

Eternal Heart 211

Chapter 211 Innate Demon Beast and Puppet

As he watched the “Dark Night Mountain Cat” flee, Chen Yu’s face bore a thoughtful expression.

Just now.

When the claws of the cat scratched his skin, a mysterious heartbeat sensed an obscure attraction.

This signal resembled what happened in the Blood Burial Garden when absorbing the bloodline of Lu Zhuo.

Lu Zhuo and this Dark Night Mountain Cat had something in common.

The former possessed an inexplicable “Black Emperor bloodline,” while the latter bore the blood of an ancient beast.

On both occasions, Chen Yu had been in close contact.

Chen Yu wondered to himself if the mysterious heart could also absorb the blood of these ancient beasts and even those of the ancient clans?

At that thought.

His heart suddenly heated up with excitement.

However, unfortunately, the Dark Night Mountain Cat was too fast, like a fish in water in the darkness, excelling in concealment, invisible and formless.

"Guest Elder Chen, we can't hold on any longer

Fu Hong, drenched in sweat, spoke weakly.

At that moment, at the top of the cliff.

The youths of the Fu Family were nearly drained of their strength.

Ye Luofeng was hardly any better, her complexion slightly pale, covered in sweat.

However.

She wouldn't show weakness in front of Chen Yu and continued to persevere.

"Alright, prepare to retreat from this blood-drenched land."

Chen Yu nodded.

On this cliff top, after fighting for almost half the night, except for Chen Yu, everyone else was at their limits.

Should another Postnatal Peak ancient beast appear, even Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng would face significant threats.

The other disciples of the Fu Family would likely suffer injuries or even fatalities.

At once.

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng led the disciples of the Fu Family, slashing their way down the cliff.

Once they left this blood-drenched land, they would naturally escape the attack of numerous fierce beasts and flying birds.

When they had fought their way to the middle of the mountain.

The nearby fierce beasts and flying birds strangely dispersed, fleeing in all directions.

"What's going on?"

Chen Yu sensed something was wrong.

Hmm~

A soul-shaking, deep roar emanated from below the cliff, causing nearby beasts to retreat.

An invisible evil aura and wind carrying swirling sand and dust rushed toward them.

"Not good! It's an Innate Demon Beast!"

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng exchanged a glance, their expressions darkening.

Upon hearing this.

The youths of the Fu Family's faces turned ashen.

If they were at their peak, the group could handle a regular Innate Demon Beast together without much issue.

However.

After a prolonged battle, everyone was exhausted, many were injured, and their strength had greatly diminished.

From the invisible oppressive aura, the approaching demon beast seemed to have reached the Innate Middle Stage, potentially even stronger than a human of the same level.

"Ha ha ha! An Innate Middle Stage Demon Beast, how timely!"

"This Fu Family is already at the end of its strength; even if they don't die, they will suffer heavy losses."

Near the cliff, people from the Wu Family, including the Black Robed Puppet Master and He Dabao, laughed gleefully at the misfortune.

Soon, the Innate Stage Demon Beast appeared.

It was a demon leopard, spotted darkly, its size comparable to an elephant, surrounded by a sinister purple wind, accompanied by a demonic wind several meters in radius, its presence terrifying.

Whoosh!

The demon leopard suddenly transformed into a dark shadow and attacked the Fu Family's group.

Before it even approached, a vast wave of demonic wind struck, scattering the Fu Family's youth helter-skelter.

"Ah!"

Two or three of the youths were tossed about, bleeding from their heads.

Some of them even passed out.

This was merely the residual wind from its attack.

The real assault was intercepted head-on by Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng.

They had no choice but to confront it directly.

Otherwise, the entire Fu Family group faced annihilation.

"Slash!"

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng, with heavy sword and treasure sword, cut out together.

Among them.

Chen Yu's heavy sword created a wall of bright silver sword energy, layered heavily, primarily to defend and weaken the demon leopard's offensive.

Ye Luofeng unleashed a breathtakingly icy sword glow, the view filled with frosty whiteness, piercingly cold.

On the surface of that sword glow, a faint blue deep light appeared, the invisible power of the ancient sword technique enhancing the sword dao, nearly matching the strike of an Innate Stage attack.

Boom!

Their attacks intertwined with a contorted purple wind vortex, causing a soul-shaking loud bang.

In an instant.

The center of the clash formed a crater several meters in diameter.

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng both rapidly retreated several steps.

Among them.

Ye Luofeng's complexion turned paler, breathing more hurriedly, her delicate body slightly unstable.

She felt both shock and anger, thinking that if it was her peak moment, she at least could have contended with this demon leopard for a while.

Whoo~

The Innate Stage demon leopard, seeing Chen Yu and another person's joint strike, even caused it some slight superficial wounds.

"We must end this battle quickly!"

Chen Yu's expression was solemn as he immediately passed this message along.

If it were just one Innate Demon Leopard, they would not fear it.

The problem was.

There were beasts surrounding them, including the Dark Night Mountain Cat or other Innate Demon Beasts, which might attack.

They absolutely couldn't drag this out.

"Next, strike with all your might, just focus on attacking."

Chen Yu took a deep breath, sheathed the Xuan Heavy Sword, and stimulated his Primordial Evil True Qi to its utmost.

At the same time.

He stealthily mobilized a trace of Black Emperor bloodline, including the Copper Statue Technique, all brewing to their peak.

In the next moment.

The Innate Stage demon leopard, unable to hold back, pounced again.

A twisted dark purple whirlwind, coupled with piercing cold wind blades, spiraled toward Chen Yu and another person.

Where the attack passed, nearby mountains, stones, and trees turned into dust and fragments.

Buzz whoosh!

Suddenly, a sword shield puppet about one meter tall flashed from the white fog, holding a huge, pitch-black sword shield in front.

Ting ting dang!

The attack of the Innate Stage Demon Leopard was primarily blocked by the Sword Shield Puppet.

Despite the Sword Shield Puppet having only Postnatal Stage combat prowess, its defensive power was comparable to that of the Innate Qi.

Buzz! Boom!

The black blood pattern on the surface of the Sword Shield Puppet flashed as its body shook violently, retreating continuously.

But at that moment,

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng soared into the air, spearheading an attack on the Innate Stage Demon Leopard under the cover of the Sword Shield Puppet.

"Heavenly Spirit Slash Sky Technique!"

In Ye Luofeng's clear eyes, a trace of a nonexistent sword shadow emerged.

Whoosh—

Her White Jade Treasure Sword slashed downwards, casting a brilliant, ice-clear sword halo that flickered with a dark, blue brilliance.

In that instant,

The nearby darkness of the night was dispelled by that dazzling, crystal-clear sword halo, bright as daylight.

Wooo!

The Innate Demon Leopard howled, its face showing fear, yet it had no place to hide.

Because,

Ye Luofeng and Chen Yu were leveraging the cover of the Sword Shield Puppet to accumulate power for this attack, striking precisely when the beast was drained from its own assault.

Ting! Puchi!

The Demon Leopard shifted its position, narrowly avoiding a vital blow, but a deep, bone-exposing gash was slashed across its back.

At the same time,

A trace of ethereal dark blue sword shadow swept over the body of the Demon Leopard.

The beast displayed a painful expression, greatly shaken in spirit.

This sword strike not only caused substantial injury but also affected its spirit.

"The sword technique used by this lady just now seems to contain the power of some ancient sword technique, her mastery in the way of the sword is truly astounding."

"Unfortunately, her strength is significantly drained, far from her peak, and she can only make this single strike."

Before the curtains, many exclaimed in admiration,

Even several Guiyuan Realm masters were moved.

"Die!"

A faint black afterimage, with a whirlwind of Evil Qi, closed in on the side of the Demon Leopard at an astonishing speed.

The suddenly increased burst of speed was startling.

Slash!

Chen Yu's heart had already gathered power, and a nearly transparent dark gleaming dagger appeared in his hand.

This dagger was swirling with layers of billowing Primordial Evil True Qi and subtly mixed with a ring of black iron Qi pattern.

The Black Emperor's bloodline and powered-up heart synergized in amplification.

Not only that,

Under the moonlight of the sky, a layer of dark moon brilliance illuminated the dark gleaming dagger, boosting its power by more than forty percent.

Chi!

A moonlight-bright, hair-thin dark gleaming sword arc followed the freshly made wound on the body of the Demon Leopard, slicing downwards.

Suddenly,

The wound left by Ye Luofeng moments ago widened.

The Demon Leopard roared as dark purple blood flowed from the enlarged wound.

Hoo! Boom!

The beast let out a furious growl and exploded with a dark purple and deep gust of wind, sweeping over an area of about thirty to forty-five feet.

Bang! Bang!

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng, jolted by the beast's violent backlash, were thrust away.

Among them,

Ye Luofeng was sent flying several feet backward, her face pale with traces of blood at the corner of her mouth.

Chen Yu, with a muffled groan, was also sent flying back, his body's beast skin armor and Copper Statue Technique alleviating most of the attack, resulting in only minor injuries.

At this moment,

The severely injured Demon Leopard, tormented by the acceleration of its poison, showed a look of fear and turned to run.

Swoosh!

Its form melded into a dark gray afterimage, blending into the night.

Chen Yu thought for a moment but chose not to pursue.

Given the Postnatal Middle Stage speed of the Demon Leopard in the darkness, it was beyond Chen Yu's reach.

Chasing it would have uncertain outcomes.

"Are you alright?"

Chen Yu quickly moved to protect Ye Luofeng.

At this moment,

Ye Luofeng and the members of the Fu Family had lost much of their combat strength, all injured.

If Chen Yu were to abandon them, and creatures like the Dark Night Mountain Cat attacked, they would face the risk of annihilation.

"Let's head down the mountain."

Ye Luofeng took two Elixirs, and her complexion slightly improved.

Chen Yu nodded and instructed the puppets and the Iron Moon Strange Insect to lead the way down the mountain.

The group had just reached the base of the cliff, novel.cøm

When ahead in the deep night, sounds of a fight could be heard.

Chen Yu sent the Iron Moon Strange Insect to scout for specific details.

Soon,

A scene, seen through the Iron Moon Strange Insect, was projected into Chen Yu's mind.

Woo woo!

The grievously injured Innate Demon Leopard was tied up by several white spider threads, binding its limbs.

Around the Leopard, four Spider Puppets each controlled one or two robust threads, binding the leopard forcefully.

At the same time,

In front of the Leopard, a giant Scorpion Puppet swung a scythe-like pincer, ruthlessly slashing at the Innate Demon Leopard.

The Innate Demon Leopard bled profusely and, compounded by the virulent poison, its struggles grew weaker.

"Hahaha! Brother Kong actually has an Innate Puppet."

Several Postnatal Stage youths from the Wu Family, including He Dabao, launched attacks from a distance.

Soon,

The Innate Demon Leopard, with a whimper, lost its strength to resist.

"Had this Demon Leopard not been severely injured and afflicted with poison, we would not have been able to overpower it so easily. It seems we had underestimated the strength of that Fu Family squad."

The Black Robed Puppet Master spoke in a detached tone, showing no joy.

At this time,

Chapter 212 Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast

"Ahh

The Wu Family youth let out a pained groan as his wrist was bitten by a Silver Spot Iron Worm, with corpse poison infiltrating his body, causing him to stiffen.

Instantly,

The demon core in his hand dropped out.

This turn of events caused an uproar of shock among the Wu Family members.

Swoosh!

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, turning into a silver-black dot, darted towards the still-airborne demon core.

Just as the insect was about to succeed,

"Hmph!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master snorted coldly, extending an ice-cold, dark metal arm from within his robe.

Crack!

From the tip of the dark metal arm, a Purple Iron Claw Hook shot out, fast as lightning, grabbing the silver-black dot.

Clang!

Sparks flew.

The Purple Iron Claw Hook firmly caught the Iron Moon Strange Insect with astonishing strength.

"Not good!"

Chen Yu's expression changed drastically at this unexpected turn.

The Purple Iron Claw Hook was extremely powerful and made of extremely hard material; no matter how the Iron Moon Strange Insect struggled, it could not escape.

"This person's arm!"

Before the mountain top barrier, the powerhouses from various family clans exclaimed in shock.

The left hand of the Black Robed Puppet Master had been completely replaced by a dark metal prosthetic.

The Purple Iron Claw Hook had been shot from this metal arm.

His other right hand remained hidden under the cloak, unextended.

The members of the Wu Family were all stunned.

This was their first time witnessing a Puppet Master's actual "handiwork."

"Modified limbs!"

"This person is an authentic puppet master of ancient heritage."

The pavilions of the Prince Manor and the three great families were all stirred by this revelation.

"The true mastery of puppeteers does not rely entirely on puppets but instead pursues a 'union between man and puppet.'"

Marquis Yunlai murmured softly.

"This school of thought was once considered taboo during the Ancient Era and faced persecution and eradication."

"Because at the culmination of their cultivation, a human's flesh, skin, limbs, bones, and even the heart would be modified and implanted, transforming them into inhuman beings."

Many people gasped in astonishment and some even regarded them with hostile eyes.

In the Wu Family Pavilion.

Wu Tianxiao laughed heartily: "Ladies and gentlemen, do not demonize this. Kong Ze's arms were disabled from childhood. He only equipped puppet arms after stumbling upon an ancient puppetry inheritance."

Meanwhile,

The battle scene depicted on the screen underwent another change.

Sweep!

Chen Yu turned into a faint black afterimage, swiftly darting towards the Wu Family's direction.

His speed suddenly erupted, comparable to that of the Innate Stage.

However,

There was still a significant distance separating Chen Yu from the Wu Family group, and it was uncertain whether he would make it in time.

"This bug is indeed tough!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master controlled the Purple Iron Claw Hook, attempting to crush the Iron Moon Strange Insect with a powerful squeeze but to no avail.

The agonized struggles of the Iron Moon Strange Insect filled Chen Yu with rage.

He grabbed a javelin and prepared to take action once within twenty yards.

At that moment,

The Innate Demon Core had already fallen to the ground,

And the Black Robed Puppet Master multitasked.

He controlled another Spider Puppet, ready to retrieve the demon core.

"Hahaha... This demon core belongs to me, Luo Haochen now."

A searing white trace, accompanied by a piercing scream of the air being torn, swooped down from another side of the mountain wall.

The person's burst of speed was faintly even faster than Chen Yu's current performance.

Ssscht!

The pale white afterimage rapidly approached; while mid-air, Luo Haochen's tall figure became visible.

"Take it down!"

A brilliantly incandescent punch, like a pillar of flame, struck the Spider Puppet picking up the demon core from afar.

Boom!

The Spider Puppet immediately exploded into fragments, bright light scattering everywhere, turning into a pile of charred debris.

"Luo Haochen, you actually destroyed my puppet."

The Black Robed Puppet Master was furious, feeling a pang in his heart.

This Spider Puppet, with strength comparable to the Postnatal Middle Stage, was blown to pieces by Luo Haochen's punch.

After destroying the Spider Puppet from afar,

Luo Haochen let out a long howl, approaching the Innate Demon Core, his eyes burning with desire.

Innate Stage Demon Core – just one equated to more than a dozen or so Postnatal Stage cores.

Acquiring it would give Luo Haochen's Prince Manor the chance to make a comeback, overtaking the Fu Family's hunting achievements.

"Think again!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master's thoughts commanded.

Swish, swish, swish!

Three more Spider Puppets simultaneously shot webs, trying to entangle Luo Haochen.

Whizz!

A dazzling white Qi wave erupted around Luo Haochen, melting away the approaching spider silk.

The Puppet Master's expression remained unchanged.

He had not expected three Spider Puppets to really restrain a genius from the Ancient Clan like Luo Haochen.

Suddenly,

A giant Scorpion Puppet, its silhouette flashing like lightning, emerged from the side.

The huge scorpion tail, dragging a sharp, cold shadow, stabbed towards Luo Haochen with lightning speed.

Luo Haochen's expression tightened, his fist vibrated, unleashing a punch like a mighty dragon with a white flame, mingled with a hint of mysterious flame Qi.

Boom!

The giant Scorpion Puppet shook violently, repelled two to three yards by the incandescent punch and flame Qi, its body covered with a layer of char.

"This guy is strong!"

"The Innate Stage Puppet was actually repelled by his direct punch."

The Wu Family's talents were all shocked.

The scorchingly hot blast even caused the onlookers to retreat in alarm, and those slow to move suffered burns to their skin.

Faced with such pressure,

The Black Robed Puppet Master could no longer concern himself with the Iron Moon Strange Insect.

Fssst!

He released the insect, and the Purple Iron Claw Hook turned into a purple streak of claw marks, grabbing like lightning towards Luo Haochen's lower body.

At the same time,

The "right hand" that had been hidden under his cloak stretched out.

Another dark metal arm appeared, though slightly different in design.

Crack!

On this metal arm, the palm opened, revealing an array of ominous small holes.

Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh!

Between the metallic palms, suddenly shot out dozens of fine, cold-edged needles like a drizzle.

Luo Haochen's face changed drastically.

The power and speed of each needle closely approached the Innate Stage, and the simultaneous attack of dozens of needles was truly terrifying.

Meanwhile, on another front.

He still had to face the attack of the Purple Iron Claw Hook.

For a moment.

Even the Ancient Clan's genius, Luo Haochen, had to circulate his True Qi and protect his body with his bloodline, temporarily avoiding the sharp needles.

Ding, ding, ding!

On Luo Haochen's body, a layer of white-patterned light film appeared, with the outline of a treasured armor faintly visible underneath.

At the same time.

While retreating, he kicked away the attack from the Purple Iron Claw Hook.

"Hmph! So what if he is an Ancient Clan genius?"

The Black Robed Puppet Master sneered.

After driving Luo Haochen back, he ordered the giant scorpion puppet of the Innate Stage to go and pick up the demon core.

It seemed.

This time it should be foolproof.

Chen Yu's Iron Moon Strange Insect had sustained minor injuries and had already burrowed into the ground.

However.

The smile on the face of the Black Robed Puppet Master quickly stiffened.

Thwack!

A dark and heavy javelin, dragging the boom of thunder through the air and swirling with Evil Qi, hit the giant scorpion puppet squarely.

"Clang!"

Sparks flew from the body of the giant scorpion puppet, leaving a small, shallow gash.

Its enormous strength actually shook the Innate Stage giant scorpion puppet several feet away.

And so.

The pickup of the demon core by the giant scorpion puppet ended in failure.

"To take advantage of me and hurt my insect, it's not that easy."

Chen Yu coldly laughed.

"Detestable!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master's face was filled with cold rage.

In fact.

If he had not been intent on killing the Iron Moon Strange Insect earlier, he already would have seized the demon core.

Because of that fleeting thought, he was overtaken by both Luo Haochen and Chen Yu, missing the best chance to win the Innate Stage Demon Core.

"Go!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master angrily retracted the Purple Iron Claw Hook.

Whoosh!

The claw hook, abandoning the attack on Luo Haochen, prepared to grab at the demon core on the ground once more.

But at that moment.

The Black Robed Puppet Master's face changed drastically.

On the ground, the demon core had vanished into thin air.

Meow~

In the cover of night, a streak of dim cold light flashed by, then merged into the dark shadows.

"The Dark Night Mountain Cat!"

Everyone present almost simultaneously exclaimed.

Under the mutual check and balance of several top geniuses, the Innate Stage demon core had unexpectedly fallen into the hands of the mountain cat.

"Chase!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master and Luo Haochen did not give up.

The two led their respective teams, using various means to fervently track the Dark Night Mountain Cat.

Chen Yu hesitated slightly and did not pursue.

He regrouped with Ye Luofeng and the people of the Fu Family behind him.

"Guest Elder Chen. If the Prince Manor or Wu Family get their hands on that Innate Stage demon core, their hunting score might catch up to ours."

Fu Jing said with a bit of hesitation.

After the half-night of adventure and struggle, their hunting score should ascend to the first place.

However, the Fu Family's score had not far outpaced Prince Manor, Wu Family, and Chu Family, their three competitors.

As everyone was resisting the herd of fierce beasts on the cliff top, the Prince Manor and Wu Family, among others, were also striking at isolated demon beasts nearby.

"That Dark Night Mountain Cat, specializing in speed, is the king of the night. Moreover, the cat is exceedingly cunning, it's not certain who will lose out."

Chen Yu spoke indifferently.

Previously, at the cliff top, the cat's timing in attacking him was exceptionally precise and fierce.

This time, the cat's timing was even more exquisite.

Chen Yu's prediction was not wrong.

In fact, the development of events even exceeded his expectations.

The teams led by the Black Robed Puppet Master and Luo Haochen had just chased for dozens of miles into a forest when—

Hmm~

A sound akin to the low humming of an Ancient Giant Elephant emanated from the forest.

Immediately, an astonishing pressure, along with a black dusty mist, swept out from the woods.

"What a strong breath!"

"It seems to be the breath of an Innate Ancient Beast!"

The Fu Family, Chen Yu, and Ye Luofeng felt an inexplicable tightness in their spirits and blood, even from a great distance.

"Ahh! Run

Two teams, in complete disarray, fled from the forest.

Among them.

The Purple Iron Claw Hook on the metallic arm of the Black Robed Puppet Master was broken off and fractured.

Crack!

A spider puppet behind them suddenly cracked apart and disassembled, turning into a pile of black dust.

"Ah!"

A gust of black mist swept out and engulfed a young member of the Wu Family, followed immediately by blood splattering everywhere.

A Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast emerged from the swirling black mist, resembling a mix between deer and horse and three stories tall, with a pair of eerie green eyes that sent shivers down the spine.

"Run!"

Luo Haochen let out a terrified shout, his face pale, with a trickle of blood spilling from the corner of his mouth.

From the front.

Luo Haochen had no visible injuries, but from the back, a chunk of flesh was missing from his spine, bleeding profusely.

The teams from Prince Manor and Wu Family suffered even more fatalities and casualties.

Whoosh!

The black mist flashed again, engulfing a young girl from Prince Manor, leaving only a pool of blood after her screams ceased.

"That's the 'Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast,' a cruel and bloodthirsty beast from the Ancient Era."

Ye Luofeng shivered.

This ancient beast's cultivation was only at the Early Innate Stage; but compared to the Innate Middle Stage leopard before, it was like a small witch in the presence of a great wizard.

"It must have been that Dark Night Mountain Cat that lured these two teams into the territory of the 'Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.'"

Chapter 213 Wu Family's Counterattack

Hmm~

In the black mist, the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast extended a bloody, two-zhang long tongue, its cold, greenish eyes flashing with cruel excitement.

The people from the Prince Manor and Wu Family, one after another, fled in sheer panic.

Both squads had lost four to five elite geniuses, including Luo Haochen and the Black Robed Puppet Master, both of whom had sustained serious injuries.

"Stay away from this place."

The people of the Fu family were all terrified.

Without any hesitation, Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng led everyone in the direction opposite the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

They were even farther from the "Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast," and should the latter chase, the teams from the Prince Manor and Wu Family would serve as a buffer.

However,

The Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast burped contently and did not pursue.

"That Dark Night Mountain Cat, truly deceitful, actually lured us to such a dangerous area, resulting in an attack by the 'Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast'!"

Luo Haochen, his face grim, looked back coldly at the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

Although the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast was powerful, Luo Haochen and the Black Robed Puppet Master together could have opposed it had they not been ambushed so unexpectedly.

Two or three hours later.

The night shroud enveloping Evil Demon Ridge, like a layer of transparent, dim chiffon, quietly began to fade.

In the distance, a touch of dawn broke.

Inside a cave in Evil Demon Ridge,

Most members of the Fu family squad were still deep in sleep, some wounded were bandaged.

Chen Yu awoke and stepped out of the cave.

Not much later,

Everyone in the team, including Ye Luofeng, woke up one after another.

Last night,

The desperate struggle atop the cliff put the Fu family squad at the top of the hunting scoreboard; however, they were all exhausted.

After resting and healing throughout the night, everyone was refreshed and fully recovered.

"The Hunting Contest, three days long; now one day and one night have passed."

A sense of urgency flashed through Ye Luofeng's beautiful eyes.

She was preoccupied with the wager she made with Chen Yu.

On the first day, the Fu family squad should be in the leading position.

Barring major incidents, Chen Yu was likely still holding the title of Hunting King.

This was something Ye Luofeng could not tolerate.

"Starting today, I will not participate in the risky actions of last night."

Ye Luofeng declared.

Last night, securing the top of the cliff was indeed very risky.

Such an endurance fight suited people like Chen Yu with strong physical endurance and defense.

Ye Luofeng's advantage as a Sword Cultivator was significantly reduced.

"Alright."

Chen Yu noticed that all the Fu family's members looked scared and shaken.

A new day.

Before hunting, Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng discussed strategies with Fu Hong, Fu Jing, and others.

"We need to focus on hunting individual Demon Beasts, including Innate Demon Beasts."

Ye Luofeng's suggestion got everyone's approval.

"Yes, I agree."

"That Innate Demon Beast last night, had we not been running low on stamina and bearing injuries, we might have subdued it, easily earning a dozen or more ordinary demon cores."

Faced with the team's unanimous opinion, Chen Yu could not object.

He wondered, how could they normally encounter an Innate Demon Beast so easily?

But no doubt,

Today's plan greatly favored Ye Luofeng.

If tackling a single powerful demon beast, Ye Luofeng's potent Sword Dao attacks would indeed be advantageous.

With the plan unified,

The Fu family squad started a new day of hunting.

"Go."

Chen Yu still sent the Iron Moon Strange Insect out as the vanguard scout.

Last night,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, despite suffering minor injuries, quickly recovered under the moonlight.

Sensing this,

Chen Yu noticed a marked improvement in the insect.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, also having consumed the most amount of Blood Soul Buds, showed promising potential.

Besides,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect speeding up its growth by devouring the internal organs of higher level Demon Beasts made this Hunting Contest an ideal “nurturing ground” for it.

Just last night, during the defense battle on the cliff, it devoured a considerable number of demon beasts’ internal organs, and its energy had become increasingly strong.

Very soon,

The morning of the second day quickly passed.

As a result,

After a morning had passed, the Fu family hunting squad had found only two Postnatal Demon Beasts and killed them.

Both Postnatal Demon Beasts were quickly dispatched by Ye Luofeng, who then harvested their demon cores.

Unseen to all,

The gap between her and Chen Yu had significantly narrowed.

Chen Yu frowned slightly, not because of Ye Luofeng catching up, but due to the efficiency of the demon beast hunting.

Only two Postnatal Demon Beasts had been killed that morning.

Compared to last night's frenzied battle which attracted a large number of ferocious beasts, the pace was far too slow.

"Let's continue northward."

Ye Luofeng resolutely said.

The northern region was deeper into Evil Demon Ridge, where the chance of encountering demon beasts was higher.

Of course, the hunting ground was only within a radius of three hundred li, so they couldn't endlessly march northward.

Half an hour later,

A deathly silent withered forest came into view.

"Be careful."

Chen Yu felt something was off about this withered forest; it was just too silent, with not a single animal stirring.

Just then,

Chen Yu's insect detected two squads carefully exploring the withered forest from other sides.

One of the squads was from a common family, led by a Postnatal Stage youth.

The other squad was from one of the major families of Yunlai Prefecture, the Chu Family.

Naturally, the Chu Family's leader was an elite student from the Sky Sword Academy, He Qiuyun.

"It's really bad luck, not finding a few demon beasts even in broad daylight,"

A girl from the Chu Family team muttered.

"Careful! This withered forest is so dead silent, there might be a powerful demon beast lurking."

He Qiuyun warned in a hushed voice.

At that moment,

"Ah ah

"Save me!"

Cries of agony came from the other side of the withered forest.

Clearly, the other common family's team had encountered a misfortune.

At the same moment,

The scene was transmitted onto the mountaintop screen by a Flying Bird Knight holding a cloud flag in the sky.

On the screen,

A gigantic “Vine Wood Demon” about fifty or sixty feet tall swung its vine-like tendrils, as thick as a man’s arm, entangling and killing a hunting team.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Those thick tendrils had already bound four or five youths, quickly strangling them into a mass of bloody flesh.

"It’s a Vine Wood Demon!"

The elders of various families had a slightly grim look.

"It’s over

The elder of the trapped team’s family showed a bitter and regretful expression.

"This Vine Wood Demon has a trace of ancient demon wood in its bloodline, its strength is no less than last night’s Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast

"But if one enters this demon’s territory, its trapping ability even surpasses that of the same rank ancient beasts."

The elders couldn’t help but sigh and shake their heads.

In the image,

Those youths died tragically one by one,

Including the team leader from the Postnatal Stage, who was completely immobilized by several tendrils.

"I won't accept this!"

The Postnatal Stage youth fiercely unleashed a blade aura of sky-blue color.

Ding!

One of the thick tendrils swept towards him, sending the Postnatal Stage youth flying, his precious blade clattering to the ground.

The next moment,

The Postnatal Stage youth plunged into endless darkness.

In the span of four breaths,

A hunting team was entirely wiped out by the "Vine Wood Demon."

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

After killing that team, the Vine Wood Demon shifted its form and quickly moved to another end of the barren forest.

Whoosh~

As dust flew around, the Vine Wood Demon drew close to the Chu Family's team.

"Not good!"

Several elders inside the Chu Family pavilion tightened in anxiety.

"I'll cover the rear, everyone retreat at full speed!"

He Qiuyun said solemnly, his expression grave.

But within one or two breaths,

The West Wood Demon pursued close, and two or three tendrils lunged at He Qiuyun.

"Star Falling Sword Technique!"

He Qiuyun rapidly traced with his fingers.

Swoosh! Sizzle!

Several dazzling star-like sword lights burst forth, cutting through the air with the power to instantly kill a Postnatal Late Stage Demon Beast.

Ding! Ding! Ding!

A few tendrils were shaken off by the star-like sword light, and while sparks flew off their surfaces, they only left a slight, superficial scratch.

He Qiuyun's expression hardened, in disbelief.

His “Star Falling Sword Technique” had previously defeated high-level Innate Stage experts with bare hands.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

After a brief pause, the tendrils continued their assault on He Qiuyun.

Clang!

With a gesture from both hands, his eyes dazzling like stars, a vibrantly ancient sword sprang from the sheath on his back into his hands.

In an instant,

A brilliant, meteor-like sword radiance cleaved forth, its fierce sword qi flattening a swath of barren trees.

Rumble!

A great mass of trees collapsed, dust storms forming, temporarily blocking the Vine Wood Demon’s path.

Clang! Sizzle!

Amidst the dust, the clashing of metal resounded.

In the white screen,

It faintly captured the magnificent sword radiance chopping off two tendrils and striking the main body of the Vine Wood Demon.

Sizzle!

The strike that hit the Vine Wood Demon's body only left a foot-deep wound, a mere scratch compared to its huge form.

Schwizz!

He Qiuyun's expression changed slightly, seizing the opportunity to turn into a blur and flee out of the barren forest.

However,

When Chu Family's team escaped to the edge of the barren forest.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Several tendrils shot out, dragging two Chu Family members back into the forest, their screams echoing across the mountains.

"Stop!"

At the outskirts of the barren forest, Chen Yu solemnly waved his hand.

At this time,

Just as the Chu Family's hunting team, in a disheveled and panic-stricken escape, fled from the barren forest into another part of the mountain woods.

Fu Family's people, stunned.

"Detour! The threat here might even surpass that of the 'Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast'."

Chen Yu decisively said.

Earlier,

The attack by He Qiuyun, capable of slaying Innate Middle Stage experts, did not cause substantial damage to the West Wood Demon.

In terms of defense,

This West Wood Demon definitely surpasses the "Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast" and excels in trapping.

Chen Yu would rather face the Long-tongued Beast than challenge this wood demon.

Time passed.

The next day was coming to an end.

Throughout the day, the Fu Family team had only killed three or four Postnatal Demon Beasts, with three being preemptively slain by Ye Luofeng.

But this progress clearly dissatisfied both Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng.

Their target was the position of the Hunting King.

To secure the Hunting King title, their team's achievements had to be first.

But on the next day, the Fu Family had bad luck: they did not encounter a single solitary Innate Demon Beast.

If teams from Prince Manor, Chu Family, Wu Family, and others competing had killed Innate Demon Beasts, they might have had a chance to surpass the Fu Family team.

The worries of Chen Yu and his companion were not unwarranted.

In the northern area, at another corner.

The Wu Family team was surrounding an Innate Stage Demon Python.

A Black Robed Puppet Master was controlling an Innate Stage giant scorpion puppet, aided by two other Spider Puppets, firmly trapping the Demon Python.

He Dabao and other Postnatal Stage talents, staying at a distance, relentlessly attacked the Demon Python.

In less than the time it takes to drink a cup of tea.

The Innate Stage Demon Python fell into a pool of blood.

Soon,

An Innate Stage Demon Core was obtained.

Chapter 214: Green Moss Poison Mushroom

After killing the Innate Demon Python, the Wu Family's hunting team indeed surpassed the Fu Family and temporarily climbed to first place.

This scene also appeared on the curtains atop the mountain where the hunting started.

Atop the mountain, several curtains displayed various areas of the hunting grounds.

Among them.

The teams from the Prince Manor and the three major families were the main focus.

Those present watching the competition clearly noticed a phenomenon:

"The number of demon beasts in the hunting range seems to be getting less and less?"

"With so many teams hunting all over, a three hundred li area isn't enough for these geniuses to kill."

A group of elders quietly discussed.

The current situation could be described as having more monks than meat.

The Wu Family's team's recent comeback to first place was heavily influenced by luck.

If that same Innate Demon Beast had been encountered by the Prince Manor, the Fu Family, or the Chu Family, they would have been able to jointly kill it as well.

Unnoticed.

The night of the second day of hunting fell.

The Fu Family's team rested in a cave.

"The hunting results during the day were not ideal."

"I heard that Wu Family and Chu Family successively killed Innate Demon Beasts. Our first place is likely to be overtaken."

The Fu Family members discussed together.

In the hunting grounds, forces with good relationships could exchange information with each other.

After a day or two of exploration.

Everyone had figured out the situation within the three hundred li hunting ground.

Now.

The hunting ground was divided into "three major restricted areas."

These three restricted areas were deemed taboo, potent enough to annihilate entire hunting teams.

Among them.

The regions where the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast and Vine Wood Demon were located constituted two of the three restricted areas.

Besides these two ancient beasts.

The third restricted area was a group of demon beasts.

That's right.

It was a group of demon beasts, not fierce beasts.

This group had fifteen or sixteen demon beasts, including one at the Innate Middle Stage.

Once someone entered this area, they would face a gang beating by fifteen or sixteen creatures from the Qi Transformation Realm, the threat level being no less than that of the first two restricted areas.

"Any one of these three major restricted areas is probably not something we can handle alone."

"But apart from the three restricted areas, the efficiency of finding demon beasts during the day is so low and heavily reliant on luck."

The Fu Family's disciples bitterly voiced their frustrations.

Now was the time of night, which did see some movements of fierce and demon beasts, but these nocturnally emerging species were elusive and highly dangerous.

Like the cunning and dangerous "Dark Night Mountain Cat."

Tonight, Chen Yu did not go to implement the plan to lure monsters with lights like last night.

First, the method was extremely dangerous.

The three restricted areas marked out in this region were only the known ones, who knew what more terrifying existences were out there.

Second, the method had already been used, and if used again, it would be exploited by other competitors, or even used to harm us.

Inside the cave.

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng looked at each other and communicated through transmitted messages.

Finally.

The two made a decision to actively strike out during the deep night!

Of course.

Launching an attack at night in Evil Demon Ridge was a very dangerous thing to do.

Their plan was for the Fu Family's disciples to rest nearby, and then make a move the next day.

But tonight.

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng moved out together to hunt and kill Qi Transformation Realm demon beasts.

"Both Guest Elders should be careful and watch over each other."

Fu Hong and Fu Jing, among others, had no choice but to show helpless expressions.

But there was nothing they could do.

Compared to Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng, the strength of the Fu Family's disciples fell far short.

Night activities would only burden them.

"Alright, you all stay here, do not act recklessly."

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng nodded.

In a flash.

The figures of the two quickly blended into the night.

However.

What the Fu Family's disciples did not know was that Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng quickly split up to act independently.

After all.

The competition for the title of Hunting King involved a significant wager between the two.

Ye Luofeng sought an opportunity to overtake Chen Yu.

Chen Yu also did not want to lose this bet, for that would mean handing over the Moon Spirit Ore Mother to the other party for five years.

If he won, Ye Luofeng must yield to his disposition.

Thinking about it, Chen Yu was quite pleased.

"Go!"

Chen Yu instructed his insect to scout around.

Currently.

Chen Yu's spiritual power and senses, after being refined at the second level of Heavenly Heart Refining, had become exceptionally strong.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, better suited for movement in the dark of night, moved as smoothly as a fish through water.

An hour later.

After scouting together with his insect, Chen Yu spotted his first Postnatal Demon Beast.

It was a snake demon at the Postnatal Middle Stage, which had first been discovered by the insect.

Immediately.

Chen Yu and the insect attacked from both front and back, managing to kill the snake demon smoothly and obtaining the demon core.

...

In the deep night.

Chen Yu continued to explore, occasionally extending his Spiritual Sense, his senses extremely sharp.

An hour later.

Chen Yu successfully killed a demon beast trying to attack him at night, obtaining another demon core.

Two hours later.

Using a javelin, Chen Yu killed a demon eagle and yet gained another demon core.

With such progress during the night, it was considered quite good.

At the same time.

Luo Haochen from the Prince Manor, He Qiuyun from the Chu Family, and the Black Robed Puppet Master from the Wu Family were all acting independently.

"Still no discovery of an Innate Demon Beast."

Chen Yu's brow slightly furrowed.

Should he go and face the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast or the Vine Wood Demon alone?

Chen Yu also had a trump card up his sleeve.

His Qi Sea's core housed a cluster of black True Qi, which was far more potent than ordinary Primordial Evil True Qi.

He had never used his explosive heart technique.

"Right, I still have a mutated 'Green Moss Poison Mushroom.'"

Chen Yu suddenly recalled.

He took out a poison mushroom with a green-blood hue.

This Green Moss Poison Mushroom had been acquired from the Central Garden of the Blood Burial Garden.

Found alongside it was a “Black Blood Strange Grass,” which was even more valuable.

According to Tong Yuling, this strange grass could promote the awakening and stimulation of Bloodline Power, making it a priceless treasure for some ancient clans.

"This ‘Green Moss Poison Mushroom’ in my hand is five hundred years old. It can easily kill someone in the Qi Transformation Innate Realm; with its mutated variety, its toxicity might be even greater.”

Chen Yu’s eyes flickered.

If he activated some of his hidden cards and used the mutated Green Moss Poison Mushroom, it might be possible to kill the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

As for the Vine Wood Demon, being a giant wooden essence demon, it had strong immunity against deadly toxins.

Immediately,

Chen Yu found a secluded corner and ground the “Green Moss Poison Mushroom” into a sticky black-green poison.

He made his decision.

If he couldn’t find an Innate Demon Beast tonight, he would take the risk and target the “Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast” with this poison.

As two-thirds of the night had passed,

Chen Yu was still in luck.

At this moment,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, in the underground riverbed, sensed the scent of blood and found a Water Monster, whose aura seemed to be at the Innate Stage.

This Water Monster had limbs and was covered in scales, resembling a fish-crocodile hybrid.

Its scales were like those of a crocodile, and its tail resembled that of a fish.

"Good, I'll make my move on you!"

Chen Yu took out his sword shield puppet and the Iron Moon Strange Insect; together, they spent an hour taking the quickest route to dig a passage that just allowed one person to pass through.

This scene was naturally projected onto the screen at the mountain summit.

"This young man really is a genius; he actually burrowed into the ground to hunt for demon beasts?"

The elders displayed astonishment.

"Huh? Why can't we see the image anymore?"

Soon, the white screen plunged into darkness.

Because Chen Yu had gone below the soil layer, the Flying Bird Knights holding cloud flags in the sky obviously couldn't follow him in.

Splash!

Chen Yu reached the underground riverbed, only a few dozen yards from the Water Monster.

The Water Monster, with its keen senses, had already noticed Chen Yu and opened its lantern-like dark green eyes.

In an instant,

Chen Yu felt a chilling oppressive force. This pressure was second only to that from the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast and the Vine Wood Demon.

Whoosh!

The Water Monster's limbs thrust as its fishtail swayed, rushing towards Chen Yu like a dark black hillock.

Chen Yu's breath deepened, leaving no room for negligence.

Thrust!

He immediately exerted force in his heart, and with an astonishing speed leapt to the cavern's ceiling.

One iron-copper hand burrowed into the rock, suspending his body in mid-air.

With the other hand, he held a javelin, operating his Primordial Evil True Qi, surrounded by a layer of black iron patterns, with the Black Emperor Bloodline also activated.

Swoosh!

The dark javelin, accompanying the roar of evil Qi, ruthlessly stabbed into the Water Monster.

The Water Monster didn't dodge the attack, and a slight bloody mark appeared on its massive body.

The powerful javelin, infused with True Qi and the Black Emperor Bloodline, only penetrated half a foot before being shaken off by the powerful waves.

"Such a tough hide!"

Chen Yu found it somewhat troublesome.

The defensive power of this Water Monster, naturally not as strong as the Vine Wood Demon's, was still immense, making a typical javelin strike from the Postnatal Stage feel like mere tickling.

Boom!

The Water Monster, with a surge of dark water and air waves, rushed towards Chen Yu at the top of the rock wall.

Chen Yu exerted his heart, using his movement technique to run and dodge between the rock walls.

Even so,

Some form of dark air waves splashed onto him, causing intense piercing pain and corrosion.

If it weren't for his beast leather armor and Copper Statue Technique, a typical Qi Transformation Realm individual would have succumbed to severe body rot, if not completely peeled off.

After a few moments,

Using his nimble form, Chen Yu distanced himself from the Water Monster and reached the other side by the rocks of the underground riverbed.

"Let's try the 'Green Moss Poison Mushroom.'"

Chen Yu took out the poisonous solution of the Green Moss Poison Mushroom and smeared it on a javelin.

At this time,

The Water Monster unexpectedly surged out of the riverbed, pouncing towards Chen Yu.

"Go!"

Chen Yu, channeling all his force to the extreme, infused the "Black Emperor Bloodline."

This time,

He mobilized the core of his dantian, that cluster of "black True Qi."

Buzz!

The black javelin suddenly burst forth with a mass of dark mist, turning into a dark electric arc, stabbing towards the Water Monster.

Chen Yu was shocked.

After infusing it with “black True Qi,” the speed and force of the javelin amplified nearly twofold.

Pfff!

This time, the powerful javelin forcefully pierced into the head of the Water Monster, causing dark black blood to spurt.

Nearly along with the shaft, the javelin pierced through.

Instantly,

The Water Monster let out a piercing howl, as tempests and giant waves erupted, causing nearby rock walls to collapse.

Swipe!

Chen Yu exerted his heart once more, reactivating that “black True Qi,” finding his speed reaching an unprecedented level.

A fleeting shadow passed by.

He not only dodged the main attack but didn’t even touch a ripple of the aftermath.

Following,

He saw the Water Monster struggling by the riverbed; the wound was leaking red-blue poisonous blood.

Its enormous body, containing resilient vitality, attempted to launch another attack, but its limbs gradually stiffened.

Before long,

The Water Monster ceased its struggle, falling into dead silence with the river water dyed a dark blue.

"Dead?"

Chen Yu was taken aback, looking at the corpse of the Water Monster, indeed sensing no sign of life.

Although he was aware of the potency of the "Green Moss Poison Mushroom" that could poison someone in the Qi Transformation Innate Realm,

However,

His target wasn't merely an ordinary Qi Transformation Innate but a massive Water Monster with extraordinary resistance to poison.

Chapter 215: The Last Day

The behavior of the Iron Moon Strange Insect caused Chen Yu's expression to change.

Although the original form of the Iron Moon Strange Insect was the "Iron Moon Corpse Worm," which liked to gnaw on corpses, especially rotten poisoned corpses, to promote its own growth,

The body of this Water Monster was contaminated with the Green Moss Poison Mushroom, one of the deadliest poisons in the world.

Killing the Water Monster was entirely reliant on the power of this poison mushroom.

If it were solely up to Chen Yu's strength, even if he burst forth with all his heart's strength, using the dark True Qi and the Emperor Bloodline, it would still cost a great deal, a bitter struggle, to potentially kill this Water Monster.

From this, it is evident how terrifying the deadly poison of the mutated five hundred-year-old “Green Moss Poison Mushroom” was.

At that moment,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect had already burrowed into the body of the Water Monster, gnawing on its internal organs, including the essence of its flesh and blood.

During this process,

Chen Yu maintained a close connection with the Iron Moon Strange Insect, ready to command it to stop should there be any abnormality.

In the following moments,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect frantically started to eat, its body surface tinged with a hint of blue blood, and the aura of corpse energy on its body grew increasingly violent.

As it turned out, Chen Yu’s concerns were unnecessary.

Although the Green Moss Poison Mushroom was a world-renowned deadly poison, the massive body of the Water Monster significantly diluted the poison, making the threat of the potent poison not even a tenth of what it originally was.

Moreover,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect was originally used to dealing with corpses and toxic poison, and it was a rare mutated species.

The potent poison in the flesh not only did not harm the Iron Moon Strange Insect but instead caused its strength foundation to soar tremendously.

Before long,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, having gorged itself within the Water Monster, emerged sated, carrying a Demon Core.

"Not bad, the quality of this Demon Core is slightly better than a general Qi Transformation Innate."

Chen Yu revealed a look of joy.

However,

After the frenzied feasting, the Iron Moon Strange Insect's body radiated a dark blue blood glow, and its aura fluctuated inconsistently.

Connected in spirit, Chen Yu sensed the insect's fatigue.

Soon,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect closed its eyes and fell asleep in the palm of Chen Yu's hand, its body surface congealing into a layer of dark blue blood membrane.

Chen Yu pondered thoughtfully, filled with anticipation.

This insect, having advanced to the Qi Transformation Realm much earlier than himself, had initially shared the "Blood Soul Bud," consuming the largest portion.

And during this hunting competition,

This bug had eaten largely creatures much stronger than itself.

Especially now, with the body of the Water Monster contaminated with the power of the Green Moss Poison Mushroom, greatly accelerating its growth.

Gurgle!

Just then, Chen Yu felt the blood from the Water Monster's body, as if sentient, race toward the riverbed.

Strangely enough,

This blood did not disperse as expected but under an invisible force, coalesced into threads of crystalline blood flow.

Whoosh!

The crystalline blood flow converged towards the deep rock walls of the underground riverbed.

Chen Yu fixed his gaze,

Only to see a section of the rock wall gradually reveal a layer of blood-red crystal patterns.

These blood-red crystal patterns, vividly fluctuating, etched out a partial profile of an ancient beast on the rock wall.

Even though it was only a partial profile, it was already the size of a house.

Thump! Thump!

Chen Yu's mystical heart beat rapidly, subtly sensing a heartbeat from the depths.

As if, some kind of life sign was reviving.

Hmm~

A chilling and majestic aura, as if emanating from an ancient giant beast, caused Chen Yu's blood to stagnate.

Chen Yu's heart raced, and he faintly heard a low growling roar near his ears.

"We should not linger here."

Chen Yu dared not stay, and quickly retraced his original path back to the surface.

He had just surfaced near the ground.

At the starting point of the hunt, on the mountain's top canopy, the scene was revealed.

"There's some blood on Chen Yu, perhaps he has made some gains,"

Fu Yangzi said thoughtfully.

Watching Chen Yu's face on the screen, which appeared pleased and relaxed, he likely had a considerable achievement.

"If this young man has slain a few Postnatal Demon Beasts underground, plus Ye Luofeng's gains tonight, then the Fu Family's hunting performance could potentially retake first place."

The elders from the other families showed thoughtful expressions, speculating in their minds.

As for slaying an Innate Demon Beast?

They didn't believe that Chen Yu could kill an Innate Demon Beast alone and without injury.

However,

They never would have imagined that Chen Yu had not only slain an Innate Demon Beast, but also obtained a Demon Core surpassing that of the Wu Family Puppet Master's previous core.

Without a doubt,

Chen Yu's personal score had once again claimed the top spot.

At this time,

There were still one or two hours before dawn.

Chen Yu hurried on his way, returning to the cave where the Fu Family was resting.

Upon returning,

Ye Luofeng had also arrived back at the cave, her body stained with some blood and wounds, indicating a seemingly good harvest.

"It's truly great that both Guest Elders returned safely,"

Fu Hong said with a glowing face.

The few from the Fu Family keeping watch showed joyous expressions.

It turned out,

While they were resting there, a Postnatal Demon Beast had invaded, which the Fu Family squad jointly killed.

The next morning,

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng had rested completely.

"Today is the third day of the hunt, and also the final day!"

The Fu Family's disciples discussed together.

The last day of hunting was a crucial moment for determining the outcome.

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng each took out the Demon Cores they had acquired and began counting them on the spot.

Resultantly,

Chen Yu had the most Demon Cores, totaling twelve.

Ye Luofeng had eleven Demon Cores.

The rest of the Fu Family squad only had three Demon Cores.

Before long,

An Innate Stage Demon Core in Chen Yu's hand attracted everyone's attention.

"Innate Demon Core! One is equivalent to ten regular Demon Cores."

"Judging by its quality, this Innate Demon Core is quite good among its peers."

The Fu Family members showed delighted expressions.

Besides,

Chen Yu had obtained the Rat King's Demon Core during the first night's cliff defense battle, which could also offset several regular Demon Cores.

After analyzing the intelligence,

Everyone concluded that the Fu Family's hunting performance should currently rank first.

Chen Yu's personal score had once again temporarily placed him at the top as the Hunting King.

In the crowd, only Ye Luofeng's face looked somewhat unnatural, her beautiful eyes shifting as she took a deep breath.

"However, our lead shouldn't be considered too large,"

Chen Yu said solemnly.

Preserving the top rank on the last day wouldn't be easy.

Though Chen Yu and the Fu Family's scores were temporarily in the lead, they hadn't pulled far ahead of the competitors.

"As long as we maintain our advantage and don't slack off on the last day, it won't be easy for our opponents to surpass us."

Fu Hong and others were invigorated.

As long as they grabbed one of the top team rankings, each member would receive a substantial reward.

"No! The possibility of our opponents turning the tables on the last day is also significant."

Chen Yu shook his head.

Finished speaking,

He exchanged a glance with Ye Luofeng.

Ye Luofeng's eyes were ice-cold as she said firmly, "The three forbidden zones."

Three forbidden zones!

The members of the Fu Family suddenly realized.

Within the three hundred miles of the hunting grounds, the three forbidden zones consisted of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast, the Vine Wood Demon, and a group of demon beasts.

Among these,

The Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast and the Vine Wood Demon were powerful ancient beasts.

Killing one of these could earn a high-quality demon core that could equal several of the same tier innate demon cores.

"Exactly, rival teams like Prince Manor, Chu Family, and Wu Family could surpass us if they managed to kill one of them,"

Fu Jing said rightly.

The third forbidden zone, "demon beast group", featured fifteen to sixteen demon beasts and an Innate Middle Stage leader; capturing all could also provide a significant advantage.

Of course,

Some of the youths harbored doubts.

The terrifying strength of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast and the Vine Wood Demon was well known.

From the current situation,

It seemed that no team from the Prince Manor, Chu Family, Wu Family, or even the Fu Family had the capability to eliminate one on their own.

Any slightest mistake could lead to annihilation.

However, everyone had to admit that the three forbidden zones were indeed the best shortcut for turning the tables on the last day.

Simultaneously,

The last day of the hunt began in the early morning.

Teams from Prince Manor, Chu Family, and Wu Family were all strategizing.

The team members unanimously highlighted the critical nature of the “three forbidden zones.”

It was almost certain

That any power that successfully took down one of the “three forbidden zones” could secure the Hunting King position.

Before long,

At the Evil Demon Ridge hunting grounds,

Teams from the Prince Manor, Fu Family, Chu Family, and Wu Family began their movements.

That morning,

Four competitive squads crisscrossed near the three forbidden zones.

However,

No one dared to casually attack the three forbidden zones.

Partly because the risks were high and success uncertain, and partly because they feared others might reap the benefits of their efforts.

The Fu Family’s squad wasn’t in a rush.

The Water Monster’s demon core that Chen Yu obtained, though high quality, was a secret unknown to other teams.

This secret was ordered by the Fu Family's squad to be kept at all costs.

Thus,

If no one attempted the three forbidden zones, then the winner would be the Fu Family.

Why wouldn't the Fu Family welcome such a situation?

"Report! The Chu Family and Wu Family teams are approaching the third forbidden zone, the demon beast group."

A Fu Family's Disciple reported.

Currently,

Within the three hundred miles of hunting grounds, most of the demon beasts had been cleared.

During the day, solitary disciples faced little danger, as powers monitored one another.

"Oh?"

Chen Yu's lips curled into a smile.

At last, someone couldn't resist trying to tackle the three forbidden zones.

Their target was the demon beast group.

Considering the demon beast group, if the strength of two or more teams combined, they might stand a chance.

Moreover,

The Wu Family's Puppet Masters had many Qi Transformation Puppets and even Innate Stage Puppets at their disposal.

"Follow up."

Chen Yu took the lead.

After half an hour,

The Fu Family's squad reached the third forbidden zone, the demon beast group, catching up with the Chu Family and Wu Family teams.

"What's the meaning of this, members of the Fu Family?"

Several teams from the Chu Family and Wu Family, discontented, displayed angry expressions.

The two teams had reached an agreement to attack the demon beast group together.

Unexpectedly,

They had just set out when the Fu Family's team caught up.

Among them, He Dabao from the Wu Family's squad wore a gloomy expression.

"It's nothing, my Fu Family just voluntarily came to help and join in attacking the 'demon beast group'."

Chen Yu said leisurely.

Voluntary help?

The teams from Chu Family and Wu Family showed displeased faces.

This was hardly voluntary help; it was uninvited interference.

Chen Yu, unfazed as if untouched by boiling water, just stuck around.

He Qiuyun, the leader of the Chu Family, exchanged glances with the Black Robed Puppet Master and secretly communicated.

"Let them join. Otherwise, this Fu Family will just sit back and benefit opportunistically."

He Qiuyun was somewhat reluctant.

The Black Robed Puppet Master looked sullen but unwilling.

However, the strength of Fu Family's squad, especially Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng, was not to be underestimated.

"I agree to let them join."

The Black Robed Puppet Master had to compromise under the circumstances.

Chapter 216: Reap What You Sow

Evil Demon Ridge, within a vast mountain valley.

Roar! Roar! Roar!

One after another, sturdy golden spotted lions with blood-red eyes stirred up clouds of dust as they fiercely battled a group of young warriors.

Among the pride, there were fifteen or sixteen Acquired Golden Lions.

The largest among them, with a golden pattern on its forehead that faintly formed the character for “King,” was the Innate Lion King.

Every time the Lion King roared, it was accompanied by an intimidating and ferocious golden aura that swept across four to five zhang in radius.

Ordinary Postnatal beings caught in it were likely to be torn to shreds.

However, at this moment,

The formidable Lion King was being firmly suppressed by a man and a woman wielding treasure swords. These two were none other than He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng.

He Qiuyun held an ancient, variegated treasure sword, cleaving sword lights as dazzling as comet trails, with an overwhelming momentum.

Ye Luofeng wielded the White Jade Treasure Sword, tracing arcs of cold, crystalline sword light that built up like frost into a rainbow of swords.

In terms of offensive power,

The ancient sword in He Qiuyun's hand, both in quality and lineage, gave him a sword Dao might that firmly outmatched Ye Luofeng.

Every attack he made left a bloody mark on the body of the Lion King.

In fact,

He Qiuyun alone was enough to contest the Lion King. With the addition of Ye Luofeng, it became full suppression.

Elsewhere,

Chen Yu and the Black Robed Puppet Master, along with other members of the three teams, dealt with the remaining Acquired Golden Lions.

Woo~puchi-puchi!

Those Acquired Golden Lions died one after another.

The Black Robed Puppet Master, controlling both an Innate giant scorpion puppet and two or three Acquired Puppets, embarked on a slaughter among the Monster Corpses.

Chen Yu also did not falter.

Gripping the Dark Snake Sword, his figure flickered rapidly, crossing paths with several golden lions.

Puchi-puchi!

With every sweep of the Dark Snake Sword across an Acquired lion, it was a lethal blow.

Thud! Thud!

Poisoned golden lions could not hold on for more than a few moments before succumbing to death.

"So fast!"

In the Fu Family team, Fu Jing, Fu Hong, and others especially assisted Chen Yu in harvesting Demon Cores.

Watching.

Of the remaining Acquired Demon Beasts, only four or five were left.

Faced with the combined forces of the three teams, the numerical advantage of these dozen Acquired lions vanished.

Even the most powerful Lion King was suppressed by He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng.

"Only four or five left!"

Chen Yu exchanged glances with the Wu Family's Black Robed Puppet Master, and both let out a cold snort.

During the previous slaughter,

Chen Yu and the Black Robed Puppet Master had essentially come out even.

Despite the Puppet Master having many puppets, his efficiency in killing enemies paled in comparison to Chen Yu, whose heart was primed for accelerated action and who held a poisoned sword.

"Attack!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master snorted coldly and ordered the giant scorpion puppet and the three Acquired Puppets to assault the few remaining Acquired lions.

At the same time,

He deliberately controlled a few ordinary puppets to join forces with He Dabao and others, blocking Chen Yu's path.

Previously,

Chen Yu had been able to kill enemies so swiftly because of his strong physical body and speed, allowing him to engage with golden lions in close quarters swiftly.

If he couldn't get close, the potent poison sword would become useless.

But this time, Chen Yu did not close in.

"Get ready!"

He transmitted a message with a hint of a smile to a few people in the Fu Family team.

As his words ended,

Three spears appeared before him.

Swoosh-swoosh-swoosh!

Like a colossal bow, Chen Yu instantly hurled three black spears heavy with Evil Qi.

"Not good!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master and He Dabao's expressions changed drastically.

The puppets' rate of attack could not match the instantaneous burst of speed from the spears.

Pff! Pff! Pff!

Three golden lions were impaled by the spears, blood spraying out as their bodies were flung away.

As soon as the corpses hit the ground,

The Fu Family team members, already prepared, approached to extract the Demon Cores.

Thus,

Of the five remaining Acquired Golden Lions, three fell into the hands of the Fu Family, equivalent to three-fifths.

Keep in mind,

The Fu, Chu, and Wu Family teams were all present, participating together.

Even if the remaining two lions fell into the hands of the Black Robed Puppet Master, the Fu Family team had already secured half the total number of Acquired Golden Lions.

The Wu Family accounted for thirty to forty percent, and the Chu Family just over ten percent.

Now,

The focus was on the remaining Innate Golden Lion King.

Whoever obtained the Lion King's Demon Core would be equivalent to earning a dozen or more ordinary Demon Cores.

Chen Yu's gaze swept over.

The Golden Lion King was already at the end of its tether, its attacks gradually weakening, covered in wounds.

As long as Ye Luofeng and Qiuyu launched their killing move, they could hope to slay the Lion King, but both refrained from doing so immediately.

Killing the Lion King was not difficult now.

The challenge lay in vying for the Innate Demon Core.

"Take the Demon Core!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master pushed off from his spot, turning into a shadow, rushing toward the Lion King's battle circle.

Just as Chen Yu prepared to move,

Swoosh-swoosh-swoosh!

Two Spider Puppets shot several strands of webbing, swirling around his body.

Chen Yu sneered. Two Acquired Puppets with average combat power could not hold him back.

"Stay put!"

Suddenly, a harsh shout came from one side.

He Dabao threw three drab-looking beads from his hand.

Boom-hoo!

A vast spread of dark, murky gray flames enveloped Chen Yu's figure.

"Hehe, these are 'Corpse Fire Pearls'; any flesh they touch will corrode and combust into a puddle of corpse water,"

He Dabao said with a chilling laugh.

In reality,

He had only managed to obtain inferior Corpse Fire Pearls, but each was still a threat to those in the Postnatal Stage.

Three thrown together, and those below the Innate Stage would have a tough time escaping harm.

"This guy dares to attack a competitor in the hunting competition!"

In the Fu Family Pavilion, Fu Yangzi said angrily.

The hunting competition allowed contesting for prey and Demon Cores, but not killing each other.

In the Wu Family Pavilion.

"Tsk tsk, He Dabao is trying to prevent Chen Yu from obtaining the Demon Core, but his methods are a bit too extreme."

Bald middle-aged Wu Tianxiao said with an indifferent smile.

"This person, disqualified from the hunting competition."

A detached voice came from the pavilion of the Prince Manor.

The speaker was none other than Marquis Yunlai!

No objections arose from the crowd regarding Marquis Yunlai's judgment.

Wu Tianxiao of the Wu Family couldn't care less.

Even before He Dabao joined the Wu Family, it was declared he would spare no effort in striking at Chen Yu.

Now,

As long as they could eliminate Chen Yu, the Puppet Master of the Wu Family had a great chance to seize the Demon Core of the Golden Lion King.

But just then, the scene on the screen suddenly changed.

Roar!

A thunderous lion's roar, accompanied by a roaring sound wave whirlwind, blew open the thick cloud of ash and flame.

Whoosh!

The ash and flame reversed direction, hurling toward He Dabao.

"Not good!"

He Dabao's face changed dramatically.

He was well aware of the power of the Corpse Fire Pearl—if it enveloped him, death would be certain.

However,

He had just instinctively dodged when a thundering roar rang out beside his ear.

"Boom!"

His body stiffened, his blood churned, and he nearly vomited blood.

In the next moment,

He was wrapped by the ash and flame, letting out a piercing scream of agony.

In less than two breaths' time,

He Dabao's body quickly burned and corroded, turning into a stinking pool of corpse water.

This scene made the geniuses of several teams present shudder.

"It's his own fault!"

Chen Yu sneered coldly, without a hint of pity.

Just now, even his "Copper Statue Technique" couldn't withstand the power of those three Corpse Fire Seeds.

At the crucial moment,

Chen Yu activated the defenses of the beast hide armor by channeling his Primordial Evil True Qi and Black Emperor bloodline, which allowed him to avoid injury.

Then,

With a stroke of inspiration, he counterattacked with "Copper Lion Roar."

That had led to He Dabao's self-destructive outcome, killed by his own Corpse Fire Pearl.

"Lord, this Chen Yu has deliberately murdered someone; he should be expelled from the competition and severely punished."

Wu Tianxiao from the Wu Family Pavilion stood up furiously.

He wasn't actually speaking out on behalf of He Dabao's death.

After all, He Dabao, who had deliberately attempted murder, had already been disqualified.

Wu Tianxiao hoped to kick Chen Yu out as well.

"Senior Wu, didn't you see clearly? He Dabao tried to murder someone and ended up dying from his own 'Corpse Fire Seed.' He has only himself to blame."

Marquis Yunlai said undisturbed.

"But he did kill someone

Wu Tianxiao argued.

"Senior Wu, the rules of the hunting competition stipulate that the party that commits intentional violence is fully responsible. And Chen Yu acted in self-defense

A middle-aged man in the Innate Stage from the Prince Manor interjected.

Wu Tianxiao was speechless.

After all, it was He Dabao who had initially attempted murder.

And since he died by his own Corpse Fire Pearl, Marquis Yunlai considered it a self-inflicted outcome.

In the valley.

The death of He Dabao did not affect the competition for the Demon Core of the Golden Lion King.

Ye Luofeng, He Qiuyun, and the Black Robed Puppet Master—three top-tier geniuses—had already started competing.

The Golden Lion King let out a whimper and perished under the combined attack of the three.

"Hehe!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master sinisterly chuckled, and from his metallic arms shot dozens of cold needles like a sudden downpour.

Swoosh swoosh swoosh!

The dozens of needles, like a sprinkling of cold stars, attacked indiscriminately, targeting both Ye Luofeng and He Qiuyun.

Both of them changed color and quickly swung their swords, deflecting the numerous needles.

He Qiuyun cursed inwardly. Their prior agreement had been to work together against the Fu Family in the struggle for the Innate Demon Core.

Crack!

The Black Robed Puppet Master's other metallic arm shot out a Purple Iron Claw Hook, swift as lightning.

The claw hook instantly grasped the corpse of the Golden Lion King and pulled it toward the Black Robed Puppet Master.

"Don't even think about it!"

Ye Luofeng and He Qiuyun, having recovered, each slashed through the air with their swords.

Cling! Clang!

Sparks flew, and a giant scorpion puppet, preemptively on guard, blocked the attacks of both.

There were two more sword hairline cracks on the body of the giant scorpion puppet, but this allowed its master to gain precious time.

Just as

The body of the Golden Lion King almost reached the Black Robed Puppet Master,

A dense wave of evil Qi and a heavy gust struck his back.

"That idiot He Dabao!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master felt an overwhelming pressure.

He had hoped that He Dabao's three Corpse Fire Pearls, even if they didn't kill Chen Yu, would at least slow him down a bit.

"Evil Qi takes form!"

A massive shadowy python emerged, its whole body covered with a dark halo, vivid, bringing with it a ferocious evil wind from behind, engulfing the Black Robed Puppet Master.

This time,

Chen Yu's Evil Qi Form had been augmented with dark True Qi from the core of his Qi Sea, vastly increasing its power.

Boom!

The Black Robed Puppet Master grunted and was forced back several yards, hard as iron.

Chen Yu was slightly surprised; his shadowy True Qi-boosted Evil Qi Form should threaten those in the Innate Stage, like striking a thick brass wall.

This Puppet Master's body had probably been reinforced.

Whoosh!

Without hesitation, Chen Yu moved quickly to the body of the Golden Lion King.

At the same moment,

Chen Yu raised his hand, and a Sword Shield Puppet appeared, blocking a counterattack from the giant scorpion puppet.

Though the Sword Shield Puppet was not as powerful as the Innate Stage Giant Scorpion Puppet, its defensive power was comparable to that of an Innate, only retreating a few steps.

"This puppet!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master, suppressing a surge of stagnant blood, looked at the Sword Shield Puppet in front of Chen Yu.

Upon further inspection,

Chapter 217: True Fire Shows Its Power

Just as he watched,

The Innate Demon Core of the lion king fell into Chen Yu's hands.

"How can it be so fast!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master's gaze faltered slightly, while He Qiuyun's face showed astonishment.

After successfully obtaining the lion king's demon core, Chen Yu felt a sinking feeling in his heart, sensing that something was amiss.

"Leave behind the demon core!"

He Qiuyun and the Black Robed Puppet Master charged towards Chen Yu at the same time.

Additionally,

The other Qi Transformation Realm talents from both teams also started to encircle Chen Yu.

If it had been any other demon core, it might have been fine.

This lion king demon core, worth at least ten to twenty regular demon cores, was key in deciding the position of the "Hunting King."

"With so many enemies and so few allies, it's not wise to fight head-on."

Chen Yu's thoughts raced.

The Black Robed Puppet Master alone had strength comparable to someone in the Innate Stage, and with him were an Innate Puppet and several Postnatal Puppets.

The Sword Dao attack of He Qiuyun was even more fearsome, capable of solo killing ordinary Innate Demon Beasts.

Furthermore, the surrounding talents from the two major families also restrained him.

Suddenly,

Chen Yu's gaze fell upon Ye Luofeng, who was behind He Qiuyun and the Puppet Master.

"Go!"

Chen Yu swung his arm forcefully, launching the demon core high into the air towards Ye Luofeng.

Ye Luofeng was stunned, not expecting Chen Yu to do this.

"Quick, grab it!"

Just as He Qiuyun and the Black Robed Puppet Master reached Chen Yu, they saw the demon core thrown towards Ye Luofeng, which annoyed them greatly.

But there was nothing they could do.

The hunting contest rules allowed them to compete for prey but prohibited unwarranted killing.

They could only abandon chasing Chen Yu and press towards Ye Luofeng.

Facing the incoming demon core, Ye Luofeng did not hesitate at all, leaping into the air and reaching out to grab it.

Even though she knew,

By obtaining the demon core, she would face a gang assault from all the talents.

Ye Luofeng had no other choice; only by securing this demon core could she narrow the hunting gap with Chen Yu.

"Tsks

Chen Yu's lips curled into a sneer as he watched all the talents charge towards Ye Luofeng.

Huh!

Suddenly, he took a deep breath, and his abdomen swelled briefly.

Power built up in his heart, driven by his Black Emperor Bloodline.

"Umm roar!"

A sound like a muffled thunderclap, the "Copper Lion Roar," enveloped He Qiuyun, the Black Robed Puppet Master, and others with a twisted wave of sonic energy.

In an instant,

Everyone's blood vibrated, and their bodies stiffened.

Several weaker Postnatal Stage talents even bled from their ears and noses, almost fainting.

"Damn it!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master was furious.

Nobody had expected that after Chen Yu threw the demon core, he would launch a surprise attack from behind.

He Qiuyun and the Black Robed Puppet Master were not majorly hurt.

But they too paused on the spot for a moment.

Just during that brief pause,

Ye Luofeng, smiling, successfully secured the lion king's demon core and created some distance from the others.

Chen Yu barely smiled, unconcerned.

The quality of this lion king demon core was slightly inferior to the Water Monster demon core he had obtained.

Moreover, Chen Yu had previously acquired the Rat King demon core as well.

Even if Ye Luofeng obtained this demon core, she could only close the gap between them slightly.

More importantly,

Chen Yu had to consider the interests of the entire team.

To achieve the individual Hunting King title, first, the Fu Family's team had to rank first overall.

Because,

The rules required that the individual Hunting King emerge from the team that won the Hunting King title.

Ye Luofeng obtaining this demon core helped solidify the Fu Family team's first-place position.

On the other side,

He Qiuyun sighed helplessly, almost giving up on competing for the demon core.

The Black Robed Puppet Master glared fiercely at Chen Yu.

However,

Restricted by the competition rules, they couldn't maliciously attack Chen Yu.

Once the possession of the prey had been determined, the other teams could not persist in entanglement.

At that moment,

Several figures rapidly approached.

"Not good!"

"The Prince Manor's team is making a move on the 'Vine Wood Demon' in the Dried Wood Forest."

Several talents responsible for gathering information arrived quickly.

Among them was a disciple from the Fu Family.

"Vine Wood Demon? Prince Manor?"

Chen Yu was startled.

The leader of the Prince Manor's team was Luo Haochen, a talent from the Ancient Clan.

"That Luo Haochen, he dared to make a move on the Vine Wood Demon while the three teams were joined against a group of demon beasts?"

"How could just one team from the Prince Manor dare to attack the Vine Wood Demon?"

At this moment, the incredulous expressions covered the faces of talents from all three teams.

The strength of the Vine Wood Demon was well known to He Qiuyun's team, and even Chen Yu had experienced it.

However,

If the members of the three teams collectively relayed the same information, it could hardly be false.

"Let's hurry over!"

Chen Yu and Ye Luofeng exchanged glances.

Swish swoosh!

Leaving behind the other members of the Fu Family team, they took the lead towards the Dried Wood Forest.

As of now,

The Fu Family's hunting team likely ranked first overall.

The only variables were the other two forbidden areas.

Any demon core from the ancient beasts in the other two forbidden zones could be worth several cores of the same rank from Innate Demon Beasts.

If the Prince Manor team successfully hunted the 'Vine Wood Demon,' they would decisively claim the top spot.

"Go quickly!"

"We must stop the Prince Manor!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master and He Qiuyun also took the lead towards the direction of the Dried Wood Forest.

Before long.

Chen Yu, Ye Luofeng, He Qiuyun, and the Black Robed Puppet Master approached the withered forest.

Ten miles away.

The crowd saw the raging firelight and dust in the withered forest.

The entire withered forest was engulfed in flames.

Deep within the withered forest.

Several Postnatal Stage talents from the Prince Manor were besieging a huge humanoid Vine Wood tangled in white flames.

Hiss!

The Vine Wood Demon's body, charred black, let out a horrifying screech.

"White Shuo True Fire!"

Luo Haochen's expression was austere, a shimmering ball of white flame surfaced in his palm, and an astounding pressure emanated from his body.

Whoosh!

The white flame, along with a blazing column of fist light, struck the Vine Wood Demon.

Poom!

The attack, imbued with "True Fire," made the demon screech miserably each time it was hit.

Meanwhile, several Qi Transformation Realm talents from Prince Manor threw various fire pots and wax oils to fuel the fire, hurling them onto the demon's body.

The Vine Wood Demon emitted wailing screams, rolling on the spot, its vitality fading.

The scene was projected onto the screen atop the mountain.

"Hehe! It seems that this year's hunting contest's 'Hunting King title' will again belong to my Prince Manor."

A clear, light laughter came from Marquis Yunlai.

In the other pavilions.

Team leaders from the Guiyuan Realm of the Fu Family, the Chu Family, and the Wu Family showed slightly awkward expressions.

In the previous “Hunting Contests,” teams from Prince Manor have had a more than seventy percent chance of winning.

"White Shuo True Fire? This young fellow possesses such a remarkable True Fire Spirit Flame."

Fu Yangzi sighed deeply.

Once the True Fire Spirit Flame appeared, he knew that the tide had turned.

"With Luo Haochen's Ancient Clan Bloodline, combined with 'White Shuo True Fire,' he is truly invincible among hunting talents."

Elders from the families present couldn't help but sigh lightly.

Even inside the Wu Family Pavilion.

The usually competitive Wu Tianxiao felt a sense of honorable defeat.

In the image.

The Vine Wood Demon, under the White Shuo True Fire and various external flames, gradually turned into a charred humanoid vine.

Whoosh!

Luo Haochen wiped a bead of sweat from his forehead, retracting the “White Shuo True Fire” in his palm.

"This ‘Vine Wood Demon’ is a Wood Series Ancient Beast, strongly restrained by my True Fire. If it were the ‘Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Beast’, it wouldn’t have been this smooth.”

Luo Haochen exhaled a long breath.

Soon.

A prodigy from Prince Manor extracted the demon core and handed it to Luo Haochen.

"Congratulations, Brother Luo, for obtaining the Hunting King title.”

"Brother Luo’s True Fire emerged, annihilating the ancient demon, ensuring our Prince Manor ascends to the Hunting King position again.”

Several Postnatal Stage talents from Prince Manor, their faces glowing with praise.

They looked at Luo Haochen with awe, truly submissive from their hearts.

Such a young age, possessing Postnatal Peak Cultivation and Ancient Clan Bloodline, along with True Fire Spirit Flame.

No wonder, he could be ranked among the earthly-talented.

"Soon enough, Brother Luo could be listed among the 'heavenly rankings,' becoming the most radiant rising star in the ancient nation."

...

Swish! Swish! Swipe!

Just then, several figures rapidly approached the withered forest.

"Was the Vine Wood Demon killed?"

"How did they do it? Prince Manor seems to have suffered little damage."

Ye Luofeng, Chen Yu, He Qiuyun, and the Black Robed Puppet Master were the first to arrive.

Afterward.

Qi Transformation Realm talents from the three major families arrived one after another, their faces in shock, hardly able to believe it.

The crowd did not witness Luo Haochen's deployment of the "White Shuo True Fire."

If they had, they wouldn't have been so surprised.

Because, relative to the Guiyuan Realm and below, the "True Fire Spirit Flame" is almost mythical, with immeasurable might.

Another point.

A Wood Series Ancient Beast like the Vine Wood Demon is inherently restrained by the fierce properties of the True Fire.

"Everyone arrived too late! The 'Vine Wood Demon' has already been burnt to ashes by Luo."

Luo Haochen bore a confident expression, casting a cold glance at the talents from the three major families.

His haughty look softened slightly only when it landed on Ye Luofeng.

At that moment.

Talents from the Fu Family, Wu Family, and Chu Family couldn't hide their embarrassment.

Many felt disheartened.

"Let's go!"

Chen Yu's face gradually returned to calm, exchanging a glance with Ye Luofeng.

He Qiuyun and the Black Robed Puppet Master shared a look, silently communicating through a private sound transmission, regaining their composure.

An hour later, night fell.

The three-day "Hunting Contest" entered its final night.

Just making it through tonight and by morning, this edition of the "Hunting Contest" would come to an end.

The Fu Family's small team took a brief rest in a cave.

"For the current plan, we can only aim for the last of the three forbidden zones."

Chen Yu stated emotionlessly.

If he played all his cards and combined efforts with Ye Luofeng, he was fairly confident he could slay the Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Beast.

Now.

The Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Beast was the three major families' only hope for a reversal and was bound to draw everyone's attention.

At the same time.

The Chu Family and Wu Family also made similar plans.

An hour later.

Hunting teams from the three major families simultaneously arrived at the forest where the "Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Beast" resided.

The Fu Family, the Wu Family, and the Chu Family.

The three hunting teams stood at the periphery of the territory of the Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Beast.

Hmm~

A deep roar, akin to a huge elephant, came from within the forest.

An invisible pressure, accompanied by swirling black smoke, obscured the colossal silhouette of the “Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Beast” and its cold green eyes.

In terms of combat power and threat, the Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Demon was absolutely the foremost among the three forbidden zones.

Behind a hill on another side of the forest.

"Hmph! The three major families indeed wouldn't give up this last chance for a turnaround."

Luo Haochen wore a cold smile, full of confidence.

"Brother Luo truly has great foresight!"

"Right as the three major families are about to kill the Black-Scaled Long-Tongued Demon at the crucial moment, we'll strike in one fell swoop, seizing the last Ancient Beast Demon Core."

"Yes! Let them utterly lose hope!"

The talents from Prince Manor rubbed their hands in excitement, brimming with confidence.

Chapter 218: Blood Dragon Beast

Under the observation and anticipation of the team from Prince Manor, the three great families slowly advanced into the mountain forest.

Before long.

Dense black fog and dust rolled in the mountain forest, accompanied by terrifying roars.

The battle was about to erupt!

The Fu Family, Chu Family, and Wu Family each had their Qi Transformation Realm talents participate, totaling ten people.

Those below the Postnatal Qi Transformation were deemed unnecessary sacrifices and would only be a burden.

Hmm~

The Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast moved swiftly, bringing with it a thick black fog and bizarre wind, enveloping an area of fifty to sixty feet.

Even a touch from the residual forces was enough to heavily injure and repel a common warrior in the Postnatal Stage.

The most terrifying aspect was the beast's "long tongue," which flicked quickly like lightning, unpredictable and unavoidable.

"Ah!"

A scream emerged from the crowd,

A talent in the Postnatal Stage from Wu Family was swept away by the crimson tongue.

The next moment.

That talent was swallowed by the gaping maw of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

"Stabilize quickly!"

A brief panic erupted among the crowd.

However, the situation was quickly brought under control.

The Black Robed Puppet Master controlled an Innate Stage giant scorpion and several Postnatal Puppets to block the front line against the Long-tongued Beast.

Chen Yu, sparing no expenses, deployed his own sword shield puppet as the front-line shield.

He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng, two Sword Cultivators, delivered fierce Sword Dao attacks, greatly suppressing the Long-tongued Beast.

At the scene, only Chen Yu occasionally closed in to clash with the Long-tongued Beast.

Nevertheless, he too was tense, using the cover of the front-line puppets, and with his heart accumulating power, he significantly increased his speed.

"If I used the 'Green Moss Poison Mushroom Liquid,' I could definitely inflict fatal damage on this beast."

Chen Yu thought to himself.

However, he ultimately did not use the poison liquid.

In fact.

While the three families teamed up to suppress the Long-tongued Beast, they all held back, wary of the team from Prince Manor behind them.

The three family teams were not fools.

The Long-tongued Beast represented the last chance to turn the tables tonight; the absence of the Prince Manor team was telling.

Time slowly passed.

With the cooperation of the talents from the three families, the injuries on the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast gradually increased.

Although these wounds were not severe, their accumulating effect could not be ignored.

Puchi!

At one moment, Chen Yu exploited a flaw in the “Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast,” and his “Dark Snake Sword” struck the beast’s leg.

Under the moonlit night.

The “Dark Snake Sword” radiated a cold moonlight, its power surged by more than forty percent.

Chen Yu also timely accumulated power in his heart, and with the Emperor’s bloodline enhancement, this strike inflicted a certain injury on the Long-tongued Beast.

The Long-tongued Beast’s lower limb was injured, and the inherent venom of the “Dark Snake Sword” began to spread.

Instantly.

The Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast fell into a weak position, with reduced mobility and a clumsy figure.

From this point on.

The perilous standstill in the battle began to turn.

At this moment.

A slight sense of caution arose among the talents from the three sides.

Killing the Black-scaled Serpent Beast was inevitable; the key lay in the competition over this Ancient Beast Demon Core and the potential threat from the watching Prince Manor.

Behind the hill.

Members of the Prince Manor team exhibited cold smiles, closely observing the frontline battle.

"These three teams working together are not weak, especially the Fu Family, whose comprehensive strength is the strongest," said Luo Haochen, arms crossed, slightly surprised.

He had thought that it would be costly and difficult for the three teams to hunt the Long-tongued Beast.

Unexpectedly.

The three teams, working together with orderly offense and defense, and the unexpectedly strong Guest Elders from the Fu Family, made killing the Long-tongued Beast no longer a challenge.

"The moment the Long-tongued Beast dies will be the best time for us to make our move," Luo Haochen's lips curled into a confident smile.

...

As Prince Manor and the three families each made their moves and calculations,

No one knew.

Dozens of miles away from this mountain ridge, there was a subtle disturbance.

Between the rock walls of the underground riverbed.

Boom! Buzz!

A slight vibration came from under the ground. The river water in the riverbed boiled inexplicably.

In a certain segment of the riverbed.

The body of a Water Monster was completely shriveled, turned into a mummy, without even a trace of blood nearby.

If Chen Yu had visited this place, he would have been greatly shocked.

Hmm~

Deep in the riverbed, on a rock wall with floating blood-red crystalline patterns, a massive silhouette of a Blood-colored Ancient Beast was outlined.

At first glance, it seemed like a specimen of some ancient giant beast.

Crack!

The rock wall cracked, and the "Blood-colored Ancient Beast" embedded in the wall slowly opened a pair of blood-red, crystal-clear, cold eyes.

Then.

Its massive body slowly struggled out from the rock wall, revealing dark red scales.

This ancient beast, approximately thirty to forty feet long, had four limbs and was covered in dark red scales, looking somewhat like a lizard but also like the mythical flood dragon, emitting an invisible dragon might.

Hu~

The Dark Scale Dragon Beast roared softly, and the blood-red crystalline patterns on the surrounding rock walls suddenly turned into blood waves and merged into its body.

Instantly, the surrounding rock walls turned to dust.

This Dark Scale Dragon Beast showed a hungry expression, looking slightly weak and irritable as it surveyed its surroundings.

Hmm!

A soul-shaking roar echoed in the underground rock river, filling the silence.

Countless aquatic species trembled in fear.

After briefly listening, the Dark Scale Dragon Beast looked slightly disappointed on its face.

Suddenly.

It approached the shriveled body of the Water Monster, sniffing around it.

Quickly.

The Dark Scale Dragon Beast discovered a tunnel in the rock layer above its head, through which fresh air from the surface was flowing.

This underground passage was precisely the one Chen Yu had dug earlier.

Swish!

The Dark Scale Dragon Beast looked excited, transforming into a blood-scaled afterimage, which struck the gap in the rock wall.

As it approached the tunnel, the Dark Scale Dragon Beast incredibly shrank significantly, becoming only slightly larger than a normal tiger or leopard.

Pupu Bang!

The Dark Scale Dragon Beast's body released a layer of crystalline blood waves, and the flames churned, instantly melting the surrounding rock layers.

Before long.

This beast reached the surface and let out an earth-shattering howl.

In an instant.

An intangible pressure spread throughout the area, causing numerous species within dozens of miles to tremble and cower.

"What was that sound!"

Behind the hill, Luo Haochen suddenly shivered.

And.

His Ancient Bloodline trembled inexplicably, as if sensing some terrifying presence.

At the same time.

The Dark Scale Dragon Beast appeared on the ground and initiated a massacre.

"Ah ah ah

A hunting team of nearly ten members was swept over by a bloody scale afterimage.

Swoosh!

A few breaths later, only the shriveled corpses were left on the ground.

The Dark Scale Dragon Beast displayed a hint of cruelty, licking its lips as if sensing something, and swiftly headed toward the area where the "Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast" was located.

At the same time.

In front of the mountain top canopy, the expressions of many elders in the pavilions, including those in the Guiyuan Realm, changed drastically.

"Blood Dragon Beast!"

Fu Yangzi, Wu Tianxiao, and other mighty beings from the Guiyuan Realm all turned pale.

"The Blood Dragon Beast is a top contender among ancient beasts, flowing even with the bloodline of the True Dragon Holy Beast."

"How could this legendary ancient beast appear in the hunting area!"

Many elders stood up abruptly.

Whoosh!

The entire mountain top was shaken.

Even the normally composed Marquis Yunlai's expression slightly changed.

"Lord, the threat of this Blood Dragon Beast could be comparable to the Guiyuan Realm. I suggest we take action and capture this beast."

A white-bearded elder proposed.

The appearance of the Blood Dragon Beast was a massacre for the genius talents in the hunting ground.

"The array I have set up will sense and repel the presence of 'Guiyuan Realm.' And according to the rules of the Hunting Conference, unless a demon beast of the Guiyuan Realm level appears, we should not intervene."

Marquis Yunlai pondered.

Indeed.

The appearance of this Blood Dragon Beast was an accident.

This beast had just awakened and was still weak, yet its strength far surpassed the usual Qi Transformation Innate, and its threat level approached the Guiyuan Realm.

But.

This was not a reason to intervene in the conference, as long as it had not reached the Guiyuan Realm, it would not be sensed and repelled by the hunting ground's array.

It was just unfortunate for the geniuses participating in this "Hunting Conference"; their luck was poor.

Swoosh!

In the canopy screen, a bloody scale afterimage quickly approached the forest where the "Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast" was intensely fighting.

"This presence

Luo Haochen's Ancient Bloodline trembled, warning him, making him very uneasy.

He looked back.

Suddenly, a streak of bloody afterimage flashed from miles away.

"Quick, retreat!"

Luo Haochen's face turned pale with fright.

At that moment, his Ancient Bloodline sensed a threat nearly reaching the Guiyuan Realm.

Regardless of whether the others from Prince Manor reacted or not.

Luo Haochen was the first to flee.

"Run fast!"

Just as the bloody scale afterimage closed in within a mile, the geniuses of Prince Manor scattered.

However.

These geniuses did not entirely escape the massacre.

"Ah ah

Still, two or three were swept over by the bloody scale afterimage, turning into shriveled corpses.

The Blood Dragon Beast's cold eyes swept over the remaining scattered geniuses of Prince Manor without pursuing them.

It had sensed the presence of a stronger prey that could hasten its recovery.

Swoosh!

The bloody scale afterimage moved even faster, nearing the forest where the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast was fiercely battling.

In the forest.

Under the joint attack of talents from three clans, the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast was scarred and let out piteous, unwilling roars.

Just as this beast was on its last breath, seemingly about to be slain at any moment.

"What is this presence!"

Chen Yu's mysterious heart throbbed rapidly, warning him and even revealing a hint of excitement.

At the same time.

His sharp senses captured a terrifying presence quickly closing in.

This presence brought him a deadly chill.

Ye Luofeng and He Qiuyun, both talents who had comprehended Sword Intent, saw their faces change simultaneously.

"Everyone be careful!"

The two instructed their respective teams.

Swoosh!

In the next moment, the bloody scale afterimage rushed into the forest, focusing its gaze on the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

Thud!

The Long-tongued Beast's entire body trembled with extreme fear and lay prostrate on the ground.

"What kind of ancient beast is this!"

The geniuses from the three clans shivered.

With a "swoosh".

Those from the Wu Family who reacted slightly slower were swept over by the bloody scale afterimage, turning into cold corpses.

Hmm!

The Blood Dragon Beast, excited, pounced in front of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

Crack!

A swipe of its claw left a chilling dark blood light trail, piercing the head of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast, causing red and white matter to burst forth.

Hiss!

Everyone present gasped in shock, shivering from the sight.

That powerful and cruel "Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast" was killed by one swipe of the Blood Dragon Beast's claw, although this was due to the former being weak and extremely terrified.

"Blood Dragon Beast!"

"This is the legendary ancient beast that flows with the bloodline of the True Dragon Holy Beast."

He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng, recognized the beast in turn.

Watching as the Blood Dragon Beast quickly devoured the blood and flesh of the Long-tongued Beast, the latter's body rapidly shriveled up.

At a certain moment.

The Blood Dragon Beast pulled out a demon core from the corpse, its face showing delight.

"Ancient Beast Demon Core!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master was furious, controlling two spider puppets to bind the body of the Blood Dragon Beast.

Pup pup!

Several strands of spider silk successfully wrapped around the Blood Dragon Beast.

At the same time.

The giant scorpion puppet turned into an afterimage, directly aiming for the demon core of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

The Blood Dragon Beast, infuriated, let out a low growl.

The blood patterned energy waves on its body surface trembled, and the spider silk broke inch by inch.

Crack!

With a swipe of its claw, the Blood Dragon Beast directly knocked the giant scorpion puppet away. The latter landed with a “boom,” its arms shattered, and its body nearly falling apart.

Everyone gasped.

In a single encounter, this beast knocked away and destroyed a puppet renowned for its defense from the Innate Stage.

"This beast is unstoppable!"

Chen Yu felt an urge to retreat.

But just then.

An unusual disturbance suddenly emanated from his body, a spiritual connection surfacing.

"Hmm?"

Chen Yu's face showed delight, and suddenly a bug appeared in his palm.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect's body shone with a faint blue and silver radiance, its strength greatly increased, advancing to the Postnatal Middle Stage, and emitting a chillingly dangerous aura.

Chapter 219: Cunning Strategy

Aside from advancing to the Postnatal Middle Stage, Chen Yu noticed some kind of unknown change in the insect.

A familiar aura now carried a hint of danger.

At this moment,

The Blood Dragon Beast, having swatted away the giant scorpion puppet, began to suck up the corpse and demon core of the Long-tongued Beast in front of it.

The body of the Long-tongued Beast rapidly withered away.

A stream of condensed dark crystal blood flowed up into the mouth of the Blood Dragon Beast.

"This Blood Dragon Beast feeds on blood and can extract the essence of blood and flesh from other creatures, transforming it into blood energy Chen Yu's eyes flickered.

Before the Long-tongued Beast was completely drained of its vital blood essence, there was still a slim chance for Chen Yu to "outwit" the beast.

And the key to this "outwitting" still lay with the Iron Moon Strange Insect.

Immediately,

Chen Yu took out a small piece of the remaining Green Moss Shredded Mushroom.

"Go!"

The advanced Iron Moon Strange Insect, carrying the Green Moss Shredded Mushroom, burrowed into the ground.

Whoosh!

After its advancement, the insect's speed had greatly increased. In the blink of an eye, it successfully burrowed from under the ground into the corpse of the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

Although Chen Yu's move was subtle, it was still noticed by Ye Luofeng, He Qiuyun, and others.

However,

The Blood Dragon Beast, focused on feeding, did not notice.

The insect was too small; to the large Blood Dragon Beast, it was like an ant.

Once inside the Long-tongued Beast's corpse, the Iron Moon Strange Insect quickly sensed a dark red blood vortex.

The essence of the Long-tongued Beast's flesh and blood quickly merged into this dark blood vortex. After a simple refinement and concentration, it became a dark crystal blood flow and was drawn into the big mouth of the Blood Dragon Beast.

Swish!

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, carrying that small piece of Green Moss Shredded Mushroom, burrowed into the dark crystal blood flow above the dark blood vortex.

Relative to the blood flow as thick as an arm, the insect's size was still imperceptible.

"It's in!"

Chen Yu watched as the "black dot" disappeared quickly into the dark crystal blood flow, entering the Blood Dragon Beast's body.

"Retreat!"

Having completed this action, Chen Yu signaled Ye Luofeng and the others to retreat quickly out of the mountain forest.

Chen Yu estimated that the Blood Dragon Beast would need some time before the poison took effect.

Moreover,

This ancient beast was not ordinary; it should have a stronger immunity against the intense poison of the Green Moss.

Ugh-huh!

A few groups of people had retreated less than a hundred zhang when a restless growl from the Blood Dragon Beast came from the mountain forest.

At this time,

The Blood Dragon Beast had finished absorbing the blood and qi essence of the Long-tongued Beast, but it felt a wave of discomfort, its demeanor becoming even more violent and cruel.

Shua!

The Blood Dragon Beast turned into a bloody scaled afterimage as it leapt from the forest, pouncing toward the retreating forces of the three clans.

"Ah, ah, ah

Screams echoed continuously.

Ordinary Postnatal Qi Transformation cultivators were basically killed in an instant by the Blood Dragon Beast.

Among them, Fu Jing, the Fu Family prodigy, was instantly killed by a swipe of the Blood Dragon Beast's claw, falling into a pool of blood.

"Everyone! This beast has been poisoned by my deadly toxin; it is now displaying the precursor signs of poisoning."

"We just need to delay for a moment, and the beast will become weak from the poison," Chen Yu's voice rang out across the scene.

The leaders of the three clans did not panic and flee.

The Black Robed Puppet Master controlled his puppets, blocking the Blood Dragon Beast's onslaught.

He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng unleashed fierce Sword Dao attacks, hindering the Blood Dragon Beast remotely.

Presently,

Only two Sword Dao prodigies were going all out using Sword Dao techniques, being able to inflict superficial wounds on the Blood Dragon Beast.

Swoosh-Swish!

Chen Yu threw a spear with all his might, striking the Blood Dragon Beast, but it failed to penetrate the defense. It was shattered by the flashing blood patterns and energy waves around its body, merely delaying its attack.

Looking on,

The combined efforts of the Black Robed Puppet Master, He Qiuyun, Chen Yu, and Ye Luofeng were still unable to stop the powerful offensive of the Blood Dragon Beast.

Wah! Wah!

As He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng attacked the Blood Dragon Beast, they were rebounded by a wave of blood crystal brightness, sent flying with severe injuries.

"Explode!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master sent the nearly dismantled giant scorpion puppet, which was nearly falling apart, to the forefront.

Boom!

The Innate-period giant scorpion puppet exploded into a terrifying reddish-black wave, sending thousands of fragments enveloping the Blood Dragon Beast.

After this attack,

The body of the Blood Dragon Beast finally showed a large area of external injuries, bloodied and dripping.

However,

Chen Yu sharply noticed that the wounds on the Blood Dragon Beast's body were slowly healing.

"Hmph! With just these people, they're attempting to surround and attack the 'Blood Dragon Beast'."

Luo Haochen, half a li away, had a sneer on his face.

He was thankful that he had reacted quickly, retreating first and creating distance.

Peng ka!

In a flash, the Blood Dragon Beast closed in on the defensive stance of Chen Yu and the others.

"Block it quickly!"

Chen Yu exchanged a glance with the Black Robed Puppet Master.

Neither He Qiuyun nor Ye Luofeng, the two Sword Cultivators who had just been injured, were adept at close combat.

Uh-huh!

Chen Yu gathered his strength in his heart and launched the "Copper Lion Roar".

This time, he infused his dark True Qi and Black Emperor bloodline, reaching a terrifying level of power, enough to injure ordinary Qi Transformation Innate cultivators.

Boom!

The terrifying sonic boom momentarily caused the Blood Dragon Beast to waver, its assault interrupted.

"Great chance!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master extended a metallic arm.

With a "click", a Purple Iron Claw Hook flew out like lightning.

Pfft!

The Purple Iron Claw Hook caught the Blood Dragon Beast's face, leaving a swath of wounds.

Howl!

The Blood Dragon Beast let out a frenzied roar, its vision blurred.

At the same time,

He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng surged with two different Sword Intent, delivering their peak Sword Dao strikes.

In an instant,

A resplendent, dazzling column of sword light and an ice-cold sword halo, interweaving, slashed onto the Blood Dragon Beast's body.

Pfft! Boom!

The Blood Dragon Beast suffered consecutive heavy blows and barely had time to recover.

First, it was momentarily stunned by Chen Yu's "Copper Lion Roar," its body rigid.

Then, its face was squarely hit by the claw hook of the Puppet Master.

Before it could even get angry, it was struck by a combined pinnacle attack from two Sword Dao geniuses.

The Blood Dragon Beast, not lacking in intelligence, was almost driven mad by rage, revealing a cruel and bloodthirsty cold light in its eyes.

Huff! Boom!

It went berserk in an instant, its body wrapped in a twisting blood-shadow cyclone with a diameter of several meters, exuding an aura of disaster, ready to sweep away and devour these ants.

"Damn!"

The four people present, including Chen Yu, all felt the approaching threat of death.

The enraged Blood Dragon Beast was brewing an area attack that could annihilate anyone within several meters in the Innate stage.

Once launched,

Chen Yu, with his extremely strong physical defenses, might be the only one to survive, while the other Qi Transformation Realm prodigies would be unlikely to escape unscathed.

"Could it be

Ye Luofeng's pretty face turned pale, one hand gripping a half piece of the Heavenly Que Fragmented Sword, wrapped in cloth.

Thump! Thump Thump! Thump Thump Thump!

Chen Yu's heartbeat accelerated, entering an explosive state as a burst of vigorous and rejuvenating power flowed from deep within his body.

But just at that moment.

Awooo!

The Blood Dragon Beast let out a muffled groan, its body swayed, and a hint of red-blue poison oozed from its scales.

In a flash,

The massive blood-shadow cyclone it was brewing scattered, dissipating the terrifying force.

"The poison is taking effect!"

Chen Yu's heart leapt with joy.

The onset of the dramatic poison was actually sooner than he anticipated.

He had expected it to take at least a dozen or so breaths before the Green Moss Shredded Mushroom's potent poison could take effect.

After all, it was a small amount.

And wasn't the Blood Dragon Beast a top ancient creature with a diluted True Dragon Holy Beast bloodline and a strong resistance to poison?

However,

The strength of the Blood Dragon Beast was more terrifying than expected; their combined efforts couldn't hold it off for even ten breaths.

Fortunately, the severe poison acted sooner.

The reason became clear to Chen Yu when he connected mentally with the parasite within the Blood Dragon Beast.

Through images transmitted by the insect,

The advanced Iron Moon Strange Insect tore through the beast's flesh. Each time it bit through, red-blue toxic poison would seep into the wounds.

"The insect after evolution, seems to have incorporated the characteristics of Green Moss Poison Mushroom into its own corpse poison."

Chen Yu was overjoyed.

Originally,

Not only had the Iron Moon Strange Insect evolved, its corpse poison also improved in potency, merging with the lethal power of the Green Moss Poison Mushroom.

The blend of corpse poison and violent toxin increased its lethality to easily kill an average Innate stage demon beast.

That was the reason for the Blood Dragon Beast's premature toxic outbreak.

"Die!"

Chen Yu roared as he closed in on the poisoned Blood Dragon Beast at extreme speed, in his heart's explosive state.

Such incredible speed!

The Puppet Master and He Qiuyun, among others, were shaken.

In the blink of an afterimage, Chen Yu approached the Blood Dragon Beast.

Holding the thought of exploiting its weakened state, Chen Yu drew the Dark Snake Sword.

This sword had been pre-coated with Green Moss poison, originally intended for the Black-scaled Long-tongued Beast.

Slash!

Chen Yu's Dark Snake Sword, under the moonlight, emitted a cold lunar glow, its might surging by more than forty percent.

You should know,

His sword strike, under the heart's explosive power, doubled in strength and speed, also incorporating the bloodline of the Black Emperor and dark True Qi.

Even without the moonlight's enhancement, this sword strike could kill off an ordinary Innate demon beast.

Not to mention, the sword was smeared with Green Moss poison.

Hiss!

The Dark Snake Sword sliced into the Blood Dragon Beast's neck, a spot where the scales were thinnest.

Blood splattered.

When the poison sword cut in about an inch, it could go no further.

Chen Yu was taken aback, having underestimated the Blood Dragon Beast's amazing power and tough physique.

With a swoosh,

He didn't even think before retracting his sword and swiftly retreating.

After all, by striking a vital point with the Dark Snake Sword, the Green Moss poison would wreak even more havoc.

However,

Despite Chen Yu's quick reaction, he was still grazed by a flash of blood-shadow energy from the Blood Dragon Beast.

With a "pomf,"

Chen Yu was knocked back five to six meters, the protective membrane of his beast hide armor shattering.

Wow!

Chen Yu spat out a mouthful of blood after landing but showed a hint of relief.

At the critical moment,

Using the extreme speed from his heart's explosion, he avoided taking a direct hit from the Blood Dragon Beast's attack, suffering only forty to fifty percent of the damage.

And Chen Yu had also promptly activated the defenses of his beast hide armor.

Otherwise, even longtime Innates like the Water Moon Sect Master could have been killed.

A general injury like this was nothing for Chen Yu's powerful self-healing physique.

Oooh!

After being struck in the throat by the Dark Snake Sword, the Blood Dragon Beast had poisonous outbursts both inside and outside its body, its life force beginning to wane.

Whoosh!

With a roar, the Blood Dragon Beast struggled to contain the poison and whipped up a blood-shadow whirlwind, sweeping across a radius of seven to eight meters.

Bang Bang Bang!

The nearby Black Robed Puppet Master, He Qiuyun, and Ye Luofeng were all knocked back, severely wounded and vomiting blood.

This was despite the Blood Dragon Beast using over seventy percent of its strength to suppress the potent poison.

Swoosh!

After hurling everyone away, the Blood Dragon Beast's body trembled fiercely, not daring to linger, it turned into a blur of red shadow, running off in a certain direction.

Only,

Its current speed of escape was not even half of its original incoming pace.

"Chase!"

Chen Yu's face lit up with excitement, maintaining a safe distance as he pursued the Blood Dragon Beast.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect was still wreaking havoc inside the Blood Dragon Beast, the deadly corpse poison continually intensifying.

The Blood Dragon Beast would become increasingly weak and was doomed!

"As long as we kill this beast and obtain its demon core, it will be comparable to a Guiyuan Realm demon beast and at least worth ten demon cores of the Vine Wood Demon."

Chen Yu's gaze was sharp.

Chapter 220: Extracting Ancient Beast Bloodline

At this moment.

On the field, the Black Robed Puppet Master, He Qiuyun, Ye Luofeng, and other talents from the Qi Transformation Realm, were all badly injured.

The lethal poison within the Blood Dragon Beast had erupted, drastically reducing its power, and it turned into a blood shadow, darting towards a direction for its escape.

"Chase!"

The three geniuses did not give up.

The ownership of the demon core from the Blood Dragon Beast would determine the winner of the Hunting King title at this hunting competition.

Even if they hadn't obtained a single demon core before, possessing the Blood Dragon Beast's demon core would allow them to triumph in one fell swoop.

However.

The speed of the Blood Dragon Beast was still fast, and as Ye Luofeng and the other two, being heavily wounded, trailed farther and farther behind in the chase.

Only Chen Yu was able to catch up with the Blood Dragon Beast.

Not only had he preserved his physical strength and vitality, but he was also unharmed and even accelerating by storing energy in his heart.

"Hmm?"

In the midst of the chase, Chen Yu recognized the terrain ahead as somewhat familiar.

A moment later.

The blood shadow that the Blood Dragon Beast had turned into suddenly vanished into thin air.

"So, this is the place."

Chen Yu's face showed a hint of surprise, quickly finding a passage that led directly to an underground riverbed.

Even if he was not familiar with the terrain, with the Iron Moon Strange Insect still inside the Blood Dragon Beast, as long as the distance was not too far, he could sense its location.

Without hesitation.

Chen Yu entered the underground passage from the entrance on the ground.

However.

He did not notice that a tall figure appeared behind him among the rocks, a faint smile curving the corners of his mouth.

After a short while.

Ye Luofeng, He Qiuyun, and the Black Robed Puppet Master arrived belatedly.

"It should be here."

The Black Robed Puppet Master gazed at the bloodstains on the ground, traces left behind by the Blood Dragon Beast.

In a short time.

The three found the entrance to the underground passageway.

Before they could enter.

"It would be best for the three of you to withdraw from the contention for the Blood Dragon Beast's demon core."

An indifferent voice sounded.

There was an unquestionable dominance in that voice.

"Luo Haochen!"

He Qiuyun couldn't help exclaiming, and both Ye Luofeng and the Puppet Master's faces changed color.

Only to see.

A tall man with sword-like eyebrows and tiger-like eyes strode forward, his demeanor sober and confident.

"Luo Haochen, what is the meaning of this!"

The Black Robed Puppet Master's face turned grim.

It seemed that Luo Haochen had arrived before them but had not gone underground.

What exactly was this Luo Haochen scheming?

"Ha ha... the three of you are seriously injured and have expended vital energy rushing here, surely you can't exert even seventy percent of your powers, can you?"

Luo Haochen let out a grin.

Upon hearing this.

The three's expressions changed, and they suddenly understood something.

Whoosh!

A blaze of white, incandescent punch-fueled whirlwind swept across, its brilliant light spanning three to four zhang, directly pressuring Ye Luofeng and her companions.

The sudden strike caught the three off-guard.

Bang!

The Black Robed Puppet Master, who bore the brunt of the assault, was sent flying by the ferocious and scorching punch-light.

"You

After landing, the Black Robed Puppet Master spat out a mouthful of blood, his complexion pale.

Having lost his Innate-level puppet, his strength was the weakest among the three, especially since he was seriously hurt.

"Ha ha! One down."

Luo Haochen wore a smile, a layer of incandescent speckles appeared on the skin of his arms, emitting a scorching and mighty aura of bloodline power.

At that moment.

With his Postnatal Peak Cultivation and the might of the Ancient Clan Bloodline, he coldly looked down on the remaining Ye Luofeng and He Qiuyun.

Ye Luofeng and He Qiuyun, both severely wounded, could only unleash sixty to seventy percent of their combat strength.

Faced with the fully powered Ancient Clan talent, they felt a sinking sensation within.

"Aren't you worried that Chen Yu, having gone ahead, will snatch the demon core first by blocking us?"

He Qiuyun said angrily.

"Heh heh! If all four of you were present, Luo would find it troublesome. But now that you're separated, dealing with the three wounded is not difficult."

Luo Haochen carried himself with a sure-win confidence.

He Qiuyun was shaken.

Indeed.

Luo Haochen had taken the lead and arrived first.

Instead of following Chen Yu down, he chose to intercept Ye Luofeng and the others.

Firstly, by dividing the four into two groups, they were easier to deal with.

Secondly, he left the severely injured Blood Dragon Beast's counterattack before death for Chen Yu.

After eliminating the three wounded, handling Chen Yu alone would be much easier.

As it turned out.

Luo Haochen's scheme was very successful.

As soon as he took action, he eliminated the weakest, yet close-quarters combat skilled and therefore troublesome Puppet Master.

"Even if we are gravely wounded, you cannot easily defeat us alone."

Ye Luofeng said coldly.

Her White Jade Treasure Sword in hand vibrated, forming a frosty sword aura that, like a piercing cold winter wind, rushed towards Luo Haochen.

At the same time, He Qiuyun attacked, unleashing a dazzling array of starry sword lights.

Confronted with a pincer attack by two talents, Luo Haochen remained unfazed.

Buzz!

A layer of white, incandescent light surged around him, an aura faintly visible, disregarding Ye Luofeng's attack, and charging straight at He Qiuyun.

Pfft!

The frosty sword blades swung by Ye Luofeng struck Luo Haochen's body, instantly incinerated and dissolved by the fiery light aura.

The next instant.

As Luo Haochen drew close to He Qiuyun, the white, incandescent punch-light aura transformed into a gigantic Jiaolong, akin to Chen Yu's "Evil Qi Manifestation", engulfing He Qiuyun.

Pfft Pfft!

He Qiuyun staggered back, a scorching wave of air causing his Protective True Qi to shatter.

His skin reddened and sweltered.

A terrifying scorching flame power seeped into He Qiuyun's body.

Whoa!

He Qiuyun trembled violently, spitting out a mouthful of blood, staring in shock at Luo Haochen.

Only to see.

In the palms of Luo Haochen's hands, where the white, incandescent speckles were, a flickering white flame emerged, exuding an intangible pressure, causing an unbearable burning sensation around.

"True Fire Spirit Flame!"

Ye Luofeng was moved to exclaim and her face filled with wariness.

"White Shuo True Fire! You've actually condensed such True Flames."

He Qiuyun cried out in shock, his sharp and fair face marred by several red, swollen burns.

At that moment,

His face was deathly pale, his body scorched dry, and he felt a wave of weakness.

"You've won, I concede!"

He Qiuyun's face bore a bitter taste as he suddenly gestured with his hand, voluntarily withdrawing.

Luo Haochen's Ancient Clan Bloodline was inherently fierce, and combined with the compatible "White Shuo True Fire," it was like adding wings to a tiger.

He Qiuyun knew all too well that even in his prime, his chances of victory against this man would not exceed thirty percent.

All of a sudden,

He understood why Luo Haochen's team was able to single-handedly eradicate the Vine Wood Demon.

"Miss Ye, I certainly don't wish to mar your exquisite beauty with any scars."

Luo Haochen grinned.

The lethality of True Fire Spirit Flame was far greater than ordinary True Qi.

Ye Luofeng's face turned pale, her eyes icy as she locked gazes with Luo Haochen.

Indeed.

She still had the Heavenly Que Fragmented Sword, a trump card in hand, but this sword was no ordinary weapon, and using it would make the Guiyuan Realm powerhouses recognize its extraordinary origins.

Furthermore,

She was severely injured, and even if she used the Heavenly Que Fragmented Sword, her chances of victory against this man's powerful Ancient Clan body and White Shuo True Fire wouldn't exceed fifty percent.

Finally,

Ye Luofeng made a decision, to let Luo Haochen off for now.

Luo Haochen was going into the underground, where he would still have to contend with Chen Yu.

"With True Flame in hand, Chen Yu's chances of victory are very slim. Well, at most I'll lose my first kiss."

Ye Luofeng sighed inwardly.

She gracefully retreated, floating backward, withdrawing from the battle.

"I won't go down," Ye Luofeng said coldly.

"Miss Ye is wise. Once Luo has ascended the throne as the Hunting King, I shall cordially invite you to discuss the meaning of life together."

Luo Haochen made a fist and palm salute with a smile.

Swoosh!

He turned into a white shadow and darted into the underground passageway.

At the same time,

In the depths of the underground riverbed,

Chen Yu kept up the pressure, chasing the Blood Dragon Beast, arriving between some cracked rocky walls.

There, on the rock walls, was a large gap that resembled the silhouette of the Blood Dragon Beast's body.

Howl~

The Blood Dragon Beast howled weakly, its scales oozing a reddish-blue poison, its life force growing fainter and fainter.

The beast struggled with all its might, gradually showing a look of fear.

Chen Yu was solemn and did not rashly approach.

During the chase, he always kept a distance of several tens of meters from the beast, to prevent a desperate counterattack.

Through the insect, Chen Yu had a clear grasp of the beast's condition.

"It's about time."

Chen Yu sensed the insect boring into the beast's viscera, gnawing away as toxins seeped into the heart and veins.

The Blood Dragon Beast rolled about on the spot, showing signs of agony.

Soon,

The insect burrowed into its heart. The Blood Dragon Beast convulsed violently, struggling fiercely, as a crystalline blood shadow aura swept violently in all directions.

Boom! Boom!

The surrounding rock walls began to crumble, showering the area in flying chips of stone.

It was evident that the Blood Dragon Beast was growing weaker, teetering on the edge of life.

Just then,

Chen Yu felt a presence falling from above the ground behind him.

"Not good!"

Chen Yu's peripheral vision caught a glimpse of a towering figure in the distance emanating white, incandescent aura.

It was Luo Haochen!

"Seize the demon core!"

Chen Yu's heart gathered force, transforming into a faint black afterimage, closing in on the Blood Dragon Beast.

However,

In the moment Chen Yu drew near, an unexpected change occurred.

Those dying eyes of the Blood Dragon Beast, now weak and powerless, flashed with a cold and piercing bloodlust.

Its scales began to radiate dark crystal hues, exuding a terrifying aura nearly reaching the Guiyuan Realm.

Disaster!

Chen Yu's heart sank, feeling an unprecedented threat of death.

This Blood Dragon Beast was clearly in its final "flaring of life before death."

Thud! Thud-thud! Thud-thud-thud!

Chen Yu's forceful heart suddenly leapt into an explosive state.

Roar!

Dark True Qi and the Black Emperor Bloodline erupted from Chen Yu, unleashing a shocking roar as if thunder reverberated across the heavens.

Boom boom boom!

The surrounding rocky terrain crumbled, and in some areas, it collapsed entirely.

That roar even reached the surroundings of the ground level.

"What was that sound?"

He Qiuyun and Ye Luofeng felt a tremor ripple through their bodies.

"It's Chen Yu!"

Ye Luofeng's expression shifted slightly, concern stirring within her.

Chen Yu's roar held a relentless defiance, as if battling against death itself and standing against fate.

This "Copper Lion Roar" reached the pinnacle of his life's achievements.

Compared to the time when he faced the Water Moon Sect Master, it was nearly twice as powerful.

Back then,

Chen Yu had not yet advanced to the Qi Transformation Realm, lacking this mysterious and formidable "Dark True Qi." His "Copper Statue Technique" had now reached a new level.

Boom! Bang!

At nearly point-blank range, the full might of the Copper Lion Roar struck the Blood Dragon Beast directly.

At the same instant,

The Iron Moon Strange Insect obeyed Chen Yu's command and pierced straight through the heart of the Blood Dragon Beast.

The beast's body stiffened, the glow from its dark crystal blood dimming.

Its entire blood solidified in an instant.

Not just from the impact of Chen Yu's "Copper Lion Roar" at such close range and its maximal force.

Thud! Thud-thud! Thud-thud-thud!

Within the furious beating of the heart, an odd and familiar attraction emerged.

Whoosh!

The scales of the Blood Dragon Beast exuded a deep red clarity, and pulled by the mysterious rhythm, the blood transformed into a deep crimson stream, its pattern twinkling as it surged into Chen Yu's body.

"This is

Chen Yu's body and soul vibrated, feeling the Blood Dragon Beast's rumbling Bloodline Power beneath his feet, emanating an aura of the ancient beast's dragon might, rapidly being refined and drawn into his own body.