

Beast T 281

Chapter 281: Feifei's Attribute!

The appearance of this Illustrated Handbook's prompt left Su Ping stunned.

In the next moment, the knowledge fed back from the Illustrated Handbook didn't give Su Ping enough time to react.

Then, before Dong Muyun's astonished gaze, he turned and ran straight into his Heart of Woods base, waving his hand rapidly at Dong Muyun as he ran, "Sister Yun, I just remembered something urgent, so I won't keep you!"

Watching Su Ping suddenly vanish in a flash, Dong Muyun didn't have time to react before she lightly stamped her foot in frustration.

This guy...

Ignoring Dong Muyun's resentment, Su Ping had already dashed back to his study.

He quickly closed his eyes and looked at his Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas.

His gaze fell on the 'Gold Elemental Elf' entry in the Catalog, which was now illuminated.

Clearly, this so-called Gold Elemental Elf is the Mechanical Core.

However, the descriptions of the two seem somewhat different.

[Catalog: Gold Elemental Elf]

[A special Basic Elemental Spirit Pet Beast. These beings are born from an Elemental Core and exhibit a wide variety of forms and exceptionally unique growth abilities. However, due to the special nature of

the Gold Element, Gold Elemental Cores are relatively easy to find, yet pure elemental elves born from Gold Elemental Cores are extremely rare.

Racial Potential: Elite Level. Racial Skills: Elemental Body, Jinge Technique, Heart of Gold, etc.]

[Current Catalog Level: 1 (100/500)]

Known Evolutionary Atlas, special Cultivation:

[Mechanical Awakening: Uses a Gold Elemental Core activated by modern Electromagnetic Force. Data and knowledge are used to forcefully awaken the core's intelligence. The downside is its inability to form an Elemental Body or corresponding Racial Skills. However, it can instead complete mechanical Cultivation. This is a special Cultivation method with high potential.]

Preferences, habits:

[Preferences: Enjoys consuming metal and conducting electricity.]

Record Log:

[Discovered and contacted an awakened Mechanical Core (Gold Elemental Core). Intimacy requirement met. Catalogue Experience +100!]

[This Mechanical Core is a special Mutant. Each subsequent day spent with it will add +5 Catalogue Experience!]

As expected!

Su Ping nodded. The Pet Beast born from the Mechanical Core couldn't be considered a new type of Pet Beast.

Instead, it was a variant of the so-called Gold Elemental Elf, an awakened form achieved through Cultivation.

However, on closer reflection, it did seem to be the case.

Su Ping often heard about Pet Beasts like Wind Element Spirits, Water Element Elves, and even the relatively rare Thunder Element Elves and Earth Element Elves.

He had even just witnessed a Fire Elemental Spirit.

Indeed, it was Leng Ye's Blue Flame Heart Demon.

Of course, that was an Evolutionary Body of a Fire Elemental Spirit.

But he had hardly ever heard any mention of the Gold Elemental Elf.

The birth of Gold Elemental Elves is extremely rare.

The specific reasons for this were also provided in the Catalog.

Gold Element is relatively rare and difficult to condense.

So, could Feifei evolve in this direction?

However, Su Ping scratched his head; he was clearly getting ahead of himself.

Because damn it, in that annoying, cursed Record Log, he frustratingly found those two words once again:

'Mutation!'

Su Ping placed Feifei's Mechanical Core on the table and then said, "Feifei, are you there?"

He was quite certain that Feifei had already awakened.

Otherwise, the Gold Elemental Elf's entry in the Catalog wouldn't have lit up after he spoke those words.

This undoubtedly meant that Feifei had heard him, which was why its intimacy with him had finally reached the required level.

Sure enough, the Mechanical Core rotated slightly, and then a voice emerged from it, "Master, I'm here~ Thank you for repairing me, allowing me to see you again, dear Master."

It was, indeed, Feifei's voice.

Su Ping breathed a sigh of relief and then turned his attention to Feifei.

He had to see, damn it, how could a Mechanical Core mutate?

And what kind of strange variations could a Mechanical Core even undergo?

The Eye of Truth was instantly activated, locking onto Feifei before him.

[Awakened Mechanical Core (Wild)]

[Attribute: Psychic]

[Current Level: Common First Rank]

[Racial Potential: Common Tenth Level]

[Skills: Psychic Perception (Proficiency)]

Su Ping blinked.

He was so shocked by this unexpected answer he nearly threw out his back!

Even if it had mutated, as a mechanical life consciousness awakened from a Gold Elemental Core, shouldn't it have retained the Metal Element Attribute?

What in the world was this?

And why was it Psychic Element?

Psychic Element Pet Beasts were reputed to be the hardest type to cultivate. Although quite powerful, they required an extremely large investment.

Still, a Psychic Element Mechanical Pet Beast? As odd as it sounded, Su Ping had to admit that, aside from his astonishment, he was greatly intrigued.

A Psychic Element Mechanical Pet Beast?

Su Ping didn't know if anyone else had ever heard of such a thing, but he certainly hadn't.

Mechanical Pet Beasts have many advantages.

For instance, it was easier to equip them with single-use Mechanical Weapons, allowing them to engage in battle without consuming their own Energy.

Furthermore, besides self-circulating Energy absorption and recovery, they could also use batteries or charging to rapidly replenish their power.

Most also possessed transformative abilities, much like Transformers, offering diverse functions. Yunning, for example, could travel anywhere, whether on land, in the sky, or underwater.

Their Cultivation was also more interesting and relatively simpler. One merely needed enough money to replace the materials and components of their mechanical bodies...

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Therefore, most mechanical Pet Beasts hadn't experienced much development in their spiritual aspect.

Su Ping scratched his head as he remembered his conversation with Feifei from the previous day. He gained a deeper understanding of Feifei. Feifei had said that it hurt when it merged with its mechanical body! Clearly, this was an extremely rare occurrence, and a situation that shouldn't have happened. It was for this reason that Feifei had failed to merge with the mechanical body, transforming into its current form—a mechanical core ball resembling a dinosaur egg, devoid of any combat ability.

So, was this why Feifei's Metal Element was extremely low while its Psychic Element was extremely high?

He looked at Feifei spinning in circles on the table and, for the first time, felt utterly stumped. Even Qian Yi hadn't posed such a challenge for him. Of course, the main issue was Su Ping's severely lacking research on mechanical types. Suddenly, Su Ping had found a new direction for absorbing knowledge. And admittedly, it wasn't too late.

He still had some distance to cover before reaching the Commander Level. Only after breaking through to the Commander Level could he contract a Third Pet Beast. This was a good opportunity to raise Feifei while studying simultaneously. At this thought, Su Ping relaxed slightly. Indeed, there was no need to rush.

For now, Xiao Qing was more important. Su Ping was very satisfied with the results of Qian Yi and Xiao Qing's actual combat practice the previous night. Qian Yi's "Qian Yi Whirlwind" might have had a lame name, and using it left Qian Yi almost devoid of combat power. However, the skill's power was undeniable. It could directly spin a Commander Level Steel Arm Ape to death, making it a viable killer

move and trump card. Simultaneously, it could also function in area-of-effect combat. This was quite impressive. A Pet Beast capable of fighting beyond its level was truly a protagonist's standard, so Su Ping was very satisfied.

Xiao Qing, however, had clearly been less impressive in this battle. The significant difference in strength against the opponent was one factor. Furthermore, in terms of abilities, Xiao Qing was certainly inferior to Qian Yi. Of course, their roles were different as well. Xiao Qing was designed for group combat, but Su Ping had been careless and hadn't brought the Wolf pack into action.

Regardless, researching Xiao Qing's evolution path was the most pressing matter for the foreseeable future, aside from cultivating Old Sha's Heart of Woods. Of course, there was no immediate rush. He was merely planning his focus for the period following Qian Yi's evolution.

So, Su Ping lay on his bed and began to contemplate the other reward he had just acquired. He had lit up a new Talent awarded by the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas. Although most of these Talents had been mediocre previously, and a Beast Tamer couldn't solely rely on them. For instance, some web novels from his current life depicted characters awakening Mythical Level Talents and becoming invincible—though such stories were indeed rare. Nevertheless, Talents could still play a crucial role in many situations. Any Talent that could be utilized in combat was a good Talent, and Su Ping had finally acquired one. Yes, this time the Talent could actually be useful in combat:

[Elementalization: A special Beast Tamer Talent. It allows the user to transform their body into an elemental state, greatly increasing speed. Simultaneously, it grants immunity to many special types of damage abilities.]

If this Talented Ability could affect Pet Beasts, it would be a game-changing trump card. However, for a Beast Tamer, while still remarkable, it could only be used as a life-saving skill. Su Ping, nonetheless, was already very content with this. For one thing, with this skill, the damage he'd take from Mechanical Weapon explosions would be greatly reduced. After all, an opponent wouldn't know he possessed this Elementalization ability. Therefore, they wouldn't prepare Mechanical Weapons capable of harming an elementalized state in advance. This ability could genuinely serve as a life-saving trump card. And admittedly, a Talent that involved transforming one's own body was quite amazing!

With a slight mental prompt from Su Ping, his body instantly became incredibly light. In such a state, his speed would naturally surge. Simultaneously, his body began to turn translucent. He took a pair of crafting scissors and gently pushed them into his body. As expected, they passed right through.

However, as Su Ping watched the scissors pass through his body, a reckless, potentially self-destructive thought surfaced: What would happen if he deactivated Elementalization while the scissors were still passing through his body?

Su Ping shuddered and quickly dismissed the thought. Although he possessed a scientific spirit and was interested in studying various skills, it clearly made no sense to be so harsh on himself.

If they really got stuck in there, could they even be removed?

Although it was highly probable the scissors would be ejected, there was clearly no need to gamble with his life like that.

Nevertheless, the sensation was truly peculiar. Su Ping felt that maintaining this state required the consumption of spiritual power. However, it was precisely this consumption of spiritual power that allowed him to perceive the more specific details of being elementalized even more clearly. These details gave him a deeper understanding of Elementalization.

He had previously thought about trying to evolve the Elf Wolf.

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Now that Qian Yi's evolution is complete, I can finally free up my hands to tinker with things a bit. The Elf Wolf is one aspect, but the most important is still the Elementalization evolution and Cultivation. I wonder if it's possible to follow the Elf Wolf's Cultivation and Evolution methods, as well as those perfected by the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas, to bestow the semi-Elementalization abilities and effects of the Elf Wolf upon the rest of the Evolutionary Bodies? As of now, the Elf Wolf hasn't been bred, but it's actually me, the Beast Tamer, who has mastered the ability of Elementalization through the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas.

However, it is precisely for this reason that Su Ping has gained a more intuitive understanding of this ability. Some details concerning Elementalization have suddenly become clearer and more profoundly understood.

Unfortunately, Su Ping exited the state of Elementalization after only five seconds.

The consumption of spiritual power is simply too enormous! Even now, having reached Elite Sixth Rank, I cannot maintain the state of Elementalization indefinitely due to such excessive consumption. Clearly, in the end, the Realm of a Beast Tamer is fundamental!

"Feifei, you stay here for a while."

"Okay, Master, rest assured!"

Mechanical Pet Beasts are great. For one thing, they're not high-level, but they have high intelligence and can even communicate through speech. Unlike my own two Pet Beasts—one just howls like a wolf, and the other whimpers.

Su Ping didn't mention yesterday's events to Lao Guan and his daughter, nor to Li Shu. He headed straight for the Forest Wolf woods. Sure enough, Li Shu and Guan Lili were feeding tree fruits to the Forest Wolves. Seeing Su Ping approach, Li Shu hurriedly waved at him.

"Bro Ping!"

"How have things been recently?"

"Great! After getting used to it, I've completely fallen in love with life here! BOO HOO HOO, I love you, Bro Ping!"

Su Ping gave the guy a dismissive glance. "I'm asking how the Forest Wolves are doing."

Li Shu stiffened, scratched his head, and then said, "Each has made breakthroughs, especially in skill level. Three Forest Wolves have even had their Skills raised to Mastery Level, and there are even more breakthroughs to Proficient Level!"

Su Ping's brow furrowed slightly. "None have broken through to Perfection Level?"

"That... No..."

After getting the answer, Su Ping pursed his lips and nodded.

As expected, leveling up Skills becomes increasingly difficult the further one progresses. Even though I've now broken through to Elite Sixth Rank and can share as many as forty-two Skills, training them to Perfection is still not something that can be accomplished in a short time.

However, if possible, Su Ping still wanted to cultivate Old Sha's Heart of Woods to Perfection Level before the Cultivation competition began. Only then can I verify what the ultimate result of my Solar Formula truly is. Otherwise, without solid evidence, it won't be persuasive enough.

Thinking this, Su Ping narrowed his eyes slightly. I do have a way to achieve this, but I simply haven't attempted it before. Now, not only do I have the Heart of Woods, but Pingyun is also here. As for Cultivation funds, I don't need to worry at all. It's time to try some methods that don't care about money.

However, just as Su Ping was about to speak and make arrangements, a dark shadow suddenly flashed across the sky.

Su Ping instinctively looked up, then his eyes widened and his mouth gaped open again.

Appearing in the sky was a small, silver-white aircraft.

I just saw a similar one not long ago, but it was black. And now another one shows up?

Before Su Ping could react, and before some of the guests of Heart of Woods and Yun Tian could look up to get a good look at the aircraft, it vanished from the sky as abruptly as it had appeared.

Then, within Su Ping's sight, a woman as agile as a cheetah, wearing a tight-fitting combat suit, dropped from the sky.

Damn, that entrance really is flashy. But no matter how flashy it is, did I really need to see it twice in one day?

Nevertheless, Su Ping could tell that the woman in front of him was also quite special. Moreover, Su Ping could already guess some aspects of her true identity. Previously, he had speculated about Miss Qin's identity. After this turmoil, he could finally confirm it.

That person from the Magic Capital?

As soon as this thought emerged, the black-short-haired woman spoke, "I am looking for Major Su Ping. May I ask..."

"That's me!" Su Ping responded. He then thought for a moment and took out the certificate and medal Zhao Deguang had given him last time from his Beast Taming Space.

The woman completely ignored Li Shu and Guan Lili beside her, who looked utterly dumbfounded. Li Shu, in particular, looked up again with an exaggerated expression, seemingly trying to gauge the height from which she had descended and how on earth she had managed the jump.

The woman said directly, "Greetings, Major Su Ping. It's a pleasure to meet you. I was sent by Principal Sang to deliver something to you. Please sign for it!"

As expected.

Su Ping sighed helplessly. He could guess her intention, but really, it wasn't necessary. I'm not that petty. No matter what, Qin Xiaoxue was kind to me, and Qin Erlong has also been quite considerate. However, when dealing with such a high-level person, I should just take what's given. She sent someone personally, and in such a manner, leaving no room for refusal.

Su Ping nodded, took the box that was handed to him, and then said, "Thank you, and please convey my thanks to Principal Sang as well. I will personally visit Magic Capital after some time to pay her a visit!"

The woman just smiled. Then, perfectly displaying her impetuous nature, she leaped back into the sky. The flying device reappeared out of thin air, and in the next second, it was gone.

The entire exchange, from start to finish, lasted no more than two minutes.

Su Ping, however, ignored the stares of Li Shu and Guan Lili. Holding the box, he returned to his room and opened it.

To his slight surprise, a book lay quietly inside the box.

On the cover of the book, several words were clearly written: 'Myriad Transformations Meditation Method.'

Chapter 284: The Grand Fusion of Transformations! Feifei's Internal Documents

The All-Encompassing Meditation Method.

Looking at the item inside the box, Su Ping felt no particular surprise. It was something he had anticipated, and its appearance seemed perfectly reasonable. Thus, Su Ping felt at ease, sat down, and opened the book.

What appeared before him was an ancient text quoted in relation to this special Meditation Method:

'When the heart condenses and the form is released, all transformations merge into the dark...'

Then, after reading for half an hour, Su Ping confirmed that this Meditation Method had absolutely nothing to do with the name from the ancient text. Su Ping had every reason to suspect that this name had been created first, and then someone had simply picked a pleasant-sounding name from ancient writings to attach to it.

However, it had to be said that despite the unrelated name, the content within was enough for Su Ping to overlook this minor flaw.

Su Ping finally understood the origin of Meditation Methods. Before actually seeing this, Su Ping had never explored research in this direction.

Now that he considered it, within the Beast Tamer Civilization, although recorded history didn't span ten thousand years, an endless stream of talented individuals had still emerged.

And this direction was the Soul Contract!

In this All-Encompassing Meditation Method, humans were also considered a type of 'Pet Beast.' They were special 'Pet Beasts' primarily of the 'Psychic' element, with the 'Space Element' as a supplement.

However, humans, as this type of 'Pet Beast,' could not autonomously possess power, nor could they change form through Evolution. Even acquiring a Soul Contract and a Beast Taming Space required the aid of an 'Awakening Stone.'

But, every loss has its gain. Meditation allowed humans to achieve virtually limitless growth through self-cultivation. The Soul Contract, moreover, was a unique Ability of human Beast Tamers.

The Meditation Method was a technique for achieving meditative resonance with Pet Beasts bound by a Soul Contract. Through this resonance, one's spiritual power would become familiar with this type of force.

Once a minor level of proficiency was achieved, Pet Beast assistance was no longer required, and one could meditate alone. During such meditation, effects and manifestations differing from normal meditation would occur.

It sounded easy, but it was extremely difficult in practice.

Therefore, Su Ping didn't overthink it. Instead, he chose to try it directly!

What were the benefits of practicing this Meditation Method? Qin Xiaoxue had previously spoken of it somewhat vaguely. Su Ping hadn't paid much mind then, but now it seemed that practicing this Meditation Method offered far too many advantages compared to simple meditation.

Take this All-Encompassing Meditation Method, for instance. It was a Meditation Method that resonated with Wood Element and Undead Pet Beasts.

Firstly, the speed of meditation would definitely increase slightly; this was without a doubt.

Secondly, through Soul Resonance, one's spiritual power could simulate some Wood Element and Necromancy Series energies. Of course, the effect would definitely not be as potent as that of one's own Pet Beasts. However, it could still alter the spiritual power's effect, preventing it from being merely a hindrance or a prime target on the battlefield.

These two functions were the main effects of this All-Encompassing Meditation Method!

Besides these, there were also some secondary effects. For example, the one Su Ping valued most was the ability to maintain some meditative effects even during sleep. And there were many more.

No doubt about it. When Qin Xiaoxue had spoken of it previously, even with her status as Miss Qin, she had been so cautious about this Meditation Method; indeed, there was a reason for that.

The preciousness of this item was hard to imagine!

Leaping across this world's social strata wasn't something achievable merely by encountering a talented Pet Beast or having a decent stroke of luck. Any little boost, accumulated over countless years, would result in a vast difference.

Su Ping now somewhat understood how the Beast Taming Gate Families, which had existed for thousands, or perhaps several thousand years, had passed down their legacies. The Meditation Method definitely played a significant role in this heritage.

And anyone capable of creating any Meditation Method was certainly no ordinary person.

As for whether this All-Encompassing Meditation Method was created by Lord Sang Sheng, Su Ping didn't know.

His eyes were already closed.

Inside the Beast Taming Space, the Little Paper Figure, which until yesterday hadn't left the space, seemed to sense something. While Xiao Qing was leisurely basking in the sun above, the Little Paper Figure suddenly let out a WAH!

Xiao Qing looked at the creature discontentedly. This fellow that's always muttering and drawing its sword, what's it up to now?

Damn, it's so annoying! But I can't beat it!

But soon, Xiao Qing also sensed something. Its two ears perked up straight.

They sensed that their master's spirit seemed to connect with them. This feeling was extremely special. It was as if their master's palms were simultaneously caressing their bodies.

At the same time, their faint spiritual connection seemed to link with their master through the Soul Contract.

Then, the next second, the connection broke.

Su Ping opened his eyes. He had failed.

But Su Ping wasn't discouraged. He continued to attempt.

Inside the Beast Taming Space, the two little creatures immediately drooped. The Little Paper Figure continued to draw its Thunder Sword, practicing within its small, designated territory. Then suddenly, it let out another WAH!

Xiao Qing did the same; its ears had just drooped but then shot straight up again.

Five seconds later, the two little creatures returned to normal. And then it started again...

This process repeated over and over, lasting for more than half an hour. It happened every ten seconds, making the two little creatures in the Beast Taming Space somewhat psychically hypersensitive. They always felt that in the next second, their master was about to initiate Soul Resonance with them via the Soul Contract. Yet, this resonance, no matter what, just couldn't establish a complete connection.

Finally, this resonance, which had nearly induced a stress response in the two little creatures, stopped. It gave the two little creatures a short respite!

「In reality.」

Sitting in the study, Su Ping at this moment had fallen into self-doubt.

Did Lord Sang Sheng know that practicing this Meditation Method was so difficult?

Over half an hour! Although this duration wasn't excessive, for meditation, it wasn't a significant amount of time. But the problem was, during this entire half-hour, he had been constantly trying to resonate with Xiao Qing and Qian Yi, attempting to practice the Meditation Method. Yet, in all this half-hour, not once did the resonance last more than five seconds!

Moreover, most of the time, the attempts weren't even as effective as the first successful resonance!

What the hell is this?

Su Ping scratched his head. He didn't try again. Throughout this half-hour, he had already tried countless times, refusing to give up. However, forget about completing the resonance and beginning meditation together; he couldn't even maintain the resonance for a longer duration.

Therefore, Su Ping sat on the chair, his face etched with existential doubt, murmuring in shock, Could it be that I have no Talent for cultivation?

No Talent!

This term, Su Ping had never before imagined it could be applied to himself. His Talent, not to mention in breeding research, was quite remarkable even in meditation. At No. 6 Middle School, his meditation score was the best in the school. And now, with this Meditation Method, Su Ping couldn't even reach the beginner level in half an hour.

Is it my problem? Su Ping found it somewhat inconceivable.

"Master, you're the best! Don't be discouraged!"

Just then, Feifei, on the desk, uttered consoling words. It provided a tiny bit of comfort to Su Ping, who was mired in self-doubt. But of course, it was just that—a tiny bit.

If it wasn't a problem with my own Talent, then what was the reason?

Was it because these two Pet Beasts, strictly speaking, couldn't be considered pure Wood Element or Undead Pet Beasts?

Seriously, that's a real possibility. These two mutated little ones, no one could say they were like normal Pet Beasts.

Damn it! Mutated Pet Beasts are my downfall!

Frustration bubbled within Su Ping!

After this contract with Feifei is complete, if I continue to advance, my fourth Pet Beast must absolutely not be another Mutated Pet Beast! This is such a pain!

Yes, the fault lies with the Pet Beasts! It's definitely not an issue with his, Su the Great Genius's, Talent.

Su Ping was certain.

So, he decided to stop agonizing over this Meditation Method.

So what if it just increases meditation speed a little?

So what if it just improves meditation efficiency a bit?

So what if it just allows one's spiritual power to undergo some Energy changes?

What's so great about that? He, Su the Great Genius, doesn't need it! Maybe I can even create my own Meditation Method in the future!

"Mhm!" Su Ping nodded, already fantasizing how future biographers might write about him:

'The great Breeder and Beast Tamer, Master X (X the Legend), possessing unparalleled Talent, adapted a Meditation Method to his own Pet Beasts, astonishing the world...'

With this thought, Su Ping's mood improved significantly. Clearly, this self-deception was working wonders.

And so, Su Ping stepped out of his study once again.

Meditation Methods and whatnot, best not to mention them for now, nor practice them!

Comparatively, Pet Beast cultivation was more of a concern for him.

New Year's Day was just over a month away. And on New Year's Day, the Breeder Competition would begin in Magic Capital. At the Breeder Competition, he had to earn some face for Jianghai and for Old Liu. It was also the time to officially start building his reputation and winning awards.

Therefore, Old Sha's cultivation was even more important now. Unfortunately, the Heart of Woods' skill level still hadn't improved. Su Ping also needed to devise some special tactics.

He hadn't tried them before. This was partly because he didn't know if they would be effective, and partly because it was too troublesome. But now, he had to make time to try.

If I continue to feed it the Heart of Woods Magic Potion, will there be an improvement?

Furthermore, if I use relatively Advanced Level materials and resources to enhance the Heart of Woods Magic Potion's effects, could it accelerate the skill level improvement of Heart of Woods?

After a brief planning session, Su Ping headed to the laboratory area.

However, what Su Ping absolutely hadn't anticipated was that just as he left the study, Feifei, on the desk, rotated its body slightly, swaying.

Then, a very faint spiritual power spread out. Feifei's only innate Skill, 'Psychic Perception,' allowed it to 'look' at The All-Encompassing Meditation Method book Su Ping had tossed onto the desk.

It wanted to help its master! Let's see if there's any way to help Master compensate for his 'lack of Talent.'

Mhm!

RUSTLE, RUSTLE. The pages of the book flipped from beginning to end.

After scanning all the content of The All-Encompassing Meditation Method, Feifei 'nodded,' then secretly created a hidden file in its Mechanical Core. The file was named:

"About the Inability of the Master to Practice the Meditation Method Due to Lack of Talent..."

Chapter 285: Grand Opening of Heart of Water! The Secret Realm Distribution Map of Qintian Monitor!

"Got one, got one!"

At the rear of the Heart of Woods Pet Beast Comprehensive Cultivation Base, adjacent to the Lingxi River, an area was now connected to the river, forming a large lake approximately twenty miles in diameter.

The large lake was connected to the Lingxi River, which flowed through it. On the lake's surface, besides a large bridge linking to the Lingxi River, there were also two pavilions in the lake's center and several walkways built with special structures. These allowed people to walk freely over the surface of the Heart of Water Lake on either side.

It was also possible to fish and enjoy the scenery.

Indeed, that was what was happening right now.

On this fishing platform, many excited anglers standing behind a lone figure shouted out.

Seated in a pavilion in the lake's center, Su Ping fiercely lifted his specially made mechanical fishing rod.

In the next moment, amid the exclamations of the onlookers, a big fish over a meter long was hoisted straight up by him!

Instantly, some of the nearby anglers let out bursts of amazement:

"An Elite Level red-spotted silver carp! What a fine Pet Beast indeed! And the red-spotted scales it produces are quite pricey Water Element materials."

"Sure enough, the ads didn't lie; you really can catch Pet Beasts here!"

"Heh, this isn't a place just anyone can afford. This is the best spot on Heart of Water Lake. Just to fish here for an hour, not to mention additional expenses, costs a whopping fifty thousand yuan!"

"Fifty thousand for just an hour of fishing? Even if you don't catch anything?"

A bystander exclaimed, obviously stunned by the high cost.

Immediately, some people looked at the one who had exclaimed with disdain, with one person showing off, "Fifty thousand is expensive? Let me tell you straight, that's just the base price! To fish here, you have to purchase the accompanying services! A single piece of bait costs ten to twenty thousand! Want to use their fishing rods? Renting one also costs money!"

Clearly, some people had been there for quite a while and knew a great deal about the place.

"What bait? So expensive, just for one piece? If you don't catch anything, isn't that a huge loss?"

Someone was perplexed.

Indeed, such terrifying expenses for a fishing venue left many in disbelief.

Yet some responded with disdain, "Bait made by blending Water Spirit Grass with the flesh of Water Element Pet Beasts—do you think it's worth the price or not!?"

"Ah? Using such things for bait? What are you trying to catch, a Dragon?"

Some people were puzzled, while others continued to show off their knowledge with pride.

"The most important thing is, even if you do manage to catch a fish, you have to pay two more fees!"

"Ah? Pay two more fees? I've heard that if you catch a fish here and want to take it with you, you must pay a fee based on the value of the fish. Is there another expense?"

"Of course, there is. If you catch an Elite Level mature Pet Beast, or even a Commander Level one, do you think you can handle or even kill it on your own?"

With that said, the novice seemed to understand something and nodded before widening his eyes in shock. "You can catch Commander Level Pet Beasts here? How is that possible?"

Someone responded with disdain, "How is it not possible? Two days ago, I saw with my own eyes someone catch a Purple Thunder Eel! Even with the mechanical fishing rod reducing its strength right away, that lightning was terrifying. It was the staff member, who, after receiving the order from the angler to kill the fish, used a mechanical energy gun to finally put it down."

"Purple Thunder Eel? Damn!"

The person was clearly no longer contemplating why a Pet Beast service base in the suburbs had access to Mechanical Weapons.

After all, it was well-known that this Pet Beast base had connections that reached the heavens.

"So, if you land that kind of catch, and you can take it away or kill it on the spot without needing the staff here to use their Low-level Mechanical Weapons, such as guns and crossbows, then naturally you don't have to spend that money."

"Heh, as if it's that easy to catch. If you do hook one of those, you'd have to fish even if it meant taking out a loan. Catching one is a hugely profitable venture, no losses. The Thunder Gland of a Purple Thunder Eel is a high-grade resource, even among Commander Level ones!"

Some shook their heads, while others, confident in their fishing skills, were excited to try their luck.

Some were resigned, steering clear of this fishing activity that was akin to gambling. "Forget it, it's too expensive here. Over by the outer perimeter of the Heart of Water Lake, it's only a thousand yuan for an hour of fishing. It's not far from here, so it should be about the same, right?"

"Indeed, this place isn't for people like us."

"Do you know why this place became so popular across Linzhou in such a short amount of time? Do you know who comes here to fish?"

"See that person over there? That's the old manager of Linzhou's White Wind Snow Wolf Cultivation Base, Old Zhao, the Intermediate Level Breeder from the Jianghai Breeder Association!"

"And that one over there, they say he's a director of the Fire King Company..."

"And that one..."

"And that one..."

Someone spoke quietly, their words all pointing to one fact:

'This place really doesn't lack for customers!'

Especially those willing to spend money on fishing!

In Linzhou, where else could you find a fishing ground where you might catch Commander Level, or even Advanced Commander Level Pet Beasts?

Chapter 286: Grand Opening of Heart of Water! Secret Realm Distribution Map of Qintian Monitor!_2

Such an exciting fishing experience, along with the excellent service—where else could it compare? For some, the money spent wasn't even a concern. Besides, sometimes, if luck was on your side, what you caught wouldn't just save you from losing money; you could even profit!

What kind of concept was that?

Wealthy people aren't fools. If it were just a scam to take their money, so many wouldn't spend the entire day here. Some even combined their visit with a stay at the resort complex out front and decided not to leave at all.

It was precisely this kind of engaging entertainment, with excellent service and experiences worth bragging about, that drew people in. It wasn't simply about scamming money; if you were lucky or skilled, you could even make money, and it was damn exciting. Such leisure spots were what truly attracted people.

That was why the Heart of Water at the Heart of Woods Pet Beast Service Base had become so bustling in just a few days since its official completion.

"Nice one, Little Su! You're quite lucky today!" someone nearby called out.

It was none other than Old Zhao, fishing on the platform closest to Su Ping.

"Haha, Old Zhao, you'd better step it up! Otherwise, I might win the price of a Snow Wolf from you today!"

"Hey, you little rascal! So that's why you insisted on betting with me this morning! You had this planned all along, eh? Just you watch what Old Zhao can do!"

Unfortunately, Old Zhao's luck clearly wasn't very good. All morning, apart from catching an Ordinary Level Black Whisker Grass Carp, he hadn't made any other notable catches.

Su Ping didn't mind. He smiled faintly and flicked his fishing rod. "Xiao Qing!"

Xiao Qing let out a howl! It suddenly leaped from behind Su Ping and, in one bite, snatched the exhausted Red-Spotted Silver Carp being dragged by the mechanical fishing rod. Then, without waiting for Su Ping's command, it bit the fish to death and took a large, satisfying bite, as if to show it off.

The onlookers couldn't help but feel a pang of pity; after all, it was too extravagant.

Feeding Elite Level fish meat so casually to Pet Beasts?

Su Ping, however, obviously didn't care much. The value of forming a Soul Contract with these mature, wild Pet Beasts wasn't significant. Moreover, without a contract, their wildness was extreme.

It's important to understand that in the classification by Beast Tamers, such Pet Beasts found in the wild weren't truly considered Pet Beasts. In the Legion, these highly aggressive Pet Beasts were referred to as Ferocious Beasts. The materials from these Ferocious Beasts, even their flesh, were quite valuable resources. This was also why, at the Heart of Water fishing grounds, some powerful staff members were extremely well-prepared with Mechanical Weapons. Because in this world of Beast Tamers, fishing—especially wild fishing of this nature—could be called an 'extreme sport'! After all, who the hell knew what kind of creature might leap out from beneath the fishing rod.

Meanwhile, Su Ping also found some satisfaction in this.

Serves them right!

Freaking fish.

Su Ping now understood which type of Pet Beast was the hardest to build a bond with.

That's right—these aquatic creatures, like fish and shrimp.

Their seven-second memory was truly no exaggeration.

Previously, he had fished and casually raised some, hoping to reach the required intimacy level to activate the Catalog of the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas. Although he didn't plan on cultivating them, activating the Catalog would grant additional Beast Tamer Talents through the Origin feedback from the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas. No one would complain about having too many Abilities, even though many Talents were actually quite useless.

It was just too bad that after all this time, he'd gotten nothing for his efforts. Instead, it had caused him a lot of trouble. Whenever he got slightly close, these ungrateful fish he'd raised for days would try to

bite him or use their Skills, leading Su Ping to suffer some minor injuries over the past couple of days. In the end, all these various fish, which hadn't warmed up to him despite being raised for so long, were given to his employees as extra meals.

People are so much better, he thought. Even an extra meal can build camaraderie, unlike with fish.

The uniqueness of the Heart of Water was naturally due to the Rainbow Coral Worms underwater. The Water Element Barrier sent by the Tianyun Group had been set up underwater, protecting the Rainbow Coral Worms yet still managing to attract countless aquatic Pet Beasts. The Lingxi River, being close to West Dragon Lake, saw large numbers of wild aquatic Pet Beasts coming and going, making it a perfect, natural hunting ground for them!

Although, in Dong Muyun's view, using Rainbow Coral Worms—such a precious resource Pet Beast—for such a seemingly trivial business was like using a butcher's cleaver to kill a chicken: complete overkill and a waste.

Su Ping, however, didn't mind.

This kind of thing was truly comfortable.

By creating such an excellent fishing spot here, even the Advanced Level individuals around Linzhou who enjoyed fishing would have to thank him.

Of course, when the place first opened, it attracted some unsavory types. However, there was no need for words; after a few discreet inquiries about the situation, no one dared to cause any trouble.

A joke! The collaborator of Queen Dong of Linzhou, with partnerships with the Legion and various associations, and a young Intermediate Breeder highly valued by two chairmen—such connections truly made him untouchable in Linzhou.

During this period, aside from the Meditation Method and the rather troublesome matter of raising fish, everything else left Su Ping quite satisfied. Especially Old Sha's Cultivation. Although bringing the Heart of Woods to Perfection Level still seemed a ways off, Su Ping's guess had indeed been correct.

Chapter 287: Grand Opening of Heart of Water! Secret Realm Distribution Map of Qintian Monitor!_3

The Heart of Woods Magic Potion still had room for development.

Replacing it with a similarly medicinal, yet more potent and powerful resource material could indeed accelerate Old Sha's progress with the Heart of Woods.

It had even raised Old Sha's Level by one.

Two days ago, he had reached the Commander Tenth Rank.

He was just a single step away from reaching the Monarch Level.

Once he had a Monarch Level Pet Beast to secure his position, he would truly have something to rely on.

This left Su Ping extremely satisfied, and his heart surged with anticipation.

Only now did he realize just how precious and rare Old Sha's Solar Formula truly was, and what it meant to produce a Super-Rank Skill through such a method.

Su Ping treasured this opportunity all the more and eagerly awaited the day the Solar Formula would undergo a qualitative transformation.

Moreover, Xiao Qing's evolution path and the Elf Wolf's cultivation were proceeding smoothly, so Su Ping didn't need to rush.

"HAHA, got a bite!"

A surprised voice broke Su Ping's contemplation.

Lao Zhao's voice, full of delight, came from not too far away.

Indeed, something special was dangling from the fishing rod. Its head sported two horns, but its body was quite bulky, and its front had a spike-like form. If not for these features, it might have somewhat resembled a flood dragon.

It was an Elite Peak Pet Beast: the Twin-horned Spearfish.

Its flesh was delicious, and its two horns were an especially rare resource.

Lao Zhao's face flushed with excitement. For him, a mere Elite Peak Level fish wasn't much. But that was clearly the joy of fishing.

The evolved Snow Wolf beside him, unlike Xiao Qing, simply blew a breath, instantly freezing the Twin-horned Spearfish solid.

Then, as if Lao Zhao had been prepared all along, he waved someone over. A waiter promptly brought a dish of dipping sauce.

Lao Zhao immediately had it sliced into sashimi and began to savor it with relish.

Su Ping found the scene rather comical.

However, rumor had it that this Twin-horned Spearfish tasted quite good, didn't it?

Lao Zhao, clearly being generous, called out, "Come on, Su, try some!"

Su Ping didn't stand on ceremony. He put down his fishing rod, quickly walked over, and picked up a piece of the flash-frozen tuna that had already been sliced. He dipped it into the sauce—a mix of wasabi, soy sauce, and lemon juice—and swallowed it.

The initial spiciness gave way to the fresh, tender taste of the fish, complemented by an amazingly chewy texture and a subtle fragrance. It was truly a delightful surprise for Su Ping.

Most importantly, after he swallowed, it seemed to transform into a faint coolness that coursed through his body, feeling incredibly comfortable.

"HAHAHAHA, how's the taste? You little rascal, you're either meditating or researching Pet Beast cultivation every day. When you have time, you need to learn to enjoy life too!" Lao Zhao said with a smile.

Su Ping didn't hold back. He picked up two more slices; one he put into his own mouth, and the other he tossed to Xiao Qing, who was watching eagerly.

Once Xiao Qing caught it in her mouth, she let out an AWOO.

Clearly, the taste of the wasabi was too much for the little one.

"HAHAHA." Su Ping laughed heartily, picked up another piece, and said, "Lao Zhao, this fish is my treat. Please put it on my tab with the staff."

The nearby waiter nodded in acknowledgment.

Lao Zhao wasn't bothered. For the two of them, such a small matter wasn't worth mentioning.

Unfortunately, just as Su Ping was about to continue savoring the rare delicacy, his phone suddenly chimed.

It wasn't a call, just a message notification.

However, the sender was rather special, compelling Su Ping to check it immediately.

That's right, the sender was none other than Leng Ye, who had departed that day and had been silent for the past few days!

When Su Ping saw the sender's name, his heart skipped a beat, and he eagerly looked at the message on his phone.

Sure enough, the content of the message made Su Ping's eyes light up!

[Leng Ye: Kid, I've sorted out that business of yours. Your certificate should arrive in a couple of days. From today on, you're officially a 'Special Secret Realm Inspector,' registered with the Dragon Nation's special department, the Qintian Monitor.]

A Special Secret Realm Inspector?

Su Ping scratched his head. The title and position sound a bit odd. And it's under the Qintian Monitor?

He continued to read:

[Leng Ye: From now on, you have the right to enter all Secret Realms for inspection. Also, Qintian Monitor inspectors have no authority to command or deploy you! However, as a trade-off, you are not eligible for some of the Qintian Monitor's internal resource exchanges.]

[Su Ping: Deal!]

He currently had access to internal resources from the Breeder Association and the Legion. What did he need the Qintian Monitor's resources for? Unnecessary. For Su Ping, the most important thing was the Secret Realm itself!

At this thought, Su Ping's eyes lit up. Just then, Leng Ye sent another message:

[Leng Ye: The Qintian Monitor's internal network has information on all discovered Secret Realms across the country, which you can browse at will. Kid, I don't know what you're up to, but remember this: those Secret Realms that are being properly managed by various regions for sustainable use—you absolutely cannot mess them up! If you cause any trouble, even if I can cover for you, the consequences

will be severe. So, if you want something, just tell me. The Heavenly Tomb Sword Seal's value isn't limited to just this. If you need any other help, speak up early.]

Chapter 288: Grand Opening of Heart of Water! Secret Realm Distribution Map of Qintian Monitor!_4

Leng Ye was truly straightforward! And incredibly effective!

Even without thinking too hard, he knew obtaining such access privileges to a special department like this was an exceedingly difficult task. Although he couldn't enjoy the resources, having this right and the internal information resources of the Qintian Monitor was the biggest gain.

After Su Ping sent a message back, he switched on his phone, no longer caring about the fishing rod. From the message Leng Ye had sent, he accessed the Qintian Monitor's internal network. Then, after entering his ID number and confirming his pupil through the phone's camera, he fulfilled the entry requirements.

As expected, the most conspicuous option within this internal network was "Current Secret Realms."

After Su Ping clicked it, a huge 3D virtual map of Dragon Nation appeared on his phone screen. With a slight move of his finger, sure enough, the map displayed the number of Secret Realms that had been discovered across Dragon Nation.

However, Su Ping soon noticed something different. Within this internal information from the Qintian Monitor, besides showing the number of Secret Realms in each province, there was also a classification of Secret Realm levels on the side!

This was beyond Su Ping's expectations. After all, the only Secret Realm he had encountered was that of the Fengdu Sword King.

Within the internal network of the Qintian Monitor, Secret Realms were classified into four levels—Heaven, Earth, Profound, and Yellow—based on important criteria such as the realm's spatial size, danger level, resource output, and the level of its former owner. Also, among the discovered and developed Secret Realms, they were differentiated as either recyclable or non-recyclable. The classification of Secret Realms was extremely meticulous.

Indeed! Professional work should be left to professionals. And the work of the Qintian Monitor—that's what you call professional!

After a brief moment of contemplation, Su Ping clicked on the Secret Realms in Jianghai Province.

To his surprise, there were quite a number of Secret Realms scattered throughout Jianghai Province. He saw over twenty in total! To his further surprise, two of them were marked as recyclable, with one reaching Profound Level and the other even Earth Level.

He clicked to check. The Profound Level one, he now saw, was located in a place he was very familiar with: within the Breeder Association.

How had he never noticed before that the Breeder Association housed such a treasure? But Su Ping also knew that information about such places wouldn't be casually disclosed; once discovered, they were properly guarded and managed.

As for the Earth Level recyclable Secret Realm in Jianghai, when Su Ping clicked to check, he received a notification:

[Respected Inspector Su Ping, you do not have the authority to view specific information about this level of Secret Realm.]

Alright then. Su Ping understood that Secret Realms of this level were immensely valuable and significant, not just for a province but for Dragon Nation as a whole. Besides, his target wasn't these precious, resource-producing recyclable Secret Realms anyway. He was after the depleted, desolate Secret Realms!

With this in mind, Su Ping started to examine them one by one.

Jianghai Province was already quite large. The Secret Realms were located everywhere—some in other cities far from Linzhou, and some even in desolate wastelands.

How on earth did the people from the Qintian Monitor find these Secret Realms hidden in the most obscure corners and record them?

Su Ping didn't concern himself with these issues, looking through each one:

[Jianghai Secret Realm 1014 - Non-renewable (Yellow Level)]

[Details: Located at the abandoned Hongwei Steam Factory in the suburbs of Shuiyuan City, Jianghai Province. Discovered: January 25, New Calendar Year 223. Identified as the remnant Secret Realm of Yu Yu, the 'Wrathful Sea King' from the late Liang Dynasty (approx. 300 years ago). Type: Ordinary Secret Realm. Estimated natural dissipation: 14 months. Resources produced: ...]

Shuiyuan City? It seems to be north of Linzhou City, a port city near the Eastern Sea. It's famous for its abundance of aquatic Pet Beasts. I didn't expect there to be one there.

Thinking of this, Su Ping felt a surge of urgency. Discovered in January, and it was already almost November. In just four more months, according to the Qintian Monitor's prediction, it would completely dissipate. Wouldn't I lose my chance to fleece it then? And this was just one such case.

Suddenly, Su Ping no longer felt like fishing.

A quick look showed that time waits for no one! He could only watch helplessly as Secret Realms in other provinces naturally dissipated; there was nothing he could do about those. But he couldn't let the ones in Jianghai Province slip away during this period!

He looked at the Secret Realms in Jianghai Province with furrowed brows and a grave expression. Clearly, apart from those two that could be recycled, the rest were all on the verge of dissipation within this period.

The number of Secret Realms didn't actually surprise Su Ping. It was true that only deceased Emperor-level Beastmasters could generate Secret Realms. Emperor-level Beastmasters were indeed quite rare. But it depended on the perspective. Consider the historical timeline as the X-axis and the geographical area where Beastmasters from Dragon Nation—and even surrounding regions who came to Dragon

Nation—died as the Y-axis. Then, even within a single century, the number of Emperor-level Beastmasters who emerged would definitely not be small!

Therefore, the number of Secret Realms didn't surprise Su Ping.

After quickly reviewing all the Secret Realm information, Su Ping let out a long breath.

Among the twenty-plus Secret Realms, what Su Ping hadn't expected at all was that quite a few were within Linzhou City's vicinity—a full six of them! And that was excluding the recyclable Secret Realm. But that made sense. The condition for a Secret Realm's emergence was the location where a Beastmaster had died in the past. In ancient times, Linzhou was a major city in the eastern region. At one point, it was even more prosperous than the Magic Capital. So, it was perfectly normal for there to be so many remnant Secret Realms.

And soon enough, Su Ping had locked on to one of those targets.

It wasn't because this particular Secret Realm was predicted by the Qintian Monitor to dissipate soon; the few Secret Realms in Linzhou City still had several months, or even more than half a year, remaining.

So, time-wise, there was still a comfortable margin. The reason he locked onto this one was purely because it was very, very close. So close, it was almost unbelievable.

[Jianghai Secret Realm 972 - Non-renewable (Yellow Level)]

[Details: Located in the wilderness 10 kilometers north of the Lingxi River station, outskirts of Linzhou City, Jianghai Province. Discovered: April 11, New Calendar Year 222. Identified as the remnant Secret Realm of Niu Ba, the 'Shaking Forest Pig King' from the mid-Liang Dynasty (approx. 500 years ago). Type: Ordinary Secret Realm. Estimated natural dissipation: 22 months. Resources produced: ...]

That's right, in the wilderness forest 10 kilometers north of the Lingxi River station, on the outskirts of Linzhou City.

His own place was the Heart of Wood Cultivation Base near the Lingxi River station. His Heart of Wood Cultivation Base grounds even encompassed a stretch of the Lingxi River. And its location was south of the Lingxi River station. South of the main road, to be precise. This remnant Secret Realm of the so-called 'Shaking Forest Pig King' Niu Ba was practically just across the road from his base, in the undeveloped wilderness to the north. The kind one could find by venturing about ten kilometers into that wilderness. In other words, Su Ping could probably ride Old Sha across the road and find it in less than five minutes.

Thinking of this, Su Ping felt a surge of excitement!

I'll go check it out!

Chapter 289: Conquer the Secret Realm Again! Damn Tomb Raiders!

"I have to say, you in that outfit really do look like one of those ancient generals, all valiant and ready for war!"

Beside him, Dong Muyun observed Su Ping.

Mounted on 'War Wolf Old Sha,' Su Ping wore what could only be described as luxurious soft Scale Armor, crafted from the scales of Ironrock Giant Lizards. He even had a mechanical firearm holstered at his waist.

The Beast Master Association of Jianghai had authorized him to use Mechanical Weapons after the last assassination attempt on him.

Behind Su Ping was a dense pack of wolves, thirty or forty strong.

A pack of this size would likely cause an unimaginable disturbance if it appeared on the streets, especially in a bustling district. Fortunately, they were in the suburbs, specifically within his own Pet Beast base.

Su Ping snorted. "What do you mean, 'look like'? I *am* going to battle!"

Dong Muyun curled her lips. "It's the first time I've heard of an ancient general going to war with divine weapons, leading thousands to plunder an empty mountain stronghold with no enemies left, and even taking along Advanced Level bodyguard Battle Pets!"

Of course, that was just talk. Even if Su Ping hadn't mentioned it, Dong Muyun would have insisted on accompanying him once she knew his intentions. The Secret Realm was, after all, far too dangerous.

Su Ping seemingly missed the mockery in her words. Instead, he looked at her with some surprise. "You consider yourself an Advanced Level bodyguard Battle Pet? Alright then, call me 'Master' and let's hear it!"

Dong Muyun glared, her hand sheathed in Yunning. The energy cannon on her arm seemed ready to fire at Su Ping.

Just then, Yunning's voice interjected, "Master, Mister Su Ping is your partner, and his status is special. Unless there is a life-threatening situation, it is not advisable to engage Mister Su Ping!"

"HAHAHA!" Su Ping laughed. "See? Even Yunning doesn't agree."

Dong Muyun's face darkened. Yunning's faceplate immediately deployed, and then Dong Muyun snapped, "Cut the crap! I'm really pressed for time. I don't have all day to waste on your fruitless ventures!"

Su Ping looked skeptically at the woman. What's with her? She's acting as if she has a short fuse.

But seeing she wasn't in the best of moods, Su Ping didn't continue to tease her. Looking at the wolves waiting patiently behind him, he addressed them like an officer rallying his troops, "Boys, are you ready!?"

"AWOO!"

In front of the Heart of Woods base, a chorus of wolf howls rose in unison.

Su Ping nodded in satisfaction. He recalled all the Forest Wolves into his Beast Taming Space, then grabbed the branch-like antler on Old Sha's head, looking towards the distance with excitement. "Old Sha, let's roll out!"

"AWOO!"

Old Sha seemed to snap to attention, like a soldier beginning his march, and strode out of the Heart of Woods gates with a bold and impressive air.

Seeing Su Ping's show of bravado, Dong Muyun was amused despite herself, then shook her head helplessly.

Honestly, only this guy could drag me out for something so trivial, she thought. This is probably just going to be an outing, and he needs me, a Monarch Level Beastmaster, to act as his guard and bodyguard? Does this guy really think I have nothing better to do than to hang around with him all day?

Of course, Dong Muyun's foul mood wasn't really because of this. It was purely due to a phone call that morning.

It wasn't from just anyone; it was from her esteemed father.

In truth, the father and daughter had spoken a few times before. Previously, however, Dong Muyun's attitude had been relatively indifferent, especially since Dong Mutian had been rather quiet lately.

However, the situation had apparently changed. She had learned that Dachuan Company, their competitor against Tianyun Real Estate, had been acquired by Pingyun Company—the venture she co-founded with Su Ping—for an unbelievably low price.

This news had undoubtedly reached the Dong Family.

While it would be extremely difficult for outsiders to glean the finer details, it posed no challenge for the Dong Family. They naturally knew that a very important figure had visited Linzhou that night.

So, the increasing frequency of her father's calls over the past few days had given Dong MUYUN an inkling of what was to come.

And that morning, he had outright asked a question he had never dared to broach before.

Her father, the patriarch of the esteemed Mirror Saint Dong Family lineage, actually wanted to use his daughter's connection to meet Su Ping, a junior.

The implications were self-evident.

Dong MUYUN's gaze turned indifferent. Su Ping is 'mine,' she mused. He's my best chance to shed the Dong Family label. A prominent family provides an excellent platform and background, but in this era, it's also a shackle. This is my best opportunity. I can't let the people around Su Ping, or those supporting him, think he's connected to me only because of some tie to the Dong Family.

So, almost without a second thought, Dong MUYUN had bluntly rejected her father's proposal.

But I wonder what this kid thinks about it?

She glanced ahead at Su Ping, who was swaggering proudly on Old Sha as he crossed the road, heading purposefully towards the wasteland north of it.

At that thought, a smirk touched Dong MUYUN's lips, and she quickly followed him.

Su Ping, however, was oblivious to all this. He was currently mounted on Old Sha, scrolling through messages on his phone from the owner of the Secret Realm.

Chapter 290: Seizing the Secret Realm Again! Damn Tomb Robbers!_2

Niu Ba, the Forest Pig King. The name and title were actually quite amusing, but the man himself was still rather famous. Although he wasn't as incredible as Yu Liangqing, the Fengdu Sword King—who, while at the Emperor-Level, had managed to defeat opponents of a higher level, specifically by bridging the gap to the Spirit Saint Level—nevertheless, this Forest Pig King's reputation was not insignificant.

Searching online, Su Ping learned that Niu Ba had originally been just a butcher who raised pig beasts. Later on, this Niu Ba personally developed a special evolution for pig beasts: the Pine Oil Wild Pig. It was a pig-class Pet Beast with the Wood Attribute. It transformed from an Ordinary-Level Pet Beast—which previously could only provide decent meat and was one of the most inferior types—into a creature with Commander-Level potential and formidable combat power. It wasn't quite a meteoric rise, but it was close.

In the ancient Liang Dynasty, the hierarchy among Beast Tamers was also rigidly structured. To rise from a common butcher who slaughtered pigs to a King-Level Beast Tamer during those times, one could only imagine the hardships Niu Ba had faced. Therefore, Su Ping held great admiration for him. He had always respected those who rose from obscurity through their own efforts.

He had once thought he would be such a person—though, aside from hard work, he also had a cheat option. However, it seemed fate hadn't granted him that opportunity, leaving him somewhat disappointed. Rising from obscurity was no longer something he could realistically hope for. He could only try to see how far he could reach, what sights he could behold, standing on the shoulders of giants!

So, in coming to the Secret Realm left behind by the historical figure Niu Ba, Su Ping arrived with a respectful heart, even though this place had already been picked almost clean.

He entered the wilderness. Su Ping waved his hand, and a pack of wolves appeared. Countless Forest Wolves scattered in all directions, swiftly beginning to search the area.

Seizing the chance, Dong Muyun sidled up to Su Ping and asked in a roundabout way, "Su Ping, are you familiar with the Dong Family? What are your thoughts on them?"

What is this woman asking that for?

However, after pondering for a moment, he still shook his head. "I'm not familiar with them, but I'm not too fond of them either."

Dong Muyun's delicate brows arched. "Why not?"

"Because of you. The way they treat you—of course I don't like them," Su Ping said matter-of-factly.

A family that prioritized profit above all else, where even familial bonds were significantly diluted, might be relatively common among powerful clans and wealthy families, but Su Ping still found it dispiriting. Such families might well survive for countless years, and perhaps that was the best model for their growth. But Su Ping still didn't like it.

Obviously, Dong Muyun misunderstood. Her eyes flickered, but true to her nature, Dong Muyun wouldn't let her feelings show on her face. She wouldn't react as overtly as Qin Xiaoxue; that was hardly likely. She merely pursed her lips, though their corners couldn't help but curve upwards slightly.

Su Ping shot the woman a suspicious glance. Just moments ago, she looked like someone owed her a fortune, and now this sudden change? Women... truly creatures far more complex than any Pet Beast.

Fortunately, he didn't have much time to ponder it. In that brief moment, a wolf howl echoed from nearby. Su Ping was instantly invigorated. Leading Old Sha and the gathered wolf pack, they rushed to the location.

It was indeed a forest. The dense, sky-obscuring forest, though it hadn't produced any plant-based Pet Beasts, possessed a somewhat eerie atmosphere. There, perched on a tree branch, Su Ping spotted another familiar entrance to a Secret Realm. It was still the slowly rotating spatial vortex. The surrounding spatial ripples lent the area an odd sense of being disconnected.

"This is it! Well done, Thirteen!" Su Ping tossed a favorite blueberry tree fruit to the elite Forest Wolf that had found the Secret Realm's entrance. Then, he turned his gaze to the spatial vortex and, without hesitation, stepped right into it as soon as all the Forest Wolves had arrived.

However, despite being mentally prepared, Su Ping couldn't help but feel immense disappointment. The Secret Realm he had eagerly come to was as barren as if a dog had gnawed it clean, not a speck left behind. It was a vast and boundless land. Besides the barren land, Su Ping could also see faint traces of past plant cultivation within the Secret Realm. However, the Secret Realm lacked sufficient residual energy. Even if some traces remained, it wasn't nearly enough to rejuvenate this realm.

Refusing to accept it, Su Ping circled around once more, then sighed.

This time, it was Dong Muyun beside him who offered consolation. "This is pretty normal. I know a little about the people from the Qintian Monitor. The profession of Qintian Monitor has existed since ancient times. Now that the Dragon Nation has been established, its name was simply changed. Do you know what these guys were called in the Liang Dynasty and the eras before it?"

"What?" Su Ping asked, while wandering around with his legion of Forest Wolves.

"The official term was 'Touch Gold Officer,' and those in charge of them were called 'Fei Qiu Zhonglang Generals.' They explored Secret Realms and, unless it was a special Secret Realm with rules left by its master, they usually picked it clean."

Su Ping was speechless. Damn it, thinking about it, isn't that true? The Secret Realms left behind after the death of powerful Beast Tamers did indeed resemble the tombs of past generations. And what was left in these Secret Realms were precisely the treasures these Beast Tamers possessed in life. Calling these people Touch Gold Officers really made sense.

So, does that mean the unofficial ones are just common tomb robbers?

The Dragon Nation really did a thorough job with the name change, Su Ping mused. What connection did these specialized Secret Realm explorers actually have with a department that should have originally been focused on stargazing? Was it because the original name wasn't auspicious enough?

He had hoped that those Qintian Monitor fellows might have left something behind for him to scavenge. Now it seemed wiser not to pit his luck against their professional thoroughness. Still, he felt somewhat indignant! Damn tomb robbers!

Soon, Su Ping composed himself. Getting lucky once, like with the Fengdu Sword King, was enough. It was better to focus on earning his guaranteed rewards steadily.

With that, Su Ping shifted his focus, ignoring the astonished Dong Muyun. He merged his consciousness back into his Beast Taming Space. Last time, Su Ping had used a clever method, reaching into the collapsing Mysterious Realm Space of the Sword King's Secret Realm to complete the absorption. The effectiveness of that absorption was unknown. But now, Su Ping stood firmly within the Secret Realm, ready to activate his ability according to the specific trait of Space Absorption.

As for Dong Muyun's presence, when Su Ping had previously used this ability, he indeed needed some privacy. But not anymore. Especially not with Dong Muyun around.

Space Absorption wasn't the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas, nor was it some external cheat. It was his own genuinely awakened Space Characteristic; what was there to fear? Anyone objects? They can take it up with Second Master! Being a genius and a second-generation scion meant he could indeed act as he pleased.

His spiritual tendrils slowly extended, seeming to permeate the deepest parts of this Mysterious Realm Space through the void. His Beast Taming Space began to slowly connect with the Origin of this Forest Pig King's Secret Realm. Then, he rapidly began to absorb its nourishing essence.

Dong Muyun watched Su Ping's actions, actually somewhat curious as to what he was up to. After all, these thoroughly plundered Secret Realms weren't just useless; they could even become troublesome if located in certain places, like within cities. And now Su Ping was actively seeking one out? What was he planning?

Dong Muyun watched as Su Ping's expression began to change.

First, a faint smile touched Su Ping's lips. Dong Muyun pursed her own slightly, still considering it normal.

Then, Su Ping's mouth opened a bit wider. Dong Muyun frowned slightly, sensing something was amiss.

Finally, as she observed Su Ping's look of utter bliss, Dong Muyun began to grow suspicious.

Suddenly, at that very moment, ripples and fluctuations appeared in the Mysterious Realm Space. Then, before Dong Muyun's shocked eyes, the entire Secret Realm abruptly shattered and collapsed.

Dong Muyun gaped at the youth, who wore an expression of pure contentment. What in the world? Those official tomb raiders from the Qintian Monitor—no, wait, Touch Gold Officers—they only scavenge the items inside. But this kid... he directly blew up the entire 'tomb'?!