

Humanity 1461

Chapter 1461 - Green Sea Conch

A few hours later, the group arrived at the Constellation Palace.

Entering the palace, Lu Ye immediately noticed at least a hundred male merfolk gathered there, clearly the personnel Yann Miao had previously dispatched.

Upon seeing Yann Miao arrive, one of the male merfolk stepped forward and respectfully reported to her. After listening, Yann Miao said something.

Then she turned to Lu Ye: "Little friend, let's go out and take a look together."

"Alright." Lu Ye naturally had no objection; he also wanted to understand what Yann Miao meant when she said the merfolk couldn't approach the outer perimeter of the Divine Temple.

Soon, a large group of merfolk exited the Constellation Palace and came outside.

Under Yann Miao's direction, these merfolk rushed in various directions toward the Constellation Palace. Yet, Lu Ye saw clearly that no matter which merfolk it was, the closer they got to the palace, the more difficult their progress became. It was as if an invisible force field enveloped the entire palace, preventing the merfolk from nearing.

Almost all the merfolk halted at just three feet from the Constellation Palace, their expressions strained, struggling against the invisible power.

This indeed was a strange matter. Lu Ye had been weeding around this area before and never encountered this phenomenon.

It couldn't be that, during his absence, some change befell the Constellation Palace, right? If so, then it would be troublesome.

Thinking this, he quickly flew forward. Under the astonished eyes of the merfolk, he effortlessly stuck himself to the wall of the Constellation Palace, unhindered.

He attempted to remove the seaweed on the wall without any problem.

Yann Miao, seeing this, also attempted to approach but shared the same fate as the other merfolk, unable to get near the palace.

Moments later, Lu Ye and Yann Miao returned to the Constellation Palace. Yann Miao expressed her feelings: "Little friend, the Divine Temple seems very resistant to our approach. I feel that if we forcibly get close, it could trigger some unpredictable consequences."

Yet, they were able to directly enter the Constellation Palace.

"I understand." Lu Ye nodded, "Great Elder, have your tribe's people return home. I can handle the matters here myself."

"I'm sorry," Yann Miao showed an apologetic expression, "Our tribe couldn't be much help in this matter. Originally, we promised you..."

"It's not your fault," Lu Ye suspected that the Constellation Palace was simply toying with him; otherwise, there was no reason to reject the merfolk race's approach while allowing him to attach easily.

So it wasn't fair to blame them; Yann Miao had dispatched over a hundred tribe members to assist, which was already a significant gesture of sincerity.

Yann Miao left with the merfolk, but before departure, she advised Lu Ye that if he grew bored here, he was welcome to visit the merfolk race's territory, their door was always open to him.

After they departed, Lu Ye, filled with frustration, continued weeding.

He initially thought that with the merfolk race's help, he might complete the task here sooner and rush back to participate in the ranking battles. But now it seemed that idea was dashed; he would have to handle the matters here himself.

"What exactly do you want?" Lu Ye continued weeding while his Mental Consciousness surged.

The Constellation Palace had its own will, Lu Ye was certain it could hear him, but to his dismay, the palace gave no response to his inquiries.

Lu Ye pondered repeatedly; he hadn't done anything to offend the Constellation Palace. From the time it opened, be it he or other cultivators, they all participated in various competitions normally. Why had he been dragged here to toil?

Currently, he only worried about one thing: whether he had enough fire-type treasures in reserve, as the Talent Tree under All Phenomena Ocean consumed fuel excessively.

Furthermore, weeding in such an environment was slow, and he couldn't leave. Lu Ye had no choice but to endure.

Thinking over and over, if absolutely necessary, he would have to request Yann Miao's escort to see if he could swim directly out of All Phenomena Ocean. Yann Miao possessed the sea conch capable of expelling Moon Jade and Constellation star beasts, so as long as they didn't encounter the Sun Blaze star beast, there shouldn't be much danger.

Weeding, resting, then letting the Talent Tree devour the fire-type treasure's power to replenish the consumed fuel.

Lu Ye's life turned monotonous and dull.

A few days later, as Lu Ye was replenishing the Talent Tree's fuel inside the palace, he suddenly remembered an object and quickly retrieved it.

It was a sea conch, only the size of a baby's fist, entirely green in color, precisely the item he brought out of the Divine Conch Hall.

When he took it out before, seeing Yann Miao and the merfolk waiting outside the Divine Conch Hall, Lu Ye hadn't taken the time to examine it closely and quickly put it away. Hence, he wasn't aware of what he had obtained from the hall until now.

Now looking at it, Lu Ye suddenly realized this sea conch was exactly akin to the one Yann Miao held, except for its color.

His spirits lifted!

Could this item have the same function as the one Yann Miao held? If so, he might have hope in leaving this place.

Lu Ye finally understood where Yann Miao's sea conch came from; she evidently received it as a reward from the Divine Conch Hall, albeit hers was a golden sea conch, while his was a green sea conch.

This showed that the myriad fluorescent lights within the Divine Conch Hall represented sea conches, and if any cultivator passing the test could take one as a reward.

He played with it slightly, then placed the conch to his lips and blew gently.

A low sound emerged, but it was just a simple sound without any mystical power.

Lu Ye thought for a moment, then began infusing the conch with spirit force while blowing into it.

This time, a mysterious power rippled out.

Lu Ye clearly saw the tip of the conch start to flicker with a green light, and as he infused more spirit force, the green light became brighter.

He understood in his mind that this green sea conch might be different from Yann Miao's golden sea conch and presumably didn't have the power to drive away Moon Jade star beasts. As for what power it truly had, it remained unknown for now.

After a while, when the conch's tip glowed to an extreme, the green light suddenly shot out, fixing itself not far in front of Lu Ye. Then the green light spread out, as if a splash of green ink, dyeing the space in front of it green.

Lu Ye looked on with a strange expression at the scene before him because the area stained green looked like a portal leading to some unknown place...

Just in Lu Ye's feeling, this portal was not stable enough, and forcing one's way through would definitely trigger some unpredictable dangers.

He could only continue to puff his cheeks and blow, while continuously infusing spirit force into the conch.

The green color became more solid, and the portal stabilized visibly by the naked eye.

After several dozen breaths, Lu Ye finally stopped, staring ahead in a daze.

It was indeed a portal, with green light swirling, with a vortex in the center. Lu Ye attempted to sense the internal aura but gained nothing.

Now only one question remained, this portal... where does it lead?

Lu Ye had a bold guess in his heart.

Hesitating for a moment, he still took a step inside; to verify his guess, he could only personally venture in. However, before stepping in, Lu Ye had already grasped his Boulder Mountain Saber at his waist, readying his spirit force, prepared for any surprises.

His form slightly paused, as if penetrating some thin membrane, his vision blurred, and Lu Ye discovered he was no longer at the Constellation Palace.

Turning around and looking, everything seemed familiar.

Looking back again, it was exactly as he thought, the place the portal led to was right at the entrance of the Divine Conch Hall!

Lu Ye felt both crying and laughing; he had just left the merfolk's territory a few days ago and now unexpectedly ran back again.

Had he known earlier, he would have tried the green sea conch's effects before departing, saving himself the time.

The sound of merfolk speaking came from not far away, and Lu Ye scratched his head, feeling a bit guilty like a thief.

Last time he came by invitation, but this time he's intruding uninvited, which seemed somewhat improper.

However, speaking of which, Yann Miao had mentioned upon leaving the Constellation Palace that he could come here when bored, and the doors of the Merfolk Race would always be open to him, so it seemingly didn't matter if he came uninvited.

Moreover, if the green sea conch had such peculiar effects, it really would be necessary to inform the merfolk here. Otherwise, appearing here mysteriously might lead to misunderstanding the intentions.

He looked back at the spot he arrived at, finding a portal just like the one at the Constellation Palace which hadn't disappeared. Lu Ye felt he might be able to use this portal to return there.

Could it be that he opened a Void passage from the Constellation Palace to this place? Does the green sea conch possess such bizarre power?

Two merfolk came into view, seemingly passing by, and they both froze upon seeing Lu Ye, but quickly reacted, hurrying forward to greet him.

Previously, when Lu Ye came here, Bai Lu took him on a tour, meeting many merfolk, so even if these merfolk hadn't seen Lu Ye with their own eyes, they knew their race had a distinguished guest from the human race.

Thinking for a moment, Lu Ye said, "Can you call Bai Lu for me?"

Of course, the merfolk couldn't understand him; both looked at him blankly and replied something incomprehensible to Lu Ye.

Unfortunately, both merfolk were male, otherwise, he could use the Edification Technique to facilitate communication.

Fortunately, they weren't dull; unable to communicate, they realized they should find someone who could. One stayed behind while the other hurriedly left, obviously to fetch Bai Lu or Yann Miao or other elders.

Lu Ye quietly waited, but it wasn't long before he sensed something was wrong. The portal in front of him started to become unstable, as if it might collapse soon.

After a brief hesitation, Lu Ye quickly told the remaining merfolk, "When Bai Lu arrives, tell her I'll come back later to explain the situation."

Without minding whether they understood, he said this and dashed back into the portal; he needed to confirm his thoughts while the portal was still maintained.

That sensation of breaking through a membrane appeared once again, and as his vision cleared, Lu Ye found himself indeed back at the Constellation Palace.

Chapter 1462 - The Path to Wealth

As Lu Ye passed through the portal and returned to the Constellation Palace, the portal suddenly dissipated into nothingness, as if it had exhausted its energy.

Lu Ye looked at the green sea conch in his hand and roughly understood its function.

This item was clearly a treasure for directional transport. By activating its power, one could open a portal leading to the location of the Divine Conch Hall's entrance. Lu Ye could go there or return through the portal.

What's the use of this?

The territory of the Merfolk Race was only half a day's journey from here. If Lu Ye wanted to go, he only needed to be a bit careful and could make the trip on his own.

It's not as useful as the golden sea conch that Yann Miao had; at least that one had the power to drive away the Moon Jade star beast.

Lu Ye felt a bit at a loss. At the time, surrounded by so many golden light spots, he had chosen a green one, thinking it was unique and surely the best. But now, it seemed that wasn't the case at all.

It's too late to return it now. One can only enter the Divine Conch Hall once in a lifetime.

But on second thought, the power of the green sea conch didn't seem as useless as he thought. Here, beneath the All Phenomena Ocean, the dense, pure seawater acted as a barrier, even suppressing Mental Consciousness to just three inches out of the body. Yet, the connection between the green sea conch and the Divine Conch Hall wasn't affected at all and could directly open a portal leading there.

Such a portal wasn't of much use now, but what if one day he returned to the surface of the All Phenomena Ocean?

By then, if the portal could still be utilized, its significance would be enormous!

The Merfolk Race was very interested in elixir pills from the outside world, and the underwater had an extremely rich variety of spiritual resources. Not to mention, the various star beasts there weren't any lesser than the White Spirit.

If, by then, the portal could still be utilized, he could buy elixir pills to sell to the Merfolk Race and then purchase some of the underwater specialties from them. Trading back and forth like this, it would be hard not to make a fortune.

Realizing this, Lu Ye felt somewhat elated because, in this way, he wouldn't have to worry about cultivation resources anymore.

This was a unique path to wealth, solely belonging to him.

The only green sea conch, its function was truly extraordinary.

At the entrance of the Divine Conch Hall, Bai Lu hurriedly arrived upon hearing the news, but could not find any trace of Lu Ye. After asking the merfolk guarding there, he learned that Lu Ye had hurried through a portal, which disappeared without a trace after Lu Ye left.

Bai Lu faintly felt something was off. There had never been any portal outside the Divine Conch Hall before. He wanted to report to Yann Miao but feared causing trouble for Lu Ye, so he hesitated. In the end, he instructed the two merfolk who had seen Lu Ye not to divulge the matter. Those two merfolk, not having high cultivation and being males, had low status within the race and naturally dared not disobey the princess's orders.

Inside the Constellation Palace, Lu Ye wanted to activate the power of the green sea conch again. Regardless of anything, he had to inform the merfolk and let them know that he could enter their territory with the green sea conch's help.

Such a matter couldn't be hidden, and if he truly wanted to establish a long-term cooperative relationship with the Merfolk Race, this matter shouldn't be concealed.

But Lu Ye helplessly found that when he tried to activate the green sea conch again, no matter how he poured spirit force into it, it remained unresponsive.

This thing... could it be an exotic treasure that can only be used once? If so, his previous plans would be unfeasible.

However, if it were an exotic treasure, it should have shattered by now. The green sea conch showed no signs of damage, only that it couldn't be activated. Lu Ye vaguely speculated that perhaps after being used once, it couldn't be activated again within a certain time limit.

Probing with his Mental Consciousness, Lu Ye was slightly surprised.

Because, held in hand, the green sea conch was only the size of a baby's fist, yet his Mental Consciousness, when reaching inside, seemed to delve into a vast, expansive Void.

Inside the green sea conch lay an extraordinarily bizarre and enormous space. Within that space, various intricate patterns crisscrossed each other, seemingly containing profound truths.

Lu Ye vaguely saw traces of the Void Spirit Runes there.

The green sea conch had the power to consolidate a portal leading to the Divine Conch Hall. Essentially, it was a treasure for directional transport, so the presence of Void Spirit Runes inside was unsurprising.

These patterns were undoubtedly very useful to Lu Ye because they could serve as the foundation for Lu Ye's derivation of new spirit runes.

Unable to activate the power of the green sea conch for now and unable to visit the Merfolk Race's territory to explain the situation, Lu Ye could only content himself with weeding.

Every time he returned to the Constellation Palace to replenish the Talent Tree's fuel, Lu Ye studied the mysteries of the green sea conch.

Soon, he discovered something: the green sea conch's power couldn't be activated temporarily, unable to consolidate a portal leading to the Divine Conch Hall, but it had another function.

That was to leave a mark!

Lu Ye can leave a mark belonging to the green sea conch within the Constellation Palace. The mark looks like a seashell, and it can be erased using the green sea conch at any time. The mark lasts for quite a while, though Lu Ye is unsure of the exact duration, as he erased it after just over a day.

Lu Ye had some guesses about the function of this mark, but before verifying, he needed to visit the merfolk territory.

However, before he could take action, Bai Lu came running over.

While weeding, Lu Ye was quite surprised to see Bai Lu arrive.

Although the Constellation Palace is only half a day's journey from the merfolk territory, the All Phenomena Ocean is not tranquil, and Bai Lu coming alone could be troublesome if she encountered any danger along the way.

"Why did you come alone?" Lu Ye asked upon returning to the Constellation Palace.

Bai Lu replied, "A couple of days ago, two clansmen said they saw you at the Divine Conch Hall entrance, along with a peculiar portal. But by the time I got there, you were already gone. I didn't know whether it was really you or if something strange had invaded our territory, so I came to verify it."

"That was me!" Lu Ye quickly nodded.

"Then why didn't you come to find me?"

"The situation was urgent at the time, and there wasn't enough time." Lu Ye briefly explained the previous circumstances and then took out his green sea conch for Bai Lu to examine.

Bai Lu marveled at it, playing with Lu Ye's green sea conch, saying, "I've indeed heard that there are azure seashells in the Divine Conch Hall, but we've never actually seen them. The topmost shells in our clan are only golden. Li Taibai, you're quite incredible to have gotten an azure sea conch."

"Just lucky." Lu Ye knew it wasn't his skill but rather the unique songs he sang that were distinctly different from the merfolk, which made him stand out and attracted the azure light spots.

"Can it open a portal leading from here to the entrance of the Divine Conch Hall?"

"Yes, but it can't be used for now. I'm not sure if it lost its function or if the time limit hasn't been reached. Otherwise, I would've gone and explained the situation to you again."

Bai Lu smiled wryly, "It's fine." She fiddled with it a bit more before returning it to Lu Ye, "Since it's still intact, it means it hasn't lost its function. Who knows, it might suddenly become usable."

Lu Ye thought the same.

Having confirmed that it was indeed Lu Ye who went to the merfolk territory a few days ago, Bai Lu visibly relaxed.

"What about you? Shall I send you back?" Lu Ye asked.

"No need, once the Azure Sky Conch's effect becomes usable, I can naturally return. There's nothing much happening in the clan recently, so I'll wait here."

"Suit yourself, then."

In the following days, Bai Lu stayed near the Constellation Palace. Even when Lu Ye went weeding, she would ride a seahorse and follow. Unfortunately, she couldn't get close to the Constellation Palace; otherwise, Lu Ye would have had an extra helping hand.

Every time Lu Ye returned to the Constellation Palace, she would pester him to talk about matters outside.

For someone like Bai Lu, born and raised under the All Phenomena Ocean among the merfolk, the outside world was naturally fascinating. No matter what Lu Ye said, she listened with great interest.

Lu Ye could see the longing and yearning for the outside world in her eyes.

"I recall the Great Elder saying that your clan is a cursed race. What's that about?" Lu Ye asked during a chat.

Bai Lu replied, "I'm not very clear on the details; it's an ancient matter. However, I've read a record in our clan that we once provoked a powerful enemy. That enemy had a strange power and cursed us. Originally, under such a curse, our clan was destined to be wiped out. Our ancestors had no choice but to come to the All Phenomena Ocean, using the ocean waters' isolation to shield against the curse, thus avoiding death from it. But because of that curse, we acquired the ability to survive under the All Phenomena Ocean. Consequently, we became trapped here, as leaving the All Phenomena Ocean would immediately result in death from the curse!"

Lu Ye didn't understand what this bizarre power could be that made an entire race helpless, relying on the All Phenomena Ocean's water for shelter.

He's accustomed to confrontations, but not everyone resorts to violence. It's such unseen forces that are the most terrifying.

The plight of the merfolk gave Lu Ye a warning. Encountering enemies in the future, he must be cautious to avoid similar attacks.

Bai Lu looked at him with a complex expression and said softly, "Li Taibai, do you know why the Great Elder and others treat you so well?"

Lu Ye was startled, then shook his head, thinking it was his array disc that helped the merfolk through a catastrophe. But from Bai Lu's words, it seemed there's more to it?

Bai Lu explained, "An ancestor of our clan left a dictum. To lift the curse poison, it has to be in the Divine Temple, and you're the first human in years to appear in the Divine Temple. Hence, the Great Elder believes you are favored by the Divine Temple and might have the ability to help us lift the curse poison."

Chapter 1463 - No Heroes on the Cumulated Points Ranking

Bai Lu, even though she is a merfolk princess, undoubtedly doesn't have much cunning, or perhaps she has a certain degree of trust in Lu Ye. Otherwise, such a thing would never be directly explained to Lu Ye under any circumstances.

Only then did Lu Ye understand why the Merfolk Race had been so kind to him. Yann Miao had mentioned something similar before, though not in such depth.

However, ancient prophecies and the like are obviously unreliable; Lu Ye wouldn't know how to help the Merfolk Race solve the Curse Poison.

At the very least, he doesn't have that ability now. Of course, if he truly has the skill in the future, he wouldn't mind lending the Merfolk Race a hand.

On this day, Lu Ye returned from weeding, as usual activating the Talent Tree to devour the fire-type treasure to replenish his burnt-out reserves, casually chatting with Bai Lu.

He took out the green sea conch and infused spirit force into it.

Every time he went back to the Constellation Palace, Lu Ye would try it, but ever since he had opened the portal that one time, the green sea conch hadn't responded.

Unexpectedly, this time it reacted, and Lu Ye, startled, quickly placed it near his mouth and puffed up his cheeks to blow into it.

Bai Lu obviously noticed something and quickly fell silent, staring at the green sea conch.

As Lu Ye infused spirit force, the sound of the conch arose, and a blue light began to shimmer and gather until at a certain moment, the speck of azure light spread out before Lu Ye, turning into a portal.

"Is this the portal that leads to the Divine Conch Hall?" Bai Lu asked curiously.

Lu Ye nodded, standing up: "I'll escort you back!"

Bai Lu seemed a bit reluctant, but considering she'd been out here alone for several days, she indeed needed to go back, so she obediently followed.

One after another, they passed through the portal, and when they appeared again, they were indeed outside the Divine Conch Hall.

After surveying the surroundings, Bai Lu smiled and said: "Li Taibai, if you want to visit my territory again in the future, it'll be simple. If you come by, remember to find me!"

Lu Ye said: "This portal won't last very long, you'll need to help explain the situation to the Queen and the Great Elder."

"Of course." Bai Lu agreed without hesitation, and indeed, it was necessary to inform the Great Elder and the others in advance, to avoid any misunderstandings later on.

"I'm heading back then." With these words, Lu Ye turned and stepped back into the portal.

"You..." Bai Lu had just opened her mouth, but Lu Ye had already vanished, her tail couldn't help but slap the ground once.

After Lu Ye's figure disappeared, the portal also vanished along with him.

Returning to the Constellation Palace, Lu Ye also noticed the disappearance of the portal. This time, the portal maintained its duration noticeably shorter than the last time. Previously, he even waited outside the Divine Conch Hall for a while, but this time he returned directly without any delay.

It seems the portal disappears once he returns, regardless of how long it sustained before.

Calculating the time, it should be about seven days since he last used the green sea conch to open the portal.

Perhaps seven days is the interval for using the green sea conch's power! Of course, this is just speculation, as the number of attempts is too few to be certain. He'll know for sure after the next use.

He tried to activate the green sea conch's power, but sure enough, there was no response.

Lu Ye continued weeding, often finding things like scallops and sea conchs among the seaweed, all of which he collected.

However, due to the limited storage rings he had and most of them being filled with spirit jade and spirit crystals, Lu Ye could only pile these seaweeds into a corner of the Constellation Palace, and now these seaweeds had accumulated into a small mountain.

Every seven days, Lu Ye would attempt to activate the green sea conch's power, discovering, just as he had previously guessed, that once used, it indeed required a seven-day wait for a second use. The principle behind it remained unclear.

Lu Ye initially thought perhaps it didn't need to be blown; direct infusion of spirit force might suffice, but after trying, he discovered it must be blown to be activated. Not blowing wouldn't work, which was quite peculiar.

Lu Ye finally understood the purpose of the green sea conch's markings. The imprint serves as a kind of positioning.

If Lu Ye left a green sea conch imprint somewhere in advance, the portal would open at the imprint's location once its power was used.

If no imprint was left, then the portal would appear outside the Divine Conch Hall at the Merfolk Territory. After all, this item was taken from the Divine Conch Hall, so such a connection is understandable.

Overall, the green sea conch is a pretty decent treasure. If it can truly allow Lu Ye to enter the Merfolk Race's territory directly from the All Phenomena Ocean, then he can open a unique financial path for himself.

Additionally, it can be used for travel; by leaving an imprint somewhere beforehand, he can return directly by activating the green sea conch's power whenever he wishes to come back.

However, if intended for escape, it's somewhat impractical because using this treasure requires a moment, and it must be blown, too. In the event of a chase by a strong adversary, this thing wouldn't be very useful; with the time required to activate it, Lu Ye would likely have fled far away already.

The only issue now is that Lu Ye is unsure about the distance limit for opening the portal with the green sea conch. If the distance isn't far enough, it won't be of much use. This can't be tried out; it will have to be explored slowly later.

Gazing at the pitch-black monument in the center of the Constellation Palace, Lu Ye is filled with helplessness.

By calculating the time, the Ranking Battle at the Constellation Palace is likely nearing its end, yet the clearing task on his side is only halfway done, and he won't make it to the battle.

It's somewhat regrettable.

In Hall number 1863, Chu Shen is also watching the Cumulated Points Ranking, while holding his audio talisman in hand, attempting to reach Lu Ye.

He's been doing this for many days, but no matter how he tries, he can't get his message sent out. Now, with only a few days left until the Constellation Palace closes, he still can't make contact.

"What is Leader Fa up to?" Chu Shen frowned, filled with confusion.

No cultivator in the Constellation Realm would want to miss such a major event as the Cumulated Points Ranking, because missing it means losing a chance, which concerns future upper realm ascension.

But ever since the auction meeting and parting ways with Fa Wuzun, Chu Shen hasn't seen him again.

It's certain that Leader Fa is still alive because his name remains on the Cumulated Points Ranking. If someone died, their name would vanish from the ranking.

But if alive, why isn't he participating in the Ranking Battle? It's impossible that he's trapped in a confrontation arena and unable to escape—that has never happened before.

According to Chu Shen's estimation, Fa Wuzun's personal strength could at least achieve a top-ten ranking on the Cumulated Points Ranking, maybe even higher, which would be extremely beneficial.

However, in reality, Fa Wuzun's rank has almost fallen off the Cumulated Points Ranking!

Whenever someone challenges him and he doesn't respond within a certain time frame, he is deemed to have lost, reducing his cumulated points.

Initially, no one challenged Fa Wuzun because many had witnessed his power firsthand, knowing his strength, and felt there was no chance even if they did challenge him.

But as Fa Wuzun's rank continually dropped, more challenges were directed his way, causing his rank to plummet rapidly.

When Chu Shen looked at the Cumulated Points Ranking again, Fa Wuzun's name was nowhere to be found, making him sigh involuntarily.

From a young age, there are few people he admires, and Fa Wuzun is one of them. He knows Leader Fa's strength is formidable, and he truly doesn't wish to see Leader Fa's name squeezed out of the Cumulated Points Ranking.

In a moment of anger, he couldn't help but challenge a lower-ranked cultivator, and shortly afterward returned with a bruised nose and swollen face. His cultivation at Constellation Early Stage had him at a disadvantage against a seasoned Late Stage opponent, and if it weren't for the excellent treasures he carried, he would have been killed.

"Leader Fa, where are you?" Chu Shen lamented to the sky, feeling the Cumulated Points Ranking lacks true heroes, letting many lesser figures rise to fame.

Alongside Chu Shen, Little Dumb, Little Crooked, Cai Yue, and Cai Xing sisters are also concerned about Fa Wuzun's ranking. The four received great benefits at the Melee Battle Meet with Lu Ye, so naturally they have more concern for him.

Moreover, they each have Lu Ye's audio talisman marking, so they too have attempted to contact Lu Ye, but have never succeeded.

A few days later, the Constellation Palace trembles suddenly, the Cumulated Points Ranking bursts with brilliant light, and numerous names engraved upon it begin to dance as if coming to life.

In the next instant, these names are imprinted in the Void according to their ranking on the Cumulated Points Ranking, accompanied by a grand and mighty sound resonating throughout the All Phenomena Galaxy. Numerous cultivators turn their heads to watch, irrespective of their location or distance from the Constellation Palace, as long as they face that direction, they can clearly see the enormous ranking imprinted in the Void.

On this ranking, each name shines brightly, heralding the emergence of another generation of powerful Moon Jade cultivators!

Almost every cultivator who leaves their name on the Cumulated Points Ranking at the Constellation Palace possesses strength beyond ordinary cultivators upon ascending to Moon Jade. These extraordinary cultivators will naturally have destinations due to their noble backgrounds. However, those from modest backgrounds undoubtedly become targets for various major forces to attract.

As the ranking imprints itself in the Void, the once opened doors of the Constellation Palace slowly close.

The hundreds of thousands of cultivators inside the Constellation Palace are enveloped by an inexplicable force. When they return to their senses, they find themselves scattered across various locations within the All Phenomena Galaxy.

This location is not fixed; as the Constellation Palace closes, any cultivators inside are randomly dropped somewhere.

Now observing from the outside, the Constellation Palace appears as both real and illusory, still standing in the depths of stellar space, exuding an enigmatic aura.

Inside the real Constellation Palace, Lu Ye gazes intently at the pitch-black monument in the center of the hall. Since he arrived here, this monument has shown no response until just now, when numerous names suddenly appeared.

Among them, Lu Ye spotted many familiar names, undoubtedly those who had previously left their mark on the Cumulated Points Ranking.

Originally, he should have been among them, but unfortunately, his name can no longer be found.

Lu Ye is not surprised by this result, as he is standing still here, while those outside certainly are not going to show him any sympathy. Dropping out of the Cumulated Points Ranking was only a matter of time.

Chapter 1464 - Constellation Late Stage

Carefully observing, Lu Ye found Piao Ke's name in the 112th position. This result didn't surprise Lu Ye at all. Piao Ke seemed to spend his days idly, doing nothing but drinking, fishing, and watching women. However, after their last collaboration, Lu Ye realized his strength was quite impressive.

So, despite his seemingly carefree demeanor, he wasn't actually neglecting his duties.

The knot in Lu Ye's heart eased a bit; although he didn't make the ranking, seeing his friends on it was a comfort.

Continuing downward, he noticed a ghost cultivator called Mingming near the 200th position.

A ghost cultivator ranking this high in such a fierce competition was evidently not easy. Ghost cultivators excel in ambush and concealment. Lu Ye didn't know the rules of the ranking battle, but whatever the rules are, they are disadvantageous to ghost cultivators.

Because no matter who challenged Mingming, or whom Mingming challenged, they knew their opponent was a ghost cultivator. With this knowledge, it made it much harder for Mingming to succeed.

So even though her ranking was lower than Piao Ke's, her threat level was much higher.

Further down, Lu Ye did not recognize anyone. Although he had been in the All Phenomena Galaxy for quite some time, he hadn't come across many people.

There's no denying that those who have a name on the Cumulated Points Ranking will achieve great things in the future, and their chances of advancing to Moon Jade are much higher than other Constellations.

Generally speaking, the probability of those on the Cumulated Points Ranking advancing to Moon Jade is 90%. This probability is incredibly daunting. Out of so many Constellations across major star systems, how many can advance to Moon Jade? Under normal circumstances, even half of that would be unlikely.

In comparison, a 90% chance is really substantial.

These individuals will have the opportunity to enter the Constellation Palace at any time to advance to Moon Jade. As long as the cultivators are ready for advancement, they can enter the Constellation Palace and, under the wonderful cover, break through to the upper realm.

Perhaps someone has already begun doing this. Lu Ye remembers meeting a guy named Whei Yijian, who seemed to have lingered at the Constellation Late Stage for a long time, intentionally waiting for the Constellation Palace to open, to seize the ranking and aid in his advancement.

In those top domains and star systems, there must be many like Whei Yijian.

Unfortunately, all this has nothing to do with Lu Ye. Nowadays, he spends his days weeding or supplementing his Talent Tree's fuel.

The efficacy of the green sea conch needs no further testing; it is confirmed that it can only be used once every seven days. However, Lu Ye now wants to know how long the mark he left in the Constellation Palace can last.

Since he left this mark last time, he hasn't erased it, and so far, it's still there. However, Lu Ye can feel the mark dissipating, although very slowly.

At this dissipating speed, Lu Ye estimates the mark can last at least a year or two without any issues!

This is quite beneficial because if the mark dissipated too quickly, it would undoubtedly be useless.

Almost a month passed again!

During this month, Bai Lu came to see him once. There wasn't anything special, just to visit. Previously, the Merfolk Race had no place to go other than around their own territory. Now, with an additional Constellation Palace, naturally, they want to visit often. However, the road is not too peaceful, so Bai Lu can't come too frequently.

Bai Lu stayed for two days before being sent back by Lu Ye, who activated the green sea conch's power, leaving somewhat reluctantly.

On this day, while Lu Ye was weeding in the Constellation Palace, he suddenly felt something unusual inside him. Immersing his mind slightly, he quickly rushed back inside the hall.

Sitting cross-legged, he silently operated the Black rank skill.

Under perception, tiny golden lights flickered in his marrow. Each speck of golden light was a refinement of his essence, seemingly radiating new vitality.

Lu Ye even felt a slight itching in his bones.

This process did not last long. When the abnormal feeling dissipated, Lu Ye felt his spirit force's flow speed dramatically increase. In the unseen, Lu Ye could perceive a considerable growth in his strength!

Laughing bitterly, he had reached the Constellation Late Stage.

Counting the time, he had been in the All Phenomena Ocean for only a year and a half, and the advancement to Constellation Mid-Stage was precisely when he arrived at the All Phenomena Ocean.

A year and a half to advance from Constellation Mid-Stage to Late Stage would leave people speechless if spread out.

The advancement in the Constellation Realm is a process of grinding and accumulation, the sedimentation of time. No matter how fast the cultivation speed, it cannot be this rapid.

But Lu Ye, while fishing, had cultivated in the water of the All Phenomena Ocean. During these nearly two months, he spent more than half of his time soaked in the ocean water, forced to maintain an extremely high-efficiency cultivation state.

Lu Ye cannot confirm if such cultivation efficiency is unprecedented, but it surely has never been seen before. This must be why he broke through another small realm in just a year and a half.

However... this was not what he wanted!

For cultivators, slow cultivation is indeed not good. But like this, too rapid a cultivation speed is equally problematic because the short interval between advancements leaves no time for him to settle himself.

Luckily, he had previously participated in a Constellation Palace contest, battling with many in the Constellation Realm and even jointly killing a weakened Moon Jade with Piao Ke and Mingming. Were it not for that experience, the recent advancement would definitely have led to an unstable foundation.

As it stands, there's not much of a problem at present, but Lu Ye knows he must deliberately control his cultivation speed and slow down a bit.

Otherwise, ascending to the Moon Jade stage in the future will definitely be a major challenge.

After carefully sensing his state after the ascension and ensuring there were no significant hidden dangers, he finally relaxed.

The cultivation in the Constellation Realm involves refining one's essence, with the early stage focusing on the Essence of Blood and Flesh, the mid-stage on the Essence of Bone Marrow, and now reaching the late stage, it is the Essence of Inner Organs.

For Lu Ye at the moment, regenerating a severed arm is no longer difficult, as the Essence of Blood and Flesh and the Essence of Bone Marrow have been refined to the extreme. He has the ability to regenerate a severed arm, though it surely comes at a considerable cost and time investment. Thus, even at this level, Constellations with such abilities won't easily take such risks.

Once the Essence of Inner Organs is refined to the extreme, it is an internal-to-external sublimation of a cultivator's essence. Vitality will be greatly enhanced to the point where, even with severe injuries, as long as one has a single breath left, recovery is possible.

After checking his fire-type treasure and Talent Tree fuel reserves, Lu Ye sighed.

His rapid ascension to the Constellation Late Stage was entirely built on a pile of spirit jade.

Back then, he spent over ten million spirit jade in Grand Hall 88 to buy fire-type treasures, but now they are nearly depleted. However, according to his estimates, they should be enough to sustain him until he finishes clearing the sea grass in the Constellation Palace.

When he thought of this, Lu Ye was startled. Is this a coincidence?

If he had bought less or none at all back then, he would not be able to delve deeper into the All Phenomena Ocean now and hence wouldn't be able to help the Constellation Palace with the weeding.

Yet, by some coincidence, he ended up buying just enough fire-type treasures?

If it's not a coincidence, surely the will of the Constellation Palace couldn't have secretly influenced his decisions...

Recalling his state when deciding to purchase the fire-type treasures, Lu Ye remembers hesitating because buying from Grand Hall 88 was more expensive than buying from All Phenomena Ocean. At that time, he considered that with so much spirit jade on hand and Grand Hall 88 being rich in resources, it was convenient to purchase, so he didn't dwell on questions of price.

Now looking back, even with plenty of spirit jade at hand, buying like that inevitably cost nearly an extra million spirit jade.

That's no small amount.

If he were to choose again, he would undoubtedly think more carefully and wouldn't easily make that decision.

Was it truly the will of the Constellation Palace that interfered with his judgment and decisions? Lu Ye could no longer determine.

And now, delving into this seems meaningless.

After a brief rest, Lu Ye continued with the weeding.

Generally, after a cultivator's promotion, it's best to spend some time settling one's cultivation and getting familiar with the enhanced strength.

But Lu Ye had no need for this. By delving into the All Phenomena Ocean, he was passively settling his cultivation, and the efficiency of this settling was particularly high!

Under his inner sight, vast, pure energy flowed into his body, promoting the condensation of his essence into tiny golden lights within his inner organs.

Several days later, when Lu Ye cleared the last piece of sea grass off the outer wall of the Constellation Palace, the entire palace shook just like the first time he encountered this situation, but this time the shaking lasted noticeably longer.

It was as if after a long period of neglect, someone was feeling refreshed and comfortable after a thorough bath.

Lu Ye felt a bit uneasy.

Whether clearing the sea grass for the Constellation Palace was indeed the purpose of him being brought here by the palace, he couldn't be sure.

Now that the sea grass had been cleared, if it turned out that all his efforts were futile, that would be disastrous.

The purchased fire-type treasures were thoroughly used up, and the fuel reserves for his Talent Tree were dwindling. He couldn't stay in the seawater much longer.

Lu Ye turned around and returned to the Constellation Palace.

Upon stepping into the Constellation Palace, something immediately caught his attention.

Apart from the pitch-black stone tablet inside the Constellation Palace, there was only the pile of sea grass Lu Ye had accumulated in the corner, but this time there was something additional.

Correction, there were two additional items!

Lu Ye quickly moved forward, channeling spirit force to protect himself as he observed closely.

At a glance, he was greatly surprised.

Because one of the items was actually a tiny palace, roughly the size of a palm, and from its appearance, it was identical to the Constellation Palace.

What is this? Has the Constellation Palace spawned offspring?

Probing with his Mental Consciousness, he found no peculiarities, but Lu Ye realized that his initial guess was probably correct.

Chapter 1465 - Constellation Palace's Reward

The Constellation Palace brought him here to remove weeds, and now that the task is completed, this is probably the reward given by the Constellation Palace.

The Cumulated Points Ranking has rewards; the most basic reward is a chance to upgrade to Moon Jade in the Constellation Palace at any time. The higher the ranking, the longer the stay in the Constellation Palace, and if ranked among the top ten, there are additional special rewards.

Lu Ye missed the ranking battle and didn't earn any ranking, but if the green sea conch's effect continues to work, he could visit the Constellation Palace anytime in the future, and he'll be going to the main palace, unlike other cultivators who only enter a projection.

So, from this perspective, missing the ranking battle didn't cause him much loss.

Now the Constellation Palace has given a special reward again, and it seems like he's made a gain.

It's just unknown what use this small Constellation Palace has.

Quickly stepping forward, Lu Ye picked up the drastically miniaturized Constellation Palace. It was slightly heavy, but upon close inspection, there was nothing extraordinary about it.

Attempting to inject spirit force, it could not be infused, as this small Constellation Palace seemed unable to accept his spirit force, and probing with Mental Consciousness also revealed nothing special.

Lu Ye frowned, pondering what this thing could be used for.

It is certain that since it is a treasure bestowed by the Constellation Palace, it must not be useless—definitely a treasure; unfortunately, he couldn't figure out its purpose immediately.

After some more attempts and still not understanding its use, Lu Ye put it away to explore later when he has time.

Lu Ye turned to look at the second item, placed next to the small Constellation Palace—a very small short sword, only about finger-length, which Lu Ye initially overlooked.

Reaching out to take it, he felt an icy chill to the bone, and only by slightly channeling spirit force to isolate did he feel better.

Is this a spirit treasure or a magic treasure? It doesn't seem to fit the bill.

Lu Ye tried infusing his spirit force into the short sword, and this time, the sword didn't reject it, yet it showed no reaction, nor could he detect any traces of restrictions.

Without restrictions, it's not a spirit treasure or magic treasure; could it be an exotic treasure?

If this is an exotic treasure bestowed by the Constellation Palace, it must be terrifyingly destructive.

But this item seems like a black hole, absorbing all the power Lu Ye channels into it, yet showing no reaction.

Why are both treasures from the Constellation Palace so strange? Lu Ye knew that even if he asked the Constellation Palace, he wouldn't get an answer, as this stellar space supreme treasure, though having its will, never interacts with him.

With a move of his Mental Consciousness, he prepared to inspect the short sword closely.

However, just as his Mental Consciousness entered the short sword, Lu Ye's expression drastically changed, and he instinctively retreated back, while the Boulder Mountain Saber erupted from its sheath and slashed forward.

Because within his vision, a vague figure mysteriously appeared, seemingly holding a saber and casually swinging it at him.

Light spread out like a big sun exploding, a lotus slowly blossomed, and in the immense crisis, Lu Ye executed his strongest saber skills.

As the lotus dissipated, Lu Ye maintained the pose of having swung his saber, gasping heavily, his clothes soaked in sweat, eyes filled with lingering fear.

A slight stinging sensation emerged in his mind, a consequence of his Mental Consciousness being slashed, not severe, capable of recovery after some respite.

In front of him, there was no figure, as if what he saw was just an illusion.

But Lu Ye knew it wasn't an illusion; he truly saw it—the eerie scene was incredibly real. Moreover, the figure's saber skills were far superior to his, and his Sun Blaze was utterly defeated before the opponent.

This wasn't merely a difference in cultivation but a disparity in saber skills level.

In his mind, he constantly recalled that flash of saber light, and Lu Ye gained a slight understanding.

Taking a deep breath, he sheathed his saber and looked at the short sword in his hand, slowly revealing joy.

He hadn't figured out what the small Constellation Palace was for, but he roughly knew what the short sword was.

This item turned out to be an inheritance! Its nature is similar to the Tyrannical Saber Technique inheritance he obtained from the secret realm of Soaring Dragon World, except the Tyrannical Saber Technique's inheritance was a black stone, while this inheritance is a short sword.

And in terms of level, this inheritance is far more powerful than the Tyrannical Saber Technique, given it was bestowed by the Constellation Palace; its level is undoubtedly high.

This certainly is like someone offering a pillow when you're feeling sleepy.

Forced to upgrade to Constellation Late Stage, Lu Ye originally intended to slow down his cultivation progress for a while, planning to seize this time to improve his saber skills.

His current saber skills mainly stem from the Tyrannical Saber Technique inheritance, gaining not only the Tyrannical Saber 3rd Movement but a complete set of the entire system. Even when not executing the Tyrannical Saber 3rd Movement in battles, every slash is actually an extension and expansion of the Tyrannical Saber Technique, his own understanding and insight into it.

Because the Tyrannical Saber Technique's philosophy aligns perfectly with his combat style, he appears incredibly aggressive and domineering, irrationally oppressive; complemented with his profound solid foundation, he often achieves victory over foes despite weakness, fighting above his rank.

But in the end, the Tyrannical Saber Technique is only the inheritance obtained from the secret realm of Soaring Dragon World, seemingly adequate in Constellation Realm clashes, but Lu Ye worries whether upon upgrading to Moon Jade, it will still hold, especially if encountering opponents restraining the Tyrannical Saber Technique, thereby he would be forced to hold back.

He naturally needed to plan ahead. At the pace of his cultivation, it wouldn't take many years for him to ascend to Moon Jade.

But improving his saber skills wasn't an easy feat. The Nine Provinces had just connected with the stellar space. Without a powerful background or a patron, although there were many strong combat cultivators in the All Phenomena Ocean who wielded sabers, Lu Ye had no ties with them, so how could they be willing to teach him?

Lu Ye initially thought about whether he could try to find a way through the All Phenomena Merchants Guild to buy some treasured items of saber skill legacies, willing to pay any huge price.

Unexpectedly, the Constellation Palace directly bestowed upon him this gift.

This showed that the Constellation Palace's will was not inattentive to him. They knew what he currently lacked and gave him precisely what he needed.

Recalling the slash that had just struck him, Lu Ye was invigorated. It was completely different from the concept of the Tyrannical Saber Technique. The hazy figure's slash was extremely elegant, greatly benefiting Lu Ye. He felt that if he could comprehend this legacy, his saber skills would significantly improve.

Just as he was about to try again, Lu Ye suddenly felt a constriction all around him, as if an invisible large hand had grasped him.

Startled for a moment, Lu Ye quickly understood.

His task here was complete, and the Constellation Palace had bestowed their reward; they were going to transport him away!

He slightly bowed, offering his thanks. Though the Constellation Palace caused him to miss the ranking battle, he received all the benefits he deserved, at the mere cost of two months' hard work, which Lu Ye was willing to accept. In comparison, he had gained much more.

In the next moment, Lu Ye felt the world spin, blinding him.

When he regained his senses, he found himself amidst the stellar space.

Looking around, he quickly spotted the vast ocean in the distance, which was the All Phenomena Ocean!

He had returned to the All Phenomena Star System.

Where should he go? Lu Ye pondered briefly. In this vast All Phenomena Star System, he ultimately was just a passerby, with no particular place to go.

After some thought, Lu Ye decided to first test whether he could still activate the power of the green sea conch. If he could, he would be able to return to the Constellation Palace at any time in the future.

Inside the Constellation Palace, there was a sea conch seal he had left, and this attempt was related to whether he could open a unique financial path for himself.

It wasn't good to attempt here; activating the power of the green sea conch would leave a portal at the original location, so he had to find a secluded spot with no one around.

Looking around, he saw a small dead star nearby, and Lu Ye swiftly moved towards it.

He sensed spirit force fluctuations coming from not far away, indicating that cultivators were approaching. Lu Ye turned to look and found that there were indeed quite a few of them, six in total.

However, strangely, the spirit force emanating from these six people was all at the Constellation Early Stage.

Upon a closer look, Lu Ye's expression grew even stranger because he recognized the one leading them.

Chu Shen!

It was quite a coincidence that just after returning from the Constellation Palace, he encountered this guy.

However, while Chu Shen knew Fa Wuzun, he had no connection with Li Taibai. Moreover, this guy was a young lord of Cheling World, supported by a Sun Blaze powerhouse. What they were up to now, Lu Ye did not know.

On closer inspection, Lu Ye's expression became even more peculiar.

He initially thought those following Chu Shen were his subordinates, but now it was clear they weren't, because he recognized all five of them.

Little Dumb, Little Crooked, the sisters Cai Xing and Cai Yue, even the Invincible Lucky Star was there!

This was puzzling; how did these people end up together?

Lu Ye could understand Chu Shen having contact with the Invincible Lucky Star, as the two had worked together once before and might have left audio talisman markings with each other.

But Little Dumb and the others clearly didn't know Chu Shen.

At this moment, five beauties of differing temperaments were following behind Chu Shen, who appeared pleased and full of himself, seemingly having encountered something delightful and was quite joyful.

This joy was even more pronounced upon seeing Lu Ye!

Chu Shen stared at Lu Ye for a while, then shouted, "Well, look at that! I scoured far and wide, only to find you here without any effort!"

Lu Ye was taken aback, not knowing what Chu Shen wanted with him.

Come to think of it, Li Taibai and Chu Shen had no friendship, rather they seemed to have a slight grudge. Once, when Chu Shen ran away from home, it was Li Taibai who caught him and returned him for a bounty of ten thousand spirit jade.

Then Lu Ye heard Chu Shen give a low command: "Form up!"

Chapter 1466 - Fa Wuzun Is My Big Brother!

As Chu Shen's words fell, Little Dumb immediately summoned an As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc. As if rehearsed countless times, the six figures became instantly interconnected; as spirit force surged, a giant Black Tortoise appeared out of thin air.

Chu Shen stood at the forefront, occupying the position Lu Ye once held. To the left and right of the Black Tortoise's forelimbs were the sisters Cai Xing and Cai Yue. Behind them were Little Dumb and Little Crooked, with Lucky Star at the tail.

The formation of six people was undoubtedly more solid than the previous five-person formation of the Black Tortoise.

Lu Ye's eyes twitched. He never expected that just upon returning to the All Phenomena Galaxy, he would be confronted by his former companions. Moreover, they used the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc he had sold!

Although array discs are precious and not yet widely available, given Chu Shen's status, acquiring one wasn't too difficult.

Chu Shen laughed loudly, "I told you last time, sooner or later, I'd get my revenge. You didn't believe me. Kid, if you admit your mistake and apologize now, it's not too late. Otherwise, I'll beat you into a pig-head!"

He clearly remembered the time Lu Ye captured him back to Cheling World. Now feeling capable of retaliating, he didn't hesitate.

He hadn't intended to kill Lu Ye; there wasn't any deep-seated hatred. It was merely a chance encounter to teach him a lesson.

Lu Ye only looked at him expressionlessly, as if he hadn't heard a word.

Annoyed, Chu Shen waved his hand and said, "Get him!"

The six of them formed the array. Though all were at the Constellation Early Stage, the Black Tortoise Array was inherently defensive. So even against a Constellation Late Stage, they could hold their own.

Besides, Chu Shen knew the guy in front was merely a Constellation Mid-Stage. He had fought Lu Ye when he was captured before.

At Chu Shen's command, the Black Tortoise Array's forelimbs swung fiercely, and two sword streams surged forward, merging mid-flight, resembling a giant sword carried in the Black Tortoise's mouth.

The rotating and tumbling sword stream surged forth like an attacking sword dragon. Such a force was indeed extraordinary, comparable to the full strength of a Constellation Mid-Stage cultivator.

Lu Ye remained quietly standing there, as if he were too scared to move.

As the sword dragon approached, Chu Shen hesitated, not intending to kill Lu Ye but just to teach him a lesson as a release for past grievances. Yet seeing him so vulnerable to the formation, he seemed different from the ferocity he had shown in their previous one-on-one fight.

Instinctively, Chu Shen adjusted the formation slightly to the side, shifting the giant sword's trajectory.

Then, Lu Ye's figure moved, disregarding Chu Shen's intentions, sliding past the Black Tortoise's side, heading straight for the rear.

"Dream on!" Chu Shen shouted in anger, instantly realizing Lu Ye's plan—it was a beeline toward Little Dumb, who had activated the array disc's power.

An array is formidable once formed, but if the array disc is destroyed, the formation collapses effortlessly.

Chu Shen would not let such a thing happen. He had painstakingly acquired this array disc through his mother; it was not easy to obtain another one before they were mass-produced in the home galaxy.

Even with less combat experience, Chu Shen's instinct was remarkable. Upon detecting Lu Ye's intent, he immediately led the formation to maneuver, attempting to make Little Dumb evade Lu Ye's assault.

Simultaneously, the sword dragon pursued Lu Ye. Moreover, the Black Tortoise's defensive power was activated, redirecting a massive spirit force to Little Dumb's position, forming a protective barrier.

Despite Chu Shen's efforts, Lu Ye, having endured many hardships, reached Little Dumb's location accurately. The Boulder Mountain Saber was drawn, its blade shining like snow.

Little Dumb shuddered; anyone sensing such a threat at close range would naturally feel a primal fear.

The light flashed as the Boulder Mountain Saber struck a yard before Little Dumb, halted by an invisible protective barrier, while the sword dragon was already upon them.

Chu Shen was slightly stunned, feeling something was amiss.

For he suddenly realized that this man called Li Taibai had actually advanced to the Constellation Late Stage!

Six at the Constellation Early Stage in a Black Tortoise formation facing a single Constellation Mid-Stage was a sure win; against a Constellation Late Stage, there was still a chance, but it would surely be a tough battle!

Just as he was about to turn back to fight, he abruptly noticed the Black Tortoise formation's spirit force consumption was extraordinarily intense, with the source of depletion precisely where Li Taibai attacked.

Chu Shen was aghast, never expecting Li Taibai's strike to have such terrifying power.

As the sword dragon closed in, Lu Ye was about to evade when the Black Tortoise's tail suddenly swept over. From the tail's position, Lucky Star's ten fingernails grew crazily as the person's aura turned extremely frenzied, as if fighting Lu Ye was a life-or-death struggle.

Having collaborated with Lucky Star before, Lu Ye knew this woman might appear delicate, but once in combat, she turned into a madwoman, sparing no extremities and disregarding her own life.

Lu Ye turned back and slashed at the sword dragon. Cai Xing and Cai Yue's faces changed as the sword dragon shattered.

Lu Ye kicked out again, aiming at the abdomen of the attacking Lucky Star, trying to send her flying. Unexpectedly, Lucky Star didn't budge at all, and even absorbed the forceful kick, her hands flailing as she lunged at Lu Ye with ferocity.

"Well done!" Chu Shen exclaimed in delight, suddenly producing a treasure mirror in his hand. As spirit force was activated, the treasure mirror emitted a mystic light, aiming at Lu Ye, who was entangled with Lucky Star.

Lu Ye knew the power of the Body-stiffening Mirror, but with the Talent Tree supporting him, he was not afraid of the mirror's immobilizing effect. Hence, he did not dodge; instead, he held Lucky Star in place as she attempted to evade.

The mystic light from the treasure mirror hit both Lu Ye and Lucky Star, leaving Lu Ye unscathed, while Lucky Star's body froze.

Chu Shen thought to himself that this was bad. Lu Ye had already kicked Lucky Star flying and his long saber was once again thrusting towards Little Dumb.

Chu Shen hurriedly manipulated the array to try to dodge, making the entire Black Tortoise Array seem to come alive, becoming extremely agile under his control.

However, no matter how he manipulated it, he couldn't evade Lu Ye's attacks.

What shocked him more was that the protective power of the Black Tortoise Array seemed unable to fully withstand the assaults.

The sword dragon from Cai Xing and Cai Yue came spinning back once more, but before it could reach, the protection of the Black Tortoise Array was already breached.

The Boulder Mountain Saber stabbed towards Little Dumb, leaving her face pale.

With a cracking sound, Little Dumb didn't feel pain, but the array disc she was holding shattered.

The giant Black Tortoise collapsed with a crash!

The energy connection between the group immediately broke. Chu Shen produced another treasure in his hand, which looked like a big seal. Its mystical properties remained unknown, but the moment he took it out, his body stiffened and he dared not move, only his eyes darting around.

A jet-black long saber appeared at his neck, its cold blade sending shivers through his skin.

Beside him, five women stared blankly at the scene, their eyes complex, none expected that their Black Tortoise Array would be shattered this way.

The confrontation was brief, but everyone felt the horror and power of Lu Ye. Such a figure was definitely not a typical Constellation Late Stage.

"Who were you planning to beat up into a pig's head?" Lu Ye asked faintly.

Chu Shen chuckled awkwardly and said, "Fellow Daoist misunderstood, I never said I would beat anyone into a pig's head. I was just happy to see Fellow Daoist and came to greet you."

Being at someone else's mercy, Chu Shen was somewhat puzzled about how he ended up in this situation twice against one person. Originally thinking he could avenge himself, but unexpectedly, the person had advanced to Constellation Late Stage, where is justice?

"So it was just a greeting!" Lu Ye nodded slightly.

He didn't intend to do anything to Chu Shen. After all, Chu Shen had been very helpful during the previous auction. Yet it would be unreasonable to let him go since Li Taibai had no relationship with Chu Shen.

Moreover, Chu Shen's reckless character might benefit from a bit of a loss.

"How do you plan on resolving this?" Lu Ye asked, staring at Chu Shen's arms and legs as if choosing which one to cut off.

Feeling Lu Ye's hostility, Chu Shen's heart sank, knowing things might not end peacefully today. He straightened his neck and said, "Do you know who I am, Fellow Daoist?"

Lu Ye looked at him casually, "A young master from Cheling World, offspring of a Sun Blaze powerhouse!"

Chu Shen sneered, "My mother forbade me from using her name, so I have nothing to do with Cheling World now!"

"Oh?" Lu Ye raised his brow, "So it wouldn't matter if I kill you here?"

Chu Shen snorted, "You can try if you have the guts. Don't be afraid; I'll tell you, I'm Fa Wuzun's little brother, Fa Wuzun is my big brother. If you touch me, Leader Fa will come after you, and with tenfold vengeance!"

Lu Ye's eyelid twitched, his expression odd, "Fa Wuzun is your big brother?"

"True as it gets!" Chu Shen beamed, pointing at Little Dumb and others, "See them? If you've seen the Melee Battle Meet, you should recognize them. They're my big brother's confidants who fought alongside him!"

He had an agreement with Jiu Yan that he must not use her name for his actions; if he broke it, Jiu Yan would immediately drag him back to Cheling World. Since he couldn't use his mother's name, using his elder brother Fa Wuzun's wouldn't be an issue, right? It wouldn't violate his pact with Jiu Yan.

"Also, last time my big brother held an auction, I helped host it. The amount of spirit jade that passed through my hands was astronomical, and my big brother values me greatly. If you dare harm me, he won't take it lying down! If you don't believe it, feel free to inquire!"

Chapter 1467 - Exposed

Chu Shen boasted wildly, causing Lu Ye to furrow his brows.

How did Little Dumb and the others become my confidantes?

Seeing Lu Ye remain silent, Chu Shen assumed that the name of Fa Wuzun had intimidated him, so he earnestly said, "My big brother is a rare talent of a millennium, he turned the Melee Battle Meet into a river of blood with just a Constellation Mid-Stage cultivation, and not even someone like Zhou Yuchuan could match him. If he hadn't been delayed by urgent matters this time, getting first on the Cumulated Points Ranking would have been easy! Fellow Daoist, it's said that enemies should be resolved rather than knotted. This time, it's on me, Chu Shen, to be blamed. Feel free to kill or slash me, but they have nothing to do with this matter, please let them go!"

He had a bold and generous demeanor, appearing righteous.

Lu Ye didn't actually intend to kill or slash him, he just wanted to teach him a lesson, and his interest had waned by now. He put away the Boulder Mountain Saber and waved his hand: "You may leave."

Chu Shen's face lit up with joy, silently noting the effectiveness of Leader Fa's name, and immediately signaled to Little Dumb and the others, took a few steps back, cupped his hands, and said, "Thank you, Fellow Daoist, the green mountains will never change, the rivers will always flow, till we meet again!"

Before he finished speaking, Lu Ye had already leaped into the distance.

Since the battle settled, several women had remained vigilant against Lu Ye, except for Little Dumb, who kept assessing him up and down. Now seeing Lu Ye about to leave, she suddenly called out: "Senior Brother Fa?"

Chu Shen was overwhelmed with joy and quickly turned around: "Is my big brother here? Where?"

Yet he saw nothing.

Looking towards Little Dumb, he saw her still staring fixedly in the direction Li Taibai had left. Chu Shen frowned: "Who are you calling?"

Little Dumb said, "Don't you think his back looks a lot like Senior Brother Fa's? Moreover, the style and moves he just used are very similar to Senior Brother Fa's."

Having followed Lu Ye through a Melee Battle Meet, Little Dumb usually seemed simple-minded, but her observation skills were meticulous.

If she hadn't said it, the others wouldn't have thought in that direction, but hearing her say it, when they looked at Lu Ye's back again, they found it indeed very similar to Fa Wuzun's, and recalling the earlier situation of Lu Ye's move, they were immediately filled with doubt.

Fa Wuzun was a combat cultivator wielding a blade, and Lu Ye was also a combat cultivator wielding a blade; there were too many similarities!

Chu Shen's eyelids twitched violently: "How could he possibly be Leader Fa?"

Impossible! Absolutely impossible!

Suddenly, as if recalling something: "Yes, Leader Fa is only Constellation Mid-Stage, while this person is already Constellation Late Stage, so he isn't Leader Fa!"

Cai Xing said leisurely, "Cultivation can be advanced, and this person's strength is so formidable, he must be a top-ranking powerhouse on the Cumulated Points Ranking, from how he performed just now, breaking into the top thirty is absolutely no problem, but the top thirty on the Cumulated Points Ranking seems to not have this person."

Able to single-handedly break through their array in such a short time, how could it be something an ordinary Constellation Late Stage could achieve? This was definitely a powerhouse ranking high on the Cumulated Points Ranking, but as far as they knew, the powerhouses currently high on the Cumulated Points Ranking were all in the Constellation Palace preparing to advance to Moon Jade, no reason to linger outside.

Unless it's someone with such strength but isn't on the Cumulated Points Ranking.

There's only one such person, and that's Fa Wuzun, who for some unknown reason didn't participate in the ranking war!

Since that auction, all major forces had been searching for Fa Wuzun's whereabouts, probing his information, wanting him to work for them, but since that auction, Fa Wuzun seemed to disappear into thin air.

Some speculated he had gained over a billion spirit jade, was afraid of being targeted by the strong, so he left the Constellation Palace early, which is why he didn't participate in the ranking war, a guess that many agreed with, after all, ranking on the Cumulated Points Ranking in Constellation Palace is a huge opportunity for cultivators of the Constellation Realm, and no one would give up easily unless forced.

And Fa Wuzun being an alias was easy for anyone to tell, since the name was an alias, he must have also done some disguising, and his appearance was surely not real.

So now, although many forces are searching for Fa Wuzun, none have found anything.

Little Dumb and the others who had close contact with Fa Wuzun, if not staying by Chu Shen's side, would have likely been taken by those forces for questioning long ago.

Though Jiu Yan prohibited Chu Shen from using her name outside, his relationship with Jiu Yan could not be excluded, and him gathering these women around unknowingly saved them from a significant trouble, otherwise, being taken by those major forces for questioning would definitely not have been pleasant.

But Chu Shen was still unwilling to believe, resolutely saying: "He isn't Leader Fa!"

Cai Yue, curious: "How did you see that?"

Chu Shen said, "I've known Leader Fa the longest, his true appearance I have seen, so he couldn't be Leader Fa."

His confident assurance made the women no longer suspicious, there are many people in this world with similar back views, if there's someone whose back resembles Fa Wuzun's and is also a blade-wielding combat cultivator, it's not unusual.

"Let's go!" Chu Shen called, leading the group flying towards All Phenomena Ocean.

No one noticed the slight trembling of his fingers, clearly from excitement!

Leading forward, he quietly took out his audio talisman and sent out a message.

Lu Ye, flying towards that dead star, felt the vibration of the audio talisman, and upon taking it out, found it was a message from Chu Shen.

"Big brother, you're back?"

Lu Ye sighed faintly, Chu Shen, that guy, seems indeed smart; he's likely seen through me!

Lu Ye didn't think anyone could connect him with Fa Wuzun, because no one had contact with Fa Wuzun for too long, even the specter and Piao Ke, probably didn't see through, because after participating in the Melee Battle Meet, he specifically bought a Crimson Dragon Saber to replace the Boulder Mountain Saber, and along with his disguise, it was flawless at the Constellation Realm level.

But Chu Shen was different; he had seen the Boulder Mountain Saber.

The first time Lu Ye collaborated with Chu Shen, he used the Boulder Mountain Saber. Invincible Lucky Star was also there, but just now, when he placed the long saber against Chu Shen's neck, he had his back turned to Invincible Lucky Star, so she likely didn't see the Boulder Mountain Saber.

Similar builds, both combat cultivators using long sabers—it would be hard for Chu Shen not to make some connections unless he was particularly dull.

Otherwise, it's too much of a coincidence to message him like this; it's clearly a test.

"What's up?" Lu Ye replied.

"Nothing, just haven't seen you in a while, brother. I miss you. When are you free? I'd like to pay a visit!"

"Been a bit busy lately, I'll let you know when I'm free!"

"No rush, brother, take care of your business first."

After a few casual exchanges, the communication ended.

Lu Ye held his audio talisman, pondering. It now seemed likely that Chu Shen suspected he was Fa Wuzun, but it was evident from Chu Shen's tone that he didn't intend to expose him and was willing to keep his secret. Based on their prior interactions, Lu Ye was inclined to trust him.

On the other hand, to a lone cultivator like Lu Ye, a fortune of over a hundred million spirit jade was staggering wealth, but to a domain like Cheling World, it probably wasn't much.

Chu Shen had no reason to reveal his secret for this.

The group of girls followed Chu Shen flying towards the All Phenomena Ocean. Strangely, they felt he seemed in good spirits. Once at the All Phenomena Ocean, Chu Shen even took them to the All Phenomena Island, treated them to a fine meal at a restaurant, and spent an amount of spirit jade that caused the girls great heartache.

Coming from impoverished backgrounds, they had never seen such grand occasions, and the expense of that meal could have funded their cultivation for years.

Meanwhile, Lu Ye had reached the dead star, found a hidden cave, set up numerous Formations for protection, and took out his green sea conch.

Whether he could open a personal path to wealth depended on this!

Placing the green sea conch to his lips, he gently blew and infused spirit force into it. Joy filled Lu Ye's heart as the conch responded.

The tip of the conch shimmered with a cyan light, growing brighter and streaming out, tinting the space before him green, and twisting into a portal!

Lu Ye put the green sea conch away immediately and dashed through the portal.

He appeared in the Constellation Palace, the very spot he had visited before. The seaweed he had brought still piled high in a corner, and a glance around revealed no evidence of others having been there.

The main door of the Constellation Palace was shut, which made Lu Ye frown slightly. If memory served, the door had been open when he left, and he couldn't fathom why it was closed now.

As he stepped forward to investigate, he perked up, listening intently.

He vaguely detected some sound outside. Listening closely, there indeed were sounds.

Quickly reaching the main door, he extended his hands and slowly pushed it open.

A mere crack in the door, and a figure burst in from outside—Bai Lu, astride her seahorse star beast.

Entering the hall, Bai Lu fumed, "You were in here? Why did it take so long to open the door!"

She had been calling outside for ages without any response and almost presumed Lu Ye wasn't inside.

"You've been here long?" Lu Ye asked, surprised.

"Yes!" Bai Lu nodded.

"You could have come in on your own."

"I couldn't open it!" Bai Lu replied.

"That can't be." Lu Ye recalled that it had been Bai Lu's seahorse that had busted this door open previously, and since then, it had remained ajar.

If the seahorse could get it open, Bai Lu should have managed too.

"Truly couldn't open it!" Bai Lu insisted, her expression seemed sincere.

Lu Ye pondered a moment, casually closed the Constellation Palace's door again, and suggested, "Try once more!"

"It's the same no matter how many times I try." Bai Lu said as she pushed the door, but Lu Ye noticed no matter how much force she applied, the Constellation Palace's door wouldn't budge.

This was peculiar indeed.

Lu Ye glanced at her seahorse, "Let it have a go, it was the one that busted the door last time."

The seahorse, intelligent as ever, acted without Bai Lu's command, yet oddly, this time it couldn't budge the door either.

"What's going on?" Lu Ye was puzzled.

Chapter 1468 - Return to the All Phenomena Ocean

In a moment of confusion, Lu Ye casually closed the Constellation Palace's doors again, then reopened them, then closed them, then opened them—there was no difficulty at all!

Bai Lu watched with delight: "Li Taibai, you truly are favored by the Divine Temple!"

If not favored by the Divine Temple, there was no reason for others to be unable to open the door while Lu Ye could.

Lu Ye remained noncommittal, because it was a fact that the seahorse had previously been able to ram open the doors, but now couldn't, there were only two possibilities. One was timing—the seahorse rammed open the doors when the Constellation Palace was in contention, so at that time the doors could be freely opened and closed.

The other possibility was the Constellation Palace's own will—at that moment it was willing to let the seahorse in, so the doors were rammed open.

But no matter which possibility, the current situation was that Lu Ye could open the doors, while Bai Lu and the seahorse could not.

Presumably, others also couldn't.

"Li Taibai, the Great Elder said if you're free, you should go explore the territory more often; you're so lonely here by yourself." Bai Lu spoke.

The Great Elder never said this; it was just Bai Lu using the Great Elder's name to speak. She indeed felt pity seeing Lu Ye alone and wanted to take him to the lively Merfolk Territory.

Lu Ye shook his head saying, "I must leave. Since you're here, I'll take it as a farewell."

Bai Lu was dazed for a moment, then her expression changed slightly: "Where are you going?"

Lu Ye raised a hand and pointed upwards: "Of course, to where I came from."

Bai Lu was completely stupefied.

She never thought Lu Ye could actually leave here, because in her and even the Great Elder's view, since Lu Ye had drifted to this place, he probably couldn't leave anymore. After all, the dangers hidden beneath the All Phenomena Ocean would prevent even someone with the freedom to move from going too far.

For a moment, it was hard to accept.

Just as Lu Ye was about to say more, he suddenly sensed something and turned his head to look towards the portal, frowning: "Not much time left, I must go!"

Only then did Bai Lu regain her senses, looking at the portal and faintly understand: "Is that portal leading to the outside world?"

Lu Ye nodded, an idea came to him: "Want to go see together?"

Bai Lu's expression turned sorrowful: "Did you forget? My race is poisoned by the Curse Poison. Without the isolation of the All Phenomena Ocean's water, we would immediately die. I can't go outside."

"That's alright, I will come by often in the future, please pass a message to the Queen and the Great Elder, thanking your race for their previous generosity."

"Oh, okay." Bai Lu replied blankly.

"Then I'm off." Lu Ye said and rushed towards the portal.

Just as he reached the portal, Bai Lu's voice called from behind: "Li Taibai!"

Lu Ye stopped and turned back, seeing Bai Lu smiling at him: "When you have time, remember to come back and visit!"

Lu Ye nodded, then turned and rushed into the portal.

As his figure disappeared, the portal vanished along with him.

Bai Lu looked on, feeling a sense of loss. The seahorse seemed to sense its owner's sadness, nudging Bai Lu's body.

Suddenly there was a commotion behind, Bai Lu turned to look and hurriedly said: "Let's go!"

Somehow, the doors of the Constellation Palace were slowly closing, if they didn't leave now, they would be trapped.

Riding the seahorse outside the Constellation Palace, watching the palace doors close, Bai Lu tried stubbornly once more, only to find she still couldn't open the doors.

She increasingly believed the Great Elder's previous assessment, thinking if Li Taibai wasn't favored by the Divine Temple, there's no reason only he could open the doors.

In the cave of the dead star, Lu Ye reappeared.

He noticed an issue, the portal this time lasted much shorter than when he was in the Constellation Palace.

He vaguely guessed it was due to distance.

Being in the Constellation Palace, the distance to the Merfolk Territory wasn't too far, so the portal could last longer. But here, on a dead star in the All Phenomena Galaxy, the distance to the Constellation Palace was still far, causing the portal to last much shorter.

This suggests that while the green sea conch can be used within the All Phenomena Galaxy, there must be a distance constraint—beyond a certain distance, the portal might not open, or if it does, it won't stay open.

Immediately following, he thought of something—if now the front gate of the Constellation Palace can only be opened by himself, could he store these storage rings in the Constellation Palace?

No one can enter, so there's no chance of anything being lost. It won't be too late to retrieve them when needed. Anyway, the interval time for using the green sea conch is short, which won't affect its use.

It's better than stringing the storage rings together and hanging them around his waist.

He secretly decided that the next time he enters the Constellation Palace, he'll do just that!

The effects of the green sea conch have already been tested, and the results are satisfactory. Lu Ye immediately exited the cave, summoned his starboat, and headed towards the All Phenomena Ocean.

He's going on a shopping spree!

He previously thought that the fire-type treasures he bought at Grand Hall 88 for ten million spirit jade would last him a long time. Who would have thought that one trip to the Constellation Palace would deplete his previous reserves completely, and even the fuel stored in the Talent Tree is nearly gone.

The Talent Tree is his most relied-upon treasure, forming the foundation of his cultivation. It's crucial to have adequate fuel reserves.

So no matter what, this time he needs to buy more fire-type treasures, letting the Talent Tree devour them to avoid encountering similar situations again.

The All Phenomena Ocean, as always, is vast and magnificent, but upon entering this time, Lu Ye immediately noticed the difference from before.

Conflicts between major forces have noticeably increased.

The All Phenomena Ocean is far from peaceful, with many battles occurring almost daily.

Previously, such clashes were only skirmishes between cultivators, with most being small-scale. Even on occasions where a faction's Spirit Island was attacked, it wasn't too frequent.

But upon this return, he passed by no less than seven or eight scenes of Spirit Islands being attacked.

Moreover, the attacking factions all had array discs to aid them, forming various arrays with great power!

Lu Ye immediately understood: the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc he created is starting to influence the pattern of the All Phenomena Ocean.

The All Phenomena Ocean has rules—non-home Star System Sun Blaze cultivators can't linger for long, and even if they come, they must leave after a certain period. The number of Moon Jade cultivators is also limited; each faction can only have a certain number stationed on the All Phenomena Ocean.

This is a way for the All Phenomena Galaxy to restrict foreign forces—as long as there are fewer powerful figures, they have better control over the situation. If there were too many, managing them would be difficult.

From ancient times till now, all major forces have adhered to this rule, as this is someone else's territory, and a powerful entity can't suppress a local force forever. Furthermore, the foreign factions themselves do not wish to break this rule, as interests are intertwined—pulling one hair affects the whole body. If anyone were to break this rule, it would be unmanageable.

So before, even if a Spirit Island was attacked, if the powers of both sides were similar, the attacking side usually wouldn't succeed unless they had overwhelming power. But if they had overwhelming power, then the Spirit Island occupied by the weaker side wouldn't be desirable anyway.

But now, with the help of the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc, if five Constellation Late Stage cultivators form an array, they can be used as equivalent to ordinary Moon Jade cultivators. What faction doesn't have several Constellation Late Stage cultivators who can form arrays? This instantly gives a side several fake Moon Jade cultivators.

Once these fake Moon Jade cultivators join the conflict, they significantly impact the situation, and the side without array discs will undoubtedly suffer.

Therefore, when Jiu Yan first learned about the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc, she immediately understood its enormous value, as this item can truly change the current cultivation world's pattern.

It allows Constellation Late Stage cultivators to have the ability to contend with ordinary Moon Jade cultivators.

Currently, only two or three months have passed since Lu Ye held the auction, and this trend is already emerging. All major factions that won the array disc bids have now invested large numbers of personnel to crack the secrets of the array discs. Though Lu Ye left behind countermeasures, causing many discs to explode during research and cracking, with a hundred copies and ten thousand discs out there, inevitably a faction will crack it eventually.

Then, the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc will inevitably be widely popularized, posing a blow to ordinary Moon Jade cultivators.

After struggling to cultivate up to Moon Jade Realm, one hoped to stand above the rest, only to find several Constellation Late Stage cultivators forming arrays to contend against them—definitely a bitter realization.

Some factions even researched letting Moon Jade cultivators use array discs to form arrays to see if they could counteract Sun Blaze cultivators, but a slight attempt revealed that array discs aren't suitable for Moon Jade use, due to limited coverage, which Constellation cultivators can barely handle, but definitely not Moon Jade cultivators.

Moreover, strong cultivators at the Moon Jade level wouldn't be accustomed to collaborating with others unless relationships are very close.

Many strong figures from various factions have already predicted the impact of array discs on the future situation. Regardless of the faction, whoever can lead the way in mass-producing array discs will certainly gain a substantial advantage in future conflicts.

However, large-scale production of array discs is not an easy task. In two or three months, factions have researched the mysteries of array discs thoroughly, but not completely.

It is known that the key to crafting these items lies in those special spirit runes. But spirit runes are not something that can be constructed on a whim, especially while crafting, which is extraordinarily difficult.

It requires skilled practice over time and can only slightly improve success rates, with no guarantee of crafting success.

Thus, many factions are puzzled—where did Fa Wuzun obtain so many array discs? If backed by a major faction, it wouldn't make sense, as no major faction would willingly share such killing weapons with others.

But if not backed by a major faction, how could he, alone, craft so many array discs?

Chapter 1469 - Large-Scale Purchasing

This time, Lu Ye didn't head straight to All Phenomena Island. Although All Phenomena Island is the largest Spirit Island in the All Phenomena Ocean, rich in resources, it doesn't mean that other Spirit Islands are not worth visiting.

Many Spirit Islands are occupied by major powers, backed by entire star systems or top-tier domains, and there are quite a few good things to trade on these islands, especially some local specialties that can only be bought on these specific Spirit Islands.

Lu Ye wanted to buy more fire-type treasures this time than last time, so he decided to sweep along the way, purchasing all the fire-type treasures he could find.

After taking out the star map for a check, Lu Ye quickly arrived at a Spirit Island called Dafang Island. This is an asset of the Dafang Galaxy. Its scale doesn't compare to All Phenomena Island, but the energy on the island is exceptionally rich, making it one of the best in the entire All Phenomena Ocean.

As Lu Ye set foot on the island, he clearly sensed Moon Jade's Mental Consciousness sweeping over him. It was evidently a Moon Jade Realm powerhouse stationed on Dafang Island scouting him out.

He didn't mind; it was their territory, and naturally, they would check anyone who came over.

Following the crowd, he found the place where shops were concentrated. Lu Ye browsed each shop, acquiring suitable fire-type treasures. By the time he left Dafang Island, half a day had passed.

For the next month, Lu Ye continued doing just that.

Some Spirit Islands required a certain amount of spirit jade to enter, just like All Phenomena Island, but most of them didn't charge any fees.

Then Lu Ye discovered that those Spirit Islands requiring spirit jade for entry were as popular, if not more so, than other islands. Without exception, these islands had their own special treasures. Cultivators wishing to purchase these treasures had to go to these Spirit Islands, making the spirit jade fee, whether it be a few or a dozen pieces, not something to worry about.

In one month, Lu Ye visited no fewer than a hundred Spirit Islands, indeed broadening his horizons and seeing many strange and wonderful things, especially some local specialties, which were quite nice. Lu Ye felt some were useful to him and bought a bit more.

A hundred Spirit Islands mean nothing in the vast All Phenomena Ocean. Lu Ye didn't visit other islands, as it would take at least one or two years to thoroughly visit all islands. Other Spirit Islands, be it in scale or depth, were much less significant than those Lu Ye had visited. It wasn't worth wasting time.

Not until a month later did Lu Ye arrive at All Phenomena Island, paid a few spirit jade, received a Passage Order, and entered the island directly.

He headed straight to where the flea market was and returned to the place where he had previously bought Dragon Breath Crystals.

The stall owner was still the same, which was not surprising because, according to him, he was assigned to sell goods here and would stay for several years before someone replaced him. The time for replacement hadn't arrived yet.

After several interactions, Lu Ye had become somewhat acquainted with him and learned that his name was Ahn Zhe.

"Fellow Daoist, it's been a long time. Are you here to buy Dragon Breath Crystals again?" Ahn Zhe greeted him with a smile. Since the opening of the Constellation Palace, most of the Constellation Realm cultivators had left, and he hadn't seen Lu Ye again.

In fact, Lu Ye had seen him because he had gone to Grand Hall 88 to do business. Lu Ye had even shopped at his stall back then.

Lu Ye nodded: "How much stock do you have?"

Ahn Zhe was invigorated: "Quite a lot!"

Lu Ye said in a calm tone: "My master is very satisfied with the quality of Dragon Breath Crystals from your domain and has decided to maintain a long-term friendly cooperative relationship with you. But about the price..."

Ahn Zhe had long suspected that Lu Ye wasn't buying Dragon Breath Crystals for personal use, as Lu Ye bought them too frequently. No individual would need so many Dragon Breath Crystals. Hearing Lu Ye now, Ahn Zhe immediately understood that there was a power behind Lu Ye's actions, though he didn't know what they intended, but they needed a large quantity of Dragon Breath Crystals.

He was unaware that Lu Ye was merely making things up since buying too many Dragon Breath Crystals alone could easily arouse suspicion, not to mention that Lu Ye understood the concept of discretion with wealth.

"Selling to others is 781 pieces each, no haggling. For you, Fellow Daoist, I'll reduce the price by five pieces from the original price, provided that the quantity you need is large enough!"

Lu Ye stated: "However much you have, I'll take it all!"

Ahn Zhe was pleasantly surprised: "Then, Fellow Daoist, you had better take a look." Saying this, he touched his body, and from who-knows-where, he produced several storage rings, placing them before Lu Ye.

Lu Ye inspected each one, finding them filled with Dragon Breath Crystals, no less than ten thousand pieces in each ring. Based on the price Ahn Zhe set for Lu Ye, each storage ring's Dragon Breath Crystal was worth nearly eight million spirit jade, and several rings equate to tens of millions.

Lu Ye hadn't expected this guy to have so much in stock, but this was good news for him. Over the past month, the goods he had swept from various Spirit Islands amounted to just as much.

Silently grateful, luckily visiting the flea market before going to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild proved fruitful.

Following the agreed price earlier, Lu Ye produced the corresponding amount of spirit jade, making a clean transaction.

Once Ahn Zhe collected the storage rings full of spirit jade, he finally spoke: "Fellow Daoist, about our discussion of maintaining a long-term friendly cooperative relationship..."

Lu Ye nodded: "We still need a lot of Dragon Breath Crystals, if your domain has them, feel free to bring them out, we'll buy them all!"

Ahn Zhe's eyes narrowed with a smile: "We do have them, but there's no stock at the moment. I have to go back first, report this matter and then transfer the goods from within the domain. The round trip will take at least half a year. I'm just not sure if you're in a hurry to use them..."

This batch of goods he had wasn't brought out from the domain by him in one go, but accumulated here over time by predecessors.

Having sold it all at once, it's undoubtedly good for him because he won't have to struggle with selling a few pieces at a time here anymore.

It's also beneficial for the domain behind him, as getting several tens of millions of spirit jade at once is a sizable fortune anywhere.

And if a collaboration with Lu Ye can truly be established, Ahn Zhe will have made a major contribution, ensuring that Dragon Breath Crystals produced in his domain will no longer face a market issue.

"No rush, just prepare everything well and contact me!" Lu Ye said.

"Fellow Daoist, would it be convenient for you to exchange an audio talisman marking?" Ahn Zhe asked.

Lu Ye saw no reason to refuse.

After exchanging audio talisman markings, Ahn Zhe left in a hurry, clearly preparing to return to his domain. However, carrying such a large amount of spirit jade, he'd definitely need to act cautiously to avoid being intercepted halfway.

After leaving the flea market, Lu Ye pondered for a moment and decided not to go to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild.

Initially, he planned to visit them if he couldn't find enough fire-type treasures at the flea market, though they would be more expensive, it was still cheaper than the prices at Grand Hall 88. Having bought plenty of Dragon Breath Crystals from Ahn Zhe, he didn't need to for now.

He also considered selling the seaweed, sea snails, and various star beasts he had slain from the Constellation Palace, but after some thought, he decided against it.

Undeniably, these items were valuable, but their origins couldn't be explained. He couldn't tell people he brought them from beneath the All Phenomena Ocean.

Currently, he wasn't short on spirit jade, so there was no need to create trouble for himself.

After leaving All Phenomena Island, he took out the star map and referred to it, then set off in a direction.

Two days later, he arrived at a very remote deserted island. Many such islands dot the All Phenomena Ocean, some large, some small. Wandering cultivators with no specific destination often rest here. Unclaimed islands like these don't even have names on the star map, just markings.

Some islands are so small they aren't even marked.

This island wasn't too small, but due to its poor location, few cultivators passed by.

Lu Ye descended, searched around, and found a cave entrance on a sea-facing cliff. He slipped inside. The cave wasn't very deep, only about a dozen meters, with no human traces, clearly formed naturally.

This place was evidently satisfactory to Lu Ye, but he didn't linger. Instead, he went out and left a weapon control at a hidden spot on the deserted island before returning to the cave.

This way, if something unexpected happened, he wouldn't get trapped inside. He could escape using the pre-placed weapon control.

After setting up several arrays for concealment, Lu Ye sat down cross-legged.

His main purpose here was to let the Talent Tree absorb the fire-type treasures he purchased. After the previous experience at the Constellation Palace, Lu Ye felt he needed to stock up more fuel for the Talent Tree as a precaution.

However, he didn't rush to do so. Instead, he first took out two pieces of spirit jade, holding them in each hand, and began refining them silently.

Having just advanced to the Constellation Late Stage, he wanted to see how his cultivation affected his consumption of spirit jade.

When he initially advanced to the Constellation stage, he needed just over a hundred pieces of spirit jade a month to meet his cultivation needs. It wasn't that he could only refine this much; with the Talent Tree's help, he could increase the refining efficiency several times over. But doing so would only cause unnecessary waste.

A little over a hundred pieces a month was the best, most reasonable cultivation speed that wouldn't result in waste.

As his cultivation improved, his demand for spirit jade gradually increased. By the mid-stage, it had risen to about 400 pieces a month.

Now at the Late Stage, it surely increased again.

After some testing, Lu Ye concluded that, for now, his monthly requirement was about 1,000 pieces of spirit jade. This was expected, but as his cultivation continued to grow, the demand would inevitably rise as well.

Chapter 1470 - Talent Tree's Third Metamorphosis

Spending 1,000 pieces of spirit jade per month was naturally nothing to Lu Ye, as he currently had eighty million spirit jades and plenty of spirit crystals. A thousand pieces of spirit jade were merely a drop in the ocean!

But this was ultimately just the consumption from cultivation using spirit jade. In reality, his cultivation relied more on the devouring and refining by the Talent Tree, and the spirit jade he spent was used on purchasing fire-type treasures. Such expenditure was terrifying.

Take the progression from mid-stage to late-stage as an example. If cultivating step by step using spirit jade, Lu Ye estimated he would only spend around a hundred or two hundred thousand spirit jades at most.

But the actual expenditure was a full ten million spirit jades, nearly a hundredfold difference.

However, right now, Lu Ye decided to let his cultivation settle, to artificially control the progress of his cultivation, so the consumption of fuel for the Talent Tree wouldn't be too significant unless he suddenly made up his mind and ventured deeper into the All Phenomena Ocean.

Such a thing was essentially impossible.

After determining the current normal consumption for his cultivation, Lu Ye then made a grand gesture, and a pile of various fire-type treasures, like a small mountain, immediately amassed around him.

Activating the power of the Talent Tree, countless invisible roots shot out, ravenously devouring the energy within those fire-type treasures, and Lu Ye could clearly sense the fuel reserve of the Talent Tree slowly increasing.

The Talent Tree autonomously consumed the energies from the various fire-type treasures, so Lu Ye didn't need to expend much effort, just needed to replenish them when the fire-type treasures were nearly exhausted.

After a bit of pondering, Lu Ye didn't proceed to derive Concealment Spirit Runes, but instead took out the two items he had previously brought out from the Constellation Palace.

One was the Small Constellation Palace, the other was a short sword.

The short sword was a form of inheritance that Lu Ye had already understood, what remained was to slowly comprehend and cultivate it. However, Lu Ye wasn't quite clear on what the Small Constellation Palace was for, as there wasn't time to study it then.

Now, holding this Small Constellation Palace in his hands for closer inspection, he couldn't see anything special about it. It appeared like a vastly scaled-down Constellation Palace. Even pouring spirit force into it yielded no reaction.

Lu Ye tried putting in a few pieces of spirit jade, but still, there was no reaction.

Placing spirit crystals inside also had no effect.

Lu Ye tried numerous peculiar items, but the Small Constellation Palace was like a piece of wood.

This thing... what exactly was its purpose? Lu Ye was baffled. Reasonably speaking, as it was bestowed by the Constellation Palace, it shouldn't be useless, yet no method he tried could unleash its power.

Helpless, he could only put aside his research, perhaps he would stumble upon its use in an unexpected moment in the future.

Stowing away the Small Constellation Palace, Lu Ye picked up the short sword, focusing on it with a grave expression.

Slightly channeling his Mental Consciousness into it, in the next instant, Lu Ye saw a flash of blade light, followed by a slight ache in his head.

He closed his eyes, carefully contemplating the intricacies of that slash, with various thoughts churning in his mind, seemingly gaining some insight.

Different from the Tyrannical Saber Technique inheritance, which allowed one to immerse fully, with verbal and physical guidance inside.

However, to obtain the inheritance of this short sword, Lu Ye had to endure the pain of his Mental Consciousness being wounded, feeling for the true essence of the blade through his own suffering.

Which method of inheritance was superior was hard to say, but comparatively, the former was undoubtedly safer.

Yet, Lu Ye preferred the latter, because only through personal experience could he clearly discern the mysteries concealed within the inheritance.

The feeling of having his Mental Consciousness cut was a bit unpleasant.

Fortunately, he had previously purchased numerous psyche-nurturing treasures from various Spirit Islands, all exorbitantly priced, now serving their purpose well.

Back in the Nine Provinces, he still had Soul Cleansing Water to use, but now it wasn't much left, unable to support prolonged cultivation.

Every time he channeled his Mental Consciousness for observation, Lu Ye experienced the sensation of having it cut, but each time yielded new insights and realizations.

Gradually, Lu Ye sensed the profundity of this inheritance; after all, as a reward from the Constellation Palace, its level far surpassing that of the Tyrannical Saber Technique from the Soaring Dragon World.

But saber skills aren't just about a higher level being better; it depends on who wields them. High-level saber skills without combat techniques are useless in battle against an enemy.

Day by day, Lu Ye was absorbed in this unique form of cultivation, unable to extricate himself.

His Mental Consciousness was severed repeatedly, but it was kept within an acceptable range and with the aid of various treasures for recovery, no indelible damage was left.

Lu Ye discovered that through this cycle, the intensity of his Mental Consciousness was unexpectedly improving, an unexpected delight.

Additionally, he discovered something interesting: the seaweed he brought from the Constellation Palace surprisingly had a significant nurturing effect on his Mental Consciousness.

This discovery was entirely unintentional.

While observing the inheritance in the short sword, with his Mental Consciousness repeatedly cut, Lu Ye couldn't maintain this kind of cultivation indefinitely, so during his spare time, he occasionally studied the Small Constellation Palace, derived Concealment Spirit Runes with the Talent Tree, and did other things.

For example, roasting some star beast meat to eat...

He used to think that seaweed wasn't just some mundane substance; it might have some medicinal value, but he never tried it. This time, he just tried casually and found that the recovery speed of his damaged Mental Consciousness accelerated.

This was clearly the work of the seaweed!

Lu Ye immediately realized that the value of seaweed was much greater than he imagined!

Because among the items used for cultivators to heal, treasures that can heal and nourish the psyche are far more precious than those for healing the physical body. Lu Ye deeply experienced this; although he had previously bought few psyche-nourishing treasures, he spent quite a lot of spirit jade.

Unfortunately, this seaweed and the star beasts he brought back cannot be revealed to the world for the time being.

Lu Ye couldn't help but miss Second Senior Sister and Hua Ci; if they were here, perhaps they could find a way to refine these hard-to-sell things into elixir pills, thus avoiding any concerns about being discovered.

Moreover, Second Senior Sister also has the pill gourd kind of treasure. If she can really research an elixir pill formula with seaweed as the main material, she can casually refine a large amount of high-quality treasure pills.

Time passed in a flash; half a month had gone by.

On this day, Lu Ye was comprehending the inheritance in the short sword. In this half month, he had gained greatly, almost discerning the true essence of the inheritance, which is also the benefit of this kind of inheritance method—its efficiency is high enough.

Unlike the Tyrannical Saber Technique, this kind of inheritance method cannot have such high efficiency. If Lu Ye wanted to achieve the same degree of comprehension, he would have to spend ten times more time.

Suddenly, an anomaly emerged from within his body.

Lu Ye was stunned for a moment and quickly immersed his mind to observe. Upon looking, he was greatly astonished.

Because the Talent Tree was gone, transformed into a cluster of fire seed, and upon observation, the light from the fire seed was not bright, resembling a weak candle flame gently flickering.

This is... is the Talent Tree undergoing metamorphosis?

He had experienced such events before, so Lu Ye knew at a glance what the situation was.

Obviously, the Talent Tree had entered the process of metamorphosis.

He was momentarily stunned; this was indeed an unexpected event.

Since obtaining the Talent Tree, many years had passed, and the Talent Tree had undergone metamorphosis twice before. Lu Ye naturally could sense a certain pattern.

The metamorphosis of the Talent Tree has only one requirement: devour enough fuel reserves. When the fuel reserves of the Talent Tree reach a certain level, it will enter the process of metamorphosis.

When he first got the Talent Tree, it only had the ability to burn intrusive foreign objects, which allowed Lu Ye to stand out among low-level cultivators because his spirit force was pure enough to battle beyond his level.

The first metamorphosis gave the Talent Tree the ability to devour external objects and even split its roots, enabling Lu Ye to condense his own doppelganger with the help of Blood Shadow and Single-Stalk Twin Lotus.

The second metamorphosis allowed the Talent Tree to inscribe new spirit runes on its leaves, even deriving spirit patterns. Lu Ye's Divine Sharp Edge, Sacred Guard, and new As-Close-As-Siblings were born from this.

Lu Ye had also wondered what new abilities the Talent Tree would evolve after another metamorphosis, but he didn't consciously pursue it, always leaving it to fate because he felt the Talent Tree was powerful enough at present.

The Talent Tree is indeed his greatest reliance, but he hasn't treated it as his only source of power; cultivators should focus on strengthening themselves.

Little did he expect, today, the Talent Tree was about to undergo a third metamorphosis.

However, upon careful thought, it wasn't surprising. This time, the Talent Tree had devoured too many fire-type treasures, nearly a billion spirit jade worth converted into fuel reserves, satisfying the metamorphosis requirement of the Talent Tree.

Previously, when he was under the All Phenomena Ocean, the Talent Tree also devoured nearly a billion spirit jade worth of fire-type treasures, but not all at once, rather in many parts, so it didn't satisfy the metamorphosis.

Since things had already come to this, Lu Ye was somewhat curious about what changes would occur after the Talent Tree's metamorphosis this time.

However, judging by the appearance of the fire seed, this metamorphosis might take some time, and during this period, the Talent Tree's power cannot be utilized.

Putting away the remaining fire-type treasures, Lu Ye sighed; he would have to buy more.

After the Talent Tree's metamorphosis, the previously devoured fuel will surely be expended completely.

Luckily, he had already agreed with Ahn Zhe and established a cooperative relationship. When Ahn Zhe returns, he should be able to bring a large batch of Dragon Breath Crystals.

But before that, he still has to go to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild to buy some as a backup.

This time, the Talent Tree devoured nearly a billion spirit jade worth of fire-type treasures to metamorphose; next time, it will certainly require even more.

Lu Ye felt that the eight million spirit jade he had seemed insufficient to keep him financially secure; there would eventually be a day when it's used up.

It's time to find an opportunity to initiate trade with the Merfolk Race; that would be a unique path to wealth for him. As long as he maintains the transaction with the Merfolk Race, spirit jade will be as much as he wishes.