

## Beast T 491

Chapter 491: The Preliminary Completion of the Heart of Dreams! The Encounters of Everyone!\_3

However, Dong Muyun, Su Ping, and the others didn't play many games themselves. It was normal for them to have little understanding of this aspect.

So, after some thought, Su Ping didn't rush back to the Undead Basement to continue perfecting the final cultivation of the Earth's Heart with Master Zhu Hong.

Instead, he went to the Heart of Woods cultivation forest.

Li Shu had been performing well during this time. In fact, aside from the hardly challenging Magic Potion cultivation, he could already start trying his hand at cultivating the Forest Wolf and the Elf Wolf.

Li Shu and Guan Lili were essentially the main force responsible for handling some basic cultivation customers at Su Ping's place now. At the same time, Su Ping had also begun to pay them a salary. Close relationships were one thing, but finances were another; everyone needed money to live. Teaching was teaching, and learning cultivation was learning. However, working without pay for too long could lead to resentment, which was best avoided.

Su Ping and Dong Muyun couldn't see any further ways to improve the game's concept at this stage. However, Su Ping couldn't yet offer the people at Star Vault Studio a direct experience of the game itself. Therefore, among the people he knew nearby, only Li Shu had done some research in this area.

Under the warm sun, Li Shu sat on a bench in front of the snow-swept forest. His Forest Wolf ran around on the clearing before him, enjoying a rare moment of rest. Li Shu, holding his phone, grinned lewdly, completely ignoring Guan Lili's contemptuous gaze from nearby. He was so engrossed that he didn't even notice Su Ping's arrival.

"What are you looking at so intently?"

Su Ping's voice made Li Shu nearly drop his phone. He shot up. "Bro Ping!"

Su Ping wasn't bothered. He picked up Li Shu's phone, raised an eyebrow slightly, and asked, "Live streaming? You still watch this stuff?"

Li Shu chuckled. "Bro Ping, guess who the live streamer is?"

Su Ping paused and glanced at Li Shu suspiciously. He knew there were plenty of online celebrities on live streaming platforms, including many genuine Breeders and Beast Tamers. However, the person on Li Shu's screen was a girl.

At that glance, Su Ping paused again. Because this was indeed an acquaintance—none other than Yin Yin, the school belle from their class at the Sixth Cultivation Academy.

"Yin's school belle started live streaming?"

"Yeah, hehe, she only started a few days ago. I stumbled upon her in the new streamers section."

Su Ping glanced at Li Shu, then back at Yin Yin on the screen. She was smiling sweetly and looked lovely. He nodded. "Well, she's actually quite suited for this."

Although it felt a bit like indulging a flatterer's hype, Su Ping had to admit Yin Yin's looks did live up to the title of school belle.

Having been classmates for several years, Su Ping knew a bit about her. She was unwilling to settle for mediocrity, always eager to experience a higher and broader world.

However, on Blue Star, the truly vast world was intrinsically linked to the Pet Beast industry and one's personal strength. Under the prevailing societal class barriers, it was indeed hard for ordinary people to rise.

In fact, Dragon Nation was already working hard to break down these barriers. This could be seen from the upcoming educational reforms.

However, as Dong Muyun had mentioned before, the live streaming and entertainment industries were merely topics for lighthearted banter with Su Ping. Neither she nor Su Ping paid much mind to the personalities who dominated the public eye.

This was true in a world where traditional power was paramount, let alone in this world ruled by 'fist.'

Of course, those who made it to the top typically weren't weak. Some new internet celebrities even crafted personas as genius Breeders or Beast Tamers.

Su Ping watched a bit longer. Yin's school belle, who had been quite proud back in school, now appeared somewhat unpracticed and reserved in front of the camera.

Her streaming style and content were rather lackluster. After all, the world never lacked beautiful women.

Clearly, under such conditions, it would be very difficult for her to achieve a breakthrough. She would most likely become another forgotten casualty in the relentless tide of live streaming.

"By the way, Bro Ping, after you participated in the Cultivation Competition, did Yin's school belle come talk to you?" Li Shu winked.

Su Ping thought for a moment. "I think she congratulated me? I've forgotten. Too many people spoke to me during that time, both acquaintances and strangers."

"Tsk, people in high positions tend to be forgetful, huh? I bet our former classmates are all hoping you'll give them a leg up someday."

Li Shu chuckled, proud of his excellent foresight and for shamelessly latching onto Su Ping—as solid a backer as one could find—which had secured his current position.

Su Ping shot him a sideways glance, ignoring his antics, and said, "Come with me. I have something for you to try. Give me some feedback on it later."

Leading Li Shu to his own room, Su Ping took out one of the Heart of Dreams helmets, explained its function to the baffled Li Shu, and then promptly sent him on his way.

Sitting in his chair, Su Ping couldn't help but feel a wave of emotion. Everything he had experienced since leaving campus was vastly different from before. This was the case for Yin's school belle, and perhaps for everyone else too.

Su Ping shook his head gently, not wanting to dwell on such sentimental thoughts.

However, as they were former classmates and had a decent relationship, Su Ping wouldn't mind offering a small opportunity if it arose. For instance, the Pingyun Group advertisement Dong Muyun had mentioned. To him, it was a truly trivial matter, but for some, it could be a life-changing opportunity.

However, before Su Ping could act on this thought, Master Zhu Hong summoned him back to the Undead Basement.

The preparation of the Heart of Elements was nearly complete.

Chapter 492: The Second Super-Rank Skill: Heart of Elements!

The Five Elements Cores.

The so-called Hearts of the Five Elements had appeared before Su Ping this very moment.

Heart of Gold, Heart of Woods, Heart of Water, Heart of Fire, Earth's Heart.

In the ancient understanding of Beast Tamers, these five Elements were one of the foundational rules that constituted the world, and the most common Attributes of Pet Beasts.

The varieties of Pet Beasts that evolved from the power of the Five Elements were too numerous to count.

The Heart of Elements was a Skill formed by an extreme adaptivity and control over the corresponding Elemental Power.

And now, powers formed from five different Hearts of Elements surfaced within a single Pet Beast.

Moreover, this Pet Beast could also combine into one entity.

So, what did this represent?

Everyone knew what it meant. So, at a time when they would ordinarily have been eating lunch, the three of them still showed no signs of leaving, watching the Paperman with rapt attention.

Nearly a month had passed since their return from the Magic Capital after New Year's Day, and Lunar New Year's Eve was just a few days away. A vice president of the Dragon Country Breeding Master Association, who was a Breeding Master, and two provincial Breeder Association presidents, who were Senior Breeders, had been tirelessly researching for this extended period. At last, this phase of their research was finally complete.

"Master Zhu Hong, are there any prerequisites for the integration of the Super-Rank Skill, Heart of Elements?"

Zhu Hong smiled and shook his head. "The Heart of Elements is quite basic among Super-Rank Skills, but it holds immense potential. After all, Elements do not have set boundaries; if possible, space and time could even be considered Elements. Darkness, Light, Death, Life—they are all Elements. Combinations of four Hearts of Elements make a Super-Rank Skill, as do six, and even eight. However, it's undeniable that the more powerful the Elements controlled and fused, the stronger the amplification effect. The only challenge is how to cultivate these different Hearts of Elements onto a single Pet Beast. But the Paperman has perfectly solved this problem."

This was a challenge, as most Pet Beasts could not possibly control so many different Elements at once. But the Paperman was different.

Su Ping nodded. "In that case, let's start by testing it on one of my Contracted Beasts."

The research on the Paperman was originally for Qian Yi's growth. If the Skills associated with the Five Elements Core couldn't manifest on Qian Yi, then such Cultivation would lose its greatest significance.

Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai did not object and nodded.

"Qian Yi!"

With a thought from Su Ping, the little fellow ran over from where it had been practicing swordsmanship nearby. Qian Yi, however, seemed to sense that something good was about to happen, looking eagerly at the three people and the neatly arranged Papermen of its kind.

Su Ping then commanded the Papermen, "These five will act as the core! Transform! Paper Swords!"

In an instant, five Paper Swords of the Five Elements completed their transformation.

Even though Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai had witnessed it countless times during this period, seeing it again still left them astonished. The Pet Beast World was truly full of wonders; that such a magical Pet Beast could actually exist was astonishing.

The Papermen had transformed from their previous forms into five Paper Swords of their respective Attributes. This wasn't just a change in shape; their souls also underwent a degree of assembly and joining in that moment.

At the same time, Qian Yi seemed to realize something. It swiftly reached out, and the five Paper Swords instantly converged towards its body.

Qian Yi didn't possess the Paperman's Talent Skill, Paper Body Joint. However, this didn't mean Qian Yi was incapable of merging and joining with other Papermen. Quite the contrary; while it lacked Paper Body Joint, it possessed Paper Body Control, a superior Skill obtained through Mutation. This Ability enabled Qian Yi to control any Paperman in most situations. This transformation was even more abstract and mystical than the Papermen's own assembly.

Yet, control was one thing; whether the integration of the Heart of Elements—described by Master Zhu Hong as the most basic of Super-Rank Skills—would go smoothly was undoubtedly still an unknown.

SWOOSH SWOOSH SWOOSH.

In that instant, the five Paper Swords merged into Qian Yi's Sword Box. They still formed that posture resembling wings made of swords.

Qian Yi's fusion with the swords wasn't limited to moments when it was actively wielding them. Back then, in the Trial Tower of the Magic Capital Academy, if not for the constant supply of Energy from the three swords, it was uncertain whether Qian Yi could have endured until it fully grasped the Gale of Resolute Destruction. Therefore, as long as Qian Yi controlled them, under the Paperman's Traits, Qian Yi could completely fuse with these other Papermen, allowing their Energies to intertwine with its own.

Thinking of this, Su Ping's breathing quickened. The Ability of the Heart of Elements, in terms of rarity or other aspects, was far less impressive than the Heart of the Sun. It also wasn't a Super-Rank Skill he had cultivated himself. Compared to his ultimate goal—the generation and restriction cycle of the Five Elements—the Heart of Elements was merely a supplement. But this could be the first Super-Rank Skill to appear on his Soul Contract Pet Beast! As the master of these Papermen, how could he not care at this moment?

At this very moment, Qian Yi also seemed to sense its own change and difference.

Chapter 493: The Second Super-Rank Skill: Heart of Elements!\_2

The five swords connected and merged with its power, preventing the Paperman from reacting immediately.

It seemed to have discovered something incredible. Cautious beads of sweat appeared on its forehead.

Ten seconds later, the sweat increased.

At the same time, an indescribable, faint, five-colored glow emanated from Qian Yi's body.

White, red, green, yellow, blue—the five colors began to resonate with each other at this moment.

In just a few short seconds, Qian Yi no longer seemed like a peculiar Paper Immortal Swordsman, but rather an exiled immortal overflowing with colorful, radiant light—a paper-made exiled immortal, that is.

"WOW!"

However, this state did not last long; a loud shout soon followed.

Qian Yi's characteristic voice held an excitement the little fellow couldn't comprehend.

Qian Yi didn't understand. Why was the Sword Device, which had previously only provided it with power, now offering such immense strength?

This strength gave it further confidence in the various Swordsmanship techniques it had comprehended.

If its master wasn't still over there, the little fellow would have been desperate to try a One-Word Electric Sword and see how much its Swordsmanship had been enhanced.

There were no other movements or changes beyond the brilliant five-colored radiance now surrounding Qian Yi; nothing else seemed particularly different.

Unlike Old Sha, who had practically gathered all the sunlight from Magic Capital Academy onto himself when he finally comprehended the Heart of the Sun, Qian Yi showed no such dramatic changes. All that emanated from it was an indescribable sense of divinity.

Su Ping slowly exhaled. He looked at the Paperman and quietly activated his Eye of Truth. Instantly, Qian Yi's changes were reflected in the depths of Su Ping's mind.

[Paper Immortal Swordsman (Contracted)]

[Attribute: Sword, Undead]

[Current Level: Elite Tenth Stage]

[Racial Potential: First Stage Monarch]

[Skills: Super-Heart of Elements (Folding Skill - Beginner), Gale of Resolute Destruction (Proficiency),...]

As expected.

In the vision of the Eye of Truth, the 'Super' prefix indicating a Super-Rank Skill was incredibly striking and brilliant.

Although the note clearly indicated that Qian Yi's only Super-Rank Skill hadn't been acquired through normal Cultivation, the difference wasn't significant.

With a thought from Su Ping, the details of this second Super-Rank Skill were once again reflected in the depths of his mind:

[Super-Heart of Elements (Folding Skill - Beginner): A power condensed from proficiency in many Elements (Gold, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth), providing varying levels of strength enhancement based on changes in Elemental Power! However, as this is not an innate skill of the Paper Immortal Swordsman, its skill level cannot be increased through practice and use by the Paper Immortal Swordsman.

Elemental Absorption: All Elemental Powers aligned with the encompassed Hearts of Elements can be partially absorbed. Resistance to attacks of the same Elemental Type is significantly strengthened.

Elemental Blessing: Allows free summoning and use of Elemental Power. For all skills requiring corresponding Elemental Energy: casting speed +50%, skill power +100%, and Energy consumption - 25%! Additionally, allows entry into a temporary state of Elementalization.]

(Note: All effects of the Heart of Elements are related to the number of elemental hearts it encompasses.)

The skill enhancements were simple and unpretentious, yet immensely powerful.

Of course, this Heart of Elements still couldn't compare to the current Heart of the Sun.

However, just as Master Zhu Hong had said, the Heart of Elements possessed great potential. If it incorporated the effects of more elemental hearts of different Elements, it would provide a tremendous boost to any Pet Beast.

Even the most basic Super-Rank Skills were far beyond what Ordinary Level skills could match.

The only pity was the limited Elementalization effect.

Su Ping recalled Master Zhu Hong mentioning that a true Heart of Elements could allow a Pet Beast to perpetually maintain an Elementalization state, largely negating physical attacks. However, the Paperman's cobbled-together Heart of Elements only allowed for brief periods of Elementalization.

While the effect in battle might be similar, this limitation demonstrated that the Paperman's Paper Body Joint wasn't omnipotent.

Nevertheless, Su Ping was already satisfied. Indeed, at this moment, everything had unfolded as he had anticipated.

Upon witnessing this, the Paperman's page in the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas deep within his soul lit up once more.

Simultaneously, a new entry appeared in its log:

[The Paperman has cultivated the Super-Rank Skill 'Heart of Elements', earning 2,000 Origami Man Record exclusive Experience Points and 300 Universal Experience Points!]

Those 2,000 Origami Man Record exclusive Experience Points, combined with the Universal Experience Points, were equivalent to a total of 500 Universal Experience Points.

Perfecting the External Incarnation required 3,000 points. Factoring in the newly acquired equivalent of 500 points, he had taken a significant step forward!

Su Ping was somewhat reluctant to dip into the Forest Wolf Catalog's exclusive Experience Points. However, if he was still short by then, he would have to convert them.

There was no rush for now. The Cultivation of his External Incarnation hadn't reached that stage yet. It wouldn't be too late to wait until Xiao Qing broke through its racial limit to the Commander Level.

Chapter 494: The Second Super-Rank Skill: Heart of Elements!\_3

Thus, amidst the somewhat reluctant soul fluctuations of the little Paperman, Su Ping instructed it to disassemble the five swords once more.

Being able to complete the reassembly on Qian Yi had already satisfied Su Ping.

However, for Master Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai, Qian Yi's reassembly wasn't important to them.

The Heart of Elements was a Super-Rank Skill. Even Liu Fuhai, let alone Master Zhu Hong, had seen Super-Rank Skills multiple times; such skills no longer stirred their hearts.

Compared to the Heart of Elements, what truly interested them was the existence of the Five Elements cycle of generation and inhibition.

Only the essence of that skill could interest a Breeding Master like Zhu Hong.

As Master Zhu Hong had said before, the Heart of the Sun had a certain chance of entering the realm of Hall-level Advanced Skills, and the fundamental theory of the Five Elements Cycle cultivation was in no way inferior to the Heart of the Sun.

In time, if the Heart of the Five Elements could enter the hall, and they, as Breeders who had cultivated it together, could achieve what everyone dreamed of: leaving a lasting legacy!

Moreover, it would be in one of the most important domains for a Breeder.

No one could resist such temptation. No one would give up such an achievement, either. So, as the little Paperman manipulated the five Papermen with the Heart of Elements to be reassembled into the Five Elements Paper Diagram, the two old fellows, whose ages combined far exceeded a hundred years, found their breaths becoming noticeably heavier.

The Five Elements Paper Diagram was still the same. The only difference was that the light that previously enveloped Xiao Qianyi was now cast upon the paper diagram.

It was the glow of the Heart of Elements.

This time, however, Su Ping did not look at the Five Elements Paper Diagram again but anxiously instructed Xiao Qianyi,

"Qian Yi, begin!"

Qian Yi, already well-versed in these procedures, didn't need instruction; the radiant energy of the Fire Element immediately ignited.

On the Energy Detector, the Elemental Power was assessed:

'Fire Elemental Energy: 348!'

Even Su Ping, upon seeing this number, couldn't help but twitch.

The Paperman that had cultivated the Heart of Fire had likewise reached Seventh Rank elite status.

This was the same level as the experiment a few days ago.

However, if he remembered correctly, the Papermen in the experiment from a few days ago only exhibited an energy level of around 180, right?

Indeed, with the boost from the Heart of Elements, the outburst of energy had become even more terrifying.

However, the Heart of Elements not only amplified the energy's power but also significantly increased its capacity for absorption, transformation, and endurance.

Now, let's see what limit this transformation can reach this time?

Su Ping took a deep breath.

The familiar cycle of generation and inhibition continued.

The first Grand Circulation was completed.

Starting from the basic Fire Element, a swift transformation was completed amidst the rapid cycle of generation and inhibition.

Also, after this first Grand Circulation, there was a change in the energy fluctuations.

Fire Elemental Energy: 916!

Not much. Even from another perspective, compared to the percentage increase of the previous attempt, it was somewhat less.

Bear in mind, during the last extrapolation a few days ago, there was a frightening threefold increase, from over 180 to around 540.

And this time, starting from 380 as the Fire Elemental Energy, the end of a circulation saw an increase of less than threefold.

This detail was meticulously recorded by Old Liu.

Meanwhile, Su Ping spoke again, initiating the second round of Grand Circulation.

1,399, 1,675, 1,932, 2,295, 2,672!

As expected, during the second round, there was a surge in energy that far exceeded any other time, which then gradually stabilized.

At this moment, everyone let out a long breath.

Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai even had faces flushed with exertion.

But within this experiment of the Five Elements generation and inhibition, this was undoubtedly another huge breakthrough!

Because after the Fire Element Power number of 2,672 appeared, it signified the completion of the second Grand Circulation.

At this point, the energy had surged from an initial fluctuation of 384. By the end of the second round, the Fire Elemental Energy was so intense, and the flame temperature so high it nearly ignited the air— an increase of almost sevenfold.

Such an increase in energy was already quite astonishing.

This energy level was already in the range of an Intermediate Level Commander; indeed, it was an intensity that typically only a relatively powerful Commander Level Pet Beast could handle.

But both Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai perceived that, even at this moment, the Five Elements Paper Diagram had not yet reached its limit.

After all, following so many experiments, they had gained some experience. At this time, the luminescence radiating from the energy fluctuations on the Five Elements Paper Diagram was not yet chaotic, which meant the process could continue!

"Continue!"

At Su Ping's command, the rotation of the Five Elements Paper Diagram continued its orderly operation.

Above the paper diagram, streams of brilliance shone even more resplendently at this moment.

Su Ping finally had the most intuitive understanding of the effect of the Heart of Elements.

Even now, by the third Grand Circulation, it had roughly reached what Master Zhu Hong estimated to be the threshold for integrating Super-Rank Skills.

Yet, it was still rotating methodically.

3,405, 3,809, 4,398, 4,921...

The eyes of the three observers burned with fervor as they continued to watch, full of anticipation.

Chapter 495: The Second Super-Rank Skill: Heart of Elements!\_4

Following this trend, compared to the initial energy value of over three hundred, a twenty-fold increase was precisely that. Such an augmentation had already surpassed the power boost from the Heart of the Sun state, completely exceeding its instantaneous power increase.

As for whether the power accumulated and unleashed by the Heart of the Sun over time was equivalent to the energy of three Grand Circulations of the Five Elements cycle, that had not yet been tested.

But undoubtedly, this already demonstrated the terrifying potential of the Five Elements cycle!

It meant that this Super-Rank Skill, once released, truly had the potential to be ranked at the Hall of Fame level! It could become a skill of highest honor, remembered in history, and revered, worshipped, and aspired to by countless Breeders.

However, just as the three of them were intently watching this scene, on the Five Elements Paper Diagram, as a terrifying fluctuation rotated, they heard a familiar, clear, and crisp CRACK.

And then, a dazzling white light exploded.

Master Zhu Hong reacted first, instantly enveloping it with his spiritual power.

Only, this time was clearly different from the last.

What did an energy feedback of five thousand represent?

And this was before completing the final conversion of the third Grand Circulation. According to estimates, the energy value was already approaching at least six thousand.

What did that imply?

It was no less than a Monarch Level attack skill!

Beast Tamers, after all, were not Pet Beasts; they didn't possess such immense combat strength. An energy explosion reaching Monarch Level under these circumstances unleashed power incomparable to any previous occurrence.

So, almost instantly, Master Zhu Hong's complexion changed.

Then, within this cramped underground chamber, a dragon's roar sounded.

Unfortunately, it was still too late.

The Earth Dragon's massive body did protect all the waiting Papermen, Su Ping and his two companions, and the tiny Paperman Qian Yi, but it clearly couldn't contain the exploding energy.

At most, together with Master Zhu Hong's spiritual power, it could shield the Papermen that had been blasted away.

But this explosive force could no longer be controlled.

「Inside the Heart of Wood Cultivation Base」

From the very core of the Heart of Woods, a terrifying boom instantly spread across much of the base.

This horrendous tremor, accompanied by the sound of shaking, made many people feel the ground move slightly, including Guan Lili and her father, Guan Qianshan, who were closest to the source.

As for Li Shu, he was currently lying in his room wearing a helmet; even if the sky fell, it wouldn't affect him.

However, upon hearing the noise, Guan Qianshan had already rushed out of his office, rapidly running toward the source of the vibrations.

What did he see?

A field of ruins.

Previously, this area had served as guest rooms and a lounge—the villa specially provided for President Liu and Master Zhu Hong. It was also the basement of the villa courtyard where the little Paperman Qian Yi had squatted to watch movies.

But now, the small villa courtyard was gone, collapsed into utter ruin.

Even more bewildering for him, within the ruins, an earth-colored Dragon shook its head to fling off roof beams and wall fragments. With another RUMBLE, it stirred up a great cloud of dust.

Fortunately, while the sight of the Earth Dragon was a great shock to Guan Qianshan, he breathed a sigh of relief upon seeing Su Ping. Though covered in dust and looking rather disheveled, Su Ping appeared unharmed beneath the Dragon.

But on the other hand, such drastic measures really weren't necessary for the little ancestor to express dissatisfaction with this Necromancy Series underground chamber, were they? There was no need to blow it up like this!

Chapter 496: Su Ping's Achievement! Shocked Sang Sheng!

The further enhancement of the Five Elements' generating and overcoming interactions left the three of them overjoyed.

Although there was a minor incident, it was not a significant issue.

Su Ping had Lao Guan help clean up, then found a small courtyard to rearrange these Papermen.

However, there was no doubt that after this event, Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai were even more excited!

After the research on the Heart of Elements of the Five Elements was completed, Su Ping had originally said that he and Old Liu would handle the further cultivation and enhancement of the Papermen. He told Master Zhu Hong to go and attend to his own affairs.

After all, the evolution of Master Zhu Hong's Yellow Dragon was also a significant event. But Zhu Hong simply waved his hand, not minding at all. Together with Old Liu, he dedicated all his efforts to the further cultivation and evolution of the Papermen.

On the other hand, Su Ping was extremely curious about this Yellow Dragon.

Zhu Hong, far from being stingy, summoned the Yellow Dragon named Da Huang and then had it accompany Su Ping to play every day.

Well, as long as it doesn't interfere with my research on the Papermen, right? Zhu Hong thought. As for the Yellow Dragon? Not really my concern!

What does it feel like to be a Dragon Tamer? Su Ping now had some firsthand experience.

This was especially true with a Divine Dragon of the Eastern lineage.

Although the Yellow Dragon, as an earth-element member of the Dragon Clan, could not fly swiftly or soar high, flying was an innate ability for dragon-type Pet Beasts. So, it could still carry Su Ping for low-altitude flights.

And what was the status of a Dragon Tamer? Su Ping gained a deeper understanding of this over these past few days.

In Dragon Nation, the very name of the country attested to the dragon's paramount status.

And the might of dragons was beyond any doubt.

During these few days, many people had seen Su Ping, the now-renowned Breeder from the Heart of Wood Cultivation Base. He was riding a massive Yellow Dragon, its scales like rock carvings, frolicking through the Forest Heart and the southern mountains—land purchased by Heart of Woods—much like an exuberant husky.

He was having the time of his life.

Who wouldn't be envious?

Who wouldn't want to touch a True Dragon?

Thus, everyone could understand Su Ping's feelings.

However, at this moment, Su Ping's thoughts were actually different from what most people imagined.

Curiosity and a desire to be close to the dragon were certainly one aspect.

But Su Ping was mainly wondering if he could develop a closer relationship with this Yellow Dragon and thereby illuminate the Dragon entry in his Catalog!

The Dragon Catalog!

Although the Myriad Spirit Beast Atlas didn't necessarily grant rewards based on a Pet Beast's strength, this was an incredibly rare opportunity. If he didn't seize it firmly, Su Ping felt, there would be something wrong with his head.

As for the subsequent cultivation of the Papermen? Those two were eager to help, so I could only 'reluctantly' assist Master Zhu Hong by looking after Da Huang.

It was a pity. Despite Zhu Hong's orders making Da Huang utterly obedient to Su Ping, its intimacy level hadn't shown any sign of reaching the required standard over the past two days. This left Su Ping perplexed about how to properly win Da Huang over. Currying favor with a dragon... how exactly was he supposed to do that?

However, while Su Ping didn't understand how to gain the Yellow Dragon's approval, Da Huang was equally clueless as to what its master was thinking, insisting it keep this little ancestor company. Man

and dragon, each had their own frustrations. But one thing, during this time, was having the time of its life.

It was none other than the Dragon-Patterned Bamboo in the Forest Heart.

Previously, in the botanical garden, this plant had been quite inconspicuous.

However, when it came to improving its growing environment, it had boldly demanded dragon blood for irrigation. After being collectively disciplined by all the arriving Commander Level plant-type Pet Beasts, it had quieted down.

But after this Yellow Dragon appeared, the Dragon-Patterned Bamboo became ecstatic. It not only wandered out of the dragon-shaped bamboo grove to which it had been confined, but as soon as Su Ping brought Da Huang to the Forest Heart, the little thing would shamelessly sidle up, fawning like an ancient brothel madame.

Its utterly shameless, sycophantic manner made even Su Ping feel embarrassed.

They're all plant-type Pet Beasts, but look at the adorable and proud Rouge Powder Peach Blossom Smile, the chuunibyouto yet responsible Sky-reaching Vine, the bird-loving Hundred Birds Parasol, and the cold and aloof Laurel Tree, Mist Pine, and King Gunpine.

Then look at this disgraceful thing!

But, to its credit, this sycophancy had its reasons. In just these past few days, by constantly circling Su Ping and Da Huang, the little creature had advanced from Commander Sixth Rank to Commander Seventh Rank, much to Su Ping's astonishment and amazement.

The Dragon-Patterned Bamboo was named after dragons, and it possessed a natural attraction to dragon-type Pet Beasts. It now appeared this attraction wasn't unfounded, as the results were immediate.

After seeing this shameless Dragon-Patterned Bamboo advance in Level, Su Ping even genuinely considered trying to get a drop of Dragon Blood for it.

Unfortunately, Dragon Blood was precious, practically an Emperor Level resource material. Su Ping really couldn't bring himself to ask for something like that.

After all, it wasn't crucial, and this Dragon-Patterned Bamboo isn't exactly to my liking anyway.

Riding the dragon, Su Ping patrolled his Forest Heart at low altitude and arrived near the Hundred Birds Wutong Tree. The mutated Flame-Eating Crow had flown off again a couple of days ago.

Clearly, that Flame-Eating Crow was still somewhat skeptical of Su Ping's promise. He just didn't know what that little creature was struggling against.

#### Chapter 497: Su Ping's Achievement! Shocked Sang Sheng!\_2

Su Ping was indeed somewhat concerned. Would that little crow, so adept at fighting, have perished in some corner during such confrontations? In the wild, where survival of the fittest reigned supreme, this was a definite possibility. However, worrying was useless; wild Pet Beasts like that mutated Flame-Eating Crow, which understood gratitude and sought to repay kindness, were already exceedingly rare.

Looking at the sloping hillside before him, Su Ping slipped into contemplation. This hill wasn't very tall, less than two hundred meters in height. On one side of this hill, a stretch resembling an outstretched Buddha's Hand hung over the mountains. Atop this Buddha's Hand grew the divine tree known as the Hundred Birds Parasol.

One could say that within the entire botanical garden, the Hundred Birds Parasol was one of Su Ping's most valued Pet Beasts. Perhaps it was even his absolute most valued. The Hundred Birds Parasol could provide a foundational resource for breeding avian Pet Beasts. However, the area was just too small. At around three to five hundred square meters, the barren slope of Buddha's Hand Mountain hosted only this one Hundred Birds Wutong Tree, which did not meet Su Ping's requirements.

Shaking his head, it was clear he was overthinking things. The botanical garden's Cultivation hadn't officially started yet. In the future, the Peach Blossom, the Hundred Birds Parasol, and the Sky-reaching Vine would likely be the three main species he would cultivate. The Peach Blossom was from the Heart of Flowers, currently a popular Plant-based Pet Beast and also Su Ping's favorite. There was no need to

elaborate on the Hundred Birds Parasol. As for the Sky-reaching Vine, it was purely because this little fellow was a model employee, winding around the boundaries of the Heart of Woods, constantly guarding the safety of the Forest Heart and the Heart of Woods. As for the others, there was no rush.

Just as he was thinking, Su Ping's phone suddenly rang. It was Dong Muyun.

"Hello? Miss Dong, what can I do for you?" Su Ping asked.

"Dong Muxuan is back, and he brought a classmate from Magic Capital Academy whom you know. Are you busy? If not, I'll bring them over!"

Su Ping paused for a moment, then nodded. "Sure, come on over. I'm free. But why is your brother looking for me?"

"Tsk, the way you say that! Can't he just come to catch up and ask for some advice? Weren't you asking me about Space-based Pet Beasts a few days ago? Dong Muxuan is only Commander Level, but his master, the Mirror Sky King, is one of the Dragon Nation's foremost Emperor Level Beast Tamers specializing in the Space Element. He has extraordinary attainments in it. You can discuss certain things with him," Dong Muyun's voice came through the phone.

Su Ping's eyes lit up slightly. He had indeed asked before. In his vision, if the Heart of Woods expanded significantly, traveling between various points would be too cumbersome. Teleportation would save a lot of trouble and effort. However, his knowledge of the Space Element was minimal. The Su Ping of today wasn't completely ignorant anymore; he naturally knew the Dong Family had essentially built its foundation on the Space Element. Mirror Sky represented the legacy of the former Mirror Saint Family and their Space Attribute. Though the Dong Family was now in decline, gradually fading into obscurity, they were, after all, a family with over a century of heritage.

With this in mind, Su Ping then said, "Alright, you can come over now."

「...」

「Meanwhile, in Linzhou City Center.」

An ethereal shadow, hidden among the clouds, had appeared high above the Beast Master Association's skyscraper. The Cloud Soarer materialized from the clouds and began a gradual descent, finally docking at the helipad on the rooftop of the Beast Master Association building.

The hatch opened, and three figures stepped out: Sang Sheng, her granddaughter Qin Xiaoxue, and the pilot, Aunt Qin. After the three disembarked, Aunt Qin recalled the Cloud Soarer into her Beast Taming Space.

Qin Erlong looked at his wife, Sang Sheng, whom he hadn't seen in a year, a smile finally gracing his lips. "You're back?"

Sang Sheng nodded. "Linzhou is still the same old place!"

"What changes could there be? But I expect next year, with the construction of the Linzhou Advanced Tamer Academy and the development of the eastern and western suburbs, there will be some major developments," Qin Erlong said with a smile.

At the mention of this, Sang Sheng's expression shifted slightly. It wasn't because the establishment of academies throughout the Dragon Nation would diminish her authority. In fact, it was clear to everyone that Sang Sheng's current position as the dean of Magic Capital Academy was merely temporary. She was simply serving as a key figure to oversee the impending domestic education reforms. After a year, once the dust settled, Sang Sheng was certain to be promoted. Therefore, she naturally had no objections to the establishment of advanced academies in various locations.

What caused her slight emotional stir was that young man from Linzhou. She asked, "If Linzhou College is established, will Su Ping attend?"

Qin Erlong's eyes widened. "What would he go there for? He broke records among all those talented Beast Tamers at Magic Capital Academy! Once the admission criteria for advanced academies are relaxed, who knows what kind of trouble that kid will stir up? What if he demoralizes the other Beast Tamers?"

However, what Old Qin hadn't expected was for his wife, Sang Sheng, to glance at him as if he were an idiot.

"What are you thinking?" she retorted. "When did I ever say Su Ping should enroll as a student? He's the first-place winner of the Cultivation Contest, a Senior Breeder who developed a Super-Rank Skill, and someone granted the status of an honorary Breeding Master by the Breeder Association—and you want him to go to school? I was asking if he could give a few lectures when he's free, to add some prestige to the Linzhou Advanced Academy."

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"This..."

Old Qin scratched his head. It really does seem to make sense, huh? But he shook his head.

"Forget it, I can't handle this. Let that boy decide for himself when the time comes."

Old Qin led his wife and granddaughter to the office.

Sang Sheng turned her head. "Where's Master Zhu Hong? Hasn't he been looking for your help with the Cultivation and Evolution of the Earth Dragon lately?"

At the mention of this, Qin Erlong shook his head helplessly. "Where else could he be? Master Zhu and Old Liu have both gone mad these days. They nearly had an accident just a couple of days ago."

Sang Sheng frowned. "What happened?"

"It's Su Ping, that darn kid. I don't know what kind of spell he cast on those two to get them so obsessed. Now they're both at that kid's base day in and day out, without even a moment for tea or fishing. Just the other day, I don't know what they were doing, but there was an explosion. It almost buried the three of them underground, and yet, when they came out, they were still laughing."

"Ah? Is Su Ping okay? Still laughing? He wasn't blown silly, was he?" Qin Xiaoxue's face suddenly tensed with worry.

Sang Sheng rolled her eyes at her granddaughter and frowned slightly. "What kind of trouble has that brat stirred up again?"

Qin Erlong thought it over and decided not to hide anything. "It's said to be Paperman's new research, involving a completely new Super-Rank Skill research direction. And apparently, the opportunity and treasures were obtained in the Magic Capital. Do you know about this?"

"Hmm?" Sang Sheng blinked. When did this happen? How was I unaware? Su Ping was under my watch the entire time he was in the Magic Capital. He certainly caused quite a stir, but I don't recall hearing anything about this. I knew about Paperman, but wasn't that a new Evolution for Paperman? What does it have to do with Super-Rank Skills? Besides, it hasn't even been a full month since this youngster returned from the Magic Capital after New Year's. Could there have been such a significant change in just one month?

Having said that, Qin Erlong suddenly remembered something else. "Right, that boy also specifically asked me a few days ago about your exact return date. He said he had prepared a particularly special gift for you and Xiao Xue, acting all mysterious. I have no idea what trick he's up to now."

At that moment, Sang Sheng's interest was piqued. "Previously, you've always described that boy's base so vividly. Perfect, I'll go stay there for a few days too. It'll also save our girl the trouble of running back and forth."

At this, the woman smiled at Qin Xiaoxue, who suddenly looked a bit embarrassed.

However, the latter didn't say anything. Su Ping, that fellow, had mentioned that the Heart of Woods was now vastly different from how it was during the summer vacation, and Miss Qin wanted to see for herself anyway.

The vehicle set out from the city center, passed through the suburbs, and as it moved from the bustling city, the surroundings began to grow slightly desolate.

Qin Xiaoxue, however, could see that compared to the summer vacation, there was indeed more traffic here.

Once the distant Heart of Woods came into view, the number of vehicles entering and leaving was a world of difference from its previously deserted state.

It was Qin Xiaoxue who frowned as she looked at the former Yuntian Pet Beast Resort. Now, seeing the plaque changed to 'Heart of Yun,' her delicate brows furrowed slightly.

She had heard about some business collaborations between Su Ping and that Dong Muyun woman. That woman was indeed clever.

But just as they reached the entrance, Qin Xiaoxue was taken aback. Right there, in front of the gate, she saw a familiar figure—who else could it be but Su Ping?

Besides Su Ping, however, there were three other incredibly familiar figures.

She hadn't had much contact with Dong Muyun but had seen her a few times at the Yuntian Resort. It was normal for her to be here.

The other two, however, took Qin Xiaoxue completely by surprise.

Dong Muxuan's presence was understandable, but why was Ye Zhou here?

This guy was one of the few people Qin Xiaoxue respected at the Magic Capital Academy.

Cultivating Time Series abilities was the most difficult. For this guy to have reached his current level and strength made him an unimaginable genius. In the eyes of some, he wasn't necessarily inferior to Su Ping.

The question was, how did he get involved with Su Ping? What was their relationship?

Qin Xiaoxue didn't understand.

Miss Qin had always been straightforward.

Thus, Qin Xiaoxue rolled down the window and shouted towards the figures, "Su Ping, what are you up to?"

Sang Sheng looked at her granddaughter speechlessly but then said to Aunt Qin, "Stop the car, please."

The car slowed to a halt, and they all disembarked.

At first, Su Ping even thought he was hearing things.

But upon seeing Miss Qin's figure, he realized that since Ye Zhou and Dong Muxuan were on vacation from Magic Capital Academy, Miss Qin naturally must be on break as well.

Su Ping ignored Qin Xiaoxue's greeting and hurried towards Sang Sheng, who was approaching with a faint smile, saying respectfully, "Senior Sang Sheng!"

"Principal!"

"Principal!"

"Lord Sang Sheng!"

Several distinctly different voices rang out.

Sang Sheng simply smiled and nodded at the two students from Magic Capital Academy, then glanced at Dong Muyun with interest.

"The Dong Family has produced two rather impressive talents this generation."

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Dong Muyun smiled generously. "Thank you for the compliment, Lord Sang Sheng. Mu Xuan and I are flattered."

Sang Sheng just smiled. She didn't pay further attention to Dong Muyun but turned to Su Ping. "Xiao Ping," she said, "I heard from Old Qin that you've prepared a gift for me and Xiao Xue and came here especially for that. Old Qin isn't trying to pull one over on me, is he?"

Su Ping inwardly scorned Qin Erlong, that old geezer who couldn't keep a secret once his wife was involved. However, a radiant smile spread across his face as he replied, "Of course not. I certainly won't disappoint you and Sister Xue."

Qin Xiaoxue, long accustomed to Su Ping's way of addressing her, looked at him eagerly. "Hurry up, hurry up! Let me see what it is."

It was Dong Muyun who reacted quickly, saying directly, "In that case, I'll take Mu Xuan and Student Ye for a tour inside the Heart of Woods first."

Su Ping nodded. At this moment, naturally, no one would compare themselves to Sang Sheng.

After Dong Muyun and the others left, Sang Sheng smiled and asked, "Is Master Zhu Hong still in the Heart of Woods? What have you all been researching these days?"

"It's about the research on Paperman I mentioned to you before, but now there's been some brand new progress. Master Zhu's arrival was timely; he helped me a lot, and I've learned quite a bit from him."

Indeed, he had learned quite a bit.

The Five Elements' Heart of Paperman, corresponding with the Heart of Elements, was Su Ping's greatest gain.

"It's good that you've made progress. I hear it's a brand new Super-Rank Skill?" Sang Sheng had heard about it previously. It was the direction for a brand new Super-Rank Skill.

Although Sang Sheng wasn't particularly interested in delving further into Paperman, it didn't mean the Dragon Nation wasn't interested. As a disgrace to the Necromancy System, Paperman was synonymous with weakness and commonality. Generally, such synonyms were accompanied by affordability and extremely wide popularity. Under such circumstances, enhancing the strength of the Dragon Nation's vast number of grassroots Beast Tamers was, in other words, elevating the entire nation's power. What did this represent? Naturally, there was no need to elaborate.

As a Spirit Saint Level expert of the Dragon Nation, it would be odd if she didn't want to understand it more, if possible. It was just that previously, Paperman had not been fully disclosed, and Su Ping was the only one privy to its secrets, so Sang Sheng hadn't wanted to inquire needlessly. But now that the young man had already revealed Paperman's secrets to Zhu Hong and Liu Fuhai, her curiosity was natural.

Su Ping didn't mind Sang Sheng's shift in interest and casually nodded. "Of course. In a moment, I'll have Old Liu come over to demonstrate and explain it to you. You'll see. But first, try this."

They arrived in the living room of his residence, where Su Ping took out two items from a locked drawer in a cabinet.

Upon seeing these two items, both Sang Sheng and Qin Xiaoxue were stunned. They glanced at each other. What on earth is this? A metallic helmet, exuding a cyberpunk vibe? No matter how exaggerated this thing's design might be, it's still just a helmet! What kinds of tricks could a helmet possibly have?

Though, it had to be said, Su Ping had indeed put a lot of thought into them. The one for Sang Sheng had a lustrous, verdant quality, while Qin Xiaoxue's was embedded with metallic snowflakes.

"Su Ping, what is this thing?" Sang Sheng asked.

Su Ping scratched his head and cleared his throat. "Previously, Senior Sang Sheng, you gave me a Meditation Method, didn't you? This device is based on that Meditation Method, combined with my own research on Pet Beasts. It offers both entertainment and the effects of meditation. You two will know once you try it."

Hmm? Sang Sheng was genuinely intrigued this time, examining the odd device curiously. The effects of meditation? A device offering both entertainment and meditation effects? What could those effects possibly be?

"How do I use this?" Qin Xiaoxue had already placed the helmet on her head, moving it around while fiddling with the device.

"Plug in the power source," Su Ping explained. "Don't resist the internal spiritual frequency resonance. Gaze at the illuminated pattern, and it will automatically log you in and create an account. Then, follow the beginner's guide to fight monsters and level up..."

"Alright, alright, no spoilers! I want to explore it myself..." Qin Xiaoxue took off the helmet, plugged it into the power source, then lay down on the sofa and put the helmet on again.

Sang Sheng blinked, considered for a moment, and then, under Su Ping's expectant gaze, put on the device as well. Although she was completely skeptical that such a helmet could replicate the effects of a Meditation Method. As a Spirit Saint Level being, Sang Sheng was all too aware of the preciousness of meditation.

Once Beast Tamers reached Peak Command and broke through to the Monarch Level, the speed of their spiritual power enhancement would greatly slow down. Even some Psychic Element resources that previously had enhancing effects would become less potent for human Beast Tamers. The only things that wouldn't change were meditation and Meditation Methods.

Hence, many Beast Tamers found the enhancement from Meditation Methods incomparable to certain Psychic Element resources, yet they still didn't comprehend why Meditation Methods could be so valuable. The reason lay therein: the cultivation through Meditation Methods was an absolutely dependable enhancement of one's own power—a truly trustworthy increase. Under such conditions, the value of Meditation Methods only grew in the eyes of Beast Tamers of higher Realms.

Previously, Su Ping hadn't revealed anything to Zhu Hong, Liu Fuhai, Qin Erlong, and the others. He thought beings of their stature wouldn't be interested in such game-enhanced meditation methods. However, in reality, any Meditation Method more efficient than the typical ones would definitely be of interest to everyone.

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It was precisely for this reason that Sang Sheng believed Su Ping when he claimed to have developed a Super-Rank Skill Cultivation Method in such a short time. However, if he claimed to have developed a Meditation Method, she was utterly unconvinced.

Holding this skepticism, Sang Sheng put on the helmet, half-believing and half-doubting.

The power turned on, and a voice came from inside the helmet,

"DING! Welcome to the world of the Heart of Dreams. Please do not resist the resonance of spiritual power release..."

"DING! Spiritual resonance connection successful. It has been detected that your unique spiritual power does not have an account. Would you like to create a virtual character or scan your current state to enter the Heart of Dreams?"

"If you create a virtual character, you can design any role you wish. If you scan your current state, a role will be created based on your spiritual power Level."

Sang Sheng felt her spiritual power enter another, hazy world. Her Spirit Saint Level perception immediately registered that this was a special spiritual matrix world.

Interesting, she chuckled to herself, her spiritual power locking onto the second option:

"Scan and enter myself!"

"Scanning... Please wait... BZZT... BZZT... Scanning failed. Unable to scan your specific personal spiritual information. A new virtual character will be created for you automatically."

Hearing the voice from the helmet, Sang Sheng was slightly startled, then chuckled helplessly.

She casually created a character and entered, once again choosing the Beast Tamer profession.

Compared to the initial selection, the number of available Pet Beasts had increased by several dozen types.

Sang Sheng directly chose the Plant System and her initial Plant-based Pet Beast's base form: the Cold Autumn Sang Tree.

"New adventurer, welcome to the Dream Continent..."

Sang Sheng marveled at the realism of her own actions, finding herself growing somewhat interested in this peculiar game world.

After about ten minutes of the beginner's tutorial, the main event she had found herself involuntarily anticipating finally arrived.

"New adventurer, Ah Sang, you have mastered the power to control Pet Beasts! I believe that in the Dream Continent, you will become a renowned and mighty warrior. Therefore, let us begin our first adventure! Adventuring allows you to gather materials to sell for currency, and you might also find precious materials to upgrade your equipment and Pet Beasts. Currency can be used to purchase other materials, learn Skills, and more. These are all indispensable to your journey! Go now, find Instructor Xiao and accept the mission from her. Then, proceed to Bobo and use the lost Space Skill to receive the Return Hearthstone and travel to the adventure grounds!"

After accepting the mission, she arrived at the so-called Bobo.

Sang Sheng felt a joy she hadn't experienced in a long time. Then, with a flap of Bobo's wings, her form vanished into thin air, reappearing in another place.

The matrix's encoding has changed, but why does it feel so real? Is it because of that Spiritual Frequency resonance just now? The key to the Meditation Method lies in the resonant point of spiritual power. If so, that would explain it.

Sang Sheng pondered this as she observed the digital monsters that had awakened, now expressing their displeasure at her arrival.

"Muyou, use Cold Sang Branch!"

Commanding the basic Cold Autumn Sang Tree, Sang Sheng felt as if she had returned to her youth. Although she knew this feeling was illusory, it was still quite intriguing.

As the initial monsters and enemies for a first adventure, their Levels naturally weren't too high, nor was the difficulty excessive.

In no time at all, Sang Sheng had dealt with them.

After she defeated them, streams of light merged into her body.

Then, the shocking thing happened.

As a Spirit Saint Level expert, her perception of any change in spiritual power was incredibly acute.

Unlike others who had tried the Heart of Dreams, she immediately sensed that as this wisp of spiritual power slowly integrated, a faint surge of strength enhanced her own spiritual Origin.

This improvement was so slight it was almost imperceptible, yet it was undeniably real.

Simultaneously, a prompt from the Heart of Dreams appeared.

[Killed ordinary First Rank (Level 1) monster: Fallen Little Demon. You gain 1 Experience Point, your Pet Beast gains 1 Experience Point! Actual spiritual power increased by 1 point!]

(Note: The higher your in-game Level and the higher the Level of the enemies you defeat, the greater the increase to your actual spiritual power!)

Reading the prompt and feeling the almost imperceptible enhancement to her spiritual power, Sang Sheng could no longer contain herself. She let out a long sigh, utterly astonished by this game-like Meditation Method within the illusory dream world.

Can spiritual power truly be enhanced through such a method?

Is this Su Ping's new research breakthrough, achieved in less than a month?