#### Teacher 381

### **Chapter 381: Group Annihilating Expert**

"Let's wait for the other student groups to leave before we act."

Liang Pei asked.

"What are you afraid of? Let's just do it directly. I don't believe those people would dare to act as the oriole!\*"

Chunyu Kong coldly snorted.

"No, I don't agree!"

Guo Zihao objected. If casualties appeared and the other schools joined forces to deal with them, what should they do?

"Teacher Sun, the people from Sky Orchid seem like they want to create trouble!"

Gu Xiuxun noticed Chunyu Kong and Liang Pei's expression.

As a genius, self-confidence was something important. Sun Mo was indeed impressive, but Chunyu Kong and Liang Pei had no plans to kill him. It would do as long as they could delay him and get their students to seize the secret treasure of darkness from the Central Province Academy.

"Teacher Sun, let's retreat quickly!"

Qian Dun suggested.

After getting the battle spoils, their side was already the biggest winner. Now, they should leave this small public square and search for the next secret treasure of darkness.

"We won't leave. We will finish them off!" Gu Xiuxun looked at Sun Mo. "How about it?"

"Are you crazy?"

Qian Dun was shocked.

"For the rise of any schools, they would have to trample on the foundation, corpses, and fresh blood of others. If you didn't defeat these strong opponents and show any outstanding battle achievements, you would forever be unable to gain their recognition."

Gu Xiuxun's voice was ice-cold.

"Teacher Sun, quickly persuade her!"

Qian Dun urged.

"I'm of the same opinion too!"

Sun Mo's expression was solemn. He knew that if he made this decision, he would have to bear with the consequences. However, he had to do this.

Gu Xiuxun was right. If the Central Province Academy wanted to return to the ranks of the Nine Greats, they had to participate in the various slaughtering competitions.

One must know that there were 72 schools in 'C' grade, 36 schools in 'B' grade, and only 18 schools in 'A' grade.

The higher the rank of the school, the better their comprehensive strength would be.

If Sun Mo and the others couldn't even settle a school in the 'D' grade, even if the Central Province Academy rose to 'C' grade this year, it would only be a temporary thing as they would slip back to 'D' grade next year.

"Yo...you guys..."

Qian Dun didn't know what he should say. He could only turn his gaze filled with pleading toward Wang Chao.

"I think this is a good opportunity. Right now, Teacher Sun has already subdued the White Tiger Guard and our morale has risen greatly. Besides, the students of Sky Orchid are currently in shock. They would surely need time if the teachers wanted to build their morale up. We might as well take the chance and attack them now!"

Wang Chao analyzed.

"Three against one. Teacher Qian, let's fight bravely!"

Sun Mo patted Qian Dun on his shoulder. After that, he turned his gaze toward Zhang Yanzong and the other students.

"Now, the time to test you all has come. Whether we have the qualifications to get the championship or not, it would have to be proven by using the blood of Sky Orchid!"

After Sun Mo spoke, Priceless Advice was activated. He was filled with hope toward these students.

Swish~

The golden halo radiated its glow. With Sun Mo's strength, the glow of his halo could cover the entire small public square. However, he controlled it intentionally and only used it in the area where his student group was at.

The teachers and students of the other schools glanced over with astonished looks on their faces. What was Sun Mo trying to do?

"Baiwu, Xu Dingjiang! Suppress their movements with a rain of arrows! Yanzong, Xuanyuan, Chu Jian, the three of you will be the vanguard. The others will follow behind them. Kill!"

Li Ziqi spoke while taking out ten flame explosion runes. She tore one of them with her teeth and activated it.

Swish!

Flames generated and condensed into a coconut-size fireball. After that, Li Ziqi pointed a finger toward those of the Sky Orchid Academy.

"Kill!"

Zhang Yanzong roared. His curved blade was unsheathed and his entire being was like a hungry wolf rushing at prey. However, Xuanyuan Po's speed was even quicker than him.

At this moment, Xu Dingjiang lifted his bow, while Ying Baiwu had fired her first arrow.

Wind King's Rage!

Woosh~ Woosh~ Woosh~

The iron-headed girl only fired once, but over a hundred semi-transparent arrows were shot out.

"Everyone, for the glory of Sky Orchid and our own glory, we have to destroy the..."

Chunyu Kong started the opening speech before the battle. However, before he could finish speaking, he was interrupted.

"Teacher, look over there quickly!"

The students cried out. When Chunyu Kong turned his head, he saw a fireball blasting over.

"What? The Central Province Academy actually launches an attack?"

Chunyu Kong had a startled look on his face. Also, the speed of the fireball was so fast. Given the ability of the students, they would surely not be able to evade it. Hence, he instinctively drew his weapon and slashed on the fireball.

Boom!

The fireball exploded and countless sparks flew about, landing on the bodies of the students.

"Argh, so painful!"

"F\*\*\*! Those students from the Central Province Academy actually attack us. They must have eaten the guts of a leopard!"

"KILL THEM!"

The students from Sky Orchid roared and prepared for the battle. However, fireballs were blasting toward them one after another.

"So swift!"

Guo Zihao turned pale with fright. He knew that if they were hit by the fireball, quite a few students would be heavily injured. If worst comes to worst, the students might even die. Hence, he was prepared to break the rules of the competition and saved the students. But even before he could act, Sun Mo already appeared before him.

Charm Remembrance, Skynet Sand, Riverful Spring Water!

Sun Mo's blade attacks instantly enveloped the four teachers, causing them to be unable to act as reinforcement for the students.

"So fast?"

Chunyu Kong was shocked. His spiritual beast was just summoned.

Swish~ swish~ swish~

Ying Baiwu fired a rain of arrows. Because the area of effect was simply too large, many of the opponents were injured.

Pu! Pu! Pu!

One-third of the students were struck by the arrows.

There was no solution to it. The destructive might of Ying Baiwu's arrows was simply too strong. A few students used their weapons to block the arrows, but they weren't able to change their trajectory.

At this moment, the fireball blasted into them.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The fireball was hurled into the midst of the student group from Sky Orchid. Three of them had bad luck and were struck directly. Not only were they sent flying by the impact of the explosion, but blazing flames ignited on their bodies as well.

When they landed on the ground. Two of the students were already charred black, emitting white smoke. The other one was screaming miserably, rolling on the ground.

"Save me! Quickly save me!"

The student cried out in agony.

Gu Xiuxun, Qian Dun, and Wang Chao rushed over, each of them facing off against a teacher.

In such a crucial moment, no one would hold back. Hence, they immediately went all out when they started clashing.

Gu Xiuxun and Sun Mo had the upper hand, while Qian Dun was fighting equally against his opponent. As for Wang Chao, he was the weakest, but this fellow was very smart. When he saw that he wasn't able to win against his opponent, he immediately focused on defense to drag the time.

As for the students, Xuanyuan Po was in the lead.

"Bao Li!"

Chunyu Kong shouted.

"Fei Er, Wang Meng, protect my left and right side. Li Xin, suppress them with arrows."

Bao Li was the student leader of the Sky Orchid's new student group. He knew what Chunyu Kong meant when the latter shouted his name. Chunyu Kong wanted him to make decisions and stabilize the situation.

He had no time to reply. Instead, he roared directly and executed his battle strategy.

At this moment, they mustn't panic and fall into chaos.

The calm Bao Li gave everyone confidence. As for Li Xin, he started to suppress Ying Baiwu, not allowing her to fire her arrows freely.

"Oi, you have violated the rules. Teachers cannot interfere with the group battle between students!" Sun Mo ridiculed.

"I'll f\*\*\* you!"

Chunyu Kong rapidly retreated and bit the tip of his tongue. He then spat the blood onto his bracelet.

Sun Mo wanted to rush forward, but the monitor lizard swept its tail horizontally to block him. A falcon also shrieked and swooped down from the air, wanting to attack Sun Mo's head.

Si~

Then, a venomous snake whose entire body emitted purple fog swiftly rushed over and attempted to bite Sun Mo's leg.

Ka!

Sun Mo evaded the sharp talons of the falcon as well as the tail whip of the lizard. However, he wasn't able to dodge the sneak attack of the venomous snake.

The venomous snake bit Sun Mo's left leg and immediately let go after that. It didn't wind around Sun Mo's thigh to climb up. Rather, it shot up like a bullet, rushing for Sun Mo's face and launching another bite.

Ka!

Sun Mo's neck was bitten.

"You dared to take the initiative and attack our Sky Orchid Academy! Truly courting death!"

Chunyu Kong taunted with a malevolent smile on his face.

(I've said it back then. You simply don't understand the strength of spiritual controllers. How are things now? Aren't you suffering badly?)

(Hmph, just slowly wait for death!)

Just when this thought appeared in Chunyu Kong's mind, a sense of crisis suddenly flooded his heart, causing him to shiver as the fine hair of his entire body stood on their ends.

Hu!

The sound of wind breaking rang out behind his head. He hurriedly rushed forward to evade the incoming attack but was unable to do so in time.

Hu!

Sun Mo's wooden blade smashed into Chunyu Kong's head, causing Chunyu Kong to roll on the ground.

"Eh?"

Sun Mo was surprised to have failed to explode his opponent's head. Hence, he activated Divine Sight.

The data showed that a layer of 'D' grade armor was covering Chunyu Kong's skin.

"Impressive!"

Sun Mo praised. This was a type of rare spiritual technique, which allowed one to gain the characteristic of their spiritual beast and upgrade their combat strength.

As the leading young teacher of Sky Orchid Academy, Chunyu Kong did have some capabilities.

"You should die for me!"

Chunyu Kong howled. This fellow actually knew a cloning technique?

Things were troublesome then!

(Well, it doesn't matter. If I can't explode his head with a single attack, I will use two!)

Sun Mo executed the Wind King Divine Step and used the formless clone. He easily slipped through the three spiritual beasts' defenses and got near Chunyu Kong.

When fighting against a spiritual controller, the correct choice was to furiously attack the master and not the beasts.

Chunyu Kong's expression drastically changed. He immediately got the three spiritual beasts to return and protect himself.

On the other side, Xuanyuan Po was fighting against Bao Li.

"Silver Paste, time to see blood!"

Xuanyuan Po's silver spear trembled. It was like a flood dragon emerging from the ocean, brimming with towering might as it killed toward Bao Li.

Bang!

Bao Li blocked a strike, but he coughed out blood and stumbled backward.

"This fellow..."

Originally, Bao Li's strength was similar to Xuanyuan Po's. However, he didn't expect the combat addict to go all out. Bao Li had held about 30% of his strength in reserve when they had first clashed. But by doing so, it resulted in him being unable to block Xuanyuan Po's momentum. Hence, he suffered a great disadvantage.

After gaining the advantage in the first clash, Xuanyuan Po continued launching his attacks.

Spear Rain Pearflower!

Swish~ Swish~ Swish~

The pearflowers bloomed in the hundreds.

For a time, Bai Li's vision was covered with spear shadows. He already couldn't bother about directing the student group and had to focus completely to survive.

"Xuanyuan Po, can you do it or not?"

Zhang Yanzong grumbled. (At the very least, I'm your group leader in name. Couldn't you let me fight against their group leader?)

"Very good!"

Wang Meng who was fighting against Zhang Yanzong saw that he was being underestimated. However, not only was he not angry, but he was actually happy. He would have a chance to secretly erupt with power and crush Zhang Yanzong.

However, once they exchanged moves, he discovered that he was imagining stuff.

Even if Zhang Yanzong was distracted, he couldn't defeat Zhang Yanzong.

Swish~ Swish~ Swish~

Zhang Yanzong attacked swiftly and was like a gust of freezing wind. After pushing Wang Meng's sword aside, his curved blade slashed at Wang Meng's arm.

Hua!

Fresh blood sprayed through the air as an arm flew out.

"Ah!"

Wang Meng cried in pain.

The Sky Orchid's students, who just calmed themselves down, almost pissed their pants when they saw this scene.

### Chapter 382: Those Who Refuse to Submit Shall Be Killed!

"Ah? Why did they suddenly start fighting?"

"The students of the Central Province Academy are so valiant. They actually took the initiative to attack Sky Orchid!"

"Tyrannical, simply too tyrannical!"

The other student groups were dumbfounded when they saw this scene.

From their point of view, after the Central Province Academy obtained the White Tiger Guard, they should have retreated immediately. If not, Sky Orchid would be tempted to steal it from them. However, who would have expected that the Central Province Academy didn't care about Sky Orchid at all?

Was this the demeanor of a champion?

The eyes of a few teachers brightened. They might be able to pick up some scraps!

...

"This fellow!"

Li Ziqi's lips twitched. Zhang Yanzong simply liked to scheme and play tricks. Given his strength, he could clearly defeat Wang Meng with a single slash. Yet, he had chosen to slice off one of Wang Meng's arms.

He was doing this to make Wang Meng scream in agony, breaking the morale of the opposing students.

Honestly speaking, compared to death, the scream of agony by someone familiar would cause people to feel even more pressure and terror.

"Yanzong is always smart when it comes to pulling such minor tricks!"

Gu Xiuxun sighed.

How would she evaluate Zhang Yanzong? His standards in all aspects were pretty high, but that was it. He wasn't outstandingly good in any area.

Simply speaking, it meant that his heart wasn't pure enough.

For example for Xuanyuan Po. Once he entered his combat state, he would only think about defeating his opponent. He wouldn't care about other stuff.

It was precisely this type of pureness of heart that allowed Xuanyuan Po to display overwhelming combat strength, perfectly stunning the students of Sky Orchid.

"You can't say it like that. Yanzong isn't Xuanyuan Po. You cannot let every student grow according to the plan you one-sidedly envision. Instead, you should let them grow by setting up training plans according to their habits and proficiencies."

Sun Mo rebutted.

During combat, Xuanyuan Po had shocking talent. However, it couldn't be said that his comprehensive strength and future accomplishments would surely surpass Zhang Yanzong's.

Indeed, although the Nine Provinces were places where martial strength reigned supreme. There were still times where some problems that couldn't be solved by martial strength would occur.

"I understand your meaning!"

Gu Xiuxun bitterly smiled. It might be the case, but who wouldn't want a genius of the martial dao like Xuanyuan Po as their student?

Sun Mo no longer spoke anything regarding this topic.

How a teacher taught their students was a private matter. Sun Mo's experiences might not be suitable for others.

However, there was one point he could be sure of. When it came to teaching in line with the student's ability, it depended on the teacher's capabilities.

As a teacher, Sun Mo was the most suitable for exam-oriented education. However, there might not be enough time to design so many learning plans.

In the No. 2 High School, he was teaching three classes with fifty students in each class. With the lesson preparations, marking of homework, etc, he would be very busy from morning until night. How would he have the time to design a comprehensive learning plan for each student?

Hence, he could only choose the method that could allow the majority of students to get better grades.

There was no need for him to worry about the good students as they would take the initiative to learn. You could simply give them tougher questions and they would find out themselves how to do it.

However, for the majority of the time, the teacher-in-charge would provide them with the answers. After all, the number of students passing would affect their 'key performance index'.

The only troublesome things were the weaker students. They weren't able to keep up with the learning pace and would slowly slip into the state of hating to study. In the end, they would lose all interest in learning.

Some would be enlightened in time. They suffered for a bit and would eventually catch up, but the majority of weaker students would choose to give up.

Sun Mo would feel his heart aching when he looked at them, but there was nothing he could do. He didn't have 48 hours in a day.

The population of China was simply too large, and what the schools cared about was the rate of passing in that year. Hence, teaching in line with the individual student's ability was merely pleasant sounding but would never manifest in reality.

Meanwhile, in ancient eras, teachers were as sacred as heaven and earth.

Teachers shared the same status as one's parents. Why was this so? After a student took on a personal teacher, that teacher would have the obligation to teach them well, truly imparting to the students everything they had. The results of a teacher teaching one student compared to teaching over a hundred students were naturally different.

Qi Shengjia, Lu Qi, Shi Qiao, and Cai Tan. Sun Mo knew that these students really wanted to take him as their personal teacher. However, why didn't he accept them?

He was worried that he wouldn't be able to teach them well.

Being a teacher in Middle-Earth Nine Provinces was different from being a teacher in the No. 2 High School.

In the No. 2 High School, if a student failed to qualify for college, it was very rare for them to scold the teachers. But in the Nine Provinces, Sun Mo would be slapped with the tag of 'useless'.

Why would a teacher need at least one of their students in the Greencloud Rankings before they could become a 2-star great teacher? Moreover, to rise to a 4-star from a 3-star, one of their students had to ascend to the Hero Rankings!

This was to test the coaching ability of the great teachers.

Even if you reached the legendary realm before 30, achieving an unprecedented feat that was impossible for others to accomplish in the future, if you couldn't teach a student that could ascend to the Greencloud Rankings, you would never be able to get the title of a 2-star great teacher.

After all, their main job was to impart knowledge to the students!

Sun Mo's six students were recruited in the student recruitment meet. At that time, he had just arrived at Jinling and wasn't familiar with the custom of the nine provinces. Besides, he had only accepted them for the sake of accomplishing his mission. But after that, he grew much more cautious.

Sun Mo's current concept was this. Either he didn't accept a student or if he accepted one, he had to do his best and polish the student's talent, allowing him or her to become an accomplished person. At the very least, they wouldn't waste their lives!

"You guys are actually still chatting? How brazen!"

Seeing Sun Mo and Gu Xiuxun still have spare time to chat, Chunyu Kong was so angry that his lungs felt like exploding. (I'm actually being underestimated?)

Chunyu Kong no longer hesitated. He brandished a sword and cut his left wrist.

Si!

Fresh blood sprayed but it didn't land on the ground. Instead, it was as though it was controlled by an invisible hand and used to draw a bizarre-looking rune.

Chunyu Kong changed silently. He wanted to summon his strongest spiritual beast, but every time he summoned it, he would lose a large quantity of his blood essence.

There was no solution to this. This particular spiritual beast depended on his blood essence as food.

Sun Mo was an avid gamer in his previous world. Seeing the current situation, it was clear that Chunyu Kong was about to unleash his ultimate. However, how could Sun Mo let him succeed?

Sun Mo focused his eyes, Buddha Look!

Swish~

Two golden beams of light shot toward the blood-colored rune before Chunyu Kong, directly destroying it.

"It's useless, the summoning ritual has already been completed!"

Chunyu Kong laughed uproariously.

Reed Crossing the River!

Swish~

Sun Mo instantly appeared behind Chunyu Kong.

Colors of Autumn!

In that instant, Chunyu Kong's vision was completely blocked by the wooden blade. This feeling was like he stood at a river's side, watching the autumn rain drizzling down as withered leaves fell all around him.

The myriad of living things were heading toward their deaths!

Bang!

The back of Chunyu Kong's head was hit by the wooden blade, and it directly exploded like a broken watermelon.

Putong!

One corpse fell onto the ground.

BOOM!

The monitor lizard, falcon, and venomous snake rushed over to save their master. They directly crashed into Sun Mo, but that was just a clone. The real Sun Mo had long since left this area.

Upon losing their master, these spiritual beasts froze on the spot. After that, all of them chose to leave.

"Teacher is mighty!"

Shi Qiao and Lu Qi shouted in fawning tones.

Although the other students didn't speak, their morale increased greatly.

Chunyu Kong was the group leader of the Sky Orchid's student group no matter how one looked at it. Also, he was a graduate from one of the Nine Greats. But in the end, he was crushed so swiftly by Teacher Sun.

Teacher Sun was truly strong!

"My heavens, Sun Mo is so ferocious!"

Qian Dun's eyes were spasming. Although he had heard that Sun Mo had defeated a few teachers in the second round, he only knew how shocking Sun Mo's strength was when he personally witnessed it.

Truthfully speaking, if it wasn't for Sun Mo suddenly appearing, Qian Dun should be part of the teachers lineup together with Fan Yao. However, he knew that given Fan Yao's personality, he would absolutely not make a decision like this, taking the initiative to attack Sky Orchid.

No, in fact, Fan Yao would simply watch as Sky Orchid subdued the White Tiger Guard.

Sun Mo's way of doing things was very impetuous, but it felt so enjoyable!

Was this the tyranny of a true famous school?

Those who refused to submit would be killed!

Wang Chao looked at Sun Mo and suddenly felt a sense of worship.

Ding!

"Congratulations, you have obtained a total of 5,120 favorable impression points."

"Teacher Sun, can you give us some face? If you kill opponents so quickly, what should we do?"

Gu Xiuxun rolled her eyes. She seemed to be grumbling, but no matter how one listened to it, they could only hear respect, compliment, and even a hint of coquettishness in her tone.

...

"Chunyu!"

Seeing Chunyu Kong's head exploding from Sun Mo's attack, the hearts of Liang Pei and the two teachers instantly turned cold. This Sun Mo was actually so powerful?

Their students weren't in any way better. Each of them was struck with fear as their battle intent dwindled.

"l...l..."

Liang Pei knew that at such a time, someone should take the lead and stand out, boosting the group's morale. His lips moved but when he looked toward Sun Mo, all his words were stuck in his throat.

He really didn't dare to say anything.

(What if I become the next person to die?)

After Sun Mo defeated Chunyu Kong, he didn't continue to act. Just by standing there, he already constituted a huge threat and pressure. Liang Pei and the other two directly chose to focus on defense instead.

They felt that whoever stood out right now and drew Sun Mo's attention would be the first to die.

"Accept your death!"

Wang Chao shouted in rage.

(Damn, if it wasn't for the fact that I'm filled with trepidation toward Sun Mo, would I fear a salted fish like you?)

Guo Zihao cursed in his heart.

...

"Kill! Kill! Kill!"

Zhang Yanzong roared.

After Xuanyuan Po sent Bao Li flying, he rushed into the midst of the Sky Orchid's student group and swept out his silver spear horizontally, breaking their formation.

Woosh~ woosh~ woosh~

Ying Baiwu shot out seven arrows in one go.

Her opponent did his best and evaded four arrows. In the end, his chest was pierced by the other three.

"Ying Baiwu, what archery technique is this?"

The archery technique Ying Baiwu trained in was definitely of the heaven-tier at the very least.

"Secret!"

The iron-headed girl naturally wouldn't reveal it.

"Hmph, even if you don't tell me, I know it must be Teacher Sun who imparted this to you."

Xu Dingjiang's lips twitched. He didn't forget the shocking archery skills that Sun Mo had revealed when they had just entered the ruins. Sigh, he really felt like taking Sun Mo as his personal teacher.

Sun Mo had been worried that the students wouldn't bear to attack. But he soon discovered that he was thinking too much.

The Sky Orchid Academy was located in Yue Country, and their students were all the citizens of that Country. The Yue Country bordered on the Tang Country and they had disputes regarding territorial claims for over several hundred years.

If they were from Tang Country, the students of the Central Province Academy might show mercy. But since they were from Yue Country, sorry then. (I don't know what mercy is.)

Anyway, killing others was permitted by the rules of the competition.

"Don't split up, stay in your small teams to fight!"

"Don't kill randomly, target the weakest ones!"

"Xuanyuan, I'm talking about you. Go and kill their weakest students!"

Li Ziqi stood at the back. She no longer tossed out fireballs because the battle situation was already set.

Although the little sunny egg was directing the battle, she was very relaxed. After she said those words, the opposing students who felt that they were one level weaker than their peers would surely become cowardly and afraid to fight. They might even start to flee. By doing so, their side would be thrown into utter chaos and wouldn't constitute any threat anymore.

In any case, the students were all just a bunch of children. How strong could their will be?

"Retreat! Retreat!"

Liang Pei roared loudly. But after he shouted, his eyes were slashed by Gu Xiuxun's sword.

"Argh!"

Liang Pei screamed. At the next instant, the Sky Orchid's student group collapsed. Their students fled in four directions in a panic.

"I didn't expect Teacher Gu to be so kindhearted."

Wang Chao was surprised. Gu Xiuxun's capability was strong enough to kill Liang Pei.

"Maybe to him, losing his eyes is more painful than death."

Gu Xiuxun self-mockingly smiled. She wasn't afraid of killing, but she didn't want to kill before their students. They might subconsciously lose their respect toward life if they kept seeing their teachers killing before them.

"Stop chasing!"

Gu Xiuxun called out. After that, she looked at Sun Mo. "You wouldn't resent me taking matters into my own hands, right?"

"I won't!"

Sun Mo shook his head.

Zhang Yanzong and the others stopped and started to cheer.

"Long-live the Central Province Academy! We've won!"

"The Sky Orchid Academy is merely so-so!"

"How satisfying!"

The students shouted in excitement and high-fived each other in mutual celebration. The victory this time around brought them immense self-confidence.

Pak! Pak!

Sun Mo clapped his hands. "Everyone, please be quiet!"

Swish~

The students immediately quietened down and glanced toward Sun Mo.

Such presence caused Gu Xiuxun and the other two to feel envy.

"Teacher Gu has something to say!"

Sun Mo indicated.

Gu Xiuxun was astonished. After that, she felt a little moved. As expected, Sun Mo was a very understanding person.

Ding!

Favorable impression from Gu Xiuxun +50. Reverence (4,510/10,000).

Upon hearing the notification, Sun Mo made a gesture of invitation.

"Students, firstly, I would like to congratulate you all on obtaining victory in the group battle!"

Gu Xiuxun smiled slightly. She clapped her hands and her expression turned solemn. She then sincerely spoke.

"Many times, killing is a very simple matter. However, I hope that in the future, before you guys kill anyone, you all can think about the preciousness of each life!"

The majority of the students exchanged mutual glances, not understanding Gu Xiuxun's meaning. However, Li Ziqi and Zhang Yanzong had looks of contemplation on their faces. As for Tantai Yutang, he was sneering.

Sun Mo stared at Gu Xiuxun in astonishment. She was much more sophisticated than how she looked.

Gu Xiuxun wasn't a saintess and wouldn't object to killing people. However, she hoped that the students could understand what killing someone really meant.

Sun Mo had seen an education report of some countries before.

For kids in elementary school, there was a class that made them rear piglets for a few months. After the piglets matured and grew up...

They weren't spared but were sent to the butcher instead, and the children had to eat the meat personally.

What was the meaning of this?

Everyone would have different feelings and thoughts after they experienced this!

"Teacher Gu's words are enlightening!"

Sun Mo applauded.

"Thanks!"

Gu Xiuxun's beautiful eyes glanced over at Sun Mo in astonishment. When she said these words, she was prepared to be thought of by the students as hypocritical.

After all, the students were still young. Their world view, outlook, and ideology weren't fixed yet, and they wouldn't be able to understand the meaning of her words.

When the students saw Sun Mo applauding, they started to applaud as well.

Words that were approved by Teacher Sun should be correct. Hence, the students started to seriously ponder over it.

"Alright, it's time to deal with the other student groups!"

Qian Dun glanced at the spectators.

# Chapter 383: Teacher Sun, I've Benefited from Your Teaching!

"What should we do? Should we run?"

When the other teachers saw that Sky Orchid was not a match for the Central Province Academy, they were hesitant if they should retreat, and in the blink of an eye, Sky Orchid collapsed.

The students scattered in all directions!

"F\*ck, is the Sky Orchid Academy nowhere as good as they were made out to be? How come they dropped to their knees so quickly?"

"The Central Province Academy is really strong!"

"Did you guys see those students' performances? They are amazingly strong. Their school is probably invincible."

All the teachers around were stunned. They were still waiting to benefit like the fisherman did from the fight between the stork and the clam, but it turned out that the Central Province Academy wasn't the stork, nor were they the clam. They were sharks. Given the current situation, they'd probably bite the 'fisherman' to death as well.

En, and it was over ten fishermen in this case.

Swoosh!

The students stared over with extremely strong battle will.

"Teacher Sun, we don't have any hostility between us!"

"We haven't gotten a secret treasure of darkness. Even if you were to defeat us, you wouldn't get any spoils of war. You'll be wasting your energy for nothing!"

"Teacher Sun, your school's performance is really exemplary!"

The teachers from a few schools immediately gave praises with smiles.

When the students of their schools saw this scene, they felt that it was really embarrassing. This was giving in, right? This was definitely them giving in, right? Damn it, why wasn't it a battle to the death?

"Teacher Sun, after getting the White Tiger Guard, your rankings will definitely be higher than ours. As long as you defeat Weima, you'll be the undeniable champion!"

A female teacher smiled. "I'll offer my congratulations here first."

"Teacher Sun, this is right!"

Qian Dun persuaded.

However, Qian Dun was feeling exhilarated in his heart. (When had our Central Province Academy ever been so impressive? This is the treatment given to a top-notch famous school.)

Why was Mingshao and Sky Orchid's ranking so high?

It was because they had fought their way up with their capabilities. After a few years of the league tournament, everyone knew how powerful these few famous schools were. Therefore, if normal schools were to meet them in the competition, the former would try to avoid the latter.

Only the stubborn Sun Mo had forced his way through!

"It's really good to be able to enroll in the Central Province Academy!"

Li Fen was so agitated that she was in tears. Back then, she had been undecided for very long between going for the Central Province Academy or the Myriad Daos Academy. In the end, she had chosen the Central Province Academy because she admired the Central Province Academy's motto.

She had been given a big scolding by her father over this, being told that she shouldn't have chosen the Central Province Academy over a strong 'C' grade school. After the Central Province Academy had its title removed the next year, she'd be at a loss.

"Hmph, title removed? We'll be a 'C' grade famous school next year as well."

Li Fen looked toward Sun Mo with an admiring gaze.

(This is all brought by Teacher Sun. No, I must think of a way to become his personal disciple.)

Sun Mo was feeling annoyed from all the ruckus and bellowed outright.

"Shut up!"

Swoosh!

The entire square instantly fell silent.

"You guys can leave!"

Sun Mo waved his hand.

Hearing this, the random teachers felt as if they had been granted a great pardon. They quickly brought their students away and fled.

They couldn't afford to offend Sun Mo!

...

The people left on the square were their own people. As the white tiger jade statue had lost its spiritual beast, its glow became dim.

"Teacher Sun, what should we do next?"

Wang Chao was now following Sun Mo's lead.

"Teacher Sun, I have a proposal!"

Qian Dun gulped and explained, "I have no intention to overstep my boundaries and am just bringing this up. It's fine whether you listen to me or not!"

After seeing how solemn Qian Dun was, Sun Mo quickly said, "Teacher Qian, you're making things sound too serious!"

(How can I not do that?)

Qian Dun said secretly to himself.

Given Sun Mo's abilities and status as An Xinhui's fiancé, he'd be half the owner of the Central Province Academy in the future.

Meanwhile, Qian Dun was just a normal teacher here. If he didn't know how to assess things, what if Sun Mo were to make things difficult for him?

However, participating in the league tournament together with Sun Mo was a great opportunity to improve their relationship.

If he were to grasp onto the chance, he might be able to become Sun Mo's underling.

It was true that he was a little weak, but it'd be sufficient if he was loyal and subservient.

"Teacher Qian?"

Wang Chao tugged at Qian Dun. "Why are you in a daze?"

"Oh, I'm sorry. I was trying to sort out my words!"

Qian Dun smiled.

"Teacher Sun, we've already gotten the White Tiger Guard. I feel that there's no need to continue taking risks. After all, this ancient castle is very dangerous!

"We should go to the entrance and attack the other student groups with great reaps."

In the past, Qian Dun would definitely not dare to say something like this. After all, it was a very dangerous thing to attack other student groups. However, Qian Dun was feeling a great surge in his confidence now.

Even Sky Orchid Academy had been crushed!

"Hehe!"

Gu Xiuxun thought. (You still don't know what Sun Mo is like. The stronger one is, the more they like risks because an unknown crisis would bring them extremely great pleasure.)

"Teacher Qian, what does it mean to be strong?"

Sun Mo didn't refuse outright but spoke in a tone as if he was out to discuss things.

He continued, "I feel that the strong like challenges and grow amidst them. The weak, on the other hand, like security and are unwilling to take risks. I know that your proposal has a higher cost-performance ratio, but does our Central Province Academy need to do it? Why don't we look for the most precious secret treasure of darkness in this ancient castle?"

Sun Mo asked.

Qian Dun sank into deep thought. He knew that Sun Mo wasn't sneering at him. Otherwise, he wouldn't have used such a tone.

Sun Mo looked toward the students. "Confidence isn't something you gain from just saying it more often. It's accumulated through countless victories!"

Priceless Advice erupted, causing the students to feel Sun Mo's words.

Sun Mo looked toward Qian Dun.

22 years old, fourth level of the blood-ignition realm.

Strength 27. As great as a cow. He likes strong attacks.

Intellect 25. Average.

Agility 23. Shortcoming.

Endurance 28. He won't die from running, won't collapse from fatigue.

Will 23, A little weak.

...

High potential value!

Note: As his luck isn't bad since young, with everything being smooth-sailing, his will hasn't been tempered enough. Therefore, he's always thinking conservatively. If he doesn't change his character, his future prospects would be worrisome!

Note: Currently at the fourth level of the blood-ignition realm. As he failed once in breaking through, he is a bit sensitive.

"Teacher Qian, can I touch you for a moment?"

Sun Mo smiled and asked.

Qian Dun became spirited. (Is he going to help me with the God Hands?) He quickly nodded. "I'll have to trouble Teacher Sun!"

Sun Mo reached out his hand and pressed Qian Dun's shoulder, exerting a bit of a force.

"Ahh!"

Qian Dun immediately gritted his teeth and cried out. However, after the pain, it was the feeling of comfort spreading throughout his body.

"Ah, Teacher Sun, what if I were to fail the breakthrough this time?"

Boom!

Spirit qi gushed out from Sun Mo, forming a genie.

Ata!

The genie shouted out, landing a punch on Qian Dun's head after assuming a bodybuilding pose as usual.

Bang!

Qian Dun was almost stunned from the punch.

""

Sun Mo was speechless. (Genie, do you have some dissatisfaction with him?)

Qian Dun felt great pain. However, he wasn't angry at all. Instead, he wore an expression as if he was in deep thought. Could the Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands be used to massage the head and increase one's intelligence?

"Teacher Qian, your problem is that when you face difficulty, you're always thinking of finding the most stable solution. In a way, this is also a sign of compromise."

Sun Mo persuaded.

"It's like how you're at the fourth level of the blood-ignition realm now. After failing to level up, you've been trying to find the reason, but you didn't continue to try.

"What reason is there? You only failed because you were too unlucky!

"Your accumulation has long been enough. If you were to go for it, you'd already be at the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm."

Qian Dun sank into deep thought after hearing Sun Mo's words.

He had also thought about it. However, he was scared of failure and wanted to go with stability. That was why he didn't strive for it. Otherwise, at the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm, he'd be able to replace Song Ren and become the fourth participant.

"It's true that I'll have to change my character."

Qian Dun thought things through.

Boom!

The genie's massage stimulated Qian Dun's muscles, clearing his meridians and causing a tremendous amount of spirit qi to gush in.

This time around, without a need for Sun Mo's reminder, Qian Dun strove to level up immediately.

Three minutes later, Qian Dun successfully reached the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm.

"Teacher Sun, thank you!"

Qian Dun was elated. It was quite an amazing feat to reach the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm at age 22.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Qian Dun +500. Reverence (1,200/10,000).

"Teacher Qian, even without my massage, you'd still be able to level up as long as you are more confident."

Sun Mo didn't claim the credit.

Qian Dun was stunned, then his countenance turned solemn. He bent over and bowed, "Teacher Sun, Qian Dun has benefited from your teaching!"

Qian Dun was very sincere in his bow.

When the students saw this scene, their admiration for Sun Mo grew even more. Teachers at this age were usually aggressive and arrogant. It'd be next to impossible to acknowledge another young teacher like this.

"Teacher is so amazing!"

Ying Baiwu looked at Sun Mo, her gaze filled with admiration.

"Of course!"

The papaya girl raised her chin proudly, sharing the honor. However, her little ears then twitched as the spirit qi roaming dragon was talking.

"Amazing, Teacher!"

Tantai Yutang assessed Sun Mo. It was unknown what he was thinking.

"Teacher Sun, could you take a look at me as well?"

Wang Chao asked.

It was a little embarrassing to ask this in front of the students. After all, they were colleagues. However, if it was Sun Mo, then Wang Chao could accept it.

"Teacher Wang, don't be modest. You're someone with your own views and your plan for your own development is well-done too. It'll be fine for you to continue progressively."

Sun Mo had nothing to say about Wang Chao.

He had exceptional capabilities to be selected as a participant in this league tournament.

"Haha!"

Wang Chao was happy, feeling that Sun Mo was good with his words. However, he then felt a little regretful. (With Sun Mo saying this, doesn't it mean that I won't have any chance to enjoy the 'God Hands'?)

"Alright, let's pack up and set off!"

Before Sun Mo finished his words, the papaya girl came over like a little kitten. She reached out her small hand and tugged at his sleeve.

"Teacher! Teacher! Little loachie found a good place!"

The papaya girl reported.

### **Chapter 384: Priceless Secret Treasure of Darkness**

"Lead the way!"

Sun Mo thought that he'd have to spend quite a bit of time searching the ancient castle, not expecting little loachie to be so reliable to have discovered a 'good place' so early.

Spirit qi roaming dragon was a lifeform that lived on the third level of the Darkness Continent and enjoyed eating fruits that were rich in spirit qi. They were rare.

Their battle prowess was mediocre, but the reason they could be ranked 36th in the darkness mysterious species list was because they had a strong sense of spirit qi.

What was spirit qi?

It was the essence for Middle-Earth's natives if they wanted to become stronger.

The greatest characteristic of the spirit qi roaming dragon's dwellings would be dense spirit qi. Moreover, this characteristic would mean that there was either a vein or a powerful secret treasure in it.

"We're striking it rich!"

One must learn to be content. Therefore, Sun Mo decided to leave the ancient castle after they were done exploring the place that little loachie had found.

(Hold on, did I just raise a flag?)

Ding!

"Congratulations, you've used your talent to get Qian Dun, who is a teacher, to be convinced by you. Your prestige connection has exceeded 1,000 and you're rewarded with one silver treasure chest!"

"Can the notification not ring up so suddenly? It's quite scary!"

Sun Mo looked at the surroundings. This was a walled-in path and the fire illuminated the walls, causing light and shadows to sway. It had the atmosphere of a horror film.

"Teacher, is something the matter?"

Li Ziqi was very sensitive.

"We're fine!"

Sun Mo stroked Lu Zhiruo's head like he was petting a cat. "Open the chest!"

After the white light flashed, a skill book that was emitting green light appeared.

"Cool!"

Sun Mo whistled.

Ding!

"Congratulations, you've obtained knowledge of 100 types of plants from the Darkness Continent. Would you like to learn it immediately?"

The system's voice was emotionless, clearly minding Sun Mo's earlier complaint.

"Teacher Sun, you're the leader and would need to stay in the middle to give commands. Why not let me walk in front?"

Qian Dun suggested.

He had just leveled up and was extremely confident, his battle will exploding. He had a strong hope that some student groups would approach them immediately and he'd crush them all single-handedly.

"It's fine!"

Sun Mo rejected.

As Lu Zhiruo had to lead the way, she'd walk at the very front. Therefore, Sun Mo would be by her side to protect her. To have Qian Dun take his place?

Sorry, his mind wouldn't be at ease!

"Oh!"

Qian Dun stroked his saber, feeling a little disappointed. (Sigh, my saber is feeling thirsty and unbearable, yet there aren't any heads for me to chop!)

"Learn!"

Sun Mo didn't have any hesitation at all. There'd be no disadvantages in grasping more knowledge.

The skill book shattered and green light spots shot into Sun Mo's forehead. Many images immediately appeared in his mind.

"Xuanyuan Po, Jiang Leng, help me keep watch in front!"

After Sun Mo gave out the instructions, he started to deepen his impression of his memories while he had just learned them.

One hour passed.

Ding!

"Congratulations, the proficiency index of the knowledge has increased to the grandmaster-grade!"

Sun Mo wore a satisfied smile after hearing the notification.

(I've become stronger, but I don't go bald. This is perfect!)

"Student Zhiruo, are you very familiar with this place?"

Wang Chao saw that Lu Zhiruo was leading the way, only stopping occasionally to discern the directions, but she was mostly advancing confidently. He felt very curious about this.

"No!"

The papaya girl shook her head.

"Then you..."

Wang Chao wanted to ask more but was interrupted by Gu Xiuxun's cough.

"Cough cough, Teacher Wang, what do you think of the infrastructure here?"

Gu Xiuxun tried to divert the topic.

"I'm not learned in the study of infrastructure."

Wang Chao's emotional intelligence wasn't bad and he didn't feel good about continuing to ask further. After all, this was a student's secret.

Two hours later, even Sun Mo, who trusted the papaya girl, couldn't help but frown.

"We haven't arrived yet?"

Sun Mo assessed the surroundings.

Lu Zhiruo immediately communicated with the spirit qi roaming dragon then replied, "Little loachie said that it thinks it's lost!"

"..."

Hearing this, everyone felt speechless.

(You'd get lost from leading the way? Are you kidding?)

Of course, on Sun Mo's account, no one dared to express any feelings of dissatisfaction even if they were unhappy.

"I... sorry..."

Lu Zhiruo lowered her head, her index fingers twisting around her clothes. She hated herself for being useless.

(I'm really useless!)

Tears welled up in the papaya girl's eyes.

"There's no need to apologize. You are doing this for the group!"

Sun Mo patted the papaya girl's head and consoled her softly. He then activated his Divine Sight but didn't notice any abnormalities.

Ancient castle. Unknown terrain.

"Teacher!"

Lu Zhiruo couldn't hold it in and hugged Sun Mo's arm. Her teacher was so gentle.

"It's not a bad thing to be unable to find the way. This means that we're getting increasingly closer to that secret treasure of darkness. As long as we can find out the reason why we're lost, we'll be able to get it."

Li Ziqi said this as both an analysis as well as trying to help to speak up for the papaya girl.

That secret treasure must be extremely amazing to be able to get the spirit qi roaming dragon to lose its way.

"That's right!"

Sun Mo looked into the distance. "From now onward, try to stay close. No matter what happens, don't leave the group!"

As Sun Mo said this, he stared toward Xuanyuan Po.

"Teacher, why are you looking at me?"

The combat addict scratched his head.

"Hehe!"

Tantai Yutang thought. (This guy's mind is really filled with muscles.)

About ten or more minutes later, everyone still hadn't found their way. However, a large fog came gushing toward them like tidal waves, encompassing them.

The fog was very dense and it was impossible to see one's own hands!

"Be careful! Don't walk around recklessly!"

Sun Mo activated his Divine Sight once again.

Fog, harmless, duration uncertain!

Seeing that it was harmless, Sun Mo heaved a sigh of relief. He then reached out his hand to grab Lu Zhiruo but caught nothing. His countenance changed.

The papaya girl always listened to his words. Since he told them not to move, she would definitely not move. But why couldn't he grab her?

"Zhiruo, can you hear me?"

"Speak up!"

"Ziqi, speak up!"

Sun Mo called a few times but noticed that there weren't any reactions at all. He quickly turned and started running quickly.

This direction was where the student groups were at. Even if he were to run recklessly, he should have bumped into people. However, he didn't encounter anyone even after running out for 30 steps.

Sun Mo's heart sank and he quickly asked.

"System, what's going on?"

The system was cold like a stepmother, not giving any reply.

Sun Mo took two deep breaths and calmed down before activating all of his senses. However, he didn't sense anything at all.

There was nothing, no sound of breathing nor heartbeat.

Everywhere the fog encompassed was in silence.

Sun Mo hesitated for a few minutes but still didn't leave. Instead, he chose to sit down quietly. He took out his pocket watch and brought it close to his face, but he couldn't see the time clearly.

Everywhere was milky-white. The feeling was as if one was soaked in milk.

Sun Mo could only count silently. After counting to 12,000 seconds, the fog started to dissipate. Five minutes later, it disappeared completely.

Sun Mo searched around. It was the same place they were at before, but there was no one around. It was as if Sun Mo had been alone all the while.

Sun Mo looked around.

Ancient castle. Unknown terrain.

Sun Mo's brows were furrowed so tightly together that he could clamp a crab to death.

When he had seen the words 'unknown terrain' earlier, he had thought that it was because he had come to a new place that the system didn't know of. It seemed that these words didn't just have the literal meaning.

Sun Mo went into deep thought for a moment then suddenly swung his fist to hit the ground.

Bang!

The ground cracked up like a spiderweb, shattered stones splattering everywhere.

Slab, composition: marble.

After leaving a mark on the wall, Sun Mo continued to advance.

The space 100 meters above the ancient castle was a roof of soil. There weren't any traces of life at all, and the surroundings seemed dilapidated and crumbling.

It didn't seem like they were destroyed in a war but more like it had been made into a desolate area by the long river of time.

Sun Mo explored the place while contemplating.

Where was he? Why would the others disappear in an instant? Were they teleported away? Or was he in an illusion?

It shouldn't be teleported away. Putting aside if this could even be done and how powerful a cultivation art was required, there'd be at least spirit qi waves emitted. However, he didn't sense anything at all.

So was it an illusion?

Then there was the next problem. Was this illusion targeted at him or all living creatures within the space?

Excellent, there was a need for him to verify things.

Sun Mo stopped and entered a house at the side. He used his Divine Sight to check around but didn't see any abnormalities. He then drew out Chasing Cloud and made a cut on his index finger.

Fresh blood flowed out and Sun Mo started to draw a circular rune on the ground.

This was a summoning formation.

Five minutes later, the formation was completed. Sun Mo checked everything and after ascertaining that he didn't miss out on anything, he started to chant and channel spirit qi into the formation.

Blood-colored fog started to permeate out. Ten minutes later, faint rustling sounds rang out in the surroundings.

Sun Mo didn't stop. He continued with the formation.

All sorts of bugs appeared in increasing numbers. All of them gathered here.

Very soon, a thick layer covered the ground, and the bugs stacked up in layers like a carpet. It was bone-shrilling.

"Can anyone tell me where this place is?"

Sun Mo asked.

These bugs weren't alive. They were wisps of mental energies that were left behind after the bugs died. Sun Mo had used his spiritual control technique to summon them.

"It's an ancient castle!"

"It's home!"

"It's the place of death!"

Countless answers rapidly gushed into Sun Mo's mind.

These bugs had died at different times and lived in different areas. Therefore, their recognition of the ancient castle was different.

This was like a blind man touching an elephant. What they said were just things that they knew.

"What makes it a place of death?"

Sun Mo started to ask questions in greater detail, selecting the bugs. Those who gave replies like ancient castle and home could all be given up on.

Sun Mo quickly ascertained that the illusion was targeted at invaders. The bugs were too small and insignificant and weren't within the illusion's attacking perimeters. They usually moved around freely, and some of them happened to live around that secret treasure.

"Many bones! Great meal!"

"A black infrastructure!"

"You'll be dying very soon."

The bugs' replies were assorted.

"Bring me to that infrastructure!"

Sun Mo instructed.

Right now, Sun Mo could deeply sense how powerful the spiritual control technique was. However, if spirit controllers were to see this scene, they'd probably be driven to death.

The reason many people learned the technique was so that they could summon powerful spiritual beasts and increase their battle prowess. However, Sun Mo had used it to ask for directions.

# **Chapter 385: Ancient Use of the Spiritual Control Technique**

In the earliest days, the spiritual control technique had all sorts of interesting uses.

Those talented spirit controllers acted as if they had obtained an interesting toy and kept on inventing new variations of spiritual control techniques.

Summoning a bunch of ghosts and creating a haunted house!

Having exchanges with death bone and soul remnants!

Seizing the souls of small animals and turning them into puppets!

...

Back then, many strange spiritual control techniques appeared. Out of which, some were later listed as forbidden techniques.

Any living creatures, humans included, craved power.

It was because power represented food, a filled stomach, and a higher cultivation realm. It thus represented dominance and even freedom.

It was like how in modern days, every time battles erupted, the introduction of new weapons would speed up. In Middle-Earth's Nine Provinces, each time wars erupted, there'd be a new wave of cultivation arts introduced.

This was no exception to the spiritual control techniques.

As the generation developed, the spirit controllers that were crushed by the cultivators stopped studying those strange spells. They started to focus on how to summon more powerful spiritual beasts.

The stronger the spiritual beasts, the stronger the spirit controllers.

In history, there had been no lack of spirit controllers who managed to summon powerful spiritual beasts. However, there had been instances in which the spiritual beasts went out of control and had annihilated an entire city.

The days where the spiritual control technique bloomed had long since ended. It was like everyone had gushed off to choose to learn Information Technology to learn programming and become low-level programmers. Now, the paths that spirit controllers took were all on how to summon the most amazing spiritual beasts.

It was very rare to see cases like how Sun Mo had done it, summoning a large swarm of dead bugs' remnant souls to ask for directions. It was a retro method of usage.

Sun Mo headed toward that 'black infrastructure' while letting some of those flying bugs scatter off to search for the students. Half an hour later, there were results.

"Teacher Gu?"

Sun Mo assessed Gu Xiuxun. Seeing that she wasn't hurt and her condition wasn't bad either, he felt relieved. "What did you experience in the fog earlier?"

"I called for you guys, but no one replied. After the fog disappeared, I realized that all of you weren't around anymore, so I went to look around anxiously."

Gu Xiuxun dashed over quickly, looking elated. "How did you find me?"

Sun Mo raised his hand and a small bug that was glimmering with faint light landed on the back of his hand.

"Spiritual control technique?" Gu Xiuxun exclaimed, "Teacher Sun, you're really amazing!"

"Hehe!" Sun Mo didn't deny it. "Let's go and quickly look for the students!"

"En!"

Gu Xiuxun took the lead.

Sun Mo walked a few steps forward but suddenly felt that some matters seemed a little awkward. However, after more careful thought about things, he didn't notice anything wrong.

...

Li Ziqi rode on the White Tiger Guard and stopped in front of a wall.

The little sunny egg found this place very familiar. She should have passed by this place once, but she didn't find the mark she had left on the wall earlier.

"You did pass by it before!"

A voice that sounded as if it had been iced by the winter rang out, making one's ears feel the chill.

"Are you lying to me?"

Li Ziqi turned and pointed the White Bird longsword at the half-transparent soul. This was what she had summoned from a set of bones using her spiritual control technique.

"I've been dead for many years and my memories have become very vague. You need to give me some time to think about it!"

The soul explained.

Li Ziqi put down the longsword, seeming as if she believed the soul's explanation. However, the little sunny egg knew that she had made a mistake.

What this soul said was right. As he had died for too long, although he had 'lived' again through the spiritual control technique, his memories had become incomplete. He was only left with the memories of the period before he died.

The reason he was lying was because of his desire to live. It was because once it was verified that he was useless, then he'd be a goner after Li Ziqi removed the spiritual control technique.

"This guy should be an adventurer. He was probably also stuck in this maze and eventually died."

Li Ziqi analyzed. She rode on the white tiger and after discerning the direction, she continued to head north.

After over ten minutes, the soul that was drifting behind the white tiger suddenly screamed.

"There's the aura of a living person! I smell it! I'm going to eat him!"

The soul shouted and suddenly turned to drift toward a building at the side.

Li Ziqi didn't stop him but immediately rode on the tiger and gave chase.

"Li Ziqi, you mustn't be scared!"

The little sunny egg encouraged herself.

In such a sudden encounter, if she were to dodge far away, she'd expose that her battle prowess was low. Therefore, she must put up an act and pretended that she was performing a strong attack.

The soul dashed into the room through the battered window. In just a few seconds, he screamed again.

"Mistress, save me! I don't wish to die!"

The soul rushed over, but before he drifted too far away, he was caught up by a sword qi. He was slashed into two.

Thankfully, souls were spiritual forms. Such sharp blades could hurt him but couldn't kill him.

"This is bad! We've encountered a strong enemy!"

Li Ziqi looked calm but was feeling very bitter inside. The other party wasn't even scared of a soul. It seemed that she had met someone tough.

A guy with a tall stature walked out of the room. When he saw Li Ziqi's appearance, his eyes lit up.

This girl was so pretty!

He did feel that the top beauty in Mingshao this year was very pretty, but she was clearly one notch uglier than this girl.

"The Central Province Academy?"

Jia Wendong looked at Li Ziqi's chest and saw the school emblem. His gaze then slid down to look toward the white tiger she was riding.

"Impressive!"

Jia Wendong tsked.

"So it's student Jia Wendong!"

When Li Ziqi saw his face, she immediately recognized him. He was the vice-leader of Mingshao's student group, the second strongest amongst them.

The little sunny egg had gathered information before the competition. This person, like Nangong Dao, was considered the kind of strong people who could wipe out a group by himself.

In the Central Province Academy, Xuanyuan Po was probably the only one who had the capability to put up a fight against him. The others wouldn't work.

Jia Wendong smiled reservedly. "Student, to prevent any injuries, you better hand over this white tiger ride!"

In a competition like this, other than weapons, it was forbidden for students to bring in spiritual equipment like secret treasures. Moreover, given Li Ziqi's age, Jia Wendong didn't believe that she could summon a ride like this.

This was definitely something that the Central Province Academy had found and was handed to her for safekeeping.

Spiritual equipment was the general name for equipment with spirit qi. The spiritual pearl and White Bird longsword were both considered spiritual equipment.

"Student Jia, since you want it, then you can ask the longsword in my hand!"

Li Ziqi smiled calmly.

"It's useless to put up an act in front of me!"

Jia Wendong said this and exerted force in his legs. He suddenly darted out toward Li Ziqi. For someone as strong as him, nothing else mattered. He'd fight first.

Li Ziqi swung her sword!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Three white birds darted out from the sword's blade, shooting out toward Jia Wendong like swifts skimming on the water.

"Good sword!"

Jia Wendong's eyes gleamed, but he was undaunted. He kept on flicking out his longsword.

Pffft! Pffft! Pffft!

Three white birds were pierced.

"Student, is the reason why you aren't getting off the ride because you are thinking of running? Or is it because you're incompetent in battling?"

Jia Wendong asked, staring at Li Ziqi's face and observing her expression.

It was a pity that although the little sunny egg was feeling anxious, she didn't reveal anything on her face.

Her acting was amazing.

"Ultimate move, Hundred Birds Return to Forest!"

Li Ziqi let out a proud bellow, slashing out with her longsword angrily.

Jia Wendong didn't dare to be careless. This longsword was clearly a spirit weapon. Moreover, the reason she could gain her teachers' trust and be the one to hold onto this white tiger ride meant that this girl was very strong and was worth trusting.

"But why can't I feel her disposition?"

Jia Wendong was baffled.

In most cases, strong students tended to have a form of disposition, especially right before they performed an ultimate move. The surge of the spirit qi on their body was when their disposition was the strongest. However, this girl was like a neighborly younger sister, seemingly harmless!

It couldn't be that she had already reached the 'return to origin' state, right?

Jia Wendong guessed, swinging his sword to put up a block warily. In the instant both swords clashed, he felt that something was amiss. This was definitely not an ultimate move as it was too weak.

"Feign attack!"

These two words immediately darted into Jia Wendong's mind. Therefore, he immediately changed from attack to defense, going on full defense.

Li Ziqi's left hand immediately pointed toward Jia Wendong.

A half-transparent sphere the size of an apple instantly formed in front of her palm, shooting out toward Jia Wendong like an artillery shell.

Windwave Bullet - Burst!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Jia Wendong was sent flying from the impact. However, he immediately adjusted his stance in midair, tapping onto the force from the impact to draw his distance away.

"Cough cough, pffft!"

Jia Wendong spurted a mouthful of blood, and his face when looking at Li Ziqi was now very wary.

"Sigh, it was my greatest chance!"

Li Ziqi sighed. As expected of the vice-leader of Mingshao. He was really strong to be able to dodge even a sneak attack like this.

"Mistress, you're amazing!"

The soul drifted back and cheered loudly.

"I'm Teacher's first disciple. I mustn't escape. I can't become Teacher's humiliation!"

Li Ziqi's gaze became determined.

"Student Jia, it feels bad, right?"

Li Ziqi intentionally challenged.

The little sunny egg's attitude caused Jia Wendong to be frozen.

"What should I do? Should I fight or retreat?"

Jia Wendong's consideration wasn't just for this battle. Even if he were to win, he'd definitely get hurt. How would he continue with the competition later on?

It had been ten hours since Mingshao entered this maze. Moreover, he had no idea how long they would have to stay here. Therefore, Jia Wendong wanted to maintain good condition.

"By the looks of it, you clearly don't know the method of obtaining that secret treasure. Then you're useless."

Li Ziqi let out a cold snort and pretended as if she was going to make a move.

"Wait a minute. Why don't we work together?"

Jia Wendong proposed, "Compared to fighting each other, the main mission is to find out how to leave or get the secret treasure!"

...

"Tsk tsk, to think that Li Ziqi managed to scare this student."

Gu Xiuxun, who was hiding in the dark and observing, was very surprised. The little sunny egg's motor skills were bad, but she had a good brain.

Sun Mo frowned slightly and looked toward Gu Xiuxun.

"I'm really envious of you for having such a good student!"

Gu Xiuxun said politely.

"Thank you. Zhang Yanzong isn't bad either!"

Seeing that the two of them didn't break out into a battle, Sun Mo walked out.

He had arrived long ago, but he didn't come out because he wanted to see Li Ziqi's performance.

Swoosh!

Jia Wendong's gaze immediately stared over. When he saw that they were teachers from the Central Province Academy, his wariness spiked up.

"Don't be anxious. I don't have ill-intent. It's too dangerous for you to move around by yourself. Why don't you come along with us?"

Sun Mo suggested. This was for the student's safety.

#### **Chapter 386: Why Is Your Teacher So Young?**

"Teacher?"

Li Ziqi didn't expect that she would encounter Sun Mo here. She immediately leaped down from her white tiger in joy and ran to Sun Mo's side, hugging his arm directly.

"Excellent performance!"

Sun Mo patted the little sunny egg's head.

"Hehe, it's all due to Teacher's good guidance!"

Obtaining Sun Mo's approval caused Li Ziqi to beam with joy.

Jia Wendong surveyed Sun Mo in bewilderment. He assumed that only a great teacher was able to teach a student like Li Ziqi, so wasn't this person a little too young?

"Could it be that this fellow has an impressive background?"

Jia Wendong guessed.

A great teacher was different from a martial artist. A great teacher was like a doctor. The longer they lived, the more knowledge they would accumulate and the wider their horizons would be.

In that case, this young girl might have been coveting the vast resources of this young man.

However, when Jia Wendong glanced at Li Ziqi again, he suddenly shook his head and discarded this thought.

This young girl was so beautiful and her smile was so pure and adorable. How would she do something so scheming? (My thoughts are definitely wrong.)

Sun Mo looked at the departed spirit. "Is this something you summoned using the spiritual controlling technique?"

The departed spirit before his eyes was a type of soul. It was in a half-transparent state. Its upper body was completely undamaged, but its legs were replaced by a wisp of cloud. It looked like duckweed simply floating in the air.

Its face was covered with stubble, which meant that it was quite old. Its black hair was worn in a coil above its head. It exuded the feel of a decadent uncle.

However, at this moment, this departed spirit had a charming smile on its face as it floated by the side.

Sun Mo was a spiritual controller. The aura he emitted would cause souls to be afraid.

Ordinary people would find it very troublesome and hard to kill spirit bodies if they didn't have a spirit weapon. However, it was very simple for spiritual controllers.

Also, spiritual controllers would usually capture and feed them to their spiritual beasts.

"Mn, I summoned it from a damaged skeleton."

Li Ziqi explained.

"Well done!"

Sun Mo praised. The little sunny egg's battle strategy was the same as his.

"It's all due to Teacher's excellent guidance!"

Li Ziqi smiled sweetly. She had discovered a few bug-type departed spirits beside her teacher. There was no need to ask. It must have been them leading the way.

Jia Wendong, who discovered the truth by himself, suddenly felt his heart shaking when he heard this.

"What? She really took this young man as her teacher?"

Jia Wendong glanced at Li Ziqi. He discovered that this beautiful girl was inclining her head slightly and staring at the young man. There was a cute smile on her face and a look of worship in her eyes.

It was unknown why, but Jia Wendong's heart suddenly wrenched. It felt like he was suddenly beaten up ruthlessly by a large rod.

After that, Jia Wendong suddenly loathed this young man very much.

Sometimes, love was born in an instant, with a glance, a smile, or a gentle greeting. It might cause one to sink so deep that they were unable to extricate themselves!

"What's your name?"

Sun Mo asked.

"l...l..."

If the departed spirit was still alive, it would surely be so anxious that it had a head full of sweat. However, since its memories were fragmented, it wasn't able to recall anything.

"Teacher, it doesn't know anything."

Li Ziqi's lips twitched. "Since we have already found you, it has no use to us now!"

After speaking, Li Ziqi was preparing to turn this departed soul into food for the bugs.

Spirit bodies could only grow by devouring other spirit bodies.

"No please!"

The old-looking departed soul shouted. It directly knelt and kept kowtowing.

"I'm still of use. I can lead the way. I can smell the auras of living beings and provide early warnings to you all. I can even eat them up."

The departed soul begged as tears covered its face.

"I can be your lackey. Yes, my name is Ma Qianzu."

The spirit uncle continued jabbering on, not seeming to have any dignity at all.

"Get up first!"

Li Ziqi was a kind girl, and she couldn't stand such a scene.

"If master has an order, Ma Qianzu wouldn't dare to not obey it!"

The departed spirit floated beside Li Ziqi and bowed with a respectful expression, like it was waiting for orders.

"Teacher, what should I do?"

Li Ziqi asked.

"Since it is summoned by you, you should make the decision!"

Sun Mo didn't mind it.

"Master!"

Ma Qianzu pitifully gazed at Li Ziqi. If he had a tail at his bum, it would already have started wagging.

"Don't call me master!"

Li Ziqi had no wish to be the master of a departed spirit. Her junior sister's first spiritual beast was a spirit qi roaming dragon. Even if she was inferior to her, she couldn't possibly have a damaged departed spirit as her first spiritual beast, right?

Besides, this departed spirit was summoned from a tattered-looking skeleton. It was disgusting and horrifying when she thought about it.

"Alright, eldest miss!"

Ma Qianzu was very intelligent. Or more accurately, his pragmatism was very strong.

"I'm also not your eldest miss. Forget it, you can just leave."

Li Ziqi decided to ignore Ma Qianzu.

"Eldest miss, if I'm aliv...I mean if I'm dead, I will be your ghost. Even if I die one more time, I will still be yours!"

Ma Qianzu smiled charmingly.

Leaving Li Ziqi?

Stop joking. For a weak and tiny departed spirit like it, it would either be eaten off by other strong spirit bodies or would disappear in the long river of time.

In any case, it would be obliterated either way!

"Alright, you should shut up!"

Li Ziqi grew impatient. "If not, I will make sure you die right now!"

Ma Qianzu immediately stretched out his hands and covered his mouth.

Sun Mo glanced at Jia Wendong. "Have you thought things through?"

Jia Wendong had wanted to leave. But after looking at Li Ziqi, his reply was somehow different from his intention. "I will have to trouble you then."

"Oi!"

Li Ziqi frowned, having heard the disrespect in Jia Wendong's tone.

"Forget it!"

Sun Mo stopped the little sunny egg. He was not only older than them, but he was a teacher as well. Hence, he could stomach the emotions of a child.

Jia Wendong bit his lips and felt some regret for his slight. This teacher was quite magnanimous.

"Sorry!"

Jia Wendong apologized because he didn't wish for Sun Mo to be 'superior' to him in terms of character and make it seem like he was very petty. Besides, Sun Mo had invited him to travel with them for the sake of protecting him.

"That's better!"

Li Ziqi was satisfied now.

Jia Wendong quickly walked over while glancing at the side of Li Ziqi's face. He told himself that he had to be more reserved, but he couldn't control himself and asked, "What is your name?"

"Oi, scram a little further!"

Ma Qianzu immediately roared and blocked Jia Wendong. Ma Qianzu looked like a loyal dog protecting its owner.

...

Time slowly passed by, and Jia Wendong grew increasingly anxious.

This teacher named Sun Mo was a spiritual controller. His actions weren't like a headless fly, but there was a purpose behind them.

(Teacher Ming Xian, you have to move faster or the secret treasures would be taken away by this guy.)

No matter how dumb Jia Wendong might be, he understood that this illusionary realm was formed by some valuable secret treasures of darkness."

"Teacher, there's a corpse!"

Li Zigi called out.

"Mn!"

Sun Mo walked over and activated Divine Sight.

Bai Qiao. Male. Time of death: 50 years ago. Divine Sense Realm.

The death of a human was like an extinguished light. There was nothing here anymore. Sun Mo glanced at the things left behind by the corpse.

Its clothes had already rotted. In its pouch, there was some medicine, but they were all already spoiled. The most valuable item was a longsword.

Jingxie, peerless-grade spirit weapon. Made by a grandmaster.

Ma Qianzu cast a meaningful glance at Sun Mo. It floated over and brought the sword over, passing it to Sun Mo.

"Teacher Gu, do you want this? This is a peerless-grade spirit weapon!"

Sun Mo asked.

"Peerless-grade spirit weapon?"

Jia Wendong inhaled. He then stared at the sword with envy in his eyes.

Weapons could be classified into different tiers. The spirit-tier, saint-tier, and divine-tier. And for each tier, they could be further classified into inferior, average, superior, or peerless.

A peerless-grade spirit weapon could be sold for at least 200,000 spirit stones. Yet, this Sun Mo was willingly giving it away? Wasn't this a little too generous?

Sun Mo must be fond of Gu Xiuxun!

Jia Wendong felt that other than this reason, no one would give the sword away to others. After all, the sword represented a huge amount of wealth.

Naturally, the sword belonged to Sun Mo because he was leading the way.

"Teacher Sun, you should just keep it!"

Gu Xiuxun rejected.

Sun Mo didn't force her. He then turned and tossed it to Li Ziqi. "You should take it then!"

"Mn!"

Li Ziqi took out a handkerchief and wiped the dirt on the sword away. She decided to give the sword to her junior sister Zhiruo after they returned.

Jia Wendong was stunned again. But after that, he discovered a blind spot. Hence, he mumbled in a low voice, "He can tell it's a peerless-grade spirit weapon with just a glance? Only a grandmaster in sword forging can do something like that."

"What do you mean by this?"

Li Ziqi immediately questioned.

Jia Wendong's lips twitched. (Am I not saying this because I'm worried you might be swindled by him?) However, he didn't dare to say these words. Hence, he tactfully replied, "It's better to get a grandmaster smith to identify this item to ensure its tier and quality."

"No need. Since my teacher said it's a peerless-grade spirit weapon, it definitely is one!"

Li Ziqi's tone was so resolute that it could sever iron.

Upon hearing this, Jia Wendong's lungs were about to explode from anger. He really wanted to scold, (Are you a retarded fan of his? You would believe whatever he says? Have all your judgment abilities gone to the dogs?)

"You are not allowed to insult the teacher of the eldest miss or I will bite you to death!"

Ma Qianzu bared its teeth, instantly displaying its loyalty.

"Let's go!"

Sun Mo took a few steps forward, but at this moment, Ma Qianzu suddenly shouted.

"Eldest miss, I smell the aura of a living person. He's coming, he's coming!"

Ma Qianzu shouted and hid behind Li Zigi.

"..."

Li Ziqi was speechless. (I thought you said you will fight for me?)

Sun Mo turned his head and saw a young man dressed in robes of the Mingshao Academy. That person took a few leaps and entered the alley they were in.

"Teacher Zhen!"

Jia Wendong was elated and immediately rushed out.

"Wendong?"

Zhen Yuanxiong started. He was nearby earlier and heard the sounds of people talking. This was why he rushed over for a look. He didn't expect that he would meet a student of his school. "Are you alright?"

"I'm fine."

Jia Wendong immediately told everything he knew about Sun Mo to Zhen Yuanxiong. "Oh right, he also said that sword was a peerless-grade spirit weapon. How ridiculous, I think he's just boasting."

Jia Wendong said this because he wanted his teacher to expose Sun Mo and make Li Ziqi understand that her teacher was boasting.

"A peerless-grade spirit weapon?"

Zhen Yuanxiong glanced at the sword in Sun Mo's hand. His eyes then brightened. "Good sword!"

"Ah?"

Jia Wendong was stunned.

"It's average-grade at the very least!"

Zhen Yuanxiong's eyes shone with the light of admiration.

## Chapter 387: Immense Reward, New Mission Issued!

"It can't be, right?"

Jia Wendong looked at Sun Mo. How could the judgment of this young teacher be so accurate? He knew that Teacher Zhen was a sword lover and made a study out of swords. Hence, his words should be about 80 to 90% accurate.

However, Jia Wendong was also unwilling to admit that Sun Mo was impressive. Hence, he was so depressed that his chest hurt.

"Teacher Sun, I wonder if you can give this sword to me?"

Zhen Yuanxiong smiled and asked. Since Sun Mo had protected Jia Wendong from his school, he wouldn't mind sparing him.

Naturally, Zhen Yuanxiong's words were already very tactful and did save face for Sun Mo. If not, he would directly extort Sun Mo for it.

One must know that this longsword was also a secret treasure of darkness. Although its value wasn't high, it was still not too bad.

(Our Mingshao Academy has to locate three secret treasures of darkness before we can qualify for the championship.)

"Hehe!" Sun Mo smiled lightly. "Who the hell do you think you are?"

"Good. What a good rejection!"

Jia Wendong was greatly elated. In this case, Teacher Zhen would have a reason to crush Sun Mo. There might be two teachers from the Central Province Academy here, but why did it matter?

Teacher Zhen was at the sixth level of the blood-ignition realm, a genius graduate of the Black-White Academy.

Zhen Yuanxiong wasn't angry. Actually, he had guessed that this would be the ending. Who would be so willing to give up their battle spoils to others?

"Teacher Sun, I feel very grateful that you have protected a student from my Mingshao Academy. However, this matter concerns the championship, so I can only offend you."

Zhen Yuanxiong was very calm. His gaze swept over to Sun Mo and Gu Xiuxun. "You guys can attack together!"

"This fellow is too arrogant, he's actually insulting the teacher of the eldest mist. Even I can't take it anymore. I'm going to bite him to death!"

"Woof woof!"

Ma Qianzu immediately shouted with rage on its face as it bared its teeth at Zhen Yuanxiong.

Li Ziqi looked over. (Are you just staying here to bark? Quickly rush at Zhen Yuanxiong!)

After noticing the little sunny egg's eyes on him, Ma Qianzu barked even more furiously and took some ferocious actions. It resembled a wild dog that was out of control.

Sun Mo turned his head and looked at Gu Xiuxun. "Do you want to do it? Or shall I do it?"

"This fellow isn't giving you face. You will naturally be the best person to handle him."

Gu Xiuxun coldly snorted.

"Sure!"

Sun Mo didn't mind. However, after he took a few steps forward, he was suddenly startled. He instinctively wanted to return, but he controlled it and continued heading forward, pulling out his wooden blade.

"Teacher Sun, life and death is fated. The loser should have no resentment!"

Zhen Yuanxiong unsheathed his longsword and pointed it at Sun Mo.

These words were often used by teachers. Once spoken, it meant that a life-and-death battle was about to start instead of a spar.

"Teacher Zhen, life and death is fated. The loser should have no resentment!"

Sun Mo replied in the same way.

At the next instant, both of them clashed.

BOOM!

The wooden blade collided with the sword and caused a dull sound to echo.

"Mn?"

Zhen Yuanxiong's eyes froze as he looked at the wooden blade.

(This wooden blade is so beautiful. Its patterns and shape...this must have been made by a grandmaster!)

Although Zhen Yuanxiong loved to collect various types of swords, he was also very interested in blades.

The black sandalwood blade in Sun Mo's hands came from a grandmaster in Liang Province. That grandmaster spent three years making it. It wasn't a weapon, but a work of art instead.

"Ze, you are truly wasting a heavenly item!"

Zhen Yuanxiong admired the wooden blade while dodging Sun Mo's attacks. However, Sun Mo's blade attacks suddenly increased in speed half-way through his routine.

"What?"

Zhen Yuanxiong wanted to dodge, but there was already no time.

Bang!

Zhen Yuanxiong's shoulder was struck. If it wasn't for him adjusting himself to take a defensive posture, his shoulder bone might have been crushed.

"A slaughter is a slaughter, please don't be distracted!"

Sun Mo admonished.

Zhen Yuanxiong's face was filled with astonishment. He was at the sixth level of the blood-ignition realm yet failed to evade Sun Mo's attack.

This caused Zhen Yuanxiong to feel shock and lingering fear. But after that, his expression turned into awkwardness.

He understood that Sun Mo had shown mercy in that attack, or his head might have exploded.

"Ah?"

Jia Wendong, who was observing the battle, was stunned. This Sun Mo was actually equal to Teacher Zhen?

(No, impossible. This must be an illusion!)

However, after that, he heard Zhen Yuanxiong thanking Sun Mo.

"Thank you Teacher Sun for showing mercy!"

Although he was unwilling to do so, Zhen Yuanxiong was an upright person. Hence, he bowed to convey his thanks.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Zhen Yuanxiong +50

"Teacher Zhen is too serious!"

Sun Mo didn't expect Zhen Yuanxiong to actually contribute favorable impression points. It seemed that the conduct of this fellow wasn't bad.

Honestly speaking, Sun Mo's performance was very magnanimous because he had already seen all of Zhen Yuanxiong's data.

Maybe someone who was at the sixth level of the blood-ignition realm who had cultivated an average-grade heaven-tier cultivation art might be a formidable opponent to other people. However, such a person was truly not strong enough in Sun Mo's eyes.

(Your cultivation base is lower than mine, your cultivation art is weaker, your battle wisdom is inferior. How can you win against me?)

However, it was rare to encounter such an outstanding opponent. Hence, Sun Mo didn't immediately crush him and chose to focus on defense, treating him as a sparring opponent to increase his own combat experience.

A lack of combat experience against strong opponents was Sun Mo's current weakness.

Swish~

Zhen Yuanxiong stopped and retreated over ten meters.

"Teacher Zhen, do your best. He will start to kneel after another furious wave of attacks!"

Jia Wendong shouted. Right now, he no longer underestimated Sun Mo. Being able to fight against Zhen Yuanxiong to this extent was already honorable even if Sun Mo was defeated.

Zhen Yuanxiong grew even more awkward after he heard the cheers of his student. He wasn't in a good mood as he questioned, "Teacher Sun, why?"

"You are very impressive. Hence, I want to use this opportunity to temper myself!"

Sun Mo honestly replied.

"Hehe!"

Zhen Yuanxiong had a self-mocking smile. "May I be so bold as to ask this question? What is Teacher Sun's current cultivation base?"

"I've ignited my blood seven times!"

Sun Mo didn't conceal it.

"What?"

Jia Wendong was dumbfounded. It was as though he had just heard the greatest joke under the heavens.

(This fellow is actually a genius on the level of Teacher Ming Xian?)

"As expected!"

Zhen Yuanxiong inclined his head and looked at the sky. He then drew in a deep breath. When he gazed at Sun Mo again, his gaze already became resolute. "Teacher Sun, I will be using my ultimate skill next, determining victory or defeat with a single move. If Teacher Sun's mentality is that of a spar, you might really die."

"Teacher, don't be impulsive!"

Jia Wendong was badly frightened. This wasn't simply the difference between cultivation bases.

One must know that both of them were roughly around 20 years old. Being at the seventh level of the blood-ignition realm at such a young age meant that Sun Mo's talent and hard work were greater.

At their ages, every level of cultivation was exceedingly difficult. Hence, this difference would represent a huge distance in terms of strength. It wasn't something that could be mitigated by a mentality that didn't fear death.

"Teacher Zhen, you will die!"

Sun Mo straightforwardly said.

"If I concede and leave like that, there's no difference between living and dying for me!"

Zhen Yuanxiong's eyes were determined. He brandished his sword and pointed it at Sun Mo. "Teacher Sun, this is my sword dao!"

"Alright!"

Sun Mo's gaze also grew serious. He had to do his best. If he showed mercy at such a timing, it would be an insult to his opponent.

The distance between grew closer. Their auras began to rise.

All of a sudden!

Zhen Yuanxiong moved. His longsword pierced out angrily like a shooting star arcing through the night sky. With a flash, it appeared before Sun Mo's forehead.

Soul Severance Flash!

Sun Mo remained unmoving. His wrist turned and the wooden blade blocked it horizontally.

Paying someone back in their own coin!

Pak!

Zhen Yuanxiong's vision dazzled. He saw his sword being knocked away and the tip of a wooden blade piercing toward him. This was precisely his own cultivation art.

"What?"

When this thought appeared in his mind, pain erupted from the center of Zhen Yuanxiong's brows.

Bang!

Zhen Yuanxiong leaned back and fell over.

"Teacher!"

Jia Wentong screamed in panic and rushed over.

Bang!

Zhen Yuanxiong fell onto the ground, causing the dust to fly up.

"Gr...Grand Universe F...Formless Divine Art?"

As a first-rate student of Black-White Academy, Zhen Yuanxiong had once been an exchange student to the Skyraise Academy. He was fortunate enough to see this saint-tier cultivation art before, and that was the first time he was defeated in his life.

And today was his third time.

Forget it, it didn't matter.

In any case, he was about to die!

Zhen Yuanxiong stared at the sky and slowly closed his eyes.

The regret he felt was that back in his youth after he saw the skill 'Paying someone back in their own coin', he had once thought of how to break it. However, why had he chosen to give up halfway?

(If I continued preserving, the one dying now would be my opponent instead!)

Sadly, this world had no 'ifs'!

However, this attack from Teacher Sun was truly appropriate.

(It's not an injustice that I got defeated!)

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Zhen Yuanxiong +100. Friendly (150/1,000).

Zhen Yuanxiong closed his eyes.

"Teacher Zhen!"

Jia Wendong shouted. Would Teacher Zhen die like this?

No, it couldn't be. He was someone nurtured as a headmaster candidate by Headmaster Ming. He was one of the future pillars of Mingshao Academy. How could he die here?

Looking at Zhen Yuanxiong's corpse, Sun Mo fell silent.

"Invincible!"

"Ever victorious!"

Ma Qianzu cheered excitedly.

"Shut up!"

Li Ziqi berated. After that, she jogged toward Sun Mo and held his hand. "Teacher, in a fair duel, life and death is determined by one's capabilities. There should be no resentment. Besides, Teacher Zhen was willing to do this. He should have no regret even though he died."

"Ziqi, do you think I should have shown mercy earlier?"

Sun Mo's brows furrowed very tightly. Up until now, those he killed were all his enemies. As for this Zhen Yuanxiong, although he was a competitor, his obsession caused Sun Mo to admire him somewhat.

"Teacher, I feel that there's no need for you to blame yourself. Life and death is predestined by the heavens, and the loser should have no resentment. These words aren't spoken casually. Don't forget that you depended on your strength and defeated him fairly!"

Li Ziqi consoled.

Sun Mo shook his head. For the first time, he felt the weight of life.

Ding!

"New mission issued: Go and comprehend the weight of life. After you succeed, you would be rewarded with 3 mysterious treasure chests!"

The system, which has been silent for a long time, finally gave out a mission again. Moreover, this mission was filled with philosophical intent.

However, when Sun Mo saw the immense rewards, he knew how hard it would be to accomplish this.

Ding!

"Congratulations on obtaining Zhen Yuanxiong's approval. The prestige connection between you two has improved. Reward: 1x bronze treasure chest!"

"Note: Because the other party didn't resent you even though he died and accepted his death wholeheartedly, the quality of your reward has been increased into a diamond treasure chest!"

A large treasure chest shining with a holy light appeared before Sun Mo.

"Diamond treasure chest?"

Sun Mo's sword-like brows furrowed to the extent where they could squeeze a crab to death.

Should he open it now or not?

## Chapter 388: Mysterious Enemy, Powerful Sun Mo!

"Teacher, what are you thinking?"

Li Ziqi looked at Sun Mo, her eyes filled with admiration.

Teacher was so gentle. If it was someone else, they'd enjoy the exhilaration of killing a powerful foe. They wouldn't think of something like 'should I show mercy?'

"Oh, nothing!"

Sun Mo smiled in self-mockery. Why would someone as unlucky as him open a chest?

Was he thinking that he didn't have enough dark soil?

Sun Mo dared assure that once this chest was opened, he'd feel so regretful that he would want to chop off his hands.

"What are you going to do now? Are you going to stay here?"

Li Ziqi assessed Jia Wendong.

Jia Wendong would definitely be a little sad that a teacher from his school had died. However, it'd be a lie to say that it was heart-wrenching.

After all, they hadn't spent too much time together, nor were they in a teacher-disciple relationship.

"Young Miss, why are you showing him concern? Let's attack together and kill him!"

Ma Qianzu started crying out again.

Jia Wendong turned and threw a glance at Sun Mo, struggling in his heart. A teacher from his school had been killed and he did hate Sun Mo. However, if he were to stay behind alone, it'd be over for him.

Having been around them for so long, Jia Wendong had to admit that Teacher Sun was really amazing.

If he wished to leave this predicament, he could only rely on him.

"We'll be waiting for you over there. Go tidy up Teacher Zhen's belongings."

After saying that, Sun Mo threw a glance at Li Ziqi and Gu Xiuxun before leaving.

Jia Wendong, who had been hesitant, was first stunned for a moment after hearing this. His eyes then felt warm. This teacher was really considerate.

Wendong's attitude had been horrible, but Sun Mo didn't mind it at all and was even considerate toward him, not wanting him to feel bad. He was really...

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Jia Wendong +150, prestige connection initiated. Friendly (150/1,000).

Hearing the notification, the corners of Sun Mo's lips curled up into a smile. At the very least, this guy still knew what gratitude was.

"Young Miss's teacher, you're really too good. Why would you care for a person like him? You should kill him, removing the very roots to prevent future threats.

Ma Qianzu spoke like someone who had been through this, sharing his experience.

"If you don't shut up, I'll remove you from the roots."

Sun Mo frowned.

Even if Jia Wendong was Zhen Yuanxiong's child, he wouldn't kill him.

Ma Qianzu immediately covered his mouth with both hands, clamping his legs tightly together and groveling to the ground like a docile dog. However, he then cried out.

"I can smell the scent of living humans again!"

Ma Qianzu said this while twitching his nose excitedly, sniffing strongly in search of the scent of the enemy. (Haha, as expected, I'm really useful. With this, Young Miss won't kill me, right?)

Ma Qianzu had no idea that both Sun Mo and Li Ziqi only had one thought in their mind when looking at him at this moment.

(Are you a freaking jinx? Can you stop smelling things?)

Although Sun Mo wasn't afraid of battling, it'd be annoying if he had to continue to fight like this!

However, Ziqi really didn't give the wrong name to this soul. Maybe Ma Qianzu's spiritual form made him extremely sensitive toward living creatures' aura.

After Sun Mo's Wind King Divine Art had reached the grandmaster-grade, his six senses had become sharper. Despite this, he still hadn't noticed the enemy's arrival yet.

"Over here!"

Ma Qianzu called out and drifted warily along the wall. This would reduce the chances of him being exposed to danger.

"Teacher Gu, let's go. Ziqi, bring Jia Wendong along."

Sun Mo called out and then jumped up the roof, pressing down from a tall height.

His combination with Gu Xiuxun could basically crush many four-people teams.

"Teacher!"

Li Ziqi called out, and with a single thought, the White Tiger Guard under her immediately darted over to Jia Wendong's side. She pulled the guy up the ride and then got the white tiger to jump up the roof, giving chase after Sun Mo.

"Don't leave my side!"

Sun Mo said.

It was very dangerous up there, but he didn't let Li Ziqi go down. He wanted to let the little sunny egg have a sense of nervousness prior to a battle.

Of course, this was also because Sun Mo was confident he could help the little sunny egg fend off all danger.

"They are below!"

After saying that, Sun Mo jumped over. When he landed, he exerted force in both legs.

Boom!

Sun Mo stomped through the ceiling and landed in the room.

Swoosh!

A sword shadow came shooting over at rapid speed, but just as it pierced in front of Sun Mo, it slighted. Then, a surprised voice rang out.

"Teacher Sun?"

After Gu Xiuxun said that, she quickly reminded, "Tantai, quickly bring the antidote!"

"It's fine. It won't kill!"

Tantai Yutang chuckled.

A faint red smoke was flowing in the room. It was the smoke produced by a specially concocted medicinal pill he had tossed out. It could cause hallucinations and affect one's killing prowess.

After seeing that it was Gu Xiuxun in front of him, Sun Mo's pupils contracted. (Why is it another masochist?) However, he then found the source to all his discomfort.

"Huh? Teacher Gu?"

Li Ziqi also jumped off from the white tiger, aiming her right hand at the 'enemy' and about to release Windwave Bullets to suppress them. She didn't expect to see Gu Xiuxun.

"Come back! She's an enemy!"

Sun Mo bellowed, and with a flash, retreated next to the Gu Xiuxun who had just come down from the broken ceiling.

Li Ziqi listened to Sun Mo's words and retreated without any hesitation.

"Teacher Sun, what are you doing? Huh?"

That Gu Xiuxun who was in the room had no idea what was wrong with Sun Mo. However, when she saw the other Gu Xiuxun who had darted in from the ceiling, her eyes and mouth opened in astonishment.

"Another me?"

After a momentary puzzled feeling flashed by, Gu Xiuxun shouted out, "Sun Mo, come back quickly! She's a fake!"

"Shut up, you're the fake one!"

Sun Mo bellowed.

Tantai Yutang frowned and his gaze darted between the two Gu Xiuxuns.

Li Ziqi stood next to Sun Mo, her mind going into full action. She tried to recall everything they had been through and of Sun Mo's behavior.

Putting Gu Xiuxun aside, the little sunny egg needed to ascertain that her teacher was the real one.

"Teacher Gu, do you feel uncomfortable anywhere?"

Sun Mo looked at Gu Xiuxun, his face filled with worry.

"No."

Gu Xiuxun shook her head and looked at Sun Mo, feeling touched. "Thank you for believing me!"

"Of course I believe you. We've come all this way together. You are Gu Xiuxun. I won't get it wrong." Sun Mo firmly believed.

"Sun..."

Gu Xiuxun wanted to say more but was suddenly hit in the back of her head.

Bang!

The Grand Universe Formless Divine Art's clones had appeared behind this Gu Xiuxun long ago, swinging out the wooden blade. As Sun Mo was worried that the other party would hear the sound of the wind being cut through, in addition to him not wanting to kill the other party, he held back.

Gu Xiuxun stumbled from the hit and blood started to flow down her head.

Sun Mo gave chase and went all out.

Dotting Crimson Lip, Colors of Autumn, Colors of Autumn!

At the same instant the wooden blade struck out, Sun Mo let out a furious bellow!

Tai!

Buddha's Mouth Serpent Heart!

This sound was resplendent like thunder in spring. Not only was Gu Xiuxun completely shaken, but golden waves also entangled around her body.

If one were to observe in detail, they'd be able to tell that these golden waves were many small golden snakes.

Pa pa pa!

The wooden blade hit Gu Xiuxun's four limbs and the sound of breaking bones rang out.

Bang!

Gu Xiuxun fell to the ground and dust seethed up.

"Huh?"

Li Ziqi gasped in surprise. (Teacher, why did you move so quickly? What if you got the wrong person?)

The little sunny egg looked toward the other Gu Xiuxun. To speak the truth, not only the looks, height, and clothes, but even the composure and gaze weren't much different at all.

For now, she was unable to discern between the real and the fake.

"Teacher, you're too harsh. If I didn't guess wrongly, the two of you should have been together earlier, right? To be making a move so suddenly, aren't you being too ruthless?"

Tantai Yutang teased.

Sun Mo activated his Divine Sight and observed the Gu Xiuxun who had been beaten up into a mushy pule.

Gu Xiuxun, unknown lifeform!

Sun Mo turned and looked toward the other one.

Gu Xiuxun, 21 years old, graduated from the Myriad Daos Academy.

Densely-packed data flashed out below, especially the note on how she was a masochist. Sun Mo felt at ease.

"Teacher Gu, there's no need to worry, I'm the real one!"

Sun Mo saw Gu Xiuxun staring at him warily and didn't come over, thus he explained.

"I'm the one who is real, you fool!"

The seriously injured Gu Xiuxun bellowed.

"What... what is going on? Are you guys twins?"

Jia Wendong was stunned. (What on earth did I just see?)

The Gu Xiuxun who was next to Tantai Yutang didn't come over nor say a word.

"Alright, stop shouting. Did you see that? This is what Teacher Gu should be doing. You, a copy, aren't doing it right!

Sun Mo teased.

The seriously injured Gu Xiuxun stopped shouting. Instead, she took in a deep breath and looked toward Sun Mo, her face filled with curiosity. "When did you realize that I'm a fake?"

If Sun Mo didn't notice this from very long ago, Sun Mo wouldn't have made a move so decisively.

"At the instant I saw the real Teacher Gu!"

Sun Mo shrugged.

"You let out an explosive bellow, calling her a fake and rapidly returning to my side. You said that you trust me, but you're actually trying to launch a sneak attack at me, right?"

The copy Gu Xiuxun asked.

"Yes!"

Sun Mo chuckled. "In order to get you off guard, I even took the risk to let Ziqi come over as well."

"Alright, then what's the reason? It can't be that you used your senses to discern the real from the fake, right?

The copy Gu Xiuxun was curious.

"Four reasons!"

Sun Mo put up four fingers.

"Huh? Four? Are you kidding?"

The copy Gu Xiuxun's face sank. (I've assassinated countless people using this move. How could I have so many flaws?)

"Firstly, Teacher Gu is very outstanding. Given how wary and serious she is, she'd definitely study the information of Mingshao's student group in detail. Therefore, there was no way that she wouldn't know Jia Wendong's name. However, you didn't know."

Sun Mo explained and looked toward Li Zigi.

Even the little sunny egg knew Jia Wendong's name.

"Go on!"

The copy Gu Xiuxun admitted that this was a flaw.

"Teacher Gu is a very proud lady and is very eager to excel. She doesn't ever admit that she is worse off than men. Therefore, in the situation similar to when going up against Zhen Yuanxiong earlier, she'd definitely want to be the one fighting, but you didn't!"

"No matter what reason you give, your greatest flaw is that you didn't make a move!"

This was where Sun Mo felt awkward about.

He was considered to have spent quite a bit of time with the masochist, and the two of them got along pretty well together. Therefore, they were unconsciously influenced and had gotten used to each other's way of doing things.

This was like a good pair of friends went out for a meal together, with one of them suddenly changing their habit and ordering a dish that they usually didn't eat.

If it was a simple-minded person, they might not notice it, but it wasn't the same for Sun Mo. He was too meticulous. Of course, he didn't think that Gu Xiuxun was fake at that time. He just felt that something was off.

"Why should I help you to defeat enemies?"

The copy Gu Xiuxun pouted.

On the other side, when Gu Xiuxun heard this explanation, a hint of flush suddenly dyed her beautiful cheeks.

(So this is how I am like in Teacher Sun's heart?)

"Teacher Gu, my Teacher's impression of you is very good. Does he like you?"

Tantai Yutang asked in a soft voice.

Pa!

Gu Xiuxun knocked Tantai Yutang's head. "Don't talk gibberish!"

However, the masochist's heart was throbbing a little. After all, Sun Mo was a talented genius who was more amazing than she was. His words clearly showed his recognition of her.

"What's the third then? Let me see if it's valid!"

The copy Gu Xiuxun urged.

"Teacher Gu's heart is very gentle. When I killed Zhen Yuanxiong back then, my mood wasn't good. Given Teacher Gu's character, she'd definitely console me, but you didn't."

Sun Mo's mouth twitched.

"Ssss, you killed Zhen Yuanxiong? The one from the Black-White Academy?"

Gu Xiuxun gasped. However, she then felt that she was making a fuss for nothing. Sun Mo was at the seventh level of the blood-ignition realm. Other than Ming Xian and Beitang Ziwei, no other teachers were a match for him.

"Teacher Gu, this is just normal!"

Li Ziqi felt equally proud.

"What's the fourth?"

The copy Gu Xiuxun continued to ask.

"Hehe!"

Sun Mo smiled, not explaining because this wasn't something that could be said.

The answer was that he had shown such an exciting performance, but the copy didn't contribute a single favorable impression point at all.

Of course, Sun Mo only reacted to this after he broke through the ceiling and saw the real Gu Xiuxun. This was why he did what he did.

"Amazing!"

"Amazing!"

"Really amazing!"

The copy Gu Xiuxun stared at Sun Mo, its eyes filled with surprise. "You're really too perfect. I like your intellect and also your reactions during contingencies. After realizing that I'm a fake, not only weren't you not anxious, but you even played along and launched a sneak attack at me.

"The reason you did this is to catch me alive and interrogate me for information, right?"

Before Sun Mo replied, the copy Gu Xiuxun smiled. "I have to tell you regretfully that it's impossible."

Sun Mo frowned. This was what he was thinking.

At the next instant, the copy Gu Xiuxun's head exploded with a bang.

Brain juice and skull bones splattered everywhere.

"Come on, I'll be waiting for you. It's been very long since I've seen such an interesting toy."

A voice gradually dissipated.

"Teacher is so amazing!"

After seeing Sun Mo crushing that mysterious enemy, Li Ziqi's small face was filled with admiration. She couldn't help but move closer to Sun Mo, secretly taking in a breath.

(En, Teacher's scent smells good as well. It's the smell of victory.)

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Li Ziqi +1,000. Reverence (16,161/100,000).

When Jia Wendong saw Li Ziqi's expression, he suddenly felt dejected. However, he had to admit that this teacher was very strong.

He wasn't just strong physically but also mentally.

No matter who he encountered, he always wore a calm expression.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Jia Wendong +100. Friendly (250/1,000).

"Teacher Gu, I'm very happy to see you!"

Sun Mo waved his hand. He then noticed that Gu Xiuxun was staring at him warily.

"How are you going to prove that you're not a fake Sun Mo?"

Gu Xiuxun questioned. (I'm very touched by your assessment of me earlier. But I'm sorry, it's useless. I still have to ascertain if you're real.)

## Chapter 389: Black Spire, Place of Death!

"Young Miss, how dare she doubt your teacher. Shall we kill her?"

Ma Qianzu gritted his teeth like a loyal dog.

"Shut up."

Li Ziqi reproached.

Ma Qianzu immediately stopped talking and just quietly squatted at the side.

"Are you trying to get a free massage?"

Sun Mo asked.

"Die!"

Gu Xiuxun rolled her eyes and did a pose as if she wanted to draw her sword and slash Sun Mo. However, this wasn't a bad idea. Not only could she enjoy it, but she could also discern if he was real.

(No, I mustn't let my future husband down. I mustn't show my body to Sun Mo anymore.)

"This is a very sharp question!"

Sun Mo sank into deep thought. It was true that he had no way to prove himself. "How do you think this copy is produced?"

"It must be because of a powerful secret treasure of darkness."

Gu Xiuxun wasn't surprised at all because in the Darkness Continent, except for reviving the dead, anything else was possible.

"Since these copies are so convincing, then do you think they'll have our memories and skills? If yes, how do they do that?"

Sun Mo brought this up for discussion.

"Teacher Sun, the matters in the Darkness Continent can't be assessed with common knowledge from Middle-Earth's Nine Provinces."

Gu Xiuxun's lips twitched.

"Take the first level for example. They have strange and unfathomable spirit qi tides. The spirit qi here is very dense, and some places are vacuum of spirit qi.

"Have you seen them before? Once cultivators go to those places, the spirit qi inside and outside their bodies would be in a state of imbalance. The cultivators would then swell up like a ball and explode."

Sun Mo thought of that scene and couldn't help but shudder.

This way of dying was definitely very painful.

"Not only does the second level of the Darkness Continent have the constantly changing spirit qi tides like that on the first level, but the most terrifying thing is that once a person enters the second level, they'll experience all sorts of auditory and visionary hallucinations. The longer they stay, the more serious the symptoms would be, until they go crazy eventually.

"Therefore, if one can't reach the spirit-refinement realm, they are not allowed to enter the second level. Even one at the blood-ignition realm isn't allowed to stay over one week there."

Gu Xiuxun explained. As a top student from the Myriad Daos Academy, when she first reached the blood-ignition realm, she was lucky enough to follow the school's great teacher circle to the second level of the Darkness Continent.

How should she put it? It was a feeling that she'd definitely not want to undergo a second time. It was because once someone went there, they'd feel depressed for no reason.

"I know this!"

Sun Mo searched through his memories.

No one knew how the Darkness Continent was distributed. Due to the existence of spatial regulations, it was impossible to build a teleportation gate. Therefore, if one wished to enter the second level, they could only go up through a few passageways on the first level.

It was said that the higher one went up, the stranger the regulations. The fifth level was even called a forbidden area for life. If one wasn't at the legendary realm, it'd be courting death to go there.

"I really believe that you're real now!"

Gu Xiuxun suddenly smiled and said.

"Why?"

Sun Mo was surprised.

"It's a secret!"

Gu Xiuxun pursed her lips and smiled. She realized that when she was talking to Sun Mo, she felt very comfortable and at ease. There was an indescribable sense of tacit understanding.

It was like the two of them were born to be bosom friends.

"Hehe!"

Sun Mo looked toward Tantai Yutang. "Are you alright?"

"I feel that I'd be able to kill a cow!"

The sickly guy clenched his fingers joints then felt puzzled. "Teacher, since Teacher Gu has a copy, then the others should have one too. How are you certain if I'm real?"

"I feel that a copy wouldn't be able to learn your bad taste!"

Sun Mo teased.

"Hmm?"

Tantai Yutang didn't expect to get such a reply. After being stunned for a moment, he couldn't restrain his smile. "Can I take this as a compliment?"

"Tantai, how do you ascertain that Teacher and I are real?"

Li Ziqi felt curious. Given her understanding of Tantai Yutang, this guy definitely had a way to discern things.

"I'm not certain!"

The sickly guy disputed.

Pa!

The little sunny egg gave the sickly guy a light punch. "Say it quickly!"

"I scattered a type of powder on you guys before the competition. Only I can smell it."

Tantai Yutang touched his nose.

This was something basic for a herbalist. Although those copies had similar appearances and expressions, they hadn't come into contact with Tantai Yutang before after all. Therefore, they wouldn't have traces of powder on them.

"Then why didn't you say it earlier?"

Gu Xiuxun complained.

"The atmosphere is so good now, and I feel that you guys will be heading to a hotel next. I'd feel bad for interrupting."

Tantai Yutang felt very aggrieved.

"What rubbish are you talking about?"

Gu Xiuxun reproached, her face turning red. (Oh my, even a student can tell that I'm on a closer term with Sun Mo? This can't do. I mustn't let my future husband down.)

However, after ascertaining Sun Mo's identity, Gu Xiuxun's heart was filled with admiration.

He really had an outstanding performance!

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Gu Xiuxun +500. Reverence (4,500/10,000).

"Teacher, you have quite a lot of bugs around you. You summoned them with spiritual control technique, right? And this soul, are you guys using it to probe the way?"

Tantai Yutang assessed Ma Qianzu.

"What are you looking at? I'll bite you to death!"

Ma Qianzu bared his teeth.

"I know a few medicinal herbs that have corrosive effects on souls after they have been squashed into juice. Do you want to give it a try?"

The sickly guy beamed, but when Ma Qianzu saw it, he felt as if Tantai Yutang was like a devil who had crawled out from hell.

"Oh my, there are movements over there! I'll go take a look!"

Ma Qianzu immediately floated away.

"Not bad!"

Sun Mo looked at this smart young man in admiration. "Do you have other ways of discerning?"

"No!"

The sickly guy shook his head.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Tantai Yutang +100, Friendly (950/1,000).

"Alright, if there aren't any other problems, we'll be setting off!"

A few bugs fell off from Sun Mo's shoulder, giving him directions.

"Yes, we'll need to hurry up!"

Gu Xiuxun's countenance turned solemn as well. If a copy were to sneak attack the others, they would suffer.

After all, not everyone could be like Sun Mo and notice the copies' flaws.

This time around, Ma Qianzu [1] really acted as his name suggested, providing his service to everyone. Once he noticed any abnormalities, he'd report immediately.

However, they were quite lucky and moved smoothly until they arrived at a black spire.

"This is that black building!"

The bugs reported.

This spire looked like it was over 100 meters tall. However, Sun Mo felt that it could be an illusion because they were underground. The height of the ceiling should only be ten meters or so.

"Go in and search!"

Sun Mo ordered.

The bugs swarmed in.

"Young Miss!"

Ma Qianzu pleaded with a crying expression, "I can feel a terrifying aura inside. I'll definitely die if I go in."

"Forget it, just stay by my side!"

Li Ziqi didn't force Ma Qianzu.

"All of you, stay here. I'll go in and take a look!"

Sun Mo looked at the spire.

Warning, unknown terrain. Extremely dangerous!

A red label immediately popped up.

"No!"

Both Gu Xiuxun and Li Ziqi refused in unison.

"It's too dangerous inside. I'll go with you. We'll be able to help each other out."

Gu Xiuxun suggested. Regardless if Sun Mo agreed to it or not, she was going.

"[..."

Li Ziqi wanted to go as well, but her rationality told her that if she were to go, she'd just be a burden. Therefore, her eyes turned red. She hated herself for being so weak.

"I understand your intention!"

Sun Mo patted the little sunny egg's head. "Tantai, protect your elder martial sister."

Ma Qianzu was familiar with the ways of people. He knew that once he was useless, he'd be abandoned. Therefore, he went up to the door of the spire and glanced in. He didn't expect to make a great discovery.

"Young Miss, I smell it again! There's the scent of living people inside!"

Ma Qianzu shouted!

"It's been verified. This guy is a jinx!"

Sun Mo's lips twitched. If he was someone who believed in Fengshui, he'd kill Ma Qianzu as a sacrifice.

"I saw it! There are people dressed in the same clothes as this guy!"

Ma Qianzu reported.

"What?"

Jia Wendong's eyes lit up and he immediately darted into the spire. He then cried out, "Teacher Wei, Nangong! This is great! I've finally found you guys."

Sun Mo and the other three exchanged a glance and entered.

"Wendong?"

Wei Xueli had just finished saying that when he grabbed onto his blade tightly, looking toward Sun Mo and Gu Xiuxun. "What's going on?"

Jia Wendong felt very awkward. Both sides were rivals, but he only reached here after depending on their protection. This made him feel embarrassed.

However, he had to reply to his teacher's question.

"I followed Sun... Teacher Sun here!"

Out of respect for Sun Mo, Jia Wendong didn't call his name out directly.

When Wei Xueli saw Jia Wendong like this, he patted the latter's shoulder and consoled him, "Don't blame yourself. This place isn't somewhere you can explore by yourself. Following them to protect yourself is a smart choice. Teacher won't blame you for that."

"Thank you, teacher!"

Jia Wendong heaved a sigh of relief.

"Take care of Nangong!"

After instructing him, Wei Xueli stood up and faced Sun Mo and Gu Xiuxun. "Since you've protected a student from Mingshao, I'll let you guys off this time around. Let's go!"

"What did you say?"

Gu Xiuxun broke out laughing from the fury. This guy was very arrogant, conducting himself from a superior stand.

"Huh?"

Hearing that, Jia Wendong got a big fright. He quickly looked at Sun Mo's expression then covered his mouth with his hand. He persuaded Wei Xueli softly, "Teacher, there's no way to win!"

"Of course! I'm at the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm! There's no way that they'd be able to defeat me!"

Wei Xueli was very confident. Reaching the fifth level of the blood-ignition before 21 was quite a brilliant achievement.

"No... I'm saying..."

Jia Wendong was speechless and felt very anxious. He couldn't possibly say, 'I'm saying that you can't win against him', could he? Wei Xueli would bear a grudge against him for life.

"What do you want to say? Take care of Nangong!"

Wei Xueli was impatient, so he urged Sun Mo and the others, "What? You don't want to leave? Then don't blame me for not holding back!"

Jia Wendong recalled how Zhen Yuanxiong died. Out of consideration for Wei Xueli's life, he no longer cared about anything else and immediately darted up in front of Wei Xueli.

"Teacher, Teacher Sun has beaten Teacher Zhen!"

Jia Wendong thought in his heart, (Teacher Wei, can't you be more modest? I know that you're strong, but there's always someone stronger in this world.)

"Teacher Zhen? Which Teacher Zhen?"

Wei Xueli frowned, unable to react at the first instant. After all, Zhen Yuanxiong was a strong expert at the sixth level of the blood-ignition realm. Across the schools, he'd be able to rank amongst the top five.

"Teacher Zhen Yuanxiong!"

Jia Wendong repeated, his tone more serious this time around.

"Who?"

Wei Xueli's face was in disbelief as he looked toward Sun Mo. "You're saying that Teacher Zhen has been killed?"

## **Chapter 390: Great Teacher Halo Unleashing Its Might Again!**

"Yes!"

Jia Wendong nodded furiously.

"..."

Wei Xueli almost asked, 'are you f\*\*king kidding me?'. Who was Zhen Yuanxiong? He was a genius teacher from the Black-White Academy whom the headmaster personally headhunted with a huge sum of money.

Leaving aside his teaching capabilities, Zhen Yuanxiong was extremely talented in cultivation and was already at the sixth level of the blood-ignition realm. How terrifying was this achievement?

(You are telling me now that he got killed?)

"What sinister trick did this fellow pull?"

Wei Xueli stared at Sun Mo, but his eyes were now filled with wariness. He felt that Sun Mo was a scheming fellow who would employ all sorts of tricks just to achieve his goals.

If not, how would it be possible for him to defeat Zhen Yuanxiong?

"He didn't use any tricks!"

Jia Wendong shook his head.

"Before Teacher Zhen fought with him, was Teacher Zhen injured?"

Wei Xueli thought of another possibility.

"Nope, Teacher Zhen was in his optimal condition!"

Jia Wendong continued to shake his head.

"It was a two vs. one?"

Wei Xueli felt that he had discovered the main point. It seemed like he really had to be cautious. These two teachers should be teachers from 'A' grade schools that the Central Province Academy had hired at a great price.

Why didn't he feel that they were from the Nine Greats?

Graduates from Nine Greats were all targets to be highly focused on. Hence, Headmaster Ming had collected their information.

Wei Xueli checked before. The names 'Sun Mo' and 'Gu Xiuxun' were definitely not among them.

"'A' grade schools are really powerful!"

Wei Xueli retracted his feelings of contempt. He might not be able to win if it was a one vs. two. He had to think of a solution.

"No, Teacher Sun fought one on one against Teacher Zhen!"

Jia Wendong had a bitter smile on his face.

"Stop farting!"

Wei Xueli couldn't stand it anymore. "You should open your eyes and take a look. Are there any injuries on this fellow's body? Does he look like someone who just fought against someone at the sixth level of the blood-ignition realm?"

(Let alone light injuries, there aren't even any scratches. Do you think the identity of Zhen Yuanxiong who is an honor graduate from one of the Nine Greats is false?)

"You have to be smarter in the future. Don't believe what people say so simply. You have to see it personally before you confirm it!"

Wei Xueli lectured.

"I saw it personally with my eyes!"

Jia Wendong didn't blame Wei Xueli as this matter was too unfathomable. Even though he saw it with his own eyes, he still found it hard to believe even now.

"Ah?"

Wei Xueli had a mouthful of words, but he wasn't able to say anything now. He glared at Jia Wendong and asked, "Are you sure you are not blind?"

"Teacher, I truly saw it with my own eyes. Teacher Sun fairly and uprightly killed Teacher Zhen in a duel!" Jia Wendong reiterated.

He added, "Oh, it's also a complete victory!"

"..."

Wei Xueli suddenly felt his mouth going dry. He wanted to drink a mouthful of water to moisten his throat. After that, he gazed at Sun Mo and discovered that Sun Mo was currently surveying the stairs at the side.

As for the beautiful teacher and female student, both of them were staring at him with a look of ridicule on their faces.

Things were extremely awkward now.

Wei Xueli was arrogant because he was a teacher from the number one school in the 'D' grade, with the hopes of many people on his shoulders. Also, his strength was pretty good and he had remained undefeated in the first two rounds of the competition despite encountering many battles.

However, being arrogant didn't represent that Wei Xueli was an egotistical idiot.

(This can't be blamed on me. Who would have expected that a soon-to-be-delisted school would have a teacher of this level?)

(If you are so powerful, why didn't you take a job at a higher-grade school?)

Wei Xueli was preoccupied.

After that, he recalled that during dinner last night, Headmaster Ming seemed to have said that the results of the Central Province Academy weren't bad?

But at that time, everyone was in high spirits and basically didn't care about other schools. In any case, no matter which schools they were facing, none of them could be a threat.

"Is this fellow at the seventh level of the blood-ignition realm?"

Wei Xueli asked in a low voice.

"Mn!"

Jia Wendong nodded with certainty.

"F\*\*\*I"

Wei Xueli cursed and felt incomparably embarrassed. He wanted to say something so he could leave the conversation with his dignity intact, but he wasn't able to find anything to say.

"Eldest miss, this fellow is afraid now!"

Ma Qianzu was filled with disdain.

Just when Wei Xueli wanted to shoot back verbally, his tongue seemed to become knotted after he saw Sun Mo.

"Do you still want to fight?"

Sun Mo asked.

(Fight your head!)

Wei Xueli silently mumbled in his heart.

He cast a glance at Nangong Dao. This crazy fellow wasn't paying attention to the surrounding matters, but Jia Wendong was still conscious.

(Wait a minute, I thought of a solution to resolve everything!)

"Teacher Sun, right? As teachers, our combat strength is secondary. The most important thing is to educate and guide our students on the correct paths of life!

"Nangong Dao before us is the number one freshman of our Mingshao Academy. However, earlier when he was in this spire, he was defeated and was mentally impacted. Can you stir his spirits and get him to return to normal?"

Wei Xueli spoke righteously, acting as though he wanted to compete with Sun Mo in terms of guiding ability.

Sun Mo looked at Nangong Dao. His appearance was normal, but there was a vacant look in his eyes as he sat limply on the ground.

"Teacher Sun, don't fall for his trick. This student clearly has a problem."

Gu Xiuxun reminded him.

"What? Teacher Sun can't do it?"

Wei Xueli forcefully asked.

However, he already knew the answer. Sun Mo would surely not be able to accomplish it because even Ming Xian was helpless when it came to such a situation.

After the fog had cleared up, everyone went missing.

However, Wei Xueli's luck was not bad as he had encountered Ming Xian right away. After that, under Ming Xian's lead, they came to the bottom of this spire and chose to climb it.

When they reached the fifth level, the two of them saw Nangong Dao. At that moment, this number one student was already in a daze, seemingly as though he had lost his soul. He was kneeling on the ground and was in a stunned state.

Ming Xian thought of some ideas but still failed to cure him. He could only get Wei Xueli to bring Nangong Dao away while he continued to attack the spire.

From Ming Xian's point of view, everything was caused by that secret treasure of darkness. As long as he obtained it, all the problems would be easily resolved.

Sun Mo stared at Nangong Dao.

13 years old, ninth-level of the body-refinement realm.

Strength: 9. Incomparable.

Intellect: 7. An intelligent youth, but it is slightly inferior when compared to his other stats.

Agility: 9. As steady as a tree when he is standing and as fast as wind when he is moving!

Endurance: 9. Terrifying endurance.

Will: 0. Mental breakdown.

...

Potential value: Extremely high!

Note: Suffering from the corrosion effect of a darkness illusion. Having tasted the first defeat in his life, he continued to challenge it but failed again and again, leading to him ultimately having a mental breakdown and sinking into self-doubt.

"A potential value of extremely high!"

Sun Mo sighed ruefully. This data was simply off the charts, but such a genius was actually suffering from a mental breakdown? Sun Mo was suddenly very curious toward that darkness illusion.

"Teacher Sun? If you cannot accomplish it, you can always decline my offer!"

Wei Xueli heaved a sigh of relief. He could be considered to have gained the advantage.

"What if I can accomplish it?"

Sun Mo looked at Wei Xueli. "Although as a teacher, I'm bound by duty to help a student, I really feel very unhappy looking at your attitude. Why don't you start first?"

"[..."

Wei Xueli was at a loss.

"What 'I'? If you can't do it, just admit it directly!"

Sun Mo's tone turned heavy.

Wei Xueli gritted his teeth.

"Is your face more important than your student?"

Sun Mo questioned.

"This teacher, stop treating others as fools! Such a method is simply too low class. Oh right, we are competing. Even if we gang you two against one, the judges also won't say anything against it."

Gu Xiuxun coldly laughed.

Wei Xueli smiled bitterly and lowered his head. "Sorry, I admit defeat."

Wei Xueli wanted face, but he wanted to live even more.

Sun Mo walked toward Nangong Dao and persuaded him with meaningful and heartfelt words.

"Student Nangong, victory and defeat are common in the path of cultivation. There's no need to take it too seriously. You are still young, and in the future, you have more than enough time to win your honor back."

Swish~

A great teacher halo erupted.

However, Nangong Dao continued sitting limply there, not having any reaction at all.

Wei Xueli retreated to the side and couldn't help but have a mocking smile on his face. (Priceless Advice? Sorry, Ming Xian already tested it, but it was ineffective.)

Sun Mo drew in a deep breath. In his mind, memories of those movies about encouragement surfaced. At this instant, 'Forrest Gump', 'The Shawshank Redemption', 'Seabiscuit', etc were recalled by him.

Sun Mo's state of heart immediately began to stir.

Bzz~

Sun Mo's right hand shone with a milky-white radiance. After that, he punched out with his fist, but it stopped right before it hit Nangong Dao's face.

Swish!

The light from the fist entered Nangong Dao's mind.

•••

"I can't even defeat my own clone. What's the point of me living on?"

"No, I should be the clone, right?"

"Who am I? Where should I go? What should I do?"

Nangong Dao's mind was flooded with all sorts of negative emotions as though it was covered in gloomy dark clouds.

All of a sudden, a ray of sunlight penetrated the thick layer of clouds and shone at his heart, bringing with it a hint of warmth.

Nangong Dao saw a man running and a soul that refused to give up despite being imprisoned for tens of years.

He could also see a horse that was running unceasingly for the sake of becoming the best it could be!

...

After he regained his senses, Nangong Dao discovered that tears were flowing down his face.

"What am I doing? Can't I simply endure this bit of difficulty? Nangong Dao, to think that you proclaim yourself as a genius? In the end, you are so soft and weak!"

Bang!

Nangong Dao smashed his fist onto the ground, hating himself for his weakness.

"Ah?"

Wei Xueli was stunned. (Was this a great teacher halo? Why have I never seen it before?)

(Could this be a brand new halo that Sun Mo comprehended himself?)

(No, it can't be. He is just a new teacher. How can he be so accomplished to this extent?)

"The path ahead is still long. If you give up now, you would miss out on many beautiful sceneries!"

Sun Mo looked at Nangong Dao and smiled.

Nangong Dao turned his head and looked at Sun Mo.

He was also an intelligent guy. Hence, he instantly understood that it was Sun Mo who saved him.

"Thank you for your guidance, teacher!"

Nangong Dao turned and knelt on the ground respectfully, kowtowing three times.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Nangong Dao +100. Friendly (100/1,000).

"Damn, he really managed to stir Nangong Dao's spirits?"

Wei Xueli was badly shocked.

"You are the one who was enlightened."

Sun Mo was modest. When he used Divine Sight again, he discovered that Nangong Dao's will already rose to 5.

Nangong Dao stood up and glanced upward. "Teacher, do you want to head up? I think it's better to think thrice before acting. The situation up there is very bizarre."

As he spoke until here, Nangong Dao felt a lingering fear in his heart.

"Teacher Gu, you should stay here and take care of Ziqi and the others. I'll head up first for a look!"

"Since you can save Nangong Dao, I feel that there shouldn't be any problems if all of us head up together."

Gu Xiuxun didn't want to miss out on something so interesting. "Also, I feel that such a situation might be able to temper the students' wills."

"Alright then."

Sun Mo suggested.

Sun Mo compromised.

The four of them began to head up via the stairs.

"Teacher Wei, what should we do?"

Jia Wendong anxiously looked at Wei Xueli.