

## The Quest 303

### Chapter 303

Mo Hua felt a bit disappointed and couldn't help but ask, "Why?"

Zhang Lan explained, "The deployment of Dao soldiers is a secret of the Dao Court. Their actions are usually very covert, emphasizing immobility like a mountain, swiftness like the wind, and striking like thunder. Either they act without being noticed, or if they are discovered, they must strike with thunderous force and resolve the situation swiftly!"

"So," Zhang Lan smiled, "It's impossible for you to know how the Dao soldiers operate."

"What if I need to help?" Mo Hua asked.

Zhang Lan smiled slightly, "How could they possibly need your help..."

He stopped mid-sentence.

Suddenly, he realized that the task of eradicating Heishan Stronghold might indeed require Mo Hua's assistance. After all, Mo Hua was an Array Master.

Direct combat was tough, and perhaps Mo Hua wasn't needed for that, but if it involved array formations, there were probably very few Array Masters in the entire Tongxian City as reliable as Mo Hua...

Heishan Stronghold had a First Grade Foundation Building demonic Array Master.

However, Zhang Lan didn't want Mo Hua to take risks, so he said, "Don't worry, you probably won't need to intervene. Just stay in the city and don't wander off."

"Alright." Mo Hua nodded.

At times like this, not causing trouble might be considered helping.

A few days later, Mo Hua met Elder Yu, who also cautioned him immediately, "Don't go deep into the mountains, and especially stay away from Heishan Stronghold."

"Elder, don't worry, I won't venture into the mountains recklessly again."

Mo Hua promised, but then he felt puzzled, "Why did you suddenly remind me of this?"

Elder Yu looked around, making sure no one was around, and then whispered, "I asked Director Zhou, and the Dao Court has approved the deployment. Dao soldiers will soon arrive to eradicate Heishan Stronghold. I'm afraid you'll follow the excitement and enter the mountains."

Mo Hua scratched his head.

He wasn't that fond of excitement, and not all excitement interested him.

But Elder Yu looked at Mo Hua seriously.

With Qi Refining cultivation and a Foundation Building spiritual sense!

Even now, it was still somewhat unbelievable to him.

Elder Yu didn't understand arrays, but he knew that spiritual sense was the foundation for an Array Master. With such a profound spiritual sense, Mo Hua's future achievements in array formations were limitless.

So, under no circumstances could he let Mo Hua take any risk.

Heishan Stronghold had four Foundation Building demonic cultivators. If they knew about Mo Hua's identity and array talent, they would stop at nothing to kill him.

Elder Yu said, "You showed your face in front of the Third Boss, so be careful not to hold a grudge."

Mo Hua thought about it and nodded, feeling it made sense.

He had eaten the little demon in the Visualization Diagram and deceived the Third Boss. If he didn't show himself, the Third Boss would certainly be suspicious and might not figure out his true identity.

Even if the Third Boss discovered that the array formations in Heishan Stronghold had been secretly dismantled, he might not suspect Mo Hua.

Because array formations weren't something anyone could learn, and Mo Hua, at his age, didn't look like an Array Master.

But once he showed himself and the Third Boss realized he was an Array Master and a Demon Hunter, all the blame would fall on him.

Although all these things were indeed done by him...

It was best to avoid trouble if possible. He didn't want the Third Boss to hold a grudge against him.

Doing things covertly meant doing them in a way that others wouldn't even know who to blame.

Mo Hua asked Elder Yu again, "When the Dao soldiers arrive, can I take a look?"

Mo Hua raised a little finger, "Just a glance!"

Elder Yu, like Zhang Lan, refused outright, "No."

Mo Hua felt disappointed.

Elder Yu comforted him, "Dao soldiers are mainly for killing, and ordinary cultivators should avoid contact. Their actions are secretive and not meant to be investigated."

"Alright..."

Although Mo Hua still couldn't help but want to know what Dao soldiers were like, he couldn't disobey Elder Yu and Zhang Lan's words.

In the following days, Mo Hua continued to practice and train in array formations.

One day, feeling tired from drawing array formations, Mo Hua sat at an Eight Immortals table in a restaurant, flipping through an array book to rest for a while.

On the table was a plate of crispy pastries, a new recipe tried by Liu Ruhua.

Mo Hua read the book while munching on the pastries.

After a while, Zhang Lan came in, saw Mo Hua, and hesitated.

Mo Hua was slightly stunned but then understood, though he pretended not to notice.

Zhang Lan lingered for a while before approaching Mo Hua, coughing and asking, "Reading?"

Mo Hua nodded, chewing on the pastry, without speaking.

Zhang Lan hesitated for a while, not knowing how to start.

Mo Hua pushed the pastries toward Zhang Lan, speaking slowly, "Uncle Zhang, want to try some? My mom just made them, they're delicious."

Zhang Lan wasn't in the mood to eat but still tried one. His eyes lit up, finding them quite tasty.

After eating some pastries, Zhang Lan finally stammered, "Mo Hua, can you help with something?"

"Sure." Mo Hua answered straightforwardly, his eyes brightening, and then he asked, "But, is there any benefit?"

Zhang Lan nodded, "Yes, it will count towards your merit with the Dao Court."

"Deal!"

Mo Hua told his mother and then left the restaurant with Zhang Lan, heading outside Tongxian City and into the outer mountains of Dahei Mountain.

On the way, Zhang Lan didn't say much, and Mo Hua didn't ask much.

Zhang Lan sneaked a glance at Mo Hua, seeing him humming an unknown tune, his steps light, his expression joyful, and his eyes filled with anticipation. He couldn't help but ask, "You seem... quite happy?"

"Yes." Mo Hua replied cheerfully.

"Why?"

"Aren't you taking me to see the Dao soldiers?" Mo Hua answered.

Zhang Lan opened his mouth but couldn't help asking, "How did you know?"

Mo Hua thought for a moment and then listed the reasons to Zhang Lan:

"You hesitated at the door, so there must be something you initially didn't agree to but changed your mind about."

"When I asked if there were any benefits, you said it would count towards the Dao Court's merit, so it must be a Dao Court matter."

"Elder Yu told me that the Dao Court has deployed Dao soldiers."

"Both you and Elder Yu didn't want me to go to Dahei Mountain, but now you're taking me to the outer mountains without saying a word. Since Dao soldiers operate covertly..."

"Thinking it over, it must be that the Dao Court's Dao soldiers have arrived in Tongxian City and are secretly stationed in Dahei Mountain, encountering some trouble and wanting to consult me."

Zhang Lan looked complex; this kid's mind was too quick...

Mo Hua, however, was delighted, "Is it really to see the Dao soldiers?"

Zhang Lan sighed, "Yes."

Mo Hua's expression brightened, but he was puzzled, "Did you tell Elder Yu? He hasn't let me go into the mountains lately."

Zhang Lan sighed again, "I told him."

"Elder Yu actually agreed?" Mo Hua was surprised.

Zhang Lan sighed once more, "Elder Yu was adamantly opposed, but I had to invoke the Dao Court and even the Dao soldiers' commander. I assured him that I would protect you at all costs, and he reluctantly agreed."

Zhang Lan glanced at Mo Hua and continued, "Originally, I didn't want you to go into the mountains either, but the situation is urgent, and we need your help. As long as you don't enter Heishan Stronghold or encounter the leaders, with your Concealment Technique and Passing Water Step, you are actually quite safe, even safer than most of our cultivators."

Zhang Lan finished, feeling somewhat emotional.

He had also been worried about Mo Hua, not wanting him to take risks or venture into the mountains again. But thinking it over, their worries about Mo Hua were already "outdated."

The most worrying time for Mo Hua was when he sneaked into Heishan Stronghold alone, causing trouble and even confronting the Third Boss directly.

Now, things had changed. Mo Hua's spiritual sense had reached Foundation Building level, and even demonic cultivators at Foundation Building stage might not be able to detect his Concealment Technique.

With Mo Hua's intelligence, familiarity with Dahei Mountain, and flawless Concealment Technique, he was like a fish in water in Dahei Mountain. Their worries were somewhat unnecessary.