

Eternal Heart 1121

Chapter 1121: Cleared Out

The [Heavenly Yin Soul Pen] is a high-grade attack mystical weapon, but its attack capability is not particularly outstanding.

However, during an attack, when the [Heavenly Yin Soul Pen] touches the enemy's mystical weapon, it can affect the soul imprint within the weapon, disrupting the link between the controller and the weapon, and even erasing the soul imprint.

Of course, it's not about erasing the entire imprint at once, but partially, depending on specific situations. If the enemy's level is too weak, it's possible to directly erase the soul imprint.

"It can actually erase soul imprints."

This special ability made Chen Yu especially delighted, yet he felt a bit regretful.

If he had obtained this [Heavenly Yin Soul Pen] earlier, he wouldn't have spent so much time and effort erasing the soul imprint within the [Ten Thousand Dragon Crown].

"The 'Ten Thousand Dragon Crown' can't be used in all situations, the 'Heavenly Yin Soul Pen's attack performance is average, but this special ability can achieve unexpected results under surprising circumstances."

The grade of the [Ten Thousand Dragon Crown] is too high, even the Emperor of Xuanming Realm would envy it.

And Chen Yu, who practiced the White Tiger Sacred Claw, isn't particularly lacking in attack mystical weapons, the [Heavenly Yin Soul Pen] is indeed quite suitable for him.

Next, Chen Yu continued treasure hunting, but his luck was just average.

After all, the likelihood of finding good things here was already low, and most of the structures had been destroyed in previous battles.

Spending a few days, Chen Yu scavenged the entire abode, then set his sights outside the abode.

Back then, it was near the abode that he discovered a grove of Heavenly Embryo Fruits.

Chen Yu first thought of the Yuan Stone Vein beneath the grove of Heavenly Embryo Fruits.

Back then, both Chen Yu and Zhu Lingyu only took the high-quality part, and the entire vein still lay underground.

And it was then that Chen Yu conceived an astonishing idea, which is to move this massive Yuan Stone Vein into the heart's internal world.

Now, he can finally try it.

Chen Yu came to the underground, stood on this vein, and attempted to move the vein into the heart's internal world by using the method for transferring things into the Light Silver Crystal Space.

Bang! Buzz!

The entire vein shook and suddenly vanished from his sight.

Chen Yu's consciousness felt heavy and exhausted, moving such a big vein into the heart's internal space consumed quite a lot.

His consciousness entered the heart's internal world.

Sure enough, a Yuan Stone Vein had appeared here, and Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was continuously emanating.

However, merely one Yuan Stone Vein can't immediately improve the qi concentration of a whole world.

"If one is not enough, then let's get a few more."

Once Chen Yu changes the environment of the heart's internal world, the mysterious heart might undergo a transformation because of this.

Moreover, the heart's internal world can be considered Chen Yu's private world. Once the environment of this private world changes, he might even be able to cultivate rare materials and spiritual medicine here.

Any major force would demarcate a vast territory for cultivating spiritual materials.

The more resources there are, the easier it is for a force to grow and prosper.

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Now that Chen Yu has this condition, he will naturally pursue it.

"First, change the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi concentration of the private world."

Chen Yu buried this vein underground and continued exploring.

Perhaps this small world contains only Chen Yu, but he can't claim it for himself, so he decided to move all the good things here into the heart's internal world.

After a month of exploration, Chen Yu discovered two more Yuan Stone Veins and quite a number of precious materials and spiritual treasures, some rare and rare, others ordinary and common.

"When leaving here, I'll take everything away."

Chen Yu smiled and returned to the abode.

He didn't intend to immediately return to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest. The cultivation environment here is good, and nothing troublesome would disturb him.

Moreover, he currently has sufficient resources on hand. The cultivating resources for the Vermilion Bird Sacred Wings and the Fire Profound Essence Crystal are also numerous, enough to last for several years.

Thus, Chen Yu began a long retreat.

...

When Zhu Lingyu returned, it shook the entire Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

Firstly, her identity is not simple; secondly, it concerns the interests of the Heavenly Spirit Crane Clan's underground small world.

That day, many high-ranking officials of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest were stirred, including the demigods.

Zhu Cangyan, despite his dislike for Zhu Lingyu, was quite pleased upon learning of her return.

He had spearheaded that mission, which caused such a fiasco, escalating internal conflicts within the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

In the solemn atmosphere of the grand hall.

"Lingyu, tell us about your experiences."

The one seated at the head was an elderly red-haired man, a demigod powerhouse of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, and Zhu Lingyu's grandfather.

Next, Zhu Lingyu recounted everything she knew thoroughly and honestly.

The high-ranking officials present listened, and there was no contradiction between Zhu Lingyu and Zhu Cangyan's account.

"Where is that small world now?"

"What treasures are there inside?"

"Is Chen Yu dead?"

Many questions arose.

"That small world has hidden in the void and moves independently."

"As for treasures, there should be formidable rare treasures, but what exactly they are and into whose hands they've fallen, I do not know."

"Chen Yu... probably has met with misfortune."

Zhu Lingyu answered each question.

The hall quieted down slightly, and the atmosphere seemed heavy.

The Blood Race and God Demon Descendants appeared in the Demon Race territory and attacked the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest disciples. Ultimately, the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest got no benefit, and the real rare treasure suspectedly ended up with the foreign race.

The heavenly martial genius from the Heavenly Martial Sect, Chen Yu, has died.

Nothing good came of it, all bad things have come to pass, this is undoubtedly a hard slap to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I believe that the Blood Race or the God Demon Descendant race might not have left the Demon Race territory so soon. We should immediately mobilize forces and eliminate them."

Zhu Lingyu proactively suggested.

She wanted to avenge Chen Yu, and she absolutely must not let those enemies go.

The senior members fell into contemplation, searching for a few people in this vast Demon Race territory is akin to finding a needle in a haystack.

Especially the Blood Race, the difficulty of searching is too great. .

But the search is still necessary; Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest being slapped hard and taking no action would appear weak.

The elders discussed the event until almost everything was clear.

First, notify the various Demon Race forces to search for the infiltrating enemies.

Secondly, dispatch a large number of disciples to search for traces of that small world.

The final point...

"Lingyu, are you certain Chen Yu is dead?"

The Demigod Ancestor asked.

The death of an ordinary human wouldn't concern a Demigod of the Demon Race, but the one dead is a genius from the Heavenly Martial Sect, a disciple of the Sky Martial Sect Master Sikong Wanli.

If Sikong Wanli knew this, would he let it go?

Zhu Lingyu paused for a moment; naturally, she didn't want to believe Chen Yu was dead, but all sorts of evidence indicated Chen Yu had died.

Zhu Cangyan, upon knowing Chen Yu had died, was in a rather good mood, although he hadn't intended to cause Chen Yu's death.

However, there were some corresponding troubles, namely Chen Yu's death, with which he couldn't fully disassociate himself.

Before Zhu Lingyu could speak, an elder said, "Whether Chen Yu is dead or not, the Heavenly Martial Sect should be clear about it."

Everyone nodded; this statement was correct.

The Heavenly Martial Sect undoubtedly has Chen Yu's "soul token"; if Chen Yu died, they would be the first to know.

"If Chen Yu is really dead, the Heavenly Martial Sect should have contacted us by now. So it means that Chen Yu is likely not dead yet."

Upon drawing this conclusion, Zhu Lingyu was stunned.

This inference was correct, but if Chen Yu isn't dead, where did he go?

"However, even if Chen Yu isn't dead, he might still be in danger, liable to die at any moment."

An elder added.

The more they analyzed, the more entangled and headache-inducing it became.

Chen Yu might not be dead; the Heavenly Martial Sect isn't aware of this situation, so should they proactively inform them?

Informing the Heavenly Martial Sect would surely entail some disputes.

But if not informed, should Chen Yu die, and the Heavenly Martial Sect comes knocking, it would be even more troublesome.

Amidst a bout of indecision, the higher-ups deliberated a decision:

Drag it out for two months; during this period, Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest will conduct a comprehensive search. After two months, if there are still no results, then inform the Heavenly Martial Sect directly.

The search continued quickly for two months; no news of the Blood Race and God Demon Descendant race, and no trace of the small world was found.

Thus, the matter was conveyed back to the Heavenly Martial Sect of the Human Race.

Sikong Wanli, upon learning of this matter, was naturally enraged!

He had promised Chen Yu personally that going to Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest would definitely not endanger his life.

And now, Chen Yu's life was indeed at risk.

Moreover, he was Chen Yu's mentor, and Sikong Wanli was increasingly satisfied with this disciple, transferring part of his expectations initially placed on Qin Wentian to Chen Yu.

Reasonably and emotionally, this couldn't be settled easily.

Fortunately, Chen Yu's soul token hadn't shattered, so he could only urge Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest to make all-out efforts to "rescue" Chen Yu and, by this means, exert pressure on the Demon Race.

The rescue operation continued.

One month, half a year, a year... three years, without any results.

Even if Chen Yu wasn't dead, he might have been enslaved by the enemy, or perhaps was wandering in outer space and void, among other possibilities.

Various possibilities, at best, were only slightly better than being dead.

And the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan completely gave up, admitted their failure, willing to compensate.

For three years, across a wide range of rescue, Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest also expended enormous human and material resources, continuing forward without knowing when it would end.

So they admitted their fault and offered Heavenly Martial Sect a substantial compensation.

Though it wasn't the result Sikong Wanli wanted, yet the compensation from Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest was generous, treating Chen Yu as an Emperor of Xuanming Realm in terms of compensation; if Sikong Wanli continued demanding, it would seem like aggressive coercion, deliberately being difficult.

...

Chen Yu's cultivation in the small world was very steady, without external interference; he was there long enough to almost forget about time.

Five years later, Chen Yu finally concluded his training.

Now his cultivation level is at the peak of the later stage, only one step away from being a Four-star King.

"I've been here for five years already."

Initially, Chen Yu planned to stay for two to three years before leaving, coinciding with the time limit of coming to the Demon Realm for cultivation.

Five years exceeded expectations but wasn't too long.

Before leaving, Chen Yu moved the Yuan Stone Vein of this world, along with some Heaven's precious materials, into his internal world within the heart.

Then, he bid farewell to this place where he secluded himself for five years.

Upon returning to the main world, Chen Yu found himself still in the Demon Race territory, which was convenient; he could greet Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest before heading back to the Heavenly Martial Sect.

Several months later, Chen Yu saw the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

Chapter 1122: We Can't Let Him Leave Just Like That

"That person... looks familiar!"

The guard at the Heavenly Gate of Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest watched as a figure rapidly flew in from afar, and while acknowledging the person's extraordinary cultivation, they also felt he looked familiar.

"It's... Chen Yu!"

A guard, whose cultivation had reached the peak of the Void Sea, suddenly exclaimed.

Chen Yu, this is the person who had stirred up the entire Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest for three years.

In order to "search and rescue" Chen Yu, these guards sometimes also carried out search missions, so they were extremely impressed by Chen Yu.

"Impossible! How did Chen Yu return?"

Another person exclaimed in shock.

Most of the demon race within the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest believed that even if Chen Yu wasn't dead by now, he was as good as dead or wouldn't live much longer.

Yet, Chen Yu somehow appeared alive and well.

Holding the identity token of a disciple of Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, they had no right to stop him, but they instantly relayed the news of Chen Yu's return to the higher-ups.

Chen Yu swaggered into the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, and at that moment, numerous people inside the nest were shaken.

"What? That kid returned alive to the nest?"

An elder with demigod-level cultivation, upon hearing this news, was slightly stunned.

Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest had already given the Heavenly Martial Sect generous compensation, so they hoped Chen Yu would just die, otherwise they've suffered a loss.

But just after two years of compensation, Chen Yu had resurfaced.

Swish!

The red-haired elder left his cave residence.

Back then, he was in charge of this matter, so now he had to take action again.

And thinking of how Zhu Lingyu seemed greatly affected by Chen Yu's incident, he relayed the matter to her as well.

On the other side, Zhu Cangyan also received the news.

"Brother Zhu, Chen Yu has returned."

Shi Yao, having received the news, found Zhu Cangyan.

"What? Chen Yu survived?"

Zhu Cangyan was extremely shocked upon hearing these words.

He had already considered Chen Yu as a dead man in his heart.

He bore a certain responsibility for Chen Yu's accident, and when the Heavenly Martial Sect learned about this, they were furious, furthermore placing the main blame on Zhu Cangyan.

If it weren't for his demigod grandfather, his consequences would be unimaginable.

But even so, Zhu Cangyan was punished to reflect at the edge wall for two years, only recently being released.

Zhu Cangyan attributed all this to Chen Yu, not having planned to kill him, yet Chen Yu caused such an unexpected incident, making him endure "unjust suffering."

"You brat, living impatiently, dare to fool me?"

Zhu Cangyan angrily reprimanded.

"Brother Zhu, this matter is absolutely true."

Shi Yao smiled wryly.

He dared not joke about such a matter.

...

As Chen Yu entered the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, his presence attracted countless gazes.

"Chen Yu, is he really Chen Yu? How did he survive?"

Many disciples within the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest assumed that Chen Yu had already perished.

"The Heavenly Martial Sect has my soul token, surely they wouldn't all think I'm dead."

Seeing expressions akin to seeing a ghost, Chen Yu was somewhat puzzled.

He gradually guessed that during these years he secluded himself in a small world, the outside world might not have been so peaceful.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

Many rainbows flew over, among them were stewards, elders, and disciples who came upon hearing the news.

After all, during the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest's "search and rescue" for Chen Yu, nearly eighty percent of the disciples were involved, expending effort and resources without much reward, leaving everyone with profound impressions of Chen Yu.

"Chen Yu!"

A low shout came as an elder descended.

The elder was Elder Wu from the Sect Affairs Hall, who had been investigated after Chen Yu's accident.

At this moment, Emperor Xuanming's arrival did not quell the noisy surroundings.

At the instant Elder Wu descended, a formidable spiritual sense surged out, directly entering Chen Yu's body for inspection.

Ultimately, he confirmed that the person was indeed Chen Yu, not someone disguising as him.

"Chen Yu..."

In the crowd, Zhu Lingyu quickly approached.

In a small world, Chen Yu saved her life from the hands of the Young Master, but Chen Yu encountered an accident afterward, and she returned alive.

Zhu Lingyu always harbored regrets about this matter, her disposition changed significantly, speaking less, focusing her thoughts on cultivation.

"Yeah, long time no see."

Chen Yu greeted Zhu Lingyu.

Although this girl initially gave Chen Yu quite a bit of trouble, Zhu Lingyu bore no hostility towards him personally, and later, they had even survived together.

Zhu Lingyu's eyes gleamed with excitement as she swiftly approached, closer and closer, until, to Chen Yu's astonishment, she embraced him.

"This... too passionate."

Chen Yu hadn't anticipated such fervor from Zhu Lingyu.

Yet, considering her straightforward and bold nature, it became understandable.

Those around were very surprised, for Zhu Lingyu's charisma, talent, and background within the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, and even among the demon race, ranked her as a Heavenly Pride Girl with countless pursuers.

But now, Zhu Lingyu was in the embrace of a human man.

Upon hearing Chen Yu's words, Zhu Lingyu realized that hugging a human man might not be entirely appropriate. However, since she had seen Chen Yu without clothes before, it seemingly didn't matter.

But she still quickly released him, stepping back a few paces.

Zhu Lingyu realized that her emotions just now were too intense.

"Where have you been these past five years?"

Zhu Lingyu asked.

"I..."

Chen Yu was about to answer when he suddenly felt something was off.

Clearly, Zhu Lingyu was worried about him, thinking he'd encountered a huge problem, possibly even had died.

If he let her know he was perfectly fine, quietly cultivating in a small world for five years, it seemed a bit disheartening.

"Chen Yu!"

Zhu Cangyan, who had just hurried over, looked at Chen Yu and was dumbfounded.

How could this guy have such a big fate, to come back alive?

Whoosh whoosh!

Shadows darted over, among them were several elders.

Each one of them was extremely surprised to see Chen Yu.

"Chen Yu, come with me regarding the Heavenly Spirit Crane Clan matter!"

The red-faced old man from the Law Enforcement Hall said solemnly.

This is not a trivial matter, it must be thoroughly investigated.

Then, Chen Yu followed the Law Enforcement Elder and arrived at the Central Hall.

Inside the hall, numerous elders were seated, above them was the red-haired demigod elder.

The atmosphere froze, all the elders stared at Chen Yu, making him feel a bit pressured.

"Chen Yu, recount the situation of this mission from beginning to end."

The red-haired elder spoke.

He wasn't asking about Chen Yu's disappearance for five years, but rather to detail the whole incident.

The other elders were thoughtful about this.

If Chen Yu lied or concealed something, it would give the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest an excuse.

Originally, Chen Yu's incident was already considered as handled as a death event.

Now Chen Yu has reappeared alive, if he were allowed to just return to the Heavenly Martial Sect, it would be a huge loss.

The Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest searched for Chen Yu's whereabouts for three years, expending enormous human and material resources, enduring the wrath and harassment from the Heavenly Martial Sect, and ultimately compensating with massive losses.

Chen Yu also sensed something was amiss and began to recount the origins of the incident.

The situation with the Void Sky Holy Fire was kept to himself.

He fabricated the battle, claiming that the mysterious power in the small world was unbeatable, and after fleeing, he used the Hidden Star Clothes to conceal himself, then that power vanished.

"...The disciple spent five years cultivating in that small world and occasionally found weak points in space to return to the main world."

After Chen Yu finished narrating, the hall went quiet.

While it was previously quiet, the expressions of the senior members were completely different.

"So you mean, for these five years, nothing happened, you were just cultivating the whole time?"

Zhu Lingyu, beside the red-haired elder, paused for a moment before speaking.

She originally thought Chen Yu had encountered a perilous accident, possibly never coming back or had died.

Turns out nothing happened to him, he simply secluded himself for five years.

Her eyes instantly turned unfriendly, realizing her years of worry were unnecessary.

Everyone present fixed their gaze on Chen Yu, sharing the same sentiment but remaining silent.

After all this, nothing happened to Chen Yu, yet the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest was turned upside down.

Knowing the truth, everyone at the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest was furious.

"Damn, we'd already considered this brat dead, compensated the Heavenly Martial Sect with so many resources, and now he just pops back. This couldn't possibly be some play between him and the Heavenly Martial Sect."

Though unlikely, several elders verbally agreed, continuously berating the Heavenly Martial Sect and Chen Yu for deceit.

A heavy-faced elder even suggested killing Chen Yu since the compensation was reckoned based on Chen Yu's presumed death.

But the proposal was opposed, as so many people had seen Chen Yu return, making it difficult to handle.

"Esteemed Elders, I have explained the situation clearly."

"Additionally, the time for my exchange at the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest has been sufficient, and I plan to return to the Heavenly Martial Sect immediately."

Chen Yu suddenly spoke.

The elders' faces slightly changed, they naturally wouldn't agree.

They had already decided not to let Chen Yu go so easily, otherwise, it would be too humiliating.

At least they must negotiate with the Heavenly Martial Sect, forcing them to spit out compensation.

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"Chen Yu, you came to our Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest for cultivation learning, and as far as I know, you haven't even selected any Cultivation Techniques or secret skills from us. If you return without any cultivation gains, your Master might reprimand us for holding back resources."

"Why don't you stay at the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest for a while longer, choose any Cultivation Techniques or battle skills you fancy, and we'll let you select one at will."

Elder Wu said with a smile.

Using Cultivation Techniques to entice Chen Yu to stay is a good strategy.

"During my years at the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, I personally felt I've benefited greatly and made significant improvements."

Chen Yu perceived the calculation from the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest and had no intention of staying.

In fact, he just borrowed some of their cultivation resources; during his seven years in the Demon Race territory, five were spent in seclusion within a small world.

"Significant improvements?"

"Why don't we check how much you've actually improved during these years with the Demon Race?"

An elder suggested.

In their eyes, the treasures of the small world were taken by the power, leaving nothing beneficial, and the cultivation resources there couldn't compare to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

Plus, the resources needed for cultivators' advancements might not be present there, so Chen Yu's progress should be quite slow. .

The other elders nodded, thinking this was a good plan.

Examining Chen Yu's cultivation outcomes, whether it meets the standards is up to them.

Chapter 1123: Does This Count as Passing?

Chen Yu could tell that for some unknown reason, this group of people didn't want him to leave.

But staying here would definitely lead to no good.

"Are the esteemed elders planning to personally test my strength?"

Chen Yu had a trace of mockery on his face.

Upon hearing this, several elders' faces turned slightly cold, dissatisfied with Chen Yu's attitude.

"That's not necessary. With the multitude of talents in the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, any one of them could easily test your strength."

The Law Enforcement Elder spoke coldly.

"Very well."

Chen Yu's agreement was so straightforward that it surprised many.

"However, although I feel I've made some progress, I admit my training on this trip wasn't thorough. May I ask if what Elder Wu mentioned earlier about choosing any cultivation technique is still valid?"

After agreeing, Chen Yu made another request.

Choosing cultivation techniques at the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest required following certain rules and contributing points.

Furthermore, he wasn't qualified to choose some core techniques.

He initially planned to leave immediately, but now that he couldn't leave so quickly, he wanted to take whatever benefits he could.

The higher-ups didn't expect Chen Yu to agree to the "test" but then bring this up.

Since Chen Yu agreed to their request, the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest felt compelled to honor it, especially since they had mentioned such a possibility before.

"You may choose any one."

Elder Wu agreed.

"I wonder which senior brother will test my strength?"

Chen Yu said with a smile, looking quite expectant.

During five years of seclusion in the small world, he believed he'd improved significantly in all aspects but had never sparred with anyone.

"I will."

Zhu Lingyu came forward excitedly.

She had long wanted to prove herself against Chen Yu but never had the chance, and now she eagerly stepped forward.

Over these five years, she had focused on her seclusion and reached four and a half star king level, significantly increasing her strength.

"Lingyu, stand down."

An old man with red hair spoke calmly, with an undeniable tone.

Zhu Lingyu was his descendant, exceptionally talented, and he, as the Ancestor, paid close attention. Noticing some feelings between Zhu Lingyu and Chen Yu due to a previous mission, he feared she might go easy.

Zhu Lingyu didn't dare defy her grandfather's order and reluctantly stepped back.

"Zhu Yifan, come spar with Junior Brother Chen."

The Law Enforcement Elder suddenly spoke, his voice loud.

Many disciples of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, upon hearing Chen Yu's return, gathered nearby to see how the matter would be resolved. Zhu Yifan was among them.

Quickly, a square-faced red-haired man approached, Zhu Yifan smiling as he paid his respects.

Originally observing from the periphery, he was entirely unaware of the situation inside the hall, but sparring with Chen Yu was a rare opportunity.

And it was an easy way to achieve great merit.

The battlefield was set on the square in front of the main hall.

"Junior Brother Chen, please."

Zhu Yifan said with a faint smile, looking at Chen Yu with disdain and pity.

Chen Yu didn't pay much attention and instead asked, "May I ask, what outcome will be considered a pass?"

If this wasn't clarified, whether he passed or failed would be up to the elders.

The higher-ups hadn't expected Chen Yu to be so astute; the Law Enforcement Elder said, "If you can wound Zhu Yifan within thirty moves, you pass."

Zhu Lingyu, beside him, frowned slightly.

This seemed too stringent a standard.

Zhu Yifan wasn't an ordinary person; he had long been a four and a half star king, ranking thirtieth on the Vermilion Bird List. Even the newly advanced four and a half star king Zhu Lingyu couldn't prevail against him.

Moreover, the elders required Chen Yu to wound Zhu Yifan within thirty moves.

If there were no restrictions on the number of moves or time, Chen Yu could drag it out and might have a chance to win.

"Alright."

Dan Chen Yu's expression remained unchanged, and he agreed at once.

"Wound Zhu Yifan within thirty moves? Heh, this kid is definitely going to lose."

"Nonsense, Zhu Yifan is ranked thirtieth on the Vermilion Bird List. Forget thirty moves, even within three hundred moves, this kid wouldn't be able to harm a hair on Zhu Yifan."

The onlookers began to discuss, expecting no surprises in the outcome and eagerly anticipating Chen Yu's setback.

Chen Yu walked to the center of the square, confronting Zhu Yifan.

"Four and a half star, thirtieth on the Vermilion Bird List."

He learned from the discussions around him that his opponent was quite strong.

If it were the Chen Yu who first came to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, without using some secret techniques, he wouldn't be confident of winning.

But today was not the same as before; after coming to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, his progress had not slowed; on the contrary, it had accelerated.

Wounding Zhu Yifan within thirty moves wasn't a difficult task.

"Junior Brother Chen, if you don't make a move, then your senior brother will go first."

Zhu Yifan said with a smile, but when dealing with Chen Yu, he wouldn't be careless, nor would he hold back.

Just now, his master and the Law Enforcement Elder had instructed him to go all out and humiliate Chen Yu; it wouldn't matter if he accidentally crippled him.

But suddenly.

From a short distance away, Chen Yu's figure vanished, and the surrounding space fluctuated.

Zhu Yifan immediately sensed that something was wrong.

Shua!

Chen Yu suddenly appeared in front of him, very close.

"Since senior brother said so, I'll make the first move."

Chen Yu's calm and easygoing voice sounded.

Sss!

Chen Yu's hand burst into dazzling glory, transforming into a White Tiger Sacred Claw, the pressure of the Holy Beast permeating as it slashed out a golden-white crescent.

"You!"

Zhu Yifan was shocked and furious.

He was merely being polite, but Chen Yu acted without saying a word.

Zhu Yifan immediately retreated, simultaneously activating the Vermilion Bird bloodline within him, flames appearing on his feathers, his hair burning like fire, and wings forming behind him.

With the activation of his bloodline, Zhu Yifan's speed explosively increased, retreating backward.

But all of this was affected by Chen Yu's mastery of space, making Zhu Yifan's retreat seem slower.

In the five years of training within the small world, Chen Yu's mastery of space smoothly reached the level of "Four and a Half Stars".

He had many high-quality Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stones, and if he exerted himself to consume them all, Chen Yu could even reach the Fifth Level of Space Profound Meaning, but he was in no hurry.

"No..."

The battle had just begun, and Zhu Yifan's face already showed panic.

He watched as Chen Yu's attack approached, unable to retreat in time, and confronting it head-on was already too late.

Boom!

Chen Yu's Star Splitting Slash with the White Tiger Sacred Claw struck forward.

Before that, the wings behind Zhu Yifan fiercely burned, emitting a terrifying heat and then wrapping around him, trying to block Chen Yu's attack.

In less than half a breath, the immense golden-white crescent cut into the fire wings.

Boom!

Flames and golden light exploded, and a figure, engulfed in flames, was sent flying backward—exactly Zhu Yifan.

He looked a bit disheveled, his expression bewildered and furious, as a cut appeared on his chest, with blood seeping out.

He was injured!

A Four and a Half Stars King, ranked thirtieth on the Vermilion Bird list.

In one move, he was injured.

Suddenly, the surroundings fell silent.

Zhu Yifan felt countless eyes watching him, fury bubbling in his heart, his eyes blood-red.

The agreement of thirty moves only required him not to be injured by Chen Yu to claim victory.

But the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest aimed for him to defeat Chen Yu within thirty moves, or even humiliate him severely.

The gap between reality and the target was like earth and sky.

Zhu Yifan found it unbearable. It was supposed to be a moment for him to achieve greatness, but instead, it turned into a disgrace. He blushed and said, "You sneak-attacked!"

With those words, Zhu Yifan flew into the sky, channeling his energy and mastery, launching an attack on Chen Yu.

Boom!

In the sky, Zhu Yifan was like another sun, releasing endless flames between his wings, transforming into a colossal fire bird, swooping down.

Witnessing this scene, the high-level members did not intervene.

The agreement had already been lost.

But as long as Zhu Yifan defeated Chen Yu in the upcoming fight, they could find an excuse, saying Chen Yu's cultivation achievements were not satisfactory.

"Coming again?"

Chen Yu showed a bit of surprise.

Well, he wanted to test his skills too.

Boom!

Behind Chen Yu emerged a pair of blood-red wings, similar to Zhu Yifan's wings, but with a slightly different flame color.

His wings rapidly flapped, a vast fiery sea appeared, transforming into a blood-red giant bird, charging forward.

"Is this... the Vermilion Bird Strike? How does that kid know it?"

Several elders turned their heads.

As far as they knew, Chen Yu hadn't selected any cultivation technique or battle skill from the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

"It's the Vermilion Bird Strike, but somewhat different."

The Law Enforcement Elder's gaze tightened, and the other elders wore grim expressions.

In five years within the small world, Chen Yu had cultivated the Vermilion Bird Burning Sky Wings to Great Success, now only a step away from perfection.

He naturally learned a corresponding battle skill that resembled what Zhu Yifan displayed, yet was modified by the Skywalking Demon God, making it more aggressive.

Boom!

The moment the two fire birds collided, flames skyrocketed, and Chen Yu's attack took the upper hand, tearing Zhu Yifan's fire bird apart and continuing the offensive.

Zhu Yifan's face showed astonishment. Chen Yu utilizing the Vermilion Bird Sacred Wings surprised him, but Chen Yu casting the Vermilion Bird Strike was even more unexpected.

The crucial point was, in the same move, he lost!

Swoosh!

The wings behind him spewed flames, his body turning into a streak of fire, fleeing into the heavens at extreme speed.

In terms of speed, disciples of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest were unmatched, and at the moment, Zhu Yifan employed the flight battle skill "Red Fire Flying Escape Technique," successfully dodging Chen Yu's attack.

"Even with the Vermilion Bird Sacred Wings, in flight techniques, I from the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest will surely prevail..."

Zhu Yifan was full of confidence, but halfway through his words, he couldn't continue.

Chen Yu's wings were burning with gleaming bloodlight, unleashing terrifying speed, swiftly catching up.

Moreover, Chen Yu was headed straight for him.

Within the Vermilion Bird Burning Sky Wings lay attack techniques, as well as escape techniques.

Chen Yu practiced the "Sky Fire Flash," tailored for body cultivation.

The sustained flight speed of "Sky Fire Flash" is average; it focuses on instantaneous explosive speed.

Additionally, with his mastery of space as support, despite acting later, Chen Yu instantly closed in on Zhu Yifan, crashing into him.

Boom!

Chen Yu thrust out a claw, shattering Zhu Yifan's wings, piercing his body.

Blood splattered, sending Zhu Yifan flying a thousand meters away!

Chen Yu slowly descended, smiling, "I wonder, does this count as qualified?"

Chapter 1124: Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique

"... Does this count as passing?"

Faced with Chen Yu's question, the scene fell completely silent.

The rules had been stated face-to-face before, as long as Zhu Yifan was injured within thirty moves, it counted as passing.

In reality, Zhu Yifan was injured in just one move, yet they turned a blind eye, pretending not to see it.

But after a few more moves, Zhu Yifan was utterly defeated.

No matter how much the higher-ups of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest wanted to ignore it, they couldn't claim that Chen Yu didn't pass.

Moreover, it seemed that the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest had been humiliated by Chen Yu again.

The disciples watching looked at Chen Yu with extreme hostility, while many elders wore stern expressions, their hearts blazing with anger.

But they had no way to deal with Chen Yu!

The elders couldn't take action themselves, and since Zhu Yifan had already lost, could they send someone stronger to challenge him? Even if they won, it wouldn't mean much.

After a dozen breaths of silence, an elder finally responded to Chen Yu's words, "Indeed, you are truly a genius of the Heavenly Martial Sect. Your progress has been immense since coming to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest."

It was true that Chen Yu had made significant progress, but this elder attributed all the credit to the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, saving some face in the process.

"I wonder if I could now go and select a cultivation technique or combat skill?"

Chen Yu ignored what the other side said and immediately brought up the matter, lest the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan go back on their word.

The expressions of the high-ranking members of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest stiffened once again.

After being humiliated by Chen Yu, he was still asking to choose a cultivation technique or combat skill.

Without a doubt, Chen Yu would certainly choose a high-grade one, perhaps even the core heritage of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest.

Finally, a steward accompanied Chen Yu to make his selection.

The crowd gradually dispersed, and as for Zhu Yifan, who had been sent flying, he had long since disappeared.

Soon, Chen Yu arrived at a heavily-guarded pavilion.

The pavilion had seven floors, and inside were various combat skills and secret techniques. Although it wasn't all-encompassing, the variety was extensive, not inferior in number to the Heavenly Martial Sect.

Among them, the third and fourth floors housed king-level cultivation techniques and combat skills.

Without looking, Chen Yu headed towards the fifth floor.

The accompanying steward had anticipated this; given a chance to choose, Chen Yu would certainly go for the higher-level ones.

The fifth floor corresponded to lower-tier emperor-level.

Upon reaching the fifth floor, Chen Yu briefly observed before preparing to enter the sixth floor.

"Chen Yu, the sixth floor corresponds to high-tier emperor-level, you can only select from the fifth floor at most."

The steward suddenly said.

Chen Yu didn't take it too seriously and stopped his steps.

Even though the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest had agreed to let him choose freely, it was certainly not entirely so. If Chen Yu picked a god-level technique and left, the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest would suffer a great loss.

Of course, Chen Yu wasn't planning to select a god-level technique.

God-level techniques are meant for the Heavenly Union Divine Realm to cultivate, too far from his reach, and techniques selected here are not to be spread outside. Chen Yu would essentially be holding a treasure chest without a key, making it easier to attract enemies.

In fact, Chen Yu's final choice might not even be on the fifth floor.

However, when Chen Yu found a type of secret technique, he paused on the sixth floor.

"Flame control type secret technique."

Secret techniques generally don't have stringent cultivation requirements and are stored here based on their value.

Chen Yu found a flame control secret technique here that could be cultivated starting from the Sky Sea Realm.

In the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan, almost ninety percent of the demon race cultivates the Fire Dao, and they often master one or two True Fire Spirit Flames, so flame control secret techniques come in great variety.

The signature flame control secret technique of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest is the "Vermilion Bird Flame Control Technique," which is the choice of most of the demon race and requires few contribution points.

Besides this, there are also targeted flame control secret techniques, in a variety of forms, making it difficult for Chen Yu to decide for a time.

The "Blood Crystal Flame" and "Void Sky Holy Fire" in his hand belong to two completely different types of Innate Spiritual Flame, and Chen Yu hasn't found a flame control secret technique particularly suitable for himself.

"Hold on, this 'Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique' may not have notable highlights, but it's still quite suitable for me."

Chen Yu discovered a decent flame control secret technique.

"The Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique," not a particularly outstanding flame control secret technique, mainly helps improve the cultivator's fine control over True Fire Spirit Flames, and also has the effect of condensing and enhancing soul power.

"This will do."

Chen Yu quickly decided, since it's a free selection, it's no loss if it's not suitable.

The steward, seeing the "Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique," couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

At least Chen Yu didn't choose the core heritage of the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest. Among the many flame control secret techniques, the "Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique" is not particularly outstanding, and it has a slightly high difficulty, which is why it's placed on the fifth floor.

Overall, with Chen Yu selecting this flame control secret technique, the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest didn't suffer significantly, and the steward immediately reported the matter to the elders.

Chen Yu wasn't in a rush to leave the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest anyway, since they couldn't forcefully keep him, staying a few more days wouldn't hurt.

He planned to acquire some resources before leaving.

The Vermilion Bird Burning Sky Wings were not yet perfected, and the Fire Dao's profound meaning needed continuous improvement.

But as Chen Yu had anticipated, when he came to the trading market, all the shops and stall owners here gradually received messages that all resources sold to Chen Yu would have their prices doubled.

It couldn't be helped—considering how much Chen Yu had taken advantage of them, the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest harbored extreme animosity towards him.

Chen Yu had no options left, so he decided to rest for a day and return to the Heavenly Martial Sect the following day.

At night.

Chen Yu visited Zhu Lingyu's residence.

"What's the matter?"

Zhu Lingyu looked at Chen Yu with a complex expression.

She felt she had a certain level of friendship with Chen Yu, but Chen Yu's relationship with the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest was so bad that almost everyone wanted to strike him.

"Could you help me acquire some blood from the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan and a Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather? The price is negotiable."

These two items are the most important treasures in cultivating the Vermilion Bird Burning Sky Wings, much like how metal-based Holy Beast bloodline and Heavenly Crystal Gold are critical for cultivating the White Tiger Sacred Claw.

Originally, Chen Yu planned to purchase them here, but openly selling the bloodline or blood of the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan is a capital crime.

As for the Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather, it's extremely precious, and even if Chen Yu could buy it, doubling the price was unbearable.

"The price is negotiable."

Chen Yu said with a smile.

Apart from Zhu Lingyu in the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, he couldn't find anyone else to help.

Given Zhu Lingyu's status, he should be able to obtain these two items.

"Wait a moment."

Zhu Lingyu closed the door.

Chen Yu was puzzled. What did it mean for the other party to leave him hanging outside without a response?

As he was pondering, the door opened.

"Here."

Zhu Lingyu took out two items.

One was a jade bottle containing a few drops of essence blood, and the other was a Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather.

The Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather had four colors and emitted a powerful Holy Beast aura.

Chen Yu immediately put away the two items and said, "Name your price." .

"No need. Consider it as repayment for saving my life."

Zhu Lingyu said rationally.

This made Chen Yu feel a bit embarrassed; his relationship with Zhu Lingyu wasn't that close.

The essence blood of the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan contained bloodline power. Selling such an item was a death sentence, and it couldn't be bought under normal circumstances.

As for the Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather, only those with dense bloodline and exceptional talent from the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan had an extremely small chance of growing such a feather, making it a very rare treasure.

"Are you sure you don't want the Primordial Stone? I'm returning to the Heavenly Martial Sect tomorrow, and it'll be too late for regrets then."

Chen Yu reiterated, considering that these two items were very hard to obtain and extremely valuable.

Zhu Lingyu shook his head.

"Thank you."

Chen Yu expressed his gratitude and left.

Zhu Lingyu watched his figure disappear into the night, feeling somewhat complicated and unable to explain why.

After returning to his residence, Chen Yu took out the essence blood and Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather to study them briefly.

He did not expect the quality of the treasures given by Zhu Lingyu to be very high. As long as they weren't too poor or counterfeit, that was sufficient.

"This drop of essence blood is very fresh, and the aura of these two items is... very similar."

Chen Yu roughly guessed.

The essence blood was Zhu Lingyu's, and the Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather was also his.

He sighed, thinking that even if Zhu Lingyu didn't have them, he shouldn't go to such lengths.

Without further thought, Chen Yu figured that with these two items, there shouldn't be any issues cultivating the Vermilion Bird Burning Sky Wings at this level.

But he still hadn't found the Heavenly Crystal Gold. The White Tiger Sky Splitting Claw lacked just this one precious item to be perfect.

The next day.

The Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest personally escorted Chen Yu back to the Heavenly Martial Sect, fearing any mishaps during the journey that would cause the Heavenly Martial Sect to blame them.

The other Heavenly Martial Sect disciples had returned years ago, so Chen Yu was traveling alone.

Subsequently, a flying ship departed, and a ten-person team including an elder personally escorted Chen Yu back to the Heavenly Martial Sect.

The journey was long, and Chen Yu secluded himself for cultivation in his room.

During the five-year seclusion in the small world, he made tremendous progress in all areas.

His cultivation reached the peak of the Late Stage Star Condensation, almost becoming a Four-star King.

His Spatial Profound Meaning reached four and a half levels, Gold Profound Meaning reached four levels, and Fire Profound Meaning reached three and a half levels.

Additionally, he cultivated the Vermilion Bird Burning Sky Wings to perfection, further practicing related combat techniques and the flying combat technique "Sky Fire Flash."

Along the way, Chen Yu primarily focused on cultivating the "Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique."

This fire control secret technique emphasized fine control, enhancing the fusion degree of the True Fire Spirit Flame with other forces for greater potency after cultivation.

Furthermore, this secret technique could also refine and enhance Soul Power.

However, for Chen Yu, this fire control secret technique presented a slight challenge.

It took him a month to achieve an entry-level understanding.

Buzz!

A silver-gray flame suddenly ignited at his fingertip, precisely the [Void Sky Holy Fire].

The flame danced incessantly, gradually elongating until it became extremely thin, like a strand of hair at Chen Yu's fingertip.

Generally speaking, the stronger and higher-level a spiritual flame was, the harder it was to control.

So, most of the time, cultivators possessing True Fire Spirit Flames used them for aggressive attacks and massive consumption without focusing on fine control.

"If I can cultivate the 'Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique' to Great Success, I should be able to make the Void Sky Holy Fire transform into strands imperceptible to the naked eye."

Chen Yu said with a smile.

The cultivation of the "Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique" was relatively slow.

That day, Chen Yu took out the essence blood and Vermilion Bird Colorful Feather, preparing to refine them.

Suddenly, a Token in Chen Yu's storage space received a message.

This Token was the Heavenly Martial Sect's disciple Identity Token, capable of communication and sending messages with fellow disciples within a certain distance.

It was a request for assistance.

Chen Yu left the room and looked around, realizing that after flying for over two months, the flying ship had reached the Human Race's territory.

When fellow disciples request assistance, as a disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect, it is obligatory to help, especially since Chen Yu currently had no pressing matters.

"Elder, I have something to attend to. You can drop me off here."

Chen Yu found an elder overseeing the area.

"No."

The elder immediately refused upon hearing Chen Yu's request.

Chapter 1125: Ghost Finger Yan Su

The elder escorting Chen Yu back to the Heavenly Martial Sect immediately refused upon hearing that Chen Yu wanted to leave now.

Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest had already been tricked by Chen Yu several times, and if anything happened to Chen Yu on the way back, they'd bear the responsibility again.

The elder naturally wouldn't allow Chen Yu to act recklessly.

"Have you connected with the Heavenly Martial Sect?"

The elder asked with a smile.

Chen Yu showed a strange expression, not sure what the other party was going to say, but he had indeed contacted the disciples of the Heavenly Martial Sect, so he nodded, hoping this would be the end of it.

"Haha, then did the Heavenly Martial Sect give you some kind of trick to make you have an accident halfway, and then pit Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest, right? You underestimate me too much."

The elder laughed disdainfully.

"..."

Chen Yu wanted to say the other party was overthinking.

However, Chen Yu felt deep sympathy for this elder's thoughts, Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest must have been tricked too many times.

"How about this, if I leave now and anything happens, it won't be on the Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest."

Chen Yu said.

This surprised the elder slightly, unable to understand.

"What did you say?"

The elder looked surprised, seemingly wanting to confirm again.

"I said if you let me leave now, if anything happens to me, it definitely won't be blamed on Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest."

Chen Yu repeated.

Whoosh!

The elder suddenly waved his sleeve, the void trembled, transparent flames flickered, condensing into a red sphere, floating in the elder's palm.

Within the red sphere, the surrounding scene was displayed, along with the sentence Chen Yu had just repeated.

"Alright, you can go."

The elder smiled.

Obviously, he was pretending not to hear clearly, making Chen Yu say it again while recording the scene.

Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest was very hoping for Chen Yu to have an accident, but they didn't want to bear the blame. Now that Chen Yu had made the promise, this elder gladly agreed.

Chen Yu was speechless at the elder's actions.

Without caring further, he left the flying ship and flew in a certain direction.

In fact, his actions at this moment were still dangerous.

But when Chen Yu received the distress message, the mysterious heart reacted simultaneously, so he confidently left the protection of the Vermilion Bird Sacred Clan.

After leaving, he took out the messaging token to inquire about the destination.

"Dead Spirit Desert?"

Upon receiving the destination, Chen Yu became more cautious.

This Dead Spirit Desert was a well-known dangerous forbidden area in the Human Race's territory.

...

In the dark and desolate desert, black winds howled like ghostly wails.

The most common sight here was sand and dirt, followed by bones.

In one part of the desert, a rare and bizarre black tree grew, bare without leaves, lifeless, but hanging with a few fruits on its black branches.

The fruits were shaped like human heads, with simple facial features, some smiling, some angry and cursing.

Seven people stood beneath the black tree, from two different factions.

"Frost Hall, how about splitting these 'Human Soul Fruits' evenly?"

One man said.

This man was burly and towering, his eyes sparkled with brilliance, his aura was strong.

Behind him were a man and a woman, the man was handsome, with short dark purple hair, it was Lin Tianfeng.

Their outfits were all Heavenly Martial Sect disciples' attire.

Opposite the burly man, there were four people, the leading man was slender, his face slightly cold, his black eyes emitted icy coldness.

Facing the slender man, the three disciples of Heavenly Martial Sect felt a bit pressured.

"Ghost Finger 'Yan Su'!"

"This person, although from Frost Hall of the Eight Emperor Sect, now has a fame that surpasses many outstanding disciples from the Divine Sect."

Lin Tianfeng communicated with another female disciple.

"I wonder who is stronger, Brother Pan or Ghost Finger Yan Su."

The Brother Pan they referred to was the burly man "Pan Peng", ranked thirty-second on the Heavenly Martial List of Heavenly Martial Sect.

"We have been eyeing these Human Soul Fruits for a long time, the nearby enemies were also killed by us, why should we give you half?"

The slender man "Yan Su" sneered.

"Oh? So you want to be enemies with the Heavenly Martial Sect?"

The burly man "Pan Peng" furrowed his brows, releasing a powerful aura.

"Haha, you must be joking. Even if I cripples the three of you today, would the Heavenly Martial Sect act against me for that?"

Yan Su laughed loudly.

It's merely competition between disciples, as long as no fatalities occur, the Heavenly Martial Sect won't intervene.

"Forget it, I will give you a chance. If any of you can withstand twenty moves from me, we'll split the 'Human Soul Fruits' half with you, how about it?"

Yan Su's lips curled into a cold smile.

"Twenty moves!"

Pan Peng, upon hearing this remark, glared angrily.

Among their three, only he was a Four and a Half Stars King, the other two were much less strong, so he was definitely the one to fight.

Yan Su knew this point, yet arrogantly proposed a twenty-move challenge, clearly looking down on him.

"Fine, I'll face you!"

Pan Peng surged with orange energy, soaring into the sky.

The others backed away, making space for Pan Peng and Yan Su to battle.

"Judging by Yan Su's demeanor, he seems confident. If Brother Pan loses, we won't get anything."

"And in terms of total strength of our teams, Frost Hall's group is stronger."

Lin Tianfeng sighed.

Boom!

The battle was about to begin, Pan Peng from the Heavenly Martial List ranked thirty-two, faced off against Frost Hall's talented Ghost Finger Yan Su.

Pan Peng wielded a massive axe, swinging it with a chaotic burst of orange light, changing the colors of the surroundings, the storm raged.

Opposite, a black short sword appeared in front of Yan Su, releasing thousands of dark, icy sword shadows, striking directly.

Clang! Bang! Boom!

The first move, the second move, the third move, Yan Su and Pan Peng were evenly matched.

"Is this the strength of the thirty-second rank on the Heavenly Martial List?"

Lin Tianfeng observed Pan Peng.

His cultivation had now reached the Four-star King level, ranked seventy-third on the Heavenly Martial List, eager to climb higher in the rankings.

Pan Peng's cultivation was only slightly higher, yet the strength he displayed now left Lin Tianfeng shocked.

For at least five years, he had no right to challenge Pan Peng.

Lin Tianfeng couldn't help but clench his fist, feeling dissatisfied inside.

Qin Wentian, who entered the Heavenly Martial Sect in the same batch as him, was now already a strong fighter ranked thirty-fourth on the Heavenly Martial List, the gap between them was just too wide.

Suddenly, Lin Tianfeng thought of someone, and his mood weighed down.

That person was Chen Yu, whose performance during the new disciple assessment overshadowed Qin Wentian, continuously shining in the Heavenly Martial Sect, even to the point of replacing Qin Wentian as the most talented of his generation.

"What a pity you died."

Lin Tianfeng sighed lightly, without a sense of regret, but with a slight sense of pleasure.

After all, Lin Tianfeng had been struck down by Chen Yu numerous times, casting a long shadow in his heart, and he felt as though he was finally stepping out of it.

"Brother Lin, Brother Pan is about to lose."

A female disciple beside him suddenly shouted.

Lin Tianfeng's gaze tightened, seeing that Pan Peng was indeed at a disadvantage, and it was only the tenth move.

Could Pan Peng last through twenty moves?

The eleventh move, the twelfth move!

Pan Peng's forehead was drenched in cold sweat, utterly shocked that he, a genius of the Heavenly Martial Sect, was being overshadowed by a disciple from the Eight Great Emperor Sects, a colossal humiliation.

"War Soul Sky Breaking Slash!"

Pan Peng shouted, his body shrouded in brilliant orange light, battle intent surging forth.

The giant axe in his hand soared into the sky, expanding several times, carving out a dazzling radiance as it slashed toward Yan Su.

"As expected of a disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect, you have some skill."

Yan Su stated indifferently, his fingers moving as the pitch-black short sword under his control flew into the air, ready to meet Pan Peng's strike.

Boom!

A thunderous explosion echoed across the sky, disturbing the surroundings.

Within suddenly burst forth an imposing orange axe shadow, slashing towards Yan Su.

Bang!

In the explosion, Yan Su's figure flew backward.

"Hmph, you underestimated me."

Pan Peng sneered.

"Is that so?"

Yan Su's voice emerged, with a wave of his finger, a massive dark sword radiance shot forth.

"You're unharmed?"

Pan Peng looked at Yan Su, extremely surprised.

As an observer, Lin Tianfeng saw more clearly that Yan Su was not blown away by Pan Peng's strike; rather, he narrowly and skillfully retreated in time, only slightly being affected and sustaining some minor injuries.

Whoosh!

This sword from Yan Su was stronger than before, emanating a chilling aura as it attacked Pan Peng.

Pan Peng, injured, retreated swiftly.

Yan Su pressed on relentlessly, appearing almost like a different person, with sword attacks fierce and ruthless.

Three consecutive sword strikes inflicted three separate wounds on Pan Peng's body, the last of which reached his organs, severely injuring him, leading to his defeat.

"Lost!"

Pan Peng's face turned blank, struck by the realization.

"Haha, had you won, I would've shared the Human Soul Fruit with you all, but since you lost, chopping off a leg from each of you isn't too much, is it?"

Yan Su's cold laughter echoed out.

"What?"

Pan Peng and the others were shocked.

Whoosh!

A dark light sword flashed through, bringing a bone-chilling cold as it approached.

Splurt!

Pan Peng didn't anticipate Yan Su would strike so suddenly, blood splattered as one of his legs was severed; he writhed and screamed in pain.

Lin Tianfeng and another female disciple felt a chill run down their spines; they'd heard of Ghost Finger Yan Su's ruthless methods but didn't expect him to be so vicious even towards disciples of the Heavenly Martial Sect.

"Next, it's your turn—both of you."

Yan Su didn't even bat an eye, as the mysterious weapon, the black sword, flew out.

Every hair on Lin Tianfeng's body stood on end, feeling that this sword was aimed at him.

But suddenly, from afar, a beam of white light swiftly surged forward, appearing right before the black sword, blocking it.

"Support has arrived."

The female disciple beside exclaimed.

She was timid, and the moment she realized there were nearby Heavenly Martial Sect disciples, she sent out a request for support.

Lin Tianfeng let out a sigh of relief, as though he had just walked back from the gates of hell.

Who was it? Which brother from the Heavenly Martial Sect saved him? He must repay this person generously!

So he extended his Spiritual Sense.

Lin Tianfeng was as if struck by lightning, stunned and speechless.

"Chen Yu! How... is it you?"

His Spiritual Sense saw Chen Yu's face! .

Damn it, wasn't Chen Yu dead in the Demon Race's territory?

Was this Chen Yu before his eyes a human or a ghost?

As for the gratitude and repayment he felt just now, Lin Tianfeng had already thrown it aside.

"... Weren't you... dead?"

Lin Tianfeng managed to stammer out.

"Lin Tianfeng, is that how you speak to your benefactor?"

Chen Yu glanced at Lin Tianfeng, questioning in return.

Chapter 1126: Target

Chen Yu's appearance frightened the three people from the Heavenly Martial Sect.

Wasn't this guy's fate uncertain? The Vermilion Bird Heavenly Nest mobilized a lot of people, searched for three years without results, which basically meant he was dead.

Lin Tianfeng felt the shadow that was about to dissipate in his heart reappearing.

Yan Su across from them, his gaze flashed coldly, staring at Chen Yu's hands.

Because those hands were holding his mystic weapon, the black sword.

Although this sword was aimed at Lin Tianfeng, so he didn't use his full strength, it was still interesting that Chen Yu, merely at the late stage peak, could hold the sword with his hands.

Besides that.

Yan Su felt Chen Yu was very special, a kind of attraction that made him pay attention involuntarily.

Chen Yu also stared at Yan Su.

"The mysterious heart's perception points to this person..."

He wasn't too surprised; there were many things that could interest the heart, even high-quality Space Profound Meaning Crystal Stones.

"What's going on?"

Chen Yu asked.

First, get a clear understanding before proceeding.

Pan Peng was injured, Lin Tianfeng didn't want to talk to Chen Yu, so the female disciple spoke up, but not to answer Chen Yu's question: "Are you really Chen Yu?"

"Chen Yu? I've heard about you."

Yan Su spoke from the opposite side.

Chen Yu was originally a genius of the Heavenly Martial Sect, and before he disappeared in the Demon Race, he caused quite a commotion, many had heard of Chen Yu's reputation.

"Your fellow sect members wanted to seize our spoils, but were defeated by me. That's all there is to it..."

He introduced the situation very lightly and simply, not putting Chen Yu in his eyes.

"Brother Chen, he's lying."

The female disciple from the Heavenly Martial Sect immediately countered.

Yan Su's words made them seem so disgraceful.

So, this female disciple carefully recounted the events, of course leaning more towards her own team, describing the Frost Hall members as ruthless and cruel, especially the incident of Pan Peng's leg being severed.

"He was defeated by me, it's just a leg that's been severed, it's not like I took his life. I've been quite merciful."

Yan Su said with an indifferent smile.

For someone with a slightly cruel disposition, encountering others trying to seize their discovered treasure, this approach is quite okay; directly killing all enemies is the truly ruthless way.

However, even such a person wouldn't dare to easily kill a disciple from the Heavenly Martial Sect.

"You shouldn't have come; I was planning to collect three legs at most, but now you're sending over another one."

Yan Su continued.

"Hold on."

Chen Yu stopped him, then said: "Does your previous statement still hold?"

"Are you talking about the promise of twenty moves?"

Yan Su's lips curved into a cold smile, somewhat flippantly: "Of course, it counts, do you want to try?"

He already valued Chen Yu enough, but after all, the opponent had been missing for a long time, and now his power level was only the Late Stage Star Condensation Realm Peak.

"Why not try? 'Human Soul Fruit' is a really good thing."

Chen Yu glanced at the black tree nearby and the fruit on it.

The Human Soul Fruit, a treasure of the Soul Path, has a great nourishing effect on the soul and is an essential material for refining many special Spirit Pills. Besides, it has quite a few unconventional uses.

Compared to other Soul Path treasures, the greatest feature of the Human Soul Fruit is its ease of absorption.

Having seen such a treasure, Chen Yu naturally had to try to obtain it.

"Twenty moves, isn't that too bullying?"

Yan Su asked with a smile.

"Then you can reduce it to one move."

"..."

Yan Su didn't expect Chen Yu to play by unconventional rules, but of course, he wouldn't fall for it.

Chen Yu at least has a reputation and is a disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect. Even if Yan Su is confident, he certainly wouldn't make a promise of one move.

Swoosh!

The black sword clamped between Chen Yu's fingers suddenly released a black icy sword shadow, the cold invading Chen Yu, the mystic weapon black sword stabbing towards Chen Yu's throat.

Yan Su suddenly launched an attack, and the mystic weapon black sword was right in front of Chen Yu; in this situation, Chen Yu couldn't dodge, and if his reaction was just a bit slower, he'd be done for.

"He's too full of himself."

Pan Peng was lying beside, reattaching his leg, waiting to return to the Heavenly Martial Sect to purchase Spirit Pills for treatment.

Even he, ranked thirty-second on the Heavenly Martial List, was defeated by Yan Su, yet Chen Yu still seemed all relaxed and casual, this was truly courting death.

Swish bang!

Black and white lights flickered, only to see the mystic weapon black sword fly out backward, Chen Yu still standing in the same spot, completely unharmed.

The three from the Heavenly Martial Sect took a slight gasp, very surprised.

Yan Su's brows slightly furrowed; even in such circumstances, Chen Yu was unharmed.

"In that split second just now, my connection with the mystic weapon was interfered with, causing the strike's power to weaken by forty percent..."

Yan Su looked at the black brush in Chen Yu's hand. Was it this mystic weapon that repelled his surprise attack?

Chen Yu's lips wore a faint smile, this was his first time using the Heavenly Yin Soul Pen in combat.

In the previous situation, besides taking the attack head-on, it could only use this mystic weapon to block.

The Heavenly Yin Soul Pen can influence the soul imprint within mystic weapons, in the instant when two mystic weapons touch, the black sword mystic weapon was affected, power greatly reduced, easily repelled.

Hiss!

The mystic weapon black sword once again emitted a chilling sword shadow, speeding towards him.

Swish! Bang!

The Heavenly Yin Soul Pen flew out, its white brush bristles stroked across the black sword.

In that instant, the soul imprint within the mystic weapon black sword was slightly obliterated, impacting Yan Su's control ability over the mystic weapon, attack power sharply dropped.

Bang!

The Heavenly Yin Soul Pen once again sent the mystic weapon black sword flying.

The Heavenly Yin Soul Pen's attack ability isn't especially outstanding, but along with its characteristics, it equivalently weakens the enemy mystic weapon, standing in an invincible position.

Therefore, even particularly strong attack mystic weapons can't predict benefits from the Heavenly Yin Soul Pen.

Three moves!

Five moves!

Seven moves!

The two didn't move, their arcane weapons clashing fiercely, while Chen Yu held an absolute advantage.

This scene shocked the other onlookers.

The people from Frost Hall were very confident in Yan Su's strength. Even Pan Peng, who was ranked thirty-second on the Heavenly Martial List, was defeated. What could Chen Yu, who was in the Late Stage Star Condensation Realm Peak, amount to?

But reality slapped them in the face.

Pan Peng from the Heavenly Martial Sect couldn't believe it either. Yan Su, who had forced him into such a predicament, was actually not a match for Chen Yu.

He seriously doubted if the opponent was holding back.

At this moment, a female disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect spoke up: "Brother Pan, isn't Yan Su known as the 'Ghost Finger'? Isn't that title because he's skilled in finger techniques? Why has he only used swordsmanship so far?"

Upon hearing this, Pan Peng realized it too.

"That's right, Yan Su is most skilled in finger techniques. He's been holding back."

Pan Peng found evidence of Yan Su's holding back.

But if this counted as holding back, didn't he also hold back when fighting him earlier?

"Your arcane weapon is quite special, but it won't help you endure past twenty moves."

Yan Su suddenly said.

He had already guessed the characteristics of the [Heavenly Yin Soul Pen], unless his arcane weapon's quality greatly surpassed it, it would be difficult to win in an arcane weapon duel.

"Heavenly Frost Finger!"

Yan Su's index and middle fingers were surrounded by a black halo, spreading cold black light around.

As he pointed with both fingers, two ghostly black icy fingers formed in the void, like heavenly pillars, smashing towards Chen Yu.

"He's using finger techniques!"

Pan Peng's face was stunned.

The power of these two finger techniques was terrifying. Even from several thousand zhang away, his blood involuntarily congealed.

"Ice Profound Meaning, four and a half!"

Lin Tianfeng was deeply shocked.

Chen Yu's expression slightly tightened, as the enemy's momentum became instantly stronger.

This level of strength was even stronger than Zhu Yifan, whom he had fought before. No wonder he could defeat Pan Peng.

But in truth, he wasn't going all out either.

The opponent's skill level was not bad, and he only needed to last for twenty moves, there was no need to necessarily defeat the opponent.

Bang!

Chen Yu's hands turned into the White Tiger Sacred Claw amidst a layer of golden white radiance, while fire erupted around him, engulfing all sides.

Whoosh!

He wielded the Gold Profound Meaning and Fire Profound Meaning, and the White Tiger Sacred Claw slashed out, a trail of golden red light flashing.

Boom!

The potent and domineering attacks collided fiercely, resulting in continuous explosions.

"What?"

Yan Su was slightly surprised.

Even when being suppressed in an arcane weapon duel, he didn't show this expression.

After all, arcane weapons are external power. It was normal for Chen Yu, a genius of the Heavenly Martial Sect, to possess some powerful weapons, but how could his skill level be this high?

Pan Peng was also dumbfounded. Could Chen Yu's strength have already surpassed his own?

The previous generation's geniuses were truly terrifying. Qin Wentian's strength was quickly catching up to him, while Chen Yu had already surpassed him.

Boom!

Yan Su launched another offensive, still using finger techniques, and it was overwhelming with coldness.

Chen Yu remained calm, countering the Ice Profound Meaning with the Gold and Fire Profound Meaning, which was more than sufficient.

"Ice Frost Suppressing Heaven!"

Yan Su shouted, as a pitch-black icy vortex appeared above Chen Yu's head, within which a finger descended, with distinct fingerprints, pressing down with the momentum to freeze everything.

Facing this finger, Chen Yu couldn't help but be moved.

The power of this finger had already surpassed the level of four and a half stars. Pan Peng's face went pale, for if he were hit by this move, he would surely be dead.

Chen Yu immediately activated the Space Profound Meaning and Blood Crystal Flame, deploying the Star Splitting Claw, and a grand crescent of gold and red shot towards the sky!

Bang bang bang!

The explosions continued, storms roaring.

The spectators couldn't help but take another step back, as Pan Peng and Lin Tianfeng saw the upper end of the pitch-black finger being pierced through by a crescent.

Another earth-shaking explosion occurred, and Yan Su's finger technique attack was shattered.

Yan Su's face twisted slightly, his jet-black eyes gleamed with fierce light.

Despite appearances, he was absolutely confident. This unexpected failure ignited his fury.

Yan Su couldn't help but reach for a rusty ring on the index finger of his left hand, intending to remove it.

Chen Yu noticed this scene, unsure of what the opponent was planning, but his mysterious heart began to beat faster.

...

A thousand miles away.

Two oddly shaped flying artifacts zipped through the void.

These flying artifacts were shaped like sharp-mouthed fish, their bodies glowing bright silver, with a streamlined shape, flying rapidly through the void with very little commotion.

"How do you find the flying artifacts I've designed?"

A man's voice came from within one of the flying artifacts.

"They're just okay, but the appearance is too ugly, far inferior compared to Brother Dong's creations."

"...Your sense of aesthetics is still so twisted."

The man sighed helplessly.

"The target is just ahead."

"It seems there are many lifeforms too, but none of them have reached the Xuanming Realm!"

The man showed a hint of a smile; this made things much easier.

However, as they approached, his expression changed abruptly.

"Is this... the second target?"

He stared at the screen in front, where besides a red dot, there was also a slightly flickering pale red dot.

Yet in the next instant, the pale red dot disappeared again.

Chapter 1127: Faceless Man

The twenty moves were already over, but seeing Yan Su's expression, it seemed he had no intention of stopping.

The female disciple from the Heavenly Martial Sect immediately spoke: "The twenty moves are up, are you planning to renege?"

Yan Su rubbed the rusty ring on his left index finger, but his movements slightly paused.

"Brother Yan, let it go."

Spoke a female disciple from Frost Hall.

After all, the opponent was a disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect, and according to the agreement, Yan Su indeed lost. It would likely be unfavorable if he reneged.

Yan Su gradually calmed down and said: "Fine, we will split the Human Soul Fruit equally."

On the black tree, there were a total of four Human Soul Fruits, two each for Frost Hall and the Heavenly Martial Sect.

"I want one Human Soul Fruit,"

Pan Peng suddenly spoke forcefully.

With only two Human Soul Fruits, distribution was difficult, but he had lost a leg and suffered greatly, so he must secure a Human Soul Fruit.

Chen Yu didn't respond but instead asked Lin Tianfeng and another female disciple: "Do either of you have any objections to this?"

The two remained silent, but they obviously had objections in their hearts.

Chen Yu won against Yan Su, so both sentiment and reason dictated he should get a Human Soul Fruit, leaving one remaining. If Pan Peng took one, then what would be left for the other two?

The most unwilling was that female disciple, who felt that Chen Yu was called for support by her, contributing to the effort as well.

But Pan Peng was too powerful, ranking thirty-second on the Heavenly Martial List, and she dared not offend him.

Swish!

The Frost Hall had finished discussions, and Yan Su swiftly approached the black tree to pluck the Human Soul Fruit.

Aware that the opponent might use some tricks, Chen Yu immediately moved to pluck the Human Soul Fruit as well.

But just then, a dim azure light erupted from underground, swiftly approaching the Human Soul Fruits.

Witnessing this scene, both teams were shocked.

Was there another hidden presence nearby?

"Junior Brother Chen, quickly block the enemy; these Human Soul Fruits are all ours."

The silhouette that suddenly flew out was clad in Heavenly Martial Sect attire and addressed Chen Yu.

Yet, Chen Yu found the voice completely unfamiliar; he was sure he didn't know the person. Moreover, the sudden appearance had no facial features, making identification impossible.

As for being addressed as Junior Brother Chen, the person likely heard others calling his name earlier.

Yan Su's gaze focused, seeing the expressions of Chen Yu and the others; they also seemed surprised at the sudden intruder, indicating it wasn't a premeditated plan between them.

But the sudden appearance of the Faceless Man, donned in Heavenly Martial Sect attire and possessing immense power, couldn't be underestimated.

Maybe this was all an act staged by the disciples of the Heavenly Martial Sect?

Swish!

Yan Su's speed instantly increased by fifty percent, quickly closing in on the Human Soul Fruits, simultaneously pointing a finger that released an ice-cold beam as thick as a thigh.

He knew Chen Yu was powerful and didn't expect this move to kill him; it just needed to delay him momentarily, so Yan Su could snatch all the Human Soul Fruits and escape.

Chen Yu felt a bit frustrated, as initially they would split the Human Soul Fruits equally, but then suddenly a third party appeared.

The newcomer seemed to be helping them as part of the Heavenly Martial Sect but was, in fact, deliberately causing chaos.

Hiss!

Confronting Yan Su's attack, Chen Yu didn't dodge, instead unleashing the White Tiger Sacred Claw.

Simultaneously, blood light surged behind him, transforming into a pair of enormous fiery wings.

Boom!

Chen Yu's speed explosively increased at this moment, charging forward, and the White Tiger Sacred Claw shattered the icy beam.

Chen Yu and Yan Su reached the Human Soul Fruits almost simultaneously.

But at that moment, the Faceless Man also arrived instantly.

Though he moved later, his speed surpassed that of Chen Yu and Yan Su!

The three simultaneously acted to vie for the Human Soul Fruits!

Suddenly, the Faceless Man switched techniques, striking two palms towards Chen Yu and Yan Su!

Boom!

The eerie, azure-cold palm light erupted instantly, and at close range, Chen Yu and Yan Su found it difficult to evade, getting hit directly.

"Heh heh!"

The Faceless Man chuckled lightly, displaying the demeanor of a victor.

Bang!

An explosion occurred on the spot, the tempest obscuring the Faceless Man's smile.

Two figures were thrown flying into the distance; Chen Yu regained his footing after retreating a hundred steps, his inner blood boiling.

Yan Su was sent crashing into the distant desert, spitting a mouthful of fresh blood.

Upon crawling up, he stared fiercely at the Faceless Man, now certain that he was impersonating a Heavenly Martial Sect disciple to fuel animosity with Chen Yu, while the Faceless Man seized the chance to gain the most benefit.

However, the Faceless Man suddenly commanded coldly: "Hand over all the Human Soul Fruits."

Chen Yu sneered, storing the Human Soul Fruits in his hand.

Previously enduring the Faceless Man's attack, he used defensive secret techniques to withstand it, seizing the opportunity to pluck a Human Soul Fruit.

On the other side, Yan Su employed similar tactics, getting injured but securing a Human Soul Fruit.

"The one who should be handing over the Human Soul Fruits is you. You've offended two major superpowers now."

Yan Su coldly scolded.

To have something taken from beneath one's nose was unbearable.

The Faceless Man, upon hearing this, did not show particular fear, remaining in place, though his faceless expression suggested displeasure.

As the three forces stood in confrontation.

Swish swish!

Where the Human Soul Fruit Tree once stood, sands began to flow, forming a vortex.

This scene captured everyone's attention; the vortex gradually expanded, revealing a black hole leading underground.

All three instinctively extended their Spiritual Sense to explore the situation.

A thousand feet below the surface, they discovered stairs and ancient buildings.

"Underground buildings? Could it be ruins?"

Pan Peng's eyes suddenly glimmered.

Such scenarios often signified opportunities.

"It's said the Dead Spirit Desert was once an ancient battlefield, a fierce war that transformed vast lands into desert; there must be many treasures buried below."

Pan Peng mused inwardly.

In truth, this forbidden area inherently held opportunities, drawing people in search of fortunes, though it was fraught with risks, as skeletons occasionally attested.

"Members of the Heavenly Martial Sect, do you plan to report this, or observe the situation first?"

Yan Su asked with a smile.

"Naturally, we should take a look first. If there's nothing below and it's just a coincidence, then there's no need to report it to the sect."

Pan Peng said.

He estimated that he might not get any Human Soul Fruit, but he absolutely couldn't pass up the current opportunity.

After receiving a response, Yan Su led the three from Frost Hall and directly jumped into the cave, showcasing their courage and skill.

Pan Peng looked at Chen Yu, feeling a bit conflicted.

Chen Yu's strength was even greater than his; he worried that Chen Yu might snatch the spoils.

Yet without Chen Yu, he felt uneasy again.

Chen Yu chuckled and entered the cave to see the situation.

Anyway, since the people from Frost Hall were leading the way, and there wasn't any imminent danger, leaving now might mean missing a chance encounter.

Seeing Chen Yu going underground, Pan Peng also called Lin Tianfeng and the others to enter. They were all feeling a sense of loss and unwillingness and wanted to try their luck.

"How interesting, the Human Soul Fruit wasn't fully obtained, and now this situation arises—hopefully, it will be a blessing and not a curse."

The Faceless Man sighed softly.

In fact, he had been hiding nearby for quite a while, initially hoping that the geniuses from both forces would fight to the death, allowing him to emerge and snatch the four Human Soul Fruits.

But the situation didn't unfold as he had expected, so he had to resort to such a strategy earlier. The result was still a loss; he only acquired two Human Soul Fruits.

Swoosh!

After both groups entered the cave, he quickly darted inside.

Not long afterwards.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Two silver lights shot rapidly, transforming into two flying devices and hovered in the air.

Among them, one young man had fair skin with ancient patterns on the surface, and he gazed deeply at the cave.

"Our target should have entered this cave."

The fair-skinned young man said.

Beside him stood a figure in clown makeup, resembling a clown puppet.

"Brother Dong thinks the same."

The clown said.

"There's nothing good in the depths of this Dead Spirit Desert, but to retrieve the 'target', we must take the plunge."

The fair-skinned young man sighed.

"I'll leave everything to you. Brother Dong believes you can complete the task."

The clown stepped back a few paces, entrusting the important task to the young man.

"No, no, your Brother Dong is the best, come with me."

The fair-skinned young man pulled the clown along and flew into the cave.

...

After falling a thousand feet, Chen Yu, Pan Peng, and the others landed on a stone staircase.

After some walking, they arrived at a broken palace underground, with eerie ghostly energy permeating the surroundings.

Before them, the Frost Hall and others were engaged in a fierce battle with five... corpses.

These corpses were entirely black, exuding a terrifying evil aura, with eyes flashing a sinister green light, crazily attacking the four people from Frost Hall.

"Corpse King!"

Lin Tianfeng shivered.

These five corpses were at Corpse King level, equivalent to Condensed Star King.

Although they had the advantage in numbers, their overall strength was inferior to Frost Hall's, and Yan Su and others were bound to win sooner or later.

Chen Yu and the others paid no attention, taking advantage of Frost Hall's fight with the Corpse King to move in another direction.

Leaving the palace, there were many branching paths ahead and other structures.

"That place emanates a strong corpse aura."

The group chose a certain path.

Shortly after they proceeded, they found a pile of ruins growing with more than a dozen black mushrooms.

"Corpse Ghost Poison Mushroom."

Pan Peng exclaimed.

Corpse Ghost Poison Mushrooms are rare treasures of the poison path, extremely toxic; the poison within can enhance a Poison Cultivator's power and is also used for refining poison and corpse nourishment.

"Chen Yu, you've already got one Human Soul Fruit; why don't you let us have these Corpse Ghost Poison Mushrooms?"

Pan Peng asked with a smile.

If Chen Yu disagreed, he would offend the other three members of the team.

"Do as you wish."

Chen Yu responded coolly.

Pan Peng and the other three were surprised by Chen Yu's easy agreement, although somewhat skeptical, they quickly began collecting the treasure.

Chen Yu shook his head and turned to leave.

Earlier Pan Peng had asked for the Human Soul Fruit and now targeted him, coveting the Corpse Ghost Poison Mushrooms. .

This person was too greedy; if there were any more treasures, he feared they would strive to claim them.

Chen Yu didn't want the situation to escalate to mutual slaughter, so he chose to leave the team voluntarily.

However, he hadn't gone far before suddenly feeling a chill.

Chen Yu quickly turned, activating the White Tiger Sacred Claw, and struck out with a claw.

The golden-white claw flew out, shattering the ghostly corpse aura in the air.

Boom!

In the dim space, a figure appeared and launched a ghostly blue light, directly shattering Chen Yu's attack.

"Your alertness is quite strong."

"Hand over the Human Soul Fruit, and I might consider sparing your life."

The Faceless Man said calmly.

His words left room for maneuver, clearly indicating that after handing over the Human Soul Fruit, he would likely still kill Chen Yu.

"Hahaha!"

Chen Yu burst into laughter, as if hearing some kind of joke.

"Why are you laughing?"

The opponent wondered.

"It should be you handing over the Human Soul Fruit and begging me to spare your life!"

Chapter 1128: Thousand-leaf Blood Tree

"It should be you handing over the Human Soul Fruit and begging me to spare your life!"

Chen Yu sneered.

This guy had snatched something right under his nose earlier, and since they met again, Chen Yu had no intention of letting him off easily.

"Hahaha!"

The Faceless Man burst into laughter, just like Chen Yu earlier, as if he had heard a huge joke.

Though it had no facial features, this must have been a secret technique to conceal its face, not that it truly had no features.

"You shouldn't be that foolish; my cultivation is at the five-star king level."

The Faceless Man actively released his aura, immediately creating a suppressive atmosphere, scaring off many weaker ghost corpses.

"Five-star king... so what?"

Chen Yu replied calmly, activating his astronomical physique and instantly launching an assault.

Swish!

Pushing the space profound meaning to its limit, in an instant, he closed in on the Faceless Man, and the blazing White Tiger Sacred Claw suddenly erupted with blood-red flames, tearfully ripping with a fierce and savage aura.

The Faceless Man was very surprised. Chen Yu knew he was a five-star king, yet he was fearless and took the initiative to attack.

"I think you're way too arrogant!"

The Faceless Man snorted coldly, a surge of enormous primal energy in his palm as he struck out, blue-green cold light erupting.

In his view, Chen Yu was just overly arrogant. Although Chen Yu was at the peak of late-stage cultivation and had defeated the four and a half stars king Yan Su, he surely had an inflated sense of confidence.

But to inflate in front of a five-star king, that was sheer foolishness.

Bang!

Chen Yu's claw struck that rampant blue-green palm light.

The opponent was indeed a five-star king; this strike was far beyond Yan Su's finger technique.

But this time, Chen Yu... struck with full force!

Rumble-hiss!

The golden-white streaks torn by Chen Yu seemed indestructible, slicing through everything, including the rampaging blue-green palm light.

"What?"

The Faceless Man was stunned.

His attack was actually broken by Chen Yu; this was simply incredible.

Whoosh!

The Faceless Man quickly retreated, but was still affected by Chen Yu's attack, his clothes torn, and two shallow blood marks appeared on his chest.

The Faceless Man glared at Chen Yu, face gloomy.

He recalled the previous strike cautiously; being a five-star king should have given him an absolute advantage, yet he found himself at a disadvantage.

Even if Chen Yu practiced the White Tiger Sacred Claw and possessed the Blood Crystal Flame, it shouldn't have been this strong.

"Profound meaning of metal, level four; profound meaning of space, four and a half."

The Faceless Man noticed this.

But even so, it should only bridge the gap between Chen Yu and himself. What actually gave Chen Yu the advantage?

"Now you might want to consider handing over the Human Soul Fruit and then begging me to spare your life."

Chen Yu's lips curved into a smile.

"Arrogant!"

The Faceless Man berated.

Just because Chen Yu had an advantage in the first move doesn't mean he would be defeated by Chen Yu.

Swish!

Chen Yu attacked again; in this narrow space, mastering the four and a half space profound meaning gave him a certain advantage.

It was easy for him to approach the Faceless Man, maximizing his advantage.

Hiss!

Chen Yu unleashed another claw; his White Tiger Sacred Claw was the sharpest weapon, fiercely and sharply attacking, breaking anything in its path.

Gold and crimson streaks of fierce light shot toward the Faceless Man.

This time the Faceless Man still didn't notice that Chen Yu had infused the power of the Void Sky Holy Fire into his attack.

Generally, Chen Yu wouldn't expose such a powerful Innate Spiritual Flame as the Void Sky Holy Fire.

But after cultivating the Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique, Chen Yu could finely control the Void Sky Holy Fire, making the flame as thin as a hair, mixed within the Blood Crystal Flame to increase the attack's power.

He had considered this when he chose the Ten Thousand Fire Spirit Technique.

Obviously, Chen Yu's attempt succeeded, and even the five-star king Faceless Man didn't notice.

The Faceless Man didn't hold back this time, he unleashed his full power.

A deep blue-green light mass flew out, with swirling ghostly light, the center pitch black, as if it wanted to swallow Chen Yu whole.

Rumble-hiss!

In this clash, Chen Yu still held the upper hand, slicing through the Faceless Man's attack.

Hiss!

Five blood marks were left on the Faceless Man, the previous injuries were just flesh wounds, this time they were more severe.

"Damn it!"

The opponent was a bit furious.

He suffered twice at the hands of a cultivator at the peak of late-stage star condensation; if he truly didn't care about face, otherwise how could he remain unmoved?

"This kid has a special Xuanqi; even if I use Xuanqi, I may not have the advantage."

The Faceless Man thought, refraining from releasing his Xuanqi.

After entering the underground, the reason he followed Chen Yu was naturally from observing the previous battle and his strong desire for Chen Yu's Heavenly Yin Soul Pen.

Whoosh!

Chen Yu launched another assault, releasing his Vermilion Bird Sacred Wings from his back.

Facing a five-star king, he naturally wouldn't hold back.

The moment the Vermilion Bird Sacred Wings appeared, Chen Yu's speed received an explosive boost, like a roaring fireball rapidly closing in on the Faceless Man.

In this confined space, the Faceless Man found it difficult to dodge and had to confront head-on.

Bang-boom!

The explosion sounded, and even the underground shook slightly.

The Faceless Man's figure was sent flying, creating a dent in the wall.

This building must have been ancient, still so sturdy today; otherwise, the Faceless Man's impact wouldn't have created just a dent.

Chen Yu discreetly utilized the power of the Void Sky Holy Fire, and with close combat, his strength advantage was fully expressed, perfectly suppressing the Faceless Man.

"Cang You Destroying Cloud!"

The Faceless Man, feeling stifled in the battle, roared; his skin gradually turned blue, his aura becoming even more violent.

Boom!

After he struck with his palm, it was as if all the strength in his body had been expelled, and his body gradually returned to normal.

This palm had formed a massive ball of light, deep and chilling, devouring everything.

Chen Yu's expression couldn't help but turn grave. After all, the opponent was a Five-star King. From the beginning, he hadn't taken things lightly, and now the opponent was going all out, using a deadly move.

Star-shattering Claw!

Chen Yu executed the third style of the "Sky-splitting Star-shattering Claw," tearing apart a chaotic trail of golden-red light.

Boom boom!

The two collided violently. In less than a breath, Chen Yu's attack shattered, and the opponent's attack was also weakened by a few layers.

"Chen Yu, this is the consequence of angering a Five-star King."

The Faceless Man said coldly.

He had used a deadly move, directly shattering Chen Yu's attack, enough to crush him.

Yet, facing the crisis, Chen Yu didn't retreat but advanced instead.

Boom!

The fiery wings burned fiercely, like a blood-red sun rushing out, speed pushed to the limit, crashing forward in an instant.

This was the "Sky Fire Flash," a flying combat technique tailored for Body Cultivation.

Boom! Sizzle!

Chen Yu actively met the Faceless Man's attack, thrusting out with both claws. A thunderous explosion resounded, buildings around crumbled, and massive stones fell from above.

The Faceless Man stared ahead, suddenly exclaiming, "Impossible."

Chen Yu had actually broken through his attack. Although he was also injured and looked somewhat haggard, the wounds on Chen Yu's body were rapidly healing.

Meanwhile, a strong sense of crisis descended upon the Faceless Man because Chen Yu was already closing in, the distance between them extremely short.

"Kill!"

Chen Yu's speed did not decrease, instantly closing in on the Faceless Man, the ferocious White Tiger Sacred Claw piercing the opponent's chest.

He could clearly hear the sound of bones and organs being cut.

Bang!

The vital energy within the Faceless Man erupted, sending out two palms, blasting Chen Yu away.

However, his face turned pale as he swiftly retreated.

Chen Yu got up quickly. Just now, he reckoned it was a trade of injuries, but his own defensive power was strong, possessing a medium-grade indestructible body, so long as the trauma wasn't particularly severe, it was basically nothing.

The Faceless Man didn't have a medium-grade indestructible body and his injuries were much heavier. In this "trade of injuries," Chen Yu had gained significantly.

"Monster!"

The Faceless Man thought of this word.

Whoosh!

He turned and darted away, disappearing in an instant.

Chen Yu didn't pursue him; killing a Five-star King was too difficult.

Moreover, the underground environment was complex, with unknown dangers.

Chen Yu walked a hundred feet forward, discovering a palace, but the roof had been pierced by a bloody tree.

The buildings here were extremely solid, even if somewhat ruined, they couldn't be pierced by just a tree.

The blood tree was lush, but its leaves were all blood-colored, looking extremely eerie.

Chen Yu acutely observed that among the countless blood-red leaves, there were three leaves that looked different, floating lightly like a human's hand.

"Thousand-leaf Blood Tree."

This tree itself was a precious material, a favorite of Blood Dao Practitioners.

Moreover, this Thousand-leaf Blood Tree had the potential to transform into a "Thousand-leaf Blood Hand Tree," equivalent to a metamorphosis. The "Blood Hand Leaf" that grows contains blood essence, nourishing the physical body, growing flesh and bones.

For instance, Pan Peng, who had his leg severed, one "Blood Hand Leaf" would be enough for him to grow a new leg.

The blood tree before him was in the process of transformation.

In fact, Chen Yu had just forcefully repelled the Faceless Man because he had discovered this Thousand-leaf Blood Tree.

If the Faceless Man also discovered the Thousand-leaf Blood Tree, he probably wouldn't leave easily, and dividing the spoils would be extremely difficult.

Chen Yu did not pluck the Blood Hand Leaf but took the entire palace along with the blood tree.

It would be best if the Thousand-leaf Blood Tree could complete its transformation, but if not, he wouldn't force it. After all, the internal environment of the heart was too harsh, and Chen Yu understood this.

After Chen Yu had moved the whole palace away,

The underground soil shook, and the sound of roars echoed as corpses climbed out.

...

After the Faceless Man fled, he hid in a corner.

"Wasn't he missing in the Demon Race territory? Not only did he come back alive, his strength has skyrocketed."

The Faceless Man swallowed a healing pill.

He felt uncomfortable about Chen Yu's enhancement.

"He must have had some fortuitous encounter..."

The Faceless Man was certain, which was why he chose to target Chen Yu first after coming underground.

He wanted to kill Chen Yu and take the treasures from him.

"Someone?"

The Faceless Man, who was healing, suddenly sensed someone's approach, held his breath, concealed his presence, and blended into the darkness.

On the other side, three people walked cautiously.

"Brother Chen is too stingy, he left the team just for a few Corpse Ghost Poison Mushrooms, and he got a Human Soul Fruit before."

A dissatisfied female voice was heard.

Compared to the Human Soul Fruit, the Corpse Ghost Poison Mushroom was a notch lower.

"Well, it's human nature, they're all fellow disciples, don't blame him."

Pan Peng sighed.

Suddenly, Pan Peng stopped and transmitted to the other two: "Someone ahead!"

The three became cautious; there were still many dangers underground.

At that moment, a man walked out from around the corner, dressed in the attire of the Heavenly Martial Sect, his face like a jade crown, incredibly handsome.

"Senior Brother Zuo, why are you here?"

The female disciple exclaimed, her smile like a blooming flower.

She didn't expect the comer to be Young Master Qingyang from the Heavenly Martial Sect, Zuo Zhushan, who, along with the Sect Master's disciple, Prince Xuyang Hong Xiuyuan, was known as the two handsome geniuses of the Heavenly Martial Sect.

"I didn't expect it to be Senior Brother Zuo. Since you're here, you must help us take charge. An enemy took our Human Soul Fruit before."

Pan Peng also said with a smile.

This Zuo Zhushan was a top ten genius on the Heavenly Martial List. With him here, they were sure to make the Frost Hall and the Faceless Man look bad.

Chapter 1129: Powerful Ghost Corpse King

Chen Yu moved aside a palace, uncovering a group of ghost corpses beneath it.

These ghost corpses varied in strength, with the three strongest being only late-stage Star Condensing Realm, which to Chen Yu, was just a bunch of small fry.

Chen Yu didn't even use the White Tiger Sacred Claw, only launched a punch.

Bang!

In the next instant, a fist imprint appeared on the chest of a late-stage Star Condensing ghost corpse, and immediately the chest caved in, leaving a fist-shaped hole.

Ghost corpses are known for their robust bodies, but under Chen Yu's fists, their bodies seemed like tofu, creating a hole with each punch.

Suddenly, a gust of dark wind attacked from behind.

Roar!

A dark shadow suddenly pounced on Chen Yu from behind, with eerie black claws and fangs appearing in the void, flying towards Chen Yu.

The star acupoints on Chen Yu's body flared up instantly, swiftly conjuring a layer of star-patterned robe.

Bang!

The enemy's sneak attack landed on the star-patterned robe, tearing it apart.

To break through Chen Yu's defense, the enemy's strength must be at least four and a half stars.

"Heh heh!"

A human ghost corpse behind him chuckled evilly, one of its eyes had fallen out, making it extremely ugly.

"What are you laughing at."

Chen Yu snorted coldly.

In the next moment, the countershock damage from the star-patterned robe surged like a storm toward the one-eyed ghost corpse, blasting it away.

Amidst the destructive explosion, roars echoed out as if the one-eyed ghost corpse was quite enraged for being fooled.

Chen Yu charged out intending to eliminate the sneak-attacking one-eyed ghost corpse.

Whoosh!

A dark shadow flew out from the explosion. The one-eyed ghost corpse chose not to engage with Chen Yu but fled instead.

Moreover, the opponent was very fast, vanishing in an instant.

"Interesting."

Compared to other mindless ghost corpses, this one-eyed ghost corpse was indeed intriguing.

The opponent could sneak attack and escape, clearly displaying normal thinking abilities.

Chen Yu chased after it, internally wondering, "Where might this one-eyed ghost corpse be heading?"

The Heavenly Martial Sect and Frost Hall disciples roamed aimlessly in this underground area; this one-eyed ghost corpse, being a native here, should be quite familiar with the environment.

Chen Yu was also wandering aimlessly, so he planned to follow the one-eyed ghost corpse to take a look.

After many twists and turns, Chen Yu spotted an ancient gate with some things buried under the soil around, but Chen Yu could guess that it was a part of a massive structure.

"Lost it?"

Chen Yu glanced around but found no trace of the one-eyed ghost corpse.

The environment here was complicated, and the one-eyed ghost corpse was well acquainted with it. Being a ghost corpse, it wouldn't be obstructed by others.

Chen Yu approached this black gate, which seemed to have a seal and couldn't be opened.

Bang!

Without a word, Chen Yu punched the gate, sending a loud rumble echoing everywhere.

The gate shook, seemingly dissipating some energy but still not opening.

With Chen Yu's strength, even though he didn't exert full effort, failing to open this gate was rather extraordinary.

This building might have belonged to some major force, or perhaps was the residence of a mighty person, hence its formidable defense.

At that moment.

Whoosh whoosh...

The sound of something cutting through the air could be heard.

A team from the Heavenly Martial Sect arrived, and the first thing they saw was Chen Yu in front of the gate.

"So it's Junior Brother Chen, have you discovered anything?"

Pan Peng asked.

They had been exploring before and suddenly hurried over upon hearing the loud noise.

There was only Chen Yu here, and no trace of any treasures.

"The discovery is right here."

Chen Yu pointed forward, with nothing to hide.

His gaze fell on someone in the Heavenly Martial Sect team, a person with extremely beautiful features and a gentle demeanor.

"Senior Brother Zuo."

Chen Yu recognized this Heavenly Martial Sect genius as a formidable figure within the top ten of the Heavenly Martial List.

Although Chen Yu was a bit puzzled by Zuo Zhushan's arrival, he didn't overthink it.

"Junior Brother Chen is here too, let's act together then, it's safer this way."

Zuo Zhushan smiled gently.

Pan Peng appeared somewhat dissatisfied hearing this. Previously, Chen Yu had actively left the team, and now that their team had a strong figure like Zuo Zhushan, they would surely do better than Chen Yu. However, to his surprise, Zuo Zhushan took the initiative to invite Chen Yu.

Before, they said quite a few bad things about Chen Yu, but Zuo Zhushan seemed to pay it no mind.

"Alright."

Chen Yu didn't refuse Zuo Zhushan.

The opponent, as a top ten figure on the Heavenly Martial List and a five-star king, with formidable strength, indeed provided more security.

Whoosh whoosh...

Four more figures arrived, including Yan Su and others from Frost Hall.

Upon seeing the disciples from the Heavenly Martial Sect, Yan Su and the others weren't surprised, but when they saw Zuo Zhushan, their expressions tightened.

"This is bad, Heavenly Martial Sect has another strong figure now, this person is Zuo Zhushan, ranked sixth on the Heavenly Martial List."

A disciple said.

The talents of the Heavenly Martial Sect naturally attracted attention.

Zuo Zhushan had previously been ranked third on the Heavenly Martial List but was defeated in a challenge not long ago, now standing sixth.

"Senior Brother Zuo, it was these people from Frost Hall who robbed us of the Human Soul Fruit earlier."

Pan Peng immediately said with delight at others' misfortune.

Now, the overall strength of the Heavenly Martial Sect surpassed Frost Hall, and there was even a chance they could capture them all.

"Who would have thought the disciples of Heavenly Martial Sect have such little regard for credibility."

Yan Su snorted coldly.

"Hehe. Please don't misunderstand, everyone from Frost Hall. The past grievances do not concern me, Zuo. Whether there are treasures here, we all rely on our own abilities."

"But right now, shouldn't we work together to break open this gate?"

Zuo Zhushan said with a smile.

Frost Hall's group was slightly stunned; they hadn't expected Zuo Zhushan not to attack them.

Pan Peng, standing to the side, was also quite surprised.

This Zuo Zhushan's character is just too good, inviting Chen Yu to join the team and not intending to take action against the disciples of Frost Hall.

On the other hand, the female disciple in the team was captivated by Zuo Zhushan.

Chen Yu shook his head slightly. Even with Zuo Zhushan stepping in, wanting to annihilate the Frost Hall team would be somewhat difficult, and it might require paying a price.

The current situation is not suitable for a complete turn to fight.

"Alright."

Yan Su agreed.

Let's first work together to open this door.

There is an array on the door. No one knows how many years have passed, yet the array still retained some power, making it very difficult to break through by force. .

However, in the Frost Hall team, there happened to be someone with some understanding of arrays.

Bang!

In less than half a cup of tea, the door was blasted open by everyone.

The two teams quickly entered the interior, where the ghostly aura was even denser than outside, and many ghost corpses came at the sound.

Everyone immediately made their moves, resolving the ghost corpses one by one.

"Judging by the looks of this place, there doesn't seem to be any treasures, it's all ghost corpses."

Lin Tianfeng sighed.

Not every ruin has treasures; perhaps others have looted it long ago.

At this moment, the ground beneath everyone trembled slightly, and a powerful sinister aura erupted from below.

"Not good, there's a more formidable one down there."

Pan Peng's face grew serious.

Boom! Bang!

In the distance, the ground shattered, and a towering figure shot out. The figure was pitch black, with a chilling, powerful ghostly aura filling the entire space.

His appearance made the surrounding ghost corpses tremble instantly, prostrating themselves down.

Roar!

This towering bald ghost corpse roared angrily, its gaze fixed on everyone present, flashing with a bloodthirsty and murderous light.

The two teams from the Heavenly Martial Sect and Frost Hall also felt enormous pressure.

"This aura, Xuanming Realm?"

Yan Su's heart trembled slightly.

"Die!"

The Bald Ghost Corpse King let out a low growl, clenched its fist, and slammed forward.

This imposing, murderous punch carried a terrifying pressure as it surged forward, the momentum slamming into everyone's spirit, causing fear, tension, and other negative emotions.

"All together now!"

Zuo Zhushan shouted crucially, and except for Chen Yu and Yan Su, who weren't affected, the others recovered.

Facing this, they could only go all out to resist.

Boom!

Chen Yu's Star Acupoints on his body shone brightly as he delivered a full-force punch. The dazzling white light surged out, combined with others' attacks to impact the Bald Ghost Corpse King's punch.

Rumble!

The storm from the violent explosion pushed everyone back.

Chen Yu and Senior Brother Zuo were slightly injured, while the others had spit blood, were sent flying, and were not lightly injured.

"If this is a Xuanming Realm level ghost, it's a bit weak, isn't it?"

Chen Yu spoke to himself.

There is a chasm-like gap between the Xuanming Realm and the Condensed Star Realm. Even a four-star king could be killed in one move by the Xuanming Realm, let alone a five-star king.

"This person was Xuanming Realm in life, but after death, his foundation was damaged, and his cultivation level fell!"

Zuo Zhushan was also calm.

"To all of you in the Heavenly Martial Sect, do we kill it?"

Yan Su asked.

Not finding any treasures and fighting this powerful Ghost Corpse King seems like a loss.

"Kill!"

Zuo Zhushan replied.

Having been targeted by this Ghost Corpse King, it's hard for them to escape, and not dealing with it would hinder further exploration.

Chen Yu had no objections. If it were just him, he wouldn't do it, but considering they had so many people and the enemy wasn't truly Xuanming Realm, even if he contributed little, they could potentially defeat the enemy together.

Whizz! Bang!

The battle was on the verge of breaking out.

The two teams positioned themselves on both sides of the Bald Ghost Corpse King, dividing its attention, launching a pincer attack.

If one side suffered a fierce attack from the Ghost Corpse King, the other side could seize the opportunity to attack was a good strategy.

However, the Bald Ghost Corpse King's physical defense was extremely strong, ordinary attacks couldn't harm it at all.

In the nine-person team, only Chen Yu, Zuo Zhushan, and Yan Su could effectively injure the Ghost Corpse King.

The battle began with both sides equally matched, but as everyone employed certain measures, the Ghost Corpse King fell into a passive and disadvantageous position under the siege of nine people.

"Young Master Qingyang, with your strength being in the top ten of the Heavenly Martial List, how about using some killing moves to quickly deal with this Ghost Corpse King?"

Yan Su said during the battle, feeling Zuo Zhushan was not giving his all, his strength as sixth on the Heavenly Martial List seemed a bit weak.

Zuo Zhushan did not respond. He was the previous "Faceless Man," injured during the battle with Chen Yu.

Additionally, if he fought with all his might, others might notice his identity.

Clang! Hiss!

Chen Yu's White Tiger Sacred Claw hit the Ghost Corpse King, akin to striking hard metal, yet it ripped through, piercing into the flesh, leaving five wounds.

"A group of ants, you're courting death."

The Bald Ghost Corpse King roared angrily, waves of ghostly aura surging around like a tsunami.

Rumble!

The ground trembled again, a blue light flew out, landing in the Bald Ghost Corpse King's hand, transforming into a large bow.

The Ghost Corpse King pulled the bowstring, and a dark black light arrow coalesced, emanating a formidable sharp aura.

"What a fantastic profound artifact."

Zuo Zhushan's eyes lit up.

"A high-grade profound artifact of exceptional quality!"

Yan Su said.

High-grade profound artifacts were very rare; the Heavenly Yin Soul Pen Chen Yu acquired was just an ordinary high-grade.

However, the bow's aura was even stronger, at least among the high-grade's exceptional or even top-tier, belonging to the Xuanming Realm level of profound artifacts.

Everyone immediately became a bit excited, as obtaining such loot would definitely not be a loss.

Chapter 1130: Third-Party Forces Strike

Originally, everyone was prepared to leave empty-handed, but unexpectedly, the Bald Ghost Corpse King brought out a powerful Xuan Artifact.

However, there was only one precious prize, and who it would ultimately belong to depended on skill.

Everyone eyed it eagerly, but Chen Yu was somewhat indifferent, considering he already had the [Heavenly Yin Soul Pen] and the [Ten Thousand Dragon Crown].

If he had the chance to acquire this bow, he wouldn't just hand it over. Even if he didn't use bow weapons, he could trade it for abundant cultivation resources.

Bang! Whiz!

The Bald Ghost Corpse King released the bowstring, and an eerie black arrow shot through the void, heading toward Zuo Zhushan's team.

Previously, people were only somewhat wary of the Bald Ghost Corpse King, but now that he wielded a powerful Xuan Artifact, everyone felt the crisis.

In this situation, Zuo Zhushan, Chen Yu, and others immediately joined forces, even revealing some of their trump cards.

After Chen Yu unleashed a claw strike, he focused all his energy on defense.

Zuo Zhushan's Xuan Artifact Sword emitted a shocking Sword Intent, carving out a brilliant green sword light that struck the arrow gleam.

Poom!

In an instant, the eerie black arrow light shattered the green sword glow, but its power was slightly reduced.

The group went all out in defense, forming a wall of primordial force.

Bang! Boom!

The wall of primordial force was struck and instantly demolished, sending everyone flying back.

Chen Yu and Zuo Zhushan halted after retreating a hundred steps, suffering slight injuries, while Pan Peng, Lin Tianfeng, and others crashed into the rear wall, each spitting out a mouthful of blood.

The Bald Ghost Corpse King, wielding the powerful Xuan Artifact, was challenging to withstand for just one squad.

The reason was also that everyone was holding back; if they had all gone all out, they wouldn't have been so embarrassed.

On the other side, the Frost Hall team launched a stealth attack from behind against the Bald Ghost Corpse King.

Heavenly Frost Finger!

Yan Su unleashed a fierce and powerful finger technique, the freezing light pillar striking the Corpse King's wound, freezing everything upon contact.

The others also began deploying their lethal moves.

The disciples of Frost Hall, most of whom practiced the Ice Dao, posed a certain restraint and impediment to the Corpse King's actions.

"Hiss... courting death!"

The Bald Ghost Corpse King roared in pain and drew the bowstring again.

This time, a massive light beam formed on the large bow, aiming upwards.

"Is this guy trying to bring this place down, dragging us to our doom with him?"

Pan Peng exclaimed in shock.

In fact, even if it collapsed, they wouldn't die—though the ensuing chaos was not what anyone wanted.

Swish...

The arrow light flew upward, but it didn't pierce the ceiling. Instead, it split into countless tiny eerie black arrows mid-air, like a misty rain, enveloped in a deathly aura, spreading in all directions.

The bow could also perform a ranged assault.

"Retreat."

Lin Tianfeng shouted.

The arrow light filled the air, and someone of his strength couldn't afford to simply resist it.

Zing! Zing!

The female disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect was struck by two arrows, one in the shoulder and one in the thigh, the wounds filled with corpse poison.

For Chen Yu, a body cultivator adept at defense, it wasn't much. His real fear was the first arrow; this one had scattered the attack, reducing its threat. With his defensive power and the Star Pattern Robe, being hit by the arrows was no big deal.

"We must end this swiftly."

Zuo Zhushan suggested.

Chen Yu nodded.

If they let the Bald Ghost Corpse King continue exhausting them, massive casualties might occur, making it harder to kill the Corpse King later.

Swish!

Zuo Zhushan's long sword flew out, drawing a splendid eerie green sword light. The fierce Sword Qi surged around, leaving countless sword marks.

Swish! Poof!

The sword hit the throat of the Bald Ghost Corpse King, creating a gaping wound, but the opponent still didn't die.

Corpse Kings have exceptionally high defensive power and survival abilities; what may be a fatal blow to ordinary ones doesn't work on them at all.

Star Splitting Claw!

Chen Yu slashed out with his claw, a golden white crescent cleaving everything before it, hitting the Bald Ghost Corpse King's head and leaving a bloody wound.

"Ice Frost over Heaven!"

Yan Su shouted, and a black ice vortex appeared above the Corpse King, a finger descended with the cold of freezing everything, crushing down.

The Corpse King was struck by the finger, its body encased in ice, movements slowing once again.

Everyone began to pull out powerful means, lest they suffer an unexpected turn.

"Kill!"

The nine launched a ferocious attack again, surrounding the Corpse King with attacks from all sides, leaving numerous scars.

In moments, the Bald Ghost Corpse King's body was riddled with wounds, its aura growing weak and nearing death.

Yet at this moment, everyone became cautious, wary of the Corpse King's potential death throes.

"Brother Yan, the Corpse King will soon be worn out by us, but there's only one Xuan Artifact. What will we do then?"

A Frost Hall disciple asked Yan Su through telepathy.

In terms of combat power, they were now inferior to the five Heavenly Martial Sect disciples.

Just Chen Yu alone had defeated Yan Su, and now they had the Five-star King Zuo Zhushan.

"Hehe, indeed, the Heavenly Martial Sect's team is strong, and for that reason, they are more likely to be targeted by the Corpse King's final counterattack. We'll be cautious and seize the bow, then escape."

Yan Su calmly replied via telepathy.

Acquiring a Human Soul Fruit and this bow was enough for him; greed often leads to a quick end.

"If I go down, I'm taking you with me!"

The Bald Ghost Corpse King suddenly roared, its corpse aura spreading.

Clearly nearing death, the Corpse King unexpectedly let out an excited roar, its power surging—this was an evident lethal retaliation.

Swoosh swoosh...

Almost simultaneously, everyone retreated, but not too far, as leaving too far would mean giving up on the treasure.

Chen Yu remained calm and composed; with his defensive power, there was nothing to worry about.

Moreover, he had become adept in terms of speed, giving him a fair chance of obtaining that Xuan Artifact.

Everyone prepared their defenses, ready to face the final counterattack of the Bald Ghost Corpse King.

But at this moment...

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Four streaks of light flew in from the entrance, humanoid in shape, each varying in appearance, their bodies entirely metallic.

Mechanical puppets!

The sudden appearance of these mechanical puppets drew everyone's attention.

Clearly, these puppets belonged to a third-party force, which they hadn't noticed before.

Boom!

The palms of the four mechanical puppets glowed with a yellow halo, releasing stored energy in an instant, transforming into eight dazzling yellow beams.

The targets of the mechanical puppets' attack were not the Bald Ghost Corpse King, but the humans present.

Simultaneously, the Bald Ghost Corpse King's final counterattack struck, with his bow releasing a flurry of dark arrow shadows sweeping in all directions.

"Not good!"

"Retreat quickly!"

Rumbling!

The sound of explosions drowned out the screams, followed by chilling cries of pain.

Pan Peng and Lin Tianfeng each took several arrows, blood trickling from their lips, while the female disciple was beyond recognition, blood splattering everywhere.

Zuo Zhushan's face turned pale, blood oozing from the corner of his mouth, while Chen Yu's Star Pattern Robe was tattered, his body suffering external injuries, yet quickly self-repairing.

On the other side, the situation was even worse for the four from Frost Hall.

Two were dead, one severely injured, Yan Su also suffering serious injuries, with blood flowing from his forehead.

Who could it be?

Yan Su's expression was cold and ruthless.

This third party is truly despicable, launching a surprise attack at this final juncture, causing significant losses.

"Ah..."

Suddenly, the Ghost Corpse King let out a cry of pain.

Everyone immediately looked and found a girl-like mechanical puppet atop the Ghost Corpse King's head, unleashing a green flame that ignited his entire body.

This green flame had a powerful restraining effect on the Ghost Corpse King, charring him completely in less than a breath, causing him to collapse to the ground.

The blue bow in the Ghost Corpse King's hand flew up, about to fall into the girl puppet's hands.

Swoosh...

Chen Yu, Zuo Zhushan, Yan Su, and Pan Peng immediately dashed out.

The others were too severely injured; only they had the strength to compete.

Among them, Pan Peng was the slowest, Yan Su slightly more injured, with Chen Yu and Zuo Zhushan standing out.

"This person possesses the Four-level Half Space Profound Meaning and has the divine skill of short-distance teleportation. Unless I reveal my identity, otherwise..."

Zuo Zhushan was conflicted inside.

In the end, he gave up; how could his identity be easily exposed?

Swish!

Behind Chen Yu, a pair of blood-red fire wings spread, transforming him into a crimson streak as he flashed beside the girl mechanical puppet.

Boom hiss hiss!

Five brilliant golden-red streaks of light erupted, striking the girl mechanical puppet.

The girl mechanical puppet hadn't expected Chen Yu to be so fast and immediately mounted a defense, palm outstretched, releasing immense energy to form an arc-shaped barrier.

Chen Yu then swiftly flew toward the big bow, grasping it.

"Stealing someone's item? You go die!"

The girl mechanical puppet angrily scolded, looking just like a little girl.

However, at this moment, this girl exuded a very dangerous aura, with energy fluctuations that caused Zuo Zhushan's face to slightly darken.

Boom!

The girl mechanical puppet swiped her hand, releasing a dazzling green flame wave.

"A Five-star King-level mechanical puppet!"

Chen Yu's wings flapped as he flew backward swiftly, narrowly avoiding the girl mechanical puppet's attack.

The four puppets below attacked everyone upon appearing, drawing most people's attention, but the most powerful puppet was actually this girl. She killed the Ghost Corpse King and intended to snatch the Xuan Artifact but was preempted by Chen Yu.

"Heh, only causing this level of casualties, your strength is quite not weak."

The girl mechanical puppet suddenly calmed, emitting a human-like voice.

"Just now was the mechanical puppets' own will; now it's the voice of the one controlling them..."

Chen Yu stared at the girl mechanical puppet, analyzing inwardly. .

"You have already killed a disciple of the Heavenly Martial Sect; prepare for their revenge."

Zuo Zhushan coldly stated.

With the female disciple's death, the soul token left at the Heavenly Martial Sect would shatter, prompting the Law Enforcement Team to arrive on the scene immediately.

"The previous act was a misunderstanding, our target is not you, please step aside."

The girl mechanical puppet said.

The disciples of the Heavenly Martial Sect pondered, considering the third party's true target.

They couldn't help but look at the few from Frost Hall.

Yan Su's expression became exceedingly serious, black light flickering in his eyes.

"Human, you possess something belonging to my race, cooperate and come with us."

The girl mechanical puppet focused on Yan Su.

Chen Yu, Zuo Zhushan, and others were confused; the enemy was after Yan Su. What on earth did he have that made the enemy willingly abandon the Xuan Artifact?