

Humanity 1481

Chapter 1481 - 800 Mental Eyes

In the cave, Lu Ye took out a storage ring and handed it to Chu Shen.

Chu Shen solemnly accepted it, probing it with his Mental Consciousness, and was overjoyed: "Senior Brother, isn't this a bit too much?"

He initially thought of borrowing a few hundred thousand spirit jades from Leader Fa, but unexpectedly, Leader Fa casually tossed over five million spirit jades.

A difference of ten times his expectation.

Lu Ye said calmly, "If we're setting up an array, then let's set up the best Formation. Don't stress about the early costs."

Currently, Lu Ye could freely travel between the All Phenomena Ocean and the Merfolk Territory, having completely opened a financial road solely for himself. Although he hadn't yet gained any benefits from the merfolk, he thought that if he ever needed spirit jades, the merfolk wouldn't hesitate to provide them.

Moreover, with the abundant resources underwater, once he found a method, all those star beasts and seaweeds could be converted into spirit jades.

Five million spirit jades were really nothing to him.

"Then I'll make an IOU with you, Senior Brother. Consider this a loan, and I'll repay it with interest later," Chu Shen said.

Lu Ye shook his head: "No need for that. Consider this my investment."

Chu Shen naturally had no objections and happily said, "That works." There's no need to be formal with Leader Fa. Although Unparalleled Island is outwardly under his command, it was actually Leader Fa who occupied it first. Without Leader Fa's permission, he wouldn't have stayed, so Unparalleled Island should indeed have a share for Leader Fa.

"By the way, Senior Brother, there's another matter I'd like to discuss with you."

"What is it?"

Chu Shen said, "In the past few days, representatives from certain forces have contacted me, wanting to bring our Unparalleled Island under their jurisdiction. If we agree, they would provide us with some resources and personnel support. What do you think, Senior Brother?"

Lu Ye replied, "You are the Island Master of Unparalleled Island, so make the decision yourself. You don't need to ask me."

Chu Shen nodded: "Got it. I know what to do."

Moments later, Chu Shen left.

Although he didn't explicitly say what he would do, since he came to borrow spirit jades, Lu Ye knew Chu Shen would never agree to those forces' demands.

After all, he was from Cheling World. Even if he wanted to cooperate with any force, he would only choose the local forces in the All Phenomena Galaxy. How could he collude with other forces?

Furthermore, being fresh on the scene with ambitions to achieve something significant, he would certainly be restrained and controlled if he agreed to cooperate with other forces. Given his character, he would rather be the head of a chicken than the tail of a phoenix and wouldn't tolerate such things.

The development of Unparalleled Island was ongoing, and the prototype of the protective array had already been established. With the protective array in place, the stellar space energy produced by

reversing seawater from the Small Constellation Palace dissipated even less, which made the concentration of stellar space energy on Unparalleled Island increase faster than before.

This change was clearly felt by every cultivator on Unparalleled Island, filling everyone with enthusiasm.

Lu Ye was waiting for the moment when the green sea conch could be used.

Although he could enter the Constellation Palace through the Small Constellation Palace's portal, he still had to travel from the main hall of the Constellation Palace to the Merfolk Territory. In such a place underwater, traveling without a seahorse mount would be very slow.

So, it was better to use the green sea conch to directly arrive in front of the Divine Conch Hall for convenience.

A few more days passed, and finally, it was time to use the green sea conch.

Lu Ye did not immediately activate the power of the green sea conch but first went down to the sea to check if the portal of the Small Constellation Palace was still maintained.

After confirming that there were no problems with the portal and no sign of it closing, Lu Ye quietly returned to the cave. Under the cover of numerous restrictions and Formations, he blew the green sea conch.

With the portal open, he stepped into it.

Upon returning to the front of the Divine Conch Hall, Lu Ye immediately sensed several scrutinizing gazes around him, one being particularly sharp, though those gazes soon softened.

Lu Ye looked around and noticed many merfolk, both in the open and hidden. The sharp gaze came from a particularly robust male merfolk, who exuded the aura of a Moon Jade Realm.

This was evidently arranged by the Merfolk Race after the last incident, to prevent Lu Ye from bringing any powerful being again, catching them off guard.

"Li Taibai!" a familiar voice called out, and Lu Ye turned to see Bai Lu approaching.

She was undoubtedly waiting there on purpose because Lu Ye had previously told her he'd return in a few days, and she knew the properties of the green sea conch.

"How did it go?" Lu Ye asked. Last time, he had to leave before the battle ended, so he didn't know the outcome. However, before leaving, he saw that the Moon Jade Mid-Stage was being suppressed by the elders of the Merfolk Race, so likely, the enemy had been captured.

"That Moon Jade is dead," Bai Lu explained, handing over several storage rings. "These were his belongings. The elders asked me to give them to you."

Lu Ye said, "These are your spoils of war, so you don't need to give them to me. I should thank your race for helping me a great deal."

Bai Lu grabbed his hand and placed the storage ring in his palm: "These storage rings all have restrictions. The elders aren't skilled at cracking them and don't dare to tamper with them. It's better if you handle them."

Lu Ye thought so too, and nodded, "I'll unlock the restriction locks and then give them to you."

Bai Lu continued, "Also, the elders said that if you encounter any troublemakers you can't deal with in the future, just lure them here, and we'll help you take care of them. Furthermore, you don't have to thank us or be polite. You've helped us a lot, so we should naturally help you too."

What else could Lu Ye say? He could only nod, but this time it was luck; that Moon Jade Mid-Stage cultivator was lured over by him. If it were someone cautious, maybe they couldn't be brought in. Besides, the entrance was there; people would notice something was wrong after entering and would surely exit immediately.

So this kind of thing was fine once, but it's best not to have a second time, as there are too many uncontrollable factors.

"What about the ghost cultivator?" Lu Ye asked. Although he had instructed Bai Lu before leaving, if the Merfolk Race had killed the specter along with it, it would have been an unjust death for her.

"Come with me!" Bai Lu said, leading Lu Ye in a direction.

On the way, Lu Ye activated the Thousand Faces Spirit Runes, changing his appearance to that of Fa Wuzun.

Bai Lu was amazed, clicking her tongue in wonder. The last time Lu Ye came, it was also in Fa Wuzun's guise. Although his appearance was different, his demeanor and figure couldn't be changed, and only Lu Ye could enter this place through the green sea conch, so Bai Lu still recognized him at a glance.

"You don't want her to know your true appearance?" Bai Lu asked.

Lu Ye nodded, "She's seen what I truly look like, so I need to use a different appearance to meet her."

Bai Lu understood.

The specter was currently detained in a prison-like place in the Royal Conch Palace, originally used to imprison errant merfolk. It didn't have strong protective power, but when Lu Ye saw the specter, he found her lying like a puddle of mud, unmoving.

Her aura was very weak, as if she had lost all spirit force.

A few days ago, she used some unknown means to directly repel a strike from that Moon Jade, and even though her opponent hadn't used full force, achieving this with the strength of a Constellation Cultivator wasn't easy. For this, the specter paid a great price and was dispirited back then.

Seeing her today, her condition seemed even worse than before.

But it was certain that the specter wasn't dead.

The main problem was that the merfolk didn't know how to deal with the specter. Lu Ye had told Bai Lu that she wasn't an enemy nor a friend, leaving the Merfolk Race unsure how to handle her.

"Is she seriously injured?" Lu Ye asked.

Bai Lu replied, "After checking, there aren't any severe injuries, but she seems weak because she used power not her own. Moreover, the Fourth Elder placed restrictions on her, so she can't recover or use her spirit force."

Lu Ye understood, staring at the specter lying motionless as if she were asleep, with a gleam in his eye.

"Open the door," Lu Ye said.

Bai Lu turned around and gestured to a male merfolk guarding the place, who immediately stepped forward, unlocked the restrictions, and opened the cell door.

Lu Ye didn't enter, and even pulled Bai Lu aside when she was about to enter.

Just as Bai Lu was confused, a change occurred abruptly.

The specter, whose aura had been weak and spirit force depleted, suddenly sprang up as if energized, darting out of the cell in a flash, disappearing in an instant.

Only a triumphant voice echoed from all directions, "Want to trap me? Maybe in the next life! Fa Wuzun, I will settle this account with you sooner or later!"

"She..." Bai Lu was stunned, not expecting the Fourth Elder's restriction on her to fail, nor for her to have regained her strength at some point.

She wanted to pursue but was stopped by Lu Ye.

Turning to Lu Ye with a puzzled look, Lu Ye shook his head and then softly said in the direction the specter had left, "I'll wait for you here. Come back on your own when you've thought it through!"

In any other place, the specter might have really escaped. Regardless of other abilities, her skills in concealment and escape were top-notch, and the Merfolk Territory might not be able to hold her.

But here was the All Phenomena Ocean, and aside from the Royal Conch Palace, where else could she go? To delve deeper into the All Phenomena Ocean? That's a death wish.

Currently, for the specter to escape her predicament, only Lu Ye's consent would be effective.

"Did you see through she was pretending?" Bai Lu asked, wondering why Lu Ye would pull them aside when the cell door was opened, apparently making way for the specter.

Lu Ye shook his head, "I didn't see through it, but someone like her, with a thousand schemes, shouldn't be this weak even with restrictions. Thinking a bit more doesn't hurt when dealing with her."

Bai Lu half-understood, "Your human race is so complex..."

"She's not of the human race; she's of the Specter Race."

Chapter 1482 - You Can't Treat Me Like This

To specifically deal with the specter, Lu Ye found it a bit troublesome. If it were truly an enemy, he could just kill it without hesitation, but in the end, the specter wasn't an enemy.

It was a fact that she had caused him some trouble before. If not for leading the enemy to the Merfolk Territory, Lu Ye wouldn't have known how to resolve it.

This matter had to be settled with her.

Letting her go wasn't an option...

As he waited, Lu Ye began dismantling the restriction locks on those storage rings. As expected of storage rings from the Moon Jade Realm, the restriction locks weren't overly complex, but they were difficult to crack. Lu Ye expended great effort and even ruined one storage ring before finally unlocking the rest.

As said before, the storage rings were given to Bai Lu. These were spoils from a battle with the Merfolk Race. No matter how good the treasures inside were, there was no reason for him to accept them.

With nothing to do, he chatted idly with Bai Lu. Bai Lu loved hearing stories about the outside world. Previously, when Lu Ye was at the Constellation Palace, Bai Lu would pester him about these stories every time he visited, listening with keen interest and longing.

Unfortunately, their branch of the race possessed the power of Curse Poison, which prevented them from leaving the All Phenomena Ocean, or else they could see the outside world.

Time passed, nearly half a day had gone by, when Lu Ye, who was recounting a past conflict at the Constellation Palace to Bai Lu, suddenly stopped speaking. He turned to look outside the door: "You won't come in on your own, do you want me to invite you in?"

Bai Lu was startled, turned to look, but saw nothing. Just as she was about to speak, she saw the space at the door twist, and a familiar figure appeared.

Who else could it be but the specter of the Specter Race?

Bai Lu was slightly alarmed. With this level of Concealment ability, no one in the Merfolk Race of the same cultivation level could detect her! Yet she didn't know how Li Taibai noticed.

Previously, Lu Ye indeed couldn't have detected her, but after evolving the new Concealment technique, Lu Ye's mastery in the Path of Concealment was much stronger than before. Moreover, part of his new

Concealment was fundamentally rooted in the specter's Spectral Runes, making them akin. Combined with the specter's current weakened state, discovering her wasn't difficult.

The specter had lost her earlier vigor, her face clearly pale, and her eyes somewhat lifeless. It was obvious her recent outburst was a long-prepared move, hoping to escape and find a place to recover. Yet who knew she'd wander in the Royal Conch Palace for half a day without finding an exit.

It wasn't that there were no exits. The Royal Conch Palace had several passages leading to the All Phenomena Ocean, but the specter would try slightly, then retreat.

Revealing her form, one hand clutching her chest, she staggered towards the interior and plopped down not far from Lu Ye, panting heavily as if near death.

Before speaking, she coughed, the blood staining her veiled scarf red...

Bai Lu looked on with concern, fearing she might really die.

Lu Ye remained unmoved, as he couldn't tell if it was genuine. The specter's pitiful demeanor might just be a ploy for sympathy.

After a moment, the specter finally steadied herself and asked, "Fa Wuzun, be honest with me, where is this place?"

There was a branch of the Merfolk Race here, and beyond this peculiar space, similar All Phenomena Ocean waters surrounded it. The specter genuinely couldn't fathom where this place was. She had even tried to use a star map to determine her position, but it was completely useless here.

"Where this is, you have your judgment, so why ask me?" Lu Ye responded casually.

The specter's pupils shrank to needlepoint size, staring at Lu Ye for a good while before slowly shaking her head, "Impossible, absolutely impossible!"

She did have a guess, but how could such a thing be true?

"If you say it's impossible, then it's impossible!" Lu Ye had no intention of explaining, "But now that you're here, settle down and stay. Don't think about unnecessary things, and certainly don't try to harm any merfolk, or you'll only make things worse for yourself."

The specter retorted angrily, "Fa Wuzun, do you have a conscience?"

"Oh?" Lu Ye looked at her leisurely, "Use my name to lead trouble to the east, getting me chased by a Moon Jade Mid-Stage, and you dare talk about conscience? How much does your conscience weigh?"

The specter showed no shame, "Believe it or not, I didn't intend to lead trouble to you. I had no choice at the time. You contacted me, and I thought we might stand a chance against him if we joined forces. Who knew you'd run off on your own, and I couldn't stop the pursuer. Besides, if I truly wanted to lead trouble to you, I could've just ignored you. In reality, I've been chasing you both, afraid you'd encounter an accident, so I could lend a hand. Otherwise, why would I have come to this haunted place? Isn't it because I was worried about you?"

"Do you believe that?" Lu Ye eyed her coldly.

The specter patted her chest, "I swear on my conscience!"

Lu Ye scrutinized her for a while, seeing no trace of deceit in her eyes, and couldn't discern whether she spoke truthfully or not.

Normally, after the Moon Jade was diverted, the specter indeed could've easily escaped, with no reason to chase all the way here. Yet, she still came, just as she claimed?

Unwilling to dwell on it, Lu Ye said, "Anyway, since you're here, don't leave. From now on, this place is your home. Live here peacefully."

The specter almost cried, moved closer, and gripped Lu Ye's arm with her little hands, gently shaking it: "Senior Brother Fa, you can't do this to me. I know you can leave here. There is that kind of portal. You open it, take me out, and I'll be grateful for life!"

Bai Lu watched her acting spoiled on the side, her eyes nearly blazing with fire!

The specter was still shaking Lu Ye's arm, earnestly promising, "Rest assured, about the matters here, including the portal, I, the specter, won't reveal a word to anyone. I'm a woman who keeps secrets!"

Lu Ye didn't respond, just looked at her with a half-smile.

The specter put on a pained face, "Then tell me what you want, you can't truly keep me locked up here for a lifetime, we don't have deep-seated hatred, draw a line, and I'll agree to whatever I can!"

"I have no lines to draw!" Lu Ye extracted his arm and stood up, looking down at her, "You're in bad shape, recover first." Saying this, he tossed a few bottles of healing elixir pills to her and led Bai Lu out.

The specter wanted to follow but was too powerless, collapsed on the ground, watching Lu Ye's departing figure, calling out with open hands, "Fa Wuzun, you can't do this to me."

No response came.

After exiting the prison area, Bai Lu said angrily, "I'll go and ask the Great Elder to plant more restrictions on her, let's see how she breaks them this time!"

Lu Ye stopped her, "No need, let her recover first." The specter looked pitiful, and Lu Ye could tell she was indeed exhausted, if she didn't recover, she might suffer some hidden damage.

"Then do we keep her locked up there?" Bai Lu asked.

"No need to lock her up, let her be. She has no way to leave the Royal Conch Palace anyway."

"She's not weak, if she harms our clan members..."

"She's a smart person, a smart person does smart things. Rest assured, she won't do it. But there's one thing to be cautious of, don't let her near Bai Shuang!"

Bai Shuang is the queen of the Merfolk Race, not very powerful. If the specter really got hold of Bai Shuang, the Merfolk side would be in a passive position. As long as the specter is kept from contacting Bai Shuang, everything's fine.

Later, led by Bai Lu, Lu Ye went to see Great Elder Yan Miao, apologized, and expressed gratitude to the Merfolk Race for what happened last time.

The Great Elder's response was the same as Bai Lu's, saying that Lu Ye's help to the Merfolk Race was greatly valued, and they were more than willing to have an opportunity to repay. There was no resentment at all!

The Great Elder also mentioned that if Lu Ye encountered similar situations in the future, he could bring the enemies over for them to handle. With this experience, the next time they would manage even better.

Lu Ye naturally agreed wholeheartedly.

After some more idle chatter, Lu Ye took his leave.

Lu Ye didn't linger long with the Merfolk Race, borrowing a seahorse star beast to travel alone towards the Constellation Palace.

Bai Lu intended to accompany him, but Lu Ye refused.

Although the journey wasn't long, there could be dangers. There were many Moon Jade star beasts underwater, and he was unwilling to let Bai Lu take such a risk.

Fortunately, the trip was relatively uneventful, and by half a day later, he arrived at the Constellation Palace. Lu Ye let the seahorse leave on its own while he approached and pushed open the grand door of the palace.

He met no significant resistance, and the door opened slowly.

After Lu Ye entered, the door closed automatically.

From his previous attempt, Lu Ye knew that except during the time the Constellation Palace was open for a challenge, no one but himself could push open the palace doors.

So this vast Constellation Palace was essentially a private treasure house for him.

He had many storage rings filled with various items, which weren't convenient to carry around, so he placed them here. As long as there was a Small Constellation Palace, he could come anytime without hindrance.

Leaving most of the storage rings, Lu Ye only took three with him: one for spirit jade and spirit crystals, one for elixir pills and spirit treasures, and one for miscellaneous items.

Plus the storage space on the back of his hand, it was more than sufficient.

In front of the black stone monument representing the Cumulated Points Ranking inside the hall, a portal was always open. Lu Ye used this portal to return below Unparalleled Island, swam some distance, and then quietly emerged, returning to Unparalleled Island.

Silently returning to the cave, Lu Ye began deducing other spirit runes while continuing to study the short sword legacy. The duel with the Moon Jade Mid-Stage made Lu Ye realize that the legacy bestowed by the Constellation Palace was quite practical, particularly suitable for battles between Constellations and Moon Jade.

For now, he wasn't planning to elevate his cultivation, so he focused more energy here to avoid being at a disadvantage against Moon Jade in the future.

Chapter 1483 - You're Bullying Me

Seven days later, in front of the Divine Conch Hall in the Merfolk Territory.

The Void trembled, the portal appeared, and Lu Ye stepped out from within it.

Just as he steadied himself, he frowned, and the Boulder Mountain Saber at his waist sprang out. A flash of saber light swept forward.

A blurry figure, almost invisible, came toward the saber light. Just as it was about to be struck, the figure suddenly twisted and narrowly avoided the blow.

The specter's eyes were full of excitement, staring intently at the portal behind Lu Ye as if she could already smell the scent of freedom!

She was a smart woman, knowing that hoping for Fa Wuzun's mercy was futile. She had to find a way out herself.

But this ghostly place was surrounded by waters similar to the All Phenomena Ocean, making it impossible for her to leave. After much contemplation, the only way out was through the portal manipulated by some unknown means by Fa Wuzun.

So she had specially concealed her presence and waited here, and sure enough, the opportunity arrived!

At this moment, she launched her attack. Even Lu Ye almost failed to react in time. Once she evaded the strike of the Boulder Mountain Saber, she was just a step away from the portal. All she needed was to take that step, and she would have boundless freedom!

However, that step was as insurmountable as a chasm!

The specter's form, as if struck, suddenly flew sideways. In the midst of tumbling, her concealment failed, revealing her figure.

The two merfolk stationed there were shocked, quickly assuming a defensive posture.

On the other side, the rebuffed specter flipped skillfully, supporting herself with one hand, half-crouched on the ground like a leopard ready to pounce, staring fiercely at Lu Ye: "Fa Wuzun, I don't want to fight you, get out of my way!"

Lu Ye stood like a door deity before the portal, his gaze indifferent as he looked at her: "Looks like you've recovered well!"

Seven days ago when he left, this guy was half-dead, but today, back again, there seemed to be no apparent issues.

"Get out of the way or not!" the specter gritted her teeth and growled lowly.

Lu Ye remained silent, one hand holding the saber, the other hand lifted, beckoning to her with a finger!

The specter angrily retorted, "You asked for this!"

As the words fell, her body's afterimage still appeared to be in place, but her true self had already swept to Lu Ye's side, a leg whipping down heavily like a lash.

Lu Ye seemed unresponsive, causing a cold smile to curl at the corners of the specter's mouth. People always thought ghost cultivators only knew stealth attacks, but she walked an unconventional path; otherwise, she wouldn't have ranked so high in the Constellation Palace's competition.

In terms of close-quarter combat, she was not inferior to any combat cultivator, though usually, she rarely showcased this side of herself. But in this moment of desperation, she could no longer care.

Freedom was right before her eyes. As long as she could push Fa Wuzun away, she could leave this accursed place.

She never intended to defeat Lu Ye because it was unrealistic. Fa Wuzun had been impressively powerful even at the Constellation Mid-Stage, and now in the Constellation Late Stage, the specter considered herself no match.

But just pushing him back shouldn't be too hard. To achieve her desire, she was giving it her all.

She knew the fight shouldn't drag on; there were many Moon Jades among the merfolk, and once those Moon Jades arrived, she'd have no hope of escaping.

This whip-like kick was powerful and heavy, though not overly imposing, all of its force contained within. Even with a great mountain before her, the specter was confident she could smash it to pieces.

But in the next moment, the specter frowned because Lu Ye, who seemed unresponsive, suddenly looked right at where her real body was, then slightly raised a hand.

With a slap, the descending leg was precisely blocked by his large hand!

With the first strike failed, the specter's afterimage lingered in place, as her real self darted to the other side to throw a punch.

Blocked again, Lu Ye's hand inexplicably obstructed her line of attack, easily deflecting it while his gaze followed her.

The specter was amazed; she knew Fa Wuzun was strong, but she hadn't expected this level of quick reaction!

Gritting her teeth, her body suddenly radiated a bright red glow, evidently activating some kind of explosive secret technique, increasing her speed and force further.

Clap, clap, clap...

Continuous crisp sounds rang out, each sound marking the bursting clash of spirit force, mesmerizing the two merfolk on duty.

In their vision, it seemed as if countless specters were born and destroyed around Lu Ye, attacking fiercely from all sides.

Faced with such an onslaught, they knew they couldn't withstand even a moment.

Yet the frenzied barrage couldn't move their honored guest from the clan even half a step. He calmly stood there, one hand continually blocking every attack perfectly.

The scene appeared somewhat comical, like a child throwing a tantrum at an adult.

In just ten breaths, the specter had changed positions countless times and launched countless attacks, but none succeeded. A chill spread across her back, unable to fathom how Fa Wuzun, also at the Constellation Late Stage, could be so unreasonably strong.

She managed to secure a position close to the two-hundredth mark in the Constellation Palace competition, which proves her strength is quite remarkable. One must know that the Constellation Palace competition involves hundreds, even thousands of star systems, with tens of thousands or even millions of Constellations battling it out. Although a rank around two hundred isn't exceptionally high, it definitely makes her one of the elites.

Yet at this moment, all her efforts couldn't move Fa Wuzun in the slightest!

It's true that she wasn't using her full strength, but then again, was Fa Wuzun exerting all his might?

In the heat of the battle, the specter suddenly withdrew, her aura becoming unpredictable and mysterious. Her eyes grew serious: "Fa Wuzun, be careful. I don't want to kill you. If you can't handle it, move aside quickly!"

Saying this, her form suddenly split from one to two, two to four, four to eight...

Lu Ye focused his mind, raising his eyebrows, for he realized he couldn't discern which of the eight specters was real. All eight figures appeared genuine, a display of some Mysterious Secret Skill.

But the way the specter spoke clearly showed her intention to fight desperately.

The eight specters moved simultaneously, transforming into eight streams of light, fanning out as they lunged at Lu Ye, swift as lightning.

A sudden feeling of dread arose within Lu Ye. He now knew that the secret technique the specter was using must be unimaginably powerful.

The hand holding the Boulder Mountain Saber finally moved. As the saber momentum was invoked, a continuous burst of saber light began to erupt. In an instant, the dense saber light surged like waves, one following another, relentless and unending!

The eight specters had reached him, their forms intertwining and overlapping, constructing a domain of death around Lu Ye.

In a flash, even Lu Ye felt immense pressure. The specter's secret technique was extremely powerful and difficult to defend against. If he hadn't grasped the saber skills from the short sword legacy, relying solely on his foundation with the Tyrannical Saber Technique, he would have struggled to fend it off.

Comparatively, the Tyrannical Saber Technique's legacy leans more towards offense, whereas the saber skills in the short sword legacy are both offensive and defensive.

At this moment, the wave-like saber light continued to shatter, but after shattering, new saber light emerged.

Three breaths later, Lu Ye sheathed his saber.

The specter's true form appeared not far to the side, panting heavily, her face slightly pale. It was evident that the secret technique just now was a significant burden on her.

She looked at Lu Ye, who stood like a door deity guarding the portal, with a face full of despair. Her eyes turned tearful, and she plopped down on the ground, wailing like a child, sobbing and crying, "You're bullying me!"

When Bai Lu and the merfolk elders arrived in haste, responding to the commotion, they were greeted by this bewildering scene.

Pairs of eyes turned to Lu Ye, unsure of what act of tyranny he committed to make the specter cry so bitterly. Her tear-filled eyes glared at Lu Ye, full of blood and tearful accusation.

Lu Ye frowned; losing a fight and then crying, he'd never seen this before. But the specter never cared for appearances, and what others wouldn't do, she was capable of doing.

The specter's crying got on people's nerves, and Lu Ye pointed at her, speaking blandly, "If you cry again, don't ever think about leaving here!"

The wailing specter immediately fell silent, covering her mouth with her hand, though her shoulders still heaved with her sniffing, clearly very upset.

Lu Ye gave her a glare and turned to speak to Yann Miao and the other elders, informing them of what just transpired. Hearing it wasn't another external invasion, Yann Miao and the others quickly dispersed, leaving only Bai Lu behind.

Another moment passed, and the portal slowly faded from view.

Only then did Lu Ye step away from the spot. Even earlier, he hadn't lowered his guard. Who knew if the specter would suddenly jump up and force the portal; she would indeed do such a thing.

"Has she not caused any trouble for you recently?" Lu Ye asked Bai Lu.

Bai Lu smiled, "You're right, she's a clever one. So even though we haven't restricted her, she hasn't harmed any of our people."

Lu Ye nodded, "Still, be careful. Do not let her come into contact with Bai Shuang."

"I'm aware of that. Over on Bai Shuang's side, someone is always secretly watching."

"What are you talking about, why am I not allowed to hear?" The specter sensed the two were communicating via Mental Consciousness, and promptly voiced her disapproval. Her eyes were still red and swollen, yet she displayed overwhelming curiosity, seeming utterly ridiculous.

"None of your business!" Lu Ye snapped.

The specter scooted over, speaking with eager anticipation, "Fa Wuzun, when are we leaving here?"

Lu Ye glanced at her, "Did I say you could leave?"

The specter said, "You just said that if I stopped crying, I could leave!"

"What I said was if you cry again, don't even think about leaving!"

"Isn't it the same thing?" The specter looked as if it should be self-evident.

Lu Ye was too weary to argue further. With a shift in conversation, he said, "We need to settle the account on your mischief!"

"How are you planning to settle it..." The specter looked pitiful, "I don't have any money anyway!"

Anyone familiar with her knows she's dirt poor.

Chapter 1484 - Bai Lu's Solution

Lu Ye naturally didn't expect her to compensate him, that didn't mean anything to him, and besides, how much could this broke specter afford to pay him?

He said leisurely, "You promised, if I managed to survive, you'd compensate me!"

The specter blinked her big, watery eyes, wanting to deny it, but now, with the situation being as it is, she found it hard to deny, so she could only laugh awkwardly, "Did I say that? I don't remember."

"Think carefully again, I think you should remember!" Lu Ye stared at the specter.

Feeling guilty under his gaze, the specter replied somewhat angrily, "I did say it, I did! So what, how do you want me to compensate you, with my body? If you dare to go ahead, I can't resist either!"

"That won't be necessary, but I want to inspect the Spectral Runes on you!"

"I knew you wouldn't let go of this!" The specter gritted her teeth.

Last time Fa Wuzun had expressed a desire to inspect the spirit runes regarding Breath-concealing, but she refused, and yet the request circled back once more.

But now the situation wasn't in her favor, different from last time, the specter felt if she refused, she might never leave.

Still, if she agreed, she wasn't happy either, as she said last time, this wasn't a matter of money.

Frustrated for a moment, the specter said, "The Breath-concealing Spectral Runes are in an inconvenient place for showing, I'm a woman, you're a man, how do you plan to inspect them?"

Lu Ye thought a bit, taking out an image message stone, "If you're uncomfortable, I can ask Bai Lu to record the image, and I can view it repeatedly!"

The specter looked at the image message stone in disbelief, "You even prepared this..."

Clearly, this was premeditated; Fa Wuzun, this guy, truly shameless!

Taking a deep breath, the specter suddenly chuckled, "Fa Wuzun, have you considered my suggestion from last time?"

"What?"

"Marry me, then you're free to view whatever you want!" As she spoke, the specter attempted to send Lu Ye a coquettish glance, but clearly, she was not skilled in such gestures, the attempt was far from enticing, merely amusing.

"A toad lusting after swan meat!" Lu Ye snorted coldly.

The specter was stunned for a moment, then burst into anger, snarling while lunging at Lu Ye, "Who are you calling a toad?"

This is unbearable, absolutely intolerable!

Lu Ye pressed a finger against the specter's forehead; with her short arms and stature shorter than Lu Ye, her assault ended in failure.

"How about this, you engrave the Spectral Runes, this request isn't too much, is it?" Lu Ye suggested.

The specter paused in her actions, thought it over, nodded, "Not bad!"

Suddenly recalling something, she grumbled, "Why didn't you say this last time when inspecting the Concealment Spectral Runes?" Making her take off her shirt earned her a great loss!

Lu Ye regarded her coolly, "Inspecting genuine Spectral Runes, compared to what you engrave, how could they be the same?"

In terms of effect, certainly, inspecting genuine Spectral Runes was superior, but the Breath-concealing Spectral Runes on the specter were inconvenient for display, so a compromise had to be made.

Casually, he tossed a blank jade tablet to the specter for her to engrave.

Lu Ye waited quietly beside.

Yet, how to handle the specter, he still had no idea.

Whether the Merfolk Race was exposed or not didn't matter, as this was beneath the All Phenomena Ocean, even if exposed, others couldn't do anything.

But his secret to opening a portal to this place couldn't be revealed.

If it were someone unrelated, killing them to silence them would be best, but he couldn't bring himself to do that to the specter.

Releasing her wasn't realistic, so there must be a method to restrain her from exposing these secrets.

Soul Taming was one method; if the specter willingly allowed Lu Ye to plant the Soul Taming Spirit Runes, then everything would be fine. The key was the Soul Taming Spirit Runes required the specter's cooperation for success, any resistance would lead to failure.

For someone as proud as the specter, how could she possibly agree to having the Soul Taming planted by Lu Ye?

If he brought it up, the specter would certainly fight him.

He couldn't keep the specter forever in the Merfolk Territory; she kept to herself now because she hoped she could leave someday.

But if she was imprisoned for too long, there's no guarantee she wouldn't resort to something extreme. Lu Ye wasn't worried about much, except that one day she might capture Bai Shuang, then the Merfolk Race and she would likely be locked in a life-or-death struggle.

These days, Lu Ye mulled over this matter, but to no avail.

"Li Taibai, are you struggling with how to deal with her?"

Just as Lu Ye was at a loss, Bai Lu suddenly transmitted audio.

Lu Ye turned in surprise, "You noticed?"

Bai Lu nodded, "Though I don't know your relationship, from your interactions it's clear you have some history, but not much. You seem to have some grievances, unwilling to kill her, unable to free her, so you're quite troubled."

Lu Ye hadn't expected Bai Lu to have such insight, her observation skills were impressively detailed.

Without denying, he nodded and said, "I am indeed considering how to deal with her."

"Have you thought of a way?"

Lu Ye shook his head: "Not yet."

Bai Lu smiled and said, "Are you looking for a method that can keep her secret without putting too much constraint on her?"

"Exactly!" Too much constraint, like methods such as Soul Taming, is absolutely unacceptable to the specter. "It sounds like you have a way?"

Bai Lu smiled: "I might really have a way!"

Lu Ye's eyes lit up: "Let's hear it!"

Bai Lu, however, shook her head: "I can't say for sure, but if that's your only requirement, this method should work, so we have to give it a try."

"Then let's try it!" Lu Ye agreed. Anyway, I have no way myself; if Bai Lu has a way, naturally, she should try it. If it really works, this difficult problem can be solved.

Bai Lu, having received his permission, then spoke to a nearby merfolk who had been standing by, saying something. That merfolk quickly departed after receiving the instructions.

A moment later, the merfolk returned, but this time brought two of her clan members.

They were two female merfolk, and they looked exactly the same, seemingly a pair of twins.

The twin sisters approached Bai Lu, first respectfully saluting her, then saluting Lu Ye.

The specter, who was engraving Spectral Runes nearby, glanced over out of curiosity, having long realized that Lu Ye had a significant status and position here, so it was no surprise.

Bai Lu said something to the twin merfolk sisters, and they immediately each took out an item.

Lu Ye looked closely and found that what they took out were two golden sea conches, identical in shape to his green sea conch, with the only difference being the color.

This was evidently something from the Divine Conch Hall, but its purpose was unknown. The sea conchs in the Divine Conch Hall had all sorts of strange effects; Lu Ye's could open a portal to the Divine Conch Hall, Yann Miao's could drive away star beasts in the sea, and the other merfolk each had their own magical sea conches.

However, these two golden sea conches weren't just similar in color; even their patterns were exactly alike.

After handing over their golden sea conches, the twin sisters left.

Bai Lu said to Lu Ye, "I need a drop of her blood!"

Lu Ye nodded; the Boulder Mountain Saber roared out of its sheath, the blade flashing.

The specter hadn't even reacted to what happened when her hand suddenly stung, and she jumped up alertly, looking at Lu Ye, "What are you doing!"

Lu Ye's long knife had already returned to its sheath, and he was holding a drop of the specter's blood in his hand, not even looking at her: "Don't make noise!"

Bai Lu smiled slightly at the specter, indicating not to be nervous, then drew her palm across, letting out a drop of her own blood. She then guided it with two fingers, causing Lu Ye's blood to fly over with spirit force, merging with her own blood.

The specter felt uneasy: "Fa Wuzun, what exactly is going on here?"

The Merfolk Race was a very rare and bizarre species. Who knew what strange abilities they had, and taking a drop of her blood like this clearly meant performing some kind of strange secret technique!

How could the specter be at ease?

She didn't know what this was about, and how could Lu Ye know? Bai Lu hadn't explained anything to him.

The merged blood was then divided by Bai Lu's method, dripping separately onto the two golden sea conches. Interestingly, after absorbing the blood, the two golden sea conches transformed into two

golden light-like things, merging together like the two drops of blood earlier, indistinguishable from each other.

The essence of the golden light was a mass of golden liquid, evidently formed from the two golden sea conches.

Bai Lu took out a shell and placed the golden light on it, drinking half of it herself before handing it to Lu Ye: "Make her drink it!"

Lu Ye nodded, took the shell, and handed it to the specter: "Drink it!"

The specter stared at the golden light on the shell in fear, covering her mouth and shaking her head continuously: "I won't!"

She had no idea what this was, how could she drink it?

"Either drink it, or be trapped here forever. Your choice!" Lu Ye looked at her expressionlessly.

The specter frowned: "If I drink it, you'll take me away?"

"You drink it first, as for when to take you away, it depends on your behavior!"

"Fa Wuzun, don't push me too far. Even though my strength is not as good as yours, I'm a woman, but I have my dignity. I don't even know what this thing is, how can you make me drink it? At least let me know what it is."

"I don't know what it is, but I know it's not poisonous!"

The specter did believe this point because Bai Lu had just drunk half of it herself.

"Can you help me ask what exactly this is?" the specter was still not at ease.

Lu Ye frowned, turned to look at Bai Lu, and asked. He too wanted to know what this was.

Bai Lu smiled: "Tell her that once she drinks this, she will become my sister in life and death from now on!"

Lu Ye, suspecting nothing, conveyed this truthfully.

Chapter 1485 - Oath of Brotherhood?

The specter wore a strange expression: "Is this a ceremony for the Merfolk Race to swear brotherhood? Is this merfolk interested in me and wants us to become sworn siblings?"

It didn't make sense. She had been here for a few days recently and hadn't noticed any special treatment from the merfolk.

After thinking for a moment, the specter asked, "What is her status here?"

She didn't have much contact with the Merfolk Race, but it wasn't hard to see that Bai Lu had a high status here.

Lu Ye pondered slightly and said, "Bai Lu is a princess of this branch of the Merfolk Race!"

The specter was dumbfounded, clearly not expecting Bai Lu's status to be so noble. On second thought, since she was a princess and had drunk that golden liquid, it probably wasn't a problem. Moreover, given Fa Wuzun's stance, she wouldn't be able to escape without drinking it. If she was forced to drink it, the situation would be unpleasant.

Resolving her thoughts, the specter looked at Lu Ye: "Remember what you said; if I drink this, you will take me away! If you deceive me, I'll be at odds with you until the end!"

Saying so, she took the shell from Lu Ye's hand and drank it in one gulp!

She was clever enough to envelop the golden light with spirit force as she drank it, intending to spit it out once she escaped from here. This small tactic wasn't too difficult for her.

However, to her astonishment, even though she enveloped it with spirit force, the restraint failed the moment the golden light entered her stomach. Immediately, the specter felt a warm current rising from her belly, transforming into something alive, like an invisible little snake, swiftly slithering inside her body.

Her expression changed, and she quickly immersed her mind to investigate, simultaneously trying to restrain it with spirit force, but it was completely useless.

In just two breaths, the invisible little snake had reached her arm, causing a slight stinging sensation, and then there was no abnormality.

She urgently looked down at the spot where the stinging came from, only to find a spiral mark appearing there!

"What is this?" She looked up, angrily staring at Lu Ye.

Lu Ye also seemed bewildered because the mark looked identical to the one he left with the green sea conch, except the one on the specter's arm was golden, while the one he left was green, matching the colors of the sea conches.

Confused, he looked towards Bai Lu, who smiled slightly and turned her own arm over, revealing a similar golden spiral mark on the inside.

Lu Ye made up a wild lie: "You can think of this mark as a symbol of your sworn sisterhood!"

The specter obviously didn't believe his nonsense and just stared at Bai Lu, wanting an explanation.

Bai Lu flipped her palm, producing a weapon resembling a short spear. Before Lu Ye could react to what she intended, she suddenly turned the spearhead towards her own abdomen and stabbed herself.

Despite the lack of restriction, the weapon forged by the Merfolk Race was incredibly sharp. Even with her Constellation Late Stage strength and impressive physique, Bai Lu pierced her abdomen without any spirit force protection!

Blood splattered, yet she didn't flinch, only a flicker of pain crossing her eyes.

Lu Ye was shocked, completely at a loss as to what she was doing.

What stunned him even more was that, as Bai Lu stabbed herself, she didn't scream, but nearby, the specter let out a painful cry, clutching her abdomen as if struck by a severe blow, instinctively recoiling.

Lu Ye clearly saw the spot she was clutching mirrored Bai Lu's wound, with blood flowing between her fingers.

Bai Lu withdrew the short spear and swiftly slashed across her own arm, leaving a gaping wound on her fair skin.

Simultaneously, the specter, without receiving any attack, bore an identical wound on the same part of her body!

Bai Lu spoke: "Tell her that from now on, no matter how far apart we are, we are closely connected. Any injury I sustain, she will suffer too. If I die, she won't survive either!"

Lu Ye looked solemnly at Bai Lu: "It's unnecessary!"

If he had known Bai Lu would use such tactics, he wouldn't have agreed. But Bai Lu hadn't explained it beforehand. He had thought it was a special secret technique of the Merfolk Race.

But now it seemed it wasn't the Merfolk's secret technique, but the effect of the two golden sea conches.

The two golden sea conches were a mysterious artifact brought out of the Divine Conch Hall by a pair of twins from the Merfolk Race. The Merfolk Race had long realized their effects, but never had the opportunity to use them, as binding life in such a manner generally had no great use. Observing Lu Ye's dilemma, Bai Lu decisively used it.

Before using it, she deliberately didn't inform Lu Ye because she knew he would certainly refuse if he knew in advance. It was better to act first and explain later.

Feeling Lu Ye's heavy heart, Bai Lu smiled softly: "It's okay, as long as it can help you."

"Can it be undone?" Lu Ye asked. If it couldn't be undone, Bai Lu's life would truly be tied to the specter's. While Bai Lu might not face much danger within the Merfolk Territory, the specter risks much more outside, inevitably involving Bai Lu, who might someday face unforeseen disaster.

"Yes, as long as both parties agree, the mark can be undone. But until she behaves, I think it's best not to undo it," Bai Lu responded.

While the two were talking, the specter also vaguely sensed the mystery of the sigil, but didn't dare to be sure, and could only ask, "Fa Wuzun, what exactly is going on here!"

Lu Ye looked at her and relayed Bai Lu's earlier words.

The specter was utterly stunned, thinking the person wanted to swear brotherhood with her. Who knew that her life would be bound to theirs instead? The person was right; they really would live and die together now.

She was momentarily angry: "Fa Wuzun, is this how you treat me? You are too despicable!"

"So you'd better behave!"

The specter was so enraged that her nose tilted, wanting to curse, but then thought of something else and suddenly laughed: "She's the Merfolk Princess, nobly born. I can't believe she would die with me

just to kill me. I'm just a wrecked soul; having someone to live and die with me is actually a bargain for me! And since she can control my life and death, it seems I can also control hers..."

Saying so, she raised her hand and summoned a dirk, which Lu Ye recognized as the magic treasure dirk she had pulled from the eye socket of the Skeletal General.

The specter's eyes were full of eagerness as she threatened Lu Ye: "Take me out immediately, or I won't be polite!"

Lu Ye lifted his hand and grabbed the hilt of the Boulder Mountain Saber!

The specter was decisive, slashing the dirk across her own arm, creating a wound. Sure enough, Bai Lu also had a similar wound, blood flowing.

Lu Ye frowned; the effect of those two golden sea conches was too strange. He couldn't feel any profound power oscillating, but if either Bai Lu or the specter was injured, the other would also suffer the same injury.

Bai Lu clearly realized the specter's intentions, glanced at the new wound on her arm without emotion, and simply smiled slightly at the specter.

This smile inexplicably made the specter feel a bit terrified.

Then she saw Bai Lu slowly raise a short spear, pointing its tip toward her own chest!

"What are you doing!" The specter panicked.

Bai Lu's expression remained unchanged, still smiling as she slowly stabbed the short spear into her chest, blood flowing and staining the shell, the spear steadily and resolutely piercing toward her heart!

This made not only the specter panic but changed Lu Ye's expression as well.

"No!" The specter screamed, rushing over to grab the short spear from Bai Lu's hand, shaking her head pleadingly.

Even though this kind of injury wouldn't be fatal for someone at the Constellation Late Stage, it would definitely cause significant loss of vital energy.

The specter had never expected this seemingly enchanting Merfolk Princess to act so ruthlessly!

Bai Lu paused her motion, raised a finger to the specter's forehead, and the ethereal song of the Edification Technique sounded.

Following that, Bai Lu's Mental Consciousness surged, and Lu Ye didn't know what she said to the specter, but he saw the specter's expression begin to soften, nodding continuously, even showing some surprise.

A moment later, both women were healing their wounds. The injuries looked terrifying, but they were superficial and would easily recover for those at their level.

The specter calmed down completely, and Lu Ye even noticed that she seemed to be anticipating something, although he didn't know what.

Curiously, he asked Bai Lu, "What did you just say to her?"

The specter's temperament was somewhat understood by Lu Ye, likened to a stubborn mule that won't move when pulled but moves backward when hit. He was curious about how Bai Lu managed to calm her.

"I told her that the effect of the secret technique is not only to make us live and die together but would also greatly enhance our cultivation efficiency if we practice together."

"Did you deceive her?" Lu Ye asked.

Bai Lu laughed lightly, "No, it's true."

"Then she's gained something!"

Though being bound in life and death is indeed a constraint, the great enhancement in cultivation efficiency is a worthwhile trade-off.

Lu Ye even suspected that if they had explained this to the specter from the start, she might have agreed willingly.

The specter's matter was resolved. With Bai Lu's leverage here, she should know what to say and what not to say after leaving.

Lu Ye, with a stern face, said to Bai Lu, "In the future, if there's a similar decision, consult me beforehand."

This time, Bai Lu acted unilaterally, knowing he wouldn't agree, even if the result was not bad. But Lu Ye did not want similar things to happen again.

Chapter 1486 - Arrangements for the Specter

"Got it." Bai Lu nodded obediently, sticking her tongue out playfully at Lu Ye.

Lu Ye looked helpless, then turned to the specter and said, "Hurry up and finish engraving your Spectral Runes!"

The specter complained, "Why are you so harsh?" You weren't this harsh to the Merfolk Princess!

The specter continued to engrave her Spectral Runes, while Lu Ye waited quietly.

The mysterious power of those two golden sea conchs reminded him of the Life Origin Method. Speaking of which, since he and Amber had formed the Life Origin Method, Amber was also in a life-and-death connection with him.

Its effect was extremely similar to the state between Bai Lu and the specter.

But there were differences too; the Life Origin Method simply tied Amber's life and death to his safety. In other words, if he died, Amber would definitely accompany him to the grave. But if Amber died, he wouldn't suffer any harm. From this point of view, the Life Origin Method was somewhat better than the effect of the two golden sea conchs.

Another difference was that their injuries wouldn't synchronize.

Lu Ye had long considered dissolving the Life Origin Method, because as his cultivation increased, the enemies he encountered became stronger and stronger. No one knew what kind of crisis he might face in the future, and if he inadvertently caused Amber to die along with him, then Yiyi wouldn't survive either.

But the Life Origin Method was something he obtained from the secret realm of the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain. Forming it was easy, but dissolving it wasn't as simple.

The manifestation of the Life Origin Method was at his chest, where there was an intricate pattern invisible to the naked eye, which was similar to spirit runes.

Lu Ye felt that he should be able to use the Talent Tree to deduce the mystery of this spirit rune and find a way to dissolve it.

With this thought, he made up his mind to begin deducing the spirit rune of the Life Origin Method once he finished deducing the Breath-concealing Spirit Runes.

A moment later, the specter finished engraving the Spectral Runes and returned the jade tablet to him.

Lu Ye took it and casually asked, "No omissions or intentional errors, right?"

The specter glared at him hatefully, "Do you want me to take off my clothes for a thorough inspection?"

Lu Ye looked up at her, "If you're willing..."

"Don't even think about it!" the specter snapped angrily. "I've fulfilled my part of the deal. When will you take me away from here?"

Although she was eager to try and see how much her cultivation efficiency would improve with Bai Lu, such matters weren't urgent; there would be opportunities in the future.

"I'll come to get you in a few days!" Lu Ye put away the jade tablet.

Right now, it was impossible, as the portal of the green sea conch had long been closed. He had to return to Unparalleled Island from the Constellation Palace and wait seven more days to bring the specter back.

After giving Bai Lu a few more instructions to keep an eye on the specter, Lu Ye finally left the Merfolk Territory.

Just like last time, he borrowed a seahorse star beast and hurried in the direction of the Constellation Palace.

The journey was peaceful. After several round trips, Lu Ye realized that unless one was particularly unlucky, they generally wouldn't encounter the Moon Jade star beast.

Moreover, the seahorse's speed under the All Phenomena Ocean was rapid, providing an opportunity for escape even if encountered.

Letting the seahorse return on its own, Lu Ye opened the large doors of the Constellation Palace and returned to Unparalleled Island through the always open portal.

Without returning to his own cave, Lu Ye made a trip to All Phenomena Island.

His previously purchased starboat was lost, and he needed to buy a new one, or traveling would be inconvenient.

Lu Ye had only spent twenty or thirty thousand spirit jade on the lost starboat, so he wasn't heartbroken over it. Previously, with little spirit jade on hand, he had to buy what was cheap. Now, with ample resources, he naturally wanted to purchase something better and more expensive.

If it weren't for the fact that a battleship required more than one person to operate, Lu Ye might have even considered buying one!

Having contacted Cao Xiang in advance, he was warmly received, and Lu Ye spent a full three hundred thousand spirit jade to purchase a high-quality starboat.

Riding the new starboat, Lu Ye headed straight for the open sea of All Phenomena.

Feeling the various features of the new starboat, Lu Ye was very satisfied. As the saying goes, you get what you pay for—this new starboat far exceeded his old one in both control and comfort.

It was also faster; not that the previous starboat couldn't reach such high speeds, but if there was an unbreakable obstacle ahead, there'd be no chance to dodge, inevitably resulting in a collision and a wrecked boat.

The new starboat, however, was different; even at higher speeds, if an unbreakable obstacle appeared ahead, the Array would timely alert, allowing the cultivator piloting the starboat to dodge calmly.

Moreover, if the old starboat hit small meteorites, there'd be a noticeable jolt, while the new starboat had no such feeling. It was undeniably sturdier and more durable.

To fetch the specter from the Merfolk Territory, Lu Ye couldn't depart from Unparalleled Island. If the specter appeared in the cave on Unparalleled Island, she would immediately know that Fa Wuzun was Li Taibai.

He could only find an obscure location to take her away and then make plans.

In the short term, Lu Ye wouldn't let her roam free. As for how to settle her, he already had a plan in mind.

Two or three days later, he found a desolate planet to land on and sought a hidden spot to wait.

During the wait, Lu Ye finally took out the jade tablet engraved with the Spectral Runes, observing it while channeling the power of the Talent Tree to begin deducing a new spirit rune based on the original Breath-concealing Spirit Runes.

After a few more days, when the green sea conch could be used, Lu Ye took it out and blew it, opening the portal to the Divine Conch Hall.

Since he had made a promise before leaving last time, the moment Lu Ye appeared, he saw Bai Lu and specter waiting for him here.

Bai Lu nodded at Lu Ye with a smile and pushed the reluctant specter beside her. The specter, unwillingly, walked forward and came to Lu Ye's side, saying, "Fa Wuzun, I want to stay here for a while longer!"

"For what?" Lu Ye frowned.

Previously, this person wanted to leave desperately, how did she change her mind after only a few days?

"To cultivate! Cultivating with Bai Lu is very efficient, and there's no shortage of resources here. I feel if I keep cultivating for a while, I can be promoted to Moon Jade!" The specter expressed excitedly.

Bai Lu had mentioned earlier that cultivating together would greatly enhance efficiency, and she already had psychological expectations, but who knew after starting to cultivate she discovered the efficiency was beyond her imagination.

More attractive than the improvement in cultivation efficiency was the fact that there's no shortage of spirit jade here!

She had personally seen the spirit jade veins in the Merfolk Territory, and her eyes shone brightly at the time; if Bai Lu hadn't pulled her back, she might have rushed down to fill her storage ring.

For a pauper like her, coming to this place was like a lustful demon entering a brothel, and it's free!

She suddenly found this place truly wonderful, so wonderful that she was reluctant to leave. If it weren't for Bai Lu reminding her today, she would have completely forgotten that Lu Ye would come to pick her up.

In this turn of events, her misfortune has turned into a blessing, and all previous unpleasant experiences have long been forgotten.

"I want to cultivate here for another six months, after six months come and pick me up, then..."

Before specter could finish her words, Lu Ye raised his hand, grabbed her by the neck, and threw her into the portal.

"I'm leaving first, will come again next time!" Lu Ye waved to Bai Lu, then turned and entered the portal.

"I'll fight you to the death!"

Just as she had regained her footing, the specter rushed over, baring her teeth and claws, looking like she was going to tear Lu Ye into pieces, Fa Wuzun, this guy is really infuriating!

Earlier when she wanted to leave, Fa Wuzun wouldn't let her, now when she wanted to stay, he just threw her out, she had never been wronged like this before.

Moments later, after exchanging a few moves with Lu Ye and getting punched, the specter held her head with both hands and calmed down.

Her strength was not as good as his, so she couldn't help but be helpless.

Secretly, she resolved that when she is promoted to Moon Jade, she would teach this guy a lesson.

"Give me your star map!" Lu Ye reached out a hand towards her.

"For what?" The specter looked at him warily.

"Cut the nonsense!" Lu Ye's gaze turned cold.

Reluctantly, the specter took out her star map, upon which Lu Ye cast a spell and then threw the star map back to her.

"There's an Unparalleled Island in the All Phenomena Ocean, you should go there."

Though Bai Lu had influence over the specter, ensuring she wouldn't say things she shouldn't, Lu Ye momentarily wasn't planning to let her out of his sight, besides, Unparalleled Island was indeed short of people, her being there would be a boost.

"Heh..." The specter sneered, raising her head slightly, chin tilted at Lu Ye, "Beg me, if you beg me, let's see if I'll go!"

Lu Ye replied unhurriedly, "Only I can take you to the Merfolk Territory!"

The cold sneer on specter's face became stiff, feeling frustrated, after a pause she asked, "What's so mystical about Unparalleled Island that you have your eyes on it?"

"You don't need to worry, just go, they are short of people, it won't be hard for you to join!"

"Give me a timeline, you can't let me stay there indefinitely."

"Depends on your performance!" Lu Ye glanced at her indifferently, then soared into the sky.

Watching Lu Ye's departing figure, the specter gnashed her teeth, and waved her fist towards the direction he left, looking as if she wanted to pound Lu Ye to death.

A moment later, she calmed her mind, took out her star map to investigate, "Unparalleled Island... what nonsense, never heard of it."

She had been wandering around All Phenomena Ocean for years, having come here since she was promoted to Constellation, she thought she knew all the famous or powerful Spirit Islands well, only there's no Unparalleled Island.

It was certain, this was an unnamed desolate island, even not marked on the star map.

As she probed, it was just as she thought, the location of Unparalleled Island on the star map was rather remote, marked only as a desolate island.

Reluctant to go, but she must, she missed the cultivation environment in the Merfolk Race greatly, especially after recent interactions with Bai Lu, she had learned about the existence of Divine Conch Hall.

Knowing that the place was a secret realm where good can be gained, but to enter the Divine Conch Hall, she would need the permission of the Merfolk Queen.

Helplessly, she could only summon her starboat and fly towards the All Phenomena Ocean.

Chapter 1487 - Mid-class Spirit Island

Following the guidance of the star map in her hand, the specter arrived at the location of Unparalleled Island in just a few days. She did not expose her form but concealed herself nearby to probe the situation.

Initially, she thought it was just an unnamed deserted island, perhaps occupied by some insignificant beings. However, upon arrival, she discovered something unusual—an extraordinarily formidable protective array enveloped the island!

What surprised her even more was that she wasn't the only Ghost Cultivator around.

She could sense that there were several Ghost Cultivators hiding covertly, as if they were monitoring the movements of Unparalleled Island, while others openly observed from afar.

The specter was bewildered; wasn't this just a deserted island? Who would have gone to the trouble of setting up such a big array here? What are these people, openly and secretly spying on Unparalleled Island, up to?

Logically speaking, many such deserted islands exist in the All Phenomena Ocean—generally worthless and unoccupied. Yet, what she saw before her left her puzzled.

Currently, under the protection of Unparalleled Island's big array, the stellar space energy born from the Small Constellation Palace's reversal of seawater was completely isolated inside. Therefore, from outside Unparalleled Island, one couldn't detect any anomaly within.

The specter naturally mistook Unparalleled Island for a deserted island.

In her investigation, she suddenly saw a familiar figure and finally understood why Leader Fa wanted her to come here; she saw Chu Shen.

The specter vaguely knew the relationship between Chu Shen and Leader Fa since she had once entrusted Chu Shen to convey a message when she wanted Leader Fa's help with a specific scenario.

Upon closer inspection, the specter realized that Chu Shen seemed to hold a significant position here, as everyone on the island treated him with respect.

Seeing as she was already here, she decided to enter and take a look even though she didn't understand why Leader Fa wanted her here. To gain access to the Merfolk Territory in the future, she could only endure humiliation with patience and discretion until she advanced to the level of a Moon Jade.

She did not reveal herself; instead, she took out an audio talisman and sent a message to Chu Shen. The two of them had exchanged audio talisman markings when they were at the Constellation Palace.

Chu Shen, while chatting with someone on the island, sensed something, took out the audio talisman, and upon seeing it, showed a pleased expression before subtly operating the big array on the island to create an opening.

The specter had been waiting at that location, and with a single flash, she entered directly.

Upon stepping onto Unparalleled Island, the specter's expression changed, as she suddenly sensed the extremely pure and dense stellar space energy here!

Suddenly realizing that Unparalleled Island was not a deserted island but a Spirit Island!

But... how is this possible? If it were a Spirit Island, some faction would have occupied it long ago; how could it have been left until today?

When she observed from outside, she didn't see the island's full setup, but she got a general idea: there weren't many people here, and in terms of cultivation, most were at the Constellation Early Stage, seemingly led by Chu Shen.

Why is a force like this able to occupy a Spirit Island? Especially one of this caliber!

After sensing quietly for a while, the specter confirmed that, based on Unparalleled Island's current energy density, it could be considered a mid-class Spirit Island.

Among the many Spirit Islands in the All Phenomena Ocean, some are good while others are bad. The standard for evaluation is the stellar space energy on the island.

Those Spirit Islands with stellar space energy unable to meet the needs of the Constellation Realm cultivation are the lowest-grade low-class Spirit Islands. There are many such Spirit Islands across the All Phenomena Ocean, primarily occupied by domains not considered strong.

Even though they might not meet the Constellation Realm's needs, cultivating on such islands can save some spirit jade and slightly improve cultivation efficiency, so they still hold some value, though not significantly large.

Yet, even so, such low-class Spirit Islands are contested by countless domains because, no matter how many there are, there can never be enough for domains where the cultivators originate from.

Cultivators from different Star Systems and domains come here, needing a place to settle. Occupying a deserted island is pointless, and without enough strength, they naturally aim for low-class Spirit Islands. The battles among Spirit Islands in the All Phenomena Ocean mostly occur over low-class Spirit Islands.

Above low-class Spirit Islands are mid-class Spirit Islands like Unparalleled Island, where the stellar space energy generally meets the needs of Constellation cultivators for their cultivation.

In other words, residing on such a Spirit Island allows cultivation without spirit jade, and using spirit jade would substantially increase cultivation efficiency.

Such Spirit Islands are undoubtedly far more valuable than low-class Spirit Islands, and only remarkable powers can occupy them in the All Phenomena Ocean.

Even higher is the high-class Spirit Islands, where the stellar space energy is so dense that it even satisfies the cultivation of a Moon Jade. The factions occupying these Spirit Islands are significantly stronger than those holding mid-class Spirit Islands, often consisting of entire Star System factions banded together.

Major conflicts rarely erupt between these Spirit Islands since, when they do, it means war between two Star Systems, involving countless individuals and being hard to quell.

Historically, there was once a conflict between two high-class Spirit Islands which resulted in a large-scale confrontation that lasted for a decade. During this confrontation, more than a dozen high-class

Spirit Islands and hundreds of mid-class and low-class Spirit Islands were drawn into the chaos. Throughout those ten years, the entire All Phenomena Ocean was frequently plagued by turbulent events. Eventually, even the Sun Blaze from the All Phenomena Star System couldn't bear the situation any longer and intervened to suppress the conflicts, finally resolving the disputes.

This is one of the reasons why the presence of foreign Sun Blaze in the All Phenomena Ocean is not allowed for long periods. Without the foreign Sun Blaze, the local Sun Blaze can still suppress some unfavorable situations. However, if every powerful Star System had a Sun Blaze stationed there, in the event of large-scale conflicts, the local Sun Blaze would be powerless.

Above the high-class Spirit Islands, there is actually another class, which is the top-class Spirit Islands.

Because the stellar space energy on these Spirit Islands is so rich, it can already give rise to Spirit Jade Veins.

All Phenomena Island is such a top-class Spirit Island!

Although Lu Ye had entered and exited All Phenomena Island many times, there was one area he had never visited. That area is the forbidden land of All Phenomena Island, where the entrance to the Spirit Jade Vein is located, and it has been guarded by the Moon Jade governor for years. Those who dare to trespass are killed without mercy.

In the entire All Phenomena Ocean, there are not many top-class Spirit Islands like All Phenomena Island, only less than fifty. This means that all fifty Spirit Jade Veins are occupied by the most top-tier forces, and their position has remained unshaken throughout countless years.

A Spirit Jade Vein is extremely precious, as it represents an endless supply of cultivation resources, something that all cultivators desire and need the most.

Generally speaking, only top-class domains can give birth to Spirit Jade Veins. For example, although the Nine Provinces has been promoted to a large domain, it's unknown how many years it would take to accumulate enough to reach the level where a Spirit Jade Vein can be produced.

Within a Spirit Jade Vein, not only can Spirit Jade be derived, but Spirit Crystals can also be produced. These are important resources for cultivation above the Moon Jade level. In other words, possessing a Spirit Jade Vein can cultivate more powerful individuals.

Currently, Unparalleled Island is far from being a top-class Spirit Island; at most, it's just a mid-class Spirit Island. Yet, even so, it is enough to astonish the specter, because she really couldn't understand how a Spirit Island like this wasn't specially marked on the star map and was even occupied by Chu Shen and his people.

Following Chu Shen's instructions, the specter arrived at a large hall, which should be the visitors hall mainly used for receiving guests. It appeared to be newly built, with everything inside looking new.

She slowly revealed herself. Chu Shen had already entered, smiling and clasping his fists in greeting, "Sister Specter, what brings you here?"

Having met once before, they weren't strangers, although Chu Shen really didn't understand why the specter had come over, as there wasn't any special relationship between them.

The specter thought for a moment and said, "Fa Wuzun asked me to come."

This guy was a follower of Fa Wuzun, so there were some things she couldn't hide from him. Thus, the specter could only tell the truth.

"My big brother asked you to come?" Chu Shen finally understood, and on further thought, it wasn't surprising. Leader Fa was originally familiar with the specter, and with Unparalleled Island currently short of people, especially strong individuals like the specter, it was only natural for Leader Fa to have her come to help.

He was secretly delighted, as he was worried about where to find suitable people, and Leader Fa sending the specter over was just perfect.

"Since my big brother asked you to come, Sister, feel free to stay here, and let me know if you have any needs," Chu Shen said warmly.

The specter nodded and then asked, "What's the story with this Spirit Island?"

"What do you mean, what's the story?" Chu Shen was puzzled.

"A Spirit Island like this should have been occupied long ago. How could it be..." She wanted to ask how it ended up with you, but thought that would sound inappropriate.

Chu Shen understood what she meant and smiled, "Sister, you may not know, but this was originally an unclaimed barren island. It only started to come alive after I led people to occupy it."

The specter realized, "I see!"

She was wondering how such a Spirit Island could have gone unnoticed. It turned out to be a Spirit Island that came alive, and what luck Chu Shen had! While she had heard of barren islands coming alive, there were countless barren islands in the All Phenomena Ocean over the years, but only a few had transformed into Spirit Islands, mostly low-class ones.

However, the specter soon realized something was wrong, because if it really transformed from a barren island, there should be at least a slow transformation process, which usually takes years or even decades. However, Chu Shen was still participating in the Constellation Palace competition not long ago, and not much time had passed since the end of the Constellation Palace.

How long has it been?

"When did this island start to come alive?" the specter asked.

Chu Shen thought for a moment and said, "About a month ago. When we first came here, the place was desolate, devoid of energy. But just a few days after we arrived, changes started happening, and today it's become like this."

"Over a month!" The specter's eyes widened in disbelief, almost suspecting Chu Shen was lying to her.

Chapter 1488 - Reveal Your True Face!

The transformation of a deserted island into a vibrant place is a slow process, not something that can be accomplished overnight; even a few years or decades is considered fast.

In just over a month, could a deserted island become a mid-class Spirit Island?

Specter couldn't believe it, yet Chu Shen had no reason to lie to her about this matter. Moreover, it hadn't been long since the end of the Constellation Palace event. Even if Chu Shen had come here immediately after the event ended, it had only been three months.

"Is the energy on the island still increasing?" Specter suddenly recalled a critical point.

Chu Shen replied, "It increases every day, especially after we set up the protective array; the increase is quite noticeable!"

Specter's eyes widened in shock: "Doesn't this mean..."

She didn't dare continue, but Chu Shen replied solemnly, "This is definitely not the final state of Unparalleled Island; in the future, it might become a high-class Spirit Island or even... a top-class Spirit Island!"

Specter couldn't help but be dumbfounded.

Chu Shen left; he was currently the Palace Master of Unparalleled Palace and also the Island Master of Unparalleled Island. He had to personally oversee all the affairs, big and small, so he was quite busy. There were many places to stay on the island, so he let Specter choose a place to settle down peacefully, and then he went back to his work.

Specter walked out of the visitors hall, strolling around Unparalleled Island, feeling the decent stellar space energy on the island, which greatly improved her longtime foul mood.

She had originally been very reluctant about being forced by Fa Wuzun to come to Unparalleled Island. If not for the chance to visit the Merfolk Territory in the future, she wouldn't have bothered to pay attention.

But now it seemed that Fa Wuzun's actions brought her nothing but benefits and no harm. Not to mention, as long as she stayed within Unparalleled Island, she could cultivate without using spirit jade at any time.

Because of her unique cultivation, she had a significant demand for spirit jade. The more spirit jade she consumed, the faster her power progressed. Hence, whenever she had even a bit of spirit jade, it turned into her strength, presenting her as perpetually poor.

Just recently, Lu Ye had given her three hundred thousand spirit jade, which she had already used up. Right now, she was penniless, and even her subsequent cultivation posed a problem.

However, as long as she stayed on Unparalleled Island, she could enhance her strength even without spirit jade; it would merely be a bit slower.

Should Unparalleled Island eventually become a top-class Spirit Island in the future, she would have a rich cultivation ground even if she advanced to Moon Jade!

Realizing this, her previous dissatisfaction and resentment towards Fa Wuzun instantly vanished, and Specter even considered thanking him in person!

This Unparalleled Island is a treasure trove and she had to firmly establish a foothold here!

Especially given the current state of Unparalleled Island, which was in dire need of talents, Specter, ranking within the top two hundred of the Cumulated Points Ranking from the Constellation Palace, could certainly advance to Moon Jade soon. With just a bit of effort, wouldn't she be highly valued?

After some thought, she went to find the busy Chu Shen, even changing her address form: "Island Master, I have a friend who is homeless. Would it be possible to take him in?"

Chu Shen pondered briefly and then replied, "Since he's a friend of yours, there's no problem. Just invite him over."

Previously, he had the Lucky Star recruit people on Zhaolai Island due to the situation, because building a force couldn't rely solely on a few individuals.

But now that Unparalleled Island had become a mid-class Spirit Island, there was no need to gather manpower like that anymore. Just a word from him, and many would come of their own accord.

Before, he had to spend spirit jade to ask people to come and help, but now it's different; he had to ensure their sincerity and strength before letting them join.

Take the Constellation Early Stages recruited from Zhaolai Island before, they hadn't had much affiliation with Unparalleled Island, merely working for a monthly salary. But now, everyone was full of vigor and enthusiasm.

These people had gone to Zhaolai Island out of poverty, lacking spirit jade, and were casually recruited for that paycheck.

Currently, Unparalleled Island is a mid-class Spirit Island, whose energy fully meets their cultivation needs. Where else could they find such an opportunity?

Receiving Chu Shen's approval, Specter sent out a message, her eyes curving with a smile as she told Chu Shen, "Don't worry, my friend is quite extraordinary, Island Master—you have met him before."

Chu Shen thought for a moment and immediately understood who it was. If it was that person, truly extraordinary—he ranked even higher than Specter on the Cumulated Points Ranking in the Constellation Palace!

Instantly, it seemed to him that his command now held two major powerhouses, truly Leader Fa's benevolence, for without Leader Fa, how could such strong individuals have come to seek refuge here?

In an instant, Chu Shen saw a bright future for Unparalleled Island.

Having decided to establish herself on Unparalleled Island, Specter naturally wanted to explore this Spirit Island thoroughly. The island wasn't small, but she quickly surveyed it using her Late Stage Constellation Insight.

At this moment, Specter floated in front of a rock wall by the island's edge, staring at a dark cave in front of her, her brow furrowed.

She sensed someone had set a restriction inside, unsure who might be hiding there!

With a flicker, she silently slipped into the cave, carefully examining it before attempting to decipher the restriction—a task not beyond a skilled Ghost Cultivator like her.

As she was cracking it, Specter suddenly felt the restriction open on its own. Looking up, she saw deep inside the cave, a figure sitting cross-legged, expressionlessly staring at her.

The light was dim, and Specter couldn't immediately see the person's face, but the somewhat familiar eyes made her hair stand on end. She quickly stepped back with a defensive stance: "Fa Wuzun!"

"What's with the yelling?" Lu Ye spoke. He had sensed her arrival and since Specter was to stay on Unparalleled Island, frequent encounters were inevitable. So, Lu Ye didn't bother to hide, simply opening the cave's restriction.

Hearing the voice wasn't right, Specter took a closer look and realized the familiar-looking person before her wasn't Fa Wuzun.

Surprised for a moment: "Li Taibai? What are you doing here?"

Lu Ye leisurely said: "Why can't I be here!"

The specter clearly misunderstood, understandingly replied: "So you're one of the Unparalleled Palace!"

Gracefully walked in, glanced around, and sat cross-legged not far from Lu Ye, asking curiously: "Being part of the Unparalleled Palace, why are you staying in such a simple place?"

"It's quieter here. But you, why are you here?"

The specter responded: "Wherever I want to be, I am. Why should you care?" She wouldn't admit she was forced here by Leader Fa, though it turned out well enough.

A change in tone: "You're in the Constellation Late Stage now? Your cultivation progressed quickly, it's a pity. If you were in the Constellation Late Stage before the contest in the Constellation Palace, you might have a shot at the Cumulated Points Ranking!"

Lu Ye said calmly: "The ranking is full of strong competitors; my strength might not be enough."

The specter laughed: "At least you have self-awareness!"

There are many in the Constellation Late Stage, but how many can leave a name on the ranking? Ordinary late-stage cultivators indeed don't qualify for the ranking.

While laughing, the specter's brows furrowed, glancing Lu Ye up and down with an uncertain expression.

"What's wrong?" Lu Ye looked at her.

The specter hesitated momentarily before speaking in a deep voice: "Looking at you... You resemble someone I know!"

Not just in appearance or eyes, even your aura is similar!

Suddenly remembered, Li Taibai is a combat cultivator, and so is Leader Fa!

The specter suddenly felt a chill all over.

"Oh? Who might that be?"

The specter stared into Lu Ye's eyes, not blinking, as if trying to see into his heart, gritting teeth, said slowly: "Someone despicable, shameless, sinister, and cunning. My lifelong adversary!"

Lu Ye showed a contemplative look: "It seems that person is very strong!"

The specter admitted: "Indeed very strong, much stronger than me! But he shouldn't have offended me!"

"What happens if they offend you?"

"Ha..." The specter smirked coldly, "That wouldn't be good, but after I advance to Moon Jade, I'd beat him to his knees, calling 'Mom!'"

Lu Ye nodded: "Let me know when you do, I'll watch the show!"

"Still pretending!" The specter angrily jumped up, pointing at Lu Ye's nose: "Reveal your true self, Leader Fa, I have recognized you! Though your disguise is good, you can't fool my eyes!"

Lu Ye exhibited a shocked expression: "Leader Fa? The one who shone brilliantly at the Melee Battle Meet?"

"Keep pretending!" The specter laughed coldly; though Li Taibai's disguise as Leader Fa lacked flaws, some things just couldn't withstand scrutiny.

Lu Ye shook his head: "I don't know what you're talking about."

Seeing him adamantly deny, the specter quickly pulled out her audio talisman: "I'll see how long you can keep your mouth shut!"

Saying that, found Leader Fa's audio talisman marking, sent a message out, then looked at Lu Ye smugly, determined to expose his ugly face.

If Li Taibai truly were Leader Fa, he wouldn't dare respond in front of her; thus, his identity would be confirmed!

But to the specter's astonishment, shortly after, the audio talisman had a reply, eagerly checking, finding it was indeed Leader Fa's response, with merely a simple sentence: "What is it?"

The specter was thoroughly dumbfounded!

She watched Lu Ye the whole time, seeing no abnormal movement, no chance for sneaking a reply. How could Leader Fa's reply exist?

Surely he didn't delegate his response to someone else; audio talismans are strictly personal, others couldn't activate them.

Could she have been mistaken? Li Taibai is Li Taibai, and Leader Fa is Leader Fa?

But how can there be two such similar people in the world?

In her daze, another message came from Leader Fa, prompting, the specter could only reply: "Nothing, just checking if you're dead!"

"I think you're asking for trouble!"

The specter couldn't help twitching her eyes, quickly putting away the audio talisman.

Chapter 1489 - The Visitors Mean Trouble

"Strange, truly strange!" The specter scratched her head, looking puzzled. No matter how she looked at it, besides their appearance and voice being different, Li Taibai and Fa Wuzun seemed almost like they were carved from the same mold. This was why she made such a judgment, but it turned out they were actually not the same person!

Could there really be two people in this world so similar?

"Anything else?" Lu Ye looked at her.

The specter shook her head. She didn't really have any particular business; she was just curious about who set up the restriction here.

Lu Ye raised his hand, gesturing for her to feel free.

The specter pouted, turned around, and walked out. After a few steps, she suddenly remembered something and turned back. "Oh right, I also called that guy Piao Ke over. He's pitiable too. For years, he hasn't been able to return home and has been wandering around. Unparalleled Island is nice. If he can stay here, this vast All Phenomena Ocean would finally offer him a home."

After speaking, the specter left. Lu Ye was somewhat surprised, not expecting her to have called Piao Ke.

Lu Ye had thought about whether to call Piao Ke to Unparalleled Island. Unparalleled Island lacked people, and Piao Ke was quite powerful. If he could come to Unparalleled Island, it would undoubtedly strengthen the island's foundation.

However, his identity over here was somewhat special, making such an action inconvenient. The main issue was that he wasn't sure if Piao Ke was willing to come.

Piao Ke and Chu Shen were arguably his only two friends he'd gotten along well with in the All Phenomena Star System. But Lu Ye wasn't very clear about Piao Ke's background. Through previous interactions, he could ascertain that Piao Ke had an extraordinary background.

For someone with such an extraordinary background, it's impossible not to have a place in the All Phenomena Ocean. They typically belong to some power, but Piao Ke had always been alone, which was strange.

Now there's no need to be troubled about it. Since the specter has called Piao Ke, if he's willing to come, that's great. If not, Lu Ye needn't attempt the impossible.

On another deserted island, half a day's journey from Unparalleled Island, the doppelganger sat cross-legged. After instructing the specter to go to Unparalleled Island, Lu Ye anticipated that she would have doubts about his identity. So he had the doppelganger, holding Fa Wuzun's audio talisman, hide here early on to wait. Sure enough, the specter wanted to use the audio talisman to determine if Lu Ye was Fa Wuzun.

Although others couldn't use the audio talisman, the doppelganger could, thus alleviating the specter's doubts.

In the cave, shortly after the specter left, Chu Shen arrived and informed Lu Ye of some bad news.

"Senior Brother, our Unparalleled Island might be attacked!"

"Expected." Lu Ye nodded.

Once a Spirit Island appears, it will inevitably be coveted, especially since Unparalleled Palace is just starting out and doesn't appear strong, making it even more attractive.

As it's said, "The gentleman's crime is having treasures," when a force's power isn't sufficient to hold an island, it's only natural for others to want to seize it.

Lu Ye had anticipated this issue for a while, considering how valuable Spirit Islands are in the All Phenomena Ocean. Even if others weren't aware Unparalleled Island was a mid-class Spirit Island, they would still swarm for it even if it were just a low-class one.

To cultivators, a Spirit Island is a place of cultivation that saves numerous cultivation resources.

Recently, several powers have openly and covertly been probing Unparalleled Island's situation, apparently to figure out the real situation.

He had long had Tang Jun come over for this moment. A Spirit Island with Moon Jade stationed is entirely different in its ability to protect itself compared to one without.

"What's your plan?" Lu Ye asked.

"Of course, defend the island, and kill anyone who dares to take it!" Chu Shen's expression was cold and fierce.

He wanted to make something of himself, and Unparalleled Island was his biggest and best opportunity, so he wouldn't let it slip away easily.

"But you can't leverage the forces from Cheling World, can you?"

Chu Shen replied, "That doesn't matter. It can't be hidden that Unparalleled Island is becoming active, but those larger, more reputable forces value their reputation. Some have tried to recruit us, but I've declined all their offers, so they won't act recklessly. Those itching to attack Unparalleled Island now are just some second-rate forces."

These forces essentially have no suitable base in the All Phenomena Ocean. Seeing Unparalleled Island coming alive, they've naturally set their sights on it, like hungry dogs fighting over food. Even a relatively worthless bone can tempt them.

So even if a force does attack Unparalleled Island, their overall strength wouldn't be too formidable.

This is why Chu Shen decided to defend the island because if it were a major force, Unparalleled Palace wouldn't stand a chance given its current strength.

And there's one more thing, those larger forces undoubtedly know Chu Shen's background. Offending someone as powerful as Jiu Yan over a Spirit Island isn't worth it.

Only those second-rate forces, unaware of Chu Shen's identity, would entertain such improper thoughts.

"Tang Jun's presence on Unparalleled Island is no secret. If they dare to act, they must have the strength to suppress Tang Jun, so it's better to be cautious."

Chu Shen said, "I know, but my mother told me before that among the forces in All Phenomena Ocean, apart from some major powers, it's rare to have a Moon Jade Late Stage stationed, because anyone who cultivates to the Moon Jade Late Stage is engrossed in researching how to advance to Sun Blaze. Where would they have the leisure to station themselves in All Phenomena Ocean? Therefore, most forces here are stationed by Moon Jade cultivators in the Early and mid-stages. Elder Tang Jun has a Moon Jade Mid-Stage cultivation, and if the opposing party wants to suppress him, they need to deploy at least one mid-stage or two early stage persons. This way, the pressure we face is greatly reduced."

Lu Ye nodded, "Since you have a plan, go ahead, but don't overexert. If the disparity is too great, it doesn't matter if we abandon Unparalleled Island."

Without Unparalleled Island, he could always create another Spirit Island; he'd just have to start from scratch.

"I understand, but brother, I would like to ask for some support!"

Lu Ye said nothing, silently handing some array discs to Chu Shen.

Chu Shen accepted them happily, "Thanks, big brother!"

This guy, now he doesn't even bother to hide anymore...

Two days later, Piao Ke arrived at Unparalleled Island upon the specter's invitation. The details were vague in the specter's transmission until Piao Ke entered the island, only then discovering its uniqueness.

He was even more shocked to learn that two months ago this Spirit Island was just a barren island.

Recognizing the great potential of Unparalleled Island's future, Piao Ke instantly decided to stay. For someone like him, an ordinary Spirit Island wouldn't be enticing, but Unparalleled Island was different. He wanted to see firsthand what this revitalized Spirit Island would become.

There was another reason, of course: it was close to Angling Island. Once the fishing off-season ended and the White Spirit returned, it would be convenient for him to go angling.

Upon hearing Li Taibai was actually here, he happily went to visit.

In the cave, Lu Ye warmly received him, they had a casual chat, and the specter joined in the fun, laughing as she recounted how she previously mistook Li Taibai for Fa Wuzun.

The three were conversing when suddenly a vibrating buzz resonated from outside, a loud noise echoed throughout Unparalleled Island, making their eardrums tremble.

Exchanging glances, the three dashed out of the cave.

As they looked upward, they saw the protective array outside Unparalleled Island, where a dense group of people was floating, numbering at least a hundred.

Leading them were a man and a woman, both possessing Moon Jade cultivation; particularly the man, who was obviously at Moon Jade Mid-Stage.

At present, he was standing aloof, coldly overlooking the scene below.

On Unparalleled Island, the cultivators of Unparalleled Palace, disturbed by the commotion, gathered together, looking at the visitors with anxious expressions.

Chu Shen stood at the forefront of the group, behind him was Tang Jun, lowering his head with his hands tucked in his sleeves.

Comparing both sides' lineups, Unparalleled Palace was undoubtedly at a great disadvantage. Not only was there a significant gap in numbers, but overall strength was also incomparable.

They had two Moon Jade cultivators, while Unparalleled Palace had only one; almost ten were Late Stage Constellation, and half were mid-stage; Unparalleled Palace had just over twenty people, mostly at Constellation Early Stage.

Chu Shen had mentioned to Lu Ye one or two days prior that Unparalleled Island might be attacked, so this sight was not surprising. Those who target Unparalleled Island wouldn't be too formidable, if they couldn't handle such a minor situation, how could Unparalleled Island stand in All Phenomena Ocean?

Standing at the front, he confidently shouted, "Who are you!"

The leading Moon Jade Mid-Stage slowly spoke, "Koi Island's Nan Xingzhen!"

Chu Shen, with a bold expression, showed no mercy in his words, "What the hell is Koi Island, never heard of it. What are you doing here? Why did you activate my Unparalleled Island's protective array?"

Since the visitors seemed hostile, there was no reason to be polite. They had activated the array as soon as they arrived, causing that loud noise, which indeed was arrogant.

Nan Xingzhen wasn't bothered, casually replied, "We naturally have important matters here. May I know who's in charge of your island? Please come forward to discuss!"

Despite his words, his gaze locked onto Tang Jun, probably thinking Tang Jun was the one in charge at Unparalleled Island. This was a reasonable assumption; among the Constellation group, only one was Moon Jade, naturally the respected one.

Chu Shen shouted, "Old man, it seems your eyes are failing. I am speaking to you; you still ask who's in charge! I'm the Island Master of Unparalleled Island, and the Palace Master of Unparalleled Palace!"

Nan Xingzhen furrowed his brow, clearly surprised, glanced at a Constellation beside him, and transmitted something.

After the Constellation briefly responded, Nan Xingzhen slightly nodded, seemingly confirming Chu Shen's identity, then looked at Chu Shen, "Since you're the Island Master of Unparalleled Island, let me be straightforward. Koi Island has its eye on this Spirit Island and intends to take over; I'd like to ask you to graciously relinquish it!"

Chapter 1490 - Unparalleled Island Under Attack

"Haha!" Chu Shen laughed, "The old man talks nonsense. Why must I part with something just because you fancy it? I fancy your wife too, are you willing to part with her?!"

The group of Constellation Early Stage cultivators recruited were sweating bullets, feeling that their Palace Master was really daring to speak that way to a Moon Jade Mid-Stage.

Little did they know, Chu Shen came from a prestigious background, his mother being a Sun Blaze expert. He had met many Moon Jades and felt no fear towards them. People like Nan Xingzhen couldn't overpower him.

Behind Chu Shen, the woman named Ban Ci frowned and glared at Chu Shen, seemingly perplexed as to how he could utter such reckless words.

Even if the opponent came with ill intent, some words could be spoken among cultivators in confrontation, and some could not. Many tragedies occurred merely due to reckless words.

"Insolence!" Nan Xingzhen shouted angrily, while the Moon Jade woman beside him gazed at Chu Shen with murderous intent.

"Insolence, my ass!" Chu Shen, showing no demeanor of a Palace Master, jumped and cursed, "If you want to fight, then hurry up and fight instead of putting on a pretentious act. You're just annoying!"

Nan Xingzhen nodded slightly, deciding not to waste more words with Chu Shen, and instead addressed the group of Constellations behind him, "Are you all ready to die with this ignorant brat? If anyone wishes to leave now, I'll grant them a path of survival!"

Attacking the enemy starts with attacking their morale. Nan Xingzhen, experienced as he was, knew this well. Even though his side greatly outmatched Unparalleled Island, divide and weaken the opponent, even if just verbally, and it would lessen unnecessary resistance for their side.

He was especially aware that the Unparalleled Palace had only been established recently, and these Constellations were mostly recruited from Zhaolai Island, with no real loyalty to speak of.

As he finished speaking, Chu Shen interjected, "Everyone, this old guy may look a bit ugly, but he's not wrong. If anyone wants to leave now, I'll open the big array for you to go. Of course, if anyone is willing to stay with me, Chu Shen, and share the same fate, that would be ideal. However, if you choose to stay and then act deceitfully or secretly sabotage us, don't blame me for being rude. Choose as you will; I, Chu Shen, won't force anyone!"

His words caught Nan Xingzhen by surprise. In all his years, he had never seen anything like this. At this moment, it's vital to rally people, even offering generous conditions to motivate them to stay and contribute. Yet here he was, offering people the chance to leave?

Truly still young and naive!

Some indeed hesitated, as the strength disparity was apparent. Even taking a defensive stance, victory seemed unlikely. If they lost and the protective array was breached, their fate would be dire.

So, after a moment of hesitation, one person shamefully spoke up, "I'm sorry, Palace Master!"

Chu Shen was not disappointed, merely nodding slightly, "It's human nature; no hard feelings, Fellow Daoist!" Pointing a direction, he said, "Go that way, and I'll open the big array for you to leave!"

The person hurried off towards the indicated direction.

Several others followed, bowing in respect before departing.

Seeing this, Nan Xingzhen struck while the iron was hot, "You have ten breaths. If you persist in futile resistance, once the island falls, it's your burial day!"

These words prompted a few more to leave.

Chu Shen remained expressionless, waiting until they reached the predetermined position before opening a gap in the array, allowing them to evacuate from Unparalleled Island.

"Anyone else wants to leave?" he asked.

Recruited about twenty Constellations from Zhaolai Island, yet only seven remained—more than half had left.

No one moved. Chu Shen found it curious, as he could clearly sense the anxiety and fear among those remaining, yet none were moving.

"Why aren't you leaving?" he asked, puzzled.

One person, with a stiff expression, spoke, "Where would we go, Palace Master? Go back to Zhaolai Island to make a living, living hand-to-mouth? I'm tired of that life. Better to stay and give it a shot!"

Chu Shen chuckled, "Aren't you afraid of being killed if the island falls?"

"Afraid!" The person wiped the cold sweat off their face, "But so what? The cultivation path is fraught with peril; there's danger everywhere. Besides, Palace Master, you seem so unyielding, as if you have plans in place. Your cultivation isn't much greater than ours, yet you're unafraid, so we can't be afraid either."

"Do you all think this way?" Chu Shen looked at the others.

Everyone nodded in unison, and someone asked, "Palace Master, do we have strong reinforcements hidden somewhere?"

Otherwise, why would Chu Shen act so calm and collected?

Chu Shen didn't affirm or deny, instead laughing heartily, "Good, from now on, you all are my life-and-death brothers. As long as I, Chu Shen, have a piece of spirit jade, you'll never suffer!"

He suddenly turned to look at the woman named Ban Ci, "Are you staying too?"

"Any issues?" Ban Ci countered.

"No problem!" Chu Shen beamed. Those at the Constellation Early Stage were willing to stay, speculating that he had some plan, so they decided to take a gamble. As for what Ban Ci was thinking, he couldn't figure it out, but it was a good thing for him. Ban Ci had cultivation at the Constellation Late Stage, not weak at all. Staying would add strength to their side.

"The world is full of fools, choosing the path of destruction when a way of survival exists. Since that's the case, I shall fulfill your wish!" Nan Xingzhen snorted coldly, waving his hand. Many Constellations behind him dispersed at once, and instantly, spirit force became chaotic, multicolored lights began to bloom fiercely, crashing towards the protective array.

Rumbling sounds continued to echo, the entire Unparalleled Island was shaking, ripples spurted up on the light screen of the protective array.

"Quite lively!" On one side of Unparalleled Island, Piao Ke took a sip from his wine gourd, "Didn't expect such a lively scene upon arriving!"

The specter teased, "You should still have time to leave now."

"This Spirit Island is nice, I'm planning to stay a bit longer." Piao Ke put away his wine gourd, "But if the Island Master doesn't have another backup plan, we might have to fight Moon Jade!"

As he spoke, his gaze turned towards the woman at Moon Jade Early Stage.

The opposition had two Moon Jade cultivators, while their side had only one. Tang Jun could hold off Nan Xingzhen, but as for the Moon Jade lady, they had no way to handle her. If she were to attack recklessly, no matter how strong the protection of Unparalleled Island was, it would be breached.

"I remember that Skeletal General now!" The specter wore a look of deep-seated enmity, "That guy wasn't even a real Moon Jade, and he almost led us to total annihilation. This woman is a real Moon Jade, we're definitely no match! And..." she glanced at Lu Ye, "He's no Fa Wuzun!"

Piao Ke nodded, "True, but this isn't that tomb, there's still more room for maneuver here."

"Decided?" the specter asked, "I have no choice, but you still have options."

She was brought here by Fa Wuzun, the brother of Chu Shen. If she didn't defend the island earnestly, Fa Wuzun would not let her off.

Piao Ke laughed, "When have you seen me indecisive?"

Lu Ye, who had been silently pondering, flipped his palm, revealing an item: "Who's leading?"

Their gazes were immediately drawn over, the specter exclaimed in surprise, "How do you have that thing?"

It was unmistakably an As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc.

"Given by the Island Master!" Lu Ye casually lied.

The specter and Piao Ke did not doubt him. With Chu Shen and Fa Wuzun's relationship public, getting a few array discs from Fa Wuzun was no big deal.

"Now this could be interesting!" The specter nodded slightly. Although they originally thought that even joining forces, the three of them would not be the Moon Jade's match, only able to slightly impede her

with great risk, if the array disc assisted, it might be possible to fight. "I'm a Ghost Cultivator, not suitable for the lead!"

Piao Ke added, "You're a combat cultivator, you lead!"

Lu Ye planned for this, naturally he had no objections. Although battling the Skeletal General back then was tough, at that time he used the Crimson Dragon Saber, slightly hindering his potential, and had only Constellation Mid-Stage cultivation. Now his strength had improved, and with the three of them forming an array, facing a Moon Jade Early Stage... probably wouldn't be too much of an issue.

However, that woman seemed to be a magic cultivator, so they had to be wary of any strange secret techniques or magic treasures she might have.

On the Spirit Island, the buzzing continued. Nan Xingzhen looked surprised, because only now did he realize that the protective array of Unparalleled Island... was quite extraordinary!

He thought such a protective array would be easily breakable, but who knew their array was extremely high-level and had strong defense.

Setting up such a big array wouldn't come cheap. Who exactly are these people from Unparalleled Palace?

He didn't know that Chu Shen got five million spirit jades from Lu Ye, four million of which were invested in the array setup, leaving only one million spirit jades as a backup. Spending such a fortune to set up the array, how could it not be strong? It could be said that the current array of Unparalleled Island was entirely built with spirit jade.

Furthermore, the stellar space energy on the island was abundant. If there was more time for the array to absorb enough stellar space energy, the defense capability would be even more robust.

Currently, the array of Unparalleled Island might not compare to those occupied by major forces on high-class Spirit Islands in terms of level and scale, but it was certainly ahead among the low-class Spirit Islands. The only downside was that the array was set up too recently, with insufficient energy reserves.

Nan Xingzhen evidently understood this, so he concluded that the array wouldn't last long. As long as their side kept attacking, the array would eventually be breached.

Amid the buzzing, Chu Shen gathered those who stayed, counting the numbers, including Little Dumb and Little Crooked. In total, there were thirteen Constellation Early Stage cultivators.

With a flip of his hand, he took out several array discs and distributed them, "Just taking hits without fighting back isn't right. Find your own Array Eye; counterattack however you want!"

Everyone's eyes lit up, having received the array discs, they immediately split up and took action!