

## Humanity 1791

### Chapter 1791 - Starting Anew

"What a survival skill of a young woman, what a 'just this'—you're treating me as a token of your surrender?" Lu Ye already understood what Xiang Yin had in mind.

Xiang Yin smiled bitterly, "You've just arrived here; you have no idea how difficult it is to struggle for survival in such a damned place! Among Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng, which one of their strength isn't greater than ours? But it's merely because we've long run out of cultivation resources, and our strength has slowly become inferior to theirs. If this goes on for long, we'll have to live under the mercy of others! We're women, not lacking in beauty—do you know what this means?"

"To survive better, we must find ways to gain resources. We can't seek refuge with the Red Talisman Society; our only choice is the Sacred Blood Summit! Lih Tian is a lecher as well; without enough bargaining chips, if we seek refuge there, our end will be tragic! Your existence poses a threat to Lih Tian—if he eliminates you, it would undoubtedly be a significant achievement, ensuring that when we sisters seek refuge, we'd receive a favorable treatment."

"I hinted for you to go to that area to find the Red Talisman Society, indeed intending to use their hand to eliminate you, but didn't expect you to return alive. The Sacred Blood Summit had to send another person, who unexpectedly failed again."

Xiang Yin's face was full of bitterness, completely unable to comprehend why this happened. She planned so well, but the result turned against her expectations.

With a "thud" sound, Xiang Yin suddenly knelt down, looking at Lu Ye and said, "I know I'm doomed to die, but everything was solely my decision, having nothing to do with my sister—she knew nothing from beginning to end. My sister is cold in nature but kind-hearted. Fellow Daoist, please spare her life; this young woman bows to you!"

As she spoke, she actually began to bow toward Lu Ye's direction, each time exerting extreme force.

For a late-stage Moon Jade cultivator to make such a move is truly tragic. If it were merely herself facing death, Xiang Yin wouldn't stoop so low, she would rather accept her fate. But she knows if she cannot satisfy Lu Ye, her death would inevitably drag Xuan Yu into this catastrophe.

She is willing to bear her own mistakes, but unwilling to implicate Xuan Yu.

Xuan Yu hurriedly knelt down too, holding her sister and pleadingly looking at Lu Ye, "Fellow Daoist, my sister had a momentary lapse. Please, considering no major harm was caused, spare her from death. From now on, my sister and I will serve you devotedly."

Xuan Yu pleaded with tears already blurring her vision; in all her life, she had never succumbed so humbly. Her inherently cold personality disdains such actions, even looking down on people who perform them.

But with her sister's life on the line, her persistence and principles crumbled instantly; as long as Lu Ye could utter a single word of goodwill, she'd be willing to do anything for him.

Unfortunately, Lu Ye merely looked at her coolly, "No major harm caused—that's because I have a sturdy life; it has nothing to do with her!"

Having said that, Lu Ye pressed the saintliness and walked with his long knife step by step towards the two sisters kneeling on the ground.

A suffocating sensation loomed over, Xiang Yin's forehead was already broken from the bowing, yet she persisted in pleading, "Fellow Daoist, after my death, please pardon my sister—consider her a loyal cat or dog, but please, spare her life!"

What responded was a flash of the knife; Xiang Yin only felt a sharp pain in her chest, after which her vision went dark.

...

In the darkness, consciousness floated and sank.

After an unknown amount of time passed, when Xiang Yin opened her eyes again, a familiar fragrance hovered at her nose, seemingly lying in a soft embrace.

She couldn't help but pause for a moment, quickly recalling the terrifying knife vision, causing her body to shudder.

"Awake?" came the low voice.

Xiang Yin's vision gradually focused, seeing a tear-streaked face nearby.

"Sister?" Xiang Yin was unsure if she was alive or dead; if she was dead, had her sister ironically been killed too?

Seeming to sense her thoughts, Xuan Yu whispered, "You're not dead, that knife didn't take your life."

Xiang Yin froze for a moment, "Why?"

Recalling the scene before she fainted, the killing intent she felt was very real, and Lu Ye truly intended to kill her, so she didn't understand why she wasn't dead.

It couldn't be said that he missed because she made no resistance at all, and even if he did miss, he could have delivered a finishing blow.

"I don't know." Xuan Yu shook her head and looked aside.

Xiang Yin followed her gaze and saw Lu Ye standing there, looking up at the moon. The immense terror experienced at the brink of life and death haunted her heart again, leaving her deeply frightened.

She shifted her gaze, looking down towards her chest; her clothes there were punctured, dried blood on it, but the wound had healed. Thankfully, being a late-stage Moon Jade, pure physical injuries weren't difficult to recover from, even while unconscious.

She smirked bitterly, "Sister, I got you involved."

Xuan Yu shook her head, "Don't say that; it's the sister that is useless."

Xiang Yin said, "But it looks like... we really might have to serve diligently from now on."

Lu Ye logically wouldn't spare her life without cause, which led Xiang Yin to suspect this person, arriving newly and alone, might want to gather some helping hands.

The Red Talisman Society surely wouldn't accept him; the Sacred Blood Summit already attempted against him. Unless Lih Tian deals with Lu Ye, he wouldn't rest easy, so conflicts between them are irreconcilable.

In the current situation, Lu Ye finds himself caught in a tight spot, and it's difficult to achieve anything relying on his own strength alone. Sparing the sisters' lives and bringing them under his command is far better than him fighting alone.

It must be said that Xiang Yin has a sharp mind.

Lu Ye held back at the critical moment, considering this possibility.

In the entire Core World, the Red Talisman Society and the Sacred Blood Summit are divided into two factions, yet he cannot join either side. Thus, he is forced to establish his own faction.

Fighting alone is unrealistic. Currently, the only people he can recruit are cultivators like Xiang Yin and her sister scattered outside, and there aren't many of them.

Xiang Yin has some cleverness and is a reliable person, with sufficient strength as well. Most importantly, when facing his deadly strike, Xiang Yin calmly accepted it without any intention or action to resist.

Moreover, there is no personal vendetta between them; Xiang Yin's actions were indeed merely compelled by the circumstances, wanting to survive better here.

This is the true reason Lu Ye spared her life at the last moment.

The Blood Moon slowly dissipated, and Lu Ye finally heaved a sigh of relief, closed his eyes, and reflected on the various visions he had seen.

No need to worry about the seven-color Divine Lotus going wrong. He gained quite a lot this time, although there's still a way to go before fully uncovering the Blood Eye Spirit Runes.

This matter is not urgent; there will be opportunities in the future.

He walked to the side, sat on a large rock, pondering his next plan. Establishing his own faction is certain, and targeting the Sacred Blood Summit is inevitable.

Perhaps in the future, he might try to contact the Red Talisman Society again and join hands with them.

Some things can't be achieved by mere words; it's impossible to win people's trust. Actions will naturally have effects. Once he starts targeting the Sacred Blood Summit, the Red Talisman Society will surely get the news.

By then, regardless of whether the cultivators of the Red Talisman Society believe him or not, they will be natural allies.

Another crucial point is to find a way to correctly understand why the Red Talisman Society and Sacred Blood Summit must determine a victor to lift the seal on this realm.

This is crucial to escape from this realm, the highest priority!

While in deep thought, he heard a rustling sound and looked up to see Xiang Yin crawling over on all fours.

Xuan Yu attempted to pull her up several times but failed, his expression filled with grief and sadness.

Lu Ye looked at her expressionlessly, but he had to admit, Xiang Yin's figure was indeed captivating. Crawling over in this manner has a peculiar allure, especially with her half-lifted head, her face flushed with an ambiguous tint possibly due to shame or humiliation, contrasting sharply with the fair whiteness of her neck, creating a very intense visual clash.

Moments later, Xiang Yin crawled to Lu Ye's feet, sat upright, lowering her head.

Lu Ye looked at her indifferently, "What do you mean by this?"

Xiang Yin said softly, "Xiang Yin is willing to be a servant for Fellow Daoist, as a token of gratitude for sparing my life."

She had previously said similar words to preserve her sister's life, asking Lu Ye to treat Xuan Yu as a servant, and now, by saying this, she clearly wants to offer herself as a substitute, and her crawling action is expressing her sincerity.

Lu Ye insightfully understood her thoughts, without much pity, as reaching this point was Xiang Yin's own choice, no one else could be blamed.

This woman... with a remarkable disposition, able to yield and adapt. If utilized well, she has exceptional potential, but if not handled properly, there's a risk of mutiny. Especially, one must not show weakness in front of her, for if given the chance, she will undoubtedly repay today's humiliation a hundredfold!

"Did I say I wouldn't kill you?" Lu Ye asked.

Xiang Yin raised her head in astonishment, "But earlier..."

"My hand slipped earlier! If I want you dead, I can kill you anytime!"

Xiang Yin obviously didn't believe him, as the notion of his hand slipping was entirely fabricated. However, she genuinely couldn't discern Lu Ye's true intentions and could only ask, "Then, what must I do to satisfy Fellow Daoist?"

While asking this, she unintentionally showed a hint of coquettishness, full of allure.

At first glance, the Snow Race members seem pure and noble, and Xiang Yin's current demeanor holds great allure to any man.

Lu Ye's eyes narrowed slightly, "If you dare to play any tricks or use underhanded methods in front of me again, I'll kill your sister first!"

Xiang Yin's face turned pale with fear, instantly sitting upright respectfully, speaking obediently, "I dare not, pardon me, Fellow Daoist!"

Lu Ye looked at her for a while, directly staring at her to the point her heart was anxious and uneasy, before his voice finally came, "If you want to live, it's simple: refine this object!"

Chapter 1792 - Sisters United

Lu Ye spared Xiang Yin's life; firstly, because he really needed to gather some manpower. Xiang Yin had enough strength and was clever enough, making her a suitable candidate. Moreover, if he were to kill Xiang Yin, he would also need to kill Xuan Yu to eliminate any future trouble.

Secondly, he had the means to control Xiang Yin.

This method was naturally to have her refine his treasure blood and make her his Blood Servant.

Once she became his Blood Servant, there would be no concern about her rebelling. By then, she would be as loyal as Ma Shangsi!

When a drop of treasure blood appeared at Lu Ye's fingertip, it instantly drew the attention of Xiang Yin and her sister.

Both women felt a strong attraction to this drop of treasure blood, a primal longing, yet alongside this lure, they could sense the terrifying danger hidden within the blood.

"What is this?" Xuan Yu asked.

She had never seen treasure blood before.

If she were a true member of the Blood Race, she wouldn't have asked such a childish question. Every true Blood Race member, upon reaching the Moon Jade level, would know the truth about treasure blood through different channels, either taught by elders or comprehended on their own...

But they weren't true Blood Race members; they were only "first generation Blood Race" created by the unique environment of the Core World. All their understanding of the Blood Race was based on the continual development of their Blood Race bloodline.

So their knowledge of the Blood Race was very partial and fragmented.

But no matter what it was, Xuan Yu realized that this was not something easily refined, and it was definitely Lu Ye's method to control her sister.

What shocked her even more was the intense saintliness contained within the drop of blood, much stronger than when they activated the Blood Race secret technique.

While she was still in doubt, Xiang Yin suddenly looked resolute. Maintaining her kneeling posture, she moved forward, opened her small mouth, and sucked on Lu Ye's finger.

This sudden action made Lu Ye pause, and then he felt a soft little tongue swirl around his fingertip, tickling him...

Looking into Xiang Yin's eyes, Lu Ye saw a determined look.

She was indeed a clever woman, knowing that in the current situation, she couldn't refuse any request he made, so she simply chose to express her stance.



But in the next moment, Xiang Yin's expression changed.

Lu Ye withdrew his finger, stood up, and grabbed Xuan Yu's arm: "Go!"

With mana urged, they darted into the distance.

Xuan Yu dared not resist, only looking back at Xiang Yin, calling out loudly: "Sister!"

The response she got was Xiang Yin's piercing scream, and the place where she stood was instantly enveloped by a dazzling golden light!

Moments later, on another mountain peak about 30 miles from Xiang Yin, Lu Ye landed, looked back, and could no longer see Xiang Yin's figure. Only a vast Blood Sea rose and fell, with golden light shimmering within it. Xiang Yin's screams continued, and inside the Blood Sea, her mana fluctuations surged unceasingly.

Although Xuan Yu didn't understand the situation, she knew her sister was in trouble. Nervously, she looked at Lu Ye and asked, "What's happening to Xiang Yin?"

Lu Ye didn't want to engage too much, but considering that if Xiang Yin successfully refined the treasure blood, both sisters would need to serve under him in the future, he explained: "Normally, for a Blood Race member to possess saintliness, they have to refine Sacred Blood! The so-called Sacred Blood is the blood left after the Blood Ancestor's death. If a Blood Race member successfully refines it, they can claim the title of Saintly Venerable. In the Blood Race tribe, the Saintly Venerable holds a high status, far above ordinary Blood Race members, because their saintliness can suppress normal Blood Race members, and their growth limit is also higher. However, the process of refining Sacred Blood is extremely dangerous and can lead to death at any moment."

Xuan Yu's face went pale as she listened: "What Dao Brother bestowed...is Sacred Blood?"

Lu Ye remained silent. His treasure blood was almost indistinguishable from Sacred Blood, so calling it Sacred Blood wasn't incorrect. Back when Ma Shangsi refined the treasure blood, it was equally dangerous. Whether Xiang Yin could survive this ordeal depended on her own fate.

However, Lu Ye had a faint feeling that Xiang Yin wouldn't die easily; this drop of treasure blood might even bring her significant benefits.

Lu Ye sat down, recalling his earlier observations of that Blood Moon.

Xuan Yu stood not far in front of him, her eyes nervously fixated on the blood sea 30 miles away, her slender hands clenched tightly, nails digging into her flesh.

After a while, she suddenly seemed to have made a decision and flew back into the blood sea.

Lu Ye opened his eyes, unusually surprised, as he watched her snowy figure rush into the Blood Sea...

Although he could stop her, Lu Ye didn't act. This was Xuan Yu's own choice; forcibly intervening would only breed resentment. Moreover, from his standpoint, if Xiang Yin failed to refine the treasure blood and died, he couldn't spare Xuan Yu's life.

Given this, allowing the sisters to live or die together wasn't a bad choice.

When Xuan Yu's figure also entered the blood sea, the screams from inside weren't just Xiang Yin's...

Time flowed on.

The sisters' screams gradually subsided, the golden light in the Blood Sea dissipated, and the vast Blood Sea slowly drew back.

When Lu Ye returned, he immediately saw the two sisters disheveled and drenched in sweat, embracing each other.

They looked quite disheveled, especially Xuan Yu, whose face was full of fear, clearly having had a bad experience while refining the treasure blood.

In contrast, Xiang Yin, although not in a great state, her eyes were bright as if a new world had opened up for her. She curled up in her sister's arms, tilted her head to look at Lu Ye descending from the sky, and breathlessly asked, "Is there more?"

Lu Ye stared at her expressionlessly for a while before responding indifferently, "Depends on your future performance!"

Black Prison Cliff is where the Demon Race's Zhou Ran's cave residence is located.

A fierce battle is unfolding, the fight between Zhou Ran and Xiang Yin.

The Blood Sea surges, with two figures hidden within it, making it difficult to discern the situation, but from Zhou Ran's frantic shouts, it's clear he is at a disadvantage, an absolute disadvantage...

At this moment, Zhou Ran was undoubtedly shocked.

Because he knew the details of the Snow Race sisters well; in single combat, they couldn't possibly be his match, yet today's fight took him by surprise.

Only contending with Xiang Yin for a short while, he fell into a disadvantage, and the situation continued to worsen.

The reason was that his own saintliness was suppressed, preventing him from exerting his full power.

Zhou Ran couldn't figure out what this was all about; just days ago, when competing with Xiang Yin, her saintliness was similar to his. Why in just this short time had she changed so much?

The Blood Sea suddenly dissipated, leaving the combatants standing apart in the air.

"Do you yield?" Xiang Yin looked smugly at Zhou Ran.

Zhou Ran was full of irritation, far from yielding, restraining his anger, he asked, "Xiang Yin, for all these years, we have avoided interfering with each other, why have you attacked me today?"

Xiang Yin pouted and giggled, "Zhou Ran, don't bring up old matters, from now on, the power landscape of this domain will change significantly. I know you've been contemplating whether to pledge to Sacred Blood Summit these past years, but I advise you to make your choice carefully."

Zhou Ran was bewildered, "What choice?"

Xiang Yin said nothing, merely turned her head to look to the side.

Zhou Ran followed her gaze, realizing only then that somehow, two figures had appeared on that side. One was the previously seen human with intense saintliness, and the other was Xuan Yu, but at this moment, Xuan Yu appeared like a maid, standing not far behind the young man.

Zhou Ran was full of doubts, because as far as he knew, this young man had already left, but now puzzled as to why he returned?

Facing Xiang Yin, he still had the courage to struggle a bit, but when facing Lu Ye, he didn't even dare entertain the thought, the memory of being suppressed by intense saintliness ominously vivid, causing him frequent anxiety these days.

"Our sisters have sworn allegiance to the Venerable Lord and wish to aid him in grand endeavors. Today we came to you with an offer, Zhou Ran, what will you choose?"

That short sentence shook Zhou Ran to his core, immediately realizing that the newcomer who arrived in this domain not long ago was someone with ambitions unwilling to remain obscure!

No wonder Xiang Yin said that from now on, the power landscape of this domain will change; Moon Jade Mid-Stage isn't all that significant by itself, but possessing such terrifying saintliness undoubtedly is the greatest asset.

This person's entrance into the scene would inevitably stir the domain's power dynamics.

After some consideration, Zhou Ran chuckled bitterly, "Do I have a choice?"

He feared that if he dared utter a single refusal, he would immediately be suppressed to death!

With a sigh in his heart, after persevering for hundreds of years, still unable to maintain independence, although he had mentally prepared for allegiances, just as Xiang Yin mentioned, he had been considering seeking allegiance with Sacred Blood Summit all these years, because only by pledging to Sacred Blood Summit could he obtain spirit jade to maintain his cultivation.

Now, before he even managed to head there, he's about to be forcibly recruited...

Looking towards Lu Ye's direction, he solemnly bowed in salute, "Zhou Ran greets the Venerable Lord!"

Lu Ye nodded slightly.

Xiang Yin then looked happily at Zhou Ran, "Don't feel like you've lost out, serving under the Venerable Lord's banner is a sought-after opportunity others yearn for but can't attain. Do you know why my saintliness has increased so dramatically recently?"

Zhou Ran couldn't help but be intrigued, "Could it be..." He was just pondering over this question. Everyone's saintliness increase primarily relies on bathing in the Blood Rain or consuming Spirit Plants nourished by Blood Rain, so although the time they've spent in this domain varies, the differences between them actually aren't large, because the boost from bathing in the Blood Rain isn't substantial, merely a gradual accumulation.

Xiang Yin's abrupt saintliness boost is clearly abnormal, combined with her current words and Lu Ye's previous display of terrifying suppression, Zhou Ran couldn't help but speculate.

Xiang Yin teasingly said, "That depends on your performance!"

Zhou Ran immediately declared, "Now part of the Venerable Lord's following, Zhou Ran shall spill blood and lay down flesh, serve devotedly!"

Xiang Yin added, "Let me tell you something else, yesterday, Sacred Blood Summit sent a Moon Jade Late-Stage, carrying a red talisman, to assassinate the Venerable Lord, who ended up killing them instead!"

#### Chapter 1793 - Favoring Some Over Others

Yesterday, the power of the red talisman erupted, causing a huge commotion. Zhou Ran naturally noticed it, but he dared not investigate, as those who could wield the red talisman were either from the Red Talisman Society or the Sacred Blood Summit. What good outcome could await a lone wanderer like him mingling in?

At the time, he was worried about Xiang Yin and her sister, since the commotion originated from the direction of Snowy Peak.

But now, listening to Xiang Yin, he realized that the one who activated the red talisman was a Late Stage Moon Jade from the Sacred Blood Summit, yet not only did they fail to harm Lu Ye, they were killed by him instead!

Being able to survive under the power of the red talisman and even counterkill the enemy, such strength is undoubtedly worth aligning with!

Looking at Lu Ye in awe, Zhou Ran said, "Is the Venerable Lord planning to gather those scattered everywhere?"

He was a smart person. Seeing Lu Ye first taking in Xiang Yin and her sister, and then coming to him, how could he not have some guesses?

"Indeed!" Lu Ye nodded.

Zhou Ran said, "In that case, we must not overlook Wang Taisheng. Although he's a bit old, his strength is not weak. If the Venerable Lord trusts me, leave this matter to me. I have some personal connections with him!"

Hearing this, Xiang Yin immediately cursed, "Zhou Ran, you always seemed at odds with Wang Taisheng, putting on a show for us sisters."

Zhou Ran chuckled awkwardly, "The bond between you sisters is deep, so naturally, I form secret alliances with old Wang."

Xiang Yin pouted, "You look so honest, yet you're a sly guy!" After saying this, she turned to look at Lu Ye, waiting for his directive.

Lu Ye thought for a moment, then said, "Xiang Yin, go along with him."

Xiang Yin understood instantly, "Yes!"

She understood Lu Ye's intention for letting her go along—if Wang Taisheng refused to submit, then eliminate the threat!

For Lu Ye, there were originally two forces here that needed maneuvering. Given his shallow foundation, all uncontrollable factors must be eliminated in advance to prevent Wang Taisheng from later switching allegiance to the Sacred Blood Summit and becoming an enemy.

Xiang Yin and Zhou Ran left.

Lu Ye stayed at Black Prison Cliff with Xuan Yu for a while.

Within half a day, Xiang Yin returned.

Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng came back with her.

The trip involved no significant obstacles. When Zhou Ran met Wang Taisheng, a few simple words sufficed, and Wang Taisheng agreed to submit, rendering all Zhou Ran's prepared arguments useless.

Zhou Ran, curious, asked for the reason. Wang Taisheng explained: "There's always been a rumor that once either the Red Talisman Society or the Sacred Blood Summit decisively wins, this world's blockade will break. Yet all these years, despite Sacred Blood Summit's apparent advantage, it hasn't obliterated the Red Talisman Society. Lih Tian might not have the capability. I understand Lih Tian; he merely benefited from being the first to enter this world, but his own aptitude is not remarkable. Achieving Sun Blaze was already his limit. But this newcomer is different; his future is much broader than Lih Tian's. Someday he may replace Lih Tian, at which point the Red Talisman Society will have no chance of survival."

Zhou Ran then understood that, in Wang Taisheng's view, Lu Ye might be the key to resolving the Red Talisman Society in the future. Once the Red Talisman Society is gone, the blockade of this world will break, and the trapped cultivators here can naturally leave.

Thinking it over carefully, Zhou Ran found Wang Taisheng's words reasonable, strengthening his resolve to follow Lu Ye.

Actually, Wang Taisheng believed the most effective method was for Lu Ye to lead them to align with the Sacred Blood Summit, utilizing its resources for their cultivation growth because, in opposing the Red Talisman Society, the Blood Race's saintliness plays no role; solid cultivation is key.

But he also knew Lih Tian wouldn't allow Lu Ye to live under his nose. Furthermore, he learned from Zhou Ran that Sacred Blood Summit had already attempted an assassination against Lu Ye, so Lu Ye definitely wouldn't lead them to join Sacred Blood Summit.

Wang Taisheng had only one hope, that before his lifespan ran out, he could leave this wretched place.

At Black Prison Cliff, within Zhou Ran's cave residence, Lu Ye sat, looking at the four people on either side.

Within just two days, he had four formidable generals under his command, each with Late Stage Moon Jade strength!

Of course, the loyalty of Xiang Yin and her sister was unquestionable, unlike Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng.



The main purpose of gathering manpower was to deal with the cultivators of the Sacred Blood Summit. Thus, the saintliness of his followers was crucial, as strong saintliness would offer great advantages in future confrontations against the Sacred Blood Summit.

Therefore, the first thing Lu Ye needed to do was enhance their saintliness while also eliminating any potential for future betrayal.

As he pondered, two drops of golden treasure blood seeped from his fingertips and were flicked towards Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng respectively as he instructed, "Refine them!"

He didn't consult them, even though this move carried significant risk, possibly costing Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng their lives. But given the current situation, he couldn't afford to be soft-hearted.

Watching the flying treasure blood coming toward them, Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng's expressions were filled with uncertainty since they'd never seen it before.

But soon, Zhou Ran's face lit up with joy, as he vaguely sensed that the transformation of Xiang Yin and her sister's saintliness was absolutely related to this golden blood!

So he didn't hesitate at all, happily clasping his fists, "Thank you, Venerable Lord!" He didn't even consider the potential risks of refining this item.

Wang Taisheng, however, thought more about it, but given the current situation, how could he refuse? Since he came to submit, he naturally had to show sincerity. So he too clasped his fists, "Yes!"

Each having received a drop of treasure blood, they left the cave to find a place to refine it. Soon, intense mana waves emanated from nearby, along with Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng's screams of agony.

"Venerable Lord, you shouldn't favor the others..." Xiang Yin looked at Lu Ye, putting on a pitiful expression.

Lu Ye had never seen someone like this!

Logically speaking, Xiang Yin had gone through such dangers and should be well aware of the risks involved in refining treasure blood. Having succeeded once by chance, she should be avoiding it, yet now she actively seeks it.

As she spoke, she leaned in and grabbed Lu Ye's arm, shaking it: "Venerable Lord, please grant our sisters some too."

Lu Ye had previously warned her not to play tricks in front of him, and she had agreed, visibly frightened.

But that was then; she hadn't refined the treasure blood yet and wasn't truly one of Lu Ye's people, merely intimidated by his power.

It's different now; having refined Lu Ye's treasure blood, she truly belongs to him, so what's wrong with acting a little spoiled?

She believed Lu Ye wouldn't be angry with her over this.

"No way, you have just refined it, refining again involves huge risks!" Lu Ye remained unmoved.

Every time the Blood Race refines Sacred Blood, they are walking on the edge of life and death; it was hard enough for him to have useful people under him, he wouldn't want these sisters to take risks again.

Xiang Yin tightly hugged Lu Ye's arm in her chest, shaking it vigorously, the fierce elasticity made Lu Ye's heart leap, as she spoke sweetly: "But Venerable Lord, our sisters were the first to pledge loyalty to you, only getting just one drop. Yet those two came later, each getting a drop. Soon their saintliness will surpass ours. It's not fair."

"There's no fairness in this!" Lu Ye said coldly.

Xiang Yin lowered her body, knelt in front of Lu Ye's knees, and looked up at him with a faithful expression as if she were looking at her heaven: "Venerable Lord, just grant our sisters one drop each, as long as we each get one drop, we'll do anything you want us to..."

As she spoke, her eyes were seductive like silk.

Lu Ye was speechless, looking up at Xuan Yu: "Keep your sister in check!"

Xuan Yu hesitated a bit, lowered her head, and said: "Venerable Lord, I feel... refining Sacred Blood isn't as dangerous as you say. Although the process is tough, refining one more drop should be no problem!"

Lu Ye stared at Xuan Yu in shock, unable to comprehend how the elder sister was standing on the same side as the younger in this matter.

After a brief contemplation, Lu Ye spoke: "If you want Sacred Blood, it's possible!"

Xiang Yin's eyes lit up.

But she heard Lu Ye change his tone: "If this time Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng both succeed in refining and return, then I shall grant you one drop each of Sacred Blood. If any of them fail, do not mention this again in the future!"

Xiang Yin chirped joyfully: "Venerable Lord, you said it!"

Quickly she stood up from the ground, calling out to her sister: "Let's go cheer them on!"

Xuan Yu hurried after her.

Lu Ye watched coldly.

In his view, the success rate for Zhou Ran refining Sacred Blood was somewhat hopeful; after all, he was in his prime, but how much that success rate really was, he did not know, possibly he might fail and die.

But Wang Taisheng's success rate was clearly not high.

For these two, the best outcome would be one succeeding, the worst merely both failing, as for both succeeding, Lu Ye found it unrealistic.

Yet in such an environment, if one wants to gather loyal and useful people, allowing them to refine his treasure blood is the only way.

Time passed.

After half a day, Lu Ye suddenly looked up and gazed outside, although his vision was blocked, his Mental Consciousness was unobstructed.

He sensed Wang Taisheng's aura...

Wang Taisheng had actually successfully refined his treasure blood!

This surprised Lu Ye greatly as it was quite different from his expectations.

What shocked him even more was, shortly after Wang Taisheng's successful refinement, Zhou Ran also succeeded!

Something seemed off...

His treasure blood was not too different from the Sacred Blood circulated within the Blood Race, of course, this difference meant the strength of saintliness gained after refining.

This had been verified by Ma Shangsi, who after refining a drop of his treasure blood, possessed saintliness equivalent to other Blood Race individuals who refined a drop of Sacred Blood.

But if refining Sacred Blood was this easy, there wouldn't have been countless Blood Race individuals perishing in the refining process back in the Blood Refinement World.

The earlier success of Xiang Yin and her sister could still be explained; the two shared a drop of treasure blood, hence the risk was reduced.

But Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng's situation now clearly contradicted Lu Ye's understanding.

Chapter 1794 - Offering You an Opportunity—Do You Want It?

Counting Ma Shangsi, Lu Ye had endowed treasure blood to various people without a single failure.

This was undoubtedly somewhat unusual.

Although Ma Shangsi, Xiang Yin, and others were all at the Moon Jade Late Stage cultivation, the dangers in refining Sacred Blood should not be closely related to the level of cultivation. It is about the development and refinement of one's Blood Race bloodline.

Lu Ye had a vague idea in his mind — his treasure blood might be somewhat different from the actual Blood Race Sacred Blood, a difference that could considerably reduce the risks undertaken during refinement.

This conjecture naturally stemmed from the Talent Tree.

During the refining process of the Blood Race Sacred Blood, the Talent Tree incinerated everything detrimental to him, leaving only the non-threatening elements.

Thus, the treasure blood he condensed naturally differed significantly from Sacred Blood.

Although both can evoke the Blood Race bloodline, his treasure blood is undoubtedly much less lethal.

If the actual Sacred Blood is highly toxic, his treasure blood has toxic properties but is not as potent, which is why the Blood Servants faced less risk in refining it.

Of course, this was merely his hypothesis, yet to be confirmed.

It's also possible that Xiang Yin and other first-generation Blood Race members differ from ordinary Blood Races, capable of enduring greater perils due to their first-generation status during the refining process.

In any case, it was a positive scenario for Lu Ye.

Shortly, Xiang Yin and the others returned together.

Zhou Ran and Wang Taisheng's gaze at Lu Ye was distinctly different from before; previously, it was due to the suppression of Lu Ye's saintliness. Now it was genuine submission.

"Venerable Lord..." Xiang Yin looked at Lu Ye expectantly, almost reminding him not to break his word.

Lu Ye ignored her and instead looked at Xuan Yu: "Can it really be refined again?"

Xuan Yu answered cautiously: "We sisters are willing to give our utmost, and certainly will not disappoint the Venerable Lord!"

Lu Ye pondered briefly and flicked his fingers to release his last two drops of treasure blood, wanting to know if his assumption was correct.

The Snow Race sisters each got a drop of treasure blood and joyfully ran out to refine it.

Lu Ye sat upright, stretching his Mental Consciousness to investigate, hearing the sisters' intermittent cries of anguish.

Although the process was arduous, the outcome was favorable. After more than half a day, Xiang Yin and her sister successfully refined the treasure blood, albeit with a slightly disheveled appearance, without much other issue.

Thus, Lu Ye finally confirmed one thing: his treasure blood differed from the Blood Race Sacred Blood, much less fatal.

This was undoubtedly good news, as he could thus confidently gather more allies. Although there were not many scattered cultivators left in this realm, having more is always beneficial, and each joining him could rapidly elevate their saintliness, undoubtedly playing a significant role in the future confrontation with Sacred Blood Summit.

After two days of rest, Xiang Yin and the four were dispatched by Lu Ye, tasked to search for scattered cultivators and bring them back.

Lu Ye himself remained at Black Prison Cliff, refining his treasure blood.

Initially having five drops of treasure blood, all consumed over the past few days, he had to refine anew. Treasure blood refinement wasn't an easy feat, even with improved cultivation, taking at least half a month to refine a single drop, each refinement severely depleting his own foundation, needing substantial resources to replenish.

During the refining, Lu Ye suddenly opened his eyes slowly, standing up as Void Spirit Runes swiftly articulated beneath his feet, disappearing in a flash of light.

About 30 miles from Snowy Peak, a silhouette quietly lurked, staring at the leveled Snowy Peak with an expression of confusion.

Recently, Sacred Blood Summit received news of a newcomer to this realm, whose saintliness was unprecedentedly strong and terrifying. Two Snow Race members from Snowy Peak were willing to defect to Sacred Blood Summit, leaking this person's whereabouts to them.

Bound to take action, Sacred Blood Summit promptly dispatched a Moon Jade Late Stage cultivator per Lih Tian's directive, carrying a red talisman for the kill. Had it not been for Lih Tian's other engagements, he intended to meet this newcomer personally.

However, that Moon Jade Late Stage cultivator quickly lost contact with the Sacred Blood Summit, presumed dead with certainty.

This unsettled Sacred Blood Summit notably, prompting a further probe into the matter.

This Ghost Cultivator was dispatched for this very purpose, yet after his investigation, he was puzzled, clueless about his Moon Jade Late Stage companion's fate.

The red talisman must have been activated; otherwise, Snowy Peak wouldn't have vanished inexplicably, and indeed, residual traces of the red talisman's burst remained at Snowy Peak's disappearance site.

Logically, no cultivator could withstand the red talisman's power, let alone contend against it in Moon Jade Mid-Stage cultivation.

Then what about his companion's disappearance?

He thought of the Snow Race member who passed information to Sacred Blood Summit. Now, uncovering the situation seemed possible only by directly questioning that Snow Race individual.

Having made up his mind, the Ghost Cultivator prepared to leave the place first. However, upon turning, he suddenly felt like falling into an ice cellar, frozen in place.

Not far away in the sky stood a figure calmly gazing in his direction.

The Ghost Cultivator was deeply alarmed, having not detected the other's approach previously! This situation implied only one possibility: the opponent excelled even more in covert arts than he did.

Upon closer look, he seemed to be in his twenties, with a long knife at his waist and a tight-fitting black and white robe, possessing a Moon Jade Mid-Stage cultivation. The ghost cultivator instantly knew the identity of the newcomer.

Clearly, he was the newcomer that the Snow Race mentioned!



As the ghost cultivator pondered, Lu Ye merely stared quietly at the direction in which he was lurking. This ghost cultivator was quite adept in the art of stealth, and even though Lu Ye activated the Insight Spirit Runes, he could only see some blurry traces and couldn't see through his true form.

Early on, when Lu Ye was taking Xiang Yin and her sister away from Listening Snowy Peak to Black Prison Cliff, he knew that the Sacred Blood Summit would surely send someone to investigate the situation here.

So, he left behind a Talent Tree Avatar to monitor the area.

The ghost cultivator arrived silently and would not have been detected if he hadn't leaked a trace of Mana fluctuation while investigating Listening Snowy Peak; even the Talent Tree Avatar might not have noticed him.

While observing, he found that the ghost cultivator remained motionless, seemingly naive to think that Lu Ye was looking in that direction purely by coincidence, without having discovered his trace.

Lu Ye stepped forward, surrounded by a fog of blood, and swept forward with a thunderous force.

In an instant, a Blood Sea spanned across, wrapping the surrounding space.

The ghost cultivator was almost ready to use his Escape Technique to leave as Lu Ye moved, but the terrifying suppression of saintliness caused his Mana to suddenly stagnate. When he came back to his senses, he was already engulfed in the Blood Sea.

He screamed out loud, eyes filled with terror, pupils trembling violently.

Although he had already heard from the Snow Race at Listening Snowy Peak about the newcomer's intense saintliness, experiencing it firsthand made him realize it far exceeded his understanding.

Under the suppression of the other's saintliness, he felt like a rabbit encountering a tiger, only capable of trembling, with weak limbs, completely lacking the courage to resist.

In the thick Blood Sea, a figure slowly approached him.

The ghost cultivator bit his tongue to summon strength, fiercely stabbing his dirk forward, Mana surging and parting the Blood Sea.

However, this desperate strike had no effect. Lu Ye's long knife descended, not only blocking his dirk but also severing his arms.

The ghost cultivator staggered back, enduring the pain, sweat on his forehead as he watched the slowly approaching figure, knowing that this time he was likely doomed!

Soon, the Blood Sea dissipated, and Lu Ye, carrying the ghost cultivator who had completely lost the strength to resist, flew towards Black Prison Cliff.

Half a month passed, inside the cave residence, Lu Ye opened his eyes.

After half a month of effort, he finally condensed another drop of treasure blood, truly not an easy task.

He got up and walked to the side.

Soon, he arrived in a room where two figures were sitting upright, one of them the ghost cultivator he had captured alive earlier.

The ghost cultivator's severed arms had been reattached, and Lu Ye had no intention of restraining him, leaving only the Talent Tree Avatar to watch over him.

The ghost cultivator probably knew he couldn't escape, so he remained quiet during this time, although he was anxious, unsure of what Lu Ye intended.

He had asked the Talent Tree Avatar numerous times, yet it never responded.

Seeing Lu Ye's true self enter, the ghost cultivator glanced at the avatar, then at him, and asked, "What do you want?"

Neither killing nor releasing, it was truly tormenting.

"Gift you an opportunity. Do you want it?" Lu Ye asked as he looked at him.

The ghost cultivator frowned, "What do you mean?"

Lu Ye flicked his finger, and a freshly condensed treasure blood flew towards him. "Refine it, and you'll understand."

The ghost cultivator suspiciously eyed the treasure blood hovering before him, instinctively feeling it wasn't anything good, but the powerful saintliness contained within it was quite tempting.

"What is this?" the ghost cultivator asked.

"Refine it. You have no other choice," Lu Ye's voice was calm as water.

Upon hearing this, the ghost cultivator felt discouraged. At this point, he was like a fish on a chopping board, with no choices left. He vaguely guessed that this was probably a means for the other to control him, so refining it shouldn't be too risky; if the other wanted to kill him, he wouldn't have brought him back alive.

Gazing deeply at Lu Ye, he gritted his teeth and grabbed the treasure blood.

In the next moment, he felt the drop of treasure blood transform into a living thing, penetrating into his flesh and blood.

A scream erupted...

Lu Ye stepped aside, quietly waiting and observing.

After half a day, as the golden light faded, the ghost cultivator lay prone on the ground, drenched in sweat, his body slightly trembling, looking miserable but ultimately alive.

Lu Ye became more certain of his previous suspicions about treasure blood; otherwise, he couldn't explain why the Blood Race who refined his treasure blood all survived.

#### Chapter 1795 - Setting an Ambush

A moment later, the Ghost Cultivator kneeled on one knee, half-kneeling before Lu Ye, with a respectful demeanor. Having refined the treasure blood, the Ghost Cultivator naturally felt a sense of awe towards Lu Ye.

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

"Zhou Tianbao!" the Ghost Cultivator replied.

"How long have you been in this realm?"

...

After asking a few simple questions to slightly understand the information about this newly acquired Blood Servant, Lu Ye then changed the subject: "Zhou Tianbao, I have a task for you!"

"Is it that you want me to return to the Sacred Blood Summit?" Zhou Tianbao looked up at Lu Ye.

Lu Ye nodded slightly, "You're a smart person."

The reason for sparing Zhou Tianbao's life and specifically having him refine his own treasure blood to subdue him was precisely this plan. After waiting for more than a half of a month, Zhou Tianbao evidently considered this possibility.

If he had known earlier that refining his treasure blood wasn't so risky, Lu Ye wouldn't have killed that Moon Jade Late Stage who used the red talisman. He could have easily subdued the person as well. Of course, arranging these deployments now isn't too late; it's just that some issues need to be solved.

"Since so much time has passed without any news being sent back, what would you say if Lih Tian asks?" Lu Ye asked.

Zhou Tianbao replied, "This is not a concern for you. When performing missions abroad, sometimes long-term concealment is needed, and it's common for messages to go unanswered."

Lu Ye nodded, then asked, "How will you explain the death of that Red Talisman Society traitor?"

Zhou Tianbao thought for a moment and said, "The Snow Race sisters had already joined the Red Talisman Society. The previous incident was entirely a trap set by the Red Talisman Society!"

Lu Ye frowned and said, "The Red Talisman Society wouldn't take in any cultivators tainted with saintliness. The Snow Race sisters joining them is unreasonable."

Zhou Tianbao replied, "Then perhaps the Snow Race sisters were coerced and lured by the people from the Red Talisman Society, thus spreading false information intending to lure Lih Tian, hoping to kill him with the power of the red talisman. Unfortunately, it didn't go as planned!"

This explanation is barely convincing.

The next half day, Lu Ye went over the story with Zhou Tianbao again, ensuring that there wouldn't be any major flaws when he returned, only then did he allow him to leave.

However, from talking with Zhou Tianbao, Lu Ye figured out another thing: at that time, Sacred Blood Summit sent a Moon Jade Late Stage with a red talisman to deal with him. He was somewhat puzzled because if he were Lih Tian, he would certainly take action personally.

In terms of saintliness, Lih Tian is undoubtedly the strongest in this realm, and his cultivation level is the highest. Suddenly a newcomer appearing who seemingly surpasses him in saintliness would naturally prompt an investigation, without necessarily resorting to a strategic killing weapon like the red talisman.

Only through Zhou Tianbao's explanation did Lu Ye understand the reason.

It seems that Lih Tian had some affairs of utmost importance to address at the time, so he couldn't extricate himself.

Zhou Tianbao guessed that Lih Tian was in seclusion, comprehending secret techniques.

But no matter what, Lih Tian not appearing personally is a fortunate thing for Lu Ye. Although he is confident that he can suppress him in terms of saintliness, ultimately the opponent is a Sun Blaze, and Lu Ye is uncertain if he can surpass him once suppressed. The might of a Sun Blaze is not easy to gauge.

From his standpoint, there's no choice; the Sacred Blood Summit is bound to become an enemy. Since that's the case, planting an informant on the other side would undoubtedly be very helpful.

Lu Ye never thought about directly attacking the Sacred Blood Summit; that would be seeking death. From what he knows, the foundation of the Sacred Blood Summit is not weak, far from what his current manpower can shake.

Fortunately, there is still the Red Talisman Society, and a fierce battle between these two is inevitable in the near future. What Lu Ye needs to do now is to gather his own forces so that when these two sides contend, he may have the qualification to intervene.

Another more than half a month passed by in a blink.

The group of four led by Xiang Yin gradually returned, each bringing back some scattered cultivators.

The number is not many, only seven or eight in total, and their cultivation levels vary, including Moon Jade and even Constellation.

The situation of these cultivators was similar to that of Xiang Yin and her group. The Red Talisman Society lacked resources and didn't want to waste energy on them, and the Sacred Blood Summit assumed that these people would eventually join them, thus allowing them a breather.

But with Lu Ye's arrival, the dynamics of this realm have changed. As Lu Ye wants to gather usable manpower, they cannot remain aloof. Moreover, Xiang Yin and others already had some connections with these people, making it extremely easy to find their whereabouts.

Having just been forcefully subdued, loyalty is hard to say, but Lu Ye doesn't mind. As long as he is given enough time to refine sufficient treasure blood, he will undoubtedly command a loyal force. This kind of loyalty is something neither the Red Talisman Society nor the Sacred Blood Summit can hope for.

That day, while cultivating, Xiang Yin suddenly opened her eyes, took out the audio talisman, checked it, and immediately got up: "Sister, the Venerable Lord has summoned us."

Since Lu Ye's arrival, they have not worried about lacking spirit jade, and after refining treasure blood, their Blood Race bloodlines have greatly advanced. They have recently comprehended numerous Blood Race secret techniques from their bloodline heritage, so although their cultivation levels have not increased, their strength has improved considerably.

"Okay!" Xuan Yu also stood up, ready to follow Xiang Yin to meet Lu Ye.

But after just a few steps, Xiang Yin suddenly shouted, "Wait!"

Xuan Yu was puzzled, but Xiang Yin had already come to her, glanced her up and down, then raised her hand to undo the top button of Xuan Yu's garment. With a deliberate motion, she pushed up her bust slightly, squeezing it toward the center.

"What are you doing?" Xuan Yu blushed.

Xiang Yin giggled softly, "To give the Venerable Lord a good mood!"

Xuan Yu was left both crying and laughing. Could this truly give the Venerable Lord a good mood? The Venerable Lord was a person destined for great things, full of dignity and gravitas, never smiling frivolously when speaking to subordinates, inspiring awe. How could such a Venerable Lord be swayed by feminine charms? If he were truly tempted, she and her sister would have long become his intimate favorites.

Despite her words, Xuan Yu did not resist. If this could truly lift the Venerable Lord's mood, she would not hesitate.

After handling her sister's side, Xiang Yin also adjusted herself.

Shortly thereafter, they arrived together at Lu Ye's residence.

"Venerable Lord!" After greeting in unison, Xuan Yu cautiously raised her eyes to peek ahead, only to see the Venerable Lord's gaze fall upon her neckline, then slowly shift downward, examining earnestly.

Xuan Yu couldn't help but feel embarrassed, her cheeks flushed. She met Lu Ye's eyes for a moment, then quickly lowered her head.

Above, Lu Ye cleared his throat and then spoke, "Xuan Yu and Xiang Yin, listen to my orders!"

"Yes!" The sisters straightened their expressions.

"Take this item, and within two days, lay an ambush near Jinfeng Valley. Select your personnel as needed!"

"Yes!" After receiving the order, Xiang Yin stepped forward and took a jade box from Lu Ye's hand.

Lu Ye felt Xiang Yin intentionally brush his hand with her fingers...



He was truly powerless against this woman. Compared to her sister, she was like a tempting fairy, occasionally teasing him. Lu Ye simply couldn't understand how the Snow Race, known for its cold temperament, could produce such a character. She was practically the disgrace of the Snow Race.

Xuan Yu asked, "Venerable Lord, who are we to ambush?"

"Sacred Blood Summit!" Lu Ye replied. The information came from Zhou Tianbao, indicating that Sacred Blood Summit had plans against the Red Talisman Society in that area. "There might be people from the Red Talisman Society present, remember not to engage with them, and if you can assist them, don't hesitate. As for the contents in the jade box, use them at your discretion."

"Yes!" Xuan Yu replied respectfully.

"Also, prioritize your safety. In this mission and all others, survival comes first!"

Xiang Yin and her sister felt warmth in their hearts, increasingly grateful for their allegiance to the Venerable Lord. Had they pledged loyalty to Sacred Blood Summit, Lih Tian would not have said such considerate words.

The sisters soon departed.

Days later, they returned safely.

They were not lacking in strength, both having Moon Jade Late Stage cultivation, and now each having refined a drop and a half of treasure blood, greatly enhancing their saintliness, giving them a natural edge over the cultivators of Sacred Blood Summit.

After hearing the sisters' report on the mission, Lu Ye nodded in satisfaction. Overall, the mission was successfully completed. Not only did it severely damage the team from Sacred Blood Summit, but it also earned a favor from the Red Talisman Society at a crucial moment.

He casually bestowed some cultivation resources upon them and instructed them to rest for the time being.

Lu Ye returned to his cultivation practice of condensing treasure blood.

Previously, he always maintained five drops of treasure blood, sufficient for any situation. However, after he discovered he could easily subdue the Original Blood Race of this realm with treasure blood, his supply was perpetually insufficient.

Whenever new treasure blood was condensed, it was quickly consumed. Lu Ye couldn't help but feel resigned, having to continuously condense without pause, even sacrificing his cultivation time. At most, he could only recover from the exhaustion of condensing treasure blood using resource supplements.

Inserting Zhou Tianbao into Sacred Blood Summit was undoubtedly a wise move, for any disturbances from that side could not escape Lu Ye's notice.

In the ensuing months, the cultivators from Black Prison Cliff mobilized several times. Apart from one instance where they laid an ambush but didn't encounter anyone from Sacred Blood Summit, the other attempts were fruitful.

After several instances, Sacred Blood Summit evidently realized the gravity of the situation and made some strategic adjustments.

In a hidden underground chamber, several figures gathered. If Lu Ye were there, he would recognize Hu Dequan, Meng Xu, Yang Ling, and others whom he had met before.

The Red Talisman Society had numerous strongholds in this realm, but most could be abandoned. However, the current location could not be forsaken.

This site was painstakingly carved out by the Red Talisman Society, where a large number of Spirit Plants were cultivated, serving as the foundation for the cultivators' cultivation.

If this stronghold were discovered and conquered by Sacred Blood Summit, the Red Talisman Society would have no place left in this realm, as their mana would eventually be depleted, and without resource replenishment, they were bound to be tainted by saintliness.

At this moment, the primary figures of the Red Talisman Society gathered here to deliberate and discuss.

#### Chapter 1796 - Tip-Off

In the secret chamber of the base, Hu Dequan's voice echoed softly: "In recent months, it seems a new force has emerged in this realm, targeting Sacred Blood Summit everywhere. Several operations by Sacred Blood Summit have been disrupted, causing significant losses."

"Where is this force from?" Yang Ling frowned. Hu Dequan generally handled external affairs, while Yang Ling either cultivated or slept to maintain his combat power because within the Red Talisman Society, he was the strongest, holding two red talismans, making him the trump card against Sacred Blood Summit. In the past, during each Black Abyss contest, he had been the one to restrain Lih Tian.

Thus, hearing Hu Dequan mention a new force has appeared in this realm, Yang Ling was quite perplexed.

For so many years, this realm had maintained a status quo of two dominant forces combating each other, and they had long become accustomed to it. How could a third party suddenly emerge?

Hu Dequan said: "It seems to be from the Black Prison Cliff side, organized by those independent cultivators."

"Organized by independent cultivators!" Yang Ling was even more surprised. "Could they really make Sacred Blood Summit suffer?"

Hu Dequan nodded: "That's why I'm puzzled about the situation." It's not that he underestimated those scattered cultivators; there are undeniably a few with decent strength, but if they weren't already tainted by Blood Rain and contaminated with saintliness, the Red Talisman Society here would certainly try to recruit them. However, due to past losses from such attempts, the Red Talisman Society dares not accept those cultivators with saintliness and can't waste resources dealing with them, so they simply leave them be.

But claiming they could make Sacred Blood Summit suffer, Hu Dequan is the first to disbelieve. Those scattered cultivators usually haven't been in this realm for long, and in terms of saintliness, they are somewhat inferior to Sacred Blood Summit's cultivators. Once they clash with Sacred Blood Summit, in terms of saintliness, they are definitely at a disadvantage.

Yet, the intelligence gathered suggests this.

Meng Xu nodded and said: "I've heard of this issue too. It's said several teams executing missions for Sacred Blood Summit outside were completely wiped out, with only a handful managing to escape."

Yang Ling was amazed: "These independent cultivators... Impressive!" He frowned: "But why are they doing this?"

Logically speaking, these independent cultivators' only avenue is to join Sacred Blood Summit because the Red Talisman Society here certainly wouldn't accept them. Yet now, not only did they not join, but they banded together to target Sacred Blood Summit. Are they trying to shorten their lifespan?

Hu Dequan pondered: "I suspect someone might want to replace Lih Tian!"

Yang Ling was startled: "Among those independent cultivators, someone truly dares to have such ambition?" If there was, they should've emerged earlier, not only recently starting actions.

Meng Xu suddenly added: "Do you still remember that young fellow?"

Both immediately recalled a youthful face from several months ago; how could they forget?

"The changes in this realm seem to have started after his arrival; could he be behind it?" Meng Xu speculated.

Yang Ling frowned: "He, being Moon Jade Mid-Stage, has such capability? Among those independent cultivators, there are several Moon Jade Late Stage ones. Even if he has the deterrence of a red

talisman, how can he recruit these independent cultivators and persuade them to fight Sacred Blood Summit?"

"But the timing is rather coincidental."

The timing indeed seemed coincidental, but claiming that young fellow united the independent cultivators to confront Sacred Blood Summit, none believed.

"I plan to find an opportunity to approach the Black Prison Cliff side and see what exactly is going on." Hu Dequan spoke, though the Red Talisman Society cannot recruit those tainted by saintliness, the enemy's enemy could still collaborate. Black Prison Cliff and Sacred Blood Summit already have irreconcilable conflicts; contacting them from Red Talisman Society's side, even if it doesn't yield benefits, won't be harmful.

"That could work!" Meng Xu nodded, "But proceed with caution; it might be a trick from Sacred Blood Summit's side. Even if not, they may not share our ideals."

"I'll be careful." Hu Dequan sighed: "There's more than half a year until the next Black Abyss contest; we don't even know if we can hold on this time."

In the two dominant forces' Black Abyss contest, Sacred Blood Summit always had the upper hand. The Red Talisman Society could barely hold on, thanks to the power of the red talismans, but over the years, these talismans have dwindled, and currently, there are a few that can be used. Still, once exhausted, they'll have no resistance left.

To barely survive, unless Mount Fangcun sends additional personnel and brings new red talismans.

Discussing the Black Abyss contest left all with a feeling of helplessness; truly uncertain when such days would end.

In a moment of silence, a voice suddenly emerged from above. Due to the isolation by thick soil layers, the sound seemed illusory but still clearly entered the ears of the three: "Fellow Daoists, could you please reveal yourselves for a meeting?"

The faces of Hu Dequan and others changed, exchanging glances, realizing the severity of the issue.

This foundational base of the Red Talisman Society... had been exposed!

This undoubtedly shocked them, but they were relieved that the visitor wasn't from Sacred Blood Summit but rather a somewhat familiar voice.

Precisely the young fellow just mentioned.

After a brief hesitation, the three made a decision. The visitor had already come to them; hiding was certainly not an option. They must uncover how this young fellow knew the precise location of the base and understand his intentions. Ideally, they might keep him there; otherwise, someday, the base's location might be revealed to Sacred Blood Summit.

Soon, energy surged in a hidden cavern, the big array hummed, and Hu Dequan's silhouette appeared.

They usually travel between bases through teleportation arrays, and there is more than one such array.

Hu Dequan appeared alone, undoubtedly wanting Lu Ye to relax his vigilance, while other cultivators from the Red Talisman Society would appear from other arrays, completing the encirclement of Lu Ye.

The plan on the side of the Red Talisman Society seemed fine, but when Hu Dequan arrived at Lu Ye's location, he couldn't help but be stunned.

Because, as far as the eye could see, there were not just Lu Ye alone over there.

Led by him, there were more than ten figures standing behind him, most looking very familiar, even if they hadn't communicated with each other, they had seen each other from afar, obviously those scattered cultivators.

Were these independent cultivators truly integrated by him? In that case, the recent actions targeting the Sacred Blood Summit were also led by Lu Ye?

Even though Hu Dequan had this idea before, he was still shocked when he saw it with his own eyes.

He didn't know what method Lu Ye had, to be able to integrate such a force in such a short time, and judging by the stance of those scattered cultivators, they seemed quite respectful to him...

This is now troublesome!

Their side initially believed Lu Ye came alone, intending to hold him down, but now the opponent was more than ten people, including four in Moon Jade Late Stage, how could the Red Talisman Society hold this?

It's not that they couldn't hold them down, but forcing action would only result in mutual damage, and if things got loud, alerting the cultivators of Sacred Blood Summit would have more serious consequences. At this thought, Hu Dequan hastily urged the audio talisman, sending a message out to advise Yang Ling and Meng Xu coming from other routes to be patient.

He saw no hostility from Lu Ye, so he prepared to clarify the opponent's intentions first.

"Fellow Daoist, we meet again," Lu Ye looked towards Hu Dequan.

Hu Dequan's expression was complex, sighing lightly: "Old Brother, what play are you staging?"

Suddenly bringing over this batch of people, and directly finding the most hidden base of the Red Talisman Society, it seemed menacing, yet they showed no hostility, which left Hu Dequan bewildered.

"Just came to give some advice to a few Fellow Daoists," Lu Ye looked at him earnestly: "Your base has been exposed, cultivators from Sacred Blood Summit are on their way to eliminate it, so you better pack up and leave here."

Admittedly, this base of the Red Talisman Society was hidden well, not being discovered for so many years, providing persistent endurance for the cultivators here. But Sacred Blood Summit wasn't easy to

deal with either; Lih Tian had been trying to locate this base, expending countless efforts and manpower. Finally, there was a discovery a few days ago.

Lu Ye could know about this naturally by relying on spies placed within Sacred Blood Summit, otherwise, with his foundation in this world, he couldn't possibly have found here.

Upon hearing this, Hu Dequan's face changed dramatically: "Where does this news come from?"

Lu Ye looked at him without explaining: "I could find here, doesn't Fellow Daoist understand?"

Hu Dequan's face alternated between bright and dark, instinctively feeling this was Lu Ye informing Sacred Blood Summit, but upon careful thought, it seemed unlikely since these two parties were fiercely contending these past months, with Sacred Blood Summit suffering losses multiple times; Lu Ye couldn't have done such a thing.

Moreover, it wouldn't make sense for Lu Ye to notify Sacred Blood Summit and then come to warn his own side.

"Fellow Daoist, I understand you have rules for recruiting personnel, but sometimes adhering strictly isn't beneficial. Facing a common enemy, mutual cooperation is the only way out, I've said all I could, farewell!"

Saying so, Lu Ye turned to leave.

Hu Dequan's expression changed, shocked by the information received and conflicted by Lu Ye's words, suddenly raised his hand and said, "Wait."

Lu Ye paused, turned his head to look at him.

Hu Dequan opened his mouth and said, "Shall we exchange audio talisman markings?" He had initially planned to contact these independent cultivators over at Black Prison Cliff, and now that they came proactively, naturally it was time to go with the flow.



"Certainly!" Lu Ye flicked his finger, and an audio talisman flew out.

Shortly after, having exchanged audio talisman markings, Lu Ye finally took his subordinates and, transforming into a Blood Sea, swept towards the distance.

Black Prison Cliff was no longer a place to stay, as Sacred Blood Summit not only moved against this side but also sent many cultivators towards Black Prison Cliff.

Sacred Blood Summit had been deeply rooted in this world for years and had very well-connected channels of information; over the months, Black Prison Cliff had launched several heavy attacks against them, of which Sacred Blood Summit could not have been unaware and had already investigated the source of issues.

The Blood Moon was approaching, and the strength of the first-generation Blood Race would see a notable increase; Sacred Blood Summit evidently intended to seize this opportunity to punch the Red Talisman Society base and kick Black Prison Cliff, eliminating these two major hazards in one go.

Chapter 1797 - Finally Accomplished

After learning that the Sacred Blood Summit sent troops to Black Prison Cliff, Lu Ye immediately left with Xiang Yin and the others.

It's not because he was afraid. According to the information he received, the Sacred Blood Summit dispatched nearly twenty people to target Black Prison Cliff, all at the Moon Jade Realm.

The number is indeed significantly more than their side, but if it really comes to a fight, the ones at a disadvantage would be the Sacred Blood Summit. After all, the suppression of saintliness is something these first-generation of the Blood Race cannot ignore. Not to mention himself, even Xiang Yin and the others now significantly exceed the enemy in saintliness.

Even so, Lu Ye still wasn't confident in completely wiping out this batch of invaders! After all, they're all at the Moon Jade, who knows what mysterious means they might have?

And once his own intelligence is exposed, it will definitely attract Lih Tian's attention, which would be detrimental to his subsequent plans and might even prompt Lih Tian to take action personally.

In his plan, before truly confronting Lih Tian, his saintliness must be an absolute secret, so as to catch Lih Tian off guard.

Indeed, the Sacred Blood Summit knows, because of Xiang Yin's earlier disclosure, that his saintliness is quite potent. But how potent exactly, they are not clear, as they haven't truly felt it and can't imagine it.

Engaging with Lih Tian at this time is not what Lu Ye wants, because even if he defeats Lih Tian by leveraging the suppression of saintliness, there would be no way to completely eliminate him.

The battle in Black Abyss six months later is a very good option; Black Abyss is the battlefield he has chosen.

With all these considerations, Lu Ye abandoned Black Prison Cliff, led his subordinates to a new location, and incidentally did a favor to the Red Talisman Society, letting them know that he could be a cooperative partner.

Sun Blaze is undoubtedly very strong. Without having actually fought yet, Lu Ye doesn't know if he is a match for Lih Tian. If he can cooperate with the Red Talisman Society, it would undoubtedly increase his chances of winning.

The Blood Sea surged forward, enveloping all of their cultivators. Lu Ye soon received a communication from Hu Dequan, which contained nothing but a location where they could hide.

For years, the Red Talisman Society has been waging an intellectual and tactical struggle against the Sacred Blood Summit. Even though their overt strength is far inferior, they've never been completely eradicated, mainly relying on their ability to hide.

It can be said that in this world, the Red Talisman Society has countless hidden bases, one of which Hu Dequan disclosed to Lu Ye, partly as a gesture of goodwill to return the favor for Lu Ye's earlier warning, and partly, perhaps, as a test.

Lu Ye repeatedly claimed he could be a cooperative partner. If so, giving him a place to hide, if he dares to go, would indicate a genuine intent to cooperate. If he doesn't dare, then he must be up to something.

Lu Ye had nothing to fear...

He was just troubled about where to hide when he received the message. He promptly replied with a thank you and led his people toward the location of the base.

The sky was clearing, and the Blood Moon showed signs of appearing.

At the same time, the cultivators of the Red Talisman Society were also urgently withdrawing. Although they weren't sure if the information provided by Lu Ye was credible, in such matters, it's better to be safe than sorry, especially since Lu Ye had already found that base.

Of course, after retreating, Hu Dequan and others remained hidden at a distance to observe the situation.

After two days, a large number of cultivators from the Sacred Blood Summit indeed found the place and started bombarding indiscriminately...

Hu Dequan and the others watched with twitching eyelids, secretly grateful for Lu Ye's warning. Otherwise, the Red Talisman Society would have suffered severe damage, if not obliteration, and would have had no way to resist in the Black Abyss confrontation six months later.

At this moment, Lu Ye was in a valley, gazing at the Blood Moon, exploring its mysteries.

Since arriving in the Core World, Lu Ye would exit seclusion to observe only when the Blood Moon was in the sky; at other times, he focused on refining his treasure blood.

This was already the third time the Blood Moon appeared, and the progress on the Blood Eye Spirit Runes was promising. Lu Ye estimated that with two more occurrences, he should be able to perfect it.

According to the current pattern of the Blood Moon's appearance, there are certainly two opportunities within six months, though unexpected situations could arise.

But Lu Ye was powerless to influence the timing of the Blood Moon; he could only wait.

In the meantime, the Red Talisman Society went completely dormant.

Having lost their foundational base and the carefully cultivated Spirit Plants, they were now without resources. Although Lu Ye had previously given them a batch, it wouldn't last long.

Thus, the Red Talisman Society felt urgency to decisively confront the Sacred Blood Summit in the next Black Abyss confrontation. Missing this opportunity would only make their situation more difficult in the future.

Driven by this urgent mentality, the Red Talisman Society began to actively and frequently communicate with Lu Ye.

Based on past events, they could confirm Lu Ye's stance against the Sacred Blood Summit. Moreover, given the urgency of time, they had no choice but to join forces with him.

This was precisely what Lu Ye wished for.

Upon arriving in this realm, his initial intention was to join the Red Talisman Society and combat the Sacred Blood Summit alongside them, but some setbacks had prevented this.

He understood Hu Dequan and the others' choices at the time and did not harbor resentment, as he couldn't explain the secret of the Talent Tree.

Although the process had been somewhat convoluted, the result was still satisfactory.

In this light, his strategy of gathering independent cultivators was correct because without this force, the Red Talisman Society might not have paid attention to him.

The biggest gain Lu Ye received from the Red Talisman Society was all kinds of intelligence about the Black Abyss rivalry. The more he understood this matter, the more he was convinced that choosing Black Abyss as the battlefield against Lih Tian was a wise decision.

In the secret area of the outpost, Lu Ye was refining his own treasure blood when the audio talisman suddenly vibrated. He took it out to check, thinking it was Hu Dequan contacting him. Recently, their relationship had been steadily increasing; after setting aside inherent prejudices, Hu Dequan found Lu Ye worthy of a deep acquaintance, so he frequently messaged him to discuss various matters.

The relationship between the two groups was currently very close, almost to the point of staying together. However, there were still occasional personnel exchanges, and they got along well.

After checking the audio talisman, he realized it wasn't Hu Dequan contacting him, but rather the ghost cultivator, Zhou Tianbao!

"Master, I've been exposed. I will fight to the death, but please be cautious. Lih Tian has been in seclusion practicing a secret technique recently and seems to have achieved some minor success now!"

After checking the message in the audio talisman, Lu Ye lowered his gaze slightly.

Zhou Tianbao's exposure was something he had anticipated.

Since gathering many independent cultivators, he had been targeting Sacred Blood Summit in various ways, destroying several squads sent by Sacred Blood Summit to perform missions. Previously, Sacred Blood Summit had come up empty when besieging the Red Talisman Society and Black Prison Cliff.

If the cultivators at Sacred Blood Summit weren't fools, they could surely infer they had a problem internally; otherwise, the enemy couldn't have known to relocate ahead.

After realizing they had an internal problem, Sacred Blood Summit would certainly conduct a self-check. Once that happens, Zhou Tianbao would inevitably be exposed sooner or later.

During this period, all the intelligence from Sacred Blood Summit was revealed by him, follow the evidence, and Zhou Tianbao's fate was inevitable.

Lu Ye had previously instructed him to investigate Lih Tian's situation because he was particularly concerned about one issue: Lih Tian had been out of sight for a while, not appearing even when the Red Talisman Society's outpost was under siege.

Zhou Tianbao clearly found out some things. It might be precisely because Lih Tian's secret technique achieved some success that he discovered Zhou Tianbao's betrayal.

A secret technique... Lu Ye immediately thought of the Blood Eye Spirit Runes.

During the Blood Moon, the spirit runes hidden within it weren't a secret. If he could get insights, other cultivators could too. The cultivators at the Red Talisman Society had researched the Blood Moon, vaguely sensing that the mysterious spirit runes hidden within involved a kind of secret technique, but they couldn't figure it out and had to give up.

Regarding observing the spirit runes themselves... The Blood Eye Spirit Runes were too complex. Even the best spirit runes masters would find it unrealistic to construct this spirit rune completely.

If not for Lu Ye's Talent Tree, he wouldn't waste time on it.

The new round of Black Abyss rivalry was approaching; Lih Tian's secret technique having minor success wasn't good news.

When Lu Ye tried to contact Zhou Tianbao again, the audio talisman couldn't transmit messages, indicating that Zhou Tianbao was already dead.

Moreover, through sensing his own Sacred Blood, Lu Ye indeed couldn't detect any trace of Zhou Tianbao, the Blood Servant.

Regretful...

Lu Ye had considered whether to have Zhou Tianbao leave Sacred Blood Summit early, but he didn't do so because Zhou Tianbao wasn't the only spy he had placed there!

Every time Xiang Yin and others went out for missions, he would give them a jade box to carry, instructing them to use it as needed. The jade box contained not other things but the treasure blood he painstakingly refined!

Zhou Tianbao had to die; only his death could make Sacred Blood Summit lower its guard, thereby safeguarding other spies.

After a brief contemplation, Lu Ye sent a message to Hu Dequan, informing him of Lih Tian's emergence from seclusion.

The Red Talisman Society and his own forces needed to hide more thoroughly because, after coming out of seclusion, Lih Tian would certainly take action. If he found any clues, there would inevitably be many casualties.

All lurking was in preparation for the final Black Abyss rivalry.

Lu Ye distributed vast resources, ensuring the cultivators of the Red Talisman Society maintained their strongest power at all times.

Half a year passed in a hurry.

Within the secret room of the outpost, Lu Ye sat cross-legged, eyes closed, while tidal waves of Mental Consciousness continuously surged.

In inner observation, the leaves of the Talent Tree burned fiercely. On some originally blank leaves, many intricately interlocking Yin-Yang Dual Origins emerged. As Mental Consciousness surged, more Yin-Yang Dual Origins began spreading around.

Lu Ye was engraving the Blood Eye Spirit Runes onto the Talent Tree.

After observing the Blood Moon for the third time six months ago, he waited another two months for its next appearance, yet still failed to gain full insight.

After patiently waiting several more months, it wasn't until a few days ago, during the last observation of the Blood Moon, that he finally succeeded!

#### Chapter 1798 - Clash in the Black Abyss

The many Yin-Yang dual origins interwoven and filled the leaves, Lu Ye immersed his mental consciousness, meticulous to the extreme.

This is the most intricate and complex spirit runes Lu Ye has encountered so far, compared to which, As-Close-As-Siblings does not even deserve to carry its shoes.

He must ensure flawless success throughout the construction process, without any errors; otherwise, all would be lost. The mystical properties of the Talent Tree afforded him the possibility to complete this; had he tried to construct such spirit runes on the jade tablet, he would have likely failed long ago.

Several days later, when the last basic element was successfully constructed, this Blood Eye Spirit Runes was truly complete.

Under internal observation, there was a prominent eye pattern on the lush leaves of the Talent Tree. This pattern was pieced together from several leaves, occupying a large area. From afar, it appeared as if the Talent Tree had grown an eye, with intertwined patterns within it; upon closer inspection, one could find an inverted triangle pattern at the pupil's position, looking extremely peculiar.

Lu Ye was very curious about the function of this spirit rune...

When the Demon Eye blinks, if the cultivator is in the marvel outside, their Divine Sea would be eroded by this Blood Eye, suspended in the Void. This Blood Eye has an illusory effect on the cultivator, greatly unsettling their mood and making them prone to anger; in severe cases, they might even be unable to control themselves.

But if the cultivator is within the Core World, under the Blood Moon, their power would noticeably increase.



According to Lu Ye's speculation, it's the Sacred Blood of the Blood Ancestor at work. In other words, whether the Blood Eye reflected in the cultivator's Divine Sea, or the Blood Moon suspended in this world, is an manifestation of the sacred blood's might in different environments.

Even though he managed to glimpse the Blood Eye Spirit Runes from it, he should not compare the power when activated to it, and it might even yield completely different effects because, after all, he is not the Blood Ancestor.

So he would need to find someone to test it on. With this thought, Lu Ye sent a message out, summoning Xiang Yin and sister.

More than ten days passed again.

On this day, while Lu Ye was meditating, the audio talisman shook.

Checking it, he found Hu Dequan had sent a message.

The time has come, the competition of the Black Abyss is about to begin, unaware, it has been a year since he came into this world.

Based on all the intelligence he has acquired, to completely crush the Sacred Blood Summit can only happen on the battlefield of Black Abyss. If this time fails, then he can only wait another decade.

A decade may not be much for other Moon Jade cultivators, but for Lu Ye, it's quite long.

So this competition can only be a victory, not a defeat!

He stood up, mental consciousness swelling, and walked out of his chamber.

Soon arriving outside, numerous figures revealed themselves from around; precisely the ten plus cultivators he had subdued earlier, most of them were Moon Jade, with two or three Constellations among them, some showing slight unease.

Not saying much, months of dormancy and preparation, everyone had been waiting for this day.

"Let's go!" Lu Ye led the way to the side, with numerous cultivators following closely. Shortly, on a pre-arranged Teleportation Array, light burst forth, this hidden base, the population dissipated.

A day later, in another hidden place, Lu Ye quietly waited with his forces.

After a while, footsteps approached.

The meditating Lu Ye turned his gaze and immediately saw some familiar faces, not only them, but around, some hidden presences appeared gradually.

Hu Dequan, Yang Ling, Meng Xu stopped at a distance from Lu Ye, mutually exchanging glances.

After a while, Hu Dequan spoke solemnly, "Brother Lu, we can trust you, right?"

Though several months of contact had been made, and occasionally personnel had been exchanged between both sides, when really at this step, the Red Talisman Society was still somewhat uneasy.

If Lu Ye's people were arranged by Lih Tian, then getting so close to them would inevitably lead to defeat in this battle.

Despite existing signs indicating this was unlikely.

"You don't seem to have any other choice." Lu Ye spoke.

Hu Dequan gave a bitter smile, this was precisely the toughest point for the Red Talisman Society.

Meng Xu spoke, "Actually, I've always had a question, could Fellow Daoist answer?"

Lu Ye looked at him, "Fellow Daoist, whatever you wish to ask."

Meng Xu said, "Fellow Daoist has mid-stage Moon Jade cultivation, how could you gather so many cultivators with higher cultivation than you to serve under you? They seem extremely loyal to you!"

Meng Xu had noticed this before, and he had also probed through Xiang Yin and others, but had never gotten an answer, hence always confused.

For cultivators, power is forever the voice of authority; Lu Ye has many late-stage Moon Jade cultivators here, in terms of cultivation higher than him, why do they obey him?

He hadn't directly asked Lu Ye before, it's people's secrets after all, probing rashly isn't right, but now with the battle impending, he needed clarity, for even if they trusted Lu Ye, whether Lu Ye's subordinates could be trusted was another matter. Moreover, when the battle starts, if someone on their side turned against them, the situation would be dire.

Lu Ye pondered briefly and said, "The Blood Race is of two kinds, one is ordinary Blood Race, one is with Sacred Blood, possessing saintliness, the latter can condense treasure blood, which has infinite uses and can be granted to other Blood Race, making them Blood Servants, Blood Servants would be inherently loyal to the Blood Master."

Meng Xu frowned, "So Xiang Yin and they are your Blood Servants... Yet Fellow Daoist's time in this world is short, by saintliness, they should surpass you, right?"

"Before coming to this realm, I already possessed saintliness, unlike Xiang Yin and the others."

With a confused expression, Meng Xu asked, "So are you a human race or a Blood Race?"

"I am naturally human. The Blood Race saintliness is just one of my powers; it doesn't affect me at all."

Meng Xu remained silent, unsure whether he believed it, but he did clarify the doubt in his heart. Xiang Yin and the others are actually Blood Servants...

Hu Dequan spoke up, "Alright, things have come to this point, and there's no turning back for any of us." He looked deeply at Lu Ye, "Brother Lu, I hope you won't disappoint us."

"I won't!"

Hu Dequan turned his head and glanced around before shouting in a low voice, "Let's begin!"

As he spoke, cultivators of the Red Talisman Society hidden around emerged one by one. Not many, just around thirty, adding Lu Ye and the others on this side, making a total of about forty.

This is the Red Talisman Society's foundation accumulated through countless hardships over the years, and the only available manpower the Society has.

The cultivators from both sides gathered together.

Hu Dequan raised his hand, summoning a streak of red light at his fingertips, with a fierce and violent aura emanating.

Not just him, but Yang Ling, Zhang Xu did the same as well.

The three simultaneously activated the might of the red talisman, causing the Void to begin trembling.

Lu Ye quietly observed from the side, having learned a lot about the Black Abyss Contest from the Red Talisman Society. He knew that Hu Dequan and the others weren't truly activating the red talismans but were using their power for a form of guidance.

The target of guidance, if Lu Ye's guess was correct, should be the Core World Consciousness!

Sure enough, as the power of the red talisman continued to spread, a small black dot suddenly appeared in the middle of the three. Initially imperceptible, it expanded fiercely in all directions in just an instant.

No one made any effort to dodge.

In a split second, the cultivators experienced a momentary darkness, feeling a sense of weightlessness, and when they regained their senses, they were no longer in the original location.

Lu Ye took the opportunity to survey the surrounding area, immediately feeling a strangely familiar sensation.

Countless floating meteorites traversed the Void, with floating lands of varying sizes interspersed. The environment was precisely what he had encountered when participating in the Black Abyss Martial Arts Meet at Mount Fangcun.

The so-called Black Abyss, indeed, bore no difference to the space he had entered back then. Lu Ye wasn't sure if it was the same Black Abyss.

Most likely, it isn't, because the Black Abyss Contest here occurs once every ten years, while the Dwarf Race's Martial Arts Meet spans a longer cycle. If it were indeed the same Black Abyss, there should be times of overlap.

If that were true... a bunch of unfamiliar Moon Jade cultivators suddenly appearing amidst a martial arts gathering of constellations would be utterly chaotic.

Yet, over the years, star constellations participating in the Martial Arts Meet at Mount Fangcun have never encountered such an event.

Lu Ye leaned more towards the idea that it was another space, albeit similar to where he had been before.

The only difference was a patch of bright light emanating from a not-so-distant location.

Turning his head to look, he saw a sphere resembling a small sun glowing brightly. On closer inspection, the sphere's surface even exhibited some faint blood hues.

"Move, hurry and move!" Hu Dequan's shout echoed, and he darted towards the direction of the small sun.

The others followed closely behind.

Xiang Yin and her companions gathered around Lu Ye, looking at him for direction.

"Follow the plan." Lu Ye instructed calmly, leading his group to follow the Red Talisman Society cultivators. The plan, essentially, was to assist the Red Talisman Society.

A short while later, over forty people gathered around the small sun, all standing solemnly. Hu Dequan looked towards Lu Ye and his group and solemnly opened his mouth, "Brother Lu, though we've communicated before, I must explain carefully that the Black Abyss Contest, for us, is the Protection Battle for the Origin!"

The "Origin" is what the Red Talisman Society calls the small sun; the Origin is the core world's Origin.

Furthermore, the Origin genuinely possesses its own consciousness, as Lu Ye confirmed during his prior discussion with Hu Dequan.

Previously, the core world's consciousness would have some interaction with Red Talisman Society's cultivators, providing guidance and assistance, but over time, this consciousness became increasingly silent, and often the Society's members received no response when seeking it.

The root cause was precisely the blood hue covering the Origin, from which Lu Ye clearly felt an intensely terrifying saintliness.

That blood hue undoubtedly stemmed from the power of the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood!

The treasure blood is gradually eroding the Origin, and the Origin is perpetually resisting, thus remaining in a dormant state.

Only during the Black Abyss Contest does the Origin Consciousness receive guidance from the might of the Red Talisman, which leads Red Talisman Society's cultivators into this location.

Chapter 1799 - Great Restoration

In fact, initially, the cycle of Black Abyss Conflict was not once every ten years, but once every hundred years. Yet, as time passed, this cycle became shorter and shorter, until in recent times, it has changed to once every ten years.

Here is where the source consciousness hides, and the shortening of the conflict cycle undoubtedly indicates a dire situation for the source.

Judging by the current outcome, the erosion of the core world's origin by the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood has already achieved preliminary results. If it continues like this, even if the cultivators of the Red Talisman Society could still hold on, the source wouldn't sustain. If the source is completely devoured by the treasure blood, there would be no place for the cultivators of the Red Talisman Society in this realm.

"In the confrontation with the Sacred Blood Summit, we are at a disadvantage because they have larger numbers and Sun Blaze. But as the defending side, we have advantages too, because with the source's support, we arrived here early, giving us enough time to make some deployments!" Hu Dequan's voice continued to echo.

This is the biggest reason why, despite being at a disadvantage in numbers and overall strength, the Red Talisman Society can persist. Because every Black Abyss Conflict, they arrive in this space ahead of time to make some defensive deployments.

The source, ultimately being the source of the core world, naturally can use its rights to provide conveniences to its cultivators.

So, the current situation is that the cultivators of the Red Talisman Society arrived here first, and after some time, the people of the Sacred Blood Summit could open the passage to enter this place.

The duration of this time gap depends on how long the source consciousness can last. Because the process of the Sacred Blood Summit opening the passage is breaking the blockade that the source consciousness has on this space.

"Therefore, we must deploy as many defensive methods as possible. Once the battle begins, the primary task is to protect the source, and secondly, to kill the enemy! After the war starts, the source consciousness will repel all invading enemies. As long as we can hold on long enough, the cultivators of the Sacred Blood Summit will be expelled from this place, and that is how we can achieve victory!"

Hu Dequan had discussed this with Lu Ye before, and had mentioned how the repulsion had weakened over time. Initially, the source consciousness needed only a day, even half a day, to repel the enemies from this space. But during the last Black Abyss Conflict, it took five full days.

This time will certainly be longer.

The reason, after all, is that the source consciousness's control over this space is weakening, and this undoubtedly poses a disadvantage for the defending side of the Red Talisman Society.

After a brief explanation of the essence of Black Abyss Conflict, the cultivators quickly sprang into action, and they must perform more deployments before the Sacred Blood Summit's cultivators arrive.

Figures shuttled back and forth, transporting large amounts of meteorites and floating land, while cultivators proficient in formations began laying arrays on these meteorites and floating lands.

Lu Ye did not rush to help immediately but instead flew towards the source glowing with light.

As early as when he was amid the Demon Eye Marvel, Lu Ye had surmised that the core world has its consciousness. Because the core world, during its mutual pursuit with him, indeed showed conscious reactions, and he even attempted to communicate with it but received no response, ultimately being swallowed by the core world.

After entering this realm, Lu Ye similarly tried communicating with the consciousness of this realm, yet all to no avail.



Until today, he finally realized that the consciousness of the core world has always been hiding in this special space, so naturally, won't respond to his calls.

But if this is the case, then what was the situation previously when the core world approached him? At that time, the core world was clearly acting consciously, searching for his whereabouts...

Especially when he attempted to escape and sacrificed the treasure blood, the core world reacted exceedingly fiercely.

In his musings, a chilling thought suddenly sprang into Lu Ye's mind—what if the consciousness that the core world exhibited then wasn't the source?

In other words, what if the act of swallowing him into the core world wasn't spearheaded by the source consciousness, but another consciousness? It perceived his Blood Race lineage, swallowed him, and transformed him into its aid...

If so, then the truth is somewhat terrifying, and the situation facing the Red Talisman Society is far more serious than imagined.

Lu Ye's expression changed, as he raised his hand to touch the luminous source in front of him.

Not far away, Hu Dequan observed coldly.

The action of Lu Ye flying towards the core source was clear to him, yet he did not intervene, knowing full well that any cultivator with saintliness approaching the source faces no good consequences. This had been proven in previous battles.

Because the thin layer of blood light covering the source seems particularly intense with saintliness, any cultivator with saintliness finds their strength increasingly suppressed the closer they get to the source.

Yet, to Hu Dequan's amazement, Lu Ye showed no signs of suppression, even as he extended his hand to touch the source, causing Hu Dequan's eyes to widen.

What is happening?

He couldn't comprehend, as the scene before him already surpassed his established perceptions.

It's certain that Lu Ye possesses saintliness, and it's quite intense, yet it shouldn't be intense enough not to be suppressed by that layer of blood light...

But peculiarly, such an event just happened.

He felt peculiar because he hadn't understood Lu Ye's prior statements.

Lu Ye had told him before that while he does possess saintliness and can freely wield various secret techniques of the Blood Race, saintliness is merely one of his powers!

This power will surely be suppressed by the source's external blood light, as it carries the force of the Blood Ancestor's Treasure Blood, its saintliness far beyond Lu Ye's reach.

But Lu Ye possesses not only saintliness; he himself is also a human race combat cultivator. Standing here, he indeed cannot activate his own saintliness, and the Blood Race's secret techniques are difficult to perform. Yet, his mana remains unaffected.

If it were Xiang Yin, she might not even be able to approach the Origin.

Hu Dequan, seeing the situation wasn't right, wanted to step forward to stop it, but in the next instant, his eyes widened significantly.

Because as Lu Ye's large hand touched the Origin, the hazy blood light surrounding it started to undergo some strange changes. Originally, this blood light was like a layer of shell tightly enveloping the Origin, but now it seemed to be boiling.

At this moment, extremely tiny, almost undetectable roots extended from Lu Ye's palm, in the blink of an eye wrapping the large Origin.

Lu Ye activated the power of the Talent Tree!

If the Origin is seen as a cultivator, then the hazy blood light is like an intrusion into the cultivator's body, similar to the curse poison in the merfolk race bloodline, akin to the Soul-Devouring Aphid in Yaya's Divine Sea back then.

Lu Ye activated the Talent Tree's power to see if he could refine away this blood light.

In just a moment of contact, Lu Ye knew this could be done!

Because with the activation of the Talent Tree's power, the layer of blood light had some abnormal reactions.

The blood light transformed into blood mist, as if wanting to evaporate, and the color of the blood light steadily weakened.

Hu Dequan finally came to his senses, leaped to stand in front of Lu Ye, suspicious and uncertain: "Brother Lu, what are you doing?"

He had wanted to stop it just now because whatever Lu Ye is doing, the Origin must not be touched casually. If Lu Ye harbored ill intentions, the battle would be lost without even fighting.

But having seen the change in the Origin, he realized that what Lu Ye was doing seemed to be good for the Origin.

"Talk later," Lu Ye replied, focusing wholeheartedly on activating the power of the Talent Tree. At this moment, he keenly sensed the refining process of the blood light causing some profound essence to be absorbed into his body through the roots of the Talent Tree.

He felt his own saintliness rapidly enhancing!

Originally, after arriving in this realm, he had bestowed much treasure blood, which had actually led to the loss of his own saintliness. However, due to his saintliness being too intense, this damage was not very noticeable. Compared to other members of the Blood Race, he still had enough advantage to crush them in terms of saintliness.

To supplement the loss of saintliness, he would have to refine more Blood Race Sacred Blood.

He certainly couldn't find Blood Race Sacred Blood for the time being, yet unexpectedly, he found a huge supplement here!

As he pondered, Lu Ye realized that this blood light is the manifestation of the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood. His intent was merely to refine it away, thereby relieving the pressure on the Origin Consciousness, maybe enabling it to assist his side in the upcoming battle.

But this process of refining turned it into cultivation resources similar to spirit jade.

In the refining process of spirit jade, the roots of the Talent Tree probe into the spirit jade, refining impurities while absorbing the energy for oneself, strengthening one's own foundation.

Currently, the spirit jade is replaced by this layer of blood light; essentially his present state is no different from normal cultivation.

It's just that in this cultivation, his cultivation level is not increased; what grows rapidly is his Blood Race saintliness.

Huge supplement!

The previously lost saintliness was quickly replenished, and it continued to enhance.

Hu Dequan stood aside and watched, increasingly confirming that Lu Ye's actions were beneficial to the Origin, so he no longer had the thought of stopping him, leaving him here, and started overseeing various matters of defense construction.

Lu Ye originally thought he could quickly refine that layer of blood light cleanly. Who knew regardless of his refining efforts, that layer of blood light showed no signs of weakening.

But the growth of his internal saintliness was visibly discernible.

This led him to gradually understand one thing — it was not only the surface of the Origin that was stained by the Blood Ancestor's sacred blood, but internally as well, giving him the illusion that it couldn't be thoroughly refined.

If given enough time, he should be able to restore the Origin to its original state, but currently, there isn't enough time, which posed a dilemma.

Just as he was feeling helpless, he suddenly sensed a force gently touching the protective barrier of his Divine Sea, as if someone was knocking on the door. Lu Ye paused momentarily, quickly realized and hurriedly opened his Divine Sea, urgently immersing himself, manifesting his psyche spirit body.

Inside the Divine Sea, Lu Ye raised his eyes and looked, immediately seeing a new figure here.

An old man with white hair, leaning on a cane.

The figure was very short, roughly the height of a ten-year-old child, with a long beard hanging down to his chest, and a forehead with series of large protruding lumps, resembling mountain peaks.

Chapter 1800 - Origin Consciousness

Looking at the small old man who suddenly appeared in his Divine Sea, and recalling the slight knocking sensation he felt in his Divine Sea earlier, Lu Ye immediately realized the identity of the other party: "Origin Consciousness?"

If he wasn't mistaken, the small old man in front of him was the same type of existence as Number Nine and Flower Girl, both manifestations of the will of a domain.

The protection of the Divine Sea being triggered was undoubtedly the handiwork of the other party.

The small old man nodded slightly: "Correct!" He then asked: "Dao Tree lineage?"

"What?" Lu Ye frowned, not quite understanding.

The small old man gave Lu Ye a deep look but didn't explain further, though Lu Ye clearly saw a hint of apprehension in the other's eyes, unsure if it was his imagination.

Just as he was about to ask more, the small old man seemed to discover a new world, staring at the seven-color Divine Lotus beneath Lu Ye's psyche spirit body in surprise: "Warm Divine Lotus?" Upon closer inspection, he shook his head: "Not quite right, just a doppelganger. Boy, what is your relationship with the Soul Race?"

"Barely count as half a member of the Soul Race," Lu Ye answered casually.

The small old man's eye visibly twitched. What was this? What does it mean to barely count as half a member of the Soul Race? Either you are or you aren't, there's no half about it. But seeing such a Divine Lotus in the other's Divine Sea, he knew his relationship with the Soul Race was not ordinary; otherwise, he couldn't have such a thing guarding his Divine Sea, something not everyone could possess.

While deep in thought, Lu Ye spoke up: "Veteran Fang, the Black Abyss Contest has already started. The people from Sacred Blood Summit should attack soon. I wish to wipe them out with this battle. Can you provide any assistance?"

The small old man was momentarily stunned, realizing that "Veteran Fang" referred to him, undoubtedly derived from the name Mount Fangcun.

No one had ever called him that before; he was a bit surprised, but not too concerned. Upon hearing this, he slowly shook his head: "The Origin has been tainted by the treasure blood of the Blood Ancestor.

For many years, I've been fighting against it. Without your help today, I wouldn't have been able to meet you here. Once the contest begins, all I can do is repel the intruders with all my might; beyond that, I cannot offer any assistance."

Lu Ye understood, feeling a bit disappointed, but upon closer thought, he couldn't be too demanding. The Origin had been contaminated by the power of the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood for so many years. Today, with his help, Veteran Fang's Origin Consciousness could relax for a moment, but it couldn't be relaxed forever.

Veteran Fang noticed Lu Ye's uniqueness, which is why he chose to appear and meet him.

So, in the matter of the Black Abyss Contest, it was up to him.

"Boy, don't expect too much too quickly. Win this battle first, then help me fully resolve the crisis within the Origin, so we can plan for the future!" Veteran Fang's voice echoed.

The crisis within the Origin had only been slightly alleviated, not completely resolved. Achieving that wasn't a one-day task.

The Origin, contaminated by part of the power of the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood, was like falling sick. As the saying goes, an illness strikes like a mountain falling, but leaves like silk unwinding...

From Veteran Fang's perspective, it was unrealistic for Lu Ye to expect to eliminate Sacred Blood Summit in one battle; such matters required gradual effort.

Lu Ye frowned; he didn't want to plan for the future; he only wished to decide the battle's outcome here and now.

Thinking it over, Lu Ye asked: "Veteran Fang, does the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood have its own consciousness?"

The reason for this suspicion naturally stemmed from the various thoughts that had flashed through his mind earlier. If the consciousness that pulled him into this realm wasn't Mount Fangcun's, then there was only one other possibility.

Veteran Fang nodded: "That's correct. However, there's no need to worry too much. That consciousness is not complete. It was born from the will left behind in the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood from years ago, so its spiritual intelligence is somewhat primitive, like a child who hasn't been born long. Moreover, this place is the Origin Space; it cannot enter, only you cultivators can."

Having received confirmation from Veteran Fang, even though Lu Ye had long suspected, he was still shocked.

He couldn't help but recall some information he obtained when he first encountered the Blood Race heritage. It was rumored that the Blood Race could, at the depth of their bloodline cultivation, achieve Drop of Blood Rebirth.

He always thought such things were too farfetched, but now it seemed he had been like a frog in a well.

The Blood Ancestor had been dead for who knows how many years, and her remains divided into many pieces, yet a drop of treasure blood she left behind here had given birth to consciousness...

Just one drop of the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood had left Mount Fangcun's core consciousness so embarrassed; how powerful must the Blood Ancestor have been in her time? And what kind of existence could have torn the Blood Ancestor apart?

Lu Ye couldn't allow himself to ponder further.

As for now, since that consciousness was nurtured by the will left in the treasure blood of the Blood Ancestor, it had certainly inherited many things from the Blood Ancestor. Could this be considered a form of rebirth?

Veteran Fang said the Blood Ancestor's drop of treasure blood couldn't enter this place. As for why, Lu Ye wasn't sure, but since Veteran Fang said so, it must be true. In other words, that drop of treasure blood had always been outside... Lu Ye immediately thought of the Blood Moon hanging in the sky!



He had always been curious about the nature of that Blood Moon and had speculated before. Now, hearing Veteran Fang's words, he could almost confirm that the Blood Moon was indeed transformed from the treasure blood of the Blood Ancestor.

However, Lu Ye quickly remembered another issue: "Veteran Fang, if the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood can't enter, how was the Origin contaminated?"

"Naturally, it's been contaminated by the saintliness within the cultivators who died here. Those saintliness, in essence, are also extensions of the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood's power! The naive will of the treasure blood had always aimed to occupy the Origin, and all saintliness powers would autonomously contaminate the Origin."

Lu Ye suddenly understood. For generations, the battles at the Black Abyss surely caused numerous cultivators of the Sacred Blood Summit to perish. After their deaths, the saintliness within them dispersed and slowly infiltrated the Origin.

"So, young one, do your best to win this round. Afterwards, this old man will join forces with you to figure out how to handle that drop of treasure blood." If it were anyone else here, Veteran Fang would never have appeared because it would be meaningless. But Lu Ye was different. The Dao Tree lineage gave Veteran Fang hope, as to the Dao Tree lineage, everything in the world could be refined, including the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood!

Lu Ye nodded, "I'll do my best!"

In the Divine Sea, the figure of Veteran Fang faded away.

Lu Ye opened his eyes, still pressing his hand on the Origin, urging the Talent Tree's power to continuously refine the treasure blood's strength within the Origin.

The more he refined, the lighter the pressure on the Origin Consciousness would become.

Everyone else was busy without pause, with Hu Dequan coordinating in all directions, continuously issuing various commands. All around the vast space of the Origin, formations overlapped, and hidden dangers lurked.

Until a few days later, this area of space suddenly began to tremble incessantly.

Only then did Hu Dequan flash to Lu Ye's side, "Brother, the people from Sacred Blood Summit are coming. According to the plan, we need to hide the Origin."

Though this concealment couldn't last long, and the cultivators of Sacred Blood Summit would eventually find it, delaying time as the defensive side was undoubtedly a strategy.

Lu Ye understood and stepped back.

With Hu Dequan's call, several cultivators immediately leapt over to set up a concealment array near the Origin.

The space shook continuously, stopping only after nearly half a day.

Hiding on a meteorite, aided by the formation to mask his aura, and simultaneously enhancing with Breath-concealing Spirit Runes, Lu Ye instantly detected a powerful mental consciousness sweeping over from a certain direction.

The mental consciousness of Lih Tian!

Surely, the cultivators of Sacred Blood Summit were coming out in full force, as they did every time, but every time they were thwarted and returned empty-handed. This contest had gone on for countless years since ancient times.

In the silent void, hidden dangers were lurking.

Soon, on Lih Tian's orders, the cultivators of the Sacred Blood Summit split into squads and spread out.

Their first task was to find the exact location of the Origin, as only then could they act purposefully.

As they searched, it was also a process of mutual maneuvering between both sides. The main objective of the Red Talisman Society was indeed to buy time, but under this overarching goal, eliminating enemies whenever possible was also essential.

In an instant, there were clusters of Blood Sea in the Origin space, searching in all directions. Within the Blood Sea, the cultivators of Sacred Blood Summit concealed themselves.

On the meteorite where Lu Ye was hiding, Hu Dequan was right beside him, looking tense and anxious: "Brother, how confident are you?"

In the past at this stage, the cultivators on the Red Talisman Society's side would generally choose to remain hidden, as their overall strength was inferior to that of their opponents, making a proactive attack unfavorable.

Moreover, the cultivators of Sacred Blood Summit would collaboratively use the Blood Sea Technique, which allowed them to attack when encountering an enemy and defend when under attack, making them quite difficult to deal with.

Unless the enemy just happened to enter the range of the formation they set up, they would leverage the formation's power to launch an attack. However, the Origin space was vast, and even though they had arrived several days earlier, the formations they could set were limited. Getting the enemy to wander into the range of the formations depended entirely on luck.

But this time was different. After discussing with Hu Dequan, Lu Ye had decided to adopt a more aggressive strategy.

"Just wait," Lu Ye replied. In his perception, the positions of all Blood Servants in the Origin space were clear at a glance, thanks to his bloodline perception rather than mental consciousness, allowing for a vast range of detection.

Hu Dequan felt a bit uneasy. Although he had been convinced by Lu Ye earlier, now that they reached this point, he couldn't help but feel tense. The Red Talisman Society didn't have many people, and couldn't afford to be too reckless.

In another part of the space, a group of six from the Red Talisman Society, along with Xiang Yin and her sister and two other Blood Servants who had later joined under Lu Ye's command, ten people in total, were rushing openly in one direction.

Xiang Yin and her sister led the charge, holding their audio talisman and constantly communicating with Lu Ye to confirm the direction.

Before long, Xiang Yin exclaimed, "Prepare to engage the enemy!"

The others in the squad looked up to see a Blood Sea ahead rapidly advancing, carefully searching every area they passed, attempting to locate the Origin's position.