

Humanity 1171

Chapter 1171 A Good Helper

The doppelganger opened the first move, while the main body continued to lie in wait.

Outside the Sacred Island of the Empyrean Sea, the battle raged fiercely, with the Blood Race army launching a full-scale attack.

Although the human race's tactic of gradual reinforcement was relatively concealed, several anomalies still made the Blood Race sense something amiss. Though they were unaware of the crucial details, they understood the principle that a long night is fraught with dreams, meaning this battle had to be resolved quickly.

Driven by this ideology, the Blood Race armies from four directions started a total assault, especially on the eastern front, where their primary advantage in troops was concentrated, making the battle particularly intense.

The presence of the Bingzhou army battalion could no longer be hidden. As the Blood Race began their general assault, the Bingzhou army battalion also revealed their fierce side, advancing from all positions and joining the defensive line.

Thus, the Blood Race was astonished to find the defense of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land far stronger than before, with a significantly increased number of cultivators, which was certainly several times more than usual.

This sudden shift turned what had been an unstoppable advance by the Blood Race into a stalemate...

The Blood Race could not understand why it was happening, but once a punch is thrown, it cannot be withdrawn; it had come to this point, so they had no choice but to fight head-on for supremacy.

The battlefield was a chaotic mess, with the fluctuations of spirit force becoming extremely chaotic. In the central zone between the two races, continuous clashes of magic and spells created dazzling displays, with life forces extinguished almost every moment.

Most of these were from the Blood Race. The human race, after all, held the defensive terrain advantage, and a large number of healing cultivators were always on standby. Any severely injured cultivator would be swiftly retrieved for treatment.

The Blood Race did not have this convenience. Once knocked into the Empyrean Sea, their fate was almost certainly doomed.

Looking out over the sky, the lifeless bodies of the Blood Race fell into the Empyrean Sea like dumplings being dropped into a pot.

Despite their massive casualties, the Blood Race managed to occupy a certain advantage due to the overwhelming force they deployed for this assault on the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, far beyond any previous effort.

The most evident sign of this was how the range of the human race's defensive line was gradually shrinking, indicating the pressure on their magic and spells.

This was an unavoidable situation; among the various factions of the human race, the magic cultivators were only one branch, representing just a fraction. In such a defensive battle, only magic cultivators could exert force from a distance.

The Blood Race was different; every member combined physique cultivation and magic, and all were adept at using Blood Techniques.

Had it not been for the human race's ability to leverage the pre-arranged arrays, they would have lost long ago in such engagements.

Seeing a glimmer of hope, the Blood Race army's assault grew even more ferocious.

Apart from the main battlefield outside the Sacred Island, there were also numerous sub-battlefields belonging to the human race's top-tier fighters and the Sacred Seeds.

This encirclement of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land featured roughly thirty Sacred Seeds, their numbers beyond imagination. Although it couldn't be claimed that all of the southern Sacred Seeds from the Blood Refinement World were present, it encompassed at least seventy to eighty percent.

This forced the human race to deploy their top-tier fighters to counter and hold them in check. Otherwise, if they were free to act, the human race would suffer heavy casualties.

Across the sky, many Blood Rivers spanned, creating a spectacular scene, with intense clashes emanating from them. This was the territory where the top human race fighters and the Sacred Seeds engaged. This army-on-army, commander-on-commander tacit understanding had persisted for decades, and this time was no exception.

In such a situation, a figure emerged from the main battlefield, silently heading towards a massive Blood River under the cover of Concealment and Breath-concealing Spirit Runes.

In this chaotic scenario, no one would specifically pay attention to such a figure, especially with the added Concealment and Breath-concealing. Even without them, it wouldn't matter.

The Sacred Seed driving the Blood River in fierce battle with the human race's strong fighters likely could not anticipate that someone would specifically target their kind and possess the capability to deal with them.

Lu Ye did not randomly select his target; his actions were purposeful, not directly against any Sacred Seed, but with their opponent in mind.

To more effectively and quickly eliminate a Sacred Seed, choosing a good ally was essential.

Jian Guhong was undoubtedly the appropriate choice. Sword cultivators are lethal, with fierce attacks, especially top-tier ones like Jian Guhong. If Lu Ye could create the right opportunity, Jian Guhong could deliver a fatal strike.

Thus, even before Jian Guhong acted, Lu Ye was focused on his movements, having already communicated with him.

In the Blood River, the continuous sound of sword songs could be heard. Despite the thick blood-colored concealment, one could vaguely see the sharp bursts of sword light, clearly indicating that Jian Guhong was employing swordsmanship techniques to engage a Sacred Seed.

Under normal circumstances, Jian Guhong would not be so reckless. Engaging a Sacred Seed within the Blood River was highly unwise. Hovering outside the Blood River, seeking flaws and opportunities to strike while weakening the Blood River's magnitude was the correct approach.

However, to cooperate with Lu Ye, entering the Blood River became imperative.

The Sacred Seed battling Jian Guhong secretly rejoiced, believing Jian Guhong had lost his senses, allowing them to occupy a geographic advantage.

With the Blood River to aid him, how could he possibly lose? In fact, given enough time, he was confident he could wear down Jian Guhong to death!

Amidst such anticipation, he suddenly sensed a strange aura invading his Blood River.

Wherever the Blood River was, it was within his Insight range, so he immediately knew that the intruder was a human race cultivator at the Divine Sea Level 5 realm.

Honestly speaking, such a human race cultivator was hardly worth his attention, as he could easily send them to their death with a mere gesture. With a thought, a Blood Spike formed within the Blood River, ready to claim the intruder's life.

However, in the next moment, his soul trembled, and the Blood River was in turmoil.

Because a powerful saintliness as intense as to make him somewhat apprehensive suddenly exploded from the human race's intrusion, causing his mind to become unstable, and the Blood Spike he had condensed crumbled dramatically.

He couldn't fathom how a human race could possess such powerful saintliness.

But he didn't need to understand; at the moment when Lu Ye unleashed his own saintliness, forming Bloodline Suppression against the Sacred Seed, causing its power to plummet, numerous sword lights scattered around the Sacred Seed suddenly burst forth with dazzling brilliance, converging together!

For this moment of absolute kill, Jian Guhong had been waiting and deploying; the sword light scattered within the Blood River appeared unintentional but was actually for this exact burst.

If the strength of the Sacred Seed hadn't been suppressed, achieving this would not have been easy, as the power of the Blood River would obstruct the convergence of the sword lights.

But when Lu Ye appeared, at the moment the Sacred Seed was suppressed, the obstructive power drastically reduced, signaling to Jian Guhong that the opportunity had come.

The merging sword lights also rapidly spun, in the blink of an eye, wrapping the Sacred Seed within them. In the instant, the Sacred Seed seemed to be enveloped within a sword wheel, under its unparalleled Sharpness and Sword Qi, even the powerful physique of the Sacred Seed could not be blocked.

This is the terrifying slaughter of a top-tier sword cultivator.

In a way, sword cultivators have a considerable degree of restraint over physique cultivators, as the violent destructiveness of sword cultivators can break through the body defenses physique cultivators pride themselves on.

The greatest shortcoming of sword cultivators is their insufficient endurance ability, since their killer moves are explosive and heavily deplete their foundation, so the wisest approach to dealing with a sword cultivator is to play a war of attrition. Once it becomes a war of attrition, the power a sword cultivator can unleash becomes weaker and weaker, making it hard not to win.

But how many people at the same cultivation level can engage a sword cultivator in a war of attrition? A few flying swords down, and several holes appear on the body.

If they can utilize treasures, they might defend against the flying sword's advantage, but the Blood Race never uses any treasures, as their Blood Technique has strong corrosiveness, making any treasure unable to function as intended once it falls into their hands.

Throughout the Blood Refinement World, the level of Artifact Refining is simply abysmal, since no Blood Race would delve into the Path of Artifact Refining. Even the human race cultivators living in the Blood Refinement World are influenced by the Blood Race, showing little enthusiasm for Artifact Refining; they mostly create some simple artifacts at best.

The spinning and cutting of the sword wheel shaved off the flesh of the Sacred Seed inch by inch, turning it into almost a skeleton in the blink of an eye.

He wasn't dead yet; the Blood Race was exuberant in vitality, and naturally, their life force was incredibly strong. Such injuries were extremely severe, but given enough recovery time, he could still bounce back.

But he would never have such an opportunity again.

Two figures had already charged toward him, one before and one behind, arriving at his position almost simultaneously.

The Boulder Mountain Saber at Lu Ye's waist was unsheathed, aimed directly at the nape of the Sacred Seed's neck, while Jian Guhong also produced a sharp sword, which thrust directly at the opponent's chest.

Under powerful Bloodline Suppression, the power the Sacred Seed could exert was at most equivalent to an ordinary Divine Sea Level 9 realm. How could he resist such a front-and-back assault?

Faced with an immense life-and-death crisis, coupled with the torment of agonizing pain, he momentarily didn't know which attack to resist.

He wanted to block both sides, but ended up blocking neither!

Lu Ye brushed past him, the long saber severing his neck, while the sharp sword in Jian Guhong's hand pierced through his chest, exploding with violent power that instantly blasted a huge hole in his chest.

The powerful impact sent his head soaring high, and the aura of the Sacred Seed instantly perished, while the Blood River collapsed.

Amid the shattered flesh bursting from his chest, a spot of golden light was exceptionally conspicuous, clearly his Sacred Blood.

The Sacred Blood refined by the Sacred Seed is typically stored in the heart, considered the heart's blood of the Sacred Seed, a higher existence than their own Essence Blood, and fundamentally vital to the Sacred Seed.

Jian Guhong's heart-piercing sword happened to force this droplet of Sacred Blood out.

A flurry of exchanges, fast as lightning, from Lu Ye bursting into the Blood River to him and Jian Guhong jointly slaying the Sacred Seed, the entire process took no more than three breaths.

Chapter 1172 Don't Ask

In just three breaths, a once-high and mighty Sacred Seed fell, and Lu Ye couldn't help but sigh, choosing a good ally really is extremely important.

Over there with the doppelganger, he did have two helpers before, but it took a tough battle to take down the enemy. In contrast, Jian Guhong's side handled it much quicker and more efficiently.

The vast Blood River suddenly shrunk, and the golden blood that erupted earlier was all absorbed into Lu Ye's body.

Only a decapitated corpse with missing flesh fell from the sky.

Jian Guhong looked towards Lu Ye, unable to hide his astonishment, for he had never expected this battle to be so simple and relaxing, even though Lu Ye had given him a heads-up before.

Several months ago, Lu Ye had also assisted him, Wuchang, Wey Fufeng, and others in slaying a female Sacred Seed, but that battle was quite tough. It took a considerable effort from several people to force the female Sacred Seed to self-destruct. But this time, just a single deadly strike, the opponent had no power to resist.

If not for the fact that he had personally experienced the opponent's strength before Lu Ye showed up, he might have doubted whether he had slain a real Sacred Seed.

He faintly grasped some crucial insight, realizing Lu Ye had a special technique capable of suppressing Sacred Seeds, severely reducing their strength.

If so, then today's battle would render the biggest constraint on their side completely impotent. Even with Jian Guhong's stable Sword Heart, he couldn't help feeling a bit joyful.

After a brief pause, the two swiftly moved towards the nearest Blood River, diving in the blink of an eye.

No one knew which old veteran was battling the Sacred Seed here; the Blood River's vigor was so overwhelming that it completely obscured the opponent's presence.

Nonetheless, the commotion from the clash was quite intense.

Upon entering the Blood River, Lu Ye didn't immediately activate the Blood Technique; he needed to wait for Jian Guhong to prepare.

In his view, unmatched sword light suddenly unfolded. Even the dense red color of the Blood River couldn't obstruct it. Sword lights like swimming fish were threading through the Blood River, converging in one direction.

A moment later, Jian Guhong's voice rang out: "Lu Ye, boy!"

Lu Ye had been waiting for this moment and, hearing Jian Guhong, unhesitatingly expanded his Blood River.

Things became straightforward from here—the sudden, enormous suppression left the Sacred Seed as helpless as the previous one, with the Blood River shaking and the Sacred Seed's mind rattled. Its strength plummeted precipitously.

Jian Guhong seized the opportunity; a sword wheel formed from countless sword lights spun forward, while another veteran unleashed a timely deadly strike. He wasn't pre-warned but skillfully adapted on the spot, his timing perfectly exquisite.

A moment later, the Sacred Seed's aura vanished, the Blood River dispersed, revealing three figures.

Lu Ye then saw for the first time the appearance of the old veteran, surprisingly a physique cultivator named Wu Deshao.

The veteran's eyes were bulging wide, his face expressing disbelief: "What's the situation?"

Totally at a loss, how such a powerful Sacred Seed got slain muddled by him and Jian Guhong teaming up, and the opponent seemed to have no chance to resist.

"Don't ask, follow!" Jian Guhong was too lazy to explain much, and with a turn of his sword light, headed off into the distance.

Lu Ye swiftly followed.

Wu Deshao's curiosity burned, and he was convinced that old ghost Jian Guhong must have mastered some trick for quickly killing Sacred Seeds. Naturally, he was eager to figure it out and hurriedly moved, shouting, "Hey, hey, what exactly is going on?"

Seeing Jian Guhong ignoring him, he caught up with Lu Ye, slapping Lu Ye's shoulder with a palm as big as a fan, almost knocking him into the Empyrean Sea: "Kid, tell me!"

Lu Ye could only simply explain to him, causing Wu Deshao to listen with eyes glowing—if he hadn't experienced it firsthand before, he wouldn't have believed it. Sacred Seeds were so formidable, could

they be suppressed so easily? But having experienced it himself, he naturally understood Lu Ye was not lying.

He immediately realized that in this battle, those so-called Sacred Seeds of the Blood Race were bound to suffer greatly.

He couldn't help but sigh; the Blood Race, this race, indeed succeeds because of bloodlines and fails because of them!

Because of the bloodline heritage, their growth was much easier than the human race, and they naturally excelled in various Blood Techniques, which is an advantage humans couldn't compare to. Moreover, Sacred Seed-class powerhouses exerted absolute domination and control over ordinary Blood Race members. Yet precisely because of the disparities in bloodline strength, a fatal flaw emerged for the entire race.

Under normal circumstances, this flaw wouldn't be exploitable because only Sacred Seeds possess saintliness.

But now, the human side suddenly has someone capable of targeting this weakness!

If the Blood Race Sacred Seeds do not die, who will?

These veterans have been fighting Sacred Seeds for decades. Except for Sacred Master Feng Wujiang, who had the experience of slaying Sacred Seeds, the others seemed like only Jian Guhong and a few others had such achievements recently, and none of the others did.

Who wouldn't want to kill a Sacred Seed? Given such a heaven-sent opportunity, Wu Deshao naturally didn't want to miss it, so he closely followed behind Lu Ye.

In an instant, three figures plunged into a Blood River.

A moment later, the Blood River scattered, transforming the three figures into four. Wu Deshao, who was following Lu Ye, wore a delighted expression. This time, he acted quickly, smashing the head of the

Sacred Seed before anyone else, adding a notable achievement to his record of slaying Blood Race Sacred Seeds.

The team expanded again, making it increasingly easy and effortless to slay the Sacred Seed.

Not to mention Lu Ye's activation of saintliness to suppress the Sacred Seed, even without it, just a few top human race experts charging into the Blood River would be enough to throw the Sacred Seed into disarray. Though the Sacred Seed is indeed powerful, it cannot handle too many opponents at once.

Moreover, slaying the Sacred Seed in this manner doesn't actually require too many people; Lu Ye just needs Jian Guhong to cooperate with the action.

The other top-tier experts who free up their hands can fully join the main battlefield. Without the Sacred Seed to hold them back, each of them can freely exert their power, causing massive casualties within the Blood Race army over a regional area.

The veteran experts all did this, only Wu Deshao shamelessly stayed by Lu Ye's side, claiming to protect Lu Ye's safety.

In truth, he just wanted to kill more Sacred Seeds to satisfy his itch. Naturally, Lu Ye couldn't refuse him, and Jian Guhong was too lazy to comment, letting him be.

Moreover, in the main battlefield, as more Sacred Seeds were being slain on their end, more top human race experts could come and support, so Wu Deshao's presence wasn't a concern.

The situation on the main battlefield had already stabilized completely, and the top experts who had freed themselves played a crucial role, especially the magic cultivators. The magic and spells they exhibited were tremendously powerful, with each one dealing massive losses to the Blood Race army.

It's foreseeable that, as the situation develops, the human race on the main battlefield will slowly gain an advantage and then expand it.

Lu Ye, Jian Guhong, and Wu Deshao, the three-man squad, continued to rush and busy themselves across various battlefields. Since Lu Ye started the attack, in a span of two hours, more than a dozen Sacred Seeds had been slain, occupying almost half of the Blood Race's Sacred Seeds for this battle.

Every battle was brief, most spent on the move.

There was still some distance between the various battlefields, mainly due to the saintliness issue of the Sacred Seeds. The saintliness of the Sacred Seeds varies in strength, so they can't be too close to each other, to avoid mutual interference. To exert their full power, they have to maintain enough distance from each other.

This actually gave the three-man squad a good opportunity for picking them off one by one. Since the distance was far, when a Sacred Seed fell, it was difficult for others to notice.

But Lu Ye could feel that such good fortune would not last long. The Sacred Seeds weren't fools, with so many Sacred Seeds falling one after another, the main battlefield's situation changing drastically, with numerous freed top experts actively moving among them. Other Sacred Seeds still alive would certainly become aware, and by then, any slight attention would allow them to have Insight.

They were unaware now because they had not even realized the problem.

In the midst of the great battle, the trio once again plunged into a Blood River, preparing to execute another Sacred Seed just like before.

Moments later, Jian Guhong was ready, Wu Deshao poised to strike, and Lu Ye timed the activation of the Blood River perfectly.

Yet in the next instant, his brow furrowed.

Travel the night roads long enough, you're bound to encounter ghosts.

The saintliness of this Sacred Seed in this region was actually much stronger than his. As he laid down the Blood River, not only did he fail to suppress the opponent, but he was actually suppressed instead.

Lu Ye had considered this situation before. Although, due to the Talent Tree, he had refined the Sacred Blood of two Sacred Seeds previously, he was not naive enough to think that his saintliness was the strongest in the entire Blood Refinement World.

The saying goes, there is always a higher mountain, a stronger person. The Blood Refinement World has existed for so many years, and there are always Sacred Seeds blessed with extraordinary talent, refining more Sacred Blood.

Comparatively, his saintliness was indeed strong in the Blood Refinement World, as evidenced by the former Sacred Seeds' fall. But compared to the one before him, there was still quite a gap.

Of course, Lu Ye had accumulated a large amount of Sacred Blood within himself, left behind by those fallen Sacred Seeds. If he could refine all the Sacred Blood, the Sacred Seeds in the Blood Refinement World would be unrivaled.

He was making efforts to refine them, but time was short, and it was hard to make any breakthrough progress.

The coordination of the trio was already exceptionally skilled. Sensing the commotion from Lu Ye's side, Jian Guhong and Wu Deshao simultaneously unleashed their deadly moves.

However, to their astonishment, they couldn't kill the Sacred Seed this time. Although the sudden outburst left the opponent somewhat battered, it suffered no major damage.

So Jian Guhong and Wu Deshao realized this was the tough opponent Lu Ye had mentioned before.

Without hesitation, the two took advantage of the Sacred Seed's moment of distraction, instantly slipping out of the Blood River. Wu Deshao didn't forget to grab Lu Ye along the way.

Since he claimed to protect Lu Ye's safety, he naturally had to put on a show.

Chapter 1173 Rout

This is precisely the moment to swiftly slay the Sacred Seed. The trio doesn't want to waste time here, contesting against a Sacred Seed whose saintliness is too strong for even Lu Ye to suppress. Instead, they prefer to pick off the easier targets.

"What are you doing?" From within the Blood River, a confused voice of an elder from the human race is heard, unable to comprehend why Jian Guhong and Wu Deshao entered only to leave again so quickly.

This is not a common marketplace.

Receiving no response, the trio is already headed to the next battlefield location.

In the Blood River, the Sacred Seed's expression shifts to one of suspicion and gravity because he cannot ignore the saintliness Lu Ye revealed when he activated the Blood River.

A human race cultivator, possessing such powerful saintliness, is unheard of.

Such saintliness, among the Sacred Seeds deployed this time, only he could suppress, or just two others could slightly compare, while others fall short.

A sudden sense of dread arises.

Mental Consciousness quickly spreads out to monitor the surroundings, and what he discovers leaves him stunned.

The number of Sacred Seed's auras has diminished, nearly by half, and on the main battlefield, the human race is clearly gaining the upper hand, launching a fierce counterattack!

The most feared incident has occurred.

Upon realizing Lu Ye harbors saintliness, he already suspected the human race was hunting the Sacred Seeds. Initially thinking that time was short and the Sacred Seeds' losses wouldn't be too significant.

But the actual situation far exceeds the dreadful expectations.

The trio has already headed toward the nearby Sacred Seed, which is undoubtedly unable to withstand the powerful saintliness of that human. With the assistance of human race's top fighters, they are bound to meet their end soon.

It's evident the trio is using this tactic to break the Sacred Seeds one by one, causing immense losses to their side.

In an instant, fury blinds his eyes. Had he reacted quicker, he would have activated the Blood River to trap the trio, and might have killed the human with saintliness himself, though Lu Ye is only at Divine Sea Level 5.

But he was truly shocked at that moment, overlooking that possibility, and by the time he reacted, they had already escaped the Blood River's domain.

This battle... it's impossible to continue!

The human race has hidden a trump card specifically targeting the Sacred Seeds, causing immeasurable losses to their side. Continuing the battle, the Sacred Seeds deployed this time likely won't survive.

Once losses at the Sacred Seed level result in a breakdown, any advantage on the main battlefield is futile.

In fact, the losses now nearly constitute a breakdown, as they don't hold the advantage on the main battlefield, and almost half the Sacred Seeds in the separate battlefields are dead or injured. This operation to besiege the Righteous Blood Sacred Land has already failed.

The forces must be preserved as much as possible. He may not care about the deaths of ordinary Blood Race members, but the losses of Sacred Seeds cannot be replenished quickly, and even Divine Sea Realm Blood Race members do not grow easily.

With a thought, this Blood Race Sacred Seed has made a decision.

A continuous long howl emanates, the sound radiating across the battlefield.

All Blood Races who hear this howl freeze briefly, knowing it is a retreat signal.

To suddenly retreat amidst such an intense battle is not a wise decision. In clashes between two armies, casualties are inevitable, and even with an advantage, thoroughly vanquishing the other side is not easy and comes at a significant cost.

But if one side abruptly retreats, the other side will likely be overjoyed, as pursuit is when victories can be most expanded.

The Sacred Seeds have been fighting Righteous Blood Sacred Land for decades, even without prior war experience, they should know the drawbacks of ordering a retreat now.

Unless there's an irresistible reason...

All living Sacred Seeds hurriedly expand their Mental Consciousness to investigate, and the next moment, their faces change drastically.

Previously, they were wrapped in battles with their opponents, with no time to divert attention, and thought the battle had only started, the situation wasn't expected to undergo any decisive change.

But the reality leaves them feeling as if plunged into an ice pit.

No one knows what exactly happened, but the sudden reduction in Sacred Seed auras is undeniable, and so the living Sacred Seeds realize a power they had ignored is swiftly slaying those of Sacred Seed level.

The Sacred Seeds have always been high and mighty, whether in bloodline or strength, being top-tier in this realm. Even facing the elders of the human race, they generally don't lag, and with the Blood River, can even fend off multiples briefly.

But if there truly is a force capable of swiftly killing them, then their reliance becomes impotent.

Without such dependence, naturally, their hearts feel anxious.

Thus, upon perceiving the battlefield's situation, nearly every Blood Race Sacred Seed makes an immediate decision to retract the Blood River and flee outward.

The top human race cultivators fighting against them certainly pursue relentlessly!

The Sacred Seeds have fled, ordinary Blood Races can't hold on anymore. The massive military formation scatters in panic instantly.

On the main battlefield, the human race army is dumbfounded.

Everyone knew that in this war, the human side had no chance of losing. With the addition of the Bingzhou army battalion, the defense on the Sacred Land's side wasn't easy to break; victory was just a matter of time. However, the sheer size of the Blood Race army wasn't something that could be easily destroyed.

But no one expected the Blood Race to make such a decision at this moment.

How long has the battle been going on?

From the moment the Blood Race launched their all-out attack, with the Sacred Seeds and the top experts of the human race engaged, it had only been a little over two hours, and the Blood Race army was already retreating?

In previous wars, more than two hours would barely have been enough for both sides to probe each other, not yet reaching the point of showcasing real skills.

To put it bluntly, this was a war so abruptly short that it was unimaginable.

After a brief moment of shock, angry shouts echoed from every part of the defensive lines around the Sacred Island, summarizing into one command: "Kill!"

The combat and physique cultivators who had been idle for a long time were the first to charge out. During the prior clashes between the two armies, they really had no opportunity to engage, at most channeling spirit force to energize the arrays on the defensive lines. For combat and physique cultivators accustomed to close-quarter fighting, this was sheer torment.

Originally, they thought that once the enemy army approached a certain distance, they'd finally have room to act. But who would have thought that after Lu Ye took action to slay numerous Sacred Seeds and the veteran seniors joined the battle array, the Blood Race army showed signs of being suppressed, leaving them even less chance to act.

Traveling millions of miles from the Nine Provinces to the Blood Refinement World to partake in such a massive battle, it wouldn't do to just be spectators, right?

Every combat, physique, and even ghost cultivator had long been thirsty for action.

So when the order to pursue and kill came, they charged the fastest and the fiercest. To them, the fleeing figures of the Blood Race weren't just enemies from a foreign domain, but a moving pool of battle merit!

Who wouldn't covet it?

Fortunately, despite the pursuit, the formation wasn't chaotic. The cultivators all formed groups of three to five, establishing formations with the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc. In an instant, what rushed out from the small islands of the Sacred Island's defensive line were not just figures, but virtual shadows of ferocious beasts connected by multiple formations.

It was as if an invisible ancient gate had been opened, releasing ancient ferocious beasts. The virtual shadows of these beasts were all of different types, diverse and varied.

There were also those that weren't ferocious beast shadows but instead condensed into shapes like knives, swords, or hammers, appearing strange yet menacing.

In terms of escape speed, the Blood Race held an advantage because almost every Blood Race member whose cultivation had reached a certain level could perform the Blood Escape Technique. The speed of the Blood Escape Technique ranks among the top of all escape techniques, capable of being used for life-saving in critical moments.

So under the same realm, if the Blood Race were determined to flee, the human race's cultivators might not have a good way to catch them.

But at this moment, it wasn't just one or two Blood Race members fleeing; it was a complete rout of the entire army in four directions. Some who were quick to see the situation had already turned to flee, while those slow to react were still foolishly charging forward, leading to chaotic collisions.

At this juncture, the formations formed by the human cultivators surged in for the kill, with many top human experts leading the charge, cutting through the Blood Race ranks like ships breaking through the waves, stirring up endless slaughter.

In the blink of an eye, the edges of the Blood Race formation dissolved significantly, with countless Blood Race members meeting their untimely deaths.

Having waited eagerly for so long, the combat, physique, and ghost cultivators could finally unleash all their might in a grand battle, each like a tiger descending from the mountain, unstoppable.

Amidst the chaotic flashes of blades and swords, mixed with attacks from various magic and spells, they freely harvested the enemies from all directions.

On the small islands of the defensive line surrounding the Sacred Island, Feng Wujiang stood aloft, looking at this dramatic scene with a mix of tears and laughter.

He had never entered the fray because he needed to stay here to oversee the grand scheme of things.

At this moment, the only ones remaining on the surrounding islands were the human race cultivators from the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, as the entire Bingzhou army battalion had charged out.

The Sacred Land cultivators left behind all looked at Feng Wujiang eagerly, each with eyes full of anticipation, waiting for the Sacred Master's command.

Feeling their spirit, Feng Wujiang said, "Then go and enjoy the slaughter!"

Given the current situation, there's no need to keep any power in reserve.

As soon as the words left his mouth, cheers erupted, and the remaining Sacred Land cultivators all rushed out.

Only some healing cultivators and injured cultivators remained on the small islands. The healing cultivators stayed due to their responsibilities, needing to remain to receive and treat the wounded cultivators to preserve as much of the human race's strength as possible.

The injured were forced to stay; having been wounded in previous battles, it wasn't wise to rashly re-enter the fray.

Yet, there were also those who couldn't care less, as missing such a grand event might leave them with no chance of making up for it in this lifetime.

There was even a cultivator almost entirely bandaged like a mummy struggling to rise. Hua Ci, who was treating other cultivators nearby, turned to him with a gentle smile: "Fellow Daoist, where do you plan to go?"

The cultivator raised an arm and declared, "I can still fight!"

Hua Ci decisively raised a hand, pointing a finger at him: "No, you cannot!"

The cultivator, who had barely managed to get up, immediately collapsed softly, his eyes and mouth crooked, his face turning a shade of green...

Hua Ci turned again, smilingly looking at another being treated: "It seemed you had something to say just now, Fellow Daoist?"

The cultivator quickly shook his head like a rattle drum: "No, I have nothing to say."

Chapter 1174 Interception

Another massive blood river suspended in mid-air crumbled, revealing the figures of Lu Ye, Jian Guhong, and Wu Deshao.

With a quick glance, the situation on the battlefield became crystal clear.

The Blood Race was collapsing even faster than anticipated, evidently a result of the Saint Seed that had emitted the piercing howl earlier.

"Chase them quickly!" Lu Ye whispered urgently, detonating a drop of his essence blood to activate the Blood Escape Technique, transforming into a streak of blood light to pursue ahead.

This was a rare opportunity; he needed to slay as many Saint Seeds as possible. If they scattered and fled, finding them would be no easy task.

Jian Guhong's figure flickered, enveloping himself in sword light, matching, if not exceeding, Lu Ye in speed.

Wu Deshao huffed and puffed in pursuit behind them. Though not slow, being a physique cultivator, speed was not his forte. In moments, Lu Ye and Jian Guhong had left him far behind. Unable to contain his frustration, he turned his fury on nearby Blood Race members, wreaking havoc.

The human army's pursuit inflicted unimaginable losses on the Blood Race. In less than an hour, their casualties exceeded all previous losses combined, and the toll continued to rise.

The Saint Seeds, being the strongest and fastest, fled at the forefront, followed by the Divine Sea Realm Blood Race. Those below the Divine Sea Realm were abandoned, their survival left to fate.

All the Blood Race could sense that after this battle, it would be many years before the Southern Territory in the Blood Refinement World could again muster a force to oppose the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, filling them with great pain and resentment.

This battle had ended in confusion. What was expected to be the eradication of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land instead resulted in heavy losses for them, with nearly half the Saint Seeds dead or injured.

This was undoubtedly the greatest calamity the Blood Race in the Blood Refinement World had ever suffered.

Fortunately, more than half of the Saint Seeds managed to escape. As long as they survived, the deaths of the ordinary Blood Race members were deemed expendable.

Just as the Saint Seeds were breathing a sigh of relief, feeling they had narrowly escaped, they suddenly perceived numerous figures looming ahead.

The leading Saint Seeds initially did not comprehend what was happening. Since the invasion of the Blood Refinement World by the Nine Provinces cultivators, the entire domain had been shrouded in dark clouds and continuous rumbling, obscuring the movements of the Nine Provinces cultivator army.

It wasn't until they strained their Ocular Power that the Saint Seeds were horrified to discover the advancing figures were the formidable army of the human race, with an imposing presence. In their midst were colossal treasure ships they had never seen before.

The Saint Seeds were utterly dumbfounded...

No one knew where these human cultivators had emerged from, just as they couldn't understand why the defensive power of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land had suddenly surged.

After all, cross-domain expeditions were an unfathomably profound matter. The Nine Provinces side had long prepared, with full knowledge of the Blood Refinement World, while the Blood Refinement World knew nothing of the Nine Provinces.

While the leading Saint Seeds were still in shock, the human army launched their attack.

The eight battalions had traveled arduously for a long time, gathering intelligence on the battle situation at the Righteous Blood Sacred Land through various channels, thus having substantial understanding of the current situation.

According to the original plan, they would reach outside the Righteous Blood Sacred Land and coordinate from inside and outside to encircle the Blood Race.

But plans could never keep up with changes. The Blood Race's performance this time was unexpectedly disappointing. Apart from the initial probing, the actual confrontation lasted just over one hour before they were completely routed.

The original plan inevitably had to be altered, though the general direction remained unchanged.

At that moment, they finally encountered the legendary Blood Race. Naturally, there was nothing more to say—it was a case of the brave winning when paths cross.

Brilliant bursts of magic and spells erupted one after another, and massive lights flared from the treasure ships, pouring into the fleeing Blood Race ranks.

Within the battalion, those at the Divine Sea Level 9 did not rush to move. They had more important tasks: to entangle the fleeing Saint Seeds.

Having never encountered the Blood Race, they couldn't identify which were Saint Seeds and which were ordinary Blood Race from appearance alone. Identifying by aura wasn't feasible either, as Saint Seeds also fell under the Divine Sea Realm.

However, with the experience shared by Lu Ye, it was different.

They only needed to target the fastest fleeing, isolated Blood Race members.

Because of the saintliness innate in the Saint Seeds, ordinary Blood Race members instinctively kept their distance during escape to avoid suppression from their saintliness, leaving each Saint Seed alone.

Based on this judgment, the Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators in the battalion easily identified their targets, and figures swiftly moved towards the Saint Seeds.

Almost every Saint Seed found themselves surrounded by at least four or five Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators.

In the first clashes, these strong fighters from the Nine Provinces immediately realized the exceptional power of the Saint Seeds. Initially, they thought their numerical advantage would guarantee repression if not outright defeat of the Saint Seeds. Yet, as the Saint Seeds unfurled their blood rivers, even outnumbered, they barely managed a stalemate, with some positions even falling into a disadvantage.

They had never fought against the Blood Race before, and after personally experiencing the Blood River's strangeness, they finally understood the power of the Blood Race Sacred Seeds.

Cultivators from the eight battalions surged from eight directions, intercepting the fleeing Blood Race. The Bingzhou battalion, along with cultivators from the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, pursued them, and momentarily, the area above the Empyrean Sea, centered on the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, became a battlefield where battles raged continuously for tens of thousands of miles.

The casualties of the Blood Race continued to grow. They had been the routed party, and if not for the interception from the front, perhaps most of them might have escaped. But with pursuers and interceptors, they found themselves in a situation where there was no escape.

They could only fight to the death.

However, at this moment, the morale of the Blood Race's army was already crumbling, making it impossible to reassemble into a force capable of fighting a war. On the other hand, the Nine Provinces battalion was in high spirits, and a few encounters allowed them to establish superiority instantly.

Lu Ye and Jian Guhong chased arduously for a long time before finally catching up with the fleeing Sacred Seeds. They were not sure which battalion was responsible for this direction, but upon arrival, they immediately spotted three massive Blood Rivers spanning the sky.

The imposing presence emanating from those Blood Rivers was unmistakably that of Sacred Seeds.

The Sacred Seeds also wanted to flee, but each of them was facing at least four or five Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators. How could they escape under such circumstances?

Especially since these Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators had long received word through various channels relayed by Lu Ye, they were only trapping the enemy without engaging in head-on combat.

One of the Blood Rivers emanated a series of angry shouts and screams of surprise. It was unclear which Divine Sea Level 9 cultivator was so high-spirited, but from those sounds, it was apparent he wasn't gaining any advantage.

Lu Ye and Jian Guhong each flickered with their forms and charged straight into this Blood River.

A moment later, as the Heaven-shocking Sword Aura erupted, the Blood River suddenly shattered, revealing several figures within.

Some Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators were still in a daze; none expected that the enemy they struggled so hard to contend with would suddenly be slain!

Some sharp-eyed individuals spotted a familiar figure and immediately shouted, "Lu Yiye!"

They also saw Jian Guhong beside Lu Ye but did not recognize him, vaguely aware that he was probably the old master Lu Yiye had previously mentioned.

Secretly amazed, they thought, no wonder he was someone who subdued an era. The ability to swiftly slay Sacred Seeds was indeed extraordinary.

They weren't aware that Jian Guhong's ability to quickly slay the Sacred Seeds was inseparable from Lu Ye's assistance. In truth, after Lu Ye charged into the Blood River and used Blood Technique to suppress the Sacred Seeds, they too could have had the capability to slay Sacred Seeds if Jian Guhong hadn't struck so swiftly, leaving no chance for them to experience it.

In the blink of an eye, Lu Ye and Jian Guhong had entered the second Blood River.

With the destruction of this Blood River, the last Sacred Seed within the final Blood River sensed danger and desperately tried to escape. However, entangled by his opponents, escape had become a mere luxury.

When Lu Ye and Jian Guhong charged in, despair set in completely.

In no time, the three Sacred Seeds in this direction had been slain.

Lu Ye wasn't sure whether there were only three Sacred Seeds in this location, or if a fortunate one had already escaped. It didn't matter now; even if there had been an escapee, he had no time for further pursuit.

With the three Sacred Seeds at this location dead, the rest could be left to the cultivator battalion responsible for the area. Eliminating the Blood Race remnants here was merely a matter of time.

He and Jian Guhong flickered their forms, cutting horizontally into another area.

Distant voices resounded: "Wishing all great fortune and achievements."

The Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators watched his receding figure, some shaking their heads and smiling wryly, "That kid..."

They genuinely envied him; so young, with such a promising future, acting with such unrestrained freedom. Truly enviable. Although they were now high-ranking and powerful, at Lu Ye's age, the best they could expect was to be at True Lake, while some were merely at Cloud River. The gap was indeed immense in comparison.

The Nine Provinces cultivator battalion's siege of the Blood Race remnants continued. The routed Blood Race originally thought they could escape, only to slam headlong into an all-encompassing net. At this point, none of them cared where these human race cultivators had come from. If they wanted to survive, they had to fight desperately, aiming to break through the human race's formations to carve a path of survival.

However, the battalion cultivators had arrived full of fighting spirit, and even if the Blood Race fought like cornered beasts, they remained fearless.

Each Blood Race slain meant an additional score in battle merit, and the cultivators could easily tally that up.

Moreover, with the widespread use of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc, cultivators formed formations with their companions, resulting in far greater offensive and defensive capabilities than individual combat.

Under such circumstances, the human race side easily gained an absolute advantage.

But war inevitably leads to casualties. The human race side also suffered losses, but compared to the Blood Race's casualties, those losses were almost negligible.

Chapter 1175 The Meeting

In this direct collision between the human race and the Blood Race, the initial probing took less than two days, and the direct engagement lasted just over an hour. However, the subsequent pursuit and encirclement lasted a full five to six days.

In this battle, countless bodies were buried in the Empyrean Sea; the Blood Race army was almost completely annihilated. Except for the very few fortunate Blood Race members who escaped, the rest were either slain by human race cultivators or fell into the Empyrean Sea, where death was certain.

Of the more than thirty Sacred Seeds, only six or seven managed to escape.

Besides the portion initially wiped out by the trio of Lu Ye, Jian Guhong, and Wu Deshao, the remainder were the result of Lu Ye and Jian Guhong's pursuit.

Of course, this also benefitted from the entanglement and encirclement by the human battalion experts from all directions.

Chasing after enemies requires a great deal of energy and is extremely time-consuming. After all, the directions in which the Sacred Seeds fled were not just one, so Lu Ye and Jian Guhong, after finishing their task in one direction, had to rush to the next, which was quite exhausting.

By the end of the chase, both he and Jian Guhong were somewhat exhausted.

Unable to completely succeed, some of the Sacred Seeds still managed to escape, leaving them quite helpless, but there was nothing more they could do.

Each of the Sacred Seeds possessed formidable strength, and with the Nine Provinces cultivators encountering the Blood Race's Blood Techniques for the first time, many things were unfamiliar, inevitably leading to some oversights.

The only regret for Lu Ye was that a Sacred Seed whose saintliness far exceeded his also escaped...

But at this moment, although the saintliness of that Sacred Seed is much stronger than Lu Ye's, it might not be the case the next time they meet.

Having slain so many Sacred Seeds, Lu Ye collected all the Sacred Blood from the slain Sacred Seeds. As long as he can refine this Sacred Blood, his saintliness is bound to surge.

At that point, it would not be an exaggeration to say that he would be the foremost in saintliness in the Blood Refinement World. Lu Ye believed no Sacred Seed's saintliness could surpass his after refining all the Sacred Blood.

After all, even the Sacred Seeds must bear a certain degree of risk when refining Sacred Blood. Their growth in saintliness is limited, whereas he can use the Talent Tree's refinement without any hidden risks to refine the Sacred Blood.

At this point, the nine major battalions of Bingzhou gathered at the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, primarily for some rest and recuperation. After several days of fierce battle, the cultivators were somewhat tired. Since there was no place to stand on the Empyrean Sea, they could only come to the Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

For a time, the Sacred Island and the small islands along the surrounding defensive line were overcrowded!

Since the founding of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, this place had never gathered so many human race cultivators, and each one was quite powerful.

In addition to rest, it was also a large meeting.

Those sects with their elders in the Sacred Land, without exception, eagerly came to greet their ancestors and received a fair amount of encouragement.

Those sects without elders in the Sacred Land didn't need to meet any ancestors, but as guests from afar, they inevitably had to pay a courtesy call to the local host.

As early as the Nine Provinces celebration banquet, when Lu Ye publicly brought up the existence of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, the Nine Provinces experts vaguely realized a problem.

The Righteous Blood Sacred Land is probably not unrelated to the strong individual from the Righteous Blood Sect who stirred the Nine Provinces decades ago.

No one was a fool. Since predecessors like Jian Guhong, Mong Jie, and Lady Moon could establish themselves in the Blood Refinement World, there was no reason why Feng Wujiang, who was dominant decades ago, couldn't do so.

But at that time, everyone was immersed in the joy and anticipation of the subsequent matters raised by Lu Ye, so no one asked that untimely question, also subconsciously ignoring it.

Upon arriving now, it was indeed the case; the Sacred Master of the Righteous Blood Sacred Land was Feng Wujiang. Otherwise, how could the only human Pure Land in the Blood Refinement World be named after Righteous Blood?

When Feng Wujiang established the Righteous Blood Sacred Land, he probably never expected the current situation, or else he would never have named the Sacred Land 'Righteous Blood,' most likely opting for something like 'Nine Provinces Sacred Land' instead...

At this point, there's no need to worry about such things; ultimately, it's just a name.

The Divine Sea Realm cultivators were eager to participate in this expedition because it involved their prospects of ascending to the upper realm. Those below the Divine Sea Realm were keen on the battle merit, each having their own needs.

Feng Wujiang had grievances with many major sects of the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge. Under his leadership, the Haotian Alliance once had tendencies of unifying the Nine Provinces; many top major sects of the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge were defeated. In any other scenario, any other environment, meeting each other wouldn't be a pleasant experience.

But this was, after all, the Blood Refinement World, and coupled with the victory in battle, there were some things that were understood without needing to be mentioned.

Compared to the future of the entire Nine Provinces and the future path of the Divine Sea Realm cultivators, past grudges invisibly dulled quite a bit.

It's not about forgetting hatred. Hatred isn't something that can be easily forgotten. The two major camps have been in opposition for so many years, with countless grudges. If past grievances were truly pursued, every sect present was burdened with deep-seated hatred.

Yet under the influence of the Insect Plague, the two factions could still cease hostilities and come to terms. During the expedition to the Blood Refinement World, they were able to cooperate sincerely.

Different periods and different stages see cultivators with different demands.

Currently, within the Nine Provinces, while the two camps haven't explicitly agreed on anything, there's already an implicit understanding that the Spirit Stream battlefield and the Cloud River battlefield will remain as they are, allowing the lower-level cultivators themselves to compete. After all, for cultivators, they can grow better through competition.

Upon reaching above Cloud River, what needed contesting was contested, but there was no longer any need to strictly adhere to faction divisions. It's highly unlikely that the previous situation, where opposing factions were automatically enemies, would occur again.

In the future, there might be situations where the lower-level cultivators are fighting fiercely, while the higher-level cultivators are drinking and conversing cheerfully.

This doesn't seem like a particularly strange occurrence.

The emergence of the two major factions was a natural evolution in the history of cultivation in the Nine Provinces. Now, a metamorphosis is imminent, and the old structures will inevitably be impacted.

With this foundational understanding and after this collaboration, interactions between parties won't be so awkward.

So overall, this large gathering can be considered a success.

During this time, higher-level cultivators discussed the action plans moving forward.

After this great battle, the Blood Race's army suffered heavy casualties, and it's likely that they won't be able to form any large-scale opposition in the short term.

Based on this, it became undesirable for cultivators to act as battalions. Although battalion actions are strong, it's overkill for dealing with scattered soldiers from the Blood Race.

Therefore, they must break into smaller groups, spreading out to swiftly and effectively eradicate the Blood Race's forces, and quickly bring the entire Blood Refinement World under control.

News from the Northern Territory keeps coming over here, where sects take turns as units to capture the Blood Race's gathering points—a quite effective method.

Of course, the strength of the various sects varies. Those with Divine Sea level support in the 3rd grade or above sects can act independently. Without Divine Sea support, sects below 3rd grade acting alone are at risk of heavy losses if they encounter a Divine Sea Blood Race.

Therefore, cooperation between sects is necessary. Like the collaboration between the Righteous Blood Sect and Ziwei Dao Palace, each sect compensates for the other's weaknesses: Ziwei Dao Palace lacks in Divine Sea, and Righteous Blood Sect is lacking True Lake. Together, they can mutually compensate.

Of course, this applies except in areas outside the Empyrean Sea, where there's no need to consider these as all battalion members are elite cultivators, each above True Lake Realm. Each Divine Sea cultivator leads a group of True Lake Realm cultivators to form a mobile and flexible small team.

Less than a day after eliminating the Blood Race army, the nine battalions were mostly rested. They immediately moved under the leadership of each Divine Sea cultivator, with teams flying in all directions from the Sacred Island.

Even cultivators native to the Sacred Island joined them in great numbers.

They had been besieged by the Blood Race on the Sacred Island for decades, and now that there was finally a chance to fight back, they were naturally eager not to miss it. Feng Wujiang had not the slightest intention to stop them.

In less than one hour, the densely packed Sacred Island suddenly became much sparser.

Some people remained, like Feng Wujiang, who stayed to preside over control. After all, there were still many ordinary people living here.

Qiu Min didn't participate in the subsequent expeditions either. The elder sister-in-law, having finally reunited with the senior brother, naturally wouldn't part easily. Being with him was more important to her than earning battle merit through eliminating the Blood Race.

Feng Yuechan did leave, mainly because Li Baxian didn't dare stay.

Even though he had resolved to face it before coming, when he truly saw the senior brother again, he didn't know how to begin and slightly avoided the situation...

Lu Ye had been silently observing this matter, seeing the four senior brothers entangled in sorrow and was powerless to help.

Such affairs cannot be interfered with by outsiders, no matter how close as brothers, the fourth senior brother must take that step on his own.

The remaining cultivators were either those injured in battle or healing cultivators who stayed to care for them.

There weren't many.

But now the Sacred Island no longer needed worry about being attacked, so even with few left behind, it wasn't significant.

Lu Ye found a secluded spot, silently refining the Sacred Blood he had collected earlier, while quietly waiting.

His most crucial role now was dealing with the Sacred Seeds, not only those few who previously escaped but other scattered Sacred Seeds across the Blood Refinement World.

With the suppression from his Bloodline and saintliness, any Sacred Seed he confronts is likely doomed.

So he needed to remain where there were Heaven's Augury Pillars. As soon as news of Sacred Seeds was discovered in any location, he would be the first to head there.

Fortunately, he had a doppelganger, or else he really wouldn't manage.

The doppelganger had already gained three victories. During the ongoing battle at the Empyrean Sea over a few days, news from two more places arrived, and the doppelganger hurried there and joined nearby Divine Sea cultivators to kill the Sacred Seeds together.

However, without the support of a top strongman like Jian Guhong, the efficiency was notably lower.

Chapter 1176 Tough Nut to Crack

The current state of the Blood Refinement World is just as Lu Ye predicted. The Nine Provinces cultivator army employed the Heaven's Augury Pillar for teleportation, spreading like fairies scattering flowers within the Blood Refinement World, catching the Blood Race off guard across various regions.

During the extermination of the Blood Race, many Nine Provinces cultivators also received tasks to gather Spirit Rice and protect human congregations. These two tasks could actually be completed simultaneously, as gathering Spirit Rice required finding the gathering points of the human race in this realm.

Of course, relatively speaking, protecting humans required a certain amount of time, and until the Nine Provinces fully controlled the Blood Refinement World, constant guarding was needed.

The cultivators from the Nine Provinces did not reject this task, as it was ingrained in their philosophy that protecting mortals was a cultivator's duty, and everyone would contribute their efforts as much as they could.

So, even without such tasks, once Nine Provinces cultivators realized that the fleeing Blood Race might harm human villages, they would independently arrange for personnel to guard and stay put.

Now, with tasks directly issued by Heaven's Augury and additional battle merit to gain, it serves as compensation for the cultivators carrying out such tasks.

A large amount of Spirit Rice was collected and, via the Heaven's Augury Pillars scattered across, sent back to the Nine Provinces.

Everything proceeded in an orderly fashion.

Lu Ye had already left the Sacred Island and was traveling across various locations in the Blood Refinement World.

Thanks to the convenient communication among Nine Provinces cultivators, everyone now knew that once traces of the Sacred Seed were discovered, they should instantly send out a message, and before long, Lu Yiye would descend like a divine weapon to resolve it.

Previously, some Nine Provinces cultivators of the Divine Sea Realm didn't believe in such things and gathered a group to try and besiege the Sacred Seed. After a fierce battle, they couldn't defeat the Sacred Seed and instead suffered significant losses themselves. They then realized that Sacred Seeds could not be dealt with just by numbers; special methods were required.

And Lu Yiye from the Righteous Blood Sect was the Nine Provinces' ace against the Sacred Seed!

When this news spread widely, Lu Ye's true self and doppelganger became extremely busy, either in the act of slaying the Sacred Seed or on the way to slay the Sacred Seed.

Fortunately, the number of Sacred Seeds in the Blood Refinement World was ultimately limited, so this busyness wouldn't last long.

Amidst his hectic schedule, his cultivation broke through to the Divine Sea Level 6.

Ever since he ascended to the Divine Sea Level 5, he practiced tirelessly, but the distance to Level 6 was still considerable. Even though the Blood Refinement World didn't have the cultivation environment of the Nine Provinces, nor could he use the gold-hued spirit fortune stick, during the refinement of Sacred Blood, he gained more than just an enhancement in saintliness. Each drop of Sacred Blood contained tremendously powerful energy, and refining Sacred Blood was also a form of cultivation for him.

Thus, advancing to Level 6 was only natural.

With the enhancement of one level's cultivation, his strength increased, making it even easier to handle the Sacred Seed.

While the Nine Provinces cultivators were striking out separately, the Blood Race was gathering steadily.

Their communication wasn't as convenient as the Nine Provinces cultivators, but they still weren't foolish. After initially being caught off guard by the Nine Provinces cultivators and losing several strongholds, those Blood Race members who escaped were spreading the news about these attacks.

Although they weren't entirely clear about what was happening, it was evident that a human force was slaughtering Blood Race members all around, and this human force was unprecedentedly strong, forcing the remaining Blood Race members to cluster together, hoping for resistance.

Thus, Blood Race members from various Grotto Heaven Blessed Lands flocked to the strongest Blood Race locations near their territories, especially those Sacred Lands where Sacred Seeds were present, attracting numerous Blood Race members without much prompting.

This unusual situation was quickly probed by the Nine Provinces cultivators, and the message was promptly spread.

Having no other choice, the Nine Provinces had to gather small-scale forces, with cultivators from various sects converging for a purpose to engage back-and-forth battles with the Blood Race.

However, such stalemates usually didn't last long, as with the transmission of information, more and more Nine Provinces sects joined until a Blood Race group became completely overwhelmed.

After each battle, they scattered to find new targets, and upon identifying a sufficiently strong target, they sent out messages summoning allies, which was normal procedure for Nine Provinces cultivators, but for the Blood Race, it was quite distressing.

Even if they could temporarily gain the upper hand, the Nine Provinces side could quickly rally enough personnel to reverse the situation.

In various parts of the Blood Refinement World, it was typically this kind of situation.

Especially noteworthy was that as time went on, this scenario would worsen.

Because in the Southern Territory, there were nine elite battalions from the Nine Provinces splitting and swiftly moving north, annihilating all manner of apparitions along the way.

Actually, after the previous battle, in the southern region of the Blood Refinement World, most Blood Race members with any strength were nearly wiped out, and those remaining at various strongholds were few in number, unable to withstand the teams divided by the nine elite battalions.

Once the elite forces of the nine battalions swept from south to north across the entire Blood Refinement World, it would mark a grand victory for the Nine Provinces' expedition in the Blood Refinement World... or perhaps it wouldn't even need to wait until that day.

Boulder Sacred Land, a prominent presence on the Yunluo Plain, its master Boulder Saintly Venerable was an exceedingly seasoned existence among the Blood Race Saintly Venerables, having been renowned for over a thousand years.

The millennia of management, even during normal times, the power within the Sacred Land is not to be underestimated, not to mention the recent influx of Blood Race members from all directions.

Currently, the power of Boulder Sacred Land has surged more than threefold compared to normal times, and with the Boulder Saintly Venerable overseeing here, one can say this is indeed a tough nut to crack.

Tough as it may be, it must be cracked; it's unreasonable for so many Blood Race members to gather here while Nine Provinces cultivators turn a blind eye. These are all battle merits.

Moreover, on this expedition of Nine Provinces cultivators to the Blood Refinement World, the way to acquire battle merits is not limited to just killing enemies; conquering Blood Race strongholds also yields battle merits, with the amount differing based on the cultivator's contribution.

So since the beginning of the war, almost every cultivator from Nine Provinces has been reaping rich rewards, and this is not yet the end.

It is unimaginable what rewards cultivators might achieve upon achieving victory in the expedition.

The only foreseeable outcome is that after this expedition, the overall power of the Nine Provinces cultivation world will inevitably rise substantially.

At this moment, numerous Nine Provinces cultivators are gathered in a specific direction of Boulder Sacred Land, a group of Divine Sea Realm cultivators discussing and waiting together.

The cultivators gathered here come from eight sects, all hunting within tens of thousands of miles around here. They heard news of a big catch here and rushed over eagerly.

The strength of the eight sects varies; there are 1st grade, 2nd grade, and also 3rd grade. As for sects below 3rd grade, they generally do not act alone as they lack Divine Sea Realm cultivators; they often rely on their superior sect and act together with superior sect cultivators.

Therefore, the apparent forces gathered here belong to eight sects, but the actual number far exceeds eight sects.

In terms of overall strength comparison, the Nine Provinces camp has an absolute advantage here, but even so, everyone dares not act rashly, mainly due to the fear of the Boulder Saintly Venerable.

On the Nine Provinces cultivator side, the leaders are three Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators.

Khu Cha of Qingwei Sect, Yun Lietian of Shocking Lightning Heights, and Leng Meishuang of Baihuang Pavilion. Among the trio, Leng Meishuang is a tall, cold-faced lady, exuding an air of 'do not approach'.

Among cultivators, female cultivators are somewhat less than male cultivators, and even fewer attain Level 9 realm. Although Leng Meishuang seems quite young, she possesses Level 9 cultivation, indicating her high talent.

As for Khu Cha, it's not a name; rather, it seems like a moniker. No one knows what he is actually called anymore, smiling with a beaming expression, contrasting sharply with the icy Leng Meishuang.

In comparison, Yun Lietian is much more normal, a standard beefy guy with an imposing demeanor.

Waiting is taxing, especially with so many Nine Provinces cultivators gathered; Boulder Sacred Land can't possibly remain unaware. Therefore, an attack must be initiated promptly; otherwise, they might face the enemy's attack and be forced into defensive positions.

"Still not here?" Yun Lietian waits impatiently.

Khu Cha shrugs: "Messages require relay; it's impossible to get a definite reply. We only know they're on the way, but it's unclear how long they will take."

"Almost here." Leng Meishuang, who has been silent, suddenly speaks.

Khu Cha and Yun Lietian ask puzzled: "How do you know?"

Leng Meishuang looks at them like they're fools: "Of course, I asked through communication."

The two are amazed, and Khu Cha asks: "You have Lu Yiye's mark exchange? When did that happen?"

Leng Meishuang replies: "Exchanged during the Bingzhou victory celebration banquet."

Indeed, some exchanged marks with Lu Yiye back then, albeit not many; thus, the two never expected Leng Meishuang, the ice mountain beauty, to be among them.

The two then stare at her with expressions of unanticipated surprise towards Leng Meishuang.

Leng Meishuang furrows her brows: "Being part of the Haotian Alliance, our sect has some ties with Righteous Blood Sect. As the most outstanding rising star of his generation, what's wrong with me exchanging marks with him?"

Khu Cha hurries to respond: "No problem, no problem. It's still Fellow Daoist Leng with foresight."

Had he known today it would be necessary to rely on Lu Yiye, he would have exchanged marks back then, saving time-consuming relays for messages now and avoiding untimely feedback.

Determined, upon meeting Lu Yiye, the first thing to do is to exchange marks instead of anything else.

"Here they come." Yun Lietian suddenly glances towards a certain direction. Everyone looks over, indeed seeing two streaks of light rapidly approaching from that direction, precisely from the direction of the nearby Heaven's Augury Pillar.

Chapter 1177 Targeted

Lu Ye can teleport through the Heaven's Augury Pillar to various places in the Blood Refinement Realm. This is no longer a secret, as his active range has been too vast recently, appearing in the east, then the west, then the south, and then the north. Without the help of the Heaven's Augury Pillar, it would be impossible to achieve this just by flying on his own.

Besides him, no other Nine Provinces cultivator has this kind of authority, all lamenting that he truly is a person favored by Heaven's Augury, with special privileges granted everywhere by the Heaven's Augury.

No need to envy, as it is precisely because he can teleport with the help of the Heaven's Augury Pillar that he can support various locations repeatedly and assist Nine Provinces cultivators in slaying Sacred Seeds.

So, upon seeing those two streaks of light coming from the direction of the Heaven's Augury Pillar, the Divine Sea practitioners on the scene knew that Lu Ye had arrived.

As for why there were two streaks of light, that was unknown.

Soon, the two streaks of light landed in front of the crowd, revealing two figures. One was Lu Ye, and the other was a robust, imposing man.

"Yiye, you have finally arrived." Khu Cha quickly led the group to greet them, with a look as if they had been waiting for him for a long time.

His enthusiasm slightly surprised Lu Ye, and the way he addressed him was obviously well thought out.

The name Lu Ye heard most often was "Young Friend Lu," given the age difference between them. It seemed only the sect master referred to him as Yiye.

But he had to admit that this kind of address easily closed the distance between them.

"The journey took a bit of time," Lu Ye replied.

"Who is this..." Khu Cha looked at the robust man, vaguely guessing that he was one of the elders Lu Ye had mentioned before, but he was unsure of which one.

"Wu Dezhao," Wu Dezhao introduced himself, hands clasped behind his back, exuding a natural aura of authority.

Khu Cha and the others thought for a moment and understood his origins, quickly paying their respects. Although they were all Divine Sea Level 9 cultivators, top figures in the Nine Provinces, they were still somewhat inferior in front of a strong figure like Wu Dezhao and dared not show disrespect.

The encounter between Lu Ye and Wu Dezhao had a touch of coincidence, but it was largely due to Wu Dezhao's own strategy.

No slouch he, knowing Lu Ye was targeting Sacred Seeds, he headed north immediately upon leaving the Sacred Island, specifically inquiring about the whereabouts of the Sacred Seeds.

He wasn't interested in ordinary Blood Race members; he only wanted to kill more Sacred Seeds. But he knew it would be very difficult to do so with just his own strength, so he had to rely on Lu Ye's abilities.

Upon hearing news of a Sacred Seed nearby, he promptly rushed toward the nearest Heaven's Augury Pillar, and sure enough, he caught up with Lu Ye teleporting there, and they immediately set off together towards this location.

For this, Lu Ye was naturally very pleased. With Wu Dezhaohao assisting, slaying Sacred Seeds would certainly be much easier.

"What's the situation now?" Lu Ye asked. He thought a battle would already be underway here, as he had been hurrying with all his might on the way, but now it seemed that the two sides hadn't yet engaged, which was very strange.

With so many Nine Provinces cultivators gathered here, there's no way the Blood Race at Boulder Sacred Land wouldn't know. Rationally, Boulder Sacred Land should have taken the initiative to strike first, because the longer they delay, the more Nine Provinces cultivators will gather, putting the Blood Race at a disadvantage.

While explaining the situation, Khu Cha casually flicked his battlefield marking imprint to Lu Ye, and the other Divine Sea cultivators followed suit.

Lu Ye accepted without refusal, having experienced this scene many times recently. Each time he went to support, after slaying a Sacred Seed, a large group of Divine Sea cultivators would come to exchange their imprints with him.

"Something's not right," Lu Ye frowned. "Even if the Blood Race's message delivery is sluggish, they should roughly understand the current situation in the Blood Refinement Realm. Staying on the defensive like this is very disadvantageous for them. What are they waiting for? Are there any other Blood Race gathering points nearby?"

"If you're worried about hidden Blood Race reinforcements, you don't have to be. We've spread out scouts over thousands of miles around. If a large force of Blood Race appears, we'll know at the first

moment," Khu Cha and the others, seasoned Divine Sea cultivators who have fought all their lives, certainly considered what Lu Ye worried about.

"We suspect that the reason they aren't taking the initiative is because they know the difference in strength between us and them, so they don't dare act rashly. They're waiting for us to strike first so they can take advantage of the terrain."

This explanation is a bit of a stretch, but it seems to be the only explanation.

As everyone was talking, a sudden surge of spirit force erupted within the previously calm Boulder Sacred Land, blood Qi filled the air, and a swath of Blood Race figures abruptly charged out from within.

A vast Blood River unfurled from within, sweeping toward the gathering spot of Nine Provinces cultivators.

"Face the enemy!" Khu Cha shouted angrily, as many Divine Sea cultivators quickly shifted, heading towards their own formation.

The Blood Race attack was unexpected, but fortunately, the Nine Provinces cultivators had been preparing for this, so they weren't caught off guard. In an instant, the cultivators from both sides clashed fiercely.

"Kid, be careful, it seems they're targeting you!" Wu Dezhao warned sternly.

Lu Ye nodded, "It should be!"

It made no sense that before he arrived, everything here was calm, and as soon as he came, the Blood Race launched an attack. He had suspected before that the Blood Race was waiting for something, if not reinforcements, then a specific enemy.

An enemy considered a major threat by the Blood Race!

Among the Nine Provinces cultivators today, only Lu Ye could have such an honor.

Lu Ye was puzzled, though. What was the Blood Race relying on? Why did they think they could deal with him here?

He had some vague suspicions but needed to verify them personally.

His figure soared into the sky, heading straight towards the enormous Blood River with Wu Deshao. That was the Blood River of the Sacred Seed! If he wasn't mistaken, it should have been unleashed by the Boulder Saintly Venerable.

At this moment, the Blood River surged, engulfing a Nine Provinces cultivator who was momentarily careless. Soon, agonizing screams echoed, indicating a lethal attack.

The Blood River danced continuously, killing but not excessively, with a provocative air, baring its fangs and brandishing its claws.

This made Lu Ye even more certain of his suspicions.

Boulder Sacred Land had been motionless, but attacked immediately after his arrival, clearly waiting for him. There must be a trap for him within the Blood River!

If things were indeed as he suspected, then the Blood Race might end up suffering a loss instead of gaining an advantage this time.

So he fearlessly plunged into the Blood River, with Wu Deshao following closely.

Once inside the Blood River, Lu Ye immediately felt a strong binding force coming from all directions, confirming his previous suspicions.

Outside the Blood River, it was hard to sense much, but once inside, he detected a familiar aura.

It was the aura of a Sacred Seed he had encountered during the great battle in the Empyrean Sea!

The saintliness of that Sacred Seed was incredibly powerful, suppressing even him. Sensing something was wrong, he, along with Jian Guhong and Wu Deshao, immediately withdrew from the Blood River. In the hasty event, the opponent did not react in time, allowing them to escape successfully.

In fact, even if the opponent had reacted, it wouldn't have been much use. With Jian Guhong and Wu Deshao joining forces, plus another elder within the Blood River, they could handle one Sacred Seed. While they couldn't do much about the Sacred Seed, they could ensure Lu Ye's safety.

However, once trapped inside the Blood River, Lu Ye wouldn't be able to kill more Sacred Seeds later on.

Now appearing on this battlefield was precisely that Saintly strong Sacred Seed! Apparently, he knew that the fall of the Sacred Seeds was closely related to Lu Ye, and also knew that recently, Lu Ye had been hunting Sacred Seeds. So, he set up a trap at Boulder Sacred Land to lure Lu Ye over.

Now that the fish had taken the bait, he was wiser from past lessons. He activated the restrictive power of the Blood River the moment Lu Ye entered, confident that his saintliness could suppress Lu Ye and hunt him down, the bane of Sacred Seeds!

Inside the Blood River, there wasn't only him; another Sacred Seed's aura was present, too.

It should be none other than Boulder Saintly Venerable.

Sacred Seeds usually wouldn't join forces, as their saintliness varied in strength, which could interfere with each other during a confrontation. The weaker saintliness side wouldn't be able to exert full power.

This had been Lu Ye's understanding of Sacred Seeds, not told by anyone, but based on his own judgment.

But now, it seemed there was a flaw in that judgment?

Because at this very moment, Boulder Saintly Venerable and that strongly saintly Sacred Seed were indeed cooperating, with one leading and the other supporting. Their saintliness surged, forming a peculiar resonance.

The saintliness flooding the Blood River exceeded the original level of that strongly saintly Sacred Seed.

It wasn't as terrifying as adding their powers together, but it was indeed stronger than the original saintliness of that Sacred Seed.

He suddenly realized that this was what they relied on!

In the great battle of the Empyrean Sea, that guy's saintliness was stronger than his, so he believed that by luring him into the Blood River, he could easily subdue him. To ensure success, he even teamed up with Boulder Saintly Venerable, creating a resonance between their saintliness, which became even stronger.

And once they killed him here, the remaining Sacred Seeds in the Blood Refinement World would be greatly safeguarded. After all, even top-notch powerhouses like Jian Guhong and Wu Deshao couldn't gain any advantage when fighting against them.

Lu Ye couldn't help but sigh; the more he interacted with the Blood Race, the more he discovered things he hadn't previously noticed.

He had always believed there was no possibility of cooperation between Sacred Seeds, but in reality, Sacred Seeds never had to cooperate. This way of enhancing saintliness was only suitable for internal conflicts among Sacred Seeds. When waging war against the human race, such cooperation was meaningless.

Chapter 1178 Terrifying Advancement

The intentions of the Blood Race Sacred Seed were obvious, aiming to suppress with saintliness and solve Lu Ye here.

If it were Lu Ye from the battle of the Empyrean Sea, he might have genuinely fallen for the opponents' methods. After all, at that time, his saintliness was indeed inferior, and being trapped by the Blood River now would make escape near impossible.

But now...

Within the Blood River, the figures of two Blood Race Sacred Seeds, utilizing the cover of blood red, attacked from left and right towards Lu Ye, their eyes bursting with hatred, their expressions resolute.

Now they both knew, the death of the Blood Refinement World Sacred Seed was basically inseparable from Lu Ye. One could say he was the strongest trump card on the human race's side against the Sacred Seeds. To eliminate him, they schemed and waited here, sparing no effort to bait him. The situation unfolded just as they expected, so all that was left was to kill this human cultivator.

Once he was removed, the Sacred Seeds would have no more hindrances.

To be safe, the two Sacred Seeds acted together, only using blood techniques to slightly constrain Wu Deshao's side.

In an instant, the two figures darted close to Lu Ye, each extending a hand to fiercely claw at him.

A sudden change!

In the red mists, the blood fog exploded and spread, forming a coiled dragon-like Blood River beside Lu Ye, releasing an immensely unsettling saintliness. In that moment, their hearts were shaken, and their bloodlines surged.

The Sacred Seed, who had encountered Lu Ye on the battlefield of the Empyrean Sea, fared slightly better, his saintliness was stronger, so the suppression he faced was weaker.

Boulder Saintly Venerable was not so fortunate; his saintliness among all Sacred Seeds was only average. Never in his life had he experienced such violent saintliness.

One could say, this level of saintliness shouldn't even exist in this world; no Sacred Seed could accumulate such saintliness to such a degree.

With surging bloodlines, the restraining power of the Blood River suddenly collapsed. The Boulder Mountain Saber at Lu Ye's waist was unsheathed, the blade flashing, directly cutting down on the extended arms of the two Sacred Seeds.

Blood splattered, two screams rang out simultaneously, as if they were bitten fiercely by a venomous snake, their psyches searing in pain. The two Sacred Seeds instinctively attempted to retreat in almost the same moment.

However, it was already too late. The dragon-like Blood River Lu Ye commanded twined and danced, forming a powerful binding force against them.

Boulder Saintly Venerable's face showed panic; the sudden change left him at a loss. According to their original plan, they should have been able to suppress this strange human's saintliness, allowing them to jointly take his life. But the situation was completely different—the ones being suppressed were the two Sacred Seeds themselves.

Now bound by the opponent's Blood River, there was no immediate escape.

Moreover, Wu Deshao fiercely charged in from the side, waving his elderly fists, one punch after another hammering onto his body.

The punches didn't feel intense, instead giving a soft, gentle sensation, as not a sound was made when they landed.

In just a brief moment, who knows how many punches were thrown, until the last punch sent Boulder Saintly Venerable flying.

Barely able to stabilize himself, the panic on Boulder Saintly Venerable's face transformed into astonishment. His body stood stiffly, with great difficulty he turned his head, looking towards his comrade's position, he shouted in a suppressed low voice, "Run!"

As he finished speaking, a series of crackling explosions erupted from within his body, like firecrackers exploding inside, each sound matching the punches from Wu Deshao exactly.

After a series of dense sounds, Boulder Saintly Venerable's skin suddenly cracked, his entire being shattering like a broken porcelain, bursting into a mist of blood.

In the blink of an eye, Boulder Saintly Venerable was beaten to death by Wu Deshao.

Wu Deshao was also somewhat surprised, because in his expectation, his series of punches could only seriously wound the opponent. After all, even if a Sacred Seed's saintliness was suppressed, the resilience of their physical body was still there, and they couldn't be easily killed; he did not have the sharp severing ability like Jian Guhong.

But the opponent actually died just like that.

Wu Deshao immediately understood that this wasn't solely his own doing, it was also due to Lu Ye's suppressive effect. Lu Ye's suppression power was likely even stronger than before.

Until now, the remaining Sacred Seed finally snapped back to his senses, filled with shock and anger: "Impossible, this is absolutely impossible!"

In the battle of the Empyrean Sea, he had faced Lu Ye. At that time, his saintliness was much stronger than Lu Ye's. How could his saintliness increase so terrifyingly in such a little time, barely a month at most?

All his schemes were built on the premise that his own saintliness could suppress the enemy. If this premise didn't hold, then this operation was a joke.

There was no more time for further thought. After Boulder Saintly Venerable's death, the suppression he suffered suddenly intensified significantly, which was normal. Originally, with Boulder Saintly Venerable, their saintliness resonance exceeded his inherent level, effectively borrowing strength from Boulder Saintly Venerable.

Now that the Boulder Saintly Venerable has died, the object of borrowed power is gone, and the saintliness naturally returns to its original level.

And this saintliness, originally able to dominate the entire Blood Refinement World, is somewhat inadequate in front of Lu Ye now.

The Blood River surged more violently, and its size suddenly shrank, giving Lu Ye the opportunity to quickly integrate his own Blood River with it, mainly to prevent the opponent from escaping. Once integrated, the enemy would have no space to flee.

Immediately, he charged at the opponent with his saber, and Wu Deshao, not to be outdone, launched an attack from another side.

The battle began fiercely, and the Sacred Seed was in dire straits under such circumstances. Even if it were just Lu Ye, it might not be an equal match. At best, it could rely on its own strong physique to tussle with Lu Ye, let alone contend with a top-tier physique cultivator like Wu Deshao.

He continued to resist, but it was ultimately futile. After being struck several times by the Boulder Mountain Saber, he became completely like a lamb awaiting slaughter. The Soul Severing Saber's power fused into the Boulder Mountain Saber was particularly effective against such physically strong opponents.

Thinking back, the Saintly Venerable Mok Hai was dismembered alive this way, unable to rest in peace.

In such an intense battle, the damage Lu Ye could cause him was limited, mainly psyche wounds. But Wu Deshao's fists were something even the Sacred Seed dared not ignore, especially after being suppressed.

In just a moment, the Sacred Seed's chest was indented, and it was covered in blood.

His gaze turned resolute, enduring Wu Deshao's gusty attacks, and he lunged towards Lu Ye with a dangerous aura.

Seeing this, Lu Ye and Wu Deshao naturally realized the Sacred Seed's intentions.

Needless to say, the Blood Explosion Technique is a rather disgusting secret technique. It allows the Blood Race to choose self-destruction when death is certain, extremely unscrupulously.

Wu Deshao immediately retreated, while Lu Ye retreated while using the Blood Technique, constructing binding forces beside the Blood Race Sacred Seed, pressing down with the power of the whole Blood River.

The movement of the Blood Race Sacred Seed became difficult and eventually became arduous. At this moment, Lu Ye had already retreated to the edge of the Blood River.

In the next instant, a huge sound burst forth, and the entire Blood River suddenly expanded a circle before abruptly collapsing back.

Lu Ye's Mental Consciousness surged, carefully probing to ensure that the Blood River no longer contained the aura of the Blood Race Sacred Seed before he withdrew it, revealing himself.

Wu Deshao glanced at him, confirming that Lu Ye was intact, nodded slightly, and dashed towards the fiercest battlefield.

While the two were battling the Sacred Seed here, the cultivators of the Nine Provinces began direct confrontation with the Blood Race from Boulder Sacred Land.

The Blood Race gathered here was not only the original residents of Boulder Sacred Land but included all the Blood Race from various Grotto Heaven Blessed Lands nearby, gathering here in a united front hoping to withstand the Nine Provinces cultivators' attack, yet it was ultimately futile.

With the death of two Blood Race Sacred Seeds, the remaining Blood Race could barely make a splash.

Lu Ye also charged out, as he always did before, roaming the battlefield and killing enemies casually, never targeting specific people, always enveloping his body in a layer of blood mist.

This way, wherever he passed, the strength of the Blood Race would plummet instantly. Those at Divine Sea Level 9 might suddenly only exhibit Level 5-6 strength, while those at Divine Sea Level 2 might only show True Lake Realm strength.

As for the Blood Race below the Divine Sea Realm, they truly became weaklings, and the human race cultivators opposing them only needed to harvest freely.

This kind of bloodline suppression is something the Blood Race cannot resist. Since hatching from the Blood Embryo, reverence for saintliness has been engraved in their bones.

The Blood Race is a peculiar race. Compared to the human race, this race has many advantages, inherently unparalleled by the human race. They grow quickly and are born understanding cultivation, almost making every Blood Race a natural cultivator.

These are traits enviable but not possessed by the human race.

But when some of these advantages suddenly turn into flaws, they become extremely fatal.

The human race is indeed frail. Most people are ordinary individuals who can never cultivate in their lifetime. Even if they can cultivate, they must gradually accumulate their strength. They are not comparable to the Blood Race in innate advantages, physique, and lifespan to the Demon Race, but the human race thrives on their balance, lacking obvious weaknesses, making it difficult to target them.

Perhaps some people from the human race might be targeted due to their weaknesses, but the human race as a whole cannot be targeted in one way.

The intense battle gradually subsided. At the periphery of Boulder Sacred Land, Blood Race corpses lay across the field, and blood pooled into rivers.

When the two Saintly Venerables fell, the Blood Race had already lost their fighting spirit, while the Nine Provinces cultivators were at their peak morale. With the addition of Wu Deshao and Lu Ye, it was naturally easy to annihilate the Blood Race completely.

Chapter 1179 Intuition

The Nine Provinces cultivation world's expedition against the Blood Refinement World, strictly speaking, was not a fair war, as the Nine Provinces side had long been planning and arranging, whereas the Blood Refinement World was completely unprepared.

Thus, even though the two domains were almost equal in size and cultivators' levels, when the war erupted, the Blood Refinement World was overwhelmingly defeated.

Whether it was the Empyrean Sea battle or the clashes between cultivators of both races in various places of the Blood Refinement World, the Blood Race was at an absolute disadvantage.

Ultimately, where is fairness in matters of war? It was a clash of two domains, a rivalry between two races. The human race held intelligence advantages and had substantial support from the Nine Provinces Heaven's Augury, hence they could advance like a hot knife through butter, unstoppable.

In merely a month after the expedition commenced, every gathering place of the Blood Race in the Blood Refinement World's Grotto Heaven Blessed Land and cave residences was basically cleared, leading to the reduction of Blood Race's numbers by seventy percent.

The surviving Blood Race were all panicked like stray dogs, fleeing and hiding everywhere; they were as arrogant as they used to be facing the human race, as pitiful as they are now.

The entire Blood Refinement World was in turmoil!

The Blood Race's escape and hiding certainly increased the difficulty for the human race in cleansing the Blood Refinement World, but this situation was expected, and the Nine Provinces cultivators needed to search far and wide for traces of the Blood Race, find them, kill them, and eliminate the threat.

Another month later, there were no large-scale battles in the Blood Refinement World anymore; all fights were between small-scale forces.

Injured Blood Race attempted to attack human race villages to replenish their consumption with Blood Food and recover injuries, but whenever they showed up, they were detected by cultivators stationed in human villages, and soon a large number of reinforcements rushed over.

In short, in today's Blood Refinement World, the Blood Race is like street rats; anyone daring to show themselves would invariably be pursued and surrounded by the Nine Provinces cultivators.

The measure of stationing cultivators in various human villages greatly minimized losses for the mortals.

Before the expedition, Nine Provinces cultivators never expected such an easy victory; they thought it would be a fierce struggle.

But looking at the overall situation, the most significant battle in this expedition was at the Empyrean Sea, and even that was won easily due to reasonable deployment.

The Nine Provinces' nine battalions set out from Empyrean Sea northwards, sweeping away all encountered Blood Race along the way; they could stabilize the situation wherever they went.

Currently, the elite of the nine battalions have crossed the twin peaks of Sky Supporting and Jade Pillar, and wherever they go, none can withstand their sharpness.

The war against the Blood Refinement World, after merely two months since it began, is already entering the final stage. It won't be long before all Blood Race is eradicated.

Lu Ye has been a bit troubled lately.

Since the war began, his existence had been a trump card against the Blood Race Sacred Seeds; in two months, his achievements were outstanding. With both his true self and doppelganger combined, he had hunted over a hundred Sacred Seeds; wherever he appeared, Sacred Seeds were bound to suffer.

How many Sacred Seeds were there in the entire Blood Refinement World?

Following the slaughter of over a hundred, only a few Sacred Seeds remain.

At this stage, it's not easy for him to hunt Sacred Seeds anymore; over the past two months, the living Blood Race Sacred Seeds have essentially all become aware of his existence, hence practically every Sacred Seed avoids him, making Lu Ye's hunting journey difficult.

Take the recent situation as an example; he received a message, hurriedly headed to where the Sacred Seeds appeared, but those Sacred Seeds had long vanished, leaving only a small group of human race cultivators severely injured in the Sacred Seed's attack.

The Sacred Seeds had also become smarter, aware of Lu Ye's status as their nemesis, so they never stayed in one place for too long, often adopting a mobile hunting state.

Now Nine Provinces cultivators are distributed across Blood Refinement World in small squads or teams; even with someone from the Divine Sea Realm present, when encountering Sacred Seeds, they're mostly powerless to resist.

The current situation is such, Nine Provinces cultivators finding traces of the Blood Race is difficult as they've mostly been killed, even if there are a few left, their numbers are minimal and they're hidden deep; however, Sacred Seeds searching for Nine Provinces cultivators is easily rewarding.

With Sacred Seeds' powerful strength, without the presence of human race's top combat power, no team can resist them.

The Sacred Seeds must be eliminated; otherwise, this expedition cannot be claimed as a complete victory, because the intimidation and damage caused by entities of their caliber are not to be underestimated.

Today Lu Ye received another message, immediately using the Heaven's Augury Pillar's transmission to hurry to where Sacred Seeds had appeared.

He arrived very quickly, but even if he was quicker, he couldn't match the Sacred Seed's slaughter speed. By the time he reached the destination, the Nine Provinces cultivators encountered by Sacred Seeds were virtually annihilated, and Lu Ye suddenly saw a streak of blood light fleeing towards the distance.

Immediately, he triggered a drop of Essence Blood, activating the Blood Escape Technique to chase after the fleeing blood light, but couldn't catch up.

The Sacred Seeds' saintliness intensity is not as high as his now; in a confrontation, they are suppressed by him and their powers decline; however, in terms of escape speed, they are about equal. If the opposing party focuses solely on fleeing, how could Lu Ye catch up?

Unfortunately, the Blood Escape Technique cannot act simultaneously with Move-Like-The-Wind and Wings; Lu Ye could only trail the fleeing Sacred Seed from afar.

After a brief chase, that Sacred Seed suddenly plunged downward and disappeared.

When Lu Ye reached where he vanished, he found a Blood Pool there...

Lu Ye did not hesitate at all, his figure leaping into the Blood Pool.

Half a day later, his figure emerged from another Blood Pool a thousand miles away, his expression somewhat helpless.

Although he was the first to pursue into the Blood Pool, the conditions inside were not suitable for tracking, so he absolutely couldn't trace the whereabouts of the Sacred Seed. After searching in the underground Blood River for a while, he ultimately had no choice but to give up.

This chase once again ended in failure.

He actually knew where the Sacred Seeds had been hiding recently; it was nothing more than the underground Blood River.

In the Blood Refinement World, as entrances to the underground Blood River, Blood Pools were everywhere, and the Sacred Seeds had the ability to freely enter and exit the underground Blood River. They only needed to hide in the underground Blood River, and no matter how great Lu Ye's abilities were, he could cultivate and still not drag them out.

Things were getting tricky.

Lu Ye hadn't expected that the biggest difficulty in this war would be these leftover Sacred Seeds.

A way to suppress these Sacred Seeds must be found, but in the current situation, he really had no good solution, being difficult to handle for the time being.

A ray of light suddenly pierced the clouds and poured down. Lu Ye looked upward and noticed the heavy clouds covering the sky for over two months had noticeably thinned, while above his position, a section of the clouds had broken open, letting sunlight shine through.

Ever since that day when the Nine Provinces cultivators invaded the Blood Refinement World, beginning with the confrontation between Number Nine and the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World, the skies of the Blood Refinement World had been engulfed by clouds with frequent thunder.

For two months it had been like this, yet today there was finally some change.

This clearly indicated that Number Nine had gained an overwhelming advantage in the confrontation with the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World; perhaps it wouldn't be long before these clouds dispersed.

This was good news.

The struggle at this level was mysterious and beyond human intervention. In fact, no one knew exactly how Heaven and Earth's Will battled each other.

One direct consequence was that the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World couldn't deliver Heavenly Punishment to the invading Nine Provinces cultivators, indicating that in the struggle, the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World was in a suppressed state.

As Lu Ye looked up at the bright line of light in the sky, pondering how to solve the issue of the remaining Sacred Seeds, a mystical sensation suddenly arose in his heart.

This sensation came out of nowhere, with no warning, leaving Lu Ye somewhat baffled.

But he soon noticed something strange because not only did this sensation arise here, but even his doppelganger experienced it.

Following this sensation, he carefully perceived it; it seemed to point in a particular direction, as if some force was mystically guiding him there.

Lu Ye couldn't help but become cautious.

If this were happening in the Nine Provinces, such a mysterious sensation would likely be a guidance from Heaven's Augury. But here in the Blood Refinement World, this sensation seemed rather extraordinary.

He hesitated, then raised his hand to touch the battlefield marking, gently calling out to Number Nine, and after getting a response, he informed about the situation, seeking clarification.

Number Nine responded, "If I were to contact you, I would use the battlefield marking, not this vague method."

"Then what is the situation now...?"

"Since you have a guess, why ask me?"

Lu Ye understood now that this sensation was guided by the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World! In other words, it was the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World guiding him.

Lu Ye was genuinely confused by this; there was nothing wrong with the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World delivering such vague guidance. After all, the Heaven and Earth's Will of this world was neither strong nor clear enough to communicate directly with people like Number Nine could. It could only use this seemingly mystical yet helpless means, which could be seen as its instinctive response.

But the key issue was... he was human, so what did the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World intend by delivering this guidance?

Even his doppelganger perceived it.

Just as he was pondering this, movement suddenly came from the battlefield marking.

He quickly investigated and found that the Second Senior Sister had sent a message.

"Has something happened?" Lu Ye quickly asked, instinctively believing the Second Senior Sister had discovered the whereabouts of the Sacred Seeds; he spoke as he began to move towards the nearest Heaven's Augury Pillar.

"Junior Sister Lann sensed something, seemingly pointing to a particular location. She's not sure what's going on and asked me to inquire with you."

Chapter 1180 The Summit of Jade Pillar Peak

A moment later, Lu Ye ended the communication with his Second Senior Sister and stood in place, lost in thought.

As sunlight broke through the clouds, casting the first ray of sunshine in two months on this domain, the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World bestowed a faint trace of guidance upon him, his doppelganger, and even Lann Qiyue.

What is certain is that whether it was his doppelganger or the guidance felt by Lann Qiyue, they all pointed to the same location.

This matter is quite intriguing.

Living creatures have a survival instinct, and so does the Heaven and Earth's Will. The will of the Blood Refinement World is far less clear and strong than Number Nine. Even though it holds the home-field

advantage, it is suppressed everywhere by Number Nine in the struggle, unable to impose Heavenly Punishment on the Nine Provinces cultivators invading this world.

And as of today, this suppression has undoubtedly become more thorough because the black clouds symbolizing the might of this world's heavens are no longer intact.

If the situation continues like this, the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World will inevitably fail to make any waves and will ultimately be devoured completely by Number Nine.

So is it instinctively seeking change? This faint trace of guidance is its way of seeking change! It wants to use the living creatures of this world for a final resistance.

The target is the Sacred Seeds of the Blood Refinement World!

But because this world's Heaven and Earth's Will is not clear enough, it cannot distinguish between friend and foe, so it can only bestow this guidance upon all creatures with saintliness.

This is also the root cause why he, his doppelganger, and even Lann Qiyue felt it at the same time.

In other words, the perception he and Lann Qiyue had, the Sacred Seeds of the Blood Race have it too! At this crucial moment when the domain is undergoing great change, with native creatures suffering heavy casualties and the Sacred Seeds on the brink of extinction, once the Sacred Seeds sense this guidance, they will naturally make suitable choices.

Lu Ye's thoughts gradually became clear, faintly gaining Insight into the truth of the matter.

He raised his hand to tap on the battlefield marking, hurriedly sending messages in all directions, and at the same time flew forward following the faint sense in his heart.

He had recently been troubled by how to successfully deal with the remaining Sacred Seeds, without any good methods, because once the Sacred Seeds hid in the underground Blood River, it was a situation where they were untraceable. Many times, he had chased the Sacred Seeds to the Blood Pool only to lose their trail.

Who would have thought, just when he needed it, someone would deliver him a pillow. This faint guidance bestowed by the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World came at just the right time.

This time he didn't use the Heaven's Augury Pillar for teleportation, because he wasn't quite sure where the end of that vague sensation pointed, so he could only fly there directly.

To reach the place as quickly as possible, he didn't hesitate to explode his Essence Blood to activate the Blood Escape Technique. Of course, this state could not last long. Although he currently has a substantial reserve of Essence Blood, the Blood Escape Technique not only consumes Essence Blood but also his own foundation.

As he set off, the top human race cultivators of the Blood Refinement World, who were searching for the remaining Sacred Seeds, also set off from their respective locations after receiving the message, converging towards Lu Ye's position.

This flight lasted a full ten days before Lu Ye finally reached the end of this journey.

The peak of Jade Pillar Peak!

As one of the two highest peaks in the Blood Refinement World, the existence of Jade Pillar Peak is quite distinctive and not hard to find. Its location is at the third point of the world from north to south. If one were to look from a high altitude, Jade Pillar Peak is located to the right of the middle line of the entire domain.

Here, cold winds howl all year round, and the snow is ever-present. The harshness of this environment means that even the Blood Race is reluctant to venture here easily.

When Lu Ye set off from the Northern Territory towards the Southern Territory, he crossed over Sky Supporting Peak but never came to Jade Pillar Peak.

When he approached this place by a thousand miles, Lu Ye had already constructed Breath-concealing and Concealment Spirit Runes to augment himself as he crept silently towards the peak.

When he finally reached the peak and fixed his eyes on it, he immediately knew his previous suspicions were correct.

The vague guidance bestowed by the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World was indeed targeted at all Sacred Seeds, because at this moment, three Sacred Seeds had already gathered here, standing together, their Mental Consciousness surging repeatedly, though he could not tell what they were communicating.

Lu Ye did not recklessly reveal himself. This was an opportunity to wipe out all the remaining Sacred Seeds in one fell swoop. Now, under his direction, the top experts of the Nine Provinces were gathering towards this place. Before a net was cast around them or before the Sacred Seeds assembled entirely, it was naturally inappropriate to alert the enemy.

The Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World is devoid of spiritual intelligence; its guidance is merely a survival instinct. So it could never have anticipated that its guidance would bring a catastrophic disaster upon the remaining Sacred Seeds.

Lu Ye concealed his figure, suppressing his aura, and after surveying the surroundings, moved closer to a certain direction.

The entire peak was covered with a thick layer of snow, except for one location: where the Blood Pool lay.

There was a Blood Pool at the peak of Jade Pillar Peak, and its scale was larger than any Blood Pool Lu Ye had seen. It churned with blood, the thick scent of blood permeating from within.

He stopped a hundred feet away from the Blood Pool, lurking in complete silence.

The reason for choosing this location is naturally to cut off the retreat of the Sacred Seeds. Nowadays, the Sacred Seeds like to hide in the underground Blood River, making it difficult for him to easily find them.

If the plan progresses smoothly enough, this Blood Pool will inevitably become the first choice for the Sacred Seeds to escape.

At that time, he would need to block this Blood Pool, cutting off the retreat of the Sacred Seeds.

Before going into hiding, he sent out one last accurate message.

As time passed and snowflakes fell, sounds of the air being torn apart were heard coming from all directions. These were the Sacred Seeds rushing here from all directions, and some Sacred Seeds even emerged directly from the underground Blood River and appeared in the Blood Pool.

Lu Ye silently observed, secretly surprised, because he discovered that the number of Sacred Seeds still alive in the Blood Refinement World was greater than he expected.

He originally thought the remaining Sacred Seeds numbered at most a dozen or so, or perhaps even fewer, but in reality, nearly twenty Sacred Seeds were gathered here, and this was clearly not all of them.

The gathering of so many Sacred Seeds here was an astonishing scene, as the Sacred Seeds ordinarily would not easily show themselves, except in the instance of besieging the Righteous Blood Sacred Land.

With so many Sacred Seeds gathered in one place, if a battle were to break out, Lu Ye might not even need to take action. The saintliness between them would interfere with each other, and except for the Sacred Seed with the strongest saintliness, the others would find their abilities reduced.

More Sacred Seeds continued to gather, but their numbers were limited, as these must be the ones coming from farther away.

They gathered and communicated among themselves, trying to uncover the truth behind a slight guidance, but they found no clues.

Hiding in the dark, Lu Ye faintly perceived a repressive atmosphere. He couldn't figure out what these Sacred Seeds were waiting for, nor did he understand why the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World had gathered them here.

Aside from the initial sense of guidance, he had no further perception.

The same was true for the Sacred Seeds gathered here. They had all been guided to assemble here, but as for why no one could say.

Lu Ye continued to lie in wait, having confirmed through external contact that the top experts of the human race had gathered nearby, ready for battle at any moment.

A dispute began among the Sacred Seeds.

They had been discussing the truth behind that hint of guidance, assuming others might know something, only to find everyone was equally clueless.

Some Sacred Seeds felt that since it was guidance from destiny, they should continue to wait. In time, the truth would become clear.

But others believed that it was unsafe to remain gathered here for long. On the human side, there was a Sacred Seed nemesis, and if he discovered the situation here, no one might escape, so they should not wait any longer.

Most Sacred Seeds remained silent, not expressing their opinions, only listening.

Thus, the scene became lively. Amidst the noise, saintliness began to waver, not to the point of major conflict. The Sacred Seeds knew that there were not many Blood Race left alive in the Blood Refinement World, and they, as Sacred Seeds, were likely the last hope for the continuation of the Blood Race. To continue living, they couldn't afford internal strife.

In the midst of the clamor, Lu Ye could no longer watch. A message was sent out: "Take action!"

At this point, the Sacred Seeds that should arrive likely already had. Even if a few were delayed due to distance, their numbers would not be significant.

The encirclement was complete, and by eliminating these Sacred Seeds here, the success of this expedition could be ensured. To prevent unforeseen events, further waiting was not advisable.

Shortly after the message was sent, powerful and deep auras charged in from all directions.

The Sacred Seeds immediately sensed this, looking around in panic, their expressions changing instantly.

"It's a trap!" shouted one of the Sacred Seeds.

Judging by the auras, there were over a hundred strong human experts participating in this siege, including those seasoned elite seniors and the Level 9 individuals who had rushed over upon receiving the urgent news.

This was a battle targeted at the Sacred Seeds, and those without Level 9 cultivation were not qualified to participate. Based on the lineup, the hundred or so from the Nine Provinces were all Level 9, though with varying strength. Such a powerful force was more than enough to wipe out the Sacred Seeds gathered here.

The Sacred Seeds were filled with anger and horror, never imagining that what had guided them to gather here turned out to be a trap set against them.

This made no sense. The guidance they felt must have been directed by the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World. How could the Heaven and Earth's Will of the Blood Refinement World become a helper for the human race?

They couldn't understand, nor did they have time to ponder.

Against ordinary human cultivators, they had no fear. Even against those top experts, they had the ability to contend. What they feared was that Sacred Seed nemesis!