

Eternal Heart 1011

Chapter 1011: Betrothed by Arrangement Before Birth

Nie Hua stared intently at Chen Yu, flying into the City Lord Mansion, disappearing from view.

The enemy who killed his son was right before him, yet he couldn't make a move.

Nie Hua's entire body erupted with an intensely fierce Sword Intent, causing the people around to feel alarmed and retreat swiftly.

Bang!

Nie Hua struck with his palm, landing it on the Black Bone King.

The Black Bone King spurted blood on the spot, his figure flying back hundreds of feet, a huge wound appearing on his chest, blood gushing out.

"It was my failure to protect the young master. Please forgive me, General."

The Black Bone King endured his injuries and anger, bowing respectfully.

With Nie Hua's cultivation and strength, had he gone all out unexpectedly, he might have been dead by now.

Nie Hua closed his eyes slightly, saying nothing.

He also knew that this matter wasn't the Black Bone King's fault.

Even if the Black Bone King had tried his best to protect Nie Yuan, he couldn't have stopped Chen Yu from killing him.

"General, for the Emperor to shelter this child so much, is he not considering you at all?"

"The official representative of the City Lord Mansion is still you."

The Black Bone King whispered telepathically.

Having followed Nie Hua for many years, he knew when to say what.

Nie Hua was in a rage and couldn't be discussed further about Nie Yuan's death.

And Nie Hua's anger mainly stemmed from Chen Yu and the Qingyun Emperor, so these words could ease Nie Hua's fury.

"You're right, he completely disregards this General."

Nie Hua's face was gloomy.

The leading figure of the City Lord Mansion is still him, Nie Hua.

The Qingyun Emperor is merely a prisoner trapped here, without real authority, only responsible for guarding this place.

But in this world, strength is everything; strength grants authority.

If discussing rules and rationale, Nie Hua does not fear the Qingyun Emperor.

But he dare not offend the Emperor of the Xuanming Realm; having a grievance with an Emperor is truly unsettling, just thinking about it is terrifying.

"However, even if this child becomes the leader of the City Lord Mansion, this General can still deal with him."

The leader's position is below the General, even having to take orders from him.

As long as Chen Yu makes any mistakes, he will strike.

"The General is mighty."

The Black Bone King flattered.

He also hated Chen Yu, wishing for his death.

"Return to the mansion."

Nie Hua shouted coldly, carrying Nie Yuan's corpse away.

...

Chen Yu entered the City Lord Mansion with the Qingyun Emperor.

In front of the main gate of the mansion, the ten guards were crawling on the ground under the Emperor's pressure, trembling.

Among them, the sharp-chinned guard glanced upward, seeing Chen Yu, instantly frightened, bowing his head.

He didn't expect that Chen Yu not only had a connection with the Qingyun Emperor but a deep one, surprising him enough that the Qingyun Emperor appeared personally to lead him into the mansion.

On the west side of the City Lord Mansion, there were several steep peaks and cliffs, tranquil and secluded, seemingly isolated from the world.

On the waist of the cliff, there was a hall.

The Qingyun Emperor landed outside the hall, gazing into the distance.

Chen Yu stood behind him, quietly watching the person before him. At this moment, he had no trace of an imposing aura, resembling an ordinary mortal.

"You've finally come."

The Qingyun Emperor sighed.

"You didn't want me to come?"

Chen Yu speculated in his heart that the Emperor of Xuanming Realm's means were unpredictable, perhaps noticing when he arrived at the Chaotic Sea Plain.

The other had been watching Chen Yu all along, which would explain why the Qingyun Emperor knew the cause of Chen Yu killing Nie Yuan.

But the Qingyun Emperor had long sensed Chen Yu yet hadn't appeared proactively; it was only when Chen Yu made a big commotion, even alarming General Nie, that the Qingyun Emperor revealed himself.

"That's right."

The Qingyun Emperor contemplated.

Chen Yu had known this for a long time. The arrangement of the Qingyun Emperor in the Great Yu Realm was hoping Chen Yu would cultivate peacefully, living a stable life.

Suddenly.

The Qingyun Emperor turned around, facing Chen Yu, their gazes meeting.

"Seeing me, are you disappointed?"

The Qingyun Emperor asked proactively.

Previously, although Chen Yu knew about his relationship with the Qingyun Emperor, it was their first meeting, so the emotions weren't that strong.

But now, through the Qingyun Emperor's eyes, Chen Yu felt the concealed emotions: excitement, hope, and a bit of anxiety.

Chen Yu knew what the Qingyun Emperor meant.

From Great Yu Realm to the main world, the news Chen Yu received about the Qingyun Emperor was his collaboration with other races, facing punishment.

The Human Race and other races are great enemies, and the Qingyun Emperor's actions violated a major taboo of the Human Race.

When Chen Yu first discovered this, he felt somewhat disappointed with this biological father.

But as he journeyed on, growing mentally through experiences, his attitude had changed.

Chen Yu knew that the Qingyun Emperor's seemingly casual question could have a significant impact based on his answer.

"Not really."

Chen Yu replied simply, then countered, "Seeing me, are you disappointed?"

The atmosphere immediately shifted.

"Hahaha."

The Qingyun Emperor suddenly laughed, clearly pleased.

"Not really either."

The Qingyun Emperor's expression revealed a touch of pride between his brows, smiling.

Chen Yu was taken aback; he was quite confident in himself, thinking the Qingyun Emperor would be pleasantly surprised and admiring.

However, considering the Qingyun Emperor was an unparalleled prodigy in the Great Yu Realm, standing at the pinnacle, leaving behind legends.

"Hehe."

Chen Yu couldn't help but chuckle.

"Haha..."

The laughter echoed.

Outside the forbidden territory.

Nie Hua and the Black Bone King were about to enter Qingyun Emperor's domain to investigate the relationship between Qingyun Emperor and Chen Yu.

Suddenly.

Laughter came from inside.

Qingyun Emperor had guarded this place for decades; Nie Hua heard him laugh so heartily for the first time.

The two immediately stopped, their expressions not looking good.

Being able to chat so pleasantly with Qingyun Emperor proved their relationship was surely not shallow.

...

"What's the deal with the aliens?"

Chen Yu asked. He didn't believe Qingyun Emperor would collude with aliens to harm the Human Race.

"Everything is over. Knowing won't benefit you."

Qingyun Emperor was reluctant to say more.

"What about my biological mother then?"

This you can probably tell me, right?

He had met his biological father but knew nothing about his biological mother.

"She... has passed away."

With slight emotional turbulence, Qingyun Emperor answered Chen Yu's question, yet the answer felt entirely unforthcoming.

Chen Yu realized that talking about his biological mother brought a look of helplessness and sorrow to Qingyun Emperor.

He found himself unwilling to ask further.

Seeing Chen Yu's silence, Qingyun Emperor restored his composure and said, "By the way, do you know you have a fiancée?"

"What?"

Chen Yu exclaimed.

He just held back from pressing further, letting Qingyun Emperor off the hook.

In a blink, the other side gave him a "big surprise."

"Since when?"

Chen Yu instinctively asked.

He couldn't believe he had a fiancée in the main world.

Were it not for Qingyun Emperor saying it himself, he wouldn't believe it.

"Before you were born."

Qingyun Emperor's reply rendered Chen Yu speechless, caught off guard by the idea of a "pre-arranged marriage."

"Judging by your look, it seems you already have someone? But marrying two is normal."

Qingyun Emperor chuckled.

Chen Yu responded with silence.

A marriage arranged before birth, not even having met the woman, unaware of her character, made Chen Yu feel not a hint of liking, but rather some resistance.

Suddenly.

Chen Yu thought of something, asking, "The Lin Family?"

"That's right. If you don't like her, just don't marry her."

Qingyun Emperor admitted, speaking with casual ease.

Chen Yu felt his father spoke so lightly, yet that Lin Family was a renowned Demigod Family among the Human Race.

...

In the central territory of the Human Race, a range of mountains covered with purple vegetation, filled with birdsong and fragrance, was breathtakingly beautiful.

Whoosh!

A purple swan carrying a broad-faced man swiftly flew across, entering the palace halls integrated into the natural scenery.

At a serene water pavilion, a graceful woman sat.

Her flawless jade face and crystal-like eyes were translucent like water. Her jade-like purple hair cascaded onto the ground, floating in the breeze like a celestial beauty descending to the mortal world, captivating all eyes.

"Uncle Chen, how went the result?"

The purple-haired woman calmly asked, her voice as melodious as a trickling spring, touching the heart.

"According to your instructions, Miss, he participated in the quota contest... and he came first."

The broad-faced man "Lin Chen" answered.

"First?"

The purple-haired woman's crystal eyes flashed with a gleam, then disappeared.

Regardless.

She still felt no interest in the man she had never met.

Indeed, marrying him was impossible.

Among the Human Race, her suitors were countless, and she had seen numerous descendants of Emperors, including Demigod offspring who confessed to her.

Thinking about this now, the purple-haired woman couldn't help but find her father too impulsive for arranging a "pre-arranged marriage" before her birth.

Back then, her instruction was for the Lin Family to assist Chen Yu, allowing him to participate in the quota contest, but to discreetly increase difficulty, stopping Chen Yu from obtaining quotas.

If Chen Yu failed, it would prove he was mediocre and incompetent. Then even if Qingyun Emperor inquired, there would be grounds to reject.

But her "fianc" was seemingly not ordinary.

Rather, it's unsurprising he is Emperor's offspring; even coming from a lower realm, he is still remarkable.

"The day for the Eight Emperor Sects to recruit disciples is approaching. Which did he choose?"

The purple-haired woman continued to ask.

"He... headed to the Chaotic Sea Plain."

Lin Chen reported the information he gathered.

"Chaotic Sea Plain? It seems he went to find his father, yet Qingyun Emperor now isn't the Qingyun Emperor once before. In the end, this boy can only enter the 'Evil Luo Prison' closest to Chaotic Sea Plain."

The purple-haired woman remarked sentimentally.

"Though he didn't select Tianhe Sect, the Lin Family cannot offer protection and care to repay the favor. Still, Evil Luo Prison is far removed from either the Lin Family or Miss's 'Heavenly Martial Sect,' making it difficult to intersect with Miss."

"As time passes, the distance between Miss and him will grow, and in the end, I'm afraid he won't even have the courage to stand before Miss."

Lin Chen laughed.

"He and I are not from the same world. Please keep monitoring Uncle Chen, but don't report to me unless anything significant happens."

The purple-haired woman remained calm throughout, as if dismissing this trivial matter after speaking.

Lin Chen looking at the extraordinarily beautiful woman before him, unexpectedly felt a slight pressure within.

Is this the pride of the Human Race's present age? Even with cultivation lower than his and still a junior, yet making him feel pressured.

Chapter 1012: The Three Divine Sects

After learning that he had a fiancée in the main world, Chen Yu began contemplating breaking off the engagement.

He knew nothing about this "fiancee" and couldn't accept her.

"Who is the woman?"

Chen Yu asked.

How could he break off the engagement without knowing who it was?

"The daughter of Lin Yutian, the Lin Family Patriarch, Lin Yuxuan."

Qingyun Emperor replied.

Lin Yutian! Lin Yuxuan!

These two names surprised Chen Yu. He had researched the Lin Family and knew some details.

Lin Yutian was the head of the Lin Family, leading the demigod family with immense authority.

And Lin Yuxuan was even more remarkable.

This woman possessed the "Spiritual Body" aptitude, being the Lin Family's first genius in a thousand years, and a current prodigy of the Human Race, with countless suitors.

Chen Yu had heard others discussing Lin Yuxuan several times in the area of the Five Families.

"Are you joking with me?"

Chen Yu felt the engagement was somewhat unreal.

To think that the daughter of a prodigy among the main world's human race was his fiancée?

"How could matters of marriage be taken lightly?"

Qingyun Emperor's face was serious.

After confirming, Chen Yu pondered once more.

The esteemed Lin Family, as a demigod family, would they allow him to marry Lin Yuxuan, and also marry other women?

Moreover, Lin Yuxuan was too outstanding, with countless suitors, and probably had no interest in Chen Yu, a sentiment evident from the previous attitude of the Lin Family.

Logically, since he was Lin Yuxuan's fiancé, once they found him, they should bring him back, to get in touch, and discuss the significant matter of marriage.

But the Lin Family's people gave Chen Yu the feeling that they were eager to settle the favor and distance themselves.

Since others weren't interested, Chen Yu saw no need to cling desperately.

"If you don't like it, just let it go."

"Originally, if it weren't for 'Lin Yutian' begging me, claiming his daughter could even be your concubine, would I have been so rash as to decide your marriage?"

Qingyun Emperor looked into the distance with deep black eyes.

Chen Yu was dumbfounded after hearing this.

How had he not realized Qingyun Emperor had the tendency to exaggerate?

Lin Yutian begging? Letting his daughter be a concubine? How was that possible.

But Chen Yu didn't argue, instead smiling and saying, "In that case, please help me end the engagement."

"I'm not in a position to."

Qingyun Emperor's reason left Chen Yu without rebuttal.

He was punished to guard this place for a thousand years, unable to leave due to any circumstance.

"You don't need to worry about the engagement now; currently, you are one of the eight Great Commanders of the City Lord Mansion, with decent benefits. You just broke through; first, consolidate your cultivation."

Qingyun Emperor continued.

Chen Yu didn't care about the commander position at the City Lord Mansion, nor did he intend to stay long.

But not taking the commander position would lead Nie Hua to target him unless Qingyun Emperor publicly announced their father-son relationship.

However, doing so would cause Qingyun Emperor's crimes to affect Chen Yu, bringing him more trouble.

Nie Hua could also use this as an opportunity to indirectly harm him.

Understanding Qingyun Emperor's intent, Chen Yu didn't ask further.

Leaving Qingyun Emperor's residence, he went to the General Mansion and met Black Bone King once more.

"What are you here for?"

Black Bone King had no pleasant expression for Chen Yu, wishing for his early demise.

Because of Chen Yu, he lost face and became the target of Nie Hua's anger, still gravely injured and unable to recover soon.

"The commander position requires a general's authorization; doesn't Black Bone King plan to inform him?"

Chen Yu asked with a smile.

Black Bone King was immediately choked; seeing Chen Yu, his anger flared, and he momentarily forgot about it.

Chen Yu was about to become one of the eight commanders, a higher position than himself.

"Wait a moment!"

Black Bone King left immediately.

After a while, he returned to Chen Yu, handing over a set of armor and a token.

"The general said he's too busy to hold the 'appointment ceremony' and will make it up to you later when he has time."

Black Bone King said expressionlessly.

Traditionally, a commander position, high in rank and power, required an official ceremony to be granted.

How could Nie Hua bestow such honor upon Chen Yu, when he wished nothing more than to rush out and kill him now?

Chen Yu didn't care, taking his things and leaving swiftly.

He held no interest in the commander position.

In the study.

Nie Hua had a gloomy expression.

His close kin had just died; he had no mood for a promotion ceremony, especially when the main figure was the enemy who had killed his child.

"This kid's relationship with Qingyun Emperor is not shallow; he's hard to deal with."

Nie Hua was a bit disturbed.

If he was too obvious, it might anger Qingyun Emperor.

Yet, doing nothing, he couldn't swallow the anger.

...

Arriving at his new residence, Chen Yu had nothing else to do, so he entered a closed cultivation.

He had reached the Early-stage Condensed Star Realm Peak; although it was a natural progression, it happened somewhat hurriedly, requiring time and effort to consolidate his cultivation, to avoid leaving hidden dangers that would hinder future advancement.

The medicinal effects of the Star Rainbow Purple Essence Grass and the Heavenly Essence Flower hadn't been fully absorbed yet.

Chen Yu once again stimulated the medicinal effects, utilizing the "Nine Revolutions Bright Star Technique," consuming Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, refining the Primordial Power Star, to consolidate his recent breakthrough.

As he stabilized his cultivation, Chen Yu also began to open his Star Acupoints.

The breakthrough in his cultivation had improved the quality of his primordial power, slightly reducing the difficulty of opening Star Acupoints.

He had excellent talent in Body Refinement, which must not be wasted, especially with the "Four Symbols Divine Body" being so powerful.

After ten days.

Chen Yu had opened up six Star Acupoints, greatly strengthening his Star Aspect Body.

On this day.

Outside the Chen Yu Mansion, a man in blue armor appeared: "Commander Chen, General Nie has arranged a task for you."

Chen Yu, who was opening his Star Acupoint, opened his eyes.

"Got it, you may leave."

Chen Yu remarked indifferently.

The task arranged by Nie Hua surely had ill intentions, and Chen Yu did not plan to carry it out.

Besides, he never intended to stay here forever.

"Yes."

The man in blue armor outside was rather speechless, thinking that this new commander was quite pretentious, not even meeting him, and just directly asking him to leave.

Moreover, Chen Yu did not even inquire about the task, was he planning to defy General Nie?

The man in blue armor left the military order behind and turned to leave.

"Ah, it's time to leave. Once I join the Eight Great Empire Sects, I'll have the chance to return here when there's time."

Chen Yu sighed.

The recruitment of disciples by the Eight Great Empire Sects was just over a month away.

With his impending departure, he had no concern for Nie Hua's task.

He ended his seclusion and went to the residence of Qingyun Emperor, informing him of his purpose.

"Enter the Eight Great Empire Sects?"

Qingyun Emperor pondered for a moment.

"The reason you obtained a spot in the Eight Great Empire Sects is thanks to the help of the Lin family."

Chen Yu added a sentence.

Anyway, the Lin family indeed provided him considerable help.

"With just over a month left until the recruitment of disciples by the Eight Great Empire Sects, you can only enter 'Xie Luo Prison' near the Chaotic Sea Plain."

Qingyun Emperor stated calmly.

Chen Yu nodded; this was his only choice left.

"Xie Luo Prison is a major sect of Human Race evil demons, and the 'Nine Revolutions Bright Star Technique' you practice, along with the Body Refinement techniques, are unsuitable for entering this sect."

"It might be better to wait a bit more."

Qingyun Emperor analyzed and suggested.

Chen Yu also knew that Xie Luo Prison wasn't the best choice, but it was still one of the eight main Human Race Empire Sects of the main world, far superior to a Four-star Force in the Great Yu Realm.

It may not be the best, but it's not bad either.

"Wait a bit more?"

Chen Yu was puzzled by the meaning of these three words.

The Eight Great Empire Sects only recruit disciples once every ten years, so did it mean he had to wait ten years?

"The Eight Great Empire Sects are good, but just so-so."

Qingyun Emperor said.

Chen Yu's lips twitched, thinking that Qingyun Emperor had started boasting again.

Among the Human Race territories, there were many Four-star sects, among which the top eight were collectively called the Eight Great Empire Sects, some even reaching the late Xuanming Realm, or even Demigod.

A single Empire Sect was enough to sweep the Great Yu Realm.

Yet Qingyun Emperor actually said, the Eight Great Empire Sects were just so-so.

"Do you have the confidence to enter the 'Three Great God Sects'?"

Qingyun Emperor watched Chen Yu with a faint smile.

"Three Great God Sects!"

Chen Yu had only heard of them a few times and did not know much about them.

After all, the Three Great God Sects were too far distant for ordinary cultivators.

They were the top Holy Lands of cultivation on the Human Race lands, with Divine Realm Great Power overseeing, surpassing all others.

"Five years later is the time for the Human Race's 'Three Great God Sects' to recruit disciples. You have the spot to enter the Eight Great Empire Sects, which is equivalent to having the qualification to take part in the God Sect's assessment."

Qingyun Emperor introduced.

The qualification to enter an Empire Sect was equivalent to the qualification to take part in the God Sect's assessment.

This was not secret information, just that for the Five Great Families, having family juniors able to enter the Eight Great Empire Sects was already a blessing.

If they abandoned the chance to enter the Eight Great Empire Sects to participate in the God Sect assessment, with a pass rate of less than twenty percent, if all failed, it would mean all the spots would be wasted.

The Five Great Families found every spot extremely precious, not to be casually wasted.

So the Five Great Families never even considered allowing their juniors to enter the 'Three Great God Sects'!

Thus, Chen Yu was unaware of this before.

He took a deep breath, pondered for a moment, then with determined eyes, said: "Then I will wait five years to enter the God Sect!"

With the recruitment by the Eight Great Empire Sects imminent, Chen Yu could only enter the nearby Xie Luo Prison.

This path was not a good choice.

And opting for the Three Great God Sects would bring assessments and the possibility of failure.

But having cultivated thus far, Chen Yu, who outshone geniuses of the same rank, had a certain confidence in himself.

In comparison, this path was much better.

Chen Yu was pressed for time and still needed to find the "Heavenly Sacred Seed" to save Ye Luofeng, so since he chose to wait five years, he must enter the God Sect without any mishap.

Seeing Chen Yu's firm determination, Qingyun Emperor nodded slightly.

"If so, then stay here for a while first."

Qingyun Emperor smiled.

"Alright."

Currently, Chen Yu didn't have anywhere else to go.

After some small talk, Chen Yu returned to his residence.

The previous ten days of cultivation were not enough to consolidate his power.

Now that Chen Yu made a new choice, with ample time, he went back into seclusion to strive for an early consolidation of his power.

On this day.

A servant passed a message: "Commander, someone is here to see you outside the City Lord Mansion."

"Who?"

Chen Yu asked, having no acquaintances at the Chaotic Sea Plain.

"They didn't give a name, only said they come from the White Tiger Sacred Clan."

"It's them?"

Chen Yu did not have a good impression of the four from the White Tiger Sacred Clan and was ready to dismiss them.

But on second thought, being the commander of the City Lord Mansion, with a high position and power, backed by Qingyun Emperor,

Even if they had a hundred times the courage, they wouldn't dare lay a hand on him here, instead needing to be wary of Chen Yu's retaliation.

"Bring them to see me."

Chapter 1013: Soul Burial Lake

Under the servant's guidance, the four members of the White Tiger Sacred Clan arrived.

During this meeting, the four members of the White Tiger Sacred Clan felt slightly uneasy.

Times have changed; Chen Yu had become the commander here and had connections with an emperor.

Only the woman in white, leading the four, maintained an unchanged expression, with a faint pride manifesting between her brows.

"Seeing this commander, why don't you salute?"

Chen Yu sported a playful smile, sizing up the four and emanated the aura of a superior.

He had often been watched by people from the White Tiger Sacred Clan, bringing much trouble; now, given the chance, he naturally wanted to give them a little taste of their own medicine.

The four of the White Tiger Sacred Clan showed dissatisfaction on their faces.

In the previous encounters with Chen Yu, they were always the ones hunting him down.

But now the tables had turned, and he was the commander, on the territory of the Human Race, their compliance with local rules was necessary.

If they upset Chen Yu, and he bore a grudge against them for past pursuits and sought revenge, things would only get more complicated.

Moreover,

It was they who needed something from Chen Yu now.

"Greetings, Commander Chen."

The four saluted.

Even the proud woman in white slightly bowed her head.

Seeing the four from the White Tiger Sacred Clan being subdued, Chen Yu got straight to the point:
"Speak, what do you want?"

"We want to strike a deal with you, to exchange for the core inheritance you obtained from the Skywalking Demon God!"

The woman in white was straightforward.

Skywalking Demon God?

Chen Yu knew nothing about the Demon Race Secret Realm, only aware that the body refining techniques he acquired were quite extraordinary.

It seemed the people from the White Tiger Sacred Clan knew quite a lot.

"The Skywalking Demon God was a powerful figure in our Demon Race of godly realm, coming from an ordinary Monkey Clan. He rose step by step, surpassing the geniuses of his generation in the Demon Race. He became the most brilliant talent of our time and had close ties with numerous holy clans, eventually breaking through to the godly realm."

The woman in white gave a brief introduction.

That was during the Ancient Times, when the Demon Race once dominated the main world, and the Skywalking Demon God was so brilliant. His extraordinary nature was obvious.

"What are you offering in exchange?"

Chen Yu was more interested in this.

"The Four Symbols Divine Body" originally belonged to the Demon Race's body refining techniques, and I only obtained it by accident.

Returning the cultivation technique to them would still allow him to gain additional benefits, so why not?

Of course, if the benefits were too small, Chen Yu would not agree.

After all, from the woman's account, the said godly demon's cultivation techniques and combat skills' value was beyond imagination.

"This matter needs deliberation with the elders in the clan. For now, we wish to know what core inheritance you received?"

The woman in white said solemnly.

The Skywalking Demon God emerged during the Ancient Times, too far back in history, with few records of his cultivation techniques and combat skills.

But among the records the woman in white had seen, the most described was the Skywalking Demon God's "Mixed Element Sky Breaking Stick." Its transformations were unpredictable, with endless power, capable of slaughtering in the godly realm.

If Chen Yu acquired the "Mixed Element Sky Breaking Stick," the White Tiger Sacred Clan might be willing to pay a substantial price.

"What I received is a body refining technique."

Chen Yu didn't directly mention the "Four Symbols Divine Body."

"Body refining technique?"

The four of the White Tiger Sacred Clan showed confusion.

Historical records about the Skywalking Demon God didn't cover much in this area.

"There are many body refiners in the White Tiger Sacred Clan. Since the Skywalking Demon God left this technique, he must have valued it highly. It wouldn't be ordinary."

The woman's exquisite brows slightly furrowed.

She had speculated before, but learning that Chen Yu's inheritance was a body refining technique still left her somewhat disappointed.

Perhaps Chen Yu's performance at the time wasn't enough to acquire the "Mixed Element Sky Breaking Stick."

"Farewell, we need to return to our clan and let the higher-ups decide on this matter."

The woman decisively stated.

Although she did not know what specific body refining technique Chen Yu had obtained, returning to the clan to consult the scriptures would surely uncover the answer.

Overall, the value of body refining techniques seemed slightly lower.

And indeed, little was described about body refining aspect in the ancient records of the Skywalking Demon God.

Chen Yu also noticed the disappointment in the eyes of the four from the White Tiger Sacred Clan.

Could it be that the "Four Symbols Divine Body" he chose was the weakest of the three technique inheritances?

Chen Yu didn't mind; even if given another choice, he would still opt for the "Four Symbols Divine Body."

Suddenly,

A calm, gentle voice rang in Chen Yu's mind: "The inheritance of the Skywalking Demon God, are you cultivating the 'Four Symbols Divine Body'?"

The voice belonged to the Qingyun Emperor.

"Yes!"

"Hehe, good. When the White Tiger Sacred Clan desires this cultivation technique, just make sure to make them pay heavily."

The Qingyun Emperor chuckled, seeming to appreciate the "Four Symbols Divine Body" very much.

"Although body refining techniques aren't mainstream, the true value of the 'Four Symbols Divine Body' is that it incorporates the core inheritance of the Demon Race's four major holy clans. Any clan obtaining this body refining technique can, from its contents, deduce several ancient combat skills that have been lost, and might even deduce ancient combat skills from other holy clans."

The Qingyun Emperor added.

Chen Yu suddenly realized that the Qingyun Emperor knew quite a lot.

Even the people from the White Tiger Sacred Clan hadn't guessed that Chen Yu was cultivating a body refining technique, but the Qingyun Emperor effortlessly discerned it and even knew some details about the "Four Symbols Divine Body."

After the White Tiger Sacred Clan left,

Chen Yu continued to consolidate his cultivation, opening star acupoints.

In terms of resources, he was in no shortage.

Back at the Lingfeng Auction, he had collected a significant amount of resources.

Moreover, he had a large supply of Primordial Stones, and with his position as a commander, he could exchange for cultivation resources at the City Lord Mansion at discounted prices.

This cultivation session lasted for an entire month.

On this day.

Black Bone King came to visit.

"Commander Chen, the task given by the general has been delayed by over a month, do you intend to defy military orders?"

Black Bone King had a sour expression.

"Task? It seems there was such a thing."

Chen Yu had planned to leave initially, then threw this matter to the back of his mind and forgot about it.

"Commander Chen, you haven't been in this position for long and haven't achieved any merit. If you defy the general's orders, I'm afraid it will be hard to convince the masses."

Black Bone King remarked sarcastically.

Chen Yu glanced coldly at Black Bone King, his pitch-black and icy eyes staring: "Are you not convinced, Black Bone King?"

Just a moment earlier, the somewhat smug Black Bone King weakened instantly upon meeting Chen Yu's gaze.

That past battle had left a shadow in his heart.

Black Bone King had just left.

Chen Yu then heard Qingyun Emperor's transmission: "You can take a look at the task given by Nie Hua."

He showed a hint of surprise.

By rights, any task from Nie Hua certainly harbors ill intentions, yet Qingyun Emperor wants him to check it out, is he not afraid that Nie Hua might harm him?

Or does Qingyun Emperor have confidence that Chen Yu will be safe under his watchful eyes?

Driven by curiosity, Chen Yu took out the military order to check the task details.

"Investigate the cause of the 'Soul Burial Lake' anomaly!"

Just these simple words.

"One reason for the chaos in Chaotic Sea Plain is that it's the borderland between the Human Race and the alien race."

"The second reason is that there are three forbidden lands here, filled with dangers yet also promising considerable opportunities. Especially 'Soul Burial Lake', which can also be called a 'treasure land'!"

Qingyun Emperor explained.

Back when Chen Yu came to Chaotic Sea Plain, his purpose was simple, and he wasn't aware of much else.

At this moment, he realized that this chaotic place indeed has a high number of cultivators, with powerful ones as numerous as the clouds, far exceeding the Spiritual Mountain region he was previously in.

"Three forbidden lands!"

Any forbidden land could harbor little-known secrets or be a treasure trove.

But the prerequisite is having enough strength to disregard the dangers of the forbidden lands.

For those with too weak cultivation, the forbidden land is indeed a forbidden land, but for the strong, it's a treasure land.

"Understood."

Chen Yu responded.

He has already decided to stay here a while longer, the task given by Nie Hua is unavoidable.

Since even Qingyun Emperor sees no issue, he has nothing to fear.

On that day.

Chen Yu summoned his subordinates through his Identity Token to gather relevant information.

The City Lord Mansion has eight great commanders, each commanding four teams, and each team underneath has a number of personnel.

At that moment.

The captains of four teams gathered at Chen Yu Mansion.

These four were all in the Early Stage of Star Condensing, and at this moment, they all sized up the young man sitting above.

This was the recent prominent figure in Chaotic Sea City.

Killing Nie Yuan, battling the champions alone, making the enemies tremble with fear.

Even when General Nie Hua personally intervened, he couldn't convict Chen Yu because the Human Clan Emperor stationed here recognized Chen Yu's talent, appointing him to the position of one of the eight great commanders.

The four captains dressed in blue armor feared Chen Yu, yet were not content with this commander.

In the Human Race's power structure on Chaotic Sea Plain, General Nie Hua is ostensibly still the one in charge.

And Nie Hua's animosity towards Chen Yu is deep-seated, so Chen Yu's squad would also suffer the consequences.

"Tell me about the situation with Soul Burial Lake!"

Chen Yu said indifferently.

A woman with ordinary looks and slightly dark skin said, "Chaotic Sea Plain has three forbidden lands, and Soul Burial Lake is the one with the lowest danger level and the greatest opportunity..."

Soul Burial Lake is almost the source of conflict among the three main races in Chaotic Sea Plain.

The three major races agreed that every ten years, each would send a certain number of personnel to Soul Burial Lake to scavenge for treasures.

But recently.

There have been disturbances in Soul Burial Lake, with formidable evil spirits and fierce ghosts emerging continuously, making the previously most opportunistic Soul Burial Lake now the most dangerous of the three forbidden lands.

"What was the original condition of Soul Burial Lake?"

Chen Yu asked with a frown.

"Sorry, I forgot, Commander Chen hasn't been here long, so he might not know about Soul Burial Lake."

The ordinary-looking woman smiled and continued to introduce.

Soul Burial Lake, though called a lake, is vast and divided into many areas; it's just a general term.

Within the lake are fierce ghosts and evil spirits, occasionally floating some treasures.

But now, there are continuous anomalies in Soul Burial Lake, such as one lake area's water level suddenly dropping or rising, each time generating numerous ghosts whose cultivation far exceeds before.

"Got it."

Having listened, Chen Yu dismissed them.

He had gained a preliminary understanding of Soul Burial Lake.

This task carries some danger, involving contact with alien races.

But since Qingyun Emperor wants him to take a look, it might be an opportunity for refinement. After all, Chen Yu's goal is no longer the eight great Emperor Sects but the three great Divine Sects.

He also didn't plan to stay in the City Lord Mansion for five years.

After half a month of secluded cultivation.

Chen Yu left Chaotic Sea City, leading his team, flying westward.

The earth was dim, and an evil wind raged madly.

This area is the most chaotic and dangerous part of Chaotic Sea Plain, it belongs to no force, and aliens often appear here.

Chapter 1014: Spatial Disturbance

In the dim world, the cultivators occasionally encountered, their eyes were cold and terrifying, filled with murderous intent.

Yet, when these evil cultivators saw Chen Yu, they all kept their distance.

The silver armor Chen Yu wore was a symbol of the commander's authority in Chaotic Sea City, a premium item at the same rank, freely given, not too bad.

Additionally, behind Chen Yu followed four units of elite troops, creating an imposing presence.

Ordinary evil cultivators dare not target him.

After half a day of journeying, a plain-looking female captain said, "Commander, ahead is the Soul Burying Lake."

Looking from afar.

Ahead was a giant basin, shrouded in chilly black mist, constantly rolling, emitting strange sounds as if hiding ghosts within.

"Hmm!"

Chen Yu's mysterious heart suddenly sensed intense spatial powers, coming from the depths of the basin.

Before long, Chen Yu led his team to the Human Race's encampment area.

On the other two sides of the Soul Burying Lake, there were other troops stationed.

"On the left is the 'Flame Human Clan' and the 'Earth Spirit Clan,' while the right side belongs to the races from the deep sea."

The female captain introduced to Chen Yu.

Both of these forces had two Mid-stage Star Condensation Realm cultivators stationed here, making the Human Race seem relatively weaker.

Chen Yu and his team's arrival stirred the forces stationed here, including the alien forces.

"Commander Chen, you've finally arrived."

A middle-aged man in similar silver armor flew over, also one of the eight commanders, previously stationed here to investigate the abnormalities of the Soul Burying Lake.

"What's the situation?"

Chen Yu asked, since he had taken this mission, he would try to do it well.

Besides, he had some interest in the Soul Burying Lake.

Rumors said, the Soul Burying Lake was once an ancient battlefield, where countless died, thus leading to many fierce ghosts, restless spirits lingering here.

No matter the reason.

There were indeed many opportunities here, before the Soul Burying Lake mutated, both Human and alien races had gained considerable benefits here.

"Nothing has been discovered."

The silver-armored middle-aged man shook his head with a sigh, then smiled and said, "Commander Chen is a hero in his youth, we leave it to you, believing you will not disappoint General Nie's high hopes."

"General Nie urgently summoned Liu, farewell!"

After he finished explaining, the silver-armored middle-aged man led his troops away.

Chen Yu understood, the silver-armored middle-aged man was Nie Hua's man, surely wouldn't assist him, not tripping him up was already good.

While Chen Yu's troops looked at each other helplessly.

This clearly wasn't a good task, as General Nie didn't like Chen Yu, deliberately targeted him, causing them to suffer as well.

The soldiers dared not voice their anger and could only admit defeat.

Chen Yu didn't bother too much, gazing at the Soul Burying Lake.

Approaching, without relying on the mysterious heart's sensing, merely by spatial profound meaning alone, he could notice distinct spatial fluctuations in the Soul Burying Lake.

The lake was shrouded in black mist, yet its rough outline was still visible.

Chen Yu saw many lakes of various sizes, the water was dark blue, with ghostly figures of varying shapes floating above, some were alone, others in groups, their eyes all hollow and wandering aimlessly on the lake surface.

In the Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan.

A group of people, robust and muscular like rocks, discussed the situation of the Human Race.

"The Human Race has sent reinforcements, including a commander."

The aliens were quite concerned about the Human Race's movements, seeing the enemy's forces grow, they couldn't help but feel uneasy.

"Look, the Human Race's Commander Liu left with his troops."

"Haha, seems like we worried too much, the Human Race transferred out a Mid-stage Star Condensation Realm, brought in an Early-stage Condensed Star Realm Peak, abandoning the exploration of the Soul Burying Lake?"

"Such a task, letting a young Early-stage Condensed Star Realm Peak handle it is really dangerous. Could it be this person offended a Human Race General and was sent here to die?"

Seeing this, the alien faction laughed, some even felt quite sorry for Chen Yu.

Several Condensed Star Realm aliens had plots brewing in their minds, thinking if an accident could help eliminate this Human Race commander during exploration.

Right then, a three-foot-tall man walked out from the camp tent, looking fierce and exuding a strong oppressive aura.

"Tower Stone King!"

Everyone bowed in respect.

This burly man was the exploration leader of the Earth Spirit Clan at the Soul Burying Lake.

He was also the one who had infiltrated Chaotic Sea City and attended the Lingfeng Auction with "Erosion Sun King" a few days ago.

"Any updates?"

The burly man, "Tower Stone King," asked coldly, disturbed by the noise outside to check the situation.

"Master Tower Stone King, Liu the Monster of the Human Race has been swapped out, a new commander at Early-stage Condensed Star Realm Peak arrived; should we quietly eliminate him?"

Tower Stone King's confidant suggested.

The Human Race and the Earth Spirit Clan were opposing forces, killing an enemy's strong fighter would earn corresponding rewards.

"Oh? Let me see!"

Tower Stone King's eyes sparkled like diamonds, emitting a dim glow, as his spiritual sense extended out to scan the Human Race's side.

The next moment.

Tower Stone King saw Chen Yu in silver armor, the latter glancing at his location with a cold smile.

"It's him? Previously in Chaotic Sea City, joined the chaos inexplicably, trying to kill me, unexpectedly coming from the Earth Spirit Clan."

Chen Yu murmured, withdrawing his gaze.

Given the chance, he would surely seek revenge, especially since the other was from an enemy race.

On the other side.

"It's him!"

Tower Stone King's face changed drastically, taking a step back.

Particularly Chen Yu's cold smile made him feel a sense of crisis, recalling that night of Chen Yu's wanton massacres.

Back then, even the four Mid-stage Star Condensation Realm couldn't handle Chen Yu.

Though Tower Stone King held back due to his status, with many hidden means.

But one-on-one, he considered it difficult to match Chen Yu.

"My lord, what's wrong?"

All around, the Earth Spirit Clan and the Flame Human Clan saw the Tower Stone King showing unusual panic, and were full of curiosity.

"From now on, do not provoke the Human Race lightly."

The Tower Stone King shouted sharply and returned to the tent with a stern face.

On the other side.

Within the Sea Clan's camp.

A man with a human head and a fish body floated in mid-air, his deep blue eyes scanning the distance.

"I thought the Human Race would send someone stronger, but instead they sent someone even worse. Has the Human Race completely given up on exploration?"

The merfolk man's voice was clear, his blue scales shimmering with light.

"Lord Blue Water King, after all, this is Soul Burial Lake. No matter how hard the Human Race, Earth Spirit Clan, and Flame Human Clan try, it's impossible for them to uncover the truth before us."

Beside him, a merfolk chuckled.

In the exploration of the anomalies in Soul Burial Lake, the Merfolk Clan had indeed the upper hand, having gathered the most intelligence so far.

"That's right, with the anomalies of Soul Burial Lake, we might only need another three investigations to figure out everything."

The blue-scaled man, the "Blue Water King," spoke calmly.

"In three days, we will explore Soul Burial Lake again!"

With a flick of his fish tail, he stirred up a blue water light, and his figure vanished along with that water light.

...

It had been three days since arriving at Soul Burial Lake.

Chen Yu had grasped most of the situation by now.

That day, Chen Yu selected a small group of men to enter Soul Burial Lake for exploration.

As they approached a certain area of Soul Burial Lake, their presence immediately drew the attention of the ghosts above the lake.

Two captains acted quickly, eliminating the enemies with minimal commotion to avoid attracting more foes.

Suddenly, Chen Yu sensed something was amiss. Comprehending the Profound Meaning of Space, he perceived that a spatial power deep in Soul Burial Lake was growing stronger.

Rumble!

The lake waters churned violently, a potent evil ghostly aura rising, enveloping all life nearby and invading their minds.

The Condensed Star Kings fared slightly better, but those with cultivation lower than the Condensed Star Realm found it hard to cope, and their spirits were easily affected if they weren't careful.

"This is bad!"

"What bad luck, encountering the anomaly of Soul Burial Lake on our first exploration."

Two captains sighed.

After each anomaly, the number of vile ghosts and fierce spirits on Soul Burial Lake would surge, making exploration unsuitable.

"Have them retreat first!"

Chen Yu ordered.

Ghostly shadows emerged from the churning lake waters, occasionally accompanied by rare materials or treasure radiating a precious glow.

But overall, the danger clearly outweighed the opportunities.

Chen Yu's team slowly retreated.

Roar!

A series of roars came from afar, and the dim blue lake surface stirred up chilling winds and waves, as a mass of black shadows surged toward Chen Yu's team, chilling just to behold.

This sea of black shadows consisted entirely of the ghosts of Soul Burial Lake.

Among them was a purple skeleton, its entire body enshrouded in blazing purple flames, charging madly.

Another ghost, cloaked in black mist, revealed a huge snake tail exuding ferocious evil qi.

These two ghosts had surprisingly reached the Condensing Star Level, known as "Ghost Kings."

Upon closer inspection.

In front of this group of ghosts was a small blue fish, brimming with vitality and moving at incredible speed.

Clearly, this group of ghosts was chasing the small blue fish.

"This is bad, it's the Merfolk Clan's secret technique."

A squad captain suddenly exclaimed.

The small blue fish darted toward Chen Yu and the others, clearly intending to "deliver" these enemies to the Human Race.

Swish!

That small blue fish was shockingly fast, like lightning, arriving near Chen Yu and the others and revealing a mischievous ghost face.

"Nice to meet you, this is a great gift from this king to the leader of the Human Race, haha."

The blue fish emitted a soul power fluctuation, its voice echoing in everyone's mind, causing grim faces and gnashing teeth.

The two captains immediately attacked, closing in on the blue fish from both sides, but it evaded effortlessly.

Though the blue fish appeared not to be offensive, its speed was astonishing.

Just then.

Chen Yu reached out toward the blue fish with a grasp.

The blue fish seemed to sense this and prepared to flee.

However, the surrounding space suddenly condensed into a silver barrier, gradually contracting to form a transparent cube, trapping the blue fish inside.

Bang!

As the transparent cube shrank, the blue fish's body exploded, turning into a pool of blue blood.

At the same time.

On the other side of Soul Burial Lake, dozens of Merfolk Clan members gazed into the distance, with no ghosts around.

"The Blue Water King truly has a brilliant strategy!"

"I'm afraid that Human Race's new leader will never dare to enter Soul Burial Lake again!"

The merfolk laughed and chatted among themselves.

"They shouldn't have chosen the same day as us to explore Soul Burial Lake."

The Blue Water King sneered at the corner of his mouth, a faint pride emanating.

But suddenly, his expression changed, and a trickle of blood oozed from the corner of his mouth, revealing anger: "My secret technique was forcibly shattered."

Chapter 1015: Establishing Authority

"My secret technique was forcefully shattered."

The Blue Water King's handsome and exotic face revealed a ferocious and angry expression.

Just now, he had used the Spirit Transformation Technique, and that blue "fish spirit", with its first-rate speed and concealment skills, was often used to investigate enemy situations or dangerous forbidden grounds.

In his view, within this Soul Burial Lake, if the fish spirit wanted to escape, no one could stop it.

As a result, the Blue Water King paid the price for his confidence.

"I didn't expect this new human commander to have comprehended the profound meaning of space."

The Blue Water King wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth.

The fish spirit contained his essence and a portion of his soul's will, which was obliterated, and he himself was affected to some extent.

"Even so, the human race, faced with numerous ferocious ghosts and evil spirits, will incur heavy losses."

A merfolk said.

"Should we start exploring Soul Burial Lake now, or seize this opportunity to wipe out the humans stationed here?"

Another early-stage Condensed Star merfolk king asked inquisitively.

In the past.

The Blue Water King might have chosen the former; after all, occasional skirmishes were acceptable, but annihilating an entire team was a bit excessive and could trigger major conflicts between the two races.

But today, the Blue Water King was holding back anger.

"Naturally, let's go and see how capable the humans really are."

The Blue Water King coldly commanded, leading the merfolk slowly closer.

On the other side, the Earth Spirit Clan and Flame Human Clan personnel also appeared, watching from outside the Soul Burial Lake.

"Are the human and merfolk races clashing again?"

"This is not a minor conflict; the Soul Burial Lake has mutated at this time, becoming even more dangerous, and the merfolk are trying to annihilate this human team."

A Flame Human Clan king said in a deep voice.

In a unique forbidden ground like Soul Burial Lake, the merfolk hold a certain advantage, while the Flame Human Clan is at an absolute disadvantage; they are more eager to see the merfolk suffer defeat.

"Tower Stone King!"

The crowd parted to make way as the three-yard-tall Tower Stone King slowly approached.

When he noticed the commotion at the Soul Burial Lake, a faint smile appeared on his lips: "The merfolk are looking for trouble for no reason and are bound to suffer a great loss."

The merfolk are unaware of Chen Yu, the rising individual who he had previously fought against; how could he not know Chen Yu's means?

"Why do you say that? How could the merfolk suffer a loss, especially in such an environment?"

Some were puzzled.

The Tower Stone King did not answer; otherwise, he would expose his defeat at Chen Yu's hands while infiltrating the human race.

...

Over the eerie blue lake.

"Retreat quickly!"

"Withdraw from the Soul Burial Lake!"

Two captains shouted.

Countless ghostly shadows surged relentlessly from afar, as if the crowd had entered a hellish domain, leaving many with expressions of despair.

"Commander Chen!"

The eyes of the two captains and many others fell on Chen Yu.

Now, facing a major crisis, they could only rely on this new commander.

The two captains had heard of Chen Yu's feats; if Chen Yu took action, the current situation should be resolved.

Chen Yu stood calmly on the lake surface, gazing into the distance.

The black mass of ghostly creatures before him was primarily overwhelming in number, making it not difficult to deal with them.

But upon arriving here, the merfolk dared to provoke him, treating him like a soft target?

Buzz!

Chen Yu extended his palm, upon which a small golden tower appeared.

The moment the tower appeared, everyone around felt a strong oppression, and their blood and Inner Qi solidified.

In the distance, the Tower Stone King among the Earth Spirit Clan sensed this, showing a look of longing.

"Go!"

The small golden tower in Chen Yu's hand transformed into a streak of golden light, which suddenly blossomed with brilliance so dazzling that one couldn't open their eyes.

Now he had completely refined the Golden Mountain Tower.

Instantly.

The two-foot-tall golden tower transformed into a three-thousand-yard-tall structure, like a giant golden mountain, suspended in the sky, its light shining brightly.

The ghostly creatures on the Soul Burial Lake were all drawn to this scene, and under the dazzling golden light, they howled even more ferociously, seeming to hate the golden light.

Boom!

The golden giant tower suddenly descended, striking the lake's surface, stirring up a violent and formidable storm that swept through the vast Soul Burial Lake.

"This!"

Everyone behind Chen Yu was dumbfounded.

The storm stirred by the Golden Mountain Tower affected the entire Soul Burial Lake, yet standing behind Chen Yu, they were surrounded by an invisible light silver barrier that shielded everything, allowing them to safely observe the wild waves around them.

Countless ghostly creatures perished under the suppression of the golden giant tower.

When calm returned.

The evil ghosts and ferocious spirits that had been charging toward Chen Yu's team had already vanished without a trace.

They were at the center of the Golden Mountain Tower's attack, almost entirely obliterated.

On the other side.

The merfolk and others were all stunned in the lake water.

Just now, they were preparing to watch the spectacle, only to see the golden light explode, transforming into a giant tower, suppressing downward and stirring up a terrifying storm.

"They're all dead!"

"All those ferocious ghosts and spirits are dead; what kind of treasure is that?"

Voices of astonishment echoed among the merfolk.

"The aura of a mid-grade arcane artifact!"

The Blue Water King revealed an expression of resentment.

Just an early-stage Condensed Star Realm peak, yet possessing a mid-grade arcane artifact, and furthermore such a large-scale heavy arcane artifact, easily resolving the crisis.

Just at this moment.

Ghostly howls and wails resounded from all around as fierce and ferocious ghosts pounced from every direction.

The [Golden Mountain Tower] unleashed a massive strike, creating a storm that forced countless ghosts to the periphery.

As a result, the Merfolk Clan was attacked.

Gurgle!

The lake water churned as a black ghost shadow clad in armor suddenly surged forth, the black aura emanating from it dyeing the sky dark.

The armored ghost shadow wielded a large blade, sweeping it fiercely as the bone-chilling black wind passed over several nearby merfolk.

From within them, a light blue mermaid silhouette floated out; it was their soul, all swept away by the black wind into the mouth of the armored ghost shadow.

"Ghost King!"

A merfolk exclaimed, and the Ghost King appeared exceptionally powerful.

Even the Blue Water King's expression changed slightly, no longer as composed and confident as before.

"Not good, the commotion just now was too loud, the entire Soul Burial Lake has been shaken."

"Retreat!"

"Today is not suitable for exploration!"

The Merfolk Clan rapidly retreated, leaving Soul Burial Lake and returning to their camp.

The Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan also fell into silence.

The Merfolk Clan retreated without exploring, embarrassingly, and suffered some casualties.

Many people suddenly remembered the words of the Tower Stone King earlier, glancing over and feeling even more admiration for him.

"As expected of the Earth Spirit Clan's genius, Tower Stone King, you could see the extraordinariness of that Human Race commander; just in terms of vision, I am far inferior to you."

The leader of the Flame Human Clan sighed.

The corner of the Tower Stone King's mouth twitched, this was not about vision; it was entirely a lesson learned from experience.

"Huh? The Merfolk Clan is making a big move!"

"They are heading to the Human Race's camp."

"The Merfolk Clan has two mid-stage Condensed Star Realm Kings, giving them a combat advantage near Soul Burial Lake, even if that Human Race commander has a medium-quality mysterious artifact, he is not a match!"

The leader of the Flame Human Clan analyzed.

"Not necessarily."

The Tower Stone King showed a hint of a smile.

...

Chen Yu's team, after repelling the crisis, temporarily withdrew from Soul Burial Lake.

According to the captain, Chen Yu had caused a huge commotion just now and couldn't explore Soul Burial Lake temporarily, otherwise, even a Condensed Star Realm warrior would face severe danger.

Chen Yu didn't mind; he wasn't in a rush to complete the task.

But just as they returned to the camp, someone came rushing in to report: "The Merfolk Clan is attacking."

Immediately, everyone rushed out of the camp.

The previous actions of the Merfolk Clan had put them in danger. Upon hearing that the Merfolk Clan had come, most people's hearts ignited with anger, wanting to see what the Merfolk Clan intended to do.

In the distant sky.

The Merfolk Clan's team flew over, their immense pressure enveloping one side of heaven and earth.

The Merfolk Clan had an advantage in numbers, as did the number of Kings.

"What brings the Merfolk Clan here?"

The ordinary-looking female captain asked solemnly.

"What do you mean, what? Are you pretending to be foolish?"

The Blue Water King laughed loudly, glaring intently, his mid-stage Condensed Star Realm pressure crashing down.

The Human Race female captain was only at the early stage of Star Condensing, and under this pressure, her blood and energy solidified, making it hard to breathe, cold sweat forming on her forehead.

"Does the Human Race not know that causing too much commotion in Soul Burial Lake will alarm the hidden Ghost King?"

"The large disturbance you caused earlier led to heavy losses for our clan. Do you think nothing happened?"

The Blue Water King's presence was oppressive, and water waves surged incessantly between heaven and earth, threatening to form towering maelstroms.

These words ignited furious anger in many of the Human Race.

Clearly, the Merfolk Clan deliberately led the enemy to them, nearly causing great harm, and now they dared to come demanding compensation.

But faced with the pressure of two mid-stage Condensed Star Realm Kings, ordinary people didn't dare to speak up in opposition.

"Let your commander come out and apologize to our clan."

A robust Merfolk King said. He was the second mid-stage Condensed Star of the Merfolk Clan, with power on par with the Blue Water King.

"Are you looking for me?"

A young man in silver armor walked out from the tent; it was Chen Yu.

He looked composed, his ancient eyes gazing at the Merfolk Kings with a slight smile at the corner of his mouth.

"It was you who caused the huge commotion earlier, leading to heavy losses for our clan. How do you plan to resolve this?"

The Blue Water King glared at Chen Yu, his eyes shooting a chilling cold light.

"I heard you have a medium-quality mysterious artifact. Hand it over, and we'll consider this matter settled."

Another robust Merfolk King said with a sinister smile.

Their main purpose this time was Chen Yu's medium-quality mysterious artifact.

An early-stage Condensed Star Realm peak, mastering a medium-quality mysterious artifact would tempt anyone. In Chaotic Sea City, even evil demons were tempted and came to ambush Chen Yu, only to be slain by him in fear.

The Tower Stone King is a living example.

"All right."

Chen Yu laughed lightly.

This answer left the Human Race bewildered; did Commander Chen just agree like that?

The Merfolk Clan's experts were also stunned, not expecting Chen Yu to be so weak.

However, the moment Chen Yu tossed out the [Golden Mountain Tower], the two Merfolk Kings at the mid-stage Condensed Star Realm immediately sensed something was off.

"How dare you!"

The Blue Water King roared in anger.

He didn't expect Chen Yu to make a move without a word!

Boom!

The [Golden Mountain Tower] emitted brilliant golden light, instantly enlarging, like a majestic mountain, pressing towards the Merfolk Clan.

Chapter 1016: Compensation and Apology

Faced with the sudden attack, the Merfolk clan couldn't react in time, feeling as if there was a mountain of gold above their heads, a sense of heaviness overwhelming them.

The two mid-stage Condensed Star Kings were the first to sense it, summoning their profound artifacts and operating mysterious powers to defend.

Boom!

The water in the Soul Burial Lake behind them surged, swirling around the two mid-stage Condensed Star Kings.

The water in the Soul Burial Lake is extraordinary, capable of corroding vitality and affecting spiritual consciousness.

Many Sky Sea Realm individuals have searched for treasures in the Soul Burial Lake, ultimately losing their minds and sinking forever.

The resistance of those in the Condensed Star Realm is much stronger.

But recently, the changes in the Soul Burial Lake have increased the numbers of evil spirits, and its influence has also strengthened.

In the void, a black trident and a spear flashing with electric light, carrying swirling azure violent water, charged towards the [Golden Mountain Tower].

Boom!

The golden giant tower collided with the trident and spear, golden light and azure water light scattering.

The members present below the Condensed Star Realm couldn't withstand the terrifying battle storm, operating True Yuan defenses, retreating rapidly.

Boom!

A loud noise was heard as the trident and spear flew backward, crashing into the ground.

The joint attack of the two mid-stage Condensed Star Kings was still at a disadvantage.

Crash!

The [Golden Mountain Tower] crashed down, screams echoed, and blood splattered.

The two mid-stage Condensed Star Merfolk Kings jointly managed to block the [Golden Mountain Tower] for a moment, allowing some of the Merfolk clan to retreat in time.

Yet about forty percent of the Merfolk clan tragically died under Chen Yu's strike.

The humans in the rear, seeing this scene, were excited.

The Merfolk clan was truly arrogant earlier, failing to harm the humans, yet bullying their way in to demand compensation.

Now, seeing many Merfolk clan members tragically die, everyone felt very relieved.

"How dare you slaughter my clan?"

The Blue Water King angrily rebuked.

Even though Chen Yu struck suddenly, he and another mid-stage Condensed Star were no match for the [Golden Mountain Tower], which was unexpected.

The material of the [Golden Mountain Tower] was extraordinary; undamaged, it might have been a high-grade profound artifact, and even if it fell to mid-grade, it would still be unusual.

Moreover, Chen Yu's cultivation had broken through the early-stage Condensed Star Realm peak, and the Yuan force refined by the "Nine Revolutions Bright Star Technique" might surpass that of the Blue Water King.

Another point.

The [Golden Mountain Tower] is a heavy profound artifact, putting it at a disadvantage in a direct confrontation.

"Blue Water King, are you setting me up?"

Another robustly built Merfolk King transmitted angrily.

"I wasn't going to trouble you, yet you came over to pick a fight, so I'll begrudgingly make a move!"

Chen Yu said calmly.

There were conflicts between the races, and he could understand the Merfolk clan targeting the human race.

Chen Yu used the [Golden Mountain Tower] to give the Merfolk clan some trouble at the Hidden Sea Lake, as a return gift, and didn't bother them further.

Unexpectedly, the other party actively came to bully.

There was nothing to say between the two sides; they would just fight.

Boom!

The [Golden Mountain Tower] moved again, and the Merfolk clan members were all shocked.

This profound artifact was truly formidable, immense beyond belief, making it hard to dodge.

The two mid-stage Condensed Star Merfolk Kings also found it troublesome, this new human leader was much stronger than expected.

Swoosh!

Under Chen Yu's control, the [Golden Mountain Tower] shrank to two feet, turning into a streak of golden light, flying towards the robustly built Merfolk King.

The previous encounter left this Merfolk King with a shadow, and he didn't dare to confront it directly. The lightning spear pierced out while his figure swiftly retreated.

Ting crash!

Facing the golden giant tower, the lightning spear was completely outmatched, constantly knocked away.

"... a good opportunity."

The Blue Water King focused his gaze on Chen Yu.

In his view, it was the [Golden Mountain Tower] that posed a threat, not Chen Yu.

At the moment, the [Golden Mountain Tower] was thousands of feet away, and if he suddenly attacked, Chen Yu wouldn't have time to recall the profound artifact.

As long as he defeated Chen Yu, the [Golden Mountain Tower] would be no threat.

Boom!

The black trident spun, forming an azure icy tornado, stabbing towards Chen Yu.

The Blue Water King went all out, mobilizing the water within the Soul Burial Lake, aiming to kill Chen Yu in one strike.

"Hmph!"

Chen Yu snorted coldly; the Star Acupoint shone brightly, activating the body of a star constellation at full strength.

Compared to before the breakthrough, his star constellation body had grown much stronger.

Facing the Blue Water King's attack, he made no expression, merely punched out.

Boom!

The shining punch light, filled with terrifying power, surged forward, instantly shattering one-third of the azure icy tornado.

This scene shocked the Blue Water King.

Not using a mid-grade profound artifact, could a punch have such power? Was this brat's cultivation truly at the early-stage Condensed Star Realm peak?

Boom crash!

The azure icy tornado was entirely shattered by the punch light.

A layer of water shield surrounding the Blue Water King was also shattered by the residual power of the punch light, causing him to retreat dozens of steps, his blood boiling internally, his face showing astonishment.

At the same time.

"Human leader, stop!"

A call came from the other side.

The Blue Water King swept with his Spiritual Sense and saw his companion, entangled by the Ghost King above the Soul Burial Lake, also being targeted by the [Golden Mountain Tower].

As it turned out, his companion had been smashed into the Soul Burial Lake by the [Golden Mountain Tower] just moments ago, now trapped in danger, risking death if not careful.

"Honorable human leader, we were at fault, please stop, and we will leave immediately!"

The robust Merfolk King shouted.

"Previously at Soul Burial Lake, you deliberately lured enemies here. Now, shamelessly causing trouble again, just admitting your mistake isn't enough!"

Chen Yu's expression was cold.

"What else do you want?"

The Blue Water King's face was gloomy and embarrassed.

"Hand over all the intelligence you've gathered."

Chen Yu's expression was cold.

The Blue Water King seemed hesitant; he was planning to thoroughly investigate before returning to claim credit.

"I will give it; please stop quickly."

The robust Merfolk King couldn't wait any longer; any further and he might lose his life here.

Swish!

A blue streak of light flew over, landing in Chen Yu's hand, transforming into a jade slip.

Seeing this, the Blue Water King bowed his head with a sigh, filled with regret.

Chen Yu swept through it with his Spiritual Sense, memorized its contents, and then put away the Golden Mountain Tower.

"Leave!"

The Blue Water King shouted in a low voice and turned to disappear without a trace.

This time he completely lost face, obviously coming to demand compensation, but ending up "apologizing with compensation."

The other Merfolk Clan members also quickly left.

On the distant left.

The Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan had just approached, only to see the ground littered with Merfolk skeletons and the rapidly fleeing Merfolk Clan.

"What just happened?"

The Flame Human Clan leader exclaimed in surprise.

Earlier, they only knew that a fight had broken out on the Human Race's side, but the specifics were hard to discern.

They quickly withdrew, not wanting to provoke Chen Yu.

Upon returning to the camp, the Flame Human Clan leader looked at the Tower Stone King with even more admiration, saying, "As you predicted, the Merfolk Clan was utterly defeated. Your foresight is extraordinary, I'm impressed."

The Tower Stone King's expression was rigid.

What foresight? It's all about experience; he had personally experienced Chen Yu's power.

...

After the alien races left, Chen Yu gradually walked into Soul Burial Lake, feeling more and more that this lake was not simple.

In the past, among the three forbidden areas of the Chaotic Sea Plain, Soul Burial Lake ranked third. Mostly, Sky Sea Venerables ventured in, and as long as they didn't go too deep, there wasn't much danger.

But now, the number of Ghost Kings in Soul Burial Lake had increased, and even Venerables dared not easily venture inside.

And the Merfolk Clan, being part of the Sea Clan, had a great advantage in the water, obtaining a lot of useful information.

Diving within three thousand meters of Soul Burial Lake, there were mostly heretical precious materials, along with rare treasures and profound artifacts.

Once you exceed three thousand meters, the danger level abruptly increases. The lake bottom is rife with fierce Evil Ghosts and malicious spirits, powerful enough to pose a threat even to Condensed Star Kings.

The jade slip recorded that the Blue Water King once ventured five thousand meters into a certain area and found a great treasure — a Mysterious Power Crystal.

The Mysterious Power Crystal contains various worldly profound meanings that can be used for enlightenment, enhancing one's Mystical Level.

Such treasures are inherently rare and are typically held by powerful family forces, given to top-tier geniuses to improve their comprehension of profound meaning and boost their power.

The jade slip also recorded that below three thousand meters, spatial rifts could suddenly appear, with indications of where such rifts were most likely to appear.

"There's even a Mysterious Power Crystal here?"

Chen Yu found it hard to believe.

The description of spatial rifts seemed plausible to him.

During the unusual movements in Soul Burial Lake, Chen Yu indeed felt intense spatial fluctuations.

"If there is a Mysterious Power Crystal with spatial attributes, my spatial profound meaning could certainly break through to the Mystical Level 2."

Chen Yu developed some interest in Soul Burial Lake.

...

Merfolk Clan camp.

"Damn Humans, stealing our hard-earned results."

The robust Merfolk King fumed in anger.

The Blue Water King glanced at him speechlessly; just moments ago, he had handed over the results without a word.

"Now the Humans also know that there may be fragments of Mysterious Power Crystals at the bottom of Soul Burial Lake. We must immediately report to the higher-ups within the clan; we absolutely can't let the Humans get ahead."

The Blue Water King's face was dark and somber.

What he initially obtained wasn't a complete Mysterious Power Crystal, but given the fragments, there must be complete ones further down.

The reason the Blue Water King concealed the information was to gather more fragments of the Mysterious Power Crystal, hoping to discover other rare treasures.

But now, he couldn't afford to care about that.

Three days later.

The Merfolk Clan sent three Early Stage Condensed Star, three Early-stage Condensed Star Realm Peak individuals.

Originally, there was an agreement among the major clans: Xuanming Realm and High-level Condensed Star Realm were not to interfere lightly with Soul Burial Lake.

To avoid attracting attention from the Humans, Flame Human Clan, and Earth Spirit Clan, only six people were sent, and their cultivation wasn't very high.

Even so.

The slight movement from the Merfolk Clan still caught the attention of other races.

Chen Yu had also long since sent back news; once the Mysterious Power Crystal was revealed, competition for Soul Burial Lake would surely intensify.

By then, with the Merfolk Clan, Flame Human Clan, and Earth Spirit Clan experts converging, he alone wouldn't stand a chance on the Human Race side.

On this very day.

As more than ten Kings of the Merfolk Clan infiltrated various parts of Hidden Sea Lake for investigation,

Chen Yu suddenly sensed something: "It's coming!"

Rumble!

The lake water churned, strong ghostly energy erupted forth, black shadows in the lake multiplied, sending chills down one's spine.

This time, the upheaval at Soul Burial Lake was far more intense than ever before.

The world seemed to be affected, a gloomy oppression, as if space itself was unstable.

Chen Yu felt distinct spatial fluctuations, until a moment when his mysterious heart suddenly transmitted a craving.

Chapter 1017: A Joint Plot for Seizure

The desire emanating from the heart vanished instantly.

"Could it be the Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone?"

Chen Yu speculated in his heart.

The mysterious heart could devour space power and expand the internal crystal space.

If Chen Yu could obtain the Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone, it could be used to enhance his understanding of the Profound Meaning and expand the internal space of his heart.

Actually, the current internal space of the mysterious heart is already enough to serve as a storage space.

However, to avoid others discovering the secret of his private space, Chen Yu mostly used a storage space.

Rumble!

The anomaly of the Soul Burial Lake continued, accompanied by intense explosions, which were the sounds of battle at the bottom of the lake.

The merfolk clan was exploring, but they encountered the anomaly of the Soul Burial Lake, truly unfortunate luck.

The entire Soul Burial Lake was engulfed with terrifying waves and the wails of evil ghosts, appearing exceedingly eerie and horrifying.

At a certain moment.

A bright blue dot surfaced on the water, and the Kings present could distinctly feel the immense water attribute power contained within that bright blue dot.

"Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment."

The captain standing behind Chen Yu's eyes sparkled with bright light.

The Mystical Crystal Stone was immensely valuable; even a fragment was worth quite a few Primordial Stones.

Swoosh, swoosh...

Only to see the Earth Spirit Clan and Flame Human Clan, all the Condensed Star Realm members set out, all vying for that Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment.

With the anomaly at the Soul Burial Lake and the intrusion of Sky Sea Venerable, there was a potential danger.

Just as the four captains looked towards Chen Yu, he had already flown out.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu's entire body glowed with a silver-white brilliance, darting forward.

Although he moved later, his speed surpassed that of the Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan's Mid-stage Condensation Realm members.

"Kill!"

The Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan killed the evil ghost spirits charging from all directions, intending to seize the Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment.

From afar, a silver-white brilliance darted swiftly; it was clear it would reach the crystal fragment before them.

"Tower Stone King, let's join forces to stop him."

The representative of the Flame Human Clan was on high alert, but with Tower Stone King by his side, he felt slightly reassured, considering Tower Stone King had previously demonstrated exceptional insight and undoubtedly formidable strength.

Yet, upon seeing Tower Stone King, he was caught off guard to find him even more anxious.

"What?"

Tower Stone King hesitated with internal struggle.

He could be certain that even if he joined forces with the Flame Human Clan's Mid-stage Condensation Realm, they stood no chance against Chen Yu, but they had a hopeful chance of seizing the Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment.

Seizing the treasure and retreating promptly while avoiding direct confrontation with Chen Yu seemed feasible.

At that moment, Chen Yu's voice echoed: "Back in Chaotic Sea City, you attempted to seize my treasure, when should we settle that account?"

Upon hearing this, Tower Stone King's hair stood on end.

Chen Yu effortlessly repelled two Mid-stage Condensation Realm members of the merfolk clan; if he insisted on making a move, Tower Stone King wouldn't stand a chance.

"It was my foolishness in the past, I will let Commander Chen have this Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment as compensation."

Tower Stone King, tall and mighty, bowed down, appearing ingratiating.

This scene left the representative of the Flame Human Clan stunned.

In his mind, the mysterious and powerful, remarkably insightful Tower Stone King had become subservient before Chen Yu.

Not right, from Chen Yu's words, it was clear they had clashed before.

Deceived.

The representative of the Flame Human Clan wore an ugly expression, thinking Tower Stone King had remarkable insight, only to find he had suffered a setback from Chen Yu before.

He cast a disdainful glance at Tower Stone King.

The Earth Spirit Clan retreated, and the Flame Human Clan couldn't possibly engage Chen Yu.

Swoosh!

The bright blue Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment fell into Chen Yu's hand.

"Water Profound Meaning."

Chen Yu examined the Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment.

It felt smooth and warm, the surface rippled slightly; as his Spiritual Sense merged into it, it was as if he was in a vast oceanic world, his mind lucid, with some insights surfacing.

"For now, the crystal fragment containing the Water Profound Meaning is of no use to me."

Chen Yu placed the crystal fragment into his storage space and continued searching.

Suddenly.

"Help!"

A shout for help came from a certain point in the Soul Burial Lake.

The next moment, a Mermaid King in the Early Stage of Condensation Realm emerged from the lake, covered in blood marks, with a piece of his tail severed.

Roar!

A roar sounded, and dozens of gigantic black tentacles followed closely, instantly wrapping around the Mermaid King.

Soon after, the black tentacles sliced the person and king into pieces like blades.

At that moment, Chen Yu punched forward.

Boom!

The huge fist aura, glimmering with white light, struck the dozens of tentacles, breaking and scattering them.

Chen Yu seized the storage space of that Mermaid King out of thin air.

Actually, if he had moved a bit earlier, he could have saved that member of the merfolk clan, but since they were adversaries and the merfolk didn't leave a good impression on him, he thought not rubbing salt in their wounds was already good enough.

Since the opponent was already dead, Chen Yu conveniently took over his storage space.

The waters churned, and an angry soul roared from the depths.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Suddenly, several black tentacles rushed out from another direction, like black lightning, assaulting Chen Yu fiercely.

"Go!"

Chen Yu did not entangle with the enemy releasing the tentacles.

By utilizing the spatial attribute Profound Meaning, he dodged all attacks and safely left the Soul Burial Lake.

Opening the storage space he had just obtained, Chen Yu discovered inside were two fragments of Mystical Crystal Stones, varying in size. Among them, one emitted spatial power, causing this storage space to become distorted and unstable.

"Spatial attribute."

Chen Yu showed a pleased expression.

Immediately after.

The Kings of the Merfolk Clan surfaced one by one, their faces either pale or full of panic and fear.

Clearly, they encountered a powerful enemy during their exploration.

Initially, there were over ten people who dove underwater; now only four emerged, all Early Stage of Star Condensing Realm had perished.

The Merfolk Clan suffered significant losses this time, while the other two clans were somewhat gloating but remained curious about what the Merfolk Clan had encountered. It would be good to know some information.

The news that fragments of Mystical Crystal Stones were found at Soul Burial Lake quickly spread.

"Have you heard? The Soul Burial Lake, where the anomaly occurred earlier, has spat out fragments of Mystical Crystal Stones."

"I heard the Merfolk Clan had acquired many complete Mystical Crystal Stones, and they even speculated that there are hidden treasures and numerous fragments of Mystical Crystal Stones at the bottom of Soul Burial Lake."

The news spread, becoming more exaggerated as it circulated.

Many Evil Demons deliberately spread misleading information, exaggerating what they had heard, mainly to stir up chaos and get a share of the pie.

After all, Soul Burial Lake was jointly controlled by several major races, and without permission, ordinary Loose Cultivators could not enter Soul Burial Lake.

Chen Yu did not bother with such concerns and comfortably stationed himself near Soul Burial Lake.

Having obtained a fragment of Mystical Crystal Stone containing the Space Profound Meaning, he was attempting to comprehend the Space Profound Meaning.

This was completely different from the Silver Sky Crystal Stone Chen Yu had gotten before; the spatial power contained within Silver Sky Crystal Stone was difficult to comprehend, and its primary use was for crafting spatial-type mystical artifacts.

Holding the fragment of Mystical Crystal Stone in his hand, Chen Yu instantly felt his perception of space in the entire world became clearer.

His consciousness seemed to penetrate through layers of space, comprehending the principles.

The comprehension of Space Profound Meaning increased gradually, bit by bit.

One day.

Nie Hua led five Great Commanders to this place.

Upon seeing Chen Yu, Nie Hua's face darkened immediately, not saying a word.

He had arranged this task for Chen Yu, not very dangerous, and also intended to test Qingyun Emperor.

Unexpectedly, Chen Yu achieved such a significant accomplishment.

Even Nie Hua, who was in the Late Stage Star Condensing Realm, deeply desired the Mystical Crystal Stones.

If the Merfolk Clan were to investigate thoroughly first and acted swiftly to seize the valuable treasures within Soul Burial Lake, it would be a huge loss.

Not long after.

The leaders of the Merfolk Clan, Flame Human Clan, and Earth Spirit Clan arrived together.

The leaders of the clans conducted a secret meeting not far from Soul Burial Lake.

There was a purple barrier all around, isolating everything.

Though no sound could be heard, Chen Yu, even from a distance, could sense the intense disputes among the leaders of the clans.

The value of Soul Burial Lake was unknown, but merely the possibility of containing Mystical Crystal Stones was enough for them to scramble for every bit of interest.

Bang Boom!

The purple barrier shattered, and the crowned Merfolk King snorted angrily, "Since it can't be agreed upon, then we shall proceed this way."

Immediately after, Nie Hua returned.

"Our clan has already negotiated with them, as per past practices, each tribe sends a certain number of people to jointly enter Soul Burial Lake to scour for treasures, with each relying on their own strengths."

Nie Hua told several leaders.

Indeed, such events had happened in the past; every ten years, major clans would send a Condensed Star Realm leader with several Half-step Kings or high-level Venerables to search for treasures.

Now, it's definitely impossible to send such a team; that's a one-way ticket.

"Our Human Race has five slots, to be given to the most suitable individuals for this task."

Nie Hua solemnly stated.

Undoubtedly, this was an opportunity, and any gains would represent a great achievement.

Of course, it also accompanied a certain danger.

Next, he announced several names publicly.

All were among the eight Great Commanders, but Chen Yu was not named.

"Commander Chen, your task is complete, you can return to the city to rest; let others worry about the subsequent matters."

Nie Hua said with a fake smile.

He was asserting his authority, as the General here, everything was decided by him.

Chen Yu was indifferent, proposing himself, "General Nie also mentioned that these five slots should be given to the most suitable individuals for the task, and I believe I am very suitable for this task."

"I've been here for a while, understand the situation more than other commanders."

"And inside Soul Burial Lake, spatial rifts appear from time to time, which I, having comprehended the Space Profound Meaning, can relatively easily avoid."

Chen Yu wanted to delve deeper, one reason being for the Mystical Crystal Stones with spatial attributes.

He also wanted to know if what his mysterious heart craved was the Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone or something else?

Nie Hua did not expect, with Qingyun Emperor not present here, Chen Yu dared to defy him openly.

Moreover, he could not refute what Chen Yu said.

"Slots are limited; do you think you are suitable for this task, then are the remaining seven commanders inferior to you?"

Nie Hua questioned sternly.

Chen Yu did not say this, and Nie Hua deliberately distorted his words, posing a dilemma for Chen Yu.

If he insisted on taking a slot, it would mean offending seven commanders at once.

"Pretty much."

Chen Yu's expression was casual.

Nie Hua's eyes widened; he couldn't believe Chen Yu dared to admit this, even at the cost of offending the seven commanders, he whispered smilingly, "Alright, with such confidence... Peng Yun, give him your slot."

Commander Peng Yun was extremely unwilling but had to obey.

Nearby, the other commanders looked at Chen Yu with hostility and animosity.

Chen Yu had just admitted that the other seven commanders were inferior to him.

"Such arrogance and ignorance."

A middle-aged man in silver armor coldly retorted.

Earlier, he had handed off this task to Chen Yu without providing any intelligence, only to leave, unexpectedly Chen Yu was so ruthless, directly seizing intelligence from the Merfolk Clan.

"This kid probably hasn't seen the Great Commander yet, otherwise he would surely regret having said this."

Chapter 1018: Verifying the Hypothesis

The commanders were extremely displeased with Chen Yu's arrogance, but no one refuted him face-to-face.

One-on-one, they really had no confidence in defeating Chen Yu.

"This kid probably hasn't met the Great Commander yet, otherwise he would definitely regret having said those words."

The Liu Family Commander, who had previously dealt with Chen Yu, snorted coldly to himself.

To avoid attracting the attention of other strong individuals or races and prevent the plundering of Soul Burial Lake's interests, the operation was scheduled for three days later.

Because of this, there wasn't enough time for the Four Great Clans to gather their forces, or else they would have surely organized a team of elite warriors tailored for the special environment of Soul Burial Lake.

During this period, the Four Great Races and their leaders stationed around Soul Burial Lake, prohibiting anyone from entering the area.

On this day.

A thunderous roar came from the distance, and a streak of silver lightning shot through the sky, tearing through the black mist and transforming into a middle-aged man in silver armor.

His face was sharply contoured, his eyes like two thunderbolts, imposing and intimidating, making it impossible to meet his gaze directly.

"Great Commander."

The remaining human commanders looked at him with awe on their faces.

Chen Yu also looked over; he had heard of the Great Commander before, always executing missions in the first forbidden zone of the Chaotic Sea Plain.

The aura emanating from him clearly indicated the Mid-stage Star Condensation Peak, mastering the Profound Meaning of Thunder, making him a disastrous figure in the place where evil demons gathered.

"Great Commander, you may not know, these days at Soul Burial Lake..."

The Liu Family Commander approached, following the Great Commander, and recounted the recent events concerning Soul Burial Lake.

"That person over there is named Chen Yu, the new commander."

The Liu Family Commander suddenly introduced Chen Yu.

The Great Commander glanced at Chen Yu, noting his cultivation at the Peak of Early-stage Star Condensing, showing a slight hint of surprise but said nothing.

But then, the Liu Family Commander said something else.

The Great Commander looked at Chen Yu again, his gaze cold and slightly disdainful, with faint flickers of electricity in the void directed at Chen Yu.

Chen Yu remained unmoved.

Their disfavor towards him ultimately stemmed from Nie Hua.

However, Chen Yu's backing was an Emperor of Xuanming Realm, who was also his biological father.

Three days later.

The powerful individuals from the Four Great Clans gathered around Soul Burial Lake.

For this treasure hunt at Soul Burial Lake, the human race had five spots, while the Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan combined had seven spots, and the Merfolk Clan had the least, with only four spots.

Chen Yu heard that it was the alliance of the Human Race, Earth Spirit Clan, and Flame Human Clan suppressing the Merfolk Clan that led to this result.

After all, in the environment of Soul Burial Lake, the Merfolk Clan had a significant advantage.

"Even if we only have four spots, our loot will certainly crush theirs."

A cold voice rang out.

The speaker was a proud, statuesque mermaid woman, dressed only in a sheer fabric, her perfect curves fully visible, lips bright red, and gaze cold.

Beside the sheer-draped mermaid, Chen Yu saw the Blue Water King.

In the instant their eyes met, the Blue Water King's gaze was filled with intense hatred.

"Blue Water King, who is this Chen Yu you're speaking of?"

From the leftmost side, a voice rasped out from an elderly merman with black scales shimmering.

His whole body was enveloped in a black water mist, exuding a chilling aura of death, and everyone looking at him did so with a hint of reverence.

"To reply to Senior Lai, it is this person. He forcibly seized our clan's intelligence and leaked it; otherwise, most of the treasures in Soul Burial Lake would have belonged to our clan!"

The Blue Water King cast a glance at Chen Yu.

If the other three clans hadn't obtained crucial information, the Merfolk Clan could have prepared in secret, striking swiftly to plunder the treasures of Soul Burial Lake.

By the time the other three clans reacted, it would be too late, and they'd only gather some leftovers at best.

"His life in Soul Burial Lake is mine."

Senior Lai, the elderly merman, said flatly, as if discussing an insignificant matter.

The Earth Spirit Clan and Flame Human Clan together had seven spots, with the Flame Human Clan sending only three, and the Earth Spirit Clan four, also having a Mid-stage Star Condensation Peak King in charge.

"Gentlemen, can we begin now?"

In a calm tone, the merfolk leader wearing a crown spoke.

"Let's start, delaying could cause changes."

"Begin."

Nie Hua and the Earth Spirit Clan leader spoke.

Previously, those who entered Soul Burial Lake to search for treasures had to openly check their storage bags to prevent hiding any gains.

Chen Yu had already thought of a countermeasure for this by storing the valuable items in a mysterious crystal space. Otherwise, if he took out all his possessions, it would likely be more like others plundering him rather than Soul Burial Lake's treasures.

Swish...

From three directions, over a dozen figures darted out and plunged into Soul Burial Lake.

The vicious spirits wandering above Soul Burial Lake were immediately attracted and charged at them.

But the elite warriors dispatched by the Four Great Clans this time were extraordinary, with the lowest cultivation being Chen Yu's Peak of Early-stage Star Condensing.

With just a few moves, the ghostly apparitions on the lake's surface vanished without a trace.

Splash...

As the group entered the lake, the water was a deep blue, impeding their five senses, and their Spiritual Sense was somewhat affected too, reducing their perception range by half.

The Merfolk Clan was slightly superior to the other three clans in this regard.

The four clans did not engage in a battle; the objective this time was treasure hunting, with conflict only necessary if competing for treasures.

Chen Yu was in the Great Commander's team, and they acted together, swiftly killing any adversaries they encountered.

The five of them descended further.

The deeper they went, the greater the opportunities.

Even finding some fragments of Mystical Crystal Stone would make the trip worthwhile.

If they could acquire a few complete Profound Meaning Crystals, it would be a huge gain.

And what exactly lay hidden at the bottom of Soul Burial Lake, no one knew. There could be even more precious treasures.

Rip! Gurgle!

Suddenly, a spatial tear appeared far away, shattering the Ghost Evil nearby, and the lake water was also consumed.

"We've just descended two thousand meters, and already there's a sign of spatial instability here!"

The Great Commander frowned slightly.

Unstable space and the appearance of rifts usually have their reasons.

As they descended, the team occasionally spotted some weapons, rare materials, and fragments of Mystical Crystal Stones, making the harvest quite satisfactory.

The frequency of space rifts was increasing, but fortunately, the space around them remained relatively stable, and they didn't face the threat of space rifts, which made them quite puzzled.

Whoosh!

The deep blue lake water rolled violently, and a black armored specter suddenly attacked, emanating black gas that dyed the surroundings pitch-black.

The armored specter wielded a large saber, and black ripples swept across the water's surface, attacking the group.

This Ghost King had appeared before, instantly killing several Merfolk Clan members.

"Be careful."

One commander warned.

"Mere ghost creature, get lost."

The Great Commander shouted sharply, opening his palm as lightning burst forth, a dense net of electricity destroying the black ripples completely, striking the Armored Ghost King.

The opponent's body crackled and turned charred black, roaring angrily and launching a more violent attack.

"Thunderstorm!"

The Great Commander shouted again, and five silver lightning bolts blossomed from his palm, instantly striking the Armored Ghost King.

Boom!

A violent, muffled explosion resounded, and the five lightning bolts that pierced through the Armored Ghost King shattered, tearing its form into pieces.

"The Great Commander's power has made further progress."

The Liu Family Commander laughed.

"Soul Burial Lake is vast. Together, the five of us are the safest, but the efficiency of searching for treasures is undoubtedly the lowest."

After killing the Armored Ghost King, the Great Commander said, "Therefore, I suggest we disperse to search for treasures. Currently, the strongest Ghost King appearing in Soul Burial Lake is equivalent to a Mid-stage Star Condensation Realm at most. With a bit of luck, there's no life-threatening danger."

"I agree, but if we encounter foreign races, it won't be good. To be safe, at least two per team is better."

Another commander suggested.

The Great Commander nodded, and the teams were instantly formed.

The Great Commander and the Liu Family Commander formed one team, and the other two commanders formed another.

"Chen Commander considers himself stronger than the other seven commanders, so I trust you have no problem going solo?"

The Great Commander spoke coldly.

The Liu Family Commander snickered, while the other two commanders acted indifferent.

"Very well."

Chen Yu agreed without hesitation, which surprised the four.

Without wasting words, he quickly departed and disappeared in the blink of an eye.

The four were momentarily stunned, not expecting Chen Yu to be so decisive, seemingly eager to leave the team.

"Arrogant and ignorant."

The Great Commander commented coldly, believing Chen Yu to be arrogant and ignorant, thinking he could handle things alone.

After speaking, the Great Commander and the middle-aged Liu Family Commander left.

Suddenly.

Whoosh!

A nearby space rift appeared, tearing open a large gap, spreading toward the two.

Their hair stood on end, and they immediately retreated, narrowly avoiding it.

"Though there were space rifts before, they appeared slower and were smaller, without this sense of crisis."

The Liu Family Commander felt puzzled internally.

The other team experienced a similar situation.

Only Chen Yu, safely descending, was unaffected by space rifts.

"Could it be so? The space rifts don't dare to approach me?"

Chen Yu mused inwardly.

He had this suspicion before but hadn't had a chance to prove it.

His agreement to act alone just now was to test this hypothesis, which is why he left so decisively and quickly.

Moreover, acting alone was indeed more efficient.

Chen Yu continued to experiment.

In his location, the space remained relatively stable; even when he actively approached smaller space rifts, they would heal on their own.

However, approaching larger space rifts would reduce the effectiveness.

In fact, some experts who mastered the in-depth Space Profound Meaning could achieve this as well.

But Chen Yu had not used the Space Profound Meaning, and before he comprehended it, he had encountered such situations.

He attributed these inexplicable occurrences to the mysterious heart.

"The mysterious heart seems to have a significant connection with space."

Chen Yu thought to himself.

For instance, the birth of an internal crystal space, the sudden comprehension of the Space Profound Meaning, the amazing speed of improvement, and the strange phenomenon of stabilizing space.

But now was not the time to think about these things, first, he needed to gather benefits.

Moreover, Chen Yu needn't worry too much about the threat of space rifts in Soul Burial Lake.

A silver ripple emanated from within him, instantly spreading in all directions.

In such an environment, besides the Water Profound Meaning, the Space Profound Meaning was probably the most practical.

With his possession of the Space Profound Meaning, Chen Yu soon sensed several spots of pure and concentrated spatial fluctuations.

"Fragments of Mystical Crystal Stones with spatial attributes."

Chen Yu discerned.

He smiled with delight and immediately took action, slaying many Ghost Evil Ghost Kings and acquiring eight Mystical Crystal Stone Fragments.

At this moment.

Chen Yu sensed in a certain direction an extremely intense condensed spatial fluctuation, unlike what ordinary Space Crystal Fragments would emit.

"A complete Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone."

Chen Yu speculated in his mind.

Chapter 1019: Spatial Devouring

Chen Yu speculated in his heart that the fluctuation he perceived came from a complete Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone.

A treasure like this, is definitely not to be missed.

Chen Yu followed the sensing and sped forward.

Now, he was five thousand meters below Soul Burial Lake, where space cracks appeared more frequently, and other explorers needed to be constantly vigilant.

However, Chen Yu had no such concerns and went straight for the target, killing all the wandering souls and evil spirits along the way.

Soon, he saw a silver crystal orb, deep and boundless within, gazing at it as if trapped in overlapping spaces, difficult to extricate.

From this alone, it could be seen that the quality of this Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone was extraordinary.

Swish!

Chen Yu waved his palm, mobilizing the Space Profound Meaning, and the silver crystal orb transformed into a beam of light, falling into Chen Yu's hand.

"It really is a complete Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone."

Chen Yu showed a happy expression.

A complete Profound Meaning Crystal Stone is worth far more than fragments.

Just as Chen Yu placed the Profound Meaning Crystal Stone into the mysterious crystal space, he suddenly sensed a fierce fluctuation of mystical energy from ahead.

Boom boom boom!

A violent dark red stream appeared, inside which a huge fish tail flashed, stirring an astounding whirlpool tornado in the dark lake water.

Bang!

Chen Yu punched out, causing the furious whirlpool tornado to instantly collapse, the surrounding water flows pulsing.

"Hand over the Profound Meaning Crystal Stone, otherwise you will perish in Soul Burial Lake."

In the next moment, a haughty cold voice sounded.

Swish! Swish!

Water gleamed, and a merfolk figure descended.

This was a female merfolk, with a proud body, wearing only a thin veil, perfectly displaying her curves, her gaze icy towards Chen Yu.

"All alone?"

Chen Yu was quite surprised.

The human race's teams always acted in pairs.

On the other hand, the arrogant merfolk clan had one person per team, or perhaps this female merfolk was strong enough to be a team by herself.

"Treasure hunting in Soul Burial Lake is each relying on their own strength."

Chen Yu chuckled lightly, not taking the veiled merfolk's words seriously.

"Hahaha, in the water, you dare say such words to the merfolk clan?"

The veiled merfolk seemed to have heard the world's biggest joke, her proud figure swaying in the water.

She had always been arrogant, and now a human with lower cultivation spoke such words to her, she felt amused and also somewhat humiliated.

The veiled merfolk was not blindly arrogant, she heard that Chen Yu repelled two mid-stage Condensed Star Realm kings of the merfolk clan.

But in the veiled merfolk's eyes, Blue Water King was just that, if not for currying favor and some accomplishments, he wouldn't even have gotten a slot this time.

"Die!"

The veiled merfolk coldly shouted, her fish tail swept over, stirring a red-blue dark water storm.

This was the target the merfolk clan focused on this time, killing Chen Yu would earn them an extra ten percent of the profits.

Moreover, even if she couldn't kill Chen Yu underwater, the opponent couldn't do anything to her either.

Chen Yu had no fondness for the merfolk clan. Since they wanted to kill him, he certainly wouldn't hold back.

His star acupoint lit up, releasing the Space Profound Meaning, and the dark currents surging around immediately calmed down.

Roaring sounds!

When the red-blue dark water storm swept over, Chen Yu punched, and the storm immediately collapsed, creating a vacuum area in the water.

Boom!

The flashing punch radiance traversed the water, attacking the veiled merfolk.

"Sure enough, some skill."

The veiled merfolk twisted her body, dodging Chen Yu's attack.

In the water, the Water Profound Meaning she mastered offered similar auxiliary abilities as the Space Profound Meaning, such as perception, speed, etc.

The veiled merfolk flashed a red light in her hand, revealing a unique four-foot-long sharp sword, resembling an ancient beast's tooth, emitting a gripping bloody red light.

Swoosh!

The sword traversed the water, seemingly ignoring resistance, attacking Chen Yu.

Chen Yu's gaze sharpened, his hand forming a blade, facing the incoming attack, slashing fiercely.

Clang boom!

Chen Yu retreated several steps, a shallow blood mark left on his palm, quickly healing.

"Clashing head-on with a top-grade lower mystical weapon, how is this possible?"

The veiled merfolk looked surprised, her lips parted wide.

Not only that, but what was with that astonishing regenerative ability?

Chen Yu was merely testing the defense of his body just now.

He had just broken through to the early-stage Condensed Star Realm peak, with considerable room for improvement in his star-like physique.

Given some time, when his star acupoints reached around six hundred, nearing perfection, the veiled merfolk's attacks might not even cut his skin.

Swish!

Mobilizing the Space Profound Meaning, Chen Yu sped through the water like an arrow shot towards the veiled merfolk.

The veiled merfolk retreated, injecting mystical energy into her weapon, maximizing the activation of the Water Profound Meaning, causing the entire water region to seem as if frozen and heavy.

Chen Yu's speed was affected, clashing with the opponent's mystical weapon again.

Clang clang boom!

Exchanging several moves consecutively, the veiled merfolk was already giving it her all, only managing to slightly cut Chen Yu's skin in this aquatic environment.

The veiled merfolk realized Chen Yu's sturdiness and had thoughts of retreat.

"Indeed, dealing with the merfolk clan in the water is a bit problematic."

Chen Yu murmured softly.

His strength was not greatly affected, but the merfolk clan's strength was significantly amplified.

Moreover, this veiled merfolk was a notch stronger than Blue Water King.

Hearing this, the proud veiled merfolk almost cursed aloud.

"Let's regroup with my clan soon, then together slay this guy."

The veil mermaid had made up her mind.

After speaking, she turned and fled, her speed astonishingly fast, successfully dodging the space rifts along the way.

"Trying to leave?"

Chen Yu wouldn't let the enemy escape easily.

Swish!

He sped out, creating a startling muffled sound in the water.

"Heh, human, trying to compete with my clan's speed in the water? You must be crazy."

The veil mermaid sneered, thinking Chen Yu foolish.

Chen Yu took a deep breath, his heart strengthened, the Space Profound Meaning fully activated, and his speed increased tremendously.

"How is it possible?"

The veil mermaid couldn't believe it. A human whose cultivation was lower than hers was able to surpass her speed in the water.

Her expression turned flustered, she used a secret technique, red ripples surging on her body surface, amplifying her speed.

Seeing the veil mermaid's speed increase further, Chen Yu felt it was tricky. No wonder the Human Race, Earth Spirit Clan, and Flame Human Clan had to unite to suppress the Merfolk Clan's positions.

In water battles at the same rank, the Merfolk Clan holds a great advantage. If they can't win, they can escape, and no one can stop them.

Buzz!

The Space Profound Meaning extended with Spiritual Sense, forming a hundred-yard large silver giant palm in front of the veil mermaid.

The veil mermaid immediately sensed it and prepared to dodge.

Bang!

The silver giant palm struck down, missing the veil mermaid, but the intense space fluctuations created ten-space rifts in the surrounding area.

Where the space rifts formed, a turbulent space current blew, with black-gray storms swirling like giant snakes.

"Ah..."

The veil mermaid hadn't anticipated this situation, her body instantly marked with deep bone-revealing wounds, and blood scattered.

Too close to the space rift, the veil mermaid couldn't escape the crisis, being pulled by the suction force from the rift.

"No..."

The veil mermaid screamed in agony, her figure uncontrollably flying towards the rift, disappearing into Soul Burial Lake.

When Chen Yu approached, the space turbulence dissipated, and the rift slowly closed.

"Swallowed?"

Chen Yu frowned slightly, unsure what place the other side of that space rift led to, if the veil mermaid was dead.

No spoils of war gained.

But Chen Yu realized that the unstable space situation here could serve as his weapon.

Space was already unstable, if he added fuel to the fire, he could create space rifts, threatening the enemy.

"Continue to go deeper."

Chen Yu began to dive.

As he went further down, the Mystical Crystal Stone Fragment became more abundant.

It was speculated that heavy treasures were hidden at the bottom of Soul Burial Lake, and reaching there might uncover the reason behind Soul Burial Lake's abnormality.

Five thousand meters!

Seven thousand meters!

Chen Yu reached eight thousand meters at the bottom of Soul Burial Lake, he had harvested richly along the way, accumulating over thirty Mystical Crystal Stone Fragments.

He also acquired five complete Mystical Crystal Stones.

Additionally, he found some rare enhancing materials for cultivation, as well as some broken treasure tools, mysterious instruments.

"Why are there these ancient broken treasure tools, mysterious instruments? Could it be true as outsiders rumored, that Soul Burial Lake was once an ancient battlefield with countless deaths, which is why there are so many resentful spirits and fierce ghosts, broken weapons..."

Chen Yu's mind was puzzled.

Booming!

A fierce battle sound suddenly came from below.

Chen Yu released Spiritual Sense, mobilizing Space Profound Meaning, slowly approached.

Soon, a colossal black ghostly shadow appeared before him, resembling a giant octopus, extending black tentacles below.

Booming sizzling!

Explosions occurred, lightning flickered, and fire blazed.

Several figures flew out from the battle circle.

Among them were two humans, Chen Yu found them familiar, it was the Great Commander and Liu Family Commander.

"Chen Yu?"

The two discovered someone approaching, scanning with Spiritual Sense, they saw Chen Yu.

Immediately, their gazes sharpened, revealing surprise, thoroughly examining Chen Yu from head to toe.

Chen Yu felt slightly uncomfortable being stared at, but he understood their reason for doing so.

This was beneath ten thousand meters of Soul Burial Lake, where space rifts frequently appeared, the two of them came here at a significant cost.

On Liu Family Commander's face, chest, and legs were injuries caused by space turbulence, even the Great Commander had two shallow wounds.

In contrast, Chen Yu was unscathed.

"Since Commander Chen is here too, join the battle."

The Great Commander spoke, he didn't particularly like Chen Yu but needed his strength.

On the other side, there were three Flame Human Clan members, two Earth Spirit Clan members, including Tower Stone King and Erosion Sun King.

The Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan also moved in groups, heading straight for the lake bottom.

Among them, Tower Stone King and Erosion Sun King were surprised to see Chen Yu, knowing that he possessed Space Profound Meaning, his power wasn't reduced in this place, perhaps even holding some advantage.

Chen Yu glanced at the octopus ghost shadow.

The opponent was covered in pitch-black, only its two eyes were ghostly red, exuding an overwhelming Ghost Evil aura, dyeing the surroundings dark.

"So strong."

Chen Yu's heart stirred slightly, this octopus ghost shadow was a Ghost King, and an extremely powerful one, its strength reaching the Late Stage Star Condensation.

However, there was no need for everyone to battle the Octopus Ghost King to the death.

Chen Yu continued to perceive below, discovering an octopus's corpse among a pile of massive reefs.

Though already dead, the exposed part of the corpse's surface was covered in metallic scales, glowing faint purple light, on which some rare water treasures grew, including Mystical Crystal Stones.

This was the reason everyone wanted to kill the Octopus Ghost King.

Chapter 1020: Another Dimension

"What was the cultivation level of this creature while it was alive? Its corpse still exudes a faint aura, causing rare treasures to grow on it."

Chen Yu couldn't help but sigh.

The waters of Soul Burial Lake can devour vitality, yet the octopus corpse is preserved to this extent, proving the extraordinary cultivation it possessed in life.

The natural treasures growing on the corpse are also exceptionally valuable, especially in a place like Chaotic Sea City, where they can auction for higher prices.

There are nine Profound Meaning Crystal Stones, each with different attributes. Chen Yu sensed the Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stones.

The octopus corpse also has hidden parts unknown, possibly concealing other treasures.

"Alright."

For now, Chen Yu joined the team.

The powerful Octopus Ghost King had just repelled the Great Commander, Flame Human Clan, Earth Spirit Clan, and others; showing its formidable strength. Only by joining forces can they seek benefits.

"Die, die!"

The Octopus Ghost King's two dark crimson eyes flashed, and its roar echoed.

It seemed to harbor endless resentment, and launched an attack.

Whizz whizz whizz!

Countless black tentacles shot out, weaving into a massive black net that enveloped the heavens and earth.

The sense of a sealed-off space arose, making movement extremely difficult for everyone.

This was the spatial attribute Profound Meaning.

Chen Yu had sensed this earlier.

This was why the Octopus Ghost King was so troublesome and overpowering; precisely why it could survive here with such a massive stature.

"Commander Chen, could you utilize the spatial attribute Profound Meaning to weaken the spatial binding?"

Tower Stone King said politely.

Though Chen Yu was reluctant to protect these people, he still contributed some effort.

"Thunder Shield."

The Great Commander opened his palm, lightning flashed, forming a round shield of light.

Liu Family Commander, who had sustained scars from spatial rifts, sought refuge aside, having endured an attack in the previous battle against the Octopus Ghost King.

Boom! Sizzle!

Black tentacles struck, scattering the lightning, and themselves disintegrated.

Faced with the attack of the black tentacles, Chen Yu punched hard, shattering them.

But soon after, the black tentacles stirred again across the space, causing upheaval on the lake bottom, disrupting the space with frequent rift appearances.

Chen Yu had to be cautious, continuously punching to shatter the enemy's attacks.

The Great Commander focused his eyes, gathering lightning to form a giant thunderball.

Boom!

The thunderball exploded, annihilating the black tentacles within a certain range.

On the other side, the Earth Spirit Clan and Flame Human Clan had large numbers, handling the situation with relative ease.

But everyone still had to guard against the occurrence of spatial rifts, thus diverting their attention.

After a round of fierce attacks from the Octopus Ghost King.

The crowd immediately launched a counterattack, rocks, fireballs, lightning, fist aura raining down.

Yet, to kill the Octopus Ghost King, this was far from enough.

Though there were many present, only the Great Commander was at the peak of the Star Condensing Middle Stage, while others dared not get too close to the Octopus Ghost King.

In this environment, the Octopus Ghost King held the same advantage as the Merfolk Clan.

At this moment.

Two members of the Merfolk Clan arrived: an elder fish with black scales "Senior Lai" and the trident-wielding Blue Water King.

With a brief observation, they understood the current situation.

Senior Lai and Blue Water King's gaze lingered longer on Chen Yu, with clear murderous intent.

"Merfolk Clan, you don't plan on acting?"

The Great Commander asked, feeling it was unlikely.

The Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan thought the same, but the key was, how to distribute the spoils later?

Three factions, differing in numbers and strength, making distribution difficult.

"Hehe, this Ghost King has long caught our Merfolk Clan's attention, how could we not act?"

Blue Water King chuckled.

During the previous exploration by the Merfolk Clan, they had set their sights on this Octopus Ghost King.

"How about this, after killing this Ghost King, we split the spoils evenly."

Senior Lai said with a smile.

"That's good." The Great Commander said.

"Alright."

The Flame Human Clan and Earth Spirit Clan agreed as well, though numerous, their average strength was low, especially the three Flame Humans, who felt uncomfortable staying here.

Blue Water King furrowed his brows with an expression of confusion.

In his view, there was no need to split evenly, once the Merfolk Clan forces were fully gathered, they would be the strongest faction here.

Because previously, Senior Lai had already killed two humans and one Earth Spirit, hence the delay.

With this thought, Blue Water King's gaze towards Senior Lai was filled with more reverence.

"After I spoke, the three tribes wouldn't join forces; how the spoils are exactly distributed later depends on one's abilities."

Senior Lai seemed to understand Blue Water King's doubt, transmitting clarification.

A moment later.

The crowd from the four tribes began to attack the Octopus Ghost King.

At this moment, everyone's overall strength greatly increased, with ten Kings in total; they were quite confident against the Octopus Ghost King.

Senior Lai waved his hand, forming a mass of black mist in front of him, exuding a decaying, deathly aura.

Swish swish!

From within the black mist, a dozen tentacles extended, carrying a chilling deathly aura, entwining the thick tentacles of the Octopus Ghost King.

The large and small tentacles intertwined, dissipating each other, mutually extinguishing.

The surrounding water's death energy also converged towards him, making Senior Lai's aura more terrifying, like a grim reaper from Hell.

The Earth Spirit Clan and Flame Human Clan united, easily handling the attacks from the Octopus Ghost King, their attacks exceptionally fierce.

Though the Flame Human Clan excelled in Fire Dao and Yang Dao, despite lacking power, they could still inflict visible damage on the Octopus Ghost King.

Within the Human Race, the Great Commander drew attention.

His palms continuously emitted lightning, severing tentacle after tentacle of the Octopus Ghost King, striking hard on its body, leaving deep pits.

Chen Yu made appropriate moves, knowing that with so many people, they would eventually kill the Octopus Ghost King.

Moreover, Senior Lai and the Blue Water King harbored clear killing intent towards him, so he needed to hide his strength and reserve his means.

After a fierce battle.

The Octopus Ghost King was overwhelmed, severely injured, and filled with even more hatred and anger.

Suddenly, from the body of the Octopus Ghost King, a pitch-black wave of light spread out, filled with thick black fog, sweeping in all directions.

"Soul attack."

Senior Lai's pupils shrank, immediately pausing his actions, fortifying his spirit to resist.

Boom!

The pitch-black wave swept in all directions, plunging the world into darkness.

Everyone's spirit trembled with pain, unable to release their Spiritual Sense.

Adding to the pitch-black scene before them, everyone sensed an intense life-and-death crisis.

The half of the Jade Pendant on Chen Yu's body reduced part of the soul attack's damage, making his situation manageable.

Facing the pitch-black world, he simply ignored it and employed the Star Pattern Robe, defending with all his might.

Boom!

"Ah..."

Explosions and wretched screams ensued.

Chen Yu suddenly sensed danger, forcibly resisting an attack, retreating a hundred feet, with his blood and Qi stirring within.

He was not in serious danger; if the Octopus Ghost King concentrated attacks on him, it could be critical, but the chaotic attack failed to penetrate his Star Pattern Robe's defense.

The darkness gradually dissipated, and the soul influence slowly returned to normal.

Two were dead.

One from the Flame Human Clan, the other the Liu Family Commander.

The rest suffered varying degrees of injuries, with the Blue Water King bearing a deep wound, visible to the bone.

After causing death and injury, the four clans visibly enraged, their attacks intensified somewhat.

Boom!

The Great Commander's eyes emitted thunderous light, merging into one, piercing the body of the Octopus Ghost King, leaving a large hole.

Senior Lai pressed his hand, releasing a mass of deathly black fog.

The Earth Spirit Clan and Flame Human Clan launched attacks together.

Chen Yu mobilized his physical strength, throwing a brilliant punch.

In fact, he wished for the Octopus Ghost King to launch more attacks like these, weakening others' states, especially Senior Lai of the Merfolk Clan.

Soon, the Octopus Ghost King's aura weakened, nearing the brink of death.

At a certain moment.

Under the joint attack of everyone, the Octopus Ghost King's body exploded.

Before its death, the Octopus Ghost King unleashed all remaining power.

Faced with the terrifying power surge, everyone could keenly feel it, dodging in advance.

Boom!

A mass of pitch-black ghost force expanded, with water currents vibrating, shaking the space.

Spatial cracks appeared around, expanding and connecting, forming a massive gap leading to unknown space.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

From the unknown space, ghostly shadows and fragmented treasures, profound artifacts emerged.

At this moment, everyone's eyes wide open, suddenly realizing.

The root of the anomaly in Soul Burial Lake seemed to be here, hiding another extremely unstable space.

Those resentful souls, fierce ghosts, fragmented ancient treasures, profound artifacts, and intense ghostly Evil Qi all originated from another space.

The other space, leading who-knows-where, felt like a bad place.

Yet, however.

Thump! Thump thump! Thump thump thump!

Chen Yu's mysterious heart, at this moment, pulsed with an incomparably strong urge.

This feeling, just like when he encountered the Bloodline Ancestor's blood.

"No way."

Chen Yu's mouth twitched; that unknown space, everything was uncertain, extremely unsafe.

The others watched for a moment, then cautiously left, swiftly approaching the octopus corpse to seize treasures.

Chen Yu too quickly withdrew, grabbing the spoils.

Boom!

The Great Commander struck a reef, revealing the intact octopus corpse.

Unfortunately, apart from some treasures near the crack, nothing of value remained elsewhere.

As for the octopus corpse, though formidable during its life, Soul Burial Lake's water could corrode vitality, and at this moment, held little value.

"Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stone!"

Chen Yu pushed the space profound meaning to the limit, focusing on the crystal stone of profound meaning.

Swoosh!

The spatial attribute profound meaning crystal stone floated, radiating silver light, bypassing everyone and swiftly approaching Chen Yu.

Chen Yu grabbed it, tossed it into his storage pouch, and began seizing other treasures.

People acted extremely fast, even revealing hostility, suddenly engaging in a fierce battle.

Boom!

An explosion right there, Chen Yu targeted by Senior Lai specifically, retreated a hundred feet but remained unharmed, as the opponent didn't go all-out, fearing destruction of treasures.

Yet Chen Yu managed to grab a profound meaning crystal stone, several crystal fragments, and five precious heavenly materials and earthly treasures.

On the corpse, numerous crystal fragments and an oddly glowing blue grass remained.

Everyone's gaze fixed, the atmosphere frozen.

At this moment, both Senior Lai and the Blue Water King simultaneously took out identical Tokens.

Someone seemed to be transmitting messages to them.

In the next moment, their expressions changed drastically, eyes widened, breathing became rapid.

They immediately turned, looked at the gradually shrinking space gap, and without a word, dashed inside.

This scene left the remaining clans' people dumbfounded.

Why did the Merfolk Clan rush towards the unknown space so urgently, forsaking the treasures before them; was there something more precious inside?