

Humanity 1931

Chapter 1931 - The Rewards Don't Match

The world spun around, and when Lu Ye came back to his senses, everything around him had changed.

At this moment, he was in mid-air, surrounded by the familiar aura of his domain. Lu Ye let out a breath and felt a chill as the cold wind blew, realizing he had broken into a sweat during that instant.

Clearly, the overall situation was settled, the Celestial God followers had been completely exterminated, and the Blood-Colored Furnace Cauldron hidden within that brown planet was likely destroyed. Who would have thought that a blood flower would bloom so brightly above Tian Hong, the one who had always supported him?

That undoubtedly signified that Tian Hong had turned into a Celestial God follower.

Lu Ye didn't know what Tian Hong encountered inside that brown planet, nor was he aware of what happened to the other Sun Blaze, but something was definitely wrong with Tian Hong.

If the trial hadn't ended precisely at that moment, Lu Ye would have had to use up a red talisman just to have a chance to escape.

After identifying the direction a little, he flew towards his cave residence. He soon returned to his cave residence, needing to calm his mind from the terrifying fright earlier.

The Asura Authority Token suddenly stirred, and upon checking, Lu Ye discovered Arbuluo had sent a message: "Damn it, I'm still on the way, how did it suddenly end? What happened on your side?"

Only then did Lu Ye remember that Tian Hong had ordered Arbuluo to lead the cultivators from Zhongyou World to the battlefield. But the marching speed of the cultivator army couldn't match Tian Hong's. Calculating the time, Arbuluo indeed had not yet arrived at the battlefield.

His eyes flickered, and Lu Ye replied: "What do you mean, Fellow Daoist?"

It was not Lu Ye himself who had exchanged Asura Authority Token imprints with Arbuluo, but the physique cultivator in the Reward Hall who helped detoxify people!

Arbuluo's second message quickly came: "Don't pretend, we all know each other!"

Lu Ye sniffed, thinking there are still some matters to consult with this guy, then replied: "The battle is over, our home galaxy won a great victory!"

"I knew it was you, that kid Gu Sheng guessed right."

It seemed that before sending the message, Arbuluo wasn't sure if the physique cultivator he encountered at the Reward Hall was Lu Ye, and his first message was just probing. Now, he finally confirmed it.

Lu Ye didn't mind. Arbuluo would find out sooner or later anyway, so being found out now was no big deal.

"Quick, check your Asura Seal!" Arbuluo suddenly sent another message, as if discovering something astonishing.

Lu Ye immediately checked. Although this trial was very strange, and there weren't many real opportunities to take action, Lu Ye played a significant role in this trial scenario—not counting the healing and detoxifying help at Yunluo Sacred Land, finding a way to kill the Celestial God followers with one blow was undoubtedly a major contribution. Afterward, he continued to eliminate several Sun Blaze Celestial God followers. It could be said that no one's contribution could surpass his.

Therefore, the Asura Seal obtained shouldn't be few.

So Lu Ye thought, but upon focusing, he frowned immediately.

Something was not right; the Asura Seal he previously acquired in the Reward Hall was untouched, and he remembered the numbers clearly. But now the increase in the Asura Seal was minimal. Calculating slightly, it was evident that this time he only received a mere fifty thousand plus Asura Seals.

What's going on? Lu Ye looked perplexed.

He sent a message over: "How many Asura Seals did you get?"

Arbuluo quickly replied: "Fifty-four thousand, and you?"

"The same."

Everyone received exactly the same reward, with no difference at all.

Things seemed quite off. In the previous trial, he obtained over a hundred thousand Asura Seals, and this time, he spent more time and played a crucial role. Lu Ye originally estimated that he would receive at least two to three hundred thousand Asura Seals, if not more. But what's with this fifty-four thousand?

Arbuluo obviously noticed this problem too, which is why he sought Lu Ye out to confirm.

"Come to the treasure vault, let's discuss in person." Arbuluo sent another message, as communicating this way was quite inconvenient.

Lu Ye didn't refuse and immediately set off for the Asura Treasure Vault.

Upon his arrival, he saw a towering figure appear beside him, precisely Arbuluo.

As their eyes met, Arbuluo said, "Hold on, there's one more person."

Lu Ye had a hunch about who it was.

Sure enough, moments later, Gu Sheng's figure appeared from the side. Turning his head, he saw Arbuluo and said impatiently, "What's going on?"

He was still recovering from his injuries and didn't want to bother, but he knew that if he didn't show up, Arbuluo would certainly come straight to his cave residence, so he had no choice but to come.

"Look who it is!" Arbuluo pointed with a grin.

Only then did Gu Sheng notice Lu Ye standing to the side, his eye slightly twitching, evidently recalling some unpleasant memories. However, being from Yellow Dragon World, Gu Sheng was undoubtedly well-mannered; he immediately cupped his hands in salute: "Greetings, Fellow Daoist."

Lu Ye returned the salute.

The top three on the Moon Jade Ranking had gathered. Lu Ye was as usual; though now ranked first, not many had actually seen him. But Arbuluo and Gu Sheng were different, their presence immediately attracted considerable attention.

"Let's find a place to talk." Arbuluo took a step towards the side.

Lu Ye and Gu Sheng followed.

Shortly, at a desolate spot, Gu Sheng activated a magic treasure and set up an isolating Formation, the three sat cross-legged, forming a triangular posture.

Gu Sheng was the first to speak and looked at Lu Ye, "I have yet to ask for Fellow Daoist's full name?"

Lu Ye and Arbuluo were already familiar with each other through previous experiences, given the time they spent together, but Gu Sheng truly didn't know Lu Ye's name.

Lu Ye introduced himself without hesitation.

Gu Sheng nodded slightly, "Fellow Daoist Lu, previously I was taught a lesson."

Lu Ye said, "Previously, Fellow Daoist was injured, it doesn't count. Once your injuries have healed, let's have another go."

He had beaten Arbuluo, but it didn't count with Gu Sheng. He had cut Gu Sheng out of the combat field with a few strikes. Gu Sheng was clearly a magic cultivator, and Lu Ye was eager to know the depth of this top magic cultivator from Yellow Dragon World. One can't find such a good opponent outside, and if he could spar with Gu Sheng, it would provide him more experience in dealing with magic cultivators.

Gu Sheng's eye twitched again, "Let's talk about it later, I... cough cough cough..."

Like a ghost, who would fight with you? Against other opponents, no matter how strong, he wouldn't back down, at worst losing a match, but the combat field would not cause real death. Yet, Lu Ye wielded a Divine Weapon from the Combat Race, whose strange power was hard to dispel. If slashed, he had to use an Asura Seal to issue a bounty, and his Asura Seals didn't come from nowhere.

Arbuluo chuckled on the side, "Even you can back down? I thought you feared neither heaven nor earth!"

Gu Sheng pretended not to hear, asking, "What do you want from me?"

Arbuluo's expression turned serious, "There's something odd, I wanted to ask you about it."

"What is it?"

Arbuluo briefly recounted the previous experience, initially, Gu Sheng wasn't too concerned, but the more he listened, the more surprised he became.

After Arbuluo finished speaking, Gu Sheng looked incredulous, "You two entered the same training scenario? And didn't get any clues or information about the scenario?"

"Very strange, right?" Arbuluo looked puzzled, "For all these years, I've entered and exited training scenarios at least a few hundred times, but nothing like this ever happened."

Gu Sheng said, "I've never experienced it either."

"That would be enough, but the key is, despite our hard effort, you guess how many Asura Seals we finally got?"

Gu Sheng looked at him discontentedly, "Do you want me to guess?"

"Fifty-four thousand!" Arbuluo slapped his thigh angrily, "Only fifty-four thousand, is it a beggar's payout? Besides, I calculated, this fifty-four thousand is just the base reward. Brother Lu and I stayed in that training scenario for almost twenty-seven days!"

In the Moon Jade Realm, for every day spent in a training scenario, there's a base reward of two thousand Asura Seals, fifty-four thousand matches exactly with twenty-seven days.

Gu Sheng's eyes widened, "So, you got no extra rewards at all?"

"None at all!" Arbuluo shook his head.

"That's impossible." Gu Sheng was bewildered, "How could such an outrageous thing happen, usually in training, doing something minor should not end with just the base reward."

"That's what's strange about it, this time's training, though we didn't kill many enemies, our contribution was irreplaceable."

Gu Sheng pondered for a long time before saying, "Then why did you call me here?"

Arbuluo replied, "You're well-connected, Gu Sheng, especially in Yellow Dragon World where there are many Sun Blaze seniors. Help us ask around, see if something similar has happened before."

The situation was too bizarre, if it was just this once, it wouldn't matter, the fear was it might happen again in the future.

"Seems unlikely." Although Gu Sheng said this, he still took out an Asura Authority Token and sent out one message after another.

"Actually... there's something even stranger." Lu Ye suddenly said.

Arbuluo and Gu Sheng both gazed at him.

Lu Ye said, "During the previous training, Tian Hong and other Sun Blazes killed all those Celestial God followers, then destroyed their source. But just after Tian Hong returned, I found he had become a Celestial God follower. I merely glanced at him, and he noticed. Right when he was about to make a move against me, the training abruptly ended."

Hearing this, Gu Sheng didn't have a deep realization, but Arbuluo knew Tian Hong's strength. Such a Sun Blaze suddenly turning into a Celestial God follower, about to attack Lu Ye, that kind of horror... just thinking about it sent chills.

"This training began inexplicably and ended just as strangely, I have a feeling it hasn't truly ended."

Arbuluo pondered, "There's no training in the Asura Field that's destined to die. We already eliminated the initial Celestial God followers, so completing the training task and ending there is normal. As for Tian Hong... perhaps that scenario still exists, and other cultivators might enter it in the future. This has happened before, the same training scenario, but from different eras, with more than one batch of cultivators entering."

From what he said, Lu Ye found it reasonable.

Chapter 1932 - Great Fortune

During idle chat, Gu Sheng repeatedly examined the Shura Authority Token.

After a long while, he finally spoke, "Your experiences this time were indeed a bit strange. I've asked many people, and no one has ever encountered anything similar."

"So, is there a problem with the Asura Field?" Arbuluo's expression turned stern.

"Not necessarily." Gu Sheng shook his head. "The Asura Field is a stellar space supreme treasure. Since the destruction of the Sky Asura tribe, it has always operated like this. I've never heard of any issues before. There's no reason for you to be so unlucky."

"What if we are just that unlucky?" Arbuluo looked like he was ready to argue.

Lu Ye suddenly remembered the Dice of Fate. When he entered the Zhongyou World training scene, the Dice of Fate rolled an unlucky sign. Could it be related to this?

Moreover, he still couldn't figure out how something he had secured so tightly suddenly fell off on its own.

Exploring it yielded no results, the outcome was destined.

Though Lu Ye and Arbuluo found it hard to accept, this strenuous training only yielded minimal basic rewards. They could only resign themselves to fate.

Each returned to their own place.

After one training session, it's impossible to enter another training scene in a short time. This period usually takes a few days, and with nothing to do, Lu Ye focused on his cultivation.

He wasn't in a hurry to inquire Arbuluo about the Three Blossoms. There's plenty of time for that, and though they were barely familiar now, there wasn't much camaraderie, so it wasn't appropriate to probe recklessly.

He planned to find an opportunity later to mention it to Arbuluo. He had a vague feeling that Arbuluo's purpose for training in the Asura Field was the same as his own — to enhance the quality of his Magic Source and refine it to the state of Perfection, eventually condensing his own Qi Flower.

He originally planned to train diligently, but the results were unsatisfactory.

Yu Yaorao came to see him and chatted for a while. It seemed she had something on her mind, but she didn't speak up in detail, so Lu Ye didn't ask.

After Yu Yaorao left, Arbuluo and Gu Sheng learned the location of Lu Ye's cave residence and visited together.

Lu Ye initially intended to befriend Arbuluo, so he naturally didn't refuse.

He thought they might have some important matters, but to his surprise, they only came to drink with him, leaving Lu Ye somewhat speechless.

The drinking session lasted several days. The three of them chatted and debated animatedly, which broadened Lu Ye's horizons. After all, both Arbuluo and Gu Sheng came from extraordinary domains, and they had spent much more time honing their skills in the Moon Jade Realm than he had, so their experience and knowledge were naturally unmatched.

A few days later, Arbuluo and Gu Sheng left drunkenly, and after a short rest, Lu Ye left his cave residence and soared into the sky.

He needed to earn more Asura Seals quickly to exchange for treasures that could enhance the quality of his Magic Source, so he naturally didn't want to waste time.

His figure rose higher, and at a certain point, he suddenly broke through an invisible membrane, and then everything around him darkened.

He calmed his mind, quietly waiting.

Waiting...

Waiting...

An entire incense stick's time passed, and Lu Ye suddenly wanted to curse.

It happened again!

Just like the last time!

Since he came to this Asura Field, including this time, he had only entered three training scenes in total. The first time was normal, and after a brief darkness, he received information about many training scenes and then entered a training scene. The second time was obviously off.

The third time was exactly the same as the second.

Feeling extremely frustrated, what on earth was happening? Others had never encountered this, but he had encountered it twice in a row. Was it possible that his flying posture when entering the training scene was wrong?

Having experienced this once before, Lu Ye knew this darkness wouldn't last long. It should disperse soon enough, and then he would find himself in the training scene.

Though he was frustrated, he held his temper and waited patiently.

To his surprise, however, this wait seemed endless. After half a day, the surrounding darkness showed no signs of dissipating, let alone entering a training scene.

He furrowed his brows and began to try walking through this darkness, hoping to find a way out. But no matter which direction he flew, he remained shrouded in darkness.

If the first time was just bad luck, what about the second?

Lu Ye was almost certain that something must be wrong with the Asura Field, not just bad luck on his part.

But Gu Sheng was right; the Asura Field is a stellar space supreme treasure. Ever since the Sky Asura tribe was wiped out, it has continued to operate flawlessly. Why should it malfunction now just because of him?

Was there something different about him compared to others?

As he was mulling over these thoughts, Lu Ye suddenly noticed a light emerging from a certain direction. He quickly turned to look, but the light had already vanished...

After the initial agitation, he gradually settled his mind.

Even if there was indeed an issue with the Asura Field, it shouldn't trap him here indefinitely. So he was confident he would eventually get out; it was just a matter of time.

Despite being in absolute darkness, Lu Ye could still clearly sense the passage of time.

After a full two days, suddenly a faint light appeared in front of him, as dim as a candle flame, yet it still eased Lu Ye's troubled heart, trapped for so long.

Just as he had thought.

He turned his head towards the candle-like light, which seemed to have a life of its own, slowly swirling around Lu Ye. It started as small circles, then widened, expanding outward with each revolution, leaving bright traces in its wake.

Before long, an oval light ring presented itself in Lu Ye's vision, and then the light expanded, dispelling the endless darkness.

Lu Ye pondered for a moment, then took a step towards the light ring, and his vision changed.

At the same time, Lu Ye's expression changed, as he clearly felt an invisible force enveloping him, binding him layer by layer.

This sudden change was like a heavy blow, making him grunt and his face turn pale.

Screams and cries echoed in his ears, mingling with unrestrained laughter, the smell of blood lingered at his nose...

His scattered vision slowly focused, an indescribable feeling of weakness surged in, a sensation Lu Ye hadn't experienced in a long time, leaving him momentarily dazed.

Just as he intended to check himself, a "rumbling" sound came from his feet.

The sound... seemed oddly familiar.

In the next moment, Lu Ye's expression changed as he looked down where the sound originated, only to see something the size of a baby's fist rolling, seemingly about to stop.

Looking at this familiar object, Lu Ye was almost in disbelief!

He hurriedly dashed over and was about to step on it, but as he moved, he immediately noticed something was off. His movements were sluggish, reactions particularly slow, and his foot missed its mark.

As he watched anxiously, the Dice of Fate stopped, and Lu Ye held his breath, focusing his gaze.

Great Fortune!

Two big characters suddenly came into sight.

He was momentarily stunned. Was there such a thing as Great Fortune? Previously, there were only Fortune, Misfortune, and Disaster, and this time it was actually Great Fortune!

The start was promising, though it gave him quite a fright. After all, the Dice of Fate was too mysterious, and if it landed on something bad, even the Talent Tree would burn for days to nullify it.

But... he distinctly remembered leaving the Dice of Fate in his cave residence, so why was it here?

Having learned from last time, where he dared not keep this item on him during training, he figured he was lucky when it showed Disaster, but if it showed Misfortune, who knows what danger he might face.

So this time, before setting out for training, he deliberately left it in his cave residence, where only he lived. Without his permission, nobody could enter or leave, so it was considered safe.

Yet, it still appeared here, and although the outcome was good, the feeling of being out of control was unsettling.

Lu Ye couldn't fathom how it ended up here.

The characters of Great Fortune transformed into a wisp of dark light, entering Lu Ye's body, just as he had felt before. Surrounded by this feeling, Lu Ye felt that no matter what he attempted, he would undoubtedly succeed.

"Hahaha, little girl, trying to run? Can you escape?" A sudden voice rang out from not far away.

Lu Ye turned to look and saw a burly man approaching, dragging a woman by her long hair. Her clothes were in tatters, her appearance disheveled, and despite her vigorous struggle, it was to no avail as she sobbed and pleaded.

"You bitch, don't you despise me? Today I'll show you what I'm made of!" The burly man cursed angrily, his face full of wrath and menace. As he lifted his head, he suddenly noticed Lu Ye standing ahead and raised an eyebrow: "There's someone else here!"

Speaking, he threw down the woman he held, drew a curved knife from his waist, and charged at Lu Ye, filled with a murderous intent.

Lu Ye looked at him quietly, his expression extremely peculiar.

Because he noticed something amiss; right now, above the head of this fierce man floated a number.

A large number, one thousand...

This number was ethereal, clearly not something tangible, leaving Lu Ye baffled as to its significance, and no matter how the burly man moved, this number remained suspended above his head.

Though he didn't know what this number represented, it was clear that this fellow before him was no good; if he dared to attack, it was never wrong to kill him.

Moreover, to Lu Ye, this burly man seemed like an ordinary person, merely using his strength to commit evil deeds.

On any other day, Lu Ye wouldn't even have the chance to encounter such a person.

The burly man, although fast compared to ordinary people, rushed up to Lu Ye with a few steps, his curved knife tracing an arc as it slashed towards Lu Ye.

Yet at that moment, he clearly stumbled over something, his figure losing balance, altering the trajectory of his slashing knife.

Simultaneously, Lu Ye slowly raised his hand and gently pressed his palm against the man's chest.

Under this palm, even without channeling his mana, the man couldn't survive.

A sudden pain in the face, Lu Ye's expression involuntarily changed.

Chapter 1933 - Targeted

"What... are you doing?"

In the forest, the burly man lowered his head, looking at the palm pressed against his chest. There was no denying that Lu Ye's strength wasn't small, but that was all there was to it.

He couldn't understand why the opponent would do such a thing in a life-and-death struggle.

As he spoke, the scimitar in his hand slashed toward Lu Ye again, but at that moment, the palm imprinted on his chest suddenly exerted force, as Lu Ye realized something was wrong and activated the power within him.

The burly man let out a dull groan, flying backward on his back, his chest caved in, falling a few meters away. He struggled to get up with the aid of his scimitar, looking at Lu Ye with an expression full of disbelief: "A... cultivator!"

After speaking, he fell to the ground again, blood flowing from his mouth.

Lu Ye stood in place, raising his hand to touch his cheek, then looked at his palm, which was full of blood.

A mortal who had never practiced cultivation... wielding an ordinary weapon that didn't even qualify as a magic artifact, actually managed to injure him!

This was simply shocking.

He hurriedly examined himself, only to find that he was now extremely weak.

This feeling of weakness had been with him since arriving at this training ground, but before he could fully experience it, the Dice of Fate had appeared and distracted him.

Only now, after sensing the depth of it, did he discover something hard to accept, he was suppressed, and in an extremely terrifying way.

A few days ago, when he was chatting and drinking with Arbuluo and Gu Sheng, they talked about their own training experiences. As top-tier Moon Jade powerhouses, they encountered suppression from the Asura Field in one out of every ten trainings.

Because their strength was too great, unless they were thrown into a training ground with Sun Blaze cultivators, there was rarely anything that could pose a threat to them.

This didn't align with the risk involved in every training, so the Asura Field would suppress their strength in this way.

Both had the experience of being suppressed to only Constellation strength.

When Lu Ye heard this news before, he speculated he would encounter it too, but he didn't expect it to happen so soon.

Moreover... the suppression he was experiencing now was countless times more severe than what Arbuluo and Gu Sheng described.

Because upon careful perception, he found that his current strength was only equivalent to a Spirit Stream Realm, no, not even Spirit Stream, as he could only sense the existence of four spiritual orifices.

And what was stored in these four spiritual orifices wasn't mana, but spirit force!

Not only was his cultivation suppressed, but Lu Ye couldn't even exercise his mental consciousness, clearly indicating that the Divine Sea was also sealed, and even his physical intensity was suppressed to the level of a newcomer to the cultivation world.

Otherwise, how could a mortal's slash possibly injure him?

If the opponent hadn't tripped suddenly, that slash aimed at his neck could have had unpredictable consequences.

Had the mysterious power of the Dice of Fate come into play?

Lu Ye's expression was heavy; something was amiss.

Suppression was normal, but suppression to this extent wasn't.

He steadied his mind once more, checking the Talent Tree. If this suppression came from the Asura Field, could the Talent Tree have an effect?

Just like how the Talent Tree could burn away the power of the Asura Pact.

But to his confusion, the Talent Tree showed no reaction, meaning this suppression wasn't some external force that could be burned off but another method unknown to him, hence why the Talent Tree wouldn't respond.

A powerful cultivation reduced to the power of just four orifices, but fortunately, he could still sense the Talent Tree, which meant he could activate it.

Moreover, he still had the Boulder Mountain Saber!

This was a blade forged from the Combat Race; even with the power of just four orifices, having this Divine Weapon in hand should make completing this trial feasible.

Various thoughts whirled in his mind in an instant. At the same time, Lu Ye caught sight of a glimmer flying towards him from the direction of the dead burly man out of the corner of his eye.

He instinctively thought it was an attack and hurriedly tried to dodge, but he couldn't evade it. The light hit his waist and disappeared.

Yet, Lu Ye didn't feel any sensation of being struck.

Looking skeptically at the burly man, he confirmed the man was indeed dead. What was that light just now?

After a careful examination, Lu Ye noticed something different; the number above the burly man's head, a thousand, was gone, and his corpse was dispersing into glittering light.

When he thought about where the light struck... Lu Ye quickly grabbed the Asura Authority Token at his waist, focusing on the number representing the Asura Seal.

It had increased by a thousand!

Since the Asura Seal gained from the last training seemed off, Lu Ye was very clear about how many Asura Seals he currently had, compared to before, his Asura Seal had obviously increased by a thousand.

Could it be that...

Lu Ye's eyes brightened.

This is truly great luck. Although he's a bit frustrated by the unprecedented suppression he's facing, where else could he find such a fortune as killing one evil brute and earning a thousand Asura Seals?

He was originally worried that this training might end up like the last one, spending time and effort only to receive the most basic experience.

Looking at it now, such worry is obviously unnecessary.

Punishing evil directly increases Asura Seals, without waiting for the final settlement!

"Immortal Master!" A cry rang out, followed by someone scrambling over to Lu Ye and kneeling, pleading tearfully: "Please, Immortal Master, save us!"

While speaking, she kept kowtowing fiercely.

Lu Ye looked down and noticed that the one kneeling before him was the very woman captured earlier. Each time she kowtowed, it was with such force that a spot of crimson appeared on the ground.

Lu Ye blinked, staring at the top of her head, for he suddenly discovered that this woman also had a mysterious number above her head, bigger than that of the evil brute.

Two thousand...

This undoubtedly means that killing her would yield two thousand Asura Seals.

Though two thousand isn't much, it's equivalent to a day's basic reward in the training scenario.

This helpless, miserable woman... is she also a villain?

Lu Ye furrowed his brow, for she didn't quite look the part; he was somewhat confused about the situation.

The other party kept pleading, calling him Immortal Master, with an extremely sorrowful voice.

Lu Ye pondered slightly, then bent down and extended his hand: "Stand up and speak!"

He helped the woman up, whose face was full of distress and eyes somewhat urgent: "Immortal Master, please save us."

Lu Ye also noticed the problem, seeing the village at the foot of the mountain ablaze, with sounds of fighting coming from there. Clearly, the disaster didn't befall only this woman; she was only picked by the brute due to her good looks and figure.

Normally, such a distance wouldn't hinder Lu Ye's perception, but now he's too suppressed to detect it timely.

Seeing Lu Ye realize the situation nearby, the woman urgently said: "Immortal Master, mountain bandits are attacking, many have died, please have mercy and save us!"

Lu Ye's expression immediately turned grim: "To act so brazenly in broad daylight, they're simply lawless. Let me handle them!"

One mountain bandit equals one thousand Asura Seals, and there are more down the hill...

Lu Ye hadn't expected to encounter such good fortune; indeed, the Dice of Fate is mysteriously unparalleled.

The woman was startled, then delighted unexpectedly by how approachable Lu Ye was; she wanted to say more but saw Lu Ye already rushing downhill, only able to shout: "Be careful, Immortal Master, there seem to be cultivators among the bandits!"

Lu Ye heard her reminder but didn't care. His power was indeed heavily suppressed, but with the Boulder Mountain Saber in hand, what was there to fear?

Shortly after, he charged into the village alone, instantly spotting numerous fierce-looking mountain bandits chasing villagers. These bandits were exceedingly violent, clearly capable of swift kills, yet they weren't in any hurry, instead playing around, chasing the fleeing villagers, slowly torturing them to death amidst their despairing cries.

Even knowing these villagers were mere shadows, Lu Ye's fury surged at the scene.

He accepted the woman's request mainly to verify his idea, since both the woman and the brute he had killed had numbers representing Asura Seals on their heads, which clearly wasn't a coincidence, others likely had it too.

He came for the Asura Seals, naturally happy to earn more in the process of punishing evil.

At this moment, he indeed saw the numbers representing Asura Seals on these bandits' heads, but such a scene, even without Asura Seals, Lu Ye couldn't sit idle and watch.

"There's someone here!" A bandit wielding a machete spotted him, and immediately several bandits chasing villagers whistled over, advancing toward Lu Ye together.

Each bandit carried different weapons; seeing Lu Ye alone, unfazed, the one who called out sensed something amiss, shouting: "Be careful, this one seems skilled!"

As he spoke, he thrust a long spear fiercely at Lu Ye.

Though Lu Ye's power was suppressed, his years of fighting experience remained; facing this strike, he merely tilted his head slightly to easily dodge, moving forward swiftly, closing in on the spear-wielding bandit in the blink of an eye.

He raised his hand to the Boulder Mountain Saber, pulled fiercely...

Couldn't pull it out!

Lu Ye almost cursed out loud!

Asura Field... too much! Suppressing his power was enough, but even the Boulder Mountain Saber was restricted?

Even with only 4th orifice strength remaining, he shouldn't be unable to draw his saber; such a situation evidently stemmed from the Asura Field's interference.

He felt targeted! This vast Asura Field brimming with intense malice toward him.

No time for overthinking now, Lu Ye raised the hand gripping the saber's hilt, delivered a punch to the bandit's face.

Spirit force wrapped around the fist; how could an untrained bandit withstand this?

The sound of cracking skull resonated as the bandit flew backward; Lu Ye grabbed his spear, turned it, and casually jabbed sideways, piercing another bandit's chest who charged, swiftly through his torso.

Chapter 1934 - A Good Place

In the blink of an eye, two mountain bandits were already dead. The remaining three bandits advancing towards Lu Ye all paused in their steps, their faces showing signs of fear.

These people, compared to ordinary folks, possessed just a bit more strength and fierceness. Though they had witnessed life and death many times, when facing their own demise, they lacked the courage to confront it directly.

"Swish..." The sound of something cutting through the air rang out. Just as Lu Ye was about to strike again, he suddenly turned around. The spear in his hand twirled in a flourish, precisely deflecting an arrow that had been shot from behind.

With a thud, the arrow was broken in half. Lu Ye looked towards the direction from which the arrow came, and saw a small-sized bandit squatting on a rooftop, a longbow in hand, aiming in Lu Ye's direction.

This bandit had a dazed expression, clearly not expecting Lu Ye's reaction to be so swift. They all said that a direct attack is easier to dodge than a hidden one, yet his stealthily fired arrow was still blocked like this.

Their eyes met, and the bandit hurriedly pulled another arrow from the quiver on his back, drawing the bowstring.

The next moment, his expression turned to one of panic, as he watched in shock as Lu Ye hurled the spear in his hand towards him.

Instinctively, he wanted to dodge, but the spear was too fast. In the blink of an eye, it pierced through him, and with a scream, he fell to the ground.

"Attack together, kill him."

Amidst the shouts, the three bandits near Lu Ye saw him throw away his spear, and their courage grew. One bearded bandit shouted, leading the charge against Lu Ye with his knife.

At this moment, Lu Ye had his back to them.

We've got him!

The bearded bandit rejoiced.

Yet, just as the blade was about to fall, Lu Ye suddenly turned, allowing the knife to slice through empty air, barely grazing his sleeve.

"Hmm?" The bearded bandit was utterly shocked. How did this person... seem to have eyes on his back?

Without time to think, a pain shot through his wrist as his blade was snatched away, and the world spun in his vision.

With the knife in hand, Lu Ye faced the remaining two bandits. In their astonished gazes, he cut them down one by one on the spot.

More bandits appeared from various places, wielding weapons of different shapes, their eyes red with rage as they charged at Lu Ye.

To Lu Ye's eyes, above the heads of these bandits were ethereal characters in varying numbers, making his brows dance with delight.

Though the number of bandits wasn't too large, there were still about a dozen of them. Counting those he had already killed, the total number of bandits attacking the village was around twenty.

Lu Ye felt joyful. Even though this trial felt as though he was being targeted by the Asura Field, limiting his abilities heavily, this truly was an excellent place.

He charged ahead single-handedly, cutting down mountain bandits one after another, leaving them lifeless in pools of blood.

These bandits initially relied on their numbers, thinking they could take Lu Ye down because he was alone. Yet, in just a moment, more than half had fallen or were wounded.

The remaining bandits were filled with dread, realizing that walking the night too often would eventually lead to an encounter with a ghost.

Immediately, someone fled while shouting, "Sixth Master, Sixth Master, help!"

With a crash, the door of a household burst open. A burly man, shirtless and imposing, broke through. Inside the room behind him, a disheveled bed had a naked girl curled up, crying helplessly.

The burly man glanced around, noticing the heavy casualties among his companions, and was instantly furious.

He quickly approached a black horse, mounted it, and wielded a gigantic spear. With a harsh squeeze of his legs, he tightened the reins, and the black horse neighed loudly, galloping towards Lu Ye.

"What low-born scoundrel dares to ruin Great Wind Mountain's plans!" He roared as he rode closer to Lu Ye.

Hearing the commotion, Lu Ye turned his gaze, instantly noticing the large '3000' above the burly man's head. Remembering the call from the bandit earlier, Lu Ye's brow arched, realizing this guy must be the leader of this bandit gang.

No wonder he's the leader; his value is different. The bandits Lu Ye killed earlier had values in the low thousands, but this one was worth 3000.

The distance between them was not far. The Sixth Master, riding quickly, closed the distance to Lu Ye in just a few breaths. The enormous spear in his hand was obviously heavy, not something an ordinary person could handle.

Lu Ye was surprised to sense faint traces of spirit force emanating from this Sixth Master. It was very weak, but undoubtedly spirit force.

He recalled the warning from the woman on the mountain, who mentioned that among these bandits, there was someone who practiced cultivation and meditation. It seemed she was referring to this man.

To Lu Ye's perspective, even though he had opened a spiritual orifice, it was not part of a cohesive system and did not qualify as a cultivator. Like Lu Ye, who currently only had the power of four orifices, they were isolated and didn't form a coherent practice route, so he couldn't be considered a cultivator.

As for this Sixth Master, he was even worse. His spirit force was extremely weak. Lu Ye guessed he might have only opened a single orifice, just barely stepping into the realm of cultivation.

The disparity in strength between a single orifice and the 4th orifice isn't actually very significant; physical condition and reaction speed largely depend on personal talent. With the same foundation, the 4th orifice is stronger than the single orifice mainly in endurance and sustainability. Lu Ye has progressed step by step from this stage, so he understands deeply.

Now, the Sixth Master is charging forward with the momentum of his horse, coming menacingly. With the strength he can presently exert, confronting him head-on would end in a mutual destruction scenario.

"Die!" The Sixth Master thrust his spear fiercely towards Lu Ye, powerful enough to even shatter a large rock.

Yet his expression turned to astonishment because almost at the instant he struck, Lu Ye suddenly leapt lightly, stepping on the barrel of the spear. In that moment, the Sixth Master felt his long spear becoming unbelievably heavy, causing both horse and rider to pause slightly; it was Lu Ye's Hefty Weight Spirit Runes flashing underfoot.

Before he could respond, Lu Ye was already advancing along the spear.

The Sixth Master cried out in alarm, swiftly dismounting to roll onto the ground. He scrambled to his feet, ready to face the enemy again, when suddenly his body turned weak, and a large gush of blood sprayed from his neck, painting the scene red.

His eyes widened in terror, abandoning his spear, clutching his neck with both hands, but unable to stop the blood flow.

He had no idea when Lu Ye slashed his blade.

The other bandits witnessed and cried out, fleeing in all directions.

How could Lu Ye let them escape? Each bandit was a living Asura Seal. Seeing a large rock by his feet, he immediately bent down and punched, smashing it into pieces of varying sizes. He picked up the fragments and hurled them.

With screams echoing, numerous bandits were struck fatally.

Lu Ye's blood Qi surged, beams of light flew from all directions, entering the Asura Authority Token at his waist.

Behind him, houses burned fiercely, the hot air waves swept through. In the glow of the flames, even Lu Ye's delighted expression became somewhat twisted and hideous.

Survivors from the earlier chaos stood fearfully and uneasily, looking at him. It seemed he was even more terrifying than the bandits.

One hour later, the fire was extinguished.

In front of the burned ruins, Lu Ye sat on a rock, checking his Asura Seal. His recent act of righteousness earned him nearly thirty thousand Asura Seals. Though not much, considering last time's training for five thousand, these seemed quite substantial.

Moreover, it was just the beginning!

He was pondering what was really going on with this training. Indeed, both Arbuluo and Gu Sheng had experienced being suppressed, preventing the full exertion of their powers, but their suppression was at most reduced to the Constellation level. Compared to what he's facing now, there was simply no comparison.

As a Moon Jade Late Stage cultivator, he was now reduced to only the strength of the 4th orifice. Who would believe this?

Even the Boulder Mountain Saber was sealed by the power of the Asura Field.

Even his storage ring... couldn't be opened.

Furthermore, when entering this training scenario, he was trapped in darkness for two whole days, which was highly unusual.

With no insight at the moment, he only felt as if he was targeted somehow.

He was aware that the Asura Field was conscious, yet he hadn't done anything peculiar since arriving there. Why was he targeted?

Moreover, such a stellar space supreme treasure like the Asura Field, even if conscious, shouldn't possess likes or dislikes. It merely operates by its own rules, maintaining various training scenarios.

Unless the Asura Field, like the Reincarnation Tree, possesses complete autonomy.

Unable to reason it out, Lu Ye focused on the current situation.

The 4th orifice's power ultimately still felt too weak. While killing the bandits earlier required little consumption, it still depleted some energy. Facing merely twenty bandits made exhaustion a real possibility.

The powerful physique he relied upon proved ineffective in this training scenario; the wound on his cheek had yet to heal.

Improving his cultivation would undeniably facilitate this training.

The only thing he could still use was the Talent Tree, something even the Asura Field couldn't suppress.

He tried stimulating the Talent Tree's power to devour all around, replenishing his depleted spirit force, but found the world's spiritual energy alarmingly thin. This was clearly a very low-level domain, where merely opening spiritual orifices and generating spirit force was already a rare occurrence.

Given such an environment, enhancing his cultivation seemed as unlikely as reaching the heavens. Besides, Lu Ye was uncertain whether, even if conditions were suitable, his cultivation could elevate, considering the Asura Field's suppression; if unbreakable, his cultivation would remain at the 4th orifice level.

"Immortal Master." A slightly elderly voice spoke.

Lu Ye looked up, seeing an elder with a cane standing before him, beside him the girl he rescued from the mountain.

Chapter 1935 - Eliminating Evil to the End

Behind the old man and the young girl stood the remaining villagers who were still alive.

This village was already small, with only over a hundred people. After being troubled by those bandits, only half remained alive, mostly women, children, and the elderly. At this moment, they all looked reverently at Lu Ye sitting in front.

The Immortal Master had just demonstrated his immense power by single-handedly killing over twenty bandits, witnessed by many of them. Without this Immortal Master, they would all be dead today!

So even though for a moment the Immortal Master might not seem like a good person, the villagers still felt grateful.

Lu Ye raised his eyes to look at these people, instantly dazzled by the large numbers above their heads.

Bandits were living Asura Seals, and so were these villagers! Furthermore, their value was even greater than that of the bandits!

The young girl he met on the mountain had an initial value of two thousand Asura Seals, and the elderly man she was supporting was even more shocking, with a big five thousand value above his head, almost making Lu Ye think he was mistaken.

To understand, the small bandit leader he just killed was only worth three thousand Asura Seals, so how could this frail, elderly man buried half-neck in soil be worth five thousand?

Moreover, these villagers start at a value of two thousand at least, and a minority have even reached three thousand.

Even if there are only fifty people, this represents a total value of at least a hundred thousand Asura Seals. If Lu Ye is willing, he could kill all these unarmed, ordinary people in front of him to collect an amount equivalent to a training exercise.

And these people are likely just shadows, not real living beings, so there's actually no psychological burden in killing them.

"Immortal Master, Great Wind Mountain suffered heavy losses this time and definitely won't let this go. They have six leaders, and the dead one was the weakest. I heard the main leader of Great Wind Mountain has been cultivating for years and his strength is unfathomable. It's best for the Immortal Master to plan ahead."

"Hmm?" Lu Ye listened with a brightened expression, "Great Wind Mountain... Where is it?"

Even if these people were just shadows, Lu Ye wouldn't make a move. He was just curious why these ordinary people were worth more than bandits.

But extinguishing bandits posed no psychological burden; it was a chance to be chivalrous while gaining benefits—a win-win situation.

The old man seemed to be the village head and replied, "This is Great Wind Mountain, but the area is large. Many years ago, a group of thieves occupied the mountain as king, using the Great Wind Mountain name to commit crimes everywhere."

"Do you know their exact location?" Lu Ye asked again.

"I'm not sure." The old man shook his head, looking at Lu Ye with a strange expression. He kindly came to warn him mainly to prompt Lu Ye to leave quickly, as revenge was surely coming from Great Wind Mountain. Who would have thought this Immortal Master wasn't afraid but instead... excited?

What kind of person is this?

"Do any of you know where the bandits' lair is?" Lu Ye asked the surviving villagers.

Most shook their heads, indicating they didn't know.

Only one man dressed as a hunter spoke up, "Immortal Master, the bandits of Great Wind Mountain hide very deeply; most indeed don't know their exact location. Even if someone accidentally sees them, they won't be spared. But someone knows."

"Who?" Lu Ye looked at him.

The hunter turned his head to the side, "It!"

Lu Ye followed his gaze and saw the handsome black horse left behind after the Sixth Master's death.

His eyes brightened immediately. Yes, an old horse knows the way; riding it should lead him to the bandits' lair.

With this thought, Lu Ye no longer hesitated, and he slowly stood up and walked towards the black horse.

"Where is the Immortal Master going?" the old man asked tremulously. Although he had some guesses, he wasn't sure.

"Of course, to eliminate evil completely!" Lu Ye said while mounting the horse, casually picking up the hefty lance left behind by the Sixth Master after his death.

This thing was roughly two hundred pounds; it's not something an ordinary person can handle. The Boulder Mountain Saber can't be used, but this lance in such a large environment would certainly be an invincible weapon!

The black horse was a bit unruly, but Lu Ye simply patted it on the back, with spirit force pulsating, making it obedient.

"Immortal Master, Great Wind Mountain has many exotic beasts, please be careful," the man dressed as a hunter couldn't help but remind Lu Ye as he watched his departing figure.

Lu Ye simply waved his hand casually.

As they watched Lu Ye's departing figure vanish, everyone turned collectively to the old man. The hunter asked, "Village chief, what do we do next?"

The village was destroyed, and more than half the villagers were killed or injured. That was secondary; the key was Great Wind Mountain's impending revenge. If they stayed here, their fate would be dire.

No one knew if the Immortal Master who left could solve the bandits of Great Wind Mountain. If he could, that would be great, but if he couldn't, waiting for them would be a doomed disaster.

The old man pondered briefly before sighing, "Take everything we can with us, let's relocate."

Staying here was not an option; they could only find another suitable place to settle down. However, in today's world, who knew what fate awaited them when they left their homes?

The villagers were silent for a while before dispersing to pack up their belongings.

In the forest, Lu Ye rode the horse leisurely, holding a bundle to inspect.

This bundle was on the black horse's back, presumably belonging to the Sixth Master. After some searching, Lu Ye found many dried meats, along with two sets of clothes and a few sheets resembling golden leaves, which he assumed to be currency for this domain.

The sound of rumbling echoed, and Lu Ye hurriedly patted his chest, discovering that the Dice of Fate was still there, immediately breathing a sigh of relief.

Then he widened his eyes, showing an expression of disbelief, because he finally realized what the rumbling sound was.

It was the noise coming from his own stomach.

He was actually hungry!

Lu Ye didn't know how long it had been since he felt this. With his cultivation gradually improving, he had already been free from the need of eating, eating more for the pleasure of taste.

Yet now, he genuinely felt the sensation of hunger!

The aroma of the dried meat suddenly seemed more intense.

Lu Ye immediately picked up a piece and started chewing, then grabbed a water flask from the horse's back and took a few gulps.

The Talent Tree suddenly reacted, and as Lu Ye focused his mind to observe, he discovered an extremely faint gray mist flashed past the Talent Tree.

Poison? Lu Ye was surprised. What was that Sixth Master thinking, even putting poison in his food? Who was he trying to guard against?

However, from the reaction of the Talent Tree, the poison didn't seem very effective.

Lu Ye didn't care, ate a few pieces of dried meat, drank some water, and gradually confirmed that the poison wasn't in the meat but in the water.

To him, it made no difference.

After having a full meal, Lu Ye began cultivating, transforming his blood Qi into spirit force.

Although the Talent Tree could absorb nature's spiritual energy to replenish its consumption, the spiritual energy in this world was too thin, even full exertion had little effect.

Instead, the cultivation method of transforming blood Qi into spirit force was quite efficient, which was his initial method of cultivation, because back then, he lacked talent and couldn't absorb energy from nature's spiritual energy and Spirit Stones, so he could only use this method.

Even after so many years, Lu Ye still hadn't forgotten.

Moreover, back then, when he was at this stage, the Talent Tree hadn't transformed yet, unlike now, with its powerful devouring ability, as food entered the stomach, Lu Ye only needed to lightly stimulate the Talent Tree, allowing it to completely refine and devour, transforming it into his blood Qi, and then converting that blood Qi into spirit force. The cultivation efficiency was countless times faster than back then.

After a Shichen, his stomach was hungry again.

Lu Ye continued to gorge himself, followed by cultivation, and after several cycles of this, the large bag of dried meat was consumed, and the spirit force he previously exhausted in combat had been replenished.

Gradually, Lu Ye discovered a pleasant surprise: the Asura Field's suppression of him wasn't absolute, and he could break open more orifices through cultivation, thereby enhancing his strength!

This was undoubtedly an exhilarating and inspiring discovery.

As he moved forward, the black horse's speed wasn't very fast, and Lu Ye didn't know if the path it took was correct, but given the situation, he could only trust it.

By dusk, he arrived at a place, and suddenly the black horse grew uneasy and restless.

Sensing this during his cultivation, Lu Ye turned to look in one direction, where a pair of green eyes were staring from a bush.

Their eyes locked, the reek of blood met his face, and a huge, agile figure leaped out, beastly roars filled the air, and a bloody mouth appeared in Lu Ye's sight.

The black horse was startled and neighed frantically.

Lu Ye grabbed the sturdy long spear left by the Sixth Master and thrust it forward.

The two-hundred-pound weight seemed as light as nothing; the lunging beast was pierced through, hanging on the spear.

"Stop whining!" Lu Ye slapped the black horse on the back.

Moments later, by a blazing campfire, Lu Ye sat cross-legged, a large piece of beast meat sizzling and crackling on the fire, the aroma wafted strongly.

The hunger in Lu Ye's stomach grew more intense.

With the Talent Tree by his side, no matter how much he ate, he could swiftly digest it, thus turning it into potential for enhancing strength.

Additionally, after slaying this leopard-like creature, he realized one more thing: in this world, beasts weren't ordinary animals but far more fierce and powerful compared to those in his perception.

Even the black horse left by the Sixth Master was the same.

It was worth noting, despite not weighing much, the long spear was quite heavy, yet the black horse showed little fatigue throughout the day.

Was this an exotic beast?

Reflecting on the hunter's warning before he left, it seemed that the so-called exotic beasts were fiercer and stronger than ordinary animals but hadn't reached the level of demon beasts.

This aligned with the world's tier.

Since this world itself had the concept of cultivation but hadn't truly entered the realm, it was considered a lower domain.

Suddenly, footsteps approached, flickering lights revealed two figures coming from ahead, and before one arrived, they spoke: "Visiting late at night, please forgive us, the mountain path is difficult, the night is cold, seeing the firelight, we wish to warm ourselves, hope you won't mind, friend."

Chapter 1936 - True Nature Revealed in Humble Moments

By the campfire, Lu Ye raised his eyes and saw two figures slowly approaching, swaying along with the firelight.

After a short moment, a man and a woman stopped not far away. The man was tall and the woman was petite and lovely, appearing to be a couple.

"Greetings, brother," the man clasped his hands, while the petite woman beside him glanced at the black horse behind Lu Ye, a strange light flashing in her eyes.

Lu Ye looked at the tops of their heads, revealing an intrigued expression: "Are you... bandits from Great Wind Mountain?"

The man's expression changed immediately: "Friend, that's quite an accusation. My wife and I are merely passing through; we've never done anything unscrupulous."

"Is that so?"

"Naturally."

"Poof, poof..." Two soft sounds suddenly emerged.

The man was momentarily stunned: "What noise was that?"

The petite woman withdrew her gaze from the black horse, sniffed lightly, and her face changed in shock: "There's a scent of blood... something's not right!"

The man suddenly realized as well, and his expression turned fierce. He leaped high into the air, lunging at Lu Ye.

"Thud!" Lu Ye sat still on the ground, but somehow a massive spear appeared in his hand. He thrust it straight through the man, hanging him on the spear.

"You..." The man looked at Lu Ye in disbelief. Though he had known Lu Ye was trouble the moment he saw the black horse, they had thought to approach and gather intelligence first. Who knew the opponent would strike so ruthlessly?

Where did they go wrong?

The petite woman had just drawn a long whip from her waist, ready to attack, but seeing her companion skewered in an instant, she turned and fled with a horrified expression.

She knew their opponent wasn't weak, but she hadn't expected him to be this strong.

With a swish, a sound of something breaking through the air came from behind. The blood-stained spear suddenly fell from the sky, brushing against her chest, and pierced two feet into the ground before her.

The woman froze in place, as a cold sweat broke out on her body in the evening breeze.

She was sure it wasn't a miss; such precise control was clearly a warning. If she dared to run again, she would surely meet the same end as her partner.

A moment later, Lu Ye was holding a large beast leg, biting into it as the woman knelt trembling across the fire. She hadn't dared to escape, so she came back.

"Speak," Lu Ye said, his mouth crunching, the sound of bones cracking.

The sight of him eating made the woman feel even more terrified.

"We came down from the camp; Sixth Master hasn't returned, so we came to support him..."

As Lu Ye had suspected, these people were indeed bandits.

In truth, Lu Ye had guessed it when he saw them, because the numbers above their heads were just over a thousand, like those of bandits.

Besides, in such deep mountains and late at night, who else would be traveling?

The old horse had chosen the right path. He had been worried he was going the wrong way, but now it was clear that the camp she mentioned was the bandits' gathering point, where he could presumably collect many Asura Seals.

They weren't just two people but four. The man and woman were to engage Lu Ye directly and distract him while two others approached in secret to take him down.

However, Lu Ye had already noticed. He dispatched the two hidden bandits with two small stones; the initial popping sounds were the stones killing them.

After the woman finished speaking, she cautiously glanced at Lu Ye, but he didn't respond, continuing his feast.

After a while, Lu Ye ordered, "Continue cooking!"

"Hm?" The female bandit was taken aback for a moment, and then she reacted quickly, eagerly getting up, cutting a large piece of meat from the exotic beast's corpse beside her, and placing it on the fire to roast.

The woman was indeed meticulous, even carrying seasonings with her while traveling, much to Lu Ye's delight. With seasonings, the roasted meat wouldn't taste so bland.

One roasted, one ate, the scene was bizarre.

The woman's roasting skills were rather good, achieving a nice crispy outside and tender inside. As she roasted, she smirked, a look of satisfaction flashing in her eyes.

What does strength matter when you've consumed so much Seven Fragrance Powder? Soon, you'll be like fish on the chopping board!

These bandits were skilled in many tricks when dealing with enemies. Poisoning was the most common method. Normally, poisoning food requires caution to avoid detection, but with the seasonings as a cover, no one would notice.

In her view, this young lord who killed their Sixth Master was probably some noble from a great family out adventuring, somewhat capable but ignorant of the world's dangers.

Perfect timing for me to teach you a lesson! She thought, secretly pleased.

She looked forward to the young man's astonished and flustered expression when the poison took effect.

"Uh..."

Just as she was thinking this, a strange noise came from Lu Ye, as if his throat was blocked, and his face flushed, eyes vacant.

The woman's beautiful face immediately revealed a smile, covering her mouth as she giggled, her body trembling with laughter.

Despite his poor eating habits, this young master had an ethereal quality that was completely different from the rough bandits in the camp. Once subdued, she could really savor the moment.

"Bang!" Lu Ye suddenly patted his chest, then grabbed the water pouch beside him, took a sip of water, and looked at the woman with a puzzled expression, "Choked. What's so funny?"

The woman's smile quickly faded, and she lowered her head with a submissive expression: "I was saved by your compassion, narrowly escaping death, and am weeping with joy!"

Wasn't he supposed to have been poisoned? This guy is quite formidable; it seems I'll have to wait a bit longer.

The waiting lasted a whole night, and the anticipation in the woman's heart gradually dissipated, turning into suspicion and then fear...

What's with this person? She's never seen someone who can eat so much; even the one they call a glutton, the Third Master, doesn't eat this much in one meal.

Such a large exotic beast, and he's already eaten almost half of it. What's more puzzling is that his stomach shows no signs of bloating.

Where did all the food he ate go? After all, he even ate the bones.

If it were just that, it would be fine, but she used up all her Seven Fragrance Powder, yet he remains completely unharmed!

There's no way someone this ridiculous could exist in the world; could it be... a ghost?

"This piece of meat..." Suddenly, a voice came from the other side.

The woman trembled, looking up at Lu Ye, only to see Lu Ye frowning, holding a large piece of grilled beast meat: "The taste is off; did you change the seasoning?"

The woman forced a strained smile: "I did. The initial seasoning ran out."

Although she had brought quite a bit of Seven Fragrance Powder, how could it suffice at this rate? Such an amount of Seven Fragrance Powder would be enough to knock out a hundred people, yet he remained perfectly fine.

Thinking about how the Sixth Master died at the hands of this person, the woman suddenly realized that she wasn't dealing with an ordinary person, but a cultivator like the other leaders!

Only a cultivator could resist the effects of the Seven Fragrance Powder! No wonder he could kill the Sixth Master.

"Alright, keep grilling," Lu Ye instructed.

The woman dared not delay and quickly complied.

Meanwhile, in the Nameless Land.

A mirrored surface floated in mid-air, reflecting a scene — deep in a forest, under the cover of night, a campfire blazed, and beside it sat a young man wielding a long knife, devouring his meal. A woman nearby was grilling beast meat with a worried expression.

Nearby, only a few bones of the exotic beast remained.

The scene depicted was exactly where Lu Ye was now, and the one eating the roasted meat was indeed him.

The perspective reflected in the mirror seemed to hover not far in front of him, yet Lu Ye remained completely unaware.

Beside the mirror, several individuals sat, their eyes fixed intently on Lu Ye, an air of observation and scrutiny in their gaze.

A slow tapping sound resonated, catching their attention, and they rose respectfully, saying, "Clan Leader!"

The sound grew louder, and shortly thereafter, an elderly man with white hair, appearing on the verge of death, approached with the support of a woman, using a cane to walk.

The Clan Leader's eyes flashed a hint of silver, and after watching for a while, he finally spoke, "What is the situation?"

A man responsible for observing the situation reported excitedly, "Clan Leader, the character of this generation's successor seems good, at least so far. He seems worthy of being entrusted with our responsibility."

The Clan Leader nodded slightly, "One's true nature is revealed when they have little; the strength or weakness of ability can indeed affect one's disposition. But to see a person's true character, one must observe their conduct when they are weak."

"Clan Leader, you are right. However, this person has only killed lawless bandits so far and has been indifferent to the temptations faced by ordinary villagers, which speaks to his good nature. This time... it should be possible."

"No rush," the Clan Leader shook his head, "keep observing, and report any situation at once."

"Yes!" They responded.

The Clan Leader turned slowly. His time was short; if he could see his clan break free from shackles in his lifetime, he would die without regret!

Originally, he thought he would never see this opportunity in his life. Who knew it would appear so suddenly?

"Something's wrong!" someone exclaimed.

The Clan Leader, who was about to leave, immediately turned around, his cloudy eyes becoming much clearer at that moment, straining to look at the mirrored surface, where Lu Ye was suddenly surrounded by a burst of invisible energy.

"This is..." The Clan Leader showed a look of astonishment.

"His cultivation has increased!" The person responsible for observing Lu Ye's condition noticed.

As soon as the words fell, the once clear mirrored surface began to blur.

"It's bad; the Asura Field is adjusting!"

"Wasn't his cultivation suppressed to only the 4th orifice? How long has it been, and yet he's advanced?"

"It seems we've all underestimated the power of that artifact; it might be something even the Asura Field can't suppress."

"Now that he's broken through the suppression, the Asura Field will certainly make adjustments."

"Intervene quickly!"

"We can't intervene; we could only make arrangements before he entered this scenario. Once he's inside, no one can interfere. The Asura Field will operate and adjust on its own."

An uproar ensued.

Chapter 1937 - The Great Wind Mountain Bandit Suppression

"What are you panicking for!" The Clan Leader's voice rang out. Though old, his voice was like a great bell, calming the panicked clan members who all turned to look at him.

"The Asura Field is not a guaranteed death trap. He has the backing of Moon Jade; how could managing the Spirit Stream struggle be difficult?"

"Indeed," someone nodded.

"From today onward, I will personally oversee this place." The Clan Leader, who was originally planning to leave, changed his mind. He secretly decided that if the heir of this generation encountered real danger, he would risk his old life to pull him out of the trial scene.

Of course, that's only if he passes our clan's test.

The blurred mirror slowly returned to its original state, showing that the Asura Field had completed its adjustments.

By the bonfire in the forest, at the break of dawn, a woman looked at Lu Ye with a puzzled expression. Earlier, she clearly felt something strange going on with him, but upon closer inspection, she found nothing amiss.

Looking down at the shattered bones on the ground, the woman shivered a little. Overnight, one person had managed to cleanly eat an entire exotic beast. Even the bandit leaders were cultivators, but they had never heard of such a feat.

At this moment, Lu Ye appeared pleased.

Just now, he had opened the 5th orifice, granting him a small increase in strength. Of course, the best advantage of opening another orifice was improved endurance.

It seems that at the start of cultivation, one must eat more. In the past, the power of the Talent Tree had not evolved to this extent, so the effects were not noticeable. But now it was different. In just one night, he had opened an additional orifice. If several more days passed, wouldn't he return to Spirit Stream Level 1?

What does it matter if this domain's spiritual energy is sparse? All he needed to do was convert his blood Qi into spirit force, and he could still rapidly improve his strength.

Furthermore, due to having opened orifices before, he wouldn't face any bottlenecks when doing this again, as there were no spiritual orifice barriers to break through.

"Let's go!" Lu Ye got up and beckoned to the female bandit, full of vigor.

"To... where?" the female bandit cautiously asked.

"What do you think?" Lu Ye mounted his horse, looking down at her.

The female bandit shivered involuntarily, obediently stepping up to hold the black horse's reins, leading the way.

The mountain stronghold wasn't that far, and by about half a day's travel, a massive gate made of solid wood appeared before Lu Ye.

Atop this gate, several bandits stood guard, barring entry to any unauthorized individuals.

As the female bandit led Lu Ye and the black horse to this spot, she was immediately spotted by a bandit standing atop the stone wall above the gate. He looked down and said, "Black Spider, weren't you supposed to go out with Second Ruan and the others to meet the Sixth Master? Why are you back alone, and who is this man?"

"So this is your stronghold." Lu Ye raised his head, vaguely seeing signs of many bandits gathered inside.

"Indeed, this is it." Black Spider's palms were sweaty. She knew this was her most perilous moment. Now that she had brought the person here, she held no more value. If he decided to eliminate all witnesses, she wouldn't stand a chance.

"Well done," Lu Ye nodded, dismounting with a light command, "Tell them to open the gate!"

Black Spider certainly didn't dare disobey. Trying to steady her nerves, she yelled upwards, "Open the gate!"

The bandit who had spoken earlier now seemed filled with doubt and confusion, "Black Spider, what's going on? Why is he riding the Sixth Master's horse and holding his weapon? Where is the Sixth Master?"

"Cut the chatter and open the gate!" Black Spider was growing anxious, and her tone showed her agitation.

"If you don't explain, there's no way I'm opening the gate," the bandit insisted stubbornly.

With a "boom," the bandits atop the stone wall found themselves unsteady, tumbling down one after another, landing in a daze.

The bandit who had been conversing felt as though his head had split open. Forcing himself to stand, he saw a huge hole in front of him.

Blinking, he stepped back, horrified to find that the hole was actually in the stronghold's gate!

This gate was of solid wood, two feet thick. How could it be broken through?

Terrified, he retreated another step.

"Don't block the way!" A large hand lifted him by the neck, gently twisting, and then tossed him aside.

As his vision spun, he realized, too late, that the companions who had fallen with him were dead, and consciousness slipped away.

Lu Ye passed through the hole he had punched, entering the stronghold.

At the gate, the female bandit leading the way looked down at her chest, where a hole was glaringly obvious.

With a bitter smile, she understood she had no future and had guessed they would eliminate all witnesses, but hadn't sensed when he struck.

"The bandit leaders... will... avenge!" she whispered, then fell back.

Even a cultivator? All of the bandit leaders were cultivators, and this man dared to storm the stronghold; he couldn't possibly face a good end!

"Enemy attack!" With a terrifying shout, the mountain bandits surged out from the houses around, all fierce and menacing, and in the blink of an eye, they surrounded Lu Ye so tightly that not even air could pass through.

"Kill him!" someone shouted, and in an instant, dozens of mountain bandits unleashed their skills, launching countless attacks. Some wielded weapons and charged in close, some threw hidden weapons, while others shot arrows from the rooftops nearby.

"So many!" Lu Ye looked at the numbers flickering above the mountain bandits' heads, full of delight.

With a two-hundred-pound long spear in hand, he dragged it back, gripped the tail of the spear, then lifted it high above his head. With a surge of power, the thick long spear circled around him!

Screams filled the air continuously, and in an instant, within a radius of fifteen feet, all the mountain bandits were killed simultaneously. The two-hundred-pound spear, combined with the force of his swing, was unstoppable for ordinary people; just a touch meant injury, and a stronger hit meant death!

The deceased bandits quickly turned into specks of light and dissipated, but before they vanished, streams of light flew out from their corpses, entering the Asura Authority Token at Lu Ye's waist.

Fortune!

Arrows and hidden weapons hit him, but couldn't even pierce his clothes.

With such attacks, being prepared, he could slightly activate his spirit force to resist them; a cultivator's means were simply beyond a mortal's understanding.

This sudden change shocked everyone. Originally, the mountain bandits, relying on their numbers, hadn't taken Lu Ye seriously, but who'd have thought they would suffer heavy casualties in a single encounter.

"A cultivator! He's a cultivator!" a bandit cried out in fear.

The rest scattered in all directions, obviously aware that they shouldn't oppose a cultivator.

However, escaping was impossible. Lu Ye stood his ground, thrusting his spear, shattering a large rock not far away. He lunged forward, grabbing a handful of rubble; with his other hand, he threw a piece, and a bandit fell dead on the spot. Another throw, and another one fell.

"Such boldness, daring to cause trouble at our Great Wind Mountain." An angry roar echoed, as several figures swiftly rushed from deeper within the mountain stronghold.

Lu Ye turned his head, eyes lighting up.

Because the numbers above these individuals' heads were obviously much larger than those of the average bandit.

There were four of them, and the one with the least had at least three thousand, the most equaled that of the old village chief of that village, a full five thousand.

Having tossed away all the rubble, all bandits in his sight were killed.

Lu Ye raised his spear and advanced towards them with eager anticipation.

These few were undoubtedly the leaders of the Great Wind Mountain, Lu Ye discerned traces of spirit force from them; they should all be cultivators.

This scene immediately made the leaders feel something was amiss, seeing him still dare to charge forward so boldly, it was clear he was no ordinary person.

"Old Third, hold him off," instructed the middle-aged man leading them.

"No problem!" the fattest among them, the Third leader, responded. His entire body was almost like a ball of flesh; how he managed to cultivate was a mystery.

Yet despite his bulky physique, his speed was not slow. As he spoke, he rapidly distanced himself from the others, being the first to meet Lu Ye.

The distance between them quickly closed, a cold gleam flashed in the slit eyes of the Third leader, spirit force surged throughout his body. Facing Lu Ye's straightforward thrust, he didn't dodge or avoid; with a sudden clap, his large hands joined together, precisely grabbing the spear shaft.

With immense strength in his body, such a clamp rendered the opponent's spear useless, needing only a bit of entanglement for the others to converge and kill together. By then, regardless of his cultivation level, he would surely die.

Thinking this, the Third leader's expression drastically changed, for he felt a tremendous pain from his palms. The irresistible power from the spear he gripped was far beyond what he could restrain.

"Ah..." The Third leader fiercely activated his spirit force, but to no avail. His hands were instantly drenched in blood, his palms turning to bare bone.

"Pffft..." The spear pierced through the opponent's fat head, directly bursting it open.

Lu Ye's figure emerged from the blood rain, charging straight at the remaining three.

At this moment, the three head bandits were all shocked, never expecting the much-revered Third leader to die so swiftly!

Seeing Lu Ye approaching rapidly, the three head bandits dared not meet him head-on and immediately scattered to the sides.

Lu Ye swung his long spear, striking the waist of one, the mighty force exploding half of the man's body. He relentlessly pursued the slowest one, grabbing him by the shoulder: "Why run?"

This was the Second leader of the mountain stronghold. Stunned by Lu Ye's question, he hesitated.

Running, of course, was for his life, what else could he run for? Seeing a fist rapidly expanding before his eyes, he couldn't help but shout, "Big brother, save me!"

With a bang, his head was smashed.

Lu Ye looked up, seeing the last one already twenty meters away; immediately, he lifted his spear and hurled it fiercely forward!

"Stop!" a stern command echoed, as more people rushed from deep within the stronghold.

Lu Ye turned a deaf ear, shading his eyes with his hand to look ahead, seeing his spear, as quick as lightning, pierce the figure dozens of meters away. The opponent seemed to invoke spirit force to protect himself at the last moment, but against such a violent and swift impact, his meager defense was futile.

Chapter 1938 - A Bountiful Harvest

"You're too late," Lu Ye put down his hand and turned to look at the last bandit who arrived.

The six big, bright characters above the man's head made Lu Ye dizzy and fascinated.

This must be the bandit leader of the mountain stronghold!

"Good, good, good!" The bandit leader was so angry his lungs almost burst. Looking at the ground covered with severed limbs and flesh, he was so heartbroken that he could hardly breathe. In an instant, a decade of accumulation had been destroyed.

He also realized he had encountered a formidable opponent, his expression extremely stern. As he slowly drew a longsword from his waist, he said coldly, "For many years, no one has dared to cause trouble on Great Wind Mountain. Today, you will die!"

The longsword in his hand trembled as he struck a pose, gesturing towards Lu Ye with his other hand, "Come and fight!"

Seeing his appearance, Lu Ye was instantly intrigued. To be honest, since entering this training scenario, he hadn't encountered any worthy opponents. The few bandit leaders he just killed showed some signs of cultivation, but they died too quickly for him to discern how many orifices they had achieved. This leader, looking so confident, probably had some strength, making it a good way to gauge the risk of this scenario.

Thoughts flashed through his mind as he darted toward the opponent.

Within a few breaths, he was a mere ten feet away from the bandit leader.

The leader's longsword suddenly shook, spirit force surged around him, and his expression became extremely fierce, as if about to unleash a killing move.

Lu Ye focused intently. Though he didn't think the opponent was his match, he never underestimated anyone in combat.

Suddenly, the leader, who had been keeping one hand behind his back, raised it high and brought it down.

An inexplicable object was thrown from his hand, landing right in front of Lu Ye.

With a bang, a cloud of yellow mist exploded, enveloping Lu Ye, and in an instant, he couldn't see anything.

The mist was poisonous!

Lu Ye chuckled because he heard the sound of rapidly retreating footsteps.

At this moment, the bandit leader was desperately fleeing. A strong adversary who could instantly defeat his sworn brothers was not someone he could contend with. He knew from the start that he couldn't be a match for Lu Ye; it was just the timing of his shout was too awkward...

If he had waited a bit longer and seen how easily his brothers were dealt with, he definitely wouldn't have made a sound.

Yet, he was crafty beyond measure. Knowing he couldn't be a match, he still acted as if he wanted an epic battle, and even with Lu Ye's experience, he didn't notice any hint of cowardice. It was all to catch Lu Ye off guard.

Using his specially crafted object to distract the enemy, he seized the chance to flee. Behind the mountain, there was a secret chamber with a three-thousand-pound Dragon-Segregation Boulder. As long as he could escape into the chamber and lower the boulder, he would be safe, and he could escape through a pre-prepared secret passage, saving his life at least.

No matter how strong, you still need to use your brain when out and about!

Suddenly, the sound of pursuit came from behind, making the leader's heart skip a beat. Busy as he was, he turned to see that the enemy, who should have been trapped, was rapidly closing in, moving at an unbelievable speed, and he even saw a cyclone swirling at the opponent's feet.

What is this? The leader was dumbfounded.

Lu Ye hadn't used the Move-Like-The-Wind Spirit Runes for a while. After the Talent Tree evolved, all the spirit runes were meticulously deduced, and Move-Like-The-Wind was replaced by Divine Wind.

However, with his current spirit force reserves, he couldn't activate Divine Wind and could only use Move-Like-The-Wind.

This made him remember when he was weak, being chased many times, and it was this spirit rune that saved him from danger.

Now, once more, being weak, Move-Like-The-Wind became his asset for chasing others.

The distance rapidly closed.

The leader finally panicked. He realized only now that the intruder's strength was much greater than he'd imagined.

He contemplated begging for mercy, but the opponent was charging and had mercilessly killed several of his brothers. Even if he begged, it probably wouldn't end well; he could only fight to the death!

With that thought, the leader steeled himself, stopped running, and just as Lu Ye caught up, he turned back and swung his sword, pouring all his spirit force into the longsword.

Then he saw Lu Ye raise a palm to catch it, the palm facing the sword tip.

This guy... so arrogant! The leader was furious. Even if the opponent was stronger, he was still flesh and blood. There was no way he could block this sword!

The moment the sword struck the palm, the leader's face changed dramatically because, at that instant, mysterious runes flashed in the opponent's palm. Simultaneously, a visible triangular spirit force barrier appeared, like a small spirit force shield!

The longsword stabbed at the spirit force shield but could not harm the opponent at all. Instead, a strong force came from the front.

"Ah!" The leader's longsword bent, then flew out of his hand, and he uncontrollably staggered back a few steps.

Before he could steady himself, a fist rapidly enlarged before his eyes, and he was sent flying.

The leader only saw stars in his eyes as his hastily activated protective spirit force was like paper, completely unable to withstand a blow.

As he struggled to his feet, he heard a murmured, "A bit weak..."

With a bang, something hit his head, and the leader fell to the ground, blood flowing from beneath him.

Lu Ye stood beside the corpse of the main leader, lost in thought.

The leaders of the mountain bandits had barely stepped onto the path of cultivation, but they were only at the level of two or three orifices at most. Only the head leader was slightly better, approximately at the 4th or 5th orifice.

But to him, they were still very weak.

Not to mention that he had unlocked an orifice on the way here; even with his original four orifices, dealing with someone like the head leader was no trouble. At his current stage, the quality of spirit force greatly enhanced his strength, meaning that with the same reserves, the purer the spirit force, the stronger the power.

Although the head leader had four orifices, his spirit force was impure and chaotic, making it easy to kill him as one would slaughter a chicken.

However, it was a bit strange. The first one he killed, the Sixth Master, seemed to barely have one orifice, pathetically weak compared to the others.

With some mountain bandits still surviving, it had only been a dozen breaths since Lu Ye broke in. In those few moments, several leaders were brutally killed, and dozens of mountain bandits were slain, yet they were not completely wiped out.

The surviving mountain bandits, seeing that several leaders were dead, had no courage to stand against Lu Ye and dispersed like startled birds.

Lu Ye picked up the head leader's longsword and hunted them down, soon clearing the entire stronghold of bandits.

In the stronghold, there was a small square, with a few chairs, seemingly used for the bandit leaders to hold meetings.

At this moment, Lu Ye sat in the central chair, checking his Asura Authority Token, feeling pleased.

The bandit eradication this time brought him great rewards; the Asura Seals increased by nearly five hundred thousand!

Including what he had gained in the village before, the mountain bandits from Great Wind Mountain alone brought him more than six hundred thousand Asura Seals.

He hadn't heard of anyone else having such fortune in the Asura Field. Even Sun Blaze couldn't be gaining Asura Seals at this rate, right?

He'd only been in this scenario for two days.

Though the experience before entering was peculiar, compared to the gains, it was trivial.

Suppressing the joy in his heart, Lu Ye looked up, feeling a headache coming on.

In front of him stood about twenty scantily clad women, most of them quite young, with the oldest appearing to be around twenty-four or twenty-five, and the youngest just in their early teens.

Their expressions were fearful and confused; they were ordinary people who had never seen so much death.

They were not gathered by Lu Ye but had come together spontaneously after noticing the bandits were gone.

Before coming here, Lu Ye hadn't expected to encounter something like this.

Killing bandits was easy; it took him only a few moves, but these women... what should be done with them?

From their appearances, Lu Ye could guess what they had been through. These women were taken by the bandits from various places.

Now the entire stronghold was left with only these living people—no men, no children, no elderly!

Lu Ye looked at them, and they looked back at him, wide-eyed. Even knowing that this man was the reason the stronghold was now soaked in blood, none of them felt fear.

"Benefactor!" A girl about sixteen or seventeen stepped out from the crowd. Compared to the others, she wasn't the prettiest but had the best figure, with all the right curves, especially her chest that trembled slightly.

It was hard to imagine a girl her age having such an asset.

Moreover, she was the most composed and resolute among them.

Lu Ye couldn't help but see her in a higher light and noticed that she was worth the most Asura Seals among them all.

Speaking, she knelt on the ground, bowing deeply, "Thank you, benefactor, for saving us sisters from disaster. We will remember your kindness and never forget it."

The group behind her also knelt in gratitude, their voices echoing one after another.

"It was nothing!" Lu Ye waved a large hand. He had never experienced such a scene, with so many women kneeling before him, "Get up."

The girl straightened but did not stand, looking into Lu Ye's eyes, "May we ask the benefactor for another favor?"

"What is it?" Lu Ye inquired.

The girl asked, "Can the benefactor take us away from here?"

Lu Ye fell silent. This training scenario was undoubtedly a rare opportunity to quickly gain Asura Seals. Bringing along such a group of vulnerable women would undoubtedly slow him down.

He was still planning to see if there were other bandits in the vicinity to clear.

But leaving them here wouldn't be safe either. There were many exotic beasts in this mountain, and these people couldn't defend themselves, especially with the stronghold gate breached.

As he hesitated, several figures watching Lu Ye from the smooth mirror in the unknown place felt anxious and tense. Even the old Clan Leader, who stayed to oversee things, opened his eyes.

They all knew that Lu Ye's decision could, to some extent, determine the future of their clan!

Chapter 1939 - Ding'an

Although Lu Ye's various performances since entering this special trial scene have met their expectations, the test is not yet completely over. As the old Clan Leader said, one's true nature is revealed when they are at their weakest.

The future of a family is at stake, and opportunities like this are too rare to come by, so no amount of caution is too much.

They were anxious, and the group of women in front of Lu Ye was even more anxious.

As if seeing what was on his mind, the young girl suddenly smiled: "Benefactor need not hesitate, it is already a great blessing for my sisters and I to escape from misery. If benefactor has matters to attend to, feel free to leave, we can survive here!"

Lu Ye spoke: "Since you said so, then... let's go together."

He suddenly realized that this should be one of the tasks of his trial this time.

In front of the smooth mirror, several cultivators let out a long sigh.

The old Clan Leader kept nodding: "Good, good, good. This person has compassion, he can be entrusted!"

The woman who had been following the Clan Leader said, "Clan Leader, does this mean he has passed the test?"

The Clan Leader nodded: "Yes, but he has already started the trial, and it cannot end midway." He turned to glance at the woman: "Since you know him, make preparations in advance, and bring him when he comes for the next trial."

"Understood!" the woman replied respectfully, her eyes full of expectation. Her clan's countless years of waiting, is this day... finally here?

"Thank you, benefactor!" The girl was stunned for a moment before she realized and quickly started kowtowing again, followed by the group of women behind her.

"Alright, get up and speak." Lu Ye raised his hand.

Since they were leaving, it was natural to collect some supplies first.

At the very least, they needed food for the journey.

Fortunately, in the stronghold, there wasn't much else, but there was plenty of dried meat, all acquired by the bandits from hunting exotic beasts, and there was also rice and flour.

"Benefactor, these are the things of the head bandit. He always regarded them as treasures. I've seen him holding them several times when cultivating, but I don't know what's mysterious about them."

While Lu Ye was waiting, Yao Nuan stepped forward and handed him a cloth bag.

Yao Nuan was the girl who first spoke to Lu Ye.

Lu Ye curiously took the bag, opened it, and found about ten pounds of earthy yellow, stone-like items inside.

"Hmm?" Lu Ye's eyes lit up, and he picked up a piece to investigate, looking extremely surprised.

He discovered that there was actually a weak reserve of spirit force inside. He had previously wondered, since this world had the concept of cultivation and nature's spiritual energy, albeit thin, it must exist, so could there be items like Spirit Stones?

Now it seems there are indeed Spirit Stones in this world, and what Yao Nuan brought were undoubtedly exactly that.

However, compared to the Spirit Stones he knew, these had little spiritual force stored within and were impure, likely due to the low level of this domain. Even if Spirit Stones could grow naturally in certain places, their quality would still be low.

No wonder the head bandit's spirit force was impure. Cultivating with such things, it's a wonder it could ever be pure.

But this was not a problem for him. With the power of the Talent Tree, any impurities could be refined.

"Well done." Lu Ye complimented, "Keep an eye out. If you see more of these, collect and give them to me."

Yao Nuan was visibly pleased with the praise: "Don't worry, benefactor, I will pay attention."

Collecting various supplies and preparing to set out took most of the day. As evening approached, Lu Ye decided to depart the next morning. As for where to go, Yao Nuan suggested Ding'an City, about two hundred miles away, which would undoubtedly be a good place to go.

At two hundred miles, Lu Ye could easily reach it alone, but bringing so many women along, it would take much more time.

Luckily, there were many horses in the stronghold, available for carrying people and goods.

Throughout the night, Lu Ye cultivated with those inferior Spirit Stones. Although they were low-grade, they were still Spirit Stones, and their cultivation effect was much better than eating meat.

At dawn, the group of rescued women were all ready, each mounting a horse, and under Lu Ye's leadership, they left the stronghold, heading toward Ding'an City.

As the horse team advanced, Lu Ye led at the front, eating as he went. He had completely refined the Spirit Stones Yao Nuan gave him, and now, to further his cultivation, he could only rely on converting blood Qi, though the Talent Tree helped maintain efficiency.

Most of the women had never ridden horses, supporting each other throughout the journey and enduring the pains of bumping along.

Lu Ye found the world's state in this domain chaotic, as along the way, bandits trying to rob them frequently appeared.

This group of more than twenty attractive women was undoubtedly the bandits' favorite target for robbery.

Unfortunately, the bandits always met their ends, turning into Lu Ye's Asura Seals, which kept his mood quite cheerful on this journey.

It seemed he didn't need to go looking for trouble. As long as he traveled with these women, there were always living Asura Seals to be delivered to him.

What struck him as odd was the steadily increasing strength of the bandits he encountered. When he first killed the bandit leader of Great Wind Mountain, his cultivation was barely at the 4th or 5th orifice, and besides a few leaders, the rest were ordinary people without any cultivation.

Yet along this journey, the bandits he encountered showed signs of having cultivated. Several times, the bandits' cultivation surpassed that of the bandit leader.

This made Lu Ye suspect that the enemies' strength seemed to increase in tandem with his own cultivation growth.

He had no idea what was happening with this situation.

"Benefactor, have some water." During the break, Yao Nuan handed a water pouch to Lu Ye.

Lu Ye took it, took a sip, and thanked her.

Yao Nuan didn't leave, just looked at Lu Ye curiously.

"Anything?" Lu Ye asked, his mouth full of food, making his words unclear.

"Benefactor, are you cultivating like this?" Yao Nuan asked.

The main thing was that Lu Ye ate too much. Ever since they departed from the mountain stronghold, Lu Ye hadn't stopped eating. The packages of food on Lu Ye's black horse were almost gone.

Moreover, along the way, he occasionally hunted, killing several exotic beasts.

What amazed Yao Nuan was that Lu Ye's stomach showed no signs of being bloated.

"That's right." Lu Ye nodded.

Yao Nuan's eyes lit up: "So can I cultivate like this too?"

She used to see the chief cultivating with mysterious airs, but if eating was enough to cultivate, maybe she could do it too.

"You?" Lu Ye glanced at her in surprise, but remembering her experiences, he understood her longing for cultivation, "Want to give it a try?"

"If it's possible..." Yao Nuan's eyes were filled with anticipation.

"Give me your hand."

Yao Nuan quickly extended her hand. After a few days together, she knew Lu Ye's character quite well. Among so many women, some were beautiful, and Lu Ye could have done whatever he wanted. With his strength and as their life-saving benefactor, probably no one would resist, they might even willingly comply.

Yet, until now, Lu Ye had done nothing inappropriate and had taken good care of them along the journey, showing his noble character.

Lu Ye took Yao Nuan's small hand and subtly activated his spirit force.

Although his cultivation level wasn't high now, the foundation from Moon Jade was there. By holding a person's hand, he could roughly assess their cultivation aptitude and its quality.

Threads of spirit force like silk worms flowed through Yao Nuan's body with barely any obstruction.

Lu Ye nodded: "Not bad aptitude!"

Yao Nuan's eyes lit up: "So... I can cultivate?"

"You can," Lu Ye nodded.

Yao Nuan bit her lip, full of anticipation: "Benefactor, can you tell me... how I can cultivate like you?"

Lu Ye smiled slightly: "My method of cultivation isn't suitable for you."

Yao Nuan's expression darkened.

"But you can still give it a try." As Lu Ye spoke, he raised his hand towards Yao Nuan's abdomen.

For newcomers to cultivation, the hardest part without guidance is identifying the orifice, meaning finding the specific location of the spiritual orifice. Lu Ye had gone through this stage, so he naturally knew this difficulty. He had precisely located the spiritual orifice under Thang Yifeng's guidance.

What he was doing now was what the sect master had done for him years ago.

"Remember this spot. This is the Root Spiritual Orifice, the source of a cultivator's spirit force; it's crucial."

Lu Ye's voice sounded, and Yao Nuan's slightly flushed face immediately turned solemn, carefully sensing the position of the Root Spiritual Orifice and listening to Lu Ye's explanation of the cultivation technique.

In this domain of thin spiritual energy and impure, mixed Spirit Stones, the most traditional method of turning blood Qi into spirit force should be the common cultivation technique for most cultivators.

Yao Nuan's aptitude was indeed good. As Lu Ye explained, she surprisingly gained some insights quickly, sitting there quietly converting her blood Qi.

Lu Ye didn't disturb her. Looking up, he saw quite a few eager eyes watching him.

"Want to give it a try too?" Lu Ye asked.

A group of women immediately responded with joyous voices and lined up in front of Lu Ye.

Most of these women were not suited for cultivation. The few who were, didn't have particularly good aptitude, except Yao Nuan who was an exception.

However, Lu Ye didn't state this clearly. They had suffered humiliation and had little hope in life, so with something to look forward to now, there was no need to shatter their dreams.

Moreover, cultivation values perseverance. Even for Yao Nuan, there wouldn't be any substantial changes in the short term.

The convoy continued forward, and after two more days, they finally arrived at Ding'an City.

Outside the city gate, Lu Ye bid farewell to Yao Nuan and others.

Having escorted them here, Lu Ye had completed his task. He left them the gold and silver items he had taken from the mountain stronghold, so these women wouldn't have problems with their livelihood once they entered the city.

Lu Ye didn't plan to enter the city. With a rare opportunity at hand, it was crucial to hurry to act justly and eliminate evil. Moreover, he needed to figure out his main mission for this training journey.

Only by understanding this could he accurately determine when this training journey would end.

Chapter 1940 - Defending Our Homeland Is Our Unshirkable Duty

In the Asura Field, the time spent training is not fixed. Normally, it doesn't take very long, usually one or two months, as was the case with the two previous times Lu Ye experienced it.

But there are exceptions. Some training scenarios might take several years, or even over a decade.

Before completing the final task, cultivators cannot leave, except in one situation. That is, if someone challenges them within three days of the ranking being set in the combat field, and the challenged chooses to fight, they will directly enter the combat field space and will return to their training scenario after the fight.

So cultivators who wish to maintain their rank need not worry about training causing them to miss things.

Today's training scenario is undoubtedly a place where Lu Ye can rapidly accumulate Asura Seals, so he doesn't want it to end quickly; it'd be best if he could stay for over a decade...

At the current rate of obtaining Asura Seals, over a decade might allow him to exchange for the affiliated treasure of the Asura Field.

But he knows this is probably impossible because this world is at too low a level; the Asura Field would not allow him to stay here for too long.

"Benefactor, take care on your journey!" Yao Nuan said, and the other women stood behind her, all looking at Lu Ye with grateful and reluctant expressions.

Now that they've escaped the sea of suffering and reached Ding'an City, no one will know about their past experiences, and they can completely start a new life in the future.

Lu Ye nodded, "You all take care as well!"

He raised his hand to grab the reins of the black horse, about to turn and leave.

Just then, a rapid sound of hoofbeats came rushing from a distance, followed by a series of swooshing sounds breaking through the air.

The sound of thumps came, mixed with screams, and the gate area instantly turned chaotic!

Yao Nuan and the others looked pale with fright.

Lu Ye already stood before the group of women, wielding a long spear, several broken arrows falling in front of him. He had sensed something wrong and timely intercepted those arrows; otherwise, someone from the group of women behind him would have been in trouble.

He focused his gaze and saw in the distance, about a hundred feet away, a group of uninvited guests on horseback. The leader had a fierce expression, with only one eye visible; the other was covered by a black cloth, like a patch of dog skin plaster.

There weren't many people, only about thirty, each carrying a longbow and with a black scarf tied on their sleeves or foreheads. The recent commotion was caused by them.

In that volley, at least a dozen bystanders fell victim, some dying on the spot, while most survived but were currently wailing in pain and crying.

Lu Ye's eyebrows raised slightly.

Along the way, he had killed many mountain bandits who blocked the road and robbed, so at a glance, he knew this gang was up to no good.

They had already reached Ding'an City, and yet Asura Seals were being delivered to him?

"Black Scarf Army!" At the city gate, a guard's face changed drastically upon seeing the black scarves on the bandits, looking like he'd seen a ghost in broad daylight. He never expected the infamous Black Scarf Army to show up here.

Then he saw a young man with a long knife at his waist and wielding a thick long spear enthusiastically charge towards the Black Scarf Army.

The one-eyed Black Scarf Army member sat atop a tall horse and, after having his subordinates kill over a dozen civilians indiscriminately, was about to declare the Black Scarf Army's demands as usual, when he saw Lu Ye actively approaching. He was momentarily stunned, then immediately gave a cold snort, "Kill him!"

In this world, there are always some who overestimate their abilities and fancy themselves as righteous clowns, thinking they can resist the overwhelming tide.

He had seen many such people before, but they all turned to dust under the iron hooves of the Black Scarf Army.

At his command, a group of archers behind him immediately launched a chaotic volley of arrows.

The swooshing sound of arrows filled the air again, and at such close range, with Lu Ye not intending to dodge at all, even if these archers were less accurate, about half of the arrows struck him.

At the city gate, many people watched through their fingers, unable to bear seeing it.

"Hmm?" The one-eyed Black Scarf Army was surprised because the arrows hitting the newcomer failed to hurt him. It was as if the man was wearing armor of bronze and iron; the arrows bounced off, leaving only marks on his clothes.

"A cultivator!" The one-eyed Black Scarf Army noticed the spirit force fluctuation on Lu Ye's body and immediately drew a large blade from his horse. Regardless, he too had cultivation accomplishments, confident he wouldn't be weaker than the opponent.

Lu Ye had reached the one-eyed Black Scarf Army and thrust forward with his thick long spear.

"You're bold!" The one-eyed Black Scarf Army roared angrily, leaping from his horse, using his momentum to fiercely slash down at Lu Ye's head with his machete.

He had brute force, plus cultivation at the 5th orifice, confident a passerby like this couldn't possibly withstand his strike, especially since the other appeared so young.

When he was his age, he hadn't even started on the cultivation path.

Splurt...

The one-eyed Black Scarf Army's eyes trembled violently as he felt intense pain in his chest; the entire person had been pierced by the long spear, hanging like a dead fish on the spear.

"You..." He was terrified, but only managed to utter a single word before his consciousness faded.

Lu Ye swung his spear, tossing a corpse aside, and fiercely charged into the group of archers, almost taking down one with each strike, effortlessly.

These archers, witnessing the strongest one-eyed leader die so easily, were all shocked and dared not face Lu Ye, only thinking of fleeing.

But where could they escape to? Under the blessing of Move-Like-The-Wind, even if they were on horseback, Lu Ye could hunt them down to death!

In just a moment, the attacking Black Scarf Army was completely annihilated, leaving only dozens of restless warhorses neighing uneasily.

In front of the city gate, a brutal scent filled the air.

Lu Ye wiped the blood from his spear on a corpse and walked back, but to his surprise, despite his act of chivalry and justice, the people in front of the city gate showed no joy, instead were full of fear.

Only the guard captain showed a shocked and admiring expression.

Lu Ye couldn't be bothered with them and just went up to Yao Nuan and the others, asking, "Are you all right?"

All the women shook their heads.

"Alright, if everyone's fine, let's enter the city. It's not very safe outside." Lu Ye waved his hand. He had noticed this world was chaotic before, but didn't expect it to be to such an extent, with ruffians causing trouble right at the city gate.

Yao Nuan and the others nodded, "Take care, benefactor."

Hurried footsteps came from the side, Lu Ye turned to see the guard captain approaching. The man, about forty, clasped his fists and said, "I am Zhou Ping from Ding'an City, may I ask your esteemed name?"

Lu Ye could sense traces of cultivation from the man, but couldn't discern how many spiritual orifices he had opened. From his previous interactions, it seemed Zhou Ping hadn't opened many.

"Lu Ye."

"Mr. Lu!" Zhou Ping saluted again, very respectfully and with eagerness in his eyes, "May I ask, sir, are you leaving?"

"Indeed, any suggestions?"

"I wouldn't dare. It's just that you might not know, just now the Black Scarf Army's vanguard and reconnaissance squads were killed, they surely won't let it rest, and will come skirmishing with a greater army. Sir, your act of justice, I wish to invite you to stay and resist the bandit army with us!"

Lu Ye blinked, "You mean... more Black Scarf Army will come?"

"Certainly, this bandit army commits all sorts of evil acts, leaving the people destitute where they go. Several cities have already fallen, but unexpectedly they arrived so quickly, already near Ding'an."

Lu Ye at once became solemn: "Eradicating evil to bring peace, protecting the homeland—it is our duty without hesitation!"

Zhou Ping was overjoyed, "In that case, thank you very much, sir. Please enter the city, and come with me to meet the City Lord!" He didn't expect Lu Ye to be so agreeable.

"Please." Lu Ye gestured.

After a while, Zhou Ping gave an order and led Lu Ye into the city, Yao Nuan and the others following joyfully. Although their time together hadn't been long, during these days, Lu Ye had repeatedly repelled the bandit attacks, providing them with temporary peace. As they reached Ding'an City, and with Lu Ye about to depart, they were already reluctant to let him go. But now, great news: Lu Ye decided to stay!

Zhou Ping belonged to the Zhou family, one of Ding'an's three great clans, and was a local force. Seeing Lu Ye bring so many women made it inconvenient for him, so he first arranged for Yao Nuan and the others into a Zhou family courtyard before taking Lu Ye to the City Lord's Residence.

On the way, Lu Ye chatted idly with him, learning a bit about the Black Scarf Army.

This world suffered constant bandit troubles, with rogue mountain bandits claiming king everywhere. The Black Scarf Army started this way, initially just a band of mountain thieves, but gradually expanded and adopted the Black Scarf Army title.

With deeper roots, they were no longer satisfied with petty theft, but began targeting densely populated areas, repeatedly slaughtering villages and attacking cities. Their reputation spread, attracting more and more mountain bandits to join, so to speak, the entire Black Scarf Army was made up of numerous mountain bandit gangs.

Wherever this bandit army went, they made cities anxious. Zhou Ping had heard they were still five hundred miles away, yet somehow they'd already drifted nearby.

Today's appearance of the Black Scarf Army's reconnaissance team likely means the entire army will soon gather around Ding'an. With such a juicy target right by their mouth, the Black Scarf Army surely won't let it go.

This was the reason for Zhou Ping inviting Lu Ye. From the previous engagement, Zhou Ping saw Lu Ye's considerable strength.

After a while, in the City Lord's Residence, in a side hall, Lu Ye and Zhou Ping sat, with maids serving tea before stepping out.

The two chatted while waiting.

Zhou Ping was enthusiastically sharing intelligence on the Black Scarf Army with Lu Ye but failed to notice Lu Ye's gradually indifferent expression.

After a while, Zhou Ping's mouth felt dry, wondering aloud, "Why hasn't the City Lord arrived yet?"

He had sent someone to report when they arrived, so logically the City Lord should have appeared already.

Lu Ye turned to look at him, eyes lingering.

Zhou Ping met his gaze, "Sir, what's the matter? Is there something on my face?"

"Do you feel dizzy?" Lu Ye suddenly asked.