

Time 841

Chapter 841: Hunting the 'Demon-fanged mice'

Naturally, the pair of flaming, dark red wings on Jiang Chen's back was formed from the 'Demonic wings', the Saint low-grade martial skill that Jiang Chen had obtained from the Holy sect long ago.

After breaking through to the Dao King realm, Jiang Chen's 'Demonic wings' looked almost corporeal, as if they were a real pair of wings that were burning with an actual dark red flame.

A few moments later, Liu Mei finally made her move as well, as she placed both of her hands in front of her chest and gathered her qi towards them, as a black ball filled with death qi appeared between her palms.

Without any hesitation, Liu Mei allowed the ball of death qi to fall on the ground in front of her, before a black gate that was oozing with endless death qi opened up and hundreds upon hundreds of jade-white skeletons emerged from it.

In the blink of an eye, more than a thousand jade-white skeletons had appeared around Liu Mei, like an army of fanatic soldiers that had gathered around their master, as they waved their bony swords and slaughtered the 'Demon-fanged mice' around them without mercy.

Anyone who watched this scene would only be able to stare at it with their mouth agape, as this scene could no longer be able to call a fight but a massacre instead.

It didn't matter how hard the 'Demon-fanged mice' tried to attack Liu Mei's skeletons, as the mice couldn't even last more than a couple of hits against the skeletons' bony white swords that reaped their lives without mercy.

The skeletons would even be meticulous enough to remove the beast cores from the 'Demon-fanged mice' they killed before they offered them to Liu Mei.

Since every skeleton had a cultivation at the middle of rank 6 in the Dao King realm, the 'Demon-fanged mice' were completely overwhelmed by the army in front of them.

With more than a thousand skeletons present, it wouldn't be surprising if Liu Mei was able to gather 5000 magic beast cores in less than 2 hours.

Shun Long smiled and shook his head when he saw this scene before he turned his gaze towards the hordes 'Demon-fanged mice' that were rapidly approaching him as well.

No wonder why the Dao of Death was considered to be one of the strongest ones, even among other supreme Daos.

Liu Mei was practically unstoppable among cultivators at the same level, and those who could truly fight her on equal footing were only those extreme geniuses who had also comprehended at least 2 unique Daos or another supreme Dao.

At the same time, Shun Long had to admit that he was somewhat curious to see what type of new undead creature Liu Mei was able to control after she broke through to the Dao King realm, but of course, the 'Demon-fanged mice' weren't strong enough to force her to go all-out.

In fact, neither Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, or Xingyi, were going all-out in their fights right now, since it was obvious that they were fighting leisurely against the 'Demon-fanged mice'.

Closing his eyes, Shun Long no longer paid any attention to Jiang Chen and the others as he circulated his cultivation at the peak rank 3 of the Dao King realm, before he spoke in a calm voice "Monarch's Domain."

The invisible figure of an hourglass suddenly expanded from his body, immediately covering an area of more than 300 meters around him.

Every single 'Demon-fanged mouse' around Shun Long seemed to have suddenly gone still, with their mouths wide open and their sharp rows of teeth visible as they were ready to bite through him just now. please visit

Naturally, the 'Demon-fanged mice' didn't have the slightest bit of ability to resist against Shun Long's 'Monarch's Domain', as the flow of time around their bodies forcibly came to a halt.

A moment later, an illusionary purple-colored blade appeared in Shun Long's right hand, before Shun Long disappeared on the spot, appearing in front of the first 'Demon-fanged mouse' that was the closest to him just now.

Waving his right hand, Shun Long effortlessly severed the mouse's head from its body, causing a fountain of blood to spurt from its neck, before he retrieved its beast core and moved towards the next one.

If the fight between Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, Xingyi, and even Liu Mei's undead army with the 'Demon-fanged mice' could be called a one-sided massacre, then Shun Long's slaughter was an absolutely despair-inducing scene!

At the very least, against Jiang Chen and the others, the mice had a chance to try and attack, even if their attacks were completely useless, but against Shun Long... the only thing the mice could do was wait for their death to come.

"What? How- is this possible?"

"Elder brother, what's wrong?"

"What's wrong? Are you blind? Look over there!"

At the same time that Shun Long's group slaughtered the 'Demon-fanged mice' to gather the magic beast cores they needed, a few of the surrounding Dao Kings who were also hunting those mice seemed to have noticed the scene they had caused, staring at them with wide-open eyes.

Although the world around 'Demon-fanged city' was quite vast, most of the Dao Kings who were in the city chose to hunt around the outskirts of the city itself, since there wasn't any reason for them to go too far in the first place.

After all, the trials of the 'Demon-fanged city' were only the preliminary trials that would weed out the weakest Dao Kings or those without any ambition to go any further so it wasn't surprising that this place didn't hold any valuable treasures.

A few hours later, Shun Long's group of 5 returned back to the 'Demon-fanged city', and under the astounded eyes of the Dao Kings present, they headed straight for the 'Hall of Trials' at the heart of the city.

In the last few hours, word had already started to spread, that there was an enormous army of undead that was slaughtering the 'Demon-fanged mice' around the city at an extremely terrifying speed.

Out of curiosity, quite a few of the Dao Kings who were waiting for their groups to finish resting decided to go and have a look, but the scene they witnessed made even the late-stage Dao Kings who were present to start feeling jealous.

The speed and efficiency which Shun Long and his group killed the 'Demon-fanged mice' with, had already far exceeded even the speed of the late-stage Dao Kings who were in the city.

In fact, when these Dao Kings saw the number of magic beast cores that Shun Long and his group had gathered after a few hours, they were tempted to group up and go kill them, even if that meant going against an army of 1000 skeletons at the middle of rank 6 in the Dao King realm.

However, the presence of a peak rank 6 magic beast like Little Silver immediately extinguished any thoughts those Dao Kings had of robbing Shun Long and his group.

Chapter 842: Zhang Jing's guess

"How is this possible? How did those bastards get this strong in just 2 years?" The person ranked 3rd in the 'Martial Roll of Honor', Zhang Jing spoke in a voice that was filled with both denial and unwillingness as he gritted his teeth and stared at Shun Long and the others who were walking behind him.

Unlike the other Dao Kings in the 'Demon-fanged city' who came from the countless powers throughout the central region, Zhang Jing and the rest of the outer court disciples of the Holy sect all knew, that back during the 'Martial Roll of Honor' tournament, Shun Long and his faction had just reached the late-stages of the Nascent Soul, and weren't even close to the peak of the Nascent Soul stage.

This was why none of them could accept this terrifying rate of growth of theirs that had already exceeded even Qiao Min's who was born with a unique physique that increased her cultivation speed.

"I refuse to believe that all 5 of them were born with unique physiques that are even superior to Qiao Min's and are all focused on increasing their cultivation speed. Those types of unique physiques are already extremely rare, that it's surprising to have even a single one in the entire sect! If it was one of them perhaps it would be possible... but 5 of them?

...Wait! Don't tell me that these bastards are actually cultivating immortal-grade cultivation techniques! This..."

Zhang Jing's thoughts seemed to have suddenly stopped in place as Zhang Jing stared at Shun Long and his group with a disbelieving expression.

Indeed, if Shun Long and his group were cultivating immortal-grade cultivation techniques, then that could probably explain their terrifying rate of growth that had already exceeded even the inner court disciples' of the Holy sect!

Although this was still a far-fetched thought and one that didn't make much sense considering how rare immortal-grade cultivation techniques really were, Zhang Jing was certain that his guess was right on the mark since there wasn't any other explanation.

At that moment, an uncontrollable feeling of greed sprouted in his heart as Zhang Jing stared at Shun Long's figure.

If Shun Long and the others could get so strong in just a couple of years, then how strong would he have become if he had an immortal-grade cultivation technique? Wouldn't he surpass even Yang Hui?

"No, forget about Yang Hui... I would even have a chance to become a core disciple of the sect!"

As this thought appeared in his mind, Zhang Jing had to do his utmost to stop himself from attacking Shun Long in the middle of the street.

Even though he was confident that he could kill Shun Long if he went all-out, Zhang Jing didn't feel the same amount of confidence when he thought of the peak rank 6 magic beast that was protecting Shun Long.

"It doesn't matter! I will still have a chance to find him again during the next trial! As long as that panther leaves his side even for a bit, I will instantly kill him and take his cultivation technique! As long as I am the only one who knows about this matter then it should be fine."

As he thought of this, Zhang Jing recomposed himself and decided to reign in his greed for now, before he turned his gaze towards Qiao Min and the others who were by his side.

Of course, Zhang Jing wouldn't share this guess of his with any other outer court disciple regardless of the potential benefits.

If Shun Long was really cultivating an immortal-grade cultivation technique, then Zhang Jing knew that he couldn't let anyone else find out about it or word might start spreading. Since he knew that even the inner court disciples of the Holy sect had entered the 'City of Immortals' this time and they had already gone ahead to participate in the next trials, Zhang Jing understood that if any of those people found out about this matter, then he wouldn't have a chance to obtain that cultivation technique no matter how much he schemed.

Of course, what Zhang Jing didn't know was that he wasn't the only one who had guessed that Shun Long and his group were all training in an immortal-grade cultivation technique.

The Northern Sovereign had also come to this conclusion long ago, while the Grand Elder of the Holy sect, and even Sun Wen and Elder Mao Jing had guessed this much as well, the moment they visited the 'Northern Sovereign's estate' and saw Jiang Chen's and the others' progress.

But of course, the Northern Sovereign wouldn't really covet an immortal-grade cultivation technique to the point where she would fall out with Shun Long, considering that she had access to many immortal-grade cultivation techniques from the Tianxuan dynasty.

As for the Grand Elder, even if he hadn't obtained an immortal-grade cultivation technique from Shun Long, he still wouldn't dare to cause a fuss within the Northern Sovereign's territory.

All of a sudden, Shun Long sensed an uncontrollable wave of killing intent focused on his back, before he turned around and looked towards the source of this killing intent.

At that moment, Shun Long stared at Zhang Jing who was standing on the very front of the Holy sect's group with an extremely deep look in his eyes, before he kept walking towards the heart of the city shortly afterwards.

A few moments later, Shun Long led Liu Mei and the others as they arrived back at the entrance of the 'Hall of Trials', before their group headed directly for the room with the stone tablet.

Shun Long then had Little Silver return back into the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', before he turned his gaze towards the stone tablet in front of him and said calmly

"Let's go."

Waving his hand, Shun Long then took out the beast cores of the 5000 'Demon-fanged mice' and spread them around the stone tablet, while Jiang Chen, Liu Mei, Xingyi, and Bai Longtian, all did the same as well.

Placing his right hand on the stone tablet, Shun Long then closed his eyes and sent his soul sense inside the tablet, before the runes that were etched on the walls of the room suddenly lit up.

Chapter 843: Information

One after the other, the runes that were engraved on the walls of the room started to glow with a brilliant white light, before a terrifying power enveloped the entire room in the next moment.

At the same time, just as Liu Mei, Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian placed their hands on the stone tablet in front of them, the tablet itself started to tremble before a stream of information appeared in everyone's minds.

'Saint low-grade martial skill: Glacial sword. A Saint low-grade martial skill suitable for cultivators who train in the Dao of Ice. It allows a person to conjure a massive sword of ice and use it to attack their opponents from a distance.'

Moments after this martial skill had appeared in his mind, Shun Long suddenly felt another stream of information coming from the stone tablet in front of him, before the following cultivation technique itself appeared directly into his spiritual sea

"Saint low-grade cultivation technique: Volcanic Palace. A Saint low-grade cultivation technique suitable for cultivators who train in the Dao of Fire. The hotter the environment around the user, the faster their cultivation speed will become."

Shun Long barely had enough time to read the description of this Saint low-grade cultivation technique and the martial skill that had appeared in his mind, before the stone tablet in front of him that had just stopped trembling suddenly began to tremble with even more intensity than before, causing the entire 'Hall of Trials' to shake along with it.

At this moment, Shun Long could sense that the energy inside the 5000 beast cores that he had spread around the stone tablet were being sapped at an alarming rate, almost as if the magic beast cores from the 'Demon-fanged mice' were being used to fuel the runes that were engraved on the walls of the room.

Closing his eyes, Shun Long allowed the familiar feeling of spatial fluctuations to envelop his body, before his figure disappeared from the 'Hall of Trials' shortly afterwards.

A moment later, Shun Long opened his eyes, as he found himself in the center of an enormous plaza that was covered in countless mysterious runes and formations.

Even someone who wasn't well-versed in formations would be able to easily tell, that the formations around this plaza looked quite similar to the formations that were engraved on the walls back in the 'Hall of Trials'.

However, it was obvious that Shun Long and the others were no longer in the 'Hall of Trials', as they had been teleported somewhere else.

Bai Longtian and the others all stared at their surroundings curiously, before their gazes landed on a small group of 3 people who were calmly standing just a few hundred meters away from them, right at the edge of this gigantic plaza.

"Eh? What's this? Newcomers?"

The middle-aged man who seemed to be leading this group suddenly said in a surprised voice, before his figure disappeared on the spot, heading straight towards Shun Long and his group.

The young man and the young woman who were standing on his left and right respectively turned to look at each other for a few seconds, before they followed after the middle-aged man as well.

In just a few seconds, the middle-aged man appeared in front of Shun Long and his group and after he stared at the 5 people in front of him in silence, his gaze eventually landing on Liu Mei before he introduced himself with a calm smile on his face

"Haha, you lot must be newcomers huh? My name is Li Tian and I am a member of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce'. May I ask where you all are from?"

Naturally, since Liu Mei had the highest cultivation base, the middle-aged man assumed that she was the leader of this group in front of him so he spoke directly to her.

"The 'White tiger chamber of commerce'?" Sensing the aura of an early rank 7 Dao King coming from this middle-aged man in front of them, Jiang Chen and the others were momentarily stunned, while even Shun Long was confused by this as he stared at Li Tian seriously.

Naturally, the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' was a superpower even if one took into consideration the entire central region, but it still didn't explain why this Li Tian would approach them so casually, especially while they were still in a place like the 'City of Immortals'.

As if he had guessed what Shun Long and the others were thinking however, Li Tian smiled and waved his hands in a dismissive manner before he said calmly

"There is no need to worry, I am only here to do business with you. I am not here to attack you so there is no need to worry about any of that."

"Business?" Liu Mei asked as she looked at Li Tian with narrowed eyes, but she didn't seem to be in a hurry to make a move against him.

Even though Li Tian was an early rank 7 Dao King, while the 2 people who were following behind him were at the early rank 5 and peak of rank 5 in the Dao King realm respectively, their strength wasn't enough to pose a threat to Shun Long and his group.

Even without Little Silver, Liu Mei was confident in her ability to wipe out Li Tian's group all by herself.

At the same time, Li Tian could also sense how calm the 5 people in front of him seemed to be, even though they were facing a late-stage Dao King like him, which surprised him quite a bit.

After all, the strongest person among this group seemed to be Liu Mei who was just a peak rank 6 Dao King, while the others were all middle-stage Dao Kings while one of them was even a peak rank 3 Dao King as well.

After a moment of silence however, Li Tian simply shook his head before he continued speaking with that same smile on his face

"Indeed, I am here to do business so allow me to explain. As I said, I am a member of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' and what I am selling is information.

Since you all just arrived here from the 'Hall of Trials' from the 'Demon-fanged city' I assume that you aren't very familiar with this place.

Unlike the 'Demon-fanged city', this city that we are in right now doesn't have a 'Hall of Trials', so if you want to complete any of the trials here, you will find out that things aren't as easy.

Additionally, the dangers in this place are enough to kill even the strongest rank 9 Dao Kings so you have to be extremely careful with every step you take... unless you want to lose your life that is.

This is why I, Li Tian, am selling information from our 'White tiger chamber of commerce'. As long as you are willing to pay enough spirit stones, I will naturally tell you everything I know."

Li Tian had a smile on his face as he said these words, not worried in the slightest that Liu Mei would reject his offer.

Indeed, just like he had just said, he was there to sell information, and for those groups that had just entered the 'City of Immortals', the thing that they lacked the most was precisely such information.

After all, Shun Long and his group were already behind everyone else in terms of progress, and the 'City of Immortals' had a fixed amount of time that it would remain open.

If they wasted time searching for the trials by themselves, they would only waste even more time, especially since, as Li Tian had just said, this city wasn't like the 'Demon-fanged city' and didn't have a 'Hall of Trials' to make things easier.

Nodding his head, Shun Long looked at Li Tian and asked calmly

"What type of information do you have?"

Li Tian's lips curved upwards when he heard Shun Long's question, before he waved his hand, taking out more than a dozen memory recording jades and placing them all on the ground in front of him, before he said in a warm manner

"Naturally, our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' has information about every single powerful Dao King who has entered the 'City of Immortals', as well as the location of 2 of the trials that have already been discovered. One of these trials doesn't even pose any danger at all, making it safe even for early-stage Dao Kings to participate.

As for the prices, our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' has set them at 10.000 high-grade spirit stones for each trial, while the information for the high-level Dao Kings present is priced at 200.000 high-grade spirit stones."

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"200.000 high-grade spirit stones?" Liu Mei frowned when she heard the absurd price that Li Tian mentioned, while Xingyi and the others all widened their eyes in surprise.

Even an average peak rank 9 Dao Emperor wouldn't have more than a couple hundred thousand high-grade spirit stones in their possession, so for Li Tian to ask for such a price truly dumbfounded them.

However, Li Tian wasn't surprised by their reactions, looking like he had already seen similar reactions like theirs countless times by now, as he nodded his head and continued

"Although this price may indeed be expensive, I can assure dear guests that the information of our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' is one hundred percent accurate and worth every single one of your high-grade spirit stones."

Of course, Li Tian didn't expect that Liu Mei and her group would purchase the information about the powerful Dao Kings who were present in the 'City of Immortals' right now since such information would be absolutely useless to them.

After all, the way that Li Tian saw it, even the most powerful person among their group was only a peak rank 6 Dao King.

Thus, it didn't matter if their group met an ordinary rank 9 Dao King or one of those terrifying monsters who could completely destroy anyone else at the same level of cultivation as them, as their group would be dead either way.

In reality, only some of the most powerful peak rank 9 Dao Kings who had entered the 'City of Immortals' this time, especially those who came from extremely powerful backgrounds around the central region would be interested in buying this information from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', since they would aim to learn more about their rivals.

However, contrary to Li Tian's, and even Liu Mei's and the others' expectations, Shun Long merely stared at Li Tian for a few moments, before he asked him with a deep look in his eyes

"You are saying that the information you have includes details about their cultivation techniques and martial skills as well?"

Li Tian's eyes narrowed into slits when he heard Shun Long's question, before a radiant smile appeared on his face shortly afterwards as he nodded his head and replied in an even friendlier manner than before

"It seems that this guest is quite familiar with our chamber of commerce. Indeed, as you have guessed, the information that we have does not only include the names of those Dao Kings who stand at the peak of our central region and the names of the powers they come from, but it also includes some of their personal information like the cultivation techniques and the martial skills that they train in, and even the Daos that some of them have comprehended. Obtaining this information would allow our dear guests to be even better prepared, and will give you a higher chance of survival for the next 8 years!

Of course, as our dear guest can probably guess, some of these experts are also quite secretive, so even our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' may not know too much about them."

Shun Long nodded his head when he heard Li Tian's answer, as he understood that the price the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' had set was most likely considered to be fair if things were as Li Tian had just said.

After all, just the information that he had purchased back in Murong city which included information about Murong Tian and the remaining Dao Emperors of the Murong family, had cost Shun Long 60.000 high-grade spirit stones!

Although information about some powerful Dao Emperors, especially peak Dao Emperors like Murong Tian was expected to be expensive, Shun Long understood that the reason why the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' had priced the information of the peak Dao Kings of the central region even higher than that, surpassing even the price that would cost someone to scout a powerful family in the northern part of the central region like the Murong family by more than 3 times, wasn't just because of the information itself, but because of the status that some of those Dao Kings had in the central region.

"I am not sure if the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' will have any information on the 'geniuses' of powers like the Tianxuan dynasty, but this should still be useful regardless of that." Shun Long thought to himself as he stared at Li Tian for a moment, before he waved his right hand soon after, causing a mountain of high-grade spirit stones to appear in front of him.

"This...!"

Staring at the huge mountain of high-grade spirit stones that had suddenly appeared in front of him, Li Tian was stunned momentarily, feeling like his mind had short-circuited for a brief moment.

However, the senses of a businessman kicked in merely a few seconds afterwards, as Li Tian quickly regained his bearings and gathered the dozen memory-recording jades that he had taken out from his spatial ring, before he personally handed them to Shun Long.

"Dear guest, thank you very much for your business!" Li Tian said with a face full of smiles before he started gathering the high-grade spirit stones in front of him, afraid that a passerby might see them exposed.

Even with his status as a late-stage Dao King of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', Li Tian knew that in this place where there were no other experts around to protect him, he would truly be in trouble if anyone else saw this scene.

After all, forget about other Dao Kings, 220.000 high-grade spirit stones were enough to attract the attention of even some peak rank 9 Dao Emperors!

Meanwhile, Shun Long nodded his head and accepted the memory jades from Li Tian, before he sat cross-legged on the ground and began to check their contents on the spot.

As for Li Tian, he wasn't in a hurry to leave after gathering the spirit stones, as he stood there with that same smile on his face, waiting for Shun Long to finish checking the contents of the memory jades first before they could conclude their business.

A few minutes later, Shun Long opened his eyes and stared at the memory jades in front of him with a serious look on his face, looking like he was deeply pondering over something. At the same time, the final memory jade in his hand turned into a pile of dust as well, just like the previous ones, as it disappeared on the spot.

Meanwhile, Li Tian had that same smile on his face staring at Shun Long, and after a moment of silence he asked curiously

"Dear guest, were you satisfied with the information?"

At this point, Li Tian would be dumb if he didn't understand that the leader of this small group in front of him was actually this short-haired young man whose cultivation was only at the peak of rank 3 in the Dao King realm.

Nodding his head, Shun Long looked at Li Tian and answered calmly

"Yeah. The information of your 'White tiger chamber of commerce' was worth the spirit stones."

Shun Long then turned to look at Liu Mei and the others before he said

"Let's have a look around this city first before we leave this place."

A moment later, Shun Long then led Liu Mei and the others as they left the plaza, leaving Li Tian and his group behind.

A few moments after Shun Long's group had left however, the young man behind Li Tian looked at Shun Long's disappearing figure and asked in surprise

"Senior brother Li, are we really going to let them leave like that?"

Li Tian raised his eyebrows as he stared at the young man behind him, before he said coldly

"Junior brother Xian, could it be that you want to chase after them?"

The young man that Li Tian had just called 'junior brother Xian' nodded his head, as if he hadn't noticed Li Tian's displeasure before he answered seriously

"Senior brother Li, if that guy can take out 200.000 high-grade spirit stones so easily, isn't it practically guaranteed that he must have even more? I know that senior brother is someone who only does business and avoids robbing others, but even the strongest person in their group is merely that girl who is just a peak rank 6 Dao King! With senior brother's strength, killing them all should be a piece of cake! Are you really going to let them leave?"

At the same time, the young woman who was standing next to this young man took a step forward and stared at Li Tian, before she said in a solemn voice

"Senior brother Li, I agree with senior brother Xian! Although we are disciples of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', we are also cultivators! We can't let such an opportunity go to waste!"

The young man named 'junior brother Xian' spread out his hands and continued

"Senior brother, think about it! Even if we let them go due to senior brother's kindness, do you really think that those people will survive? In my eyes, it's better if we are the ones to benefit instead of waiting for others to kill them!"

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Li Tian fell silent for a while as he stared at the young man and the young woman in front of him with a serious look in his eyes, before he shook his head and said in a solemn manner

"Do you really think that someone who carries so many high-grade spirit stones with them wouldn't have any way to protect themselves? Most likely, those people either come from one of the top

powers from the central part of our central region, or they may even be disciples of some powerful expert who has isolated himself from the world, otherwise, there is no way that they would have so many high-grade spirit stones. Even if the strongest person in that group is that young woman with the long black hair, she isn't someone that we can underestimate."

Unlike his junior brother and his junior sister, Li Tian was someone with plenty of experience, and he could assess the situation in front of him much more logically.

Even if Liu Mei's cultivation was slightly lower than his own, Li Tian understood that it wouldn't be that easy for him to kill her even if he truly went all-out, since he could actually feel that Liu Mei posed a real threat to him. This was a feeling that came from Li Tian's own instincts.

However, the young man named 'junior brother Xian' didn't seem satisfied with Li Tian's response as he shook his head and continued immediately afterwards

"Senior brother, so what if they are disciples of some powerful expert? No matter what, this place we are in is the 'City of Immortals' and there is no one to protect them here! As long as we kill them discreetly nobody will find out about it either. Besides, according to our information, these people don't belong to any of the top powers of our central region, or our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' would have definitely known about it.

The way I see it, there are only 2 possible scenarios. It's either like senior brother has said and that those people are truly disciples of some powerful reclusive expert, or... they happened to obtain the legacy of a powerful expert which is why they possess so many high-grade spirit stones!"

The young woman next to 'junior brother Xian' nodded her head in agreement, before she looked at Li Tian and said seriously

"Senior brother Li, I think that senior brother Xian is right! Even if those people come from a powerful background, this place is still the 'City of Immortals' and they don't have anyone to protect them! Are we really going to let them go like that?"

Li Tian fell silent when he heard this as he stared at the young man and the young woman in front of him with a serious look.

In his heart, Li Tian also understood that regardless of what type of protective treasures Shun Long and his group may have had, it wouldn't matter at all while they were in the 'City of Immortals'. Even those extremely rare talismans like the 'Soul-locking talisman' that could normally affect powerful Sovereign realm experts would be restricted while they were in this place.

And yet, Li Tian's own gut feeling told him that this situation wasn't as simple as it seemed.

After a few moments of silence however, Li Tian finally gritted his teeth and steeled his heart, before he said in a determined manner

"Let's go."

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At the same time, Shun Long, Liu Mei, and the others, all walked around the nearly deserted streets of the city, before Bai Longtian looked at Shun Long and asked curiously

"Brother Shun, are there any trials in this city?"

Shun Long looked at Bai Longtian and shook his head before he said calmly

"According to the information from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', there is only one other place in this city, other than that plaza where people from the 'Demon-fanged city' are teleported to."

Staring at the numerous half-destroyed buildings around him that were clearly affected by the passage of countless years, Shun Long turned his gaze towards the depths of this city as he continued

"There should be a deserted castle in the heart of the city, but whether there are any treasures left in that place or not is actually unknown. Of course, it wouldn't hurt to take a look before we go towards the first trial."

At the same time that he finished speaking, Shun Long suddenly narrowed his eyes, before he turned around and stared at the direction of the plaza behind him.

Jiang Chen, Liu Mei, Xingyi, and Bai Longtian, seemed to have also sensed something, as they turned their gazes towards the plaza as well.

A moment later, Li Tian's figure quickly appeared in the sky above them, while the young man named 'junior brother Xian' and the young woman who was following by his side seemed to have completely surrounded Shun Long and his group.

"Haha, senior brother, I knew that they wouldn't have gone too far. I bet that they were planning to take a look at that old palace before they left the city! How lucky!" The young man whose cultivation was at the peak of rank 5 in the Dao King realm said with a cold smile on his face, while his gaze was completely focused on Shun Long, as if he was staring at a juicy piece of meat.

Since this city was practically deserted and only had a few small groups of cultivators present, the young man named 'junior brother Xian' wasn't worried that anyone else would interfere while they killed Shun Long and his group here.

What he had been worried about, was that Shun Long would end up leaving the city right after he finished reading the information within the memory jades.

If that truly happened, then even if they could find him again, it would have been much harder to steal his spatial ring in broad daylight without attracting attention, especially since the number of late-stage Dao Kings who were present in the 'City of Immortals' wasn't small.

After all, although killings weren't rare in this place, if another late-stage Dao King noticed this, they would definitely be able to guess what was going on and would most likely interfere and take the spirit stones for themselves.

After all, it was common knowledge that someone from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' like Li Tian wasn't someone who would easily rob others, so for him to do something like that, it must have meant that his target was truly wealthy.

And yet, Shun Long didn't even look at 'junior brother Xian' who was eyeing him coldly, as his eyes met Li Tian's cold eyes that were now filled with unconcealed killing intent, before Shun Long shook his head and said calmly

"It seems that you guys have come to give me back my spirit stones."

Li Tian snorted when he heard this, while in his heart he could feel an uncomfortable feeling swelling.

He didn't know why, but when he met Shun Long's calm gaze that didn't look the slightest bit panicked or surprised, Li Tian suddenly felt his entire body going cold.

"Senior brother, what are you waiting for? Let's do this! Kill that woman while junior sister and I take care of the rest of them." Junior brother Xian said to Li Tian as his cultivation of a peak rank 5 Dao King exploded outwards.

Li Tian nodded his head and decided to not waste any more words with Shun Long, as the cultivation of an early rank 7 Dao King exploded out from his body in the next moment, immediately targeting the most dangerous person from Shun Long's group, Liu Mei.

After all, in Li Tian's eyes, Liu Mei was the only one who truly threaten him!

At that moment however, Liu Mei's gaze was filled with cold, unrestrained killing intent as she stared at Li Tian and his group, before her cultivation at the peak of rank 6 in the Dao King realm burst out from her body!

Despite the fact that Liu Mei's cultivation was lower than his, Li Tian could feel his entire body shivering when he sensed the terrifying aura around Liu Mei, that made even a late-stage Dao King like him feel fear!

"Attack!" Li Tian suddenly shouted before his figure turned into a blur, as he flew straight towards Liu Mei, while his body left behind countless afterimages.

A pair of small black daggers had appeared in his hands practically at the same time, as Li Tian aimed them towards Liu Mei's heart.

And yet, Liu Mei didn't seem flustered by this, as she stared at Li Tian approaching figure coldly, before a black ball of qi appeared between her hands in a single second.

Without any hesitation, Liu Mei allowed the ball of death qi to fall on the ground, causing the ground beneath her feet to start trembling.

Li Tian's speed was truly fast, and in just a single moment, his figure had already arrived in front of Liu Mei, but before his daggers could actually pierce through her heart, Li Tian's body seemed to have suddenly frozen into place as a terrifying sight appeared in his eyes.

Chapter 846: Black skeleton

A skeleton that was around 1.8 meters (5.10ft) tall had appeared in front of Li Tian seemingly out of thin air, as he blocked his path towards Liu Mei.

At that moment, Xingyi and the others also noticed, that this skeleton wasn't the same as the rest of the skeletons in Liu Mei's army.

Unlike the normal jade-white skeletons whose eye sockets were burning with green wisps of ember and were normally holding their thin-looking but sharp bone swords, this skeleton in front of Liu Mei was pitch-black in appearance and his eye sockets were burning with purple flames instead!

Additionally, instead of the usual sword made of bones, this black skeleton was holding a peculiar-looking, massive dark-red sword that was emitting an extremely dense aura of death!

Without any hesitation, the black skeleton swung the dark-red sword in his hands sideways, meeting Li Tian's daggers head-on!

At that moment, the scene that followed didn't just stun the young man named 'junior brother Xian' and the young woman who was standing by his side who were waiting for Li Tian to kill Liu Mei, but even Li Tian himself who looked like he couldn't believe his own eyes.

The moment that the black skeleton's dark-red sword clashed with his daggers, both Li Tian and the black skeleton were actually pushed backwards by more than 3 steps until they regained their balance.

And yet, even after he regained his balance Li Tian didn't make another move, as he stared at the black skeleton in front of him with a look of disbelief before he mumbled to himself in an incredulous voice

"How is this possible? This monster... it can actually rival a late-stage Dao King like me?"

"Senior brother, let me help you!" The young man called 'junior brother Xian' shouted from the distance when he witnessed the scene in front of him, before his figure shot towards Li Tian at full speed.

Originally, both he and the young woman who was standing next to him, had both expected that Li Tian would be able to effortlessly slaughter Liu Mei in just a few attacks, while the 2 of them would kill Shun Long and the other 3 by his side.

But from the looks of things, despite her lower cultivation base, it seemed that Liu Mei's strength actually wasn't inferior to Li Tian's in the slightest.

Unlike his junior brother and his junior sister who didn't seem to have realized what was going on, Li Tian actually understood exactly how dangerous the black skeleton in front of him really was.

Just now, Li Tian had truly gone all-out with this attack of his, activating even the Dao of Wind within his 1-star daggers as he aimed to take Liu Mei's life in a single strike.

With his cultivation at the early rank 7 of the Dao King realm and his 2 daggers, even a normal middle rank 7 Dao King wouldn't be able to escape if they didn't have a star-rank weapon as well.

And yet, this black skeleton in front of him whose aura seemed to be similar to Liu Mei's, at the peak of rank 6 in the Dao King realm, was able to block his attack head-on!

"Senior brother Li, let's take down that skeleton together! I am sure that it won't be able to last for too long under our combined attack-" 'Junior brother Xian' was about to speak, but his words seemed to have been suddenly stuck in his throat as his eyes widened in terror in the next moment.

In fact, it wasn't just him, as even Li Tian who was standing beside him could feel his entire body that had started to shiver, as he stared at the scene that was unfolding in front of his eyes.

From the black hole on the ground, a massive, hideous monster that was more than 30 meters tall slowly emerged, followed by a hundred undead knights each of whom was emitting an aura similar to that of a peak rank 6 Dao King!

Staring at the Death Eater and sensing the aura of malice and bloodlust that it was emitting, even Li Tian could no longer keep himself calm as he involuntarily took a few steps back.

At that moment however, Liu Mei took a single step forward as she stood on the Death Eater's back, and with a frosty look on her face she said coldly

"You want to leave? It's too late!"

Before Li Tian and his 'junior brother Xian' could retreat, Liu Mei's aura exploded outwards, before the black skeleton, the Death Eater, and the 100 undead knights all attacked them at once.

Unlike Li Tian who was an early rank 7 Dao King, 'junior brother Xian' was just a peak rank 5 Dao King and could at most fight a single of these undead knight head-on.

But under the onslaught of 100 undead knights, his body was soon riddled with tens of wounds before it was dismembered by the undead knights' massive greatswords, leaving behind nothing else but an unrecognizable corpse.

"NO!" The young woman who was watching this scene from the distance shouted in horror, before a look of despair began to color her face.

Gritting her teeth, the young woman abruptly turned around and tried to flee, no longer intending to stay in this place any longer.

She could see that even Li Tian was having trouble and was unable to escape no matter how hard he tried, while his body seemed to be accumulating wounds at a terrifying rate.

Just the black skeleton itself was enough to match him in both strength and speed, posing a serious threat all by itself, but when its strength was combined with the Death Eater's and the 100 undead knights, even Li Tian had no chance and could at most defend in a desperate manner.

The young woman understood that no matter what, once those monsters were done with Li Tian, they would definitely go after her.

With her cultivation of an early rank 5 Dao King, forget about the Death Eater, even a single undead knight would be enough to effortlessly take her life!

However, before the young woman could escape too far, her body suddenly trembled mid-air, before a look of horror appeared inside her eyes.

From the ground below her, more than a dozen of shadow tentacles seemed to have appeared out of nowhere, completely restricting her movements and holding her into place. Although the young woman struggled to break free, it didn't matter how many shadow tentacles she destroyed, as even more spouted from the ground below her, firmly locking her into place.

At this moment, the young woman was determined to go all-out and use her strongest martial skills to escape from the tentacle's entanglement as quickly as possible, but before she could gather all of her qi, she suddenly noticed the figure of an extremely beautiful blond-haired woman appearing behind her.

Before the young woman could react, Xingyi suddenly thrust the silver dagger in her left hand forward, piercing straight through the young woman's heart.

A moment later, the shadow tentacles all disappeared, before the young woman's lifeless corpse collapsed on the ground with a thud.

Meanwhile, Li Tian's figure seemed to be growing slower and slower with every passing second, as his body was now covered in countless sword wounds.

"You bastards! Fuck off! I won't die here! 'Soul tornado!'" Li Tian roared out loudly before he gathered all of his qi in his 2 daggers and swung them horizontally, as he used his strongest martial skill.

A huge, black tornado slowly began to form itself around Li Tian, finally pushing the undead knights that were barraging him with attacks backwards.

This was Li Tian's strongest martial skill, a Saint middle-grade martial skill that attacked his enemies' bodies and souls at the same time.

Unfortunately for Li Tian, the last thing that Liu Mei's undead creatures were afraid of was precisely spiritual attacks like this.

Although the undead knights were slightly pushed back by the power of Li Tian's 'Soul tornado', the black skeleton and the Death Eater seemed barely affected by it, as the 2 undead creatures continued their unrelenting attacks on the middle-aged man in front of them.

A few moments later, the black skeleton and the Death Eater finally stopped, as only the figure of an unrecognizable corpse along with a jade-green spatial ring remained in front of them.

Chapter 847: Blood castle

"Mei, what is this black skeleton of yours? Why is it so different from your white skeletons? It's actually strong enough to fight against that Li Tian all by itself?!" Xingyi asked with a curious look in her eyes as she stared at the black skeleton that was silently standing just a few meters away from Li Tian's corpse.

Meanwhile, Liu Mei first retrieved Li Tian's spatial ring and handed it to Shun Long with a bright smile on her face, before she turned to look at Xingyi and said calmly

"It's a skeleton king."

"Skeleton king?"

It wasn't just Xingyi who was surprised by Liu Mei's answer, but Jiang Chen and Bai Longtian as well, while a curious look had also appeared in Shun Long's eyes as he stared at the black skeleton.

Shun Long could sense that even though the black skeleton's aura was clearly at the same level as Liu Mei's, its actual strength exceeded that of an average early rank 7 Dao King. This was why, even with his pair of 1-star daggers, Li Tian couldn't get any advantage in his fight against it.

Nodding her head, Liu Mei explained seriously

"Skeleton kings are the strongest type of skeletons I can currently create a connection with, and each of them is strong enough to overpower even my Death Eater in a fight. Of course, the Death Eater's defense and survivability are much stronger than the skeleton kings', but in terms of raw attack power and speed, the skeleton kings are much stronger. However, right now I can only summon 3 skeleton kings at most with my current strength."

Liu Mei's last sentence stunned Bai Longtian and the others as they had already thought that Liu Mei had gone all-out during the fight just now.

Just a single one of these black skeletons was strong enough to fight an early rank 7 Dao King like Li Tian to a standstill, and yet Liu Mei could summon 2 more of those monsters at the same time?

If Li Tian was still alive, he would have definitely ended up vomiting blood due to anger and frustration. If he had known about this beforehand, he would have never chosen to attack Shun Long's group so hastily.

Unfortunately for him, there was no information about Shun Long and the rest in the memory jades of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', so Li Tian had no idea what type of people he was fighting against.

Staring at Li Tian's unrecognizable corpse that was now nothing more than a pile of raw flesh and blood, Xingyi then looked at Liu Mei and asked her curiously

"Mei, are you going to turn this guy into an undead? No matter what, he is still a late-stage Dao King so he could be quite useful."

Indeed, although 'junior brother Xian' and the young woman from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' were nothing more than rank 5 Dao Kings, whose strength was even inferior to the undead knights, Li Tian's strength was an entirely different matter.

However, Liu Mei merely stared at Li Tian's corpse for a few moments in silence, before she shook her head and said

"It's too dangerous."

Xingyi was confused momentarily, but a look of realization suddenly appeared in her bright emerald eyes as she stared at Li Tian's corpse.

Indeed, at the end of the day, Li Tian was still a member of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce'.

Even if his own position within the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' wasn't high and he was just a normal disciple, and even if he had been the one to attack Shun Long and his group first, there was no doubt that if another member of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' happened to see his corpse being commanded by Liu Mei during a fight, it would definitely attract endless trouble.

After all, this was still the 'City of Immortals', and there was no doubt that there would be plenty more disciples of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' other than the 3 that they had just killed. Even Shun Long couldn't estimate the number of peak rank 9 Dao Kings that the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' had sent in this place, let alone the number of late-stage Dao Kings.

Nodding his head, Shun Long first gathered 'junior brother Xian's' and the young woman's spatial rings, as well as Li Tian's 1-star daggers and placed them all inside the 'Stone of Time', before he said calmly

"Let's go take a look at the castle here before we leave the city."

After walking around the empty streets for a while, Shun Long soon arrived at the heart of the city, standing in front of the entrance of an enormous castle.

Despite its appearance that made it seem like it could collapse at any moment, Shun Long merely took a look at the castle from the outside, before he stepped through its wide-open gates and entered inside.

Surprisingly, the first thing that Shun Long noticed when he stepped inside, were the countless bodies that were spread everywhere around him, as well as the scent of blood that was present in the air.

The dried blood that had painted the walls and the floor of the castle a deep red color made it obvious that a large-scale fight had taken place here.

However, Jiang Chen and the rest could all tell with just a few glances that this fight had only happened less than a year ago, or the scent of blood in the air wouldn't be so intense and the bodies around them would have definitely turned into skeletons by now if that wasn't the case.

After staring at his surroundings for a while, Shun Long first closed his eyes and spread his soul sense as far as he could, before he continued to walk towards the depths of the castle.

Of course, even though there were countless bodies around them, Xingyi and the others all noticed that none of these bodies had any spatial rings on them, as they had clearly been looted long ago. Naturally, the people who had killed them wouldn't leave their enemies' wealth behind before they left.

As they walked past the thousands of corpses and headed even deeper inside the castle, Jiang Chen suddenly said as he stared at his surroundings

"I could sense it ever since we arrived here, but the qi in this city is even purer than the qi in that 'Demon-fanged city'."

Shun Long nodded his head in agreement as he had also sensed the same thing the moment they stepped foot into this city.

Both the qi in the air and the quantity of immortal qi that was mixed with it were many times better than the qi in the 'Demon-fanged city' where Qiao Min and the rest of the disciples of the Holy sect were staying in.

After walking around the enormous castle for more than an hour, Shun Long and his group finally arrived at the entrance of a large throne room.

However, even before he stepped past the room's entrance and entered inside, Shun Long could smell the scent of blood that was coming from this room which was many times more intense than any other place inside this castle.

It was obvious that a large massacre had taken place here some time ago, and it was clearly much more intense than the fight at the castle's entrance.

Staring at the decapitated corpses everywhere around him, some of which were missing their limbs, others missing their heads, while others were in an even worse state than Li Tian's corpse, Shun Long shook his head as he understood that there was truly nothing left in this place.

Whoever had come before him had definitely robbed this place clean.

At the same time, he also understood that for such a large fight to have taken place here, the treasures in this place were definitely nothing ordinary. However, Shun Long wasn't too disappointed either since he had already expected this outcome from the moment he stepped foot into the castle, since it was extremely unlikely for any treasures to have been left behind.

"Brother Shun, it seems that we were not fated to get the treasures in this place." Bai Longtian said after a moment of silence.

Nodding his head, Shun Long smiled and turned his gaze towards Bai Longtian and the rest and said calmly

"It's only natural. If there was anything to gain from this place, this city wouldn't have been deserted like this to begin with. Let's go to the location of the first trial."

Once he finished speaking, Shun Long closed his eyes, before the figure of a huge black panther with bright silver wings appeared in front of him.

After he took one last look at the throne room, Shun Long sat on Little Silver's back along with Liu Mei and the rest, before Little Silver's figure shot out of the castle like a bolt of silver lightning, flying towards the east of the city.

Chapter 848: Stone mural

In just a few moments, Little Silver's figure had already arrived above the deserted city gates of the city before it continued flying towards the horizon shortly afterwards.

Sitting on Little Silver's back, Shun Long closed his eyes and sent his soul sense inside Li Tian's spatial ring as he began to inspect the ring's contents.

Staring at the 340.000 high-grade spirit stones inside the ring, a smile finally appeared on Shun Long's face, before he transferred everything into the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time' without any hesitation.

Although 220.000 of these high-grade spirit stones were the ones that Shun Long had paid to Li Tian for the memory jades, the rest of them was what Li Tian had managed to gather during these past few months in the 'City of Immortals'.

Other than the high-grade spirit stones, Shun Long also found a few pill bottles that were filled with middle rank 6 'anti-toxin pills' as well as some healing pills, along with more than a hundred of the memory recording jades that Li Tian was carrying with him.

After he stored everything into the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long then turned his attention towards the remaining 2 spatial rings that came from 'junior brother Xian' and the young woman who was following by his side.

However, other than a few low-grade and middle-grade rank 6 pills, Shun Long only found a total of 20.000 high-grade spirit stones inside their spatial rings.

Unlike Li Tian who could be considered quite a fat sheep even among most peak rank 9 Dao Kings, 'junior brother Xian' and the young woman from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' were only carrying wealth that was equivalent to that of an average late-stage Dao King's.

Regardless, Shun Long still stored everything inside the 'Stone of Time' without any guilt, before he opened his eyes and turned his gaze towards the horizon.

Staring at the massive desert that Little Silver was flying across right now which didn't seem to have an end in sight, Shun Long had an extremely deep look in his eyes, before he mumbled in a low voice

"Little Black, can you feel anything?"

Inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black opened his bright blue eyes and spread out his soul sense around Shun Long, before a rare look of surprise appeared on the black dragon's face.

After a few moments of silence, Little Black shook his head and said seriously

"Master, I can't use my soul sense in this place. This feeling is extremely weird."

Shun Long was surprised when he heard Little Black's answer, but he still nodded his head after a few moments of silence, his gaze turning even more serious than before.

Ever since he had stepped foot into the 'City of Immortals', Shun Long could feel that his bloodline was throbbing intensely for some reason, as if it was being stimulated by something in this place.

Since his bloodline originally came directly from Little Black's own blood essence, Shun Long believed that Little Black would also be able to sense this.

However, since Little Black's senses were completely suppressed in this place, the situation now was even trickier than before.

At the same time, Shun Long wasn't certain what would happen if he released Little Black in this world that could only contain Dao King realm cultivators.

Noticing the change in Shun Long's expression, Bai Longtian asked curiously

"Brother Shun, is everything okay?"

Nodding his head, Shun Long decided to put this feeling at the back of his mind for now, before he turned to look at Liu Mei and the others and said

"There is still some time until we reach the location of the first trial, so everyone should have a look at the memory recording jades that Li Tian left behind first."

Waving his hand, Shun Long then took out the rest of the memory recording jades from the 'Stone of Time' and handed them to Liu Mei and the others.

After all, there was no way that he could go around selling these in the first place since that would attract the attention of the disciples from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce'.

...

Like this, a day passed by in the blink of an eye, before Little Silver's figure suddenly came to a halt in the sky right in the middle of the desert.

Staring at the desert below him, Jiang Chen mumbled with a surprised look on his face

"This is the location of the first trial?"

Flapping its bright silver wings, Little Silver turned into a blur as it dove straight towards the desert below it.

As soon as the black panther's figure approached the ground, the sand actually parted as if it was making way for Little Silver, revealing the astonishing scene that it was hiding.

A massive mural that spanned for more than a mile was hidden beneath the desert while tens of thousands of Dao Kings had gathered around it, all of them staring at it with entranced looks on their faces.

The moment that Shun Long's eyes landed on this gigantic stone mural, the information he had received from Li Tian's memory jades quickly resurfaced in his mind

'One of the 2 known trials within the 'City of Immortals', the Desert Mural. Our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' discovered this trial purely by luck, just 2 months after the opening of the 'City of Immortals'. In fact, it is unknown if this is truly a trial or not, since there are no listed

requirements to complete. There is also no danger in this place, nor are there any direct rewards to be obtained.

However, this is still the most popular among the 2 discovered trials, as every cultivator who wields a weapon will get to reap immense benefits after they visit this place."

The introduction of this trial was nothing special, not listing too many things other than the fact that there was no danger in this place and that cultivators who wield a weapon can reap plenty of benefits after they come here.

And yet, the moment that Shun Long's eyes landed on the gigantic stone mural, a look of shock appeared on his face, while a profound feeling seemed to have suddenly enveloped his entire body in the next moment.

Jiang Chen, Xingyi, Bai Longtian, and even Liu Mei, all looked equally as surprised as they stared at this massive stone mural below them.

As Little Silver flew closer towards it, its figure attracted the attention of quite a few of the surrounding cultivators who seemed to have suddenly sensed the aura of a peak rank 6 magic beast approaching them.

However, these people merely threw a few more glances at Little Silver before they turned their attention back towards the stone mural.

A few moments later, Little Silver landed on the ground, before Shun Long, Liu Mei, and the rest all found an empty spot in front of the mural, staring at the scene that was depicted in the mural in silence.

A faceless man that was holding a large staff could be seen fighting against another faceless man who was wielding a wooden sword with both hands.

"This... is this real? How is this possible?" Bai Longtian mumbled to himself in a voice filled with disbelief as he stared at the scene in front of him.

Although the scene looked simple, anyone who was slightly proficient in using a sword or a staff would be able to understand that this was actually anything but simple.

With just a glance, Bai Longtian could tell that the skills of the faceless man who was wielding the wooden sword were countless times above his own.

In fact, the 2 of them couldn't even be compared. Forget about Dao Kings like Shun Long and Bai Longtian, even Bai Longtian's own master, Elder He Kun, the number one sword user in the Holy sect, couldn't possibly compare to this.

The longer that Bai Longtian stared at the faceless man who was holding the sword, the more he felt like he was falling into a trance.

But this was only one of the scenes that was depicted in this mural.

Scenes of a faceless man wielding a saber could also be seen, fighting against another person who was holding a bow.

The more that Jiang Chen and the others stared at the mural in front of them, the more entranced they seemed to become.

At the same time, in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black stared at the stone mural with a look of unconcealed shock in his eyes, before he said in a serious voice

"Master... this mural was created by an expert! The person who created this was definitely an immortal at the very least!"

Chapter 849: Comprehending the sword

Shun Long was momentarily taken aback when he heard Little Black's words, before a serious look appeared on his face in the next moment.

For Little Black to call someone an expert, it meant that that person's skills were definitely above average even among immortal-level cultivators.

In fact, Shun Long knew that only experts at the same level as the commanders of the 'Heaven Trampling legion' could qualify to be considered 'experts' by Little Black.

Seeing the entranced expressions on Jiang Chen's, Bai Longtian's, Xingyi's, and even Liu Mei's faces as they stared at the stone mural, Shun Long nodded his head before he said calmly

"Let's stay in this place for a while."

At the same time, a young man dressed in bright red robes who was standing just a few meters away from Shun Long's group suddenly burst into laughter when he heard this, as he stared at Shun Long and said in a mocking voice

"For a while? Hahaha! Brat, you are just a peak rank 3 Dao King! Do you really think that you can last 'for a while' in this trial? I doubt you will even last a month! Don't get too cocky!"

Narrowing their eyes, Liu Mei and the others all stared at the haughty young man in red robes whose cultivation was clearly at the peak of rank 7 in the Dao King realm, but the young man merely snorted and threw a few more glances at Little Silver that was standing behind Shun Long, before he turned his gaze back towards the stone mural, not paying any more attention to Shun Long and his group.

At the same time, Shun Long merely threw a single glance at this red-robed young man before he turned his gaze towards the stone mural and kept observing the faceless man who was holding the wooden sword.

Shun Long knew that the moment they arrived here Little Silver's aura was bound to alert some of the people around them who were previously studying the stone mural in silence.

Naturally, those people wouldn't be too pleased and would feel quite disgruntled when their concentration was interrupted so suddenly, once they sensed the overbearing aura of a peak rank 6 magic beast approaching them. But of course, there were very few people who would be truly willing to fight against a peak rank 6 magic beast over something so trivial.

After shooting a few more cold glances at that red-robed young man, Liu Mei eventually sat down next to Shun Long and began to stare at the stone mural with a serious look in her eyes.

Although Liu Mei was no longer using her sword that often, she was still someone who had trained in the sword ever since she was a child and she could clearly feel the profound truths that were hidden in this stone mural.

Liu Mei could feel that the longer she stared at the faceless man who was wielding a wooden sword in the stone mural, her comprehension of the sword seemed to be deepening even further.

A moment later, Bai Longtian sat down next to Shun Long as well, as he too stared at the faceless person who was wielding the wooden sword.

As for Xingyi and Jiang Chen, they stared at their surroundings for a few moments, before Xingyi walked towards an empty area just a few meters away from Shun Long, staring at the image of a faceless man who was holding a pair of wooden daggers and was facing another person who was wielding a large halberd.

Meanwhile, Jiang Chen's cold eyes were captured completely by a different scene that was engraved in the mural, where a faceless man that was wielding a large saber was fighting against another man who was holding a wooden bow.

It was only Little Silver that seemed completely uninterested in the stone mural, as it laid down on the ground behind Shun Long and closed its eyes.

...

Time passed by in the blink of an eye, and soon, an entire month had gone by before the red-robed young man who was sitting just a few meters away from Shun Long suddenly opened his eyes.

With a smile on his face, the red-robed young man took out a large staff from his spatial ring and held it tightly with both hands, before he swung it forward using all of his strength.

A massive gust of air appeared around the large staff, traveling towards an empty area for more than 300 meters before it began to disperse.

"Hahaha! This place is truly a paradise! Even an early rank 8 Dao King isn't my match anymore!"

The red-robed young man had a big smile on his face as he stared at the staff in his hands with a proud look.

Although his attack just now was nothing remarkable and was something that even an early-stage Dao King would be able to easily resist, in reality, the red-robed young man hadn't used the slightest bit of his qi just now and was only relying on his comprehension of the staff to create that gust of wind.

Shaking his head, the red-robed young man was about to turn around and continue to stare the profound scenes on the stone mural, before his gaze involuntarily fell on Shun Long's figure.

"Eh? That guy is still standing? What's going on?"

Staring at Shun Long who was sitting in front of the stone mural with his back ramrod straight, without any signs of collapsing anytime soon, the red-robed young man couldn't help but exclaim in surprise before his eyes narrowed into slits.

Unlike Shun Long and his group who were only a group of newcomers when they arrived in this place, the red-robed young man had a clear understanding of how dangerous this trial actually was.

Forget about getting any insights from it, just standing in front of the stone mural was a trial on its own.

Anyone who had just arrived here wouldn't be able to notice it at first glance, but the longer one stared at the stone mural the more they would be able to feel the terrifying pressure that was coming from it.

Although this red-robed young man had managed to increase his abilities with his staff quite a bit by comprehending a tiny portion of the profound scenes that were engraved in the stone mural, the amount of pressure that he had to endure in the past month wasn't something that an average early-stage Dao King would be able to take on.

Additionally, the pressure would only increase as people kept trying to comprehend the scenes on the stone mural even further.

The mounting pressure was something that even peak-stage Dao Kings wouldn't be able to endure in the long run.

"Hmph! Let's see how long you will last." The red-robed young man snorted and threw one last look at Shun Long, before he turned his gaze back towards the stone mural in front of him.

At the same time, Shun Long continued to stare at the scene of the faceless man that was holding a wooden sword with an entranced look on his face, not paying the slightest bit of attention to his surroundings.

Just like the red-robed young man had said, it was true that Shun Long had begun to feel some pressure from the stone mural in the beginning, but that pressure which was directed towards his soul was like a drop in the ocean that was instantly dispersed the moment it entered his spiritual sea.

Although an average peak rank 3 Dao King would have indeed found it difficult to hold on after a month, Shun Long hadn't even noticed the pressure itself, as his attention was fully focused on the scenes that were engraved in the stone mural.

With every passing moment, Shun Long could feel that his comprehension of the sword was increasing at a terrifying rate, as scenes of the faceless man wielding his sword replayed in his mind over and over again.

...

Time continued to pass, and soon, 2 more months had gone by in a flash, but Shun Long had yet to move even a single step from the spot he was sitting on.

At the end of the third month, Liu Mei's body suddenly trembled before she was the first one to open her eyes.

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Chapter 850: Talent

Liu Mei's eyes were filled with an extremely sharp look as she stared at the stone mural in front of her, while even her own aura was now slightly different than before.

The aura that was now coming from her body wasn't just dark and filled with death qi, but it also had a sharp aspect to it that wasn't there 3 months ago.

After staring at the stone mural for a few more moments, Liu Mei then turned her gaze towards Shun Long who was still sitting there with his eyes closed, before an enchanting, soul-stirring smile ultimately appeared on her face.

Just like Shun Long and Bai Longtian, Liu Mei had also been entranced after staring at the scene of the faceless man who was wielding the wooden sword, and the longer she observed it, the more she seemed to be absorbed by it as well.

Once the first month had gone by, Liu Mei had even failed to realize that she had unconsciously closed her eyes and was no longer staring at the stone mural with her own eyes, but she was using her soul sense instead.

On the second month, she had finally begun to feel the pressure coming from the stone mural as it slowly mounted up in her spiritual sea, but it still wasn't enough to break her concentration.

The pressure continued to increase, but even after the third month was slowly coming to an end, the pressure itself still wasn't enough to force Liu Mei out of her trance.

Of course, this was only natural as well.

Even though Liu Mei was a peak rank 6 Dao King, in reality, her spiritual strength and the power of her soul were far above that of most average late-stage Dao Kings.

This wasn't just the result of her having comprehended a supreme Dao like the Dao of Death which constantly pressured her to increase her spiritual strength even further, but also because Liu Mei had consumed thousands upon thousands of 'Soul-nourishing pills' in the past as well.

Thus, lasting 3 months under these circumstances wasn't a problem.

And yet, at the end of the third month, Liu Mei's body momentarily trembled before she opened her eyes, causing her concentration to be finally broken.

Even an outsider who looked at this scene would be able to tell that Liu Mei's concentration hadn't been broken due to the pressure that the stone mural was emitting, but because Liu Mei herself had decided to give up.

Shaking her head, Liu Mei threw one last look at the scene in the stone mural in front of her, before she closed her eyes for the second time and began to absorb the qi that she had obtained from Li Tian, aiming to breakthrough to the early rank 7 of the Dao King realm directly.

Of course, the reason why Liu Mei had decided to give up wasn't because she was uninterested in the scenes on the stone mural.

In fact, she could feel that her comprehension of the sword had been increasing at an extremely rapid rate in the last 3 months, and that her current sword skills were simply incomparable to before.

However, at the start of the third month, Liu Mei had clearly started to feel that she had finally stumbled upon a wall, a gigantic wall that she couldn't overcome no matter how hard she tried.

At the start of the third month, the benefits that she was obtaining from the stone mural had begun to diminish quite rapidly, and finally, as the third month came to an end, Liu Mei could feel that she could no longer obtain anything else from the stone mural.

Liu Mei knew that this wall was a wall that originated from her own lack of talent.

Although she could normally be considered a cultivation genius that would be welcomed by practically every single sect around the central region for having comprehended a supreme Dao like the Dao of Death, Liu Mei knew that her own talent in regards to the sword was truly limited.

Forget about comparing herself to monsters like Shun Long and Bai Longtian, before entering the 'City of Immortals', Liu Mei knew that as far as her sword skills went, she would probably be considered below average even if she compared herself to most other outer court disciples of the Holy sect.

Even though Liu Mei had made sure to constantly practice her sword skills whenever she had some free time, this was the cruel reality of the cultivation world that very few people could defy. No matter how much effort she put, she couldn't compare to those geniuses who had put a similar amount of effort into honing their sword skills.

Hard work was extremely important, but 2 people who put the same amount of effort into one thing won't have the same results if there is a huge gap in their talent.

For Liu Mei's sword skills to compare to someone like Bai Longtian in this aspect, she would have to put more than 10 times the effort that Bai Longtian himself was putting into honing her sword skills, otherwise it would be practically impossible to catch up to him.

This was the difference that was caused by talent.

Although hard work could truly beat talent, in the end, only those geniuses who were slacking and had already grown complacent would allow others to catch up to them.

Of course, Liu Mei wasn't too disappointed by this either, as she had already accepted this long ago.

After all, the reason why she was increasing her sword skills was to protect herself in case she was put in an unfavorable situation where her undead army was unable to protect her in time.

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As Liu Mei absorbed the qi that she had obtained from Li Tian, time continued to pass while Shun Long, Bai Longtian, Jiang Chen, and Xingyi, all stared at the scenes that were engraved in the stone mural, and in the blink of an eye, 3 more months went by in a flash.

Like this, half a year had passed since Shun Long and his group had arrived in this place, before Xingyi's body suddenly started to tremble, attracting the attention of quite a few of the surrounding Dao Kings.