air. This fact alone was something that no other soul tool in the world could achieve.

There were two great dangers at high altitudes: lower temperatures and thin air. The Icy War God's Armor negated the extreme cold's effects, and the armor itself could absorb energy from the low temperatures around it and feed that energy back to Huo Yuhao. Thin air was fatal to other soul masters, and was a condition they couldn't recover from. But that wasn't a problem for the Icy War God's Armor.

Huo Yuhao had already attempted to go beyond ten thousand meters in the sky with this human-shaped soul tool. That was an entirely different world, and he wouldn't fall even if he didn't use any soul power to control himself. He would just be hovering in very thin air, and that feeling was both mystical and frightening at the same time.

Huo Yuhao didn't know if he was the first human to fly at such a height, but he didn't see any other living beings at that altitude.

He tapped his feet against the ground as his wings blasted off. He used his Spiritual Detection to open a path under the cover of Imitation, and surged into the air in the moment when there weren't any surveillance soul tools sweeping his path.

The Icy War God's Armor's energy was all contained inside it, and Huo Yuhao didn't have to release any soul power at all for his armor to take him high into the sky. What he needed was to communicate with his armor through his consciousness.

Huo Yuhao reached a thousand meters in the blink of an eye. Most low-altitude surveillance soul tools were no longer effective at this height, but Huo Yuhao was going even higher.

Two thousand meters, three thousand meters, four thousand meters, five thousand meters.

He went all the way to six thousand meters before he controlled his armor to stabilize himself as he hovered in midair.

Chapter 550.1: The Attack Starts!

The temperature at an altitude of six thousand meters was very low, but such low temperatures were considered a good source of replenishment for the Icy War God's Armor. The thin air was filled with elements of ice, which the Icy War God's Armor processed to replenish the energy that it expended before it stored the energy that it was absorbing, compressed it, and fed back a portion of it to Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao was full of admiration for this armor. 'I'm like a Transcendent Douluo with this armor on! Even though the Sun Moon Empire has already produced human-shaped soul tools, mine is crafted from unrivaled materials, and it has cost Teacher Xuan many years of thought and effort. This super human-shaped soul tool is also crafted from the Tang Sect's mechanical technology, so the Sun Moon Empire's human-shaped soul tools are still relatively weaker.

Huo Yuhao was already starting to move as he thought. His Spiritual Detection expanded as far as he could push it. He was six thousand meters in the sky, and he didn't believe that the Sun Moon Empire could place any spiritual barriers at this height.

Not even high altitude aerial surveillance soul tools could be placed at this height.

But Huo Yuhao was still full of praises for the capabilities of the Sun Moon Empire's aerial surveillance soul tools. At least, he discovered that there were still aerial surveillance soul tools five thousand meters in the sky, and even though there weren't many, every single one was relatively large, and their construction was extremely intricate and sophisticated. If not for his mission, Huo Yuhao would really want to take one back to study it.

Huo Yuhao floated forward, and the first things he went for were those high altitude aerial surveillance soul tools that were flying around five thousand meters in the sky.

He observed quietly for a few moments, and he could already tell what kind of soul tool they were.

These are clearly satellites! They were used for transmissions and communication, and they were enormous. They could transmit all kinds of information within two hundred and fifty kilometers, and as long as there was one such soul tool within two hundred and fifty kilometers, the Sun Moon Empire would be able to transmit information across long distances. They wouldn't even have a problem communicating at a range of more than five thousand kilometers.

But these satellites didn't possess any offensive or defensive capabilities, and they weren't able to detect anything around them.

Huo Yuhao slowly came up to a satellite as he placed a small round metal piece that was about the size of his palm within a tiny crack.

Huo Yuhao was using both Imitation and Spiritual Interference Domain at the same time. He activated his personal defenses to the highest possible level to prepare for worst case scenarios, and his Spiritual Detection covered a vast area around him from the beginning to the end. He was prepared to retreat at any moment. After all, he wasn't entirely sure about the Sun Moon Empire's surveillance soul tools.

The first metal plate was installed successfully without anything changing at all.

Huo Yuhao retreated silently after completing his task. He observed for a few moments, and surveyed the surveillance soul tools around him to see if anything was happening. The nearest soul tool front beneath him remained stable and quiet, and he heaved a sigh of relief.

The first attempt was most important, because it laid the foundations for what he was about to do next.

Huo Yuhao quickly began to shift around in the sky. He wasn't afraid of troubling himself, as the surveillance soul tools five thousand meters up were furthest away from each other. He didn't move down to the soul tools beneath him to install those metal plates. He installed the metal plates on all the aerial surveillance soul tools above Radiant City at that height, and only then did he fly down to four thousand meters.

He continued in a similar fashion. Even though he was flying very quickly, three hours had gone by after he finished installing the metal plates on the aerial surveillance soul tools three thousand meters up.

There were sixty-three surveillance soul tools of many different kinds three thousand meters in the sky, and every one was very far from the others. Huo Yuhao also had to be very careful, and that was an important reason why he was taking so long. If he didn't have his Icy War God's Armor, he would even have to take breaks before continuing.

Huo Yuhao's following task was even harder, because there were more than four hundred surveillance soul tools of all kinds between an altitude of five hundred meters and one thousand meters. There were around two hundred and seventy at a thousand meters, and there were more than one hundred and sixty at five hundred meters.

Huo Yuhao planned to forgo the surveillance soul tools at five hundred meters. He would deal with them later on, but he had to install the metal plates on the surveillance soul tools at one thousand meters.

But this altitude was also the most dangerous. The surveillance soul tools hovering at a thousand meters were inherently extremely powerful, while the surveillance soul tools at five hundred meters would sweep both toward the ground and into the air. Therefore, Huo Yuhao had to use Spiritual Detection to avoid the surveillance soul tools that could discover him as much as possible.

Huo Yuhao paused for a little in the air and readjusted his condition.

He relaxed for a little before he reduced his Spiritual Detection's range, which was initially spread over a large area, to a small but intricate area of effect. He kept his Spiritual Detection's range to around a thousand meters in diameter so that he could conduct a more detailed surveillance of all the energy changes around him. This included the surveillance soul tools' waves and undulations, and how they were changing.

Everything was within his grasp as he drifted down. He didn't cause any disturbance at all as he arrived next to a surveillance soul tool that was patrolling in a pattern. He flicked his wrist dexterously as he sent another metal plate into a blind spot that the soul tool itself couldn't detect. Huo Yuhao somersaulted in the air with a flash as his flying-type soul tool accelerated and moved him a hundred meters horizontally. He avoided several spiritual surveillance waves as he flew.

Huo Yuhao quickly changed directions as he shifted to another side and floated downwards, and he dealt with another surveillance soul tool with yet another dexterous flick of his wrist.

Huo Yuhao's understanding of hidden weapons meant he was still confident of doing this properly even if he had to do it over long distances. But doing that was a lot less discreet than going up close to those surveillance soul tools.

Huo Yuhao had to be very careful with each installation. He couldn't allow any mistakes at all. He could expose himself with even a tiny error. What he was doing would determine whether his plan could be executed successfully, so how could he afford to be careless?

Huo Yuhao was moving a lot faster here than he was at the higher altitudes. He turned, spun, and danced through the air as he stuck metal plates to aerial surveillance soul tools continuously. His movement was like rolling clouds and flowing water as he didn't stop at all, and all those surveillance soul tools had nowhere to hide under his Spiritual Detection. **no 1e/lb)1n**

Anybody who could watch those surveillance waves in the sky would be overwhelmed with admiration at what Huo Yuhao was doing. Every movement and every acceleration zipped through and between dozens of intersecting surveillance waves at the same time. There were some close shaves where Huo Yuhao had to use Instant Teleportation to avoid them.

Even though not every kind of surveillance wave could discover him, Huo Yuhao had to put safety first as he tried his best to keep any wave from touching him.

After he completed the last installation at one thousand meters, he paused in the air before he accelerated and disappeared beyond the horizon.

Huo Yuhao could feel some dizziness in his brain, which was a sign of consuming too much energy. He had consumed too much energy and not spiritual power, because he could still take this with his spiritual power.

The sky had turned dark, as most of the lamps and lights that resembled the stars in the night sky had disappeared. Huo Yuhao flew far into the distance and descended to the ground at a relatively obscure and remote area.

He crossed his legs and sat down on the ground as he panted deep and heavily. Huo Yuhao's face was a little pale, and his eyes were filled with fatigue. However, there was also excitement in his eyes.

Huo Yuhao was entirely certain that nobody else in the Douluo Continent could achieve what he had just done. Not even Ultimate Douluo could do that.

Huo Yuhao looked up at the sky. Even though he couldn't see the surveillance soul tools he had worked on, his eyes were full of satisfaction in this moment.

A gorgeous shadow emerged from Huo Yuhao's body. It was Li Ya, the mermaid princess. She sat down beside him just like that, and brought her tail up close and placed her arms around it like a young girl sitting on the ground hugging her knees.

A beautiful song could be heard, but Huo Yuhao was the only person who could hear it. Wonderful melodies circled around his spiritual sea, and his fatigue disappeared like silk spun from cocoons. He was recovering all the spiritual power that he had expended at an incredible speed.

This wasn't Huo Yuhao's soul skill. Instead, this was the mermaid princess' innate ability. She didn't speak to him, but was just singing so beautifully with a faint smile on her face.

Everything was dark around him, but it was also quiet and tranquil. Huo Yuhao quickly entered meditation as he listened to Li Ya's song.

He was still this mission's main director, and he had to recover what he had expended as quickly as possible.

Consuming soul power was nothing much. He hadn't consumed much soul power because he had his Icy War God's Armor to replenish him. However, Huo Yuhao needed to rest because he had used too much spiritual power, and especially so when consuming too much energy made him feel fatigued.

Huo Yuhao's soul core absorbed spiritual power continuously as Li Ya sang to him, and that accelerated his regeneration.

Huo Yuhao got back to his feet after an hour, and his eyes were already full of life and vigor.

Li Ya didn't go back into his body. Instead, she just hovered quietly beside him.

Huo Yuhao raised his right hand as deep chanting sounds could be heard, and a grey soul ring appeared on his body.

This wasn't the first time that Li Ya had seen his grey soul ring, so she didn't feel conflicted or resistant at all. Huo Yuhao was in such a state when he completed the contract with her after all. This ring was evil, filled with light and a little strange, but she was slowly starting to accept it.

Huo Yuhao had begun to chant his spell, and deep and dull incantations rang out. Huo Yuhao used Imitation and Spiritual Interference Domain so that he could hide Li Ya and himself.

Chapter 550.2: The Attack Starts!

Li Ya hovered next to Huo Yuhao, and a mystical scene occurred. Soul rings appeared from the bottom of her mermaid's tail one after another, and one would realize upon closer inspection that they were the soul rings Huo Yuhao had attached to his Spirit Eyes, every single one of them.

The eighth soul ring, the one that was blood red, glowed as Huo Yuhao's incantations were suddenly mixed with another crisp and bright voice.

Every glyph or word that he chanted was accompanied by an identical one in this crisp and bright voice, and this voice belonged to Li Ya.

Li Ya was a hundred thousand year soul beast, and she had given a total of four soul skills to Huo Yuhao. Two were from soul rings, and two were from soul bones.

The soul skill that she was using on Huo Yuhao's behalf was one from her soul rings: Mermaid's Duet.

The reason why his eight soul rings attached to his Spirit Eyes would appear on Li Ya's body was because of one of her soul bone skills that she had bestowed on Huo Yuhao, Merfolk Control.

Merfolk Control was entirely auxiliary, but it was very effective. It could release a merfolk's spirit when absolutely necessary to control Huo Yuhao's soul skills, and it could unleash his other soul skills on its own while expending only half of the spiritual power normally required.

That was just a soul skill. That wasn't just a soul bone for Huo Yuhao as, more importantly, he had Li Ya as his Spirit! Therefore, Li Ya using this soul skill meant that she was temporarily controlling his Spirit Eyes' soul skills as his Spirit, and the overall effect was undoubtedly superior.

Merfolk Control's effect on normal soul masters probably wasn't that evident, but it was very different for Huo Yuhao because he had twin martial souls! Even though he could switch between his martial souls, switching still required energy. He also couldn't unleash them as quickly as he could when he was in his normal state.

But that was different with Merfolk Control. Li Ya could support him according to his whims. When Huo Yuhao was using his Ice Jade Empress Scorpion in battle, Li Ya could use all kinds of auxiliary spiritual-type soul skills to help him. That was like another Huo Yuhao appearing temporarily to fight. He could also save half of his spiritual power when using his Spirit Eyes' soul skills.

Of course, Huo Yuhao's soul bone would have to consume soul power as he was conserving spiritual power.

However, Merfolk Control couldn't grasp every single soul skill. First, she could only use those spiritual-type soul skills. She couldn't use Huo Yuhao's Eye of Destiny, or the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's destiny skull's soul skills.

This meant that Li Ya couldn't use Spiritual Blast, Destiny's Demise, Spiritual Dispossession, and Destiny's Adjudication, because those had belonged to Wang Qiu'er. When she sacrificed herself for Huo Yuhao, he became the only one who could use her strength.

Merfolk's Duet, which was his eighth soul skill, was comparable to Merfolk Control. Merfolk's Duet could double the effects of any of Huo Yuhao's spiritual-type soul skills.

That didn't include those soul skills that Wang Qiu'er had bestowed on Huo Yuhao, but that was enough!

For instance, Huo Yuhao's incantations were considered a spiritual-type soul skill, while this was also considered his third martial soul.

What was the effect of doubling his necromantic spells' effects?

The answer was quickly presented in front of Huo Yuhao.

Eighteen spectral gates quickly opened and spaced out in a line. Huo Yuhao had to strengthen his Spiritual Interference Domain's area of affect so that he could cover every single gate.

Huo Yuhao glanced at Li Ya with a surprised look on his face, and she gave him a sweet smile. Merfolk's Duet only consumed half of what he would normally need for soul power and spiritual power with Merfolk Control.

What did eighteen spectral gates mean? This meant that Shrek Academy's three soul engineer legions could come out and retreat twice as fast as they would have otherwise!

Huo Yuhao nodded in Li Ya's direction before he turned towards Radiant City. There was a remote in his hands.

"The show is about to begin!"

Huo Yuhao pressed the button on his remote heavily as he spoke, a thread of strange undulations mixed with soul power and spiritual power travelled into the distance.

"Boom—"

The silent night sky above Radiant City was suddenly jolted by deafening booms as enormous sparks and flowing lights crackled above Radiant City.

The city's peace was disturbed, and ear-piercing alarms could be heard in the next moment as all kinds of surveillance soul tools in the sky were fully activated. Radiant City's four large soul tool fronts were also fully activated at the same time.

But would that be useful?

The corner of Huo Yuhao's mouth curved into a mocking smile as he continued pressing the remote in his hands.

“Boom, boom, boom...”

“Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom!”

Intense explosions rang out continuously high in the air, as the loud sounds of those detonations travelled far through the sky. Brilliant fireworks crackled one after another in the sky.

The soul engineers within their respective soul tool fronts inside Radiant City were all completely stunned by what they were witnessing.

The reason was because they hadn't detected any attacks at all, so why would their aerial surveillance soul tools explode one after another?

The screens that those aerial surveillance soul tools were connected to on the ground went black at once as exclamations could be heard in every corner of the city.

But that didn't change how those aerial surveillance soul tools were exploding in the sky.

The sky above Radiant City was like a magnificent firework show as intricate fireworks crackled again and again. There were many different colors, and there were many different sizes. A vast area of the sky above Radiant City was lit up.

Xu Tianran was jolted awake amid the loud explosions. When he rushed out from the royal palace and witnessed the sparks and fireworks in the sky, he froze.

What... what is going on? What exactly has happened?

Nobody could answer him. As the aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky continued to explode, Radiant City's defense system was completely activated. Soul engineers got to their battle stations and posts as they tried to control all kinds of surveillance soul tools and attempt to discover some trace of what was happening.

But the explosions in the sky didn't seem like they were going to stop at all. Radiant City couldn't get anything from their monitoring; the only thing they could get was darkness in that instant after the explosion!

Radiant City was destined to be overwhelmed by darkness this night. The royal palace's linked defenses were activated as those terrifying explosions continued, covering the entire palace. The four soul tool fronts didn't activate their defenses, because they would have to use their high-powered compression array soul tools if they did. They had expended much from the last time they used it, and they couldn't even activate it again. They had to conserve power so that they could defend the soul tool fronts. At a time like this, who would care about the citizens?

Everything had happened too abruptly, to the point where Radiant City's imperial guard couldn't react in time. The entire city descended into chaos amid the explosions in the sky that were like rolling thunder.

Radiant City had become completely blind, and that was Huo Yuhao's first step.

Just as those explosions were happening, Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons were swiftly pushed out from those eighteen black spectral gates one after another.

The soul engineers didn't make a sound at all, but when they saw the brilliant fireworks that were lighting up the sky in the distance, they opened their mouths in shock.

They almost didn't know where they were, but this firework show was the grandest one they had ever witnessed in their lifetimes.

A cold dash of light flickered across Huo Yuhao's face. He withdrew the remote in his hands. The first step was the most important one, and he finally completed this task that he had spent so much energy and almost half of the entire night on.

Huo Yuhao shared Spiritual Detection with everyone and relayed his instructions.

Three hundred Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons formed up in a single line as they quickly got into formation.

After the Heavy Artillery Soul Engineer Legion came out, the Fort Soul Engineer Legion's soul masters and the Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion's soul masters quickly rushed out from those eighteen spectral gates.

The Fort Soul Engineer Legion's soul engineers didn't appear with their forts. Most of them were pushing some heavy soul tools as they appeared beside the Heavy Artillery Soul Engineer Legion.

They quickly set those soul tools up, and He Caitou was their commander.

The Tang Sect Soul Engineer Legion's soul engineers were wearing their equipment and supporting the other two legions from one side, and everyone nervously got to work.

Huo Yuhao closed his eyes and regulated his breathing as he listened quietly to the explosions in the sky. Tang Wutong, Bei Bei, Xu Sanshi, Jiang Nannan, Xiao Xiao, and the rest of the Tang Sect's senior members arrived beside him as they gazed into the distance.

Everyone's eyes flowed with astonishment and respect as they witnessed the magnificent fireworks in the sky. Huo Yuhao had accomplished this by himself! He was like the Sun Moon Empire's nightmare, and he made what was impossible, possible. He could still find loopholes and weaknesses in Radiant City's airtight defenses.

The explosions far in the sky finally stopped after about a dozen minutes. Metal fragments and dust fell from the sky as dense smoke covered the entire city.

Radiant City was dark before, but the entire city lit up once more as the city's defense army was mobilized. They increased their vigilance and defenses across the city, and activated their backup aerial surveillance soul tools and released them into the air. The royal palace's linked defensive barrier was still being maintained.

But right at this moment, the Heavy Artillery Soul Engineer Legion's three hundred Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons divided into three rows as they formed up behind Huo Yuhao.

The dark cannons emanated sinister auras, and every single soul engineer's breathing was rough and heavy. The stunning scenes of the night far in the distance had already told them where they were, and those who were smarter could already figure out what had just happened.

Chapter 550.3: The Attack Starts!

Even though they didn't know how their commander detonated the aerial surveillance soul tools above Radiant City, they understood that they would forever remember today's battle. They didn't know if such a scene would happen again in the future, but they were brimming with belligerence and the will to fight.

Huo Yuhao suddenly opened his eyes, and everyone could see two beams of golden light that were each about a meter wide and almost material blast out from his eyes.

Terrifying spiritual undulations burst forward unforgivingly, and the same voice appeared in every single soul engineer's mind.

"Stationary soul cannon shells, prepare to fire."

Every Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannon could hold forty-eight shells. They would only use Milk Bottles and the soul masters' soul power under normal circumstances to compress and amplify before firing.

But today was different. They had received an order before they moved out, that those forty-eight shells would be changed for stationary soul cannon shells. This meant that every Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannon now contained forty-eight stationary soul cannon shells. The shells that the Heavy Artillery Soul Engineer Legion were loading were almost half of the Tang Sect's annual production.

Spiritual Detection allowed the dark sky in those soul engineers' eyes to become three-dimensional images, and every single person had a different target.

"Fire!" Huo Yuhao shouted as the Heavy Artillery Soul Engineer Legion's three hundred Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons fired at the same time, for the first time in history.

"Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh, whoosh..." Howling sounds appeared one after another. The rhythm was rich, like a grand and magnificent symphony.

Pillars of fire and light flashed from behind the Tang Sect's members as they left brilliant trails behind them as they flew towards Radiant City.

Three hundred Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons fired at the same time, and every blast fired sixteen stationary soul cannon shells.

He Caitou's facial muscles twitched continuously as he looked on. That was all precious money!

Four thousand eight hundred stationary soul cannon shells were all fired at once. Even the Sun Moon Empire, who had mastered the most powerful soul tool technology, wouldn't do something like this.

But Huo Yuhao did that. He wasn't stingy at all as he blasted away.

Four thousand eight hundred stationary soul cannon shells rose into the air, and in that moment, those bright and brilliant flashes dispersed and flew in all directions. They were like flowers thrown into the air, and that feeling was filled with wonder.

Bei Bei muttered under his breath, "Did little junior brother integrate the Tang Sect's hidden weapon techniques into artillery fire?"

The Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons were being developed continuously. Every two cannon barrels could aim at one target. Under normal circumstances, it was almost impossible for the aimers to hit eight different targets with sixteen barrels.

But Huo Yuhao didn't have this problem. Huo Yuhao could divide his mind with his frightening spiritual power, and it was he who gave those cannon crews all two hundred and forty precise targets.

Those cannons were fired in order and not at the same time, and that was the reason why everything came together like a symphony.

Those explosions naturally occurred one after another.

The aerial surveillance soul tools had been almost entirely annihilated, but the low-altitude soul tools at five hundred meters were still around. Even though most of them just swept across the ground for surveillance, they gave immediate feedback when so many soul cannon shells appeared at the same time in the distance.

The four soul tool fronts around Radiant City activated their linked defenses almost as soon as was possible. They didn't know what their enemies were attacking, so that was undoubtedly the best response.

Intense explosions first came from these four corners!

Radiant City's soul tool fronts no longer had their aerial surveillance tools, so they were in a disadvantaged position. They could only use their internal ground-based aerial surveillance soul tools to lock onto those stationary soul cannon shells that were flying over.

But everything happened too suddenly and too quickly, and they couldn't possibly intercept every single shell.

"Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom..."

Explosions rang out from Radiant City's four corners. Some shells exploded in the sky, and some exploded on a soul tool front's defensive barrier. Firecrackers seemed to fall towards the ground as they sparked in every corner.

Just as these explosions continued at the city's four corners, sparks and flashes appeared once more in the sky. But these explosions were a lot closer to the ground, because the low-altitude surveillance soul tools were the ones that were being blown up!

Almost half of the more than two hundred low-altitude surveillance soul tools were eradicated in the blink of an eye. The four soul tool fronts could barely struggle to defend themselves, not to mention the fact that they didn't have the time to cooperate with their low-altitude surveillance soul tools so that their soul tool fronts could intercept those attacks.

"Second round, fire!"

Huo Yuhao had already given his second order to fire when the fireworks cracked open at the city's four corners.

“Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh, whoosh...” A second symphony could be heard as another four thousand eight hundred stationary soul cannon shells were fired, and rocketed toward Radiant City.

He Caitou closed his eyes painfully, but the Tang Sect’s soul engineers were more overcome with shock and passion.

This was a modern battle! They were launching long-range attacks against their enemies by relying on firepower. Every one of them was confident because their enemies were far away, and there were eighteen spectral gates behind them that they could retreat through. It wasn’t hard to imagine how high their morale was.

“Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom...”

The explosions were almost seamlessly connected. This time, more shells were aimed into the air besides suppressing those four soul tool fronts.

There were almost no more low-altitude surveillance soul tools after that round, and some of Radiant City’s backup aerial surveillance soul tools hadn’t even reached their optimal locations before they were blasted back to the ground.

“Prepare for the third round. Second senior brother! Give it to me.” Huo Yuhao reached out with his right hand to He Caitou, who had appeared next to him.

He Caitou’s eyes were full of longing, and he couldn’t bear to comply, but he didn’t dare to hesitate for even a second at a time like this. Light flashed as an enormous cannon with a silver barrel appeared in his hands, and he passed it to Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao reached out and grabbed this heavy cannon, which was two meters long and had a barrel opening with a diameter of two hundred and fifty millimeters, and placed it on his shoulder.

Huo Yuhao went down on one knee and peered through the scope. His left hand held the cannon barrel, and he trained it in front of him while he wrapped his right hand around the central part of the barrel’s thickest part. He was like a statue, and he didn’t move at all.

“Xu Tianran, take a hit from my Tai Ah!”

“Third wave, fire!”

“Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh, whoosh...”

Every stationary soul cannon shell stored in the Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons was finally fired in the last wave, down to the very last one.

Forty thousand eight hundred Class 4 stationary soul cannon shells surged into the air. This time, they didn’t disperse, as they only had one target.

The four soul tool fronts defending Radiant City at its four corners had all been bombarded by hundreds of stationary soul cannon shells. Even though they were only Class 4 shells, they were still stationary soul cannon shells!

They couldn't use their high-powered compression array soul tools, and their linked defenses were falling apart under such circumstances. The soul engineers and soul masters within those soul tool fronts had consumed too much of their soul power, and two-thirds of their backup Milk Bottles.

Nine thousand six hundred stationary soul cannon shells had been fired in the previous two rounds! An attack of this scale was unprecedented for Radiant City's soul tool fronts ever since their establishment.

But how could they have the capacity to resist the third wave?

All four thousand eight hundred stationary soul cannon shells in the third wave were aimed at the royal palace. The shells zipped across the sky and appeared above the royal palace in the blink of an eye.

But right at this moment, the royal palace's outermost walls suddenly lit up as sixteen golden pillars surged into the sky.

These sixteen pillars of light burst straight up to more than five hundred meters in the sky. They swept across the heavens as they cooperated with each other excellently.

"Boom, boom, boom, boom..."

Explosions crackled continuously across the sky. The stationary soul cannon shells didn't fall, and most of them were detonated in the sky as those sixteen pillars swept over them.

These pillars' trajectories were evidently premeditated, as they swept across the areas that had the densest concentration of stationary soul cannon shells.

The remaining Class 4 stationary soul cannon shells fell inside the royal palace, but most of them couldn't do anything at all as they clashed against the palace's formidable defensive barrier. They created pretty ripples one after another before they were destroyed.

The sixteen golden pillars were like sixteen divine pillars that protected the royal palace.

But just as they were sweeping across the sky, another beam of white light hovered five thousand meters in the sky above the royal palace.

It was a beam of white light that resembled a white spear, with its tip pointed downward. Its entire body radiated bright white colors, and as those sixteen golden pillars moved, it also moved.

It disappeared in a flash!

This white beam of light was just too quick. It seemed to descend from the heavens as it pierced right through the explosions beneath it.

Anybody who could see clearly would realize that this white beam adjusted its angle continuously as it flew, and it avoided the most concentrated regions of those explosions. It didn't allow any of the explosive forces to touch it.

The sixteen pillars didn't manage to eradicate all the stationary soul cannon shells in the end, and there were still some who collided with the royal palace's protective barrier.

Right at this moment, the white beam of light that seemed like a shooting star also arrived, and immediately struck the barrier's surface.

“Tch—” Ear-piercing sounds could be heard as the white beam began to spin vigorously. It was like a drill as it impaled the royal palace’s protective barrier.

Alarms rang out within the soul protective barrier, and the light radiating from the protective barrier grew extremely intense as it worked at maximum capacity.