

Humanity 1431

Chapter 1431 - Already Unrivaled

Feeling Lu Ye's intense killing intent, Zhou Yuchuan frowned and ultimately chose to withdraw. The moment his figure disappeared, his face was filled with helplessness.

Not to mention that he had exhausted his strength to unleash the power of the short spear, leaving him with little combat ability at the moment. Lu Ye himself was also named on the Cumulated Points Ranking, and Zhou Yuchuan certainly wouldn't underestimate him just because he was only at the mid-stage of cultivation.

Before disappearing, Zhou Yuchuan sent an audio transmission message: "I hope there will be a chance for a fair fight in the future!"

He was undoubtedly somewhat unconvinced because, in the Cumulated Points Ranking, he ranked much higher than Fa Wuzun. He was confident that if everyone were in perfect condition, he could defeat Fa Wuzun in a one-on-one fight. But now, due to circumstances and fate, he was forced to withdraw from the Melee Battle Meet, leaving him feeling helpless.

As Zhou Yuchuan's figure disappeared, the male companion beside him also vanished. Both were shrewd individuals, and considering how they had treated Lu Ye earlier, it was expected that Lu Ye would harbor a killing intent towards them. As the saying goes, what goes around comes around, so they couldn't blame anyone else for this.

Faced with such a figure brimming with killing intent, how could he not run away and stay here to wait for death?

In an instant, the three-person squad was reduced to just Xiaoru!

At this moment, she was still maneuvering her two spirit treasures to fend off the fierce attack from the starship squadron. With Zhou Yuchuan and another companion leaving, Lu Ye's energy naturally locked onto her.

Attacked from both front and back! Xiaoru felt extremely uncomfortable, unable to understand how the well-laid plans had developed into this situation.

The plan was clearly well-made...

Even though she was a woman, she was decisive and knew that it was not advisable to linger in a place of conflict. Her figure flickered immediately as she tried to escape.

However, Lu Ye's presence was like a shadow she couldn't shake off. As a magic cultivator targeted by a combat cultivator like Lu Ye, she had no space to flee.

Though she also tried to use spells to block Lu Ye's advance, it had little effect. The enemy's advance was aggressive and domineering, far beyond what her magic could intercept.

In less than a moment, she was overtaken, and after a brief encounter, realizing things were not going well, the woman withdrew in embarrassment.

Before leaving, there was a slight look of terror in her eyes.

She had witnessed the strength of Lu Ye's squad before, but it was bolstered by the power of the array. She originally thought that even if Fa Wuzun himself was strong, he wouldn't be too formidable. But after clashing, she realized she was no match, especially as a magic cultivator caught up close by a combat cultivator, leaving her unable to maneuver freely.

When the confrontation occurred here, the starship squadron didn't intervene because they were somewhat bewildered, unable to understand what was going on with these people who seemed to belong to the same group but started an internal conflict.

Once Xiaoru's figure also disappeared, leaving only Lu Ye as the enemy in front of them, the situation became clear.

The starship squadron charged unhesitatingly in the direction of Lu Ye, especially the late-stage combat cultivator, whose expression was particularly fierce. Previously, he had suffered a loss at Lu Ye's hands,

but that was when he was alone. With his companions now beside him, how could he fear a mere mid-stage cultivator? He was ready to regain his lost face.

Yet once the actual clash occurred, he realized he had oversimplified the situation.

This fellow combat cultivator, also a blade user, albeit only mid-stage, moved exceptionally swiftly, making it difficult for their combined efforts to restrain him. Even more terrifying was his aggressive strikes; often, in the instant they brushed past him, a companion would sustain serious injuries!

Conversely, their attacks were all deflected by some mysterious technique the opponent used, summoning a protective barrier to block them.

After several of Lu Ye's swift maneuvers, the squad was directly left in tatters.

In the Constellation Palace, Chu Shen's emotions underwent a rollercoaster, feeling it was extraordinarily thrilling.

He couldn't quite see how Lu Ye survived such crisis moments, but looking back now, there were indeed some irregularities.

Because when the starship's cannon fire hit Lu Ye's figure, Lu Ye seemed to dissolve into nothingness, which was clearly abnormal.

If a cultivator himself turning into nothingness could be understood, Fa Wuzun's spirit treasure longsword wouldn't be so easily vaporized.

Chu Shen, a bit slow to react, realized that at the moment the cannon's power was about to hit, Fa Wuzun used some method to leave the original spot.

The big shot isn't dead; not only isn't he dead, but he's also wreaking havoc everywhere, which is great!

"This person is already invincible!" a voice beside him declared.

Chu Shen nodded quickly to express his agreement, and this statement also elicited nods from many others.

Originally, in this Melee Battle Meet, the overall strength of Zhou Yuchuan's squad was enough to match Fa Wuzun's squad. Even if Fa Wuzun's squad formed the Black Tortoise Array, their overall cultivation was always a weak point. If they truly faced off, who was stronger or weaker was still uncertain.

Not to mention there was still a starship traversing everywhere, which no squad could withstand alone.

But now, as witnessed, the starship was crippled, the starship squadron was in dire straits, and Zhou Yuchuan's squad was cleanly wiped out.

At the current Melee Battle Meet battlefield, who else could restrain the ferocious momentum of Fa Wuzun's squad? Unless a cultivator could obtain some sharp treasure during the Melee Battle Meet.

Even more terrifying is that this squad has the battlefield map in hand. Any attempt to conceal will be useless in the face of that map, thus inevitably leading to the Fa Wuzun squad striking from all directions, searching for surviving cultivators, continuously eliminating them, and expanding their victory.

This melee battle meet, this squad will surely emerge as the biggest winner.

On the dead star, Lu Ye has eliminated the entire starship squadron. It must be said that the Sacred Guard is quite practical in this level of confrontation, especially since he activates the Sacred Guard Spirit Runes without any delay, nor is there any chance of failure. Even if the enemy's attack is powerful, he can instantly enhance himself with several layers of Sacred Guard protection.

Thus, as long as the enemy is not too strong or too numerous, relying solely on the Sacred Guard, he can remain unscathed.

He has already transmitted to Little Dumb and the others, asking them to come and meet him. With nothing else to do, Lu Ye takes out the treasure the specter tossed to him earlier to inspect.

After the specter seized this treasure, she directly threw it to him. Honestly, Lu Ye was somewhat confused. If she wanted to divert trouble to him, there was absolutely no need to do so. Because with her concealment, the starship squad's target could only be him.

Yet she did it anyway...

Thus, Lu Ye has a bad feeling.

Upon investigating, he finds, as expected, that the item in his hand is not a treasure at all but a cheap mineral, emitting a bright glow, with evident traces of polishing on its surface. Clearly, the specter polished it beforehand to make it resemble a treasure, but the moment the treasure was obtained, it was swapped!

Lu Ye initially wanted to crush the mineral but eventually kept it.

The specter woman... is somewhat excessive!

He needs to find a chance to teach her a lesson.

Little Dumb and the four quickly arrived at the location, seeing Lu Ye unharmed, they all relaxed.

They did not ask about the battle situation. Since Lu Ye is here and the others are nowhere to be seen, the result is quite obvious.

The five regroup, and Lu Ye takes the battlefield map from Little Crooked's hands, searches for areas dense with cultivators, confirms the direction, and leads the way.

The use of the battlefield map has a time interval, so it cannot be examined at any moment, but it is already sufficient.

Every now and then, Little Crooked will examine the battlefield map to search for the approximate location of nearby cultivators. Once the direction is confirmed, the squad charges recklessly, always yielding results.

In such a way, searching and slaughtering along the way, countless squads have suffered. However, it must be said that at this stage, the squads still surviving have decent overall strength, unlike the beginning, where the strengths varied greatly.

This is because the melee battle meet has reached the late stage, and the weaker ones have already been eliminated.

Lu Ye's squad is the only exception. On the surface, their cultivation is the weakest, but in reality, they are the strongest squad.

In past melee battle meets, reaching this stage meant it was difficult for cultivators to gain more ground. The battlefield is too vast, and with fewer cultivators remaining, their encounters become significantly less frequent.

Even if squads hold the battlefield map to search for people, lacking strength, they cannot achieve major victories.

Several days later, suddenly a magnificent yet ethereal aura sweeps over the entire melee battle meet battlefield. Simultaneously, all surviving cultivators gain a layer of insight.

The melee battle meet is about to end, in just half a day!

This is evidently the rules of the Constellation Palace at work.

Unlike previous contests Lu Ye encountered, the end of this meet is not marked by deciding first, second, third place but rather when the surviving cultivators on the battlefield reduce to a certain number. At the end, all surviving cultivators are considered winners!

The battlefield is too vast; it's impossible for cultivators to fight until only one remains.

The number is generally around one hundred fifty!

Sensing the information conveyed by this aura, Lu Ye stops and gestures to Little Crooked, who understands and presents the battlefield map.

Lu Ye takes it, channels spirit force into it, briefly examines it, and discovers there are about six hundred cultivators left in the battlefield.

Estimating according to the ratio of one hundred fifty, this time, the total number of cultivators participating in the melee battle meet is roughly thirty thousand.

In just half a month, a scale of thirty thousand has fought down to only six hundred, indicating the fierce battle, while countless cultivators have forever laid buried here!

He glances again at the position of the nearest group of cultivators, deciding to abandon the plan to seek enemies. The harvest from this melee battle meet is plenty enough, and there's no need to stir up more carnage in this final half day.

The remaining cultivators will surely have the same thought; everyone has endured to this point, achieved the final victory, and just needs half a day more to reap the benefits. Who would still engage in fighting and killing?

Chapter 1432 - How Can I Accept This?

A moment later, at Lu Ye's suggestion, the five-member squad arrived on a nearby desolate planet, waiting silently.

After this battle together, the friendship among the four women had deepened immensely. It was rare that all four were at the Constellation Early Stage, giving them much in common.

Gathered together, they chattered away like four little birds.

Lu Ye took out all the trophies obtained from this Melee Battle Meet and divided them into five portions, calling the four women over and pointing to the five portions in front of him, "Everyone, choose one for yourself!"

The four women looked at each other, and finally, Little Dumb spoke up, "Senior Brother Fa, we've discussed this before. We don't want any of the gains this time. If it weren't for you, we would have..."

"Less nonsense, one for each!" Lu Ye naturally knew what Little Dumb wanted to say, that without him, the four of them couldn't have persisted until now and might have been eliminated long ago, facing life-threatening danger.

But it was precisely because Lu Ye led and formed such a special team that they could be invincible and make great achievements.

These things in front of them were certainly considerable, but compared to what they had gained, what were they? They were to share not only these tangible items but also cumulated points and the corresponding mystic light rewards.

Particularly, the mystic light rewards were the most important to them, as it could directly boost their cultivation advancement.

However, for Lu Ye, having the four women fight alongside him for half a month, allowing him to harness the power of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc effectively, meant that both hardships and blessings should be shared—this was the principle of dealing with others.

Lu Ye's voice was a bit loud, amplified by spirit force, causing Little Dumb to shiver involuntarily.

After spending time together, she was already used to Lu Ye's decisive words. Even though their cultivation levels were only a small rank apart, facing Senior Brother Fa made her more nervous than facing a Sun Blaze.

When Lu Ye said to take a portion, she had no choice but to take one.

With a look of gratitude, she casually picked a portion. Judging by her demeanor, if Lu Ye asked her to marry him, she wouldn't even frown.

She never expected the Melee Battle Meet to end in such a gratifying result. Initially signing up with an indifferent attitude, she regretted it once she entered the competition. When Lu Ye eliminated her temporary partner and conscripted her, she thought she had met a bad person but didn't expect to turn misfortune into a blessing.

Following Little Dumb's lead, the other three women also picked their respective portions.

Lu Ye distributed the portions evenly; none of them was more valuable or less so. Thus, picking any portion was about the same.

In half a month, nearly a thousand cultivators were eliminated by the squad. Not all were killed; some saw the unfavorable situation and directly quit, leaving no spoils.

Even so, the value of each portion of loot roughly amounted to fifty to sixty thousand spirit jade.

To those at the Constellation Early Stage, this was a considerable fortune!

Of course, the spirit jade and treasures that Zhou Yuchuan previously handed to Lu Ye and were collateral here were not divided. In that particular situation, the four women did not contribute, and it was he who accomplished it solo, so eating alone was understandable.

"Dismissed!" Lu Ye waved his hand.

The four women bid farewell to Lu Ye one by one, looking somewhat reluctant to part. Before leaving, Little Dumb left the array disc behind, as it was what Lu Ye had entrusted to her.

The desolate planet was vast, and the five occupied different areas, waiting silently.

Half a day later, the Melee Battle Meet concluded, and mystic lights descended from the sky.

Lu Ye's spirits soared because the mystic light he obtained this time was richer than any he'd ever received before. The time he had the most abundant mystic light reward was during his first meeting with Chu Shen when refining the final mystic light equated to refining about three hundred pieces of spirit jade.

But this time... Lu Ye didn't even know how to estimate it.

Even using the power of his Talent Tree to refine, it took more than half a day to fully refine the mystic light. He could clearly feel the enhancement in his cultivation, with the most noticeable sign being the significant progress in the refinement of the essence of his bone marrow.

He wasn't worried that refining so swiftly would expose the secrets of his fast cultivation, because the moment the Melee Battle Meet ended, the outside cultivators couldn't observe the situation here any longer.

Extending his Mental Consciousness, he could sense the presence of Little Dumb and the others. They were evidently also refining the mystic light. The benefits they received should not be as great as his own, since he was the main force of the squad. However, for them, it was still an extremely generous reward. With some luck, the women might even advance to mid-stage with these rewards, though for Little Dumb, who seemed to have not long broken into the Constellation, it wouldn't be feasible.

Without lingering further, Lu Ye, with a thought, left the Melee Battle Meet arena.

Inside Hall 935, Chu Shen looked displeased!

Because at this very moment, he could sense a lot of cultivators were watching him, even though he didn't know these cultivators, he could tell who these guys were.

Undoubtedly, they were Managers from various major powers at the Constellation level, because he had previously shouted publicly, calling Fa Wuzun his big brother, a comment that had spread among those eager to exploit it.

So, if these people wanted to establish contact with Fa Wuzun, they had to find a proper channel.

The first problem they faced was where to find Fa Wuzun.

Undoubtedly, at this moment, Fa Wuzun should be refining the mystic light and enjoying the fruits of victory, but he will have to come out eventually. Even when he does, with so many grand halls, who knows where he will appear?

So their focus on Chu Shen is not for Chu Shen himself, but because of Fa Wuzun!

This annoyed Chu Shen greatly. Each of them was eyeing the array disc, but that array disc already belongs to Chu! Eyeing the array disc means eyeing Chu Shen!

He only regretted that his cultivation was not high enough, and that he could not act within the Constellation Palace, otherwise, he would have beaten up all these annoying people!

However, he did not worry that Fa Wuzun would break his promise. Such a straightforward person would not go back on his word, especially after sharing spoils of war with his companions.

During the past half month, he had already taken time to talk with Jiu Yan. Once he got the array disc, Jiu Yan would no longer hinder him within the All Phenomena Galaxy.

So for him, that array disc was not just an array disc, it was the taste of freedom, a twenty-year-long yearning!

No one could stop him in his pursuit of freedom.

Just as he was feeling frustrated, there was a sudden movement from the audio talisman with a simple message: a single number.

One thousand six hundred thirty-two!

Chu Shen focused his mind and was overjoyed because it was actually a message from Fa Wuzun.

He could not understand why Fa Wuzun came out so soon. According to his estimates, it would have been normal for Fa Wuzun to continue staying on the Melee Battle Meet battlefield for another seven or eight days, given the need to refine that vast quantity of mystic light.

He vaguely guessed that Fa Wuzun did not want to waste time.

Immediately, he set off for grand hall number one thousand six hundred thirty-two!

The cultivators who had been watching Chu Shen openly and secretly all paused in surprise and quickly sent messages to find Chu Shen's trail, as he was now the only one who could directly contact Fa Wuzun, and they could not lose this opportunity.

But soon, news that brought joy came in: Fa Wuzun appeared in grand hall number one thousand six hundred thirty-two!

The news spread rapidly. Due to the previous melee battle, Fa Wuzun had become the most renowned Constellation Realm expert within the Constellation Palace, and many had personally witnessed his sweeping prowess on the battlefield. They were naturally very familiar with his appearance.

Thus, as soon as Lu Ye appeared, he attracted a large crowd of cultivators. Many unfamiliar faces looked at him with admiration, and some even approached him for his audio talisman marking, including some beautiful female cultivators.

Seeing the situation, Lu Ye knew his plan had worked. His various strategies at the Melee Battle Meet indeed attracted a lot of attention from cultivators.

The array disc's fame had been completely established!

"Big Brother!" A familiar voice sounded, more eager than ever before.

Lu Ye looked up and saw Chu Shen hurrying towards him.

Not even calling him boss, just straight-up calling him big brother...

Lu Ye did not mind, he nodded slightly and directly took out the array disc to hand it over.

Chu Shen's eyes grew wide, as did all the nearby cultivators' gazes.

Lu Ye frowned slightly, realizing he might have underestimated the impact of the previous plan, as the array disc's reputation seemed even more intense than he anticipated.

Quickly stepping forward, Chu Shen took the array disc in his hand and smiled like a flower, "Big Brother, this is too much!"

Although he said he was embarrassed, his hands swiftly stored the array disc into his storage ring. In an instant, the gazes from the surrounding crowd were all filled with envy.

Having witnessed the fierce competitions at the Melee Battle Meet, the cultivators naturally knew that Fa Wuzun's personal strength was impressive. However, the excellent results of his squad were largely due to the array disc. Without it, even with great strength, it would be hard to achieve such impressive results alone.

In such an environment as the Melee Battle Meet, a Black Tortoise Array with strong protective power was incredibly valuable.

If such a treasure were to be sold, it would start at at least a million spirit jades, yet Fa Wuzun gave it away just like that.

It made one wonder if calling Fa Wuzun "big brother" would yield any benefits.

After receiving the array disc, Chu Shen felt relieved. With a serious expression, he said, "Big Brother, I previously failed to recognize the significance of this item. Now, I understand its immense value. If you have any requests, please don't hesitate to ask. As long as I can fulfill them, I will not refuse!"

According to the original agreement, Chu Shen was to help Lu Ye find an entry into the Melee Battle Meet in exchange for the array disc. Now the deal was settled, but Chu Shen was not someone who liked to take advantage. If the array disc weren't so important to him, he wouldn't have accepted it so lightly.

Chapter 1433 - I'm Going to Hold an Auction

In comparison, a spot in the Melee Battle Meet seems trivial and insufficient to make up for Lu Ye's loss.

Chu Shen, eager to befriend Fa Wuzun, naturally wanted to find some way to compensate him. In any case, Jiu Yan would help handle the matters that he promised.

"We'll talk later," Lu Ye didn't refuse, because he felt that he might indeed need Chu Shen's help with some minor matters.

He looked up at the crowd behind Chu Shen. At this moment, a group of people was standing behind Chu Shen, all of whom no doubt came here after receiving the news. They were all eagerly watching him, and more people were on their way.

"Do you all have something to discuss?" Lu Ye asked.

His question immediately caused chaos; the crowd began to exchange pleasantries and greetings, calling him Fellow Daoist Fa. One person mentioned a business deal they wanted to discuss with Lu Ye, another had some questions for him, and yet others outright attempted to recruit him, generously stating he could name his conditions, demonstrating an earnest and eager attitude.

Lu Ye raised his hand to stop them, "One at a time."

The crowd looked at each other, unwilling to easily give way, making the scene even more chaotic.

Lu Ye glanced at the oldest elder present: "You speak first, everyone else be quiet!"

The elder, surprised by the preferential treatment, was delighted and began, "Fellow Daoist Fa, there are many people here. Could we find a quieter place? I have some matters..."

"Speak here," Lu Ye interrupted, roughly understanding what this person intended.

The elder looked troubled but seeing Fa Wuzun's firm stance, knew there was no room for insistence. Since everyone's intentions were as obvious as lice on a bald head, whether it was in private or not didn't make much difference, so he began, "I wanted to ask if the array disc you just gave isn't a unique one, is it?"

The reasoning for such an assumption was that the array disc seemed ordinary and unremarkable upon first glance, not like anything valuable. Moreover, Lu Ye had given it to Chu Shen without hesitation. If it were truly unique, no one would so readily part with it.

"Of course not," Lu Ye nodded.

The elder's face lit up, and the cultivators who came specifically for the array disc showed similar expressions of joy. If it was unique, they would need to find a way to get it from Chu Shen. However, Chu Shen, being special and connected to the Cheling World, was a local cultivator of the All Phenomena Star System, making him difficult to deal with.

"How many are there?" the elder pursued.

The crowd perked up, eager for an answer, but Lu Ye had no intention of responding, just quietly stared at the elder.

The elder slightly smiled, "Fellow Daoist Fa, there's no need to be concerned. I am a manager from the Chaoyuan Merchants Guild. The reason for my inquiry is I want to purchase an array disc from you, and as for the price... we can negotiate!"

The All Phenomena Star System isn't just home to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, but it undoubtedly holds the greatest reputation since it is a local guild, holding the largest advantage.

However, besides the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, many powerful star systems have their merchants guilds here. The Chaoyuan Merchants Guild should be one such enterprise under the Chaoyuan Galaxy, using the entire star system as backing and support, conducting trades with other star systems or cultivators.

Many star systems have their specialties, so even if they are not as monumental or powerful as the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, they possess their unique competitive edge.

As soon as the elder finished, someone else chimed in, "Our Frost Wolf Merchants Guild is also interested in purchasing an array disc from you, Fellow Daoist."

"And the same goes for our Yaotian Merchants Guild!"

...

The scene turned chaotic once more.

After the crowd's voices calmed and their requests were voiced, Lu Ye nodded slightly and glanced around, "It seems everyone is interested in purchasing the array disc." He displayed a contemplative expression, "In that case, since all of you are inclined, let's hold an auction."

The heads of the various merchants guilds furrowed their brows upon hearing this; it was undoubtedly what they least wished to see. However, Fa Wuzun wasn't foolish; naturally, he understood the principle of creating value out of rarity. With so many of them coming to purchase the array disc, Fa Wuzun was clearly aiming to maximize his interests, and an auction was the best way!

Sighing inwardly, knowing they couldn't be stopped, the elder from the Chaoyuan Merchants Guild asked, "I wonder when Fellow Daoist Fa plans to hold this auction and where?"

"Here in the Constellation Palace," Lu Ye replied, "in Grand Hall 88, as it's spacious. As for the time, three days from now!"

"Three days!" A group of people were taken aback at these words. Someone said, "Fellow Daoist Fa, isn't this timeline a bit too tight?" It was undoubtedly those with insufficient strength, fearing they wouldn't be able to gather enough spirit jade for the auction in just three days.

Some wanted to persuade Lu Ye, but he ignored them and vanished in a flicker, moving on to other grand halls.

Left behind, a group of people frowned tightly. Quickly, messages began to spread. Although it was unknown how much spirit jade the auction for the array disc would require, now was naturally the time to gather as much as possible. The distance from All Phenomena Ocean was too far, making it impossible to transport more spirit jade within three days, leaving them with no choice but to find other means.

Almost every Star System merchant guild was determined to obtain the array disc, as the leaders of these guilds had personally witnessed the terrifying effects of the array disc at the Melee Battle Meet. It could be said to be a revolutionary treasure, something never seen before. If it could be deciphered and mass-produced, it would surely have a tremendous impact on the entire cultivation world!

Some tried unconventional approaches, attempting to get close to Chu Shen, but how could Chu Shen pay them any attention? Not long after Lu Ye disappeared, Chu Shen vanished as well.

In another grand hall, Lu Ye and Chu Shen regrouped. Lu Ye set up a Formation to conceal their presence, avoiding further interruptions, and gave Chu Shen some instructions, to which Chu Shen continuously nodded.

He had previously said that Lu Ye could ask for anything he wanted, and he wouldn't refuse as long as it was within his capability to provide. The current request from Lu Ye was not a big deal, and he readily agreed.

He even felt a bit of anticipation, as he vaguely realized that he might be about to participate in an event that could go down in history!

While the two were discussing this, news spread quickly that Fa Wuzun would hold an auction in three days at Grand Hall 88, where the mystical array disc would be auctioned off.

An ancient intrigue!

Cultivators were no strangers to auctions. Merchant guilds with sufficient power often held auctions large and small. Generally, some rare and sought-after items would appear at auctions, attracting pursuit and fetching good prices.

But auctions have always been held by merchant guilds as the main entities. An auction held by an individual was unheard of before because a lone person simply didn't have the resources or enough treasures to conduct an auction. Attempting such a thing would only be a joke. But if the auction was to be held by Fa Wuzun, then it seemed only natural.

The auction item was indeed just one miraculous array disc, but that didn't deter the many eager contenders, all merchant guilds from various star systems. These guilds were well known for their formidable strength in the cultivation community, so it was foreseeable that this auction would likely be a fierce battle, with major guilds tearing each other apart.

Grand Hall 88 was special already because it could gather more people than the other halls and had always been used specifically for buying and selling. This time, it was pushed directly to the forefront of attention. When the news spread, countless people rushed to Grand Hall 88, most just going to watch the excitement. Missing such a spectacle would be too unfortunate.

Some merchant guild leaders arrived early to stake out a place to avoid embarrassment if they couldn't get in due to crowding later. Though such a situation had never happened before, even in its most lively times, Grand Hall 88 had its limits. No one could predict how lively it would get this time.

It's possible that there really would be a situation where the venue was overcrowded, making entry impossible.

For a time, the already bustling Grand Hall 88 became even more extraordinarily lively.

This was the situation inside the Constellation Palace, while outside, various forces were trying all sorts of ways to investigate Fa Wuzun's background!

The uncertainties surrounding the auction of the array disc were too great. No merchant guild could guarantee that they could secure it. But if they could learn about Fa Wuzun's background and leverage that information, then all problems could be easily solved.

The only lead currently confirmed is that Fa Wuzun is not his real name.

This is because the cultivators from the various star systems had never heard of this name before the opening of the Constellation Palace.

With such cultivation and power, no matter his origin, he would have long since made a name for himself. Yet, before the opening of the Constellation Palace, no one knew of Fa Wuzun.

From this inference, he likely wasn't born from any top-tier domain or a powerful star system. If he had an illustrious origin and a strong backing, he would surely not conceal his identity. Those who manage to leave their name on the Cumulated Points Ranking do so not only for personal fame but also to bring glory to their domains and star systems. Why hide? Those who conceal their identities in the Constellation Palace are mostly from humble backgrounds without powerful backing.

Trying to investigate a cultivator's background by just a pseudonym is undoubtedly very difficult, akin to finding a needle in a haystack. But given the circumstances, all the forces had no choice but to press on despite the challenges.

No one could have predicted that a small Constellation Mid-Stage individual would have such power to stir the winds and clouds of the All Phenomena Galaxy. Even when Green Demon King Ma Bin caused havoc in the All Phenomena Ocean last time, the resulting commotion quickly calmed down.

Such a ridiculous occurrence had never happened before in the All Phenomena Galaxy.

The comings and goings in this vast expanse are countless—newly ascended, fallen in battle, passing by—it's hard to calculate. What ripple could a single Constellation create in such an environment?

Yet, there indeed was such a Constellation who, due to a single Melee Battle Meet, entered the view of various forces, making countless strong figures preoccupied with concern!

Chapter 1434 - Qingli Palace

Outside the Constellation Palace stood a palace-shaped treasure. Such treasures generally do not possess strong offensive or defensive capabilities; rather, they serve as short-stay palaces for powerful individuals, used for temporary stops. The cost of crafting them is quite high, so only those with some strength and capital can own one.

This particular Qingli Palace was quite renowned in the All Phenomena Galaxy because it belonged to Jiu Yan, a strong Sun Blaze cultivator from Cheling World.

The presence of Qingli Palace meant that Jiu Yan was here!

As a strong Sun Blaze Realm cultivator, Jiu Yan's strength was well recognized. Looking across the entire All Phenomena Galaxy, her personal prowess ranked among the top three.

However, she had a peculiar quirk that left people unsure of what to say — a quirk that had only emerged in the past twenty years: she was overly protective of her only son!

The young master's escape from Cheling World wasn't a one-time incident, but because he was being overly controlled.

Recently, the matter escalated. It's said that the young master was brought back tied up, bringing substantial rewards, to the envy of many.

Originally, the young master was to be grounded for a long time, but with the sudden opening of the Constellation Palace, Jiu Yan had to let him out to see the world.

However, she followed. Being a Sun Blaze cultivator, she naturally couldn't enter the Constellation Palace and had to stay outside. This was why Chu Shen could contact her anytime.

Under normal circumstances, if cultivators are in different spaces, audio talismans cannot convey messages. However, the Constellation Palace was special. Cultivators inside could communicate with those outside via audio talismans.

Of course, if a cultivator entered a confrontation area, like the Melee Battle Meet, they wouldn't be able to contact the outside and could only communicate internally within the Melee Battle Meet premises.

Near the Qingli Palace, even if cultivators passed by, they stayed away out of respect for the Sun Blaze cultivator and out of their own caution.

If one accidentally breached the taboos of a Sun Blaze cultivator here, they might perish without knowing how or why.

A figure flew swiftly from the direction of the Constellation Palace, deftly landing at the palace gates, where a Divine Sea Realm maid was waiting. She respectfully greeted, "Young Master!"

Chu Shen nodded slightly and stepped inside, calling out, "Mother."

"Come in!" came Jiu Yan's voice from inside. Just from her voice, one wouldn't imagine her to be a Sun Blaze cultivator, as her voice sounded quite youthful.

This was natural for her. Although she was a Sun Blaze cultivator and could disguise her voice a bit, she never did so. If someone underestimated her due to her youthful voice, they would undoubtedly pay a terrible price.

Chu Shen entered the inner hall and finally saw Jiu Yan.

From appearance alone, Jiu Yan didn't seem like a Sun Blaze cultivator. Though dressed in a magnificent palace outfit with an extraordinary aura, her petite figure gave off a girl-next-door vibe.

Chu Shen came before Jiu Yan and smiled mischievously, "Mother, look at the treasure I've brought you!"

Jiu Yan couldn't help but tap his head, "You're in the Constellation Realm now; stop messing around all the time!"

"Got it!" Chu Shen pouted, irritated by his mother's lecturing, then produced an array disc like showing off a treasure, even adding sound effects with his mouth, looking quite pleased with himself.

"Is this the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc?" Jiu Yan's eyes lit up as she took the disc and carefully examined it.

"Exactly!" Chu Shen nodded solemnly, "With this array disc, even unfamiliar cultivators can easily connect energies and form an array!"

Jiu Yan injected some spirit force into it, and a mystical power spread out. She quickly found that, as Chu Shen said, her energy seamlessly connected with Chu Shen's, and she could even draw power from his side through the array disc.

Chu Shen's expression turned solemn, secretly amazed.

He knew his mother was very strong, but until now, he had no direct sense of how strong she was.

With the energies connected through the array disc, he vaguely felt the immensely terrifying and yet restrained power within Jiu Yan. Such power could easily undo him with just a slight fluctuation!

"He just gave this precious item to you?" Although Jiu Yan knew about the previous agreement between Chu Shen and Fa Wuzun, when Chu Shen actually brought the disc back, she could hardly believe it.

Are there truly such generous people in this world? Or is there an ulterior motive?

Chu Shen grinned proudly, "Leader Fa treats me like a brother. A treasure like this, while valuable, is nothing, really!"

Jiu Yan smiled faintly. Whether Fa Wuzun truly treated Chu Shen as a brother, she didn't know, but he was definitely a man of his word. Just for that alone, he was worth befriending. Yet caution was still wise. Chu Shen was young and inexperienced, having always been under her protection, unaware of the dark side of human nature. There were always those whose outward appearance did not match their true intentions.

"Mother, I've brought back the array disc, so the thing you promised..." Chu Shen looked at Jiu Yan eagerly, afraid she might back out. Otherwise, he could only cause a fuss, having no other options.

To his surprise, Jiu Yan nodded, "What I promised you will naturally be fulfilled. From now on, you can move freely within the All Phenomena Galaxy!"

Chu Shen was momentarily stunned, then overjoyed, and said gratefully, "Thank you, Mother, you're the best!"

"Enough with the flattery!" Jiu Yan glanced at him lightly. Although reluctant, she knew that Chu Shen was already a Constellation and couldn't always live under her protection. If Chu Shen lacked aptitude, she could take care of him, ensuring a safe life. However, Chu Shen's aptitude was excellent, and her excessive care and protection would only stifle his growth. Jiu Yan had been contemplating this flaw of hers recently, believing it was time to make some changes.

"Since you've decided to venture out, remember, you're no longer the young master of Cheling World, nor do you have a Sun Blaze mother. You are just an ordinary Constellation! Unless faced with life-threatening danger, do not mention my name!"

"Yes! I will never embarrass you, Mother!" Chu Shen was very excited, but soon his eyes began to flicker hesitantly.

Jiu Yan, seeing his expression, knew he was hiding something: "What else?"

Chu Shen grinned and said, "It's like this, Leader Fa decided to hold an auction in three days at Grand Hall 88!"

"An auction?" Jiu Yan frowned, "What is a Constellation Mid-Stage like him auctioning? What is he selling?" As soon as she spoke, she immediately realized it and raised the array disc in her hand.

Chu Shen nodded.

Jiu Yan was astonished: "He has more than one of these?"

"It seems so."

"How many does he have?"

"I don't know, and I haven't asked."

Jiu Yan pondered slightly and said slowly, "If that's the case, these items are probably not crafted by him?" Any treasure has an origin, unless naturally nurtured by heaven and earth, or it's a stellar space supreme treasure in gestation. The array disc in hand, although its crafting time couldn't be discerned, looked newly minted, suggesting it wasn't made long ago.

She had been considering whether it was possible for Fa Wuzun himself to have crafted these. If he had more than one array disc, then perhaps he did craft them himself.

This would undoubtedly be good news for her, because if a Constellation Mid-Stage like Fa Wuzun could craft it, it suggested that the crafting isn't too difficult. One just had to decipher the critical spirit runes. Not to mention a behemoth like the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, even in Cheling World, there were many such talents, so as long as the array disc was brought back, it could probably be deciphered.

Although it was unknown how many array discs Fa Wuzun had in hand, relying solely on his own power, he likely couldn't craft that many. The more miraculous the treasure, the harder it is to craft; that is common sense.

Nonetheless, Fa Wuzun holding an auction for these array discs was clearly an attempt to amass wealth, something that was understandable.

"He's holding an auction, what do you want to do?" Jiu Yan inquired.

"Leader Fa asked me to lend a hand." Chu Shen explained what Lu Ye had entrusted him with.

Jiu Yan listened and slightly nodded: "It's a small matter. Take my token and find someone from the All Phenomena Merchants Guild to muster the manpower!" Saying this, she handed him a jade token.

Even if Jiu Yan wasn't managing affairs in the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, as a Sun Blaze of this home galaxy, she had a standing there. Given her strength, mustering some manpower was naturally not a problem.

Chu Shen happily accepted it.

Jiu Yan further reminded, "Although I haven't seen this Fa Wuzun myself, just from your description, he seems to be extremely meticulous. If you wish to befriend him, learn from him; there's no harm in it. But if he has any flaws, make sure not to pick them up, or I'll break your leg!"

"Yes!" Chu Shen accepted the order solemnly, bid his mother farewell, and turned to reenter the Constellation Palace.

Jiu Yan paused in thought, sent out a few messages, and learned about the happenings in the Melee Battle Meet, realizing that Fa Wuzun had leveraged the meet to make the array disc famously known.

As a Sun Blaze, Jiu Yan's perspective and approach to matters differ from ordinary people, so she immediately deduced that all these actions were intentionally orchestrated by Fa Wuzun—all to prepare for the auction!

Now that everything was set, the auction three days hence would certainly be a bloodless battle. Though devoid of smoke, it would be extremely intense and fierce.

As the mother and son spoke, Lu Ye had already arrived at Grand Hall 88.

With the auction happening in three days, he intended to seize the opportunity to craft more array discs.

In his own plans, this was a one-time deal, not a long-term business, because aside from the Constellation Palace, further opportunities as good and suitable as this were hard to come by. Even if he were to craft more array discs in the future, selling them would be unlikely.

Moreover, once the array discs were purchased, cultivators from various influential forces would surely aim to crack their secrets. Even though he enhanced them with restriction locks to increase the difficulty of deciphering, preventing it completely was impossible and could only delay them for a while.

In other words, in the future, many will likely manage to craft the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc. Even with a low success rate, given sufficient manpower and time, they will eventually succeed in crafting them.

By then, he wouldn't have much of a competitive edge, so he was set on seizing the opportunity now to make a fortune in one go!

Chapter 1435 - Rest Assured, Little Brother Gets Things Done

The Grand Hall 88 was originally the most crowded hall, and today, upon arriving, Lu Ye noticed even more cultivators coming and going.

Moreover, what surprised Lu Ye was that many stalls were offering discounted sales, and the cultivators often only needed to pay eighty percent of the usual price to purchase their desired items.

Logically speaking, such a thing shouldn't happen, because the items sold in Grand Hall 88, whether elixir pills or talismans, are usually priced ten to twenty percent higher than over at the All Phenomena Ocean. That's because it takes time and manpower for merchants to deliver goods to the Constellation Palace. If cultivators want to buy something here without wasting time going back to the All Phenomena Ocean, they have to pay more.

But now many items were priced at only eighty percent of the normal price, naturally attracting countless cultivators to come and browse.

After a bit of thinking, Lu Ye understood the situation.

The news about the auction to be held three days later had been spread, and apparently, various factions were urgently raising spirit jade using this method, fearing they wouldn't have enough at hand to participate in the bidding when the time came.

For him, this was definitely a good thing.

Soon, he bought the sufficient amount of materials he needed, which were also discounted, with a discount as high as forty percent, invisibly saving him some spirit jade.

The Grand Hall 88 was too noisy, so Lu Ye selected a hall numbered over four thousand, which was indeed very quiet, with only a few hundred people inside, all counted.

Finding a corner to set up a formation to conceal himself, he condensed his doppelganger and began focusing entirely on crafting array discs.

Every array disc crafted now was as good as spirit jade!

Three days passed in a flash, and Lu Ye spent all those days crafting array discs, with both his true self and doppelganger in action, resulting in a stock of over a thousand pieces.

Checking the total number of stored array discs, Lu Ye felt it was about right.

Although he could have postponed the auction to allow for crafting more array discs, naturally, an auction shouldn't feature excessive quantities. Satisfying all the factions would mean no competition among them, and in that scenario, the value of the array discs might fall.

The current quantity was just about right, not enough to satisfy all factions, which would spark competition among them and maximize his own interests!

An audio talisman transmitted a message, it was from Chu Shen: "Big Brother, come quickly, everything is set up over here, just waiting for you!"

Lu Ye looked at the message from Chu Shen, a bit puzzled.

Set up? Set up what?

Previously, he and Chu Shen had discussed having him assist only in bidding on behalf of the Cheling World, to raise prices. Although Lu Ye wasn't worried about the array discs not selling, he needed the prices to meet his expectations!

He didn't ask him to set anything up.

This was a small matter, and Chu Shen naturally agreed readily at that time.

Out of curiosity, Lu Ye prepared to head to Grand Hall 88, but after a moment, he frowned, as he found... he couldn't get in!

The appearance of such a situation indicated only one possibility.

Grand Hall 88 was overcrowded!

He sent a message to Chu Shen about it, and Chu Shen immediately replied: "Big Brother, keep trying, I'll think of something over here."

If the organizer of the auction can't even get into the venue, how could the auction proceed? It would be a joke, but resolving it was simple: just have some cultivators leave, making room.

Those who came to participate in this auction were guilds with roots in major star systems, nearly representing a top-level domain or an entire star system, collectively wielding considerable power. Whether through coercion or enticing, dispersing some cultivators wasn't difficult.

Chu Shen communicated Lu Ye's situation, and the leaders of various merchant guilds immediately took action.

Soon after, Lu Ye, who had been trying repeatedly, saw his view blur and entered Grand Hall 88, bombarded by chaotic sounds and hemmed in by a sea of people...

This was truly a crowding beyond measure, with scarcely any room to place one's feet.

Such a grand scene was something Lu Ye hadn't anticipated. He had underestimated human curiosity; even the Constellation Realm cultivators enjoyed a lively spectacle, especially one so rare in a millennium.

It was evident that the majority of cultivators gathered here came just to see the excitement, with only a small portion truly here to participate in the bidding.

In a proper auction, the hosting faction would naturally employ some methods to restrict idle spectators, yet this was a hall of the Constellation Palace, where anyone could enter.

Flying was impossible within the hall, nor could one rise above the ground, so cultivators could only stand obediently. Lu Ye turned his head, immediately pinpointing the direction he needed to go.

Because everyone's gaze was fixed in one direction, that must be where he needed to head.

He pushed his way forward, causing many to glare at him, but once they saw his face, someone greeted him politely, "Fellow Daoist Fa!"

Everyone knew that he was the initiator of this auction. If it were someone else squeezing through the crowd, it would be considered rude, but since it was Fa Wuzun, it was understandable. He had to preside over the auction; if he didn't make it there, there would be no spectacle to enjoy!

Lu Ye made his way forward, greeted constantly by people along the way. After his battle at the Melee Battle Meet, Fa Wuzun had completely made a name for himself, and many wanted to take this opportunity to become acquainted.

As he walked, Lu Ye suddenly turned his head to glance at a middle-aged man, imprinting the man's features in his mind. The man smiled at him slightly as they brushed past one another.

In that brief moment, the middle-aged man seemed to inadvertently brush against him...

In such a crowded place, with Lu Ye forcing his way forward, some physical contact was normal. However, what was odd was that Lu Ye felt a reaction from his Talent Tree!

Thus, he was certain that the middle-aged man had done something to him.

It was highly possible that it was some tracking secret technique or treasure, aiming to pinpoint his exact location.

Inside the Constellation Palace, those who had designs on him could do nothing, but the Constellation Palace would eventually close. Planting some unknown means now would make it easier to track him later.

Lu Ye was unsure of what the man had done, but what piqued his curiosity was how he had done it, for no one could physically attack others within the Constellation Palace, as it was against the rules.

Or perhaps, the method he used did not technically count as a direct attack, thus not violating the Constellation Palace's rules?

As he continued on his way, there were several odd reactions from his Talent Tree, all occurring during moments of physical contact!

Lu Ye silently memorized the faces of those suspicious individuals.

After much effort, he finally reached the front of the crowd and, upon raising his eyes, was met with a peculiar sight.

At some unknown point, a large round platform had appeared here, covered with a red carpet and lavishly decorated. A group of people stood at intervals around the platform, seemingly in a protective stance.

Chu Shen stood on the platform, scanning the surroundings. When he spotted Lu Ye, he waved warmly, "Elder brother, over here!"

Lu Ye jumped onto the platform, and Chu Shen approached, beaming with a smile, "Elder brother, these are all arranged by little brother; are you satisfied?"

Lu Ye glanced around, noting that close to the platform, there were many cultivators seated, each with a chair, surrounding the platform like stars surrounding the moon. Behind these seated cultivators were more onlookers, who were all standing.

"These Fellow Daoists are all here to participate in the bidding. I've already verified their credentials, so you can rest assured, elder brother. Additionally, these people are drawn from the All Phenomena Merchants Guild and are temporarily under my command. The conditions are simple, so this is the best we can do."

Lu Ye had initially thought that hosting an auction wouldn't be too complicated, as long as the bidders were gathered, and he simply brought out the array disc for everyone to bid up.

But now it seemed he had underestimated the situation, especially the influx of people once news spread.

With Chu Shen's arrangements, all these issues were resolved. The bidders were placed in the front for easy quoting, while the onlookers stayed in the back, not interfering with anything.

"Thoughtful indeed!" Lu Ye nodded.

Chu Shen chuckled, "Rest assured, little brother will handle this! Now, elder brother, shall we begin? If you trust me, how about I host the auction?" He seemed to enjoy such lively scenes.

Lu Ye nodded, "No problem!"

He wasn't particularly comfortable with such settings, making Chu Shen's volunteering quite welcome.

While speaking, he handed over a prepared storage ring to Chu Shen, whispering some reminders. Chu Shen nodded repeatedly.

Soon after, under the watchful eyes of all, Chu Shen lightly cleared his throat, raised his hands slightly, and pressed downwards, "Please be silent!"

Surprisingly, the cultivators complied, and as his words fell, the once noisy grand hall instantly quieted down.

Chu Shen spoke again, "Today, many Fellow Daoists have gathered here for an obvious reason, which need not be elaborated. Today's auction will be hosted by me, Chu Shen, and I hope all Fellow Daoists will support it enthusiastically!"

Without further ado, he held up the storage ring in his hand, immediately drawing everyone's attention, "Inside this storage ring are one hundred As-Close-As-Siblings Array Discs... with no base price. Those interested please place your bids!"

The previously quiet grand hall erupted into an uproar, especially the cultivators seated around the platform prepared to bid, each one showing a look of astonishment.

Everyone knew Fa Wuzun had more array discs, but no one knew how many. They had assumed he could have, at most, a handful left, considering the miraculous effects and the certainty of the difficulty in crafting such items, even if he could make them himself, he surely couldn't produce many.

This was why they had spent the last three days frantically gathering spirit jade, fearing they wouldn't have enough and would miss this opportunity.

Who would have thought, at the onset of the auction, that there would be a hundred of them!

Chapter 1436 - Auction House

Not only were the participating cultivators shocked, but even Chu Shen was momentarily dazed when he heard Lu Ye mention there were a hundred array discs in the storage ring.

The wonder of the array discs was something he had personally experienced. If there were a hundred of such items, what tremendous enhancement could they bring to a particular faction?

A hundred array discs represent a hundred arrays, and if five Constellation Late Stage cultivators were to join forces, they could easily stand against an average Moon Jade.

In other words, each array disc signifies that a faction can gain an additional warrior with Moon Jade level combat power!

Of course, no faction can have too many Constellation Late Stage cultivators. The enhancement brought by array discs has its limits, but the boost is extremely convenient and swift. It is no exaggeration to say that any faction obtaining these hundred array discs could raise their overall power below the Moon Jade by at least thirty percent!

Such an increase is utterly terrifying.

And if there are a hundred, could there be two hundred, three hundred?

The leaders of the various factions participating in the auction initially thought Fa Wuzun would bring out at most three to five array discs. If that were the case, there would undoubtedly be fierce competition, and each piece would be worth a fortune.

But the number of a hundred truly disrupted everyone's thoughts, leading to an unprecedented silence at the large auction site with no one bidding!

After a moment of silence, an elderly man finally spoke: "Fellow Daoist Fa Wuzun, may I ask the total quantity of these array discs?"

If they could know the total number of array discs, it would make it easier for them to bid. If the quantity were small, they would bid more fiercely; if larger, bids would be more measured, ensuring everyone benefits without causing mutual embarrassment.

On the round stage, Lu Ye lowered his eyes slightly, saying nothing, as if he hadn't heard.

He naturally understood the old man's intention, but as one of the sellers, how could he reveal his hand?

However, Chu Shen smiled slightly: "I cannot disclose the total amount, but I can provide you with a definite piece of information: the array discs' number is absolutely insufficient for all the factions here to divide among themselves! Another point is that the starting price for the next batch of array discs will be the second-highest price of the previous batch after it's sold. Therefore, Fellow Daoists who want to acquire array discs must act quickly, as these things only get more expensive!"

The auction rules were set by Lu Ye; he had just transmitted them to Chu Shen. The reason for such a rule wasn't to prevent the factions from colluding...

There are at least eight hundred participating factions from various races. How could they collude? This rule simply favors driving up the price of array discs, and those who act early indeed have an advantage, making it easier to stimulate the competition among the cultivators.

Yet, the leaders of the various factions remained skeptical because the quantity of array discs exceeded their expectations and imaginations, making them even more cautious.

What if they spent a fortune on buying back array discs only to find they weren't what they saw? That would be immensely embarrassing!

The elderly man spoke again: "I wish to verify the authenticity of these array discs. Would it be convenient?"

Chu Shen turned to look at Lu Ye, who gave a barely perceptible nod.

Chu Shen immediately said: "Certainly, there is no inconvenience. During each subsequent auction, any Fellow Daoist with doubts about the array discs can request to examine them." Saying this, he used his spirit force to bring forth over a hundred nearly identical array discs before him.

Chu Shen didn't hand the array discs to others for inspection; if someone took them and ran, he wouldn't be able to retrieve them. Maintaining control was undoubtedly better.

He looked at the elderly man: "Please feel free to select an array disc at your leisure, and I will activate its power to give everyone a sense!"

The elderly man indeed randomly chose one, and Chu Shen picked it up, jumped off the high platform into the crowd, and slightly activated the array disc's power.

In an instant, within the area enveloped by the array disc, many cultivators sensed the wonder of this object.

Previously, they had only perceived the array disc's magic by immersing their minds watching Fa Wuzun's confrontation with others. Experiencing it firsthand was undoubtedly more genuine, and they were increasingly convinced that the array disc was a rare treasure!

Chu Shen returned to the platform, raised the ring in his hand, and spoke again: "A hundred array discs, no reserve price, Fellow Daoists who want them can bid now!"

As soon as he finished speaking, a cultivator shouted, "Two hundred thousand!"

A hundred discs for two hundred thousand, roughly two thousand spirit jade per disc! This was far from their originally expected price!

Chu Shen instantly turned towards the sound, smiling slightly: "This handsome Fellow Daoist bid two hundred thousand!"

"Two hundred and twenty thousand!"

"Two hundred and fifty thousand!"

"Two hundred and eighty thousand!"

Voices from different corners instantly chimed in.

In just a few breaths, the price exceeded four hundred thousand.

A moment later, it reached over five hundred thousand.

Lu Ye's lowered eyelids slightly fluttered open. He realized that the array disc could potentially bring him more profit than he initially imagined.

He originally estimated that each array disc could bring him five thousand spirit jade, which was already good enough. However, the very first set had already hit the target, and going forward, it would only get higher. Of course, even if it was high, it wouldn't go much higher. The cultivators all had a scale in their hearts. They might not be able to truly connect, but having been in business for a long time, they all had standards for the value of things and wouldn't make blind bids.

The one who bid fifty thousand was none other than one of the heads of the All Phenomena Merchants Guild!

He hadn't spoken before, but as he did, the other voices subsided, clearly intending to give face to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild. After all, no matter which Star System's guild it is, they all make their living in the All Phenomena Ocean, and offending the All Phenomena Merchants Guild was not profitable.

"Fifty thousand, is there a higher bid?" Chu Shen asked with a smile, repeating the question twice and seeing no response. "If not, Cheling World bids sixty thousand!"

He clearly hadn't forgotten the promise to help Lu Ye raise the price.

The group of cultivators participating in the auction were dumbfounded.

The one hosting the auction was also participating in it, something unheard of, akin to a person in a wrestling match being both a contestant and a referee.

Chu Shen looked as if it were the most natural thing: "I'm here representing Cheling World. Any problem with that?"

The head of the All Phenomena Merchants Guild felt a headache. He never thought he would be stabbed in the back just as they were opening the doors to success.

But he had heard of Chu Shen, knowing that this man was spoiled by Jiu Yan. Indulging a bit at this moment was not entirely unreasonable.

Moreover, for a behemoth like the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, there wasn't much of a difference between fifty thousand and sixty thousand. As long as he could get those hundred array discs, the task would be completed.

He saw that Chu Shen was helping raise the price, so he followed up: "Sixty thousand and one piece!"

Chu Shen immediately looked at him with a laugh, not waiting any longer, decisively saying: "Deal! Congratulations to this Fellow Daoist from the All Phenomena Merchants Guild for winning the first batch of a hundred array discs! Such a divine object, averaging just six thousand spirit jade per piece, Fellow Daoist, you've made a big profit!"

The head of the All Phenomena Merchants Guild leisurely stepped forward, said nothing, took the storage ring from Chu Shen's hand, handed over the sufficient amount of spirit jade, and immediately exited the grand hall.

He had to quickly return the array discs to the All Phenomena Ocean, hand them over to experts for cracking and research. The sooner they understood it, the sooner they could be mass-produced. Sixty thousand spirit jade was just the cost; once fully grasped, the profits that would be brought to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild would be a thousandfold or ten thousandfold!

Inside the grand hall, the cultivators participating in the auction calculated alongside Chu Shen's words, averaging only a few thousand spirit jade per array disc, indeed dirt cheap. Considering that almost everyone had amassed at least a few hundred thousand spirit jade, many had gathered over a million, originally planning to buy just one array disc, and now they could purchase a hundred at once. It seemed like a huge gain for them?

By now, Chu Shen had already received the second storage ring from Lu Ye and handed the spirit jade to Lu Ye, then returned to his previous position, raised the storage ring, and said: "The second batch of a hundred array discs, starting bid is sixty thousand spirit jade!"

Just as he finished speaking, someone immediately followed up.

In a very short time, the price rose to seventy thousand, pressing onwards to eighty thousand!

Lu Ye was holding the storage ring filled with spirit jade, his expression somewhat dazed. He thought back to the initial period when he first came to the All Phenomena Ocean, toiling hard on Angling Island for over half a year, and only managed to earn a bit over thirty thousand spirit jade. Now he instantly had sixty thousand...

And this was just the beginning!

Lu Ye finally experienced what it means to get rich overnight. Indeed, without unexpected windfalls, one doesn't become fat.

Suddenly, he looked up, glanced at one of the bidding cultivators, and said: "No need for Insect Race to bid, I'm not selling the array discs to you!"

The buzzing bids stopped immediately.

The Insect Race cultivator was stunned, then furious: "Why don't you sell to me? It's not like I can't afford the spirit jade!"

Lu Ye remained silent, just coldly staring at him.

Although he intended to profit from the array discs, he didn't particularly mind who won them, but the Insect Race was a big no. He had never harbored any goodwill towards that race.

The Insect Race cultivator was even angrier: "I'll pay one hundred and twenty thousand spirit jade!"

He suddenly bumped the price of the spirit jade tens of thousands higher, and it was probably the highest he could offer. Mainly, the time was limited; Lu Ye only gave three days. Otherwise, he could have gathered more spirit jade.

Hearing this made many cultivators tense, fearing Lu Ye would agree, and if so, there would be fewer array discs available for bidding.

Fortunately, Lu Ye wasn't swayed: "I said no sale, and that applies to the Blood Race too." He turned to glance in another direction: "You also don't need to bid!"

Then he looked in a third direction: "And you!"

This group wasn't Blood Race or Insect Race cultivators but genuine human race cultivators. However, this guy had secretly applied some means to Lu Ye, which was dissolved by the Talent Tree.

If they were secretly doing tricks, they were lucky to have the Talent Tree. Without it, if Lu Ye's whereabouts were exposed, he wouldn't even know how it happened. At that point, the situation would be dire.

Chapter 1437 - Overnight Riches

If someone wanted to do him harm, Lu Ye would naturally not be polite. If it weren't forbidden to fight within the Constellation Palace, he would have already drawn his sword and spilled blood!

The human race cultivator, not knowing which Star System's merchants guild he was in charge of, wanted to be defiant. But under Lu Ye's cold gaze, he still acknowledged his own fault. It was fine if some things he did secretly went undiscovered, but since he was caught, he couldn't blame Fa Wuzun for not selling him the array disc.

His expression unhappy, he let out a cold snort, and his figure disappeared.

Many people revealed thoughtful expressions. Although they didn't know why Lu Ye targeted another human race cultivator after targeting the Insect Race and Blood Race, they could guess that he might have been caught doing something underhanded by Fa Wuzun.

After the human race cultivator retreated, the cultivators of the Insect Race and Blood Race followed suit, but they all left harsh words, telling Fa Wuzun to be careful in the future and so on.

Lu Ye just regarded their words as empty threats!

The auction hall was filled with cheers, especially from those merely there to enjoy the spectacle, who shouted the loudest.

Originally, they had no special opinion of Fa Wuzun, only knowing of his great power and that he made a fortune with a special kind of array disc. But after Lu Ye expelled the Blood Race and Insect Race cultivators, many developed a soft spot for Fa Wuzun.

The Insect Race and Blood Race had terrible reputations in stellar space, with grudges against many other races. These two races, sharing a similar stench, acted in collusion, and with considerable strength, no one had really found a good way to deal with them.

In this situation, Fa Wuzun, by not compromising with these two races for immediate benefits, naturally evoked resonance from some people.

The auction continued, with the final bid for the second array disc stopping at 800,000 spirit jades, a full 200,000 more than the first.

This was normal. For the first array disc, people were giving face to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, not raising its price. But for the second, such considerations were unnecessary.

Of course, no one would keep raising the price indefinitely, because everyone knew that more array discs were to come, and the only concern was not knowing the total number available.

Chu Shen started the third auction, still 100 array discs each, and the bids were noticeably sparser than before. After all, the 800,000 price tag had already rendered most guild heads powerless, and those capable of bidding adhered to a principle of not driving the price too high, lest it set a precedent for even higher future prices.

Therefore, from the third array disc onward, prices were often settled after just two or three bids.

At this moment, speed in bidding was crucial; at the same price, the fastest bidder was most likely to win.

Ten sets, twenty sets, thirty sets, fifty sets...

The array discs seemed to flow endlessly from Lu Ye, and Chu Shen's smile had become stiff. Yet, regardless of how many sets were auctioned, the atmosphere never went cold.

There were too many forces involved in this auction. If it were individuals, they might hesitate before shelling out tens of thousands of spirit jades, but for merchants backed by an entire Star System, although tens of thousands were a lot, it wasn't excessive.

However, as more array discs were auction'd, the guild heads' competitive spirits waned, so overall, the price increase wasn't significant. Several times, the auction price was even lower than the previous set.

Chu Shen remained earnest in his duties, seldom speaking beyond announcing bids, letting the guild heads compete among themselves.

But at this moment, he showed a smile and said slowly, "Just so everyone knows, we've only prepared a total of a hundred sets of array discs for this auction. This is the ninety-first set, so any Fellow Daoist who still wants an array disc should exert more effort!"

As soon as he spoke, the guild heads who had not yet succeeded became serious!

Previously, the endless supply from Fa Wuzun gave everyone the illusion that there was an inexhaustible supply, but now they suddenly recalled what Chu Shen had said at the beginning — the total number of array discs was not enough to distribute among the present forces.

Only ten sets remaining!

Many immediately regretted not persevering to increase their bids earlier. Several auctions had concluded with just the starting bid. Now Chu Shen's revelation about the remaining quantity clearly aimed to pressure them into a bidding war!

Even knowing this, they had no choice but to comply.

Chu Shen isn't decent, and neither is Fa Wuzun — this is an evident manipulation of human nature.

As expected, the bidding for the ninety-first set was much more fierce and brutal than before; the ninetieth set's final price was around 1.1 million, but following the earlier trend, despite expectations that it might rise slightly by a few thousand or ten thousand spirit jades, it soared to 1.3 million quickly this time.

Chu Shen beamed with pride. While those spirit jades wouldn't go into his own pocket, he would be able to boast having hosted a wildly successful auction potentially worthy of the history books, and such participation was a rare opportunity.

Suddenly, he looked toward a bidding cultivator and said, "Calm down, Fellow Daoist. It's not good to make random bids. If I recall correctly, you only brought 750,000 spirit jades!"

Previously, Chu Shen had verified the assets of each bidding cultivator and remembered their capacities well.

The cultivator addressed said, "Don't worry, Fellow Daoist Chu. Since I've bid this amount, I can naturally pay the spirit jades!"

Chu Shen pondered briefly, understanding the situation.

This cultivator indeed brought only 750,000 spirit jades but could join hands with others. After all, an array disc comprised a hundred pieces, so they could divide them according to a prearranged proportion after the auction.

Nodding slightly, "The fault is mine, Fellow Daoist, please do not blame me. Everyone, please proceed!"

The final price for the ninety-first array disc was slightly less than 1.4 million.

The auction for the ninety-second array disc quickly began, with bids continuing to come in.

The ninety-third one...

Until the very last, the hundredth one!

As the final array disc was handed over, Lu Ye collected the spirit jade and decisively left, while Chu Shen stayed behind to say a few closing words before also quickly disappearing.

The spectators gradually dispersed, with someone silently calculating the number of spirit jades Fa Wuzun had gained this time, leaving them in awe!

This is true wealth accumulation; even All Phenomena Merchants Guild would not have the ability to amass such a fortune in such a short time.

With such a vast amount of spirit jade in hand, Fa Wuzun would never have to worry about his future cultivation, not even in several lifetimes.

Truly enviable.

In a large hall with a number starting with four thousand, Lu Ye sat quietly in a corner, waiting.

Before long, Chu Shen arrived, naturally because Lu Ye had sent word for him to come.

Seeing Lu Ye's current appearance, Chu Shen couldn't help but chuckle, as Leader Fa was wearing a hooded trench coat, with the hood covering his head, slightly lowered. If one didn't look closely, they really couldn't see his face clearly.

Chu Shen knew why Leader Fa was doing this, as it's said people fear fame as pigs fear fattening. Fa Wuzun had first shone brightly at the Melee Battle Meet, and now had gathered such a huge fortune, that it's feared no cultivator from the Constellation Palace doesn't know of him.

By slightly concealing his whereabouts, he could also avoid some trouble.

"Big brother!" Chu Shen greeted enthusiastically, sitting cross-legged in front of Lu Ye, chuckling, "How did I do as a host, not too bad, right?"

Although it was his first time and somewhat raw, there were no major errors overall, and he completely had control over the auction's rhythm, feeling proud in his heart for not messing up Leader Fa's entrusted matter.

"Very good!" Lu Ye nodded slightly, taking out a storage ring and handing it over.

Chu Shen looked at it but didn't take it: "What's this for, big brother?"

"An appreciation token." Lu Ye gestured with the ring, "Not much, but take it, a small token of thought!"

After a brief thought, Chu Shen smiled, reaching out to take it, saying, "Since it's given by big brother, I won't decline. If big brother needs anything in the future, just call me at any time!"

Lu Ye nodded slightly, admittedly, Chu Shen had indeed been a great help this time, and given Chu Shen's special identity, it'd be convenient in the future to have him help with anything that Lu Ye might not be available for.

Chu Shen left, and only after reaching another large hall did he check the number of spirit jades in the storage ring.

Upon seeing, he silently clicked his tongue.

Leader Fa's so-called small token of thought was actually a staggering fifty thousand spirit jades!

Of course, compared to Leader Fa's total gains this time, this really was nothing, yet fifty thousand spirit jades is an amount that an average cultivator might struggle to gather in a lifetime.

Even though he was a young noble of Cheling World, and usually didn't lack spending money, he'd never had so many spirit jades, silently praising Leader Fa's generosity in his heart, feeling delighted.

Meanwhile, under the concealment of formations, Lu Ye was examining a pile of storage rings in front of him.

He struck it rich!

This time he truly struck it rich!

Each storage ring contained at least sixty thousand spirit jades, totaling around eleven million altogether, more than double his initial expected gains.

So giving Chu Shen fifty thousand as appreciation really is nothing.

Others had painstakingly arranged the auction and personally helped him auction, yet didn't mention anything about asking for a reward, Lu Ye couldn't overlook that.

Moreover, when the first array disc was auctioned, Chu Shen also helped by boosting the price by ten thousand spirit jades.

Don't underestimate these mere ten thousand. Because of the pre-established auction rules, the first one was raised by ten thousand, which meant every subsequent one was also raised by ten thousand!

Of course, the facts might not be that exaggerated, but Chu Shen's single price boost at least earned Lu Ye an extra one to two million spirit jades!

Chapter 1438 - Shameless Specter

One hundred array discs were auctioned off, and in exchange, Lu Ye received a hundred storage rings. With so many storage rings, it was inconvenient for Lu Ye to carry them all, so he had to rearrange things.

First, he transferred some spirit jades from the storage rings into the storage space of the rune tattoo on the back of his hand, but he couldn't fit much, and he had to leave some space for emergencies.

Continuing to shuffle things around, Lu Ye soon found himself faced with a dilemma, staring at the ten or so storage rings in front of him.

He never thought that one day he would be troubled by having too much wealth; this was truly a happy problem.

Cultivators typically don't carry too many storage rings while traveling; like himself, he only had three, all worn on his left hand since his right hand was to wield a knife in combat. It's not very convenient.

Some cultivators may carry more, but not too many.

Wondering how to deal with these ten or so storage rings filled with spirit jades, Lu Ye couldn't help but feel a headache. He couldn't wear them all on his hands; that would be absurd, and there weren't enough fingers for them anyway.

Thinking it over, he rummaged through one of his storage rings and found a thin string. It was a spirit treasure, but Lu Ye wasn't clear about its specific effects; it was just another trophy he had acquired who knows when.

Using this thin string, he tied the storage rings together and hung them around his neck.

He felt slightly uncomfortable, constantly sensing something pressing against his chest, so he took it off and wrapped it around his waist, feeling much better.

Thinking it over, he dispersed the Thousand Faces Spirit Runes he had been maintaining and restored his original appearance.

Lu Ye planned to make another trip to Grand Hall 88; with so many spirit jades in hand, he needed to spend some.

He intended to select some fire-type treasures for the Talent Tree to devour so that once the Constellation Palace closed, he could return to the All Phenomena Ocean and cultivate without restraint, hoping to advance to the Constellation Late Stage as soon as possible.

Although he knew for a long time that the Constellation Realm was the starting point for entering stellar space, to be honest, he hadn't felt much of it until now.

It wasn't until he came to this All Phenomena Galaxy!

In stellar space, the number of Constellation Realm cultivators was enormous. A cultivator from a distant domain like Lu Ye, without any backing or background, found Constellation Realm strength inadequate. He may be able to dominate in the Constellation Palace, but that's only because his opponents are also at the Constellation level.

But walking in the stellar space, one may not only encounter Constellations but also Moon Jade or Sun Blaze. If faced with unreasonable Moon Jade or Sun Blaze, he might not even know how he died.

He couldn't always rely on the red talisman, and he only had one left.

The higher the cultivation, the more he craved powerful strength. Only by reaching the Moon Jade Realm as soon as possible in this vast universe would he have the means to protect himself.

He had unique advantages in cultivation; as long as he was willing to spend, and for him, the Talent Tree only needed sufficient fuel reserves, the All Phenomena Ocean was undoubtedly the best place to cultivate.

Returning to Grand Hall 88, Lu Ye felt relaxed; without having to keep Fa Wuzun's face, he naturally didn't have to worry about being targeted.

The auction had ended, but this place was still crowded, with cultivators discussing the previous auction's excitement, everyone expressing amazement.

Lu Ye passed stall after stall, buying any fire-type treasure that the Talent Tree could devour. Even though the prices of goods here had returned to their original levels, slightly more expensive than over at the All Phenomena Ocean, Lu Ye, now wealthy, didn't mind this loss.

Moreover, this place gathered so many merchants and stalls, making it much more convenient than searching for fire-type treasures at the flea market on All Phenomena Island.

He browsed for three consecutive days, visiting every stall, spending nearly ten million spirit jades, and collected a heap of various fire-type treasures!

He wasn't in a rush to refine and devour them since the Talent Tree's fuel reserves were still rich, so Lu Ye naturally didn't want to waste time on this matter.

However, he soon realized a somewhat awkward problem.

Originally, he came to buy things intending to spend some spirit jades to reduce the number of storage rings he had, but after buying, while the spirit jades were spent, the number of storage rings seemed to... increase!

Things didn't go as planned.

No longer lingering there, Lu Ye went to another hall and glanced at the Cumulated Points Ranking.

Before the Melee Battle Meet, his ranking was beyond three hundred on the Cumulated Points Ranking, but afterward, he charged back into the top ten, ranking eighth. It's fair to say that the Melee Battle Meet not only brought him immense mystic light but also incredibly rich cumulated points.

But after being delayed for three days, he had dropped to beyond seventieth place.

Since the Constellation Palace opened, it had been two months, and according to the intelligence he previously received, there was about one or two months left before the Constellation Palace closed. When the last half-month arrives, typical cultivators' journeys in the Constellation Palace conclude, and they naturally return to where they came from.

Only cultivators who remain on the Cumulated Points Ranking need to participate in the final half-month of fighting.

This is the final Ranking Battle!

During this half-month, cultivators on the Cumulated Points Ranking with lower rankings can challenge those with higher rankings. Winning doesn't immediately replace the opponent's rank but depends on their performance during the contest; the victor will take a certain amount of cumulated points from the loser.

Thus, the stronger you are, the more cumulated points you can obtain.

That's why Lu Ye never paid much attention to his ranking on the Cumulated Points Ranking, because he only needed to ensure his presence on the ranking itself. When the Ranking Battle starts, he can continuously challenge cultivators ranked ahead of him until he claims the top cumulated points!

Regarding this, he felt somewhat confident; what he needed to be cautious of were some treasures with peculiar and rare effects.

However, the battle to finalize the ranking has yet to begin. With nothing else to do, I might as well continue participating in the Constellation Palace's competitions. Regardless, the rewards of mystic light I get from every victory are real, exceedingly pure stellar space energy that any cultivator can freely absorb.

Just as Lu Ye was about to go through a portal to participate in the competition, his audio talisman suddenly vibrated.

Chu Shen sent a message: "Big brother, that Ghost Cultivator who's been following you during the Melee Battle Meet is looking for you!"

Chu Shen was undoubtedly referring to that specter fellow.

With this woman, Lu Ye was also at a loss. During the previous Melee Battle Meet, she robbed him of quite a few gains, and in the end, she even tricked him.

But admittedly, this woman is quite capable, and her ranking on the Cumulated Points Ranking isn't bad right now either.

"What does she want?" Lu Ye asked.

The specter had no interaction with Fa Wuzun before the Melee Battle Meet, but she was acquainted with Li Taibai, so there was a slight connection between them.

Lu Ye wondered why she was looking for him.

"She says she has a business proposal for you. If big brother isn't interested, I'll just turn her down."

Undoubtedly, the specter wanted to contact Lu Ye directly, but unfortunately, she couldn't find his whereabouts and happened to come across Chu Shen, so she asked him to pass the message.

Lu Ye had just received over a hundred million spirit jade and casually spent ten million in one go, as if money was no object. He wasn't interested in doing business with the specter, whom he remembered as a pauper.

Though, now she might not be anymore; she got a substantial amount of loot during the Melee Battle Meet.

However, after a brief consideration, Lu Ye found that there were indeed some things on the specter that intrigued him: "Where is she?"

Chu Shen reported a number.

When Lu Ye arrived, he found not only Chu Shen and the specter standing there but also an acquaintance.

Piao Ke!

To be honest, Lu Ye felt he'd always underestimated Piao Ke a bit because this person gave off an air of frivolity. Besides being interested in fishing and beautiful female cultivators, all he seemed to do was drink; it seemed like he never cultivated and had a somewhat aimless air.

But as it turns out, not only was the specter named on the Cumulated Points Ranking, but so was Piao Ke, and his ranking was even higher than the specter's.

Lu Ye vaguely felt that Piao Ke must hail from some major power, which is why he didn't lack for anything.

This was interesting, two people named on the Cumulated Points Ranking had gathered together and sought him out, yet he didn't know what they wanted.

"Big brother!" Seeing Lu Ye arrive, Chu Shen quickly greeted him.

Lu Ye was currently wearing the face of Fa Wuzun. He stepped forward and coldly stared at the specter, then took out an object and threw it at her.

It was the garbage ore that the specter had swapped out previously.

The specter caught it casually, her eyes crinkling into a smile: "Thank you, Fellow Daoist, for the gift!"

She acted as if she was shameless, then happily stored the garbage ore into her storage ring. For her, even if it only sold for a few pieces of spirit jade, it was still good stuff.

Chu Shen sensed that the atmosphere wasn't right and quickly took his leave: "You all chat; I'll be going ahead!"

He disappeared in an instant.

"What business?" Lu Ye asked.

The specter's expression relaxed, looking somewhat serious: "Good business!"

Lu Ye turned to leave.

The specter hurriedly stepped forward and grabbed his sleeve: "Don't go; it's really good business, or else I wouldn't have asked someone to call you over."

Lu Ye stopped in his tracks, frowning: "There's no connection between you and me; we only met a few times during the Melee Battle Meet. If it's good business, why call me?"

The specter replied, "I naturally value Fellow Daoist's strength! Fellow Daoist swept through the Melee Battle Meet, which left me in awe. If it weren't for the fact you had four beautiful companions at the time, I might have asked you to take me in too."

"If you say one more word of nonsense, I'm leaving!" Lu Ye was a bit impatient. If it wasn't for Piao Ke also being there and his interest in certain things from the specter, he really didn't want to get involved with this woman.

Such a pauper, and also a Ghost Cultivator, nothing good could come from getting involved.

"Alright then, it's mainly that I want to borrow the power of your array disc!" The specter finally spoke the truth upon seeing Lu Ye's stern expression.

The As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc is incredibly useful. Fa Wuzun, with four Constellation Early Stage companions, swept through the Melee Battle Meet. If the three of them, all named on the Cumulated Points Ranking, teamed up, they'd be even stronger!

The specter had some affairs to deal with and needed the power of the array disc to accomplish them.

Chapter 1439 - What Do You Take Me For!

The fame of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc is skyrocketing, but every disc that appears at auctions is fought over by major powers, all taken away for research in attempts to decipher them.

The specter has no means to obtain one, so after much thought, she can only look to Fa Wuzun for help.

However, she is not sure if she can convince this god of wealth, because she doesn't know what to offer in return. After a chance encounter with Chu Shen, she approached with a mindset of hoping for the best in a desperate situation, and unexpectedly, Fa Wuzun was willing to give face.

She immediately understood that there was a very high chance of success, but she still didn't know what conditions Fa Wuzun might ask for.

Hearing that she wanted to borrow the power of the array disc, Lu Ye's eyes narrowed slightly.

The information implied in those words was not insignificant.

You need to know, all three present are named in the Cumulated Points Ranking, and in terms of personal strength, they are top-tier among the Constellation level. If they truly join forces using the array disc, they might even contend with a usual Moon Jade!

What could be happening with the specter that requires the three of them to join forces?

Lu Ye immediately thought of a possibility: "Do you have an exclusive scene?"

Sipping his drink quietly at the side, Piao Ke looked at Lu Ye in surprise, seemingly astonished at his quick thinking, because the specter only mentioned the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc, and yet Fa Wuzun had already guessed it. This speed of thought was remarkable.

The specter also looked astonished, but since Lu Ye had pointed it out, she did not hide it: "Yes!"

Lu Ye suddenly understood why this woman wanted to borrow the power of the array disc. If it was an exclusive scene, then it made sense.

The so-called exclusive scene is actually a type of scene in the Star Temple Battle, only unlike other forms, once a cultivator enters this scene, there's usually no need to outwit and outfight other Constellations, because in most cases, other cultivators cannot enter a cultivator's exclusive scene.

This is also the origin of the term "exclusive."

In such scenes, sometimes there's no need to fight; just solving various puzzles might be sufficient. Of course, there are times when fighting is necessary, and the specter undoubtedly encountered such a situation, where the enemy is bound to be strong -- too strong for her alone to handle, hence seeking help.

This is the special nature of the exclusive scene. In other scenes, once a cultivator exits, the battle ends, but an exclusive scene is different. Even if you exit, you can enter again next time, though there's a limit to the number of entries, and perhaps a time limit on the existence of the exclusive scene.

Having participated in the Star Temple Battle for so long, Lu Ye had heard of exclusive scenes but knew the chances of encountering one were incredibly low, maybe one in a million. He had never encountered one before, but unexpectedly, the specter had.

This woman's luck is truly something.

Because, as Lu Ye knows, it's quite easy to find some valuable treasures within an exclusive scene; often, an exclusive scene is essentially a treasure hunt.

"What's the strength of the enemy?" Lu Ye asked.

If the specter mentioned anything about Moon Jade strength, he would have walked away without a second thought. Although the three joining forces with the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc might truly contend with an ordinary Moon Jade, the nature of a Moon Jade's power is completely different from a Constellation. Even the weakest Moon Jade is still a Moon Jade. While the specter has some things he's interested in, that's all they are—not worth the risk.

"Constellation Late Stage!" the specter replied, adding: "Very strong, very strong. Of course, it's mainly somewhat restraining me; otherwise, I should be able to handle it myself."

"Explain in detail."

The specter's spirit lifted, and she began to narrate the various aspects of her exclusive scene. Piao Ke, who seemed to have known already, spoke to Lu Ye. After listening silently, Lu Ye felt that the specter wouldn't deceive him in such matters, because if she were to deceive, he could immediately exit once he noticed something was off after entering.

She needs Lu Ye's help, so she has to speak the truth.

For the specter, the more meticulously Fa Wuzun inquired, the higher the possibility of success. She originally worried that Fa Wuzun wouldn't want to join forces, but now that Fa Wuzun had shown interest, she felt a bit nervous instead.

During the Melee Battle Meet, she had snatched several heads from Fa Wuzun, unable to avoid suspecting whether he was looking to avenge himself. If so, she would be in a passive position.

The more she thought, the more uneasy she felt. After explaining, she said, "If Fellow Daoist is unwilling, I can just buy an As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc from you."

Then she could find others to join forces; Fa Wuzun was not a must-have.

"One hundred thousand!" Lu Ye looked at her coolly.

"What?" The specter blinked her eyes, as if she hadn't heard clearly.

"The array disc, one hundred thousand spirit jade, no bargaining!"

"Why don't you just rob!" the specter fumed with anger. She was alright with everything but talks of money. When it came to money, she was sensitive. She fumed, "I've been to auctions too, on average, an array disc went for just over ten thousand spirit jade, but you're asking me for a hundred thousand; do you have no conscience!"

"Wholesale prices and retail prices the same?" Lu Ye asked.

The specter opened her mouth, suddenly feeling that what Fa Wuzun said seemed to have a point...

Still feeling frustrated, she protested, "But it can't be as much as a hundred thousand!"

"I agree to this matter!" Lu Ye suddenly spoke.

"Hey, are you even listening?" The specter roared, exasperated; Fa Wuzun seemed a bit off.

"However, I have one condition!"

The specter felt exhausted, certain now that Fa Wuzun was out for revenge against her!

But... she had wanted Fa Wuzun's cooperation from the start. Now that he had agreed, why didn't she feel any joy?

She asked irritably, "What do you want?"

Relief washed over her slightly, as it would be too strange if Fa Wuzun agreed to her offer without asking anything in return. Now that he made a condition, it felt normal.

Lu Ye stared straight into her eyes with a calm demeanor, "I want to see the spectral runes concerning concealment on you, Fellow Daoist."

In Lu Ye's plan, he needed to re-derive the spirit runes he currently possessed. He had been too busy being caught up in the Constellation Palace dispute. In the future, during cultivation, he could focus on this, and the next one he planned to derive was concealment.

Currently lacking strength, he intended to make up for it through concealment; when facing powerful enemies that he couldn't defeat, he could at least hide.

In this regard, the specter was undoubtedly first-rate; during the Melee Battle Meet, Lu Ye had searched for her multiple times but always failed to find her. She was just like a specter — elusive and enigmatic. If he could observe the spectral runes on her concerning concealment, it would greatly benefit his own derivation.

As soon as he made this statement, Piao Ke, who was drinking, tilted his head and sprayed wine all over, then turned to stare at Lu Ye in startled amazement.

The specter's eyes curved into a smile, though cold light shimmered within them, concealing boundless killing intent!

Lu Ye met her gaze, his eyes calm.

The specter's murderous intent grew stronger, as if she was ready to kill Lu Ye right here.

If this weren't the Constellation Palace, she might actually act.

But ultimately, this was the Constellation Palace, so even if she wanted to, she couldn't.

As their eyes met, the atmosphere was quiet and intense. Piao Ke edged slightly to the side.

After a long while, the specter exhaled and slowly said, "Do you know what your condition implies, Fellow Daoist?"

"I know!" Lu Ye nodded. He knew enough about the Specter Race, aware that his condition was indeed pushing boundaries. But since the specter valued his help and the power of the array disc, she naturally had to make some sacrifice.

"You know... That's good, haha." The specter laughed, her gaze moving up and down as she scrutinized Lu Ye from head to toe, wanting to understand him anew, nodding slightly before looking at Piao Ke, "Let's go!"

If Fa Wuzun had asked for something else, it might have been easier to negotiate. But wanting to observe the spectral runes on her — no way she would agree. This was outright provocation, an insult!

She vowed silently that once she left the Constellation Palace, she would make Fa Wuzun pay, letting him know the consequences of offending a top ghost cultivator!

"Thirty thousand!" Lu Ye rubbed his storage ring, speaking casually.

The specter paused mid-turn, ears twitching slightly, and looked at Lu Ye coldly, "What?"

"I'll pay you thirty thousand spirit jade." Lu Ye raised his eyes to look at her.

The specter instantly exploded in anger, "What do you take me for? I'm poor, yes, but I have my pride. Mere thirty thousand spirit jade won't sway me!"

"Fifty thousand!" Lu Ye said, his expression unchanged.

"Ha..." The specter sneered, her overwhelming killing intent receding significantly.

"Eighty thousand!"

The specter's murderous intent seemed like a fire doused with water, barely noticeable now. Her brows furrowed.

"A hundred thousand!" Lu Ye continued rubbing his storage ring with his fingers.

The specter's expression became complex, inner conflict raging in her eyes!

She knew she absolutely couldn't agree to Fa Wuzun's unreasonable and reckless condition, because once she did, she could never lift her head again before Fa Wuzun. So by all means, she must absolutely not agree!

But... the offer was quite tempting!

Suddenly she remembered, Fa Wuzun had a fortune worth billions of spirit jade; a mere hundred thousand was nothing to him!

Her expression began to harden, "Is having money that impressive? If you raise it to two hundred thousand, I'll call you Daddy!"

Lu Ye looked at her indifferently and softly uttered a few words, "Three hundred thousand!"

"Daddy!" The specter blurted out.

Humiliation! Shame! She never imagined she'd be swayed by spirit jade one day; the feeling was overwhelmingly complex.

Ton ton ton... Beside her, Piao Ke gulped down his drink, finishing half a bottle, then let out a long belch.

The specter's murderous intent was long gone, and now she smiled at Lu Ye, "It's delightful to meet someone so wealthy. I hope to remain friends. In future endeavors, just call upon me, and I'll come without hesitation!"

Lu Ye nodded and promptly transferred ten thousand spirit jade to her, "This is the deposit. I'll pay the remainder after the job is done!"

"No problem!" The specter agreed readily, treating it as if receiving a valuable treasure and storing the ten thousand spirit jade.

Feeling fabulous.

Chapter 1440 - Observing Spectral Runes

The specter suddenly realized that things had gotten a bit strange.

She had come to ask Fa Wuzun for help, mentally prepared for his refusal or for him to make some unreasonable demands.

But now, Fa Wuzun did indeed make an unreasonable demand, yet he was also paying her three hundred thousand spirit jade.

This was indeed quite unpredictable.

Gritting her teeth, she thought, no big deal, it's not like she's going to lose a piece of herself.

Moreover, while the Spectral Race's spectral runes are secretive, they aren't too confidential; many races have studied their spectral runes. If Fa Wuzun really had his ways, he could totally study the spectral runes through other channels.

After organizing her thoughts, the specter looked at Lu Ye: "If you have any preparations to make, hurry up. We can wait for you here."

Lu Ye shook his head; he had nothing to prepare.

"Then let's begin!" As the specter spoke, she took out an object. Lu Ye focused his gaze and discovered it looked like a leg bone, but entirely white and jade-like. Whether it was made from bone or jade was unclear.

This thing should be the pass to the exclusive scene.

Because the exclusive scene can't be entered directly; you need to acquire a pass from another scene and then use its power to enter.

For instance, during the previous Melee Battle Meet, if a pass to an exclusive scene appeared on the battlefield and was obtained by a cultivator, he could use it to enter the corresponding exclusive scene.

Or like the time when Lu Ye first encountered Chu Shen on that battlefield, there might have been a pass to an exclusive scene as well, but no one searched carefully, and even if it existed, it was missed.

The specter held the spotless jade bone, pouring spirit force into it, and in an instant, a layer of white aura spread out, forming a portal.

"You go in first!" the specter instructed.

Piao Ke said nothing, rushing in first, with Lu Ye following closely behind.

After the two entered the portal, the specter stepped into it as well, and as her figure disappeared, the portal vanished too.

In the not-too-spacious passage, where Lu Ye appeared, he saw Piao Ke just ahead holding a fishing rod about a zhang in length, poised for vigilance.

Lu Ye couldn't help but glance at the rod, his eye twitching. It was his first time seeing such a spirit treasure.

But then again, although he had known Piao Ke for quite some time, they had never fought side by side.

Turning to observe the surroundings, it was as the specter had previously described. It seemed to be an ancient tomb, not damp inside, with its passages like a labyrinth, crisscrossing in all directions. They appeared in a relatively spacious passage.

The light wasn't dim, as there were clusters of ghostly fire-like things floating around, emitting faint light.

One ball of spectral fire floated in front of Lu Ye, and as he reached out to touch it, it floated away like a frightened rabbit.

Lu Ye's movements were swift. Changing his tactic, he caught the spectral fire in his hand.

It wasn't warm; instead, it was chilling to the touch, a layer of frost spreading over his palm.

Lu Ye raised an eyebrow. The spectral fire looked unremarkable but actually had a strange power. He needed to be cautious to avoid getting too much of it on him, or it would be troublesome.

The specter had already explained this, and Lu Ye was just experiencing it firsthand, finding it no different from what was described.

The specter had entered as well, appearing not far from them.

Lu Ye turned to her, "Let's begin!"

He was, of course, referring to observing the specter's spectral runes. Previously in the hall, with people coming and going, it was inconvenient. Now, with only the three of them here, there was no problem.

Moreover, Lu Ye didn't trust the specter much. He had paid a deposit of a hundred thousand, so he needed to sort the spectral runes matter before finishing this mission. Otherwise, once they left, there's no telling if the specter would honor the agreement.

"Why so urgent?" the specter replied begrudgingly.

"Either we start now, or I leave now!" Lu Ye insisted.

"What a hassle!" The specter pouted, glancing at Piao Ke.

Piao Ke showed great awareness: "I'll go scout ahead." He walked ahead and disappeared around a bend.

With just the two of them left, the specter's expression turned shy, as though ants were crawling all over her, looking at Lu Ye: "Just saying, make sure you pay up after you see it!"

"Stop nagging!"

"And, you only get 5 breaths, no more!"

"Twenty breaths!" Lu Ye stared at her.

"Ten breaths, it's non-negotiable!"

After some verbal sparring, they settled on fifteen breaths.

Only then did the specter slowly turn around, showing the back of her head to Lu Ye before taking a few steps forward, stopping. She tilted her head, warning Lu Ye: "Stay right there!"

"Okay," Lu Ye agreed.

Only then did the specter turn her head back, taking a deep breath as if making a very difficult decision. Lu Ye waited quietly, knowing it was not the time to urge her. No matter how cheeky she was, she was still a girl.

After a considerable moment, the specter seemed to have made up her mind, her hands suddenly moving.

The next instant, a light, jade-like back came into Lu Ye's view.

He looked astonished.

Because the woman's forearms and calves were covered with spectral runes, he thought her whole body was covered, but that was not the case.

As the specter activated her power, intricate black lines suddenly appeared on her back, crisscrossing in a complex pattern.

At a glance, there seemed to be traces of Concealment Spirit Runes mixed in, but those lines were undoubtedly much more complex than simple Concealment Spirit Runes.

These were the spectral runes of the Specter Race! What the specter showed was undoubtedly the portion related to concealment, since that was what Lu Ye required.

Although spectral runes were something the Specter Race was born with, each individual's spectral runes were different, influenced by innate factors and cultivation marks.

In Lu Ye's view, the specter's abilities ranked among the top within her cultivation level among the Specter Race, as evidenced by her standing in the Cumulated Points Ranking.

Thus, her Path of Concealment must have its unique aspects.

As the specter activated her concealment spectral runes, she became ethereal. If she wasn't intentionally allowing Lu Ye to see those spectral runes, even they would have vanished.

So what appeared before Lu Ye was only the patterns formed by those intricate lines.

Such a pattern would bewilder any regular cultivator, making their heads spin, but for Lu Ye, it was a rare beautiful sight.

He immediately activated his Insight Spirit Runes to enhance his eyes, observing carefully and memorizing the structure and arrangement of those lines.

This would be the foundational basis for his Talent Tree to deduce Concealment Spirit Runes in the future.

15 breaths of time passed in an instant, and while Lu Ye was still observing, the specter reappeared, already dressed.

She turned with a stern face: "Time's up!"

Lu Ye closed his eyes, deepening the memory of the spectral runes he had just seen.

When he opened his eyes again, the specter extended a small hand in front of him, clearly asking for the remaining payment.

Lu Ye didn't hesitate, transferring two hundred thousand spirit jades to her directly.

The specter beamed with joy.

"You're a combat cultivator, why observe concealment? It's too late if you want to switch to a ghost cultivator," the specter said while counting the spirit jades.

For the first time, she found earning money so easy.

"I also want to observe the breath-concealing aspect of spectral runes!" Lu Ye said.

Concealment and Breath-concealing have always been used together to hide oneself perfectly. Since he gained insights into the Concealment spectral runes, Lu Ye naturally wanted to observe the Breath-concealing ones too.

"No way!" The specter didn't even lift her head.

"The same price!"

"I said no means no!"

"Then name your price!"

"This isn't about the price!" The specter looked up, glaring at him a little annoyed.

Lu Ye suddenly understood.

The specter agreed to let him observe the Concealment spectral runes because they were on her back, so it wasn't much of an issue. Some female cultivators dressed lightly, often exposing much of their backs.

But the Breath-concealing spectral runes were likely in places not suitable for viewing.

If Lu Ye were a woman, it wouldn't matter, but as a man, the specter would never agree. And it really wasn't about the money.

While counting the spirit jades, the specter suddenly seemed to think of something, giving Lu Ye a sultry look: "What if... you marry me, then you can look at me as much as you want!"

She suddenly thought her idea was clever. Fa Wuzun was strong, had a bright future, wasn't bad-looking, and most importantly, he was rich!

If she could marry Fa Wuzun, she wouldn't have to worry about her cultivation and could escape her poor status.

"You're dreaming!" Lu Ye decisively refused.

"Consider it?" The specter was still unwilling to give up.

"Did you forget what you called me before?" Lu Ye gave her a slight glance.

The specter was furious: "Mention that again, and I'll never forgive you!"

Lu Ye turned and walked in the direction where Piao Ke had left, not wanting to continue the argument with her.

Though the transaction was completed, he still needed to fulfill his promise, primarily because Piao Ke was also there. In this vast All Phenomena Galaxy, among the people he knew, he could only consider two as friends.

One was Chu Shen, and the other was Piao Ke.

But Chu Shen was a friend of Fa Wuzun, while Piao Ke was Li Taibai's friend.

The enemy the specter intended to deal with was formidable. If he left, abandoning the specter and Piao Ke, they might not succeed.

Turning a corner, he saw Piao Ke from a distance, using his fishing rod spirit treasure as a club, fighting a group of bizarre creatures.

Yet, it was more of a one-sided massacre than a battle, as the opponents couldn't get close to Piao Ke at all.