

Genius 1841

Chapter 1841 - Breaking the Grand Formation!

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"What?"

Monk Wukong was suddenly taken aback, looking at Qin Fang with a surprised expression. His lips trembled slightly, as if finding it difficult to accept Qin Fang's statement.

"Qin Fang, do you understand formations?"

Monk Wukong hailed from the Shaolin Temple. Although it is primarily a martial arts sect, many of the monks within the Inner Temple of Shaolin are exceptionally skilled.

Most are martial monks, but there are also a few monks proficient in other areas, including some who are highly knowledgeable in formations, even rivaling the experts in the Qimen Dunjia Sect of the Thousand Gate.

Monk Wukong had learned a bit from these high monks, so he could discern that there was an island-guarding great array here.

However, he only knew a little surface knowledge, and being able to identify a formation was already good enough. As for breaking it... he definitely couldn't do it.

If even he couldn't do it, then Ji Xiang and Song Qingshan were even less capable, as they couldn't even discern the formation, let alone hope to break it.

Yet, he didn't expect Qin Fang to say this, which clearly implied that Qin Fang knew a way to break this island-guarding great array, indicating his expertise in formations, at least much more than Monk Wukong.

"I know a bit..."

Qin Fang nodded, his expression radiating confidence.

Formations are actually one type of Thousand Skills, but they belong to the more advanced category, not something ordinary small cheaters could handle.

However, Qin Fang had previously raised his proficiency in Cheating Skills to an advanced level, nearing master level. Just earlier, he allocated the massive experience points gained from defeating Miyamoto Musashi, a master level peak strongman, to honing his proficiency, directly advancing his Cheating Skills to master level.

Moreover, Qin Fang was wearing the Thousand Mechanism Ring, a secret treasure of the Thousand Gate, which could elevate a skill by an entire tier.

The Thousand Mechanism Ring was extraordinary in this way; the higher the skill level, the more pronounced the advantage it exhibited. With Qin Fang's master level Cheating Skills, wearing it elevated them directly to grandmaster level.

At the grandmaster level, such proficiency in Cheating Skills is quite formidable even within the Thousand Gate, comparable to the likes of the Thousand Gate Chess Elder Song Qianqiu, whom Qin Fang knew.

Coincidentally, the Thousand Gate Chess Elder Song Qianqiu was also an elder in the Qimen Dunjia Sect, with profound understanding in formations. During his time in Hong Kong Island, Qin Fang had sparred with him for numerous days.

These sparring sessions were quite beneficial to Qin Fang's cultivation in formations, advantages that were manifesting at this very moment.

"The individual who set up this island-guarding great array is quite formidable... I should say extremely formidable! Definitely surpassing the great grandmaster level..."

Qin Fang meticulously studied this island-guarding great array, furrowing his brows and muttering to himself, evidently quite shocked.

Such an experience for Qin Fang had only been encountered once before, in the Sword Forest of the Fu Family in Korea, but he didn't expect the second encounter to be on the land of Japan.

Formations are said to be a legacy from the ancestors of the Dragon Country people, yet Qin Fang had never seen such a grand array in the Dragon Country, only witnessing them time after time abroad.

Of course, there is a reason for this.

Within the country, places with mountain-guarding great arrays are either remote wilderness areas or the headquarters of some ancient major sects, such as the Tang Sect, the Shaolin Temple, Kunlun, and even smaller sects like the Tianchi Sect, and the Eagle Claw Sect...

These are all places with owners, and Qin Fang hasn't had much interaction with them, naturally making them inaccessible!

In contrast, the two formations Qin Fang has encountered abroad are of exceptionally high grade and level; the one in Korea was set up by formation experts at the behest of Fu Cailin, a master of the world-renowned Chess Sword Formation, which is understandable, yet the level of this island-guarding great array was not much inferior to Fu Cailin's Chess Sword Formation...

"So powerful?"

Monk Wukong's expression changed instantly, looking slightly helpless.

Even though he knew Qin Fang had some research in formations, an array laid by a formation expert surpassing great grandmaster level, even those of the same level might not necessarily be able to break it, and with Qin Fang being so young, it seemed impossible for him to reach such a level, regardless of his prodigy...

If Qin Fang couldn't break it, then the rest of them absolutely wouldn't be able to, meaning they could only watch helplessly as Treasure Mountain lay before them, with nothing they could do.

"Indeed very powerful..."

Qin Fang nodded, acknowledging the formidable nature of this formation.

However, he didn't show any sign of dejection on his face; rather, he appeared a little excited, which made Wukong and the others a bit puzzled.

"Nevertheless, this island-guarding great array has been in existence for a very long time, and it seems it hasn't been maintained for ages, leading to significant damage..."

Though a formation can operate independently, it is not a perpetual motion machine and cannot operate perfectly indefinitely; it still needs human supervision and timely adjustments amidst discrepancies.

On close observation, Qin Fang noted that this formation hadn't been maintained for a long time, resulting in the gradual emergence of flaws, flaws that were growing increasingly larger.

Chapter 1842 - Breaking the Grand Formation (Part 2)

Perhaps this is also why Qin Fang and the others saw such a scene on the distant hillside just now, because the formation appeared to have flaws.

"Do you have a way to break it?"

Monk Wukong and the others were no fools. Hearing Qin Fang's words, it seemed as if he had a way to break it, and they immediately got excited.

"Breaking this formation is impossible. My skills are still a bit lacking..."

But Qin Fang shook his head, giving a negative answer.

This formation is too high-level, even though there are quite a few flaws now. Its full power may only be three to five-tenths left, yet it is still not something Qin Fang's grandmaster-level initial-stage scouting skill can break...

According to Qin Fang's estimation, if the Thousand Doors Chess Expert Song Qianqiu were invited to come, the old man might have some confidence to break it.

If the old man brought the Qianji Ring, it would be considerably easier to crack.

Unfortunately, that is impossible. The old man is far away on Hong Kong Island, and there's no way he could come to help.

"Then you're just saying it for nothing..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang's words, Ji Xiang and the others immediately rolled their eyes at Qin Fang, purely wasting their expressions and getting excited for nothing.

"Haha, don't rush. Let me finish speaking first..."

Qin Fang chuckled, speaking nonchalantly, "Although I can't break this island-guarding great array, I can open a breach in this formation to let a few of us in, which is still doable..."

As he spoke, Qin Fang also put on an "I'm really innocent" expression, as if he were truly wrongly accused by them.

"Damn, you're intentionally messing with us, aren't you..."

Ji Xiang and the others looked at each other, almost unable to stop themselves from roaring, nearly surrounding and attacking Qin Fang first.

"Can you really open a breach to let us in?"

However, fortunately, they still understood the gravity of the situation. This little issue didn't matter much. What they wanted to know more was whether Qin Fang could truly do it.

"There should be no problem... I've already found a small flaw in this great array. As long as we seize this point, opening a breach shouldn't be difficult!"

Qin Fang's current scouting skill, aided by the Qianji Ring, already reached a grandmaster-level standard. Coupled with his master-level reconnaissance skill, finding flaws in this formation is relatively easy.

Having found the flaw, opening a breach becomes much easier...

"However, it's not without risks! I just carefully studied this island-guarding great array, and there are many small formations within it: maze formations, illusion arrays, and killing formations... A careless mistake could cost one's life!"

Unlike Ji Xiang and the others, Qin Fang wasn't as optimistic, instead furrowing his brow deeply. Even if he opened a breach in the formation, there was still considerable risk involved.

"Those who seek wealth must venture into danger! Such a high-level island-guarding great array already indicates that if I'm not mistaken, what lies inside will surely bring us great rewards..."

This time, Monk Wukong was the first to speak. While monks shun greed, it doesn't mean they have no desires, especially when encountering a secret place shielded by a powerful and mysterious island-guarding great array. It's highly likely to contain treasures that would make martial arts experts drool!

Ji Xiang, Song Qingshan, and perhaps Qin Fang didn't fully understand, but Monk Wukong, who came from a prestigious school, understood much more.

Not to mention elsewhere, even the inner temple of the Shaolin Temple is concealed by a mountain-guarding formation. Inside, it's equivalent to a small world, with richer spiritual energy and many rare flowers and plants, which is the foundation for a long-standing sect's heritage.

The secret place hidden by the island-guarding great array before them is highly likely to be such an existence... Judging from the array's destruction state, it's likely already uninhabited internally, meaning there are probably some treasures left behind.

"Indeed, those who seek wealth must venture into danger!"

Hearing Monk Wukong's firm affirmation, Ji Xiang and Song Qingshan immediately echoed him. It was their first time seeing Monk Wukong so excited, further indicating the significance. Being from a prestigious school, he knows more than those who wandered off the beaten path.

"Since that's the case, I'll give it a try..."

Actually, Qin Fang himself didn't want to give up either. There's surely danger, but the allure of the treasures inside is greater, especially in such a secret place where spiritual medicine might remain.

In this era, Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi is scarce, making spiritual medicine survival very difficult and hard to find. Although Qin Fang isn't short of it, Golden Dragon Birth is the energy source for the puppet person, and he doesn't wish to use it all up...

If a substitute could be found, that would be great.

One spiritual medicine, while it might not create a martial sect's emergence, can certainly pave the way for one, two, or three martial arts experts to rise.

And in such a secret place, even if spiritual medicine isn't growing within, there should be plenty of rare flowers, herbs, and rare medicinal herbs.

Judging by the formation's abandoned years, the herbs inside should be quite old, making them top-tier herbs difficult to obtain outside. For Qin Fang, such herbs are even more enticing than spiritual medicine...

"Given the strength of this formation, even if I break it open, everyone has very little time to act, roughly four to five breaths at most. So be sure to seize the opportunity..."

"Also, after entering the formation, no matter what you encounter, stay calm and try to regroup quickly. Don't wander off alone..."

Breaking into this formation was almost a foregone conclusion. However, before acting, Qin Fang still reminded everyone specially.

This formation is dangerously perilous, not even safe when broken. Qin Fang, as a grandmaster-level array master himself, can surely protect himself upon entering, but if the others can't join him, he can't guarantee their safety...

"Got it!"

Ji Xiang, Monk Wukong, and the others all solemnly nodded. No one wanted to joke about this, as the consequence would be potentially losing their lives in the formation.

"Alright, I'm going to perform the technique now..."

Seeing that everyone was alert, Qin Fang no longer hesitated.

With a stretch of his hand, the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword appeared in Qin Fang's hand, and he moved towards a corner of the rocky area.

The others followed closely, walking together with Qin Fang.

"Soon I'll slash this tree with my sword and suppress it here with the Divine Sword. Once you see a portal appear, go through it immediately..."

Qin Fang pointed at the years-old crooked tree before him, and upon receiving affirmative responses from the others, Qin Fang's sword swiftly sliced, cutting the crooked tree in half...

And Qin Fang didn't dare hesitate, quickly inserting the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword at the center of the severed tree trunk... replacing the previous tree trunk as it were.

Almost the instant the tree fell, an area beside Qin Fang and the others, appearing empty, suddenly revealed a portal resembling Water Curtain Cave in the void.

The portal was a bit dim, making it hard to see what's inside...

"Quick! Go!"

But Monk Wukong didn't hesitate in the slightest, quickly stepping towards the portal while shouting.

Ji Xiang and Song Qingshan didn't lag behind, swiftly following Monk Wukong and rushing through...

They didn't notice that Qin Fang, holding the Divine Sword, had his originally flushed face turn pale. Only after seeing his brothers enter did he quickly pull out the Divine Sword and threw himself into the rapidly disappearing portal...

Chapter 1843 - The Secret Domain Within the Grand Formation!

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Qin Fang rushed into the grand formation at almost the fastest speed, otherwise, if he was a bit later, he might have been torn into pieces by the restoring formation.

The strength of this formation far exceeded Qin Fang's estimates. Even though it was already heavily damaged, it was still terrifying.

Of course, Qin Fang wasn't reckless. He had made prior estimates and, although he overlooked the wear of maintaining this breach, eventually it was enough for them to rush in.

Upon rushing into the formation, Qin Fang couldn't help but experience temporary blindness, everything being pitch black and unable to see his own fingers in front of him...

Fortunately, this environment didn't last long, and light soon illuminated the surroundings, restoring his vision.

Qin Fang's first reaction was to immediately grasp the Divine Sword, vigilantly watching the surroundings, especially since he hadn't yet determined if he was still within the formation.

"This place is..."

But soon, Qin Fang was stunned, seeing a lush and beautiful scene, with a landscape full of mountains and rivers, singing birds and fragrant flowers.

Even simply breathing the air here made Qin Fang feel it was far more comfortable and cleaner than outside... Though the little devils' environmental protection work was already quite good, and the air on the grasslands was exceptionally fresh, it was not on the same level compared to this place.

"Such dense Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi..."

Even Qin Fang couldn't help but exclaim. The Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi protected under this grand formation was incredibly abundant, making him feel as if taking a deep breath was like swallowing a drop of Golden Dragon Saliva...

Of course, it couldn't reach such a level. The spiritual energy contained in a drop of Golden Dragon Saliva might not compare to this vast Heaven and Earth, but in terms of purity and density, it was truly terrifying.

This is the power of spiritual medicine. Otherwise, martial arts experts wouldn't fight to the death over a single spiritual medicine, causing a bloody storm.

Golden Dragon Saliva, in particular, is a superb spiritual medicine long extinct in the human world. Even just one drop contains immensely terrifying spiritual energy.

If not for this, Qin Fang and the others who took the Golden Dragon Saliva could not possibly have a breakthrough with such a leap, almost able to transcend two or more levels...

However, this mysterious place with such dense Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi could definitely become the foundation of a great sect.

Thinking of this, Qin Fang immediately surveyed the surroundings, carefully observing the depths of this secret land...

This secret land was situated on that Lake Heart Island. Although the island seemed small, standing on it allowed the view to easily cover the entire island.

But all this was an illusion caused by the island-guarding great array, or rather, this true secret land had long been concealed by the grand formation, impossible to find from the outside...

This is the power of formations. Otherwise, those ancient sects wouldn't still be able to hide peacefully from the world.

After all, on this Earth, there are very few places that satellites cannot cover and observe, but these ancient sects have remained hidden, never discovered by anyone, precisely because of formations.

This island-guarding great array is the same, shrouding this secret land, hiding its existence... If it weren't for the array's damage, it would be impossible for anyone below the highest level array masters to discover its location no matter how many years passed.

"Lucky for us..."

Thinking of this, Qin Fang couldn't help but show a slight smile. Even though he had just entered and hadn't gained or discovered anything yet, just finding this secret land was already an advantage...

Not to mention, with such dense Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi here, attempting to break through to the Grandmaster Realm would significantly increase the success rate by several folds...

Grandmaster-level experts are so rare; aside from those in great sects, only extremely talented individuals from the outside world might break through, or else they can only remain at the Master Level Peak...

At least Qin Fang's master, Cai Pingyuan, is an example of this, and there are other experts within various sects who are in similar situations, all because the conditions outside are insufficient!

The moment of breaking through to Grandmaster Level requires not only absorbing a large amount of Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi but may also trigger some changes in Heaven and Earth. If the spiritual energy is insufficient, the results could be disastrous.

If luck is on their side, they might break through rank, with just a slight inborn deficiency, making them slightly weaker than official grandmaster-level experts... like Hattori Sanzo would belong to this type.

If luck is against them, then they might fail in breaking through, remaining at the Master Level Peak, or, worse, suffer true qi backlash, losing all internal strength at best, or worse, losing their life...

However, for Qin Fang at present, he plans to attempt a breakthrough to Grandmaster Level, but he still lacks a crucial opportunity, so it's not possible right now.

This secret land seems to have been unvisited for many years, with lush trees and flowers, and Qin Fang could only vaguely see some buildings in the distance, mostly obscured by the vegetation.

Even the road on the ground was nowhere to be found; the weeds had grown quite tall, covering the ground completely. If it weren't for Qin Fang vaguely noticing a bit of exposed bluestone paving, he would almost find no trace of the past path...

"By the way, where are the others?"

The direction was easy to determine, and the road was already at his feet. Just a simple treatment would ensure little impact.

But Qin Fang promptly realized that as he looked left and right around him, within a visible range of dozen meters, he was surprisingly the only one... Ji Xiang, Song Qingshan, and Monk Wukong, who entered a few breaths earlier, were nowhere to be seen!

"Could it be that the formation has teleported them elsewhere?"

This question popped up in Qin Fang's mind.

This formation guards this secret location. Qin Fang originally thought there were many smaller formations within, but perhaps he had overthought.

With no hindrance from smaller formations, the others should not be in any danger, and the only explanation could be that they were teleported elsewhere.

This Island-guarding Great Array had been operating continuously, and its transformations were ever-changing, with every moment being different.

Though the interval between Qin Fang and the others entering was just a few breaths, the array's transformations had already undergone countless changes.

"I hope they're not in any danger..."

Unable to see anyone, Qin Fang had no choice but to worry silently; shouting out loud recklessly was something he wouldn't do.

This secret location had existed for a seemingly very long time, and although it appeared abandoned for quite some time, it was just Qin Fang's speculation. If there were still inhabitants inside, their reckless intrusion could be quite unwise...

Such a secret location, with spiritual energy so abundant, it rivaled that of any great martial sect, possibly even stronger!

If anyone was cultivating here, as long as their talent wasn't particularly poor, reaching Master Level would be easy, achieving Grandmaster Level wouldn't be particularly difficult, and even reaching Great Grandmaster Level was not impossible...

With the strongest among Qin Fang's group, Qin Zi and Hattori Sanzo, staying outside, only Qin Fang and three others ventured in, being separated heightened the danger considerably.

"Better hurry over and try to reunite with everyone..."

But Qin Fang was quite straightforward; since they were separated, reuniting naturally was necessary. This secret location was huge, but the most conspicuous area was that of the buildings. Qin Fang promptly wielded his Divine Sword, cutting through the grasses and thorns blocking the path and stepped onto the bluestone pavement, heading into the distance.

Many trees along the way were extremely ancient, appearing as if they had existed for hundreds of years. Yet, facing the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, only had the fate of being felled.

"Eh, is this... Destiny Herb!"

After only taking a few steps, Qin Fang's attention was drawn by a strangely shaped tiny grass in the roadside bushes.

After simple identification, Qin Fang's expression couldn't help but change; it was an exceptionally rare and precious medicinal herb, Destiny Herb.

"This is a real treasure..."

Seeing this Destiny Herb, Qin Fang's face instantly broke into a bright smile. This Destiny Herb, although not a Spiritual Medicine, was a highly valuable herb.

He didn't hesitate and wasn't in a rush to find the others. Quickly clearing the surrounding vegetation, Qin Fang swiftly reached in front of the Destiny Herb, casting Herb Gathering Technique, and this fresh Destiny Herb landed in Qin Fang's hand...

"Destiny Herb, it's an essential ingredient for making Destiny Pill, Yunluo Pill, Simple Heart Pill, these secret medicines... Alas, finding other auxiliary materials is quite challenging!"

Gazing at the Destiny Herb in his hand, Qin Fang lamented deeply.

His Alchemy Technique Skill had now been honed to Master Level, and reaching such a level, the system automatically refreshed a portion of the elixir formulas.

Unfortunately, even though Qin Fang had the formulas, finding the ingredients to concoct these elixirs was quite troublesome, and had frustrated him for quite some time.

This Destiny Herb was a precious ingredient usable in several elixirs, all very beneficial to Qin Fang, though additional needed materials were still lacking.

"Is this... human remains?"

Just as Qin Fang stored the Destiny Herb preparing to leave, he surprisingly noticed something within a nearby bush.

Once he parted the bush, he discovered a white skeletal remains inside... The time of death seemed quite long ago, with even the bones nearly weathered away.

Chapter 1844 - Xuan Shui Python

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"Killed by someone else..."

A rusty iron sword was thrust into the chest of the skeleton, piercing right through the heart, and was fiercely embedded into the ground.

The reason for determining it was killed by someone else is mainly because the owner of this skeleton still held a sword in their own hand, making it impossible to be suicide!

Upon seeing this skeleton, Qin Fang's expression slightly changed, and he couldn't help but lift his head, looking toward the direction of those buildings.

Unfortunately, he was already in the forest at this point, with only towering trees in sight, unable to see the buildings within that mysterious location.

"There's something off about this..."

Looking at this skeleton and its manner of death, Qin Fang felt something strange, but was temporarily unable to determine the cause.

"Let's go and see..."

Such a mysterious place seemed abandoned for many years, yet finding such a skeleton without any signs of burial inside now was very suspicious.

Thinking of this, Qin Fang became even more cautious and returned to the path, quickly heading toward the predetermined direction...

While walking on the road, Qin Fang also found some wild rare herbs, all of considerable age, with several being over a hundred years old, making them excellent materials for preparing elixirs.

Although Qin Fang was moving quickly at this time, he didn't intend to let these materials slip by, using Herb Gathering Technique to swiftly collect the herbs.

He didn't have time to categorize them now, so he directly threw the collected herbs into the Props Box, planning to identify them slowly when he had leisure time.

Bang~~

Just at that moment, when Qin Fang was getting infinitely close to the group of buildings, a gunshot suddenly rang out in the forest, and immediately a flock of birds flapped their wings and flew up from the forest.

"Not good, something happened..."

Upon hearing this gunshot, Qin Fang's expression changed instantly, and his heart sank. He knew something had happened to his people.

"It should be Ji Xiang... in that direction!"

They entered with a total of four people, and only Qin Fang and Ji Xiang were skilled with guns. Since nothing happened on Qin Fang's end but he heard gunshots, it was evident Ji Xiang encountered trouble.

As for whether it was someone within the mysterious location who fired the gun... judging from the era of this building, the possibility of people here using modern weapons was too low.

"I must help him!"

Ji Xiang was a Master Level Peak expert, incredibly powerful, especially after going through several tough battles, nearing the rank of a Semi-Grandmaster.

Even so, he was forced to use a gun, indicating how dangerous the situation was, which Qin Fang could imagine...

Ji Xiang wasn't a fool; if he hadn't encountered an insurmountable obstacle, he definitely wouldn't take such risks, as it's equivalent to causing trouble for his companions.

However, he did it now, meaning his situation was extremely critical. Qin Fang scarcely hesitated, promptly heading toward the direction of the gunshots.

Utilizing the Snow Traversing Step with full force, though the forest's terrain was complex with many trees and numerous thorns blocking the way, Qin Fang couldn't afford to worry about those, striving with his movement technique to rescue Ji Xiang!

Qin Fang's speed was swift. Although the two pieces of Heavenly Silkworm Silk Armor protected vital areas like the chest and back, the thorns occasionally whipping his body caused negligible damage, but the pain was quite substantial...

However, none of this could deter Qin Fang's determination, resolutely rushing toward that direction.

Judging from the gunshot, Qin Fang estimated Ji Xiang was approximately four to five hundred meters away from him, positioned in a relatively remote spot.

This distance wasn't too far; with Qin Fang's speed, it would only take a few minutes to reach, eager to save his teammate, he even forsook those rare herbs.

Just that, as Qin Fang advanced, he didn't forget to remain vigilant of his surroundings since Ji Xiang encountered a crisis, Qin Fang might as well.

Forcing Ji Xiang to open fire meant significant threat to Qin Fang too, necessitating cautious vigilance on his part.

"Who's there?"

Suddenly, a peculiar sound came, Qin Fang's pace slightly paused, his body stalled, then abruptly exerted force, leaping onto a tree at the roadside, vigilantly watching the direction the sound came from, simultaneously shouting coldly.

"Is that you, Qing Mountain?"

As soon as Qin Fang spoke, a person emerged from the forest grass, immediately causing Qin Fang to shout out in surprise.

"It's me!"

The person who appeared was naturally Song Qingshan, calmly answering with a deep voice, although his current condition didn't seem particularly well, covered almost entirely in blood, appearing exceptionally ferocious.

"What happened? Are you injured?"

Seeing Song Qingshan drenched in blood, Qin Fang's expression wasn't good either, almost immediately moving closer to treat Song Qingshan's wounds.

"This isn't my blood! I'm fine..."

However, Song Qingshan promptly indicated, wiping the blood off himself, and Qin Fang then noticed, Song Qingshan seemed in good condition, showing no signs of injury.

"It's fine, it's fine... let's hurry to rescue Ji Xiang, tell us what exactly you encountered on the way?"

Chapter 1845 - Xuan Shui Python

Song Qingshan is fine, so Qin Fang is relieved, but the crisis on Ji Xiang's side hasn't been resolved yet. Just now, another gunshot sounded, further revealing Ji Xiang's danger.

However, Song Qingshan had clearly just gone through a battle, as the blood was the best evidence...

"Don't mention it. Almost got eaten by a group of mice!"

Song Qingshan nodded, continued toward Ji Xiang's location with Qin Fang, and said with a helpless bitter smile.

"Mice?"

Qin Fang was stunned, his face showing an incredibly strange expression, and he couldn't help but glance at the blood stains on Song Qingshan, finally understanding why the blood was everywhere.

"Damn it, this place hasn't been inhabited for who knows how many years, but the mice have grown as big as cats, damn near becoming spirits, a whole nest came at me, almost gnawed me to bits..."

Speaking of what happened, Song Qingshan seemed highly frustrated, truly embarrassed by those mice.

Not only was he covered in blood, but his clothes had turned into rags, nearly forcing him to run naked.

"Mice as big as cats..."

Hearing this, Qin Fang's face looked indescribably odd; his first thought was that Song Qingshan was exaggerating, but he immediately denied this notion because Song Qingshan wasn't that kind of person—most of what he said was true.

Yet, since the matter was in the past, arguing about it held no significance; the priority was still rescuing Ji Xiang, because the situation was surely quite dangerous over there.

"Another corpse..."

On their way, they found another corpse, not slain by a sword but with its neck broken.

"I saw two corpses on the way... all killed by someone!"

Song Qingshan muttered a bit from the side.

"Hmm?"

Qin Fang froze, glanced at the corpse, vaguely feeling something beginning to surface in his mind...

But Qin Fang's attention was quickly drawn to something else, and he slightly lifted his head, looking upward.

"Monk, we're here..."

Then, Qin Fang straightforwardly shouted to the dense canopy above.

Song Qingshan was stunned for a moment, but quickly realized what Qin Fang was doing.

And in almost no time, a figure flew down from the treetop and rapidly landed in front of Qin Fang and the others.

Of course, the person who appeared was Monk Wukong. Although the Reed Crossing River Technique from Shaolin Temple wasn't as high-ranking as Qin Fang's Traceless Snow Stepping Technique, it allowed Wukong to easily maneuver through the treetops, making the terrain more favorable for him.

"Qin Fang, there's no time for chit-chat, Ji Xiang encountered trouble... I just saw a great big python over there!"

However, Monk Wukong didn't have time to say much, only tossing these words before flying back to the canopy and heading there first to assist.

"Damn it, let's hurry up..."

Upon hearing Monk Wukong's words, Qin Fang's expression changed slightly.

Giant pythons weren't fearsome, at least not to master-level peak experts like Qin Fang who had no fear of such creatures.

Just like the Golden Crested Snake Qin Fang encountered long ago. It forced Qin Fang into dire straits, but if they met now, Qin Fang could surely slay it without a scratch.

But now, a giant python could force Ji Xiang—a master-level peak expert—into desperation, indicating a very different situation.

Considering Song Qingshan's tale of mice as big as cats, the dense Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi in this mystical location, and the abundant rare herbs growing everywhere, Qin Fang suddenly understood something!

Those mice hadn't become spirits, but a python this large very well might have... Otherwise, how could it push Ji Xiang to such an extreme?

"Quick, quick, quick..."

Thinking of these things, Qin Fang dared not delay and instantly dashed forward with Song Qingshan in a mad rush... At this point, Qin Fang cared little about anything else, wielding the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword to cleave the trees barring his path, while he and Song Qingshan charged directly to rescue Ji Xiang.

Roar~~

Boom, boom, boom~~

About a hundred meters from the battlefield, Qin Fang and the others clearly heard loud crashing noises. Vaguely, they discerned beastly roars, possibly issued by that giant python!

Bang~~

Not only that, but they also heard crisp gunshots—Ji Xiang was still firing... Whether for self-defense or because Monk Wukong had joined him in battling the enemy remains unknown!

Bang, bang, bang~~

As they neared the battlefield, the sounds grew more thunderous, ear-splitting, and the ground trembled as well.

Several trees had met an unfortunate fate, knocked down and leaning, looking pitiful... All of this was caused by that giant python!

"Qing Mountain, be careful; it's a big one..."

When they got closer, Qin Fang's mini-map showed the giant python, as well as Ji Xiang, Monk Wukong, who had arrived a moment earlier, and Qin Fang instinctively warned Song Qingshan.

"Damn... such a huge serpent!"

Just as he finished speaking, the two rushed into the battlefield, intruding into the python's view.

Even though Qin Fang anticipated the python's size and fearfulness, he couldn't help exclaiming subconsciously upon seeing it.

"Indeed... huge!"

Beside him, Song Qingshan couldn't help but swallow, and he understood why Ji Xiang, who was about as strong as him—perhaps slightly stronger—was pushed to desperation. This serpent was truly enormous.

They say giant pythons have barrel-like waists, yet this one... With a stout body having a diameter of at least a meter or more, a grown man couldn't wrap his arms around it.

Its length was even more frightening; a quick glance suggested at least thirty meters long, currently coiled and launching ferocious attacks at Ji Xiang and Monk Wukong...

That massive body towered, seemingly seven to eight meters high, with each descending strike resembling a thunderstorm. Even if Ji Xiang and Monk Wukong dodged, the serpent's head would smash a massive hole into the ground...

Within this area, Qin Fang and Song Qingshan saw no fewer than ten such holes...

"What are you standing there for, hurry up and help!"

On the other side, Monk Wukong saw Qin Fang and Song Qingshan in a daze and immediately shouted, seizing the moment as the python's attack failed, to draw back.

"Coming..."

Qin Fang promptly responded and immediately kicked into action, exhibiting his mastery of the Traceless Snow Stepping Technique, wielding the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, rushing straight for the python.

Song Qingshan wasn't outdone either and swiftly moved, but he didn't charge at the python; instead, he approached Ji Xiang and Monk Wukong.

There was no choice; although Song Qingshan had both offensive and defensive skills, his strongest attack was just the Xuanyin Divine Claw, yet given the python's incredibly tough body, his Xuanyin Divine Claw would amount to "scratching an itch"—so he refrained from adding to the chaos!

"Xuan Shui Python... Didn't expect one would still be alive!"

Qin Fang quickly drew near the python, his eyes devoid of worry or fear, instead showing excitement as he muttered.

Ji Xiang, Monk Wukong, and Song Qingshan might have dismissed the python as a well-grown giant serpent.

However, Qin Fang's scouting skill revealed the python's background clearly—it was indeed the long-extinct Xuan Shui Python from centuries ago...

Chapter 1846 - Solo Kill of the Xuan Shui Python!

...

Seeing this giant serpent, Qin Fang was indeed quite surprised, but his mood at the moment was more of excitement and thrill...

"Xuan Shui Python... Heaven is truly generous!"

Qin Fang couldn't help but express such admiration even as he made his move, almost neglecting the terrifying nature of the Xuan Shui Python.

The others possibly only considered the giant serpent in front of them as a slightly oversized python, but in Qin Fang's eyes, this Xuan Shui Python could only be considered as a "little one" that had just reached adulthood.

In fact, Qin Fang knew quite a bit about the background of this Xuan Shui Python, which is why he had such a strong reaction.

Xuan Shui Python, Black Water Xuan Snake, these are the most ferocious serpents in the legends of Dragon Country, their power is unimaginably terrifying, almost comparable to the existence of Flood Dragons.

But these serpents are so ferocious that they never let go of any prey they encounter, having caused too much bloodshed, not only suffering from divine retribution but also being hunted by numerous experts.

In the history of Dragon Country, within the past thousand years, almost every appearance of a serpent would immediately face the hunt by top experts, even sacrificing many experts' lives to achieve this...

The larger the serpents, the more challenging their reproduction becomes, and this holds true for Xuan Shui Python and Black Water Xuan Snake. Though their lifespan is long, their offspring are few.

Each one killed essentially eliminates a lineage, and after hundreds of years of killing, these ferocious giant pythons and snakes have become extinct.

Compared to the intensely toxic and vicious Black Water Xuan Snake, the Xuan Shui Python is also brutal and fierce, but it exhibits more of its grand and menacing nature.

Like the one before us, if the enormous and robust body extending dozens of meters were fully displayed, it would render any resistance futile.

The Xuan Shui Python is poisonous too, but far inferior to the Black Water Xuan Snake, perhaps even less potent than the little Golden Crested Snake Qin Fang had eliminated.

Otherwise, this Xuan Shui Python could easily have spewed poisonous mist to deal with Ji Xiang, rather than still not having taken anyone down.

The Xuan Shui Python's body is enormous, its strength terrifyingly massive, and its python skin incredibly tough. Ordinary swords and knives can only leave slight marks on it, doing little damage.

Even ordinary bullets fired at it only barely penetrate the outer skin, seldom going deeper, merely embedding themselves.

The Xuan Shui Python is simply too large; a single bullet can only cause an insignificant mark, such slight pain on that enormous body is almost negligible.

You could say, the damage from the bullet reaching the Xuan Shui Python's brain might happen much later...

Perhaps this is also the reason why Ji Xiang was attacked by the Xuan Shui Python, having no choice but to risk using gunfire to attract Qin Fang and the others for help.

"Qin Fang, be careful!"

Yet, Qin Fang showed no fear, charging directly at the Xuan Shui Python wielding the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, while Ji Xiang and Monk Wukong couldn't help but issue warnings.

Slash~~

Their response, however, was not Qin Fang's voice but rather the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword in Qin Fang's hand. As he approached the Xuan Shui Python's body, the sword enveloped in sharp Sword Qi lunged straight at the python's body, the Qi bursting forth with a piercing howl...

Thump thump thump~~

The Sword Qi sliced across, striking the body of the Xuan Shui Python, as if attacking an unyielding steel wall, actually causing sparks to fly from the python's skin, looking exceptionally strange.

"That's the might of the Xuan Shui Python..."

Yet such a change didn't surprise Qin Fang; he seemed to have anticipated it, instead expressing a kind of admiration.

Roar~~

However, Qin Fang's strike this time, a close-range attack, instantly enraged the originally violent Xuan Shui Python.

With a peculiar angry roar, a massive snake tail swept over toward Qin Fang with lightning speed.

The snake tail approached extremely fast, faster than lightning, giving a nearly impossible-to-evade impression...

Unfortunately, its opponent was not Ji Xiang or Song Qingshan, but Qin Fang, who possessed the Traceless Snow Stepping Technique, destined for the Xuan Shui Python's attack to miss.

Light Body Technique, originally a secret technique desired by martial artists, yet now there are very few legacy Light Body Techniques, even fewer that are complete and skillful.

Traceless Snow Stepping stands among the top of various Light Body Techniques... Earlier within such dense woods, Qin Fang's movement technique couldn't unfold. But now, with the area cleared by the Xuan Shui Python, ample space was provided for Qin Fang, allowing the Traceless Snow Stepping Technique to operate at its utmost.

The speed of the snake tail was incredibly fast, but Qin Fang moved quickly, shifting his steps tens of times in merely an instant, his body changing position several times in a second, creating a kind of illusion of shifting positions.

Yet it was such movement that proved exceptionally effective, the snake tail of the Xuan Shui Python swung past Qin Fang's surroundings, nearly reaching Qin Fang's body, but ultimately... all missed!

Chapter 1847 - Solo Kill of the Xuan Shui Python!

The enormous serpent tail, although the smallest part of the Xuan Shui Python's body, possesses strength that no ordinary human could withstand.

According to Qin Fang's estimate, if this tail were to strike him, the damage caused could be comparable to being hit by a car traveling at 200 kilometers per hour.

Simply put, if this tail hits Qin Fang, he would have only one outcome... instant death, perhaps without leaving a trace of his body.

Such terrifying strength can shatter a human body instantly without the slightest suspense... While Qin Fang is confident about his physical toughness, it's relative; when compared to the Xuan Shui Python, unless Qin Fang can boost his defense to over a thousand points...

Clearly, that is impossible!

So Qin Fang decisively chose to dodge...

Even so, as the serpent tail brushed past Qin Fang, the resulting gust was sharp enough to cut his face as though knives were scraping against his skin.

But Qin Fang didn't mind. Such damage posed no real threat to him, so naturally, he ignored it... then Qin Fang made his move!

"Let's see if your python skin is tougher or if my sword is sharper..."

After dodging the tail attack of the Xuan Shui Python, Qin Fang was now very close to the creature, just a simple step brought him right next to the python's body.

With the proximity, Qin Fang showed no politeness; with one hand gripping the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, he used nearly all of his strength to hack fiercely at the Xuan Shui Python's body...

This strike was absolutely powerful, infused with almost all of Qin Fang's strength, marking it as his strongest attack power...

The swing of the sword was incredibly fast, bringing a fierce gust along with a sharp, unprecedented sound.

Yet, this time, the Divine Sword did not release an overwhelming Sword Qi; instead, it was completely restrained within the sword, poised but not released...

Roar~~

The Xuan Shui Python naturally had already taken notice of Qin Fang's actions. Initially, it thought a single tail strike would kill Qin Fang, but it missed unexpectedly.

Just as it was preparing for a second attack, it saw Qin Fang striking at it; the Divine Sword, brimming with Sword Qi, made the python's large blood-red eyes reveal a hint of fear...

It even seemed as if the Xuan Shui Python sensed the threat from Qin Fang's sword, rapidly uncoiling its body as if to dodge Qin Fang's attack!

Unfortunately, it was too late to react; the python's body was just too large. Although it reacted, its massive size couldn't avoid the assault completely.

Thud~~

Qin Fang's Flowing Shadow Divine Sword swiftly landed upon the Xuan Shui Python's body. This time, no sparks flew nor was there a dull impact; instead, as if slicing through tofu, the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword seamlessly entered the Xuan Shui Python's body...

In Qin Fang's hand, the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword was a divine weapon that could slice through iron as though it were mud. Even with the python's incredibly tough skin, resilient against bullets, the sword posed a significant threat, especially in the hands of a semi-grandmaster like Qin Fang, where its power was unparalleled!

The current display was enough to prove as much, as it easily cut through the impenetrable outer layer of the Xuan Shui Python's skin.

"Die!"

However, this was not yet over. Though the sword viciously pierced the Xuan Shui Python's body, the python was too enormous, and even though Qin Fang's sword blade was approximately forty centimeters, it hadn't penetrated through the python's outer muscle layer...

Yet, Qin Fang's true killer move was now revealing its frightening fangs. At this moment, he unleashed the fierce Sword Qi contained within the Divine Sword.

Thud-thud-thud~~~

From the wound carved by Qin Fang's Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, crimson, foul-smelling snake blood gushed forth.

Moreover, the wound seemed as though it was torn by a ferocious beast; blood poured nonstop, mixed with shredded snake flesh, creating a grim and gory scene.

This python operates from the outside in, with its formidable python skin providing significant resistance, making it nearly impenetrable.

Ji Xiang was pressured so severely precisely because of this.

But attacking from the inside out is an entirely different story; within the python skin is just plain snake meat, without much defensive capability.

Now, ravaged by Qin Fang's rampant Sword Qi, it was as if a bomb was set off inside the Xuan Shui Python...

Roar~~

A fierce beast such as the Xuan Shui Python let out a scream of agony upon sustaining such a heavy injury; a part of its body was almost completely shattered by Qin Fang.

Not only causing such trauma, but Qin Fang's violent Sword Qi also directly pierced through the Xuan Shui Python's body, leaving multiple holes on the opposite side, finally breaching the python skin...

The ferocious Xuan Shui Python was now thoroughly enraged after suffering such a grievous wound.

Its head, held high, with its enormous jaw open, quickly descended on Qin Fang with terrifying speed...

The serpent's head had not yet arrived, but the foul stench it brought with it was already overwhelming, a poison in its own right, nearly knocking Qin Fang unconscious.

Luckily, Qin Fang had anticipated this move by the Xuan Shui Python and remained utterly calm instead of panicking.

As the enormous gaping maw of the Xuan Shui Python drew near, the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword in Qin Fang's hand vanished, only for a colossal object to appear — the Gatling Fire God Cannon!

"Die..."

Dah-dah-dah-dah-dah~~~

Accompanied by Qin Fang's roar, as the Xuan Shui Python's enormous mouth, lined with razor-sharp fangs, descended, Qin Fang wielded this immense weapon of destruction, unleashing a hail of bullets into the python's open mouth!

With the Gatling Fire God Cannon's terrifying firing speed of 6,000 rounds per minute, it is undoubtedly the most formidable single-man weapon in existence.

With the support of the Infinite Magazine, Qin Fang was unconcerned about the expenditure of bullets, with as much ammo as needed; he only needed to withstand the terrifying recoil of the Gatling Fire God Cannon.

This Xuan Shui Python, regardless of its age and the wisdom it might have developed, simply couldn't compare to a normal human.

This sudden and bizarre scene caught it completely off guard!

While Ji Xiang's earlier bullets were not a threat, Qin Fang's Gatling Fire God Cannon was entirely different.

Ji Xiang could only aim at critical spots like the seven-inch point, but the python's skin was too thick to pose any threat.

Now, however, Qin Fang shot directly into the open mouth of the Xuan Shui Python, targeting its most vulnerable part... yielding entirely different results!

Thud-thud-thud~~~

Suffice to say, just the endless barrage of bullets hitting the soft flesh of the Xuan Shui Python's upper palate inflicted tremendous damage.

Even more tragic was the density of these bullets; in mere seconds, they had nearly cleared away the flesh on the python's palate.

Without the barrier of this flesh, Qin Fang's bullets could directly penetrate the Xuan Shui Python's upper palate, targeting the relatively small brain!

Tragically, this twist of events happened too swiftly, leaving the Xuan Shui Python no time to react. Qin Fang's relentless bullets mercilessly flooded into its deep brain... the outcome was thusly destined!

Chapter 1848 - Xuan Shui Python, Dead!

...

The death of a Xuan Shui Python, aside from natural causes, generally occurs at the hands of a more powerful opponent...

This opponent could be a powerful human or an even more ferocious beast...

It's just that this one right here, whether it is the last Xuan Shui Python on this Earth or not, ended its long life with a very tragic fate.

The firing speed of the Gatling Fire God Cannon is truly brutal, and when it unleashes without limit, even a beast as large as the Xuan Shui Python can't withstand it.

Moreover, it directly shot into its vulnerable mouth, and after such a round, not even a deity could save its life!

Roar~~

The Xuan Shui Python suffered severe trauma, but it didn't die immediately. Instead, its ferocity was aroused, and its lantern-sized blood-red eyes stared fixedly at Qin Fang.

Then, with an earth-shattering roar, the Xuan Shui Python immediately charged fiercely at Qin Fang, completely ignoring the fire-spitting Gatling Fire God Cannon.

"Damn it!"

Qin Fang cursed, then fully activated the Traceless Snow Stepping Technique, retreating rapidly with the Gatling Fire God Cannon.

The reason for not putting this giant into the Props Box was mainly to keep it as a backup; perhaps it's not suitable as a weapon, but it could be used as a shield.

Qin Fang's speed was fast, but the Xuan Shui Python, whose life was already beyond saving and wanted to take Qin Fang down with it, was even faster, with its bloody serpent head getting dangerously close to Qin Fang.

"Watch out!"

In the distance, Ji Xiang and Monk Wukong cried out in shock as their faces changed drastically. In such a crisis, they weren't in time to help, let alone dealing any substantive damage to the Xuan Shui Python.

The Xuan Shui Python was too powerful to breach its python skin without a divine weapon, naturally making it impossible to harm it.

Now the Xuan Shui Python is crazier than ever, set on seeking revenge on Qin Fang. With its simple mind, it recognizes only Qin Fang, ignoring anyone trying to stop it.

Qin Fang knew the situation was dire, and despite continuing to fire several more bursts from the Gatling Fire God Cannon, the Xuan Shui Python disregarded it, determined to drag Qin Fang down with it...

For a beast resolved to fight to the death, even Qin Fang's powerful firepower was useless.

"Damn it, you think I'm a sick cat? Little Dragon, come out!"

Facing this crisis, Qin Fang's expression turned stone-cold, and seeing no other way to stop the Xuan Shui Python, he decided to use his ultimate ace.

Roar~~~

Just when everyone thought Qin Fang could not evade, an earth-shattering dragon's roar echoed from Qin Fang's side.

The loud and resonant sound seemed to make the entire world shake... at least in this dense forest, it stirred up a huge commotion.

The dragon's roar suggested that the seemingly peaceful forest wasn't so tranquil and hid many beasts that Qin Fang and the others hadn't yet seen!

The Xuan Shui Python, which was invincible just a moment ago, froze upon hearing this dragon's roar, its lantern-sized blood-red eyes locked on Qin Fang...

But compared to its previous fury, the Xuan Shui Python was now filled with fear, as though it was facing not Qin Fang, but an existence it was instinctively terrified of.

Dragon!

The Xuan Shui Python is an anomaly among pythons. After hundreds of years of spiritual energy, it had gained some sentience. It is said that after a thousand years, it can shed its python skin and transform into a Flood Dragon.

The world calls it a Flood Dragon.

Though named a dragon, it cannot truly be considered a True Dragon, at best a half-dragon... To become a real dragon requires countless years of cultivation.

For abnormal pythons like the Xuan Shui Python, their dream is to become a Flood Dragon...

But even a real Flood Dragon feels insignificant and humbled when facing a True Dragon, an intrinsic fear and reverence of lower species towards higher species!

The Xuan Shui Python couldn't even be considered a Flood Dragon, only having the wild instincts of a beast. This one, nourished by spiritual energy for centuries, had some sentience but was still far from becoming a Flood Dragon, let alone a True Dragon...

When a True Dragon appeared before it, even a single dragon's roar made it tremble with fear.

Not only did the Xuan Shui Python stop moving, seeing its demeanor now, it looked as though even if Qin Fang killed it with a sword, it wouldn't dare to move.

The Xuan Shui Python didn't dare move, so Qin Fang's crisis was naturally resolved, averting danger. But for safety's sake, Qin Fang maintained a certain distance, in case the Xuan Shui Python attacked again.

Chapter 1849 - Xuan Shui Python, Dead!

After all, that old saying holds true: a cornered dog will leap over a wall, and a rabbit under pressure will bite!

"Damn, if I'd known, I should have brought Little Dragon out sooner..."

Seeing such a scene, Qin Fang was in shock, but couldn't help feeling a bit regretful. The Xuan Shui Python was beyond saving, truly a pity!

If he'd released Little Dragon earlier, not only could he have resolved Ji Xiang's crisis, but he might have also preserved the Xuan Shui Python.

Taming the Xuan Shui Python as his pet wasn't realistic, Qin Fang knew that, but using it to guard this secret place was quite viable.

This secret place hadn't yielded any heaven-defying treasures for Qin Fang yet, but just the rich Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi and the rare herbs growing there made this trip worthwhile.

If he could occupy this place long-term, the benefits would only increase... Especially once Qin Fang upgrades his Cheating Skills to a Great Grandmaster Level, he could gain control over the Island-guarding Great Array outside.

He could even restore the Island-guarding Great Array to its full power, making this secret place impenetrable even to Great Grandmaster Level masters who would only find death as their path!

Such a wonderful place was on foreign soil, which displeased Qin Fang, but there was nothing he could do. However, letting it fall into foreign hands and benefiting the Dao Shen Sect was something Qin Fang couldn't allow.

Rather than let opponents take it, Qin Fang preferred to claim it himself.

Although Qin Fang didn't plan to establish a sect, having such a treasure could serve other purposes in the future.

But regrettably, it's a bit late to say this now. The Xuan Shui Python is beyond saving, with only minutes left to live.

Without the Xuan Shui Python, a natural fierce beast, Qin Fang could still occupy this secret land, but without a guardian beast, there's always the risk of Dao Shen Sect experts breaking in, rendering Qin Fang's plans futile...

Rumble~~~

Just as Qin Fang was ruminating over these thoughts, the Xuan Shui Python finally couldn't hold on and fell from the sky, crashing heavily onto the ground, creating a dense cloud of dust...

Its head had been blown apart by Qin Fang's bullet; not even an immortal could save it. Its madness earlier was just its final burst of life.

Regrettably, just as it was about to succeed, the earth-shaking dragon roar of Little Dragon terrified it, leaving it with no choice but to await death!

The Dragon Might and Dragon Qi of a True Dragon exert an overpowering restraint on lower species. Even in such a situation, the Xuan Shui Python felt no resistance and died inevitably!

The Xuan Shui Python fell, its massive head landing not far from Qin Fang, its giant blood-red eyes glaring at him.

Its gaze seemed to brim with unwillingness, yet the fear and terror overwhelmed... Rather than say it died from severe wounds, it might be more apt to say it died of fright!

For humans, dragons are mythical beings that shouldn't exist in this world, and the same goes for the Xuan Shui Python. A True Dragon shouldn't exist, even if it's the ultimate goal of every Xuan Shui Python...

But reality is harsh. The Xuan Shui Python felt the majestic aura of the Dragon Clan, and even just a trace of this aura instilled immense terror and trembling in it...

"Dead?"

Ji Xiang, Monk Wukong, and Song Qingshan quickly arrived at Qin Fang's location, looking at the enormous Xuan Shui Python with incredulous eyes.

Had they not sensed the dying life force of the Xuan Shui Python, they wouldn't have believed it.

But the Xuan Shui Python was truly dead, unmistakably so!

"Damn, scared me to death, I thought I was a goner..."

It wasn't until this moment that Ji Xiang breathed a sigh of relief. Today had exerted significant psychological pressure on him. Confronted with such a colossal creature, he once thought he was doomed.

Even with Monk Wukong's rescue, their main goal was to escape, alternating as bait to relieve the crisis.

Yet, when Qin Fang arrived, he not only saved Ji Xiang but also took down the seemingly invincible Xuan Shui Python...

Feeling relief, Ji Xiang also experienced deep fear, realizing he was just a hairbreadth away from his limit!

"Finally took it down!"

Not only Ji Xiang felt relieved, but so did Qin Fang as he saw the Xuan Shui Python truly fall, its life force gradually fading. He let out a deep sigh of relief.

Though seemingly at ease, Qin Fang was genuinely nervous himself.

Using Little Dragon as a killer move was a desperate measure for Qin Fang. He had no other choice but to gamble recklessly.

He intended for Little Dragon to reveal itself, using its immense body to shield him from what seemed to be an inescapable death trap earlier.

Yet unexpectedly, Little Dragon didn't regard the Xuan Shui Python at all, never even revealing itself. Just a dragon's roar and a hint of leaked Dragon Qi subdued the Xuan Shui Python completely...

Such a method was only possible for a powerful being like Little Dragon.

For humans, even those surpassing Great Grandmaster Rank might not accomplish this...

The Xuan Shui Python itself wasn't particularly remarkable, but its indestructible python skin, massive body, terrifying Strength, and incredible speed would even be a threat to Grandmaster-level talents like Chu Tianji without a Divine Weapon!

For this reason, Qin Fang wished to use the Xuan Shui Python as a guardian beast for this secret place... but it was a bit too late for that.

"Monk, give me a hand... this big guy is full of treasures!"

With the Xuan Shui Python dead, talking more about it was pointless, but Qin Fang couldn't pass up the treasures on it. He immediately called out to Monk Wukong.

As he spoke, two Divine Swords appeared in Qin Fang's hand, and he casually tossed one to Monk Wukong.

Qin Fang held the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, his own weapon, which he naturally wouldn't discard. Though not a "live by the sword, die by the sword" kind of swordsman, he treasured his sword greatly.

The one given to Monk Wukong was Chu Tianji's Qianyu Divine Sword, not much inferior to Qin Fang's Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, both being rare divine weaponry.

The python skin of the Xuan Shui Python was too tough; ordinary blades couldn't damage it. Only such divine weaponry could breach its defense.

And even that required masters of at least Qin Fang's caliber, fully channeling their True Qi, to cut through the python skin completely!

"Let's all lend a hand, this python skin must not go to waste... I'll have python skin armor made for each of us, probably impervious to ordinary bullets!"

Qin Fang and Monk Wukong began peeling the python skin with their divine swords, with Qin Fang thinking about its potential...

The enormous Xuan Shui Python's skin, once peeled, was vast enough to make armor for not just the four of them but even forty!

They had already experienced the python skin's hardness firsthand, as ordinary bullets didn't seem to be a problem. If layered, it might truly make bullets negligible...

Chapter 1850 - A Bountiful Harvest!

...

The Xuan Shui Python is full of treasures; this is not an exaggeration from Qin Fang, it's ironclad fact...

Even the Golden Crested Snake is considered full of treasures, and the Xuan Shui Python is several levels above it, an absolute treasure.

However, if you ask what is most precious about this Xuan Shui Python, it would definitely be its python skin which is practically indestructible.

So peeling off the python skin is a meticulous task that only Qin Fang and Monk Wukong can handle using two divine swords.

"Old Ji, Qingshan, don't just stand around..."

However, the Xuan Shui Python has other treasures, and naturally, Qin Fang won't let Ji Xiang and Song Qingshan idle. He had prepared weapons for them to collect some important treasures too.

For example, the two enormous fangs of the Xuan Shui Python, not only are they incredibly hard, but also quite huge, and they're quite poisonous.

Once removed, they can immediately become ready-made weapons with minimal processing, rivaling any divine weapon.

The snake gallbladder has tremendous medicinal value, along with snake blood and snake eyes; in short, aside from the snake meat not being very useful, everything else is a treasure and must not be wasted.

Previously, seeing the Xuan Shui Python coiled up, one could tell it was enormous, but once Qin Fang and Monk Wukong laid it flat, they realized it was exceptionally large.

In terms of length alone, it was about fifty meters. The two worked painstakingly for over two hours just to peel the python skin...

This workload was considerable; even Ji Xiang and Song Qingshan couldn't help but be surprised... In comparison, their tasks seemed much lighter.

When Qin Fang completely peeled off that enormous python skin, rolled it into a large piece, just the snake skin weighed over a hundred pounds... This was after careful peeling by Qin Fang and Monk Wukong, and if not done carefully and hastily peeled, who knows how heavy it would have been.

"Finally done, I'm exhausted..."

Once the python skin was peeled off, both Qin Fang and Monk Wukong lay on the ground, unable to muster the strength to move; it was truly exhausting.

If not for the Xuan Shui Python being dead, with its flesh somewhat softened, peeling it wouldn't have been so easy, and who knows how tired they would have been.

"But this kind of fatigue is very worthwhile..."

Although Qin Fang was tired, he wore a radiant smile, and Monk Wukong was the same; this python skin was truly worth its weight in gold.

"Indeed, using this python skin to make protective soft armor might not be inferior to the Heavenly Silkworm Silk Armor you have on..."

Qin Fang wearing Heavenly Silkworm Silk Armor is known among Monk Wukong and his companions, but aside from envy and jealousy, they can only be jealous.

The Heavenly Silkworm Silk Armor is so rare that the martial world has but a few pieces; even wanting one is out of their reach.

But now, with such a large piece of python skin from the Xuan Shui Python, there's enough to make protective soft armor for each of them and still have a surplus, how could they not be delighted?

"It's a pity we're in Japan now, otherwise I'd take this python skin back to ask Master Mingkong to make it for me... He's the top craftsman in the martial world..."

Thinking of this, Monk Wukong said somewhat regretfully.

Master Mingkong from Shaolin Temple is not only a high monk of the Buddhist Sect but also a renowned craftsman in the martial world, expert in weapons, soft armor, etc.; besides top experts from Thousand Gate, few could surpass Master Mingkong!

"No need to be disappointed! This time I'll personally handle it; the protective soft armor I'll produce won't be inferior to Master Mingkong's!"

Upon hearing Monk Wukong's words, Qin Fang was nonchalant.

Even though he hasn't crafted such armor before, he has his methods. Craftsmanship is a skill from Thousand Gate, and at a Grandmaster level, it's certainly not inferior to Shaolin Temple's Master Mingkong.

This Japan trip for Qin Fang and his group was fraught with danger, living on the edge of life and death almost constantly. One more layer of protection means greater safety.

Now that they have the Xuan Shui Python's python skin, there's no reason to waste it; making protective soft armor promptly to safeguard every partner's safety is paramount.

Moreover, Qin Fang, though not a tailor, knows crafting protective soft armor isn't like making clothes; it doesn't require much skill, as long as the material is properly treated and prepared.

Python skin is naturally for making soft armor; Monk Wukong and the others aren't greedy, one each is sufficient, and Qin Fang surely won't treat them unfairly.

As for the large remaining piece, it will naturally be kept for Qin Fang... They understand this clearly, were it not for Qin Fang taking action, they couldn't have handled the Xuan Shui Python.

Not even considering taking down the Xuan Shui Python, survival itself would have been in question!

"Right, speaking of this, I suddenly remembered. I recall that the python was about to attack you, but then there was a mysterious roar that seemed to scare the python away... What exactly happened there?"

Monk Wukong wasn't someone easily fooled. Earlier when the situation was critical, his thoughts were occupied with survival, so he didn't think much about it.

But now that things had calmed down, some details slowly began to emerge, and Monk Wukong couldn't help but inquire about it. Ji Xiang and Song Qingshan also turned to look over curiously.

In such a dire situation at the time, if it weren't for that strange roar, Qin Fang might have already fallen... It's not that they wished for Qin Fang's demise, but the event was indeed too bizarre.

"Haha... I don't know either!"

Qin Fang chuckled and said nonchalantly, "It scared me too at the time, I thought another fiercer beast appeared."

Little Dragon was Qin Fang's secret weapon. Even though Monk Wukong and the others were his closest companions, some things were better left unsaid.

Besides, Little Dragon's existence was quite fantastical, saying it out loud might not even be believed, so it's better to keep silent.

Monk Wukong and the others were taken aback and glanced at Qin Fang deeply but ultimately didn't press further. Everyone has their secrets; since Qin Fang didn't want to talk, it was inappropriate to ask more.

However, Song Qingshan furrowed his brows, seemingly recalling something, and his eyes suddenly lit up, instinctively glancing towards Qin Fang.

What met Song Qingshan's gaze was a sharp look from Qin Fang and a subtle shake of the head...

That small movement, though minor, made Song Qingshan understand.

Because he understood, Song Qingshan knew he shouldn't mention it. Anyway, he usually wasn't very talkative, so his silence didn't seem odd to anyone.

"Old Ji, keep that pair of poison fangs for me. I see you don't have a handy weapon. I'll craft a pair of daggers for you later... You can discard that scrap metal you have!"

Qin Fang didn't want Monk Wukong and the others to dwell on the matter, so he quickly changed the topic, smiling at Ji Xiang.

"You can do that?"

Ji Xiang was slightly taken aback and exclaimed in surprise.

The poison fangs were in Ji Xiang's possession, and he was planning to wait until after the trip to Japan to find a good swordsmith to forge a pair of top-quality daggers.

Ji Xiang wasn't as resourceful as Monk Wukong or even Song Qingshan. He didn't have many resources, and even his weapons were made of alloy materials, which were quite sturdy and sharp, considered quite good...

But comparisons are unfortunate; when compared, Ji Xiang felt a bit humbled!

The daggers he had before couldn't compare to Qin Fang's Flowing Shadow Divine Sword at all; one had already been sliced through by it.

Not just that, even compared to Song Qingshan's Xuanyin Divine Claw, they were several levels inferior. A brief clash left Ji Xiang's daggers defeated.

That's why, when Ji Xiang obtained the Xuan Shui Python's poison fangs, his first thought was to take them without hesitation.

"I'm not a top-tier craftsman, but making a pair of top-quality daggers for you is not a problem..."

Qin Fang gave Ji Xiang a disdainful look but understood his thoughts, so he wasn't too bothered.

Since acquiring the fusion upgrade task for the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword, Qin Fang discovered he had gained a "Crafting" skill. Although the skill wasn't very prominent and wasn't of much use, it was necessary for Qin Fang.

Until now, he hadn't needed it much, and he was too lazy to level it up. But when necessary, he could instantly elevate the crafting skill to advanced level, or even straight into grandmaster level...

Now, Qin Fang had accumulated quite a lot of experience points, so he wasn't worried about lacking proficiency!

With this skill at hand, Qin Fang could craft Ji Xiang's desired top-quality daggers himself, so why wait?

"Alright, I'll leave it to you then..."

Ji Xiang was straightforward, having spent time with Qin Fang, knowing he wasn't one to make baseless claims and was very assured, immediately nodding in agreement.

"Young Master Qin, what about these items? How should they be handled?"

Song Qingshan proactively displayed the remaining items to Qin Fang and asked.

These items were extremely valuable, rare finds, but weren't of much use to the group; only Qin Fang could make use of them.

"I'll hold onto these for now... Once I gather the medicinal ingredients, I'll prepare an elixir batch for everyone. It'll definitely be quite a surprise!"