

Humanity 1651

Chapter 1651: Yiyi's Persistence

"In any case, you're not allowed to go!" After much consideration, Lu Ye steeled his heart.

He rarely spoke to Yiyi in such a stern tone, but this time he couldn't afford to care.

The ancestors of Xianyuan City went to the Soul Race ancestral land out of necessity, because they couldn't forever remain slumbering in Xianyuan City. Yiyi was ultimately different from them.

Even if Lih Shang would be there to care for her, Lih Shang was only at the Constellation Late Stage. In the Soul Race ancestral land, it had been there since ancient times, and there were likely many powerful beings. If Yiyi got bullied, who would stand up for her?

Moreover, who could guarantee that those strong ones wouldn't harbor any bad intentions towards Amber? The bond between Yiyi and Amber was exceptionally deep; Amber viewed Yiyi as its master. If a situation arose where Amber's pure possession became a crime attracting envy, how could Lih Shang alone care for Yiyi?

So even though it felt somewhat unfair to Yiyi, Lu Ye still dared not let her go.

It's just the cultivation path of the Soul Race. When he himself becomes stronger in the future, visiting the Soul Race ancestral land personally to find the right path for Yiyi shouldn't be a problem.

Yiyi puffed up her cheeks, looking at him, angrily: "I just want to go!"

"Hmph... You've turned against me!" Lu Ye turned to Amber: "Watch her, don't let her go anywhere!"

As long as Amber didn't leave Three Worlds Island, Yiyi couldn't leave either.

Amber stood aside with its neck shrunk, turning its gaze away.

You two quarrel, don't drag me into this; I'm just a tiger, I'm innocent...

"You... you... you're being dictatorial!" Yiyi was aggrieved, terribly so.

Lu Ye turned away, giving her the back of his head, dictatorial indeed, but just this once!

Not daring to look at Yiyi's expression, Lu Ye went to find Second Senior Sister and Shui Yuan.

There wasn't much that Lih Shang needed to prepare; a moment later, Lih Shang entered Lu Ye's Divine Sea, and Lu Ye summoned his starboat, flying away.

Lu Ye had no idea how to reach the Soul Race ancestral land, but Lih Shang knew. After some exchange, Lu Ye took out the star map on the starboat and confirmed the direction.

To get to the Soul Race ancestral land, he first needed to go through the Insect Path and enter a star system called Cangyue.

About the foundation of the Cangyue Galaxy, Lu Ye didn't know much, having never interacted with it. But now, he was just a Constellation, so passing through Cangyue Galaxy wouldn't be an issue.

Even if it weren't for needing to pass through the Insect Path guarded by the Moon Jade, Lu Ye wouldn't have needed to notify anyone upon entering the Cangyue Galaxy.

A Constellation coming wouldn't concern Cangyue, as long as Lu Ye didn't cause any disturbance in the Cangyue Galaxy.

Exiting the All Phenomena Ocean, he flew straight towards the Insect Path connecting to the Cangyue Galaxy, but the Insect Path of the Cangyue Galaxy was far from the All Phenomena Ocean, located rather remotely on this side of the All Phenomena Galaxy, requiring some time.

The journey was relatively peaceful.

Lu Ye's speed wasn't fast. Sitting on the starboat, he furrowed his brow, sighing continuously, like a parent worried about their disobedient child.

"Why bother? You know you can't stop her," Lih Shang's voice sounded.

Lu Ye was curious: "What exactly did you say to her? She rarely insists on something like this." She even insisted on her original idea despite knowing it would upset him.

Lih Shang replied, "You don't know the source of her insistence?"

"Should I know?"

Lih Shang chuckled: "I persuaded her to accompany me to the ancestral land, but she never agreed until one day she suddenly asked me about the Soul Possession Technique, then decided to go to the ancestral land with me. So her reason for going is not to become stronger but to, one day, become someone who can help you."

Lu Ye fell silent.

After a long time, he spoke, "If she goes with you to the Soul Race ancestral land, can you ensure she won't be bullied by your clansmen? And that Amber won't be coveted by some of your clan members?"

Lih Shang said, "There's competition everywhere and the Soul Race ancestral land is no exception. I can't promise smooth sailing for her there, but I can ensure all her treatment will be fair and just. As for Amber... our Soul Race has always regarded the White Tiger clan as Sacred Beasts. If anyone dares have ill intentions, they would be against the whole clan."

Lih Shang spoke sincerely, and from years of interaction, Lu Ye knew her character well enough to trust she wouldn't lie.

But some things he could never fully trust.

Lih Shang said, "You expect Yiyi to grow without worries or pressure, but that's unrealistic. Think about your own experience. You now have strength beyond a Constellation, how many hardships and adversities did you go through in the process?"

Precisely because he had been through it, he didn't want his loved ones to endure the same...

In silence, Lu Ye suddenly turned, looking back, his eyes cold with killing intent: "Courting death!"

The All Phenomena Ocean was never a peaceful place. Apart from the spaces near the domain of each home galaxy, conflicts and battles could erupt anywhere else. Lu Ye had already experienced this when he first came to the All Phenomena Ocean.

In this world, there are always some people who like to gain without working for it. They often roam in groups throughout the All Phenomena Galaxy, searching for suitable targets to strike and obtaining their cultivation resources by plundering from others.

However, those who do this generally do not have a reputable background. If they came from a powerful faction, that faction would likely have its own Spirit Island, so there would be no need to engage in such activities.

Yiyi hadn't been in the All Phenomena Ocean for very long, but she had already interacted with Little Dumb and Little Crooked several times, learning from them about the chaos of the All Phenomena Ocean.

But she truly did not expect that on her very first solo venture, she would actually run into such a situation.

She was dressed in white, her petite figure sitting atop Amber, looking at the three figures closing in on her.

Two men and one woman, none with high cultivation. Judging by the spirit force emanating from them, the woman seemed to be at the Constellation Late Stage, while the two men were only at the Constellation Mid-Stage.

The man on the left had a ferocious expression: "Kid, if you want to live, hand over the storage rings obediently!" As he spoke, he eyed the rings on Yiyi's hand.

Yiyi glanced at him, thinking that this guy was really ugly, with several scars crisscrossing over his face.

Though they looked fierce and malicious, Yiyi wasn't worried at all, because she knew someone wouldn't let her be bullied.

Seeing her indifferent expression, the man became enraged, "Kid, didn't you hear me talking to you?"

The man on the right chuckled, "Maybe she's scared stupid?"

The woman, with the highest cultivation, spoke coldly, "Enough talking, let's get this done! Just don't harm her mount."

This White Tiger looked extraordinary and could potentially fetch a good price.

With her words, the two Constellation Mid-Stage men naturally followed orders. One recklessly charged towards Yiyi, while the other gathered spirit force around him, casting a magic and spells light that shot towards Yiyi. This spell wasn't very lethal, as they feared harming Amber, it was primarily meant to restrain.

If Yiyi were to be restrained, she would be as good as the meat on a chopping block.

In the face of such an assault, Yiyi appeared unaware, sitting still on Amber's back, not moving an inch, and even Amber remained unresponsive.

The Constellation Late Stage woman observed this, concluding that this little girl probably hadn't seen much of the world's dangers; otherwise, how could an Early Stage Constellation venture alone into such a place with such slow reactions...

Suddenly, the woman felt a jolt in her heart as a strong, fierce, and domineering aura rapidly approached from afar. She quickly turned her head and barely caught a glimpse of a blood light that suddenly stopped in front of the young girl riding the White Tiger.

The restraining spell cast towards Yiyi shattered as the blood light collided with it, followed by a flash of a blade from within the light.

The Constellation Mid-Stage man who had just rushed towards Yiyi suddenly froze in place, maintaining his attacking posture, unmoving.

In a moment of silence, the blood light erupted, and within the thick blood light, a figure twisted into view as though a supreme demon god had descended.

Even though the aura emanating from the blood light was also at the Constellation Late Stage, the woman suddenly felt her courage fail her; her heart and spirit trembled!

Unbelievable that a Constellation Late Stage could unleash such terrifying power!

"What are you all doing!" came a voice from within the blood light, cold as ice, causing the woman and her other companion to involuntarily shudder.

Only then did they fearfully realize that their companion, who had previously charged the young girl, was lifeless, and a head, accompanied by a spout of blood, soared skyward.

They hadn't even clearly seen how their companion died.

No match for this! The woman at Constellation Late Stage felt an unprecedentedly strong danger and tried to flee without a second thought.

But before she could make any move, another flash of the blade appeared from the blood light. Her face changed drastically as she vaguely heard a beast's roar in her ears, and a gaping maw with fangs seemed to appear, swallowing her whole, followed by her consciousness fading.

Along with her, the Constellation Mid-Stage who had just used the restraining magic was also swallowed.

Though their cultivation was somewhat mediocre, their background was evidently weak with little foundation. To deal with such people, the current Lu Ye didn't need to exert much effort.

Inside the twisting silhouette wrapped in the blood light, Yiyi, riding on Amber, had her eyes curved into crescent moons, her previous slight grievances disappearing like smoke.

She knew that Lu Ye would come to rescue her.

She also understood that Lu Ye had been aware of her following him all along, otherwise, he wouldn't have moved so slowly!

What is this? He was so firm in not letting her go to the Soul Race ancestral land, yet his actions were so hesitant, giving her the possibility to follow.

Yiyi suddenly realized, Lu Ye's feelings were also very conflicted.

The dense blood light suddenly receded as Lu Ye sheathed his knife, turned around, and looked solemnly at Yiyi.

Previously unafraid, calm as ever when waylaid, Yiyi's face suddenly crumbled the instant Lu Ye looked over. She flew from Amber's back, weeping and flinging her arms around Lu Ye, choked with sobs, "Wuwuwu, I was so scared!"

Chapter 1652: Entering Cangyue

Lu Ye swallowed back the reprimanding words that were about to escape his lips. Holding the warm, soft Yiyi in his arms, he felt her lingering fear and horror, and quickly patted her shoulder gently: "Don't be afraid, don't be afraid, it's okay now."

"Wuwuwu, that was so scary." Yiyi's voice was tinged with more sobs, her body trembling even more, yet, not a single tear was shed.

After comforting her for quite a while, Yiyi's mood gradually calmed down. Nearby, Amber was licking its paws, its tiger-like eyes full of speechlessness.

Still nestled in Lu Ye's embrace, Yiyi was pulled forward by her shoulders and placed in front of him with a serious expression on his face: "Now you see how dangerous it is out there, right!"

Yiyi wiped away nonexistent tears from the corners of her eyes, nodding like a little chick pecking at rice, feeling wronged: "I know!"

Lu Ye was just about to say, since you know, then obediently go back! After all, they hadn't been away from the All Phenomena Ocean for long, and it wouldn't take more than a few days to send Yiyi back.

But before he could open his mouth, Yiyi interjected: "Don't worry, Lu Ye, I'll definitely stay close to you!"

Saying this, she happily wrapped herself around Lu Ye's arm, showing no signs of leaving his side.

Lu Ye's eyelid twitched... something felt a little off!

He had long known Yiyi was following him, otherwise, he wouldn't be moving so slowly. If he really wanted to shake her off, he could simply speed up a little, and Amber wouldn't be able to keep up with him.

He thought that after experiencing this danger, Yiyi would change her mind, but unexpectedly, that wasn't the case at all.

However... Lu Ye gave her a surprised look and extracted his arm from her grasp: "You've grown up, don't act like a child!"

"I like it!" Yiyi huffed and grabbed Lu Ye's arm again.

Lu Ye felt helpless.

Feeling his mood, Yiyi's eyes turned into crescent moons.

In this situation, trying to send Yiyi back seemed impossible. Even if he did successfully leave her behind, it would only expose her to unnecessary risk. If they encountered a situation like before again, who could guarantee Yiyi would come through it safely?

With no other choice, Lu Ye once again summoned his starboat and took Yiyi aboard.

Yiyi cheered exuberantly, unable to contain herself as she leaped up, cupping Lu Ye's face and planting a big kiss on his cheek: "I knew Lu Ye is the best!"

Lu Ye touched the spot where she kissed and was momentarily stunned before his face turned serious: "Don't be too happy too soon. You're coming along on this journey, but whether you can enter the Soul Race ancestral land will be decided later!"

If possible, he wanted to visit the Soul Race ancestral land himself, but according to Lih Shang, the place was quite special, allowing only Soul Race members to enter. Beings like Lu Ye, with a flesh and blood body, could not enter at all.

That's one of the reasons why the Soul Race ancestral land had remained unscathed throughout the ages.

No flesh and blood could enter, making the Soul Race ancestral land nearly impregnable. Moreover, the Soul Race had no shortage of strong warriors, their foundation was strong enough to rival any top-level domain.

Currently, the only option was to keep Yiyi by his side and reassess the situation later.

Yiyi seemed indifferent, having already detected the contradiction in Lu Ye's words. By the time they reached the Soul Race ancestral land, if she snuck inside, how could Lu Ye possibly pull her out?

On the starboat, Lu Ye sat cross-legged, with Yiyi leaning against him.

Once they reached the Soul Race ancestral land and parted ways, who knew when they'd meet again, so Yiyi cherished these rare moments immensely.

Half a month later, the entrance to an Insect Path appeared in the distance, adjacent to it was a floating land with several palace-like structures built on it.

This seemed to be the post crafted by the cultivators of the Cangyue Galaxy.

A Moon Jade cultivator must be stationed here, and cultivators entering and exiting this Insect Path had to undergo inspections, on both sides.

So to enter the Cangyue Galaxy, one needed the approval of the stationed Moon Jade cultivators here. Usually, it wasn't a problem as Cangyue Galaxy's cultivators would use other people's Insect Paths to enter other star systems. If everyone blocked outsiders from entering through their paths, interactions between star systems would be impossible.

This wasn't like when Lu Ye led the fleet from the Three Worlds and four galaxies, that was an enormous scale; passing through with just a few Constellation cultivators was generally no issue.

Arriving at the floating land, Lu Ye retracted the spirit ark.

Instantly, a mid-stage Constellation cultivator, a man from the Cangyue Galaxy, sensed the disturbance and came out from one of the palaces to greet them.

The stationed Moon Jade experts likely weren't many, but there needed to be others around to handle minor tasks. Usually, Constellation cultivators assigned to assist the home galaxy's Moon Jade in such locations had a bit of a background, because working in this kind of place not only offered generous monthly pay but also opportunities to earn some perks.

This mid-stage Constellation cultivator was portly, with big ears, and looked incredibly endearing.

Lu Ye immediately thought of Pang Dahai from Bingzhou. Generally speaking, people like this are not hard to approach, as long as the benefits are in place!

The plump cultivator stepped forward and clasped his hands in salute: "Greetings Fellow Daoist. I wonder why you've come here today?"

Lu Ye returned the salute and said, "I wish to borrow your Star System's Insect Path. Please grant me passage!"

The plump cultivator narrowed his eyes, "Borrowing the path... it's quite common, but I must ask for Fellow Daoist's understanding. We need to do some registration here, so I must inquire about a few matters!"

As he said this, he directly took out a jade slip, ready to register.

"Please go ahead, Fellow Daoist!" Lu Ye knew this was standard procedure. Even if Cangyue didn't care about a Constellation stage cultivator entering, some things still needed to be checked.

The plump cultivator immediately asked Lu Ye some questions, such as his origin, where he currently resided in the All Phenomena Ocean, and his purpose for entering the Cangyue Galaxy.

Lu Ye answered each question. His origin was hard to verify, so he announced himself as Lu Yiye of Unparalleled, and the plump cultivator could only record it. As for his purpose, Lu Ye stated it was simply to borrow the path and pass through the Cangyue Galaxy to reach another star system.

These matters also couldn't be thoroughly investigated, as Cangyue wouldn't assign someone to follow Lu Ye until he left.

So the registration here was merely a formality, which was also due to Lu Ye's cultivation level not being high. If it were Moon Jade or Sun Blaze, the treatment would be different.

The real main issue came next. The plump cultivator smiled at Lu Ye, "Fellow Daoist should know the rules, two people and one beast, so..." he said, rubbing his fingers.

Lu Ye asked, "How much is the fee?"

The plump cultivator replied, "It's calculated per head, one thousand spirit jade per person!"

A bit expensive!

But it's understandable because when a cultivator enters another's star system, they can gather spirit jade there. If the home galaxy's spirit jade is being taken away, it's natural to charge a fee.

Although Lu Ye didn't have much spirit jade on hand, he still had one or two million, so spending three thousand spirit jade was an easy decision.

Indeed, such chubby fellows are generally quite greedy. As long as the spirit jade is in place, anything can be discussed. But if it's not, who knows what kind of trouble you'd face.

After collecting the spirit jade, the plump cultivator promptly took out a Token: "Fellow Daoist, just take this in. However, I must remind you of the rules: within the Cangyue Galaxy, you must not gather spirit jade!"

Though that's what was said, if Lu Ye really did gather it without being caught, no one would know. So most cultivators entering another's star system wouldn't take these reminders too seriously.

"Is that all?" Lu Ye took the Token, initially thinking he might have to meet with the stationed Moon Jade, but unexpectedly, a single Constellation stage cultivator handled it, and he didn't even enter their main hall.

"It wasn't a troublesome matter anyway." The plump cultivator chuckled and saluted again, "I wish Fellow Daoist a smooth journey!"

"Thank you!" Lu Ye expressed his gratitude and proceeded towards the Insect Path with Amber and Yiyi.

Watching Lu Ye depart, the plump cultivator's grin widened. He was truly pleased to have pocketed three thousand spirit jade! Even if he had to share some with a few other brothers, each would still receive several hundred. Such good fortune of having spirit jade sent to your door can only happen here; it doesn't exist elsewhere.

Soon, Lu Ye and his companions arrived at the Insect Path. Sensing it, this path was quite stable, meaning traveling through it wouldn't have any aftereffects.

This reminded Lu Ye of the Insect Path by Jade Conch. It could be confirmed that path connected to the All Phenomena Galaxy, but because it had only recently emerged, it hadn't yet stabilized. Back then, without the help of the Void Beast's core, he and Tang Jun would never have made it through.

Who knows how long it would take for that path to stabilize? Once it does, cultivators from Jade Conch would find it much easier to travel to the All Phenomena Galaxy, no longer needing to struggle for years.

Even the four galaxies could benefit. Taking the Insect Path from Jade Conch into the All Phenomena Galaxy would be much preferable compared to traveling through Mist Dragon and borrowing Changyun's path, saving a lot of time alone.

However, not every Insect Path stabilizes. Some remain chaotic and unusable, some even collapse again. So whether Jade Conch's path can be used, or when it can be used, depends entirely on fate, beyond human control.

Passing through the Insect Path, they reached the Cangyue Galaxy, where there was also a piece of floating land.

Upon their appearance, cultivators came to greet them and checked the Token Lu Ye had spent three thousand spirit jade on. Once confirmed, they were directly allowed through.

Deploying the starboat and guided by Lih Shang, Lu Ye headed in a certain direction.

How to reach the Soul Race ancestral land remained a mystery to Lu Ye since Lih Shang hadn't explained in detail, only telling him he would know when the time came.

Moreover, the route given by Lih Shang only led to the Cangyue Galaxy, prompting Lu Ye to wonder if the Soul Race ancestral land was actually in the Cangyue Galaxy?

But if that were the case, why hadn't the Cangyue Galaxy discovered it?

Despite pondering it over and over, he couldn't figure it out and decided to confirm the specifics when the time came.

Chapter 1653 Beyond Comprehension

Two full months after entering the Cangyue Galaxy, Lu Ye finally arrived at a location under Lih Shang's guidance.

This place was visibly desolate, devoid of any domain nearby, and cultivators were hardly seen.

Once there, Lih Shang let Lu Ye find a dead star, and the starboat sailed into it.

The Soul Race ancestral land is really in the Cangyue Galaxy? Lu Ye was somewhat surprised, as he knew that, until now, no one had any idea of the specific location of the Soul Race ancestral land.

Unexpectedly, this unknown secret was so openly revealed to him.

Lu Ye was quite curious, eager to know what the Soul Race ancestral land was like.

Seemingly recognizing the thoughts in Lu Ye's heart, Lih Shang explained with a smile, "The ancestral land is not here."

"Not here?" Lu Ye was taken aback. If it's not here, then why come here?

Lih Shang explained, "The ancestral land floats outside the stellar space, you might say it's everywhere, yet not in any place. Therefore, no one has truly discovered the ancestral land yet."

This statement confused Lu Ye, and after a brief contemplation, he spoke, "A secret realm?"

Only a secret realm would have such peculiar characteristics. But to say it's everywhere seemed a bit exaggerated; the vastness of stellar space is limitless, and no secret realm could encompass the entire stellar space.

However, it could be confirmed that the Soul Race ancestral land is a separate space floating outside the stellar space, hence no one has truly discovered it.

"It's similar, but not entirely." While speaking, Lih Shang raised her hand, slowly gathering a small point of light, which quickly transformed into a pristine white bead.

Lu Ye stared at the bead, "Is this the soul pearl?"

Star beasts have crystal cores, the Demon Race has demonic pills, and the Soul Race has similar items, which are the soul pearls!

Lu Ye had only heard about these; even though he had known Lih Shang for quite some time and experienced many crises together, he had never seen her soul pearl.

This item is indeed a treasure. The Soul Race is coveted by some in stellar space due to two reasons: firstly, their unique Soul Possession power, which greatly enhances the power of those possessed, and secondly, the soul pearls.

The soul pearl contains extraordinarily pure psyche force, and if a cultivator can refine it, it greatly benefits the psyche enhancement.

In essence, Lih Shang's soul pearl is countless times superior to the supreme-grade psyche refinement pill.

If it weren't for her cultivation being only at the Constellation Late Stage, and the soul pearl's effects not being substantial for Sun Blaze, the Sun Blaze cultivator who captured her back then might have wanted to kill her for the pearl.

Yiyi could also be considered part of the Soul Race, but she hasn't exhibited Soul Possession Technique simply because she hasn't condensed her own soul pearl.

The Soul Race has its special method of cultivation; only through such distinctive cultivation can the soul pearl be condensed, allowing mastery of various Soul Race secret techniques.

Understanding this, Yiyi wished to follow Lih Shang to the Soul Race ancestral land.

Lih Shang never showed her soul pearl to Lu Ye before. Taking it out now indicates she's planning something major.

"Although the ancestral land is everywhere, it has hidden connections with every corner of stellar space. To deepen these connections and open the channel to the ancestral land, one must rely on the soul pearl!"

Lu Ye was astonished, "Are you saying, with this soul pearl, the Soul Race can return to the ancestral land from anywhere in this stellar space?"

"That's right!"

Lu Ye was astounded!

Earlier, when he heard Lih Shang say the ancestral land was everywhere, he didn't feel much and thought it was an exaggerated statement. But looking at it now, it's not an exaggeration at all. The Soul Race ancestral land really is everywhere; just normal people can't see it or perceive it.

This is unrelated to the cultivation level.

What kind of place is the Soul Race ancestral land?

Even the Reincarnation Tree can only scatter doppelgangers to envelop the stellar space within its perception. And even then, this perception isn't comprehensive; only where doppelgangers are located or nearby domains can be sensed by the Reincarnation Tree. Where there are no doppelgangers, it can't perceive.

If the Soul Race ancestral land truly is everywhere, this aspect far surpasses the capabilities of the Reincarnation Tree.

Subsequently, Lu Ye recalled another question, "Since the soul pearl can deepen that connection and return to the ancestral land, why did you bring me here?"

Theoretically, in the All Phenomena Ocean, Lih Shang could have returned. There was no need to waste time traveling.

Lih Shang smiled, "Although having a soul pearl allows the Soul Race to sense the ancestral land, to open the channel to the ancestral land isn't possible from just any location; it requires a special place, like here!"

Lu Ye then understood why she came to this place.

Taking this into account, the Soul Race ancestral land is not within the Cangyue Galaxy, but this location is unique, able to open a passage to the Soul Race ancestral land.

"I'm not strong enough, and it might take some time to communicate with the ancestral land's will. During this period, I'll need you to be my protector." Lih Shang said.

Lu Ye nodded, "Don't worry!"

Lih Shang immediately sat cross-legged, closed her eyes, and her Soul Power began to fluctuate, appearing to use her soul pearl to communicate with the ancestral land.

Lu Ye suddenly furrowed his brows and transmitted audio, "Yiyi, did Lih Shang just mention the ancestral land's will?"

He hadn't paid attention earlier, but now he suddenly realized.

The Soul Race ancestral land has a will!

This is quite extraordinary. The Nine Provinces also has a will, but that's Number Nine's will. Many domains have their own Heaven and Earth's Will, but that kind of will doesn't exist clearly; it's completely different from Number Nine.

I wonder what kind of existence the will of the Soul Race ancestral land is. If it's the same as Number Nine, that would be incredible.

"Really?" Yiyi didn't seem to care much and looked pitifully at Lu Ye: "Lu Ye, can't I really go to the Soul Race ancestral land with Sister Lih Shang?"

"No, when Lih Shang leaves, you go with me!"

Yiyi pouted silently, but her eyes were darting around mischievously, plotting some unknown trick.

Looking around at the surroundings, this place was remote, and it was unlikely that any cultivators would come to disturb them, but it's always good to be cautious.

After some thought, Lu Ye snapped his fingers, and immediately three streaks of blood light shot out, transforming into three figures in an instant.

Yiyi stared and was surprised because these three figures were all Lu Ye! And in her perception, she couldn't tell any difference; even their auras were identical to Lu Ye's.

These three figures were naturally manifestations of three drops of Treasure Blood.

In the past two months, besides chatting with Yiyi while traveling, Lu Ye had been diligently refining his Treasure Blood.

Other than the initial drop of Treasure Blood that was born naturally after perfecting his physique, Lu Ye had refined two more drops in these two months.

It's not that he's lazy, it's just that refining Treasure Blood is incredibly difficult, even with his profound foundation.

Now, he only has these three drops of Treasure Blood.

"Lu Ye, there are so many of you!" Yiyi exclaimed excitedly, grabbing onto Lu Ye's arm.

She knew Lu Ye had doppelgangers, but she had never seen so many.

"Impressive, huh?" Lu Ye said proudly.

Yiyi nodded enthusiastically like a pecking chicken. She wished to learn this magical technique! But unfortunately, she could tell at a glance that these doppelgangers were related to the cultivator's Essence Blood, which she probably couldn't learn.

Soon, under Lu Ye's direction, the three doppelgangers dispersed in different directions for vigilance.

Watching the three doppelgangers leave, Yiyi tilted her head and whimsically said, "Lu Ye, next time you leave, leave one behind for me to play with."

Lu Ye chuckled: "It's a doppelganger, not a pet! Besides, the doppelganger can't be too far from me; otherwise, it's useless."

Concerning the distance limitation with the original body, the Treasure Blood Avatar is significantly different from the Talent Tree Avatar. Whether this would improve with the cultivation level is unknown.

Yiyi instantly showed a disappointed look, suddenly realizing the doppelganger wasn't that impressive.

The three doppelgangers guarded three directions, and if anyone approached, Lu Ye would know in advance.

Fortunately, this place was indeed desolate; not a single shadow of a cultivator, not even a star beast, was seen.

Lih Shang remained seated, using her soul bead to communicate with the ancestral land's will, her Soul Power fluctuating unpredictably.

After a good half-day, some changes suddenly occurred on her side.

As Lu Ye turned to look, he saw the Void in front of Lih Shang ripple like a water surface, then the space blurred and distorted. In an instant, that area transformed into a mist-like existence.

The mist continued to twist, and then multicolored lights refracted from within. Moments later, a blooming lotus flower appeared in Lu Ye's sight.

The lotus seemed like a real object, radiating supreme splendor, exquisitely beautiful. As it appeared, Lu Ye even felt an instinctive yearning from his psyche, similar to smelling meat when hungry. He immediately understood that this lotus-like existence had a tremendous effect on the growth of the psyche.

The lotus bloomed, with the stamens surrounded by the initial mist, leading to an unknown destination.

Suppressing his instinctive craving, Lu Ye carefully sensed, faintly detecting the power of the Void coursing through the stamens.

It felt somewhat similar to his experience in the Insect Path.

Unavoidably moved, though the lotus looked peculiar, in essence, it was an Insect Path!

An Insect Path leading to the Soul Race ancestral land!

What is this Soul Race ancestral land, possessing such miraculous power!

It's known that Insect Paths are typically natural occurrences. Even the Reincarnation Tree cannot create an Insect Path from nothing, only utilizing the connection between the original body and avatars to travel. Yet Lih Shang merely communicated with the Soul Race ancestral land, and a small Insect Path appeared.

It's somewhat beyond comprehension!

Almost simultaneously with Lu Ye's shock, Yiyi, who had quietly moved away from his side, suddenly darted towards the lotus.

But just as she moved, a large hand clasped her by the nape.

Yiyi turned, looking at Lu Ye behind her, struggling animatedly: "Lu Ye, let me go!"

"Don't even think about it!" Lu Ye snorted.

Chapter 1654 Soul Race Ancestral Land

After many years of being together, Lu Ye just needed to see Yiyi's eyes turn to know what mischief she was up to!

He hadn't decided whether to let Yiyi go with Lih Shang to the Soul Race ancestral land, so he wouldn't just let her go in like that.

However, just as he grabbed Yiyi, the sound of a tiger's roar came from the front, and when Lu Ye looked up, he was dumbfounded.

Because Amber was unexpectedly standing on the lotus flower!

There's a traitor in the midst!

Lu Ye calculated everything, yet didn't expect Amber would backstab him; this was clearly influenced by Yiyi's urging, otherwise, Amber wouldn't have done this.

He immediately understood that Yiyi's moves were just a distraction; if successful, that was great, but if not, she could draw his attention away regardless.

This way, Amber could act with ease.

Yiyi was Amber's transformed minion spirit, if Amber entered the Soul Race ancestral land, could Lu Ye possibly prevent Yiyi from going in with her?

"Well done, Amber!" Yiyi, hanging in Lu Ye's hands, was no longer annoyed.

"Come out!" Lu Ye glared at Amber over there.

The once imposing Amber immediately hung her head, averting her gaze guiltily.

"Don't come out!" Yiyi yelled to Amber, "Don't forget what I told you before!"

Lu Ye had no clue what Yiyi had told Amber, but upon hearing her command, Amber lifted her head, and her previously dodgy gaze became resolute.

Indeed, their strength was getting further behind Lu Ye, and the only way to grow strong was entering the Soul Race ancestral land! This was their only and best chance; otherwise, relying solely on cultivation in All Phenomena Ocean, they could never comprehend the mysteries of the Soul Race.

Lu Ye sighed, the kids were growing up and not easy to discipline!

Beside him, Lih Shang watched Amber with sparkling eyes, feeling exuberant.

Amber stepping onto the lotus flower didn't ring alarms for Lu Ye at all, but Lih Shang knew this was the best evidence for Amber having Sacred Beast bloodline.

The Soul Race ancestral land could not allow the flesh to enter, only the Sacred Beast was an exception!

If Amber didn't have the Sacred Beast bloodline, she couldn't even touch the lotus, let alone step on it.

At this moment, Amber standing on the lotus flower undoubtedly confirmed Lih Shang's previous insight, Amber was indeed the Soul Race Sacred Beast!

Without confirmation before was one thing, but now having confirmed, Lih Shang felt that Amber must lead Yiyi into the Soul Race ancestral land at all costs, otherwise it was not only their loss but also the Soul Race's loss!

Only Lu Ye's attitude... Lih Shang turned to look at Lu Ye, just ready to persuade a bit, when Lu Ye suddenly took a step forward, declaring, "If you don't come out, I'll catch you out!"

As soon as the words fell, Lu Ye was already standing on the lotus flower, reaching out to grab Amber's neck!

Lih Shang's eyes widened suddenly!

What... is going on here?

Amber having Sacred Beast bloodline, standing on the lotus flower was understandable, but how could Lu Ye as well? It couldn't be presumed that Lu Ye also possessed Sacred Beast bloodline?

At this moment, on the lotus flower, Lu Ye held Yiyi in one hand and Amber in the other; one spirit and one tiger exchanged looks, feeling quite helpless.

Lu Ye paused for a moment.

Because as he set foot upon this peculiar lotus flower, his Talent Tree within him suddenly had some odd reactions, not the kind needed for burning when exterior forces intruded, but a sensation unlike anything he'd experienced before — as if his Talent Tree within and the lotus flower beneath had developed a strange sort of resonance.

Yet, when he concentrated on feeling it, there seemed to be no activity at all.

Before he could dwell too much, the lotus flower gradually folded shut.

Lu Ye was astonished, just preparing to move away, but to his shock found that as the lotus flower closed, his body seemed pinned to the petals, completely immobile.

Lih Shang hurried over, speaking reassuringly, "The passage to the ancestral land can't remain open for long, it's closing now, Fellow Daoist, don't panic!"

Still looking at Lu Ye in disbelief, she couldn't fathom what was happening.

The ancestral land... didn't seem to exclude Lu Ye at all!

Lu Ye wasn't particularly flustered, merely found the occurrence rather uncanny; originally pondering whether allowing Yiyi into the Soul Race ancestral land was the right call.

But now, there was no other choice but to enter, not only Yiyi but also himself needed to go.

Oh well, since the thought had already crossed his mind before, personally visiting the Soul Race ancestral land is ideal.

He promptly constructed Void Spirit Runes, in the next instant, three blood lights flashed, retrieving the scattered three doppelgangers, merging them as three drops of treasure blood into Lu Ye's body.

The lotus flower completely shut, vanishing without a trace, leaving no signs of the Insect Path.

Encased within the lotus, Lu Ye's limbs regained freedom, releasing Amber and Yiyi from his grasp, giving Amber's head a gentle knock.

Amber looked aggrieved, Yiyi was the mastermind, it was merely an accomplice, why should it be the one to take a hit?

Hardly any odd sensations, as Lu Ye had just finished dealing with Amber, the encasing lotus flower suddenly shattered.

At that instant, Lu Ye couldn't help but feel a surge of vigor, with an immensely comforting sensation emanating from his psyche, akin to a fish entering water or a bird resting in its nest.

Glancing around, Lu Ye discovered he stood within a Void, witnessing enormous lotus flowers wherever his sight reached.

The lotus shape that appeared in the ancestral land during the previous communication with Lih Shang looks similar, but the scale is entirely different.

There are lotuses in red, green, pink, yellow, purple... as well as dual-colored, tri-colored, up to five-colored ones...

The entire world is a riot of colors, spectacular to the extreme.

Is this the Soul Race's ancestral land? Lu Ye found it fascinating.

He had traveled far and wide, and just in terms of different Star Systems, he had been to several, witnessing various grand marvels in stellar space, but nowhere else is as unique as the Soul Race's ancestral land.

Though within the Void, Lu Ye confirmed this wasn't ordinary stellar space, because a strange energy lingered here, an energy that was tremendously beneficial to the psyche. In other words, cultivating in such a place offered no help for cultivation improvement, but for enhancing the psyche it was unimaginably advantageous.

"Wow!" Yiyi was also dazzled, although Lih Shang had told her many stories about the Soul Race's ancestral land, hearing was one thing, seeing it in person revealed that this peculiar world was even more beautiful than Lih Shang had said.

She instantly fell in love with this place, particularly the environment, which gave her an exceedingly comfortable feeling, even stronger than what Lu Ye felt.

Even Amber showed a captivated expression.

Lu Ye suddenly turned his head, looking at Lih Shang: "What is it?"

Lih Shang, at the moment, was looking at him with a strange gaze, filled with incredulity.

"Fellow Daoist, you... how can you enter?" Lih Shang, filled with confusion, was unable to find the right words.

"Hmm?" Lu Ye frowned.

Lih Shang said, "In the Soul Race's ancestral land, flesh bodies aren't allowed entry; apart from Sacred Beasts, no flesh-borne creatures have entered since ancient times. So... how could you enter?"

Lu Ye was just about to say that the lotus enveloped him and brought him in, but thinking again, if flesh bodies truly couldn't enter, then he shouldn't have been able to come in.

Suddenly, he recalled that when he stepped onto the lotus, his internal Talent Tree had some unusual reactions, faintly resonating with the lotus, but upon investigation, he found nothing.

Could it be that his entry here had something to do with the Talent Tree?

But what connection could the Talent Tree have with this place?

"I don't know." Lu Ye shook his head.

Lih Shang didn't expect Lu Ye to have an answer either, contemplating for a while, she said, "It seems that it's the will of the ancestral land allowing you to enter, hence the passage."

The prohibition of flesh bodies was not a restriction of this realm, but rather the will of the ancestral land in control. If the will of the ancestral land wished for Lu Ye to enter, there naturally was no issue.

But... what was special about Lu Ye that made the will of the ancestral land treat him this way?

Upon careful thought, Lih Shang realized that Lu Ye indeed seemed quite special, at least before meeting Lu Ye, she never thought a Constellation cultivator could possess such strength.

Perhaps... this is why the will of the ancestral land favored him?

Unable to figure it out, it was impossible to explore further.

Pressing down her doubts for the moment, Lih Shang said, "Follow me, we need to meet the Overseer Elder."

Regardless, having brought back a Sacred Beast this time, along with Lu Ye, a human race member, she needed to check in with the Overseer Elder.

Moreover, arrangements needed to be made for those from Xianyuan City, this was not a decision she, as a Constellation, could make alone.

Unexpectedly, just as she finished speaking, a strong aura rapidly approached from a distance.

Lih Shang hurriedly turned her head to look.

Lu Ye also became alert, as the newcomer was obviously a Sun Blaze.

Almost the moment he sensed the aura, a gleam appeared in Lu Ye's vision, and it quickly came closer, revealing the figure of a young man.

At first glance, the youth seemed not very old, clad in a black robe, but being a Sun Blaze, appearances didn't count for much.

Lih Shang, taken aback, quickly saluted: "Greetings, Clan Leader!"

She was secretly astonished; she had just returned, how could the Clan Leader have come already? Despite being of the Soul Race and having cultivated to Constellation, in truth, she had only seen the Clan Leader twice before; this was the third time!

Since usually, only the Overseer Elder held the position, the Clan Leader seldom showed up.

Clan Leader?

Lu Ye knew that as an outsider in the Soul Race's ancestral land, he certainly had to pay respects to the mighty figures here; he just hadn't expected them to make an appearance before he could do so himself.

Moreover, it was the Clan Leader of the Soul Race who came!

Evidently having detected the disturbances here, thinking carefully, Lu Ye recalled the conversation between Lih Shang and the Reincarnation Tree back then, and thus, concluded that this must be Hun Que.

Lu Ye sensed that this Soul Race Patriarch was stronger than any Sun Blaze he'd ever encountered!

The only one possibly comparable would be Ma Bin; however, Lu Ye didn't have a clear sense of the relative strengths among Sun Blazes at the moment, so an accurate comparison was elusive.

But this Hun Que was undoubtedly far stronger than any of Indeterminate's Sun Blazes!

This must be a top-tier Sun Blaze!

"Greetings, Senior!" Lu Ye respectfully saluted.

Yiyi also joined in saluting beside him, even Amber lowered its head.

Chapter 1655 - No Punishment, Only Reward

In the space of the Soul Race ancestral land, a young man in a black robe, Hun Que, rushed over and immediately spotted Amber. With his experience and knowledge, he naturally recognized that this White Tiger possessed the bloodline of the Sacred Beast.

Under normal circumstances, this would definitely be something to delight him, and it was also a joyful event for the Soul Race.

But at this moment, besides joy, his heart was filled with more suspicion.

Because there was actually a human intruder in the ancestral land!

This had never happened since ancient times.

Even if that was all, the critical point was that the arrival of this human seemed to have touched the will of the ancestral land!

The reason he rushed over was not that he sensed Lu Ye's arrival, but because he received instructions from the will of the ancestral land, which is why he came so quickly.

Carefully observing the newcomer, his cultivation was not high, only at the level of the Constellation, but being able to touch the will of the ancestral land was not something that could be measured simply by the level of cultivation.

The origins of the ancestral land were unknown to ordinary members like Lih Shang, but Hun Que, being the Soul Race Patriarch, could not remain ignorant. It was precisely because he knew that he dared not show the slightest disrespect.

At this moment, Lih Shang was looking at Hun Que with fear and trepidation, because she had sneaked out of the Soul Race ancestral land earlier, which was a violation of the clan's precepts, and now she was sure to be punished upon her return.

She thought she would just meet the Overseer Elder and at worst be confined for a period, but who would have thought the Clan Leader personally showed up...

If the Clan Leader found out about her sneaking out, it would be a major trouble.

The Overseer Elder might spare her, but the Clan Leader definitely would not!

Feeling uneasy, Lih Shang quickly spoke up, "Clan Leader, I discovered a bloodline of the Sacred Beast outside, but I wasn't sure, so I brought it back for you to see."

While speaking, Lih Shang couldn't help but feel puzzled, because after the Clan Leader arrived, he seemed to focus more on Lu Ye rather than Amber!

Something seemed off.

After she finished speaking, Hun Que finally shifted his gaze from Lu Ye and gave Amber a deep look, nodding slightly, "It is indeed a Sacred Beast bloodline!"

Being able to enter the ancestral land already proved this; if it weren't a Sacred Beast bloodline, the will of the ancestral land would never allow passage.

"That's great, I was afraid I was mistaken." Lih Shang was overjoyed, could this be her chance to redeem herself? Although she had sneaked out, bringing back a Sacred Beast bloodline was a great contribution to the ancestral land, she didn't ask for a reward, just not to be punished.

"By the way, Clan Leader, I also found some lost tribe members." Lih Shang quickly added.

"Hmm?" Hun Que showed a puzzled look, lost tribe members?

"Please look, Clan Leader!" Lih Shang hurriedly took out the Million Souls Banner, respectfully handing it to Hun Que, and then briefly explained the events of Xianyuan City.

Hun Que held the Million Souls Banner, listening quietly, his expression calm until Lih Shang finished, understanding the context, and then nodded, "Forsaking their physical bodies, surviving for millennia in spiritual form to resist foreign invaders, such tenacity gives them the qualifications to be included in our Soul Race!"

When he finished speaking, he slightly exerted force, and the Million Souls Banner shattered dramatically. Regarding this soul-capturing artifact, Hun Que clearly held no fondness.

Then, his soul power surged, the shattered Million Souls Banner transformed into a sphere, which he held in his hand and then tossed back to Lih Shang, "Since you brought them back, it will be your responsibility to settle them."

Lih Shang stupidly accepted the sphere, instinctively responding, "Yes!"

But thinking again, her responsibility to settle them? She was merely a minor role in the Soul Race, how could she possibly settle so many tribe members?

While she was feeling troubled, Hun Que sent a stream of Five-Color Light to her, "Go and choose a Lotus Land."

Seeing the Five-Color Light, Lih Shang's expression suddenly brightened with joy, reaching out to grab it, happily saying, "Thank you, Clan Leader!"

Hun Que cast another deep glance at Lu Ye and then departed.

Lu Ye relaxed a bit, having seen many from the Sun Blaze realm, but the pressure this Soul Race Patriarch gave him was rather significant. Fortunately, the other party appeared to be quite reasonable.

However... the situation here seemed somewhat different from what he had anticipated.

Lih Shang had been saying Amber was the Soul Race's Sacred Beast, he originally thought Amber would be worshipped upon arrival, or at least welcomed warmly.

But it turned out to be quite different, though the Clan Leader personally showing up certainly indicated Amber's importance to the Soul Race.

Turning to see Lih Shang nearby, delightfully playing with a Five-Color Command Token, her eyes smiling into half-moons, clearly in high spirits.

"What is that?" Lu Ye asked.

Lih Shang tucked away the Five-Color Token, calling out, "Come with me first, I'll explain on the way."

Lu Ye and Yiyi and Amber were following alongside Lih Shang.

As they traveled along the path, they saw one giant lotus blossom after another, some in full bloom, others still in bud form, each with its own unique posture. Radiance filled the entire Soul Race ancestral land, creating a scene of unparalleled splendor and fantasy.

"These lotuses you see are the Lotus Lands," Lih Shang explained to Lu Ye as she searched around, "The Soul Race ancestral land is a very special place. There is no domain of the outside world here, nor any

other place for habitation, only these Lotus Lands, where our tribespeople reside. That is also our home."

"And the Lotus Lands are divided by grades, which you can tell by the number of colors. From the 1st grade to the 7th grade, the more colors, the higher the grade."

"Generally speaking, those below the Constellation realm live on 1st or 2nd grade Lotus Lands. When one reaches the Constellation realm, they may choose a 3rd grade Lotus Land, and upon reaching Moon Jade, they qualify to choose a 5th grade one. As for those in Sun Blaze, they all reside on 7th grade Lotus Lands!"

While speaking, she waved the Five-Color Command Token in her hand at Lu Ye: "With this, I can choose a masterless five-color Lotus Land!"

She was at the Constellation realm, and theoretically could not choose a five-color Lotus Land, as those were meant for Moon Jade level only. However, with the Five-Color Command Token bestowed by the Clan Leader, it was no issue.

For the Soul Race, a Lotus Land is not merely a place to reside, but also a place for cultivation!

Even though the space within the Soul Race ancestral land is filled everywhere with energy beneficial for the growth of Soul Power, wherever the Lotus Lands are, there is always the most concentrated energy.

Simply put, each Lotus Land is a treasure trove for cultivation, and the higher the grade, the greater the benefits for cultivation.

Hun Que gifted Lih Shang a Five-Color Command Token, how could she not be pleased?

This was not merely a reward but also meant that the Clan Leader didn't mind her sneaking out this time. She no longer worried about being punished.

It seemed that bringing the Sacred Beast back was indeed a great merit; not only unpunished, but rewarded!

However, finding an ideal five-color Lotus Land wasn't easy. Though there were many five-color Lotus Lands within the ancestral land, there were also many of the tribe in Moon Jade. Many five-color Lotus Lands already had owners, so she had to search carefully for an unclaimed one.

However, she was certain to find one, as there were more five-color Lotus Lands in the ancestral land than Moon Jades within the tribe.

Thinking more deeply, the Clan Leader hadn't even mentioned the matter of the Sacred Beast, implying the Sacred Beast was entrusted to her care. Coupled with the clanspeople in Xianyuan City, Lih Shang could soon form her own force.

Within the Soul Race ancestral land, there weren't any major conflicts, but there was competition. Those qualified to form their own forces were all in Moon Jade.

Every so often, the ancestral land would hold some comparative trials, and achieving a good ranking in such trials could bring substantial benefits.

With the Five-Color Token, the Sacred Beast, and the clanspeople from Xianyuan City, Lih Shang already had the capital to form her own force. One could say she had taken a step forward compared to others, with far-reaching implications for her future.

Lu Ye didn't understand the intricacies within; after all, he was new here, knowing little about the Soul Race.

At present, he followed Lih Shang, listening to her explanations while curiously observing his surroundings.

Around them drifted many semi-transparent, cotton-like objects, in considerable numbers. Lu Ye could feel peculiar fluctuations of Soul Power from within those cotton-like forms.

"What are these?" he asked.

Lih Shang glanced at them and said, "These are our tribespeople not yet born. Be careful not to touch them; they are very fragile at this stage."

"You Soul Race are birthed this way?" Lu Ye was astonished.

He had always wondered how the Soul Race reproduced, considering they had no flesh and blood, which would mean lacking the ability to reproduce. Only now did he realize how wondrous the Soul Race birthing process was.

"Mostly birthed this way, but there are exceptions, like the folks of Xianyuan City, and Yiyi!" Lih Shang smiled gently and explained, "The ancestral land is omnipresent. If some special beings in this world perish with their psyche intact, they might be accepted by the ancestral land. Even so, when they are accepted, they are in this state, without memories of their past lives. Typically, those accepted from the outside by the ancestral land have a promising future because those admitted are not ordinary."

"What about you?" Lu Ye asked, curious.

Lih Shang shook her head, "I don't know, no one in the Soul Race knows how exactly they were born. After gaining spiritual intelligence, we've always lived here."

Besides those yet unborn Soul Race, Lu Ye saw many freely living Soul Race individuals.

Compared to the noise and chaos outside, this place was like a paradise.

Many Soul Race individuals gazed from afar at Lu Ye and Amber. They had never seen beings other than the Soul Race and were naturally curious, but only curious...

"How many Moon Jades and Sun Blazes does your Soul Race have?" Lu Ye thought of another question.

This paradise was particularly suitable for the Soul Race to cultivate, what powerful foundation might have been accumulated over countless years?

"As for Moon Jades, there should be two to three thousand," Lih Shang's words startled Lu Ye.

Two to three thousand Moon Jades, what a concept!

Chapter 1656 The Ancestral Land's Will's Directive

The number of Constellations in the Nine Provinces seems to be just this much. But how can Constellations compare to Moon Jade?

Not to mention the Nine Provinces, even those top-level domains couldn't possibly have this many Moon Jades, it's only possible for an entire star system!

"As for Sun Blaze... two or three hundred?" Lih Shang obviously couldn't be certain, as her cultivation was too low and she hadn't been exposed to too much confidential information.

Lu Ye listened numbly.

Two or three hundred Sun Blazes, two or three thousand Moon Jades!

Such a force could undoubtedly be said to be the largest power in stellar space!

The world's understanding of the Soul Race is only superficial, and they have no idea that it is a terrifying giant with enormous volume. Even at the peak of the Nine Provinces, it was impossible to compare with the Soul Race!

If such a force were to break out of the Soul Race ancestral land, who could withstand it? Fortunately, the Soul Race seems to have no intention of dominating stellar space and has remained hidden for so many years, making it difficult for people to see traces of the Soul Race.

However, on second thought, Lu Ye realized that the Soul Race's methods mainly rely on psyche and are relatively singular, making them easy to counter. There are many treasures and methods in this world that can withstand psyche attacks.

So, although the Soul Race is terrifyingly massive, truly having intentions to dominate stellar space might not be that easy. If it forces various races to unite, the Soul Race might not have a favorable outcome.

The Soul Race's most formidable method is Soul Possession. A Constellation like Lih Shang possesses Lu Ye's psyche, greatly enhancing his strength. If a Moon Jade or Sun Blaze were to use Soul Possession, Lu Ye couldn't imagine how much his strength might increase.

Of course, if a Moon Jade or Sun Blaze were to use Soul Possession on him, the pressure he'd need to bear would be enormous, and he might not be able to withstand it.

The acquisition of any power always comes at a price.

While Lih Shang led Lu Ye in search of a suitable five-color Lotus Land, within the ancestral land space, on a seven-color Lotus Land, Hun Que's figure suddenly appeared.

The master of this place was a Soul Race Sun Blaze, and currently the Overseer Elder. Sensing Hun Que's aura, he hurriedly welcomed him.

Unlike Hun Que's youthful appearance, this Overseer Elder looked much older.

"Clan Leader, I sensed the Sacred Beast's aura. Is it truly the Sacred Beast?" asked the Overseer Elder.

"It is indeed the Sacred Beast, and the bloodline is quite potent," Hun Que nodded.

"That is wonderful news for our Soul Race!" The Overseer Elder was instantly excited. Even as a Sun Blaze, he couldn't suppress his emotions.

Ordinary members of the Soul Race might not understand why the White Tiger became the Sacred Beast of their race, but how could these Sun Blazes not know?

The Soul Race and Sacred Beast can complement each other. Cultivating together with a Sacred Beast dramatically enhances cultivation efficiency, and for Soul Race members who cultivate with a Sacred Beast, there's never a bottleneck.

In the Soul Race's history, at least hundreds of Sun Blaze experts achieved their success through cultivation with successive generations of Sacred Beasts.

A Sacred Beast for the Soul Race might mean the emergence of many Sun Blaze experts!

Since the last Sacred Beast passed away, the ancestral land had not seen the presence of a Sacred Beast for ten thousand years. During this time, only two Sun Blaze figures emerged from the Soul Race.

Don't be fooled by the ancestral land environment, which greatly benefits the Soul Race's cultivation. The environment alone can't provide much help for advancing to Sun Blaze, due to the inherent limitation of the Soul Race lacking flesh and blood.

In his excitement, the Overseer Elder asked, "Clan Leader, how should we position the Sacred Beast? I have a few candidates who could follow it first."

As the Overseer Elder, he knows the rising stars in the Soul Race. In his view, these candidates, with the help of the Sacred Beast, have a high chance of becoming Sun Blaze figures in the future.

"This is not urgent," Hun Que shook his head.

The Overseer Elder was taken aback. How could this not be urgent? Is there something more important than this?

"The will of the ancestral land has been triggered," Hun Que continued.

The Overseer Elder's mouth gaped, only managing to speak after a while, "Could this Sacred Beast possess something extraordinary?"

Otherwise, why would it trigger the will of the ancestral land?

"It's not because of the Sacred Beast," Hun Que shook his head, "This time, besides the Sacred Beast, a human also entered."

"A human?" The Overseer Elder was surprised, "How could a human enter..."

Suddenly awakening, "The Clan Leader means, the human triggered the will of the ancestral land?"

"Other than him, there's no other possibility. Otherwise, he couldn't have entered the ancestral land," Hun Que nodded.

"But... how is this possible?" The Overseer Elder was incredulous. How could a mere human trigger the will of the ancestral land?

He looked at Hun Que, cautiously asking, "Clan Leader, when the will of the ancestral land was triggered, did it convey any instructions?"

Hun Que looked at the Overseer Elder meaningfully, "Take good care of him!"

The Overseer Elder was shocked!

What kind of human is this, to have the ancestral land will issue such a directive!

Very quickly, some ancient memories that were nearly sealed away emerged in the Overseer Elder's mind. He spoke, "Clan Leader, it is said that the birth of the ancestral land is related to a Supreme Venerable mighty being, and the true body of the ancestral land is actually a treasure belonging to that Supreme Venerable?"

Originally, there was no Soul Race ancestral land, but a Supreme Venerable opened up a peculiar space in this piece of stellar space using one of their treasures, thus creating the Soul Race ancestral land, which subsequently nurtured the Soul Race.

This is information passed down by the Soul Race, but until now, no Soul Race member has figured out if this is true or what exactly the treasure that opened the Soul Race ancestral land space is.

However, it is undeniable that if such a treasure exists, it must be a stellar space supreme treasure.

"There is indeed such a saying," Hun Que responded.

The Overseer Elder's pupils constricted slightly: "Is it possible... that the Supreme Venerable encountered an accident and was reincarnated?"

If not, why would the ancestral land's will pass down such instructions? The entire ancestral land is a space opened by the Supreme Venerable's treasure. If the Supreme Venerable was reincarnated, the ancestral land would have sensed it, hence the directive!

It makes perfect sense!

These words startled even Hun Que.

To be honest, such a possibility does exist.

However, on second thought, Hun Que shook his head: "It shouldn't be. If it were true, the ancestral land's will would not pass down such instructions. It would directly choose a master!"

"That's true too..." The Overseer Elder realized his earlier thoughts were somewhat far-fetched.

Yet, the ancestral land's will is truly bewildering.

Why exactly is this? What is so special about that human race?

"There is a deep bond and connection between the Sacred Beast and that human race, so I've already asked Lih Shang to handle this matter. As for the Sacred Beast, our clan shall not interfere for now. However, you can spread the message that anyone who gains the Sacred Beast's approval can stay by its side to cultivate."

The Overseer Elder nodded, able to imagine that the Soul Race would be bustling for some time as many would rush to the Sacred Beast, seeking its approval.

If this were to anger the Sacred Beast or make that human race uncomfortable, it would be inappropriate, so the selection must be carefully considered, not just any race member should go over.

"I will attempt to contact the ancestral land's will to see what exactly is going on," Hun Que spoke.

He, a top fighter who achieved Sun Blaze countless years ago, was now troubled over a Constellation human race matter; saying it out loud is just unjustified. However, this matter involves the ancestral land's will and cannot be taken lightly.

"But Clan Leader, how are we to take care of that human race? We don't have anything suitable for him to consume," the Overseer Elder was somewhat troubled.

The ancestral land's will passed down instructions, which he dared not ignore. Yet indeed, nothing fit for the human race to consume exists here.

"Why not have the Clan Leader provide some Soul Crystals, and I'll go out and buy some treasures to send to him!" The Overseer Elder thought of a good idea.

"No need! Some treasures are ultimately external force; if we are to take care of him, we need to address the root problem." Hun Que shook his head, after a brief pondering, spoke: "How long has it been since the Lotus Pond opened?"

The Overseer Elder was startled: "Clan Leader, do you mean..."

"Open the Lotus Pond. This matter will be a burden on you elder fellows!"

Hun Que swiftly left, leaving the Overseer Elder stunned for a long time, before reluctantly twitching his eyelids.

Opening the Lotus Pond... A simple sentence from the Clan Leader, but it seems these old comrades will nearly die from exhaustion, as it hasn't been the time and a lot of preparation is still needed to open it ahead of time.

That human race... just what is his origin!

The Overseer Elder was dying of curiosity.

In the ancestral land space, Lih Shang led Lu Ye and others around for a long time, still unable to find a suitable five-color Lotus Land.

She was not in a hurry, as there must be an unowned five-color Lotus Land in the ancestral land space, as long as a careful search is conducted.

However, when passing by a certain location, Lih Shang's figure suddenly halted, turning her head to look to the side.

Lu Ye followed her gaze, and saw a huge flower bud there, poised to bloom. As everyone looked upon it, the bud gradually began to open, and coincidentally, colorful light streamed on each petal!

Lih Shang was overjoyed: "That's it!"

Such a newly-formed five-color Lotus Land is surely unowned, sparing the effort to find anything else.

Moreover, a newly-formed five-color Lotus Land carries unknown potential, unlike those already bloomed; the already bloomed Lotus Lands have long been fixed as five-color.

But such just-born five-color Lotus Land may transform into six-color or seven-color.

Occupying it now, if it transforms into six-color or seven-color someday, would be incredibly rewarding.

At that time, with the Sacred Beast residing there, even if Lih Shang's strength falls short, no one in the Soul Race would drive them away.

They waited quietly for a moment until the Lotus Land fully bloomed before Lih Shang led Lu Ye and others to descend upon it.

From a distance, Lu Ye hadn't quite seen much, but upon closer inspection, Lu Ye discovered that the Lotus Land and the Soul Race share the same characteristic, existing in a state of seeming both real and unreal, truly intriguing.

Chapter 1657 - Settling the Xianyuan Guard

From a distance, the entire Lotus Land appears as a gigantic five-color lotus flower, with each petal blooming delicately and the entire structure equivalent to the size of a city.

Such a Lotus Land could easily accommodate several thousand members of the Soul Race without any issue.

As Lih Shang descended upon this Lotus Land, Lu Ye couldn't help but feel invigorated.

Upon first entering the Soul Race ancestral land, he sensed a unique energy flow within the peculiar space, an energy that could strengthen Soul Power. In such an environment, a cultivator's Soul Power would surely experience tremendous growth and nourishment.

Upon arriving at this Lotus Land, Lu Ye discovered that its environment was even more advantageous, far beyond what ordinary places could offer.

No wonder the Lotus Lands were considered sacred cultivation grounds by the Soul Race.

Lih Shang cheerfully arrived at the center of the lotus blossom, took out the Five-Color Command Token given to her by Hun Que, and tossed it forward. The Token transformed into a stream of light, disappearing into the heart of the flower. At the same time, the entire Lotus Land trembled lightly, as if an invisible transformation had occurred.

Lu Ye didn't notice anything initially, but all Soul Race members could sense that this five-color Lotus Land now had a rightful owner from today onwards.

She then took out the orb that was the Million Souls Banner, channeling her Soul Power into it.

Lu Ye, too, adopted a solemn expression as he stood by her side.

As Lih Shang's Soul Power surged, the orb began transforming, slowly melting, but as it melted, silhouettes gradually emerged from it.

These were the soul bodies of Xianyuan City.

City Lord Zhang Zishan was the first to appear. For some time now, he and the soul bodies of Xianyuan City had been residing within the Million Souls Banner, unaware of events in the outside world. However, since Lu Ye and Lih Shang had informed him beforehand, he already had some assumptions upon appearing.

Turning to observe his surroundings and sensing the peculiar environment, Zhang Zishan's eyes brightened.

"City Lord!" Lu Ye stepped forward to show his respect.

"Is this the ancestral land of the Soul Race?" Zhang Zishan inquired.

Lu Ye nodded: "Indeed, it is the ancestral land of the Soul Race, a truly unique place."

Zhang Zishan silently felt the surroundings for a moment, and remarked with emotion: "It truly is unique. I can sense that living here is much better than resting in the soul pool."

The soul pool, essentially a confluence of Soul Cleansing Water, is considered a treasure that replenishes Psyche Force. Even while resting within it, soul bodies gradually consume Soul Cleansing Water. If one is carelessly slain and resurrected, the consumption is even greater.

The greatest issue the Xianyuan Guard faced back then was the potential depletion of the soul pool, which would lead to their souls dispersing.

That was why Zhang Zishan initially disallowed Lu Ye from taking too much Soul Cleansing Water, as it was integral to the survival of the Xianyuan Guard.

The Soul Race ancestral land is not a soul pool, yet it surpasses one by far.

The Lotus Land is brimming with mysterious energy that can nourish Psyche Force. In such a location, the Xianyuan Guard no longer needs to slumber.

As the two conversed, one Xianyuan Guard after another manifested.

Lu Ye saw many familiar faces.

The Butcher, the Scholar, the Gambler Liu Sanbao, the red-clad Hong Yue, and Xi Wanying with her pipa, exuding a fragile charm...

Every soul body expressed surprise, taking in their surroundings with a sense of newfound life.

Lu Ye exhaled deeply.

After resolving the underground insect hive issue within the Nine Provinces, the Xianyuan Guard remained a concern for Lu Ye. The predecessors contributed greatly to the Nine Provinces, and as their

successors, it was not enough to merely remember their deeds; it was also crucial to settle them properly within his abilities.

The blood of the predecessors must not have been shed in vain, and their sacrifices should not be forgotten.

Yet, Lu Ye had struggled with how to settle the Xianyuan Guard until he met Lih Shang at the All Phenomena Merchants Guild's auction.

Now, today, a secure and appropriate place has finally been found for these predecessors.

As a descendant, Lu Ye felt proud not to have disappointed these predecessors, ensuring they would not be forgotten in the river of history.

A moment later, all the Xianyuan Guard had emerged.

Not only the Xianyuan Guard, but also some unfortunate souls...

These individuals had once trained on the Unparalleled Continent but were slain by Sun Ying and others from the Qingli Dao World. Their souls were collected into the Million Souls Banner and have now appeared here as well.

However, the number of these unfortunate souls was much smaller compared to the Xianyuan Guard.

"City Lord, from now on, you will live here. Fellow Daoist Lih Shang will take care of you." Lu Ye spoke up.

Zhang Zishan looked towards Lih Shang and bowed deeply: "Thank you, Fellow Daoist."

Lih Shang smiled: "From today onwards, we are kin, no need to be formal."

The soul bodies of Xianyuan City would now be her retinue. Despite the current limited strength of the Xianyuan Guard, mostly at the level of the Divine Sea, their experiences far surpassed those of ordinary Soul Race members.

What they had been lacking before was suitable living conditions and cultivation techniques. Now they had both, and Lih Shang had a hunch that these Xianyuan Guard members would achieve considerable success in the future.

Besides, she also had a Sacred Beast!

Honestly, Lih Shang was a bit puzzled why the Clan Leader didn't take the Sacred Beast back with them because bringing the Sacred Beast back was supposed to be a significant event for the Soul Race. Yet, the Clan Leader only took a brief look before leaving, not only without taking the Sacred Beast but without even mentioning it.

Ultimately, however, this was beneficial for her.

"Fellow Daoist, what should we do now?" Zhang Zishan asked, and the other Xianyuan Guards were also looking on eagerly, feeling somewhat bewildered upon suddenly arriving in a new environment.

Lih Shang thought for a moment and said, "Then go find a place to stay."

"A place to stay..." Zhang Zishan looked around, somewhat puzzled. In such a place, there weren't even houses to live in. Did they have to build one from scratch?

Lih Shang smiled slightly, "Find a suitable and comfortable place for yourself and immerse your mind to communicate with the Lotus Land!"

Zhang Zishan turned to look at Lu Ye, who shook his head, indicating that he didn't know.

But since Lih Shang had said so, there must be some reason for it.

So, the Xianyuan Guards dispersed, while Yiyi, along with Amber, started strolling around this Lotus Land.

The environment of the entire Lotus Land wasn't much different, and Yiyi didn't have any particular demands, so she quickly chose a spot.

Then, according to what Lih Shang said, she immersed her mind to communicate with the Lotus Land.

Lu Ye stood quietly watching from the side.

However, his expression soon became subtle because, a moment ago, Yiyi was still under his watchful eye, but suddenly Yiyi disappeared.

She vanished without any warning.

Amber couldn't help but widen her tiger eyes and roared at Lu Ye.

Where's Yiyi? Where did such a big Yiyi go?

Just then, at the spot where Yiyi disappeared, her little head suddenly popped out, waving to Lu Ye and Amber, saying, "Come in quickly!"

Amber quickly leaped towards her, and Lu Ye also stepped forward towards that direction.

The next moment, it was like breaking through an invisible barrier, and once they steadied themselves, the surrounding environment had already changed.

This was a misty space, and just in terms of environmental feedback, it wasn't much different from standing on the Lotus Land, except it offered a lot of privacy assurance.

Relating to what Lih Shang had said earlier, Lu Ye immediately understood. The Soul Race living on Lotus Land didn't actually live on the surface of those petals. They could have a small space inside the Lotus Land, which undoubtedly was the true home of the Soul Race.

The misty space wasn't too big but not small either. Lu Ye released his Mental Consciousness, sensing that this space was about several hundred meters in radius.

For Yiyi and Amber alone to live here, it was definitely more than enough.

As for how to decorate her home, that was something Yiyi needed to consider. Of course, she didn't need to decorate it; if it was just for cultivation, having a space of her own was enough.

Yiyi explored her little home, with Amber following happily behind her, while Lu Ye watched silently.

The situation with the Soul Race here was a bit different from what he had expected.

He thought that bringing back Amber, this Sacred Beast, would definitely cause a huge stir among the Soul Race, but in fact, after Lih Shang returned, only the Soul Race Patriarch appeared, and he didn't seem to pay much attention to Amber, even giving Lih Shang a Five-Color Command Token to occupy a five-color Lotus Land.

As for himself, the outsider, the Patriarch also seemed indifferent.

According to Lih Shang, a flesh body cannot enter this space, with the exception of Sacred Beasts like Amber.

Lu Ye didn't know why he could come in, but it seemed to be related to the abnormal reaction of the Talent Tree at that time.

He had always been hesitant to let Yiyi bring Amber to the Soul Race ancestral land, only for fear that if Yiyi was bullied without him around, there would be no one to stand up for her.

But now it seemed that there was not much strife among the Soul Race here, and the entire Soul Race ancestral land exuded an atmosphere of peace and tranquility.

Moreover, this place was indeed suitable for the growth of soul bodies!

With Lih Shang's care, and the Xianyuan Guards could mutually support each other with her.

Lu Ye sighed in his heart, if this was Yiyi's opportunity, it seemed it wouldn't be right for him to obstruct it.

"Yiyi!" Lu Ye called out.

Yiyi quickly ran over to Lu Ye, "What's up?"

"Take this." Lu Ye took out a storage ring and handed it to her.

Yiyi took it, puzzled, and after a quick check, she looked up at Lu Ye with emotion, "I knew you were lying to me before."

There was nothing else in the storage ring, only psyche refinement pills, and all were supreme-grade!

Hua Ci and Shui Yuan had always been using the pill gourd to refine Treasure Body Pills and psyche refinement pills, and Yiyi naturally knew about it; she was one of the few who knew about the existence of the pill gourd.

Judging from the quantity of these supreme-grade psyche refinement pills, it was obvious that Lu Ye had taken all the elixir pills refined by Hua Ci and Shui Yuan.

Saying he wouldn't allow her to go to the Soul Race ancestral land, if he truly didn't, how could he have prepared all these things beforehand?

It was like a parent not allowing a child to venture out alone, saying out loud they wouldn't allow it, but when the child sets out, they would still pack a lot of good things in their luggage, wishing they could give them everything they have.

Lu Ye had an expression that seemed to say he couldn't help it, and he seriously said, "You can stay here, but you must behave yourself, listen to Sister Lih Shang more, and don't cause trouble!"

Yiyi nodded her head like a pecking chicken; speaking of which, she was not the type to cause trouble.

Chapter 1658 - Couldn't Leave

The Xianyuan Guard were settled, each reborn and started cultivating eagerly.

Moreover, under Lih Shang's guidance, they could also begin cultivating the secret techniques of the Soul Race. Accordingly, without the constraint of the soul pool, their strength could grow like the normal Soul Race.

Lu Ye was looking forward to the day when he would see them again, wondering what earth-shattering changes they would have undergone.

In her own small space, Yiyi was also cultivating, accompanied by Amber.

She seemed to be telling Lu Ye that she wouldn't waste her time, and that Lu Ye would surely be surprised when they meet again.

Lu Ye wasn't in a hurry to leave the Soul Race ancestral land and strolled around for several days.

Even though he felt the peace here, he wanted to observe more.

After several days, Lu Ye found that it was indeed peaceful here, with hardly any conflicts. Most of the Soul Race quietly stayed in their Lotus Land, while a few wandered outside, all appearing carefree.

The only thing that puzzled Lu Ye was the attitude of the strong Soul Race towards him; they were very kind!

In these few days, Lu Ye walked through many Lotus Lands, not to mention those of Moon Jade, but even the Sun Blaze Soul Race he encountered several, although none of them had deep exchanges with him when meeting, these Soul Race strong showed great friendliness.

This left Lu Ye somewhat puzzled, but he thought carefully, perhaps it was because of Amber.

Even though the Soul Race Patriarch didn't show much when meeting Amber, Amber is ultimately the Sacred Beast of the Soul Race, and he has a close relationship with Amber; maybe those Soul Race Sun Blaze are fond of what they care about?

Such a big environment undoubtedly made Lu Ye very relieved, and Yiyi staying in such a place was unlikely to face any danger.

With all worries set aside, Lu Ye returned to Lih Shang's Lotus Land and found Lih Shang to bid farewell.

"Fellow Daoist, are you leaving now?" Lih Shang asked.

Lu Ye said, "Can't stay here forever, I need Fellow Daoist to guide me on the way to leave."

Lih Shang said, "Then follow me to see the Overseer Elder; for the Soul Race to leave the ancestral land, only when the Overseer Elder nods will it be permissible to leave."

She originally sneaked out, expecting to be punished upon this return, but it didn't happen.

Lu Ye glanced in the direction of Yiyi's home and turned his head, "Let's go."

No need to say goodbye, only adds to the troubles.

Following Lih Shang, they flew towards the Lotus Land where the Overseer Elder resided; it took more than two hours to arrive at a seven-color Lotus Land.

A seven-color Lotus Land is limited in number throughout the Soul Race ancestral land, only the Sun Blaze Soul Race is qualified to occupy it.

The size of this seven-color Lotus Land is not large, when Lih Shang led Lu Ye to land here, the Overseer Elder was clearly aware and proactively appeared.

Lu Ye raised his eyes and saw the other party looking old. He immediately greeted respectfully, "Lu Yiye of Nine Heavens, greet Elder Xuyuan!"

Lih Shang had already informed him of the Overseer Elder's name.

Although Elder Xuyuan knew of Lu Ye's existence from Hun Que, this was the first time seeing him, and couldn't help but scrutinize him carefully, curious how such a not very strong human could stir the will of the ancestral land, and even make the ancestral land's will issue such instructions.

Can't really be the reincarnation of that great figure, that would be absurd.

Putting away these thoughts, Elder Xuyuan chuckled, "Our Soul Race rarely has guests, young friend is the first ever."

"Apologies for any intrusion," Lu Ye was embarrassed, for his uninvited entry. But it's not his fault, at that time he just wanted to pull Amber out, unexpectedly being enveloped by the lotus and brought here directly.

He was forced into this.

Elder Xuyuan said, "No problem at all, our Soul Race doesn't mind outsiders; it's just that the ancestral land has never accepted outsiders physically. If a young friend can enter the ancestral land, surely he has exceptional qualities."

He quietly probed, wanting to know why Lu Ye was accepted by the ancestral land.

But Lu Ye evidently had no intention of explaining, can't mention the Talent Tree, also couldn't explain why the Talent Tree resonated with the Soul Race ancestral land.

Elder Xuyuan saw he didn't respond, somewhat helpless, could only ask, "Young friend, are you here for any reason?"

Lu Ye said, "Elder, forgive me, I'm hoping to leave here, so I humbly request Elder for convenience!"

Elder Xuyuan was stupefied upon hearing this, Lu Ye wanted to leave? How could that be, the Soul Race hasn't taken care of him yet.

The Lotus Pond over there needs a few more days to open, naturally can't let Lu Ye leave now.

Upon hearing, Elder Xuyuan showed a difficult expression, "Under regular circumstances, it wouldn't be a problem for young friend to leave, but currently it's a bit difficult."

"Why?" Lu Ye frowned.

Elder Xuyuan said, "To be honest with you, our ancestral land's Lotus Pond is about to open, during this period, the ancestral land's space cannot be entered or exited."

Lih Shang curiously asked, "Is that true?" Why hadn't she heard of it?

Elder Xuyuan glared at her, what I say is true, you better keep quiet! The matter of you sneaking out of the ancestral land hasn't been dealt with yet!

According to the rules, as the Overseer Elder on duty, he has the power to discipline Lih Shang for violating clan regulations, even imprisoning her for ten or twenty years would be permissible.

Noticing Elder Xuyuan's unfriendly gaze, Lih Shang hurriedly shut her mouth.

Although Elder Xuyuan is consistently amicable, Lih Shang felt something was peculiar about him today.

Moreover... the Lotus Pond is actually about to open, but judging by the time, it shouldn't be yet!

Lu Ye asked, "How long do I need to wait?"

Xuyuan replied, "Not long, not long. In a few days, the Lotus Pond opens, and after a few more days, it closes, then you can leave, young friend."

That was nothing, just a few more days of waiting here, which Lu Ye could afford.

He was about to say he would wait until the Lotus Pond closed, when Xuyuan suddenly spoke with a broad smile, "Young friend, are you interested in participating in our Soul Race's Lotus Pond contest?"

Lu Ye was still unsure what the Lotus Pond contest entailed, but upon hearing this, Lih Shang was visibly shocked.

Elder Xuyuan... must be confused?

The Lotus Pond contest has always been a major affair for the Soul Race, with limited spots, even the Soul Race barely has enough, and now they're offering one to a Foreign Clan member?

Naturally, she held no grudge against Lu Ye, merely shocked Elder Xuyuan would say such a thing.

Lu Ye was rather surprised: "I can participate?"

Xuyuan smiled and said, "As the first guest in history of our Soul Race, you can!" After a pause, he continued, "If young friend wishes to participate, when the Lotus Pond opens, Lih Shang will guide you

there. You can also learn from her what the Lotus Pond contest is about. I have urgent matters to attend to, so I cannot accompany you."

Originally, with the opening of the Lotus Pond, Xuyuan wasn't in a rush, but with Lu Ye about to leave, he must hurry to contact some old friends to get the Lotus Pond opened.

Lu Ye left with Lih Shang once again.

He noticed Lih Shang was looking at him strangely. He didn't understand why, but was certain it was related to the Lotus Pond contest.

With Lih Shang's explanation, Lu Ye finally understood what the Lotus Pond contest really was.

In the Soul Race ancestral land, there is a treasured site, the Lotus Pond, which nurtures a unique Divine Lotus. If the Soul Race can successfully refine and subdue it, it would greatly benefit their own growth.

It's said every Soul Race member dreams of refining a Divine Lotus!

However, throughout history, those qualified to enter the Lotus Pond are always those with top-notch aptitude; Lih Shang herself has never had the chance, always watching sorrowfully whenever the Lotus Pond opens.

The qualification to enter the Lotus Pond is extremely rare and precious among the Soul Race; almost everyone who enters gains something, and successfully refining a Divine Lotus would benefit them for life!

Having heard Lih Shang's explanation, Lu Ye was astonished.

He couldn't comprehend why Elder Xuyuan would let him participate in such a crucial event for the Soul Race.

Lu Ye didn't want to harbor malicious thoughts or be suspicious of others, but the situation seemed absurd. His participation meant one less spot for the Soul Race.

Thinking further, even if Xuyuan, as a Sun Blaze, had ulterior motives towards him, he wouldn't need to act this way.

Was it again because of Amber? But if so, the spot should go to Yiyi, not him.

He couldn't figure it out and decided to see for himself when the time came. If there really were any issues with the Lotus Pond, his unique Talent Tree should be able to detect them.

Lu Ye then waited peacefully for a few days.

During these days, the Soul Race ancestral land noticeably became livelier. Outside the Lotus Land, Lu Ye saw many Soul Race members passing by, clearly due to the opening of the Lotus Pond.

According to Lih Shang, every time the Lotus Pond opens, the Soul Race becomes bustling, as there rarely happens anything significant due to the ancestral land's tranquility. So when the Lotus Pond opens... everyone can watch the excitement!

Lu Ye listened speechlessly, further understanding the dull life within the Soul Race.

Thinking about it, while the place is peaceful and harmonious, it lacks much excitement, so naturally, anything lively is enticing.

Several days later, a group of figures departed from the five-color Lotus Land, not only including Lih Shang and Lu Ye but also Yiyi and Amber.

Yiyi should live here for a long time in the future, although she doesn't have a spot for the current Lotus Pond opening, she can strive for one next time, no harm in seeing ahead of time.

With delight, Lih Shang found she actually held a spot to enter the Lotus Pond this time!

Technically, she didn't have the qualification, but upon consideration, concluded it was likely due to her contribution in bringing back the Sacred Beast; hence, Elder Xuyuan rewarded her with the spot.

There wasn't really a need for Lih Shang to lead, as along the way, Lu Ye saw many Soul Race members heading in one direction, undoubtedly where the Lotus Pond was located.

Their group attracted countless Soul Race members' attention, causing continuous commotion!

Even if they hadn't seen the White Tiger, the Soul Race knew of the Sacred Beast's existence; yet the last generation's Sacred Beast had passed away ten thousand years ago, so the clansmen never expected a Sacred Beast to appear currently in the ancestral land!

On the contrary, Lu Ye's presence didn't garner much focus from the Soul Race; superficially, the Soul Race resembles the human race. As long as Lu Ye refrains from wielding spirit force, those with lesser prowess won't discern anything unusual.

Chapter 1659 - Lotus Pond

When Lu Ye and the others arrived at the Lotus Pond, countless members of the Soul Race had already gathered here.

It is said that the Lotus Pond is located at the exact center of the Soul Race ancestral land.

Their arrival sparked quite a stir among the Soul Race members, with countless eyes looking towards Amber, revealing expressions of surprise and doubt. The name of the Sacred Beast began to circulate among the tribesmen, causing great shock and excitement among many in the Soul Race.

Lih Shang led Lu Ye and the others to a relatively empty spot to wait.

Raising his eyes, Lu Ye saw the location of the Lotus Pond.

He had thought that, since it was named a pond, it might be similar to the soul pool in Xianyuan City, but upon seeing the Lotus Pond, he realized he was mistaken.

The lotus pond was not a pond at all, but a gigantic, yet-to-bloom lotus flower.

Lu Ye's expression was peculiar; the things in the Soul Race ancestral land are indeed interesting, as if everything is related to lotus flowers. This is evidently not due to the Soul Race's preference, but rather a characteristic of the ancestral land.

This enormous unopened lotus flower was many times larger than any Lotus Land Lu Ye had ever seen, and it wasn't even in bloom yet. Who knows how grand it would be if it were to bloom?

At this moment, there were seven or eight figures suspended around this giant lotus flower, each exuding fierce and surging Soul Power.

Those figures were evidently all from the Sun Blaze Soul Race!

Lu Ye only recognized Elder Xuyuan, as he had never met the others.

However, the Soul Race Patriarch was present, though Hun Que merely stood with his hands behind his back, without any extra movements.

He only glanced over slightly when Lu Ye and the others arrived.

"I said, the Lotus Pond isn't supposed to open yet!" Lih Shang took one look at the situation and spoke immediately.

"Not supposed to open yet?" Lu Ye showed a puzzled expression.

Lih Shang nodded: "Considering the time, the Lotus Pond should open at least two years later. The current situation clearly indicates that the elders are opening the Lotus Pond prematurely!" Following this, she showed a confused look: "But why could this be?"

To the Soul Race, two years is not considered long, as their lifespan surpasses most races in stellar space. Opening the Lotus Pond prematurely is not easy; these Sun Blaze elders have to exert great effort.

As they spoke, the Soul Power around the Sun Blaze Soul Race members grew fiercer and more intense, a shout arose: "The Lotus Pond has opened!"

With the shout, the massive bud began to slowly unfold its petals, which as they spread, emitted vibrant colors that turned the entire space into a colorful spectacle.

It took a full one incense stick's time for the giant lotus flower to completely bloom. Every Sun Blaze Soul Race member seemed as if they had fought a formidable enemy, their expressions were weak, and even the fierce fluctuation of Soul Power around them had grown faint.

Opening the Lotus Pond ahead of time was indeed a great consumption for them.

"Mission accomplished!" The Soul Race elders, led by Xuyuan, approached Hun Que and spoke solemnly.

Hun Que nodded: "You've worked hard, take a rest now, I'll handle the rest."

Xuyuan chuckled: "There's no hurry, let's see, let's see."

He was genuinely curious about why a human of only the Constellation Realm could touch the ancestral land's will, and whether he could benefit from the Lotus Pond with a human's presence.

After all, no Foreign Clan has ever entered the Lotus Pond, so even the well-informed Sun Blaze members don't know what result a human entering the Lotus Pond might bring. As long as there's no danger, all is well.

Xuyuan thought this way, and certainly, the other Sun Blaze Soul Race members thought the same. So even though they should hurry back to recover, none of the Sun Blaze members left; they all stayed, eager to watch!

Not only ordinary Soul Race members enjoy a spectacle, but even the Sun Blaze members do... mainly because life in the Soul Race ancestral land is too dull, and usually, nothing much happens.

Hun Que didn't mind; he slightly shook his Soul Power and said loudly: "With the Sacred Beast returning, our tribe celebrates. Today, we open the Lotus Pond to nourish our tribe. Those eligible for entry, quickly enter. This time the Lotus Pond will be open for three days, whether you gain anything depends on your destiny!"

As Hun Que's words fell, figures immediately flew out from the crowd, rushing into the Lotus Pond, clearly all those who had earned the qualification to enter.

Lih Shang showed a suddenly understanding expression; the reason for opening the Lotus Pond prematurely was due to the return of the Sacred Beast. For the Soul Race, this was truly a great celebration, worthy of opening the Lotus Pond early to commemorate, and naturally, she who brought back the Sacred Beast could earn a qualification to enter the Lotus Pond.

She was full of excitement and anticipation: "Let's go in too!"

Lu Ye nodded, instructing Yiyi: "Wait for me here."

Yiyi nodded obediently: "Go ahead."

At that moment, Lu Ye followed Lih Shang, flying towards the direction of the Lotus Pond.

He had already inquired about various matters regarding the Lotus Pond from Lih Shang earlier, so he naturally knew what he needed to do.

Unexpectedly, a voice came to his ear at this moment: "Enter the Lotus Pond, connect your spirit to the Divine Lotus; the more vibrant the colors, the higher the quality of the Divine Lotus. The greater the benefit for your future cultivation, choose carefully!"

The voice sounded familiar; it should be Hun Que transmitting audio to him. Lu Ye looked toward a direction and indeed saw the Soul Race Patriarch watching him.

He nodded slightly in acknowledgment, expressing his gratitude.

He felt quite touched; the Soul Race here was indeed kind. Elder Xuyuan allowed him to participate in this Lotus Pond competition, and the patriarch personally offered guidance. Although he had already grasped the situation beforehand from Lih Shang, being pointed out by others always carried a kindness.

In an instant, Lu Ye entered the Lotus Pond together with Lih Shang.

The essence of the Lotus Pond was a giant lotus blooming. From afar, it looked like a pool shaped like a lotus filled with water, but only upon truly entering could one understand that those seemingly like pool water were not simple water, but were formed from pure Soul Power.

It's quite similar to the waters of the All Phenomena Ocean, though the difference is that one is condensed Soul Power, and the other is stellar space energy.

Moreover, the water from the All Phenomena Ocean is thick with impurities, highly corrosive, while the water in the Lotus Pond lacks these drawbacks.

After entering, Lu Ye instantly felt enveloped by a gentle force, making him feel an indescribable comfort all over, and his entire spirit reached an extremely translucent state, as if his psyche had transformed into the purest, unblemished spirit jade.

This was an extraordinarily peculiar state, one that Lu Ye had never experienced before, yet vaguely sensed that if a cultivator could cultivate under such a state, whether comprehending secret techniques or refining spirit jades, efficiency would be greatly enhanced.

Instinctively, he tried to refine the surrounding pool water and found that it could indeed be refined and absorbed, with effectiveness not inferior to consuming a supreme-grade psyche refinement pill!

This would undoubtedly bolster his psyche!

So it seems, entering this Lotus Pond, even if he ultimately didn't obtain a Divine Lotus, he wouldn't leave empty-handed. The pond opened for three days, and cultivating in such a place was an invaluable experience for any Soul Race member.

"Split up!" Lih Shang announced.

Lu Ye nodded, and Lih Shang immediately darted in one direction.

Entering the Lotus Pond required refining the Divine Lotus, so naturally, it wasn't practical to act together. After all, if a desirable Divine Lotus was found, to whom would it belong? It wouldn't do to fight over it.

As Lih Shang left, Lu Ye glanced around but didn't see any alleged Divine Lotus, so he wasn't in a hurry.

Though fascinated by the Divine Lotus, he had heard refining one was extremely difficult; even for the Soul Race, it wasn't easy. Often, with a hundred Soul Race members entering the pond, it would be impressive if ten managed to refine a Divine Lotus.

He, a member of the human race, although granted entry to the pond, was unsure if he could truly refine the Divine Lotus.

His interest now lay with the pool water enveloping him.

Ordinary Soul Race members entering this place would be busy searching for the Divine Lotus, leaving no time to refine the pool water, but he could!

The Talent Tree inherently possessed powerful devouring effects, allowing it to consume and refine the waters of the All Phenomena Ocean, let alone the lotus pond water here.

The supreme-grade psyche refinement pills he brought from Three Worlds Island were all given to Yiyi. Refining the pool water here had a similar effect to ingesting supreme-grade psyche refinement pills, and naturally, he couldn't miss the opportunity.

He immediately activated the Talent Tree's capabilities, his form seemed transformed into an abyss, voraciously devouring and refining.

Lu Ye was delighted upon realizing the Talent Tree showed little reaction; refining the All Phenomena Ocean waters had it billowing like burning garbage, with black smoke everywhere, yet refining the pond's water showed hardly any signs of impurities being burned away.

In other words, such refinement had almost no fuel consumption for the Talent Tree!

Moreover, all he needed was to maintain the Talent Tree's power, without exerting much mental strain.

With the Talent Tree's power unleashed, continuously and frantically refining and devouring the lotus pond water, Lu Ye could clearly feel his Psyche Force slowly growing stronger.

Only then did he leisurely start moving in one direction.

Above the Lotus Pond, numerous Sun Blaze powerhouses of the Soul Race gathered with Hun Que at the forefront, seven or eight elders were present, all intrigued by the situation below.

With their strength, they could naturally see everything happening within the Lotus Pond clearly.

When Lu Ye activated the Talent Tree's power to devour and refine the pool water, the Soul Race's Sun Blaze members couldn't help but twitch at the corners of their eyes.

Xuyuan frowned, "What kind of method is this?"

The Soul Race entering the Lotus Pond could all refine the pool water to enhance themselves, an understandable act. With Lu Ye permitted entry, he naturally could do the same.

Anyway, the pool water in the Lotus Pond was vast, and several Constellations entering and refining wouldn't consume much.

But when Lu Ye acted, the Soul Race's Sun Blaze members noticed something off — the refining pace seemed remarkably unusual!

The key was they didn't understand how Lu Ye, a Constellation, executed such a technique. Even if they, as Sun Blaze members, entered the Lotus Pond to cultivate, the efficiency would likely be the same, which was quite incredible.

Chapter 1660 - That Easy?

Hun Que shook his head. He also couldn't understand exactly what that method was, but it was indeed extraordinary to be able to touch the will of the ancestral land.

The ancestral will gave the instruction to take good care of him, and after thinking it over, Hun Que decided that the best way would be to open the Lotus Pond so he could gain benefits from it. Otherwise, directly giving him some treasure might raise suspicions.

Even though this human's efficiency in refining the pond water was terrifyingly high, the Lotus Pond's foundation was extraordinary as well. Three days would cause only limited impact even with some loss.

Lu Ye was leisurely exploring, and before long, he saw a peculiar color catch his eye. As he quickly approached, he saw a small lotus quietly floating not far away.

The lotus was of two colors, purple and white.

This was a two-color Divine Lotus!

The Divine Lotuses in the Lotus Pond were of different grades. According to Lih Shang, they ranged from single-color to five-color. The more colors, the rarer the Divine Lotus. Each time the Lotus Pond opens, there are only two or three five-color Divine Lotuses, while single-color and two-color lotuses are more abundant.

Yet, even single-color and two-color lotuses are not easy for the Soul Race to refine, so every time they enter the Lotus Pond, only about ten percent of the clan members gain anything. Most merely gain some strength due to the pond without obtaining a Divine Lotus.

Since Lu Ye had the fortune of entering the opened Lotus Pond and was allowed in, he naturally wanted to pursue refining a Divine Lotus if possible.

He did not aim for the rare five-color Divine Lotus; four-color would be nice, and even three-color would do in the worst case.

A mere two-color Divine Lotus was hardly worth his attention.

However, as it was his first encounter with a Divine Lotus, Lu Ye attempted to connect with his mind and see if he could refine it. If he couldn't, so be it; if he could, it meant he truly had the qualification to obtain a Divine Lotus here.

His Mental Consciousness surged forth, invisibly spreading out, quickly enveloping the Divine Lotus quietly floating in the pond water.

Soon after, Lu Ye felt his Mental Consciousness effortlessly seep into the Divine Lotus...

This made him pause—in what way did this differ from what Lih Shang mentioned?

Wasn't refining a Divine Lotus supposed to be difficult? Wasn't it that only ten out of a hundred Soul Race members entering here gained something?

Logically speaking, refining a Divine Lotus shouldn't be this easy.

But in reality, he hadn't even exerted effort, and signs of refining were already evident!

Lu Ye could clearly feel now that if he continued to let his Mental Consciousness seep into the two-color Divine Lotus, he could easily complete the refinement and collect it into his Divine Sea.

This was a bit embarrassing.

He had only intended to try it, and the two-color Divine Lotus wasn't even his target. If it were a four-color or five-color lotus, he would gladly accept it; even a three-color one he would consider, just in case he wouldn't find another opportunity like this.

But this was just a two-color lotus!

The quality was a bit lacking...

After a brief hesitation, Lu Ye decided to abandon this Divine Lotus and continue searching for a better one.

As he began to retract his Mental Consciousness, an unexpected event occurred—a two-color stream of light followed his consciousness back!

The stream of light, transformed from the Divine Lotus, surged straight toward him, almost as if drawn back by his own consciousness.

Even though Lu Ye reacted quickly, he couldn't outpace the withdrawal of his Mental Consciousness, and by the time he realized it, the two-color stream of light had disappeared.

He stood there dumbfounded for a long while without reacting.

"This..."

Above the Lotus Pond, Hun Que and a group of Soul Race elders were also stunned.

Throughout generations, no one had ever harvested in the Lotus Pond so swiftly. After all, refining a Divine Lotus is no easy task; it requires time and Soul Power.

But what had they just witnessed?

Lu Ye saw a two-color Divine Lotus, gave it a glance, and... the two-color lotus was refined!

Hun Que frowned. He had already advised this lad to choose carefully, yet he picked a two-color one.

Though a five-color Divine Lotus had not yet appeared in the pond, four-color ones were present, and even a three-color choice would be better. Why choose a two-color?

The ancestral will had guided him to take care of this lad. He opened the Lotus Pond ahead of schedule, and now this was the result?

He wasn't sure if the ancestral will would be satisfied.

Hun Que was at a loss, considering whether to send Lu Ye off with a treasure later, but treasures were ultimately just External Forces—how could they compare to the mystic Divine Lotus? The Divine Lotus... is an exclusive treasure for the Soul Race that enhances a cultivator's foundation!

"Remarkable." An elder complimented. Look at the single-color and two-color; this speed of refining could be considered unprecedented.

Unfortunately, this human did not choose wisely.

In the Lotus Pond, Lu Ye's face was as dark as coal.

He had merely tried! He never intended to refine that two-color Divine Lotus—how had things turned out this way?

Is refining a Divine Lotus truly this simple? If so, Lih Shang would never have told him those things before.

Thinking it over, Lu Ye suspected it was related to his choice. The lower the quality of the Divine Lotus, the easier it would be to refine. If he had chosen a three-color or four-color, it wouldn't have been this easy.

Yet this was the first Divine Lotus he encountered, and there wasn't much choice at all.

At this point, regret was futile.

Lu Ye could only immerse his mind and probe into his Divine Sea.

Upon inspection, he indeed found a two-color Divine Lotus in his Divine Sea, identical to the one he had just seen, and Lu Ye also sensed some peculiarities.

After focusing and experiencing it for a while, Lu Ye discovered that the two-color Divine Lotus in his Divine Sea was slowly drawing his Soul Power.

Simultaneously, Soul Power was also dispersing from its blossom, filling the Divine Sea.

The entire Divine Lotus seemed like a transfer station; once its Soul Power circulated through it, it would thrive a little.

Just as Lih Shang mentioned, the Divine Lotus is mystically unparalleled, with the effect of nurturing the psyche.

In other words, with this Divine Lotus in his Divine Sea, even if Lu Ye does nothing, his psyche will slowly grow stronger as the Divine Lotus takes effect.

This is a peculiar and gentle nurturing, beneficial to any cultivator without any detrimental effects.

In the short term, there might not be any noticeable signs, but over time, one's psyche will definitely be much stronger than that of cultivators at the same level.

Everyone can understand the benefits of a strong psyche, and this kind of treasure that can slowly nurture the psyche is incredibly rare throughout the entire stellar space.

Yet, the more he appreciated the value of the Divine Lotus, the more heartbroken Lu Ye felt.

This was only a two-color one; what if it was a three-color, four-color... or five-color one?

Since he managed to refine a two-color one so easily, perhaps he might be able to refine ones of higher quality too.

Had he known this earlier, he would have made an effort to find a higher quality one to try.

But there's no remedy for regret, and Lu Ye couldn't have known it would turn out this way.

Given the circumstances, he could only accept it.

On the bright side, it was a treasure he acquired without cost; having it is already good enough, so he shouldn't ask for too much.

With that, Lu Ye comforted himself a little and felt somewhat relieved.

The Lotus Pond would remain open for three days; although it had just begun, it was already over for Lu Ye. Naturally, he wasn't planning on leaving so soon, as his Talent Tree absorbing the pond water greatly benefitted his psyche.

This pool of water was equivalent to the supreme-grade psyche refinement pill after it had melted, so he couldn't miss it.

Deciding not to seek out more Divine Lotuses, he settled down to refine the pond water.

Suddenly, a different hue emerged not far away; when Lu Ye turned to look, he saw two points of light entwined, gently giving rise to a Divine Lotus.

Another two-color Divine Lotus! However, unlike the one he just refined, this one was black and white.

Lu Ye glanced at it and instinctively extended his Mental Consciousness towards it.

The next moment, Lu Ye was taken aback because he felt his Mental Consciousness seep into the Divine Lotus without any resistance, exactly like what had happened earlier.

His heart skipped a beat, wondering if it was even possible, and then withdrew his Mental Consciousness.

Immediately after, something incomprehensible occurred: along with the retreat of his Mental Consciousness, a two-color stream of light followed!

Lu Ye was stunned!

He swore that he had no intention of taking this second two-color Divine Lotus; he merely wanted to see how it differed from the one he had just obtained, considering the color was somewhat different.

And besides, Lih Shang had told him that in a Soul Race's lifetime, one could only claim one Divine Lotus, making it impossible to claim a second.

Yet, it had happened in such a bizarre manner!

Utterly perplexing!

Astonished, Lu Ye quickly checked his Divine Sea, immersing his mind and revealing his soul body; upon seeing, he was bewildered.

Where was the second two-color Divine Lotus? Where was such a large Divine Lotus?

He had clearly refined and retrieved it into his Divine Sea, yet there was no second two-color Divine Lotus here.

But soon enough, Lu Ye realized something was amiss; the two-color Divine Lotus in his Divine Sea seemed to have undergone some subtle changes compared to just now.

Originally, it was only purple and white, but now, upon close inspection, it seemed to possess some other colors, although they were very faint, almost unnoticeable unless one looked attentively.

Moreover, the effectiveness of this two-color Divine Lotus in nourishing the psyche appeared to have slightly enhanced!

Lu Ye couldn't help but contemplate a possibility, and his thoughts came alive.

Above the Lotus Pond, Elder Xuyuan rubbed his eyes vigorously, and the rest of the Sun Blaze Soul Race members widened their eyes.

What had they just witnessed?

That human named Lu Yiye had actually refined another Divine Lotus?

Hadn't he just refined one? How could he refine a second one?

"Clan Leader!" Elder Xuyuan couldn't help but glance at Hun Que.

Hun Que's expression didn't show much shock, but his eyes were filled with an equally impenetrable look.

By rights, the ability to refine only one Divine Lotus is common knowledge, and among the Soul Race, ancient and present, no clan member has ever refined a second Divine Lotus.

The same goes for the Soul Race; it should apply to the human race too, as it isn't about racial differences.

After deliberating, Hun Que could only think of one possibility and solemnly said, "The will of the ancestral land!"