

Humanity 1411

Chapter 1411 - Disabled Squad

In one battle, the two attacking individuals were both eliminated. It's estimated they didn't foresee such a situation; otherwise, they would never have acted rashly.

Chu Shen and Invincible Lucky Star remained silent, just watching Lu Ye.

Lu Ye kept his hands tucked in his wide sleeves, paused for a moment, and then spoke: "What were we discussing earlier?"

Chu Shen immediately said: "We were discussing letting you take charge. There's absolutely no problem on my end—I'll follow your lead completely! What about you?" He turned to look at Lucky Star.

The woman had reverted to her earlier weak appearance; her long nails, comparable to top-tier spirit treasures, had retracted. She spoke softly, "I have no objections either. It doesn't matter to me who's in charge."

Chu Shen nodded: "Then that's settled. Fellow Daoist Fa, you tell us what to do next. We'll all listen to you."

Lu Ye replied, "Listening to me is no problem, but I hope you can have a degree of trust in me because no matter what, we'll need to cooperate from now on."

"Naturally," Chu Shen answered promptly, though his true thoughts were unknown.

Lu Ye understood that in such circumstances of alliance, complete trust between members was impossible. Even within the same group, it was merely temporary cooperation under the rules of the Constellation Palace.

He hesitated slightly, then continued: "The rules of this contest aren't about who persists till the end having the greatest benefit. The greatest determinant is the number of enemies eliminated; persistence is secondary. So even if we manage to hide until the end, without eliminating enough enemies, we won't

gain much benefit. My idea is to take initiative and try to eliminate more enemies. Of course, with our trio's strength, if the encountered enemies aren't numerous, we can definitely fight. But if faced with a complete five-member squad, handling it may be challenging, and there could be risks."

Saying this, he took out the newly crafted As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc: "I have a treasure here that's perfectly suited for this situation. Please familiarize yourselves with it first."

He then activated the power of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc.

In truth, if he wished to use As-Close-As-Siblings, he wouldn't need the array disc. The initial purpose of crafting the array disc was for others' convenience. He could easily construct the As-Close-As-Siblings Spirit Runes, and its effects were nearly identical to the array disc, only requiring spirit force to maintain it.

The reason for producing the array disc at this time and place was due to Lu Ye's own considerations. Whether it would proceed smoothly depends on how events unfold.

The array disc's power unfolded, enveloping the three of them instantly. Chu Shen and Lucky Star's expressions became alert, for under the array disc's power, they could roughly sense the formidable strength within Lu Ye. If the hidden strength in a typical Constellation Mid-Stage is akin to a flickering candlelight, then Lu Ye's power was like a bright lamp.

Additionally, what astonished them was the clear perception that, though they were meeting for the first time, under that mysterious force's envelope, their energies could easily connect closely, lacking much resistance or discord.

This brought a great shock to their spirits, far stronger than just sensing Lu Ye's potent strength.

Because such power from the treasure was something they'd never seen before.

Knowing that if cultivators' energies can connect closely, they can smoothly form an array, and once an array is formed, they can unleash abilities beyond their own strength.

Yet forming an array is not easy—it requires familiarity between companions and long periods of practice and coordination.

To connect energies with strangers upon first meeting is utterly absurd. Your energy is cold, mine is gentle; they collide, how can they blend and connect?

Of course, using array talismans can achieve this, but array talismans are precious consumable treasures and wouldn't be used willingly unless absolutely necessary.

But this array disc was clearly not a consumable treasure. It surely could be used repeatedly, indicating that this one array disc is equivalent to many array talismans.

In comparison, the ability to mutually borrow strength seemed insignificant.

The main reason Lu Ye crafted this array disc was that it could connect cultivators' energies and allow them to form arrays easily; borrowing each other's strength was merely an additional effect of the array disc.

People in the Constellation Realm have discerning eyes; even someone as seemingly aimless and gentle as Lucky Star instantly saw the greatest mystery of the array disc, not to mention Chu Shen, who came from a distinguished background.

Though young, he had a Sun Blaze expert as his biological mother and had seen countless treasures. He immediately recognized the immense value of this array disc.

Unable to resist, he asked, "Fellow Daoist, what's this called?"

Lu Ye looked at him meaningfully: "As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc!"

"As-Close-As-Siblings!" Chu Shen savored the name, praising, "Good name, very fitting!"

With this array disc assisting, the three can form an array, and even if they encounter a complete five-member squad, they would be able to fight. Lu Ye's decisive method of dealing with a Constellation Late Stage just shown illustrates this point.

Finally, they understood why Fa Wuzun proposed taking the initiative to attack; with this array disc's help, merely hiding would indeed be too wasteful.

After the discussion was settled, the three figures soared into the sky, forming a simple Three Talents Array, each taking one of the positions of Heaven, Earth, and Human. Their auras were magnificent, announcing their presence as they moved.

Since they were taking the initiative to attack, there was no need for concealment; the more ostentatious, the better. They were not afraid of ambushes from enemies blocking the path; they only feared the enemy not showing up.

Lu Ye took the lead, with Chu Shen and Lucky Star assisting. In the cultivation world, the strong are revered, which is a deeply ingrained conviction in everyone. Although Chu Shen believed himself to be outstanding, compared to Fa Wuzun, who ranked high on the Cumulated Points Ranking, there was still a significant gap. Having lower cultivation was ultimately a major drawback.

In just one incense stick's time, Lu Ye sensed a distant skirmish to the side.

Based on the current intelligence, there were at least three squads engaged in this clash; whether there were more was temporarily unknown.

Though this desolate planet is large, it's not too big for Constellations. With so many Constellations gathered here, encounters, clashes, and friction were inevitable.

Where there is a conflict, it indicates at least two teams of cultivators are engaged in battle.

A moment later, as they drew closer, Lu Ye saw the situation clearly: indeed, two teams of cultivators were engaged in battle, and they were complete teams, a total of ten people!

This also meant there must be at least one other squad on the desolate planet because their team had previously eliminated two Constellations, causing one squad to lose two members.

The battle ahead was intense, with the fight going back and forth.

The rules of the Constellation Palace are not explicably laid out, but there are many implicit patterns, with the biggest characteristic being relative fairness.

In other words, no matter the form of the conflict, under the rules of the Constellation Palace, the strength on each side is generally about equal.

Take Lu Ye's earlier arena battles, for instance. He initially encountered mid-stage opponents, but as he fought on and on, the likelihood of facing late-stage opponents increased because despite having only mid-stage cultivation, the Constellation Palace had recognized he had late-stage strength and would arrange late-stage opponents for him.

Of course, this fairness is only relative. The Constellation Palace cannot be perfect.

This fairness is also reflected in the composition of personnel, such as in the two teams currently engaged in battle. Both teams have physique cultivators charging at the front, combat cultivators assisting in killing the enemy, sword cultivators sending flying swords like rain, ghost cultivators with elusive presences, and magic cultivators casting spells from the flanks.

One could say this collision between the two complete squads is an extremely standard team collaboration, each having their positions and a degree of coordination.

If Lu Ye's squad wasn't missing two members, it would also be a decent squad, far from having a skewed composition.

Such a confrontation looked intense, but it was difficult to achieve any conclusive victory unless one side took a radically different approach. That's probably why these two squads fought so fiercely without any casualties.

With nearly identical compositions and strength, it's natural for them to be evenly matched.

No one knows how long they had been fighting when Lu Ye's squad's aura entered the battlefield. Immediately, it was noticed by the combatants.

The cultivators of both teams simultaneously slowed their movements and watched vigilantly. In the cultivation world, it's not uncommon for third parties to profit as the clashing parties exhaust themselves. As the two sides fought bitterly, they naturally had to guard against such occurrences.

However, when they realized only three people had arrived—two mid-stage and one early-stage—they didn't pay much attention.

Each side had late-stage powerhouses holding the fort, with five members in full capacity. No one would be afraid of such a crippled squad.

They assumed the new arrivals were simply there to watch the commotion.

But to everyone's shock, this obviously crippled squad with unimpressive strength charged headlong into the most intense part of the battlefield without hesitation.

Before they even arrived, a wave of spells swept forth, overwhelming them.

Both parties' cultivators were infuriated, with someone shouting, "How dare you!"

It was as if two lions were fighting when suddenly a rabbit leapt in and urinated, not very damaging but extremely insulting.

However, what happened next was incredibly shocking. As the berserk technique covered them, a mid-stage Constellation, who was the first to bear the brunt, let out a miserable scream. His protective spirit light shattered, blood spattered, and he fell from mid-air.

The man managed to shout a concession before he hit the ground and disappeared.

Both groups widened their eyes, finally recognizing that this "urine" was not only highly insulting but also surprisingly effective.

To eliminate a mid-stage opponent at a glance, this strength was extraordinary. The two sides had been battling here for quite a while to a standstill, without any losses. Yet, this inexplicable intrusion by the crippled squad resulted in an instant elimination. What was going on?

Chapter 1412 - Chu Shen's Excitement

As the Constellation Mid-Stage target of Lu Ye was eliminated, the remaining nine people from both sides realized one thing: this squad of misfits that suddenly charged in was not just here to spectate, but to cause trouble. And their strength was quite formidable.

Lu Ye's magic and spells spread out once again, targeting another Constellation Mid-Stage. With the previous example serving as a warning, this person tried to avoid the assault upon sensing danger, yet still moved a step too slow. Hastily defending against several spells left him without strength, seeing himself about to follow in his companion's footsteps, a burly figure charged forward to him, blood Qi surging around and expanding into a layer of crimson shadow, forming a solid defense.

The physique cultivator of the team had stepped forward to protect him.

Numerous spells struck, causing the crimson shadow to shake. The physique cultivator gawked; he only saw someone get eliminated earlier and knew the opponent's strength was formidable. Now, having personally felt it, he realized the incoming force's might.

If he were not a physique cultivator, with thick defenses, others might have been unable to withstand it.

Even though the one casting spells was just a Constellation Mid-Stage...

But the most shocking part was yet to come, as the squad of misfits, the three of them, showed no intention of changing direction, charging straight at him.

The physique cultivator was infuriated.

The leader of the squad of misfits was clearly a magic cultivator. Given that he was a magic cultivator, he should be performing spells from a distance, yet now he intended to engage in close combat, clearly underestimating him.

Not only did the physique cultivator realize Lu Ye's intentions, but also Chu Shen and Lucky Star, who were linked with him in the array.

Initially, seeing Lu Ye eliminate one opponent, Chu Shen felt secretly thrilled, thinking that the powerhouse ranked high in the Cumulated Points Ranking truly lived up to the reputation. He felt he was lucky to cling onto a powerful ally, gladly playing a supporting role.

Now Lu Ye charged directly at the physique cultivator, with a firm expression and immense momentum, making his heart beat faster.

Yet, the physique cultivator was a Constellation Late Stage, just like him, leaving both wondering what Lu Ye was trying to do.

Would charging into their battlefield lead to any good outcome? He even felt the urge to exit the array, lest he suffer with Lu Ye.

But in the next moment, he gritted his teeth, tightly following Lu Ye.

He remembered Fa Wuzun's earlier advice, to trust him and Lucky Star to some extent. Hence, he concluded that someone ranking within the top twenty with a mid-stage cultivation in the Cumulated Points Ranking couldn't be an idiot. There must be a reason behind such actions!

Of course, the main reason for his decision was his possession of life-saving treasures. Under the rules of Constellation Palace, he felt confident he faced no life-threatening risk. Since there was no threat to his life, going wild seemed to present no significant issue.

Just having made up his mind, his expression turned slightly bewildered, seeing Fa Wuzun ahead unexpectedly holding a pitch-black long blade...

Immediately followed by a mountain-shaking collision, a rampant spirit force swept across, accompanied by an angry shout and a muffled grunt.

Chu Shen clearly sensed that the array of the three was slightly impeded for an instant, then quickly smoothened out. In the connection of the Qi channels, he followed closely behind Lu Ye, slipping past the obstructing physique cultivator.

In the corner of his vision, he glimpsed the crimson bloom, with a palpable blood-red aroma lingering at the tip of his nose.

His expression slightly twisted with confusion, thinking if he didn't misjudge earlier, he seemed to witness something extraordinary...

Glancing hurriedly aside confirmed a mind-boggling scene: the burly physique cultivator blocking the way was now clutching his neck and falling sideways, with blood surging like tides between his fingers, half of his neck cleaved!

The bright red hue made Chu Shen's pupils shrink, for such a grievous injury seemed almost fatal, particularly for a physique cultivator known for their tough skin and flesh!

He even suspected this was deliberately held back by Fa Wuzun; otherwise, the injury couldn't have been so adeptly managed, not claiming life yet causing enough loss of combat strength.

Thinking this way, Fa Wuzun's actual strength surpassed his prior expectations.

Soon, he saw numerous spells, along with a blanket of Sword Qi, sweeping in from all directions. Evidently, the cultivators from the two previously battling squads were attacking them.

The two groups, initially engaged in fierce combat, were struck with animosity by the strong third-party, instantaneously setting aside their differences. Though they hadn't fully joined forces, they were counteracting together, especially the group that lost a physique cultivator, attacked particularly fiercely.

Chu Shen cried out, swiftly summoning a protective spirit treasure, shielding the three of them.

He held few other possessions, but was rich in protective spirit treasures, all thanks to having a supportive mother.

As the numerous attacks approached, Lu Ye maneuvered his body, dodging some, while others were blocked by Chu Shen's protective spirit treasure, and a few halted by Lucky Star's methods.

This round of attacks shone dazzlingly bright, yet failed to inflict any harm on the trio.

Chu Shen was invigorated; he realized that under the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc, the power of his spirit treasures escalated compared to usual, offering significantly stronger protection.

This was to be expected; he was after all a Constellation Early Stage. Despite holding excellent spirit treasures, their deployed power was discounted, yet enabling borrowing of strength allowed full unleashing of their power.

In exhilarating spirits, he blurted out: "Fellow Daoist, leave the protection to us, just keep slashing!"

As he spoke, Lu Ye already swung out another slash, seemingly striking empty space, but as the blade descended, a startled cry rang out, an ephemeral and spectral figure appeared, seemingly running into the blade.

This person held a dirk, with spirit light flickering like snake tongues, preparing to ambush Lucky Star from the side...

This is clearly a Ghost Cultivator.

More blood-shot flying swords burst forth, and the Ghost Cultivator's figure flew out like a tattered sack.

Lu Ye didn't pause, changing direction, heading directly into the chaos of assaults coming from the front and side, his eyes locking on a sword cultivator who was activating flying swords.

Seeing this, the sword cultivator dared not confront him head-on!

From the time this crippled squad appeared until now, it had been only a brief ten breaths, yet in that time, three people had already fallen victim, including one Late Stage physique cultivator.

Sword light erupted around him, and he dodged to the side, aiming to rendezvous with his companions while avoiding Lu Ye's lethal assault, and at the same time, a Sword Shower fell like a waterfall.

Ignoring it all, Lu Ye charged mightily, the oncoming Sword Shower was blocked by Chu Shen's spirit treasure and Lucky Star together, and if any attack slipped through, he could activate the Sacred Guard to fend it off.

With a wave of his hand, a Mental-lashing Whip lashed out, the long whip condensed of refined spirit force striking the sword cultivator from a distance, causing him to stagger.

As soon as he steadied himself, he despairingly found that Lu Ye had already closed in.

"Help me!" the sword cultivator shouted, and in the distance, a companion hurriedly rushed over, but still a step too slow. As the long blade descended, the blade light was like snow, the sword cultivator's protective spirit light shattered, blood gushing all over as he was grievously injured in an instant.

Showing mercy, Lu Ye turned his blade towards the cultivator who came to the rescue.

That person's face turned pale, cursing himself for being so impulsive and running so fast...

By the time Lu Ye finished dealing with this cultivator and looked around, there was no one in sight.

The two groups of ten who had been fiercely battling, now with him joining with Chu Shen and Lucky Star, only five were left alive, and they weren't even from the same team.

Seeing such a ferocious opponent, who would dare to stay? They dispersed like birds and beasts, using various techniques to flee in all directions, planning to escape first and then decide on a course of action.

However, how could Lu Ye let them escape? For him, solving these enemies wasn't difficult, the challenge was in tracking them down. If they escaped now, it would be troublesome to find them later.

Amidst a burst of blood light, the sound of roaring rivers resonated, akin to angry sea waves.

The blood light spread suddenly, enveloping the area, transforming into a thick Blood Sea.

All along, Lu Ye had avoided using the Blood Sea Technique openly, and even when he did, he pursued a result of complete annihilation. The more tactics he concealed, the more he could catch enemies off guard when encountering a formidable foe.

But... what does Fa Wuzun's use of the Blood Sea Technique have to do with Lu Yiye?

The five fleeing individuals didn't escape the Blood Sea's range, but being seasoned warriors, they knew the secret technique derived from the Blood Race had a major flaw — it severely drained the spirit force of a cultivator. So, at the moment they were enveloped by the Blood Sea, each used methods to crazily attack in all directions.

This approach was undoubtedly wise, as it could prevent sneak attacks and exacerbate the enemy's drain from using this technique.

The five believed it wouldn't take long for this Blood Sea to crumble on its own.

The premise was that they could hold out until then.

But how could Lu Ye give them that chance?

If he were alone, using such a technique to trap five Constellation Stage cultivators might indeed require some effort, and they might truly succeed.

But at this moment, he wasn't fighting alone.

Under the shroud of the Blood Sea, Lu Ye was acutely aware of their positions. Leading Chu Shen and Lucky Star, he navigated through the Blood Sea, easily locating and eliminating the enemies one by one.

Moments later, the Blood Sea dissipated, and Lu Ye's trio stood midair, spotless.

Several figures with weak auras and complex expressions remained, each heavily injured without exception.

The first physique cultivator Lu Ye dealt with was also present, his neck half-slashed open. Although still combat-capable, he hadn't attacked since feeling the restraint given, realizing the goodwill, and knew better than to respond with hostility.

He gave Lu Ye a deep look, clasped his fist, and said, "I have learned!"

As his words fell, his figure disappeared, obviously returning to the Constellation Palace for healing.

"Thank you, Fellow Daoist, for your mercy!" Another voice spoke—it was the sword cultivator who had cried for help earlier.

The other remaining individuals expressed their gratitude likewise and withdrew from the scene.

In an instant, the originally chaotic battleground cleared, becoming bright and tranquil.

Chapter 1413 - Hall No. 88

The two ten-man squads exited the stage, while Lu Ye and his two companions maintained their connection, forming a standoff stance.

He had already put away the Boulder Mountain Saber, with wide sleeves billowing, riding the wind effortlessly. Anyone who saw this would praise a great magic cultivator, but who would know that this seemingly standard magic cultivator had just swept through two full-squad teams with a saber like the autumn wind sweeping away fallen leaves?

Chu Shen laughed heartily, "What a thrill, truly exhilarating!"

Never in his life had he fought such a thorough battle. Throughout the entire process, he barely had to worry, merely activating the power of the protective spirit treasure, and then witnessed enemy after enemy falling under the blade.

In his previous battles, he often relied on the power of spirit treasures, but Fa Wuzun relied on his own skills. That long saber, both black and long, with strikes quick and sharp, truly captivating, left him longing for the day he could be as invincible as Fa Wuzun. If such a time came, it would be a life without regret.

Back at the rally point, when Lu Ye effortlessly dispatched a Constellation Late Stage cultivator, it was astonishing, but this battle truly broadened his horizons. Such a scene is not something one would see casually. His privileged background meant he received more protection and care, which, in turn, led him to miss out on some things ordinary cultivators could experience.

He couldn't help but reflect that those ranked high on the Cumulated Points Ranking indeed had formidable foundations. Fa Wuzun might not seem special at first glance, but he was a monster.

One couldn't help but wonder, what kind of formidable strength did those ranked ahead of him possess?

However, he clearly realized one thing: Fa Wuzun... wasn't a good person. With a name like that and dressing as a magic cultivator, yet capable of using spells, he was obviously trying to mislead others. Anyone treating him as a magic cultivator would suffer a big loss.

Chu Shen felt he had learned something. Should such an opportunity arise in the future, he would choose a better name. Something overly domineering was too lowbrow and inviting for a beating...

After feeling exhilarated for a while, Chu Shen spoke, "Boss, what do we do next?"

Chu Shen was thoroughly convinced after the fight, even changing his way of addressing Lu Ye, a hint of respect and reverence in his tone.

Youth is like that, especially for someone like Chu Shen who grew up under strict guidance, easily attracted to strong figures...

If this strong figure was around his age, it would be even more compelling.

"Find people!" Lu Ye was concise. Two full teams had been eliminated, but the fight wasn't over yet, indicating there were other enemies. Based on previous encounters, it was deduced that at least four teams participated.

Thus, the objective was simple: find them and take them out!

Moreover, that team might very likely be like them, a crippled squad...

So far, everything had progressed smoothly. When leading Chu Shen and Lucky Star into the charge, Lu Ye was prepared for them to retreat at the first sign of trouble. After all, they were strangers collaborating briefly, not enough for full trust. Besides, nobody knew what capabilities the others might possess.

Seasoned cultivators might actively disengage from the formation.

But neither Chu Shen nor Lucky Star did, instead following him unwaveringly, maintaining the formation. They were either simple-minded or hopeful. Moreover, Lu Ye's quick resolution of a Constellation Late Stage cultivator before had shown them his prowess.

Overall, there are benefits to youth, perhaps more naive and trusting, yet not entirely negative.

If Chu Shen and Lucky Star had disengaged earlier, it wouldn't have been easy for Lu Ye alone to swiftly deal with ten people. He would have had to fight a war of maneuvers, looking for chances to ambush one by one, unable to charge with such dominance.

With Chu Shen and Lucky Star providing defense, he could focus all his effort on attacking. So, while the enemies were eliminated by him, three contributed to the effort.

For the next more than two hours, the three searched for the remaining enemies, but luck seemed not on their side, as they found none.

Previously, they could locate those people primarily because they fought intensely, with fluctuating spirit force, easily detected.

But now, on the desolate planet, there were likely only two crippled squads remaining, hard to encounter unless face-to-face.

Until two hours later, Lu Ye and his companions suddenly sensed the location of the crippled squad.

It wasn't their own ability, but prolonged non-contact triggered the rules of the Constellation Palace, allowing them to roughly sense the enemy's location.

Of course, this perception was mutual; as they sensed the enemy's location, the enemy clearly sensed them too, likely searching for their tracks.

Thus, the two crippled squads redirected towards each other.

A tea's time later, they finally met.

As expected, the opposing squad also had only three members remaining, with the same cultivation, two mid-stage, one early stage.

From this, it seemed, the two cultivators Lu Ye's team dispatched at the rally point came from this team.

These three, having encountered no enemies since entering, were in a state of idleness, anxious and now excited to see people. With having average cultivation, they charged with an adrenaline rush.

The three assumed a simple 'human' formation, but it was merely a basic cooperation, without any array assistance.

Right now, their thoughts were simple: regardless of the enemy's strength, they would fight first and worry later. Even if they were eliminated, it was better than just wandering around here. After all, their cultivation levels were the same, their numbers equal; who would eliminate whom wasn't definite.

Then, the three charged headlong into Lu Ye's storm of magic and spells...

Chu Shen also shouted loudly, wielding his spirit treasure with reckless abandon to unleash power.

Moments later, the fluctuations of spirit force calmed down, and the three who had charged were no longer visible, with only traces of blood remaining on the ground.

A mystic light descended from the sky, enveloping each of the three.

When the mystic light descends from the heavens, it signifies the end of this competition, confirming indeed only four squads had participated—no more.

Chu Shen and Lucky Star both showed expressions of joy, as the reward obtained this time was undoubtedly far richer than what they had previously secured.

Lu Ye also sensed it.

Gathering together wouldn't refine well, so naturally, they each had to separate and find a quiet place.

At the moment of departure, Chu Shen reluctantly said, "Boss, leave an audio talisman marking, so if any good things come up in the future, you can give me a heads-up, haha."

Lu Ye took out his audio talisman and handed it to him, exchanging markings with the one Chu Shen passed over.

"I want one too..." Lucky Star's soft voice sounded beside him, seeming a bit embarrassed.

Lu Ye, of course, agreed.

Soon enough, Chu Shen and Lucky Star each left, undoubtedly to find a place to refine the mystic light.

Lu Ye activated the power of the Talent Tree, refining for a while, and absorbed the pure energy contained within the mystic light completely.

After a silent estimate, simply refining this mystic light was equivalent to refining nearly three hundred pieces of spirit jade.

Thus, the increase in cumulated points certainly wouldn't be small, but how much it had increased was unknown for the moment. He would have to return to the Constellation Palace and interact with the Cumulated Points Ranking to know.

Exiting this place, his figure appeared in Grand Hall 763, slightly sensing the Cumulated Points Ranking. Compared to before, Lu Ye found that his cumulated points had increased by twenty.

A considerable gain, twenty cumulated points—if it were an arena battle, he would have to fight twenty matches, eliminating twenty people to achieve this, almost equivalent to his day's results.

But in the recent competition, the number he eliminated was clearly not twenty people, and those eliminations were not solely his work; he had to share credit with Chu Shen and Lucky Star.

Considering this, the benefits of winning this form of competition were much greater than those gained from arena battles, whether in the final mystic light reward or cumulated points.

It's just a pity that in the competitions of Constellation Palace, cultivators have no active choice; they must follow whatever arrangements Constellation Palace makes.

Not in a hurry to set off again, Lu Ye turned towards a direction where a giant portal stood. This portal was distinctly larger than the others; if a cultivator passes through other portals, they would enter the competition arena and take part in various forms of competition.

But passing through this portal would lead to another numbered hall, the specific destination either randomly assigned or chosen actively for the desired hall.

Lu Ye aimed to head to Grand Hall 88.

He'd long heard this hall had become a dedicated trading hall for cultivators, hosting countless stalls, though he had never visited, primarily because he hadn't had anything to buy or sell.

But now things were different; he needed to purchase items, and in large quantities.

Fortunately, he still had the reward obtained when Chu Shen was brought back to Cheling World, or he wouldn't have had the means now.

Passing through the portal, he called out "88," and in a blink of an eye, he appeared in another hall.

Looking up, three ancient, simple words bearing the number 88 were indeed on the dome above.

Instantly, the sound of noise resounded around him, and raising his eyes to look, Lu Ye slightly frowned, for there were indeed far too many people here...

Typically, a hall could comfortably host two thousand people, providing ample space—not that it could only contain two thousand, but cultivators required more freedom of movement, so once a hall reached two thousand occupants, newcomers would be directed to other halls.

Yet the number in Grand Hall 88 clearly exceeded two thousand, possibly even reaching twenty thousand.

Although the hall was spacious, the gathering of more than twenty thousand people rendered it far from tranquil, especially with cultivators conducting business: buying, selling, conversing in speech and consciousness exchanges of ideas, in various ways.

Chapter 1414 - Mother and Son

Though there is no manager in the grand hall, everyone setting up stalls and doing business here silently follows the established rules, so despite the numerous stalls, everything is relatively neat and orderly.

Crisscrossing aisles, there are approximately a thousand stalls.

In front of each stall, cultivators weave in and out, coming and going.

To have a stall in this grand hall, one must generally have the backing of a significant domain, although it doesn't mean individuals aren't allowed to set up stalls here; it's just that personal stalls, with their limited transactions, have long been bought out by those with more robust financial backing.

Lu Ye had heard of such things. It is said that when the Constellation Palace first opened, people rushed to Grand Hall 88 and occupied numerous stalls, just waiting for others to buy them out, making a substantial profit.

These people are undoubtedly well-informed because, in the past, when the Constellation Palace opened, Grand Hall 88 was also used specifically for transactions, so some knew the stalls here were precious.

When Lu Ye heard this news, it was already too late; otherwise, he too could have benefited a little.

The stalls vary in size, but even the largest ones are just average. With diverse and vast quantities of goods, it's naturally impossible to display everything, so most stall owners only put out the more precious items. Other goods are compiled into a jade slip list placed in front of the stall for cultivators to peruse. If something is needed, they can discuss purchases with the stall owner.

Lu Ye casually browsed for a while and discovered that the most frequently traded items here were various kinds of elixir pills, for healing, recovery—you name it...

This is normal; within the Constellation Palace, competition and injuries are commonplace. Naturally, injuries need healing, and healing requires healing pills.

Recovery pills work similarly—not all victors receive mystic light rewards that allow easy recovery. Where there are victors, there are losers, and those cultivators who fail in combat don't have the opportunity for mystic light rewards. They can only recover through their own means.

Almost every stall has elixir pills for sale.

Lu Ye needed to buy many things, but none were particularly valuable. Originally, he thought he could easily find them here, but after visiting several stalls, none had what he was looking for.

Thinking it over, he realized that because what he wanted was not valuable, it was hard to find here. The goods at these stalls are brought in by the cultivators, who naturally pick the easily sellable, valuable items to bring in, avoiding the cheaper items that aren't much needed in the Constellation Palace setting.

Though hard to find, Lu Ye eventually found it. The quantity was small, but he was not picky, and after negotiating with the stall owner, he easily bought it.

He continued wandering, hoping to buy more.

After spending most of the day, Lu Ye finally felt he had almost everything he needed.

He spent about eight thousand spirit jade.

Keep in mind the items he was buying were not exceedingly valuable, yet he still spent so many spirit jade, which indicates the large volume.

After completing his purchases, Lu Ye immediately left Grand Hall 88. It was indeed too noisy here, and what he intended to do next wasn't suitable to perform in such an environment.

Entering another grand hall, Lu Ye found a corner, casually set up a Formation to cover himself in a small area, and sat cross-legged.

Many people were doing the same thing, mostly recovering from injuries. Even cultivators not adept in the Array Path could buy an array disc and make a simple setup.

Others passing by tacitly understood and did not disturb them.

Lu Ye took out some materials he purchased from his storage ring and used spirit force to envelop and refine them.

He intended to refine an As-Close-As-Siblings array disc, but it was different from what he had made before. He wanted to make some modifications to the array disc.

The change wasn't with the As-Close-As-Siblings Spirit Runes, as they couldn't be modified for the time being. His main intention was to add a restriction lock inside the array disc, much like the restriction lock on a storage sack and storage ring...

But unlike typical restriction locks, he wanted to achieve the effect that if someone attempted to dismantle the array disc and probe its secrets, it would trigger the restriction lock and thereby cause the As-Close-As-Siblings Spirit Runes to self-destruct.

This would require using Explosion Spirit Runes...

The task wasn't too challenging. Lu Ye had conceived this idea even back in the Nine Provinces. However, because the As-Close-As-Siblings Spirit Runes were too complex, even if others dismantled it and discerned the runes' mysteries, they couldn't mass-produce it, so it wasn't pursued further.

The situation is different now.

The stellar space is not the Nine Provinces. Here there are Moon Jade and Sun Blaze, powerful beings abound. What Nine Provinces cultivators couldn't do, the strong ones in stellar space may well achieve.

If one day the array disc gets out, various factions will definitely organize people to study it.

And in Lu Ye's plans, this day might not be too far off.

Of course, even powerful Sun Blaze beings, even if they discerned the mysteries of the As-Close-As-Siblings Spirit Runes, wouldn't find mass-producing array discs simple. He possesses the Talent Tree, allowing him to construct spirit runes with ease. Even if someone is as powerful as a Sun Blaze, so what? The success rate of constructing such complex spirit runes wouldn't be high.

But he still needed to put an extra layer of security, not for anything else, but to delay the factions' research time on the array disc!

While he was researching how to add a restriction to the array disc, in hall number one thousand five hundred and thirteen, Chu Shen appeared invigorated.

He spent some time refining mystic light, but the benefits gained during this period were many times faster than his usual cultivation.

This undoubtedly greatly enhanced the speed of his cultivation progress.

The audio talisman came alive, and Chu Shen eagerly picked it up to check, his eyebrows slightly furrowed, for it was a message from his mother.

His mother was good at everything, except she was too controlling. Since he was a child, this was forbidden, and that was not allowed... Ever since he advanced to the Constellation stage, he hadn't been to the All Phenomena Ocean yet.

The last time he ran away from home, it was just to visit the All Phenomena Ocean to broaden his horizons. You see, he was a native cultivator of the All Phenomena Galaxy. If a local cultivator hasn't seen the All Phenomena Ocean, wouldn't it be laughable if word got out?

Unexpectedly, halfway through, he was caught by someone and taken back... truly embarrassing.

He was originally to be grounded for several years, but then the Constellation Palace suddenly opened, giving him the chance to leave Cheling World, because even his mother knew that such a great opportunity laying ahead, it would be unreasonable to obstruct it.

There were Moon Jades rampant in the All Phenomena Ocean, but not in the Constellation Palace. There, only those in the Constellation Realm came and went. With his means of self-preservation, as long as he was in the Constellation Palace, no one in the Constellation Realm could do anything to him.

The message from the audio talisman was simple, only one sentence: "How are my son's battle results? Are you invincible?"

The message came so timely, it was obvious that his mother had been trying to contact him all along, but during the competition, the audio talisman couldn't transmit messages. Only upon returning to the Constellation Palace could messages be delivered.

Chu Shen pouted, his mother was treating him like he was a big shot like Fa Wuzun! Invincible indeed, but that wasn't him...

He lazily replied: "So-so, average."

"It seems my son has gained something, not bad, not bad."

No one knows a child better than their mother; if Chu Shen hadn't gained anything, it wouldn't be this tone.

Switching the topic, Jiu Yan instructed: "But you still need to guard against arrogance and impetuosity, keep up the good work."

"Got it, Mom, you're so nagging! You have this spare time, why not find yourself a man and see if you can have a second spring."

"What nonsense are you spouting, you little brat, come out here!"

"I won't! If you have the guts, come in!"

"You come out!"

"You come in!"

The audio talisman was silent for a moment before another message came: "If you have the guts to hide in there forever, if you dare come out, I'll catch and keep you locked up for twenty years, watching you every day, not leaving my side by ten paces."

Chu Shen couldn't help but slap his own mouth, secretly hating how uncontrollable his mouth was. His mother's words could be very literal.

Locked up for twenty years, not leaving her side by ten paces... How terrifying.

He quickly transmitted a message of apology and admitting fault, but this time Jiu Yan was evidently angered by him, ignoring his sincerity regardless.

With no choice, Chu Shen could only say: "By the way, Mom, didn't you ask me to keep an eye out for potential talents to recruit? I discovered one named Fa Wuzun. Although only at the Constellation Mid-Stage, even an ordinary Late Stage can't last ten seconds under his hand. His strength is immeasurable, and I truly admire him."

Jiu Yan, from Cheling World, was not only a local cultivator of the All Phenomena Galaxy but also one of the high-ranking cultivators of the All Phenomena Merchants Guild. Such a gigantic organization has an insatiable thirst for talent and has been recruiting outstanding talents from all corners.

Before Chu Shen entered the Constellation Palace, Jiu Yan had indeed asked him to keep an eye on this matter whenever he had time, both to discover talents and to let Chu Shen see the gap between himself and others.

If it were ordinary talents, Jiu Yan wouldn't have much interest. No matter how impressive, it was just a Constellation, nothing but an ant in the face of her Sun Blaze.

But conquering a Late Stage in under ten seconds, that was quite remarkable.

Such a person is typically groomed only by the top-notch domains, the elite of the elite.

Yet, upon thinking back, Jiu Yan had no recollection of the name Fa Wuzun, not one from any top-tier domain.

She sent a message to have someone investigate the situation.

A moment later, amidst Chu Shen's anxious waiting, the audio talisman finally responded: "The one currently ranked thirteenth on the Cumulated Points Ranking?"

Chu Shen looked up at the Cumulated Points Ranking and indeed found Fa Wuzun's name in the thirteenth spot.

When he first met Fa Wuzun, he thought it was someone with the same name; but after Fa Wuzun easily dealt with a Constellation Late Stage, he knew it wasn't a duplicate name. Fa Wuzun in front of him was indeed the one on the Cumulated Points Ranking.

Previously, he was seventeenth, now thirteenth, further proving it.

"Yes, that's him!"

"Are you sure he's only at the Constellation Mid-Stage?"

"Mom, your son fought alongside him this time, even lent a considerable hand. I surely couldn't be mistaken about his cultivation."

"Tell me more!" Jiu Yan became intrigued.

Chapter 1415 - Scheming

Chu Shen recounted the entire sequence of events involving the disputes between the four teams on the desolate planet one by one. The whole process wasn't complex, as since his assembly with Lu Ye, they had altogether encountered only three battles, and all three were victorious, and the victories were clean and decisive.

He had quite a bit of eloquence, and under his narration, the three battles unfolded like a scroll painting before Jiu Yan's eyes, allowing Jiu Yan to clearly glimpse many details.

After Chu Shen finished speaking, he asked again, "Mother, isn't this quite a remarkable talent? Should we recruit him? If needed, I can step in. Before parting, I made sure to exchange audio talisman markings with him."

Jiu Yan did not respond immediately but rather pondered.

Fa Wuzun, this name sounds like a real name, yet it also sounds like an alias. However, from Chu Shen's account, one thing could be confirmed: this person is not a magic cultivator but a combat cultivator disguised as one, which is why he would reveal his true skills when facing a larger number of enemies.

If Chu Shen didn't embellish his account, then this person is indeed an extraordinary talent, and even someone like Jiu Yan, who has seen many talents, couldn't help but be moved.

However, what intrigued Jiu Yan the most was not this person's displayed exceptional skills, but something else.

"That artifact in his hand can easily connect the auras of the three of you, forming an array?"

"Yes, that artifact is quite remarkable."

"Describe what exactly this artifact looks like."

Chu Shen was captivated by Fa Wuzun's personal strength, his mind full of thoughts of aspiring to become someone like Fa Wuzun in the future, but Jiu Yan saw more.

Different experiences and standing at different heights naturally lead to different perspectives on things.

Chu Shen recalled for a moment and said, "It's nothing special, just a common array disc, you can see them everywhere around here, but its power is extremely mystical. The three of us formed an array, and that's why we were able to defeat those people effortlessly. Oh yes, he said that artifact is called the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc!"

"As-Close-As-Siblings..." Jiu Yan fell into contemplation.

After quite a while, she communicated again, "Contact him, ask if he is willing to sell that array disc, and if he is, buy it at any cost!"

Chu Shen was slightly startled, "Mother, although that thing is quite mystical, its power seem to have a limited range, being only sufficient for four or five people to form an array. Even if it has some value, it's not worth spending a lot of money on, is it?"

Jiu Yan advised earnestly, "You are still young, there are many things you have not encountered, so you don't understand. If that thing is merely an artifact with mystical powers, that would be one thing, but since it's an array disc, it suggests there are mystical spirit runes at work, those runes are likely what he called the As-Close-As-Siblings. I have never heard of nor seen these runes before, if we could acquire that array disc and dismantle it, decipher its rune structure..."

Chu Shen immediately caught on, "Then we could organize manpower to refine this As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc!"

Jiu Yan said, "If this item could really be refined in large quantities, it would have a massive impact on the current cultivation system! Therefore, the value of this artifact is enormous, far beyond what you can imagine!"

"Understood, I will contact him right away, Mother, you are amazing!" Chu Shen complimented while also flattering her.

Jiu Yan, however, did not buy into his flattery, "If you can redeem yourself with this achievement, I will overlook your earlier nonsense, but if not, then be prepared for twenty years of confinement!"

Within the grand hall number fifteen hundred and thirteen, Chu Shen's face was crunched up like a bitter melon...

After a moment of pondering, he found Fa Wuzun's marking in the audio talisman and sent a message, "Boss, are you available?"

No response...

"Boss, I have something to discuss with you, it's good news, really great news!"

Still no response...

"Boss, please, have mercy, save me, little brother here can't go on living like this."

Despite several messages, there was still no response. He figured Fa Wuzun must be busy with something and had no time to check the audio talisman, so he waited another half-day. When he tried to send a message again, Chu Shen was a bit dumbfounded, as the message couldn't be sent.

This undoubtedly indicated that Fa Wuzun had already entered some battle venue through a portal.

At this moment, Lu Ye was participating in a duel-style conflict.

Of course, he saw the messages Chu Shen sent him and vaguely understood why this guy was reaching out to him, but the only thing puzzling him was why the guy sounded so miserable and desperate, as if his days couldn't go on anymore...

The plan in his heart was proceeding smoothly, but it needed more time to operate, to ferment! Because only in this way could he gain more benefits in one go.

However, to make it ferment, there would still need to be opportunities, opportunities like those previous encounters with multiple teams confronting each other.

Like this current one-on-one duel he was involved in, it wouldn't be sufficient.

In stellar space cultivation, spirit jade is key; with spirit jade, everything goes smoothly, without it, you can't take a single step, much like how money affects ordinary people.

What he lacked, however, was spirit jade.

In the past, when he could fish, he was able to rely on the high-value White Spirit to meet his own cultivation needs. Moreover, his personal cultivation deep in the All Phenomena Ocean was far more efficient than ordinary cultivation methods. The time he spent fishing with Piao Ke was when his cultivation grew most rapidly.

But with the sudden onset of the fishing off-season, this financial path was severed.

Going to Zhaolai Island to find work was not realistic. His only experience there led to being deceived by Zhu Yuan and taken to a desolate planet, where if he hadn't met Ma Bin but instead Sun Blaze who harbored ill intentions, his grave would already be grass-covered.

Since then, Lu Ye had been searching for a suitable way to make money.

After deducing the Sacred Guard Spirit Runes, choosing As-Close-As-Siblings was partly for the sake of the Nine Provinces, but also for Lu Ye's financial gains.

The new As-Close-As-Siblings Spirit Runes were successfully deduced, and crafting new array discs was extremely simple. Lu Ye realized that once this thing was exposed, it would surely attract the frenzied scramble of various powers, but although the innocent seldom bear the consequence of possessing a treasure, randomly throwing the array disc out would bring him tremendous risk.

How to safely introduce it to the market while ensuring his own safety was something he needed to consider.

He had thought about establishing a cooperative relationship with the All Phenomena Merchants Guild; he would craft them, and the guild would sell them, then he'd just sit back and split the profits.

With his Thousand Faces and Pseudo-Might Spirit Runes, disguising himself wouldn't be a problem.

But he was, after all, just in the Constellation realm, and the All Phenomena Merchants Guild had Sun Blaze behind them. If he was really targeted by Sun Blaze, even with Thousand Faces and Pseudo-Might, it would be hard to pull the wool over everyone's eyes; his situation would be precarious.

Lu Ye wasn't about to entrust his safety to someone else's benevolence.

It wasn't until the sudden emergence of the Constellation Palace that he saw an opportunity.

So, when he entered the Constellation Palace to leave his name, he decisively gave himself an alias and changed his appearance and attire.

Thus, the opportunity was in place, and all he needed to do now was quietly wait for the chance.

The confrontation he experienced with Chu Shen earlier was a great opportunity, so he unhesitatingly brought out the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc and led Chu Shen and Lucky Star in a great slaughter.

Had it not been to make the array disc more visible, he wouldn't need to go to such trouble. Acting alone was indeed more taxing, but as long as he didn't encounter an opponent at Whei Yijian's level, it would still be possible; at most, it would just require more time and effort.

Chu Shen contacting him now was clearly due to realizing the immense value of the array disc, but Lu Ye didn't plan on selling it just yet, even though he had already applied a restriction lock to the disc.

For the value of a single array disc, no matter how great, is limited.

What Lu Ye wanted to sell was not just a single array disc, but many!

He could foresee that this was not a long-term venture. Since it couldn't last long, he aimed to amass as much wealth as possible in the shortest amount of time!

Moreover, if he sold just one, he would surely offend the buyer because this item was not unique and could be crafted at will.

Should the buyer discover that others also possess it, they would inevitably feel deceived.

If many were sold, allowing all major forces to purchase, then none would feel cheated. This could be seen as a risk-sharing method that would ensure his safety while minimizing the impact on himself.

As for the impact of selling so many array discs on the existing cultivation system, that was no longer Lu Ye's concern.

The cultivation world has seen new things emerge throughout history, causing changes across the entire cultivation world, but as a unique group, it is highly adaptable. Although the existing system may undergo changes, it will certainly not be destroyed.

No matter what, making money was the most important thing for Lu Ye at the moment; everything else was trivial.

And to quickly build the array disc's reputation, naturally more exposure opportunities were required.

So, for the next period, Lu Ye crafted array discs after each confrontation. To improve efficiency, he even created a doppelganger each time, with both his true self and doppelganger involved.

These array discs, he could craft many in a day back when he was in the Divine Sea; now that his cultivation reached the Constellation Mid-Stage, his efficiency had increased many times over compared to before.

It wouldn't take long before he had easily crafted one or two hundred array discs, and then he'd step through the gate again into the confrontation yard.

The confrontations he faced were still mostly solo battles on the arena stage, with only a few involving team-ups with companions of different numbers. Each time he encountered such scenarios, Lu Ye would immediately take out the array disc, explaining its wonders to his temporary allies, letting them experience its power, much like a salesman promoting his goods.

Another Constellation Mid-Stage might not have such a say because in every confrontation, there were Constellation Late Stage allies; their higher cultivation naturally gave them priority.

But Fa Wuzun's name sat on the Cumulated Points Ranking near the top, demanding respect.

After several attempts, the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc, although gaining some fame, only circulated in a limited area and was far from reaching Lu Ye's expectations.

Chapter 1416 - The Opportunity Arrives

Lu Ye wasn't in a hurry; he was waiting for the right opportunity. According to the information he had gathered earlier, there was a perfect chance to showcase the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc.

However, whether he could seize this opportunity depended on luck.

Time passed by, and his various operations continued uninterrupted. He kept crafting the array discs during breaks in the ongoing competitions, accumulating their numbers.

His ranking had already fallen outside the top three hundred on the Cumulated Points Ranking...

The reason was simple: while others securing high ranks focused solely on recovering or healing to participate in competitions, Lu Ye spent a lot of time crafting array discs, resulting in his cumulated points being slowly surpassed.

Despite falling outside the top three hundred, it was still a high position. During this time, numerous factions had inquired about him, sending him messages through various channels, attempting to recruit him.

Without exception, Lu Ye refused all offers. What he wanted to accomplish was too significant; accepting any recruitment, no matter how enticing the offer, didn't sway his determination.

A month after parting ways with Chu Shen, the opportunity Lu Ye was waiting for finally arrived!

On this day, just returning from a competition, he saw many people gathered in front of the Cumulated Points Ranking.

At first, he thought there was another major change on the ranking, but upon closer inspection, he realized that wasn't the case. The crowd wasn't gathered in front of the ranking but behind it.

Traditionally, the ranking list was displayed on the front side, and the back was a blank slate, nothing ever appeared there.

Seeing so many people gathered there now indicated that something was happening.

Cautiously making his way to the back of the Cumulated Points Ranking, Lu Ye discovered that it was indeed as he guessed!

On the backside, five large characters appeared: "Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand!"

The so-called Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand was a form of competition held in the Constellation Palace, but quite different from what Lu Ye had experienced before. This form involved a massive number of participants, at least ten thousand, with no upper limit.

It's said that the largest recorded participation reached fifty thousand people.

Fifty thousand, all from the Constellation, creating chaotic and tumultuous battles, with a high rate of casualties.

Typically, each time the Constellation Palace opened, at least one Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand would take place. The exact timing wasn't fixed.

Cultivators participating in the competitions of the Constellation Palace didn't have much autonomy; entering through a portal into the competition zone meant whatever awaited them was beyond their control, except for one instance: the Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand.

Because if a cultivator wished to participate in this, they would first need to register! Only if selected by the Constellation Palace could they enter; if not selected, entry was impossible.

The Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand had no explicit rules. The knowledge and revelations were amassed by cultivators who had participated in previous meets.

At this moment, many cultivators were leaving their aura marks on the backside of the Cumulated Points Ranking; this was the registration phase.

Seizing the opportunity, Lu Ye left his aura mark there as well.

As to whether he'd be selected... that couldn't be guaranteed. Each Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand had numerous applicants, numbering at least several hundred thousand, with the actual selection ranging from a minimum of ten thousand to as many as fifty thousand, making the odds not particularly high.

He opted not to partake in further competitions but instead set up a Formation in a nearby corner, crafting array discs, quietly waiting.

Because the Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand operated with high efficiency, the registration phase lasted only one day. One day later, results were announced, followed by half a day's preparation time, before the event formally commenced.

One day later, the slots for the Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand were announced.

Lu Ye felt a hint of disappointment; he hadn't been selected.

Without selection, participation wasn't possible, and without participation, the chance to showcase the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc on such a grand stage would be out of the question.

He had waited so long for this opportunity, and after this, there might not be another chance quite this good.

After a moment's thought, he took out an audio talisman and sent a message: "Did you get selected?"

The audio talisman soon replied, sounding somewhat excited: "Boss, you finally replied! I haven't offended you or anything, why were you ignoring me?"

"Enough with the small talk."

Chu Shen quickly responded: "I got selected! Boss, are you participating too? Let's join forces again and dominate the scene!"

Lu Ye looked up at the dome, sending a message: "Come to Hall 485."

"On my way!"

Shortly afterward, Lu Ye, seated within the Formation, saw Chu Shen looking around in curiosity. Unlocking the Formation, he gestured to him, and Chu Shen eagerly rushed over, a wide smile on his face: "Boss, it's been a month; I've missed you much."

Lu Ye looked at him calmly: "I need your participation slot."

The participation slots for the Melee Battle Meet of Ten Thousand could be transferred. Some cultivators, even after being selected, couldn't participate due to various reasons. As long as the cultivator was willing, the slot could be transferred, needing only a confirmation from the Constellation Palace.

Chu Shen's smile froze awkwardly, feeling a bit uncomfortable: "Boss, this... this isn't right, is it?"

He was lucky to be selected, and for Chu Shen, such a grand event was not something he wished to miss, so even with requests from Lu Ye, he was unwilling to easily agree to this.

"Then help me get an entry quota." Lu Ye was well-prepared.

He didn't know many people here, but it was different for Chu Shen, the young master of Cheling World and the cherished son of a Sun Blaze cultivator; finding an entry quota was naturally simple for him.

"I'll do my best, but I can't guarantee this kind of thing..."

Chu Shen didn't finish speaking before he saw an As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc appear in Lu Ye's hand, making his eyes widen.

With his mother's explanation, how could he not recognize the value of this item? He had been trying to contact Lu Ye all month for this very array disc.

"After this is done, this is yours!"

Chu Shen was initially stunned, then he patted his chest: "Leave it to me!"

Lu Ye nodded, and under Chu Shen's reluctant gaze, he put away the array disc.

No time to lose, Chu Shen immediately took out an audio talisman to communicate externally, obviously seeking assistance from Jiu Yan. Speaking directly to others to relinquish their participation quota was ineffective; Jiu Yan's intervention was the most efficient.

While Chu Shen was busy with this, Lu Ye had already arrived at Grand Hall 88.

He wanted to buy a long saber!

With the various scenarios he had recently encountered, using his Boulder Mountain Saber wasn't an issue. There were many combat cultivators in this world, and many used sabers. The Boulder Mountain Saber's design wasn't unusual, quite common actually, so even if he used it in battle, it wouldn't matter, as long as he wasn't captured in an image message.

But participating in the upcoming Melee Battle Meet was different. Eventually, the scenes of the Melee Battle Meet would be presented by the Constellation Palace, meaning that cultivators stationed in various great halls could immerse their minds and observe the event's developments. Under such public scrutiny, he didn't want to expose anything associated with himself.

Finding a substitute long saber was crucial, even if it meant compromising his own combat effectiveness.

In Grand Hall 88, Lu Ye searched among various stalls.

He didn't take too long to find a suitable long saber.

Its design was almost identical to the Boulder Mountain Saber, which was essential because a different design would significantly affect his combat prowess.

It was lighter than the Boulder Mountain Saber, which was unavoidable since Lu Ye had originally modified his Boulder Mountain Saber to include some weight-adding materials.

This long saber, named Crimson Dragon, overall met Lu Ye's requirements and emitted a striking blood-colored glow.

The quality was decent, considered a supreme-grade spirit treasure.

After bargaining with the vendor, he acquired it for nearly seven thousand spirit jades.

This was quite expensive because an average spirit treasure cost two to three thousand spirit jades, and even better ones were just above five thousand.

Seven thousand was undoubtedly pricey, both due to its high quality and its sale in the Constellation Palace.

Lu Ye figured if he'd bought a similar spirit treasure at the All Phenomena Ocean, it would have only cost five to six thousand spirit jades.

But for the sake of what he was about to do, now wasn't the time to fuss over these details.

After purchasing the Crimson Dragon, Chu Shen sent a message confirming everything was settled, just waiting for the Melee Battle Meet to commence.

The efficiency was impressive; after all, he had been trying to contact Lu Ye for a month over the array disc, and now that he got one for free, he naturally gave it his all.

When Lu Ye returned to his original Grand Hall 485, he saw a young man standing next to Chu Shen.

This person undoubtedly had the entry quota for the Melee Battle Meet and was chosen to relinquish it to Lu Ye.

When they met, they exchanged greetings, and the young man was very respectful, likely having received instructions from Jiu Yan.

"Boss, the person is here, so that thing..." Chu Shen was hesitant, having already made guarantees to Jiu Yan. If Lu Ye reneged, he wouldn't be able to explain himself.

"You won't miss out on it. I'll give it to you when I return!"

Chu Shen pondered briefly. With the chaotic and competitive environment of the Melee Battle Meet, Fa Wuzun certainly needed the array disc's assistance, and having its aid would be conducive to success, so he didn't insist further.

Moreover, he was confident that Fa Wuzun wouldn't cheat him on such matters.

A short while later, Chu Shen became serious: "It's starting!"

As he spoke, the void before him twisted, forming a small portal. At the same time, a similar portal appeared before the young man.

Not only with them, but several other people in the hall also experienced the same, all undoubtedly holding qualifications to partake in the Melee Battle Meet.

Through this small portal, cultivators could enter the venue of the Melee Battle Meet, and transferring the quota was necessary at this time.

Lu Ye stepped toward the portal before the young man but was met with a powerful obstruction, preventing him from advancing.

The young man looked at Chu Shen, who nodded at him, and the young man then focused his thoughts.

The force obstructing Lu Ye vanished without a trace.

As Lu Ye's figure disappeared, Chu Shen's voice rang in his ear: "Boss, keep in touch in there, I'll come find you!"

Chapter 1417 - Chu Shen Is Precious

A slight feeling of distraction, and when the vision cleared, he had arrived in a stellar space.

It was expected.

Lu Ye didn't know how many Constellations would participate in this Melee Battle Meet, but a formation of at least ten thousand people would make a single desolate or dead planet seem small, unable to allow cultivators to showcase their talents, so generally, the venue for each Melee Battle Meet is a vast stellar space.

Only such a vast space can allow the numerous Constellations to demonstrate their skills.

Just as he appeared, Lu Ye felt something rapidly charging towards him, instinctively leaping to one side to evade, while spreading his Mental Consciousness to probe in all directions.

What was charging at him wasn't a cultivator but a massive meteor, moving at high speed. Given the meteor's size and speed, if Lu Ye didn't avoid it, he would likely end up seriously injured in an instant.

Just after dodging one meteor, another attacked, and only then did Lu Ye realize that he was located in a rapidly moving asteroid belt.

He wasn't the only one within the range of this asteroid belt; there were two other cultivators here as well.

While maneuvering to avoid the meteor strikes, one of the guys had already been eliminated, as his reaction was evidently slower, getting hit squarely by a big meteor, instantly spewing blood with a declining aura.

Just entering the venue and already heavily injured, he undoubtedly lacked the strength to continue, especially when his aura weakened, Lu Ye and the other person's presence instantly locked onto him...

As this person was eliminated, his figure vanished, while Lu Ye had already stood atop a meteor, moving rapidly forward with it.

In such an asteroid belt, if evading becomes difficult, doing this is undoubtedly the best response.

Lu Ye was not finding evasion difficult; he wanted to use the opportunity to examine the situation, at least to understand what kind of stellar space this was and how many people were around.

But his actions apparently led the other person to misunderstand; during the gap in evading the meteors, this person continually closed in on Lu Ye, making his intention obvious.

The approaching figure wasn't of the human race, emitting flames all over. This was clearly a member of the Flame Race.

Lu Ye had interacted with cultivators of this race in the Taichu Realm of the Reincarnation Tree, knowing they were born magic cultivators. But not every Flame Race member is a magic cultivator; a few take the path of a physique cultivator. Their special constitution harbors extremely violent scorching power within, advantageous for both casting spells from a distance and close combat.

The Flame Race's hostility was apparent, relying solely on having a Constellation Late Stage cultivation.

Lu Ye raised his hand, sending several fire dragons at him, but the Flame Race member didn't dodge or avoid, letting the fire dragons hit him, scattering flames all around, yet his figure was not hindered at all.

Mocking, he said, "Playing with fire-type techniques before my Flame Race, kid you haven't woken up, if sensible, retreat yourself and suffer less!"

The Flame Race's special constitution grants them a strong resistance to most fire-type techniques in the world. If a magic cultivator who only knows fire-type techniques encounters the Flame Race, they would basically wait for death.

But ultimately, this is the Constellation Palace struggle; if one considers themselves outmatched, they can still admit defeat and withdraw, counting as the Flame Race's victory, increasing his cumulated points after this Melee Battle Meet.

Lu Ye ignored him, calmly continuing to use his techniques, clearly not causing much hindrance to the attacking Flame Race.

In just a moment, the Flame Race was in front of Lu Ye, keeping cautious and not rashly getting close, instead countering with spells.

It must be said, even the Flame Race taking the path of a physique cultivator has higher proficiency in fire-type techniques than ordinary magic cultivators.

As their spells exchanged and maneuvered, the scene was bustling, unexpectedly leading to a stalemate.

The Flame Race could not stand it, once again maneuvering to charge towards Lu Ye; if spells can't resolve the opponent, then close combat it shall be.

Then he noticed Lu Ye's mouth seemed to twitch slightly, or perhaps it didn't. When he broke through the spell blockade and charged at Lu Ye, a long blade suddenly cleaved through the Void.

What followed had no suspense. Given Lu Ye's current strength, unless facing top-tier Constellations like Whei Yijian, ordinary Late Stage would not last long in his hands.

When the Flame Race exclaimed in horror to admit defeat, he was already heavily injured.

As the Flame Race's figure vanished, Lu Ye sheathed the Crimson Dragon and finally had the chance to examine the surroundings.

A big sun shone brightly afar, but this big sun was different from what Lu Ye had seen before, with dim rays, giving a sense of nearing the end, heading towards its demise, and the sun had clearly visible dark spots within.

The surrounding has many stars, one particularly large, and more spectacularly, this giant star had a layer of colorful planetary ring, like a layer of clothing.

Mental Consciousness detected signs of cultivators' combat everywhere, with cultivators' presence weakening or disappearing frequently, all indications of battles occurring between those here.

Audio talisman transmitted sound, Lu Ye took it to check, unsurprisingly, a message from Chu Shen:
"Boss, where are you? It's so dangerous here, people are everywhere!"

Lu Ye pondered and replied, "Do you see the largest star, with a colorful planetary ring?"

Chu Shen responded: "I see it."

"Go over there and wait for me, hide well, I'll come find you!"

"Got it!" Chu Shen responded cheerfully. With the previous experience of teaming up with Lu Ye to kill enemies, he naturally understood that as long as he followed Lu Ye this time, though victory till the last couldn't be guaranteed, there would definitely be substantial gains. If luck favored, they might even be able to eliminate everyone else.

This thigh must be held tightly and never let go.

Lu Ye's figure leapt, jumping out of the asteroid belt, heading towards the largest star. He didn't use a starboat, since in such a chaotic terrain filled with various threats and numerous asteroids, a starboat wasn't suitable for travel.

Though flying this way was slower, it allowed better handling of sudden situations.

The As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc he crafted now can support five people forming an array, no more than that. According to his plan, he first needed to find some temporary companions this time.

At the Melee Battle Meet, solo fighting or temporary alliances are both possible, everything depends on the cultivators' own wishes; the rules of the Constellation Palace wouldn't prevent anything.

Chu Shen counted as one; three more were needed.

Moreover, to better showcase the power of the array disc, the chosen temporary companions naturally should have lower cultivation levels. With a plan in mind, Lu Ye advanced, also looking for suitable targets.

Not far ahead, he heard someone calling out: "Fellow Daoist, please hold!"

Lu Ye paused and looked in that direction, seeing a solitary figure standing on an isolated meteorite, with a large floral tattooed arm, unsure if it was a tattoo or a rune tattoo—Lu Ye deduced it was likely the latter, as cultivators rarely tattoo themselves with meaningless designs.

Judging by his attire, he seemed to be a physique cultivator, and observing the spirit force fluctuations around him, he had the Constellation Late Stage level.

Lu Ye looked at him indifferently.

The man with the tattooed arm said, "I see you are alone too, how about teaming up?" Though each cultivator has their social circles and can contact friends to unite if they entered together, some people always venture alone with no one trustworthy around.

In such a chaotic arena, being alone is unsafe, even for someone at a Late Stage. The man with the tattooed arm seemed to be such a person, hence called out to Lu Ye, proposing to join forces.

Lu Ye slowly shook his head: "No need."

The man with the tattooed arm said: "Are you going to meet companions? That's fine too. You must have noticed, I'm a physique cultivator. If you don't mind, I can charge forward for your group."

Lu Ye shook his head again: "Thank you for the offer, but no need."

The man with the tattooed arm understood and did not insist, but asked persistently: "Could you tell me the reason?"

Lu Ye glanced up and down at him: "Your cultivation level is too high."

He then flashed away to continue forward.

Leaving the man with the tattooed arm bewildered, what kind of ridiculous reason is that? Isn't it a good thing to have a high cultivation level? Since when did it become a reason for rejection? It's truly hard to fathom this world.

Though physique cultivators at the Late Stage like him are actually quite popular, even if Lu Ye didn't accept him, he would find others to take him in if he sought more.

No conflict arose between them, the man with the tattooed arm had no intention to bully or oppress, and Lu Ye naturally wouldn't make things unpleasant.

He moved forward, searching everywhere.

Lu Ye quickly discovered a troubling issue, which was the scarcity of Constellation Early Stage cultivators at the Melee Battle Meet. Throughout his journey, he hadn't encountered a single one.

The cultivators he met were either at mid-stage or late-stage...

This wasn't a deliberate selection by the Constellation Palace, but a natural result of the low number of early-stage registrants.

Understandably, in such chaotic terrain, early-stage cultivation is ultimately relatively weak, and nine out of ten early-stage cultivators would prefer not to participate in such events to avoid becoming accumulated points, along with the risk to their lives.

This made it difficult for Lu Ye to find enough temporary allies that met his requirements.

This highlighted the value of Chu Shen!

Lu Ye wished to quickly reach Chu Shen's location, but reality was not so obliging, as there were constant interceptions and ambushes along the way...

Before reaching the outer perimeter of that giant star with the planetary ring, Lu Ye had already engaged in more than a dozen battles, gaining substantially but seriously hampering his progress.

Finally, after overcoming layers of interceptions and reaching the outer perimeter of the star, there was movement from the audio talisman.

Lu Ye checked it, and Chu Shen's shouting instantly came out: "Big shot, save me! I'm discovered, several people are chasing me! Ahhhhh!"

Chapter 1418 - My Precious and Rare Companion

Chu Shen's cultivation isn't particularly high, but with his skills, even when encountering someone stronger than him, he wouldn't be without the power to resist.

However, he is currently in a state of being besieged, which makes the situation seem dire.

"Hold on!" Lu Ye quickly replied.

"I'm holding on, but they're not as fast as I am... Damn it, someone's blocking my way ahead!"

Lu Ye didn't respond again but instead looked around. He had to quickly locate Chu Shen's position; such a natural ally couldn't be allowed to come to any harm.

But looking around, there were more than a dozen battlefields at that enormous planetary ring; spirit force surging and vibrant lights blooming fiercely. The distance was a bit far, and he couldn't clearly see on which battlefield Chu Shen was.

His figure constantly pushed forward...

From afar, the planetary ring looked like a giant celestial body encased in an outer shell, but in essence, this thing was an asteroid belt. Unlike the asteroid belts Lu Ye encountered before, it was one that circled beyond a star, countless meteorites large and small moving around the star in a certain pattern, endlessly, without stopping.

Lu Ye didn't enter the planetary ring but swiftly skimmed by outside of it. Finally, he felt Chu Shen's presence from afar and saw his dire situation.

Over there, Chu Shen looked miserable, hiding under the protection of a protective spirit treasure, surrounded by four figures. Under their various attacks, the light of that spirit treasure dimmed to the extreme.

Among the four, three were attacking relentlessly, and only one woman stood still, seemingly reluctant. Lu Ye heard her persuasion from afar: "You should go quickly. If the power of this spirit treasure fades, you'll be beaten to death. By then, it will certainly be a gruesome death!"

Chu Shen was still persisting in channeling spirit force, shouting: "My elder brother Fa Wuzun is coming soon, wise ones should stop immediately, or when he arrives, none of you can escape!"

It would have been better if he hadn't said that. After he said it, the attacks from the three cultivators became even more ferocious.

All of them were in the Constellation Realm; who would be so easily threatened?

At this moment, the sound of a blade humming echoed through the Void. The sound came from afar, undoubtedly a warning.

Chu Shen turned his head, overjoyed: "My elder brother is here, you're finished!"

"Finish him quickly!" Among the three furiously attacking Chu Shen, a Constellation Late Stage cultivator gave a low shout. Although he was not intimidated by Chu Shen's words, at this moment, naturally, they had to quickly deal with one first so they could have the strength to face the next one.

A mere Constellation Early Stage caused them to waste so much time, and the approaching Constellation Mid-Stage was likely not easy to deal with either. If it truly was Fa Wuzun from the Cumulated Points Ranking, he was a formidable enemy!

With the command from the Constellation Late Stage, the protective measure around Chu Shen's body finally reached the brink of collapse.

He glanced toward the direction Lu Ye was coming from, full of reluctance, shouting loudly: "Boss, avenge me!"

As the words fell, he voluntarily retreated from the fight.

No choice to stay, Lu Ye would take at least 5 breaths to reach the battlefield, while he couldn't even hold on for 3 breaths. Once the protection broke, his life would genuinely be in danger.

Full of unwillingness, just a little bit more!

With Chu Shen's disappearance, the three attackers turned their bodies together. Under the lead of the Constellation Late Stage, they headed towards Lu Ye.

The woman who had advised Chu Shen was momentarily stunned but also hurried to follow up.

A few breaths later, intense spirit force clashed violently at one spot, faintly accompanied by the flickering of blade light. Lu Ye's figure, like a wedge, pierced through their formation.

At the end of the team, the woman didn't even see what had happened. Suddenly, a warm sensation spread across her face. Instinctively raising a hand to wipe it, she found it covered in sticky warmth.

Her expression turned to horror as she realized what that sticky warmth was.

As she looked around, she saw one of her three companions lying dead on the spot. Another was clutching his chest, his figure gradually dimming, indicating he had voluntarily exited, but she still saw the horrific wound on his chest.

Only the Constellation Late Stage cultivator remained relatively unharmed, but as his body flew, blood spurted from him too, clearly injured.

The next instant, the woman felt a chill on her neck and froze.

She clearly sensed a sharp blade resting on her neck, spirit force flickering along the blade. If she dared make any move, her head would inevitably be lost.

Terrified, she didn't even dare to utter the words to surrender.

A voice came from beside her ear: "Aren't you together?"

The questioning came because, despite her capture, the Constellation Late Stage cultivator was running ahead without looking back, completely disregarding the woman's life.

Clearly, that moment's clash made him realize the terrifying strength of Lu Ye. At this moment, he only thought of fleeing the place quickly.

"No... no, yes, yes, we are temporarily allied, not familiar." The woman stammered nervously.

In this Melee Battle Meet, such temporary alliances weren't uncommon, which was also why the Constellation Late Stage didn't care about the woman's fate.

The enemies were formidable, risking one's life for an unfamiliar woman wasn't worth it.

"Stay still!" Lu Ye instructed before darting out in pursuit.

The icy sensation around her neck disappeared, and the woman's stiff figure suddenly relaxed, letting out a long sigh as her high chest slightly contracted.

No one was around, should she run? Or just leave?

She hesitated for a moment, but before she made a decision, a figure suddenly appeared beside her—surprisingly, it was the young man from earlier.

She was startled, her face turning pale.

Lu Ye put away the weapon he had left here earlier and looked at her casually, "You're quite obedient!"

He hadn't expected that when he told her to stay here and not move, she really wouldn't move. He thought she would seize the chance to run away!

Her face turned red, "I was afraid you would go out and hunt me down..."

This was also her dilemma; her appearance had already been exposed, and if she didn't obediently listen, she might be hunted down out of revenge, which would make life difficult.

Of course, Lu Ye didn't seem dangerous to her; after all, he had a chance to kill her earlier but didn't, making her feel like he wasn't unreasonable.

"My ally was chased away by you guys, so what do you suggest we do?" Lu Ye raised his hand and summoned the corpse of the one he had slain earlier, took their storage ring, and asked with an expressionless face.

She quickly waved her hand, "I didn't attack your ally..."

Lu Ye took out a piece of cloth and wiped the blood off the Crimson Dragon as if erasing his own evil, "I know, otherwise you wouldn't still be standing here!"

Earlier, while Lu Ye was on his way here, she hadn't attacked Chu Shen; instead, she tried to persuade him to leave.

"However..." Lu Ye's tone shifted as he raised his eyes to her, "He was still chased away by you all, and he was a rare and precious ally of mine. So, how do you plan to compensate for that?"

Perhaps the aggression in Lu Ye's eyes made her misunderstand; her expression became anxious and uncomfortable. Yet, after glancing at him carefully, she lowered her head and murmured softly.

"What?" Lu Ye didn't hear clearly.

"I can only offer myself..." She was on the verge of tears, "I don't have any spirit jade or good things; I just recently ascended to the Constellation Realm, and the domain I come from isn't strong..."

Lu Ye's action of wiping the long knife paused involuntarily, seeing that she was still rambling. He couldn't help but shout, "Shut up!"

She immediately closed her mouth tightly, looking at him painfully as if awaiting her fate.

Lu Ye said, "Since my ally was chased away by you guys, then you will be my ally!"

"Ah?" She was stunned, thinking she misheard.

"Unwilling?" Lu Ye raised the Crimson Dragon in his hand, its blood-red color looking as if it hadn't been wiped at all.

"Willing, willing!" She nodded her head eagerly like a pecking chicken.

Only then did Lu Ye sheathe his blade, "Alright, from this moment until the Melee Battle Meet ends, we'll be allies. I have only one request: follow my orders, understood?"

"Understood!"

"Let's go." Lu Ye called out and flew ahead.

She quickly caught up, following closely.

After flying not far, curiosity got the better of her, "Are you really Fa Wuzun? The Fa Wuzun on the Cumulated Points Ranking?"

Chu Shen had mentioned Fa Wuzun before; she had clearly admired the ranking. Although Fa Wuzun's rank had fallen beyond three hundred recently, a month ago, this name occupied a top-twenty position for a long time, renowned and fierce, and then slowly declined. Anyone following the ranking couldn't possibly not know Fa Wuzun.

"Yes!"

"But isn't Fa Wuzun supposed to be a magic cultivator? I see your attire looks like a magic cultivator; why are you using a blade?" She asked, revealing a sudden realization: "Oh, I get it, your name is fake. You picked this name to make everyone think you're a magic cultivator, but in battle, suddenly drawing a blade could catch others off guard! No wonder your mid-stage cultivation rank is so high; it seems many people..."

She stopped speaking, seeing Lu Ye staring at her expressionlessly.

She shrank her neck, looking timid.

"There's a fight ahead!" She tried to change the subject.

Lu Ye had sensed it long before, so he led her in that direction; he still needed to find a few more allies.

When they arrived, they found two Constellation Mid-Stage cultivators locked in fierce battle.

"Take this!" Lu Ye handed her a weapon, "Stand there and don't move."

She obediently took it, asking no questions.

Then she saw Lu Ye aggressively charge toward them, easily cutting down the two Constellation Mid-Stage cultivators locked in combat like they were straw. For a moment, she was in awe, secretly wishing she could have such power someday.

Chapter 1419 - Little Dumb and Little Crooked

In the following period, the woman witnessed the terrifying power of a Cumulated Points Ranking expert. During their journey, they encountered more than a dozen battles of various sizes, and regardless of the number or cultivation level of the enemies, in front of Fa Wuzun, they were all no match at all.

All she had to do was to hide outside the battlefield and quietly wait...

She really couldn't understand, since Fa Wuzun was so powerful, why did he need her as a companion when she clearly served no purpose.

If one were to say that Fa Wuzun had ulterior motives towards her, that didn't seem quite right, because he hadn't shown any such intentions.

She thought and thought but couldn't make sense of it, yet the situation was undoubtedly very favorable to her. Originally, she hadn't expected any achievements from participating in this Melee Battle Meet, and just planned to join in the fun and broaden her horizons, but now, by chance, she ended up following such a strong person, which seemed rather good.

After another battle ended, Lu Ye returned with a knife, frowning.

The woman appeared uneasy because she could tell that Lu Ye was in a bad mood and dared not speak, primarily fearing scolding.

Lu Ye was indeed in a bad mood because, after half a day, he hadn't found a suitable companion, and although the number of Constellation Early Stage participants in the Melee Battle Meet wasn't large, it wasn't expected to be this few.

Lu Ye estimated that some Constellation Early Stage participants had already been eliminated, and the remaining ones were mostly in hiding. Putting himself in their position, if he wasn't strong enough, he would also find a way to avoid battles, because there was a rule in the Melee Battle Meet that the longer one endured, the more benefits one would earn, and even if there weren't any accomplishments, results could still be obtained.

So it's okay to lack strength as long as one knows how to hide, which is also why those in the Constellation Early Stage were willing to sign up.

But for him, finding those who met the requirements in such a vast stellar space was difficult.

"If you were alone now, what would you do?" Lu Ye suddenly asked.

He couldn't find those in the Constellation Early Stage, nor did he know where they might be hiding, which was because his perspective and stance were different. The temporary companion beside him, who seemed a bit dazed, was in the Constellation Early Stage, so perhaps considering the problem from her standpoint was the solution.

"Ah? Hmm... I don't know." The woman's answer was completely unconstructive.

Lu Ye stared at her deeply.

The woman sensed Lu Ye's dissatisfaction and said with a crestfallen face, "I really don't know. Aren't I with you...?"

Lu Ye was silent for a moment and then said, "You are alone now, find a way to survive on your own."

With these words, he flashed and flew into the distance.

The woman froze for a moment, instinctively wanting to chase after him, but upon second thought, she didn't move. After all, Lu Ye made it clear that he was abandoning her.

Frustration welled up in her heart, and she couldn't help but kick the Void in annoyance, "What's that all about, this is just unreasonable!"

She wasn't some stray cat or dog to be casually picked up and then discarded when no longer wanted.

If she had been alone all along, it would have been fine, without all these complicated emotions. But having been lucky enough to follow someone so powerful, watching him sweep through as he pleased, only to now be forced back into a solitary battle, the contrast was a bit disheartening.

Despite the despondency, the Melee Battle Meet had to continue.

The woman watched Lu Ye's figure disappear, then looked around before quickly taking out a spirit treasure. Activating the power of the spirit treasure, her figure dimmed, and her aura was significantly restrained in the next moment.

She wasn't a Ghost Cultivator and didn't have many concealment methods, so she could only rely on the power of the spirit treasure, yet due to limited financial means, the spirit treasure she used wasn't high-grade, making the concealment and hiding incomplete.

Still better than nothing.

Having seen the dangers of this stellar space following Lu Ye earlier, she didn't dare stay, choosing a direction and heading towards a nearby dead star.

For her, such dead stars were relatively safe hiding places!

As she moved, the sounds of battles erupted around her from time to time. She didn't dare get close and avoided them from afar. Several times, the battles even broke out right ahead, and they were very intense.

Whether it was sheer luck or something else, she made it through smoothly, swiftly arriving at the dead star.

Here, it was indeed much quieter. She skimmed across low altitudes, looking for a quiet, remote, and concealed spot to hide, hoping to stay hidden entirely, not seeking to last until the end, but lasting a few days would also suffice, as doing so could earn her some cumulated points. It might not be much, but for her, it was acceptable.

The idea was good, but after a short while, as she was searching everywhere, her heart suddenly tightened. She had an inexplicable feeling of being targeted by a hidden venomous snake, and the crisis was so profound that her skin felt like it was pricked with needles when it arrived.

Ghost Cultivator!

She immediately realized the seriousness of the situation; she was being ambushed by a Ghost Cultivator!

Hurriedly, she summoned a prepared protective spirit treasure to shield herself and quickly dashed forward.

There was no choice to confront head-on because the opponent had the upper hand. It was unwise to engage recklessly without knowing the enemy's strength.

Besides, being in the Constellation Early Stage in such an event meant she was basically at the bottom of the cultivation ladder; there couldn't be anyone weaker than her.

Then she felt a surge of spirit force erupting behind her, accompanied by a surprised and delicate exclamation. In an instant, the commotion subsided.

She had no idea what happened, but she sensed a somewhat familiar aura!

Disbelievingly, she turned to look and, indeed, saw Fa Wuzun, who had abandoned her.

At this moment, he was half-kneeling on the ground with a petite figure prostrated beneath him, pushed down at the lower back with his knee. Her fair neck was forced to arch high because Fa Wuzun's massive hand covered her mouth, pinching her cheeks, forcing her into an awkward position.

Not only that, but Fa Wuzun's blood-red long knife was also pressed against the side of the person's neck, ready to pierce in at any moment.

Having witnessed Fa Wuzun's might more than once, she naturally knew that a Ghost Cultivator in the Constellation Early Stage couldn't make any waves in front of him. The moment this Ghost Cultivator tried to make a move against her, she'd likely be captured by Fa Wuzun.

The woman suddenly laughed with joy because she realized she hadn't been abandoned; Fa Wuzun had quietly been following her all along.

This was using her as bait...

Not far away, Fa Wuzun maintained his half-kneeling stance holding the ghost cultivator woman in control. The ghost cultivator woman didn't dare to make any reckless moves, wanting to retreat but having her mouth tightly pinched shut; she couldn't even make a sound...

Her mouth hurt!

Her lower back hurt too!

Her neck also hurt!

A voice came to her ears: "I'll give you two choices: I kill you now! Or you can become my companion, where we trust each other. Which do you choose?"

The ghost cultivator couldn't speak, so she slapped the ground twice to indicate she chose the second option!

What choice was there, really? If she didn't want to die, there was only one option!

That cold voice sounded again: "Wise choice!"

Then she felt all restraints instantly vanish. She leapt up, intending to create some distance, but just as she steadied herself, she didn't dare move.

Because, in that instant, the indiscernible pressure that had been focusing on her suddenly became incredibly intense.

Cold sweat broke out on her forehead, and she stood there stiffly, finally having a chance to look at the person who had attacked her.

She was surprised because the other person looked very young. This wasn't a mere result of good maintenance; he was genuinely young.

With cultivation at the Constellation Mid-Stage, and considering what she'd just been through, the ghost cultivator could confirm that this person...was very strong! Stronger than any other mid-stager she'd encountered.

"Why are you looking at me like that? Dissatisfied?" Lu Ye stared at her, asking mainly because this ghost cultivator had her head tilted as if challenging him!

It gave the impression of a sidelong glance full of scorn...

The ghost cultivator was frustrated: "You twisted my neck!"

Saying this, she slightly turned her body, finally meeting Lu Ye's gaze head-on.

Lu Ye recalled that when he subdued her, he might have used a bit too much force and heard a crack from her neck. It seemed she was indeed hurt, but it should be nothing serious.

Lu Ye nodded, not taking it to heart, and instructed the woman beside him, "Explain the situation to her."

They were both women and both in the Constellation Early Stage, so they should have some common language, making it undoubtedly better for her to handle it.

The woman quickly stepped forward, taking the ghost cultivator's hand as she started whispering. Lu Ye didn't know what she was saying or if she could accurately convey his intentions, but since he had entrusted the matter to her, he let it be.

Vaguely hearing the name Fa Wuzun, the ghost cultivator's expression turned surprised. She occasionally glanced over at Lu Ye, then kept nodding.

After a while, the woman led the ghost cultivator to him, saying, "It's settled, we're companions now. We'll follow you from now on!"

The ghost cultivator was somewhat wary, still tilting her head to ask Lu Ye, "What do you want?"

Afraid he might say, your body...

Unexpectedly, Lu Ye pondered for a moment, then righteously said, "Helping the weak is the duty of cultivators like us. What else is there to want?"

The ghost cultivator clearly didn't believe it. This world might have such people, but this was definitely not one of them!

But at this point, it seemed she had no other choice, and if this really was Fa Wuzun, becoming his companion was a pretty good deal.

"Any more questions?" Lu Ye asked.

The ghost cultivator wanted to shake her head but couldn't: "None."

"If that's the case, then let's introduce ourselves. I am Fa Wuzun!" Lu Ye glanced at the woman who had initially been with him. "You are..."

Come to think of it, he hadn't asked her name yet.

Too lazy to ask, he casually said, "Forget it, she's Little Dumb!"

Then he looked at the ghost cultivator: "And you are Little Crooked!"

Little Dumb: "?"

Little Crooked: "?"

Chapter 1420 - He's Too Ugly

On the dead star, the expressions of the two women were extremely resentful, but having experienced Fa Wuzun's dominance, they dared not voice any disagreements.

They were two companions after all!

Finally, Lu Ye could start implementing his plan. If there was only Little Dumb, the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc wouldn't have much effect. Although it could link Lu Ye's energy with him, allowing them to borrow each other's strength, they couldn't form a formation. At least three people were needed.

Letting Little Dumb act alone was undoubtedly a very wise choice; this quickly led to finding a Little Crooked.

Lu Ye leisurely took out the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc: "I have a treasure, unique and unparalleled, sense its power!"

While saying this, he activated the power of the array disc.

Back then during the multi-party melee, when Lu Ye took out this item, the shock seen on Chu Shen's and Invincible Lucky Star's faces also appeared on Little Dumb's and Little Crooked's faces.

Even though the two women weren't very worldly, they instantly felt the array disc's various wonders and also sensed the formidable foundation hidden within Lu Ye.

Especially Little Crooked, she had just realized Lu Ye's strength, but now it seemed, she had underestimated him.

While they were sensing, Lu Ye elaborated on the array disc's marvelous functions, and the two couldn't stop nodding, eyes shining with a different light.

Fa Wuzun was strong already, and with such an array disc as assistance, the three could join forces. As long as the number of enemies wasn't too many, couldn't they just traverse the large Melee Battle Meet's field at will?

"You take this!" Lu Ye handed the array disc to Little Dumb.

Little Dumb was delighted: "You're giving it to me?"

"You use it!"

"Oh." Little Dumb reacted, then infused spirit force into the array disc, getting familiar with it.

Using the array disc was straightforward, and Little Dumb understood quickly.

Lu Ye then instructed: "Hold it with both hands above your head."

"Okay!" Little Dumb asked no questions and complied, and knowing Lu Ye had never abandoned her from start to finish, she grew inexplicably trusting of him.

Looking at Little Dumb's posture, Lu Ye nodded in satisfaction: "Do this when you encounter enemies, and otherwise, focus on restoring your spirit force!"

Little Crooked watched coldly from the side, unable to bear the sight, only thinking Little Dumb looked... so silly!

Lu Ye turned to her: "I still need to find two more companions, ones at the Constellation Early Stage. Have you encountered suitable candidates?"

Little Crooked, hiding here, clearly knew she wasn't strong enough, and upon being discovered, she could easily become someone else's achievement. Little Dumb also ended up here, suggesting there might be more Constellation Early Stage individuals hiding on this dead star.

"Since arriving here, I've only met you two, no one else." Little Crooked replied, "But I have a question."

"Speak!"

"A strong individual like you should be seeking out other strong ones, a joining of strengths. Why insist on finding Constellation Early Stage companions?"

Lu Ye looked into her bright eyes: "What I love most is helping the weak."

"Oh..." Little Crooked seemed to understand, turning her head away and pouting.

"Let's go!" Lu Ye signaled, taking the lead to fly out, with Little Dumb and Little Crooked closely following like two protectors on either side!

Lu Ye decided to scour the dead star thoroughly, perhaps there could be gains, and if not found here, then on other dead or desolate planets.

The Melee Battle Meet field was vast, even if participants from the early stage were few, he could surely find ones that meet his requirements, and even if not, a squad of five was just an aim, with four or three still capable of unleashing the power of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc.

As they skimmed through the low air, Mental Consciousness expanded in all directions, leaving no stone unturned.

The dead star didn't hide just Little Crooked; there were other Constellations as well.

The three-member Lu Ye squad, one mid-stage, two early-stage, was a low-end setup and overt in appearance, making them an easy target.

Traversing this route, they encountered several battles, all due to others sensing their presence and coming to stir trouble.

Since others approached with confidence, they naturally had some assurance, at least on the surface, their strength seemed to surpass Lu Ye's squad.

But after engagements, without exception, they met their demise!

After several grand battles, none remained on the dead star.

Little Dumb wasn't surprised, for previously with Lu Ye battling solo, now with a trio, Lu Ye was even more formidable, making the invading enemies seem even weaker.

Little Crooked, however, had her world expanded, initially forced into this squad and reluctantly, but now realizing it was her greatest fortune on this journey!

As they flew off the dead star, Little Dumb couldn't help but ask: "Senior Brother Fa, wasn't there a Constellation Early Stage just now? Why did you still eliminate him?"

Speaking of that Constellation Early Stage cultivator, he was unlucky. Despite hiding well, somehow Fa Wuzun discovered his whereabouts, and the outcome was naturally not too pleasant.

"He's too ugly!" Lu Ye replied casually.

Little Crooked was speechless.

In fact, before he found Little Crooked, Lu Ye's target was solely the Constellation Early Stage, but after finding Little Crooked, he thought of more.

To showcase the power of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc and make a name for it, visual effect naturally had to be considered.

In this trio, excluding himself, the remaining two were women, each exceptionally beautiful...

If he found two more beautiful women, the visual effect would undoubtedly be outstanding. However, if the addition included a man, it seemed to spoil the beauty.

Thus, Lu Ye decided that the next candidate must be a Constellation Early Stage female, and she must be beautiful! The requirement was not easy to meet, but even if he couldn't find one, it wouldn't matter; Little Dumb and Little Crooked were passably sufficient.

While leading the two towards the next dead star, Lu Ye's peripheral vision suddenly caught a hint of anomaly.

Turning his head and looking afar, he saw several points of purple light blooming in different places in the stellar space. The light was not bright initially but soon became dazzling, filling the vast Void with a lush purple hue, and then slowly receding.

Accompanying it was a strong surge of spirit force.

"A treasure has emerged!" Little Crooked exclaimed excitedly.

In the Melee Battle Meet, it's not just cultivators vying against each other; there are many sudden events. This is driven by the rules of the Constellation Palace.

Like now, the sudden emergence of a treasure would surely draw cultivators from all sides to investigate and compete, intensifying the battles.

There's no rule for treasures appearing in the battlefield of the Melee Battle Meet; all kinds of things can appear. Some treasures can be taken out, while others can only be used within this battlefield and cannot be taken out.

It's hard to say which is more valuable. Treasures that can be taken out obviously have considerable value because they can be sold. Someone once got a treasure that could only be used in the Moon Jade Realm, selling it for tens of thousands of spirit jades, a classic case of sudden wealth.

Treasures that can't be taken out aren't entirely worthless, as they can be used here to battle foes, often possessing great power, with effects bizarre and unpredictable. Cultivators can even leverage these treasures to triumph over stronger adversaries, achieving unexpected victories.

Therefore, in the Melee Battle Meet, you don't just need strength; luck is equally important.

Most treasures on the battlefield are exotic treasures, but there are other types. Exotic treasures usually have a usage limit, ceasing to be usable after exhausting enough uses.

When Lu Ye first learned about these things, he immediately thought of the hunting grounds in the Cloud River battlefield!

The rules of the hunting grounds have much in common with the Melee Battle Meet rules.

This is no coincidence; when the strong cultivators of the Nine Provinces crafted the Heavenly Machine Disk, they invested much effort, and these strong cultivators certainly participated in the Constellation Palace's Melee Battle Meet, hence the Heavenly Machine Disk carries information regarding this.

The Artifact Spirit of the Heavenly Machine Disk, combined with the Heaven-Earth Origin of the Nine Provinces, gave birth to the Artifact Spirit Number Nine, naturally acquainted with the Melee Battle Meet's rules. The hunting grounds it constructed largely mimic the Melee Battle Meet.

It's just that the venue specs are different, and the participating cultivators have different levels of cultivation.

The hunting grounds have a Kills Ranking, whereas the Melee Battle Meet doesn't. Nonetheless, the Melee Battle Meet is a form of confrontation in the Constellation Palace, and the final achievements of the cultivators are reflected on the Cumulated Points Ranking.

The Melee Battle Meet has only been going for two days, and this is the first treasure emergence. It's not yet known what it is.

Such sudden events pique anyone's curiosity; those with strong cultivation can seize the opportunity to increase their achievements, while weaker cultivators can join in the fun to see if they can grab some bargains.

Of course, the most crucial point is that every time a treasure appears, the region where it appears is filled with abundant and pure stellar space energy, essentially the same as the mystic light descending after a battle ends.

For cultivators frequently engaged in battles, it's a great chance to rapidly replenish their depleted energy.

Thus, the battlefield in the Melee Battle Meet sees the most intense battles whenever a treasure appears.

Lu Ye knows the opportunity he's been waiting for has arrived!

So far, just leading Little Dumb and Little Crooked around, the attention attracted is ultimately limited, but with the emergence of a treasure, it's different. Every emergence draws a lot of external attention.

However, this time several treasures appeared, seemingly of the same type, meaning several battlefields would emerge!

Lu Ye didn't specifically choose but targeted the nearest one.

He didn't rush ahead, but stopped, instructing, "Recover quickly; there won't be time to recover once the fight starts!"

The two women knew from his words that the real test was about to begin.

Generally, a trio with such cultivation should avoid involvement, lest they encounter danger, but Fa Wuzun is clearly not one to shy away from excitement, naturally drawn to where the action happens.

They didn't try to persuade him otherwise, since they believed that Fa Wuzun's strength qualified him to participate. So, they took out spirit jades and quietly replenished their energy.