

Eternal Heart 281

Chapter 281 Red Earth Secret Realm

After a month, the Fire Scale Beast's size had doubled.

It now looked even more fierce and ferocious, emitting an intangible aura of fiery bloodline, raising the temperature of the entire cultivation cavern slightly.

Aoao~

The Fire Scale Beast looked at Chen Yu and let out a series of roars as if it were demanding resources.

"Still so fierce when hungry?"

Chen Yu extended his palm.

The Fire Scale Beast immediately showed a look of fear and retreated a distance. In this period, it had lost count of how many slaps Chen Yu had given it.

"Hmph, that's more like it; here's your reward!"

Chen Yu took out a piece of fire-type precious material and tossed it over.

The Fire Qilin leaped up, catching the precious material in its mouth and began to chew.

"Sigh, my resources are nearly exhausted and won't last much longer!"

Chen Yu sighed.

Originally, he had won first place in the grand competition and obtained one hundred thousand No Demon Points. Together with his own No Demon Points and Primordial Stones, he had been considered wealthy.

But in just a short span of time, Chen Yu's No Demon Points and Primordial Stones were dwindling to a mere fraction of what they had been.

Of course, Chen Yu's gains had been extremely astonishing as well, obtaining the latter half of the "Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow," the "Shocking Evil Sword Technique," the Xuan Heavy Sword, Demon Cleansing Pills, Fire Scale Beast, and so on.

His overall strength had been skyrocketing.

Just at this moment,

A message appeared on Chen Yu's Identity Token, urging him to complete his mission commission.

No Demon Academy had regulations that every three months, one must complete a task commensurate with one's cultivation level.

If the task was of greater difficulty, one could rest for a bit longer based on the task's difficulty level.

Chen Yu had been at the academy for nine months already, having early on completed a mission to hunt a Giant Demon Tiger and thus, earning two extra months of rest.

Previously, he had already received an urgent message from the academy, but at that time he was in the Demon Bone Wilderness, so he had ignored it.

Now, the academy was urging him once again.

"If I go out on a mission, they will certainly make a move against me

Chen Yu frowned.

Blood Eagle Leg, Yan Boqing, was extremely vindictive and wouldn't let things rest.

According to Nie Xuan, Ren Han seemed to have murderous intentions toward Chen Yu as well.

The proverb goes, "I stand in the light while my enemies lurk in the dark," and if ambushed during a mission, it would be deeply unfavorable for Chen Yu.

What's more, with Mad Demon Ren Han's strength so formidable, Chen Yu could not withstand a direct confrontation.

"Staying in the academy isn't a solution either!"

Chen Yu suddenly stood up.

At present, he was running low on resources; even the four-hundred-year-old Fire Spirit Ginseng was used up.

The Fire Scale Beast's growth required a massive amount of fire-related resources.

And the Iron Moon Strange Insect, Chen Yu had been fighting less recently, hadn't fed for a long time, slowing its strength increase.

He himself also needed a large amount of resources for cultivation. With strong personal strength, many troubles could be easily solved.

In short, Chen Yu was now poor and in desperate need of a large number of resources.

"Right, an adventure outside the territory!"

Chen Yu's eyes lit up.

As one of Yun Zhao Country's four major academies, No Demon Academy itself had access to many secret realms and micro-worlds through array channels.

Any student, as long as they met the requirements, could enter these secret realms and micro-worlds for adventure.

Moreover, some secret realms and worlds were very unique, such as "Red Earth Secret Realm" and "Flame Sky Secret Realm," which specialized in producing fire-related precious materials.

In other words, in these secret realms, fire-related precious materials were widespread and of high quality, while other precious materials were relatively scarce.

"Good, I will venture into foreign lands!"

Chen Yu made his decision.

Not only to obtain resources, but Chen Yu was also very curious about foreign lands.

It was said that these secret realms and micro-worlds were independently existing spaces, only that they were extremely close to the Kunyun Continent, and because the spaces were either damaged or unstable, the academy could manage to send students in for adventure and training.

That is, those spaces were located outside the Kunyun Continent, in unknown places.

"Let's go!"

Chen Yu approached the Fire Scale Beast, lifted it, and tossed it into a pet bag.

Then, he left the cultivation cavern.

After he had departed, from behind a nearby rock, a figure quickly left the area.

Joining an adventure in a foreign land required one to head to the No Demon Main Hall.

In the center of No Demon Academy stood a mountain peak named “No Demon Peak.”

The No Demon Main Hall was located on it.

In no time, Chen Yu arrived at No Demon Peak and found the No Demon Main Hall.

The hall was incredibly large, too vast to see its end in one glance, and inside it not only trading and exchange places, but also sparring platforms and the mission commission areas...

It was Chen Yu’s first visit to the No Demon Main Hall, and he wasn’t clear about the location for foreign land adventures.

After wandering around, Chen Yu found his way to the mission commission area.

"Eh, there are missions for foreign land adventures!"

Chen Yu’s eyes caught sight of a mission related to adventures in foreign lands.

He had already planned to venture into unknown territories, and by taking up a mission, he could get some compensation as well.

"Head to the ‘Red Earth Secret Realm,’ mine twenty pounds of high-grade ‘Fire Spirit Ore.’ If you find ‘Fire Spirit Crystal Ore,’ the mission rewards double!"

A look of joy appeared on Chen Yu's face as he accepted the mission.

He was in most need of fire-related precious materials and was planning to go to either the Red Earth Secret Realm or the Flame Sky Secret Realm.

After taking the mission, Chen Yu continued to wander, and soon enough, he found the place for foreign land adventures.

In comparison to the rest of the No Demon Main Hall, this place was extremely quiet, enveloped by layered arrays, and heavily guarded by soldiers.

Retrieving his Token, Chen Yu swiftly entered.

Inside a spacious hall, there were many Ancient Transmission Arrays set up, each Array Formation Platform topped by a twisting vortex.

On one such platform.

Hu hu!

The twisting vortex of the Array Formation Platform carried strong spatial fluctuations, and as it rotated, it expanded into a dark grey portal.

Following that, two men and one woman, looking slightly nervous, stepped inside.

Shortly thereafter, the passage contracted back into a vortex.

"Just by yourself?"

A grey-bearded elder approached near the Array Formation Platform, a hint of surprise in his eyes.

People are always filled with fear towards the unknown.

Venturing into foreign lands entailed all that was unknown, and most individuals would enter in teams.

Besides, entering the foreign territories required a significant amount of No Demon Points, which were more worthwhile to earn inside, thus a team had more advantages.

"Yes, just me!"

Chen Yu nodded.

"Where do you wish to adventure?"

The long-bearded elder didn't pry further.

"On this, there is a simple explanation of all the secret realms; you can take a look first!"

The long-bearded elder stretched his hand toward the huge stone slab on the right stone wall.

All the secret realms and miniature worlds were recorded there, including a small part of simple information.

Currently, Chen Yu needed more fire-type precious materials, after all, he had the Fire Scale Beast, and he had also accepted a mission concerning the "Red Earth Secret Realm."

Soon, Chen Yu saw the simple introduction to the Red Earth Secret Realm on it.

This secret realm was extremely vast, completely different from the Blood Burial Heavenly Garden he had visited before, and was many times larger, truly a miniature world.

Moreover, the Red Earth Secret Realm was rich in high-quality “Fire Spirit Ore” and “Fire Crystal Stone” and other ore materials, as well as aged “Fire Spirit Ginseng,” “Fierce Sun Grass,” and other resources.

"I'll go to the 'Red Earth Secret Realm'!"

"Okay, ten thousand No Demon Points and two thousand low-grade Primordial Stones."

The long-bearded elder stated the cost.

"That expensive?"

Chen Yu was a little surprised.

"Hmph, ignorant, this is a spatial transmission array; the energy consumption is huge. Moreover, not just any Array Master can set up this kind of array!"

The long-bearded elder gave Chen Yu a glance.

"Alright then!"

Chen Yu took out his Identity Token, which still had fifteen thousand No Demon Points remaining.

Additionally, Chen Yu didn't have enough low-grade Primordial Stones on hand, so he used No Demon Points to substitute.

After paying the fee, Chen Yu was completely out of funds; his No Demon Points and Primordial Stones were almost depleted.

"Kid, weren't you the champion of the newcomers' competition? How come you're so poor?"

The long-bearded elder teased.

There were not many teachers and mentors in the academy, so information was passed quickly, and the long-bearded elder just happened to know Chen Yu's situation.

"But let me remind you, this Red Earth Secret Realm is quite dangerous; before this, a student at the Innate Middle Stage entered and hasn't returned yet!"

The long-bearded elder warned Chen Yu.

Chen Yu nodded, taking it for granted.

If there were no dangers, with so many special resources available, the students would all be rushing to venture into exotic realms.

"This is the Spatial Array Disc. When you wish to return, go back to the place where you were transmitted and activate it; then we will be able to open the passage again and bring you back!"

The long-bearded elder took out a somewhat large and complex array metal disc and handed it to Chen Yu.

"That Array Platform!"

The long-bearded elder pointed to an Array Stone Platform not far away.

The two of them walked over, and the long-bearded elder took out ten medium-grade Essence Stones and two silver rhombus crystals from his storage bag, embedding them into the grooves on the Array Formation Platform.

"Ready!"

The long-bearded elder shouted.

Chen Yu quickly stepped onto the stone platform.

Buzz!

The whole Array Formation Platform's patterns flickered to life, emitting a dazzling crystal silver brilliance, accompanied by a strong spatial fluctuation.

The small vortex in front of Chen Yu gradually enlarged and formed a dark space passage.

At this moment.

A figure appeared at the entrance of the hall.

The person had a hideous and ugly face, with a bent left leg; it was Yan Boqing, with the Blood Eagle Leg.

"Chen Yu!"

Yan Boqing's face was gloomy with anger.

He had thought that Chen Yu couldn't possibly stay in the academy forever; he was bound to go out on missions eventually.

But he never expected that Chen Yu would actually choose an adventure in a foreign realm.

"Senior, you don't have to see me off!"

Chen Yu smiled, stepped into the spatial passage, and disappeared.

"Chen Yu!"

Yan Boqing roared on the spot.

The long-bearded elder's expression remained calm; with his experience, from the expressions and brief conversation between the two, he guessed the reason behind the altercation.

"Are you going to the Red Earth Secret Realm?"

The long-bearded elder asked with a smile.

"No!"

Yan Boqing gradually suppressed his anger and turned to leave.

The cost of adventuring in a foreign realm was related to one's cultivation level. With his cultivation, entering the Red Earth Secret Realm would cost at least thirty thousand No Demon Points and six thousand low-grade Primordial Stones.

And since the array was a random transmission, the Red Earth Secret Realm was startlingly large; he might not even be able to find Chen Yu.

"Heh heh!"

The long-bearded elder chuckled and didn't interfere any further.

At this moment, he received a message.

"An emergency meeting?"

The long-bearded elder's expression returned to normal as he quickly left.

Before long, several mentors, including branch directors and several No Demon Academy Array Masters, gathered in a dimly lit hall.

"The meeting is convened to discuss foreign realm adventures!"

An extremely senior gray-haired elder began.

"Has a new secret realm or world been discovered?"

The long-bearded elder asked.

"No, it's about the Red Earth Secret Realm!"

A mentor spoke, "Lately, the Red Earth Secret Realm has become increasingly unstable, and the mortality rate is extremely high, reaching ninety percent!"

"Ninety percent!"

The long-bearded elder inhaled sharply.

Though he had been paying attention, he didn't expect the mortality rate in the Red Earth Secret Realm to be so high.

"Therefore, I suggest we temporarily close this secret realm!"

The gray-haired elder stated solemnly.

Such a dangerous realm, entering was akin to courting death; it would be better to completely close it.

"Yes, implement it immediately!"

Several mentors and Array Masters concurred.

"That's not good, Chen Yu just entered the 'Red Earth Secret Realm'!"

The long-bearded elder suddenly remembered something and blurted out.

Chapter 282 Tribe and Sand Bandits

"Damn, Chen Yu just entered the 'Red Earth Secret Realm'!"

The bearded elder suddenly realized something and blurted it out.

"What did you say? Chen Yu just entered the Red Earth Secret Realm?"

The instructors present all showed surprise.

Chen Yu, being the top performer of this competition, had excellent talent and strength and was favored by the vice-principal.

Such a student would certainly make a name for himself in Yun Zhao Country in the future.

But now, Chen Yu had entered the Red Earth Secret Realm, a dangerous realm where the death rate had suddenly increased!

"Moreover, he entered alone."

The bearded elder added another line.

If he had known earlier, he should have advised Chen Yu, and then they could have closed off the Red Earth Secret Realm before he entered.

"How could this happen!"

"Oh, we should have started the meeting earlier and closed the Red Earth Secret Realm!"

The participants in the meeting couldn't help but lament and sigh.

The death rate in the Red Earth Secret Realm had suddenly increased, and Chen Yu was there alone, increasing the danger and leaving little hope for his survival.

"Immediately close the Red Earth Secret Realm!"

The white-haired elder declared solemnly and then disappeared.

The meeting ended, and the bearded elder along with two Array Masters went to the teleportation site for adventures in foreign realms.

"You're back!"

A young instructor, looking at the bearded elder, respectfully said.

In the absence of the bearded elder, he had been temporarily managing this place.

"Were there any people who entered the Red Earth Secret Realm just now?"

The bearded elder asked.

"Unfortunately, six people have gone to the Red Earth Secret Realm just a while ago."

The young instructor looked puzzled but answered truthfully.

"What? Six students?"

The bearded elder was shocked by this bad news.

Thinking further, however, since six students went together, their combined strength should be very strong, providing a slightly better chance of surviving.

If Chen Yu could meet these six students, he might be able to successfully return.

"Immediately stop the teleportation to the Red Earth Secret Realm, only receive the students returning!"

The bearded elder promptly issued the command.

...

The sun was blazing, the land a yellowish-brown.

"What kind of cursed place is this!"

Chen Yu couldn't help but complain.

All around him was a Gobi desert with rolling sandstorms.

Moreover, he had walked for nearly two hours, and the scenery hadn't changed much, except for occasionally seeing a few volcanoes, he hadn't seen a single person.

This made Chen Yu wonder if the entire Red Earth Secret Realm was just a big Gobi desert.

"Awoo!"

A Fire Qilin following behind him joyously roared.

Having been trapped in a cave before, it was thrilled to be outside for the first time.

Moreover, being an ancient fire beast, this place was very comfortable for it.

"Hmm?"

Chen Yu's keen perceptions picked up on something unusual.

Whoosh-boom!

The ground nearby suddenly exploded, sending sand and stones flying.

From it, a dark red huge figure leapt out—a giant lizard covered in red scales, with a flame on its tail.

The lizard rapidly approached the Fire Scale Beast, opening its huge jaws lined with dense, ferocious teeth, and exuding intense heat from its mouth.

According to the lizard's judgment, the Fire Scale Beast had valuable fire-element blood. If it could eat the beast, its strength would skyrocket.

"Seeking death!"

Chen Yu snorted coldly.

This lizard, merely at the Postnatal Middle Stage, dared to attack; utterly foolish.

Chen Yu swung his arm, and punched out.

His punch was extremely fast, hitting precisely on the lizard's head.

Boom!

With a loud noise, the lizard's head exploded, and its body was blasted several meters away.

"Awoo!"

The Fire Scale Beast happily ran over, bit into it, and swallowed the fire-element Demon Core inside the lizard.

After eating a few chunks of flesh, it continued to follow Chen Yu on their journey.

Not much further, the scene in front of Chen Yu finally changed.

In the distance, it was no longer just a barren Gobi scene; occasionally, a few thick yet bare trees and barren grasslands could be seen.

Entering this wasteland, Chen Yu paused for a brief rest.

"Hmm? The aura of a Demon Beast!"

Being an Evil Cultivator, Chen Yu was very sensitive to the fierce, violent aura of Demon Beasts.

He had just entered this wasteland when he immediately sensed that a Demon Beast was approaching.

However, the aura wasn't strong, and Chen Yu wasn't worried at all. If the Demon Beast attacked, he would simply punch it dead.

Suddenly, Chen Yu sensed something else.

"People are approaching

Chen Yu grabbed the Fire Scale Beast and tossed it into his pet bag.

Fire Scale Beasts, belonging to ancient beasts with traces of Qilin blood, were too precious to be casually exposed.

Moreover, this being his first visit to the Red Earth Secret Realm, he was unclear about the conditions here and didn't know what the natives were like.

...

On the edge of the wasteland, a group of people was moving forward.

"Yan Qin, how is it? Isn't it fun outside?"

In the front of the group, a robust young man, holding a giant bow and arrow, looked back at a woman and smiled.

"It's not fun at all; all the Demon Beasts were killed by Brother Chang Mu. Next time we encounter a Demon Beast, I want to kill it myself!"

The woman, dressed in a floral skirt, spoke playfully and cheekily.

"There's a Demon Beast!"

In the group, a middle-aged man holding a long spear, his eyes sparkling.

"Where, where?"

The floral-skirted young woman looked nervous yet excited, taking out an arrow, placing it on her bow, and pulling the string.

Only then did he see

From not far inside the hillside, a huge mouse clad in red scale armor suddenly dashed out.

"Look, a Fire Rat Beast!"

The girl in the floral skirt aimed her bow and arrow at the giant mouse, then released it.

"Don't!"

The middle-aged man was just about to stop her when the arrow from the girl's bow had already shot out.

Whoosh!

Accompanied by the sound of the air tearing, the arrow flew out, its body suddenly turning red, emitting high temperatures.

However,

Ting!

The fire-red arrow struck the Fire Rat Beast's scale armor, only sparking a little, leaving a mark, then bouncing off.

Instantly, the Fire Rat Beast's ferocious gaze swept over the team, emitting a low, piercing screech.

"How could this be?"

The girl in the floral dress turned pale, somewhat at a loss.

Previously, her older brother would kill demon beasts with almost a single arrow, and at most three arrows for the more powerful ones.

But the arrow she shot didn't even penetrate the beast's defenses.

"Be careful, this Fire Rat Beast's strength has reached the Postnatal Late Stage!"

The middle-aged man suddenly shouted, gripping his spear tightly.

In their team, only the robust young man's strength barely reached the Postnatal Late Stage.

"Beast, seeking death!"

The robust young man bellowed, taking up a large bow and instantly firing a massive arrow.

The moment the arrow shot out, it turned bright red and trembled with flames.

Boom!

The thick arrow struck down, blasting onto the Fire Rat Beast and exploded into a burst of intense fire.

At the same time, other members of the team, either shooting arrows or throwing spears, all attacked the Fire Rat Beast.

Hiss!

The Fire Rat Beast kept screaming, its scale armor shattering, and blood flowing out.

Its eyes blood-red, it fiercely stared at the robust young man and others.

"Die!"

The robust young man swapped for several thinner arrows, shooting them all out.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

The several arrows, like red beams of light, shot out carrying astonishing penetrative power, piercing through the body of the Fire Rat Beast.

Finally, the Fire Rat Beast fell to the ground, motionless.

Not far away, Chen Yu silently watched this scene.

"Chang Mu is so amazing!"

The girl in the floral skirt was elated; then, she turned her gaze toward Chen Yu, not far from the corpse of the Fire Rat Beast.

"Who are you and what are you doing here?"

The girl in the floral skirt slowly approached and asked.

Behind her, the entire team walked over, while some went to dissect the Fire Rat Beast and gather materials.

"You are here alone? I'm guessing your team encountered a powerful demon beast, and you got separated from them."

The robust young man looked at Chen Yu, speaking very plainly.

But the middle-aged man gave Chen Yu a few more glances, he initially noticed the demon beast first and only saw Chen Yu afterward, perhaps because the young man seemed too inconspicuous.

"Yes, may I ask who you are?"

In order not to arouse suspicion from the natives of the Red Earth Secret Realm, Chen Yu did not refute the robust young man's words.

"We are from the 'Black Iron Tribe'!"

The robust young man answered with a hint of pride in his brow.

After all, the Black Iron Tribe was considered a strong tribe among the many tribes in the vicinity.

And this young man who got separated from his team must be from some minor tribe.

"If we hadn't intervened just now, you might have already been eaten by that Fire Rat Beast!"

The robust young man added another sentence.

In his view, Chen Yu was probably scared stiff by the Postnatal Late Stage Fire Rat Beast just now.

And Chen Yu was really lucky to have run into them in a dangerous moment; otherwise, he would have become food in the belly of the Fire Rat Beast.

"Thank you very much!"

Chen Yu smiled.

With his strength, he did not need to worry about the Fire Rat Beast; if it dared to approach, he would kill it with one punch.

However, compared to this, making contact and understanding the world here with the natives was more important.

"It's okay. It's too dangerous for you to be out here alone; why not come to the Black Iron Tribe for now, and then we can contact your tribe to retrieve you?"

The girl in the floral skirt said cheerfully.

Her first time hunting far from the tribe and rescuing someone made her quite happy.

The robust young man was somewhat annoyed that they had to help this outsider, but he didn't object in front of the girl in the floral dress.

"Just follow us!"

The robust young man gave Chen Yu a fleeting look.

"This hunting trip has already met the standards. Let's head back!"

On the other hand, after processing the Fire Rat Beast, the middle-aged man spoke.

"Are we going back already?"

The girl in the floral skirt was clearly reluctant.

"This area is very dangerous, not only with deadly lands and powerful demon beasts but also, I heard that some people from the Green Mountain Tribe encountered sand bandits here recently. We were lucky today not to run into any trouble. Let's head back quickly!"

The middle-aged man advised.

"Yes, Yan Qin, there have been a few shadowy sightings of sand bandits here recently; we should hurry back!"

The robust young man also said.

The girl in the floral skirt nodded, and then the group prepared to return to the Black Iron Tribe.

In the team, many glanced at Chen Yu.

"This kid is so lucky; usually, anyone getting separated from their team is destined to become demon beast food!"

"Not if Yan Qin didn't have a kind heart and decided to take him along. If it were me, I wouldn't even bother with this kid!"

At the very back of the team, several people chatted and joked quietly.

But just then.

Wuuu~

Waves of chilling howls of demon beasts, accompanied by the sound of iron hooves shaking, approached.

Soon, the ground slightly tremored, and every member of the squad showed alert expressions, many panicking.

"Not good, it's sand bandits!"

The heart of the middle-aged man sank, his expression solemn.

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Boom! Boom!

Accompanied by the rolling clouds of yellow sand and dust, a group of dark figures appeared within everyone's line of sight.

Chen Yu's senses were sharp, allowing him to see clearly that this was a gang of forty or so sand bandits.

The three leading figures were mounted upon giant red wolves, each at the Postnatal Late Stage, while the rest rode horses, likely around the Postnatal Early Stage.

By comparison, the robust young man “Chang Mu” and his team had only about a dozen people, with him being the strongest, barely reaching the Postnatal Late Stage.

The two were incomparable.

"Damn it, these are sand bandits."

The robust young man's face changed suddenly.

He hadn't yet realized the strength of the enemy, otherwise he would've been desperate by now.

"Let's get out of here!"

The middle-aged man immediately shouted.

The young girl “Yan Qin” in the flower dress turned pale; she had never seen sand bandits before, but she had heard of their reputation for being extremely vicious and capable of all evils.

"Go, quick!"

The entire team, led by the middle-aged man and Chang Mu, retreated rapidly.

However, they couldn't outpace the horses and giant wolves.

The sand bandits had long since spotted the small team and had deliberately approached this location.

The rumbling sound got closer and closer, pressing down on the entire team.

Forty or fifty people surrounded the robust young man and others, their eyes filled with mockery, as if looking at sheep ready for slaughter.

One of the long-faced young men riding a giant wolf looked particularly smug, his gaze sweeping over the team before stopping on the flower-dressed girl Yan Qin with a hint of lecherous greed.

At that moment, feeling the strength of this group of sand bandits, Chang Mu and the others realized that any resistance was meaningless.

With the sand bandits' power, killing them all was just too easy.

"Esteemed gentlemen, we are from the Black Iron Tribe, and this girl is Yan Qin, the daughter of the Clan Leader of the Black Iron Tribe. We were just passing by this place. If you could let us go, the Black Iron Tribe would surely send a generous gift later!"

Chang Mu's face was fraught with concern as he spoke anxiously.

The Black Iron Tribe was also a major tribe in the vicinity, and he hoped this might deter the other party.

"Haha, Black Iron Tribe – do you think it's that impressive?"

The long-faced young man on the giant wolf smirked with even more mockery in his eyes.

"Hahaha, have you heard of our infamous name, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits?"

Another giant figure on an enormous wolf laughed heartily.

The sand bandits could tell that Chang Mu was trying to deter them with the mention of their tribe.

But it seemed like the sand bandits didn't care at all.

"Fire Demon Sand Bandits!"

The middle-aged man in the team pondered for a moment upon hearing these four words, then his complexion drastically changed, and his body involuntarily trembled.

"What's wrong?"

Several robust young men in the group were somewhat puzzled.

However, they guessed that the Fire Demon Sand Bandits must be a very powerful force of sand bandits.

"Fire Demon Sand Bandits, the most powerful sand bandit force in the Red Earth World! Weren't you always situated in the east? Why did you come here?"

Changqing asked, his face showing despair as he voiced his confusion.

Although young, he was one of the finest talents in the Black Iron Tribe and knew a bit more than the average person.

A long time ago, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits were the largest sand bandit force in the Red Earth World. Their notoriety was akin to that of an Evil Demon or a malevolent spirit, striking terror in people's hearts.

But then, the number one tribe of the Red Earth World struck out against them and drove them back. Since then, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits had disappeared.

As time passed, people gradually forgot about the Fire Demon Sand Bandits.

Unexpectedly, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits had reappeared, and even on the west side, where the Black Iron Tribe resided? What was going on?

Hearing this, the rest of the group immediately despaired, not expecting the sand bandits to have such a fearsome reputation.

"Boss, how shall we deal with these people?"

The tall giant man asked casually, looking at the weak group in front of him as if they were at his mercy.

"Hehe, why even ask? This girl has some looks; she can become my fifth wife. The others are useless; kill them all!"

The long-faced young man chuckled evilly, his greedy eyes fixated on Yan Qin, completely disregarding everyone else.

Upon hearing this, a chill went through everyone in the group; Yan Qin's face turned even paler. She was the daughter of a Clan Leader and had never faced such a situation. To make matters worse, the young man wanted her as his fifth wife.

"Haha, brothers, did you hear our young boss's orders?"

The tall giant man laughed wildly.

"Kill!"

"Kill them all!"

Immediately, all the sand bandits shouted frenziedly, brandishing their weapons.

"Hehe, come here, beauty; be careful not to get hurt by them!"

The long-faced young man leaped from the giant wolf, his figure darting quickly toward Yan Qin.

Boom!

Chang Mu and the middle-aged man prepared to block him but saw the long-faced young man's body emit a burst of intense and scorching flame waves, instantly repelling them both.

"Yan Qin!"

Chang Mu fell to the side, spitting out a mouthful of blood, his eyes full of rage.

Yan Qin was the woman he had set his sights on; how could she marry a bandit?

"Come on, beauty!"

The long-faced young man extended his slender palm, reaching for Yan Qin.

His cultivation was at the Postnatal Late Stage, and Yan Qin, only at the Late Stage of Organ Refining, couldn't resist his pressure. Moreover, her fear rendered her unable to move.

Just then, a low shout rang out.

"Stop!"

Chen Yu spoke up.

He had intended to visit the Black Iron Tribe to further understand the secrets of this realm, but now he encountered this.

This meant he had no choice but to reveal his strength.

"Oh? Kid, you've got guts. Is she your sweetheart?"

The long-faced young man looked at Chen Yu with a touch of surprise, followed by a smile.

He was not at all concerned about Chen Yu's angry shout; instead, he was more interested, his palm still reaching for Yan Qin.

"If I tell you to stop, are you deaf?"

Chen Yu snorted lowly, throwing a punch.

Boom!

Chen Yu's punch landed precisely on the wrist joint of the long-faced young man.

There was the sound of bone and joint shattering as the young man's arm was violently flung out, causing his entire body to crash to the ground.

"Ah

The long-faced youth screamed in agony, clutching his wrist as his body trembled violently, suffering immense pain.

"Leave now!"

Warned Chen Yu.

Although he didn't like to meddle in others' affairs, Yan Qin and the others had been good to him, treating him as someone who got separated from his group and bringing him back to their tribe.

For that alone, Chen Yu wouldn't stand by and watch them die or allow Yan Qin to be kidnapped by the sand bandits.

"Kill him, kill this brat!"

The long-faced youth howled in pain, completely losing his reason.

As a member of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, he had never been injured by anyone; he must make Chen Yu pay a most terrible price.

"Young Master!"

"How dare you attack our Young Master, kill him."

The towering giant roared in anger.

Suddenly, more than forty bandits, their eyes shining with a brutal light, stared at Chen Yu altogether.

"Court death!"

Chen Yu's expression turned icy.

Just now, his intent was merely to give the long-faced youth a lesson, hoping they would know their limits and back off.

Perhaps it was because these sand bandits were used to being outrageous, but even so, they didn't take Chen Yu seriously; after all, they numbered more than forty—were they supposed to be afraid of just one man?

Boom!

The Evil Qi of the Black Wind erupted as Chen Yu transformed into a straight line, charging out with astonishing evil energy.

Boom bang!

Accompanied by the sound of bones breaking and the screams of agony, three or four bandits, along with their horses, were sent flying by Chen Yu's direct impact.

With the physique he had now, when Chen Yu launched a fierce assault, these bandits had their bones and internal organs shattered; there was no way for them to survive.

"What is this

Chang Mu stared at the scene, his eyes dull with shock.

Chen Yu was like an unstoppable beast, and with a simple charge, he had wiped out several sand bandits around the Postnatal Early Stage.

How could he be so strong?

Chang Mu found it hard to believe.

Not just him, everyone in the group couldn't believe it.

All this time, they thought they were protecting Chen Yu, bringing him back to the tribe.

Did Chen Yu need their protection?

Boom!

After a straight-line charge, Chen Yu changed direction and charged again.

He was like a crazed beast; no one could stop his pace.

"Ah

The whole group of sand bandits were instantly thrown into disarray, with numerous bandits crying out in misery.

Below the Postnatal Late Stage, there was no power to resist Chen Yu.

"Run, this kid has hidden his strength."

"Such a formidable physique, he's practically a human-shaped beast."

Two bandits riding giant wolves finally realized Chen Yu's power and made their decision immediately.

They didn't care about the long-faced youth anymore; their own survival was most important.

In the blink of an eye.

Those who could run had all fled, the rest were either dead or unable to run.

The people of the Black Iron Tribe watched this scene, their hearts pounding.

Chang Mu was considered a top fighter in the tribe, and the long-faced youth could defeat him with a casual blow.

But now, Chen Yu alone had wiped out and intimidated the entire group of sand bandits.

"You... you!"

The long-faced youth stared at Chen Yu, his body trembling involuntarily, fear spreading in his heart.

"You, you dare to kill me? My father will never let you off; you will face the relentless pursuit of the Demon Fire Sand Bandits!"

Watching Chen Yu slowly walking over, the long-faced youth roared out in extreme fear, as if exhausting all his strength.

He had thought it to be a lucky day when he went out and saw Yan Qin, but he never expected things would turn out like this.

But he believed that Chen Yu definitely wouldn't dare to kill him; the notorious name of the Demon Fire Sand Bandits was such that even some larger tribes would not want to offend them.

"Chase after me?"

Chen Yu couldn't help but laugh.

Once he completed his mission and acquired enough resources, he would leave this world, so how could the Demon Fire Sand Bandits pursue him?

"Die!"

Chen Yu's killing intent surged, and he stomped down.

This long-faced youth was still so arrogant and threatening at the brink of death; he was extremely foolish.

Boom bang!

Chen Yu's foot landed on the chest of the long-faced youth, leaving a bloody footprint.

Blood surged wildly, and the long-faced youth died instantly.

After taking the storage bag from the long-faced youth, Chen Yu glanced at it and realized that among the group of bandits, very few had storage bags.

It made sense; in this little world, everything was relatively backward compared to the Kunyun Continent. Storage bags were not very common and were incredibly precious, only affordable for a few powerful individuals.

"Brother Chen, how are you so powerful?"

After a long pause, Yan Qin was the first to speak up, her eyes filled with panic and admiration.

"We didn't recognize a great man when we saw one; we had no idea you were so powerful. We sincerely invite you to visit the Black Mountain Tribe as our guest to thank you for saving our lives," said the middle-aged man deeply, his eyes shifting slightly before he spoke respectfully.

"Let's go, I'm looking for a place to stay,"

Said Chen Yu indifferently.

The team moved on, and everyone's gaze towards Chen Yu was filled with respect.

This world was too cruel; people naturally respected and admired the strong.

Chapter 284 Killing Approach

Throughout the journey, the several members of the Black Iron Tribe treated Chen Yu with utmost respect.

The stout warriors who had previously teased Chen Yu didn't dare to make a sound, fearing that Chen Yu would hold them accountable.

Yan Qin, on the other hand, was slightly more relaxed, staying close to Chen Yu's side, occasionally introducing some matters or posing a few questions.

To this, Chen Yu didn't put on airs and engaged in simple conversation with Yan Qin.

However, he kept his true origins a secret.

According to the intelligence, the natives within these secret realms held great hostility towards creatures from outside worlds, much like their attitude toward demon beasts.

Therefore, after Chen Yu entered, he immediately swapped his academy clothes for more rudimentary attire.

As they moved forward, the landscape around them gradually changed.

Soon the group entered the jungle, where trees became more plentiful, and despite the shade, the weather remained extremely hot.

"We're here, Brother Chen, just ahead is the Black Iron Tribe!"

Yan Qin said with a delighted smile.

This adventure had been fraught with peril; it was a relief to finally return to the tribe.

The Black Iron Tribe was much larger than the small tribes Chen Yu had seen before, surrounded by towering earthen walls and fences, with people patrolling atop them.

"Not bad, Chang Mu, you always bring back such ample bounty each time you venture out!"

"Yan Qin, how many demon beasts did you kill this trip?"

People from the tribe immediately came to greet them.

Chang Mu was one of the tribe's most valiant warriors, and Yan Qin, being the Clan Leader's daughter, held a distinguished position.

"Chang Mu, who is this person?"

Soon, everyone's attention was drawn to Chen Yu.

"This man is a warrior we encountered during our hunting expedition, even more courage than Brother Chang Mu!"

Yan Qin, being rather active, introduced him.

"Even more formidable than Chang Mu?"

Many looked at Chen Yu with surprise, some skeptical.

But Chang Mu stood quietly to the side and did not object, which left some doubting again.

"Where is the Clan Leader?"

A middle-aged man asked.

They had encountered the legendary Fire Demon Sand Bandits on this trip—a vital piece of information that they must relay to the Clan Leader.

Moreover, the presence of a strong outsider like Chen Yu in the tribe should also be made known to the Clan Leader.

"The Clan Leader is inside!"

Following that, the group arrived at a massive stone fortress.

"Qin'er, you've returned!"

A tall and burly middle-aged man approached, none other than the Black Iron Clan Leader.

"Father, I almost never got to see you again!"

Yan Qin immediately went up to him, appearing affectionate and vulnerable.

"What happened?"

The gaze of the Black Iron Clan Leader swept across the dozen or so people in the group, finally settling on Chen Yu.

The Black Iron Clan Leader radiated an innate level of aura and immediately recognized the extraordinary nature of Chen Yu.

"This is what happened: when we were out hunting, we ran into the Fire Demon Sand Bandits

A middle-aged man who appeared older stepped out from the team and recounted their tale.

He conveniently omitted the part about Chen Yu's rescue earlier on.

They couldn't very well admit that they had rescued Chen Yu before, only to be saved by him afterward, right? That would be outright admitting they were fools who couldn't recognize true greatness.

"Fire Demon Sand Bandits!"

Upon hearing these four words, the pupils of the Black Iron Clan Leader instantly narrowed.

Having lived a long time, he had a clear understanding of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits.

The Fire Demon Sand Bandits were once the strongest bandits in the Red Earth World, notorious for their misdeeds, chilling the hearts of all who heard of them. Eventually, it was the "High Mountain Tribe," the first tribe of the Red Earth World, that managed to defeat and expel them.

"Not long ago, teams from other tribes also encountered the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, and none survived!"

The Black Iron Clan Leader said gravely; he had only learned of this recently, and not many in the tribe were aware.

"How could this be? Are the Fire Demon Sand Bandits planning to rise again?"

A chill went through Chang Mu's heart.

"Clan Leader, what shall we do?"

Could the Black Iron Tribe withstand an assault from the Fire Demon Sand Bandits?

"If you have killed members of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, they will not let the Black Iron Tribe off so easily!"

Worry was etched on the face of the Black Iron Clan Leader.

The person Chen Yu killed was not an ordinary man; the other bandits referred to the long-faced youth as the young master.

Moreover, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits had been appearing more frequently of late and grown rampant, with numerous small tribes already suffering. How could the Black Iron Tribe possibly withstand the Fire Demon Sand Bandits? It would be a suicidal move.

"Qin'er, introduce this brave warrior to your father!"

The Black Iron Clan Leader's attention suddenly turned towards Chen Yu.

"Father, his name is Chen Yu. He's even more powerful than Brother Chang Mu, single-handedly defeating all the bandits in combat!"

Yan Qin introduced him with a face filled with joyful admiration.

"Thank you for saving my daughter's life. It's getting late; I'll have someone arrange accommodations for you immediately."

The Black Iron Clan Leader looked at Chen Yu, showing a friendly smile.

"It's no big deal!"

Chen Yu did not care much for these formalities.

Subsequently, two tribesmen led Chen Yu to a tranquil courtyard.

Left to his own devices, Chen Yu settled down comfortably.

Inside the house.

Chen Yu released the Fire Scale Beast from his storage bag.

The Fire Scale Beast, being wild by nature, couldn't stay calm even for a moment inside the petite pet bag.

Then, Chen Yu took out the storage bag of the young master of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits.

As his consciousness probed inside, a slight smile appeared on Chen Yu's face.

As a young master, the bandit's storage bag was full of valuable treasures, containing plenty of precious fire attribute ores. Moreover, there were more than a dozen three-hundred-year-old fire attribute herbs and one four-hundred-year-old specimen. Among them was the Fire Spirit Ginseng that Chen Yu needed.

For an ordinary person at the postnatal late stage, this was already quite a fortune.

"Here, a reward for you!"

Chen Yu took out a fire-elemental medicinal herb and tossed it to the Fire Scale Beast.

Compared to the outside world, the same fire-type treasures were of much higher quality here, and the medicinal properties were conducive to absorption.

However, by contrast, other types of treasures were rather ordinary.

Inside his storage bag, the young master carefully stored several plant and water attribute treasures that were over a decade old, treating them like treasures.

The Fire Scale Beast immediately chewed and digested the medicinal herb.

Chen Yu stretched out his hand and released the Iron Moon Strange Insect.

Upon arriving in unfamiliar territory, he wouldn't be careless or take things lightly and planned to send the insect to gather information.

Hiss hiss!

The Iron Moon Strange Insect didn't leave immediately but stared at the Fire Scale Beast, its body trembling, emitting a low sound.

"Hmm?"

Chen Yu was slightly surprised.

It turned out that the Iron Moon Strange Insect had seen Chen Yu continually providing resources to the Fire Scale Beast, and with the beast's rapidly increasing strength, this made the Iron Moon Strange Insect somewhat uncomfortable.

"Uh

Chen Yu thought for a moment.

Compared to the Iron Moon Strange Insect, he indeed favored the Fire Scale Beast more, after all, the beast's bloodline was high-grade, with great potential, and cultivating it was of great use to Chen Yu.

Additionally, Chen Yu hadn't been involved in much killing recently and didn't have much to feed the Iron Moon Strange Insect.

Nevertheless, having accompanied Chen Yu for such a long time, he definitely wouldn't intentionally neglect its cultivation.

"This might be useful to you!"

Chen Yu suddenly thought of something.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect seemed able to consume Moon Spirit Ore, but in Chen Yu's fourth elixir recipe, Moon Spirit Ore was a main ingredient, and he had none to spare.

But when the Iron Moon Strange Insect last collected Demon Bone Stone, it seemed to have consumed some, and afterwards, it had changed significantly, becoming even more ferocious.

Chen Yu immediately took out a piece of black Demon Bone Stone from his storage bag.

Whoosh!

The Iron Moon Strange Insect instantly flew out and landed on the Demon Bone Stone, ferociously gnawing away at it.

Chen Yu didn't intervene further, ordering the Iron Moon Strange Insect to patrol the surroundings and gather information after its feast.

Meanwhile, Chen Yu began practicing the Yuan Sha Divine Skill and the Copper Statue Gang Body.

The progression of the Yuan Sha Divine Skill was slow due to Chen Yu's talent.

However, the progress of the Copper Statue Gang Body was quite fast.

Compared to before, the Fire Spirit Ginseng and Ice Snow Lotus in Chen Yu's possession had greatly improved in quality, and he managed to create high-quality Ice and Fire Body Tempering Liquid.

Moreover, Chen Yu occasionally also used "Blood Crystal Flame" for body refining.

Such tyrannical flames had a very noticeable effect when refining the Copper Statue Gang Body, especially when combined with the Ice and Fire Body Tempering Liquid. But it was also more painful, causing Chen Yu to cry out each time.

In addition, Chen Yu had strong self-healing abilities, and any residual effects from the Ascending Dragon Pill in his body would be timely activated to nourish him.

Under these conditions, Chen Yu's progress with the Copper Statue Gang Body was exceptionally rapid.

...

Inside the stone fortress.

"Clan Leader, what should we do? The Fire Demon Sand Bandits will definitely come to kill us!"

Chang Mu was a bit panicked.

The Fire Demon Sand Bandits were too strong; against them, Chang Mu had virtually no power to resist.

"Fire Demon Sand Bandits? It's not like we were the ones who killed them!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief revealed a smile filled with deep meaning.

"Are you saying

Chang Mu immediately understood the meaning of the Black Iron Clan Chief's intention.

"The Fire Demon Sand Bandits have just risen; they shouldn't be too aggressive. As long as we hand over the boy who committed the murder, and offer some resources, I believe they won't be enemies with the Black Iron Tribe!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief shared his thoughts.

"But that young man is very strong!"

Chang Mu was somewhat worried.

He believed that Chen Yu's strength was unfathomable and that if Chen Yu was willing to help, the Black Iron Tribe would be safe.

However, Chang Mu instinctively hoped that Chen Yu didn't exist; ever since Chen Yu appeared, Yan Qin's gaze rarely rested on him.

"That young man might be strong, but how can he contend with the Fire Demon Sand Bandits?"

The Black Iron Clan Chief calmly stated.

He thought that Chang Mu and the others had exaggerated Chen Yu's strength.

Moreover, he had an innate fear of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits and had never considered confronting them.

On the third day.

The earth-shattering rumbling noise, accompanied by rolling yellow sand, kept drawing nearer.

Suddenly, over two hundred sand bandits arrived in front of the Black Iron Tribe, exuding a fierce and bloody aura.

In the ranks, a dozen or so rode giant wolves, and there were three individuals seated on giant tigers.

These three giant tigers were different from other demon beasts; they were large in size, covered in red, burning with raging flames, resembling a Flame Giant Tiger.

"How could so many people come?"

The Black Iron Clan Chief's complexion changed drastically, and his spirit trembled slightly.

The overall strength of the sand bandits before him was unknowably higher than that of the Black Iron Tribe, something he had not anticipated. He didn't expect the other party to dispatch so many people.

Moreover, upon seeing those three Flame Giant Tigers, many people showed expressions of terror.

"Is it your tribe that killed my son?"

On the Flame Giant Tiger, a man with a majestic face spoke, his anger containing a fearsome gleam.

"No, respected sand bandit sir, it wasn't someone from the Black Iron Tribe who killed your son. It was a man named Chen Yu, and he's currently within our tribe!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief immediately stepped forward and spoke respectfully.

"Father?"

Yan Qin appeared shocked.

Why would his father say such things? Chen Yu was their lifesaver.

"Shut up, this is not your place to speak!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief shouted angrily.

If they upset the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, the entire tribe could be doomed.

"Go, bring Chen Yu out!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief ordered Chang Mu.

Chapter 285 Violent Crushing

Under Chang Mu's leadership, Chen Yu left the residence and came outside.

Seeing the group of sand bandits, Chen Yu was somewhat moved.

Among these more than two hundred sand bandits, there were over a dozen in the Postnatal Late Stage and three in the Innate Stage.

Moreover, the Early Innate among the sand bandits were much stronger than the Black Iron Clan Chief, who was also an Early Innate. The strongest among the sand bandits had reached the Innate Middle Stage.

The combat power of the sand bandits was not on the same level as that of the Black Iron Tribe.

"Respected Sand Bandit Leader, your son's death has nothing to do with the Black Iron Tribe. It was this man who killed your son and other sand bandits."

The Black Iron Clan Leader respectfully said.

Thinking of the notorious reputation of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, he was still somewhat worried and spoke again, "As long as you spare the Black Iron Tribe, we will be at your disposal in the future!"

As long as they could temporarily preserve themselves, they would find an opportunity to break away from the Fire Demon Sand Bandits later.

"Oh? In that case, kill this man!"

The imposing man on the Flame Giant Tiger, with a fierce gleam in his eyes, showed a playful expression.

Plain killing was too boring. First, he wanted this tribe to kill each other, give them hope, and then kill them all in the end, letting them die in pain and despair—that would be interesting.

"You there, do it!"

The Black Iron Clan Leader, without hesitation, gave the command. If it wasn't for Chen Yu killing the major young master of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, the Black Iron Tribe wouldn't have fallen into such a situation.

He knew Chen Yu was strong, so he had the strongest warriors in the tribe take action.

"Brother Chen, run!"

Yan Qin painfully said.

She hadn't expected that since encountering the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, things would turn out this way, with her father wanting to kill her lifesaver. Having grown up pampered, she suddenly saw the bloody reality of the world and couldn't accept it.

Just then, three stout men with broad shoulders and muscular builds, armed with weapons, walked toward Chen Yu.

"Chang Mu, what are you staring at?"

The Black Iron Clan Leader shouted.

Chang Mu had seen Chen Yu in action, and he held an intangible fear of him in his heart. He feared that even if he and the three Postnatal Late Stage tribe members joined forces, they still couldn't defeat Chen Yu, so Chang Mu hesitated.

At that moment, the three stout men attacked simultaneously.

One of them wielded a large blade, slashing out a flash of firelight with his blade.

Another wielded a long spear, thrusting it dragon-like. A streak of flame pierced toward Chen Yu's face.

The last one circulated True Qi, unleashing a fierce and domineering punch like lightning.

The three stout men almost simultaneously launched their attacks, surrounding the leather-armored youth from three directions.

Ding clang pang!

Instantly, the blade light, spear gleam, and fierce punch all fell upon Chen Yu.

The sand bandits seemed to already see Chen Yu being crushed, their lips involuntarily revealing a bloodthirsty cold smile.

But the next moment, their expressions froze.

There stood Chen Yu, motionless at the original spot, as the attacks of the three stout men fell on him, only to be shattered by an invisible force field.

And Chen Yu, unharmed even by a fraction.

Great Success in Body Protection Technique, attacks at the Postnatal Stage could no longer harm Chen Yu at all.

The stout man who attacked with his fist felt a terrible rebounding force. He felt his bones shatter, violently retreated, and howled in pain.

"How... how is this possible?"

The Black Iron Clan Leader's face went blank, his heart trembling.

The attacks of three Postnatal Late Stage were unable to injure Chen Yu by even a fraction?

He clearly sensed that Chen Yu was at the Postnatal Late Stage, so how could he possess such formidable defense, far beyond even some Demon Beasts?

"Hmph, if you can't even kill one person, what use do I have for you? Kill them all, leave none alive!"

The imposing man on the Flame Giant Tiger, his face ferocious, coldly shouted.

Things had not developed as he had imagined, which infuriated him greatly.

"Kill!"

"Kill them all!"

Behind him, all the sand bandits screamed and howled, riding on fiery red fierce horses. Accompanied by the Evil Qi, they charged toward the Black Iron Tribe.

The sand bandits were cruel and ferocious, living in an even harsher environment. At the same level, the people of the Black Iron Tribe were no match for them.

"Ah!"

The screams were continuous; one after another, the people from the Black Iron Tribe fell.

"No, Sand Bandit Leader, the Black Iron Tribe is willing to submit, just please spare us."

Watching his tribe get slaughtered one by one, the Black Iron Clan Leader shook all over, yelling out.

"Hahaha...."

The imposing man and several other top sand bandits, indifferent to the Black Iron Clan Leader's plea, instead revealed a mocking and cruel smile.

"Boss, let me go and chop off this boy's head!"

Beside the imposing man, a dark-skinned stout man spoke.

Considering the strength demonstrated by Chen Yu just now, a regular person at the Postnatal Stage definitely couldn't handle it, so he volunteered.

"Go, but don't let him die too easily!"

The imposing man's demeanor was cold.

Chen Yu had killed his son, and he would not let Chen Yu die a peaceful death.

"Don't worry, I will first cut off his limbs, then his head!"

The dark-skinned stout man's eyes showed a bloodthirsty gleam, and he licked the golden-red large blade in his hand.

Chen Yu remained standing in place as if he hadn't heard the conversation of these people. Instead, his eyes were looking towards the three Flame Giant Tigers.

These Flame Giant Tigers should be just ordinary Fire Tigers, but the flames on their bodies were surging unusually powerful, enveloping their entire bodies and appearing very unusual, giving Chen Yu the impression that they were much stronger than regular Fire Tigers.

"Boy, what are you looking at!"

The dark-skinned man leapt from the Flame Giant Tiger, transforming into a dark red whirlwind that swept towards him.

Boom!

A violent burst of Innate True Qi erupted, and his golden-red large blade swung out, creating a net of blade light and fire that covered the sky.

Facing the fierce attack of the dark-skinned man, Chen Yu's arm glinted with ancient bronze patterns, and he forcefully punched out, carrying a black wind Evil Qi.

Boom bang!

Where the black punch passed, the net of blade light and fire in front of him was completely smashed.

"Such powerful Evil Qi!"

The dark-skinned man was taken aback, his True Qi surged, and he swung down again.

Just at that moment, Chen Yu moved; he was incredibly fast, like black lightning.

His hand shot forward rapidly toward the dark-skinned man, grabbing the golden-red large blade in his hand.

"Seeking death!"

The swarthy man coldly shouted.

This kid dared to grab his precious weapon with his bare hands, wasn't that asking for death?

But suddenly,

Chen Yu forcefully exerted his strength, and the swarthy man could no longer hold onto the broadsword in his hand.

Pssht!

The broadsword flew out of his hand and plunged into the yellow earth.

And Chen Yu's palm continued to extend forward.

"No

Feeling the threat of death, the swarthy man's face showed fear.

He finally understood why Chen Yu's expression had been so calm from the beginning—Chen Yu was much stronger than him, and had nothing to worry about.

The swarthy man's face filled with terror, and he immediately retreated, but Chen Yu was faster.

In an instant, Chen Yu grabbed the swarthy man's neck and lifted him up.

Just a single encounter was enough to subdue the swarthy man in the Early Innate stage, startling both sides greatly.

Especially the Black Iron Clan Chief and the three who had just attacked Chen Yu, their hearts trembling violently.

With Chen Yu's strength, killing them just now would have been as easy as flipping his hand.

"This young man... his strength is so formidable!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief was filled with regret.

Had he known earlier, he should have joined forces with Chen Yu to deal with the sand bandits.

Now, they had not only angered the Fire Demon Sand Bandits but also offended this powerful young man—it was a loss indeed.

"Kid, put down my fifth brother!"

The Sand Bandit Leader immediately roared angrily.

The other sand bandits also showed fierce expressions, glaring intensely at Chen Yu.

They had not expected the swarthy man to be defeated so quickly that they couldn't even provide support.

"Put him down?"

Chen Yu sneered.

From the interactions with the sand bandits till now, Chen Yu had realized how ruthless and utterly despicable these bandits were.

There was absolutely no need for mercy.

Crack!

Chen Yu squeezed forcefully, and then tossed the swarthy man's body aside.

Roar!

The swarthy man's Flame Giant Tiger let out a roar, and a scorching wave of air swept around.

A flash of red light, and the Flame Giant Tiger pounced forth, its claws like red-hot steel, aiming for Chen Yu's heart.

"Little beast, ignorant of death!"

Chen Yu chuckled lowly.

Facing the ferocious Flame Giant Tiger, Chen Yu was fearless, attacking proactively with a punch.

Boom!

Chen Yu's punch hit the Flame Giant Tiger's claw, shattering it, and then struck its chest.

"Ah?"

Chen Yu noticed that his casual punch hadn't killed the Flame Giant Tiger.

Before striking, Chen Yu was certain that his punch could kill a Fire Flame Tiger in the Postnatal Late Stage.

But this Fire Flame Tiger was not only physically robust, its defensive power was also incredibly strong, surpassing his expectations.

"Die!"

Chen Yu increased the strength in his fist.

Boom!

The Flame Giant Tiger's chest burst open, creating a massive pit in the ground.

Roar!

It howled miserably, its body flames gradually extinguishing, its robust body abruptly shrinking to a skeletal frame, like a pile of charred charcoal.

The death of the Flame Giant Tiger struck Chen Yu with surprise.

"Hmm?"

Chen Yu's Spiritual Sense suddenly detected something.

Boom!

Chen Yu struck with his palm, creating a strong gust of wind, breaking the charred body of the Flame Giant Tiger to reveal a red crystal, radiating intense flaming power.

"What is this?"

Chen Yu released his True Qi and pulled the red crystal into his hand.

The crystal was somewhat similar to a demonic core but also different, sending a scorching heat into Chen Yu's palm.

Meanwhile,

Inside the pet pouch, the Fire Scale Beast conveyed unusual emotions, seemingly craving for this fiery red crystal.

Elsewhere,

"Rascal, killing my fifth brother, I will make sure you have no resting place in death!"

The Sand Bandit Leader bellowed in rage.

The Sand Bandit Leader and another Early Innate, along with more than a dozen in the Postnatal Late Stage, all rushed at Chen Yu, mere meters away.

This time, the Sand Bandit Leader mobilized all his elite forces to encircle and kill Chen Yu alone, vowing to annihilate him.

Behind them, people from the Black Iron Tribe, their minds trembling, retreated.

Others might see the Sand Bandit Leader and elites all converging to attack, but Chen Yu still stood there unfazed.

At this moment, they all hoped that Chen Yu could kill the Sand Bandit Leader, otherwise the Black Iron Tribe would also be finished.

"So eager to join your fifth brother, then go accompany him in death!"

Chen Yu's face grew stern, placed the fiery red crystal into his storage bag, and took out the "Giant Ruler Sword."

On the vast dark Giant Ruler Sword, a black Sha Qi fierce wind surged, the evil Qi congealing like a phantom Sha Qi Sword.

Boom!

The huge sword swept across, and the terrible black Sha Qi wind, carrying the Sha Qi Sword, howled out, stirring up a staggering torrent.

Boom bang peng!

The Sand Bandit Leader and another Innate Stage were stopped by Chen Yu's sword.

And those at the rear, more than a dozen in the Postnatal Late Stage, were all blown back, simultaneously spewing blood.

Chapter 286 Fire Beast and Fire Core

Boom!

Chen Yu's astonishing sword, like an insurmountable natural moat, stopped all the sand bandits in their tracks.

Except for the Sand Bandit Leader and another Early Innate, the rest were shocked and injured by Chen Yu's sword!

Such a ferocious and violent sword left the Black Iron Tribe and Fire Demon Sand Bandits in shock.

"So powerful!"

Chang Mu was internally shaken and found it hard to believe.

Chen Yu's sword had him subdued and increased his admiration.

Yan Qin also covered her mouth in surprise, astounded by Chen Yu's sword.

"Impossible... how can this kid be so strong!"

The sand bandit leader finally showed a hint of panic.

"Bring people to me, surround and kill this boy!"

Another Early Innate immediately shouted.

With so many people on their side, were they still afraid of just this one boy?

Moreover, apart from the sand bandits, they also had spirit pets.

"Heh heh, capture the king first if you want to catch the thieves!"

Chen Yu chuckled lightly and darted out.

The sand bandits were too numerous here, and if Chen Yu got caught in a group fight, it would be troublesome.

Hence, killing the Sand Bandit Leader first made everything else easier.

"Humph!"

The Sand Bandit Leader grunted angrily.

As an Innate Middle Stage, he could not stand being provoked by a Postnatal Stage.

The leader roared and pulled out a black long halberd, unleashing a scorching black current.

Facing an Innate Middle Stage, Chen Yu did not take it lightly anymore, mobilizing the Evil Qi and wielding the Giant Ruler Sword to clash with him.

Boom bang bang!

Centering on the two of them, a black wind and hot wave wildly swept out.

The weaker sand bandits couldn't even participate in their battle.

"This Sand Bandit Leader is quite strong!"

Chen Yu silently noted.

To become a Sand Bandit Leader, the battles he must have experienced were numerous, and at the same level, his strength was in no way inferior to the genius students of the No Demon Academy.

"You little rabbit, die!"

That Early Innate strongman, along with several Postnatal Late Stage, simultaneously launched an attack, assisting the leader.

Buzz!

Seeing this, Chen Yu pushed his Copper Statue Gang Body to the limit, making the invisible gang force field around his body hard and thick.

Boom bang bang!

All attacks that came close to Chen Yu's body were shattered by the gang force field.

Only that Early Innate sand bandit broke through the gang force field and struck Chen Yu.

Ding dang!

Chen Yu was prepared, relying on the beast skin armor and his body's defense to take the hit.

"What

"Impenetrable to sword and spear!"

The sand bandits were instantly dumbfounded.

Having withstood the attacks of many sand bandits, the Evil Qi surged around the Giant Ruler Sword in Chen Yu's hands.

"Sword that Shocks the Heavens!"

Chen Yu swung the Giant Ruler Sword, executing a move from the Shocking Evil Sword Technique.

Boom!

A sword slashed horizontally, as if a giant sword descended from the sky, causing the surrounding wind and dust to scatter.

This sword was extremely astonishing, with its Evil Qi rising to the sky.

Before the sword landed, the leader felt as if a phantom Evil Qi Sword had struck his mind, shocking him.

"Ah!"

The leader screamed, his black long halberd emitting a black heat flow in a sudden rush.

Boom bang!

Chen Yu's astonishing sword descended mightily, dispersing all the black heat flow.

With one sword strike, the sand bandit leader was blown away by four or five zhangs.

Poof!

The sand bandit leader spewed out a mouthful of fresh blood, then roared furiously, “What are you waiting for, kill, kill him together!”

"I'll kill you first!"

Chen Yu erupted with body strength, combined with True Qi, and executed the Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow.

Roar~

With a howl of furious wind, Chen Yu's figure instantly rushed forward, and the next moment, he was in front of the Sand Bandit Leader.

"So fast!"

The leader's expression turned stern, Chen Yu's arrival was too quick, throwing him into chaos.

"Kill!"

Chen Yu mobilized the Evil Qi, fully operating the Giant Ruler Sword.

Boom!

An extremely terrifying aura burst forth from Chen Yu's body, the black evil wind around the Giant Ruler Sword getting thicker and spinning rapidly.

In an instant, the Evil Qi on the Giant Ruler Sword condensed into a Sword of Evil Qi, more solid than before.

At this moment, Chen Yu's Shocking Evil Sword Technique had reached the Small Success Realm.

Thump thump!

His heart bursting, Chen Yu launched his strongest sword attack.

"No

The sand bandit leader showed an expression of terror.

He crazily mobilized his True Qi, waving his long halberd and creating layers of black heat waves to defend himself.

Boom sizzle!

Chen Yu's sword swept out, directly cutting a gap in the black enticing waves.

The Sword of Evil Qi on the Giant Ruler Sword acted first, striking the leader's psyche.

Then, that unstoppable sword swept across!

Affected by the Sword of Evil Qi, the leader reacted half a beat too slowly, despite deploying defensive measures in time.

Ding dang!

The leader's black long halberd was swept away by Chen Yu's sword.

Poof!

The sword light continued to trace across, and blood splattered as the Sand Bandit Leader's head rolled a few meters away.

"Leader!"

"Impossible... the leader is dead!"

The sand bandits were horrified.

The leader, being the strongest among them with Innate Middle Stage cultivation, how could he be killed?

"Quick, retreat, this kid is impervious to swords and spears, and he killed the leader!"

That Early Innate sand bandit immediately shouted.

With the Sand Bandit Leader dead, how could someone in the Early Innate Stage possibly be a match for Chen Yu?

"Humph, since you've come, don't be in such a hurry to leave!"

Chen Yu snorted softly, a smile appearing on his face.

After dealing with the Sand Bandit Leader, the bandits were like a dragon without a head, their combat strength greatly reduced.

Of course, in order to kill the Sand Bandit Leader, he had gone all out, except for not revealing some of his trump cards.

Boom!

Chen Yu first targeted the Sand Bandit Leader's mount.

The sand bandits knew fear and fled, but this Flame Giant Tiger, with its low intelligence, was slow to react.

"Die!"

Chen Yu, holding the Giant Ruler Sword, thrust it toward the Flame Giant Tiger.

Boom hiss!

Holding the giant sword, he was like a black gust of wind, passing through with a whoosh.

Boom bang!

The body of the Flame Giant Tiger was sliced open, fierce flames erupting from within as its entire body exploded, turning into a pile of charred bones.

Atop the charred bones, a red crystal stood out conspicuously.

After taking it, Chen Yu continued to pursue the other sand bandits.

Those sand bandits in the Late Postnatal Stage all had storage bags, and inside there were high-quality ores and many years' worth of precious materials.

"Die!"

Chen Yu moved like the wind, instantly appearing behind a Postnatal sand bandit.

Puchi!

With one sweep of his sword, the sand bandit's body was split open.

Along with it, the giant wolf beneath him was also killed by the residual force of Chen Yu's giant sword.

After taking the storage bag, Chen Yu noticed that unlike the Flame Fierce Tiger, this Demon Wolf did not turn into charred remains after death; its body contained a regular demon core.

Chen Yu was somewhat curious, but he did not dwell on it and continued his slaughter.

"Run quickly!"

Seeing this, the sand bandits who had previously been slaughtering the people of the Black Iron Tribe all started to flee.

The Black Iron Tribe suffered heavy casualties and furiously fought back.

After a brief melee, dozens of sand bandits were dead or injured, and the rest fled.

Swoosh!

After killing another sand bandit, Chen Yu stopped his pursuit.

By now, the sand bandits had almost completely escaped.

After all, he was just one man and couldn't possibly wipe out all two hundred-plus sand bandits, especially since they had mounts.

"Brave warrior, the Black Iron Tribe has no way to repay you for saving our lives!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief immediately bowed deeply, speaking respectfully.

This young man had killed even the mighty leader of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, his formidable strength was there for all to see.

Moreover, considering their prior actions of betraying Chen Yu, they were now full of fear and worry, afraid that Chen Yu might seek revenge.

Chen Yu snorted coldly and did not reply.

The recent actions of the Black Iron Clan Chief had greatly disappointed him.

That was why, when the Fire Demon Sand Bandits were slaughtering the Black Iron Tribe, he did not intervene; this was a lesson for the Black Iron Tribe.

Later, when the Fire Demon Sand Bandits directly attacked Chen Yu, he had officially taken action.

"Thank you, Brother Chen!"

Yan Qin was extremely grateful.

"What is this thing?"

Chen Yu asked, taking out a red crystal.

Before coming here, he had only briefly glanced at the information on the Red Earth World and didn't know much.

"This is a 'Fire Core' from inside the 'Fire Beast.' Unlike a regular demon core, this core contains pure fire elemental strength and can even be directly absorbed by Fire Dao Practitioners to enhance their own strength!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief immediately explained, his eyes gleaming as he looked at the Fire Core.

"Oh? What is a 'Fire Beast'?"

Chen Yu asked again.

"A long time ago, Fire Beasts already existed in the Red Earth World, though they were quite rare. Recently, however, Fire Beasts have appeared more frequently, and these beasts, very powerful and usually moving in groups, have killed many tribal people. Unexpectedly, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits managed to tame the Fire Beasts!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief said, sighing.

According to the Chief, those beasts, surrounded by flames and far surpassing their peers in strength, were the "Fire Beasts."

The specifics about Fire Beasts were unclear to them, but they knew that the Fire Core was extremely precious and could quickly enhance strength, something everyone desired.

However, Fire Beasts usually appeared in groups, making them very difficult to hunt.

Not long ago, a small tribe on the outskirts was trampled by a group of Fire Beasts.

"Where can these Fire Beasts be found?"

Chen Yu asked.

He could feel the uniqueness of the Fire Core, and inside his spirit pet bag, the Fire Scale Beast also desired the Fire Core greatly.

Chen Yu was thinking that if he could bring this item back to the academy, it should be quite valuable. If he could get more, it would solve his resource scarcity issue.

"Fire Beasts are found on the outskirts, near some volcanoes where they are most numerous. Furthermore, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits have managed to tame Fire Beasts, so they likely know more!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief thought for a while before speaking.

"Oh? Fire Demon Sand Bandits?"

Chen Yu pondered for a moment.

The Fire Beasts were in the gobi deserts on the outskirts of the green lands, and the Fire Demon Sand Bandits also resided on the outskirts—it was indeed possible that the Fire Demon Sand Bandits knew more.

"Alright, then I'll go take a stroll at the lair of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits!"

Chen Yu immediately said.

With the leader of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits already killed, there was nothing to fear.

And inside the lair of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits, there must be treasures galore, perhaps even more of these Fire Beasts.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu leaped up and mounted a red fiery horse.

The sand bandits hadn't fled long ago, and Chen Yu could follow their tracks and catch up with them.

Clang clang!

His iron hooves vibrated as Chen Yu rode off.

"Brother Chen, be careful!"

Watching Chen Yu depart, Yan Qin called out.

"Clan Leader, Chen Yu is heading toward the lair of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits. Should we also go there?"

Chang Mu clenched his fists, his relatives having just been killed by the bandits.

"No need, if I'm not wrong, this group of sand bandits is just one outpost of the entire Fire Demon Sand Bandits. It's not necessary for us to risk it!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief solemnly said.

At its peak, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits were an extremely large force, only controllable by the most powerful "High Mountain Tribe." Moreover, the original base of the Fire Demon Sand Bandits wasn't here, so the Black Iron Clan Chief speculated that the nearby Fire Demon Sand Bandits were just one of their outposts.

Hearing this, the others felt a chill in their spirits.

Just one outpost had left them powerless, and if not for Chen Yu, perhaps the entire tribe would no longer exist.

"Could it be that the Fire Demon Sand Bandits are preparing to rise again?"

Chang Mu couldn't help but think.

"Isn't Brother Chen then in danger?"

Yan Qin was somewhat worried.

"This is beyond our control, I must quickly pass this news to the other major tribes!"

The Black Iron Clan Chief's expression was calm as he walked back to the stone fortress.

Chapter 287 Magical Effects

After leaving the Black Iron Tribe, Chen Yu pursued the trail left by the retreating Fire Demon Sand Bandits.

Along the way, Chen Yu released the Fire Scale Beast from its pet bag.

The Fire Scale Beast, now at the Mid-Stage of Organ Refining with its ancient beast constitution, was not slower than the spirited horse that Chen Yu was riding.

"Here, for you."

Chen Yu took out a Fire Core from his storage bag.

According to the Black Iron Clan Chief, Fire Cores could be directly absorbed by Fire Dao Practitioners to enhance their own strength.

Usually, materials or Elixirs that could directly enhance strength should not be consumed in excess, as it would affect one's potential in the future.

Chen Yu, not being a Fire Dao Practitioner, could not confirm the effects and characteristics of the Fire Core, so he let the Fire Scale Beast try it.

Moreover, the Fire Scale Beast itself was extremely eager for the Fire Core.

Ao ao!

The Fire Scale Beast showed a look of craving, leaped up, and swallowed the fiery red crystal into its belly.

The Fire Core shattered, and a surge of pure and immense fiery energy exploded within the Fire Scale Beast, with a few flames spouting out from the crevices of its mouth.

Ao!

The Fire Scale Beast expressed a feeling of excitement and relief with a howl.

Its transparent body was filled with flashing red light, emitting intense heat all over.

"This quickly? The strength has improved a lot, approaching the Late Stage of Organ Refining!"

Chen Yu was greatly surprised.

The Fire Scale Beast's rate of cultivation growth was incredibly fast, with immediate effects; a single Fire Core had brought it within a step's reach of the Late Stage of Organ Refining.

But then again, this Fire Core was from a Postnatal Late Stage Fire Beast.

After a moment, the Fire Scale Beast had nearly absorbed the energy of the Fire Core, and its body had slightly inflated.

Ao ao!

The Fire Scale Beast looked at Chen Yu with a pleasing and eager expression.

"Could this thing really have no side effects?"

Chen Yu was very curious, but he could not verify the effects of the Fire Core himself.

So, he fed the second Fire Core to the Fire Scale Beast as well.

Boom!

After swallowing the Fire Core, a loud roar resounded inside the Fire Scale Beast, and a powerful aura of flame, along with the ancient beast's imposing pressure, spread out.

The Fire Scale Beast broke through to the Late Stage of Organ Refining!

Having consumed two high-level Fire Cores in succession, and with the second one still not fully digested, the Fire Scale Beast did not beg for more.

Additionally, Chen Yu only had two.

Chen Yu released his Spiritual Sense, carefully examining the Fire Scale Beast, but found no anomalies.

"These Fire Cores are truly miraculous, able to rapidly enhance the strength of Fire Dao Practitioners and fire-related Demon Beasts without much side effects. If I had a large number of Fire Cores, I could enhance the strength of the Fire Scale Beast in a short period of time."

Chen Yu's face showed a delighted expression.

The growth of an ancient beast required consuming a vast amount of precious resources, something even smaller families could ill-afford.

For one person to raise an ancient beast, they would likely end up so poor they wouldn't have clothes to wear.

But now, Chen Yu had found a treasure that could directly enhance the strength of the Fire Scale Beast.

"Go!"

Chen Yu shouted, and the spirited horse he was riding picked up speed.

Before long, Chen Yu saw the silhouettes of the sand bandits ahead.

...

In the desolate Gobi, there was a band of sand bandits numbering less than a hundred.

At this moment, only one Innate-stage sand bandit remained in the group.

"Damn it, how could there be such a powerful person in the Black Iron Tribe!"

The bald man on the Flame Giant Tiger cursed loudly.

"Fourth Boss, the head boss has died, what should we do?"

One of the sand bandits looked worried.

"What can we do? We have to quickly enhance our strength, in the near future raid other places, plunder resources, and at the same time expand our numbers!"

The Fourth Boss's expression was grim, his eyes flashing with a fierce light.

"Fourth Boss, that young man in beast skin armor

One of the sand bandits exclaimed in terror.

"Don't mention him to me!"

The Fourth Boss shouted angrily.

Thinking of Chen Yu, he shuddered in fear; if he hadn't run fast, he would have likely become a soul under Chen Yu's sword by now.

"Fourth Boss, that young man in beast skin armor is coming after us!"

The sand bandit finished his sentence.

"What? This damned... Run for it!"

The Fourth Boss got a jolt, smacking the Flame Giant Tiger beneath him.

Boom boom boom!

The entire band of sand bandits, as if seeing a demon, sped up their retreat with all their might.

If other tribes were to witness this scene, they would be shocked; the notorious Fire Demon Sand Bandits, being chased by a young man.

"Hehe, no rush!"

Chen Yu chuckled and increased his speed.

He still needed this group of sand bandits to lead him to their lair.

But although Chen Yu wasn't in a hurry, his Fire Scale Beast was.

Ao ao!

The Fire Scale Beast, eyeing the Flame Giant Tiger the Fourth Boss was riding, let out a low growl, and its speed suddenly surged.

"Is this... an ancient beast?"

The Fourth Boss saw the Fire Scale Beast and was utterly astonished.

In the Red Earth World, ancient beasts were extremely rare, and a fire-type ancient beast in such an environment had an even more terrifying strength.

Boom!

The Fire Scale Beast's belly inflated as it brewed for a while before suddenly spitting out a blazing hot fireball, striking directly at the Fourth Boss's mount.

That Flame Giant Tiger, at the Postnatal Middle Stage, didn't take the Fire Scale Beast's attack seriously.

However.

Boom! The fireball hit and instantly exploded, its power surpassing an ordinary Postnatal Early Stage, causing burns to the legs of the Flame Giant Tiger.

As a result, its speed slowed down.

At the same time, the exploding fireball also affected the nearby sand bandits, either being burnt or falling off their horses.

"Hehe, leave this to me!"

Seeing the Fire Scale Beast taking the initiative to attack, Chen Yu would not miss this opportunity; the speed of the spirited horse he rode suddenly increased.

"Spare me, warrior, spare me, I'll agree to anything you want!"

Seeing Chen Yu approaching, the Fourth Boss trembled all over, immediately begging for mercy.

"Your life, I cannot spare!"

Chen Yu's gaze was cold and resolute.

This group of sand bandits had committed countless evils, keeping them alive would only be a curse to others.

Roar!

Chen Yu stood on the spirited horse, a black evil wind burst around him, his figure suddenly shot forward, and that terrifying power made the horse collapse on the spot.

Utilizing “Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow,” Chen Yu’s speed doubled, transforming him into a streak of black lightning. His burst of speed far surpassed the Flame Giant Tiger, rapidly closing in on the fourth elder.

"No!"

The fourth elder’s scream was laced with terror.

Having just escaped death’s grasp, he hadn’t expected it to come knocking again so swiftly.

Boom!

Chen Yu’s Giant Ruler Sword, carried on a ferocious gale imbued with Evil Qi, swept across mercilessly.

Blood splattered in all directions, and a head was sent flying.

Puff!

After seizing the storage pouch, Chen Yu kicked the corpse away with a single blow.

Roar!

The fourth elder’s Flame Giant Tiger, with a fierce and terrifying visage, pounced toward Chen Yu in the air.

"Die for me!"

Chen Yu activated his Copper Statue Gang Body, morphing into a resplendent copper Buddha, and forcefully sat down.

Bang!

The entire Flame Giant Tiger was pinned to the ground by Chen Yu, and despite the intense flames covering its body, they couldn't harm him in the slightest.

With one sweep of his sword, the Flame Giant Tiger breathed its last, its body exploding into pieces and turning into a heap of char.

Extracting a fire core from the remnants, Chen Yu dashed away, claiming the life of a sand bandit amongst the thunderous chaos and snatching a fiery steed.

"The fourth elder!"

"The fourth elder is dead too, run for it!"

The death of the fourth elder threw the band of sand bandits into further disarray, causing them to flee in haste.

Chen Yu was not in a hurry; he placed the Fire Scale Beast into his pet bag and followed behind.

In less than half a day.

Not far ahead of the sand bandits, there was a stockade connected to a high slope.

"Is that the sand bandit stronghold ahead?"

Chen Yu's lips curled slightly upward.

"Eh? Something's off!"

Chen Yu's senses were extremely keen, allowing him to see farther.

Moreover, his heart sensed a chaotic and powerful surge of True Qi within the bandit stronghold, indicating an ongoing battle.

Within the mountain stronghold.

Chaos reigned, with many sand bandit corpses littering the ground.

Boom, bang, puff!

Two Innate Stage sand bandits, along with nearly ten Postnatal Stage bandits, were embroiled in combat with two young men.

"Haha, Brother Bei Ling, these sand bandits aren't half-bad!"

A young man clad in black laughed as he fought against nearly ten Postnatal Stage sand bandits, maintaining the upper hand.

The other youth, dressed in white, was nonchalantly dealing with two Innate Stage bandits, as if he were merely playing.

"The sand bandits are returning, let's finish these off quickly!"

The youth in white noticed something and immediately spoke.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Tiny stars flickered on the white-clad young man's body, and his figure vanished in a blink, causing the two Innate Stage bandits to grasp at thin air.

Swoosh!

The young man clad in flowing white garments appeared behind them.

"Earth Star Finger!"

He pointed, and white starlight instantly coalesced at his fingertip, transforming into a dazzling starburst that shot forward ferociously.

Plop! Plop!

The bodies of the two Innate Stage sand bandits were penetrated, hurtling several yards away before succumbing to death.

The youth in white turned to the two Flame Giant Tigers next.

Without a word, he pointed twice.

Bang, bang!

Two starlight orbs exploded on the Flame Giant Tigers, blasting them away.

The bodies of the Flame Giant Tigers exploded, turning into char, with a red crystal encapsulated within.

"Eh? What's this?"

The youth in white reached out and grasped the crystal in his hand.

"Brother Bei Ling, stop daydreaming, let's wipe out these sand bandits and all the treasures here will be ours!"

The youth in black called out.

"Alright!"

The youth in white looked toward the returning sand bandits, his eyes cold, and he swept forth.

He was like a shooting star, moving with incredible speed, cutting off the return path of the sand bandits.

Whizz, whizz, whizz!

Starlight flashed, and it was impossible to see his movements as countless finger beams shot out, bringing down one sand bandit after another.

"The last one, die!"

The youth in white looked toward the last member of the sand bandit group, a young man in beast skin armor, pointing once before confidently turning away, as if he was certain of Chen Yu's impending death.

Clink!

Chen Yu drew his Giant Ruler Sword, blocking the rapid attack of the youth in white.

"Eh?"

The youth in white was slightly surprised; this seemingly unremarkable sand bandit could actually block his attack.

"Die!"

The youth in white's expression hardened, and he pointed again.

This time, the light was more intense, and it arrived in an instant, with enough force to kill an Early Innate.

"Again?"

Chen Yu was enraged.

He realized the young man in white was not a sand bandit, yet he had mistaken Chen Yu for one. Despite his failure to succeed with his first attack, he did not hesitate to launch another without a word.

Boom!

With a swing of his sword, the starlight finger beam was devoured by a whirlwind of dark Evil Qi.

"Oh? Interesting, you must be the head of these sand bandits."

The youth in white looked at Chen Yu, his interest piqued at last.

The two Innate Stage sand bandits had previously threatened him, claiming that if their leader had not been away, he would have faced certain death.

"Do I really look that much like a sand bandit?"

Chen Yu was quite annoyed, "Hand over that crystal you just obtained!"

Not only had the youth attempted to kill him, but he had also insulted Chen Yu.

Even if the youth in white was not a sand bandit, he would have to pay a price.

...

Behind the mountain stronghold, a massive passage led underground.

"Damn it, who are they? How did they make it here?"

A gaunt old man with a cane flashed a gleam of red fury in his eyes.

"If this continues, the secret of this place will be revealed. Since it has come to this, might as well release the Fire Beasts and kill them all!"

The gaunt old man's face was shadowed with a menacing intent to kill.

Chapter 288: Joint Counterattack

"Hand over the crystal you just got!"

Chen Yu's expression was slightly grim as he spoke forcefully.

Not only did this guy want to kill him, but he also insulted him; Chen Yu wouldn't let him off lightly.

"You Sand Bandit Leader care not for the lives of your bandits but covet that thing!"

The youth in white sneered.

"Idiot, seeking death!"

Chen Yu was completely enraged. His figure leapt forward, his Giant Ruler Sword carrying a pitch-black Evil Qi, descending upon the youth.

At this moment, the imposing manner Chen Yu burst forth with made the youth in white a bit moved.

"You're calling me an idiot?"

The youth's handsome face turned cold.

As a member of the Fu Family, one of the four great super families, with shocking talent and looks that could be considered beautiful, he had never been called an idiot before.

Swoosh!

The youth in white's figure dashed forward, his fingertips twinkling with starlight, condensing into a huge white star.

Whoosh-bang!

The white star shot out, striking the Giant Ruler Sword carried by Chen Yu, causing it to tremble violently as the Evil Qi dispersed.

But Chen Yu's momentum was heavy and powerful, and his sword whistled down.

The youth in white frowned slightly, his figure shimmering with a faint light, evading the sword.

"That's a strong attack!"

Chen Yu's face turned solemn.

The youth in white had reached the Innate Middle Stage, a completely different level compared to the previous Leader.

On the other side, the youth in white was even more shocked.

With his strength, ordinary Early Innates could be easily crushed, and he could handle a typical Innate Middle Stage for only a few moves, and he even had the feats of slaying Late Innates.

But now this Postnatal Late Stage teenager was able to block his hit and counterattack.

However, none of that mattered.

This kid had just called him an idiot; he was determined to kill him.

Swoosh-swoosh!

The youth in white flashed behind Chen Yu and rapidly pointed his finger.

The whole attack was incredibly fast.

Roar!

Chen Yu didn't hold back either, using "Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow", vanishing in a flash.

The youth in white's attack missed, and he pressed in once again.

After evading the strike, Chen Yu swiftly turned around, attacking the youth in white.

Boom-bang!

The black wind of Evil Qi clashed with the points of starlight, a terrible storm sweeping across.

Thump-thump!

The youth in white took five or six steps back before stopping.

Chen Yu, however, only retreated three steps.

After all, in close combat, Chen Yu held the advantage, not to mention the weapon in his hand was extremely heavy, naturally putting the youth in white at a disadvantage.

Inside the stronghold.

A youth in black witnessed this scene, his mouth agape in disbelief: "Who is this kid, that he can block Brother Bei Ling?"

Fu Beiling, the top new student of Sky Star Academy for the past three years, given time, would surely compete with the academy's top prodigies.

Yet such a powerful person as Fu Beiling was being blocked by a Postnatal Late Stage youngster, which made the youth in black question whether he was seeing things.

"Kid, you're not bad, but if I want to kill you, you're undoubtedly going to die!"

The youth in white, "Fu Beiling," had a deep look on his face.

He had been too careless just now, engaging in close combat with Chen Yu and suffering for it.

If he were to strike with all his might, even if Chen Yu were formidable, he would definitely die.

"Heh, all talk!"

Chen Yu mocked.

"Die!"

Fu Beiling's eyes flashed coldly, ready to strike.

Yet suddenly, he sensed an extraordinarily tremendous and massive power of fire from deep within the stronghold.

Chen Yu also noticed this, his expression wary.

Roar-roar-roar!

Within the stronghold, continued roaring as a wave of scorching air swept out.

Amidst the fiery red airflow, a Fire Rat Beast shrouded in flames suddenly burst forth, followed by a Fire Fierce Horse, a Fiery Flame Leopard...

One fierce beast after another rushed out. Their bodies emitted blazing flames, and at first glance, it looked like an ocean of fire.

"What is this?"

Fu Beiling was slightly stunned.

What was the deal with these bizarre beasts, and why were they hiding in a sand bandit lair?

As for Chen Yu.

"Fire Beasts!"

Chen Yu's eyes lit up.

Every Fire Beast was equivalent to a fire core; if he obtained all of them, their value was unimaginable.

Although Chen Yu coveted the fire cores, he remained rational.

Most of the Fire Beasts here were of low level, but their numbers were truly large. If they attacked together, it could be considered a small wave of beast tide.

Roar-roar-roar~

One after another, the Fire Beasts, as if crazed, flew out.

"Save me, Brother Bei Ling!"

The shivering youth in black, faced with the Fire Beasts, showed a look of terror.

He was fighting in the stronghold, too close to the Fire Beasts.

"Go, Fire Bone Bird!"

Fu Beiling released a Spirit Pet from his storage bag.

Swoosh!

A two-meter-long Fire Bird flew out with visible bone structures on its fiery wings, emitting a fire aura of the Innate period.

The Fire Bone Bird was incredibly fast, flew over the youth in black, grabbed him, and flew back.

Among the Fire Beasts, there were flying creatures, but none were as fast as the Fire Bone Bird.

"Brother Bei Ling, let's go!"

The youth in black wore a wary face.

How could there be so many Fire Beasts hidden in this sand bandit lair?

"Let's go!"

Fu Beiling looked at Chen Yu and chose to retreat.

If Chen Yu, the Leader, and so many Fire Beasts were to attack them, they really wouldn't be able to handle it.

"Hey, don't go, ah!"

Chen Yu called out.

He needed a large number of fire cores, but alone, he couldn't withstand such a vast herd of beasts.

These two were strong; if they cooperated, they might win.

"We're leaving, and you can't stop us!"

Fu Beiling still mistook Chen Yu for the Sand Bandit Leader and coldly shouted.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Fu Beiling and the man in black swiftly retreated.

Helplessly, Chen Yu could only retreat as well.

Behind them, the torrential Fire Beasts chased for a long while before slowly withdrawing.

Underground.

"Damn it, these people are too fast. Merely deploying these Fire Beasts is not enough to kill them!"

The gaunt old man's face was overcast.

"The matter has been exposed, we must notify 'Lord Gao' immediately!"

The gaunt old man raised the staff in his hand, its dark red mysterious light flickering, emitting strange soul fluctuations, transmitting towards the far unknown.

"Lord, this place has been discovered by others. Although I deployed the Fire Beasts to drive them away, I fear our secret has been exposed!"

The gaunt old man spoke to the ghostly fire atop the staff.

Huff! Huff!

The firelight flickered, and not long after, a hoarse voice came out, tinged with a bit of anger, "Didn't I tell you all to act low-key? With so many sand bandits and Fire Beasts, how could you be driven to this point?"

"I don't know either. The three individuals are extremely powerful; at their level, both the sand bandits and Fire Beasts are no match for them!"

The gaunt old man said with sincere fear.

"Oh? Just three people?"

The hoarse voice sounded surprised, and after a moment's contemplation, it huffed coldly, "Humph, they must be outsiders. Another stronghold has also been discovered by a group of outsiders!"

"Outsiders?"

The gaunt old man's complexion showed a slight shock, pondered for a moment, nodded in agreement, and showed a fierce expression.

Occasionally, some outsiders would enter the Red Earth World, and their strength was not weak.

"These damn outsiders, recklessly entering our world to plunder resources, yet they don't allow us into their world!"

The gaunt old man's hands trembled, and his teeth clicked angrily.

"Hehe, this is precisely our goal," the hoarse voice laughed.

Hearing this, the gaunt old man's face brightened, showing a look of yearning.

"Since we have been discovered, perhaps we should move our plan forward a bit!"

The hoarse voice continued to speak.

...

On the Gobi desert.

Chen Yu closely pursued Fu Beiling and the other man.

"Kid, are you seeking death?"

Fu Beiling glared fiercely at Chen Yu.

With the sand bandits and Fire Beasts all retreating, what could Chen Yu possibly want by pursuing them alone?

"Wait, you must be from one of the four major academies!"

Chen Yu spoke up with a question.

These two didn't seem like natives here, and they also fought with sand bandits. They were both extremely strong, prompting Chen Yu to consider the possibility of them being outsiders.

Perhaps other academies in Yun Zhao Country also had methods to send students into the Red Earth Secret Realm.

"How did you know?"

Fu Beiling and the man in black appeared slightly surprised but then relaxed.

It would be difficult for a native to guess their identity, but it was much simpler for another outsider.

Fu Beiling's expression turned slightly unnatural, as he had initially mistaken Chen Yu for the leader of the sand bandits.

"Are you from No Demon Academy?"

Fu Beiling looked towards Chen Yu.

The Cultivation Technique Chen Yu had used earlier was of the Evil Qi path, and among the four major academies, only No Demon Academy was most proficient in this field.

But how was it he did not know when No Demon Academy had produced such a character?

"I have a business proposition, I wonder if you two are interested?"

After revealing his identity, Chen Yu stated his purpose.

"Speak."

Fu Beiling said succinctly.

They were all here for an adventure in the Red Earth World. It was possible that Chen Yu had discovered some treasure site. Lacking the strength alone, he might need their help, which was normal.

"Don't you find that sand bandit hideout strange? Why keep so many Fire Beasts?"

Chen Yu asked again.

Fu Beiling and the man in black nodded.

How could a den of sand bandits have so many strange fierce beasts? This was indeed very suspicious.

"I suspect there must be some treasure in this sand bandit hideout, so I suggest we three join forces and fight our way back!"

Chen Yu put forth his business proposal.

"Oh, how will the treasure be divided then?"

Fu Beiling inquired.

He had exchanged blows with Chen Yu and acknowledged his strength; cooperation was no problem.

But the biggest difficulty in cooperation was the division of resources, which had to be discussed beforehand.

"You two will take sixty percent, and I will take forty percent if there's treasure in the sand bandit hideout!"

Chen Yu replied seriously.

"Why should we two only take sixty percent?"

The man in black was dissatisfied.

After some argument, Chen Yu appeared to make a significant concession, "You two take seventy percent, and I'll take thirty percent, okay?"

Fu Beiling and the man in black then nodded their heads, content.

Afterward, the three devised a battle plan.

"Those Fire Beasts only attack us and spare the sand bandits, which proves someone is controlling them from behind. Therefore, I and this brother will be responsible for distracting the Fire Beasts. I'll leave it to Fu Datian to dive into the tiger's den and deal with the people lurking in the shadows!"

Chen Yu laid out his plan.

According to the agreement, since Fu Beiling and the man in black were to take seventy percent of the profits, the task of diving into the tiger's den was left to them.

"Fine!"

Fu Beiling nodded.

He believed this task was naturally suited for the strongest among them.

Furthermore, the treasure here must definitely be hidden in that cave; he didn't feel comfortable entrusting Chen Yu with this task.

Students from No Demon Academy were notoriously ruthless and cunning, with many tricks up their sleeves. He worried that Chen Yu might conceal or embezzle the treasure.

The plan was set.

That night, the three stealthily approached the sand bandit den.

Swoosh!

A dark blue-black dot flew swiftly through the night, piercing the necks of two guards.

The poison spread, and the guards fell dead.

At the same time, Chen Yu and the man in black quickly approached, scaling the high walls.

"Enemy attack!"

"Enemy Raiders!"

Inside the stronghold, shadows moved and firelight flickered, spreading a sense of panic.

In a tunnel behind the fortress.

"These outsiders dare to come back; so be it, let them stay here!"

The gaunt old man was livid with anger but soon showed a ruthless expression.

Chapter 289: Wanton Looting

"Enemy attack!"

Inside the bandit stronghold, the Fire Demon Sand Bandits were thrown into chaos.

In recent days, all five Innate-stage bandits had been killed, casting a shadow of fear over the hearts of the remaining bandits.

At this moment, a sudden enemy attack threw the Fire Demon Sand Bandits into greater terror and panic.

"Kill!"

The moment Chen Yu charged in, he turned into a ferocious beast, covering a distance of several meters in a bound.

Boom thump crash!

Wherever he passed, men and horses were sent flying, and the screams were endless.

Below the Innate stage, practically none could inflict any damage on Chen Yu, and exploiting the advantage of his movement technique and bodily strength, he was unstoppable like a human-shaped beast.

"This guy, he's practically inhuman!"

The youth in black felt a shock in his heart after witnessing Chen Yu's display.

"Radiant Light Fist!"

In front of the No Demon Academy students, the youth in black showed no weakness and unleashed his formidable combat skill.

His fists flickered with a white glow, like the most dazzling star in the night, the brightness causing pain to the eyes of onlookers.

Boom thump!

A dazzling punch burst forth, like a falling star.

An explosion left a huge pit on the spot, several bandits were blasted away, their bodies shattered and scattered aside.

Having lost their Innate-stage strength, the bandits were simply unable to affect Chen Yu and the youth in black at all.

However, at that moment, both of them revealed grave expressions.

Whir buzz!

From behind the stronghold, a strong wave of power pulsated, giving off a scorching and sinister glow.

Roars and growls~

Accompanied by endless roars and growls, a group of Fire Beasts charged out as if treading over an ocean of fire, their vicious and malicious eyes promising onslaught.

"The climax begins!"

Chen Yu's expression grew serious, a bright light flickering in his eyes.

On the other side, the youth in black also took a deep breath, his expression exceedingly solemn.

According to the plan, the two of them were to fend off the entire horde of Fire Beasts.

Fortunately, Fu Beiling had lent his Spirit Pet, the Fire Bone Bird, to the youth in black, or else he would've felt hesitant to take on this task.

Roars and growls~

The Fire Beasts came crashing through with tremendous ferocity.

The youth in black's body trembled slightly, feeling somewhat unnerved, having lost in terms of momentum to the horde of Fire Beasts.

In contrast, Chen Yu...

"Kill!"

With a low shout, he drew out the Giant Ruler Sword, gathered his strength, and gave a fierce swing.

Whoosh boom!

An astounding and massive Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow swept out, its terrifying power nearing the level of an Innate Middle Stage.

Most of the Fire Beasts in the group had relatively lower cultivation levels.

With this one strike from Chen Yu, like an autumn breeze sweeping away fallen leaves, he instantly annihilated more than a dozen Fire Beasts.

"This guy!"

Seeing Chen Yu so fearless and even exhilarated, the youth in black felt somewhat ashamed.

Immediately, he displayed his movement technique, his fists glittering with Radiant Light as he met the oncoming Fire Beasts.

Meanwhile, in the sky, the Fire Bone Bird dove into the fray like a brilliant flame, taking on the airborne Fire Beasts on its own.

Comparatively, the avian Fire Beasts were fewer in number, and the Fire Bone Bird was more than capable of handling them.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

While the two of them confronted the horde of Fire Beasts, with speed difficult to capture, Fu Beiling swiftly bypassed them and entered the cave.

"Ha ha, so many Fire Cores!"

With one sword strike that wiped out more than a dozen Fire Beasts, an excited Chen Yu quickly collected the Fire Cores.

Although these Fire Beasts had low levels and the quality of the Fire Cores was not high, they were numerous.

Still, there were Fire Cores that Chen Yu didn't have time to pick up.

Other Fire Beasts quickly devoured these Fire Cores, undergoing a kind of transformation and growing in strength.

It made sense, after all, if humans could improve their own strength with Fire Cores, Fire Beasts naturally could too.

Roar!

A tremendous roar resounded, and among the crowd of Fire Beasts, a red glow flashed as a fierce cheetah burst forth, its aura reaching the Innate level.

And among beasts of the same rank, the strength of a Fire Beast far surpassed an ordinary Demon Beast.

The red light flickered, and the cheetah arrived in front of Chen Yu in an instant, its sharp steel claws sweeping rapidly.

Clang!

Chen Yu swept out with his sword, striking the steel claws of the Innate Cheetah and sending sparks flying everywhere.

The Innate Cheetah quickly retreated after the strike.

Simultaneously, Fire Beasts and bandits from the surroundings launched an attack.

Whir!

Chen Yu fully activated the Copper Statue Technique, his body surface shimmering with ancient copper patterns, a thick layer of protective Qi covering him.

The attacks hadn't yet closed in before they were shattered by the Qi field.

On another side, the Innate Cheetah launched another lightning-fast assault.

"Sword Breaking Nebula!"

Chen Yu wielded the Giant Ruler Sword, its Sha Qi Sword energy converging upon it.

Boom!

He thrust out with his sword, the black wind and Sha Qi Sword energy bursting forth and exploding into a swirling cloud of evil mist.

Chen Yu's Shocking Evil Sword Technique had reached minor accomplishment, its power rising to a new level.

Boom! Aaargh!

The head of the Innate Cheetah had a large hole blasted through it by Chen Yu's sword, crashing into the distance. After a few screeches, the flames on its body extinguished, turning into a pile of char.

"An Innate-stage Fire Core!"

Chen Yu's eyes blazed with excitement, his body's power bursting forth, turning into a whirlwind of Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow, explosively shooting forward.

If any other Fire Beasts swallowed this Innate-stage Fire Core, it would only make things worse for Chen Yu.

Roar~

Having reached the fourth layer of Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow, Chen Yu's straight-line speed was incredibly frightful. He arrived in an instant and snatched the Fire Core.

On the other side.

"What is this red crystal? The Fire Beasts grow stronger after swallowing it!"

The youth in black was deeply shocked.

Previously, the Fire Beasts he encountered all had low cultivation bases.

But now, he felt that the strength of some Fire Beasts had significantly improved, and the pressure was mounting.

In contrast, Chen Yu became more and more ferocious in the fight, seemingly tireless.

"Let's retreat a distance!"

Feeling overwhelmed, the youth in black chose to pull back, drawing away a group of Fire Beasts.

"Hope Brother Bei Ling resolves this quickly!"

The youth in black muttered to himself.

Once Fu Beiling dealt with the hidden adversary, the cohesion of the Fire Beasts would undoubtedly weaken.

Furthermore, once Fu Beiling joined the battle, the three of them together would have a much easier time.

Deep underground.

The withered-faced elder observed the battle unfolding in the outside world through the eyes of one of the Fire Beasts.

"Damn it, this young man isn't here to attack this place, but to hunt Fire Beasts!"

The elder's gaze was fixed on Chen Yu, his expression as dark and still as dead water.

If Chen Yu hadn't taken a large number of fire cores, even if he killed Fire Beasts, it would only strengthen other Fire Beasts. Under such diminishing and lengthening circumstances, Chen Yu and the man in black stood no chance—they were certain to die.

But from the beginning, Chen Yu's target was the fire cores!

This was something the withered-faced elder hadn't expected.

At this moment, the elder sensed a trace of an unusual fluctuation.

Swoosh!

In a pitch-black space, a dazzling starlight finger shot towards the elder's forehead at high speed.

The elder dodged by a hair's breadth.

"You think I wasn't prepared?"

The withered-faced elder let out a low chuckle.

During the day, there were three of them, but now only two had appeared. With little thought, he guessed the reason.

"Your precautions are useless!"

Fu Beiling snorted coldly and rushed out, shooting out two starlight fingers.

"Heh, boy, you're too green!"

The elder leaped into the air, avoiding the attack.

Boom!

The ground shook, and a torrent of fire erupted.

Soon after, a ferocious-looking beast with the head of a lion and tiger and a single horn, emerged from the flames.

"Kill!"

The elder landed on the Flame Demon Beast and shouted.

This lion-tiger unicorn's cultivation had reached the peak of Early Innate Stage, and its veins pulsed with partial Ancient Beast bloodline, rendering it exceptionally powerful.

And the elder himself was at the Innate Middle Stage; their combined strength was enough to repel anyone at the Late Innate Stage.

"I'll kill you first!"

A trace of seriousness flashed in Fu Beiling's eyes, but he didn't shrink back.

Swipe!

He moved swiftly, leaping towards the elder.

"Get lost!"

The elder's cane shimmered with a dark red ghostly light, unleashing a wave of dark red flame.

...

Outside.

Chen Yu suddenly felt that the Fire Beast's assault was not as frenzied and dense as before.

On the other side, the man in black felt his pressure lessen.

Still, the ever-strengthening Fire Beasts were not to be underestimated.

"Come out!"

Chen Yu decisively released the Fire Scale Beast.

After all, with Fu Beiling and the other's strength, they couldn't snatch away his Ancient Beast Spirit Pet.

Moreover, the Fire Scale Beast was strong and could share a lot of the pressure with the two men.

Ao!

The Fire Scale Beast roared and its translucent body flickered with firelight, exuding a terrifying Ancient Beast bloodline aura.

Its veins bore the blood of the Holy Beast Fire Qilin, which had a strong deterrent effect on fire-affiliated Demon Beasts.

Nearby, those with cultivation levels lower than the Fire Scale Beast prostrated on the ground, trembling.

Even those slightly more powerful than the Fire Scale Beast were heavily impacted and found their strength suppressed and weakened.

"This is... an Ancient Beast Spirit Pet?"

From afar, the man in black widened his eyes in disbelief.

The Fire Scale Beast's eyes gleamed as it lunged at a Fire Mouse, tearing into it with its jaws, ripping open its armor and feasting on its fire core.

"Kill!"

Chen Yu wielded the Giant Ruler Sword, easily reaping the Fire Beasts.

The Fire Scale Beast scurried around, devouring the lower-grade fire cores left by Chen Yu.

These cores were of lower rank, and it didn't need much time to digest, quickly consuming many in a short period.

"I've been fooled; these red crystals are the real treasures!"

Putting various phenomena together, the man in black had a sudden realization.

He had previously regarded these red crystals as ordinary Demon Cores and, given the generally low cultivation of these Fire Beasts, didn't find the cores particularly precious. He had been too busy fighting to bother collecting them.

"This kid is so cunning!"

The man in black cursed inwardly.

After a half day of fighting, Chen Yu had gained untold benefits, while he had barely gained anything.

"Kill!"

The man in black was furious and unleashed his boxing technique.

After killing a Postnatal Late Stage Fire Beast, he immediately snatched its fire core.

The two hadn't fought for long.

Roar!

The attack from the Fire Beasts became more chaotic, and many sand bandits were also targeted, suddenly attacked and killed by the Fire Beasts.

"It seems Brother Bei Ling is close to success!"

The man in black showed a hint of joy.

Once Fu Beiling dealt with the person behind the scenes, with their combined strength, they could obtain more fire cores. Otherwise, all the benefits would be picked up by Chen Yu, and the two of them would be at a great loss.

Underground.

The withered-faced elder was sprawled on the ground, his body riddled with holes.

The lion-tiger Fire Beast, with its Ancient Beast bloodline, was barely alive beside him.

"You

The elder looked at Fu Beiling, his eyes filled with terror.

He hadn't expected that, even combined, he and the lion-tiger Fire Beast would be no match for Fu Beiling.

"As I said, your precautions are all futile!"

Fu Beiling's handsome face was cold.

"You speak too soon," said the elder. "Even if I die, I won't let you outsiders off easily!"

The elder stared at Fu Beiling, his eyes full of resentment.

He suddenly reached out, grabbing the lion-tiger Fire Beast, his arm exuding a strange pulling force.

Whiz!

With the lion-tiger Fire Beast's roars, its flames transferred to the elder.

The elder howled ferociously, his body's meridians turning fiery red, as the fire power within him grew more and more terrifying.

In moments, the lion-tiger Fire Beast turned to ash.

The elder grabbed a fire core from the pile and pressed it into his cane.

Roar!

Terrible fire power burst forth from the cane, igniting a huge, scorching fireball, and the cane transferred a surge of fire power into the elder's body.

In an instant, the elder was engulfed in intense flames, as if bathed in fire.

"This

Fu Beiling hesitated momentarily, shocked by the scene.

Chapter 290: Annihilation

Deep within the pitch-black depths underground.

The ashen-faced elder's skin was crimson, his whole body ignited with flaming red flames, turning him into a man of fire, emitting a terrifying scorching aura.

"Kid, I told you, don't speak too soon!"

The ashen-faced elder's expression was one of a painful struggle, staring at Fu Beiling while revealing a sinister sneer.

Earth Star Finger!

Fu Beiling channelled his True Qi, his fingertips gathering starlight, and he thunderously shot out two fingers.

"Perish!"

The ashen-faced elder waved his walking stick, releasing a crimson flame wave.

Boom!

The flame wave swept out, colliding with the finger light. After a moment of stalemate, it obliterated it and continued to advance.

"The strength of this man, it has increased so much!"

Fu Beiling's face showed a hint of shock.

Before, the ashen-faced elder could not handle his peak finger strike, but now he could easily block it.

Whoosh!

He leapt up, dodging the ashen-faced elder's attack amidst the jumps.

"Outsider, you cannot escape!"

The ashen-faced elder spread his arms, the flame power around his body surging tumultuously.

Roar!

On the ground, red flames suddenly rose, and in no time at all, the entire underground was ignited, as if transformed into a fiery hell.

"This old coot can actually communicate with the fire power between heaven and earth, borrowing its strength!"

Fu Beiling found this somewhat unbelievable. Communicating with the powers between heaven and earth was definitely not something the Qi Transformation Realm could do, there must be some other reason behind it.

"Die!"

The ashen-faced elder hummed lowly, and from the flames on the ground, several fiery snakes condensed, rapidly attacking Fu Beiling.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Fu Beiling's movement technique was extremely clever, like a flickering star, escaping around the cave.

But the entire cave was nearly set ablaze, leaving fewer and fewer places to land.

"It's not advisable to prolong the fight!"

Fu Beiling made up his mind and immediately retreated.

The ashen-faced elder's strength had increased dramatically, plus he could borrow nearby fire power, so Fu Beiling could only temporarily retreat from the limelight.

Outside the stronghold.

The Fire Beast's attacks became extremely disordered, without any pattern.

Chen Yu and the black-clad young man, with the Fire Scale Beast and the Fire Bone Bird, after a period of fighting, were now finding it easier.

Although there were many Fire Beasts, there were fewer remaining after the battle, but their overall strength had greatly increased compared to before.

At this moment, a figure in white suddenly dashed from afar, it was Fu Beiling.

"Brother Bei Ling!"

The black-clad young man's face glowed with joy.

With Fu Beiling joining them, they would soon be able to annihilate all the Fire Beasts, and they could also take the opportunity to grab more fire cores, to avoid too much loss.

But before the black-clad young man could say another word, he sensed that something was off.

Whoosh whoosh!

From behind, a wave of fire surged forth, and a black-red fire shadow sprang out.

"What is this?"

The black-clad young man's pupils contracted, his spirit trembling involuntarily.

Only to see, an elder with crimson skin and bulging meridians, with a ferocious face, his body aflame, like a fierce ghost from the fiery hell.

Chen Yu was equally startled by the appearance of the ashen-faced elder.

He knew that Demon Beasts could turn into Fire Beasts, but he had no idea that people could also look like this.

"Outsiders, you all must die!"

The vicious gaze of the ashen-faced elder swept over the three of them, waving his walking stick.

Roar roar roar~

The nearby, not so many remaining Fire Beasts were immediately controlled by him, the chaotic Fire Beast herd became orderly.

"Kill this man first, otherwise, once he controls the Fire Beasts, the situation will be very adverse for us!"

Fu Beiling immediately shouted.

He had already experienced the ashen-faced elder's ferocity, otherwise, he would not have chosen to temporarily retreat.

"Alright!"

Chen Yu responded, he too had noticed the ashen-faced elder was very troublesome.

"I'll try to draw away the Fire Beasts!"

The black-clad man said.

Even Fu Beiling had been pushed back, one could imagine how strong the ashen-faced elder was.

If they let the ashen-faced elder and the Fire Beast herd join forces, it would probably be even more terrifying.

"Plummeting Day Radiance!"

The black-clad man's fists came together, their light merging into one, turning into a giant star radiating endless white light.

Boom!

His fists struck down, a cluster of radiant True Qi, fiercely charging into the Fire Beast herd, crushing several Fire Beasts, and almost capturing the attention of all the Fire Beasts.

After executing this strike, the black-clad man appeared slightly exhausted and turned to retreat.

On the other hand, the Fire Bone Bird was also launching attacks in the sky, drawing away many Fire Beasts.

Under Chen Yu's command, the Fire Scale Beast let out a deep roar, exerting the powerful pressure of an ancient beast, intimidating the spirits of the Fire Beasts, severing their connection with the ashen-faced elder.

"To your death!"

Fu Beiling took the lead to attack, unleashing a sharp finger light, a flash of white light piercing towards the ashen-faced elder.

On another front.

"Kill!"

Chen Yu, wielding the Giant Ruler Sword, charged towards the ashen-faced elder, swinging the giant sword back and forth.

Roar!

In the air, a cross-shaped Sha Qi black wind howled forth.

The ashen-faced elder bellowed loudly, his walking stick erupting with even more surging flame waves.

Centered on the walking stick, a fire vortex formed, stirring up dust and wind.

Boom!

The white finger light and Sha Qi Sword chopped down, striking it and causing a terrible storm, sweeping around.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Fu Beiling executed a movement technique secret, his speed astonishing, almost impossible to capture.

Moreover, finger lights shot out from highly tricky angles.

On the other side, Chen Yu executed Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow, his linear speed astonishing, occasionally whipping a staggering Sha Qi frenzy.

Boom and bang!

The two encircled the withered-looking old man, constantly attacking him.

Together, the two geniuses managed to keep the withered-looking old man in check.

Gradually, the old man's performance began to show signs of fatigue.

"This person must have used some Secret Technique to temporarily enhance his strength; he won't be able to sustain it for long!"

Fu Beiling said.

Any Secret Technique to enhance strength was unsustainable and had side effects.

Compared to the beginning, the withered-looking old man was clearly at a disadvantage.

Drink!

With a hoarse roar, the old man summoned a wave of flames around his body, engulfing both attackers.

Whoosh!

He turned into a black and red fiery shadow, diving swiftly towards several Fire Beasts.

Boom and pop!

The old man extended his staff, instantly slaughtering these Fire Beasts and plundering their fire cores.

His staff appeared to be able to embed fire cores and absorb their power.

In an instant, the condition of the old man improved.

"No more dragging this out, let's just kill this freak!"

Chen Yu's eyes hardened.

Originally, they had planned to wear down the withered-looking old man, but he changed strategies and began to kill Fire Beasts proactively to replenish his strength.

"Okay!"

Fu Beiling nodded.

Roar!

Unleashing the Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow, Chen Yu became a black whirlwind rushing towards the withered-looking old man.

However, the old man was now extremely strong and not slow in speed.

Thud, thud!

Chen Yu's heart suddenly erupted, causing a surge in his speed, and he rapidly closed in on the withered-looking old man.

"Scram!"

The old man was slightly surprised, uttering a low shout as he pointed with his staff, releasing a fiery and fierce light orb that lunged forward.

"Chen Yu!"

Fu Beiling couldn't help but shout.

Even he did not dare to confront the withered-looking old man head-on.

Though at this moment, the old man was no longer in peak condition.

"Sword Breaking Nebula!"

The Giant Ruler Sword in Chen Yu's hand swung into action, the Sha Qi Sword forming on it.

At the same time, he slightly summoned some Blood Crystal Flame.

Suddenly, the Sha Qi Sword's edge was ablaze with a layer of dark red flame.

Chen Yu combined a portion of Blood Crystal Flame with True Evil Qi, utilizing it in his combat art, which was difficult for most to detect.

Boom!

He thrust out his sword fiercely, the Sha Qi Sword's edge and dark red flame blasting out and exploding violently, turning into a cloud of black Sha Flame mist.

Upon collision, the old man's flames seemed to be suppressed, their power diminished.

Boom and bang!

The old man's attack was shattered, a storm of black Sha Flame swept through, blasting the old man back several yards, and leaving charred marks on his body.

"How can this be?"

The old man spat out a mouthful of blood, his face showing disbelief.

Even Fu Beiling was extremely shocked; in that instant, the power that Chen Yu unleashed was terrifying and had a certain suppressive effect on the old man's fire attack.

However, now was not the time for astonishment.

"Green Radiance Star!"

Fu Beiling's hands formed a strange posture, with stars emerging around him.

Between his fingers, white light spots converged, and at the center, a trace of green radiance began to appear.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, a pale green light beam, much thicker than before, burst forth, striking the black-clothed old man's chest like an aurora.

Hit by the two men's ultimate moves in succession, the withered-looking old man weakened further, his strength slowly falling back to its initial state.

Strike the sick to claim their life.

Chen Yu and Fu Beiling joined forces to strike once more.

The two blocked the withered-looking old man, launching attacks from both sides.

Gradually, the flames on the old man's body dimmed, and his reddish skin blackened in spots.

"Ah, I cannot accept this

The withered-looking old man struggled desperately, knowing his end was near, he could not help but roar.

"Die!"

Fu Beiling's Earth Star Finger pierced through the old man's chest.

At the same time, Chen Yu's Giant Ruler Sword beheaded him.

Boom and bang!

The flames on the old man's body retracted inward, his body exploded, his death mirroring that of the Fire Beasts.

Chen Yu scanned with his Spiritual Sense to see if there were any fire cores in the old man's corpse, but the result disappointed him.

That made sense, Fire Beasts had fire cores because they evolved from Demon Beast cores.

"Brother Bei Ling, come quick, I can't hold on any longer!"

Far away, the black-clothed youth and the Fire Bone Bird, while retreating, restrained a number of Fire Beasts, both the human and the beast bearing numerous wounds.

"Okay!"

Fu Beiling immediately rushed over.

Though he too was exhausted after the great battle, dealing with these lower-ranked Fire Beasts was still within his capabilities.

On the other hand, Chen Yu, after battling the Fire Beasts and the withered-looking old man, still looked rosy-cheeked as if nothing had happened.

As the two joined the fray, the Fire Beasts were gradually exterminated.

"Brother Bei Ling, these fire cores are the real treasures; that kid is too cunning!"

The black-clothed youth immediately complained.

Fu Beiling's expression darkened as he glared at Chen Yu; this time he had indeed been swindled.

It seemed there was not much treasure in the sand bandits' den; the plundered resources were probably used for breeding Fire Beasts.

And the haul of fire cores that he and the black-clothed youth together amassed didn't even amount to a quarter of Chen Yu's.

Essentially, they each got 20 percent while Chen Yu got 80 percent, how could that not infuriate him.

"Uh, we agreed on this beforehand. You better hurry up and scavenge, maybe you'll find a lot of resources; I'll stick to our deal of you taking seventy and me thirty percent, no going back on my word!"

Chen Yu said with thick-skinned confidence.