

## **Battlefield 201**

Chapter 201: Leaving the Elf Star

"How are the preparations going?"

Qin Tian looked at Feng Mochuan.

Feng Mochuan: "The first batch of goods has been fully packed and will be shipped to Silver Gray Star with the spaceship tomorrow."

"Good."

Qin Tian nodded. The Elf Race and humans have already signed a free trade agreement, and the free trade port is under construction. However, the management is still quite lax at present. As long as a transportation fee is paid and security checked, goods can be brought onto the spaceship.

But in the future, leaving the port with goods will definitely require customs declaration and tax.

"What about the company?" Qin Tian asked again.

Feng Mochuan: "I have already established a trading company in my name, with the registration place on Silver Gray Star. But the boss..."

Feng Mochuan showed a difficult expression, speaking honestly:

"I don't understand commercial operations. How to sell this batch of goods, who to sell to, how much to sell them for, I really have no clue."

Upon hearing this, Qin Tian's eyes flickered.

Indeed, Feng Mochuan is a mercenary. Mercenaries take money to accomplish tasks. It's no problem for them to scout for information, armed escort, combat, and killing. But doing business is too unprofessional for them; doing it poorly might cause them to get conned out of their lives.

It seems that a competent manager is needed.

At this point, Qin Tian suddenly thought of someone who might be able to help.

"Alright, no rush here for now. First, get the goods to Silver Gray Star, and I'll figure out the sales." Qin Tian said.

"Okay."

Feng Mochuan nodded.

Li Qi, observing from the side, was filled with envy.

He was very aware of how broad the commercial prospects of this trading company were. Even though the Hurricane Mercenary Corps was merely the master's white glove, they could still garner unimaginable wealth and development from it.

However, envy was useless.

At least the Hurricane Mercenary Corps was a formed force, with over a hundred Spiritualists and Superpower Users. The leader, Feng Mochuan, was an imminent Tier Six Silver Level Bloodline Spiritualist.

And he himself was solitary, without any backing; it was unlikely the master would assign such a job to him.

Of course, he believed once the master made money, he wouldn't be shortchanged. But one is securing funding, and the other is self-operating, naturally making his intelligence and assassination organization inferior in stature to the Hurricane Mercenary Corps.

It's frustrating~

"Do any of you have anything to say?"

Qin Tian looked at the core members of the Hurricane Mercenary Corps.

"No."

"Boss, I have no thoughts, all according to you."

Vice leader Xu Ze and several others shook their heads promptly, meanwhile, a complex emotion arose deep inside.

Initially, when the leader informed everyone he had become a Night Demon Apostle akin to a Blood Servant, and his master was Qin Tian, who had saved him, everyone felt the sky was crashing.

Their first reaction was that Qin Tian must have taken advantage of others in distress, or even, whether that accident was manipulated amid Qin Tian himself, a self-directed play.

However, the leader timely soothed the mood and informed them, aside from losing nominal freedom, he gained unimaginable benefits: Silver Level Night Demon Bloodline.

Silver Level Bloodline!

They couldn't believe such precious bloodline had just been acquired by the leader. But when the leader unfolded those Night Demon Wings and exhibited various terrifying abilities, they suddenly felt maybe this wasn't unacceptable.

With even the leader possessing Silver Level Bloodline, then Qin Tian, as an Upper-Rank Bloodline member, surely had a Golden Level Bloodline. As is well-known, individuals with Golden Level Bloodline are not lone rangers but mostly exist in familial forms.

That means the Hurricane Mercenary Corps having a Golden Level family as backing, though losing certain freedom, gained support.

Everyone's only worry was whether their boss Qin Tian would treat the Hurricane Mercenary Corps as a disposable pawn, disregarding their lives.

However, reality proved they were overthinking.

The boss not only didn't arbitrarily boss them around but even brought them a gold mountain.

An exclusive agency business worth tens of billions or even hundreds of billions at the very least.

Honestly, until now, they felt dazed, unable to believe such a colossal good fortune fell upon them.

Their boss was extravagantly generous to an unfathomable extent.

Looking at Qin Tian's young and handsome face, they truly wanted to shout:

"Boss, loyalty!"

The matter of the trading company was temporarily concluded here; specific affairs would need to be discussed further upon returning to Silver Gray Star.

"Old Mo, how's your cultivation technique and martial techniques preparation going? When can you break through to Tier Six?" Qin Tian asked.

Feng Mochuan: "Boss, martial techniques are easy to resolve. I spent a few million to buy two Bronze Level Dark Element martial techniques, yet suitable cultivation techniques are pretty difficult to find. With Night Demon Bloodline, I still want to obtain a Silver Level technique."

Upon reaching higher levels, changing techniques becomes incredibly challenging and brings many problems. That's why many strive to acquire high-level techniques before Tier Six even if it means selling everything.

"I see~"

Qin Tian lightly tapped the table with his finger. Indeed, it is difficult to purchase Silver Level techniques and martial techniques in the market, even if you have money. Unfortunately, cultivation techniques exchanged for Military Points can't be freely taught. Otherwise, a Silver Level Dark technique wouldn't be difficult to acquire.

"Alright, keep looking slowly. Once the company earns big money, perhaps then we'll have more channels to access higher-level techniques. I'll also keep an eye out for you." Qin Tian said.

He currently didn't have money, but he had other ways to obtain techniques.

The ability of [Spiritual Wisdom Divine Authority]—Soul Devourer.

Of course, whether suitable enemies who mastered Silver Level Dark Element techniques can be encountered is purely by luck; the core approach remains attending some auctions or purchasing techniques through covert channels.

Feng Mochuan laughed: "Thank you, boss."

He knew well that Silver Level techniques weren't easy to acquire, so if a suitable technique couldn't be found within half a year, he would decisively abandon it, switching to Bronze Level Dark technique instead.

Although this causes the quality of the Spiritual Energy to not meet expectations, breaking through to Tier Six is a priority.

"Alright, that's it for today. Everyone, tidy up and return to Silver Gray Star tomorrow."

"Yes!"

.....

Early the next morning, a large passenger jet stopped in front of the treehouse.

Qin Tian, carrying his luggage, was surrounded by a crowd watching him.

The Elf Princess, Elf Elders, Vinoya, Eastern Cloud Sea, and the person sure not to miss, Alan.

"Everyone, I'm leaving."

Qin Tian waved to them, his gaze landing on Alan's face for a few seconds, he smiled:

"Little rascal, I'm leaving. Nothing to say to me?"

Alan slightly lifted his chin, casually saying:

"Nothing much to say. Oh, in case you offend someone and have nowhere to go, you can come back; I'll take care of you."

Qin Tian chuckled: "Then you'd better become stronger; my enemies are quite formidable."

"Got it, you troublemaker." Alan pouted.

"I'm off!"

Qin Tian waved and boarded the plane; just as the cabin door was closing, a loud voice suddenly came from behind.

"Brother Tian!"

Qin Tian turned his head, seeing Alan waving at him, those gem-like eyes slightly reddening.

"Safe travels!"

A smile surfaced on Qin Tian's face:

"Little rascal, goodbye!"

Chapter 202: Celestial Punishment Nine Strikes and Dark Prison Demon-Suppressing Fist

Spaceship Set Sail

Outside the porthole, space was dark and deep—initially awe-inspiring, but after a while, somewhat dull.

Qin Tian lay on the bed, calculating his gains on Elf Star.

First, in terms of talent.

[Barbaric Dominator Body] + [Bloodthirsty Frenzy] + [Violent Ape Body] combined into the Orange Talent [Desolate Battle Body]

[Plant Assimilation] + [Spirit Essence Healing Ability] combined into the Orange Talent [Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds]

[Absolute Gunmastery] evolved into the Purple Talent [Soul of the Gun God]

[Burning Embers Critical Strike] evolved into the Purple Talent [Celestial Destiny Critical Strike]

[Sand Control] evolved into the Blue Talent [Sandstorm Control]

New talents acquired from kills include [Eye of Fear] (Purple), [Evil Demon Soldier] (Purple), [Charm and Fall] (Blue), [Dark Transformation Technique] (Blue), [Thunder Wolf Bloodline] (Green)

The overall talent levels saw a major leap.

In terms of Spiritual Energy.

From Tier Three upon entering Elf Star to Tier Four Three Stars now, he completed an entire tier leap in just over a month—a growth rate unimaginable to ordinary people.

Finally, the Evolution Points

In this month, countless dark creatures died by his hand, causing a surge in Evolution Points. After spending 500,000 Evolution Points to enhance [Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds], 2,760,000 Evolution Points remained.

And this is just an enhancement of strength.

Besides this, he dispelled the Curse of the Evil God, befriended his brother, Elf King Serranriel, brought Feng Mochuan and the Hurricane Mercenary Corps under his command, and also landed a business deal worth billions.

"What a bountiful harvest~"

Qin Tian couldn't help but sigh. The journey on Elf Star ended smoothly, and many matters awaited him ahead.

Once back on Silver Gray Star, first, he would get the business company on track, perfect the relevant procedures, and find a suitable business talent to help the company expand its market.

Moreover, the company should stock talents in finance, law, and public relations. Fortunately, as long as funds are sufficient, all the necessary personnel can be recruited.

Alongside settling these, he must not slack off in cultivation.

Currently, he has the Golden Level Technique "Nine Nether Thunder Brilliance Technique," sufficient until he becomes a cosmic powerhouse, but his martial techniques need upgrading.

The Black Iron Level techniques "Thunderbolt Saber," "Ninefold Thunder Flash," and "Bone-Eroding Hand" no longer match his current battle intensity; enhancing them is imperative.

Fortunately, he had over 700,000 Military Points left, enough to exchange for several Silver Level martial techniques.

With nothing else to do on the spaceship, Qin Tian opened the Military Department's online mall, flipping through the pages on cultivation techniques and martial arts.

After studying for most of the day, he decided on the martial techniques he wanted to exchange.

The simplest was "Ninefold Thunder Flash" since it was originally a Silver Level martial technique; he previously exchanged for the first three stages. Now with ample Military Points, he exchanged for the remaining six, costing a total of 26,000 Military Points.

For swordsmanship, he chose a thunder-element Silver Level technique, "Celestial Punishment Nine Strikes."

"Celestial Punishment Nine Strikes" was created by Tier Eight powerhouse Xiao Zhenyue. This technique perfectly blends the volatility and sharpness of thunder into each move. Its strength can turn the skies and earth in disarray. When unleashed, the sword sheathes in a torrent of thunder, akin to a raging dragon emerging from the sea—traumatizing to behold.

It comprises nine moves: Thunderbolt Slash, Thunder Shadow Flash, Rolling Thunder Break, Serpent Bolt Thrust, Thunder Shock Burst, Thunder Wing Soar, Thunder Prisoner, Thunder Annihilation, Celestial Punishment Judgment.

This sword technique costs 30,000 Military Points.

Then comes the fist techniques; since his body technique and swordsmanship adhere to the thunder element, he leaned towards a dark element for fist techniques to diversify his combat style.

After careful consideration, he selected an equally fierce fist technique "Dark Prison Demon-Suppressing Fist."

"Dark Prison Demon-Suppressing Fist" was created by Demon Suppression Abyss General, Tier Nine powerhouse Jiang Ming. It's a fist technique infused with dark truths and Demon Suppression Power. With "Dark Prison" as its motif, punches surge with demonic qi, akin to a binding abyssal cage, while the impact echoes with the roars of thousands of evil ghosts, specifically countering demonic sorcery.

Its moves are fierce and domineering, possessing power enough to tear through space—indeed a demon bane.

"Dark Prison Demon-Suppressing Fist" comprises three moves:

"Dark Prison Heaven Prison," punching out twin fists to form a cage with Dark Prison Power, incarcerating enemies within, rendering escape difficult.

"Demon Shadow Shattering Void," transforming into a demon shadow, instantly appearing around the enemy, shattering their defenses with thunderous force.

"Demon Suppressing Celestial Punishment," channeling entire bodily strength into a punch containing heaven's might, delivering a mortal blow to demons as if divine punishment descends.

Despite having only three moves, "Dark Prison Demon-Suppressing Fist" costs more than "Celestial Punishment Nine Strikes," totaling 40,000 Military Merit Points.

Silver Level body technique, swordsmanship, and fist technique—these are enough until Tier Six or Seven.

Considering the need for some crowd-damage methods, Qin Tian also exchanged two Bronze Level magics.

One was the advanced magic of "Shadow Touch," "Dark Binding Technique."

The other was the thunder-element magic "Celestial Thunder Fall."

He had mastered "Shadow Touch" long ago, so the cultivation of "Dark Binding Technique" would be relatively easy.

"Celestial Thunder Fall" is a mass attack magic with a broad damage range and immense power. Its only drawback is the need for incantation and seals, but strong enough practitioners can cast it instantly.

Despite still having abundant Military Merit Points, Qin Tian did not opt for Silver Level magics.

Firstly, even though his Spiritual Power under the effect of "Spiritual Wisdom Divine Authority" surpasses peers of the same tier, his fundamental role is still that of a melee Spirit Martial Artist. Both the sniper rifle and magic are merely auxiliary.

Secondly, he wasn't familiar enough with Spiritual Ability Magic yet, having previously only practiced one Black Iron Level magic. One must partake bit by bit; mastering Bronze Level magics first, then considering higher levels once proficient in applying them in combat.

The two Bronze Level magics totaled 8,000 Military Merit Points.

All martial arts and magics together amounted to 104,000 Military Merit Points, leaving 620,000—a still considerable amount.

He couldn't spend it all; spending it all was impossible.

Qin Tian thought delightfully, of course, these Military Merit Points were life-earned. Had he not preemptively sabotaged the Evil God array, the entire continent would have been blood-sacrificed.

This very incident almost cost him his life to the Curse of the Evil God, yet fortunately, his life was tenacious enough for him to narrowly survive.

"Begin cultivation!"

Educational files on martial techniques and magics transferred to personal storage.

The spaceship's space was cramped, lacking practice grounds, but Qin Tian could at least familiarize himself with the Spiritual Energy flow routes, getting acquainted with them all in advance.

With his routine reduced to eating, sleeping, daily cultivation, and delving into martial arts and magic techniques, life aboard the spaceship was surprisingly fulfilling for him.

Finally, after more than half a month, he arrived at Silver Gray Star.

Stepping off the spaceship, the soft sunlight shone on him. Qin Tian lifted his head to gaze into the distance, a triumphant look in his eyes.

## Chapter 203: Azure Wood Star Realm Genius Tournament

"Officer, I'm back."

"Haha, Qin Tian, congratulations on returning home safely."

In the video, Yan Qing flashed a smile.

On the day Qin Tian resolved the Curse of the Evil God, he quickly shared the good news with Yan Qing.

Yan Qing was surprised at how swiftly Qin Tian could handle such a big problem, admiring his capabilities while also feeling genuinely happy for him.

Later, Qin Tian applied to stay on Elf Star for a while to completely end the internal strife among the Elf Race.

Yan Qing readily agreed and reminded him to stay safe.

Now, Qin Tian returned to Silver Gray Star and reported to Yan Qing at the first opportunity, but judging from the metallic background wall in the video, Yan Qing seemed to be on a spaceship.

"Qin Tian, I'm currently on a mission, so I can't celebrate with you."

Yan Qing: "Take some time to rest for now. If things don't go smoothly on my end, I might need your help."

"I'm at your service anytime, Officer," Qin Tian replied with a smile.

After hanging up, Qin Tian stood by the window.

He was back in his dormitory at the Eagle Military Academy. Since it was summer break and the school term hadn't started yet, the campus was vast and quiet, with almost no one around.

The Hurricane Mercenary Corps were handling the business company's affairs, like renting office spaces, leasing warehouses, and recruiting staff. Qin Tian left these errands to them.

Currently, he needed to solve the marketing issue first.

Thinking about it, Qin Tian dialed a number.

"Hey, Xiaopang, are you back from your trip yet?"

"Brother Tian, we got home just a week ago."

"Perfect, let me treat you three to a meal."

"Brother Tian, come on, it should be us treating you. Just tell us where to eat."

From the other end, Xiaopang's excited voice could be heard.

"Let's go to the usual restaurant, seven o'clock tonight, don't be late."

"Alright~"

Call ended.

The call was to Xiaopang, Zhu Tianyou. Qin Tian remembered that Xiaopang's family was in the herbal medicine business, so he had experience and customer resources that could be of help.

If it weren't for Xiaopang's young age, Qin Tian would have wanted to give him the position of general manager of the business company.

The kid was smart, quick-witted, had a knack for business, and knew how to play his cards right.

In terms of money management, unlike other wealthy second generations who were overly generous, he understood the importance of accumulating wealth bit by bit and the principle of careful calculation.

Ordinarily, this might seem petty, but in business, such awareness is essential.

Reasonable profit demands should never be easily compromised.

.....

Night fell.

In the private room, Xiaopang, Huang Xiaojia, and Xiong Gang had been waiting for a long time.

"Brother Tian!"

"Brother Tian!"

As soon as they saw Qin Tian entering the room, the three immediately stood up with smiles on their faces.

"Looks like I'm late."

Qin Tian said with a smile.

"Not late, not late, it's not seven yet."

Xiaopang pulled out the main chair slightly for Qin Tian to sit and then handed the menu to him.

"Brother Tian, see what you'd like to eat."

Qin Tian ordered a few signature dishes. After the waiter left, he asked with a smile:

"How was your trip to the Azure Wood Star?"

On the second day of summer vacation, the three of them went to the Azure Wood Star, the main star of the Azure Wood Star Realm, for a trip. They were away for nearly three months, returning just before the start of the second semester.

Plus, thanks to the trip, they were lucky to avoid that Evil God Sacrifice.

"Wow, Brother Tian, Azure Wood Star is really beautiful. It's like a dream world."

Talking about the Azure Wood Star, Huang Xiaojia's eyes seemed to sparkle, and being somewhat chatty, she was even more eloquent.

"Many of the houses there aren't made of reinforced concrete; instead, they're treehouses built on giant trees. The environment is amazing; you wake up to birdsong and floral scents every day."

"You can see all kinds of weird plants and animals on the road, but they're especially friendly to humans and sometimes even pick fruits for people to eat."

"Almost every city has its own unique large eco-park. We even saw a Tier Eight Green Dragon, a real dragon, and I recorded a video of it."

"..."

Huang Xiaojia showed Qin Tian many photos and videos, and even though Qin Tian had just returned from Elf Star, he couldn't help but be amazed by Azure Wood Star's splendor.

No wonder it's the main star of the Azure Wood Star Realm, Dongfang Clan's base. Just from these photos and videos, one could glimpse the grandeur and greatness of this planet.

"Everything about Azure Wood Star is great, it's just too expensive," Huang Xiaojia sighed.

"Yeah, yeah!"

Zhu Tianyou and Xiong Gang nodded in agreement, showing pained expressions.

To make three wealthy second generations show such expressions, the costs on Azure Wood Star must indeed be exorbitant.

"Actually, there's one main reason for the high expenses."

Xiaopang pinpointed: "The Star's tournament of the Azure Wood Star Realm is about to start. All the clan elites, media, businesses, and curious folks are flocking here, hiking up the costs on Azure Wood Star."

"The Star's tournament of the Azure Wood Star Realm?"

It was the first time Qin Tian had heard this name, and it sounded quite impressive.

Xiaopang was a bit surprised: "Brother Tian, you don't know? The Star's tournament of the Azure Wood Star Realm is the most watched event of the year. The Dongfang Clan selects a group of young and powerful spiritualists through open auditions, puts them on an island to face multiple challenges, and finally determines the top ten geniuses through a ring battle, culminating in the emergence of the ultimate genius."

"The entire event is live-streamed, and everyone can watch it for free."

"The Dongfang Clan has prepared many prizes for the tournament, including high-grade elixirs, treasure materials, weapons, and more. Plus, with live streaming, various advertisers' investments, and the economic benefits it brings, they've long earned fortunes."

No matter what Xiaopang talked about, he could always come back to the topic of making money.

This was one reason Qin Tian had high hopes for Xiaopang; in the future, he might not necessarily become a powerful spiritualist, but he would certainly become a very successful businessman.

The meals were served, and they chatted as they ate.

"Brother Tian, what have you been up to these few months? Do you know about that Evil God Sacrifice?" Xiong Gang asked.

"I know some inside information."

Qin Tian briefly revealed some details, which were unknown to the outside world. After listening, the three were deeply shocked and also felt a sense of fear.

It was fortunate they weren't on Silver Gray Star at that time; otherwise, getting caught in the crossfire would have been disastrous.

"After the Evil God Sacrifice, I went to Elf Star and a lot happened there."

Qin Tian recounted some highlights of his experiences on Elf Star, omitting the Curse of the Evil God but not the story with Alan.

Upon hearing about Qin Tian's battles with the Dark Elves, forging ties with the Elf King, and ultimately helping elves destroy the Dark Nest, Xiaopang and the others were thrilled, as if they were watching an epic, thrilling war movie.

While they enjoyed a delightful trip over the past three months, Brother Tian was fighting on the front lines against the Dark Elves.

See, the gap between people is created just like this.

"Later, I found myself a business opportunity."

Qin Tian shared the details of his unique agency business, saying:

"But I don't have much experience in business, so I'd like you guys to help me with some planning."

Qin Tian turned to look at Xiaopang, only to find him staring back wide-eyed, his eyes shining brighter than the lightbulb above.

Chapter 204: Cooperation

"Brother Tian!!!"

Xiaopang held Qin Tian's hand tightly and said excitedly:

"I can handle this for you. I can help you sell everything."

As a sharp-eyed businessman, Xiaopang instantly realized the terrifying commercial potential of Qin Tian's company.

Besides, just the close relationship with the Elf King, even if the company hasn't sold a single product, is already worth billions.

After all, that's the highest leader of an entire planet.

Moreover, in the eyes of the world, elves are synonymous with beauty and purity, and anything related to elves has an extremely high premium. Brother Qin Tian's exclusive agency for several types of Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruit, as long as he can maintain a stable supply, will surely attract external frenzy and be in short supply.

Xiaopang had helped with family work since he was young, and he was very aware of the bottlenecks his own company faced over the years.

High-end herbs and clients were tightly controlled by those major business associations, while their small companies could only share some leftovers and supply low-end herbs.

Whenever they wanted to expand further, they were always suppressed and blocked by the major business associations.

For this reason, he actively promoted his family's products to classmates at school, striving to tap into new markets through the network of classmates.

His efforts were indeed effective; many classmates introduced new customers to him, although there was still a considerable gap from his expected situation.

However, what Qin Tian said earlier suddenly gave him a glimpse of breaking through the bottleneck's dawn.

Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruit from the Elf Race are undoubtedly high-end herbs, and there is absolutely no worry about sales.

If his family can help with the sales, it would open up the high-end market and customers in one fell swoop, and the Zhu Family could seize this opportunity to expand its scale and progress toward high-end business.

As a businessman, who doesn't want to earn more money and have their business do better?

That's also why he'd rather not charge money, or even pay from his own pocket, to be involved.

"Okay, if you can help, that would be great."

Qin Tian smiled slightly, "I was worried about how much these things should sell for and to whom. Your family is in this line of business; you must have experience."

"Yes, Brother Tian, just tell me the names and effects of the Spirit Fruit and Spiritual Medicine, and provide several samples. I will have professional people from my family come to evaluate them."

Xiaopang spoke rapidly and became more excited: "Things from the Elf Race have always been able to sell at high prices. Initially, we can sell the Spirit Fruit through some distributors, and once the brand is established, we can sell them ourselves. I guarantee they can sell like hot cakes."

Qin Tian nodded: "Alright, I'll call now and have the items sent to your home."

"Great, Brother Tian, I'll send the address to you; I'll go home and wait right now. You all enjoy your meal slowly~"

Xiaopang sent Qin Tian an address, then hurriedly ran out of the room and boarded a flying device straight home.

He wanted to share this enormous good news with his father as soon as possible.

"Uh~"

Watching Xiaopang dash out the door, Xiong Gang and Huang Xiaojia couldn't help but exchange glances.

Was it necessary to be so excited?

Eat first, then talk~

Qin Tian smiled and seeing Xiaopang so invested, he also felt quite touched. If Xiaopang could really help him open up sales channels, he wouldn't mind letting Xiaopang's family take a share.

When those around him could also make money, his business would only get better.

...

"What, such good news!"

Zhu Runfu suddenly stood up, his face full of surprise. He himself was like a plus-sized version of Xiaopang, with a round face, small eyes squinting into a slit, a chubby figure, looking quite humorous.

However, being able to develop a family-small pharmacy step by step into a company with billions in scale, his business acumen far exceeded Xiaopang's.

He instantly captured the massive business opportunity within.

"Dad, Brother Tian has already agreed to let us assist with pricing and customer search. For our family, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, whether we can advance further depends on this."

Xiaopang's voice sounded particularly excited over the phone, "The items will be sent to our house immediately; hurry to wait at the door, I'll be home in five minutes."

"Okay!"

Zhu Runfu quickly put on clothes, but after some thought, felt the clothes weren't formal enough, so he hastily changed into more appropriate attire and quickly walked to the front door.

Whew~~

The flying device landed in front of the house.

Xiaopang jumped out excitedly, saying:

"Dad, they'll be here soon."

A few minutes later, another flying device hovered above the two, and a figure leaped down, landing firmly on the ground.

"Hello, I am Feng Mochuan; the boss asked me to bring these items for both of you."

Feng Mochuan opened the box in his hand, neatly arranging several types of Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruit with different colors of appearance. As the lid opened, a fragrant scent greeted them, invigorating the spirit.

Good stuff~

Zhu Runfu's eyes shone brightly. He himself was the company's most professional herb evaluator, and some types of Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruit did not need any research; he could tell with one look, their value was definitely in the millions.

"Here is the efficacy list for each type of Spirit Fruit and Spiritual Medicine."

Feng Mochuan handed a paper list to Zhu Runfu and then said:

"The boss stated that as long as you can help us open up sales channels, 5% of the sales will be forwarded to you as an agency fee."

"Ah, no need."

Zhu Tianyou quickly waved his hand: "I'm just helping Brother Tian; I didn't think about earning from him."

Feng Mochuan laughed:

"This is the boss's order, so please don't refuse."

Looking at the comedic-looking father and son duo in front of him, Feng Mochuan's thoughts lightened considerably.

He had been worried about how to sell these items, fearing a high price would deter buyers, while a low price could leave him shortchanged; the situation was giving him quite a headache, and he couldn't sleep peacefully.

Now the sales matter is entrusted to others by the boss, so he only needs to deal with security concerns, which is their forte, allowing him to do it with ease and no pressure.

After exchanging glances with his father, Xiaopang said:

"Alright, since Brother Tian trusts me, I will put my utmost effort into this."

"Haha, then thank you both for your efforts."

Feng Mochuan's cheerful laughter made the father and son duo feel very friendly.

"By the way, to be honest with you two, I am the leader of Hurricane Mercenary Corps; my strength isn't bad, a Tier Five Nine Stars Spiritualist. If you encounter any problems later, you can contact me directly." Feng Mochuan said with a smile.

What!

Mercenary Corps Leader

And a Tier Five Nine Stars Spiritualist

The father and son were shocked; they didn't expect this cheerful man before them was nearly a Tier Six master, and he called Qin Tian boss, indicating Qin Tian's profound background.

After the shock, they both felt exceptionally thrilled.

With an expert escorting them, they were more confident.

Chapter 205: Coveting, Seizure

"Boss Huang, where have you been making big money lately?"

"Haha, got some good stuff, want to see if you're interested."

"I won't keep you in suspense, Elven Spiritual Medicine, Spirit Fruits."

"Relax, do you think I'd dare deceive you?"

"Alright, I'll wait for your good news then."

"Hello, Boss Zhang..."

Zhu Runfu dialed several numbers, and initially, the tone on the other end was quite cold. But as soon as they heard he had a batch of Elven Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruits, their interest piqued immensely.

Zhu Runfu's smile grew brighter. He knew that, with this favorable turn of events, the Zhu Family could finally soar to great heights.

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"There's such a thing? I see."

In the study, Leng Yuanshan hung up the phone, his eyes gleaming with a ghostly light.

"Dad, what's going on?"

Leng Peng noticed his father's unusual expression and couldn't help but ask curiously.

Leng Yuanshan said calmly, "There's a small merchant, somehow got his hands on a batch of Elven Star Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruits, now he's contacting all sides, trying to get a good price for the goods."

"Elven Star's Spiritual Medicine, Spirit Fruits!"

Leng Peng's eyes lit up, quickly saying, "Dad, anything related to Elves always has a high premium, let's get involved too, try to buy all the goods."

Leng Yuanshan glanced at Leng Peng, his tone carrying a hint of sternness:

"It seems you've never heeded the things I've taught you."

Leng Peng was stunned for a moment, cautiously asking:

"Dad, what do you mean by this?"

Leng Yuanshan said indifferently:

"What do you think our family relies on to monopolize a market?"

Without waiting for Leng Peng to answer, Leng Yuanshan continued on his own:

"It relies on being ruthless, as soon as a competitor emerges, you have to crush them immediately. In business, there's no room for competitors to survive."

Leng Peng's eyes widened: "Dad, do you mean...?"

Leng Yuanshan's eyes turned cold: "A little herb merchant, without asking permission, wants to mess around in my territory. If he doesn't play by the rules, then he shouldn't expect to keep that hand."

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"Boss Huang, you're here to inspect the goods yourself~"

"Haha, see, I, Old Zhu, wasn't lying to you."

"Boss Zhang, you're an expert, this batch isn't bad, right..."

In the warehouse, Zhu Runfu was showing several bosses the Spirit Fruits and Spiritual Medicine.

Over a hundred boxes were opened, allowing clear visibility of the quantity and quality of the Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruits.

Watching from not far away, Zhu Runfu was eagerly conversing with the bosses, and Feng Mochuan smiled at Deputy Leader Xu Ze beside him:

"You have to admit, the boss found some real talent, it's only been two days and there are already so many inquiries. I think these goods will sell without a hitch."

"Yes, according to Boss Zhu's pricing, this batch can sell for at least 100 million." Xu Ze's eyes shone with excitement.

A hundred million

The Hurricane Mercenary Corps would have to take on countless dangerous missions to earn that kind of money.

But now, they just needed to transport the goods from Elf Star to Silver Gray Star, pay a basic procurement fee, and they could make a fortune.

It feels like a dream.

Feng Mochuan: "The boss said that in the future, 20% of the company's profits will be distributed as salaries to the brothers, 10% as year-end bonuses, and the remaining for company development."

Upon hearing this, Xu Ze's eyes brightened even more.

He's quite aware that this batch is just testing the waters. Once the pricing is confirmed and a stable market is developed, subsequent shipments of Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruits will be continuously sent to Silver Gray Star, with annual profits exceeding 10 billion.

And all they have to do is safely escort the goods to Silver Gray Star to share in 30% of the profits. There's no easier or more profitable task in the world.

"The boss is so generous!"

Xu Ze couldn't help but exclaim.

Being a mercenary is, of course, in pursuit of money, but if you can make that money easily, who'd want to take on those dangerous tasks with their lives on the line?

"Indeed, being able to work under the boss, we really hit the jackpot."

Feng Mochuan felt it even more deeply than Xu Ze. Qin Tian had offered him an annual salary of tens of millions, along with a 3% profit share each year.

Conservatively speaking, his annual income could reach several billion.

Furthermore, he received more than just money, but also the priceless Silver Level Night Demon Bloodline.

With the Night Demon Bloodline, the path to Tier Six, Seven, or even Eight would be wide open.

Power and future prospects were what he valued the most.

Just as Feng Mochuan and Xu Ze were chatting, suddenly a group of people stormed in fiercely.

"Where's Zhu Runfu?"

The leader, wearing a security bureau uniform, was tall and burly, his voice carrying a note of severity.

Zhu Runfu approached, noticing their unfriendly demeanor, his heart skipped a beat, but he quickly plastered a smile on his face:

"Isn't this Captain Li, how come you have time to visit me today?"

Captain Li sneered:

"I don't have time to waste with you. We've received a report that there are smuggled goods here. The Director sent me to verify the situation."

Smuggling?

Zhu Runfu's heart sank. Strictly speaking, this batch from Elf Star did have a hint of smuggling, but more accurately, it should be considered as exploiting the still unclear tariff loopholes between the Elves and the Empire. Accusing it of smuggling was an exaggeration.

Captain Li surveyed the surroundings, passing by each of the boxes, his face growing colder:

"Sure enough, these are Elven goods. Zhu Runfu, did you declare these items?"

Zhu Runfu quickly replied:

"Captain Li, the tariff system over there isn't well established, but we did purchase this batch through legitimate means from the Elves."

"Without declaration, it's smuggling!"

Captain Li slammed shut one of the box lids forcefully with a bang, signaling:

"Take everything away!"

"You dare!!!"

Clatter

In the warehouse, members of the Hurricane Mercenary Corps immediately stood out, their Spiritual Energy surging strongly, faces filled with anger.

They had heard from the captain and deputy captain just now that if this batch of goods was sold, 20% of the profits would be shared among everyone. Now, if anyone dared to touch these goods, it would be like stealing their wallets, and they'd be willing to fight to the death.

In an instant, a heavy pressure descended abruptly.

Captain Li and his team trembled, a trace of fear flickering in their eyes.

In such a small warehouse, there were so many Spiritualists!

"What are you trying to do? Attacking an Empire official and obstructing law enforcement, can you bear the consequences?"

Captain Li's face turned pale, but he still stiffened his neck and shouted.

"Captain!"

"Captain!"

At this point, the mercenaries all turned to Feng Mochuan. Having fought through blood and fire, they weren't intimidated by merely some small security bureau officers.

With just a word from Feng Mochuan, they'd be ready to go, even if not to kill them, at least to teach them a lesson.

Feng Mochuan's eyes narrowed, and the scene fell suddenly silent, many not even daring to breathe audibly.

"Let them move it!"

Feng Mochuan's response caught all the team members by surprise.

"Captain!"

"Captain!"

Feng Mochuan waved his hand, a hint of coldness flashing in his eyes.

It was evident that someone had their eyes on these goods, hence orchestrating such a scene.

He was very interested in seeing who was truly pulling strings behind the scenes.

He might not understand the business,

but when it came to quietly eliminating someone, he was very proficient.

"Captain?"

The team members looked at Captain Li.

Captain Li gritted his teeth, "Move it!"

Initially, according to the Director's instructions, they were to detain both the people and the goods. However, given the current situation, if he dared to detain them, he and his men might not make it out of this warehouse.

But don't get too smug.

So what if they're Spiritualists, we've arrested plenty of Spiritualists in the Security Bureau!

Moreover, in front of the giant Yuan Shan Group, what waves could a small mercenary corps possibly make?

Just wait and see!

Chapter 206: Bloodthirsty Vine

"Boss Leng, the goods have been detained, but the people have not been caught."

"Director Huang, what's going on? Didn't we agree to detain both the people and the goods?"

"The one named Zhu hired a group of mercenaries, all of whom are Spiritualists. I was worried that my men might have a conflict with them, which could make things messy, so I instructed them not to catch the people for now."

"But don't worry, I don't believe Zhu Runfu can afford the mercenaries' fees for long. As soon as they leave, I'll have someone arrest Zhu Runfu. You know, due to that accident, the situation on Silver Gray Star is unstable, and supervision is very strict, so we must be cautious in our actions."

"Alright, then. Thank you, Director Huang, for your crackdown on these unscrupulous dealers. I believe the whole herbal medicine market will become more regulated after this."

"Haha, Boss Leng, you're too kind. I'll have someone send the goods to you shortly."

"Thank you. In a few days, I'll host a banquet at the Chaoyang Grand Hotel, and I hope you can make it, Director Huang~"

"No problem, see you then."

After the call ended, the smile on Leng Yuanshan's face instantly disappeared.

"Useless. In your territory, you're scared by a few mercenaries. No wonder you've been on the sidelines for decades."

Compared to that batch of goods, Zhu Runfu himself was what he valued most.

He wanted to know from Zhu Runfu how this batch of Spiritual Medicines and Spirit Fruits from the Elves was brought in through which channel.

If he could grasp this supply chain, then the Yuan Shan Group would undoubtedly soar, with its market value skyrocketing dozens or even hundreds of times.

Unfortunately, that useless Huang Zhongwang ruined his plan.

"By the time you catch him, it'll be too late."

Leng Yuanshan dialed a number, his voice icy:

"Kidnap Zhu Runfu and his son for me! Be aware, there's a group of Spiritualist mercenaries by Zhu Runfu's side, so you'd better act when they're not around. With his wealth, he can't afford very capable mercenaries. Act quickly and don't let anyone find out."

"Yes, Boss!"

A low voice came from the other end of the line.

Leng Yuanshan hung up, his eyes flashing with cold light.

"Some people always overestimate themselves, meddling where they shouldn't, but it may just cost them their heads."

.....

The vast, desolate desert was bathed in endless sand.

In the barren desert, a solitary figure stood with a sword, the Profound Iron Blade Body hanging low.

The next moment

He pressed his toes into the sand, his hand with bulging veins suddenly gripping the sword hilt tight.

"Serpent Bolt Thrust!"

In an instant—

The blade tore through the air, purple lightning snaked along the sword's spine like a living creature, coalescing mid-air into a menacing phantom of a Thunder Serpent. As the serpent's head flickered, arcs snapped and crackled, and the dunes were reduced to butter-like collapses, the edges of a ten-meter-wide pit smoldered with charred, molten traces, heat rising in waves.

"Thunder Wing Soar!"

A fierce shout scattered the sand in the air, and two pairs of membranes woven by thunder suddenly unfurled on the man's back, each "feather" coursing with liquid lightning.

In the moment of takeoff, the sand below was swept skyward by a brutal upsurge, and when the figure wrapped in Lei Yao plummeted like a meteor, the entire desert began to tremble, as if quivering in fear of the impending celestial punishment.

Thunder Blade Qi cleaved the earth.

With a thundering crash, a sandstorm vortex of a hundred-meter diameter erupted at the desert's center, countless arcs darted like silver serpents within the storm's eye, illuminating the sky as if it were daylight. The sand struck by the lightning crystallized mid-air into a glass-like state, refracting myriad tiny rainbows.

Whoosh~~

The sandstorm swept past, but never approached his body.

Qin Tian gestured with one hand, unleashing a torrent of Spiritual Power. The next moment, the raging sand froze as if the world had been paused, then the grains began to fall, like a rainfall of dust.

"It's truly deserving of being a Silver Level swordsmanship, much stronger than the 'Thunderbolt Saber'."

Qin Tian sheathed the Black Frost with a smile at the corner of his mouth.

Silver Level Martial Techniques wield enormous power, too mighty for most venues to accommodate practice.

Thus, he came to the Hatu Desert, reputed as one of Silver Gray Star's death zones, to cultivate 'Celestial Punishment Nine Strikes,' 'Dark Prison Demon-Suppressing Fist,' and 'Celestial Thunder Fall,' among other martial techniques and spells.

This place is vast and remote, and no one would come to disturb him.

"Where has Kazik wandered off to again?"

Qin Tian looked into the distance, as the Black Gate opened, he stepped through.

Swish

The scenery before him shifted.

Below, a black mantis taller than a grown man stood atop the head of a massive sandworm. The sandworm's head was severed from its body, dark green liquid seeping into the sand, staining it dark.

"Hoo hoo!!"

Upon seeing Qin Tian's arrival, Kazik waved its front limbs as if greeting him.

"Whoa, you managed to take out a big one too~"

Qin Tian jumped down and placed a hand on the sandworm's skin. Soon, a green orb flew into his body but was devoured by 'Sandstorm Control.'

"Pity, it's a redundant Type talent."

Qin Tian shook his head, then raised his hand, revealing the Green Vine Ring wrapped around his wrist.

"Go ahead."

Hiss~~

The Green Vine Ring suddenly grew, its top sharp like a crusader's spear, plunging into the sandworm's body.

Gurgle gurgle~

The sandworm's blood continuously flowed into the Green Vine, which thickened and lengthened visibly, its vine swelling as if digesting greedily. The bulging masses moved up and down, sliding across the vine's surface before absorbing swiftly into the deeper veins, leaving only a network of vein-like patterns under the skin.

The sandworm's huge carcass quickly shrunk within a short period, its skin clinging to its bones, soon becoming just a dried skeleton.

Poof~~

The Green Vine withdrew from the sandworm's body, its tip stained with a bit of blood, twisting and writhing as if a joyful child dancing.

"Come back when you're full."

Qin Tian chuckled.

Hiss~~

The Green Vine received the command, shrinking rapidly back into a Green Vine bracelet coiled around Qin Tian's wrist.

"Its Blood Sucking is quite impressive, but its power is lacking."

Qin Tian stroked the Green Vine's coarse surface. He had brought this vine from Elf Star, originally called a Bloodthirsty Vine, a dangerous vine in the forest, looking nearly identical to normal vines, yet capable of piercing creatures and draining their blood when they let their guard down.

However, due to the presence of the Tree God, such dangerous Spirit Plants were scarce, and their danger was not high, at best capable of killing Tier Two Spirit Beasts. Any stronger being could easily avoid its sneak attack.

Qin Tian had taken a Bloodthirsty Vine and used the 'Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds' ability to cultivate and alter it. After testing, this Bloodthirsty Vine could now easily kill Tier Three creatures.

Moreover, it could split and grow dozens or hundreds of branches, possessing some range attack capability.

However, the Bloodthirsty Vine still had not met Qin Tian's expectations and would require continuous feeding with high-quality blood to match his current battle intensity.

As for whether the mutated Bloodthirsty Vine had a racial limit, Qin Tian was still unsure. For now, he was simply raising it as a pet, feeding it the "leftovers" from battles, which also served as waste utilization.

Bzzz~~ Bzzz~~

At this moment, Qin Tian's smart wristband rang.

"Hello, Old Mo~"

"What? Are both of them alright?"

"Okay, I'll be back immediately."

He hung up the phone, cold intent flashing in Qin Tian's eyes.

Chapter 207: Subduing the Shadow Division

"Boss!"

"Boss!"

Qin Tian walked into the room, where Feng Mochuan, Xu Ze, and several core members of the mercenary corps were present, alongside Xiaopang and his father.

"Brother Tian."

Xiaopang stood up, with a trace of lingering fear on his face.

"Not hurt, are you?"

Qin Tian patted Xiaopang on the shoulder.

Xiaopang shook his head, "No injuries, luckily these big brothers appeared just in time, otherwise my dad and I would've been kidnapped."

Hearing this, Qin Tian turned to look at Xiaopang's father, Zhu Runfu.

No wonder they're father and son; they look like they were cut from the same mold.

"Mr. Qin."

Zhu Runfu bowed slightly, despite Qin Tian being his son's classmate, he dared not act condescendingly.

"Uncle Zhu, I'm sorry to have involved you in my matters this time." Qin Tian said with some guilt.

"No, no, no, this has nothing to do with you."

Zhu Runfu quickly replied, "Some people don't want to see my Zhu family rise, so they overtly and covertly suppress me. I never thought, after seizing that batch of goods, they'd still want to kidnap my son and me. It's outrageous."

"Indeed, it's quite audacious."

A trace of coldness flashed in Qin Tian's eyes.

After the Wen family's downfall, a large number of people were implicated. Now, from politics to the military, every sector is in turmoil, everyone's uneasy, yet someone still dared to defy the law trying to kidnap a billionaire boss, highlighting their audacity.

At this moment, Feng Mochuan leaned in and said:

"Boss, before the goods were taken by the security bureau this afternoon, I did something to the boxes. These goods didn't stay at the security bureau for long before being secretly moved to a large warehouse."

"I investigated, and the owner of this warehouse is the Yuan Shan Group, also in the herb business, and previously engaged in suppressing Boss Zhu's business."

"According to my comrades, the ones who tried to kidnap Boss Zhu and his son were Tier Four Spiritualists, quite powerful. I suspect they were sent by the Yuan Shan Group."

Tier Four Spiritualist~

Qin Tian's eyes were profound; for him, killing a Tier Four Spiritualist was like slaughtering a chicken now, but outside the battlefield, a Tier Four Spiritualist was already a formidable presence, even the martial arts coach at Eagle Military Academy was only Tier Four.

To hire a Tier Four Spiritualist for an underhanded kidnapping, the boss behind this must be very powerful. Without a doubt, the Yuan Shan Group is the prime suspect.

Moreover, regardless of who attempted to kidnap Xiaopang and his father, the batch of spiritual medicine and spirit fruit ended up in the hands of the Yuan Shan Group.

If you're playing dirty, then let's play a little game.

"Old Mo, help me check, besides that warehouse, where else the Yuan Shan Group's warehouses are located."

"Yes!"

Feng Mochuan nodded, but hesitated for a moment, saying:

"Boss, it's our first time on Silver Gray Star, we're not familiar with the area, the investigation might take some time."

Upon hearing this, Qin Tian realized.

Indeed, the Hurricane Mercenary Corps has excellent combat capabilities, all members are Spiritualists or Superpower Users, but investigation relies more on meticulousness and the ability to collate information, needing familiarity with the area and a network of contacts.

It's best to leave professional tasks to professionals.

"Alright, I'll leave this matter to Li Qi."

.....

Dark Forest

Li Qi walked with a leisurely pace along a forest path, his steps crushing the fallen leaves, making a crackling sound.

Swish swish swish

Suddenly, a dozen shadows appeared around him, encircling him. These men were all clad in black combat suits, faces veiled with black cloth, with only their eyes visible.

"Li Qi!"

In front of Li Qi, a black-clothed man called out his name in a low, raspy voice.

"I knew you'd be hiding here."

Li Qi's lips curled up in a slight arc.

After the Wen family's downfall, as the assassination group Shadow Division secretly trained by the Wen family, they couldn't escape punishment, the Shadow Master disappearing, and the members below either dead or captured.

However, stealth was the basic survival skill of the Shadow Division, and some members hid all over, unnoticed.

As the reckoning with the Wen family came to an end, the level of attention to the Shadow Division reduced, giving them a chance to survive.

After returning to Silver Gray Star, Li Qi decided to set up his own intelligence organization, first thinking of rallying Shadow Division members to be his initial core team.

He knew the hiding characteristics of the Shadow Division very well, and with a little investigation, he determined their potential hideouts.

The result was as expected.

His old teammates were indeed all here.

"Li Qi, it was you who betrayed the Shadow Division after all."

The black-clothed man's voice was hoarse, with uncontainable anger.

Bred and brainwashed by the Shadow Division since childhood, they regarded it as more important than their own lives, never expecting a traitor within.

"What do you mean by betrayal? I was just turning to the light."

Li Qi said blandly, "Leaving the Shadow Division, I realized how little the Wen family and the Shadow Division valued us. Today I've come to recruit you. I want to establish an intelligence agency for my new master, and I hope you will join."

"Wishful thinking, traitors to the Shadow Division, die!!!"

As soon as the words fell, all the black-clothed men charged toward Li Qi, their daggers glowing with a ghostly purple light, clearly poisoned.

"Ha, I knew it would be like this, such a pitiful bunch."

Li Qi's lips curled into a smile, "Let me awaken you."

Who~~~

The Night Demon Wings unfolded, black air exploded, covering an area of one kilometer.

Clang clang clang

In the black air, the sound of weapons clashing was incessant, but soon there was no more sound.

After a long time, the black air dissipated, Li Qi stood in the center, blood on his lips. Around him, all the black-clothed men knelt on one knee, respectfully calling out in unison:

"Master."

Li Qi licked the blood from his lips, harvesting a dozen Night Demon Apostles, all elite members of the Shadow Division, whose professional abilities were no less than his, some even surpassed him.

With these people as the core, his intelligence organization could finally be established.

Buzz buzz~~

At this moment, his smart wristband suddenly rang.

Li Qi opened it, his expression immediately becoming respectful.

"Master!"

"Li Qi, there's something I need you to investigate."

Qin Tian quickly told him the story.

After listening, Li Qi's eyes shone brilliantly.

Yes, finally it's time for me, Li Qi, to show my skills.

Yuan Shan Group, this name seemed somewhat familiar.

"Master, give me half a day, and I'll turn the Yuan Shan Group inside out."

With a dozen Night Demon Apostles, Li Qi spoke with unusual confidence. Moreover, Silver Gray Star was a place he had lived for decades, investigating a company would be a piece of cake.

"Alright, I'll be waiting for your news."

Toot toot~

The call ended, Li Qi glanced at the surrounding Night Demon Apostles, his smile widening:

"Time to get to work!"

Chapter 208: Emptying the Warehouse, Yin Yang Space

"Useless! You can't even handle a small boss. Tell me, what else can I expect from you!!!"

In the study, Leng Yuanshan raged, nearly smashing the precious porcelain on the table.

"Boss, I didn't expect Zhu Runfu would actually hire several Tier Four experts."

Shen Ye looked aggrieved. He was a thug secretly cultivated by Leng Yuanshan to help the Yuan Shan Group deal with many dirty dealings. With his Tier Four Nine Stars strength, as long as he didn't provoke any major forces, he could basically do as he pleased.

This time, he thought kidnapping a small boss would be a breeze. Even if Zhu Runfu had a son in the military academy who was a Spiritualist, he didn't pay him any mind at all.

But who could've imagined that Zhu Runfu not only had mercenaries secretly protecting him, but all the mercenaries protecting him were Tier Four experts.

If it really came down to a fight, he wouldn't necessarily fear the opponents.

However, the Silver Gray Star is currently under tight control. If a battle got out of hand and attracted the attention of the relevant departments, not just him but the Yuan Shan Group would be in big trouble.

"That's why I specifically instructed you to act when there was no one around Zhu Runfu, but you treated my words like they were nothing."

Leng Yuanshan was so angry he wanted to kick Shen Ye, but reason prevailed over anger. He sat back down, took a few deep breaths, and said:

"Zhu Runfu can't be touched for now, but as long as he doesn't leave the Silver Gray Star, we can catch him sooner or later."

"Go and send someone to keep a close eye on Zhu Runfu. Remember, find someone professional so the mercenaries won't spot them."

Shen Ye quickly nodded:

"Alright, boss. I'll handle it right away. If necessary, I'll personally monitor him to make sure he's under watch."

"Hurry up and go!"

Leng Yuanshan waved his hand impatiently.

"Yes!"

After Shen Ye left, Leng Yuanshan sat quietly for a long time before dialing another phone number.

"Help me investigate if there's any new movement on the Elf Star recently. The more detailed the intelligence, the better. I'll pay you accordingly."

"Okay!"

A brief voice came from the other end of the line, followed by an immediate hang-up.

.....

"Old Qi's speed is amazing, truly a professional."

When Feng Mochuan saw the detailed information sent by Li Qi, he couldn't help but be impressed.

"Li Qi's effectiveness is truly indisputable."

Qin Tian smiled. Besides the Yuan Shan Group's information, Li Qi also brought him some good news.

Li Qi had subdued thirteen former Shadow Division members, among whom were five Tier Four and eight Tier Three. All of them had now become Li Qi's Night Demon Apostles.

Regarding Li Qi's conversion of Night Demon Apostles, Qin Tian had once advised that while he could use this ability, he should choose the targets wisely and not misuse it.

This time, Li Qi chose wisely.

The former Shadow Division members had strong professional abilities and required no training to be operational. Additionally, with the Bronze Level Night Demon Apostle's bloodline, their combat power, as well as lurking, assassination, and intelligence abilities would dramatically improve, making it easier for them to advance to Tier Five or even Tier Six in the future.

As expected, once these Night Demon Apostles acted, they compiled the Yuan Shan Group's information clearly and comprehensively, including not only the warehouse locations but also the personnel composition, organizational structure, and Chairman Leng Yuanshan's relationships.

Leng Yuanshan had a confidant named Shen Ye, and just from a photo, the members of the Hurricane Mercenary Corps identified Shen Ye as the one trying to kidnap Xiaopang and his father.

Now that the mastermind was confirmed, it was time for revenge.

He had already brought down the Wen Family, which once covered the skies with one hand, so how could he place the Yuan Shan Group in his eyes?

If you dare to take my things, I'll make you repay a hundredfold.

.....

Late at night

A figure suddenly appeared high in the sky, with light distorting around him, his presence nearly nonexistent.

Looking at the brightly lit warehouse below and the guards patrolling everywhere, Qin Tian lowered his gaze slightly as dark purple ripples shot out from his eyes, instantly sweeping through the entire warehouse.

Eye of Fear — Demon's Power

Thump

Thump

The guards and the workers all fell one after another, falling into unconsciousness.

His target for revenge was the Yuan Shan Group, and he didn't want to drag others into it, so he controlled the intensity of the Demon's Power, ensuring everyone would pass out but wake up with no major issues.

Black Gate opened

Qin Tian walked into the warehouse.

Inside, all sorts of containers were neatly stacked, and there were some exquisite jade boxes, with the air filled with a faint herbal aroma.

Qin Tian glanced around and quickly located the batch of Spiritual Medicine and Spirit Fruit.

However, this time he wasn't just here to retrieve his belongings; he wanted the Yuan Shan Group to pay the price for their actions.

"There are too many items; the Spatial Bag can't hold them all~"

Qin Tian squinted, then decisively invested 100,000 Evolution Points to upgrade the Blue Talent [Spatial Bag].

Soon, a hint of purple appeared within the orb, and a new talent was born.

[Name] Yin Yang Space (Purple)

[Type] Active Talent

[Introduction] Constructs a dual-dimensional space system through the "Yin Yang Law", merging space storage and time rules, forming a dual-space system with differentiated functions.

Yin Space: The time flow within the space is "Absolutely Still", everything (including energy, life indicators) is in a frozen state, with no aging, depletion, or energy loss. Any life form entering will immediately lose consciousness.

Yang Space: The time flow aligns with the outside world, allowing living things to survive, but there is also an "Energy Suction" mechanism in place, making it unsuitable for long stays.

In an instant, a peculiar space unfolded for Qin Tian, with Yin Space on the left side, dark and devoid of light. The items from the previous Spatial Bag automatically transferred here, where time stood still, suitable for preserving materials, tools, daily necessities, or some extremely dangerous things on the verge of explosion.

Yang Space was bright and warm. When consciousness entered it, there was a vibrant feeling, but there was also a special mechanism in place where any living being entering would have their energy constantly extracted; the stronger the being, the longer they could endure.

The Yang Space was suitable for transporting unconscious prisoners, and naturally, it could also serve as an unexpected asset on the battlefield.

"Not bad."

Qin Tian showed a satisfied smile on his face. The awakening of Yin Yang Space not only significantly expanded the storage space but also opened up a Yang Space capable of housing living beings, an unexpected delight for him.

Swoosh~~

Spiritual Power surged out, connecting with all the boxes in the warehouse.

In just the blink of an eye, all the boxes were transferred into the Yin Space.

After the upgrade, the Yin Yang Space no longer required Qin Tian to touch objects physically; just using Spiritual Power, he could transfer items into the Yin Yang Space.

A large warehouse had been emptied by Qin Tian, yet this was just the beginning.

Following the map, Qin Tian proceeded to empty all the important warehouses of the Yuan Shan Group.

He only stopped completely as the dawn broke.

Chapter 209: Despair, Collapse, and the Strange Plant

Snap~

The teacup slipped from his hand and shattered on the floor.

Leng Yuanshan's face turned deathly pale as he trembled and asked:

"What did you say, say it again?"

"Boss, our major warehouses have all been emptied."

From the other end of the phone, a voice filled with panic and unease came through, followed by several photos sent to Leng Yuanshan's smart device.

Seeing those empty warehouses, Leng Yuanshan's legs went weak, and he collapsed to the floor, feeling as if the world was spinning around him, on the verge of fainting.

"Dad, Dad!"

Leng Peng quickly grabbed Leng Yuanshan's arm, extremely nervous.

"It's over! It's over!"

Leng Yuanshan was ice-cold from head to toe; this was the most critical time of the year for Yuan Shan Group to deliver goods. If he couldn't supply the goods to the partners as promised, not only would Yuan Shan Group's reputation be completely ruined, but more importantly, he would have to bear a massive penalty fee.

This penalty fee could directly bankrupt Yuan Shan Group.

"Dad, Dad, calm down, the group is counting on you now."

Leng Peng tightly held onto Leng Yuanshan's hand. Even though he himself felt powerless as if the sky were about to fall, he knew the most important task at hand was to recover the missing goods.

Leng Peng's call brought Leng Yuanshan back to reality; he took several deep breaths to calm down and then said over the phone:

"I'll be there immediately."

Arriving at Yuan Shan Group's largest warehouse, Leng Yuanshan went straight to the surveillance room to check last night's records.

However, what shocked him beyond belief was

that last night, all the guards and workers simultaneously fell unconscious, no one entered the warehouse, yet those boxes vanished into thin air, as if it was the work of a ghost.

"This... this..."

Leng Peng was right beside him, eyes wide with disbelief from what he was witnessing.

"What on earth is happening, how could the goods just disappear like that."

Leng Yuanshan felt cold all over; the more bizarre it got, the more terrifying the implications of the means involved.

Who on earth had Yuan Shan Group crossed to make them want to exterminate us completely?

"Dad, could this be Zhu Runfu's revenge!"

Suddenly, Leng Peng realized something and urgently clutched Leng Yuanshan's arm to ask.

"Zhu Runfu, just him?"

Leng Yuanshan doubted Zhu Runfu had such capabilities and found it hard to believe he could enlist someone so fearsome to act on his behalf.

Buzzing~~

Just then, Leng Yuanshan's watch buzzed again.

Seeing the caller's name, a deep foreboding welled up inside him.

"Boss, bad news, the word that our major warehouses have been robbed has spread!"

What!

Leng Yuanshan felt his heart tighten, and just then, he saw a dozen calls coming in simultaneously, all from partners he could not afford to offend.

"It's over; this really is the end now!"

Leng Yuanshan felt cold all over, a look of despair in his eyes.

.....

"Haha, Boss, you're amazing."

Feng Mochuan laughed heartily: "This is satisfying, truly satisfying; for Leng Yuanshan, this must be worse than dying."

Beside them, the Hurricane Mercenary Corps and Xiaopang's father and son duo looked at Qin Tian with eyes full of admiration.

In just one night, all major warehouses of Yuan Shan Group were emptied.

This had already become a sensational piece of news.

Yet, they found it hard to imagine how Qin Tian managed to accomplish this single-handedly.

It was simply miraculous

Qin Tian chuckled; this was just the beginning. To pay off the penalty fee, Yuan Shan Group would definitely sell off assets to settle debts—the office building, warehouses, and plantations... If Lingfeng Company could take over these, it would achieve a metaphorical snake swallowing an elephant and cut years off development time.

By the way, Lingfeng Company was the newly registered name of the Hurricane Mercenary Corps.

Of course, even if these assets were sold below market value, it would still amount to a considerable sum. To acquire them, all the goods would need to be sold first.

"Li Qi, quickly find suitable candidates."

Qin Tian instructed.

"Yes!"

Li Qi nodded heavily.

...

Amidst the vast sands

Qin Tian stood on a sand dune, and a Jade Box instantly appeared in his hand.

Opening the Jade Box, a withered plant appeared before his eyes, resembling both a vine and a peculiar rhizome.

He had discovered this item while retrieving from several major warehouses. Initially, he thought it was the same as other herbs, intended for his Spirit Space. However, just as the Jade Box was about to be placed into the Spirit Space, an intense sense of resistance emanated from within.

Qin Tian, surprised, retrieved the box for inspection, but when his Spiritual Power swept over the plant segment, there was no response, as if it was intentionally hiding.

This, however, piqued his interest further, prompting a thorough investigation.

Gripping the plant's root with his right hand, a peculiar force surged in; it was the power of the Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds, capable of promoting plant growth and inducing variant evolution.

Upon infusion of the power, the plant seemed to come to life, its surface glowing with a dark purple hue, sending an affectionate thought into Qin Tian's mind.

The next moment, the plant dramatically extended, then it lunged like a snake that had long identified its target, biting down on the Bloodthirsty Vine wrapped around Qin Tian's wrist.

Hiss~~~

The Bloodthirsty Vine, capable of preying on Tier Three Spirit Beasts, was drained dry in an instant, yet this was just the beginning. Even after devouring the Bloodthirsty Vine, the plant remained unsatisfied, conveying a sense of urgent desire to Qin Tian.

"Interesting."

Qin Tian made a cut on his palm, saying, "Go ahead."

Hiss~

The plant, like a child seeing a treat, burrowed into the wound, greedily absorbing blood. Not only that, but Qin Tian's Spiritual Energy also poured into it like floodwaters.

Qin Tian's expression shifted; the plant was far greedier than he had anticipated. To be safe, he preemptively ingested an elixir to restore Spiritual Energy.

His Qi and Blood, Spiritual Energy, and the Power of Life Carving from the Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds continuously flowed into the plant. Given Qin Tian's current level of Physical Strength, his Qi and Blood were lavishly abundant, the mere fluctuations of which could raise the surrounding temperature abruptly. However, the plant absorbed endlessly, leaving his lips slightly pale.

Despite this, Qin Tian was not annoyed; instead, he revealed a hint of pleasure.

The more it absorbed, the greater its potential and strength would become.

"Let's see if you can get your fill today!!!"

Qin Tian gritted his teeth, downing a Vitality Pill, a life-saving elixir he had obtained using Military Merit Points, unexpectedly unused on the battlefield and forced out by this very plant.

After swallowing the Vitality Pill, a surge of boundless Life Force erupted within, rapidly restoring the majority of Qin Tian's Qi and Blood.

The plant, observing this, became even more excited, with its absorption rate spiking.

Qin Tian mobilized his Qi and Blood, withholding nothing in the transfer.

After a long while, the plant finally ceased, and the next moment, a dazzling blue-purple light suddenly shone.

A mutation occurred!

Chapter 210: Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine, Jie La

Boom!

The scalding quicksand beneath Qin Tian suddenly boiled. He quickly retreated several steps, as the grains of sand twisted into strange patterns in the heat waves.

The plant, greedy for his qi and blood spiritual energy, was now growing wildly at a speed visible to the naked eye.

The main stem, like a giant python infused with infinite power, stood upright with a roar, instantly breaking through the hundred-meter mark. The thick vines shredded the yellow sand everywhere, raising sandstorms tens of meters high, as though its thousand-meter-long body would pierce the fiery sky.

Dozens of branches, like iron chains, swept across the desert, slicing ancient poplars in half, with the sand shot up consolidating into sharp sand blades in mid-air.

On these vines, lightning flashed like silver snakes running madly. Each flicker melted the sand within a hundred-meter radius into glass instantly, and the deafening roar reverberated repeatedly in the vast desert. Black fog, thick as dark ink, surged out from the gaps between the vines, corroding the hot air, producing a sizzling sound; toxic gas spread out like intricate purple mist.

Then, a more shocking scene unfolded.

The top of the plant suddenly split open, forming a gigantic vortex, like a giant mouth capable of swallowing everything.

Energy from heaven and earth, as if drawn by an invisible giant hand, rushed madly toward the vortex.

In the distance, sand dunes were pulled into collapsing and twisting into eerie whirlpools. The floating clouds in the sky were drained of color at a speed visible to the naked eye, becoming transparent, before being sucked into the vortex.

The ground began to crack, with scalding sand gushing out like a fountain, while azure energy currents sprayed out from the fissures, mixing with the yellow sand into a terrifying energy storm.

With whistling winds and flying sand and stones, countless grains of sand solidified into sandstorm tornadoes in mid-air, flying toward the vortex.

The concentration of spiritual qi in the air plummeted sharply, terrifying all the desert spirit beasts within tens of kilometers. The quicksand beneath their feet came alive, wrapping around their ankles, while their spiritual power went uncontrollably restless, as if being drawn by an invisible force.

Cracks appeared in the sky, dark as if this space could not withstand such terrifying energy extraction, uttering painful moans.

And that frenzied plant, after devouring massive amounts of energy, shone ever more dazzlingly. The blue and purple light pierced the sandstorm, dyeing the entire desert with strange ghostly light.

Qin Tian retreated hundreds of meters, looking at this shocking scene with eyes filled with suspicion.

He did not expect that after absorbing qi and energy, this plant could create such a commotion. Having devoured massive energy, he wondered just how powerful it might become.

"What kind of spirit plant is it, exactly?"

Qin Tian was certain the plant had a significant background. Seizing the moment while it was still devouring energy, he quickly searched the Star Net.

Before long, he found a top-tier spirit plant that matched the appearance and abilities of the plant—

## Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine

This was a terrifying spirit plant that had disappeared for nearly a thousand years. Principally, it could devour any form of energy and could also release the devoured energy. Due to this characteristic, the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine maximized both its attack and defense attributes.

On the offensive side, its vines could extend up to ten thousand meters in length, with the tips transforming into countless tiny bone spurs that shoot at the enemy at great speed, each spur carrying extremely terrifying penetrative power. Furthermore, it could twist into great constricting ropes, tightly binding the enemy, rapidly draining their energy until they are reduced to a withered husk.

Defensively, the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine could form an impenetrable wall of vines, where any attack striking the wall would have its force and energy dissipated or devoured. Additionally, the demon vine possessed super speed regeneration, such that even if the vine stems were cut or burnt, they could regrow rapidly in no time.

Not just that, the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine could nurture its master. When the master was injured or had consumed a large amount of energy, it would infuse the master with absorbed qi and energy, acting like a portable medical kit and charging pack.

A thousand years ago, there was a Tier Nine powerhouse named Dugu Feng who cultivated a powerful Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine. In a great war, the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine single-handedly blocked ten Tier Eight beastmen, strongly killing three of them, thereafter gaining fame across the cosmos.

Sadly, after Dugu Feng's death, the cosmos never witnessed the presence of a Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine again.

"Seems like I hit the jackpot."

Qin Tian smiled slightly, though, of course, mastering the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine required more than just luck.

Without the Yin Yang Space, no one would have known this almost withered plant was indeed the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine. Without the Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds, he wouldn't have been able to awaken the demon vine. If he didn't have a supremely powerful physique, he wouldn't have been able to sustain the terrifying expenditure during the demon vine's awakening.

As the last trace of residual energy was completely absorbed, the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine, which had previously blocked out the sky, trembled violently.

The kilometer-long vines contracted madly like receding black water, with those suspended energy clouds collapsing with a bang, turning into bits of ghostly light that merged into the patterns on the vine's surface.

The "devouring mouth," which had been devouring wantonly, slowly closed. The demon vine's massive body shrank at a speed visible to the naked eye, finally leaving only a vine as thick as an arm curling up on the sand.

It initiated contact with Qin Tian, and when it touched his dust-covered pant leg, the demon vine nuzzled gently like an affectionate young beast. Then it gracefully wrapped around, finally settling on his wrist.

Fine patterns pulsed like ripples against the skin, coiling into an elaborate wristband, with a purple-glowing tender leaf at the top that undulated slightly with Qin Tian's pulse.

At this point, the terrifying demon vine that altered the color of the skies and earth transformed silently into a guardian around Qin Tian's wrist.

In his mind came the affectionate call of the demon vine.

"Are you the Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine?"

Qin Tian communicated with the demon vine through the spiritual link.

The purple leaf swayed, with the vine expressing a confirmation.

"It really is."

Qin Tian's smile deepened as he lightly touched the leaf with his finger, saying,

"The name Spirit-Devouring Demon Vine is too long, a hassle to call out—how about giving you a nickname?"

The leaf fluttered in agreement to Qin Tian's proposal.

"Hehe, what should it be called then?"

Qin Tian rubbed his chin, and soon, a name flashed through his mind.

"Jie La, how about that name?"

Having Kha'Zix, the mantis, by his side made adding a Magic Vine named Jie La quite interesting too.

One handling close-range targeted kills, the other covering wide-area annihilation.

He could now completely transform into a summoner, just these two alone were enough to make enemies drink their fill.

The vine's tip lifted and swayed vertically, like a human nodding, appearing quite fond of the name.

"Haha, you'll be called Jie La from now on then."

Qin Tian chuckled and said, "Let's go, let me introduce you to your new partner, and let me see your strength in action too."

Jie La's tip lifted like an upturned chin, full of confidence.