

Humanity 1611

Chapter 1611 - Xie Li

Qin Yi's late-night visit was just to personally offer her thanks. After presenting Lu Ye with two gifts, she stood to leave, but as she reached the doorway, she suddenly turned back to glance at Lu Ye and smiled faintly: "I have never been wrong in judging people. You possess the same potential as Chen Zong, perhaps even greater!"

Back then, over a hundred top families and forces in the Nine Heavens wished to send their cultivators to Qin Yi for cultivation. Yet, Qin Yi uniquely chose Chen Zong, who had neither background nor backing, because she saw that potential in him. The facts proved her judgment correct; Chen Zong indeed ascended to Sun Blaze, becoming one of Beixuan's two mainstays.

However, many years after that, she never saw it in anyone else until today when she met Lu Ye.

This was also one of the reasons a Sun Blaze would visit in the deep night; making a courtesy call was one part, but forging a good connection with Lu Ye was another.

Watching Qin Yi leave, Lu Ye closed the door and continued immersing himself in battling the Praying Mantis.

The next day, just before dawn, more visitors came for him; this time, the ones who came were three Sun Blaze cultivators, led by Li Guan, with Luo Xie and Shi Hanqing accompanying.

Once Li Guan explained the purpose of their visit, Lu Ye finally understood their intent. He had anticipated this and agreed without hesitation, leaving with the three toward the outside.

Soon, they arrived at a sealed area where the four appeared.

Gathered here were a large number of cultivators, with cultivation levels varying widely, from Moon Jade down to Spirit Stream, covering all levels.

These cultivators were all from Tranquil Moon, brought here by Shi Hanqing from the Tranquil Moon Galaxy.

Tranquil Moon had a Bai Jin, who, for centuries, had placed an unknown number of Blood Race members in Tranquil Moon. Judging by the previous battle's situation, there were far more Blood Race members in Tranquil Moon, certainly more hidden ones.

But Shi Hanqing didn't have the ability to identify Blood Race members, so he brought all those related or connected to Bai Jin and the dead Blood Race members from Tranquil Moon here all together.

The main intent was to have Lu Ye take a look and find the hidden Blood Race members among them.

If he didn't take this opportunity to use Lu Ye's abilities, Shi Hanqing would have to personally investigate each one deeply. Not only would that be troublesome, but also inappropriate.

"Young Friend Lu, everyone is here now. Please trouble yourself to help identify their true identities. Shi is immensely grateful!"

"Fellow Daoist, you're too polite. It's just a small favor." Lu Ye nodded and looked toward those people.

There were nearly twenty thousand cultivators gathered here, showing Shi Hanqing's determined stance on eliminating the Blood Race. It seemed that anyone slightly related to Bai Jin or those dead Blood Race members had been brought here.

No one knew why this was happening, but since their own Sun Blaze commanded it, who dared defy it? However, within the crowd, indeed a few people looked uneasy because they knew if everything went smoothly, by now, the Blood Race and Insect Race allied forces should have been attacking the Indeterminate Galaxy. But with no sign of the Blood Race and Insect Race, the battleship fleet from the four galaxies that were supposedly destroyed yesterday actually returned.

These were all very bad signs.

Lu Ye's gaze meticulously scanned each person, and soon he had the answer in his mind. He pointed out those hidden Blood Race members and then departed.

The rest was not his to meddle in; Shi Hanqing would handle it.

Out of nearly twenty thousand people, there were only a dozen hidden Blood Race members, and all were above the Constellation level, with only one being at Moon Jade.

In this way, while the Blood Race indeed had means to conceal themselves, if their strength was low, they likely couldn't deploy it.

The Three Worlds cultivators received the warmest hospitality here, with banquets daily set by Indeterminate cultivators, inviting them to attend, experiencing days of joy and carefreeness.

Five days later, the fleet was ready to set off again.

However, this time the fleet's size was doubled again. Besides the Three Worlds fleet, fifteen starboats were contributed jointly by the four galaxies of this side, with a thousand people preparing to move on to All Phenomena Ocean together.

A thousand people may sound like a lot, but averaged to each star system, that's only about 250 people apiece.

Originally, in talks among Jyang Shang and others, there were supposed to be three thousand cultivators heading to All Phenomena Ocean this time. It was a rare opportunity and worth going big. In other star systems, expeditions to All Phenomena Ocean typically had to be solitary endeavors, so the number of people deployed was limited. But the four galaxies here were different; combining their strength, they were much more powerful than an average star system.

But in the war with the Insect Race and the Blood Race, the cultivators from the four galaxies suffered too severe losses; now they could only deploy this many.

Each star system had a Moon Jade Late Stage accompanying. On the Indeterminate side, the one accompanying to All Phenomena Ocean was Lu Ye's old acquaintance, Kang Cheng. The other three star systems' Moon Jades Lu Ye wasn't familiar with, but all had participated in the previous battle, so he had at least seen them.

Four Moon Jade Late Stages, a thousand Constellations, this lineup was quite impressive. Upon entering All Phenomena Ocean, provided preparations were well done, there might be a chance to seize a Spirit Island.

No battleships were dispatched, not because of the lack of desire, but because the journey meant traversing the Changyun Galaxy. If they only used starboats to travel, it wouldn't be much of an issue, but maneuvering battleships into someone else's star system would carry a hint of provocation.

This is common sense in cosmic travel. Put oneself in another's shoes; if such a fleet, with battleships, entered the Indeterminate Galaxy, the Indeterminate side wouldn't be too pleased either.

Moreover, accompanying to All Phenomena Ocean this time was also a Sun Blaze expert.

The rules over at All Phenomena Ocean, Lu Ye had already explained clearly to Jyang Shang and others. So this accompanying Sun Blaze was only tagging along to All Phenomena Ocean and wouldn't linger there; the intention was likely to familiarize with the route for future trips to All Phenomena Ocean.

On the day of departure, as the fleet ascended to the skies, the whole Indeterminate World was festooned with decorations, drums roaring, embodying a festive atmosphere of sending their own good men off to the battlefield.

The strong figures of the four galaxies watched the fleet depart, gradually moving further away.

Leaving the Indeterminate World, the fleet advanced toward the desolate star region.

Now, the fleet consisted of a full thirty-one starboats and five Tiger Shark battleships, making its size three times larger than when it departed from the Nine Provinces.

The starboat with Lu Ye was at the head, followed by the remaining starboats in succession, with five Tiger Sharks escorting on the sides. Everything was orderly.

On the starboat, Lu Ye held a storage ring in his hand. After inspecting the contents of the ring, he couldn't help but be moved.

This was the ring Jyang Shang had given him before departure, saying it was a token of gratitude collected by the four galaxies.

Lu Ye's previous contribution had essentially saved the four galaxies from the ravages of war. Qin Yi personally came to thank him for killing Bai Jin, and how could the other Sun Blaze not express their gratitude?

The gift in this storage ring was their expression of thanks.

Lu Ye didn't think much of it, but upon seeing it, he realized the ring contained a full ten million spirit jades!

He was not someone unfamiliar with wealth; once, he had more than a billion spirit jades at his most prosperous. Compared to that, a mere ten million seemed insignificant.

However, he had earned his spirit jades at the All Phenomena Ocean, and it came from auctioning the As-Close-As-Siblings array disc.

Such an opportunity would be hard to come by again.

The four great galaxies pooled together ten million spirit jades, meaning each galaxy contributed two and a half million. For galaxies like Indeterminate, which had never interacted with the All Phenomena Ocean, this many spirit jades was not insignificant. They were collected piece by piece from the stellar space by the cultivators.

This showed the sincerity of the four galaxies.

Luan Xiao'e stood beside Lu Ye, noticing his unusual expression and asked, "What is it?"

Lu Ye handed over the storage ring, "Take a look."

Luan Xiao'e took it, probed it with her mental consciousness, and immediately looked shocked, "So many spirit jades?"

In her lifetime, she had never seen so many spirit jades piled together.

"Is this their gift of thanks?" Luan Xiao'e realized the situation. She had seen Jyang Shang hand the storage ring to Lu Ye earlier and was secretly amazed at the grand gesture of the four galaxies, producing so many spirit jades so readily. Indeed, the Jade Conch was incomparable.

However, considering the impact on the four galaxies if they lost that battle, this many spirit jades seemed only right.

"Split it up!" Lu Ye said.

Luan Xiao'e, holding the storage ring, trembled slightly, unable to help but say, "What?"

"During the great battle, everyone contributed. Please, Fellow Daoist, take these spirit jades and distribute them among everyone."

Luan Xiao'e fixed her gaze on him, as if trying to see if he was joking. No matter how she looked, Lu Ye showed no signs of joking.

This was ten million spirit jades, not a thousand or ten thousand!

"I won't take it!" Luan Xiao'e shoved the storage ring back to Lu Ye, "If you're going to distribute it, do it among your Nine Heavens cultivators. We in the Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World owe you our lives and have no face to take it, nor do I have the face to give it out."

Pausing, she added, "Moreover, I advise you not to do so. The people from Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World don't know how to thank you enough. If you give them spirit jades, how could they accept it?"

Cultivators have their pride, especially those chosen to enter the All Phenomena Ocean. Already having been given a new lease on life by Lu Ye, who would have the face to take spirit jades from him?

Lu Ye thought about it and realized she made a valid point. He initially considered that since they all came together and faced life and death together, evenly distributing the ten million spirit jades wouldn't matter. After all, the people from Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World made up a small portion, while more were the Nine Provinces cultivators.

Now hearing Luan Xiao'e's words, Lu Ye dismissed the idea of sharing them with those two worlds.

As for the Nine Provinces cultivators... he believed no one would refuse. They were all family, and if Lu Ye wanted to give, they would gladly accept. It wasn't the first time; boosting their strength was the priority.

Lu Ye took back the storage ring and found the sect master to deal with the distribution.

With ten million spirit jades, three hundred Nine Provinces cultivators would each receive over thirty thousand spirit jades. It wasn't much, but for the Nine Provinces cultivators, it was a sizable sum. At their wealthiest, no one had more than a thousand spirit jades on them, and any spirit jades found in the stellar space were quickly refined for cultivation.

With these thirty thousand-plus spirit jades, the Nine Provinces cultivators wouldn't need to worry about their cultivation needs in the short term.

Indeed, no one declined, each receiving their share of spirit jades from the sect master with happy smiles all around.

Chapter 1612 - 1610: The One Being Taken Care Of Is Me

Setting out from the Indeterminate World, the fleet took a month before entering the desolate star region.

This desolate star region is precisely where the four galaxies intersect, and also where Lu Ye initially subdued the barghest. The Planet Tengu is located within this area.

As the fleet passed by the Planet Tengu, many Three Worlds cultivators gazed from afar at that dead star resembling a giant dog sprawled out, marveling in amazement. Where in the Jade Conch Galaxy could one find such a peculiar dead star?

The Nine Provinces cultivators, however, looked unfazed. They've seen not only dead stars resembling dead dogs but also domains resembling a decapitated and dismembered woman, which is currently situated at the edge of the Nine Provinces.

Aside from contending against the Praying Mantis, Lu Ye was busy deriving spirit patterns, with the Moon Jade cultivators from the four galaxies frequently visiting.

On this journey to the All Phenomena Ocean, the accompanying Sun Blaze won't stay long, so this time the focus for the four galaxies lies primarily on them. Once they arrive at the All Phenomena Ocean, they need to understand in advance how to establish themselves, earn cultivation resources, and manage relationships with various forces.

They came to seek guidance from Lu Ye, who was forthright with them and generous in his advice, greatly benefiting them. After expressing their gratitude, they left, presumably to discuss numerous matters related to the All Phenomena Ocean.

After much discussion, they decided that once reaching the All Phenomena Ocean, they would first gather intelligence, then seize a suitable Spirit Island as a foothold for the four galaxies.

Anyone looking to establish themselves in the All Phenomena Ocean needs a Spirit Island. Given their current resources, capturing a low-level Spirit Island might not be impossible. Once seized, they intend to look for better opportunities, hoping to capture a mid-class Spirit Island.

Conflicts in the All Phenomena Ocean happen without Sun Blaze's involvement, and with four Moon Jade Late Stage cultivators teaming up, leading a thousand Constellation cultivators, who would they fear?

Just after sending off the four Moon Jade cultivators, the accompanying Sun Blaze came over.

The Sun Blaze accompanying the mission to the All Phenomena Ocean for the four galaxies this time is none other than Luo Xie from the Daluo Galaxy.

Firstly, the Daluo Galaxy has the most robust foundation among the four great galaxies; secondly, Luo Xie's personality is quite amiable, making him suitable for this role. Otherwise, someone like Li Guan might not be good at communication, and if a disagreement arises during the journey, it might end in a sword fight.

Previously, whenever there was a major discussion involving the four galaxies, Luo Xie would mediate, possessing great wisdom on how to interact with others.

Luo Xie came to Lu Ye, seemingly just for a chat. However, Lu Ye sensed he might have other intentions, but since he hadn't mentioned it, Lu Ye pretended to be oblivious, simultaneously deriving spirit patterns and conversing, gaining substantial insights from him.

While chatting, Luan Xiao'e arrived again.

Lu Ye asked her what brought her here, to which Luan Xiao'e merely shrugged it off, seating herself beside them, listening to Lu Ye and Luo Xie's conversation, even taking the initiative to brew some fragrant tea.

Luan Xiao'e's feelings were quite complicated. Since setting off from the Qingli Dao World, she perceived herself as the strongest, responsible for leading the Three Worlds fleet safely to the All Phenomena Ocean, while safeguarding these Constellation cultivators, especially those from the Nine Provinces. Apart from Lu Ye, who is a Constellation Early Stage, those newly ascended from a large domain haven't seen much of the world.

But the previous battle utterly shocked her.

Unexpectedly, there was a Sun Blaze by Lu Ye's side! Her self-assumed superior strength turned out to be nothing but a delusion.

Moreover, due to that battle, the Sun Blaze cultivators of the four galaxies treat Lu Ye with extreme courtesy, not seeing him as a Constellation junior but as an equal, even extending this respect to her as a guest of honor.

If not for Lu Ye, Luan Xiao'e acknowledges that even as a Moon Jade Late Stage, those Sun Blaze cultivators wouldn't treat her this way.

Initially thinking she needed to care for others, she realized she was the one being cared for...

While the Daluo's Sun Blaze converses with Lu Ye at ease, Luan Xiao'e clearly couldn't maintain such composure, secretly wondering what kind of domain the Nine Heavens World really was, capable of producing a person like Lu Yiye?

Furthermore, during the previous battle, she noticed the Nine Heavens cultivators might not be exceptionally strong, yet their combat performance far surpassed the cultivators from the Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World, as if they were familiar with such warfare, knowing precisely how to act in preserved situations, ensuring their safety to the fullest extent. When battling enemies, they exhibited a fearless bravery, often instilling dread in their foes.

"Veteran Luo, just state your purpose," Lu Ye sighed, finding it tiresome playing dumb with a seasoned Sun Blaze cultivator. Though the old man was patient, Lu Ye preferred not to continue chatting this way. With that time, he'd rather engage in sparring with the Praying Mantis. Through these competitive days, his understanding of the Twin Sabers Secret Technique deepened, predicting it wouldn't be long before he could withdraw unscathed.

Luo Xie chuckled and said, "Actually, there's nothing much, I just wanted to ask how you Nine Heavens cultivators train? How come everyone can form battle arrays with others? This shouldn't be the result of everyday cultivation, right? Is there some... trick?"

Lu Ye hadn't known what Luo Xie was after until this moment; now he realized this was what brought him here.

During the previous battle, Luo Xie naturally observed the Nine Provinces cultivators' performance. Yet, being caught in the thick of the action himself meant he couldn't devote much attention to it; reviewing

the events afterward made him realize something was off, as it was unusual for so many cultivators to form battle arrays casually.

As Luan Xiao'e brewed tea nearby, she couldn't help gazing over, curious about this matter but hesitant to ask.

In the previous battle, the Nine Provinces cultivators suffered remarkably few losses, due to both Lu Ye's timely rescue and their formidable battle arrays, thus enhancing their self-defense capacity on the battlefield.

Without further ado, Lu Ye handed over an As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc to Luo Xie: "This item is the key to forming the array!"

Luo Xie was taken aback, not anticipating Lu Ye's easygoing manner, initially assuming this must be a domain secret. Hence, he hesitated to bring it up until Lu Ye prompted him.

Holding the array disc for a brief study, Luo Xie immediately showed a look of surprise: "What is this?"

He could see that this item was a spirit treasure, not of very high quality, yet once activated, its aura could closely connect him with Lu Ye and Luan Xiao'e. In other words, the three of them could completely form a battle array at this moment.

However, it seemed this thing couldn't withstand the burst of power from a Sun Blaze level, not to mention the Moon Jade level. Moreover, when Sun Blaze and Moon Jade fought, they moved around too much, and the array disc's range of influence was insufficient. It probably could only be used by Constellation cultivators.

Even so, it was still quite astonishing.

Luan Xiao'e also had a feeling, her delicate features changing with surprise.

"As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc!" Lu Ye explained briefly, "It's sold on the All Phenomena Ocean."

Luo Xie's eyebrows raised: "How much does it cost?"

Lu Ye said, "When I left, it seemed to be nearly ten thousand spirit jade per piece, now it should be a bit cheaper."

Over a few years, those major forces should have made considerable advancements in their research on the As-Close-As-Siblings Array Disc. As long as its production volume increased, the price would naturally come down.

"So cheap!" Luo Xie was shocked, ten thousand spirit jade could buy a piece, yet the usefulness of this thing far exceeded ten thousand spirit jade. He couldn't help but exclaim, "All Phenomena Ocean, truly extraordinary!"

Such a magical item being sold on All Phenomena Ocean, where else could you get it if not in connection with All Phenomena Ocean? If this treasure were mass-equipped, the strength that Constellation cultivators in the entire domain could exert would significantly increase.

Lu Ye's heart moved, and he spoke, "Veteran Luo, I have some extra array discs..."

Luo Xie immediately looked over: "How many do you have?"

Lu Ye asked back, "How many does Veteran Luo want?"

Luo Xie thought for a moment, took out a storage ring and fiddled with it for a while, then handed it to Lu Ye: "See how many you can get with these."

Lu Ye's Mental Consciousness probed inside and found there were roughly several hundred thousand spirit jade and a few magic treasures.

A Sun Blaze only having a few hundred thousand spirit jade was truly meager, but on second thought, Luo Xie wasn't alone. Spirit jade was basically useless for his cultivation, it was mainly used to power starboats or other treasures, so having several hundred thousand as a backup was normal.

Lu Ye didn't know the quality of those magic treasures. He hadn't reached the Moon Jade level and had little exposure to magic treasures, but these things seemed to be priced based on star level quality.

As far as he knew, a 3-star magic treasure cost about ninety thousand spirit jade, and the price tripled with each star level increase.

The magic treasures Luo Xie took out should be ones he didn't use, their quality likely not high, at most 3 or 4-star.

Having come to an estimate, Lu Ye said, "How about three hundred array discs?"

Luo Xie quickly replied, "Deal!"

Lu Ye knew he had valued Luo Xie's magic treasures too high, but since the array discs were things he made himself, selling them high or low was irrelevant. When people from the four galaxies reached All Phenomena Ocean, having the array discs as help could offer more self-preservation power, which would do him no harm.

He immediately selected three hundred array discs to hand over to Luo Xie.

Luo Xie was about to leave, and Lu Ye quickly said, "Veteran Luo, I have a request!"

Luo Xie cheerfully said, "Speak freely!"

Lu Ye looked at Luan Xiao'e: "Senior Sister Luan has Moon Jade Late Stage cultivation, yet she's clueless about advancing to Sun Blaze. If you have the time, could you offer some guidance?"

The action of brewing fragrant tea paused, and Luan Xiao'e gave Lu Ye a grateful glance. She hadn't expected him to understand her purpose for coming here.

She had been wanting to consult Luo Xie, but unfortunately, they had no prior interactions, and she felt embarrassed to approach him directly. She had gained much from Qin Yi before, but advancing to Sun

Blaze wasn't just about listening to one person's experience, she needed guidance from more Sun Blazes.

Now that Luo Xie was heading to All Phenomena Ocean with the fleet, she naturally didn't want to miss the opportunity.

So, upon hearing of Luo Xie's arrival, she proactively came here, mainly for familiarity, to facilitate future inquiries.

Feeling ashamed in her heart, she realized... she was the one being taken care of!

Chapter 1613 - Drawn Saber Slash

Luo Xie glanced at Luan Xiao'e and smiled, "That's naturally no problem, Junior Sister Luan can find me anytime, I'm always available!"

Sun Blaze's experiences and insights upon advancing aren't particularly precious but aren't easily imparted either, usually only shared when they guide the juniors of their own star system.

Luan Xiao'e and Luo Xie have no relations, if not for Lu Ye's words, accomplishing this would indeed be difficult, but since Lu Ye spoke, Luo Xie naturally would grant this favor.

Luan Xiao'e was delighted, rose to her feet, and expressed her gratitude.

After Luo Xie left, Luan Xiao'e looked at Lu Ye and saluted gracefully: "Thank you, Junior Brother."

Previously she always called Lu Ye as Fellow Daoist, but now she addressed him as Junior Brother, clearly indicating a shift in mindset.

Lu Ye waved his hand, "Just a small effort."

Luan Xiao'e hesitated, then asked, "Junior Brother, could you lend me some As-Close-As-Siblings array discs? After earning some spirit jade in the All Phenomena Ocean from the Jade Conch World's side, I'll repay you."

Lu Ye shook his head, took out dozens of array discs, handed them to her, and sighed, "Previously I didn't foresee the war against the Insect Race would be so perilous. Initially thinking it an effortless victory, I didn't have the Jade Conch and Qingli Dao Worlds people equipped with array discs beforehand, resulting in unnecessary losses. Take these discs, Senior Sister; no need for spirit jade. Our Three Worlds in the All Phenomena Ocean will need to advance and retreat together."

Lu Ye was somewhat regretful because if he had equipped the cultivators in Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World with array discs sooner, the casualties in the big battle might have been fewer; even if one more life was spared due to the array discs, it would have been worthwhile.

Unfortunately, he didn't anticipate the originally straightforward battle to be so dangerous. If he hadn't used the bone ocarina to call forth the Dancing Girl, the entire battleship fleet of the four galaxies would have been annihilated.

Indeed, array discs could fetch spirit jade if sold, but the ones he had were crafted by himself, costing little in spirit jade. As he said, future cooperation among the Three Worlds in the All Phenomena Ocean entails equipping Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World's people with some array discs.

A month after the fleet entered the desolate star region, they arrived at the Cracked Sky Mirror.

This stellar space marvel is extremely perilous, riddled with cracks in space, some detectable by the naked eye, some invisible even to the physical body, and even Mental Consciousness could not entirely perceive them.

From afar, this area resembles a giant shattered mirror suspended in the stellar space for countless ages, leaving one in awe.

Even the mighty Sun Blaze like Luo Xie wouldn't dare to casually venture into the Cracked Sky Mirror's vicinity. Lu Ye led the starboat to skirt around it.

Inside the blue hall within the barghest, a storm of blades swept over, and both the Praying Mantis and Lu Ye spun like tops.

Two storms of blades collided and dissipated constantly within the blue hall, with an immensely intimidating momentum.

After a long while, the furious blade storm gradually came to a halt. Praying Mantis remained unscathed, but Lu Ye appeared quite forlorn. Fortunately, what manifested here was but a strand of his Mental Consciousness, not his physical body, or this confrontation would have ended in grave injury!

Praying Mantis collected its twin sabers, nodded faintly at Lu Ye, and its figure suddenly vanished.

Lu Ye maintained a calm expression, neither happy nor sad, knowing he had passed the Praying Mantis's test. Having trained under the Praying Mantis for so long, he finally was regarded as adept in the Twin Saber Style, but further proficiency would require his own exploration and practice.

Reflecting carefully, after conquering the barghest, he encountered the three former masters within the blue hall: Qing Li's revealing fangs, Yien Xi's sweep, and Praying Mantis's twin sabers. Each had far surpassing accomplishments in saber skills compared to Lu Ye himself. Although he endured great tribulations to pass these ancestors' tests, it didn't mean these predecessors' abilities were limited to this.

In true life-and-death combat, these ancestors surely possess far more diverse methods, but what they left in the barghest were merely their proudest techniques, emphasizing testing and teaching rather than deadly intent as Lu Ye ventured within.

Upon passing the Praying Mantis test, logically, the next test should appear; Lu Ye felt a tinge of anticipation to discover which race the fourth was from and what skill they left behind here.

Fixing his gaze, the light that scattered after the Praying Mantis's disappearance began to gather anew, forming into a figure.

Upon seeing, Lu Ye found this was a human, his heart settled, affirming there were indeed strong humans.

Across the stellar space, humans could be considered the largest race. No other race rivals humans in sheer population numbers, yet among the former master figures appearing in the barghest, three have been unveiled, including an Insect Race member, but not one human, evoking some disappointment in Lu Ye's heart.

Now finally seeing one.

The man wasn't tall, and his face wasn't particularly handsome, yet his demeanor exuded an undeniable stern presence.

He stood with a slight turn, the saber strapped at his waist, holding the sword sheath with his left hand and the hilt with his right, his eyes cold as he stared at Lu Ye, as if beholding a cadaver.

Though merely a manifested strand of Mental Consciousness, with such a penetrating gaze, Lu Ye involuntarily felt his hairs stand as though electrified.

This was a feeling never experienced before under Qing Li, Yien Xi, and Praying Mantis; the seemingly calm surface belied a latent volcanic eruption beneath this human's entirety.

Lu Ye immediately understood that the next slash from this person was bound to be earth-shattering!

A faint voice sounded, this ancestor self-introduced like Qing Li and others: "Human race, Wang Xiu!"

Lu Ye almost didn't hear his voice, all his attention was focused on the knife in his hand, then he heard a saber cry, and a blade light appeared suddenly. The knife in Wang Xiu's hand seemed to have been unsheathed, but also seemed like it hadn't, maintaining its previous posture.

When he snapped back to reality, Lu Ye already had his eyes open, cold sweat breaking out on his forehead, with a slight stabbing pain in his mind.

Suppressing the lingering fear in his heart, he took out a psyche refinement herb to refine, mending the damage to his Mental Consciousness, and then carefully recalled that instant, Lu Ye was amazed.

Undoubtedly, the foundation of Wang Xiu's earlier slash was still at the Constellation Late Stage, but such a slash had him cut down on the spot without being able to see it clearly, almost leaving no room to counterattack.

Having a general understanding, Wang Xiu's legacy is just the burst of that slash.

Wang Xiu's sword indeed was unsheathed, but his action was so fast that the long saber instantly returned to its sheath after being unsheathed, so even if Lu Ye stared without blinking, he almost missed it.

What a powerful slash!

Lu Ye's eyes shone brightly. His own strength was already very strong, almost invincible at the same stage, and if he could comprehend the mystery of this slash, perhaps even against Moon Jade, he might have the chance to kill with a single slash.

However, Lu Ye soon became puzzled because previously, whether it was Qing Li, Yien Xi, or Praying Mantis, they all conveyed wisdom through battling with him, letting him gradually understand the mysteries of their legacy.

How to comprehend this legacy of Wang Xiu? There was fundamentally no confrontation process to speak of because such a slash, merely relying on a hint of Lu Ye's Mental Consciousness manifestation, couldn't withstand it.

If his physical body could enter the azure hall, there might be a chance.

Without any confrontation process, seeing the blade light meant death, let alone gaining Insight. Even if he were lucky enough to block that slash, he couldn't decipher its mysteries, thereby unable to cultivate such saber skills.

Thinking it over, Lu Ye felt that the most pressing matter now was figuring out how to survive under such a slash, survival first before considering anything else.

After resting for a while, Lu Ye's mind once again immersed into the azure hall.

When he reappeared, he was not far in front of Wang Xiu, who still maintained the previous stance, and Lu Ye instinctively retreated, withdrawing straight to the edge of the azure hall, yet still feeling no sense of security.

Wang Xiu didn't rush to draw his saber, seemingly waiting for him to be ready.

When Lu Ye stabilized his posture and brought forth the Boulder Mountain Saber and Godslayer Saber, Wang Xiu made a slight move, and then a blade light appeared suddenly, and Lu Ye found himself inexplicably killed out again.

"Not right, not right!" Lu Ye shook his head, realizing his decision earlier was wrong, rested again for a moment, and re-entered the azure hall.

But this time, he no longer evaded. Upon appearing, he slashed toward Wang Xiu, since he couldn't defend, he went on the offensive, hoping to create a flaw.

This slash utilized Qing Li's legacy, as the saber fell, it was as if an invisible fierce beast opened a bloodthirsty maw, within which fangs interlocked.

Wang Xiu had no intention of dodging whatsoever, the blade light reappeared, and the fangs shattered.

Try again!

Lu Ye then activated Yien Xi's Leap and Prowl, leaping and prowling throughout the azure hall, his body like a Thunderbolt, moving like the wind, yet still got slain by Wang Xiu's slash!

Try again!

Lu Ye deployed Praying Mantis's Great Windmill, raising a whirlwind of blades in the azure hall, yet still failed to withstand Wang Xiu's slash!

After several attempts without success, Lu Ye even used the Tyrannical Saber Technique and Tidal Sea Ten Thousand Waves, resulting in a splitting headache. He refined a psyche refinement herb for recovery, staring at the barghest placed horizontally on his knees, brows knitted tightly.

Being a legacy within the barghest, Wang Xiu's legacy somewhat didn't follow the rules.

This doesn't mean the other legacies were inferior to Wang Xiu's; it's just each had their own strengths. Wang Xiu's slash was purely an instantaneous burst. Although Lu Ye passed the trials for those legacies, not being the original owner, he hadn't fully mastered them in cultivation to withstand Wang Xiu's onslaught.

In cultivation, there's nothing worse than dwelling on stubborn puzzles. Lu Ye pondered for quite a while without figuring out a solution, so he decided not to think about it further, taking out some spirit jade for cultivation, while activating the Talent Tree's power to derive spirit runes.

Since obtaining the barghest, much of his time was spent immersing in confrontations with those ancestors, although, in his spare time, he also worked on deriving spirit runes. Over this long period, he had derived quite a few new spirit runes. The Insight, for instance, after derivation, could exert more powerful effects than before.

Chapter 1614 - Yaya's Abnormality

The fleet bypassed the Cracked Sky Mirror and sailed for another half-month before finally reaching the Mist Dragon.

From afar, it looked like a giant dragon formed from mist, coiling in the stellar space and occupying a vast domain.

This kind of stellar marvel, unlike the Cracked Sky Mirror, appeared harmless on the surface. Once inside, there wouldn't be any severe dangers, but without a special method, even Sun Blaze would lose direction and be trapped in it, unable to escape.

The fleet stopped at the edge of the Mist Dragon, a position not chosen randomly but specified by Lu Ye, because only by entering the Mist Dragon from this spot and proceeding straight ahead would they reach the entrance of the Insect Path, with any slight deviation potentially causing them to miss it.

If that were to happen, it would merely be a waste of time and effort.

At this moment, many cultivators were preparing, with five Tiger Shark battleships already stored away in advance. Thirty-one starboats were streamlined into five, and everyone crowded onto these five starboats.

Rope-like treasures were taken out by the cultivators and secured at the bow and stern of the starboats, ensuring they were firm.

This was a necessary preparation before entering the Mist Dragon. Back then, when Lu Ye passed through the Mist Dragon, he traveled alone, without so many complications, but now, bringing so many people, he had to consider more.

He had to ensure no one got lost in this place. With too many starboats, it was inconvenient, so they had to streamline as much as possible.

The starboat where Lu Ye was located still took the lead, ensuring everyone was ready. After warning everyone not to leave the starboats, Lu Ye then gave the order to set sail.

The five starboats, strung together like a line, slowly sailed towards the Mist Dragon. Knowing the eerie nature of the Mist Dragon, the cultivators from the four galaxies couldn't help but feel anxious, while the Three Worlds cultivators seemed fearless in their ignorance.

Luo Xie stood leisurely beside Lu Ye, curiously watching him, eager to see what method Lu Ye would use to lead everyone through the Mist Dragon.

Lu Ye had shown Jyang Shang the star map from Indeterminate to the All Phenomena Ocean. With Jyang Shang's Sun Blaze cultivation, he memorized it without difficulty, as the star map wasn't complicated.

The Sun Blaze cultivators of the four galaxies now mostly knew the route from this star map and knew it was bestowed by the Reincarnation Tree. However, none of them knew how to safely pass through the Mist Dragon and enter the internal Insect Path.

This should be the biggest challenge of the journey. Luo Xie accompanied them both to ensure peace for the fleet and to understand this matter.

Once he understood Lu Ye's method, the four galaxies could eventually send people to the All Phenomena Ocean themselves.

He, being an experienced old hand, didn't directly ask Lu Ye, believing he could figure it out through observation.

As they got increasingly closer to the Mist Dragon, under Luo Xie's watchful eyes, Lu Ye suddenly took a piece of withered wood from his storage ring. A flame ignited in his hand, setting the wood ablaze.

Luo Xie stared steadily at the piece of wood for a while, then suddenly sensed something amiss: "Young Friend, this wood..."

Lu Ye turned to him, "What does Veteran Luo see?"

Luo Xie shook his head, "I can't say. This thing feels vaguely familiar, as if I've seen it somewhere before." Although he felt certain he'd encountered this kind of wood, he couldn't immediately recall where from his Sun Blaze memory.

It was rather odd.

This wood was clearly not an ordinary item; otherwise, it wouldn't evoke such a strange sense of familiarity. But could this piece of withered wood, once ignited, really affect the mystique of the Mist Dragon?

"What kind of wood is this?" Luo Xie couldn't suppress his curiosity, knowing that understanding this matter was crucial for the four galaxies to eventually pass through the Mist Dragon independently.

"The Daluo Galaxy should have this," Lu Ye teased Luo Xie, "and it's related to the Reincarnation Tree."

Related to the Reincarnation Tree...

Luo Xie was stunned, then suddenly realized, greatly astonished, "Is this a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree?"

Lu Ye nodded, "Exactly!"

"Was this also bestowed by the Reincarnation Tree?" Luo Xie's eyes twitched wildly.

Although throughout history, the Reincarnation Tree had bestowed countless doppelgangers, any domain that acquired one treated it with utmost care. After all, it was a connection to such a stellar supreme treasure as the Reincarnation Tree. No domain would treat it lightly, considering it its most precious treasure, always having strong guardians, and being careful not to damage it. Nobody knew what would happen if a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree were damaged and whether it would anger the renowned stellar supreme treasure.

Yet now, someone had actually, right in front of his eyes, set a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree ablaze... If he hadn't seen it himself, Luo Xie wouldn't have believed it.

But considering the star map in Lu Ye's hand was also granted by the Reincarnation Tree, it seemed not so surprising that such a piece of withered wood was bestowed as well.

Lu Ye offered no further explanation, simply nodding, "You could say so!"

Though he dug this doppelganger out from a dead star, without guidance from the Reincarnation Tree, he wouldn't have the means to acquire it. Saying it was bestowed by the Reincarnation Tree wasn't incorrect.

"I see!" Luo Xie suddenly understood. He had been wondering what method Lu Ye, a Constellation cultivator, would use to navigate the Mist Dragon. It turned out to be harnessing the power of the Reincarnation Tree.

This made sense. Even just a piece of withered wood, given its origin from the Reincarnation Tree, naturally possessed unfathomable mysterious power.

Deep in thought, he realized if that were the case, the four galaxies couldn't replicate this method. Although the Daluo Galaxy had more than one of the Reincarnation Tree's doppelgangers, they couldn't just chop off a piece at will. To incur the wrath of the Reincarnation Tree would be too high a cost.

Finally, it became clear why Lu Ye was so generous in bringing out the star map back then. Now it seems that just having the star map is not enough to travel from Indeterminate to All Phenomena Ocean; you also need a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree to be lit as a torch!

The firelight only covers a radius of three meters, and even in the stellar space, it flickers without extinguishing, serving as a guiding light for the fleet's journey.

The fleet proceeded into the Mist Dragon, with surroundings so dark one could not see their own hand, engulfed by thick fog, and the Mental Consciousness extending no more than three inches from the body. Everyone was already instructed in advance, staying honestly on the starboat, not daring to wander around.

During this time, Lu Ye wasn't doing anything else. Although having once passed through, he was confident in the torch lit by the Reincarnation Tree's doppelganger, but this journey involved fifteen hundred cultivators following him, so he could not afford to be careless.

He constantly stood at the prow, vigilantly watching all around for any unexpected incidents that could occur at any moment.

Several days later, as Lu Ye was observing from the prow, Yiyi suddenly called out: "Lu Ye!"

Lu Ye quickly turned to look, only to see Yiyi not far away, worriedly watching the girl Yaya in her arms. The two stood by the ship's edge, but at that moment, Yaya was staring intensely towards a certain place deep within the Mist Dragon, seemingly discovering something.

"What's wrong?" Lu Ye promptly handed the torch to Luan Xiao'e and walked over to Yiyi.

Yiyi said: "Since yesterday, Yaya has been acting a bit off, constantly looking in that direction. Now it's even more obvious; she seems like she wants to go in!"

As Yiyi spoke, indeed, Yaya ineffectively squirmed in her arms.

Lu Ye's heart stirred, looking at Yaya and asked: "Yaya, is there something inside?"

Yaya was rescued from inside the Mist Dragon by him, and although he did not know who Yaya really was, from the mysterious qualities she exhibited, it was clear she wasn't ordinary.

Back then, when Lu Ye saved her, she was still asleep, naturally unreactive. Now awake, if there was something related to her inside the Mist Dragon, she might be able to sense it.

"Yes!" Yaya nodded.

"What is it?" Lu Ye asked.

Yaya shook her head, showing a bewildered expression: "I don't know."

She might not even know who she is now, her consciousness impaired, so even if she has some perception, it is limited to just sensing.

"I'll go get it!" Yaya suddenly exclaimed, and then her small figure, like a monkey, leapt out of Yiyi's arms and headed into the Mist Dragon!

Yiyi was shocked, reaching out to grab her, but where could she reach? Even though she clearly saw Yaya enter the Mist Dragon, she vanished in the blink of an eye.

A silhouette leapt out beside her, and Lu Ye's voice came to her ears: "Let the fleet continue moving forward; proceed directly upon reaching the Insect Path—we'll meet on the other side!"

"Lu Ye!" Yiyi screamed, but Lu Ye also disappeared without a trace.

Luo Xie heard the shout and came running, pondering the situation after learning what occurred, and then spoke: "Since Young Friend Lu said this, let's proceed as instructed."

The fleet could not stop here to wait, as for worrying about Lu Ye's safety, there was no need; he had experience traversing the Mist Dragon, and he should have more than one piece of the Reincarnation Tree's doppelganger.

Inside the Mist Dragon, Lu Ye moved swiftly, quickly grabbing Yaya, then took a piece of Reincarnation Tree from the storage ring and lit it, holding it up.

Lowering his head, he scolded: "Next time something happens, discuss it with me; don't go running off alone!"

Yaya said nothing, and it was unclear if she heard him, only staring ahead, unwavering.

They proceeded through the Mist Dragon, Lu Ye cautious not to move too fast. Sometimes, when his direction slightly varied, Yaya would speak to guide him.

After running for a full day through the Mist Dragon, Lu Ye suddenly noticed something strange because a faint light was shining in his embrace.

Lowering his head, he discovered that the light was indeed coming from a jade bangle on Yaya's Lotus-like wrist.

When he first discovered Yaya, aside from the clothes she wore, the only thing she had was this jade bangle.

But until now, Lu Ye had not found anything special about the jade bangle, and thus hadn't paid much attention, only to unexpectedly have it react now.

Not only did the jade bangle emit a faint glow; even a similar faint glow appeared deep within the Mist Dragon.

This time, without Yaya's guidance, Lu Ye knew what to do.

As the distance between them continued to close, both Yaya's jade bangle and the glow deep within the Mist Dragon grew brighter.

When Lu Ye arrived before the light, both beams vanished suddenly after a fierce burst.

Yaya reached forward with her hand, and pulling back, Lu Ye found she now held another jade bangle!

The new jade bangle was identical to the one on her wrist.

Chapter 1615 - Entering Changyun

The jade bangles of Yaya are actually a pair!

One of them must have fallen into the Mist Dragon when she lost consciousness, and if Yaya hadn't returned this time, it might never have been discovered.

It was precisely because she returned to the Mist Dragon with Lu Ye that she was able to sense it and retrieve the lost bangle.

Having retrieved her jade bangle, Yaya was visibly delighted, her small face beaming like a flower as she swayed and slipped the bangle onto her other wrist.

It fit perfectly.

Lu Ye stared for a while and noticed many intricate and dense patterns flowing across the jade bangle, but before he could examine them closely, they vanished.

This pair of jade bangles must be extremely important to Yaya. Now that they have been recovered, Lu Ye was happy for her as well.

"Papa, Yaya is sleepy and wants to take a nap!" Yaya suddenly said, then curled up in Lu Ye's arms.

"Sleep well." Lu Ye held her, gently patting her back, turned around, and headed back the way they came.

He didn't notice at all that at this moment, the jade bangles on Yaya's wrists seemed to be subtly channeling a mysterious energy into her body, something that had never happened before.

With one hand holding Yaya, and the other holding a torch, he moved unimpeded through the Mist Dragon.

But as he walked, Lu Ye realized something was wrong. For he was sure he was retracing his steps, and at his speed, he should have caught up with the fleet in a matter of days if all was right.

In reality, he never once sighted the fleet.

It wasn't until half a month later that the thick fog all around suddenly dissipated, clearing his vision.

Lu Ye was astonished to find he had actually passed through the Mist Dragon!

He had gone the wrong way...

Helpless, in such a place like the Mist Dragon, it's really difficult to discern directions. A slight mistake can lead to such an outcome. Clearly, there had been a minor error in his direction.

With no other choice, he observed for a while outside the Mist Dragon to locate the position of the Insect Path, then headed straight back into the Mist Dragon and moved forward directly.

This time, things went smoothly. Half a month later, a peculiar energy fluctuation suddenly came from ahead.

He looked carefully in the torchlight, and indeed it was the Insect Path.

But before Lu Ye could rush into the Insect Path, his expression tightened, as he saw a strange figure standing outside the path.

What shook him even more was that this figure exuded an aura of the Sun Blaze level!

At this moment, the Sun Blaze was standing outside the Insect Path, seemingly observing something. As Lu Ye charged through with his torch, he naturally caught the person's eye.

Lu Ye was secretly vigilant; encountering an unfamiliar Sun Blaze in such a place was not a pleasant experience. With Yaya asleep and no ability to counter a Sun Blaze himself, if the stranger harbored ill intentions, he could attack and kill him here without anyone knowing.

While on alert, the Sun Blaze suddenly spoke: "Lu Yiye?"

Lu Ye was surprised but quickly responded: "Yes, and you are..."

The Sun Blaze replied, "Changyun, Fan Li!"

Fan Li, staring at the torch in Lu Ye's hand for a while, then said, "Come with me!"

With a wave of his big hand, pure energy surged out, enveloping Lu Ye, and he turned and rushed into the Insect Path.

Lu Ye did not resist because if things were as he suspected, there was no need to resist. If things were not as he suspected, resistance would be pointless. Moreover, this Insect Path was not exactly stable; when he had traversed it before, he had relied on the power of the Dragon Throne. Now, with a Sun Blaze guiding him, it saved him some trouble.

Soon, they passed through the Insect Path.

The other end of the Insect Path lay beneath the abyss of a dead star, which must have been a large domain long ago, otherwise, the Reincarnation Tree's doppelganger wouldn't be here. But it's unclear what caused the domain's decline, with all vitality gone, slowly turning into a dead star.

In the stellar space, the rise and fall of domains are common occurrences. The Red Sky Continent is currently in decline; its ultimate fate is either to become a mundane domain devoid of cultivators or to be completely destroyed and become a dead star.

After bringing Lu Ye out of the abyss, Fan Li didn't bother with him anymore, and flew straight toward a short-stay palace floating in the air.

Lu Ye saw that the Three Worlds cultivators and cultivators from the four galaxies were waiting nearby.

Seeing him appear, Hua Ci Yiyi and others hurried over.

"What's the situation now?" Lu Ye asked.

Hua Ci said, "We followed your instructions, charged out of the Insect Path to this place, but within a few days, the cultivators of this galaxy arrived, led by the Sun Blaze from earlier. Now Veteran Luo is inside negotiating with them."

Lu Ye nodded; things were indeed as he thought. Seeing the Sun Blaze at the Insect Path entrance made him guess it might be a Sun Blaze from the Changyun Galaxy, and the facts confirmed it. That Fan Li was indeed a Sun Blaze expert from Changyun.

Back in the day, when Lu Ye left this place alone, it wasn't enough to cause any significant commotion. He even had the chance to obscure the entrance here, as this place was already considered the edge of Changyun, seldom visited by cultivators.

But it's different on the return trip, with so many cultivators traveling together, and the presence of Luo Xie, the Sun Blaze sitting in command, will definitely alert the Sun Blaze of the home galaxy.

That Fan Li should have sensed the anomaly on this side, which is why he brought people to investigate.

A wormhole appeared in the home galaxy leading elsewhere; anyone would take it seriously. No one can guarantee what lies on the other end of the wormhole or who may come through.

Fan Li personally went to investigate, likely with such considerations.

However, the other end of the wormhole leads to a mysterious place like Mist Dragon. So, although Fan Li went there, he didn't dare leave the wormhole. He only observed nearby, coincidentally encountering the returning Lu Ye and brought him back.

As for how Fan Li knew his name, Lu Ye speculated that Luo Xie had told him. Luo Xie likely feared Fan Li might kill Lu Ye on impulse upon encountering him, so he specifically warned him.

At present, the two big suns are negotiating in the short-stay palace; others cannot intervene and can only wait quietly.

Just as Lu Ye insisted on visiting the Indeterminate Sacred Palace when he passed through the Indeterminate Galaxy, such a large group passing through a star system requires making a good impression on the hosts.

Currently, the fleet is about to pass through the Changyun Galaxy and even borrow a wormhole connecting to the All Phenomena Galaxy.

This matter generally doesn't come with too many hurdles. Which cultivator doesn't travel? They've all been to other star systems, borrowing passage is commonplace, convenience begets convenience.

While waiting, Luo Xie's voice suddenly came to his ear: "Young Friend Lu, come up for a chat!"

Lu Ye looked up at the short-stay palace, then handed Yaya in his arms to Yiyi, saying: "Veteran Luo calls me. I'll be right back."

With a leap, he entered the palace.

Soon, he saw Luo Xie's figure in the great hall of the palace, with Fan Li also present. Both sat respectively in chairs.

Lu Ye glanced at Luo Xie, wondering if it was an illusion, feeling that Old Luo seemed a bit displeased...

He stepped forward and greeted respectfully.

Luo Xie spoke: "Yiye, this Fellow Daoist Fan from Changyun is very interested in how you can move freely within the Mist Dragon. Could you explain briefly?"

Lu Ye couldn't help but frown. Luo Xie knows how he can move freely in the Mist Dragon; there's no need to specifically call him to explain.

But since Luo Xie said so, Lu Ye could only comply and explained the situation briefly.

Fan Li asked: "So the torch you held in your hand earlier was a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree?"

"Indeed!"

Fan Li asked: "May I ask where you acquired this doppelganger, Young Friend?"

Lu Ye said calmly: "Naturally, bestowed by the Reincarnation Tree!"

Fan Li asked again: "Would you happen to have any spare ones, Young Friend?"

Lu Ye naturally had more. The doppelganger of the dead Reincarnation Tree had been divided into dozens of pieces, and only two had been used so far. This material burns slowly; Lu Ye used the same piece back and forth, and only used the second piece when searching for Yaya, barely half used after nearly a month.

Hearing Fan Li's intent, Lu Ye suspected he wanted to ask for some.

Lu Ye glanced at Luo Xie, who said calmly: "Fellow Daoist Fan wants to ask you for a segment, seems like it has great use. If you have spare, give one to Fellow Daoist Fan; if not, it's fine."

The hint in his words was clear: he obviously didn't want Lu Ye to agree.

As long as there is a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree, one can traverse the Mist Dragon and enter the four galaxies.

After a brief contemplation, Lu Ye spoke: "Tree Elder granted three segments of the doppelganger initially. I do indeed have one left. You may have it if you wish, Senior."

Saying so, he handed a segment of the Reincarnation Tree's doppelganger over.

Fan Li received it joyfully, exclaiming: "Wonderful, wonderful!" Playing with it fondly, evidently not expecting it to come so easily.

Luo Xie sipped tea grumpily beside, feeling dismayed because he also wanted to ask Lu Ye for a doppelganger but never had the chance to speak, and now someone else had beaten him to it.

Clearly, I was first!

Lu Ye felt quite helpless, as the fleet needed to borrow passage through someone else's territory. Moreover, considering more people might come in the future, borrowing passage wouldn't happen just once or twice. If they angered the hosts now, there'd be no talk of the future.

Acquiring a segment of the Reincarnation Tree's doppelganger for smoother travel ahead, this trade was worth it.

Besides, the Reincarnation Tree's doppelganger, strictly speaking, originally belonged to the Changyun Galaxy...

After hesitating slightly, Fan Li looked at Luo Xie and said: "To be honest, Fellow Daoist, Fan seeks this item to explore a secret area, significant to my Changyun. It has been explored several times but without success. The environment there is very similar to Mist Dragon; since this item can resist Mist Dragon's strange force, it surely aids Changyun in exploring that secret place."

The specific explanation was clearly to prevent Luo Xie from misunderstanding his intentions for the doppelganger. Otherwise, this sort of secret wouldn't be shared with a recently acquainted Sun Blaze.

Chapter 1616 - Return to the All Phenomena Ocean

In the grand hall, after listening to Fan Li's explanation, Luo Xie said, "Then I wish your galaxy gets its wish fulfilled."

Fan Li smiled and replied, "Thanks for the good words!"

While they were talking, Luo Xie quietly gave Lu Ye a wink.

Lu Ye clasped his fists, "If there's nothing else, I shall take my leave, Senior."

"Thank you for your hard work." Fan Li nodded slightly.

Lu Ye turned and left, flying out of the short-stay palace, and returned to the gathering place of Three Worlds cultivators. The sect master came running to ask, and Lu Ye truthfully informed him.

After a while, Luo Xie also flew out from the short-stay palace, stood still in mid-air, and clasped his fists, "Fellow Daoist Fan, until we meet again!"

"Until we meet again!" Fan Li's voice came from the palace, then quickly vanished into the void.

After Fan Li's palace had gone far, Luo Xie snorted lightly, flicked his big sleeves, and commanded: "Board the ship, set sail!"

Everyone quickly took their positions, thirty-one starboats, and five Tiger Shark battleships soon ascended, the fleet set out once again.

On the leading starboat, Lu Ye looked at Luo Xie, "Veteran Luo doesn't seem very happy?"

Luo Xie said angrily, "That Fan Li seems to be obsessed with money, do you know what conditions he initially proposed to me?"

"What conditions?" Lu Ye asked, it appeared that before he returned, Luo Xie had discussed with Fan Li for a while, and Fan Li had obviously made some inappropriate demand, which angered Luo Xie.

"Five thousand spirit jade!" Luo Xie spread out one hand.

"What!" Lu Ye was taken aback.

"Toll fee!" Luo Xie fumed, Lu Ye was thinking that five thousand spirit jade was not much, Luo Xie added, "That's per person!"

Per person, that was five thousand spirit jade for each person!

With fifteen hundred people, it amounted to seven or eight million spirit jade!

The four galaxies could naturally gather such an amount, but spirit jade wasn't meant to be spent like this.

"If it weren't for needing to borrow their path, I wouldn't bother taking his nonsense, I would have slapped him early on." Luo Xie said, the raised hand made a gesture of slapping, as if it really landed on Fan Li's face, which made him feel a bit relieved.

"Veteran Luo, please calm down, we're forced to borrow the path from them." Lu Ye hurriedly comforted him.

Luo Xie sighed, "I just hate that our four galaxies don't have a direct Insect Path to All Phenomena!" He turned to Lu Ye, "I heard you guys have one at Jade Conch, but it hasn't stabilized yet?"

Lu Ye nodded, "Indeed!"

"Let me know when it's stabilized someday, our cultivators from the four galaxies can travel through your side without having to be at the mercy of others!" After soothing his mood, Luo Xie added, "But I have discussed with Fan Li, that if any of us need to borrow their path in the future, we just need to greet them when we come over!"

Although there's an Insect Path connection, because of places like Mist Dragon, Changyun and the four galaxies are destined not to have much interaction. After all, every time we traverse through Mist Dragon, we must rely on the power to ignite the Reincarnation Tree doppelganger, neither side has the capital to frequently visit each other's territory.

This time, Fan Li obtained a piece of the Reincarnation Tree doppelganger, treating it as a treasure. Luo Xie took the opportunity to propose future arrangements, and Fan Li readily agreed.

"That's good then!" Lu Ye nodded.

The fleet moved forward, and shortly, there were cultivators from Changyun roaming nearby, although none approached, they merely observed from afar for a few days and then left.

But this kind of monitoring hasn't ceased, as people keep rotating.

It seems like Changyun's cultivators received the news and did this as per Fan Li's arrangements.

The fleet's substantial size, fifteen hundred people, over thirty starboats, along with Sun Blaze to oversee, would make anyone vigilant, thus continuous surveillance is necessary.

Traversing the entire Changyun Galaxy is the longest stretch of this journey. With Luo Xie overseeing the fleet, Lu Ye didn't have to worry about anything.

He spent his days in the cyan grand hall engaging in confrontations with Wang Xiu. As he was frequently defeated by Wang Xiu, he gradually learned some tactics. Although he still couldn't withstand the explosive power of Wang Xiu's blade, now he could at least react somewhat when Wang Xiu made a move, unlike initially when Wang Xiu's blade meant his demise.

This is somewhat considered progress, and the contest with Wang Xiu differs from those with earlier seniors. In the future, when Lu Ye faces such explosive attacks, he'll have more experience in dealing with them.

Passing by where the Great Wheel of Fortune once appeared, Lu Ye specifically went to take a look, finding that the Great Wheel of Fortune had indeed vanished. This left the Three Worlds cultivators somewhat disappointed, for such stellar space supreme treasures that posed little risk yet offered a chance for benefits are rare in the vast stellar space. Encountering one is a matter of opportunity.

Now they've missed it, they might never have another chance in their lifetime.

After passing the location where the Great Wheel of Fortune once appeared, a few more days later, they could see a huge Insect Path spanning across the stellar space from afar.

Although they have had experience traversing an Insect Path within Mist Dragon, the path there wasn't very stable, entirely different from the one before their eyes.

Such magnificent spectacle left the Three Worlds cultivators in awe.

Beside the Insect Path, there was also a massive palace suspended in the stellar space, clearly a base where the Changyun cultivators were stationed. That palace was obviously not an ordinary palace but resembled a grim battleship in the shape of a palace.

Before the convoy even got close, a voice echoed from within the palace: "Stop right there!"

At the same time, almost everyone in the convoy felt a chill all over their bodies, as if a great threat had descended from the void. Lu Ye could see it clearly: almost as soon as that voice sounded, many treasures placed at the Array Eye outside the battleship-shaped palace locked onto the convoy as if ready to attack.

It wasn't really going to attack, just a precaution, which was expected, so even Luo Xie didn't reveal too much expression.

However, if the convoy continued to move forward without regard, they would inevitably face an attack from the other side.

"Veteran Luo, let me go." Lu Ye couldn't bear to see Luo Xie, a mere Sun Blaze, having to be at the mercy of others, so he volunteered.

Luo Xie nodded and handed a token to Lu Ye. This token was something he had obtained from Fan Li, a Passage Order, which allowed for passage through the Insect Path.

Receiving the token, Lu Ye dashed out from the starboat, holding the token high in his hand as he flew towards the palace.

He quickly arrived before the palace, where a figure stood. Lu Ye glanced over, finding the figure somewhat familiar, and only realized upon getting closer that he indeed knew this person.

It was the Moon Jade he had met when Tang Jun brought him over initially.

Lu Ye did not know this person's name, only knew the surname was Zhang, who seemed to have quite a good relationship with Tang Jun, calling each other brother back then.

Since it's an acquaintance, things would be easier. He stepped forward and greeted, "I have met Senior."

The Moon Jade did not seem to recognize Lu Ye, glanced at the convoy not far away, and asked Lu Ye, "Do you have the Passage Order?"

Lu Ye quickly presented the token.

The other party took it, examined it carefully, and nodded slightly, "The token is correct, you may pass!"

This side should have already received a transmission from Fan Li, so it only needed to verify the authenticity of the token.

Within the palace, the power of many treasures at the Array Eyes finally slowly withdrew.

Lu Ye expressed his gratitude, "Thank you, Senior Zhang!"

The Moon Jade seemed slightly surprised, "You recognize me?" From Fan Li's message, it was clear that this convoy was a joint effort of the four great galaxies and was visiting the All Phenomena Ocean for the first time, so he was puzzled about how Lu Ye could recognize him.

Lu Ye replied, "I met the senior once when Veteran Tang Tang brought me over before."

Moon Jade Zhang scrutinized Lu Ye before recalling, "Oh, I remember now. When you came over before, you happened to encounter the Great Wheel of Fortune descending!"

"Exactly!"

Moon Jade Zhang nodded and showed no interest in further conversation with Lu Ye.

Lu Ye said, "Senior, if you have free time, you can visit Unparalleled Island. I'm sure Veteran Tang would be very welcoming." Though reluctant to engage in small talk, maintaining a good relationship with the people from the Changyun Galaxy was necessary since the Nine Provinces cultivators' only path to the All Phenomena Ocean was through Changyun, given the inability to safely use the Jade Conch Insect Path.

Hearing him mention Unparalleled Island, Moon Jade Zhang's expression suddenly became somewhat strange, "About Unparalleled Island..." But he stopped mid-sentence and waved his hand, saying, "Forget it, you probably don't know either."

Lu Ye was puzzled for a moment and couldn't help asking, "What happened to Unparalleled Island?"

Moon Jade Zhang didn't seem inclined to explain much, replying casually, "No matter what happens to Unparalleled Island, there's not much a Constellation like you can do. You should go now."

Returning from the palace, Luo Xie saw Lu Ye looking preoccupied and couldn't help but frown, "Were you troubled?"

Lu Ye shook his head, "No, let's depart. Once we pass through this Insect Path, we'll enter the All Phenomena Galaxy."

Luo Xie was puzzled, not understanding why Lu Ye had such an expression if he hadn't been troubled.

The convoy began to move, gradually approaching the Insect Path, one after another rushing through.

The starboat on which Lu Ye was riding was the first to emerge from the Insect Path. There was also a Moon Jade from the Changyun Galaxy stationed here, preventing any miscreants from entering their star system from this side. However, they typically didn't pay much attention to those departing from the home star system.

Those coming from the home galaxy all possessed Passage Orders.

So, although surprised by the number of starboats and the unfamiliar faces of the cultivators on them, the Moon Jade here still didn't ask questions, just glanced a few times.

The leading starboat stopped not far away, waiting for the convoy to pass. On the starboat, silhouettes stood by the edge, gazing at the enormous ocean filling the view. Even from a distance, they could feel its magnificent grandeur, and couldn't help but sigh in amazement.

A voice excitedly shouted, "All Phenomena Ocean, here I come!"

Which led to a chorus of howls from the crowd, their excitement clearly visible.

Lu Ye also gazed toward the direction of the All Phenomena Ocean, but there lingered an uneasy feeling in his heart. Recalling what Moon Jade Zhang had said, he wondered if, during his absence over the past few years, something might have happened to Unparalleled Island!

Chapter 1617 - Parting Ways

On the starboat, Lu Ye took out an audio talisman, attempting to send a message to Tang Jun. After waiting for a while without a response, his anxiety diminished somewhat. At least, the lack of response indicated Tang Jun was still alive. It was likely that the distance was too far for the audio talisman to work, or perhaps Tang Jun was busy and hadn't checked it.

It wasn't too concerning; as long as he was alive, that was sufficient. As for what had happened on Unparalleled Island, he would have to see for himself when he got there.

Lu Ye tried sending a message to Chu Shen, but received no response either. Then he attempted to contact Little Dumb, Little Crooked, Cai Xing, Cai Yue, Lucky Star, and others, all with the same result.

Lu Ye furrowed his brows. Logically, the distance to Unparalleled Island shouldn't be too far to send a message, yet he couldn't reach anyone, indicating that none of these people were on Unparalleled Island.

From this, it seemed that something had indeed happened to Unparalleled Island.

While Lu Ye was trying to contact people, Luo Xie's expression suddenly became solemn, and after sensing quietly for a moment, he spoke, "Young friend, I'm afraid I can't accompany you to the All Phenomena Ocean."

"Why?"

Luo Xie replied, "The Sun Blaze of this star system has detected my arrival, and sent an audio transmission asking me to visit the All Phenomena World!" He said this and then asked, "Where is the All Phenomena World?"

The All Phenomena World is the largest and the most profound domain of the All Phenomena Galaxy; otherwise, the galaxy wouldn't be named after All Phenomena.

Just like the status of the Indeterminate World in the Indeterminate Galaxy, it is truly an overlord of the galaxy!

This is also the rule in the All Phenomena Galaxy, that any visiting Sun Blaze must report to the All Phenomena Galaxy and explain their purpose; they aren't specifically targeting Luo Xie.

However, Luo Xie was visiting for the first time and didn't know the location of the All Phenomena World, so he could only ask Lu Ye.

Lu Ye had heard of this rule and took out a star map of the All Phenomena Galaxy to check, then pointed out the location to Luo Xie.

Luo Xie leaped away, his voice echoing from afar, "You all go on ahead. Once I'm done here, I'll come find you!"

And in an instant, he vanished without a trace.

After Luo Xie left, Lu Ye looked toward the direction of the All Phenomena Ocean and led the team forward.

The Insect Path of the Changyun Galaxy is a half-month journey from the All Phenomena Ocean. As they got closer, they could feel the grandeur of this stellar space marvel. Cultivators from the Three Worlds and even those from the four galaxies experienced the mixed feelings that Lu Ye felt when he first arrived.

It was a complex emotion of wonder, awe, and excitement intertwined.

However, the crowd quickly learned of the chaos here, because during their journey, they frequently encountered cultivators fighting fiercely in the stellar space.

The cultivator community is the most restless group. The All Phenomena Galaxy is very inclusive, attracting cultivators from countless galaxies, so disputes are unavoidable. For this reason, the All Phenomena Galaxy can only let things be, as long as actions remain within the rules.

However, the fleet's size was substantial, with over thirty starboats, accompanied by five Tiger Sharks. Such a foundation deterred any cultivator from causing trouble, so the journey was calm and uneventful.

Half a month later, they entered the All Phenomena Ocean. Almost everyone immediately looked toward the deep, dark ocean because they had learned from Lu Ye that the waters of the All Phenomena Ocean are formed by densely concentrated stellar space energy.

Logically, when stellar space energy becomes dense enough, it should condense into spirit jade and spirit crystals, forming a Spirit Jade Vein. But the stellar space marvel, as it is, somehow formed this vast ocean.

It's hard to imagine the vast amount of stellar space energy stored here, although such energy can only be seen and not used. Any cultivator who dares to covet the water of the All Phenomena Ocean typically meets a bad end.

Not far along, they encountered an attack on a Spirit Island. The defensive barrier of the Spirit Island was on the verge of collapsing, looking like it could break at any time.

Lu Ye initially didn't want to intervene, having seen this many times before, but considering it was the first time the others were in the All Phenomena Ocean, he had the fleet stop and let everyone quietly watch.

This was not like his previous solo endeavors. The Three Worlds cultivators would have to establish themselves here and inevitably encounter such situations; watching in advance wouldn't hurt.

The four Moon Jade cultivators from the four galaxies gathered to evaluate the strength comparison between the attacking and defending sides, predicting that the attack would likely end with the attackers' victory.

Comparing this to their own side's strength, Kang Cheng and others felt reassured, realizing their foundation seemed stronger than the attackers'. In other words, if they wanted to attack this Spirit Island, they were almost guaranteed success.

It was understandable; the attackers were clearly from the same star system, a display of a single system's power. But Kang Cheng and others represented the combined forces of four galaxies—hardly a match for regular forces.

The overall strength of the cultivators from the four galaxies present this time in the All Phenomena Ocean wasn't exceptionally strong but was certainly above average.

Luan Xiao'e was also observing the battle, unlike Kang Cheng and others who were calm, she suddenly realized she had underestimated the complexity, thinking too simply about establishing a foothold in the chaotic All Phenomena Ocean with just the foundation of the Three Worlds cultivators.

Fortunately, Tang Jun had already established a foothold here. With his protection, the Three Worlds cultivators should face fewer obstacles in the future.

Such a substantial fleet observing from a distance made both the attacking and defending sides apprehensive; even their combat rhythm slowed significantly, each fearing the fleet might be reinforcements hired by their enemies...

Fortunately, the fleet didn't make too many moves; they were really just here to spectate.

This battle finally ended with the victory of the attacking side. When the protective light screen on the Spirit Island was broken, it was already destined that this Spirit Island was going to change hands.

Kang Cheng and the other four Moon Jade figures moved swiftly to the starboat where Lu Ye was, finding him deep in thought.

Kang Cheng asked, "Fellow Daoist Lu, we have now arrived at the All Phenomena Ocean. What are your plans next?"

Lu Ye originally planned to lead everyone to Unparalleled Island for a temporary stay, wait for everyone to get familiar with the All Phenomena Ocean, then discuss other matters. But given the current situation, it wasn't wise to proceed without figuring out what happened with Unparalleled Island first.

However, he understood Kang Cheng's point, so he replied, "I haven't decided yet. If you have any ideas, feel free to go ahead. Don't worry about us."

The Three Worlds cultivators and the Four Galaxies Alliance traveled to the All Phenomena Ocean together, but they couldn't remain bound together forever. Kang Cheng and others didn't want to live under someone else's roof; they wished to make achievements in the All Phenomena Ocean on their own merit, providing a better future for their descendants, and they indeed had the capability.

Therefore, parting ways was inevitable. Both Lu Ye and Kang Cheng were aware of this.

Kang Cheng and the others came specifically to bid farewell, and now having reached the All Phenomena Ocean, of course, they needed their own plans.

Kang Cheng nodded and said, "In that case, take care, and if you have anything you need help with in the future, just send an audio transmission."

Another Moon Jade Late Stage cultivator named Zhou Chuang said, "Junior Brother Lu, if you encounter difficulties, do speak up; don't hesitate with us!"

Among the four Moon Jade Late Stage cultivators, Zhou Chuang originated from the Beixuan Galaxy, likely receiving Qin Yi's advice before departure, hence the special reminder.

Since Lu Ye arrived at the All Phenomena Galaxy, he has been looking distressed, which they all noticed, thinking Lu might have encountered some issue. But as Lu hadn't spoken up, they didn't inquire further.

The other two Moon Jade cultivators also nodded in agreement. Lu Ye had greatly benefited the Four Galaxies, and if their benefactor needed any help, they wouldn't hesitate to extend a helping hand. Before setting out, they all received instructions from their Sun Blaze to take good care of Lu Ye when they arrived at the All Phenomena Ocean within their capabilities.

"Then let me thank all of you in advance. If there truly comes a time of difficulty, I will lead cultivators from my home galaxy to seek refuge with you, and please don't mind it then!"

Zhou Chuang said, "If it doesn't work out, your Jade Conch might as well join us."

On their end, there are four Moon Jade Late Stage cultivators, with strong overall prowess, mostly Late Stage cultivation and a few mid-stage, but none in Early Stage.

In contrast, among the Three Worlds cultivators, there's only one Moon Jade, Luan Xiao'e, but many in Constellation Early Stage...

By comparison, they are simply not in the same tier.

Zhou Chuang was naturally good-intentioned, but Lu Ye shook his head and said, "On our side, there's some connection with Unparalleled Island; I wish to check the situation there first before making plans."

Zhou Chuang replied, "That's not bad either. Since you have a plan, I won't insist."

After talking further, the cultivators from the Four Galaxies Alliance finally departed.

The fleet suddenly shrunk by half.

Those who remained were all their own people. Luan Xiao'e no longer had any concerns; she looked at Lu Ye and asked, "Did something happen with Tang Jun's side?"

She didn't have Tang Jun's audio talisman marking, hadn't communicated much, and therefore couldn't send audio transmissions to Tang Jun.

Lu Ye answered, "Can't get in touch, not sure if something happened." He glanced at the resting Three Worlds cultivators and said, "Senior Sister Luan, could you watch over this side? I need to go to Unparalleled Island to check the situation."

"Will it be dangerous?" Luan Xiao'e sounded worried.

Lu Ye was the guide; if anything happened to him, she wouldn't know where to go with so many Constellations in tow.

"No!" Lu Ye shook his head. When Unparalleled Island was built, Chu Shen made it into a commercial Spirit Island. With Chu Shen's networking, countless forces established shops on Unparalleled Island. Such complex relationships should ensure that Unparalleled Island is solid as a rock. Even if there was an incident, it wouldn't turn into a place of conflict.

Therefore, just checking the situation won't be dangerous.

"In any case, be careful," Luan Xiao'e advised.

Lu Ye agreed, exchanged words with Yiyi and Hua Ci, and then soared into the sky, heading toward Unparalleled Island.

He wanted to know what changes occurred on Unparalleled Island during the years he was away and why he couldn't reach anyone he was supposed to contact!

Chapter 1618 - Poaching Talent

The All Phenomena Ocean was as bustling as ever, with a sea of voices on every spirit island, and the silhouettes of cultivators and starboats in constant motion across the sky.

Lu Ye couldn't help but recall the first time he came to the All Phenomena Ocean, how careful and cautious he was during his flight, fearing that he might encounter a powerful individual who might take a dislike to him.

Back then, although he had advanced to the Constellation Mid-Stage, he had only just advanced, and might not have been able to hold his own against a true expert.

Years later, on his second visit to the All Phenomena Ocean, his cultivation had only improved by a small level, yet compared to his previous strength, it was as different as day and night.

Now, even if he encountered a typical Moon-glory cultivator, he might not necessarily lack the power to fight back. After living for several years in the All Phenomena Ocean, he was now familiar with it, no longer being as cautious as on his first visit.

As he maneuvered his starboat closer to Unparalleled Island, he encountered more and more cultivators in the air.

Lu Ye couldn't help but feel puzzled; judging by the current situation, Unparalleled Island was maintaining its former prosperity and seemed to be even more than before. But where had Tang Jun and the others gone?

Several days later, Lu Ye arrived at Unparalleled Island. From a distance, the entire island did not seem to have changed much and was still similar to before.

Outside the spirit island was a light curtain covering it, but this was not the protective array's light curtain; Lu Ye could tell at a glance it was an isolation array.

This was a big array present on every spirit island because only then could it prevent the energy from dissipating from the island. Without such an isolating array, the stellar space energy generated on the island would dissipate, resulting in a waste.

Having the isolation array was different—energy would not dissipate, filling the spirit island, allowing the cultivators to use it for cultivation.

Lu Ye observed from afar for a while before heading in a specific direction.

When he had entered Unparalleled Island from the outside before, he would enter wherever was convenient, and no one would say anything because it was his own spirit island.

In fact, every spirit island had docks, and incoming cultivators needed to enter and exit through them; this was how all spirit islands managed external cultivators.

Unparalleled Island, although not small, was not particularly large either. When Chu Shen created it years ago, he originally planned three docks. Later, as the popularity of Unparalleled Island grew, two more were added to meet the daily flow of people.

Lu Ye was aware of this.

Arriving at one of the docks, Lu Ye put away his starboat and entered directly.

There were cultivators guarding this place, and to Lu Ye's surprise, the one stationed here was a Moon-glory! Judging by the power fluctuations emanating from the person, they were likely only in the Moon-glory Early Stage.

This was evidently unusual. When he left years ago, the only Moon-glory on Unparalleled Island was Tang Jun, and he remembered Chu Shen assigning only Constellation cultivators to the docks.

When did Unparalleled Island gain another Moon-glory?

And that's just the situation at this dock; Unparalleled Island had five such docks!

The Moon-glory sat quietly a short distance away, eyes closed in meditation, unmoving, seemingly indifferent to the comings and goings of the cultivators. In reality, this was because everyone followed the rules very well. If anyone broke the rules, they would certainly enforce them with Thunderbolt techniques.

There were no transit fees collected as on All Phenomena Island, and Lu Ye smoothly passed through the dock into Unparalleled Island.

Setting foot on Unparalleled Island, Lu Ye was momentarily stunned.

He felt that the stellar space energy surrounding him was much denser than when he left years ago...

Knowing that Unparalleled Island had a high visitor rate and the cultivators stopping over consumed the island's energy, it was still remarkable for it to be this dense.

Unparalleled Island... could it have advanced to a top-class Spirit Island?

When he left years ago, Unparalleled Island was only at the mid-class Spirit Island level. Though such islands were not common across the All Phenomena Ocean, they weren't particularly rare either. Essentially, any significant power could occupy a decent mid-class Spirit Island.

After several years, Lu Ye believed that advancing to a high-class Spirit Island would not be an issue for Unparalleled Island, especially with the Small Constellation Palace he had placed beneath it, consistently functioning.

Whether or not it could advance to a top-class Spirit Island was something Lu Ye couldn't determine. Across the entire All Phenomena Ocean, the number of top-class Spirit Islands was limited, no more than twenty, all occupied by powerful forces renowned throughout the Universe.

But once he sensed the slight change within Unparalleled Island, Lu Ye had a vague feeling that even if Unparalleled Island hadn't advanced to a top-class Spirit Island, it wasn't far off.

The gradual transformation wrought by the Small Constellation Palace over the years had transformed a deserted island into the spirit island it had become, an astonishing change.

Unparalleled Island's upheaval was probably linked to this matter. A top-class Spirit Island, after all, was capable of spawning Spirit Jade Veins, a desire many large domains yearned for but couldn't achieve.

"Do not linger here and obstruct others coming and going!"

Just as Lu Ye was sensing the change in Unparalleled Island, the Moon-glory stationed there slowly opened his eyes and scolded him.

Lu Ye regained his senses and hurriedly headed inward.

Soon, he arrived inside Unparalleled Island. Compared to when he left back then, Unparalleled Island was visibly more prosperous. The layout of the shops hadn't changed much, but the number of cultivators coming and going undoubtedly increased manyfold.

Especially many people were heading in one direction. As Lu Ye walked by, he observed and listened to conversations around, trying to see if he could find any useful clues, but without much success.

Cultivators, if they didn't want others to overhear, could completely use Mental Consciousness for audio transmission. Public discussions were all trivial matters of no significance, so naturally, Lu Ye couldn't overhear anything worthwhile.

Following the crowd, he soon arrived in front of a massive building.

Lu Ye raised his eyes to observe and almost thought he had arrived at the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, because from the outside appearance, the styles and layout of this building were almost identical to the All Phenomena Merchants Guild!

However, the plaque above was inscribed with the four characters "Celestial Flames Merchants Guild."

Lu Ye furrowed his brows.

He remembered this building; when he left back then, this largest building was still ownerless because Chu Shen wanted to establish a merchants guild of his own. This place was specifically reserved for that purpose. Chu Shen had quite the talent in business management and dared to think and act. The success of Unparalleled Island back then owed much to him. Of course, it was also somewhat related to his background.

To say he was a notable figure in Cheling World— without Chu Shen's background, Unparalleled Island back then would not have easily succeeded and more likely would have been targeted and attacked.

Chu Shen had openly discussed his plans numerous times before him and was highly expectant of the future guild. Therefore, he kept the largest building on the island reserved, neither rented nor sold it despite other forces offering high prices.

Yet now, with the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild plaque hanging there, it seemed quite unusual.

Lu Ye vaguely remembered seeing the words "Celestial Flames" somewhere...

He took out the star map to check, and indeed, within the All Phenomena Galaxy, there was a Celestial Flames Domain, a local domain.

From this view, the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild was related to the Celestial Flames Domain, clearly a Celestial Flames Domain industry.

Although the All Phenomena Galaxy had the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, it was an industry shared across the entire galaxy. All Sun Blaze forces within the galaxy were affiliated with the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, being the largest force across the All Phenomena Ocean.

However, within the home galaxy, industries were not limited to just the All Phenomena Merchants Guild. Various domains had industries of their own.

Upon entering the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild, the crowd flowed ceaselessly, shoulder to shoulder, and Lu Ye was secretly surprised because even in the All Phenomena Merchants Guild, he'd never seen such bustling scenes; what, then, did this Celestial Flames Merchants Guild possess to achieve what the All Phenomena Merchants Guild could not?

This probably related to the passage fees on All Phenomena Island, a few spirit jades might not be much, yet cultivators without need to go to All Phenomena Island naturally wouldn't waste them.

Unparalleled Island was different, without passage fees; anyone could come and go freely, naturally gathering more people.

Lu Ye stood in the vast hall for quite a while, without anyone paying attention to him. After some time, a female cultivator wearing Celestial Flames Merchants Guild attire approached. Her attire was quite revealing, with large areas of snow white exposed. Critically, she had a charming figure, slender waist, and impressive presence on her chest, drawing many sneaky glances.

She handed Lu Ye a jade slip, spoke crisply: "Esteemed guest, on our grand opening day, we offer discounts on all items in the jade slip. Everything is 10% off; you may wish to have a look. Furthermore, if the items you need are not in the jade slip, our guild can assist in finding them."

Lu Ye finally understood why so many people gathered here.

Discounts, such matters, even cultivators were keen on— after all, saving some spirit jade effortlessly was appealing to anyone. Moreover, without any passage fees on Unparalleled Island, naturally, people came by with or without reason.

Lu Ye took the jade slip, casually looked at it, while asking, "Miss, I haven't been to the All Phenomena Ocean for a long time; I recall there wasn't your Celestial Flames Merchants Guild on Unparalleled Island. When did you join?"

The female cultivator smiled gently: "Esteemed guest, this is not Unparalleled Island now."

Lu Ye appeared astonished: "Unparalleled Island was overtaken? What is it called now?" Generally, Spirit Islands wouldn't change names easily unless they changed ownership!

She did not respond to his first question, only stating: "Our Celestial Flames Merchants Guild now occupies this island, hence it became Tianyan Island."

"Congratulations then," Lu Ye remained expressionless. Across All Phenomena Ocean, many Spirit Island ownerships often fluctuate, with various forces alternating appearances, changing Spirit Island names was common.

Lu Ye's heart sank slightly; though she didn't answer his question directly, through mere clues, Unparalleled Island was indeed taken over!

He previously had such a premonition, otherwise, there would've been no reason for Chu Shen and Tang Jun to be unreachable.

But given Chu Shen's status, Lu Ye could not fathom who would dare to challenge Unparalleled Island, for despite formidable external galaxy forces, Chu Shen had Jiu Yan behind him, deserving some respect.

Now he realized, Unparalleled Island wasn't taken by external galaxy forces, but by another local galaxy force!

This was being undermined by one's own, somewhat defying common sense.

Chapter 1619 - Hua Qianying

In theory, cultivators of the same star system wouldn't make things too difficult for one another. Chu Shen hails from the Cheling World, and behind him stands Jiu Yan, a Sun Blaze powerhouse. Although Celestial Flames World is also a domain of the All Phenomena Galaxy, and has Sun Blaze backing, they shouldn't disregard Jiu Yan's face and take action against Unparalleled Island.

But the truth is evident: Unparalleled Island has been taken over by the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild and renamed Tianyan Island, while Chu Shen and Tang Jun are nowhere to be found!

Lu Ye thought it over repeatedly and could only guess that the temptation of Unparalleled Island was too great. Hence, Celestial Flames World disregarded the rules and took action.

He checked the goods in the jade slip and found a complete range of items with excellent quality. Basically, everything a cultivator would need could be found within.

This special offer truly showed some sincerity; a ten percent discount might not be much, but if many cultivators purchased goods, the given profits would still amount to a considerable figure.

"Customer, our guild's promotion will only last for one month. Now there's only three days left, so if you want to buy something, do not miss out," the female cultivator added.

Lu Ye didn't have much to buy, but considering it might arouse suspicion if he didn't buy anything, he decided to purchase some elixir pills.

After paying with spirit jade and acquiring the elixir pills, Lu Ye leisurely walked out of the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild.

Wandering casually around the island, Lu Ye prepared to leave. The basic situation here was now clear; the next step was to find Chu Shen and Tang Jun to inquire about the specifics.

Tang Jun's whereabouts were unknown to Lu Ye, but since Chu Shen wasn't here, he must be in the Cheling World. Therefore, he only needed to make a trip to the Cheling World, and upon meeting Chu Shen, he would naturally learn of Tang Jun's whereabouts.

However, before Lu Ye had a chance to leave, he saw a figure suddenly emerge from a shop. The leading man turned around and said to those inside the shop, "Tomorrow is the final deadline. Consider wisely!"

After his words, he stormed off, muttering under his breath: "Unappreciative!"

Lu Ye didn't know what had happened, nor did he intend to watch, but after seeing the figure inside the shop, he paused and walked over.

The shop wasn't large, and on Unparalleled Island, there were many such shops, all just small ones, the smallest on the island.

Above the entrance were two large characters: Good Elixir!

Undoubtedly, this was a shop selling elixir pills, and daring to use these words as a sign showed the owner's confidence in the quality of their elixir pills.

Entering the Good Elixir Shop, a petite figure immediately came into view, her expression soft and frail, seemingly aggrieved by the earlier incident, with a mix of anger and helplessness.

Upon seeing Lu Ye, she froze for a moment, then exclaimed with joy: "Senior Brother Li?"

He used the name Li Taibai while here in the All Phenomena Ocean, so naturally, she would address him as Senior Brother Li.

Lu Ye slightly nodded: "Junior Sister Hua, it's been a long time."

The shopkeeper of the Good Elixir Shop was, surprisingly, the woman Lu Ye had personally recruited from the flea market on All Phenomena Island. Since buying elixir pills from her twice, he knew she was quite skilled in alchemy, so he had her open a shop on Unparalleled Island.

Though Lu Ye wasn't very familiar with this woman, he at least knew her name was Hua Qianying.

Another person whom Lu Ye recruited, besides Hua Qianying, was Ahn Zhe, who sold Dragon Breath Crystal.

Due to Lu Ye, both enjoyed great privileges upon arriving at Unparalleled Island; when leasing their shops, they paid almost only a symbolic amount of spirit jade. At that time, Unparalleled Island was already taking shape, and countless forces sought to have a shop here but couldn't. Even if they could get one, the leasing fees wouldn't be small.

But since Hua Qianying and Ahn Zhe were personally recruited by Lu Ye, Chu Shen naturally treated them differently.

The shop wasn't large, and perhaps due to the earlier incident, there were no customers coming for transactions. Hua Qianying warmly invited Lu Ye to sit down and prepared the best Spiritual Tea.

Over the years, she had gained many benefits here, having her own shop was a completely different experience than setting up a stall in the flea market, with a much more stable and larger customer flow.

And because her elixir pills were of extremely high quality, even at slightly higher prices, she had made a name for herself with many returning customers. Unfortunately, her personal energy was limited, and she strictly controlled the quality of her elixir pills, so the number she could sell wasn't high.

Despite this, she had earned some spirit jade over the past few years.

All of this was thanks to Lu Ye; naturally, she was grateful to him, having thought about personally thanking him. But after recruiting her, Lu Ye vanished, leaving her with no way to find him despite her attempts to visit.

Seeing Lu Ye again, Hua Qianying was undoubtedly very happy to finally have an opportunity to thank him in person.

After brewing the Spiritual Tea, she poured a cup for Lu Ye, who, taking a casual sip, raised his eyebrows in surprise, looking at her: "This tea... is excellent!"

He was not a tea enthusiast and usually didn't drink much tea. He couldn't really tell the difference between good and bad tea, but there was something distinctly unique about this tea from Hua Qianying. The moment he tasted it, Lu Ye felt a refreshing spiritual sensation, and the warmth spread in his stomach as the tea went down.

With his current Star Cultivation Late Stage, ordinary things shouldn't affect him this way.

He knew the tea was excellent, but he couldn't pinpoint exactly why it was so good. He could only rate it as remarkable.

Hua Qianying smiled with her lips pursed and said, "I brought this from my hometown. If Senior Brother likes it, I'll give you some later."

"Thank you very much," Lu Ye said as he finished his cup, put down the teacup, and gestured for another cup.

Hua Qianying poured him another cup.

This time, Lu Ye savored it carefully and felt yet another unique sensation, making him realize how rare this tea was.

"What happened earlier?" Lu Ye asked.

He usually didn't bother with trivial matters, but since Hua Qianying had been recruited by him, and not just for her alchemy skills, he planned for the future where he could bring his Second Senior Sister and Hua Ci over. Having a skilled healing cultivator like her teaching them would save Hua Ci and Shui Yuan a lot of time and effort on the alchemy path.

Otherwise, letting Hua Ci and Shui Yuan explore on their own would be a waste of time and resources.

Now that the people were brought over, Unparalleled Island turned chaotic, leaving Lu Ye feeling helpless, and it seemed that Hua Qianying encountered some problems as well.

Upon hearing Lu Ye's inquiry, Hua Qianying gave a bitter smile, "After Unparalleled Island changed ownership, the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild wanted to recruit me, asking me to join them, but I didn't agree."

Previously, when she was setting up a stall at the flea market, she wasn't well-known. But ever since she opened an excellent apothecary on Unparalleled Island, many have come to know the quality of her elixir pills. Multiple factions have attempted to recruit her, but she has always declined.

After all, if she wanted to pledge loyalty to a faction, she didn't need to set up a stall at the flea market in the first place. Even a large-scale force like All Phenomena Merchants Guild, if she showcased her alchemy skills, they wouldn't refuse her.

She was not willing to join even All Phenomena Merchants Guild, let alone others. Celestial Flames Merchants Guild might be good, but they were still a step below All Phenomena Merchants Guild.

Initially, she accepted Lu Ye's proposal mainly because he didn't impose any restrictions or other requirements on her, and their relationship was more of equal cooperation. Unparalleled Island offered her a shop and charged a symbolic fee, allowing her the freedom to do as she wished.

If she joined other factions, no matter her alchemy skill level, she wouldn't receive such favorable treatment. In return for the benefits those factions provided, she would inevitably bear some unshirkable responsibilities, such as producing a certain number of elixir pills within a specified time frame...

However, she had extremely strict control over the quality of her elixir pills, and would not sell any that didn't meet her standards. This alone would prevent her from meeting other factions' requirements.

It was natural for Celestial Flames Merchants Guild to want to recruit Hua Qianying. Cultivators heavily rely on elixir pills, and a skilled alchemist is an indispensable asset to any faction. With Hua Qianying's renowned reputation, it was expected that Celestial Flames Merchants Guild would target her once they took over.

"Since you rejected them, they probably won't let it rest," Lu Ye said.

Hua Qianying nodded, "Indeed, so Celestial Flames Merchants Guild demanded a large sum of spirit jade as a shop rental fee."

She had earned some spirit jade in recent years, and theoretically, paying the rental fee shouldn't be a problem. However, they didn't demand just one or two years' rent but an entire twenty years' worth, to be paid upfront!

This had never happened in All Phenomena Ocean, as the ownership of Spirit Islands frequently changed. Even if they rented out the shops, they charged fees annually because if the island got conquered, the previously paid spirit jade would be wasted.

Twenty years' rent was a massive sum, and Hua Qianying simply couldn't afford it.

It was evidently a form of exploitation; Celestial Flames Merchants Guild intended to force Hua Qianying into compliance. If she refused, they wouldn't suffer any loss and could reclaim the shop for rent.

"Tomorrow is the final deadline," Hua Qianying said.

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

"To leave," Hua Qianying replied without hesitation, knowing that even if she paid the spirit jade, staying here would only make her a target for Celestial Flames Merchants Guild. It was better to leave now.

Since she started out at the flea market, returning there was always an option.

Lu Ye nodded, "That's not a bad idea."

After all, Hua Qianying was someone he personally recruited, and he felt a tinge of selfishness. Now that Unparalleled Island had changed hands, he could only wait for the day when Nine Provinces cultivators firmly established themselves in All Phenomena Ocean before reconsidering.

Chapter 1620 - Advanced Into a Fake Moon Jade?

Lu Ye inquired further about the situation on Unparalleled Island, as Hua Qianying had been running her shop here for some time, and thus might be knowledgeable about the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild's attack on Unparalleled Island.

According to Hua Qianying, the attack by the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild on Unparalleled Island occurred three months ago. Prior to that, there were already some rumors circulating on the island. However, since she was an outsider, she couldn't verify the truth of those rumors.

Until one day, three months ago, the Celestial Flames Merchants Guild suddenly launched a large-scale attack. Although Unparalleled Island fought back with all its might, due to the significant disparity in strength, they ultimately couldn't withstand the onslaught. The protective array was breached, and Unparalleled Island changed hands.

"Rest assured, Senior Brother Li, the Island Master is fine. From the beginning to the end, he hasn't suffered even a scratch. Not a single person on the island died; at most, some were injured. Although Veteran Tang's injuries seem quite severe," Hua Qianying comforted Lu Ye.

Unparalleled Island only had Tang Jun as the Moon Jade, and here served as the foundation for the Three Worlds cultivators to establish themselves in the All Phenomena Ocean. So even though they knew they were outmatched, Tang Jun fought desperately in that battle. The Celestial Flames Merchants Guild wouldn't harm Chu Shen due to Jiu Yan's influence, but as for Tang Jun, an outsider without any backing, they wouldn't show mercy. If Chu Shen hadn't intervened at the crucial moment, Tang Jun might have been killed on the spot!

"Do you know where they've gone now?" Lu Ye asked.

Hua Qianying shook her head: "After Unparalleled Island was taken, the Island Master left with his close people. I don't know where they went."

Lu Ye felt relieved, thinking that if Chu Shen took them away, they must have returned to Cheling World.

Hua Qianying didn't know much, and after Lu Ye asked a few questions, he realized that to understand the full story, he needed to make a trip to Cheling World.

He immediately stood up and took his leave.

Hua Qianying didn't try to detain him, actively exchanged audio talisman imprints with Lu Ye, and also gave him a box of Spiritual Tea.

Lu Ye accepted it and headed toward the dock, quickly leaving Tianyan Island.

Returning to the deserted island where the Three Worlds cultivators were, everyone was still quietly waiting there.

He found Luan Xiao'e and spoke to her about the changes on Unparalleled Island. Her expression changed, and she asked, "Is Tang Jun alright?"

Currently, only she was a Moon Jade among the Three Worlds cultivators, and even though she was in the Late Stage of Moon Jade, she felt a bit overwhelmed. If Tang Jun could still contribute, she would have someone to share the burden. But if Tang Jun was gone, her responsibilities would become heavier.

There was still Yaya, but the All Phenomena Ocean had its own rules. If Yaya remained in her typical harmless state, that would be fine. But if she exposed her Sun Blaze cultivation here, she would inevitably be expelled, so in such a place, Yaya couldn't be seen as a reserve force for them.

"Old Tang didn't die; he should be injured and followed Chu Shen to Cheling World," Lu Ye said.

Luan Xiao'e felt much more at ease after hearing this.

"I need to go to Cheling World," Lu Ye said.

"Do go; I will take care of things here," she replied.

Lu Ye glanced at the idle Three Worlds cultivators, thought for a moment, and said, "Let everyone travel together and familiarize themselves with the area; they don't need to stay here all the time."

Having come to the All Phenomena Ocean, they must eventually integrate into this place. Roaming around could help them get accustomed faster. When Lu Ye came alone back then, he spent his time in this way. Now, there were nearly three hundred Three Worlds cultivators; surely, they wouldn't fare worse than he did before.

At least, he wasn't overly worried about the cultivators from the Nine Provinces.

"That's a good idea," Luan Xiao'e nodded in agreement.

After considering a bit, Lu Ye added, "Find a larger deserted island; the location doesn't matter much."

Luan Xiao'e didn't know what he intended to do, but she agreed anyway.

Lu Ye departed, and the Three Worlds cultivators, under Luan Xiao'e's orders, formed teams and began exploring the All Phenomena Ocean.

After leaving the All Phenomena Ocean, Lu Ye headed straight toward Cheling World. Although they were in the same Star System, it would take half a month to reach Cheling World.

Not long after leaving the All Phenomena Ocean, the audio talisman suddenly vibrated. Lu Ye thought it was Luan Xiao'e reaching out with some matter, but to his surprise, he found that the one contacting him was not Luan Xiao'e but that specter fellow!

The audio talisman contained no other information, just one phrase:

"Dead or not? Are you dead?"

Lu Ye's eyes slightly narrowed, feeling the specter was itching for trouble!

He originally didn't intend to respond, but after some pondering, he replied with: "What's the matter?"

The next moment, the audio talisman had another response: "Li Taibai, you're back?"

Clearly, the specter had sent that message many times before, but unfortunately, Lu Ye hadn't been in the All Phenomena Ocean, so the specter couldn't contact him, hence no response.

But as soon as Lu Ye returned to the All Phenomena Ocean, the specter's message arrived, indicating she had been consistently trying to contact Lu Ye, likely reaching out every few days. Otherwise, it wouldn't be such a coincidence.

"Speak if you have something to say!"

The specter replied, "I have something very important to tell you; don't go to Unparalleled Island just yet." Then he gave Lu Ye a meeting location.

Lu Ye thought it over, took out the star map to investigate, confirmed the specific location, and found it was not far from him. So he navigated the starboat towards it.

Half a day later, Lu Ye arrived at a massive floating land hanging in the stellar space. Who knows which star shattered to leave this enormous piece behind.

Looking from afar, there wasn't a trace of anyone on it, clearly indicating the specter hadn't arrived yet. Lu Ye flashed down onto it to wait quietly.

Few cultivators pass through this position because it's not a necessary route to the All Phenomena Ocean. Unless there's a special destination, cultivators usually don't come here.

Who knows how much time passed before the seated Lu Ye suddenly opened his eyes, revealing Insight Spirit Runes in his gaze, staring at one direction, silent.

At the same time, he gently called out in the Divine Sea, "Lih Shang!"

Lih Shang, already instructed, unhesitatingly performed the Soul Possession Technique.

In the next instant, Lu Ye's figure surged towards that direction, and before he reached it, the Boulder Mountain Saber was already unsheathed, a faint voice echoed, "Did you forget I'd observed your Concealment and Breath-concealing Spectral Runes?"

As the words fell, the long saber slashed down, accompanied by the roar of a beast, its boundless saber influence gathering and its bloodthirsty maw open, exposing sharp fangs.

In the empty spot, a spectral figure suddenly revealed itself — who if not the specter? She looked at Lu Ye calmly, wielding a dirk that lightly swung towards him, laughing smugly, "So what if you discovered me? The power disparity between us is as vast as the sky!"

With this slash, the fluctuation of mana descended, and the specter had evidently ascended to Moon Jade!

Lu Ye wasn't surprised, for when he brought the specter out from the Merfolk Race, she had already been prepared to ascend to Moon Jade.

With the specter's aptitude and foundation, after all these years, the ascension was almost guaranteed.

The reason Lu Ye decisively struck when he sensed the specter's arrival was because he knew she wouldn't be courteous. Back at the Constellation, the specter suffered quite a few losses at his hands and had even vengefully declared that once she ascended to Moon Jade, he would be first to face her wrath!

But when she returned from ascending to Moon Jade, Lu Ye had already embarked towards Nine Provinces, only recently returning, making it impossible for her to settle scores with him. Until she learned from Chu Shen that Lu Ye had gone back to his homeland, not returning for years.

Even though Lu Ye had observed her spectral runes, as a Moon Jade, being so easily detected still shocked the specter. Originally, she intended to teach Lu Ye a lesson, showing him the vast gap in their abilities, yet this plan failed utterly.

The specter remained unfazed; a Moon Jade versus a Constellation was absolutely one-sided. Even with her presence exposed and the advantage of the ghost cultivator lost, she still believed Lu Ye wouldn't be her match in direct confrontation.

As the words fell, the dirk collided with the long saber, the specter was ready to savor the sight of Lu Ye's spirit force being shattered, expecting him to become a mess, but her expression turned

astonished. Although she shattered Lu Ye's fierce saber momentum, yet following were layers upon layers of saber waves, a torrential saber ocean like tides surged violently at her — one wave broke, and another followed, another broke, and yet another came.

The expected scene of an easily defeated life-long enemy did not appear.

The specter for a moment questioned if she had possibly ascended to a fake Moon Jade!

Moreover, the violent force transmitted from Lu Ye's long saber shocked her — it shouldn't belong to a Constellation!

What she didn't know was after receiving Lih Shang's soul possession, Lu Ye's strength had significantly increased.

Originally, she had no intention of truly harming Lu Ye, only meant to teach him a lesson for all the past indignities suffered, planning to exert only forty percent of her strength.

However, once their powers collided, the specter realized that forty percent power was insufficient to overpower Lu Ye.

No longer bothersome, fierce mana erupted, the saber ocean tides shattered dramatically.

This was the result of different natures between mana and spirit force — if truly compared, one was water while the other was ice.

Yet right as the saber ocean tides shattered, a blazing sun suddenly exploded, its dazzling light nearly blinding the specter's eyes.

The big sun bloomed like a lotus, each petal an extremely sharp saber light, enveloping the specter within.

Though the specter felt these saber lights shouldn't harm her, she instinctively stepped back.

As a result of this step back, Lu Ye instantly closed in, whirling his long saber under the moon, slicing fiercely.

The specter's dirk was raised to meet it, bracing against the slash, her arm jolted sharply. Even after feeling Lu Ye's sheer force before, the sensation remained overwhelming.

Really puzzling how a Constellation could possess such strong foundations. She herself wasn't ordinary — having ranked high in the Constellation Palace — yet in comparison, she couldn't even muster half the strength of her opponent as a Constellation.

The specter's expression turned serious, preparing to capture Lu Ye with one vigorous push, but Lu Ye's figure suddenly spun, his long saber again slashed down, this time with even greater momentum.