

Teacher 931

Chapter 931: Deadly Sea of Trees

The thing that Lu Jian was worried the most about ended up happening. Moreover, it was worse off than his expectations.

After Sun Mo completed the spirit runes and more spirit qi tornados appeared, everyone's gazes landed on Lu Jian.

This was the strongest evidence.

This Lu Jian had forged a spirit rune, claiming that it was something he had discovered in the darkness ruins and wanting Sun Mo to decipher it. This was too sinister of him.

Ordinary great teachers and students were surprised by how amazing Sun Mo was. However, the teachers and students who majored in the study of spirit runes were mindblown.

How strong must Sun Mo, no, Ancestor Sun be, to be able to see through Lu Jian's scheme in merely half an hour? Moreover, he had also completed the spirit rune.

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The dew spirit rune and spirit gathering rune were still alright. After all, they were simple. However, the third one was clearly an incomplete spirit rune that had been dug out from a darkness ruin. To think that Ancestor Sun could even patch it up...

This... this was extremely outstanding!

At that moment, over 10,000 favorable impression points were contributed.

Sun Mo completed the spirit rune, sized it up for a little, and then asked Lu Jian, "Do you want to check it?"

Lu Jian's face instantly flushed up from awkwardness and embarrassment.

"Teacher Lu, you major in the study of spirit runes, right?"

Sun Mo put down the brush and said, "Give it up. You don't have the aptitude."

Swoosh!

Lu Jian's countenance instantly turned ghastly pale and then grim. He couldn't hold it in anymore and bellowed.

"Sun Mo, I admit that you have extremely great mastery in the study of spirit runes. But this doesn't give you the right to humiliate me."

Lu Jian bellowed.

The other great teachers also felt that Sun Mo had gone a little overboard.

Sun Mo didn't mind Lu Jian's attitude but asked instead, "How long have you been learning the study of spirit runes? I think it should have been at least 15 years, right?"

"I started studying spirit runes when I was a student. I'm just one step away from reaching the grandmaster level,"

Lu Jian's reply was very firm and emitted a strong pride.

It was definitely considered young to reach the grandmaster level at the age of 40. It wouldn't be wrong to say that he had an outstanding aptitude.

"How long has it been since you've gotten this spirit rune?" Sun Mo then asked, "I reckon that it should be six or seven years, right?"

"Seven years and a few months!"

Lu Jian looked surprised. How did Sun Mo know that?

"Teacher Sun, how did you know this?"

The freckled female great teacher looked very curious.

"This stone board has been preserved quite well, but there are some places where your handprints got onto it. Based on the corrosion degree the handprints have on the stone board, I can assess its age."

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Sun Mo shrugged.

He had Divine Sight as well and could tell from one glance.

"You're really an archaeologist!"

The freckled lady gasped in surprise.

The other people were in disbelief as well. After all, Sun Mo was too young.

"What else does Teacher know that we don't know about?"

Tantai Yutang frowned, feeling that Sun Mo had a lot of secrets that were worth probing deeper into.

"This spirit rune isn't very difficult, but you haven't managed to decipher it after seven years. What right do you have to say that you have aptitude?"

Sun Mo asked.

"I... I..."

Lu Jian's expression turned awkward, but he still didn't cower. "How many talents like you are there in the Nine Provinces? Most spirit runists are like me. It's not bad to be able to decipher an unknown spirit rune after over ten years."

"You're wrong."

Sun Mo shook his head. "Many people only reach the starting points of those great geniuses after an entire lifetime of hard work."

"The reason I'm saying that you have no aptitude isn't because you didn't manage to decipher this spirit rune, but that your future achievements will forever be picking up other people's wisdom. You'll never be able to stand at the forefront."

"I've got it!"

The freckled female great teacher nodded. "You're saying that no matter how hard Teacher Lu works, he'll just be an assistant in spirit runes and it'll be impossible for him to become a leader."

"En!"

Sun Mo looked at Lu Jian. "Teacher Lu, I'm not targeting you. I just don't want you to waste too much effort on this subject."

Everyone fell silent. Actually, many great teachers understood this but didn't wish to admit it.

It was like how the academician's assistants were segregated into different tiers.

Some assistants weren't able to complete support jobs that were too difficult, let alone lead a project by themselves.

"I... I..."

Lu Jian stammered 'I' a few times before changing into a bitter look, howling, "But I have spent over 20 years on this subject. Wouldn't I achieve even less if I were to pick up some other subject?"

Sun Mo revealed a pitiful expression but didn't agree with him. (It still remains a problem on whether you can be a great teacher.)

To speak the truth, if the other party had challenged him openly, Sun Mo wouldn't have acted like this without any reservations. However, this Lu Jian was too sinister.

Of course, Sun Mo wasn't wrong. It was true that this guy didn't have any aptitude.

"Teacher Sun, you're really a good guy to be showing him pity when he schemed against you."

The freckled lady looked at Sun Mo with an admiring gaze. "As expected of my idol."

"Idol?"

Gu Xiuxun immediately became wary. This female great teacher was on the shorter side, and she also had freckles on her face. She wasn't good-looking, but her papayas[1] were very big.

This advantage was too great. After all, all men like women like this.

After all, cuteness was nothing before papayas.

"That's right. He scored full marks in his written examinations for all three examinations, becoming the three-time champion. This is such domineering results!"

The freckled lady took out a handkerchief and wiped her right hand hard before putting it out toward Sun Mo. "I'm Bai Xiqing, a great teacher from the Virtuous Academy."

Bai Xiqing bowed as she said this.

"Hello!"

Sun Mo shook hands with Bai Xiqing.

"Wow, I'm shaking hands with my idol!"

Bai Xiqing was very agitated.

It wasn't a trend in Jinling to shake hands as a form of greeting. The reason she did this was to show her respect.

"Teacher Lu, hurry up and apologize!"

Kang Yan reproached her colleague and then looked toward Sun Mo. "Teacher Sun, our school has failed in our discipline and brought you trouble."

Yang Yuwang's lips twitched. Although Kang Yan was usually strict and serious, always lashing out at others, she was kind-hearted. With her saying this, it was clear that she was going to help Lu Jian.

Any other schools would have reproached Lu Jian and then fired him. After all, he had gone overboard.

Before Sun Mo gave a reply, Liang Hongda walked over.

"Teacher Kang, your school should really take efforts to put things in order given how you've produced someone like this who spoils the reputation of great teachers!"

Liang Hongda let out a cold snort and looked toward Liang Hongda with an icy countenance. "Your great teacher title has been removed. At the same time, you'll be handed over to the Saint Gate's jury. If it is ascertained that you forged a spirit rune to make things difficult for Sun Mo, then you'll have your title removed for life."

"Vice Sect Lord Liang, I was wrong!"

Upon hearing this, Lu Jian dropped to his knees with a plop. (My life will be over if I can't be a great teacher.)

"Take him away!"

Liang Hongda waved his hand and instructed his subordinates. He then looked toward Sun Mo and smiled. "Teacher Sun, oh, I should be calling you Ancestor Sun. Your performance is really astounding!"

"I don't deserve that!"

Sun Mo said humbly.

"I heard that you've created a miracle and allowed spring to come upon withered trees in the Dragon Subduing Academy."

Liang Hongda said politely. "When are you planning to take the test for the ancestor title?"

Grandmasters and ancestors weren't titles one could proclaim by themselves. They must be tested and certified.

"There's no hurry!"

Sun Mo didn't mind.

"That's true. You're only in your twenties. There's no hurry even if you wait for another 30 years."

Liang Hongda laughed. "But getting the title earlier will save you the trouble of being challenged randomly. Moreover, you'll be able to break the records as well."

"Thank you Sect Lord Liang for your concern. But I've wasted too much of everyone's time. Should we start the competition?"

Sun Mo smiled, showing a great demeanor.

"En, it'll be starting!"

Liang Hongda walked over to the platform that was set up temporarily, starting the talk before the competition started.

However, the teachers and students weren't listening. Their attention was on Sun Mo.

"Teacher Sun could be at the ancestor level, right?"

"Be braver, remove the 'could'. Teacher Sun is an ancestor-level spirit runist."

"Drawing three spirit runes right on the spot, all of them forming spirit qi tornado. Such high quality is enough to explain everything."

The teachers and students discussed amongst themselves. Then, some great teachers squeezed their way over.

"Teacher Sun, what effect does that spirit rune have?"

People from the Nine Provinces were more reserved. They'd basically not ask such questions where privacy was involved. However, this time around, they were too curious.

The spirit qi tornado's formation proved that the duplication of the spirit rune was successful. There was no need for Sun Mo to activate it. However, everyone wished to know.

This was like how a chemist suddenly saw that someone had discovered a brand new element. They wouldn't be able to control themselves and would want to probe deeper.

"This is a spirit rune that reduces gravity."

As Sun Mo said this, he took the spirit rune that Li Ziqi had just put aside, tearing it and activating it.

Swoosh!

A light-blue sphere shot out, landing onto a fat great teacher. At the next instant, his clothes started to float up as if it was in vacuum.

Everyone was dazzled by this scene. A few spirit runists wanted to speak up but felt too embarrassed. They could only secretly feel regretful that they hadn't taken a look at that spirit for a little longer earlier.

"After the competition ends, those who wish to have this spirit rune can come to get it from the Central Province Academy!"

Sun Mo smiled lightly. "It'll be for free."

"Teacher Sun is very generous!"

"Ancestor Sun, you're really the role model for us, spirit runists."

"That's right, that's right, it's Ancestor Sun!"

The great teacher who addressed Sun Mo as Teacher Sun apologized immediately.

Suddenly, Sun Mo received close to 10,000 favorable impression points.

It was because his behavior was too generous. Sun Mo would definitely be able to earn a big amount from the sales of such a unique spirit rune, but he didn't try to sell it.

What was an ancestor's demeanor?

This was it!

"It's a steady win!"

Li Ziqi smiled happily. She knew that after this, Sun Mo's status in the spirit rune circle would rise to the very top.

As for selling this for money?

Given how their teacher had so many unique spirit runes, he wouldn't care for something like this.

"I announce the start of the competition."

After Liang Hongda finished his words, the famous school's teams could set off. However, they didn't leave directly but gathered by Sun Mo's side.

"Great Teacher Sun, thank you for your generosity."

All the students from every famous school bowed in unison before setting off.

"..."

Sun Mo was a little shocked.

An Xinhui and Wang Su watched this scene quietly, clapping softly for Sun Mo.

People revered ancestors, but respect was something gained through such generosity and selflessness, as well as the outstanding contribution they had made in a certain subject.

Take a herbalist for example. If they were to invent some sort of medicine with special effects but only sold it at a high price, who'd respect them regardless of how talented they were?

However, once a herbalist were to provide the medicine's prescription without asking for any remuneration, the merit would be amazing. What Sun Mo had done was similar to this.

After this continued for half an hour, the famous school's groups set off for the secret realm.

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In a hotel next to the Qiushui Public Square, two people saw the entire process.

"This Sun Mo is fishing for fame and recognition!"

Lu Wuyin's lips twitched.

"Brother, there's no need to care how he thinks. At least he contributed a new spirit rune."

Lu Cangqiong said something in fairness.

"En!"

Lu Wuyin nodded. "Let's try to get him to join our side!"

"I think that'll be difficult. He has great prospects in the great teacher world. He has no need to join the Dark Dawn."

Lu Cangqiong closed the window. "We better hurry and execute the plan. Otherwise, if the old ancestor were to put the blame on us, we'd be in trouble."

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(Regardless of what treasures there are in this secret realm, all of them belong to our Green-robed Ancestor.)

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The Central Province Academy's group traveled quickly on their horses, not daring to have any delays. Five days later, they passed through the Fallen Leaves Canyon and arrived in the Qiushui Plains.

Thereafter, everyone was astonished by the scene in front of their eyes.

The Qiushui Plains of the past had now been covered by a lush layer of vegetation. Plants grew amongst the forest and there were cries from insects and birds. It gave off the feeling of a primitive forest.

"This place should have been plains, but this forest suddenly grew out overnight!"

Gu Xiuxun looked at the brief report that the Saint Gate had issued out, frowning a little. "What the hell is this?"

"Xiuxun, the Darkness Continent's natural laws are mysterious. Everything is possible." Wang Su reminded her.

"Let's go on forward!" An Xinhui ordered.

According to the plan, they were going to go around for three days and then split up after they had gotten familiar with the environment.

What was in front of Sun Mo was a large stretch of primitive forest that seemed to have no end. No, it might be more suitable to call it a sea of trees.

There were unknown tree species that reached a height of 100 meters. They shot all the way up and it was impossible to see where the end was. Moreover, each of them was so thick that it'd take over ten people to hug it.

"I feel like a crawling insect now!"

Lu Zhiruo exclaimed.

That was true. This was like when an ant entered a primitive forest. What it saw seemed to be magnified, as if it'd be able to climb up to the sky through a tree.

After entering the forest, the rays of light instantly turned dim as they were blocked by the lush tree crowns. Light breezes blew past in the forest and brought a refreshing coolness.

There were bushes, weeds, and fallen leaves on the ground. When the horses stepped on the soil, many small bugs could be seen scattering in all directions.

A light rotting smell that was unique to forests could be smelled in the air.

Everyone slowed down due to wariness since they had just entered the secret realm. They only managed to travel over 30 li in half a day. Then An Xinhui gestured for the group to stop and start to set up camp to rest.

It was time for lunch.

"Xiuxun, your group will be responsible for managing the campsite and food. The other groups, go check out the surroundings and gather information."

An Xinhui gave out instructions and everything went on orderly.

"Teacher Wang, Teacher Sun, what do you guys think?"

An Xinhui looked into the distance. "Which direction should we head to?"

This forest was too big. Even if 100 small groups were to come in, they'd be insignificant. It'd depend on their luck in the contention for secret treasures.

The dragon seeking pearl mustn't be used right off the bat. So, Sun Mo turned and looked toward Lu Zhiruo. However, before he could say anything, he suddenly received the Holy Pharaoh's warning in his mind.

"Enemy attack!"

Chapter 932: 5-Stars Great Teacher, Longevity Realm Major Character!

The Holy Pharaoh had the Bug Swarm Invasion ability. The effect would be to release several hundred bugs whose vision could be shared with the Holy Pharaoh and used as a scouting means.

“Be careful! Enemy attack!”

At the instant Sun Mo received the warning from the Holy Pharaoh, he bellowed out.

If an ordinary great teacher were to shout out so suddenly, everyone might have doubts. After all, the surroundings were very quiet. However, Sun Mo was the signboard of the Central Province Academy and the strongest uprising star. Therefore, his words represented authority.

In the blink of an eye, all the teachers and students unsheathed their blades and swords, keeping their guards up of their surroundings.

The senior students even formed battle formations with those close to them..

Du! Du! Du!

An Xinhui blew a copper whistle, producing a short but intense sound. She was reminding the groups that had gone out to scout the surroundings to be careful.

The summer wind blew, causing the branches and leaves to rustle.

Everyone was fully focused, but there weren't any motions at all.

“Where's the enemy?”

Sun Mo continued to ask.

This was the benefit that spiritual controllers had. They didn't need to speak and could communicate with their spiritual beasts through their minds.

The Holy Pharaoh continued to search for the target. “10 o'clock direction, 50 meters underground.”

“You guys stay here!”

As Sun Mo said this, he darted out at full speed.

Thick twisted tree roots bulged up on the ground. Sun Mo traveled several meters with one step and then drew his blade, slashing.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Blade qi gushed out, slashing onto the ground and sending soil and broken pieces of leaves flying.

“Too shallow.”

The Holy Pharaoh warned, “It's coming!”

Sun Mo felt a slight tremor coming from underneath and immediately jumped onto a huge tree fork.

Rumble!

Soil splattered, looking like a spring eruption, and a thick 'worm' darted out from underground. Its head was round with sawtooth-shaped teeth in the middle, looking like a chrysanthemum flower as they opened and closed.

Kacha!

When the sneak-attack missed, the worm's body contracted and swelled up. It was then spurting out a large amount of green viscous liquid like a spout.

"What is this?"

Sun Mo dodged.

Pa!

The viscous liquid hit the spot where Sun Mo had been standing, immediately corroding half of the tree trunk and releasing white smoke.

"What is this? A python?"

Gu Xiuxun came over to render assistance when she heard the commotion.

"It's an earthworm!"

Sun Mo had scanned this worm with his Divine Sight.

"Senhai Giant Earthworm, a large-sized earthworm that lives in the Darkness Continent. It feeds on various ferocious beasts and excels in sudden attacks. Once the prey gets dragged underground, they're sure to die."

Note: Its combat prowess is mediocre and its strength is in its powerful bite, the high corrosiveness of the acid its spurt, as well as its outstanding self-recovery ability. However, once it goes underground, it will become an extremely troublesome and strong foe.

"It's because the Senhai Giant Earthworm moves with great agility in the soil like a whale in the ocean."

"Danger level, A-grade!"

Note: Its meat is high in protein and can be used as feed for bird-type animals. Its heart, especially, can strengthen a cultivator's recovery abilities after eating it.

"Earthworm?"

The others who came rushing over looked stunned. This worm was over 20 meters long and two people wouldn't be able to hug it together. (Even a big python might not be as thick, yet you're saying that it's an earthworm?)

However, no one doubted Sun Mo's assessment.

"Quickly climb up onto the trees. Once you get dragged underground, you'll definitely die."

At the instant Sun Mo finished his sentence.

Rumble!

The Senhai Giant Earthworm came charging up from underground toward where the group of students was standing.

Pa pa pa!

The soil that was sent flying splattered everywhere like heavy rain. The huge earthworm bit at Li Ziqi. Her reaction was the slowest and she was the closest to it.

“This is bad!”

Sun Mo performed the Wind King Divine Steps and was about to help her, but An Xinhui was faster. With a flash, she appeared in front of Li Ziqi, using one hand to protect her while slashing out her longsword with the other.

Swoosh!

The simple-looking sword slash caused the Senhai Giant Earthworm to be cut into two.

Squeak!

The huge earthworm let out an agonizing cry, spewing out acid incessantly while darting into the ground, wanting to escape.

“Die!”

Xuanyuan Po held onto his silver spear and came down from the sky like a shooting star, piercing into the Senhai Giant Earthworm’s body.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

A series of explosions occurred in the huge earthworm’s body, causing many bulges to appear on it.

The great teachers who had wanted to attack stopped, looking at Xuanyuan Po with surprised gazes.

This young man was really amazing!

He had chosen a good timing to attack and even the part he attacked was also spot-on. Most importantly, he didn’t show any hint of cowering on his face. It was filled with excitement instead.

What was the most important thing if one wished to become a battle god?

Aptitude?

No, it was a strong yearning for combat!

Most people felt nervousness and fear toward fighting and killing. However, people like Xuanyuan Po only felt excitement and yearning. To them, fresh blood was the best wine.

Bang!

The Senhai Giant Earthworm’s entire body was charred, emitting wisps of black smoke as it fell to the ground.

“How did you discover its vital spot?”

Wang Su felt curious.

“When it dodged Mistress’s sword attack, it clearly defended this spot.”

Xuanyuan Po explained.

“Defend?”

Lu Zhiruo blinked as she looked toward this corpse, her face filled with perplexity. “This large earthworm doesn’t even have hands, so how does it put on defense? And how could you tell?”

Xuanyuan Po shrugged. “It wriggled a little earlier.”

“Wriggled?”

Lu Zhiruo wasn’t the only one who couldn’t understand. It was the same for Xianyu Wei.

The former was stupid while the latter, despite being born with great strength, had too little actual combat experience.

“At the instant Mistress attacked it, it avoided getting hit where its heart was by wriggling.”

Jiang Leng explained.

“Teacher Sun, your personal disciples really have outstanding aptitudes!”

Wang Su praised, feeling a little envious.

Putting Xuanyuan Po and Jiang Leng aside, Ying Baiwu and Helian Beifang were also extremely outstanding. It was because when they had pounced toward the Senhai Giant Earthworm, they had also been aiming for the heart.

The large earthworm’s wriggle was very short, so almost everyone didn’t take any special notice of it. Therefore, this aspect was reliant on their aptitude.

“With these two students, Teacher Sun, you’re sure to get your 4-star title.”

Jin Mujie felt envious.

Over the next two days, the Central Province Academy’s group continued to move together. They also started to encounter all sorts of danger, with most of them coming from bugs.

In this forest, humans were insignificant as ants, with natural foes everywhere.

On the morning of the third day, everyone split up.

“I’ve figured it out. Everything in this forest is magnified.”

Xuanyuan Po was raring to go. “I want to catch a longhorn beetle as a mount. I wonder if it’ll work.”

“Aren’t you figuring out this too late?”

Tantai Yutang rolled his eyes. “Moreover, when longhorn beetles fly, they’ll spread their wings. Where are you going to sit on?”

The sickly guy knew that what Xuanyuan Po wanted was a flying ride.

“Teacher, where should we head next?”

Li Ziqi looked around.

This huge forest was endless like a green ocean.

“Zhiruo, you decide on the direction!”

Sun Mo instructed.

“Huh?”

The papaya girl, who was carving her name on a tree, immediately hid the small knife in her hand behind her back when Sun Mo called her name.

“I... I don't know.”

Lu Zhiruo looked toward Li Ziqi, trying to ask for help.

If she were to pick the wrong direction, they might not be able to find any secret treasures. In more serious cases, they might face the threat of death. Lu Zhiruo wasn't able to withstand such a pressure.

“Don't look at others. You should be the one to pick the path.”

Sun Mo urged.

Li Ziqi gave the papaya girl a gaze of being unable to help.

“Stop dawdling. Hurry up.”

Sun Mo believed in the lucky mascot's luck.

Mei Ziyu and Murong Mingyue had no objections. However, Li Ruolan, who went along with them, tugged Sun Mo's sleeves secretly.

“Don't act recklessly!”

The beautiful reporter reminded him, “Be more serious about this. Everyone is waiting to see your performance. If it's too bad, your reputation will plummet.”

In Li Ruolan's perspective, Sun Mo was too sloppy to let Lu Zhiruo pick the path.

“It's not as if I'm living for others.”

Sun Mo chuckled.

Seeing that it was impossible for her to refuse this task, Lu Zhiruo had no choice but to do it. She broke off a one-meter-long branch, put it upright on the ground, pressing onto it with her right index finger.

“Daddy Heaven, I'm the child you like the most. Please tell me in which direction we should go.”

After saying that, Lu Zhiruo let go of her hand.

Pa!

The branch pointed in the 9 o'clock direction.

Lu Zhiruo then looked at Sun Mo, pointing in that direction with a cowardly gaze. She felt that she'd definitely get scolded.

“Will we be able to find secret treasures if we head in this direction?”

Yaoguang was licking a tanghulu and asked with interest.

“Huh?”

Lu Zhiruo looked embarrassed. “I forgot about that. Let me try again.”

The papaya girl then put the branch upright again.

“Daddy Heaven, in which direction should we go to find secret treasures? Please tell me. In the future, I’ll offer more incense to you during festive periods. I’ll offer a very thick kind of incense.”

Lu Zhiruo let go of her hand.

Pa!

This time around, the branch pointed in the 2 o’clock direction.

“This way!”

Lu Zhiruo pointed.

Xianyu Wei poked Helian Beifang’s arm. “Why do I feel that this isn’t reliable at all?”

“Let’s set off!” Sun Mo urged.

“You...”

Li Ruolan was speechless. (Aren’t you treating this too casually?)

But since Sun Mo had said the word, the others didn’t dare to raise any objections and went on their way.

The group continued to stop intermittently as they walked. When they encountered darkness medicinal plants or species of darkness, Sun Mo would explain what they were to the others.

One day passed by just like that.

“Sun Mo, do you want to win this or not?”

Li Ruolan couldn’t hold it in anymore. She was a reporter. The reason she followed Sun Mo was because she wanted to get explosive news, materials that could bring about a huge impact.

“Leave it to fate!”

Sun Mo was planning to use the dragon seeking pearl when the competition was almost over. He was going to use these few days to focus on training his students.

When it was close to noon, a series of combat sounds rang out.

“Sun Mo, let’s hurry up and take a look!”

Li Ruolan urged. Someone might have discovered a secret treasure.

“Let’s go!”

Sun Mo wanted to go loot-picking and led the group to the scene. He saw that a 20-men team from the Bozi Academy was jointly attacking a three-meter-tall huge ape.

There were five great teachers and 20 students.

When they saw Sun Mo, the teachers and students who were responsible for keeping watch of the surroundings immediately turned their blades toward him.

“Teacher Sun, please conduct yourself with dignity!”

A middle-aged great teacher spoke up, worried that Sun Mo would seize this huge ape.

“What do you mean by that?” Qin Yaoguang frowned.

“I apologize if I have misunderstood.”

The middle-aged great teacher threw a glance at the group behind Sun Mo and felt assured.

“Is this huge ape a magical species?” Xianyu Wei felt curious.

“It isn’t a magical species, but as it is very similar to humans, it can be used for testing medicine on. As long as it doesn’t show any rejection symptoms, then the medicine will be fine for humans too.”

Lu Zhiruo explained, “Moreover, its organs can be transplanted into humans.”

“Second Senior Martial Sister, you know so much.”

Xianyu Wei felt great admiration.

“Hehe, I’ve just read a few more books.”

The papaya girl scratched her head, feeling embarrassed. She tended to be more stupid and hadn’t been admired by her martial juniors before. This feeling wasn’t bad!

The middle-aged great teacher, Cui Xiangxin, sized up Lu Zhiruo.

Read a few more books?

Please, books that had information on that huge ape were very precious. Even in the Nine Greats, it wasn’t some information that everyone could have access to.

The people from Bozi Academy knew this information because of the 5-stars great teacher, Zou Qi. He had graduated from the Skyraise Academy and was an expert in species of darkness.

Why did Zou Qi not stay in the Skyraise Academy but chose to teach at Bozi Academy?

Firstly, it was because Bozi Academy paid a high salary and secondly, it was because he could take 80% of the things obtained from the Darkness Continent. He wouldn’t be able to get such a high offer if he was in the Nine Greats.

When one was at Zou Qi’s level, they would no longer view their place of employment with too high of importance. They wanted actual benefits to improve themselves.

As long as they got stronger, they'd be able to take their pick freely on which of the Nine Greats to head to.

"Teacher Sun, you don't have a chance. The person leading the group is Zou Qi, a 5-stars great teacher. He has a great reputation as a pioneer."

Mei Ziyu spoke to him softly.

Not all great teachers liked to teach; some liked adventures and pioneering better. They were responsible for the exploration of the Darkness Continent on behalf of the respective famous schools.

This 5-stars great teacher was clearly a major character in the Longevity Realm. He crossed his arms in front of his chest, giving commands in the battle while looking calm and composed, displaying a great demeanor.

"Leave!" Zou Qi spoke up with a hoarse voice that was filled with great pressure.

"Can't we watch?" Xuanyuan Po retorted.

"Shut up!"

Buzz!

A golden halo erupted. It was Profound Words and it made Xuanyuan Po unable to speak up.

"Teacher Zou, is there a need to do this?"

Sun Mo frowned. He hadn't displayed any hostility.

"Teacher Sun, if I'm not giving you face, I'd have shouted for you to scam."

Zou Qi let out a cold snort.

That was true. The potential that Sun Mo had displayed was limitless. Zou Qi didn't want to offend him or else he'd have lashed out long ago.

A 5-stars great teacher had this right and capability.

"Teacher Sun, you guys better leave!" Cui Xiangxin chuckled. "This huge ape is ours."

"Let's go."

Sun Mo left.

After moving away for a few li, Xuanyuan Po punched a big tree next to him, feeling upset. "Teacher, why don't we fight them?"

"Is there something wrong with your head? That's a 5-stars Longevity Realm major character. He can wipe us out entirely by himself."

Li Ruolan was speechless.

"There's no hurry. There's still a long time before the competition ends. There are plenty of chances."

Sun Mo's lips twitched. It wasn't that he didn't dare to offend Zou Qi. But that huge ape didn't even have the right to be listed on the mysterious darkness species list. Hence, there was no need to risk their lives for that.

The group continued their way, with things going on as usual in the day. But in the evening, Helian Beifang looked at the setting sun on the horizon, his brows furrowed tightly.

"Teacher, there seems to be big trouble."

"What trouble?"

Lu Zhiruo came over. This junior martial brother was a person of few words and would definitely not say such things without any reason. "Did I lead the wrong way?"

Chapter 933: The Students' Night Lesson!

This primitive forest had a lush crown. If one looked down from the sky, it would look like a massive green carpet. After the sunlight was gone, the evening also came earlier.

"It's not that you've led the wrong way, but that there's a problem with the terrain here."

Helian Beifang explained.

They didn't have a concrete destination so they could go wherever they wished to. However, there was a mishap here.

"What's going on?"

Li Ruolan looked excited. What she wanted was such accidents, such dangers. Otherwise, what could she write when she returned?

Seeing Sun Mo looking over, Helian Beifang reported in a soft voice, "The sun's direction isn't right. We seem to have been going around in circles the entire day."

"Ghost hits the wall [1]?"

Li Ziqi's eyes lit up. She had read about such a phenomenon before and had long since wanted to experience this herself.

"Ghost?"

Xuanyuan Po clenched silver-cha tightly, wanting to catch one.

Ying Baiwu and Jiang Leng instantly raised their weapons and kept their guards up.

Sun Mo observed his personal disciples, feeling satisfied with their performance.

"I don't know how to explain this. I've been living in the great plains since young and have great confidence in my sense of direction."

Helian Beifang couldn't explain things as he relied on his intuition.

Everything was vast and endless on the great plains. One could only not get lost by relying on obvious landmarks. However, Helian Beifang didn't need those.

The few of them looked toward Xianyu Wei.

“I... I get lost easily.”

Xianyu Wei looked awkward.

Sun Mo looked around and activated his Divine Sight.

Darkness primitive forest, dangers lurking everywhere.

Other than these words, there was no other information.

“You guys set up the camp. I’ll check out the vicinity!”

Xuanyuan Po volunteered.

“I’ll go with you!”

Jiang Leng was in charge of scouting in the group.

“No. If what Helian said is right, you guys will likely get lost.”

Sun Mo refused. “It’s late. Set up the camp first. This will be it for today.”

After giving out the orders, Sun Mo ordered the scarab to search the surroundings, getting it to go further away. Anyway, he could still summon it back through the spiritual control technique.

After dinner, the night came down.

The forest was silent. There was only the sound of the wind that caused the leaves to rustle.

Sun Mo started to teach the students next to the campfire.

Li Ruolan held onto a small booklet and took notes with interest. It was because what Sun Mo was teaching was neither the study of spirit runes nor the art of spiritual control. It was an article written by someone called Sun Tzu.

This lesson was interesting.

It was because these articles taught people how to fight wars and gain victory in a battle.

“In all kinds of war, the direct method can be used to win one battle, but indirect methods will be needed in order to secure a complete victory. Indirect tactics, efficiently applied, are inexhaustible as Heaven and Earth, unending as the flow of rivers and streams...”

Sun Mo said fluently.

Not all of his students were interested in spirit runes or spiritual control. If he were to talk about them, he’d be wasting the time of the students who didn’t like these two subjects.

Other than these, what Sun Mo knew was all modern world knowledge. A large part of them couldn’t be taught. Thankfully, he read books often as a form of leisure and especially liked Sun Tzu’s Art of War.

This could be used for teaching. After all, even though the people in Middle-Earth Nine Provinces didn’t fight a lot of battles, they fought a lot. It could be put to use.

“In fighting, the greatest taboo is to conform to order. That’s because the opponent will be able to guess your next move. Always remember, don’t let other people figure out what you’re thinking.”

Sun Mo couldn’t help but let out a sigh of relief after seeing that the students were listening seriously. But when his gaze landed on the combat addict, he frowned.

This guy wasn’t paying attention.

“Xuanyuan, what are your thoughts after hearing this?” Sun Mo asked.

“It’s too troublesome. Why not just charge forward?” Xuanyuan Po’s lips twitched.

Sun Mo shook his head. “Ziqi, what do you think?”

“Impeding the enemy head-on, attacking the enemy by surprise. One can only gain victory when combining both straightforward and surprising moves.”

Li Ziqi gave it some thought. “In war, one must not only win but also gain victory at the smallest price. It’s because every soldier is a precious life.”

“That’s right.”

Sun Mo nodded. “Xuanyuan, if you don’t change the way you think, you’ll forever only be a fierce general that charges at the very front. You’ll never be the commander.”

“I don’t want to be the commander. That’s too troublesome.”

Xuanyuan Po looked impatient and got up. “Teacher, I want to go and cultivate.”

“Junior Martial Brother Xuanyuan, listen to it for a little longer. These battle tactics can be used in individual battles as well.”

Li Ziqi persuaded.

(There are three beautiful female great teachers listening in. How awkward will it be for Teacher if you just walk away like that?)

“I believe in breaking through everything with strength.”

After saying that, Xuanyuan Po walked into the forest without turning back.

“Don’t go off too far.”

Sun Mo instructed before looking toward Xianyu Wei. In terms of pure strength, there was no one as domineering as this girl.

“Teacher, don’t pay him any heed. Can you tell us more?”

Helian Beifang looked at Sun Mo with anticipation. He had taken out a small booklet long ago and was taking notes seriously.

“You’re interested in battle formations?”

Sun Mo felt curious.

“The reason I came to the south from the plains is because I want to see what kind of talents are being nurtured on the precious Central Plains’ land that is vast and rich in resources.”

Helian Beifang’s tribe didn’t have a big population and they led bitter lives. Therefore, he wanted to learn the Central Plains’ systems to raise his tribe’s strength.

“Your tribe is too small and the Jin Country only has a history of 100 years, not yet entering a decline. Junior Martial Brother Helian, even if you’ve learned dragon-slating techniques, you won’t be able to put them to use.”

Tantai Yutang persuaded, “You should put your efforts into your cultivation.”

“Sun Mo, where did you hear this Sun Tzu’s Art of War from? Why haven’t I seen it before?”

Li Ruolan felt curious.

Mei Ziyu and Murong Mingyue also turned to assess Sun Mo. If a book of such caliber was written, it’d definitely be very popular and wouldn’t remain unknown.

“My father found it in some ruins in the Darkness Continent.”

Sun Mo came up with a white lie.

“Your father is really lucky.”

Li Ruolan asked after some hesitation. “Can I take a look at the original?”

“Sister Ruolan, your request is a little overboard.”

As the eldest martial sister, Li Ziqi naturally had to safeguard Sun Mo’s properties. It was a great loss to let someone listen to one lesson from a book like this, let alone allowing the person to read it.

It was because it was too precious.

Li Ruolan waited for a few seconds, and seeing that Sun Mo had no intention of speaking up, she quickly apologized. “I’m sorry for being abrupt.”

In her heart, the beautiful female reporter felt a little disappointed.

Sigh!

(Why is it that my exquisite look isn’t able to capture Sun Mo’s heart?)

However, after glancing at Mei Ziyu and Murong Mingyue from the corner of her eyes, she accepted things.

These two ladies were no worse off than she was, let alone that there was An Xinhui.

“I’ll be giving a test now. Starting from Zhiruo, each of you, share your thoughts.”

Sun Mo instructed.

“Hmmm? Am I the first?”

Lu Zhiruo frowned slightly, trying hard to rack her brain. After thinking about it for a few minutes, she came up with this. "That Sun Tzu is really amazing! It's just that his name is too weird. Even if his parents hadn't gone to school, they shouldn't have come up with such a name."

"..."

Sun Mo's lips twitched a little.

"Huh? Am I wrong?"

The papaya girl looked confused.

"Sun Tzu's actual name is Sun Wu. The reason he is called Sun Tzu is because 'tzu' is a respectable address for someone with good knowledge and culture."

Sun Mo explained.

He had forgotten that things were different from the modern world. The Nine Provinces had real Saints and didn't treat 'tzu' as a form of respectable address.

"What a strange respectable address. Then doesn't that mean that Teacher has the right to be called Sun Tzu as well?"

Lu Zhiruo scratched her head. "I feel that it'd be cursing you!"

"Don't speak recklessly. I don't have the right to carry the word 'tzu' behind my surname."

Sun Mo thought to himself that this was really the case. In reality, if one wished to draw hatred to themselves, they could just say 'Hi, grandson[2]' and there'd be a conflict breaking out.

Other than the papaya girl who was stupid and saw things differently, the other students' answers were very decent. Sun Mo explained things to them in order.

In the end, he concluded things.

When Sun Mo spoke about Sun Tzu's Art of War, he'd provide classic battle examples. After all, books like the Three Kingdoms were well-known to all the children in China.

That was right. He could talk about this as well.

"Outlooks"

The papaya girl felt that these terms were very profound.

"It's referring to one's outlooks of the world, of values, and of life. At your age, you should be establishing the correct outlooks."

Sun Mo smiled. "Alright, we won't be able to finish this topic in a short time. We'll talk about a story called the Three Kingdoms in the next lesson."

"The name sounds very impressive!"

Ying Baiwu liked stories like these.

Li Ruolan sized up Sun Mo, feeling that his teaching style was very different from the other great teachers. Firstly, his attitude was very amicable and the content he taught was very novel. She was considered a well-learned person, but she had never heard of something like outlooks before.

“You guys can discuss this amongst yourselves!”

Sun Mo got up. Although he had received 3,000 favorable impression points, he wasn't in a good mood because he had lost the Holy Pharaoh.

According to their agreement, it should come back around this time, but it didn't.

Therefore, Sun Mo used the spiritual control technique, but he still couldn't summon the Holy Pharaoh over. This showed that there was a mysterious power in this place that cut off summoning.

It was late and it was pointless for him to feel anxious. Therefore, Sun Mo told everyone to make good use of the time to get a good rest.

The next day, the sky had just lit up when Sun Mo woke everyone up, announcing that they'd be setting off.

Sun Mo made plenty of markings on their way and also had everyone take note of the surroundings.

“Helian, how is it?”

Sun Mo would ask this once every half an hour.

“I can't find the critical point.”

Helian Beifang was very gloomy. He had a strange feeling, but he couldn't put it into words.

Everyone walked around in the forest for the entire day. They found some medicinal plants and also killed several dozen species of darkness, and thus could be considered to have some small success. However, they knew that they were trapped in a maze.

During this time, Sun Mo had summoned Little Silver and succeeded on the first try. However, when he had Little Silver search for the exit to this forest maze from the sky, he lost connection with it.

Another day passed by.

During dinner.

“Will we end up wasting a whole month here?”

Lu Zhiruo felt very reproachful. She shouldn't have pointed out this direction for them. Daddy Heaven didn't like her.

“I'm just afraid that we might not be able to get out even after one month has passed.”

Tantai Yutang's lips twitched. “I'm a dying person after all, so it doesn't matter to me. But you guys still have lots of youth and years ahead of you.”

“Tantai, can you not make such jokes?”

Li Ziqi reproached, having the demeanor of being the eldest martial sister.

“All of you, come over and sit down. We’ll be starting today’s lesson.”

Sun Mo spoke up, “The gushing water of the Yangtze River poured and disappeared into the East, washing away past heroes [3]. This time around, we’re talking about the struggle and supersession of a dying dynasty. It is also a song that praises countless heroes and great generals.”

Sun Mo’s voice was warm, rich, and calm, like the sunlight on a spring day. It made one’s worrying and nervous feelings calm down unknowingly.

“It really gives off a sense of security to be with Teacher!”

Lu Zhiruo sat at the side, propping her head up with both hands, tilting her head slightly and looking at Sun Mo with an admiring gaze. She really hoped that this time could continue on.

The Yellow Turban Rebellion [4],

Oath of the Peach Garden [5]...

Even Li Ruolan and the other two great teachers were listening attentively, not wanting to miss out on a single word, let alone the students.

The night in the forest was warm and gentle.

“Alright, we’ll stop here for today. Everyone, have an early rest.”

Sun Mo looked at his students. “I’ll give you an assignment. In this story, what have you seen and which character do you like?”

“I like Zhang Jue. The Yellow Heaven [6] rises, the people are happy, the world is at peace. This is really very domineering.”

Helian Beifang was full of praise.

Sun Mo suddenly felt a little worried. He couldn’t have brought up an ambitious character who’d rise in troubled times, could he? After all, who would like Zhang Jue after reading the Three Kingdoms?

People would usually like Master Guan [7] or at least the ferocious Zhang Fei!

“It’s still early. Tell us more!”

Li Ruolan pleaded. “Otherwise, who’d be able to sleep if you leave us hanging like this?”

“That Dong Zhuo is definitely a bad guy.”

Li Ziqi said confidently, “He went to the capital. The emperor is going to be in trouble.”

“I’m not saying anymore. Take a rest and restore your energy. We’ll need to break out of this maze tomorrow.”

Sun Mo took a glance at the little sunny egg. As expected of a royal princess, her sense of danger was very sharp.

“Huh? Teacher has a way out?”

Xianyu Wei wanted to know.

“My idea isn’t too mature yet. We’ll see tomorrow.”

Sun Mo didn’t know that this maze was man-made and thought that it was formed naturally. Therefore, he wanted to improve his plan and try to succeed on the first attempt.

If there were enemies, he’d kill them with one blow, not letting them patch their plan.

Nothing happened for the entire night and daylight came.

The group went on their way, continuing to explore the place.

Sun Mo still didn’t manage to get in contact with the Holy Pharaoh and Little Silver. However, to his surprise, he heard combat sounds.

“Let’s go and take a look!”

When Sun Mo’s group arrived at the scene, they realized that it was still the 25-men team from Bozi Academy that was led by Zou Qi.

“Are you guys lost as well?”

Lu Zhiruo was simple-minded and didn’t have her guards up against others. When she saw ‘companions’, she asked.

At such a time, the group members weren’t allowed to talk to others easily without Zou Qi’s orders. But Sun Mo had gotten the answer from their gazes.

They were trapped too.

“Teacher Zou, do you want to share information?”

Sun Mo asked.

Zou Qi fell silent. Two days ago, he had scolded these people and caused their relationship to be very tense. Wouldn’t it make him appear very useless if he were to agree to a cooperation now?

Moreover, he was a 5-stars great teacher. Although Sun Mo had a great reputation, he was still a 3-stars after all. It’d make him appear low class to concede like this.

“No need.”

Zou Qi refused. He felt that if Sun Mo had a solution, he wouldn’t have been trapped here and asked for cooperation.

“Hehe, I’m really scared that you’ll agree!”

Sun Mo threw Li Ziqi a glance without any traces.

Chapter 934: First Wave of Spoils of War

Li Ziqi had a pure heart and had been with Sun Mo for so long. With just a frown from her teacher, she would be able to guess what he was thinking.

Seeing Sun Mo's gaze, Li Ziqi immediately went up and persuaded him, "Teacher, we mustn't let our emotions affect our decisions at a time like this. Even if we're aggrieved, we should bear with it for a while. After all, a 5-stars great teacher is a great pillar."

"Eldest Martial Sister, what do you mean by that?"

When Xuanyuan Po heard this, he felt displeased.

Ying Baiwu frowned, her gaze switching between their teacher and Li Ziqi. Although their eldest martial sister couldn't fight, her competitiveness would definitely not lose out to others.

Begging for help?

This was something that Li Ziqi would definitely not do..

"Hmmm? Why are you guys quarreling?"

Lu Zhiruo became nervous. "Xuanyuan, be quiet. Eldest Martial Sister is doing this for the good of everyone too!"

After saying that, the papaya girl looked toward the little sunny egg. "Eldest Martial Sister, everyone understands your sentiments, but to seek shelter under someone just for the sake of living is really lacking in integrity."

Jiang Leng was a young man who might look clumsy on the outside but was actually meticulous on the inside. After giving it some thought, he understood what Sun Mo meant and chipped in, "I feel that Eldest Martial Sister is right. Teacher, why don't we bear with it for a while?"

Qin Yaoguang chewed on pearflower candy and squatted on a tree fork, watching everyone quarreling with great interest. As for Tantai Yutang, he only covered his mouth with a handkerchief and kept on coughing non-stop.

"What should we do?"

Xianyu Wei stood beside Helian Beifang, secretly poking his arm with her finger. Her seniority was the lowest and she had just come to Jinling. She had no right of speech.

"Just watch from the side!"

Helian Beifang instructed in a soft voice.

Seeing the group of students start quarreling, the teachers and students from Bozi Academy instantly revealed a proud expression. A few of them even wore sneering expressions.

"Teacher Zou, these people have gotten into an internal strife."

"That's for sure. Who wouldn't want to live when facing a dangerous maze?"

"It seems that this is all there is to Central Province Academy's Sun Mo!"

Bozi's great teachers started talking amongst themselves.

Zou Qi's expression changed. "Teacher Sun, we can let you come with us, but you must use 100 'massages' as the price."

"You must be daydreaming."

Mei Ziyu lashed out, "Do you know how precious Sun Mo's God Hands are? All the top-notch nobles and wealthy people in Jinling would have to queue for it even if they were to offer great gifts."

"Teacher Sun, let's go. I don't believe we won't be able to break out of this maze by ourselves."

Mei Ziyu pulled Sun Mo and wanted to leave.

"Teacher Sun, it won't be just 100 times when we meet next time."

Zou Qi smirked.

Cui Xiangxin wore a solemn expression, his gaze moving on everyone in Sun Mo's group. He then gradually revealed a baffled expression.

...

Sun Mo's group left, only stopping after they traveled for five li.

"Li Ziqi, if you do this again next time, I won't recognize you as the Eldest Martial Sister anymore."

Xuanyuan Po was very displeased. He hated cowards the most.

"That's enough. Can't you tell that it was just an act earlier?"

Tantai Yutang persuaded.

"Hmmm? Act... acting?"

Lu Zhiruo looked stunned. "Why is there a need to act?"

"The title of a 5-stars great teacher represents strength and a sense of security. We're now in a dangerous situation. If we encountered them and didn't seek help but looked like we couldn't wait to leave, what do you think they'd be thinking?"

Li Ziqi asked.

"What would they think?"

The papaya girl subconsciously asked and then mumbled, "Is a 5-stars very amazing? Why don't I have that feeling?"

But she wasn't to blame for this. Back at home, she couldn't see any 5-stars great teachers. The weakest ones would be 6-stars.

"They would think that we have found a way to break out from this dangerous situation. Wouldn't we suffer a loss if they were to follow us?"

Li Ziqi smiled. "That's why we need to find a reasonable excuse to leave."

“So that’s how it is.” Xianyu Wei was struck by a realization.

“...”

Xuanyuan Po suddenly felt that he was like a fool.

1

“Sun Mo, you’ve thought of a way to break out of this situation?”

Li Ruolan interjected, “There should be no one following us now. Let’s hurry up and solve the problem.”

“Let’s go a little further!”

Sun Mo urged.

After they walked for another 10 li, Sun Mo chose an area that provided a good vision. He then had his personal disciples hide before he took out a bottle of ancient whale oil. After that, he opened up the cork and poured it on a tree trunk that was seven to eight meters tall.

The strong fragrance immediately permeated.

In less than three minutes, a commotion broke out in the forest. A lot of ferocious beasts came charging over.

The ancient whale oil was good stuff. While ordinary ferocious beasts might not be able to notice it, those who were over 100 years old would definitely be able to.

Li Ziqi understood it now. Their teacher was planning to use the divine language of spiritual control to summon all the living ferocious beasts in this area. The older they were, the more familiar they’d be with this maze.

“The ecosystem in this area hasn’t been destroyed. This shows that the one who created this maze doesn’t have their guards up against the native living creatures.”

Sun Mo explained.

He had read a lot of books in the old headmaster’s library and there was also a lot of information on species of darkness in his brain. Therefore, he knew that even secret treasures and species could only be born from their reliance on the environment.

The first ones to fly over were birds. They landed on a tree fork and peaked on the ancient whale oil.

Suddenly, a thick python darted out from the lush tree crown, swallowed a few birds, and then flicked out its tongue to lick the ancient whale oil.

Once it took in the whale oil, the python started trembling agitatedly and even made hissing sounds non-stop, warning the other ferocious beasts not to come over.

“This can’t be the boss in this maze, right?”

Looking at the big snake that had green scales all over its body, Sun Mo wondered if he was going to imitate Xu Xian [1] and be someone who ‘plays’ with snakes too?

If he didn't take action, the ancient whale oil was going to be finished. However, just as Sun Mo was about to toss out Land Proof, a monkey suddenly came down from the sky.

The monkey was holding onto a thick 'rock spear' in its hands.

This rock spear was formed from binding three vines together and attaching a sharp rock tip that was one-arm length and had clearly been sanded down.

Sun Mo thought that the python's scales would be very hard, but that rock spear actually pierced through them without any obstruction, entering into the flesh.

Pffft!

Blood splattered.

Ssss!

The python let out an agonizing cry and fell down. However, before it landed, it curled its tail around a tree trunk, swung its head, and then smashed toward a big tree next to it.

It was going to use this method to smash the monkey on its back to death.

Bang!

The python smashed onto the huge tree and tree leaves fell, looking like falling snow.

Squeak!

However, the monkey jumped onto the tree trunk in time, avoiding the collision. Then, with a rebound, it landed on the python's back and attacked with its spear again.

The python darted around crazily like a galloping wild horse, while the monkey looked like a horseman that was taming it. Its rock spear pierced all over the python's body.

"This monkey is really amazing!"

Xuanyuan Po was surprised.

"You can't be thinking of fighting the monkey, can you?"

Ying Baiwu frowned. If that was the case, she wouldn't see the combat addict as her strong rival anymore.

"Sun Mo, that rock spear's tip is something good. It must be some kind of rare ore!" said Mei Ziyu.

"En!"

Sun Mo had activated Divine Sight.

Greenhaze Macaque. It understands human nature, has high intelligence, and can sense spirit qi, capable of cultivating. But this one is just seven years old and is still young.

Note: It is very rare. The reason it hasn't been listed on the mysterious darkness species list is because it is too rare. To date, the great teacher world still doesn't have detailed information about it.

Astral ore, one of the three hardest ores in the world. After grinding it, it is abnormally sharp. Moreover, after it comes into contact with blood, it will excrete a type of poison that will cause the skin and flesh to rapidly soften and rot.

“We’ve struck it rich!”

Sun Mo felt at ease. With this rock and the Greenhaze Macaque, their school’s grade would probably not drop.

The macaque was still too young and slightly weaker. Hence, the python managed to escape.

Squeak!

The macaque let out a displeased cry and went onto the tree trunk, looking at the ancient whale oil on it. It first took a whiff, dabbed some of it with its finger, and then put it into its mouth to suck on it.

Ssss!

This was good stuff!

The macaque broke into a wide smile, hopping around to celebrate. However, its expression suddenly changed and it ran off. It was like a sharp arrow, shooting toward a tree fork that was over ten meters away.

There wasn’t such liquid in the forest, so it was likely to be a trap. Regardless if it was a trap or not, it should flee first.

Swoosh!

Sun Mo felt that this wasn’t good. He threw out Land Proof and at the same time darted out.

“Surround it!”

Sun Mo let out a low bellow.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

All his personal disciples darted out. Ying Baiwu held tightly onto her longbow, sending arrows raining down to suppress it.

Swoosh!

Just as the macaque dodged the first Land Proof, it was hit by the second.

Squeak!

Much information suddenly gushed into the Greenhaze Macaque’s brain, so much so that it was unable to process all of it. It felt very groggy and became unstable on its feet, falling down.

Hu!

Sun Mo heaved a sigh of relief. Things had almost gone awry.

Squeak!

The macaque looked at Sun Mo and broke into a smile.

“Teacher, it’s a success!”

Xianyu Wei congratulated.

“Hmm?”

Sun Mo was about to nod when he was taken by surprise. That wasn’t right. The effect of the divine language of spiritual control wasn’t so fast. But why was this monkey already smiling amicably at him?

Was it scheming something?

As expected, at the next second, the rock spear in the monkey’s hand pierced out toward Sun Mo’s eyes.

This attack was fast, accurate, and vicious. It had clearly been practiced over 10,000 times.

Swoosh!

Sun Mo dodged and the rock spear brushed past his brows, trimming off a few hairs.

“Why am I so unlucky?”

Sun Mo was speechless. Although Land Proof was a divine language of spiritual control, there were a few percentages of failure. But Sun Mo didn’t expect he would fail.

He was really downright unlucky.

Squeak!

The macaque thrust out again when the first attack failed.

It could tell that this guy was the leader of these two-legged humans. As long as it could deal him a serious injury and have him as its hostage, it’d be able to leave safely.

Thinking of escaping?

There were no more chances. There were enemies everywhere.

Sun Mo didn’t have the time to generate another Land Proof and could only draw his blade to put up a block.

Since the gentle way didn’t work, then he’d do it the hard way. He’d hit it until it gave in.

But at this moment, a golden light halo smashed onto the macaque. It then contracted into a choker that hung around its neck.

“Lay down!”

Lu Zhiruo let out a loud bellow.

Ba-thump!

The macaque’s face landed on the floor and it lay down flat. Its limbs struggled, sending a lot of soil splattering. However, it was futile. The macaque was unable to get back up.

“What’s going on?”

Xuanyuan Po asked. Jiang Leng had moved toward Lu Zhiruo at the first instant. He was worried that the monkey would harm the papaya girl.

“My... my spiritual control technique hit.”

Lu Zhiruo explained.

“Junior Martial Sister Zhiruo, congratulations!”

Li Ziqi rushed over from the back. “This monkey seems very strong.”

“Huh?”

Lu Zhiruo scratched her head. She didn’t care if this monkey was strong. The reason she caught it was for her teacher’s plan.

“What is the background of this monkey?” Li Ruolan asked.

“It is a rare species of darkness!” Sun Mo explained to everyone.

After hearing it, everyone offered their congratulations to Lu Zhiruo.

To beast tamers and spirit controllers, the stronger the pets they caught, the higher their status would be.

However, the papaya girl didn’t wear any happy expressions. She walked to the macaque’s side and put out her hand to pat its head.

“There’s no need to be nervous. After you help us to find the way out of this place, I’ll return your freedom.”

Lu Zhiruo liked small animals from the bottom of her heart. She wasn’t out for any self-interests.

The irritable macaque gradually fell quiet under Lu Zhiruo’s consolation.

“This disciple of yours is really lucky!”

Li Ruolan exclaimed. If this monkey was really as amazing as Sun Mo had suggested, then this stupid girl definitely had it good.

Lu Zhiruo took out a bag of small dried fish from the bag she was carrying and fed it to the macaque.

Pa!

The macaque hit the dried fish away.

However, the power of a contract couldn’t be defied. An amicable feeling toward the papaya girl started to rise in its heart.

“Let them be alone for a while!” Sun Mo instructed.

“Teacher is really magnanimous!” said Qin Yaoguang.

“What do you mean?” Xianyu Wei was baffled.

“This monkey should have been Teacher’s pet, but even though Zhiruo got it, Teacher didn’t mind it at all,” Qin Yaoguang explained.

“Aren’t you looking down on Teacher too much?” Xianyu Wei was speechless. “Why would Teacher care about such a monkey?”

It was true that Sun Mo didn’t care about it. After having subdued the ancient dragon soul, his requirements for pets had become very high.

Half an hour later, Lu Zhiruo came back.

That macaque stood on the papaya girl’s back, holding onto its rock spear and pointing the papaya girl in a certain direction.

“Why do I feel that you’ve become a ride?”

Ying Baiwu frowned.

“That’s not true. Little White is very friendly!”

The papaya girl grinned.

“Little White?”

Everyone looked at the monkey. It was covered in gray fur, so why did she call it Little White? But this wasn’t a problem they were concerned about.

“Do you know the way out?”

Xianyu Wei asked.

“Junior Martial Sister, you should ask why there’s a maze here. Is it because there’s a secret treasure here? If so, where is it?”

Tantai Yutang pointed out.

“Little White says that there’s a vine in this forest that will cause one to lose themselves when you get close to it.”

Lu Zhiruo did a pose of stuffing her ears. “We must block our ears to be able to walk out.”

“Why go out?” Xuanyuan Po swung his spear. “Let’s go look for that vine.”

“We’ll die.” Lu Zhiruo looked at Sun Mo. “Little White says that it’s very dangerous.”

“We have to go even if it’s dangerous.”

Sun Mo consoled her. (What reason is there to return empty-handed from a treasured mountain?)

Lu Zhiruo’s amiability was off the scale. Maybe it was due to her pair of big papayas that she managed to get along well with that monkey not long later.

The monkey led the way willingly, but it rode on the papaya girl’s neck, treating her as a two-legged ride.

Lu Zhiruo grinned, not finding it embarrassing at all.

Chapter 935: Secret Treasure Appears

With this monkey to guide the way, Sun Mo's group no longer had to waste effort in traveling unnecessary paths. After going on for two hours, they appeared on a piece of green land.

There were no longer big, thick, and strong unknown trees growing here. Instead, there was green grass that was over one foot tall, and the area was the size of two soccer fields.

When the summer wind blew, it gave off the picturesque feeling of green plains with sheep and cows.

In the center of the plains, there was a big towering tree. No one knew how many thousand years it had been growing for. The coarse tree bark seemed to be inscribed with the grief of passing time.

A thick and strong purple vine wound around this ancient tree like a python and sent down over 1,000 green vines dangling down like a willow tree's branches.

From afar, it looked like a huge green jellyfish..

Squeak squeak!

The monkey pointed to the big tree and let out two cries.

"Little White says that it's here."

Lu Zhiruo looked over. "Why don't I feel any sense of danger? How did it create the maze?"

"This is a natural ability!"

Sun Mo introduced. In the words of the Nine Provinces' people, this vine was born with the aptitude to influence one's sensory ability.

It was like how Xianyu Wei was born with great strength. This was also a type of inborn aptitude.

If one had to explain this in modern science, this vine was emitting a kind of magnetic field that would interfere with human's brainwaves.

Sun Mo activated Divine Sight and observed it while introducing it to everyone, "That big tree is *Larix potaninii*, a species of conifer. It is over 10,000 years old and can be said to be very old."

"Other than that, there's nothing special about it. However, it has lived for very long after all and its tree trunk has a faint fragrance. If it's made into furniture, it has the effect of refreshing the brain."

"Sun Mo, where did you learn about all this information?"

Mei Ziyu felt curious.

Even though her mother, Mei Yazhi, was one of the future leaders in alchemy, Mei Ziyu had no interest in alchemy at all.

She liked to raise plants, so she had read all the books in the Jixia Learning Palace about plants. Therefore, she could be sure that there were definitely no records of such plants in them.

The Jixia Learning Palace's book collection was very great, being at the top of the Nine Greats. Other than the unique copies that some famous schools had, all other books could basically be found there.

"I read about them in some ancient books."

Sun Mo smiled. "If you wish to read them, I'll recompile the information of those unrecorded plants into a book."

"I'll thank you then."

Mei Ziyu didn't stand on ceremony.

Li Ruolan hadn't thought much about it, but after Mei Ziyu asked this, she suddenly realized that Sun Mo was very knowledgeable. His knowledge base was so big that it was a little frightening.

Even Murong Mingyue, who hadn't had any interest all this while, turned to look at him for a little.

"That vine is something good. Did you guys notice that there are no invasions from snakes, bugs, mice, and ants? This is its effect."

Sun Mo continued to explain, "Its leaves and stolons can be used to infuse in water to make a drink. The former helps one to focus and stay calm, helping one to sleep better. The latter helps to clear fats and slim down, helping a fat person to slim down very quickly."

"Slim down?"

Li Ruolan's eyes lit up. Women would always think of having a good figure.

"En, but the drink made from infusing the stolons tastes extremely bad."

Sun Mo walked forward.

Everyone immediately followed after him. Xuanyuan Po kept his guards up on the surroundings, hoping that a protector beast or something would appear and he'd be able to have a fight with it.

"If it's just this effect, it shouldn't be considered very valuable, right?"

Ying Baiwu felt that it couldn't be sold for much money.

Sun Mo wanted to continue to explain, but he saw the monkey that was riding on Lu Zhiruo's neck suddenly perked its ears and looked around.

In that instant, Sun Mo's brows furrowed.

It was because there was a powerful magnetic field in the vicinity. Therefore, the ferocious beasts and bug swarms wouldn't come here. But why did the monkey have its guard up?

There was only one answer for this. They had been followed.

(F*ck your mom. Is it Zou Qi's group from the Bozi Academy or some other famous school group?)

All sorts of thoughts appeared in Sun Mo's mind, but he appeared calm and composed. Then he revealed an excited expression.

"We've struck it rich. This vine is good stuff!"

Sun Mo purposely spoke very loudly after he got close to the tree, using the wooden blade to move the vines.

This was it. If his expression was too calm, wouldn't it mean that this discovery wasn't good or astonishing enough?

"How do we bring it back?"

Ying Baiwu threw a glance toward the tree crown, looking a little troubled.

As the vine runners went everywhere, they were already deeply bound together with the primitive Larix Potaninii.

"Bring back a part with the thickest root system. We'll be able to transplant it and then get some of its leaves."

As Sun Mo said this, he punched toward the ground.

Boom!

Strong impact waves sent the soil splattering, revealing a big hole. Some of the roots that had soil attached to them appeared within everyone's vision.

Sun Mo glanced around and didn't see the thing he was expecting. He punched out again.

Boom!

Not far away, some birds were alarmed and flew away. The surrounding grass also fell over from the impact.

"Teacher, what do you want to do?" Helian Beifang stood out. "You can just give the instructions and leave it to me."

"Break open the ground and find the thickest stolon to bring back."

Before Sun Mo finished his words, an explosive bellow rang out from nowhere.

"Stop!"

A group of people rapidly darted out from the forest, heading straight over.

"It's Zou Qi."

Xianyu Wei instantly became nervous. "Why have they come here?"

To this girl who had already slimmed down, the appearance of a 5-stars great teacher meant that the spoils that they had found were going to be snatched away.

First come first served?

Sorry!

Exploration of the Darkness Continent was a competition of strength. The stronger person was the one who had the say.

“Teacher Zou, you followed us?”

Mei Ziyu’s countenance turned into rage. She felt that this guy was really shameless.

They had relied on that monkey to find this place. Without it, they’d have to walk around unnecessarily.

Zou Qi might be able to think of a solution, but he’d definitely not be able to do it as fast as Sun Mo.

Moreover, Sun Mo’s solution required the support of a powerful spiritual control technique, and these few great teachers didn’t emit the mysterious and cold aura that spirit controllers usually had.

“It’s a matter between great teachers. How can it be called following?”

Cui Xiangxin pouted. “This is called intelligence, do you understand? Intelligence!”

“You can only blame yourself for being too foolish!”

“We’re the mantis at the back[1].”

“What kind of rubbish analogy is that? It’s the oriole that’s behind, please.”

“But there aren’t any orioles. The vine is a precious secret treasure. These Central Province Academy’s teachers and students are the cicadas, hankering after the secret treasure. Won’t we be the mantis then?”

“Can you shut your mouth?”

The group of teachers and students appeared to be quibbling, but they also casually emitted their strength, composure, and confidence.

“Teacher Sun, thank you.”

Zou Qi didn’t deny it.

Firstly, there was nothing unglamorous about this. Even if Sun Mo were to spread this out, everyone would just say that he was too foolish while praising Zou Qi for being meticulous.

This was an exploration. Everyone depended on their own capabilities.

Secondly, Sun Mo was no fool. Even if Zou Qi were to deny it, Sun Mo wouldn’t believe him. It’d just give him a vile and sneaky reputation, which made others despise him.

“What do you mean by that?”

Xuanyuan Po flicked his silver spear and pointed it toward Zou Qi furiously.

Li Ziqi looked displeased and tried to rack her brain to think of a solution to get out of this situation.

“Teacher Sun, you guys are the ones who found this vine after all. I’ll allow you to bring back a part of the runners and leaves. Of course, they mustn’t be taken into consideration of the results.”

As Zou Qi spoke, he looked toward the monkey that was riding on Lu Zhiruo's neck. His gaze revealed a hint of jealousy.

He was a bug master.

A great teacher who specialized in the control of bugs.

When Sun Mo had appeared in the morning, Zou Qi hadn't thought too highly of him. However, after Cui Xiangxin spoke a few words of advice, saying that Sun Mo might really be able to find the way out, he had a change of mind.

After all, one's reputation was like a tree's shadow. Sun Mo's brilliant result of being the three-time champion would make even Zou Qi drool with envy.

Therefore, they resorted to schemes.

But they didn't expect to hit the jackpot and find this place.

Moreover, he had also heard all of Sun Mo's introduction of this monkey, the rock spear in its hand, as well as of the big tree and vines through the bugs' ears.

The monkey was good stuff. However, Zou Qi still wanted to uphold his morals. Moreover, he was also wary of Sun Mo's limitless prospects. If he were to snatch it forcibly, they'd definitely become arch-enemies.

Zou Qi didn't want to bring things to that stage.

"Ha? It's something we found, but you're only allowing us to bring back a portion?"

Xuanyuan Po sneered. "Is there something wrong with your head?"

"When he said this, it gave people the urge to beat him up."

Xianyu Wei was very angry.

"But he is a 5-stars, so he has this right."

Qin Yaoguang shrugged. "I don't think that we'll be able to win against him even with all of us added together."

"Teacher Sun, you better quit while you're still ahead!"

Zou Qi persuaded Sun Mo.

In his heart, he admired Sun Mo for his great knowledge. He didn't know about all these things, but Sun Mo was able to introduce them with great ease.

He was really amazing.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Zou Qi+300. Friendly (900/1,000).

Sun Mo turned and looked at his students. He then smiled. "I admit my loss since Teacher Zou is more skilled. However, I'm unconvinced to leave just like that. I have a proposal. Why don't we have three rounds of duels? Two victories out of three rounds to decide who this vine will eventually belong to."

The moment Sun Mo said this, everyone looked toward Zou Qi.

"Teacher Zou, there's no need for that," Cui Xiangxin persuaded.

"Teacher Cui, what are you afraid of? Regardless if it is students or teachers, I feel that we won't lose."

A young male great teacher spoke up, instantly bringing about a series of cheers.

Those who could be selected to represent a school in the league tournament were all elites of their school. They were all confident and proud.

Zou Qi fell silent.

"Why? Teacher Zou isn't afraid of ending up in a flop, are you?"

Sun Mo chuckled.

"Alright, we'll decide with two victories out of three rounds."

In order to uphold his reputation, Zou Qi decided to agree to this request. After all, no one would be able to complain if they could gain the species of darkness fair and square.

"I'll go first!"

Xuanyuan Po pulled back Ying Baiwu who wanted to fight. Then, with a somersault, he landed in the center of the field, his gaze sweeping out. "Xuanyuan Po, Spirit-Refinement realm."

"How many acupoints have you opened?"

Cui Xiangxin asked.

One was required to open 108 acupoints to be able to advance to the Blood-Ignition realm from the Spirit-Refinement realm.

"It doesn't matter how many acupoints I've opened. Even someone from the Blood-Ignition realm can step forth!"

Xuanyuan Po said firmly, his gaze looking unbridled.

"What arrogance. I'll beat you."

Chu Long came forward.

Zou Qi's group didn't stop him. It was because Chu Long was ranked at the top amongst all the third-year students of his school. He was quite an amazing rising star and had been taken in by the headmaster as his personal disciple.

After the two young men bowed and greeted each other, they immediately clashed.

Saber against longspear.

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Amongst the densely-packed colliding sounds, sparks splattered.

“Junior Martial Brother Chu, all the best!”

Chu Long’s senior martial sisters cheered him on.

Zou Qi’s brows instantly furrowed.

Although the battle situation looked on par, Chu Long’s expression didn’t seem right. It was too solemn. This showed that the other party was far stronger than he had expected.

On the other hand, Xuanyuan Po looked very excited.

“Your blade technique is a little interesting, but it still isn’t enough!”

Xuanyuan Po attacked fiercely, his spear thrusting out like a dragon. It was as if there were many big snakes biting out suddenly. “Perform your ultimate moves!”

After 30 breaths and 15 moves, Chu Long finally couldn’t hold on anymore. He took a step back with his right foot and then, as his disposition waned, he kept on backing off in defeat.

Bang bang bang!

Xuanyuan Po’s long spear was like a great seething river, wanting to drown Chu Long. While fighting, he shouted, “Perform your ultimate moves! Your ordinary attacks won’t be able to kill me!”

(I also want to perform my ultimate moves, but you have to give me the chance to do that!)

Chu Long clenched his teeth, feeling that all of his internal organs were compressed. This feeling was caused by the counteracting forces. However, he persisted on, waiting to look for a chance.

One step!

Two steps!

Three steps...

After Chu Long backed off for 15 steps, Xuanyuan Po’s lips widened.

“Trash!”

As Xuanyuan Po said this, he performed his ultimate technique.

Great Flame Azure Dragon!

Boom!

The long spear started burning like an orange-red fire dragon that smashed onto Chu Long’s body. It then encompassed him as if wanting to engulf him.

Bang!

Chu Long flew out. After he landed, his life or death was unknown and his entire body was charred. He was in a forlorn state.

“Junior Martial Brother Chu!”

His few senior martial sisters immediately rushed toward him. A female great teacher also came over quickly to treat him.

“...”

The gazes of the other teachers and students from Bozi Academy turned solemn as they stared at Xuanyuan Po.

They could understand that Chu Long had been defeated, but it was a little unbelievable that he had lost so quickly. This meant that his opponent was overwhelmingly strong.

“Xuanyuan, the reason I had you guys fight isn’t to win that vine. Instead, it’s to create chances for you guys to have actual combat and accumulate experience.”

Sun Mo preached, “So, why did you end the battle so quickly?”

“But he’s too weak.”

Xuanyuan Po felt that he wasn’t in the wrong.

“All geniuses have their strengths that you can learn from. Xuanyuan, you’re always so arrogant and criticize others. Don’t always judge a person based on their combat prowess.”

Sun Mo advised.

Xuanyuan Po lowered his head. “Teacher, I know my mistake now. For the next round, I’ll fight for three minutes.”

“This is atrocious!”

Bozi Academy’s students were all enraged. (What do you think we are?)

Several students immediately stood up, wanting to fight it out with Xuanyuan Po.

“You can step down.”

Sun Mo stopped Xuanyuan Po. His gaze then turned to Jiang Leng and Helian Beifang.

Swoosh!

Helian Beifang took a step forward, blocking in front of Jiang Leng, his intent of requesting a battle was very clear.

“Let me do it!” Jiang Leng drew a dagger that was over one foot long from its sheath. “Junior Martial Brother Helian can hold the line.”

The second round determined the win or loss. It was extremely important. Therefore, Jiang Leng wanted to do it himself.

“Alright!”

Helian Beifang didn't insist on going first. Even if Jiang Leng won, he'd still fight the third round.

(They dare to scheme against Teacher? They deserve to die!)

Helian Beifang had decided that he was going to pick Zou Qi's personal disciple as his opponent and then cripple him.

Chapter 936: Knowledge Is Wealth

“Jiang Leng, peak of the Spirit-Refinement realm, please give me your guidance!”

Jiang Leng's expression looked very calm, his gaze scanning these students without any traces of fear or anticipation.

Those that wore serious expressions meant that they were smart and could gauge Jiang Leng's strength. Those who appeared arrogant were weaklings.

Jiang Leng pondered if he should agitate them and take the initiative to pick his opponent. However, after hesitating for a moment, he gave up on that thought.

(I'm Teacher's student. I must have the courage to face any challenges.)

“What the hell? Do you guys think that our great Bozi Academy doesn't have any good students?”

A young man said angrily.

.

Jiang Leng's expression and tone were too taunting.

“Junior Martial Brother Lu, let me do it!”

Zhang Bo stopped him and then looked toward Zou Qi. “Teacher!”

“En, Zhang Bo will fight!” After Zou Qi said that, he added, “Be careful.”

It was true that this guy was quite capable since he could reach the Spirit-Refinement realm at this age.

Zou Qi had no idea that Jiang Leng's cultivation tier would be even higher if he hadn't been treated as an experimental subject by Dean Bai and had his body ruined, wasting a few years.

Of course, during this period, he had built a firm will and gained rich combat experience.

Amongst all of his students, Jiang Leng was definitely the one whom Sun Mo was completely assured of.

Not only could he fight, but he was also very meticulous.

After Zhang Bo bowed, he immediately pounced toward Jiang Leng.

Zhang Bo saw that the other party used a dagger and thought that Jiang Leng must be adept in quick attacks. Hence, he wanted to use speed to fight against speed, ending the battle in the shortest time possible.

If he were to be defensive and give the other party a chance to get into rhythm, he'd have lost half the battle.

Pffft! Pffft! Pffft!

Zhang Bo flicked his longsword and thrust it out three times.

"Not bad!"

Zou Qi was very satisfied.

Even though Zhang Bo had picked a quick-attack tactic, he didn't take Jiang Leng on forcibly. Instead, he had chosen to use speed to push back Jiang Leng, suppressing Jiang Leng beyond his longsword's range.

He was making use of the advantage of 'one inch longer, one inch stronger'. Also, he took this opportunity to observe his opponent and look for a weakness.

"Ahh!"

Xianyu Wei screamed in fright because Jiang Leng didn't avoid the sword but suddenly dashed toward it. He performed the Wind King Divine Steps and forcibly got closer.

The other people's pupils also contracted fiercely.

This guy was really fierce!

"Junior Martial Brother, go for it!"

Lu Zhiruo shouted to cheer him on. When she saw that Xianyu Wei was worried, she smiled and consoled her, "There's no need to panic. We're sure to win this round."

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Jiang Leng avoided the longsword and got close. After that, he returned each thrust toward Zhang Bo's face, throat, and heart.

Zhang Bo's brows raised. He tapped his foot on the ground and backed off at full speed, attempting to draw distance once again. At the same time, he slashed his longsword and slapped his left palm out.

Cloud Flipping Palm!

"Excellent!"

Bozi Academy's students had broken out in cold sweat after seeing Jiang Leng take the risk to charge forward. They then calmed down when they saw that Zhang Bo's reaction was even more dazzling.

"My Senior Martial Brother is equally skilled in his left and right hands!"

A young lady boasted.

Usually, everyone would have a dominant hand, and most of the time, it'd be their right hand. However, Zhang Bo's left and right hands were equally agile.

Therefore, this palm attack was very brilliant.

Jiang Leng seemed to have expected this long ago. He didn't seem anxious but clenched his left hand into a fist, smashing it out at full speed.

Bang!

The fist and palm collided.

"You're courting death!"

Zhang Bo laughed out loud, turning his palm into a claw position, wanting to grab Jiang Leng's fist.

When an assassin had their movement restricted, they'd just be a target and a free kill.

Jiang Leng's left arm shook fiercely, waving like a snake and avoiding the claw attack. It then thrust toward Zhang Bo's throat.

At the same time, Jiang Leng's dagger pierced out in a strange way from under his left armpit, blocking Zhang Bo's blade.

"What?"

Zhang Bo was very surprised.

Was this a movement that humans could do?

He and Jiang Leng were facing each other. His attack was on Jiang Leng's left while Jiang Leng was holding the dagger with his right hand. If Jiang Leng wished to block the attack, he had to be faster.

But in this process, Jiang Leng's left hand was still trying to break through his attacks.

This wasn't all!

Bang!

Their knees had collided with each other.

Pa pa pa!

Zhang Bo fell back, suddenly looking very forlorn. There was a trace of blood on his throat that had been scratched by Jiang Leng's nails.

Jiang Leng didn't ease off and got on the attack once again.

"..."

The people from Bozi Academy were stunned.

This young man was so strong and domineering!

Zhang Bo's composure, battle tactic, and on-the-spot reaction were all perfect. However, he was still suppressed one-sidedly. Who were they going to talk reason to?

They felt that if they were the ones in Zhang Bo's shoes, they'd have been crushed by now.

"F*ck your mom. What kind of monsters are they?"

The young lady who had praised Zhang Bo earlier cursed.

"Haha, wouldn't it be courting death to be competing against Junior Martial Brother Jiang in close combat?"

Lu Zhiruo was very proud. She put her hands to her waist, sharing his pride.

Sun Mo hadn't traditionally taught his students, teaching them only cultivation arts. Instead, he'd teach them different things accordingly. Every one of his students had learned different things based on their specialties.

Take Jiang Leng for example. As his body was too agile and he was a fanatic in close combat, Sun Mo had taught him the ideologies of modern combat.

Fists, legs, elbows, and knees could all be weapons. There were no fixed patterns nor restrictions. The number one request was to defeat the opponent.

Therefore, Jiang Leng's attacks didn't have any patterns. He was like a messy tempest, attacking Zhang Bo non-stop.

To date, Zhang Bo had been through a lot of combat. However, all of them were methodological duels. He had never seen such a combat style before and was caught off guard.

"Look at his forehead!"

A young lady gasped in surprise.

Sssss!

Everyone gasped.

As Jiang Leng kept on moving at high speed, his hair moved and exposed his forehead. The 'trash' word clearly entered everyone's vision.

"Huh? Why is there a 'trash' word?"

"It's a tattoo, right?"

"Your family will tattoo on a 'trash' word?"

Bozi Academy's students weren't the only ones stunned. It was the same for Zou Qi and the other four great teachers. It wouldn't be overboard to say that such a strong young man was a genius. To think that he was even treated as trash?

(What on earth are the Central Province Academy's benchmarks for outstanding students?)

It was so scary!

One minute later, Zhang Bo was defeated.

Bang!

Zhang Bo spurted out blood and fell. However, he didn't faint because Jiang Leng had held back.

"Brother Zhang, thank you for the match!"

Jiang Leng cupped his fists together.

Compared to Xuanyuan Po, Jiang Leng was good at conducting himself.

Zhang Bo let out a sigh. "I'm the one who is weak!"

Bozi Academy's people all fell silent and looked toward Zou Qi.

What were they going to do?

They had lost, but were they going to leave just like that?

But they couldn't accept this outcome!

"It's my turn!"

Helian Beifang stepped out.

"Junior Martial Brother Helian, step down. Let me fight this battle!"

Ying Baiwu asked to take part in the battle.

"You use the bow. You'd be bullying them if you were the one fighting. Let me do it. They'll still have a chance to win then."

Helian Beifang refused.

Hearing this, Ying Baiwu frowned. "If you can't guarantee a win, then don't fight."

"Uhh!"

Helian Beifang was speechless after seeing his iron-headed senior martial sister's expression. (I was only trying to be humble and give them some face. But since you said that, I won't be holding back.)

"If I can't win, I'll kill myself on the spot."

Helian Beifang wore a solemn expression.

Sssss!

Hearing Helian Beifang's words, Bozi Academy's students were all frightened. Did he have to be so ruthless?

(It's not as if we're arch-enemies with each other.)

"That's the way to go!"

Ying Baiwu nodded. "When we fight, we aren't just representing ourselves but also Teacher's honor. We can only win and not lose. If we can't win, then die together with the opponent and at least get a tie."

Swoosh!

As she said this, Bozi Academy's teachers and students looked over, all of them stunned.

(Are all of you crazy?)

Cui Xiangxin looked around and realized that Sun Mo's students had no objections. He was shocked but also felt envious.

How did Sun Mo teach his students? Weren't they too loyal?

"Helian Beifang, Spirit-Refinement realm, please give me your guidance!"

The barbarian young man placed his left hand on his blade handle, his gaze emitting battle will.

This time around, Bozi Academy's students became wary. Although they also wanted to get their face back, their opponent was too strong.

If things didn't go as planned, it'd be really embarrassing.

"Teacher Sun, this isn't fair. The Spirit-Refinement realm students we brought here are all back-up candidates who are here to broaden their vision. The main pillars are all senior students at the Blood-Ignition realm!"

Cui Xiangxin complained.

"A loss is a loss. Don't look for excuses."

Li Ruolan lashed out, "The duels between students are all valid as long as they are within three cultivation levels."

"But this is the league tournament test. The goal is to level up."

Cui Xiangxin lay his hands out. "Then why don't we have our Teacher Zou challenge your three great teachers, determining the victory in a single round?"

This was a little dishonorable, but Zou Qi decided to go ahead with this for the sake of that vine.

"You guys..."

Li Ruolan wanted to say more but was interrupted by Cui Xiangxin.

"According to the rules, we can snatch your monkey as well. Moreover, the Saint Gate will also allow it even if there are casualties."

Cui Xiangxin's words had a hint of threat in them.

How could there not be casualties in a competition like this?

However, everyone would avoid that most of the time. After all, they were all famous schools, and it'd be bad if their relationships were to worsen. There were already so many arch-enemies in the great teacher world. They didn't need to add more.

Everyone had seen that when those arch-enemies met, it'd really be a fight to the bitter end. They'd disregard the results and just hammer the other party to death.

"Do it then!"

Xuanyuan Po was extremely impatient.

"Enough!" Sun Mo stopped him. "This matter will end here. Teacher Zou, based on the agreement, I'll be taking a part of the vine's stolons and leaves."

Mei Ziyu didn't try to dissuade Sun Mo. He wasn't someone who'd suffer a loss, so there must be some hidden reason that she was unaware of for him to be shrinking so suddenly.

Murong Mingyue looked at Zou Qi and felt that this guy was going to die.

(Sun Mo isn't even scared of Dark Dawn's Starlord and Saint Ten-Thousand Leaves. Would he care for you, a 5-stars?)

"Everyone, don't create trouble for Teacher."

Li Ziqi persuaded.

"Please feel free!"

Zou Qi was embarrassed to stop him. After all, this was per their agreement.

"Baiwu, Jiang Leng, the two of you, go up the tree and pick some leaves. Pick the older ones."

Sun Mo instructed and then dug the soil, digging up the roots personally.

"Teacher Zou, could this be a scheme?" Cui Xiangxin asked softly.

"It is taking place right in front of our eyes. What scheme could there be?"

Although Zou Qi said this, he still kept his eyes on Sun Mo, not letting go of any detail.

(You fool!)

Sun Mo mocked them with contempt in his heart. Five minutes later, he led the group to leave while holding the stolon in his hand.

Chapter 937: Earning One Wave First!

Sun Mo let the monkey lead the way and ran for over 30 li before they stopped by a pool. He then had everyone check their body and took a bath.

Sun Mo felt at ease now. He had managed to get in contact with Little Silver, and the Holy Pharaoh had returned as well.

Very soon, a campfire was set up and the smell of roasted meat filled the air.

“Sun Mo, what on earth is going on?”

Li Ruolan couldn't wait and asked.

She reacted to things as well. Sun Mo was such a proud person, so how could he possibly fear a 5-stars great teacher?

Everyone looked over.

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Sun Mo smiled and gave his reasoning.

“That vine is good stuff, but it isn't the best secret treasure. This is!”

As Sun Mo said this, he took out the 'stolon' that he had wrapped up with deer hide, throwing it to the floor.

“What do you mean?”

Xianyu Wei was baffled.

Although this stolon was one arm length, there was more of it on the vine. After all, it was a darkness plant that had lived for several hundred years and was very massive.

“Try touching it!” Sun Mo said.

“Let me do it!”

Qin Yaoguang felt very curious and darted out first, reaching her hand to take the stolon.

“How does it feel?” Sun Mo smiled and asked.

“Hmmm? A little hot and slippery.”

Qin Yaoguang was perplexed. This wasn't a human limb, so why was it hot?

“Sun Mo, stop keeping us in suspense.”

Li Ruolan urged.

“This isn't that vine's stolon but a parasite.”

Sun Mo explained, “It is called 'No Return'. It isn't a plant but a type of bacteria that lives in the roots of plants. As it is unable to live by itself, the people who first discovered it named it No Return.”

It was a type of bacteria that was close to rhizobia.

“Bacteria?”

Everyone looked stunned.

No matter how they looked at this, it was a plant.

Sun Mo naturally knew what these students were thinking. "That's why we say that the natural world is ever-changing and mysterious. Don't be deceived by a certain species' appearance."

"In order to adapt to the environment and survive, a living creature's appearance will be so strange that it surpasses your imagination."

Hearing how solemn Sun Mo sounded, Li Ziqi and the others quickly got up and bowed.

"We've benefited from your teaching!"

"Take a seat. There's no need to be so polite."

Sun Mo wasn't very particular about such etiquette. It was fine as long as they held respect in their hearts.

"Teacher, what effect does it have? Is it still the same as what you said earlier, that it can help one to sleep better and slim down?"

Qin Yaoguang felt curious. She suddenly used strength and threw the stolon strongly toward the ground.

"What are you doing?"

Lu Zhiruo was given a fright.

"Didn't Teacher say that it's alive? I want to see what it looks like."

Qin Yaoguang felt that she'd be able to wake No Return up by doing so.

"It's useless. You can't see such bacteria with your naked eyes."

Sun Mo introduced, "Such species of darkness doesn't have any medicinal effect by itself. It only has a magical ability that allows it to attach itself to and grow on certain plants, allowing the plant to evolve to the next level."

"Evolve?"

Everyone didn't really understand.

"Take a grape vine for example. After the No Return attaches itself onto it, the grapes grown from this grape vine will be big, round, and very tasty. They will also be seedless. It's also possible for the vines to get thicker and the leaves bigger, but they don't fruit."

These were all information that Sun Mo obtained from the books the system had given him.

"This means that the effects No Return has on plants might not necessarily be good?"

Li Ziqi analyzed.

"No, it should be said that the effects might not necessarily be good for humans, but definitely good for plants, allowing them to adapt to the environment."

Humans would definitely not like grape vines that didn't produce grapes. However, to grape trees, that shouldn't matter. They might instead avoid being destroyed by omnivorous animals that liked grapes.

“If we were to transplant it to some rare medicinal herbs, we might be able to evolve them into ones with stronger medicinal effects.”

Mei Ziyu’s expression piqued.

Alchemists’ greatest yearning was to find medicinal herbs with strong effects.

“That’s right. After we get back, we’ll be able to proceed with it.”

Sun Mo looked toward Mei Ziyu. “Ziyu, we’ll need to trouble you for this.”

“No problem.” Mei Ziyu quite liked plants. “But I don’t really know this ‘No Return’ well and will need your cooperation.”

“En!”

Sun Mo was naturally in agreement.

With No Return, it’d meant that a type of medicinal herb could evolve in multiple directions. If this continued, they’d always come across one evolution that had the greatest worth.

“I feel that given how amazing it is, it will be able to get into the top 100 on the magical darkness species list.”

Li Ziqi’s gaze gleamed. With this item, the Central Province Academy would definitely secure a spot in the C grade.

“Those people from Bozi Academy thought that we ran off because we were scared. What they don’t know is that Teacher has taken away the most precious thing, and it was done right in front of their eyes.”

Lu Zhiruo felt that their teacher was really amazing, fooling the opponents with great ease.

Right after the papaya girl said this, Sun Mo received a wave of favorable impression points.

“It’s your monkey’s wary expression that alerted me. Otherwise, I’d have explained about this bacteria to you guys.”

Sun Mo sighed.

It was really scary now that he thought about it. Who would have expected that Zou Qi had kept a trick up his sleeves?

As expected, one mustn’t underestimate any great teachers.

After lunch, Sun Mo led the group to leave this area quickly, heading deeper into the primitive forest.

With the monkey they had just caught to lead the way, Sun Mo could avoid some dangerous areas in advance, avoiding encounters with some of the powerful ferocious beasts. Moreover, they wouldn’t have to move around aimlessly like a headless fly.

This monkey was very smart. It knew the locations of some of the heavenly and earthly treasures.

Of course, Sun Mo headed for the most dangerous area.

Usually, the most dangerous places would have the best treasures!

...

Meanwhile, Bozi Academy's teachers and students looked at the vine, fretting.

"How are we going to bring this back? Dig out the entire thing?"

"Are you a fool? Will plants be able to live after they leave the soil? Moreover, there's still half a month before the league tournament ends. Why would we go back so early?"

"Do you think that its value is enough to let our school retain its grade?"

The group mumbled and the atmosphere was very relaxed. It was because such performance would allow them to receive rewards from the school. They'd definitely be able to get a peak-grade alchemical pill.

"We shouldn't have let Sun Mo leave. He'd definitely know how to preserve it."

A female great teacher sighed, feeling a hint of admiration.

"Be satisfied. You've humiliated them enough as it is. He was the one who found the spoils first."

Cui Xiangxin's lips twitched.

"Let the headmaster go headhunt Sun Mo. Look at his personal disciples, all of them are stronger than the other. This means that Sun Mo is not only knowledgeable but also good at teaching students."

The female great teacher's eyes gleamed.

(With that, I'll have a chance to be colleagues with Sun Mo. We'll be able to have dinner or check out the night festivals together. This might develop into a relationship.)

"Everyone is discussing so intensely that I can't bear to interrupt."

A voice suddenly reached everyone's ears.

The female great teacher and the others suddenly turned and saw a middle-aged man walking out slowly, his gaze moving on to that vine.

"Dark great teacher?"

Zou Qi's countenance was grim.

The other party was wearing a green long robe that had branches and tendrils embroidered at the bottom.

"Haha, other than us people from the Dark Dawn, who else would have the guts to look for trouble with you?"

The middle-aged man smiled and said, "Let me introduce myself. I'm Lu Cangqiong from the Dark Dawn. I am the Right Protector serving under the Green-robed Ancestor!"

Chapter 938: Fervent Fan

Hearing this middle-aged man's introduction, Zou Qi's group drew in a cold gasp, looking extremely surprised. Although it was summer, they suddenly felt as if their entire body had turned cold.

In the Dark Dawn, other than the most mysterious Dawn Sovereign, there were three Dark Saints, five Doyens, and seven Starlords.

Each of them was an existence that could stir up a storm.

Think about it. Although the Saint Gate was such a massive organization with countless elites, they hadn't been able to wipe out the Dark Dawn after several operations. This showed how terrifying the Dark Dawn was.

The ones who built up this power were these 16 dark great teachers.

The Green-robed Ancestor was one of the five Doyens, and each of them was a half-step saint. It didn't need much thinking to guess how terrifying they were..

The Green-robed Ancestor had Left and Right Protectors working under him. They were his most trusted and reliable personal disciples who were also notorious in the great teacher world. They were considered evil people of the boss level.

"What... what should we do?"

Even though Lu Cangqiong showed an amiable attitude and was wearing a smile, Cui Xiangxin's scalp turned numb. He felt as if he was suffocating.

Zou Qi stared at Lu Cangqiong. After some hesitation, he gritted his teeth and said to his colleagues, "When I start fighting later, I'll try to drag more time while you bring the students with you."

"Teacher Zou!"

The students instantly felt touched upon hearing this.

There was no way that Zou Qi would be able to win against Lu Cangqiong. He'd definitely die if he were to stay behind to hold him off.

"Tsk tsk, as expected of a 5-stars great teacher, your attitude is really admirable."

Lu Cangqiong clapped. "I was actually following Sun Mo. After all, he has a great reputation and I also want to see his performance."

"But you guys can only count yourself unlucky to have encountered me."

Lu Cangqiong had his eyes on Sun Mo back in Qiushui City.

Although his teacher had given him the mission of searching for valuable plants, Lu Cangqiong hated such tasks the most. Moreover, given how amazing Sun Mo was, he'd definitely get something by following him.

The truth showed that he was right.

Sun Mo, who was an uprising new star, didn't disappoint him.

"You can take the vine. Let them go," Zou Qi proposed.

"Haha, did you get something wrong?" Lu Cangqiong sneered, "This vine is mine."

"If I knew this would happen, we shouldn't have fought Sun Mo for it earlier."

Cui Xiangxin was too heartbroken.

"Alright, now that the chat is over, you can go on your way in peace."

Spirit qi suddenly gushed from Lu Cangqiong's body. "Oh right, you seem to use bugs too, right? Then let me have a look at your capabilities!"

"Run!"

Zou Qi let out an explosive bellow and then pounced toward Lu Cangqiong. At the same time, he made a strange sound with his mouth, which sounded like a bug's cry.

However, Zou Qi had just taken three steps forward when a tremendous amount of bugs darted out from the grass around him. They were like tidal waves engulfing him.

The difference in their strength was so great that Zou Qi was unable to retaliate.

Lu Cangqiong looked at the teachers and students from the Bozi Academy. They were like rabbits that had been shot by arrows, fleeing into the forest. He couldn't help but break into a smirk.

"It's a waste of energy."

Lu Cangqiong stood under the vine. He took out a book and started sketching the vine in it. At the same time, he recorded the conditions when it was discovered.

This was the assignment he was going to submit to his teacher.

The bugs left Zou Qi's body and then chased after those teachers and students. Zou Qi, on the other hand, was like a puppet, stopping where he was.

About 15 minutes later, the teachers and students from Bozi Academy who had fled came back successively. It was just that they were expressionless and listless.

"Since I've gotten new toys, then let's give our new rising superstar some trouble."

Lu Cangqiong chuckled. "Follow this bug and find Sun Mo. Then kill him! En, but I feel that the chances of you guys getting killed are greater."

Zou Qi's group followed after a red ladybug and went after Sun Mo.

"If Sun Mo can get rid of these people, I'll recruit him and give him a chance to pledge his loyalty to Teacher."

Lu Cangqiong continued sketching and taking down the vine's conditions.

...

'With food in hand, the heart doesn't feel anxious.' With 'No Return' to back them up, Sun Mo's group felt a lot more at ease. They also had the leisurely mood to admire the natural scenery.

Such a primitive forest that didn't have any traces of humanity had an exceptional charm.

A desolate and deep aura was permeating. Humans were small like ants when they walked in it.

"This kind of mushroom doesn't have a high level of toxicity. After eating it, it'll agitate the nerves and induce a strong nauseous feeling. It can be used to induce vomiting."

Sun Mo picked up a mushroom and explained to his students.

Even Xuanyuan Po was learning attentively because they'd definitely have to enter the Darkness Continent to gain experience in the future. Learning more knowledge would increase their chances of survival.

Li Ruolan held an image-recording stone and pointed it at Sun Mo, recording non-stop.

Her initial intent was to gather materials so that it'd be easier for her to sort out after she got back, in case she missed out on anything. But by the looks of it, this image-recording stone could be used as a teaching material for botany.

On their way, the group had encountered many rare and strange plants. The students also kept on asking questions about the plants. Although Mei Ziyu was considered a well-learned botanist, she hadn't been able to answer one-fifth of the questions.

In times like this, Sun Mo would take over.

Nothing was left out.

Sun Mo's teaching style wasn't boring at all. His [Art of Language] would let students uncontrollably want to take the initiative to understand and probe more.

Even Li Ruolan had a bit of an impulse to become a botanist.

Gradually, the students stopped asking questions but listened attentively to the discussion between Sun Mo and Mei Ziyu, taking notes seriously.

The duo's conversation started to become hard to understand, filled with profoundness.

Suddenly, Sun Mo stopped. He looked at a bee that flew past and smiled.

"I found something good. Hurry up and follow me."

Sun Mo led the way.

"Is there anything special about that bee?"

Lu Zhiruo was curious.

"This is a Crown Bee. They have a unique enzyme in their bodies, and thus the honey they produce would have an extremely strong nourishing effect. When taken often, it can strengthen the body and make it impenetrable by poison."

Sun Mo explained, "For some minor illnesses, there's no need to take medicine. Just drinking this honey will do."

"This bee is so big!"

Xianyu Wei was surprised. It was the size of a tachibana orange and looked quite scary. When it flapped its wings, it'd release buzzing sounds.

Just like a bomber.

"Why are they called Crown Bees?"

Li Ziqi felt curious.

"Look at its head."

Sun Mo pointed out.

There was a round bulge on its head. In addition to its body's golden color, it looked like the bee was wearing a crown.

"Come on, let's go catch that queen bee."

Sun Mo chased after the bee, running all the way.

The Nine Provinces were like ancient China. There was a shortage of food, especially sweet food, which was miserably few. Things like brown sugar were extremely expensive and only eaten by the aristocrats. Even if one wanted to buy more, it wasn't possible.

Therefore, even though the value of these bees wasn't comparable to a medicinal plant to cultivators, the reason Sun Mo wanted to get his hands on them was because they represented economical value.

After all, money was good stuff and no one would complain about having too much of it.

"We can start the bee farming plan. With this, students without any cultivation prospects will have an additional way to make a living for themselves."

Sun Mo felt that it'd be considered a small success when a person could provide for themselves and their family, not being a big baby and relying on their parents.

One's life didn't necessarily have to be grand and spectacular. After all, most people were ordinary.

"Master, I discovered a stranger."

Half an hour later, the scarab gave off a warning.

"Someone's around. Be careful and stay on your guard."

Sun Mo had just finished saying this when he saw birds flying past the forest, circling above them. There was no need to ask. They were the spiritual battle pets belonging to that 'stranger'.

"Teacher, should I shoot them down?"

Ying Baiwu asked.

“Let’s see how things go first.”

Sun Mo didn’t have to wait too long. In about five minutes or so, a group of people appeared in their vision.

“Teacher Sun?”

Bai Xiqing called out in pleasant surprise when she saw Sun Mo. She then came running over. “I didn’t expect to meet you here. Fate is something very amazing!”

Her face was filled with freckles and she was short, but her boobs were very big. She was the female great teacher who had expressed her strong admiration for Sun Mo on the square earlier.

She came from the Virtuous Academy.

“Hello.”

Sun Mo smiled, feeling a little proud. This must be what they called fervent fans, right?

Sun Mo had been a teacher for two years and had been admired by students on many occasions, but rarely by teachers.

After all, great teachers had to be reserved and conduct themselves with dignity. Even someone like Gu Xiuxun who admired Sun Mo a lot wouldn’t reveal an exaggerated attitude like Bai Xiqing.

As expected, the Virtuous Academy’s leader felt displeased.

“Teacher Bai, take note of your attitude.”

The one speaking was a man who looked to be in his thirties. He had a rectangular face that was filled with the vigor of one in the prime of his life. The school emblem on his chest had four stars.

“Teacher Ji, why don’t we travel together with Teacher Sun? I heard that he has extensive knowledge of botany. Our students will be able to learn a lot of things.”

Bai Xiqing’s emotional intelligence seemed a little low. She didn’t mind Ji Kun’s reproach and counter-proposed.

The moment she said this, the other three great teachers from the Virtuous Academy felt displeased.

(Aren’t you boosting other people’s morale too much?)

“Teacher Sun, you guys must have found something, right? Why not take it out and show everyone?”

Bai Xiqing acted like she was in a close relationship with him.

“I’d rather not.”

Sun Mo smiled awkwardly. In front of his fan, he felt embarrassed to say that he hadn’t gotten anything.

“Why not?”

Bai Xiqing lowered her voice. “If you don’t show others how outstanding you are, they won’t be convinced.”

“Why do I want them to be convinced?” Sun Mo was stunned. “It doesn’t matter.”

“How can a great teacher not have any pursuit? Don’t you want to be a Saint? To become a Saint, you’ll need a large number of disciples who will go around and spread your reputation.”

Bai Xiqing explained, “Even though you’re a three-time champion and a new rising star, you’re nothing to those senior great teachers. They’d feel that the examinations this year were simpler and that they’d get the first place if they were in your shoes.”

“I’ve explained many times how talented you are, but they can’t be bothered to listen.”

At the mention of this, Bai Xiqing felt very angry. She couldn’t help but take out a handkerchief and started biting it.

Li Ruolan assessed Bai Xiqing a little and then glanced at Mei Ziyu.

(Hehe, you have a rival now. Although you’re beautiful, men are creatures that like to have affairs. They are like cats, always wanting to eat fresh fish. Moreover, it’s a fish that offers itself.)

“Teacher Bai, can you shut up?”

After Ji Kun said that, he looked toward Sun Mo. “Teacher Sun, we won’t be disturbing you. Please go ahead!”

He was getting them to leave.

“Don’t leave, there’s something good here!”

Bai Xiqing secretly said.

This made all the other teachers and students from the Virtuous Academy fume, not just Ji Kun. (How can you work in the interests of outsiders?)

“I’m not wrong. You guys don’t have a way either, so why not let Teacher Sun try?”

Bai Xiqing argued.

“I’ve seen many bootlickers, but this is the first time I’ve seen a female bootlicker.”

Li Ruolan was surprised.

Many male great teachers were very compliant to Li Ruolan, currying up to her and afraid that they’d make her feel displeased that she’d end up cutting off ties with them.

There was no helping it. One could do whatever they wanted to when they were beautiful.

But a female bootlicker...

Li Ruolan shook her head. This person was making herself appear too inferior!

“Thank you, Teacher Bai, for your kind intentions.”

Sun Mo cupped his fists together. Given the extent that she was doing things for him, he had to express his gratitude too.

“It’s fine. I actually have great anticipation of your performance.”

Bai Xiqing’s face flushed up, looking a little shy. She then glanced at Ji Kun and explained, “Teacher Ji, we as great teachers should have a broad heart and compete fair and square. We can’t forbid the Central Province Academy from taking part just because we came first. Moreover, we aren’t able to get the honey either.”

Swoosh!

Golden light circled around Bai Xiqing and then light spots shot out.

“It’s Priceless Advice!”

Xianyu Wei exclaimed. It was quite novel to see a Central Plains’ great teacher releasing a great teacher halo.

“You...”

Ji Kun was almost driven to death. Bai Xiqing had even sent out Priceless Advice, so how could he dare to speak recklessly? It’d just make him appear narrow-minded.

“Honey? Is it the ones from the Crown Bees?”

Li Ziqi interrupted.

“Crown Bees? What are those?”

Bai Xiqing blinked while Ji Kun’s countenance turned grim.

To think that these people knew the name of those bees?

Their knowledge base was really good!

“We came chasing after a few Crown Bees. Teacher Ji, as the ones who came later, I’ll give you guys one hour. If you can’t get the bees, then I won’t stand on ceremony.”

Sun Mo said firmly.

“Wow, Teacher Sun is so confident.”

Bai Xiqing clapped softly.

“...”

Ji Kun felt like cursing. If he had a way to do it, he wouldn’t have wasted over a day here.

“Teacher Sun, you’re too kind. If you have a way to do it, please feel free to do so.”

Ji Kun thought to himself that rather than wasting one hour, he might as well do Sun Mo a favor. This would make him appear magnanimous too.

“Thank you.”

After saying that, Sun Mo continued to head forward.

“Those bees are really fierce and their stingers are thick and long. It hurts really bad to get stung by them and it’ll cause numbness as well as redness and swelling.”

Bai Xiqing explained.

Li Ruolan’s group looked at Bai Xiqing with stunned expressions. This female bootlicker followed Sun Mo very naturally and even introduced the situation in detail.

Given how enthusiastic she was, people might even think that she was a great teacher from the Central Province Academy.

“Teacher Bai!”

Ji Kun bellowed.

“Huh? It’s fine, don’t worry, I won’t get lost. Moreover, if I were to get into trouble, Teacher Sun would definitely help me out.

Bai Xiqing waved her hand, gesturing for everyone not to worry.

Ji Kun was so angry that he felt that his lungs were going to explode. (Am I worrying for you?)

(I just feel heartache for the two pairs of papayas. I haven’t even touched them before, but Sun Mo is going to get his hands on them!)

Chapter 939: Sun Mo’s Test

“Do you see that tree? If you walk further on from it, the bees will surround and attack you. Therefore, that place should be the bees’ territory.

Bai Xiqing said everything she knew then tugged Sun Mo’s sleeves in anticipation. “How are you planning to do this?”

She really wasn’t treating herself like an outsider.

“Make a few feign attacks and gather some information first.”

Since she was so magnanimous to be sharing the information she knew, Sun Mo naturally wouldn’t be selfish either.

Bai Xiqing immediately put her thumb up. “Wary!”

Virtuous Academy’s group also came over. They had no solution to this problem either and might as well watch how Sun Mo did it.. Since he knew these bees, he probably had a way to capture them.

“You guys wait here. I’ll go take a look.”

After Sun Mo said that, Lu Zhiruo pulled him.

“Teacher, why not let me go?”

The papaya girl was raring to try. "I have never been stung by bees since I was young. I'll go talk to the queen bee. She might be willing to give me some honey..."

Lu Zhiruo had often dug for honey from beehives when she was younger. She had done this over ten times but still maintained a record of not getting injured.

Pa!

Before Lu Zhiruo could finish her sentence, that monkey gave her a slap on the back of her head.

"Why did you hit me?" The papaya girl pouted.

Squeak squeak!

The monkey was so angry that it kept on jumping. (Are you a fool?)

(Those bees are very fierce. Moreover, the venom in their stingers is extremely strong. Even a big python would die from the poison if it was stung.)

"Talk to the queen bee? Could it be that this girl understands bug language?"

"How could there be a bug language? Such abilities are just ancient legends."

"That's right. Human's vocal organs are different from bugs. It's impossible for us to be able to make sounds that bugs can understand. I might be able to believe it if you are talking about beast language."

The Virtuous Academy's great teachers whispered amongst themselves.

"You, stay here. Baiwu, Jiang Leng, come with me."

Sun Mo called out two of his students who had great speed. He was giving them a chance to get actual combat experience.

A while later, Sun Mo jumped up a tree trunk and moved about in the forest, leaping in the air. Ying Baiwu and Jiang Leng quickly followed after him. Half a minute after they crossed the tree Bai Xiqing mentioned, a big swarm of bees gushed over.

These were clearly male bees. They were bigger in size, each of them being the size of a baby's fist. One'd get bruised or even faint if the bees were to smash into their faces at full speed. There wasn't even a need to use their stingers.

"Be careful!"

Sun Mo drew out his wooden blade and came to a sudden stop just as the bees came pouncing over like dark clouds. He then took one step forward and dropped down vertically.

Before he landed, he tapped his feet on a branch and then darted out at an upward diagonal angle.

Jiang Leng and Ying Baiwu's reactions were extremely fast. Almost at the same time, they chose the same avoidance method as Sun Mo did. Moreover, the iron-headed young girl even attacked.

Swoosh!

A long arrow shot out and exploded amidst the swarm of bees.

Boom!

Intense spirit qi waves scattered the bee swarm and even killed quite a few.

Pata pata!

The bees' corpses landed all over the floor.

Sun Mo took a glance and noticed that Ying Baiwu and Jiang Leng could still handle the situation. Therefore, he left them be and accelerated. After charging on for two minutes, a large spread of dark gold beehives appeared in his vision.

They were like the long baguette that Europeans liked to eat. Each of the beehives was six to seven meters long and attached to the tree trunks.

"There are at least over 100 of them here?"

Sun Mo's scalp started to itch. What he was thinking wasn't how much natural honey he could get, but rather, calculating how many bees there were. There might be several hundred thousand of them.

This was too terrifying.

The worker bees worked busily, moving in and out of the beehives. Suddenly, they came to a stop.

Buzz!

Even though Sun Mo had tried his best to be careful, not making any noises, bees relied on scents to search for their enemies. They'd be able to detect strangers or animals at the very first instant.

Therefore, those worker bees immediately pounced.

Later on, the male bees who were resting in the hives also moved out. They were like bombers, releasing loud buzzing sounds and dashing out of the beehives.

As the Crown Bees' main color was yellow, in that instant, they were like a golden sea tide that came charging toward Sun Mo.

"Retreat!"

Sun Mo let out an explosive bellow and started to retreat.

This swarm of bees was too densely packed and there was no way to defend against them.

Thankfully, Sun Mo had seen the beehive that the queen bee was in.

It was too big, being over ten meters tall and in the shape of a spindle. Half of the male bees flew there and set up a defense.

Sun Mo didn't dare to return to the group but instead chose another direction. He only managed to break away from the bees' pursuit after escaping for over 15 minutes. He then met up with Li Ziqi's group.

"There are too many bees."

Sun Mo sighed.

“Why? Does Teacher Sun not have a way to take care of this either?”

Ji Kun came over.

“We’ll have to kill in order to get honey.”

Sun Mo wasn’t someone who’d lament at the sorry state of the universe and have pity for others. He could kill several thousand bees in order to get some honey. However, the current situation was that he had to kill over a hundred thousand or even several hundred thousand of them. This was too astonishing.

“Teacher Sun, there’s really no need for your kindheartedness!”

Ji Kun was speechless. “This is the laws of nature. I remember that you’re a spirit runist, right? The top-notch ink that you guys use might have ingredients that include some spiritual beasts’ fresh blood. It’s not as if I saw you guys pitying them!”

Sun Mo looked around and noticed that most of the people looked surprised, not able to understand his sentiments. He was stunned for a moment before he hit himself in the head.

“There’s something wrong with my head.”

Sun Mo smiled in self-mockery.

His soul was that of a modern world person and he had never experienced starvation before. That was why he had the right to feel sad for some bees here. However, things were different for the people here.

After paying for rent, most sharecroppers could only drink watered-down porridge in their leisure times and thick porridge when they had to work in the fields. Moreover, their food might not last until the harvest for the next season’s crop.

Many sharecroppers who weren’t able to pay back the money they borrowed from the landlords had to sell their children. In this situation, who would be able to care about protecting wildlife?

This honey could be used in medicine. Therefore, great teachers wouldn’t go easy on the bees in order to get their hands on it.

“Teacher, there are too many bees and the honey isn’t that precious. It’s not worth it to risk our lives. Shall we retreat?”

Li Ziqi suggested.

If they had suitable equipment, it wouldn’t be hard to kill these bees.

To others, they would spend a lot of time on an expedition. But to Sun Mo, it was just the blink of an eye.

His eight-gate cloud could move freely between two spots after setting a space-time anchor, which was a stable teleportation gate.

This was how Sun Mo was able to freely enter the Wind King Hall that was located in the Darkness Continent's Wind King Canyon.

It could be said that as long as Sun Mo was willing to, he'd be able to turn this primitive forest into his own backyard, coming here to explore it whenever he wanted to.

"You guys have come under my wings for so long, but I haven't given you a test yet. Why don't each of you think of a method? It'll be considered a pass as long as you bring back a hive."

Sun Mo smiled, feeling that he was really quick-witted.

"Teacher Sun, I want to see your performance!"

Bai Xiqing felt upset. What did it mean for a group of children to take action?

"Go on. The time limit is two hours!"

Sun Mo took out his pocket watch and checked the time. He then said to Mei Ziyu, "You guys can go and rest."

"Teacher, can we group up?"

Yaoguang raised his hand to ask.

"Yes, but everyone must pitch in."

Sun Mo had wanted to say that he'd reward the person who performed best. But he suddenly realized that he had nothing that he could use as a reward.

After all, he had taught his peerless-grade saint-tier cultivation arts to them.

It seemed that he had to get his hand on some good things as a reward.

"Eldest Martial Sister, shall we group up?"

Qin Yaoguang immediately went to look for Li Ziqi, asking her, "How many of those exploding spirit runes did you bring?"

"Eldest Martial Sister, count me in too!"

The papaya girl got close.

"Zhiruo, you can do it. Don't always think of relying on others." Li Ziqi rejected, "Otherwise, you'll never be able to grow."

"Aww..."

The papaya girl felt upset.

The others looked at the forest in the distance, sinking into deep thought. They were all very proud and wouldn't work together with others.

At the sight of this scene, Lu Zhiruo's countenance turned very pale.

(This is bad. Teacher must have been very angry at my performance earlier, right?)

(This won't do. I must work hard and get myself a few beehives.)

"Little White, I'll be relying on you!"

Lu Zhiruo took the monkey's hand.

Pa!

The monkey slapped it away.

There was no room for discussion.

...

"Who do you think will be the first to get a beehive?"

Li Ruolan felt curious.

"It's hard to say!"

Sun Mo shook his head. "But I know who will be the first to make a move."

"Who?"

Li Ruolan had just finished asking this when she saw Xuanyuan Po, who liked to fight, charging into the forest. Then, sounds of fighting rang out.

Xuanyuan Po couldn't be bothered to use his brain. There was nothing that charging recklessly wouldn't solve. If that didn't work, then he could just make a second reckless charge.

Tantai Yutang and Jiang Leng weren't anxious. They were assessing Li Ziqi and guessing her battle tactic, planning to tap on her attempt.

...

"This medicinal powder has the effect of getting rid of insects. Spray some on yourself first."

Li Ziqi took out a small porcelain bottle and handed it to Qin Yaoguang before instructing, "Please go and observe the terrain."

A few minutes later, Qin Yaoguang returned.

Li Ziqi took out a book and drew a simplified map on it with a charcoal pencil. She then thought about it. "Please place spirit runes on the trees in these positions."

The two of them spent 15 minutes coming up with a battle tactic and then started taking action.

"Let's go!"

Jiang Leng, who had his eyes closed and resting, got up.

"Do you want some?"

Tantai Yutang took out a bottle. This was an insect repellent he had come up with.

“I’ll pass.”

Jiang Leng refused. He was going to show his teacher how outstanding he was.

...

Qin Yaoguang leaped within the forest. Seeing that most of the bees that were chasing behind her had passed by the trap, she immediately made a sword attack with the back of her hand.

Swoosh!

Sword qi accurately hit onto a spirit rune that was on the tree, activating it.

Boom!

A big flame gushed out, engulfing quite a number of bees. After it subsided, the charred bee corpses fell to the ground like rain.

“That’s pretty good!”

Qin Yaoguang was surprised. The Fire Sea Spirit Runes Li Ziqi had drawn herself this time around had a very strong prowess.

Just as the explosion rang out, the others made a move too. Jiang Leng and Ying Baiwu relied on speed, moving rapidly.

However, there were some differences in their details.

There were too many bees, and some came lunging over toward them.

Jiang Leng waited until the bees got close before he suddenly swung his dagger. A circle of silver tempest gushed up around him, killing those bees. He then accelerated and threw them off behind him.

Ying Baiwu was like a rushing arrow, scattering the swarm of bees.

The two of them advanced the fastest and also looked the best.

Tantai Yutang moved sneakily, relying on insect repellent powder to avoid getting stung by the bees. If he really couldn’t dodge them anymore, he’d swing his sleeves and scatter out a large amount of purple fog.

When the bees got into contact with the fog, they would die on the spot.

Xianyu Wei felt anxious. Worried that she’d fall behind, she had no choice but to head on forcibly. When she saw the bees coming over, she hammered out a punch.

Strong fist wind caused the bees to be unable to get close.

Helian Beifang was a little surprised. This junior martial sister was quite something!

“What should I do? What should I do? Everyone has started. I’ll definitely fall behind.”

Lu Zhiruo was so anxious that she was going around in circles.

“Do you think it’ll work if I talk it over with those bees and get them to lend me a beehive?”

Pa!

The monkey gave Lu Zhiruo a slap on the head, rolling its eyes.

(Dream on.)

“Then can you help me?” The papaya girl blinked.

Squeak!

The monkey turned its head. It could get some honey, but it had to strike up a bargain and get some benefits, right?

But Lu Zhiruo was too naive and couldn't understand what the monkey was thinking. She thought that it wasn't willing to help her, and thus she dashed toward the bees.

But very soon, there were bees coming over to sting her.

“Ah, I just want a beehive! You guys can have these!”

The papaya girl covered her head, taking out all the bottles in her back as she started bargaining with them.

The monkey turned its head away. It couldn't bear to see this.

(Forget it. Seeing how pitiful you are, I better help you out! After all, I'm very good at stealing beehives. Given how chaotic things are here, it'll be easy to make a move.)

The monkey succeeded in merely seven minutes. It then realized that the stupid girl was gone.

She couldn't have been stung to death, could he?

The monkey quickly looked around to find her corpse.

...

“Should we take this opportunity to snatch some?”

When the Virtuous Academy's teachers and students saw the commotion, their hands started itching.

“Forget it!”

Ji Kun was worried that there'd be problems. Sun Mo dared to use the bees as a test, but he couldn't. His heart would ache if any of these students were to die.

“The honey isn't worth it. We won't risk our lives for it.”

Ji Kun looked for an excuse.

“But that queen bee should be worth something, right?”

A student mumbled.

That queen bee was definitely a spiritual bug considering that it could build such a great swarm.

It was one whose intelligence had been piqued, and it could cultivate.

“Come on, let’s go and see how Sun Mo’s students do it.”

Ji Kun walked toward Sun Mo. In order to give the students a chance to broaden their vision, he was going to accept it even if Sun Mo were to sneer at him.

...

As expected, Xuanyuan Po was the first to return. However, he looked a little battered after having been stung many times.

“Doesn’t it hurt?”

Li Ruolan was surprised.

Was this young man made of stone?

His skin was a little red and swollen, but his expression didn’t change at all, remaining calm as before.

“It’s bearable.”

Xuanyuan Po placed the beehive he was carrying in front of Sun Mo. “Teacher, I’m glad to have accomplished the mission!”

“En, not bad!”

Sun Mo was very satisfied. The combat addict’s reply had the feeling of a tough man. Moreover, his beehive was very big. Xuanyuan Po had clearly put in the effort to pick it before he left.

This competitiveness was worthy of praise.

However, just as Sun Mo was about to say some comments, he suddenly felt a pain in his chest and he coughed intensely.

“Sun Mo!”

Mei Ziyu stood up in shock because blood had spurted out from Sun Mo’s mouth.

Chapter 940: Danger Incoming

“Sun Mo!”

Murong Mingyue and Li Ruolan were given a fright as well. Why did he suddenly start to cough up blood for no reason?

Xuanyuan Po excelled in combat and didn’t know how to save people. Hence, he thought that someone had launched a sneak attack on his teacher, and he immediately held his spear, being wary of the surroundings.

“Teacher Sun, you mustn’t die. I have a life-saving alchemical pill here. Take it first.”

The female bootlicker Bai Xiqing was very nervous. She took out a porcelain bottle and wanted to feed the pill to Sun Mo.

As the plug was opened, a refreshing fragrance permeated the air, causing one to feel invigorated.

.

This alchemical pill was definitely of great value.

“Thank you, but there’s no need to be nervous. It’s just that the gu-bug Teng Wanye planted in my body.”

Sun Mo consoled everyone.

The seed that Teng Wanye had flicked out had hit Sun Mo in his forehead. It had turned into vines and bound onto his brain.

It would then intermittently release its poison.

The unlucky person who was planted with the gu-bug would be able to live if they could resolve it. But if they couldn’t, they’d die.

“Who is Teng Wanye?”

Li Ruolan hadn’t heard this name before. Even though she was a well-known beautiful female reporter, she didn’t have any way to obtain this highly classified secret.

“It’s Saint Ten-Thousand Leaves.”

Mei Ziyu explained.

“Who? Is it that saint from the Dark Dawn?”

Bai Xiqing screamed and looked at Sun Mo, stunned. “How did you meet this dark magnate?”

Li Ruolan had wanted to ask what the Saint Ten-Thousand Leaves looked like. But after seeing Sun Mo coughing up blood non-stop, she couldn’t get herself to ask.

“What should we do now?”

Li Ruolan was at a loss.

“You look like you’ve gotten food poisoning.”

Mei Ziyu checked Sun Mo’s body. “Does it feel like you’ve mistakenly taken the flowery mushroom?”

“En!”

Sun Mo nodded, revealing an understanding expression. “I understand a little how this ‘seed gu-bug’ works now. It’ll imitate the plants nearby based on their scents, creating a reaction that is similar to food poisoning. Therefore, in order to deal with it, one must possess extremely profound botany knowledge.”

This was really an amazing idea and method.

“Let’s not worry about this.”

Mei Ziyu got up. "I'll go look for the antidote. You guys take care of him."

"I'll be troubling you."

Sun Mo couldn't move anymore. The flowery mushroom was a poisonous mushroom that could cause internal bleeding to the stomach as well as nerves paralysis.

What was the most amazing poison?

In Sun Mo's opinion, it wasn't something that was refined from 100 types of unparalleled poisonous items, but plants that already existed in the natural world. It was fine to eat them by themselves, but when mixed with other things or eaten in a large amount, one would die.

Poisonous things like these were the hardest to fend off against.

"Teacher!"

Ying Baiwu and Jiang Leng had returned. However, when they saw Sun Mo's condition, they were both given a scare.

"I'm fine!"

Sun Mo leaned against a tree to get some rest. Very soon, Mei Ziyu found a few medicinal herbs, made a medicinal soup on the spot, and fed it to Sun Mo.

Bai Xiqing wanted to help, but Mei Ziyu didn't give her a chance to interfere.

Other than Lu Zhiruo, the other students had all returned. All of them looked very worried. This was the Saint Ten-Thousand Leaves's gu-bug. It was extremely serious.

"I'm a grandmaster-level botanist after all. Rest assured."

Sun Mo smiled. "I'll give my ratings from now on. Tell me your battle tactic when you snatched the beehive, as well as your comprehension in this process."

"We will start from Ziqi!"

"I didn't put in a lot of effort but mainly relied on Junior Martial Sister Yaoguang. Otherwise, I wouldn't have been able to get the beehive."

Li Ziqi gave all the credit to Qin Yaoguang.

"Eldest Martial Sister's spirit runes are amazing. They burned all the bees."

Qin Yaoguang flashed a thumbs-up.

"Ziqi, don't say that. Your intelligence is your greatest wealth. You should have taken the initiative to search for allies."

Sun Mo sighed. In this era, an individual's battle prowess was more valued. People like Li Ziqi who relied on their brains didn't enjoy high status.

"There's no need to feel inferior. Regardless of the method used, as long as the problem is solved and the goal is achieved, it is considered successful."

Sun Mo encouraged her.

“En!”

Sun Mo really treated her well.

People like her who were ranked at the bottom in terms of cultivation would definitely have no right to be the eldest martial sister under another teacher.

“Yaoguang, although what you did isn’t wrong, can you not be so lazy?”

Sun Mo knew that this girl would be able to get a beehive even if she was by herself. She was just too lazy to put in that effort.

“Hehe!”

Qin Yaoguang stuck out her tongue, handing a pearflower candy to Sun Mo. “Teacher Sun, eat this. It’s really sweet.”

Sun Mo pushed away the snack girl’s hand and looked toward Xuanyuan Po.

“Can you use more of your brains?”

Sun Mo felt helpless.

“When I encounter a problem that cannot be resolved by martial prowess, then I’ll consider using my brain.”

Xuanyuan Po said firmly, not showing any signs of repentance.

“What you mean by using your brains is actually just thinking on how to get stronger, right?”

Tantai Yutang chipped in.

“That’s right.”

Xuanyuan Po said matter-of-factly, “As long as I’m strong enough, any problems won’t be a problem anymore.”

“Xianyu, you have to work harder!”

After Sun Mo said that, everyone looked toward Xianyu Wei.

What did he mean by that?

“Huh?”

Xianyu Wei was stunned and then she quickly waved her hand. “I won’t be able to win against Senior Martial Brother Xuanyuan.”

“Come over here. I’ll help you heal your wound.”

Xuanyuan Po had been stung too, but his physique was very good and there was only slight swelling. However, the same couldn’t be said for Xianyu Wei. She had a few bumps on her head.

The reason why Sun Mo didn't help to treat Xuanyuan Po was because he wanted to let Xuanyuan Po remember this.

"It's fine, it's fine. Teacher, you aren't feeling well, so you should just rest!"

Xianyu Wei refused.

Sun Mo felt very consoled. His disciples were all very sensible.

Jiang Leng and Ying Baiwu had a chance to win against Xuanyuan Po, but they were definitely not the type to take on someone head-on. To the combat addict, as long as his loss wasn't a head-on fight, he didn't treat it as a loss.

This was why Sun Mo needed Xianyu Wei to rely on her iron fists and brute force to crush Xuanyuan Po. Only then would he reflect on his character.

(You might be a genius, but there are greater geniuses in this world.)

At the very least, in terms of barehanded combat as well as a competition of force, there was no way that Xuanyuan Po would win against Xianyu Wei.

Jiang Leng and Ying Baiwu's performance was very good, and they had only been stung a few times. However, given how densely packed the bees were, this bit of injury could be neglected.

Tantai Yutang was next. This guy had relied on poisonous smoke and didn't get stung at all.

"You can learn medicine art from Ma Zhang."

Sun Mo started to consider if he should learn the Poison Scripture and then teach it to Tantai Yutang. He knew that the sickly guy liked to study these things.

Helian Beifang's performance was mediocre. It wasn't as good as Xianyu Wei's.

Xianyu Wei's battle tactic was to charge on while using the Dharma Skyshock Fist to smash the bees away.

She had a great amount of spirit qi, about five times more than cultivators of the same level. And as her cultivation level increased, this multiplier would get increasingly terrifying.

"Xianyu Wei doesn't need to cultivate too many cultivation arts. Instead, she should be spending her time tempering her body. I'll find some nature fruits that can strengthen her physique in the future!"

Sun Mo re-established the growth direction that his students would take after the test.

"Where's Zhiruo? Where did she go?"

Sun Mo frowned.

Squeak!

Hearing this, the monkey who was waiting by the side immediately jumped up. It then put down a beehive and did an act of taking off pants and squatting on the floor.

"Does it mean that Senior Martial Sister Lu has gone to the washroom?"

Xianyu Wei felt that this monkey was really intelligent.

Squeak squeak!

The monkey nodded. It then patted the beehive to indicate to Sun Mo that this was Lu Zhiruo's spoils.

(Hmph!)

(My master must not be underestimated.)

Sun Mo frowned. Although Lu Zhiruo was silly, she wasn't this unreliable. Could something have happened to her? Just as he was thinking of letting Ying Baiwu go check things out, Lu Zhiruo's voice rang out.

"Teacher, I'm back."

Everyone turned and was stunned. It was because the papaya girl was carrying several beehives on her shoulder and running over.

(Did you wipe out all of the Crown Bees' home?)

"Teach... Teacher, I didn't exceed the time, did I?"

Lu Zhiruo panted heavily.

"Junior Martial Sister, this is..."

Li Ziqi was astonished. (How did you do that?) But she soon realized that these hives were damaged and there weren't any more bees inside.

"Teacher only said to get beehives. He didn't say that they can't be old ones!"

As Lu Zhiruo said this, she lowered her head, feeling embarrassed too. She was considered to have played with words.

"Your mindset is quite amazing."

Li Ruolan exclaimed in surprise.

There was definitely no danger in picking up useless and abandoned beehives.

"What did you do?"

Qin Yaoguang felt curious. Even though these were abandoned beehives, how could one pick them up without knowing where they were? Therefore, she was curious what this papaya senior martial sister had done.

"I offered Daoji Bakery's snacks, a few alchemical pills, as well as the flowers from earlier to those bees and asked for a beehive."

Lu Zhiruo didn't hide it. "After that, a few bees brought me to the place where they cast away damaged beehives."

"..."

Everyone was speechless. This could work too?

“You know the bug language?”

Bai Xiqing was surprised.

“I don’t!”

Lu Zhiruo blinked, thinking to herself. (If I knew the bug language, I wouldn’t have to be so anxious.)

“Then how did you communicate with the bees?”

Bai Xiqing asked.

“By talking and gesturing with my hands.”

Lu Zhiruo shared her trick. “I just guess. Anyway, bugs don’t have any intelligence and their actions are quite easy to guess.”

“...”

Bai Xiqing’s lips twitched and she looked toward Sun Mo. “Is this how you teach your students?”

“I didn’t, I’m innocent. Not even I can copy her way of doing things.”

Sun Mo felt very helpless.

Communicate with bugs?

To speak the truth, it was quite foolish.

“Hmm? Zhiruo, did you not get stung?”

Li Ruolan noticed that there weren’t any sting wounds on Li Ruolan’s face at all.

“Boohoohoo, of course I was stung. It hurts a lot.”

As Lu Zhiruo said this, she pointed to her forehead and neck. “My no-wounds record has been broken.”

But everyone didn’t see anything. There wasn’t any redness or swelling at all. Her skin still remained fair.

“Come over here!”

Sun Mo beckoned with his hand.

Lu Zhiruo immediately walked over and squatted in front of Sun Mo.

Sun Mo tried touching and then felt perplexed.

Her skin felt the same as ordinary people’s, but why was there no redness and swelling?

Amongst his students, Xuanyuan Po’s skin was the thickest. His sting wounds were the lightest, but there were still hints of redness and swelling.

He couldn’t understand.

If it was really a matter of aptitude, then why would Lu Zhiruo have an extremely low aptitude?

“Teach... Teacher, although these are battered ones, I can use quantity to make up for quality, right?”

Lu Zhiruo didn't mind winning or losing. She just didn't want to disappoint her teacher.

“En, you did very well!”

Sun Mo praised.

“Hehe!”

Lu Zhiruo felt happy. She then threw a proud glance at the monkey. “Did you see that? I can win even without your help.”

Ptui!

The monkey spat a mouthful of saliva and then kicked the beehive it had stolen.

“Teacher Sun, your personal disciples are really outstanding!”

Bai Xiqing sighed and then returned to her group.

“Teacher Ji, this is how it is. Should we let the students give it a try?”

Bai Xiqing asked.

Ji Kun looked toward the students.

Everyone's expression looked a little uneasy.

To speak the truth, they didn't have any confidence.

“Sigh!”

Ji Kun suddenly felt very disappointed. Putting strength aside, their students had lost out a lot in terms of guts compared to those from the Central Province Academy.

“Let's go!”

Ji Kun couldn't stand staying here anymore.

However, before the group left, Zou Qi's group arrived and met them head-on.

“Teacher Zou.”

Ji Kun cupped his fists together and greeted Zou Qi. They knew each other.

However, Zou Qi looked very cold, his gaze sweeping through these people.

“Teacher Ji, there seems to be some problems.”

A male great teacher frowned. “Why are their expressions all so stiff, like dead people?”

“Central Province Academy's Sun Mo is over there!”

Ji Kun noticed it as well and added. The reason he said this was to let the Bozi Academy have some wariness and not attack recklessly. It was a pity that it wasn't successful.

"Kill them!"

Zou Qi's voice was hoarse and low, sounding like it was made from a rotting coffin.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The controlled teachers and students pounced over.

"Retaliate!"

Ji Kun drew his sword and bellowed, "Teacher Zou, do you really think that our Virtuous Academy is a pushover?"

The two groups immediately started fighting.

In just a short moment, the Virtuous Academy suffered casualties and was suppressed. It was because Zou Qi's group was controlled and didn't know pain nor dear death. They'd only abide by Lu Cangqiong's orders to take action.

It could be said that they had been controlled by those bugs and become puppets.

Ah! Ah!

Agonizing cries rang out.

"Teacher Bai, I'll hold them back. Bring the students to look for Sun Mo."

Ji Kun bellowed out while attacking Zou Qi.

Zou Qi stopped Ji Kun and slapped out an attack, smashing the head of a student at the side.

Killing without even batting an eyelid.

"Follow me!"

Bai Xiqing didn't dare to hesitate.

Sun Mo's group also heard fighting sounds.

"What's going on?"

Everyone stood up and looked over. They then saw Bai Xiqing bringing their group over.

"Teacher Sun, Bozi Academy's Zou Qi has gone crazy! He's leading his group to massacre us!"

Bai Xiqing cried out, "There must be a problem."

The Saint Gate's regulation was that great teachers must not make a move against students. However, Zou Qi had broken the rule. This meant that there was a big problem here.

"Ziyu, Mingyue, bring the students and leave first! I'll go take a look!"

Sun Mo instructed while darting out.

“Be careful!”

Mei Ziyu immediately urged everyone to set off.

“I’ll go with you!”

Bai Xiqing left the students to the other teachers.

Sun Mo quickly arrived at the battlefield. The great teachers from both sides were still fighting it out, but Ji Kun’s group was showing signs of defeat.

“It was Sun Mo!”

At the sight of his target, Zou Qi immediately cast Ji Kun aside, wanting to kill him.

“Scram back here.”

Ji Kun bellowed, his eyes red. His student had died, so he was going to let Zou Qi pay the price for that.

Sun Mo activated Divine Sight and his countenance changed drastically.