

Humanity 1141

Chapter 1141 - 1139: Heavenly Punishment

Thinking along this line, is the Yunluo Plain after passing through the twin peaks of the Sky Supporting and Jade Pillars the abdomen of the torso?

What about the Empyrean Sea embedded above the Yunluo Plain?

Belly button?

Lu Ye was startled by the sudden thought that appeared in his mind.

This should be just a coincidence, because if such a thing were true, it would be too terrifying.

If a grand domain like the Blood Refinement World is merely the torso of a certain female creature, how enormous would she be when complete?

What kind of person in this world could sever the head and limbs of such a creature?

Yet according to common knowledge, the position pointed by Empyrean Sea is indeed the belly button.

With suspicion and doubt, his heightened spirit suddenly plummeted, as if falling from the clouds into the Abyss. When Lu Ye regained his senses, he found himself in a grand hall, with the Heaven's Augury Pillar standing before him.

The Heaven's Augury Hall atop the Sacred Mountain! Lu Ye instantly understood his location; it was also expected, as he had returned to the Nine Provinces from here initially. So now, coming back means naturally returning to this place.

This was different from when Number Nine first brought him to the Blood Refinement World. Back then, the Heaven's Augury Pillar was in a dormant state and could not be used as a teleportation beacon. Moreover, Number Nine seemed intent on letting him experience the customs of the Blood Refinement

World, hence he was sent randomly to some place in the Blood Refinement World, leading to his various encounters there.

A muffled thunder sounded from above, crackling; Lu Ye clearly sensed a strong malice engulfing him, making the entire atmosphere extremely oppressive, causing his hair to stand on end and inexplicably feel as if catastrophe was impending.

Not quite understanding what was happening, he quickly flashed out of the Heaven's Augury Hall.

Looking up, his eyes involuntarily widened.

In the sky, dark clouds weighed heavy, and numerous lightning glinted and flashed, as if Thunder Dragons were tumultuously rolling within the clouds. That intense malice emanated from here!

The moment Lu Ye stepped out of the Heaven's Augury Hall, a thunderous explosion echoed, and a Thunder Dragon meandered down from the cloud, striking directly at his location.

Lu Ye involuntarily felt an impending disaster, even though he had now ascended to the Divine Sea Level 5 realm, with formidable foundation; yet he seemed weak and flimsy in the face of such an attack.

This was no ordinary attack; this was Heavenly Punishment!

It was the manifestation of the will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain of the Blood Refinement World!

In a short moment, Lu Ye understood his predicament.

The Blood Refinement World possesses the will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain. He had long known this, so any external force would be antagonized by the will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain. This was why Number Nine had sealed his and Dao Thirteen's strength when sending them over, as only by doing so could the will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain be deceived, preventing Lu Ye from being targeted.

Like the grand senior or Lady Moon and Jian Guhong, the old veterans, all used this method to sneak into the Blood Refinement World. Upon arrival, everyone's strength was sealed.

But this time was different. Lu Ye was directly transmitted here via the Heaven's Augury Pillar, with a prominent trace and his cultivation intact.

If last time was a stealthy crossing, then this time was an outright invasion!

The will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain of the Blood Refinement World perceived this instantly, thus descending Heavenly Punishment.

To the Blood Refinement World, Lu Ye was an outsider, an intruder harboring great malice towards the entire Blood Refinement World, naturally unable to exist in this world.

From this point of view, the will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain of the Blood Refinement World is very clear; it might lack the spiritual intelligence of Number Nine, nor communicate with the creatures of the Blood Refinement World, but its existence is extremely strong and vivid.

At this moment, it was using its own means to address Lu Ye, the intruder.

Thunder Dragon descends, carrying the power to annihilate everything.

On the Sacred Island, a layer of transparent light screen suddenly formed, enveloping the entire Sacred Island in a crescent shape. Meanwhile, from all around the Sacred Island, Divine Sea Realm auras began to rise and fall.

The powerhouses of Righteous Blood Sacred Land perceived danger and activated the protective array of the Sacred Island.

Amid loud rumblings, the Thunder Dragon struck the light screen of the protective array. Under the worried gaze of numerous eyes, the light screen caved down fiercely, while activated lightning ran along the screen's edge.

In the blink of an eye, all around the protective screen of the Sacred Island was covered with bright lightning.

Fortunately, the protective array held against this Heavenly Punishment, dissipating the lightning, the screen's depression slowly restored to flatness.

Yet above the sky, the dark clouds grew even thicker and denser, with stronger forces rapidly condensing; it was foreseeable that the next Heavenly Punishment would be fiercer than this one, clearly showing the will of Heaven and Earth's in the domain of the Blood Refinement World in a stance to immediately, right now, eradicate Lu Ye, the intruder.

Lu Ye watched, his eyelids twitching; the oppressive and palpitating feeling grew more intense, an unprecedented dense crisis enveloped him completely, making him feel like sitting on pins and needles.

He attempted to conceal his aura but to no avail.

Speechless to the extreme for a moment, he never expected that upon this journey to the Blood Refinement World, he would encounter such a crisis, and now he not only put himself in peril but also risk implicating the entire Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

With a thunderous roar, the second Thunderbolt struck down, clearly greater in both speed and power compared to the first one.

From all corners of the Sacred Island came furious roars, with powerful spiritual energy undulating wildly. Clearly, it was those Divine Sea Realm cultivators exerting all their strength to unleash the protective array's might.

When the Thunder Dragon descended, the light screen of the array sagged down forcefully once more. Outside the light screen, lightning danced, and from afar, the entire Sacred Island appeared to have transformed into half an electric ball.

The mortals on the Sacred Island were extremely frightened, knowing not what had transpired or why it seemed like an apocalypse was unfolding.

At this moment, Lu Ye was suspended in mid-air, activating his Concealment and Breath-concealing Spirit Runes, which were useless.

Thoughts raced through his mind, seeking a strategy to break the impasse.

Given the intensity of the Heavenly Punishment, the protective array of the Sacred Island could only hold out for a little longer; it would inevitably be breached. Once the protective array was broken, if he continued to stay here, it would bring disaster upon the entire Sacred Island, not only sealing his own fate but potentially causing massive casualties among the mortals and cultivators on the island.

Should he retreat to the Nine Provinces?

That could be a possible option, but if he didn't resolve the issue of being targeted by the Blood Refinement World's Heaven and Earth's Will, even if he retreated to the Nine Provinces this time, he would face the same situation upon returning.

The last time he and Dao Thirteen smuggled over, his cultivation recovery was a gradual process, so he wasn't targeted by the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World.

The key to the recovery of his cultivation was obtaining something imbued with this world's information, like consuming the flesh and blood of this world's demon beasts or refining the Blood Crystals of the Blood Race here...

Instead, consuming the elixir pills or other stored items in his own storage sack proved to be of no use.

At this realization, a flash of insight struck Lu Ye's mind, vaguely grasping the key.

The Heaven and Earth's Will in the Blood Refinement World was indeed clear and intense, yet it hadn't reached the level of spiritual intelligence. From a certain perspective, it was impossible for Heaven and Earth's Will to birth spiritual intelligence.

Number Nine was a special existence, an Artifact Spirit fused with part of the Nine Provinces' Heaven and Earth's Will.

Without spiritual intelligence, no matter how clear and intense, it could easily be deceived, so acquiring something bearing this world's information was a means of deception, allowing the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World to mistakenly judge him as a domain native, thereby neutralizing the targeting naturally.

This was why last time, Lu Ye insisted on consuming the demon beasts of this world to restore his cultivation.

Simply put, Lu Ye, as an outsider intruder, was at this moment enveloped inside and out with the aura of the Nine Provinces, making his presence as striking as a beacon in the dark amid the billions of humans of the Blood Refinement World, naturally prone to being targeted.

But if he found a way to alter his own aura, he could blend seamlessly with the crowd.

Lu Ye had already formulated a plan on how to alter his aura.

While the Heavenly Punishment was still brewing the third, more severe Thunderbolt, Lu Ye had already leapt up, rushing straight out of the Sacred Island.

"Junior Brother!" His senior brother's alarmed shout came from behind.

Lu Ye's arrival had been noticed by him before, but as the Heavenly Punishment descended, he was too occupied to greet Lu Ye, as he was jointly controlling the protective array's power with the other elders guarding the Sacred Island.

Seeing Lu Ye charging towards the outside of the Sacred Island, he was filled with shock.

He knew who the Heavenly Punishment was targeting. Junior Brother hiding within the Sacred Island might have a slim chance of survival, but if he ventured beyond the island, without the protection of the array, there would be no way to survive.

Such a Heavenly Punishment, even he dared not confront directly.

"Fear not, Senior Brother, I'll be back soon!" Lu Ye responded briefly, already out of the Sacred Island, diving headlong into the Blood Sea.

To be safe, he directly activated the Blood River Technique, spreading his Blood River within the Blood Sea.

The power of the Talent Tree simultaneously activated, frantically devouring and refining the power contained within the Blood Sea.

For others, acquiring power bearing this world's information might necessitate a gradual process, impossible to achieve in a short time, but for him, it wasn't required.

Dark clouds churned like ink in the sky, continuously rolling, and on the Sacred Island, a pair of eyes looked up anxiously.

Lightning flickered within the ink clouds, seemingly about to converge into the third bolt of Heavenly Punishment, yet it failed to descend.

After a while longer, the lightning began to dissipate, and the dark clouds accumulated above the Sacred Island slowly dispersed as well.

After some time, the dark clouds vanished entirely, along with the oppressive and unsettling feeling. Above the Sacred Island, the sky was clear and blue, the sunlight spreading across.

The dramatic change made one feel as if they were in a dream.

The Divine Sea Realm cultivators of the Sacred Island thus understood that this crisis had passed, each exhaling heavily, for the spectacle of the Heavenly Punishment's descent was truly terrifying, one they had never witnessed, even themselves.

Figures swiftly darted from all corners of the Sacred Island, led by Feng Wujiang, heading towards the place where Lu Ye had disappeared.

Waiting quietly, after a short while, the seawater in the Blood Sea churned, and a figure burst through the waves.

"Junior Brother!" Feng Wujiang's anxiety vanished completely, greeting with a smile.

Lu Ye soared ahead, respectfully bowing to everyone: "Greetings, Senior Brother, greetings to all the elders, I have returned!"

Chapter 1142 Good News and Bad News

The council hall on the Sacred Island, everyone sat upright.

Compared to the last time Lu Ye was here, the number of the senior elders present had significantly decreased.

From his previous observation, including the eldest senior brother, there were over seventy top-tier Divine Sea Realm elders on the Sacred Island, but now there were only a dozen or so.

Lu Ye was most familiar with Lady Moon, Jian Guhong, Mong Jie, and Wuchang, but they were not present.

Evidently, they were not on the Sacred Island. Otherwise, they would have shown up. These top-tier senior elders clearly went out to cause trouble elsewhere; despite their age, none are known to sit idly by.

In the Nine Provinces, to pursue a higher cultivation realm, they were willing to sit through life-and-death meditation, comprehending the mysteries beyond the Divine Sea.

But here in the Blood Refinement World, such meditation is out of the question. If the power of the Sacred Island wasn't so outweighed by the entire Blood Refinement World, they would have led troops out long ago.

Though they can't lead an expedition currently, causing trouble in groups of three or five is still feasible.

For people like them, once they start moving, the troubles they cause for the Blood Race cannot be easily overlooked.

Feng Wujiang was recounting to Lu Ye the changes in the Blood Refinement World since his departure two years ago.

Nearly two years ago, the Blood Race's four armies came to besiege them. Although the Sacred Land managed to repel them, a breach was ultimately made in the last line of defense.

Originally, Righteous Blood Sacred Land could rely on this final intact defense to withstand the Blood Race's siege. But once a breach appeared, the situation changed.

The next time, the Blood Race is certain to deploy heavy troops targeting this breach specifically.

To be honest, the Sacred Land has no confidence in withstanding this, especially since the last battle significantly weakened them, with not a single Blood Race Dao soldier of the Divine Sea Realm surviving.

It can be said that compared to last time, the defensive power of the Sacred Land has diminished, coupled with the open breach, the future looks bleak.

The Blood Race is apparently aware of this. Since their last retreat, they have been actively preparing for another siege, and now, nearly two years later, their preparations are nearly complete.

In as little as six months or as long as a year, the Blood Race will besiege Righteous Blood Sacred Land again. At that time, it will be the battle that determines the Sacred Land's survival!

Facing such a situation, the Sacred Land has no particularly effective response.

After all, this is the Blood Refinement World, the realm of the Blood Race. The human race cultivator is hard to cultivate, and the Blood Race Dao soldiers are not easily obtained; the Sacred Land is passive in every aspect.

They can only do three things.

The first is to deploy the senior elders to stir up chaos, trying to kill the Blood Race elites and delay the assembly of the Blood Race army. This is why only a dozen top-tier Divine Sea Realm elders remain in the Sacred Land; everyone else has indeed gone out.

No one knows how effective this will be; whether the senior elders outside are alive or dead is unknown, as audio transmissions have a distance limit unlike the Nine Provinces' battlefield markings, which are convenient and efficient.

The second is to strengthen the Sacred Island's defensive power fully. This was evidenced in the recent Heavenly Punishment. If it were the Sacred Island's defenses from over two years ago, they might not withstand three Heavenly Punishments, but they can now, showing defense has been strengthened.

Yet passive defense is never as good as active offense. When the Sacred Land needs the protective array to survive, even the strongest defense may be breached.

The third thing is to wait.

Wait for Lu Ye to return!

Wait for him to bring enough reinforcements from the Nine Provinces to help Righteous Blood Sacred Land through this crisis.

Now Lu Ye has returned, but the reinforcements haven't yet been seen. Naturally, the others don't think no reinforcements are coming. Since Lu Ye could return, surely others are on their way too, depending on Lu Ye's actions.

Everyone is very much looking forward to this.

With a simple recount, Lu Ye understood the recent situation.

After some thought, he spoke, "I have two pieces of news, one good, one bad. Which do the elders wish to hear first?"

The white-haired Granny Jiew chuckled lightly, "The old woman can't handle a shock, let's hear the good one first."

The crowd nodded in agreement.

Lu Ye said, "The good news is that there will be many reinforcements this time."

An elder named Zong Zhen stroked his beard, intrigued, "Many? How many?"

Lu Ye said in a deep voice, "Across the entire Nine Provinces, from Divine Sea to Cloud River, while not all will come over, getting seven to eight-tenths is probably not a problem!"

It's definitely impossible for everyone to come over; some people must stay behind to oversee and guard against any eventualities. As for which sect or family members or provincial guards stay and who participates in the expedition, it will depend on the specific decisions made by those in the Nine Provinces.

As for the Spirit Stream Realm... this level of war is not too favorable for them. If nothing else, the mobility of Spirit Stream Realm cultivators is an issue, so according to the information Lu Ye received, Spirit Stream Realm cultivators will not take part in this expedition.

Leaving them to cultivate properly on the Spirit Stream battlefield is the right path. Upon reaching Cloud River, mobility is not much of an issue; at the very least, they can travel through air.

With a single sentence, the hall fell silent enough to hear a pin drop, and Zong Zhen trembled slightly, snapping off a few strands of his beard.

After a while, someone frowned and said, "It's unreasonable. The two domains are a great distance apart, and even if the Heaven's Augury Pillar could be used to teleport, not too many can come over because the cost is too vast. Kid, did you get something wrong?"

This was everyone's concern. Originally, they thought if Lu Ye could bring over a few hundred or a thousand Divine Sea Realm cultivators, it would be enough to relieve the urgent crisis. But if what Lu Ye says is true, it won't just be a few hundred or a thousand Divine Sea Realm cultivators — it's likely tens of thousands.

Not only Divine Sea Realm, but also True Lake, and Cloud River...

The number of cultivators from these two levels would only be greater.

By then, not to mention securing one Righteous Blood Sacred Land, they could launch a full-scale counterattack against the Blood Race.

But considering the cost of teleportation, everyone felt it was unrealistic.

"You all may not know, but over the years, the Blood Refinement World has been pushing in the direction of the Nine Provinces. Nowadays, above the stellar space, the Nine Provinces cultivators can already clearly see the presence of the Blood Refinement World, so although the two worlds are not close yet, they're no longer too far, and the distance is still shortening. Thus, the cost of teleportation because of distance shouldn't be an issue."

"Is there such a thing?" The crowd was taken aback.

Although they could also look up at the stellar space in the Blood Refinement World, without special sensing methods, they couldn't detect the presence of the Nine Provinces. With so many stars in the sky, who could tell which one was the Nine Provinces?

Lu Ye was able to clearly sense the existence of the Blood Refinement World only because he had refined a drop of Sacred Blood in the past.

Feng Wujiang nodded, "Indeed, the constellations in the Blood Refinement World have been constantly changing. We speculated it was always moving, but we didn't expect it to be moving towards the direction of the Nine Provinces."

Another elder, named Woo Junting, laughed, "Such a good thing, now the Blood Race is going to suffer!"

Some of them have been in the Blood Refinement World for decades, others almost two hundred years. Before Feng Wujiang established the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, they each had their own factions, and even with strong individual strength, they lived lives of hiding and sneaking, reluctant to disclose their whereabouts.

Once Feng Wujiang came to the Blood Refinement World and established the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, gathering everyone's strength together, they had a place to stay, but their situation remained stifling, facing large-scale hunts by the Blood Race every few years.

In the Nine Provinces, they were all figures of tremendous influence, always the hammer rather than the nail.

They had considered counterattacking, but the overall strength was lacking, leaving them helpless.

But now it's different, with the two domains drawing closer, teleportation is no longer a problem. When the vast majority of Cloud River Realm cultivators from the Nine Provinces enter the Blood Refinement World, they finally won't be bound to one place, and can properly vent years of pent-up frustration and depression.

For the moment, everyone was fervent with emotion.

They were well aware of the depth of the Nine Provinces cultivation world's foundation. By the time the Nine Provinces army arrives for the expedition, dealing with the Blood Race would only be a matter of a snap!

Fortunately, they were all people of steady disposition, and though excited and expectant, they reined it in.

"So what's the bad news?" Feng Wujiang asked, not forgetting what Lu Ye had just mentioned.

Lu Ye's expression was solemn, "The Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World! You just saw, as soon as I appeared, I was targeted by it, and even faced Heavenly Punishment. What about others? If Heavenly Punishment descends, however many Nine Provinces cultivators come will be how many die!"

The old elders' excitement was instantly doused, disappearing without a trace...

Oh yes, the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World was clear and strong. As an intruder, Lu Ye was targeted immediately, and without his special method to resolve the Heavenly Punishment, it surely wouldn't have stopped.

But while Lu Ye had this method, others did not.

Who could withstand the power of that Heavenly Punishment? By then, it could truly become a situation where many come to die.

In the heavy silence, someone spoke, "Perhaps if many people come at once, the Heaven and Earth's Will's targeting will weaken? Besides, Heavenly Punishment can't happen for no reason, it should have a cost, and can't go on endlessly."

"That could be, but we cannot rely on it as hope. No one has experienced such a scenario. If we misjudge, it would be the Nine Provinces cultivators who suffer losses. We bring them here to help, not to send them to their deaths."

"If the Nine Provinces side can't provide support, the Sacred Land will surely be lost. If it comes to that last step, we can only use the Heaven's Augury Pillar to return to the Nine Provinces."

"We could retreat, but the human race in the Sacred Land wouldn't be able to withdraw entirely. It would be a massacre by then."

One after another, various elders engaged in heated discussions.

Chapter 1143 Choosing the Time to Strike

If the problem of Heaven and Earth's Will in the Blood Refinement World is not resolved, then no matter how large the number of Nine Provinces cultivators, they won't be able to effectively support the Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

The situation suddenly became awkward.

Lu Ye interrupted everyone's discussion, "In this realm, the power of Heaven and Earth's Will is not something human effort can resist. I'm afraid only an existence that is also part of Heaven and Earth's Will can contend with it!"

The intense discussion subsided, and everyone displayed a contemplative expression.

Feng Wujiang said, "Junior brother, you mean..."

Lu Ye replied, "I think, since the Nine Provinces Heaven's Augury has strategized for so many years, it's impossible for them to be completely unaware of the situation in the Blood Refinement World. This can be seen from our previous infiltration into the Blood Refinement World. Heaven's Augury knew that if beings from the outside world invaded, they would face the targeting of Heaven and Earth's Will, so when sending us over, they sealed our cultivation, requiring specific methods to gradually unlock it. Given this, when Nine Provinces cultivators arrive en masse in the Blood Refinement World, Heaven's Augury cannot remain indifferent. Only an existence that is also Heaven and Earth's Will can counter it, and there is such an existence in Nine Provinces!"

His words brightened everyone's eyes.

"Of course, this is just my speculation. The actual situation needs verification, or perhaps... just directly ask!"

Feng Wujiang looked solemn, "This matter is not to be taken lightly. If junior brother has a way, it's best to verify it soon." He had also used the Heaven's Augury Pillar to communicate with the Nine Provinces Heaven's Augury, but the revelations and guidance he received were vague. His era has passed; the Nine

Provinces Heaven's Augury will no longer favor him much. But Lu Ye is different; this era clearly belongs to Lu Ye, so perhaps if Lu Ye approaches, he might get a clearer answer.

Lu Ye nodded, "Then please wait a moment."

Saying so, he flashed out of the great hall and headed towards the Heaven's Augury Hall. Upon reaching the Heaven's Augury Pillar, he placed his hand on it, attempting to connect with Heaven's Augury.

This task is quite simple in the Nine Provinces, but since they are in the Blood Refinement World and far away, Lu Ye waited for a moment before sensing a slight response from Heaven's Augury.

Number Nine's voice echoed in his mind, "What is the matter?"

Lu Ye quickly recounted the earlier encounter with the Heavenly Punishment and the issue of Heaven and Earth's Will in the Blood Refinement World, asking for a countermeasure.

Number Nine's voice sounded again, "Do not worry. I will handle the Heaven and Earth's Will of this world, and the Heavenly Punishment will not befall."

It was as he expected.

Lu Ye hurried back to the great hall, and everyone looked at him in anticipation as he relayed the result.

The dozen people all breathed a sigh of relief.

With the biggest problem resolved, the rest were not issues anymore. For a moment, they all felt a bit dazed.

Just half a day ago, they were concerned about the future survival of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land. But now, with Lu Ye's arrival, they were suddenly considering how to eradicate the Blood Race from the Blood Refinement World. The rapid change in the situation caught even these top Divine Sea Realm individuals somewhat off guard.

But this was something all welcomed with pleasure and anticipation.

The Nine Provinces cultivation world launching an expedition into the Blood Refinement World is a war between domains and a racial conflict between humans and the Blood Race. No one has experience with such a large-scale war, and as the bridgehead of the Nine Provinces cultivation world in the Blood Refinement World, the Righteous Blood Sacred Land bears significant importance.

Currently, the situation is that the enemy is in the open while we are in the dark. The Blood Race is single-mindedly focused on removing this tumor of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, unaware that they have already been targeted by human cultivators from another domain.

So, once the war breaks out, it will certainly catch the Blood Race off guard.

The next issue to consider is how to more effectively shorten the duration of the war and kill the Blood Race more efficiently.

And the most realistic issue is the timing of the war!

Choosing the right timing can achieve twice the result with half the effort, and everyone present was keenly aware of this.

"Junior brother, you must have come not only to convey information from Nine Provinces, right? Do you have some task as well?"

As someone favored by the Heaven's Augury in the previous era and now the master of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, Feng Wujiang had a deeper understanding of Nine Provinces Heaven's Augury than others. However, unlike Lu Ye, he had never directly encountered or communicated with Number Nine, so he wasn't familiar with its intricacies.

Nonetheless, he understood the nature of Nine Provinces Heaven's Augury. Lu Ye's arrival at this time wasn't just to convey information; he was likely entrusted with some special tasks as well.

Lu Ye nodded, "I brought over a hundred Heaven's Augury Pillars. It seems the intention is for me to place these pillars throughout the Blood Refinement World so that when the war breaks out, Nine Provinces cultivators could leverage the different Heaven's Augury Pillars to directly enter various areas of the Blood Refinement World."

Feng Wujiang immediately showed an expression of realization.

When he first arrived in the Blood Refinement World, he also brought a Heaven's Augury Pillar, which now stands in the Heaven's Augury Hall. It was through this pillar that the Righteous Blood Sacred Land could intermittently receive supplies from Nine Provinces. Otherwise, given the situation in the Blood Refinement World, even if he gathered all the old predecessors to establish the Sacred Land, there wouldn't have been enough resources to perfect it, let alone nurture human cultivators.

If he could bring one Heaven's Augury Pillar, then Lu Ye could naturally bring them as well.

He just didn't expect Lu Ye to bring over a hundred at once.

Now what Lu Ye needs to do is choose suitable locations to place these Heavenly Pillars.

"What ideas do you have for placing the Heavenly Pillars, Junior Brother?" Feng Wujiang asked.

A fierce gleam flashed in Lu Ye's eyes: "I plan to place some around the Empyrean Sea! That way, when the Blood Clan Army besieges the Sacred Land, our Nine Provinces cultivators can descend like divine weapons and encircle them in turn. At that time, the elite forces from the Sacred Land will join forces with the reinforcements from the Nine Provinces, catching the Blood Clan Army completely off guard!"

A dozen or so elders all blinked at his words. Lu Ye had always given them the impression of being a gentle and humble young man, yet deep down he had such fierceness. This fierceness was clearly inherited from the Sacred Master's lineage. Though the Sacred Master usually appears warm and modest, he becomes extremely violent and brutal when fighting Blood Race experts. They had personally witnessed the Sacred Master bludgeon a Sacred Seed Blood Race to death. It was that very battle that cemented Feng Wujiang's position as Sacred Master.

Each of them was a powerful force meant to suppress an era, but compared to Feng Wujiang, there was still some gap.

If the Blood Race truly were to be counter-encircled by the Nine Provinces army while besieging the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, with coordinated efforts from the Sacred Land's side, there would be untold casualties!

Over the years, whenever the Blood Race besieged the Sacred Land, their forces were always enormous. If such a Blood Clan army were devastated, the Blood Race's foundation would suffer greatly.

Though it might not pacify the Southern Territory of the Blood Refinement World in one battle, at least in an area spanning a million miles, the Blood Race would cease making any significant moves.

At that time, the human race army could march north, uniting with scattered human cultivators along the way, to clean sweep the entire Blood Refinement World.

It's a simple tactic, yet the most effective, hitting the unprepared Blood Race.

Moreover, this way, the timing of the conflict could also be determined, set for the next time the Blood Clan Army besieges the Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

No one had any objections to this.

In terms of time, the longer the delay now, the more favorable it is for the Nine Provinces. The later the war starts, the nearer the two domains would be, making it easier for Nine Provinces cultivators to teleport over via the Heavenly Pillars when the time comes.

Of course, it can't be too late. If they wait for the two domains to collide before starting the conflict, it'll be too late; they must grasp the right timing.

"Though the Empyrean Sea is vast, fewer than ten Heavenly Pillars should suffice if placed there. We can take care of this," Feng Wujiang suggested.

"I was thinking the same." Lu Ye said as he handed ten Heavenly Pillars from his supply to Feng Wujiang.

As for the remaining Heavenly Pillars, he would need to place them himself.

"Would you need assistance from the Sacred Land in this matter?" Feng Wujiang asked.

Lu Ye shook his head: "Senior Brother and the elders can stay at the Sacred Land, I'll handle the rest. It just means traveling to more places."

Actually, assistance would undoubtedly increase efficiency, but among the elders stationed at the Sacred Land, there were no suitable candidates; this task is perfect for Ghost Cultivators.

Heavenly Pillars must be placed in locations rich in nature's spiritual energy for them to function effectively.

Like on the Unparalleled Continent, four Heavenly Pillars were placed in the Four Great Secret Realms separately because secret realms contain Earth Veins.

In the Blood Refinement World, areas dense with nature's spiritual energy are usually where Grotto Heaven Blessed Lands are located. The Blood Race gathers in those places, so one must slip in quietly, a task fit for Ghost Cultivators, unsuitable for others.

Of course, one could also storm in directly, but that would expose some elements which could attract the attention of the Blood Race, which wouldn't be good.

This must be done secretly.

Among the dozens of elders in the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, only a few Ghost Cultivators led by Wuchang are present, and right now, none of them are at the Sacred Land.

"Then I shall trouble you, Junior Brother." Feng Wujiang nodded slightly.

He wasn't particularly worried about Lu Ye's safety.

A few years ago, when Lu Ye first came to the Blood Refinement World, he was only at the True Lake Realm, and even then he managed to make his way from the Northern Territory of the Blood Refinement World all the way to the Empyrean Sea. There was no reason that now, at the Divine Sea Realm, it would be more dangerous.

His junior brother, favored by Heaven's Augury, surely possesses many abilities that ordinary people don't have. Let alone his mastery of Soul Taming, which is incomparable to others.

Acting alone, he can use Soul Taming to enslave the Blood Race and disguise himself, unlike if others were with him, which wouldn't be as convenient.

"No time should be wasted, I'll set out immediately."

Although the preparations before the battle are a lengthy process, for Lu Ye to place numerous Heavenly Pillars as early as possible is beneficial; even placing one more Heavenly Pillar gives Nine Provinces cultivators an extra choice to teleport to the Blood Refinement World in the future.

He left as he decided to, but before departing, Feng Wujiang handed him a jade tablet, solemnly instructing: "If you encounter danger, channel your spirit force into this. Elders who are out in the field carry the same kind of jade tablet, and if they are not too far, they will detect it and may assist you at critical moments!"

Chapter 1144 Bloodline Suppression

Besides the jade tablet, Lu Ye also received a map of the Blood Refinement World from his Master Brother.

This map is the result of years of exploration by many senior cultivators in the Blood Refinement World. While not as detailed as the ten-part map of the Nine Provinces, it's still quite sufficient.

At least it's much more detailed than the map Lu Ye got from Lann Qiyue last time.

Without further ado, upon exiting the grand hall, he immediately saw a brawny figure standing woodenly outside.

It was Dao Thirteen.

Having been imprinted with the Soul Taming Divine Runes by Lu Ye, he could sense Lu Ye's presence to a certain extent.

Seeing Lu Ye again, he forced a stiff smile on his face, then sprinted over with cheerful steps, looking exactly like a lost pet dog finding its owner.

"Stay here!" Lu Ye ordered, and shot skyward.

The smile on Dao Thirteen's face vanished instantly as he lowered his head, sullen and disheartened...

Last time when Lu Ye returned to the Nine Provinces, he couldn't follow. Finally, meeting again this time, Lu Ye unexpectedly didn't take him along once more, leaving him a bit upset!

His figure dashed out of the Sacred Island, crossed over the Empyrean Sea, and headed straight north.

Last time, starting from the Thousand Streams Blessed Land, Lu Ye journeyed through mountains and rivers, eventually reaching the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, a trip taking several months. Luckily, he chanced upon Jian Guhong and others, who brought him into the Righteous Blood Sacred Land; otherwise, the time spent would have been even greater.

This demonstrated the vastness of the Blood Refinement World.

But back then, he merely had True Lake Realm cultivation; now, with Divine Sea Level 5 cultivation, the speed alone is incomparable to before.

Lu Ye quietly calculated. At his current pace, if he takes a straight path from the Empyrean Sea to the Thousand Streams Blessed Land, it shouldn't take two months.

Yet he was tasked with setting up Heaven's Augury Pillars throughout the Blood Refinement World, naturally unable to take a straight path. With a bit of planning, he decided on a zigzag path.

This way, he can find suitable spots along the way to install Heaven's Augury Pillars, allowing the Nine Provinces cultivators to teleport directly to various places in the Blood Refinement World when the war starts, enabling flowering everywhere.

Time might be tight, but he can only give it his best effort now.

With the plan settled, the first task was to catch a suitable blood race member, imprint them with the Soul Taming Divine Runes, and turn them into his soul slave.

His identity as a human race is ultimately inconvenient within this Blood Refinement World, unless he constantly uses Concealment Spirit Runes to hide his presence, which would be too troublesome.

Therefore, the best way is to mimic last time's strategy. When he departed the Thousand Streams Blessed Land last time, he had a blood race soul slave named Yu Lingfeng, whose cover reduced many hassles.

A hundred thousand miles around Empyrean Sea is devoid of any life forms.

The blood race dare not casually step into this area to avoid being slain by humans of the Divine Sea Realm out for a stroll. As for the human race... Ever since the Righteous Blood Sacred Land was established, the Master Brother and others had relocated the human race within a hundred thousand mile radius into the Sacred Island, these humans being the current foundation of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

Looking across the entire Blood Refinement World, the vicinity of the Empyrean Sea is the most sparsely populated.

Only after crossing the hundred thousand mile range did Lu Ye see traces of human presence. There were villages of humans, as well as caves of blood race, though very sparse.

The map given by Master Brother marked few Grotto Heaven Blessed Lands, but they don't need to be sought deliberately; just follow the direction where Heaven and Earth spirit force gathers, and they can naturally be found.

Three days after leaving the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, Lu Ye flew from high above, and saw several streaks of blood light pass from the side a distance away.

The other party evidently noticed him, too. Almost simultaneously, they tacitly changed direction, speeding towards each other.

Lu Ye intended to find a suitable soul slave among them; one Divine Sea Realm blood race member was a good choice.

As for these blood race members, they obviously sensed Lu Ye's identity as a human, harboring ill intentions.

The fleeing light of humans and blood races is different. Due to blood techniques, the fleeing light of blood race is blood-colored, easily identifiable.

Normally, when blood race encounters humans speeding around, they avoid them. Recently, Divine Sea Realm experts from the Righteous Blood Sacred Land have been stirring up trouble everywhere, and those human experts are not something ordinary blood race can confront; only Sacred Seeds can challenge them.

But the spirit force Lu Ye showcased now belonged only to the Divine Sea Level 5 realm, clearly not the top-tier experts, prompting the blood race's interest.

Under mutual intention, the distance quickly shortened.

The blood race saw Lu Ye's appearance, evident relief washed over them. Being so young, it seemed impossible for Righteous Blood Sacred Land's top-tier experts to have such a youthful face, naturally assuming Lu Ye was just a regular Divine Sea Realm.

Even so, the leading Divine Sea Realm blood race was not careless. Possessing Divine Sea Level 6 cultivation, he was a whole tier higher in realm than Lu Ye. Though his subordinates were all True Lake Realm, the blood techniques that blood race cultivates in the same vein could offer him considerable assistance.

If he wants to secure Lu Ye in one fell swoop, he'll have to employ the most powerful blood technique to create a suitable combat space; otherwise, if that human race across detects unfavorable conditions, he could very well escape.

In an instant, the Divine Sea Realm blood race hatched a plan.

At the same time, Lu Ye was also considering how to subdue this blood race.

It's certainly not difficult to kill, but killing the enemy and capturing them alive are two different things; the former is much simpler. Particularly after capturing them alive, he still needs to find a way to break through the opponent's psyche defense and plant the Soul Taming Divine Runes in their Divine Sea.

A few years ago, during his journey south, although he had planted Soul Taming Runes in many Blood Race members, they were basically at the Blessed Land Master's level, which is the True Lake Realm.

Only through a stroke of luck did he manage to enslave a Heavenly Venerable Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm.

Soul Taming is powerful, but wanting to deploy it is not an easy matter.

Therefore, he must ensure that after displaying his formidable strength, this Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm would not escape, or else, with the Blood Race's adept Blood Escape Technique, pursuing them would be quite difficult.

He needs to fight swiftly to prevent attracting the attention of nearby Blood Race members.

As both calculated, they simultaneously activated a technique.

Blood River Technique!

As a Final Achievement secret technique within the Blood Technique, the Blood River Technique integrates both offense and defense, especially effective in trapping the enemy. Once the enemy falls into the Blood River, if unable to escape, they can only be at one's mercy.

The Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm shuddered, blood Qi surged, and instantly a Blood River unfolded. At the same time, several True Lake Realm Blood Race members under him also activated the Blood River Technique, merging their Blood Rivers with his, enlarging the Blood River's scale.

Almost simultaneously, the Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm witnessed a shocking scene: the human race flying towards him was also surrounded by blood mist, unfolding a Blood River.

Why can a human race also deploy the Blood River Technique?

He didn't understand.

Moreover, the Blood River Technique displayed by this human race seems to be even more intricate than his own, despite being of pure Blood Race lineage; especially the scale of the Blood River, which is immense, even with several attendants assisting him, cannot compare.

In comparison, it's like a small snake versus a python.

Lu Ye was somewhat surprised too, because previously when deploying the Blood River Technique, it wasn't of such large scale. However, considering the refinement of a vast vitality of the Insect Race after retaliating against the Great Secret Realm of the Insect Race, the growth in the Blood River is normal?

After all, its foundation is vitality, the stronger the vitality, the greater the displayed power.

After leaving the Great Secret Realm of the Insect Race, he hadn't activated the Blood River Technique again, and didn't realize such changes.

It's a good thing for him.

But for the Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm it's a dreadful thing. If only the Blood River's scale was smaller than Lu Ye's, it would be fine, but what truly unsettles him is the intangible pressure emanating from Lu Ye's Blood River, causing his bloodline to tremble and his mind to be restless.

This is... Bloodline Suppression!

The opponent is a Sacred Seed!

The Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm was greatly alarmed, only managed to exclaim: "Spare me, Saintly Venerable." The two churning Blood Rivers were already colliding.

Like a big fish swallowing a small fish, Lu Ye's Blood River directly enveloped the opponent's Blood River. His figure shuttled within the Blood River, with a few flashes of the saber, the several True Lake Realm Blood Race members had already perished.

Lu Ye was somewhat puzzled, as whether True Lake Realm Blood Race or Divine Sea Realm Blood Race, all displayed horrified expressions. Combined with the previous words shouted by the Divine Sea Realm Blood Race, he suddenly had some guesses.

The Boulder Mountain Saber rested on the neck of the Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm, spirit force flickered, licking his skin like a venomous snake.

A low voice sounded: "How do you want to die?"

The Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm trembled all over, never having resisted, and spoke in a trembling voice: "I did not know the Saintly Venerable was present, I have offended you, please forgive me!"

Lu Ye's eyes slightly lowered, shouting: "Open your Divine Sea!"

The Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm quivered nervously: "What does the Saintly Venerable intend?"

Though facing a Sacred Seed with inherent bloodline suppression, opening the Divine Sea still caused instinctive repulsion.

Lu Ye said nothing, just slightly pressed the Boulder Mountain Saber against his neck.

Instantly, the Blood Race cried out in pain.

Such minor flesh wounds were naturally insufficient to make a Divine Sea Realm react so strongly; it was because the Boulder Mountain Saber, ever since integrating with the Soul Severing Saber, possesses soul severing capabilities, even the smallest cut impacts his psyche, the feedback felt as if being directly slashed by a saber.

Realizing if he didn't comply, he would truly die here, the Blood Race of the Divine Sea Realm dared not hesitate and promptly opened his Divine Sea.

Lu Ye was aware, quickly activating the Soul Taming Psyche to construct the Soul Taming Divine Runes deep within his Divine Sea.

After a while, Lu Ye withdrew the Boulder Mountain Saber.

The surging Blood Rivers also separated, returning into the bodies of both individuals respectively.

Chapter 1145 Summoning

"Get down!" Lu Ye called out and was the first to swoop downward. They were too conspicuous in the sky, and although the fight just now was brief, it was inevitable some noise had attracted the nearby Blood Race. He had something he wanted to figure out, so he naturally needed to find a suitable place for conversation.

The Blood Race hurriedly followed.

In a short while, Lu Ye and a Blood Race arrived at a secluded location. Lu Ye stood still and looked at the obedient, respectful Blood Race following him closely.

After planting Soul Taming, this guy became his soul slave, so such respect was natural.

"What's your name?"

"Humble Loo Chang," the Blood Race replied with his head lowered.

"Lift your head and look at me."

Loo Chang quickly raised his head to look at Lu Ye and, after a moment, revealed a puzzled expression. "Saintly Venerable... are you of the human race or the Sacred Race?"

Although those imprinted with the Soul Taming Psyche would be endlessly loyal to Lu Ye, incapable of rebellion, their spiritual intelligence wouldn't be affected, nor would their thinking ability be impaired.

So, Loo Chang was truly puzzled at this moment because he initially thought Lu Ye was a Sacred Venerable disguised as a human. But, upon closer inspection now, he seemed not to be.

"Which race do I look like?"

Loo Chang shook his head. "The humble doesn't know."

Lu Ye slightly activated the Blood Technique, and instantaneously, a blood mist enveloped his body.

Loo Chang was suddenly extremely terrified. "Saintly Venerable, please don't be angry. If the humble has spoken or done wrong, please enlighten me, Saintly Venerable."

Lu Ye understood.

Without activating the Blood Technique, the Blood Race couldn't feel the bloodline suppression. However, once he activated the Blood Technique, the bloodline suppression would become evident, which was why Loo Chang was so terrified.

This was something Lu Ye hadn't anticipated. Just like the changes in the Blood River, if not displayed, it was entirely undetectable.

When the Blood Race army besieged the Righteous Blood Sacred Land last time, Lu Ye, while preparing to ascend to the Divine Sea Realm, delved deep into the Blood Sea and, through a coincidence, refined a drop of Sacred Blood, obtaining the Blood Race's bloodline inheritance.

The Sacred Blood is key to the Blood Race achieving the Sacred Seed. Every Sacred Seed has once received Sacred Blood in the Blood Sea.

After refining that drop of Sacred Blood, Lu Ye ascended to the Divine Sea Realm. However, since then, he hadn't fought with the Blood Race again, so he naturally wasn't aware that he had acquired some abilities of the Sacred Seed, such as bloodline suppression against ordinary Blood Race.

In some sense, he could be considered a Sacred Seed now, but he remained part of the human race.

Why is it this way?

Logically, the Talent Tree could burn away all impurities. Even if the Sacred Blood had something special, it would lose its ability to create a Sacred Seed after being burnt. Hence, he shouldn't have the ability to suppress the bloodlines of the Blood Race.

But thinking again, if even the Blood Race's inheritance could be obtained, obtaining the abilities of a Sacred Seed didn't seem so strange.

Within the Sacred Blood, there must have been something even the Talent Tree couldn't burn or didn't need to burn. After refining and absorbing it, he not only gained the bloodline inheritance from the Blood Race but also acquired the competencies of a Sacred Seed.

An unexpected delight!

When he set out from the Thousand Streams Blessed Land, Lann Qiyue once gave him a piece of Sacred Blood Jade, a creation nurtured by her own bloodline, wielding great deterrent power against ordinary Blood Race when activated.

However, over the years, the Sacred Blood Jade had gradually lost its effectiveness, or Lu Ye would have used it against the enemy this time.

Now he possessed the saintliness of a Sacred Seed, rendering the Sacred Blood Jade unnecessary.

This means he has the power of life and death over ordinary Blood Race and can plant Soul Taming Divine Runes at will in any ordinary Blood Race.

This would evidently greatly assist in his current mission.

"Is there a Grotto Heaven nearby?" Lu Ye asked.

Loo Chang respectfully replied, "Three hundred miles to the east, there is a Sea Leap Grotto Heaven. Humble has some acquaintance with Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable."

"Lead me there!"

Moments later, two beams of light soared into the sky, heading eastward.

Before long, they reached the location of the Sea Leap Grotto Heaven. Loo Chang indeed had a close relationship with the Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable here, leading Lu Ye straight inside. Instead of obstructing them, the Blood Race inside the Grotto Heaven warmly welcomed them.

Loo Chang inquired a bit, learning that the Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable was indeed inside the Grotto Heaven, so he didn't stop for a moment, heading directly to the Grotto Heaven's back courtyard.

Moments later, they met, exchanging pleasantries.

Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable was curious about Loo Chang bringing a human over, but Loo Chang claimed it was a newly acquired Blood Slave, earning much envy from Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable.

It is known that although the Blood Race has the ability to enslave humans, the stronger the cultivation of the Blood Race, the less likely they are to do so, essentially finding no humans of substantial strength. Divine Sea Realm Blood Race enslaving those of Cloud River Realm or Spirit Stream Realm — what's the use of that?

Generally, only Blood Race members with low cultivation take in blood slaves.

So Lu Ye, a Blood Slave at the Divine Sea Level 5, was quite enviable.

After a few idle words, Loo Chang mysteriously wanted to show Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable something good, so the Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable dismissed those around him.

In an instant, the Blood River surged, and an invisible pressure suddenly descended, and the Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable experienced the same fate as Loo Chang.

Though puzzled as to how a human could suppress his bloodline, the aura of the Sacred Seed was genuine, and he was confusedly imprinted with the Soul Taming Divine Runes by Lu Ye, becoming one of the soul slaves.

After that, things progressed smoothly. Lu Ye had the Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable find a suitable and concealed location where he personally planted a Heaven's Augury Pillar, and instructed the Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable to make this place a forbidden land, prohibiting any Blood Race members from entering or exiting.

The Sea Leap Heavenly Venerable naturally complied.

From entering the Sea Leap Grotto Heaven to leaving, it only took about one hour.

Proceeding along his route, he followed the map in a zigzag pattern, seeking suitable places to plant the Heaven's Augury Pillars.

With Loo Chang providing cover, the journey was indeed much less troublesome, not to mention how entering various grotto heavens became much easier.

Lu Ye keenly sensed that the Blood Race indeed had intentions of amassing a large army, as each grotto heaven housed a large number of Blood Race members, ready to rally into an army and march toward the Emyrean Sea.

The reason for their inaction so far was clearly their effort to gather more troops. The Righteous Blood Sacred Land, a thorn in the Emyrean Sea for decades, finally presented a chance for complete eradication, and the Blood Race was determined to give it their all.

The indications of the Blood Race army's assembly grew clearer the closer they were to the Emyrean Sea.

Frequently, Lu Ye saw scenes of the Blood Race flying southward in groups in midair. In such cases, Lu Ye selectively intervened.

He took out smaller groups of Blood Race members, while temporarily sparing the larger ones.

His mission was to plant as many Heaven's Augury Pillars as possible. Time was of the essence, and he couldn't afford to waste it heedlessly.

A month after leaving the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, he had used up roughly a dozen Heaven's Augury Pillars. At this rate, it would take him nearly half a year to plant them all.

It was too long! Yet he had no better solutions, feeling somewhat troubled. He could only hurry along the way, swiftly converting Heavenly Venerable Blood Race into soul slaves whenever he found a suitable spot, secretly planting Heaven's Augury Pillars.

A half month later, as Lu Ye and Loo Chang flew through the air, he suddenly sensed something and picked up a jade tablet from his waist. Focusing his mind, he distinctly felt a guiding signal emanating from the jade tablet.

The jade tablet had been given to him by his senior brother before he left. All the senior elders leaving the Righteous Blood Sacred Land carried such a jade tablet, which could be used to contact each other or signal for help within a certain range.

This device, unlike audio transmission stones, could not relay clear messages, but its effective range was much greater.

His senior brother gave him the jade tablet to seek assistance in case of danger when traveling outside, with the hope that a nearby elder might come to his aid.

But during his journey, Lu Ye hadn't needed to use the jade tablet, yet kept it attached to his waist for unexpected emergencies.

The jade tablet's activity at this moment indicated that nearby, an elder was gathering people, or perhaps facing some danger and needed rescue.

He did not dare to delay, promptly following that guiding signal.

After flying for four hours straight, he landed on a barren mountain, searched around carefully, and found a concealed cave entrance where he sauntered inside.

It was a cavern, quite spacious, yet devoid of any human presence.

Lu Ye spoke up: "Which elder is here?"

In the near distance, the Void rippled, revealing a familiar silhouette with a bewildered look: "Lu Ye, kid, why are you here? Have you returned from the Nine Provinces?"

The one using the jade tablet to gather people was Wuchang! Among the elders, he was one of those who knew Lu Ye best.

Lu Ye looked intently, closely inspecting. From the looks of it, Wuchang wasn't injured or facing any clear danger, so it was unclear why he had gathered people. But all these elders were scattered outside doing whatever they were up to, and unless it was something major, they wouldn't casually gather people.

"Greetings, elder." Lu Ye greeted.

Wuchang approached with a laugh: "You good kid, I knew you would make it back. When did you return?"

"A month and a half ago," Lu Ye replied.

"It's been some time then. I wasn't in the Sacred Land, so I didn't know. However, the Sacred Master seems at ease, actually allowing you to leave the Sacred Land alone. Did you come out for something specific?"

"I'm on a mission, actually needing elder's help."

Lu Ye was quite hopeful to see Wuchang, because when it came to placing the Heaven's Augury Pillars, ghost cultivators possessed unique advantages. He still had many Heaven's Augury Pillars on hand and could share some with Wuchang for assistance, thereby improving efficiency.

Wuchang chuckled: "Let's hear it."

Lu Ye then recounted the current situation in the Nine Provinces and the decision to soon embark on a Blood Refinement World expedition, inciting Wuchang's fervor and enthusiasm.

Chapter 1146 Arrangements

Although all of these Wuchang people have achieved the pinnacle of cultivation, reaching the Divine Sea Realm, they would not leave the Righteous Blood Sacred Land unless absolutely necessary.

The last time the Blood Race army besieged the Sacred Land, it resulted in the final line of defense being breached, leaving a gap, and if it happens again, the Sacred Land may not hold.

Lu Ye, before leaving, said he would definitely return and bring back a group of allies, but such matters are unpredictable.

What if Lu Ye doesn't come back? What if the allies he brings aren't numerous enough?

So they are also doing their best.

They spread out to attack, stirring up chaos, striving to attack and kill the Blood Race while delaying the assembly of the Blood Race army.

Now that Lu Ye has returned and brought such great news, how could Wuchang not be excited?

With the entire Nine Provinces cultivation world as a backing, the human race is certainly not afraid of the mere Blood Race.

He truly did not expect such a dramatic change in the situation, mainly because this fact is beyond imagination.

"Do the others know?" Wuchang asked.

Lu Ye shook his head: "I have only encountered you, senior, since leaving the Sacred Land, and haven't met anyone else yet."

Wuchang said: "We must quickly inform them of this good news, leave it to me to handle. What is your task?"

Lu Ye then took out a Heaven's Augury Pillar: "To place these in various parts of the Blood Refinement World, I need your help, senior."

Wuchang understood instantly: "How many are there?"

Lu Ye took out all the Heaven's Augury Pillars.

Wuchang grinned: "This time it's really a big move, if we place all these things, there will be no safe place in the Blood Refinement World. Give me half, coincidentally I need to find those old immortals, two matters handled at once."

Lu Ye had no objection and immediately handed over half of the Heaven's Augury Pillars to Wuchang.

"What was the purpose of the summons, senior?" Lu Ye finally had a chance to inquire about Wuchang's intentions.

If not injured needing support, there must be another reason.

"To kill Sacred Seeds!" Wuchang's expression suddenly turned fierce.

Lu Ye couldn't help but raise an eyebrow, admiring the bold appetite of this ghost cultivator senior; however, killing Sacred Seeds is impossible relying solely on him. Every Sacred Seed possesses power matching that of these old seniors, one-on-one, no one can kill a Sacred Seed, naturally requiring allies to be summoned.

Unexpectedly, instead of summoning others, Lu Ye himself was summoned, a coincidence indeed.

"If we intend to kill a Sacred Seed, senior, just the two of us might not be enough." Lu Ye had some doubts, although Wuchang is very powerful, and his own strength isn't weak either, Sacred Seeds are not entities that can be easily slain.

The same principle applies, combat involves both defeating and killing, and the latter is considerably more difficult.

Especially with the Blood Race's Blood Escape Technique, unparalleled in ingenuity, even if our side truly holds the advantage, any besieged Sacred Seed would quickly escape. Who could chase them down?

"Of course, it's not just the two of us; there are others nearby. It's uncertain how many might come, let's wait and see. However, Lu Ye, this is dangerous work, it's best if you don't get involved."

Although Lu Ye sensed that Lu Ye's cultivation had reached Divine Sea Level 5, for such level combat, Level 5 cultivation is indeed a bit low. Wuchang was concerned for Lu Ye's safety, hence the warning.

Lu Ye smiled: "Senior underestimates me, I cannot guarantee much, but once the battle starts, I can certainly avoid holding you back, senior. By then, you seniors will take charge, and I will assist and cover the formation, playing a supporting role."

Although time was tight before, now that half the Heaven's Augury Pillars have been distributed to Wuchang, time has eased considerably.

The seniors intend to assassinate Sacred Seeds, such a significant matter is not something Lu Ye would miss out on. Sacred Seeds are the strongest forces of this world, their number isn't very large yet not very few in this vast domain. When the two races clash, they might meet, understanding a Sacred Seed's strength in advance is beneficial.

Seeing his determination, Wuchang could say no more.

The two then waited silently, with Loo Chang standing quietly aside throughout, without uttering a word.

After one incense stick's time had passed, Lu Ye sensed an aura rapidly approaching, and shortly, a figure walked into the cave.

He stood tall, straight as a sword, his aura was restrained, yet still exuded sharpness.

It was clearly Jian Guhong.

Seeing Lu Ye, Jian Guhong's reaction mirrored Wuchang's, both surprised, and without waiting for Lu Ye to explain, Wuchang volunteered information about the situation.

While speaking, yet another individual was summoned.

It was an old senior named Wey Fufeng.

Thus followed another round of surprise, and Wuchang launched into a new narration.

"Good, good, good!" Wey Fufeng stroked his beard, his old heart greatly comforted, "I was worried about the next major siege of the Blood Race, but unexpectedly the situation took such a sharp turn, revealing a bright future. Evidently, our Nine Provinces will flourish, and the human race will prosper."

Jian Guhong nodded and said, "In this way, all our previous worries are no longer an issue. So, Wuchang, have you called us together for this matter?"

"Naturally not. Earlier, I didn't know that Lu Ye had already returned. Since he was nearby, he was summoned too."

"Then what is the matter?"

Wuchang chuckled, "I want to kill a Sacred Seed and need help."

Wey Fufeng glanced at Wuchang and said, "Over the years, you've attacked Sacred Seeds many times but never succeeded. So where does this confidence come from this time? Sacred Seeds usually stay inside their Sacred Land, full of strong practitioners. If we are exposed, even with Jian and me supporting you, you may not escape."

Wuchang curled his lips, "Am I so foolish to go to the Sacred Land to act? It's naturally in the wild."

Jian Guhong's eyes glinted sharply, "Tell us more."

"Come with me," Wuchang beckoned and flew out first.

No need to wait any longer; since no one has arrived by now, they probably won't come. The jade tablet's sensing is also limited in distance.

The group exchanged glances and followed closely.

As they flew forward, Wuchang transmitted through mental consciousness, "I accidentally stumbled upon the tracks of a Sacred Seed yesterday. I intended to follow him to see if I could find an opportunity to ambush him. Unexpectedly, that guy entered the Blood Pool, seemingly to cultivate. I thought it was an opportunity, so I gathered the team."

Jian Guhong and Wey Fufeng understood Wuchang's plan immediately upon hearing this.

This clearly was an ambush.

Indeed, it was a good opportunity. Over the years, the elders of Nine Provinces fought fiercely with the Sacred Seeds but honestly have not achieved any victories. So far, the only person who successfully killed a Sacred Seed in direct combat was Feng Wujiang.

If successful this time, the death of a Sacred Seed would yield considerable gains. Solving one before the two races clash could reduce many losses for the human race.

But killing a Sacred Seed is not so simple. Generally, Sacred Seeds stay within their Sacred Land, rarely leaving it. Even someone like Wuchang, a Ghost Cultivator, wouldn't rashly invade such a dangerous place.

When a Sacred Seed leaves the Sacred Land, it is also difficult to track their movements. Once elders discovered the Sacred Seed, he would notice them as well.

Only Ghost Cultivators like Wuchang have the chance to detect the movements of a Sacred Seed without being discovered, leading to today's action.

The Blood Pool that the Sacred Seed entered was not far from the gathering point, totaling less than about 30 miles.

Soon, the group arrived at a location 10 miles from the Blood Pool, where they collectively restrained their aura and quietly observed from a distance, indeed seeing a Blood Pool there, its Blood Water surging.

"The time is still short; the Sacred Seed must be in the Blood Pool. His perception of the outside world is extremely vague at the moment, so even if we wait there, he won't notice. My suggestion is to set up formations in advance to trap him, and when he appears, we can join forces to kill him."

Ghost Cultivators generally excel in the Array Path, especially top-tier ones like Wuchang, whose accomplishments in formations are surely high. Using formations to kill enemies is quite reasonable.

"But there's a problem now. If the Sacred Seed senses something amiss, he might escape back to the Blood Pool, and we'll have no way to deal with him then." Wuchang turned to Wey Fufeng, "Old Wei, any solutions?"

He was powerless over it himself and didn't need to ask Jian Guhong. Being a sword cultivator, he typically does not rely on external forces, as is traditional for sword cultivators. So, if anyone could solve this, it would be Wey Fufeng.

If even Wey Fufeng couldn't solve it, then they'd have to suppress the Sacred Seed as much as possible and prevent him from fleeing into the Blood Pool, or all efforts would be in vain.

Wey Fufeng slightly smiled, "Coincidentally, I have a treasure which can be used here."

Wuchang grinned, "I knew you had many tricks up your sleeve; that settles it. I'll start with the formations; keep out of sight."

"I'll help." Lu Ye volunteered, as opportunities to closely observe a top-tier Ghost Cultivator's accomplishments in the Array Path are rare.

Wuchang was somewhat surprised, "You understand the Array Path?"

"A little."

The two quickly moved, heading toward the Blood Pool.

Soon, Wuchang realized that Lu Ye's achievements in the Array Path were far more than basic understanding; they were quite proficient.

Although there was still a gap compared to him, their age difference was apparent, leaving Wuchang baffled as to when Lu Ye found time to delve into the Array Path. It requires time for sedimentary accumulation, not determined by talent.

Moreover, Lu Ye's cultivation far exceeded his peers, which was astonishing.

With Lu Ye's assistance, several large formations were arranged properly, with no worries about exposure. The Sacred Seed was deep inside the Blood Pool and couldn't possibly sense the outside situation.

After the setup, Lu Ye gained a lot.

His skills in the Array Path mainly came from the Hundred Arrays Pagoda, which was a lifeless entity. Wuchang, however, was a living person, and many imaginative concepts and formation methods could not be provided by the Hundred Arrays Pagoda but could be learned here with Wuchang.

Chapter 1147 Battle Against the Sacred Seed

The tactic to slay the Sacred Seed is very simple. Wuchang, Jian Guhong, and Wey Fufeng are the main attackers, while Lu Ye oversees the big array for support. As for Loo Chang... it's best for him to stay far away and watch the show.

Though his cultivation is at Divine Sea Level 6, he's still not quite up to par for this level of combat, especially with the opponent being a Sacred Seed. The suppression from the Bloodline alone leaves him with no room to act.

Originally, Wuchang intended to personally oversee the big array, but since Lu Ye is skilled in the Array Path, it's naturally better to leave it to him.

Everything is ready; now we just wait for the Sacred Seed to appear.

Outside the Blood Pool, the layered big array is prepared to launch, hidden and undetectable. Even the auras of Lu Ye and the others are restrained to the extreme, and their figures are concealed using the Formation.

Even if a Blood Race walks by, they won't sense their presence.

The Blood Water in the Blood Pool is surging, and the Sacred Seed inside probably wouldn't even imagine that a massive crisis is waiting for him.

Time flows on.

They waited for five consecutive days, but there was still no movement in the Blood Pool—the Sacred Seed showed no sign of appearing, which is normal. For ordinary Blood Race, a place like the Blood Pool is forbidden; falling into it means certain death. But for the Sacred Seed, it's not that dangerous. They can even use the Blood Pools scattered throughout the Blood Refinement World to cultivate and rapidly improve themselves.

So if a Sacred Seed wishes, he can stay in the Blood Pool indefinitely.

Five mere days of not appearing is naturally normal.

The group is patient, with the only one having some issues being Lu Ye.

He can't stay here indefinitely; although there's plenty of time at the moment, it's not good to delay like this. He still has many Heaven's Augury Pillars to place.

But the Sacred Seed likely won't stay in the Blood Pool forever. As the Blood Race armies are currently gathering, every Sacred Seed has their task, and the destruction of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land is the Blood Race's greatest wish in recent years. So even if he's in cultivation, this Sacred Seed won't linger too long in the Blood Pool.

Time continues to pass, and another ten days swiftly go by.

Just when Lu Ye and the others were losing confidence, the Blood Water in the Blood Pool, already surging, began to churn even more violently.

The few who were closely watching the Blood Pool's changes immediately became alert, knowing that the Sacred Seed was about to reveal himself.

Lu Ye channels his spirit force quietly, ready to trigger the array he set up earlier at any moment.

Watching closely, suddenly a blood-red light shoots out from the Blood Pool, revealing the figure of a Blood Race. Judging by the physique, it's clearly a female Blood Race, dressed extremely skimpily. In terms of figure and appearance, she's undoubtedly a top-tier existence, but her entirely blood-red skin spoils the inherent beauty.

In the Blood Pool, she must have gained something. Upon appearing, her mood is evidently joyful; the slight curve at the corner of her mouth clearly shows it.

When in a good mood, one's vigilance towards the outside world often relaxes.

Moreover, she never expected that several strong human cultivators had been watching her for half a month.

Silently, a Sharpness suddenly appeared behind the female Sacred Seed; it was Wuchang striking.

Indeed, he is the top-tier Ghost Cultivator. Even though Lu Ye knew he would strike at this time and place, Lu Ye still didn't sense anything before Wuchang actually moved.

The moment she felt that Sharpness, the female Sacred Seed was already struck.

This kind of ambush was already the most extreme strike Wuchang could achieve.

The smile on the Sacred Seed's face vanished abruptly, replaced by fury and terror. As a scream escaped her lips, her figure turned into a ball of blood light, quickly darting forward.

This is the most correct response when encountering an ambush.

Only now did Wuchang's figure truly reveal itself. He had clearly anticipated the Sacred Seed's move, so as she turned into blood light, he was already lunging forward, wielding his two dirks to slash out arcs of cold light.

At the same moment, the sound of a sword rang out, with sword light like a cascading stream attacking from the side, intertwining with the blood light—it was Jian Guhong making his move as well.

The female Sacred Seed, hidden within the blood light, realized things were dire. She had once participated in the siege against the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, fighting head-on against the elder predecessors of the human race, and she knew the terror of these old guys deeply. While one-on-one might not be an issue, as she could use various Blood Race secret techniques to not fall behind, facing two was risky, especially since there was a sword cultivator. If she wasn't mistaken, it should be that guy called Jian Guhong!

After fighting each other for so many years, the Sacred Seeds have gained some understanding of the secrets of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land's elder predecessors. Aside from the Sacred Master Feng Wujiang, whom they greatly feared, there were several others who were also objects of dread, among them the sword cultivator Jian Guhong.

In terms of killing efficiency, he left an extremely deep impression on the Sacred Seeds.

So all she wanted was to leave this place quickly.

She had already deployed the Blood Escape Technique, needing only two breaths to escape these top human strongmen, after which not even a sword cultivator could catch up to her.

Yet, in the next breath, she crashed headlong into a barrier of light; the lightning-fast speed brought about great impact, causing the light barrier to cave in severely.

Lu Ye timely activated the formation he had previously set up.

As the blood light was repelled, Wuchang had already plunged into it. At the same time, under Jian Guhong's control, streams of sword light transformed into a sword stream and rushed into the blood light.

In an instant, cries of shock from the female Sacred Seed echoed from within the blood light.

Although she could use the blood light to conceal her form, making it difficult for the enemy to pinpoint her exact location, she couldn't entirely evade the wide-ranging attack of the sword stream.

Already wounded from Wuchang's sneak attack, her situation worsened significantly.

She was decisive, understanding that she had inadvertently exposed her whereabouts and been targeted by the human race. In this abrupt and disadvantageous situation, she knew she had to prioritize self-preservation over engaging the enemy.

Realizing that the area was enveloped by a formation and she couldn't easily escape, she immediately changed direction, diving toward the Blood Pool below.

As expected by everyone beforehand, once the Sacred Seed sensed danger, she indeed chose this escape route. If she managed to dive into the Blood Pool, hiding inside, even if the entire elderly generation of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land were present, they would just stand by helplessly.

A point of light suddenly burst forth, this light emerging from an ancient oil lamp.

The oil lamp was in Wey Fufeng's hand. At some point, he was already suspended above the Blood Pool. The seemingly fragile lamp flame flickered gently, yet the visible and extraordinary glow formed a misty barrier.

This barrier enveloped the entire Blood Pool tightly. The blood light, into which the Sacred Seed had transformed, crashed into the barrier but couldn't break through!

This oil lamp was undoubtedly the treasure Wey Fufeng mentioned earlier. Judging by its quality, it was definitely a spirit treasure.

Moreover, it was a defensive spirit treasure.

Typically, a cultivator holding the oil lamp could use the lamp's glow to create a protective space. As long as the lamp flame remained lit, the protection persisted. Wey Fufeng used this defensive spirit treasure here, which seemed slightly out of place but effectively blocked the escape.

A spirit treasure is inert; its impact relies on how it's wielded by the user.

With an external trap array as an obstacle and the internal lamp glow as a partition, the female Sacred Seed had no retreat, completely trapped within the formation's range.

What terrified her even more was the fact that this time, it wasn't two people dealing with her, but four!

Although the human cultivator managing the formation wasn't highly cultivated, the other three were all genuine top-tier Divine Sea Realm experts, each equally matched in strength to her.

She immediately realized that this was a significant trouble!

After a brief moment of contemplation, she made a quick decision. The blood light she transformed into suddenly expanded. In an instant, a colossal Blood River spanned the sky, with Blood Water surging and waves crashing within.

One side of the Blood River pressed tightly against the trap array's light curtain.

She never intended to fight three opponents alone; it was unrealistic, so she only wanted to escape.

There were two ways to escape: breaking through the formation's cover or breaking through Wey Fufeng's spirit treasure.

She chose the former!

Not just because Lu Ye, who was overseeing the formation, was the weakest in cultivation here, but also because Wey Fufeng's oil lamp spirit treasure appeared inherently difficult to break through. The barrier created by the lamp's glow was intangible and immaterial. Even if she wanted to break through, she wouldn't know which method to use.

Moreover, the Blood Race's blood techniques are highly corrosive. As she pressed one side of the Blood River against the trap array's light curtain, even if she did nothing, the Blood River would erode the curtain. Eventually, it would create a hole in the curtain, allowing her to escape.

In reality, she had no time to use the Blood River's power to erode the trap array's light curtain, for inside the Blood River, Wuchang was searching for her true body, while outside, Sword Qi dragons and powerful spells were continuously attacking.

She had to withstand the pressure from the joint assault of the three senior human experts, with no energy left to do anything else.

The sword Qi was like streaks of silk, and the spells like a barrage of cannons, constantly striking into the Blood River. Each time, they punched gaps into the Blood River, which would quickly be filled by the surging Blood Water, but this wore down the female Sacred Seed's power.

And Wuchang was like a maggot in her bones, impossible to shake off.

Logically speaking, with the female Sacred Seed hidden within the Blood River, Wuchang shouldn't easily be able to pinpoint her location, but his many years of fighting against Blood Race Sacred Seeds had given Wuchang time-tested strategies.

His initial sneak attack on the female Sacred Seed not only inflicted damage but also employed special methods that allowed him to easily track the enemy's presence within the Blood River.

Directly clashing with an enemy, especially within the Blood River, wasn't really suited for a Ghost Cultivator—the risk was too great if he acted alone. The danger of inadvertently sacrificing himself was too high.

However, with Jian Guhong and Wey Fufeng sharing the pressure, the risk of his actions wasn't so high. As long as he was careful, there wasn't much of a problem.

While the three senior experts were in action, Lu Ye also wasn't idle.

He was responsible for managing the formation, and the formation he and Wuchang arranged wasn't merely a trap array but also a killing array!

Chapter 1148 Entering the Blood River

Under the guidance and activation of Lu Ye, the power of the killing array erupted, and in an instant, wind, fire, lightning, and a variety of different forms of attacks poured down towards the Blood River, causing the river water to be in constant turmoil.

Lu Ye's eyes were fixed on the Blood River that stretched across the air. He could clearly see, amidst the crimson river, threads of golden light flowing, as if many golden ribbons had been added within the Blood River. The red and gold intermingled, giving the entire river an unusual beauty.

The golden light conveyed a very familiar aura to Lu Ye.

Sacred Blood!

He suddenly realized the truth.

Previously, there was something he couldn't quite figure out: why the Sacred Seed needed to go deep into the Blood Pool for cultivation.

In the Blood Refinement World, the Sacred Seed possessed a naturally advantageous cultivation environment compared to ordinary Blood Race members, with the ever-present Blood Pools being their best places for cultivation.

Therefore, the strength of a Sacred Seed increases very quickly. From birth to the peak of the Divine Sea Realm, it probably doesn't even take ten years, an advantage completely unmatched by human race cultivators.

Thus almost every Sacred Seed in the Blood Refinement World possesses peak Divine Sea level strength unless they are too newly born.

This female Sacred Seed is undoubtedly at the peak of the Divine Sea Realm. Logically speaking, her cultivation has already reached its limit, with no room for further advancement. Given that, why would she waste time going deep into the Blood Pool for cultivation?

Previously, Lu Ye couldn't figure it out. But after seeing the golden ribbons in the Blood River, he suddenly understood.

The Sacred Seed's cultivation in the Blood Pool isn't to enhance her cultivation, which has already peaked, but to seek out the Sacred Blood hidden in the underground Blood River!

When she first appeared, she was obviously in a good mood, indicating she had made a gain this time.

The most obvious sign was the golden ribbons in the Blood River, which indicate that the Sacred Blood hadn't been fully refined. That's why it showed up in the Blood River. If there was enough time, she would have entirely refined the newly obtained Sacred Blood, preventing such a scene from appearing.

So... it's possible to refine more Sacred Blood even after becoming a Sacred Seed? But what significance does this hold? From his observation, this female Sacred Seed's strength didn't seem to increase even after refining more Sacred Blood.

In a short time, Lu Ye figured one thing out but generated another doubt. However, these questions were irrelevant when it came to combat.

At the place where the big array was stationed, the battle was extremely intense, with sword songs and magical powers continuously blooming, ceaselessly attacking the Blood River. Because of the concealment of the Blood River, neither Jian Guhong nor Wey Fufeng could accurately inflict any substantial harm on the female Sacred Seed.

What they were doing now was merely consuming the enemy's power and reducing the volume of the Blood River.

This is the kind of battle human race cultivators least wish to occur when confronting the Blood Race because once it goes to this stage, it turns into a total war of attrition.

The key to success now lies in whether the Blood River activated by the female Sacred Seed can break through the confinement of the big array before being entirely exhausted. If she can, she can escape; if not, she is doomed.

Among the three elders who took action, the sword cultivator and magic cultivator have achieved nothing substantial in a short time. In contrast, it is Wuchang from the ghost cultivator faction who stands a chance of inflicting direct harm on the enemy, as he shuttles through the Blood River, continually pursuing the female Sacred Seed's whereabouts.

But even with his great strength, Wuchang can't obliterate the limitations of a ghost cultivator. Compared to covert assassination, direct confrontation with the enemy is not his strong suit.

Thus he must be cautious everywhere to avoid being harmed by enemy counterattacks.

From time to time, Wuchang even needed to escape the Blood River to rest for a while since staying within the Blood River also consumed him greatly. He needed to resist the ubiquitous erosion of the Blood River and guard against the hidden killing moves within it.

The various Blood Techniques employed by the female Sacred Seed within the shrouds of the Blood River were indeed exceptionally concealed and hard to defend against.

In just twenty breaths after the battle commenced, the trap array was faltering, and the gleam covering the battlefield dimmed, especially on the side where the Blood River touched; it was almost in a state where it could be breached effortlessly.

The Blood Race's power was overly corrosive to things like the formation's light screen.

The female Sacred Seed obviously noticed this as well, hiding her figure within the Blood River, avoiding several of Wuchang's attacks, and fully activating the power of the Blood River to erode towards the weaker part of the formation.

Three more breaths passed, and suddenly a light cracking sound was heard, as if something shattered.

What shattered was the trap array. The female Blood Race was overjoyed and the Blood River wriggled, attempting to escape, only to collide with another layer of the trap array's light screen.

Knowing the erosive power of the Blood Race, how could Wuchang and Lu Ye have pinned all their hopes on just one layer of the trap array when setting up the big array?

There were not just one but three layers of trap arrays here. However, each layer was somewhat weaker than the previous one, which was unavoidable because the coverage area was larger, naturally diminishing the formation's power.

It wasn't that Lu Ye and Wuchang didn't want to set up more layers of trap arrays, but once the coverage area became too large, the formation itself would become fragile, and it would easily be broken by an opponent like the Sacred Seed, making its setup of little significance.

Three layers of trap array were the limit!

Within the Blood River, the furious roars of the female Sacred Seed could be heard, evidently enraged by the shameless actions of the human faction, yet it was to no avail, only provoking more violent assaults.

She could only continue to rely on the geographical advantage created by her Blood River, trying to hide herself while continuing to erode the barrier of the trap array.

Having fought against the human race for so many years, she was somewhat familiar with their various tactics, so she concluded that there wouldn't be too many of such barriers. As long as she continued to break them, there was a chance for her to escape.

It must be said that although this Sacred Seed was female, her battle instincts in a life-and-death struggle were exceptionally sharp.

After intentionally strengthening the erosion power of the Blood River, it only took her a dozen breaths of time to destroy the second layer of the trap array's barrier.

With the situation developing to this point, it was undoubtedly very unfavorable for the human faction. It's not that they were in danger, but this opportunity was too rare. If they couldn't kill a Sacred Seed in such a situation, they really couldn't think of any other method to kill one.

In contrast, Feng Wujiang, who once killed a Sacred Seed barehanded, truly possessed unparalleled combat power.

If this situation continued, the female Sacred Seed could soon break the third layer of the trap array's barrier and escape at once.

Wey Fufeng continued to frantically activate his spells. From the start of the battle, he hadn't held back his strength, always giving his full force.

Because he knew that to kill a Sacred Seed, there could be no reserves.

Jian Guhong infused his body with sword light and plunged into the Blood River. His flying sword was indeed formidable, but the presence of the Blood River became his greatest hindrance because he couldn't easily lock onto the enemy's position.

After realizing that if he couldn't achieve a quick victory, this mission would inevitably end in failure, he no longer hesitated.

No risk, no reward! Though venturing deep into the Blood River was dangerous, it was the only chance to inflict a fatal wound on the enemy. In direct combat with the enemy, Wuchang was ultimately inferior to him by a margin.

Once Jian Guhong entered the Blood River, the pressure on Wuchang lessened considerably. While mentally guiding Jian Guhong to locate the female Sacred Seed, he cooperated with him, causing the opponent to be flustered in no time.

With Lu Ye activating the killing array and Wey Fufeng's spells continuously reducing the volume of her Blood River, if there was enough time, the female Sacred Seed would surely be doomed.

However, what everyone was lacking at the moment was time.

The second-layer trap array's barrier had already been broken, leaving only the final layer. Once this layer was breached, the human side would have no binding force on the enemy. At that time, with the precision of the Blood Race's Blood Escape Technique, they could escape in the blink of an eye, causing this action to end in failure.

Judging from the dimming speed of the third-layer trap array's barrier, this was likely to happen in just a few breaths!

At this pivotal moment of deciding the battle's outcome, Lu Ye resolutely soared skyward, immediately abandoning his task of hosting the formation, and plunged into the Blood River.

Seeing this scene, Wey Fufeng had no idea what he intended to do. But during such a critical moment in combat, despite feeling that Lu Ye's reckless charge into the Blood River posed significant risks given his strength, he had no time to stop him.

As for Wuchang and Jian Guhong, since they were within the Blood River, they were completely unaware of this.

Upon entering the Blood River, Lu Ye activated his Blood Technique.

An aura of blood and spirit force surrounded him, converging into another Blood River in the blink of an eye.

But in the next moment, his expression suddenly turned solemn because, while activating the Blood Technique, he sensed from the surrounding Blood River a peculiar and clear suppressive force.

The existence of this suppressive force led to one result; the volume of the Blood River Technique he performed was about half the normal state.

Such suppression was terrifying.

He immediately understood that this was the Bloodline Suppression of the Blood Race.

Amused and aghast, he recalled how, along his journey, he used Bloodline Suppression to plant Soul Taming Divine Runes within many Divine Sea Realm Blood Race members, turning them into his Blood Slaves. Unexpectedly, the tables turned, and he found himself suppressed for the first time.

If he had truly belonged to the Blood Race, the suppression would have significantly weakened him, or perhaps even provoked reverence, submission. Those Divine Sea Realm Blood Race individuals typically reacted this way when facing his suppression.

But he was ultimately not truly of the Blood Race; he merely refined a drop of Sacred Blood and acquired some saintliness from it.

He was still a member of the human race!

The lack of suppression felt before was because he hadn't activated the Blood Technique. Now that he had, the suppression was evident.

What puzzled Lu Ye was why, despite refining Sacred Blood and gaining saintliness, he was still subjected to Bloodline Suppression. Could the bloodline of the Sacred Seed vary in rank as well?

Chapter 1149 Inviting the Wolf Into the House

Lu Ye couldn't help but recall the golden light band within the female Sacred Seed's Blood River. According to his previous speculation, the opponent had gained something in the underground Blood River this time; she obtained more Sacred Blood but hadn't had time to fully refine it, which is why it manifested externally after she activated the Blood River Technique.

If this were true, wouldn't it mean that the more Sacred Blood one refines, the nobler the bloodline?

Because the female Sacred Seed refined more Sacred Blood than him, she could form Bloodline Suppression against him.

Though this was a conjecture without any concrete evidence, Lu Ye felt it might be the truth.

If Lu Ye had more interactions with Sacred Seeds, he might have discovered this earlier. However, his prior contact with Sacred Seeds in the Blood Refinement World had only been Lann Qiyue, and during that time, Lann Qiyue wasn't very strong and didn't know these secrets exclusive to Sacred Seeds.

Lu Ye naturally didn't know either, and it wasn't until he returned to the Blood Refinement World this time that he realized he had the ability to impose Bloodline Suppression on ordinary Blood Race members.

As for his senior brother and the many old predecessors, although they'd been in the Blood Refinement World for decades or even a century, they had always been battling Sacred Seeds, knowing that Sacred Seeds had absolute control over ordinary Blood Race members, but where could they learn about the differences in bloodline hierarchy among Sacred Seeds?

This led to some disruptions in his plans, ultimately due to a lack of intelligence.

He rushed out at this time, collided into the Blood River intending to activate the Blood River Technique and envelop the opponent's Blood River. Doing so would erase the geographical advantage the opponent created, and with his Blood River enveloping, the female Sacred Seed would find it much harder to escape by breaking through. Whether the trap array could continue wouldn't be that important anymore.

It's undeniable that the volume of the Blood River activated by this female Sacred Seed was enormous, especially since she needed to conceal her form with the Blood River, naturally having no hold back, so her Blood River Technique must have been pushed to the limit.

Lu Ye's Blood River volume was also vast, but by comparison, still fell short of the female Sacred Seed's Blood River because of the disparity in their Cultivation Realm, simply in terms of volume, the enemy's Blood River was stronger.

However, in this brief period, Jian Guhong and Wey Fufeng kept attacking, and Lu Ye himself activated numerous killing arrays, causing the female Sacred Seed's Blood River volume to shrink, making it less than Lu Ye's Blood River in terms of volume.

If nothing unexpected occurred, Lu Ye's current activation of the Blood River Technique should have enabled him to execute his plan.

But the inherent Bloodline Suppression caused his Blood River to drastically shrink, unable to complete the original plan.

In combat, there are always unexpected events, and not everything can go smoothly. Though young, Lu Ye had experienced countless life-and-death battles, cultivating a resilient and determined character. Sensing something was off, he made a decisive move, spreading his Blood River above the opponent's Blood River, creating a separation between the opponent's Blood River and the trap array's light curtain.

His thought was simple; since he couldn't complete his predetermined plan, he would delay the time.

To delay time, he had to ensure that the last layer of the trap array's light curtain was not broken, and the separation formed by his Blood River was sufficient to accomplish this.

Within the Blood River came the female Sacred Seed's cry of surprise: "Sacred Seed? No, you're a human!"

She was extremely shocked at this moment because throughout the history of the Blood Refinement World, there had never been a human possessing the saintliness of a Sacred Seed, such an absurd matter. Humans were Blood Food for the Blood Race, and across the entire Blood Refinement World, before the old predecessors from Nine Provinces arrived here, the number of Divine Sea Realm humans was scarce, even those in the Divine Sea Realm were nurtured by the Blood Race itself as Blood Slaves.

For a Blood Race to become a Sacred Seed requires immense chance, let alone a human?

So she couldn't understand how a Sacred Seed had appeared among humans.

Moreover, at this moment, this human Sacred Seed was causing great trouble for her escape plan. Due to the obstruction of Lu Ye's Blood River, she could no longer erode the third-layer trap array's light curtain, even though it seemed about to break; she couldn't find a way to attack.

In anger, she clenched her teeth and shouted, "You know nothing about the power of a Sacred Seed!"

As the words fell, Lu Ye immediately felt his Blood River starting to merge with the opponent's Blood River, and this merging was beyond his control.

Due to the single lineage of the Blood Race's Blood Technique, many times it can form extremely intricate cooperation, especially the Blood River Technique, where different Blood Race members can easily merge their Blood River Techniques, forming a larger Blood River led by the strongest Blood Race, with other Blood Race members following, thereby exerting stronger power.

It can be said that the Blood River Technique is uniquely belonging to the Blood Race, an extremely peculiar array that can be joint with ease.

Of course, this collaboration has its limits; everything depends on the strength level of the newly merged Blood River's strongest leader; as strength goes, more Blood Rivers can be merged, otherwise, less.

Lu Ye was experiencing just that with the Blood River Technique's fusion, as the bloodline was a level higher than his. Even though Lu Ye resisted when he sensed something amiss, his own Blood River was rapidly merging into the opponent's Blood River, and because of the stronger bloodline, the female Sacred Seed had greater control over the merged Blood River.

Things were turning awkward...

Lu Ye originally intended to help Jian Guhong and others, but now found himself dragged into this unexpected incident.

He had received the full legacy of the Blood Race, and wasn't completely ignorant of the Blood River Technique's merging, but truly didn't expect such a thing to happen.

As the female Sacred Seed said, he indeed lacked understanding of the power of a Sacred Seed. This was unavoidable; a legacy is just a legacy, but many things can't be truly comprehended without personal experience.

Lu Ye desperately resisted the fusion of his Blood River with the opponent's, but it was futile.

He felt fortunate that this integration wasn't about usurping; in other words, the female Sacred Seed had control over the Blood River after integration. He could resist, but it was in vain, which was quite helpless.

It felt like being forced by someone...

As the Blood River gradually merged, the barrier Lu Ye had constructed with a single flash lost its intended effect. The already dimly lit third layer of the trap array's light screen was increasingly shaky, as if it could break at any moment.

The battle had reached its final stage. Even though Jian Guhong and others were still exerting themselves, they seemed unable to prevent the enemy from escaping.

In that instant, the female Sacred Seed suddenly sensed something was amiss.

It seemed that Lu Ye had completely given up on resisting, allowing her to fuse the Blood River and not only giving up but even actively integrating.

In the blink of an eye, the two Blood Rivers merged into one, indistinguishable from each other.

Lu Ye clearly sensed the three figures battling within the Blood River, essentially in a one escaping, two pursuing state. The female Sacred Seed was frantically dodging within the Blood River, while Jian Guhong and Wuchang were hot on her heels.

Although she had an absolute advantage in the struggle over the integration of the Blood River, within its depths, she was completely on the defensive.

Moreover, she had been ambushed and injured by Wuchang when she first appeared. Now, she had sustained several more wounds, clearly Jian Guhong's work, as the wounds exuded a sword qi so fierce that even the strong regenerative power of the Blood Race Sacred Seed could not heal them immediately.

At that very moment, Lu Ye activated the power of the Talent Tree!

In an instant, throughout the entire Blood River, roots invisible to the naked eye extended everywhere, madly devouring and absorbing everything around.

The female Sacred Seed realized something was wrong when Lu Ye proactively fused the Blood River, but she couldn't pinpoint what.

Until now...

When the devouring power of the Talent Tree was unleashed, her startled cry echoed, her voice filled with panic because she clearly sensed her power rapidly vanishing. It was as if countless unseen black holes had arisen within the Blood River, and these invisible black holes were the source of her power's disappearance.

She had no idea what was happening; she only knew these changes occurred after Lu Ye switched from resistance to taking initiative.

In a short time, she made a decision, her form flickering as she lunged towards Lu Ye within the Blood River.

She could sense Lu Ye's position, and naturally, Lu Ye could sense hers too. Once their Blood Rivers merged, neither side could hide their tracks within it.

As she attacked, Lu Ye naturally evaded.

Though his strength was considerable, Lu Ye wasn't interested in confronting a Sacred Seed. That wasn't bravery, it was foolishness.

Thus, when he sensed her intent, he moved toward Jian Guhong and Wuchang. Before she could reach him, the two seniors intercepted her.

"Snap!" A soft sound echoed.

The third layer's trap array light screen finally shattered.

At this point, nothing could obstruct the enemies' escape.

Yet the female Sacred Seed could no longer flee.

Her fusion with Lu Ye's Blood River seemed inspired but was a grave mistake, inviting the wolf into the house. Until she dealt with Lu Ye, she couldn't drag the Blood River and move effectively, even if she forced it, she'd be slow.

The situation was as if she and Lu Ye were mere mortals; she wanted to run, but Lu Ye clung to her, how could she run fast?

To recover her original escape speed, she'd have to shake off Lu Ye.

In other words, separate their Blood Rivers again.

Of course, she could abandon her Blood River, but that would mean losing more than just vast amounts of essence blood and vitality; she'd also forfeit the Sacred Blood she had refined, thus losing her Sacred Seed status, an outcome she could not tolerate.

Moreover, even if she abandoned the Blood River, could she escape Jian Guhong and Wuchang's pursuit? Severely weakened, she'd only die quicker.

Realizing this, she acted to separate their Blood Rivers as quickly as possible, hoping for a chance to escape alive.

Chapter 1150 A Spectacular Struggle

But how could such a thing be easy? When the female Sacred Seed forcibly merged with Lu Ye's Blood River earlier, she was so domineering, but now she is so embarrassed.

She is separating from the Blood River, while Lu Ye continues to integrate, although his speed of integration is not as fast as her separation, it greatly delays her efficiency in separating.

If the situation develops in this way, it will take her two to four hours to completely separate.

Two to four hours... she simply cannot hold on.

What is more lethal is that the power in her Blood River is madly dissipating, which is very deadly, because the dissipation of the Blood River's power also slows down the speed at which she separates their Blood Rivers!

She finally realizes that she has reached the end of the road! And the cause of all this was not the strong enemies like Jian Guhong and others she regarded as threats, but a young human cultivator at Divine Sea Level 5!

How ironic.

As time goes by, Lu Ye clearly feels that the bloodline suppression he's experiencing is constantly weakening. If the previous suppression felt like bearing a huge mountain, then at this moment, the weight of this mountain is rapidly becoming lighter.

The cause of all this is the Talent Tree's devouring and refining.

Their Blood Rivers are fully integrated, the Talent Tree's devouring is omnipresent, and not only does the Blood River contain the female Sacred Seed's Essence Blood and vitality, but also the Sacred Blood she obtained earlier by chance but did not fully refine!

Now all benefits Lu Ye.

The most obvious sign is the golden light belt in the Blood River rapidly decreasing, undoubtedly devoured and refined by the Talent Tree.

Thus, because of refining more Sacred Blood, the difference in bloodlines is reduced, and the bloodline suppression naturally weakens.

Lu Ye thrives like a fish in water, while the female Sacred Seed fights like a trapped beast.

She does not do anything, only focuses entirely on hunting Lu Ye in the Blood River!

By this time, she already knows she can't survive no matter what, against the top human strongmen she can't win, nor can she escape, all that's waiting for her is death.

But before that, she has one more thing to do.

That is to eliminate Lu Ye!

A human unexpectedly became a Sacred Seed, something never before seen in the Blood Refinement World, if this person survives, it will undoubtedly pose a great threat to other Sacred Seeds in the future, she must kill Lu Ye for the future of the Blood Race and the Sacred Seeds.

The Nine Provinces human cultivators are not lacking in bloodiness, and neither is the Blood Race. This race itself can enhance itself by mutually hunting each other to get Blood Crystals.

Before the Righteous Blood Sacred Land appeared, the internal strife among the Blood Race was even more severe than in the Nine Provinces, families, Blessed Lands, Grotto Heavens, and Sacred Lands have always been in a state of endless conflict.

Even now, in the northern territory of the Blood Refinement World far from the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, this situation has not changed.

Only in the southern territory of the Blood Refinement World, due to the emergence of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land as a bane, have the Blood Race temporarily given up their opposition under the call of numerous Sacred Seeds to fight against the Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

External threats have always been the unifying factor internally, which is the same in Nine Provinces and the Blood Refinement World.

The female Sacred Seed has a concept of self-sacrifice, but what she wants to do is extremely difficult.

Lu Ye is so clever, he notices her intentions and naturally won't foolishly stand still and wait for her to kill him, so very quickly in the vast Blood River a comical scene appears.

Lu Ye leads the way ahead, pursued by the female Sacred Seed, with Jian Guhong and Wuchang chasing the female Sacred Seed, and at the same time, Lu Ye also moves closer to Jian Guhong and Wuchang.

This forms a bizarre circle of apparent mutual pursuit, making the scene spectacularly intense.

Meanwhile, outside the Blood River, Wey Fufeng continually uses magic and spells to attack the Blood River...

The injuries on the female Sacred Seed become increasingly severe, while she wholeheartedly pursues Lu Ye under the watch of Jian Guhong and Wuchang, naturally requiring a toll.

She initially thought killing a Divine Sea Level 5 would be easy, but Lu Ye runs astonishingly fast. She's never seen a Blood Race member at that level run so quickly, unless using the Blood Escape Technique, plus Lu Ye's continually rising bloodline makes her plan harder to realize.

As time passes, the female Sacred Seed's aura continues to weaken, the result of accumulated injuries, mainly caused by Jian Guhong, whose strikes leave remnants of fierce Sword Dao True Intent in every wound.

Her expression starts to contort with grim determination and rage, but it is utterly ineffective.

Until a certain moment, the hopeless female Sacred Seed suddenly discovers Lu Ye stopping ahead, she's unsure why he does this, but it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

So she instantly speeds up, swooping to face Lu Ye, reaching out her hand claw-like toward his head.

It's almost certain he will face the prospect of his head being shattered by this claw.

On the opposite side, Lu Ye's eyes slightly lowered, one hand resting on the handle of the Boulder Mountain Saber, with spirit force surging madly around him.

The reason for stopping is naturally not to seek death; he just feels if he continues to pursue endlessly, he does not know what ordeals he must endure to kill this enemy.

He doesn't want to delay any longer, after all, this is the Blood Refinement World, their fierce fighting is spreading noise far away, and if strong Blood Race members come, there might be unexpected troubles.

...

Therefore, the battle must be resolved quickly!

At the peak period of the Sacred Seed, he naturally was not its match. However, at this moment, the enemy was severely injured, and it was really hard to say how much of its full strength it could actually unleash.

Even so, he didn't think he could be her opponent, but just slightly obstructing her... shouldn't be a problem.

With Jian Guhong and Wuchang chasing from behind, as long as he could slightly interfere, given these two veterans' grasp of battle opportunities, they would likely be able to end it decisively.

To achieve victory swiftly, naturally, some risks must be taken.

This is why he suddenly turned and stood firm.

He didn't summon the Dragon Throne mainly because Lu Ye also wanted to see the real gap between himself and the Sacred Seed.

As the female Sacred Seed thrust out her claw, the Boulder Mountain Saber roared out of its sheath, without employing any saber skills, just a simple slash!

Yet it was an all-out slash, because only in this way could he clearly measure the gap between them.

At the moment Lu Ye's long blade left the sheath, the female Sacred Seed noticed his extraordinariness. If previously Lu Ye was like a rabbit with no escape from heaven or earth, now he was a roaring lion, with an extremely domineering and aggressive aura rushing forth along with the descending blade, momentarily making the female Sacred Seed feel as if she were up against not a Level 5, but a Level 9...

Only at this moment did she realize she had underestimated Lu Ye's abilities. This human cultivator's strength cannot be viewed with ordinary eyes; he could unleash abilities surpassing his actual realm!

But she had no retreat, she could only pour everything she had into that single claw, the sharp nails radiating a blood-red light, their lethality not inferior to any spirit treasure of the human race.

At the moment the long blade clashed with the blood hand, both could feel a formidable and irresistible force surging from the front.

The Blood Race, due to their cultivation of blood techniques, cannot wield spirit or magic artifacts due to their corrosive nature, but each of them can be described as a natural combination of physique cultivation and magic cultivation.

Because their own blood Qi and life force are immense, they can temper their bodies in the long years of cultivation.

Due to bloodline inheritance, they can easily display various bizarre blood techniques.

Especially the Sacred Seed class Blood Race; in terms of physique, only top-tier Divine Sea realm like Mong Jie can compare with them.

This was the reason Lu Ye felt the pressure because he was up against a top-tier physique cultivator.

It's just that this physique cultivator was severely injured...

The female Sacred Seed also felt some pressure; the activation of the Hefty Weight Spirit Runes in the Boulder Mountain Saber and Lu Ye's own power explosion contributed to this pressure.

Since engulfing the massive life force of the Insect Matriarch in the Great Secret Realm of the Insect Race, Lu Ye's physique had been greatly enhanced. He always wanted to understand to what extent his physique had strengthened, but unfortunately, there had been no good opportunity.

Until now!

The instant duel of power between the two ended in a mutual stalemate.

The massive force collision exploded with impact, and where the two figures stood, the turbulent Blood Water was blasted into an open space.

At the sound of the explosion, both were sent flying backwards.

Lu Ye's chest had a surge of unsettled blood Qi, with his internal organs receiving some impact, yet his gaze remained steady as before.

The female Blood Race opposite let out a muffled grunt.

Because at the moment her palm collided with the Boulder Mountain Saber, a cut was slashed on her hand.

The injury wasn't serious enough to make a Sacred Seed lose composure, but what caught her off guard was the accompanying Psyche Strike.

The characteristic of the Soul Severing Saber always catches people off guard in such ways.

In the next instant, Lu Ye's steadiness vanished; he urgently called out to Jian Guhong and Wuchang, who were already rushing to attack the female Sacred Seed with raised swords and saber, "Retreat quickly!"

Because a sudden unusual fluctuation emanated from the female Sacred Seed, and a flash of resolute brilliance appeared in her eyes.

Lu Ye immediately understood what she intended to do.

Within the Blood Race's bloodline inheritance, there's a secret technique called Blood Explosion Technique. This secret technique can detonate the blood Qi attacks they have unleashed, to inflict subsequent damage on their enemies, or can be used to detonate their own Essence Blood!

This was a kind of self-explosive secret technique, and its power was considerable.

What astutely cunning individuals Jian Guhong and Wuchang are, both veterans of combat, they sensed the dangerous aura from the female Sacred Seed almost immediately and realized what she intended to do.

Wuchang ran faster than anyone else, darting out of the Blood River in a flash.

Jian Guhong executed a slash even as he retreated.

The sword light flashed across the female Sacred Seed's neck; it was undoubtedly a beheading strike, an opportunity created through Lu Ye's engagement and with the enemy, one that Jian Guhong did not pass up. Although even without this strike, the female Sacred Seed would self-explode and perish, it was always more gratifying to personally kill the enemy.