

Humanity 2061

Chapter 2061: Blood Jade No More

The chaos inside Horizon Pavilion only lasted for ten short breaths before it ceased. The Blood Race outside, though aware of the powerful fluctuations of Mana within, didn't dare barge in rashly. Not until the entire Horizon Pavilion shattered and many unfamiliar figures burst out from within did the Blood Race guards outside realize they were powerless to resist.

Woo Qimo personally escorted the captured Shilong, and, with the cooperation of Lu Ye's true body and Talent Tree Avatar, used the Void Spirit Runes to send him into the Western Region's Mount Fangcun!

Once there, with Lu Ye's Talent Tree Avatar seated in town to guard, the heavily wounded Shilong no longer had any chance of escape.

The battle in the Blood Jade World had not yet ended. The Blood Race here at Horizon Pavilion were quickly slaughtered to the last, and the many Dwarf Race Sun Blaze cultivators scattered in all directions, each choosing a position to charge out from. Wherever they passed, rivers of blood flowed.

Not only that, amidst the ruins of Horizon Pavilion, Lu Ye maintained a gigantic Void Spirit Rune. Through that Void Spirit Rune, Dwarf Race cultivators kept arriving as reinforcements, then, in accordance with the teams they had formed previously, they fanned out in all directions!

Today was the day of Blood Jade's destruction!

Ma Shangsi and the few Blood Servants newly taken in by Lu Ye were not idle either. Though they were of Blood Race origin, since they had now fallen under Lu Ye's command, they could only act according to his will. Besides, the Blood Race themselves were never a benevolent lot; this was nothing more than the victor king, the defeated captive.

The entire domain fell into chaos in an extremely short time.

Aside from a small number of lucky Blood Race cultivators who sensed something wrong and fled into the stellar space, none of the rest had any hope of survival.

The Dwarf Race would show no mercy when dealing with the Blood Race, nor would they care about accusations of bullying the weak. From the standpoint of the Dwarf Race, all Blood Race were damned.

At this time, Lu Ye had already arrived at a certain place within the Blood Jade World.

The entire Blood Jade World was similar to the Blood Termination World. If the Blood Termination World was transformed from the Blood Ancestor's left arm, then the Blood Jade World was the Blood Ancestor's right arm.

Thus, the overall structures of the two great domains were basically the same, differing only in minor details.

The war within the domain no longer required his effort. The Blood Race Sun Blaze had all perished, and the Dwarf Race was destined to win a great victory.

What he needed to consider now was reenacting what happened back then, having the Western Region's Mount Fangcun carry the Blood Jade World back to the Nine Provinces.

Having done this once already, doing it a second time was certainly not difficult for him.

The place he was now could be regarded as the crook of the right arm, a nodal point of the Blood Ancestor's right arm, and also the nodal point of the entire domain.

Standing at such a position, Lu Ye clearly felt his connection with the Blood Jade World become much more intimate.

He immediately understood that he had found the right place. Following that faint sense of resonance, he employed his methods and kept descending deeper underground!

After spending half a day, Lu Ye finally reached a certain position underground. Upon arriving here, his connection with the Blood Jade World tightened once more.

This place was undoubtedly one of the Blood Ancestor's spiritual orifices!

Lu Ye sat cross-legged there and sank his psyche. Very soon, his vast spirit sense took this spiritual orifice as its origin and spread out to cover the entire domain.

Across the stellar space, only Lu Ye, who had once refined the Blood Ancestor's treasure blood, could accomplish such a thing. Even a Blood Race being like Saintly Venerable Jiuw Tian did not possess such qualification.

In a blur, Lu Ye felt his body become incomparably heavy. A familiar sensation surged up again, as if a thick, weighted cover armor had been strapped over his body.

He saw the Blood Jade World plunged into an abyss of water and fire, countless Blood Race fleeing in panic, and numerous Dwarf Race cultivators slaughtering wantonly.

He saw his few Blood Servants, following his orders, unstoppable wherever they went.

And many Blood Slaves, terrified and at a loss...

The cleansing of the Blood Jade World took only a few days. Though the domain was not small, with so many Dwarf Race Sun Blaze taking action this time, in the face of such an absolute difference in strength, the Blood Race were fundamentally incapable of any resistance.

A few days later, once everything had settled, there were no Blood Race remaining within the domain aside from Lu Ye's few Blood Servants. However, many Blood Slaves who had been enslaved by the Blood Race still remained, all of them now panic-stricken and not knowing what to do.

Under the control of the Talent Tree Avatar, the Western Region's Mount Fangcun had already arrived at a suitable position.

Where Lu Ye's true body was, he reached out and grabbed, and a several-zhang-long staff appeared in his hand.

This was the ancestral artifact seized from the Blood Termination World. With this ancestral artifact, Lu Ye had been able to better mobilize the Blood Termination World back then; he wasn't sure if it could be used here.

He might as well give it a try.

With the ancestral artifact in hand, he urged his Mana, and Lu Ye's brows lifted.

It worked!

Because the weight pressing upon his body clearly lessened by a good amount, and under Lu Ye's manipulation, the entire Blood Jade World began to tremble.

The massive right arm's front end, with its six fingers, slowly opened and then gradually closed, gripping the Western Region's Mount Fangcun, which had already arrived, within its palm.

Out in the stellar space, the Dwarf Race Sun Blaze cultivators had gathered together, silently watching this scene.

"Even though I've seen it once before, seeing it again today still feels shocking." Zhang Kun sighed. It was hard to imagine just how strong the Blood Ancestor had been in those years, and how such a powerful existence had ended up being slain by the Dwarf Race's forebears, even its corpse torn into pieces.

Compared to the might of their ancestors, even though they had now all stepped into the Sun Blaze Realm, they still feared they couldn't reach even one ten-thousandth of that power.

On the side of the Talent Tree Avatar, the isolation of the Western Region's Mount Fangcun had been lifted; thus, the Western Region was once again drawn by the core and swept toward the depths of the stellar space, driving the movement of the Blood Jade World along with it.

It was just that, because they had previously passed through an Insect Path to get here, on the predetermined route the Western Region would probably need a few more years before it could return to the Nine Provinces.

But compared to the gains, a wait of a few years was still worth it.

From this day on, there would no longer be a Blood Jade World in this star system.

Once everything had settled and the dust had fallen, a day later, many powerful figures gathered in the Western Region's Mount Fangcun, and Lu Ye had already returned.

"There were quite a few Blood Slaves in the Blood Jade World. They've all been relocated into the main body's Mount Fangcun, but they've been enslaved by the Blood Race for generations, their true natures long since worn away. It may take several generations before they slowly recover their sense of self." Ran Dongsheng reported the current situation.

As for the Blood Race, the Dwarf Race would show no mercy, but those enslaved Blood Slaves were also pitiful. If they were left unattended, during the migration of the Blood Jade World, very few of these low-strength Blood Slaves might survive. After all, when such a vast domain migrated through the stellar space, it would cause drastic changes to the domain's environment.

Relocating them into the Western Region's Mount Fangcun for resettlement was the only option.

This was also a consensus shared by all the Sun Blaze experts.

Once the Western Region reached the Nine Provinces, these Blood Slaves could be sent to the Nine Provinces for proper placement.

"How is the situation with Shilong?" Lu Ye turned his head toward Xsu Pu, who had come from the Southern Region as support. After Shilong had been sent over, it was Xsu Pu who had joined hands with Xia Yingyue to interrogate him, though Xsu Pu was the main one. He had previously learned some methods of severe torture, and they happened to be of use this time.

The other Sun Blaze cultivators also looked over. Although, through Lu Ye's Talent Tree Avatar, they had already obtained much information from the Horizon Pavilion council, there were many unclear points in that information. If they could get more accurate details from Shilong's own mouth, so much the better.

Xsu Pu shook his head. "Shilong truly doesn't know much. Everything he knows was told to him by the Insect Race High Priest. He had never concealed anything from the Blood Race Sun Blaze cultivators before."

After several days of torment, Shilong's oil was exhausted and his lamp was dry; even his psyche was nearly shattered. Under such methods, Xsu Pu was convinced Shilong could not have hidden anything.

All the Sun Blaze cultivators frowned.

Why was the coming of the grand trend an opportunity for the Insect and Blood Races? Why was it that only the Insect Race High Priest could sense this grand trend? Why couldn't other powerhouses do so?

There were many things they couldn't figure out, and there was nowhere to find someone to ask.

But what couldn't be denied was that the stellar space had indeed undergone some changes; the increased activity of stellar space spirit energy was only the most basic of them.

"Junior Brother Lu, the All Phenomena Ocean is a place where fish and dragons mingle, with frequent exchanges with various star systems, and it's convenient to make contact. On this matter, we may need you to put in some extra effort." Chen Xuanhai turned his head to look at Lu Ye.

Lu Ye nodded slightly. "I had the same thought. Once I return to the All Phenomena Ocean this time, I'll spread this news and see if anyone knows anything."

Chen Xuanhai nodded. "This matter is not urgent. The Insect Race said that in the short term it will be several decades, in the long term a hundred years, so we still have time to respond."

Zhang Kun said, "On its way, the Western Region will pass through quite a few star systems. When the time comes, let's see if we can find opportunities to visit some of the larger star systems and investigate the situation."

"In fact, the best way is still to make a trip to the Insect Emperor World, seize that Insect Race High Priest, and question him face to face."

"The Insect Emperor World..." Chen Xuanhai slowly shook his head. "That's not a place one can trespass on lightly."

Seeing his deeply reserved look, Lu Ye couldn't help but grow curious. "What's so special about the Insect Emperor World?"

After roaming the stellar space for so many years, his knowledge and experience had indeed grown greatly, but there were still some things he wasn't very familiar with, such as this Insect Emperor World.

All he knew was that it was the main base of the Insect Race, and that all the insect hives drifting in the stellar space originated from the Insect Emperor World.

Chen Xuanhai gave a wry smile. "Junior Brother, you may not know this, but in essence the Insect Emperor World is actually a gigantic Origin Magnetic Planet. The entire domain is composed of high-quality origin magnetic ore, and the origin magnetic field within it is chaotic and dense. No matter how strong your strength is, once you fall into it, it's hard to bring your power to bear."

Lu Ye's expression tightened. "An Origin Magnetic Planet!"

He was certainly no stranger to origin magnetic fields. The geomagnetic turbulence zone near the Jade Conch Galaxy was filled with all kinds of chaotic origin magnetic fields; origin magnetic storms would erupt from time to time, extremely dangerous.

On a planet made purely of high-quality origin magnetic ore, the strength of the origin magnetic field within was simply beyond imagination.

In such an environment, any cultivator who went deeper in would find their cultivation greatly diminished by the interference of the origin magnetic field; if a Sun Blaze entered, they would likely be reduced to only the level of a Moon Jade.

But due to the special nature of the Insect Race itself, they possessed an innate resistance to this strange power of the origin magnetic field.

Lu Ye had long experienced this. Back when the Nine Provinces' armies attacked the underground insect hives, they had used insect blood to refine certain Secret Medicine, smearing it on the cultivators' bodies to resist the interference of the origin magnetic field.

One could say that the Insect Emperor World was a place naturally suited for the survival of the Insect Race; no other race could establish a foothold there.

Chapter 2062: Number Nine's True Form

Lu Ye has always been curious about one thing, since the Insect and Blood Races are hunted in the stellar space, why have all the major races not joined forces to exterminate them.

Logically, this is doable. No matter how strong the foundation of the Insect and Blood Races is, they cannot withstand the union of multiple races.

Now he slowly understands.

The Insect and Blood Races each have their own foundation of survival; the special nature of the Insect Emperor World is the root of the Insect Race's security, and as long as they occupy the Insect Emperor World, they will never face the crisis of extermination.

While the Blood Race's domains do not have the same innate advantages as the Insect Emperor World, each domain has its own ancestral artifact. With these artifacts, they can mobilize the domain's power, providing them with a strong self-defense ability.

Don't think that taking the Blood Termination World and Blood Jade World was effortless, it was due to the significant role played by Lu Ye. When attacking the Blood Termination World, he single-handedly disrupted the Blood Race's mobilization of the domain's power, and this time the Blood Race suffered even more, being completely wiped out by Lu Ye and the Sun Blaze of the Dwarf Race. Even such a top Sainly Venerable as Jiuw Tian died without a trace, not to mention the other Blood Races.

Lu Ye's uniqueness can almost be said to be the nemesis of the Blood Race.

The matters concerning the Blood Jade World are considered thoroughly concluded.

Days later, Lu Ye returned to the core area with Chen Xuanhai and others who came to assist.

A great battle, with considerable harvest, not just the Blood Jade World itself, but also the resources of an entire domain, numbers unimaginable.

Awaiting the return of the Western Region in the future for Mount Fangcun to unify, while the Nine Provinces can allow Number Nine to consume the foundation of the Blood Jade World, achieving two goals with one act.

Lu Ye did not linger long at Mount Fangcun, and soon left.

Given the present Sun Blaze cultivation, the cultivation of the Soul Suppressing Secret Technique, and the transformation of the Talent Tree, all need time accumulation and substantial consumption of materials, these matters are inconvenient outside, and must be pursued at All Phenomena Ocean and the Soul Race ancestral land.

Although he doesn't know exactly what situation is unfolding with the so-called major trend arrival at the Insect Race, a sense of urgency has arisen, he must elevate his cultivation as much as possible before this major trend arrives. This way, regardless of the changes it brings, he will have financial ability for self-defense and to protect relatives.

The Nine Provinces have grown even larger.

Comparing the current Nine Provinces to its initial state, its sheer size is now twice as large, clearly the result of Jade Conch completing the World-Merging.

Currently, the three major domains of the entire Star System are merged, and truly bound together.

Lu Ye originally did not intend to return to the Nine Provinces but soon noticed something and displayed a surprised expression, turning and heading towards the Nine Provinces.

In a short time, Lu Ye landed before the Governor's Hall of Tianzhou.

Looking forward, under the doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree, a burly familiar figure stood tall, hands behind his back, looking at the seemingly withered doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree with a face full of remembrance.

Lu Ye stepped towards him, and shortly afterward stood beside him, softly calling: "Senior."

Ma Bin turned his head to look at him, smiled slightly, raised his hand and patted the Reincarnation Tree doppelganger: "When I was young, I played with a senior brother on this tree, flipping up and down, one day accidentally breaking a branch, and then got a good beating, couldn't get out of bed for several days, my master didn't hold back at all."

Lu Ye's eye twitched, not knowing what to say, it seemed that Senior Ma Bin also had a complete childhood.

The location for the Governor's Hall was set by Lu Ye, mainly because it has the doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree, which the Nine Provinces Governor can conveniently look after.

This location is also the ruins of the strongest sect of the Nine Provinces ten thousand years ago, the Human Emperor Sect, Yang Qing told Lu Ye about this matter back in the day.

Ma Bin was born in the Human Emperor Sect, one could say he grew up here.

With ten thousand years passed, even if Ma Bin knew the Nine Provinces might be somewhere in the stellar space, he had never had the thought of searching for it, even when he met Lu Ye and learned about the current situation of the Nine Provinces, he didn't have the intention to come back and have a look.

It wasn't that he didn't want to but dared not!

He was afraid his troubles would bring calamity to the Nine Provinces, so he tried his best to dilute, even sever his connection with the Nine Provinces.

But now he no longer has this worry.

At All Phenomena Sea, he learned more about the Nine Provinces and knew about the recent confrontation with Zixuan.

The Nine Provinces now has ample self-defense capability!

So he returned, just to see the homeland he has long missed, and upon seeing it, although today's Nine Provinces isn't as prosperous as in its peak, its current prosperity was surprising, putting his heart at ease.

"Senior's injuries healed?" Lu Ye asked.

"More or less." Ma Bin nodded, "Thanks to you."

Unexpectedly, Lu Ye, this Nine Provinces junior, could thrive in a place like All Phenomena Ocean, and now has become the ruler of All Phenomena Ocean.

This is something even the Human Emperor couldn't achieve back then, while Lu Ye is only at the Early Stage of Sun Blaze.

If not for Lu Ye, his previous injuries would have gradually worsened, leading to the loss of cultivation, who knows in which remote corner he would have died of old age.

"Senior is too kind. Your injuries were due to me, I haven't even thanked you yet." Lu Ye sighed; on the day the Asura Field shut down, had Ma Bin not sheltered him, he wouldn't have fought to the death with Charng Feng and others. He now only regrets that Charng Feng ran too fast, he couldn't catch him with Little Fella that day, otherwise he could have avenged Ma Bin's enmity along with his own.

Ma Bin didn't say more, just reached into the air and grabbed, releasing a power of utmost mystery, and out came an ancient round disc.

Lu Ye was taken aback, "This is..."

He sensed an extremely familiar aura from that disc.

The rabbit figure of Number Nine suddenly appeared at the side, baring its teeth and charged at Ma Bin, shouting, "Give it back to me!"

Lu Ye had never seen Number Nine so anxious before, and was curious for a moment, but not worried, because he knew Ma Bin wouldn't harm Number Nine.

Ma Bin chuckled, casually swept his other hand, and the aggressively charging Number Nine flew back, landing precisely into Lu Ye's embrace.

Lu Ye caught it at once.

Number Nine's rabbit eyes turned red, and the entire Nine Provinces shook violently, with an incredibly terrifying aura converging in the sky.

Lu Ye hurriedly patted Number Nine, "The senior means you no harm, don't be nervous."

"Artifact Spirit?" Ma Bin observed Number Nine with interest, "Quite unexpected." Then he asked Number Nine, "Do you recognize me?"

Number Nine grumpily said, "I don't recognize you, don't try to get friendly with me! And give me back my true form, otherwise, Lu Ye will beat you up!" Then it turned to Lu Ye, "Lu Ye, go on, he snatched my true form!"

It was then that Lu Ye understood, the disc in Ma Bin's hand was actually Number Nine's true form, no wonder the aura was so familiar.

Honestly, over the years, Lu Ye only knew that Number Nine was the Artifact Spirit of the Heaven's Augury Compass, but what exactly the compass looked like, he had never really seen.

All along, he had only seen Number Nine.

But he didn't expect to see it today.

"Alright, alright." Lu Ye comforted, "Senior Ma Bin is a cultivator from the Human Emperor Sect of ten thousand years ago, your true form was crafted with his participation, he wouldn't harm you."

"Hmm?" Number Nine was dumbfounded.

Ma Bin played with the Heaven's Augury Compass, speaking slowly, "Saying it was crafted with participation is flattering myself. At that time, I had just advanced to the Constellation stage, and besides... the Heaven's Augury Compass wasn't actually crafted. It was a treasure inadvertently obtained by a top expert from our sect back then. We merely found a way to unleash its power; it is actually an affiliated treasure of a supreme treasure!"

"Affiliated treasure?" Lu Ye was astonished, looking down at Number Nine, "You're an affiliated treasure?"

Number Nine was bewildered, "I didn't know, am I an affiliated treasure?"

"That's why I'm curious how an affiliated treasure developed its own consciousness." Ma Bin looked at Number Nine, "Affiliated treasures aren't supposed to undergo such changes."

Lu Ye said, "Number Nine's birth seems to be due to the merging of the Heaven's Augury Compass's Artifact Spirit and the will of the Nine Provinces, causing some changes."

"That still doesn't explain it." Ma Bin slowly shook his head, looking at Number Nine, "Can you sense anything?"

"Sense what?" Number Nine asked in reply.

"There's an intangible link between an affiliated treasure and a supreme treasure. Now that you have developed spiritual intelligence, you should be able to sense the corresponding supreme treasure."

Number Nine shook its head, "I can't sense anything."

Ma Bin fell into contemplation, clearly puzzled.

Number Nine's eyes flickered, suddenly leaped out of Lu Ye's arms, displaying a speed Lu Ye had never seen before, snatched the Heaven's Augury Compass from Ma Bin's hand, and vanished with a flicker, leaving only a triumphant laugh echoing in the air.

"Number Nine's temperament... is a bit childlike." Lu Ye explained.

Ma Bin nodded, not bothered, simply said, "Lu Ye, I must leave now."

Lu Ye was stunned, then said, "Senior, don't mind the matter with Charng Feng." Ma Bin had said years ago that once he healed, he would find Charng Feng and kill him to relieve Lu Ye. Now that he was healed, it was natural for him to depart.

"It's not just about Charng Feng." Ma Bin waved his hand, "At my level of cultivation realm, there's no room for further advancement, and it's been like this for many years. But recently, I've felt a bit different, as though some wondrous change is happening throughout the stellar space, giving me a possibility of further progress. So I must journey out to find the direction for my future."

"Recently?" Lu Ye frowned, "How long ago?"

"Not that many years ago, why?" Ma Bin looked at him.

"Here's the thing, senior, I recently went to Mount Fangcun in the Western Region and attacked a domain of the Blood Race, where I encountered some events."

He then recounted everything that happened in the Blood Jade World, emphasizing the great era mentioned by the Insect Race.

"Senior, with your experience and knowledge, do you know what the advent of the great era means?" Finally, Lu Ye asked.

Ma Bin shook his head, "I've never heard of it. If it's as you say, could these feelings I've had in recent years be related to the advent of the great era?"

Chapter 2063: Ma Bin's Guidance

Lu Ye had not progressed in cultivation for countless years, and it was only in recent years that the bottleneck binding him showed a sliver of loosening. This was clearly related to the arrival of the great momentum mentioned by Lu Ye.

After some thought, Ma Bin said, "Although I've never heard of this so-called great momentum, I know there are quite a few top-level Sun Blaze stars in this stellar space who, when their own cultivation cannot advance, practice some special methods. It is said these methods are for preparing for some future opportunity, but throughout history, despite many using such methods, they have never truly proven useful."

Lu Ye understood that he was referring to things like the doppelganger and Inner Core Technique.

Take Su Yuqing and Chen Xuanhai, for example, they also didn't know about the arrival of the great momentum. The reason they refined their inner core and talisman sword was merely in preparation for some future opportunity—a notion passed down through ancient texts. As for what this opportunity entailed, they were unclear.

Many predecessors had engaged in these practices before them.

"I'll be attentive to such matters, and if I find any concrete information, I'll come back and tell you," Ma Bin said.

"Thank you, senior," Lu Ye responded.

"By the way, over at Three Worlds Island, they're purchasing a lot of fire-type resources. You need them for your cultivation, right?" Ma Bin recalled another matter. Although he had been healing in seclusion within the Spirit Jade Vein, he had kept a close eye on Three Worlds Island, so it wasn't surprising that he knew about this.

Others didn't know what Lu Ye needed so many fire-type resources for, but he did. During Chao Nian's cultivation, a large amount of fire-type resources was also required, evidently because of the Dao Tree.

"Yes," Lu Ye nodded.

"If you need them in the future and the resources from the All Phenomena Ocean aren't enough, venture to the Hengyue Galaxy; you might find some gains there."

"Hengyue Galaxy?" Lu Ye pondered. He had never heard of this galaxy's name and, even on All Phenomena Ocean, there were no Spirit Islands named after this galaxy, indicating its foundation might not be strong.

"That's the galaxy where the former Nine Provinces was located. After the Nine Provinces vanished, they changed the name."

Ma Bin left. He didn't even use the Insect Path to return to the All Phenomena Ocean but flew directly into the depths of stellar space. When Lu Ye would see him again, he did not know.

However, the matters Ma Bin mentioned left Lu Ye perplexed.

Information from the Blood Jade World revealed that under the great momentum's arrival, the Insect and Blood Races would gain tremendous benefits, even having the chance to dominate stellar space, which undoubtedly meant disaster for all other races.

But in fact, Ma Bin had felt a subtle loosening of his bottleneck, and this loosening would undoubtedly become more apparent as the great momentum progressed. Someday, Ma Bin's cultivation might even achieve a breakthrough.

Ma Bin wasn't the only supreme powerful one in this stellar space.

In such a perspective, could the arrival of the great momentum not be entirely a bad thing? For cultivators like Ma Bin, who had stagnated for years, it might be a tremendous blessing.

Lu Ye went back to Mount Fangcun once more and found Chen Xuanhai to inquire about his situation.

In Lu Ye's perspective, Chen Xuanhai should be of the same level as Ma Bin. Shouldn't Chen Xuanhai share the same sensations as Ma Bin?

However, after a round of communication, Lu Ye discovered that Chen Xuanhai's situation was different from Ma Bin's. In terms of cultivation, they were indeed on the same level, having reached the limit of stellar space, unable to progress further.

But Ma Bin had already established his Dao foundation, whereas Chen Xuanhai was still striving for this step. So even if their cultivations were the same, Ma Bin would be significantly stronger if it came to a fight.

Across the entire stellar space, there might not be many who had forged their own Dao foundation.

Lu Ye once asked Ma Bin about the Dao foundation because Ma Bin's injuries were Dao foundation-related, requiring recuperation in the Spirit Jade Vein.

Thus, he had a vague understanding of the Dao foundation, but it was only now that he truly realized how difficult it was for a cultivator to forge their own Dao foundation.

Upon leaving Mount Fangcun again, Lu Ye returned to Three Worlds Island after half a day.

He immediately summoned Old Tang.

Moments later, He Baichuan came to Lu Ye's short-stay palace and spoke with him.

Lu Ye was shocked: "What? Old Tang went into seclusion? What could he be in seclusion for at his age?"

He Baichuan smiled: "Island Master, you may not know, but Elder Tang had some sudden realizations a few months ago and said he might be able to break through. So he hurriedly went into a state of seclusion and hasn't emerged since."

Lu Ye was dumbfounded: "Old Tang is breaking through? Are you sure?"

Old Tang's potential had long been exhausted. When he arrived at the All Phenomena Ocean back then, he was at the Moon Jade Mid-Stage, and he remains at the Moon Jade Mid-Stage even now. He himself was aware of this, so he'd never put effort into cultivation over these years. Instead, he diligently helped Lu Ye manage Three Worlds Island, conscientiously and tirelessly.

Yet what He Baichuan told him today was that Old Tang was in seclusion and might break through his shackles. How could Lu Ye not be astonished?

When Veteran Tang went into seclusion, he handed over the affairs of Three Worlds Island to He Baichuan.

Currently, the Nine Provinces control the four top-class Spirit Islands in the All Phenomena Ocean. Jiu Yan is stationed on All Phenomena Island, Su Yuqing is on Mount Fangcun, and Luan Xiao'e and Yann Miao are on Winged Heaven Island, now renamed to Merfolk Island. The long-lost Merfolk Race has reappeared before the world.

The Teleportation Arrays between the four Spirit Islands have been fully constructed, allowing for seamless interaction. With these islands supporting one another and Little Fella as a stellar space supreme treasure for deterrent, the Nine Provinces' dominion over All Phenomena Ocean is unbreakable.

At the moment, Lu Ye was talking with He Baichuan when he suddenly looked outside, sensing a familiar aura rapidly approaching.

In a moment, the figure of Tang Jun appeared, plopping down heavily on a chair beside He Baichuan with a heavy sigh.

Lu Ye looked at him in confusion, "Weren't you supposed to be in seclusion? Why are you out?"

Tang Jun sighed again, "Seclusion failed. Can't you see such a simple thing?"

Lu Ye looked at him suspiciously, "Are you trying to slack off, or were you really planning to go into seclusion?"

Tang Jun, with a huff, said, "What do you mean slack off? For years, I've worked tirelessly for our Three Worlds Island, dedicating myself without knowing how much I've sacrificed. Look at how white my hair has become. Is this how you see me? Apologize to me, you rascal!"

"Veteran Tang, I'm sorry, I misunderstood you," Lu Ye promptly apologized.

Tang Jun then grunted, "That's more like it."

"Do you really feel it?" Lu Ye looked at him curiously; a breakthrough signal in an old cultivator whose potential is exhausted was clearly unusual.

Tang Jun nodded seriously, "I do feel it, but the time hasn't come yet, and... as time passes, this feeling grows stronger. I can assure you, if this continues for a few more years, I can definitely break through my own shackles!"

He Baichuan said, "Actually, it's not just Elder Tang. I recently paid special attention to the situation outside. Not to mention this island, but even other Spirit Islands have many cultivators like Elder Tang feeling the same."

"Also," Tang Jun gazed at Lu Ye, "since you haven't been around All Phenomena Ocean lately, you might not know that Yuquan Island has promoted to a top-class Spirit Island."

"Yuquan Island..." Lu Ye thought for a moment and immediately remembered this Spirit Island.

This Spirit Island is quite famous in All Phenomena Ocean for being a rather well-founded high-class Spirit Island.

Last time, Old Tang told him that several barren islands in the All Phenomena Ocean had come to life, which wasn't as frequent in the past. Now, a high-class Spirit Island like Yuquan Island has been promoted to a top-class Spirit Island, which is quite a big event in the All Phenomena Ocean.

The then Unparalleled Island, now Three Worlds Island, transformed from a barren island to a top-class Spirit Island, but that was due to the Small Constellation Palace's operation, not an autonomous change, whereas Yuquan Island's promotion is.

"There's news from Sifang Island that the island's Spiritual Energy is gradually becoming dense. Perhaps after a few years, it can also become a top-class Spirit Island. Many Spirit Islands undergoing such changes in the All Phenomena Ocean are all turning towards positive transformation," He Baichuan spoke.

Lu Ye's mind was awash with thoughts. These changes are undoubtedly related to the descent of the cosmic influence, even the breakthrough opportunities felt by Veteran Tang.

From this perspective, the arrival of the grand momentum is not entirely a bad thing.

Though Veteran Tang's seclusion failed this time, the future is uncertain. Tang's transformation is just a microcosm of millions upon millions of cultivators, illustrating how immensely the cosmic influence affects the entire stellar space.

"There's something I need you to do," Lu Ye looked at Tang Jun and He Baichuan, then explained the perspective of the Insect Race regarding the cosmic influence, emphasizing the plot of the Insect and Blood Races, and instructed them to find ways to spread it.

The Insect and Blood Races wish to act covertly, so under no circumstances can they be allowed to succeed. Given how fast information spreads in the All Phenomena Ocean, it probably won't be long

before this conspiracy becomes known throughout the stellar space. By then, no matter what schemes the Insect and Blood Races have, countless eyes will be watching them.

Upon hearing this, the two wore grave expressions and hurriedly began networking to spread the news.

A day later, in the short-stay palace, Lu Ye's Talent Tree Avatar sat cross-legged, holding a fire gourd in hand, surrounded by a heap of storage rings collected from Three Worlds Island during recent times for fire-type resources.

The price of fire-type resources in the All Phenomena Ocean has been climbing steadily. Lu Ye has single-handedly changed the market in this area.

Since a part of the Talent Tree is within the Talent Tree Avatar, it can also absorb uncanny fire nurtured from the fire gourd to progress in its metamorphosis. Eventually, the original self can reclaim the avatar.

Meanwhile, Lu Ye's original self has ventured deep into the All Phenomena Ocean, cultivating with a peaceful mind!

Even though his current cultivation efficiency is astonishing, improving in the Sun Blaze realm isn't something that can be achieved in a short time. Naturally, it's crucial to seize every available opportunity.

Nurturing uncanny fire requires fire-type resources, and Lu Ye's cultivation also demands a large amount of fire-type resources. While the procurement from Three Worlds Island can supply for a short period, it becomes challenging to sustain over time.

Chapter 2064: Hengyue Galaxy

This cultivation journey took Lu Ye roughly a year.

A year later, he returned from beneath the sea.

He could not continue cultivating, as his consumption of fire-type resources was too alarming. Even though Three Worlds Island had done its utmost in the past six months, the fire-type resources acquired were still insufficient.

This led to intermittent cultivation.

Currently, his Talent Tree still has some fuel reserves, which can't be consumed anymore; it's always good to have a backup, just in case.

This year's cultivation indeed brought significant growth in Lu Ye's cultivation, but it's far from reaching mid-stage. After Sun Blaze, the accumulation required for a breakthrough was noticeably larger than before.

Upon reflection, although the Talent Tree had some changes, it still hasn't reached the point of transformation. Lu Ye couldn't even determine how much uncanny fire it needs—only that the fourth transformation of the Talent Tree is a bottomless pit.

This didn't discourage him; instead, it invigorated him. The enormous demand from the Talent Tree suggested that once it completed its transformation, there would be significant changes.

Back in the day, it seemed the previous Nine Provinces' Chao Nian hadn't reached this level. In terms of growth potential, Lu Ye undoubtedly surpassed the previous generation's Dao Tree successor.

In just a mere year, All Phenomena Ocean hadn't seen much change. In fact, since the conspiracy of the Insect and Blood Races was exposed, conflicts among various factions have reduced considerably.

Today, many powerful factions and cultivators are investigating the Insect and Blood Races' affairs, while probing the secrets of the impending major shift. Unfortunately, to date, no one has gained any substantial insights.

Lu Ye didn't linger much on Three Worlds Island. A few days later, after instructing Old Tang and others to continue purchasing fire-type resources, he disguised himself and left Three Worlds Island.

He planned to head to the Hengyue Galaxy, which was the previous Nine Provinces galaxy.

Before Ma Bin left, he had shared some things with Lu Ye, so Lu Ye wanted to learn what resources the Hengyue Galaxy could offer to meet his fire-type resource demands.

Before departing, Lu Ye brought along a large quantity of spirit jade, spirit crystals, and psyche refinement pills to ensure that even while traveling, he could cultivate using these resources at any time.

The galaxy where the previous Nine Provinces resided was directly interconnected with All Phenomena through an Insect Path.

Upon one occasion, Lu Ye curiously asked Ma Bin during a casual chat why he wanted to kill Sun Blaze of All Phenomena—was there some deep-seated hatred between All Phenomena Galaxy and the previous Nine Provinces?

Ma Bin's response was that back in the day, many forces joined hands to attack Nine Provinces. The smooth coordination and assembly were thanks to All Phenomena Galaxy's convenience.

Those forces came from all corners of stellar space, and without All Phenomena Galaxy offering them a passage, how could they converge so easily?

Moreover, during the operation against the previous Nine Provinces, All Phenomena Galaxy had also participated.

Days gone by like smoke; most cultivators from those times have perished, only some long-lived species, such as powerful Demon Race members, have survived. So over the years, Ma Bin's revenge was mostly fulfilled, and he never revealed to Lu Ye which specific factions took part in the assault on the previous Nine Provinces, evidently not wanting to continue this cycle of vengeance.

The affairs of the previous Nine Provinces ended with him.

In summary, the travel between All Phenomena Galaxy and the galaxy of the previous Nine Provinces was very convenient.

The absence of a governor at the front of the Insect Path undoubtedly indicated that the galaxy of the previous Nine Provinces had completely declined. If there were massive domains present, the Insect Path wouldn't be in an unguarded state.

Lu Ye probed the condition of the Insect Path, confirming it to be relatively stable, and proceeded straight through.

Moments later, he arrived in the Hengyue Galaxy.

Looking back, behind him was the exit of the Insect Path. Observing his surroundings, Lu Ye furrowed his brows.

Although he knew this galaxy had declined, he never expected it to have fallen to such a degree. The bright stars visible elsewhere in stellar space were scarce here, and the entire space was shrouded in vast patches of darkness; even the stellar space spirit energy wasn't considered dense.

In such an environment, not to mention the birth of large domains, the production of spirit jade was far less than in normal places.

Lu Ye immediately formed a judgment; such a place was only slightly better than some truly barren star systems.

Just as Lu Ye was contemplating which direction to head, some noise suddenly came from behind him.

Turning back, he saw rippling near the Insect Path exit, with faint silhouettes gradually emerging.

Someone was coming!

Sure enough, within three breaths, two figures suddenly burst forth from the Insect Path.

A man and a woman, due to just passing through the Insect Path, had palpable energy fluctuations. The man was at Moon Jade Early Stage, while the woman was at Constellation Late Stage.

However, their states were intimate, holding hands—likely Dao companions or siblings—their auras fiery, unmistakably aligned with the fire element.

They clearly hadn't expected someone at the Insect Path exit. At first glance, seeing Lu Ye, they were both startled, eyes full of vigilance, their energies subtly activated.

Naturally, Lu Ye had no interest in them, and he had already disguised himself for this journey, so the man and woman failed to recognize him as the master of All Phenomena Ocean.

Additionally, with Lu Ye's still presence and restrained aura, they couldn't discern his depth.

Sensing Lu Ye's lack of malice, the man nodded slightly to Lu Ye, tugged the woman, and then swiftly moved to the side, disappearing from view in no time.

Lu Ye did not pay attention, lifting his eyes to survey the stellar space. Where should he go?

Ma Bin only told him to come to the Hengyue Galaxy, but didn't tell him what exactly was here.

However, if there is really something useful to him within this galaxy, it shouldn't be hard to discover with his Sun Blaze cultivation.

Let's wander around and take a look; after all, this is the galaxy where the previous Nine Provinces was located. To nurture such a top domain as the previous Nine Provinces, this galaxy must have something unique.

He randomly chose a direction and leapt away.

Along the way, he found nothing until half a day later, he suddenly turned his head to look towards a certain direction, where a fluctuation of mana was spreading out. It seemed like someone was contending.

And as time went by, it was getting closer and closer to him.

It wasn't a contention, but a pursuit.

Lu Ye focused his gaze, then laughed silently, because he saw that the ones being pursued were actually the man and woman he had seen before at the exit of the Insect Path. At this moment, both looked battered and exhausted. The man had a higher cultivation, continuously using techniques to attack backwards while fleeing, intending to hinder the enemy, but with little effect.

Those chasing them weren't cultivators, but star beasts.

It was an elliptical star beast, more than ten feet long, completely snow-white like a giant silkworm cocoon. Both ends had ferocious giant mouths with spiraling sawtooth fangs densely packed. Such a star beast was clearly too much for the two fleeing.

Lu Ye had never seen a star beast like this. It wasn't a matter of experience; the variety of star beasts in stellar space was just too vast. Even the most knowledgeable cultivator wouldn't dare claim to know all star beasts.

The two initially hadn't noticed Lu Ye, but as they drew closer, they finally sensed Lu Ye's presence. The leading man's face first showed a startlement, followed quickly by joy as he shouted, "Fellow Daoist, benevolent! Please, save us! My wife and I are willing to offer a 5-star magic treasure as gratitude!"

He didn't know what cultivation Lu Ye had exactly, but from their brief previous encounter, he could feel Lu Ye's strength surpassed his own.

Moreover, since Lu Ye dared to stand still, it showed a great confidence in his own strength.

In the current situation, seeking rescue from Lu Ye was undoubtedly the best choice, and he even mentioned the gratitude gift to persuade Lu Ye to agree.

This was undeniably thoughtful of him. They were being pursued in the stellar space. Without saying anything and just approaching Lu Ye would obviously mean bringing trouble to him. If Lu Ye wasn't in a good mood, they might be killed by him before the star beast even attacked.

Although giving up a 5-star magic treasure was painful, what did it matter compared to saving their lives?

After calling out, he attentively checked the situation on Lu Ye's side, heard no response, yet the other party still stood there motionless, with his attitude unclear.

This left them unable to judge if the other party was willing to help...

However, the current situation left him no time for hesitation. The man gritted his teeth, "We have nothing to lose!"

He led the woman and swiftly approached Lu Ye. Only after they passed by Lu Ye did they feel relieved they didn't encounter any attack.

From behind, a faint fluctuation of mana emerged. When he turned around again, his expression froze.

Because the once-imposing star beast was split in two at the center at that moment. The two halves of its corpse were neatly cut, flying past on either side of the unknown expert, who remained unstained by even a drop of blood.

Sun Blaze!

The man's heart trembled, instantly judging Lu Ye's cultivation.

That momentary mana fluctuation was undeniable. Furthermore, that star beast possessed the Moon Jade Late Stage caliber; to slay it so effortlessly, apart from Sun Blaze, there was no other possibility.

Composing himself, the man then brought the woman over to stand not far from Lu Ye, courteously cupping his fists: "Thank you, Senior, for saving our lives!"

Lu Ye turned his head to look at them, feeling oddly amused.

Senior...

He could be certain that he was definitely younger than this couple, but the cultivation world was like this, respecting strength, especially in such remote places. If proper etiquette wasn't shown, nobody would know if they got casually killed.

Collecting his thoughts, Lu Ye slightly nodded, adopting a demeanor of a powerful figure, causing even greater reverence in the hearts of the couple.

Sun Blaze, a high and unattainable height for them.

As previously agreed, the man quickly took out a 5-star magic treasure and respectfully handed it over, as repayment for saving their lives.

Lu Ye received it casually; the 5-star magic treasure wasn't much to him, but it could be used to nurture the Sword Qi for the sword gourd, and it was what he deserved.

The woman even took the initiative to retrieve the Crystal Core from the star beast's corpse and handed it to Lu Ye, clearly trying to endear themselves to him.

"Is Senior also heading to the Giant Red Planet?" the man asked.

Although Lu Ye appeared indifferent, since he was willing to help just now, it showed he wasn't someone cold-blooded. Such strong individuals weren't hard to get along with, which was why the man dared to boldly inquire.

Chapter 2065: Giant Red Planet

"Giant Red Star?" Lu Ye turned his head, somewhat puzzled.

"Senior doesn't know?" The man was astonished. "Seeing Senior's earlier actions, I thought Senior was headed to the Giant Red Star for cultivation."

"Oh?" Lu Ye's expression shifted. "Is the Giant Red Star beneficial for cultivating the fire element?"

The man chuckled: "That's precisely why my wife and I came here, and many other fire-element cultivators have gathered there as well."

Lu Ye blinked: "In that case, I must take a look."

It was certain now, Ma Bin wanted Lu Ye to come to the Hengyue Galaxy precisely for this Giant Red Star! Since it's beneficial for fire-element cultivation and attracts many fire-element cultivators, it must be a place rich in fire-type energy, a gathering spot for cultivators.

The man remarked: "If Senior doesn't mind, my wife and I would be happy to guide you. To be honest, we have visited this place once before."

He wasn't attempting to curry favor with Lu Ye; mainly, traveling with Lu Ye ensured safer passage. Even if they encountered star beasts like before, it would be less worrisome.

"Alright, let's go." Lu Ye nodded, then launched his starship and stood upon it first, with the couple following closely.

The man pointed out the direction to Lu Ye, who then steered the starship onward.

Engaging in casual conversation along the way, Lu Ye learned that the couple was named Fey Zhuang and Hong Yan. They weren't from the same galaxy; rather, they had met on the Sea of Myriad Phenomena and developed feelings over years of companionship.

Such occurrences weren't common; although cultivators aren't overly particular about origins, it's rare for those from different galaxies to come together.

Fey Zhuang inquired about Lu Ye's name, to which Lu Ye casually replied Li Taibai.

As they traveled, perhaps sensing Lu Ye's amicable nature, Fey Zhuang and Hong Yan grew bolder, seeking advice on cultivation puzzles. Lu Ye answered each query, rendering the couple deeply grateful.

Two days later, Lu Ye glanced ahead at a red dot appearing in the dark stellar space.

As they drew closer, the red dot grew larger and brighter, like an enormous fireball burning in space!

This is the Giant Red Star!

And its essence was undoubtedly that of a sun nearing its demise!

All celestial objects have their destinies and fates; even the dazzling sun, seemingly eternal, faces eventual extinction.

Such a sight is rare even in the vastness of stellar space.

Lu Ye finally understood Ma Bin's guidance; for Lu Ye at this moment, the massive Giant Red Star was exactly what he needed.

Among the fire-type resources Lu Ye acquired in the Sea of Myriad Phenomena was something called Scorching Sun Essence, refined by cultivators through special means from the sun's vital energy.

This task isn't for any cultivator; it's time-consuming, labor-intensive, and requires special methods and magic treasures. Yet, some cultivators make a living from it, earning cultivation resources.

The best target for refining Scorching Sun Essence is indeed the Giant Red Star. True sun's essential power isn't so easily collected.

"Senior Taibai, we need to take a detour ahead," Fey Zhuang suddenly spoke, just as Lu Ye was looking intently at the approaching Giant Red Star.

Lu Ye returned to focus, steering the starship sideways, casually asking, "What's ahead?"

Fey Zhuang replied, "There used to be a spatial loss in this area, where space is extremely fragile. Venturing in recklessly might provoke unintended incidents."

"Spatial loss?" Lu Ye frowned, looking over there, noticing indeed some unusual features, which wouldn't be apparent without intentional investigation.

The abnormal spatial area covered quite a vast range.

"Why is it so?" Lu Ye asked.

Fey Zhuang shook his head: "I'm not sure, heard some people mention it before, so I remembered it."

Lu Ye nodded, suddenly an idea dawned on him.

That location of spatial loss could very well be where the Former Nine Provinces is! Back then, during the great war, the Former Nine Provinces faced annihilation but was teleported away by the Heavenly Mechanism Plate, now lost without a trace.

Thinking this way, what the Heavenly Mechanism Plate teleported wasn't just a Nine Provinces, but an entire section of stellar space, thus causing spatial loss here. Even after thousands of years, the space remains inherently weak.

Looking again at the distant Giant Red Star...

Lu Ye had a bolder speculation.

The Heavenly Mechanism Plate's teleportation involved not just the foundation of the Former Nine Provinces but the power of this sun itself. Otherwise, it wouldn't have made sense for something like the Heavenly Mechanism Plate to teleport such a massive domain to such a distant location.

The force of this sun was consequently depleted substantially, leading it towards its demise thousands of years later!

Ma Bin definitely came to investigate, knowing that Lu Ye had a huge demand for fire-type resources, so he specially pointed it out.

In this way, the Nine Provinces were able to remain largely due to the efforts of this big sun. If it weren't for this big sun, the Nine Provinces might have shattered in the process of Teleportation and could not have been preserved.

The starboat bypassed that patch of missing stellar space and continued to approach the Giant Red Planet.

Gradually, Lu Ye felt the atmosphere around him becoming scorching, as if a hot wind was blowing towards him from the direction of the Giant Red Planet.

The wind not only carried heat, but seemed to contain stellar space spirit energy. Compared to ordinary stellar space spirit energy, the spirit energy here seemed more rampant and destructive.

Solar wind!

Lu Ye slightly activated the power of the Talent Tree and found that it could indeed absorb some of the heat, transforming it into fuel reserves, though the efficiency was low.

This was undoubtedly due to the great distance from the Giant Red Planet. If closer, the efficiency would surely increase, and even more so if he could delve into the red giant star itself...

The starboat pressed onward.

Lu Ye remained indifferent, but Fey Zhuang and Hong Yan, the couple, began to activate their Cultivation Technique, cultivating while warding off the encroachment of the solar wind.

After another half day, Fey Zhuang suddenly spoke, "Senior, we as a couple can only go this far."

He hadn't yet reached his limit, but Hong Yan, who had a slightly weaker cultivation, already had. Any further would be beyond her endurance.

Lu Ye nodded, "You may go."

"Thank you, Senior, for your protection along the way. May you return loaded with rewards!" Fey Zhuang uttered some auspicious words, then took Hong Yan off the starboat, finding a spot nearby to start cultivating.

Lu Ye continued his advance.

As Fey Zhuang previously mentioned, many fire-element cultivators came here, utilizing the unique environment to cultivate. The spot where Fey Zhuang and his wife were located was on the outermost area, a place where Constellations stayed.

The further in he ventured, the stronger the cultivators Lu Ye sensed. As he passed, he naturally aroused the vigilance of nearby cultivators, but seeing he made no extra moves, they gradually relaxed.

After crossing the Moon Jade region, Lu Ye finally encountered the first Sun Blaze.

His cultivation level was the same, Sun Blaze Early Stage. Their Mental Consciousness briefly clashed, and Lu Ye could perceive the other party's warning without words.

It suggested that this area was the other cultivator's domain for cultivation and urged Lu Ye to seek another place.

Lu Ye paid no heed and continued deeper, quickly moving beyond that Sun Blaze's range of perception.

By this time, the Giant Red Planet had grown tremendously large due to their proximity. Such a location was hard for even fire-element Sun Blaze cultivators to endure for long. The terrifying high temperature was secondary; Sun Blaze cultivators could withstand such heat. The key was the devastating spirit energy in the ceaselessly blowing solar wind. Sun Blaze cultivators needed to find balance between warding off and refining, and this point of balance marked their limit.

Lu Ye, however, continued deeper, enveloped fully by the power of the Talent Tree—common cultivators' difficulties and dilemmas were insignificant to him.

After a while, Lu Ye could see the rolling fire-type energy on the surface of the Giant Red Planet, like molten lava flowing non-stop over its vast surface.

Occasionally erupting pillars of lava could reach tens of thousands of feet, terrifying to behold.

The Talent Tree was greedily devouring the surrounding fire-type energy, its fuel reserves swelling frantically.

Lu Ye suddenly realized something interesting: in this place, cultivation did not require spirit jade or spirit crystal. As the Giant Red Planet emitted terrifying heat, it was also constantly dispersing spirit energy.

This meant Lu Ye only needed to activate the Talent Tree's power to not only stockpile fuel but also cultivate simultaneously, although the efficiency was far less than under the All Phenomena Ocean.

Yet it was still much faster than cultivating by absorbing spirit jade.

This place... was definitely worth the visit, Lu Ye rejoiced inwardly.

He finally landed on the Giant Red Planet, moving forward towards its interior.

At almost the moment he steadied his footing, a Mental Consciousness reached out from afar, followed by a strange voice in his ear: "Oh? Another new Fellow Daoist, how rare."

Lu Ye was slightly startled, sensing towards the origin of the Mental Consciousness. The voice's owner was located quite far away yet could still detect his arrival in such chaotic surroundings, which revealed formidable depths.

According to Lu Ye's observations on his way over, those who could stand on the Giant Red Planet were surely Sun Blaze Late Stage; without such cultivation, one couldn't manage this feat.

The voice was slightly elderly but not malicious. Lu Ye's Mental Consciousness surged: "I am Li Taibai. How should I address Fellow Daoist?"

The voice chuckled: "No need to rush, ask again later if you still remain here. Speaking more now is pointless."

This was clearly to see if Lu Ye had the qualifications to stay long term. The other person seemed prideful, for if Lu Ye merely passed through and soon departed, he obviously wouldn't be worthy of knowing the cultivator's name.

Lu Ye wasn't bothered. He came here for cultivation, not to make friends.

Chapter 2066: A Long Road Ahead

Lu Ye settled down on the Giant Red Planet.

The Talent Tree's power was activated, constantly enhancing internal fuel reserves, while various spiritual energies were refined into personal mana, strengthening his foundation.

Upon observation, Lu Ye found that the massive Giant Red Planet was different from ordinary stars. The entire surface of the Giant Red Planet flowed with material akin to paste-like magma, and the deeper you delve, the more terrifying the temperature becomes.

Lu Ye took out the fire gourd.

The main purpose of this trip was to transform the Talent Tree, which required the uncanny fire nurtured by the fire gourd.

Holding the fire gourd, he activated his mana, and a suction force was immediately emitted from the mouth of the gourd, absorbing the surrounding thermal energy.

However, Lu Ye soon frowned, noticing that the efficiency of the fire gourd's absorption seemed low, puzzling him.

Logically, with such a rich fire energy concentration, the fire gourd's absorption should be efficient, but if nurturing the uncanny fire at this speed, it was far less effective than when he previously had the fire gourd absorb various fire-type resources.

After pondering briefly, Lu Ye vaguely understood the issue.

In the past, when the fire gourd absorbed fire-type resources, it was like directly consuming food and digesting it. Currently, the fire gourd is merely smelling the food's aroma, and naturally, efficiency cannot compare to before.

In that case, Lu Ye activated his mana again, trying to have the fire gourd swallow the paste-like magma material, but to his confusion, he couldn't accomplish this no matter how hard he tried.

He once again activated his mana, enveloping a lump of magma, trying to insert it into the gourd, but the result was a repelling force from within the gourd, preventing entry.

This was puzzling.

Lu Ye focused intently on observation.

After a long while, he finally noticed some clues.

Although the magma on the Giant Red Planet was filled with terrifying heat energy and could be considered a type of fire-type resource, it contained not only thermal energy but also other substances. The fire gourd could only accept a portion of it, with the majority being rejected, hence the repulsion.

Previously, the various fire-type resources consumed by the fire gourd were all generally acceptable to it.

Realizing this, Lu Ye understood he had oversimplified the matter.

However, it didn't matter much; although the efficiency of the fire gourd nurturing the uncanny fire was below expectations, it only meant spending more time.

With this thought, he patiently waited.

Days later, Lu Ye, who was sitting calmly, abruptly opened his eyes, drawing the Boulder Mountain Saber instantly from his side, thrusting it downward, its blade flashing with Divine Wind Spirit Runes.

A massive force emerged from below, causing Lu Ye to slightly tremble.

Lu Ye showed a surprised expression; although he was only at the Sun Blaze Early Stage cultivation, his foundation was exceptionally solid, and his physical strength alone surpassed that of the Demon Race at the same level. The attacker was unknown but extremely hidden, and the strength was unexpectedly overwhelming.

With curiosity, he reached down, searching through the scorching magma, quickly pulling out a bizarre-looking creature.

This creature was entirely fiery red, resembling a tailless monkey lacking fur, its two eyes occupying half its face, and a few fangs near its mouth.

Star beast! There were star beasts in this place.

The beast had a penetrating wound on its head, obviously inflicted by the Boulder Mountain Saber, which was a fatal injury. Judging from its remaining aura, this star beast had Moon Jade-level strength.

On second thought, with star beasts living in All Phenomena Ocean, it wasn't surprising to find them on such a Giant Red Planet.

And star beasts living in such a place...

Lu Ye activated his mental consciousness, quickly locating a position, and retrieved a crystal core from the star beast's body.

As expected, the crystal core inside a star beast living here was indeed of the fire element. On All Phenomena Ocean, such a crystal core would be worth at least ten to twenty thousand spirit jade.

Lu Ye casually placed it into the fire gourd, and this time the gourd didn't resist, gobbling it up like it did with various fire-type resources before.

Clearly, the uncanny fire being nurtured inside the gourd strengthened slightly, showing much faster efficiency compared to before.

After this minor incident, Lu Ye continued with his task.

Unexpectedly, within the next half month, star beasts like before frequently attacked.

It seemed that the number of star beasts living on the Giant Red Planet was considerable, and they belonged to the same group.

These star beasts leveraged their territorial advantages, launching stealthy assaults from below, extremely hidden; had it not been for Lu Ye's strong mental consciousness, he might have fallen victim.

The attacking star beasts sometimes came alone, sometimes in groups of three or five, with varying strengths, including Moon Jade-level and Constellation-level.

But without exception, regardless of their numbers, all became nourishment for the uncanny fire nurtured by the fire gourd.

Half a month passed in a blink, and since Lu Ye arrived here, the first uncanny fire had finally been nurtured successfully.

Lu Ye sighed with emotion, realizing that he could not compare this efficiency to before. Previously, nurturing an uncanny fire took only a few days, but now it had taken such a long time.

This was thanks to those star beasts that contributed their crystal cores. If solely relying on the fire gourd's devouring, nurturing it wouldn't have been possible in less than a month.

But thinking of it another way, previously he spent money, and now he was doing it without cost, so naturally, it couldn't compare.

He activated the power of the Talent Tree, its roots reaching into the gourd's mouth, devouring that uncanny fire. Observing the Talent Tree, indeed, there was no sign of transformation, clearly indicating that the conditions for its transformation had not yet been met.

The journey is long and arduous!

That day, as Lu Ye was sitting quietly, he suddenly opened his eyes, squinting downwards.

A star beast was attempting to ambush him again. Although the other was doing it very covertly, he still detected a clue.

Life here had been quite dull recently, and battles with star beasts were one of the few entertainments. Moreover, these star beasts' crystal cores could accelerate the speed of nurturing the uncanny fire. Naturally, Lu Ye hoped for as many star beasts as possible to come.

He placed his hand on the Boulder Mountain Saber, ready to deliver a fatal blow when the opportunity arose.

However, in the next moment, Lu Ye suddenly sensed something different about this arriving star beast compared to before.

As this thought crossed his mind, the speed of the star beast in the lava suddenly increased dramatically. At the same time, Lu Ye drew out the Boulder Mountain Saber and stabbed fiercely downward.

A tremendous force struck, sending Lu Ye flying into the air, with a shadow of a figure fleeing beneath the lava.

Lu Ye plummeted rapidly downwards, his long blade casting a trail, yet the star beast had already vanished without a trace, and under the surge of mana, only stirred the lava all around!

Standing in place, Lu Ye showed a look of surprise.

He hadn't expected there to be a Sun Blaze-level star beast here, and the moment of contact proved that it wasn't a regular Sun Blaze; at the very least, it was equivalent to a mid-stage Sun Blaze.

A mere mid-stage Sun Blaze wouldn't bother Lu Ye much, but the environment here clearly favored the opponent's prowess, giving this mid-stage Sun Blaze absolute late-stage deterrence.

A pity that it couldn't be retained; such a powerful star beast's crystal core, if devoured by the fire gourd, would undoubtedly help nurture a second uncanny fire more quickly.

Originally, Lu Ye didn't pay much attention to this Sun Blaze star beast, but who would have thought the other party wouldn't let go.

After the first failed ambush, this star beast didn't show any fear; instead, it seemed angered by Lu Ye, launching sneak attacks every few days.

Crucially, this creature would act with extreme stealth on each occasion, and showed a ghostly style. If its attack failed, it would immediately retreat, leaving Lu Ye deeply frustrated.

He was here for the Talent Tree's transformation; he didn't have the time to engage in a battle of wits with such a star beast.

Once incensed, Lu Ye chased it deep inside the Giant Red Planet, eventually returning disappointed, unable to trace its whereabouts.

The Giant Red Planet's internal environment was extremely harsh. Even with Lu Ye venturing deep, the Mental Consciousness couldn't extend too far, making it impossible to grasp the other's whereabouts.

Having no choice, he had to change his location.

Lu Ye thought this would settle things, but the Sun Blaze star beast clearly didn't think so. Even when Lu Ye changed locations, it still accurately found him, constantly harassing him.

It seemed that because Lu Ye had previously slain too many star beasts, it held a grudge.

A few days later, on the Giant Red Planet, Lu Ye sat cross-legged. Below his position, the Sun Blaze star beast slowly approached, its aura completely concealed, so much so that even Lu Ye did not notice.

Star beasts might lack much spiritual intelligence, but sometimes superior instincts were more troublesome than intelligence. After several encounters with Lu Ye, it had roughly grasped Lu Ye's details, knowing the most covert approach and the best timing for an attack.

The distance kept closing, yet the star beast revealed no sign of its presence, until reaching an extreme point, where it rose to strike.

In the past, whenever it attacked at this moment, Lu Ye would always react, and then it would escape.

But this time, Lu Ye showed no reaction as if unaware of it.

The star beast's simple spiritual intelligence failed to comprehend why, nor did it dwell on it since its instincts screamed that this was a chance.

A hairless large hand emerged from the lava, aiming straight for Lu Ye's heart, its fingertips gleaming cold, sharper than most magic treasures in the world.

With a single strike, it pierced Lu Ye's protective magic, perhaps the next instant it would claim his life.

Yet, at this moment, mana surged around Lu Ye, his eyes abruptly opening.

With a thought, layers of Defense Spirit Runes materialized, protecting his vitals.

Simultaneously, his hand reached out, grabbing the star beast's arm, while the other drew his blade, swiftly slashing down!

This star beast's vigilance was too high, he had to use this method to lower its guard. Fortunately, its intelligence was low, giving him the chance to succeed. A lack of intelligence was the bane of most star beasts, which was the only aspect he could exploit.

Chapter 2067: A Steady Stream

Lu Ye felt a slight pain in his chest, and shockingly, several of the Defense Spirit Runes had shattered.

In the next moment, an incredibly terrifying force came from his hand, making it difficult for him to grasp the star beast's arm, and it broke free after a few struggles!

Meanwhile, the long saber slashed down!

A strange screech came from beneath the magma, and the fierce aura quickly retreated.

Lu Ye stabilized his stance and, in the midst of many tasks, looked at his chest. He saw blood seeping through his clothes, clearly indicating he was injured in the earlier sneak attack. However, he could feel that it was just a flesh wound, as the Defense Spirit Runes had blocked the fatal strike for him.

He then looked at the Boulder Mountain Saber and saw a trace of fresh red blood on its blade.

With a cold snort and without a moment's hesitation, he plunged himself into the magma.

Let's see where you'll run this time!

He steeled himself inwardly, determined that no matter what, he had to eliminate the threat today. Otherwise, how could he be at peace while nurturing the uncanny fire if this creature kept haunting him?

Two figures, one in pursuit and one fleeing, moved swiftly deeper into the Giant Red Planet.

Although the Sun Blaze star beast was anxious, it wasn't panicked because some days ago, Lu Ye had similarly pursued it, but it had shaken him off easily.

It thought it would be the same this time.

However, unexpectedly, no matter how hard it tried, the danger behind it clung like a shadow and could not be shaken off.

This chase and escape lasted for several days. Neither the human nor the beast knew how deep they had ventured into the Giant Red Planet, and the surrounding temperature was frighteningly high, far beyond the planet's surface. Even if the Peak Sun Blaze arrived, it would likely melt instantly.

The star beast could endure because of its exceptional innate talent. This peculiar star beast inherently chased after heat, able to survive even in the Giant Red Planet, let alone this Sun Blaze star beast.

Its ability to withstand terrifyingly high temperatures was unmatched compared to other species.

Lu Ye could endure because of the protection from his Talent Tree.

Invisible roots spread throughout his body, making him feel no heat at all.

At some point, Lu Ye suddenly felt a sense of fullness, a feeling he had never experienced before, which made him pause. Upon careful investigation, he discovered that his Talent Tree's fuel reserve had reached its limit.

He couldn't help but find it amusing.

Since the Talent Tree's third transformation, its fuel reserve had never reached its limit. He hadn't expected that this time he would gain an unexpected reward; this special environment greatly suited the increase of the Talent Tree's fuel reserve.

But he had obviously come to hunt down this Sun Blaze star beast to eliminate future troubles.

Consider it an unexpected delight for now.

And after several days of waiting, the time now seemed about right.

At this moment, the aura of the fleeing star beast ahead was noticeably weaker than before, not because of the exhaustion from being chased, but because the wound from the saber was continuously worsening.

This type of star beast had a powerful physique, and ordinary injuries were nothing. The interior of the Giant Red Planet was its best place for healing, but the wound made by the Boulder Mountain Saber was different. Entwined with the barghest's power, the wound couldn't heal and continued to be torn apart, greatly depleting the star beast's energy and stamina.

Lu Ye relied on the guidance of the barghest's power to pursue relentlessly; otherwise, he would have long lost its trace.

With a raise of his hand, the Boulder Mountain Saber pointed forward and gave a slight tremor.

An invisible wave surged forth, causing the fleeing Sun Blaze star beast to stagger, its wound suddenly tearing open with blood spurting, and it emitted a rapid squealing sound.

Seizing the opportunity, Lu Ye quickly closed in, swiftly arriving near the star beast with a few strides.

The star beast evidently sensed the dire situation, realizing it couldn't escape, and immediately turned around, lunging towards Lu Ye with a ferocious expression, as if intending to take him down even in death.

Lu Ye's expression remained calm. After entangling with it for so long, he was already well aware of the star beast's abilities: strong physique, great strength, and stealthy movements leveraging the Giant Red Planet's special environment. However, in a direct confrontation, it could not possibly be his match.

If they weren't in this place, he could fully suppress it with Psyche Force, as the star beast's greatest weakness was its lack of Soul Power. Except for a few special star beasts, most had this vulnerability.

But the environment here was unfavorable, with the temperature being too high. If Lu Ye's Mental Consciousness left his body recklessly, it would surely suffer the pain of scorching.

The saber's light fell, and a huge lotus flower suddenly bloomed, with countless petals flying and cutting in all directions.

The squealing sound grew more urgent, and just this one execution of Lotus Sun left the star beast further injured and dazed.

Lu Ye struck again, and faint roars of a beast reverberated, as if a ferocious beast's head suddenly emerged, baring its fangs to bite the star beast.

The surrounding magma instantly receded!

After advancing to Sun Blaze, each of Lu Ye's moves contained terrifying power, the improvement in strength compared to Moon Jade was incomparable.

The Sun Blaze star beast was knocked back with a cry, its chest caved in a large area, looking utterly miserable.

Lu Ye stepped forward, lunging straight with the Boulder Mountain Saber, intent on eliminating the threat completely!

Facing this strike, the severely wounded star beast no longer had the strength to resist.

However, this saber strike from Lu Ye ultimately didn't go through, stopping just an inch away from the creature's head.

Surrounded by the fiery glow, Lu Ye could clearly see the terror in the star beast's eyes. It was covered in blood, yet it opened its mouth and spit out a beam of red light as thick as a finger.

With a slight sense, Lu Ye was surprised to find that this red light contained extremely pure fire-type energy, resembling the Scorching Sun Essence he once acquired on the All Phenomena Ocean, but with significantly higher quality and purity.

This kind of fire-type resource, the Scorching Sun Essence, is something cultivators refine through special methods and techniques in environments like the Giant Red Planet, and then sell to acquire the cultivation resources they need.

Lu Ye did not expect that this star beast in front of him actually had the ability to do this, and it seemed to be an innate talent.

Looking more closely, besides terror, the star beast's eyes held a plea for mercy.

It was evidently scared, knowing it wasn't a match for Lu Ye and unable to escape, thus using this method to beg for mercy.

As for why it spat out a Scorching Sun Essence, it's not hard to understand. Cultivators who come to Giant Red Planet usually use their methods to refine Scorching Sun Essence, either to sell it or to refine and absorb it themselves.

But Lu Ye, whether it's the Talent Tree storing fuel or the fire gourd nurturing the uncanny fire, didn't need this process.

This star beast likely saw other cultivators refining this item, hence it spat out this thing.

From this perspective, this star beast has a certain degree of spiritual intelligence, knowing when to submit and what to present to entice Lu Ye.

It undoubtedly succeeded; if it had acted any slower just now, Lu Ye would be extracting its Crystal Core by now.

Lu Ye lifted his hand to capture the Scorching Sun Essence, then took out the fire gourd, and with a shake of the gourd mouth, directly swallowed the Scorching Sun Essence, allowing the uncanny fire inside to grow.

"Got any more?" Lu Ye asked through audio transmission, his Mental Consciousness surging.

The star beast didn't respond, clearly not understanding.

Lu Ye made a motion with the fire gourd, and the star beast finally responded, reluctantly opening its mouth to spit out another Scorching Sun Essence.

Lu Ye's eyes lit up, there was indeed more!

He used the fire gourd to swallow it down and then looked back at the creature.

The star beast anxiously scratched its ears, while Lu Ye's expression turned stern as he gestured toward it with the Boulder Mountain Saber, the threat obvious.

In great fear, the star beast reluctantly opened its mouth, spitting out the Scorching Sun Essence for the third time.

But after this time, Lu Ye obviously noticed that its spirit became extremely lethargic, and the quality of the Scorching Sun Essence it spat out was not as good as the first two.

Could it be at its limit?

Thinking so, Lu Ye realized he needed to verify. After using the fire gourd to collect the Scorching Sun Essence, he directly placed the Boulder Mountain Saber against the creature's neck.

The star beast's expression was one of utter despair...

Seeing this, Lu Ye could roughly confirm that this indeed was its limit.

If that's the case... this star beast could be very useful.

It can refine things like Scorching Sun Essence, undoubtedly speeding up the nurturing of uncanny fire. Simply killing it, though Sun Blaze-level Crystal Core effects are nice, is akin to killing the goose that lays the golden eggs. It's better to keep it, allowing for a steady flow.

Though this creature doesn't have much spiritual intelligence, making communication somewhat difficult, and it's unclear how efficient it is at refining Scorching Sun Essence—this needs good verification.

Just as Lu Ye was pondering how to communicate with it properly, the star beast suddenly seemed to remember something, urgently squeaked at Lu Ye, then looked with awe at the saber at its neck.

Lu Ye understood, putting away the saber but not forgetting to threaten, "Don't even think about escaping; try and you'll die!"

The star beast didn't understand a word he said, and with a sway, it headed in a certain direction at a slow pace, mainly because it was too weak at the moment.

Lu Ye honestly feared it might just die like this, and immediately urged the Boulder Mountain Saber to dispel a large portion of the barghest's power from its body.

One man and one beast returned along their path, and with the reduction of the barghest's power's torment, the star beast's spirit seemed to improve slowly. It uttered strange sounds as it traveled.

Lu Ye wasn't sure what it was up to.

Not until quite a while later, when another star beast approached, did Lu Ye realize this guy was summoning its companion!

The one that came was a Moon Jade star beast, quickly joining it. Upon seeing Lu Ye, the Moon Jade star beast was evidently startled, baring its teeth at Lu Ye.

The Sun Blaze star beast promptly punched it on the head, leaving the Moon Jade star beast dizzy and finally compliant.

Then the two star beasts gathered together, exchanging in some mysterious way. The Moon Jade star beast opened its mouth and spat out a Scorching Sun Essence.

Lu Ye's eyes lit with delight, and he couldn't help but smile, "Good, good, very good!"

Never in his wildest dreams did he expect this Sun Blaze star beast would bring him such a surprise!

He no longer wished to kill it; after all, in his view, this Sun Blaze star beast was like a hen that laid eggs.

But if it could summon its companions to provide Scorching Sun Essence, then it wasn't just one hen anymore—it was a flock of hens...

Chapter 2068: Get to Work Properly

Lu Ye felt a pang of regret; he shouldn't have been so ruthless earlier, killing so many star beasts. The loss was indeed significant.

The Scorching Sun Essence spat out by the Moon Jade star beasts was noticeably inferior to that of Sun Blaze, but still quite impressive. Lu Ye immediately took up the fire gourd and devoured it.

As a reward, he dissolved a portion of the barghest's power from the Sun Blaze star beast.

Receiving this treatment, the Sun Blaze star beast was evidently more motivated, and its calls to summon companions grew more urgent along the way.

In less than a day, over fifty star beasts had gathered around Lu Ye. Apart from the original Sun Blaze beast, there were a few Moon Jade beasts, while the rest were all Constellation beasts.

None of the summoned star beasts failed to contribute one or two strands of Scorching Sun Essence to Lu Ye. After observing, Lu Ye discovered the source of these essences; they were the manifestation of the star beasts condensing their own Crystal Core power. So even the Sun Blaze beast couldn't condense too much at once.

The cultivation of the star beasts varied, which influenced the quality of the Scorching Sun Essences they contributed. The Sun Blaze beast undoubtedly offered the best, the Moon Jade second, and the Constellation beasts the worst. Yet, even the worst was Scorching Sun Essence, which the fire gourd could directly devour.

Another half-day passed before returning to the initial location, where the number of star beasts increased slightly, forming a large group clustered together.

Lu Ye sought out the Sun Blaze star beast, holding a specially reserved strand of Scorching Sun Essence in his hand. Mental Consciousness surged as he conveyed through audio transmission, "I want this, a lot, very much. Do you understand?"

The Sun Blaze star beast blinked its eyes. Its spiritual intelligence was indeed not high, but since it previously made responses that satisfied Lu Ye, it could more or less grasp his meaning now.

It immediately turned its head and squeaked at the numerous star beasts. Those beasts, as if commanded, simultaneously plunged into the Giant Red Planet and vanished, including the Sun Blaze star beast itself, which disappeared instantly.

Through the barghest's power perception, Lu Ye could sense it rapidly moving away, but it didn't seem like an escape.

A faint conjecture in his heart led Lu Ye to simply allow it and patiently wait.

Anyway, as long as it couldn't dissolve the barghest's power, it would never escape his grasp. If the opponent were a true spiritual intelligence Sun Blaze cultivator, Lu Ye would need to be more cautious, but since it was merely a star beast, he didn't need to worry too much.

Time flew by, and every two or three days, the departing Sun Blaze star beast would return, each time with varying numbers of its kind. This led to an increasing number of star beasts gathering in the magma beneath Lu Ye.

This completely confirmed Lu Ye's earlier speculation. Its prior departure was indeed to summon more of its kin, which was why he allowed the star beast to leave previously.

Lu Ye took time to investigate these star beasts, finding them scattered, quietly staying in their positions, like fish in water, constantly breathing. Each breath gathered unique energy from the surrounding magma, gradually transforming into the shape of Scorching Sun Essence.

This was undoubtedly their innate ability. Compared to cultivators using their methods or relying on some treasures to refine Scorching Sun Essence, their efficiency was much higher.

Lu Ye was greatly delighted. This way, he only needed to come over occasionally to check and reap the rewards.

These star beasts gathered here were like crops in the fields, requiring no extra effort from him.

He hadn't anticipated such a pleasant surprise upon arriving at this Giant Red Planet. He was originally dissatisfied with the speed of nurturing uncanny fire in the fire gourd, but with the star beasts' help, it would undoubtedly save a lot of time.

About a month after Lu Ye arrived at the Giant Red Planet, an unexpected guest suddenly visited.

Sensing the approaching aura of the person, Lu Ye quickly stowed away the fire gourd and looked up.

Soon, an elderly man with wide sleeves and gray hair came into view, stepping on a misty purple aura beneath his feet, displaying great prestige.

He landed directly not far in front of Lu Ye and spoke loudly: "I am Ji Boyun. Fellow Daoist Li has good methods; you've stabilized your position in such a short time."

Lu Ye didn't know why the other party had come looking for him, but from the voice alone, he realized this was the person who had transmitted audio from afar when he first arrived here.

Back then, Lu Ye greeted him, but Ji Boyun didn't seem interested in further communication with Lu Ye, merely stating it wouldn't be too late to talk further in a while if he could remain here.

Lu Ye didn't understand his intention at that time, but now he did. This Giant Red Planet not only had a harsh environment but also star beasts of this kind. Ordinary cultivators would indeed find it hard to survive.

His ability to stay here for such a long time evidently gained Ji Boyun's recognition, which was why he proactively came to meet him.

"Fellow Daoist overpraises me, it was merely luck," replied Lu Ye. After some sensing, he confirmed that Ji Boyun had Sun Blaze Late Stage cultivation, though he didn't know which Star System he hailed from.

While he was probing the other party's cultivation, Ji Boyun did the same, expressing surprise: "Fellow Daoist Li is only Sun Blaze Early Stage?"

"Yes!" Lu Ye nodded.

Ji Boyun stroked his beard: "Your cultivation is lacking... but being able to stand firm here, you do have something commendable!"

He was commenting freely, not caring whether Lu Ye was willing to listen.

"Fellow Daoist, have you come for something?" Lu Ye asked. He had been here for a month, and though he hadn't interacted much with others, he had a rough understanding of the situation on the Giant Red Planet.

Aside from the cultivators tempering the Scorching Sun Essence outside the Giant Red Planet, only three cultivators have settled here, besides himself. Ji Boyun was in the Sun Blaze Late Stage, while the other two's cultivation levels were unknown to Lu Ye, but surely stronger than his own, as it was generally impossible for someone in the Sun Blaze Early Stage to stay here for long.

"Indeed, there is something!" Ji Boyun nodded. "Let's skip the small talk. We all arrived on the Giant Red Planet for its unique environment to cultivate, but recently, Fellow Daoist should have noticed, it's not only us here, there are many Sun Flaming Beasts. The ordinary ones don't pose much of a threat, easily taken down, but there is one Sun Flaming Beast King that is hard to handle. Its movements are concealed, its temperament vigilant, occasionally launching surprise attacks on us, which is why we've been thinking of ways to eliminate this threat, so we can cultivate more peacefully in the future. We had planned to act soon, but since you've come, Fellow Daoist, we need you to contribute your strength!"

After hearing the explanation, Lu Ye understood why Ji Boyun had sought him out.

The Sun Flaming Beasts he mentioned should be those star beasts.

From Ji Boyun's perspective, Lu Ye should contribute his strength, since he would be cultivating here as well. It wouldn't be right for him to stand aside and benefit without effort; such good fortune doesn't exist in this world.

But from Lu Ye's perspective, it's different...

If Ji Boyun had approached him when he first arrived a month ago, he might not have refused, but now each Sun Flaming Beast was akin to crops in his field, hens laying eggs, treasures he was reluctant to harm.

So after a brief consideration, Lu Ye responded, "I appreciate the offer, Fellow Daoist, but I won't be part of this venture. I lack strength, and joining recklessly may hold everyone back."

Ji Boyun responded calmly, "That's of no consequence. Since you can maintain your position here, you have the qualification to participate. We will act in three days; you may join us then."

Having said this, he turned to leave. His attitude made it clear he wouldn't allow Lu Ye to remain uninvolved, nor did he intend to waste words further. This visit was merely to inform Lu Ye.

Watching Ji Boyun's departing figure, Lu Ye's expression remained unchanged.

Though he didn't know what Ji Boyun and the others planned, as their target was the Sun Flaming Beast King, he merely needed to keep watch over it.

As long as he maintained vigilance over the Sun Flaming Beast King, no matter what tactics Ji Boyun and his group employed, they would find difficulty in execution.

Thinking this, he channeled his mana and immersed into the Giant Red Planet.

A few miles deep, he could see many Sun Flaming Beasts scattered across, absorbing the surrounding fire energy. Before many Sun Flaming Beasts were condensed Scorching Sun Essence, though most were not ready for harvest.

Lu Ye moved like a lord overseeing his territory, simultaneously sending out Mental Consciousness in all directions, "Work diligently, no slacking off!"

The Sun Flaming Beasts, summoned by the Sun Flaming Beast King, were unafraid of him and remained calm.

Lu Ye soon found the Sun Flaming Beast King's location, its wounds not fully healed, with traces of the barghest's power lingering, his means of control.

The Sun Flaming Beast King was idle, licking its wounds. Upon seeing Lu Ye, it chirped, expressing it wasn't being lazy and would soon set out to find more companions.

As it readied to leave, Lu Ye grabbed it and informed it about the recent danger outside, advising against wandering.

The Sun Flaming Beast King stared blankly at him.

Lu Ye sighed, drawing the Boulder Mountain Saber and feigning a clumsy assault on it, then pointed outside.

The Sun Flaming Beast King seemed even more perplexed.

After much effort, Lu Ye returned to his resting spot, unsure if the Sun Flaming Beast King understood his intent, but as long as there was barghest's power, he could monitor its movements, staying ahead of any trouble.

Thus, Ji Boyun and the others were bound to fail in their action against the Sun Flaming Beast King.

Fortunately, the Sun Flaming Beast King seemed to grasp his meaning, staying put over the next few days.

This left Lu Ye relieved.

Time quickly passed, and the three days deadline arrived.

Lu Ye remained within his domain, channeling the fire gourd's might while monitoring the Sun Flaming Beast King, having no interest in Ji Boyun's side.

Meanwhile, within Ji Boyun's domain, three figures stood together. Among them was Ji Boyun, who had visited Lu Ye days prior, accompanied by a burly man and a woman. The man's bare chest was adorned with fiery red patterns, appearing bizarrely, while the woman's red hair, akin to flames, even her striking eyes possessed an enchanting gleam.

Chapter 2069: A Helpless Move

Three figures, three Sun Blaze cultivators, each with extraordinary strength.

The red-haired woman twirled a strand of her hair around her finger and slowly spoke: "Senior Brother Ji, is the newcomer coming or not? To me, it seems like he doesn't really want to come?"

If he were willing to come, he should have shown up by now; it's not like we still can't see him.

"What newcomer? I'm strong and healthy; isn't that enough for you, Jeu Se?" said the shirtless man.

The red-haired woman, addressed as Jeu Se, stared at the man with fiery eyes and coldly said, "Lie Huo, don't force me to rip your mouth apart!"

Lie Huo wasn't bothered at all, just chuckling, "I wouldn't tear your mouth, I'd only tear your clothes!"

"You're courting death!" Jeu Se gritted her teeth and shouted, her whole being ablaze.

"Enough!" Ji Boyun suddenly spoke coldly, "Let's start now."

He also found it troublesome when these two got together; it always ended like this. Lie Huo's desire for Jeu Se was blatantly obvious. More than once, he'd said in Jeu Se's presence that he'd eventually get her into his bed, and Jeu Se was quick to explode—an all-too-common flaw among fire-element cultivators, who tend to have fiery tempers.

If it weren't for the need to ally against the Sun Flaming Beast King, he wouldn't have cooperated with these two.

Seeing Ji Boyun speak, Jeu Se retracted her mana and gave Lie Huo a vicious glare, then said, "The newcomer..."

"If he doesn't want to come, just leave him. We weren't counting on him anyway. After this matter, I'll personally go and have a talk with him!"

Jeu Se was silent, knowing full well that Ji Boyun wouldn't just talk to him casually if someone didn't show up when they were needed. After this was resolved, Ji Boyun would surely drive him away.

While speaking, Ji Boyun flipped his palm and took out an item.

Jeu Se and Lie Huo looked over and saw that the item looked like an incense stick, but it was much larger and thicker than a normal one.

They realized this was the specially crafted Beast Attracting Incense for the Sun Flaming Beasts. Once lit, it wouldn't gather all the Sun Flaming Beasts on the Giant Red Planet, but most of them wouldn't escape.

Especially the Sun Flaming Beast King, who was most sensitive to this item, Ji Boyun had spent a great deal to have it crafted just for dealing with it.

"It's easy to draw out the Sun Flaming Beast King, and even injuring it isn't difficult. The challenge lies in executing it on the spot."

The Sun Flaming Beast King's strength wasn't formidable; it was mainly the unique environment here that made it impossible for them to completely eliminate the Sun Flaming Beast King.

Ji Boyun looked at Jeu Se as he spoke: "When the time comes, I'll engage it head-on. If we can kill it outright, so much the better. But if something goes wrong..."

Jeu Se replied, "Don't worry, I brought the Pocket Sky Net this time. As long as Senior Brother Ji can entangle it, it won't escape."

Ji Boyun said, "Even the Pocket Sky Net can't hold it for long, at most three breaths."

Lie Huo grinned: "Three breaths are enough. Under my iron fists, if it lasts three breaths, I'll call it grandfather!"

Ji Boyun nodded: "I've heard tales of the Savage Race's might. Today's a chance to see it firsthand."

With their plan set, Ji Boyun immediately lit the Beast Attracting Incense. This special incense burned very slowly even in this unique environment. As the fragrance dispersed and the solar winds swiftly spread it, the invisible aura gradually permeated the Giant Red Planet.

The three Sun Blaze cultivators employed their methods to conceal themselves, observing from the sidelines.

An hour later, Lu Ye suddenly felt something amiss as if something strange was seeping around him. He took a gentle breath, realizing something was indeed wrong.

At the same time, through the barghest's power feedback, there seemed to be some anomaly around the location of the Sun Flaming Beast King.

He had been vigilant about this moment, and upon sensing it, he immediately delved into the Giant Red Planet to investigate.

Moments later, Lu Ye was shocked to discover that the once-large gathering of Sun Flaming Beasts here had dwindled significantly, having evidently fled. He had no idea when they'd left.

Moreover, as he descended, he saw several Sun Flaming Beasts heading swiftly in one direction, seemingly drawn by something.

The remaining Sun Flaming Beasts no longer focused on their work, all appearing distracted.

Even the Sun Flaming Beast King was affected.

As Lu Ye observed, more Sun Flaming Beasts followed the previous beasts in leaving, and the Sun Flaming Beast King screeched a few times before swiftly heading in that direction; Lu Ye couldn't stop it.

Ji Boyun had made his move!

Lu Ye wasn't sure what method he used, but it was clearly able to lure the Sun Flaming Beasts to voluntarily take the bait.

This was trouble. He had thought that keeping an eye on the Sun Flaming Beast King would suffice, not expecting someone to pull a move like undermining the tactics directly.

Without hesitation, he swiftly rushed out, heading straight towards Ji Boyun's domain.

After one incense stick's time, when he reached the location, he immediately saw a giant incense slowly burning below.

Beast Attracting Incense!

And it must have been specially refined for the Sun Flaming Beasts, otherwise, it wouldn't be so effective.

So this is the source.

At this moment, several Sun Flaming Beasts had already reached the area, gathering around the Beast Attracting Incense, greedily inhaling its fragrance.

Lu Ye could sense three strong auras lying in wait, presumably Ji Boyun and others.

It's just because the Sun Flaming Beast King hadn't appeared yet, the Sun Flaming Beasts that had gathered can remain safe, but once the Beast King appears, these waiting Sun Flaming Beasts will face relentless slaughter.

I arrived just in time!

Each of these Sun Flaming Beasts is a treasure to him; how could they die here?

He dashed to the Beast Attracting Incense, directly put it away, and stuffed it into his storage ring.

"What the hell are you doing!" A furious shout echoed, full of vigor, not Ji Boyun's voice.

"How dare a youngster insult me!" This time, Ji Boyun spoke, his voice filled with anger. As he finished speaking, Ji Boyun suddenly appeared from concealment, his gray hair fluttering without wind, and his eyes glaring fiercely at Lu Ye as if to devour him.

Previously, he was willing to actively seek out Lu Ye to join forces, already giving him enough respect. After all, whether Lu Ye joined or not didn't matter much, as the three of them were already planning to act. It's just because Lu Ye wanted to stay here for cultivation, they were offering him a chance to contribute.

Lu Ye not showing up at the agreed time might be excusable, but now, how could Ji Boyun tolerate him snatching the Beast Attracting Incense as soon as he arrived?

Swish, swish... Two more figures appeared, three Sun Blaze auras surrounded Lu Ye in a triangular formation.

Strong auras spread out, and the Sun Flaming Beasts that gathered here scattered like birds and beasts, diving into the magma and quickly disappearing.

Ji Boyun and the others had no intention of killing them. For them, the real issue was dealing with the Sun Flaming Beast King. The other Sun Flaming Beasts posed no significant threat and killing them was unnecessary.

Lu Ye turned his head, scanning the surroundings, pausing briefly on Lie Huo before looking at Ji Boyun, sighing softly, and cupping his fists, "A hasty action, my apologies, Fellow Daoists!"

Everyone has their own stance, but interfering so abruptly with someone else's plan was indeed inappropriate; even if he were in Ji Boyun's place, he wouldn't be pleased either.

"Apologies?" Ji Boyun glared at Lu Ye, his voice icy, "Then I must hear what caused you such distress, if you can't explain well, today will be your final resting place here!"

Lu Ye scratched his face, finding it hard to explain, and couldn't reveal the truth, so he said, "I'm forced by circumstances, I ask the three of you to spare the Sun Flaming Beast King, your motive for targeting it is simply because it disrupted your cultivation. I can assure you, the Beast King will never interfere with you again, and if you wish, I can offer compensation to apologize for this incident."

"How do you guarantee that?" Jeu Se frowned, curious about this point. She could tell Lu Ye's attitude was sincere, and he seemed to have a genuine reason for his actions.

"Compensation? You want to compensate us?" Lie Huo seemed to have heard something amusing and couldn't help but laugh. The anger of three Sun Blaze cultivators was not easily quelled by mere compensation, and Lu Ye, looking like an Early Stage, might not even be capable, and Lie Huo was naturally skeptical.

Lu Ye nodded at him, "As long as the request isn't excessive, I will try to satisfy the three of you!"

With his status as the master of All Phenomena Ocean, he naturally had the confidence to say these words.

"Hahaha." Lie Huo laughed heartily, "Fellow Daoist, you don't look old, but you sure have a bold mouth. If so..."

Before he finished, Lu Ye suddenly turned his head towards Ji Boyun, frowning.

In his perception, the barghest's power entwined with the Sun Blaze Beast King was rapidly approaching Ji Boyun from below, clearly aiming to launch a surprise attack.

Sure enough, in the next instant, a beast claw suddenly emerged from the spot where Ji Boyun stood, reaching towards his chest.

This sneak attack was completely unexpected, yet Ji Boyun reacted in time, hastily raising his hand to counter it, causing him to float backward.

Lu Ye knew the terrifying strength of the Sun Blaze Beast King well; even though Ji Boyun was at the Late Stage, he was no match for the Beast King in this domain, suffering a slight loss.

But while flying back, he smoothly turned his palm into a claw, grasping the Sun Flaming Beast King's wrist, shouting, "Get out here!"

With screeching sounds, the Sun Flaming Beast King emerged from the magma, flailing its limbs, clawing at Ji Boyun to quickly escape his grasp and attempted to dive back into the magma.

"Great opportunity!" Jeu Se's eyes lit up, and she promptly summoned the Pocket Sky Net, casting it upwards to trap the Sun Flaming Beast King.

This sudden move was unexpected; the Sun Flaming Beast King couldn't evade.

Lie Huo had already moved, the patterns on his body seemed to come alive, twisting and changing to form a roaring beast head, with a fierce beastly shadow appearing behind him, he charged like lightning at the Sun Flaming Beast King, ready to strike a killing blow as soon as it was caught by the Pocket Sky Net!

Chapter 2070: Reasoning or Fists

Even without any prior rehearsal, the cooperation of the three Sun Blaze cultivators was seamless; this was naturally thanks to their rich combat experience.

To grow to their current level of Sun Blaze, which one of them hadn't been through countless battlefields?

The mouth of the Pocket Sky Net tightened, leaving the Sun Flaming Beast King with nowhere to escape. Lie Huo was like a humanoid fierce beast of flame, pouncing to kill as he blasted out with a punch.

That punch actually struck empty air. At the moment the Pocket Sky Net contracted, the Sun Flaming Beast King had already vanished.

The three simultaneously turned their heads to the side. Over there, they saw Lu Ye quietly standing with the Sun Flaming Beast King—who should have been slain—clutched in his hand.

Obviously, at that critical instant just now, he had rescued the Sun Flaming Beast King.

This was beyond the expectations of Ji Boyun and the other two. Any one of the three of them had cultivation far above Lu Ye's, yet the speed Lu Ye had displayed in that instant was actually a touch faster than their own full-force outburst; otherwise it would have been impossible for him to rescue the Sun Flaming Beast King under the joint effort of the three of them.

A chittering sound came, and the Sun Flaming Beast King seemed still not to have figured out what was going on. Caught in Lu Ye's grip, it was still baring its fangs at Ji Boyun, as if it had some deep-seated hatred with him.

In fact, the Sun Flaming Beast King did indeed harbor hatred toward Ji Boyun. On the Sun Blaze level, there had originally been not just it alone among the Sun Flaming Beasts, but another one as well.

But that other one had previously died at Ji Boyun's hands. This had undoubtedly been etched into the Sun Flaming Beast King's heart; if not for this, it would not have chosen only Ji Boyun as its target for a sneak attack just now.

It was just that all these events had happened before Lu Ye came here, so he had no idea at all.

"Go!" When Lu Ye casually flung it away, he lightly stirred a trace of the barghest's power, counting as giving it a warning.

Only then did the Sun Flaming Beast King come to its senses. It fell into the lava and swiftly vanished.

At that, the expressions of Ji Boyun and the other two turned exceedingly ugly...

"Junior, are you determined to make things difficult for this old man?" Ji Boyun's heart was a mass of anger, like a suppressed volcano that might erupt at any moment.

The original plan had been excellent. If Lu Ye hadn't suddenly intervened just now, the Sun Flaming Beast King would have been dead without a doubt, and once they killed that Sun Flaming Beast King, they would henceforth be able to cultivate on this Giant Red Planet without any worries.

But now, because of Lu Ye's rescue, their efforts had fallen short at the last moment.

Although Jeu Se and Lie Huo were not as enraged as Ji Boyun, their expressions were also faintly unsightly.

Lu Ye sighed inwardly, cupped his fists, and said, "Please quell your anger, you three. I ask that you seriously consider what I said just now. If it's merely for cultivation, there's no need to wipe everything out. In the future, that Sun Flaming Beast King will absolutely not come to disturb you three again."

He had already said as much before, but none of the three had taken it to heart.

Having gone through what had just happened, Ji Boyun immediately perceived some clues. Forcing down the fire in his heart, he asked in shocked suspicion, "You're from the beast-taming faction? You can Control that Sun Flaming Beast King?"

If he weren't from the beast-taming faction, how could he possibly coexist peacefully with a star beast? When this Li Taibai had grabbed the Sun Flaming Beast King just now, it hadn't resisted at all.

Yet it was still unbelievable. Cultivators from the beast-taming faction could indeed Control beasts, but that generally didn't include star beasts, because the spiritual intelligence of star beasts was too low, and star beasts on the Sun Blaze level were basically impossible to tame.

But this Li Taibai had done it!

"You can consider it that," Lu Ye couldn't be bothered to explain too much. Since Ji Boyun had such a misunderstanding, he might as well let it be.

"This truly opens my eyes!" Ji Boyun nodded slightly, his expression also softening, as if he intended to turn hostility into friendship with Lu Ye. But as he spoke, he suddenly stomped his foot; in an instant, the surroundings shook and firelight surged into the sky.

Scorching lava surged and tumbled, and over a vast area, intricate patterns appeared out of thin air, sealing off the inside and outside. In an instant, this thousand-li radius was shrouded by a Formation.

The firelight on Ji Boyun's body was especially fierce, actually condensing into substance, clinging to him like a Wandering Dragon, making him look incomparably imposing and valiant.

This place had obviously already been prepared in advance by him with Formation.

This was clearly a Formation prepared for the Sun Flaming Beast King. It just hadn't been used against the Sun Flaming Beast King, and was now being turned on Lu Ye instead.

This sudden turn of events truly caught Lu Ye off guard. Ji Boyun's attitude had clearly shown signs of softening just a moment ago, so Lu Ye hadn't expected him to turn his face this quickly.

By the time he came back to himself, Ji Boyun had already rushed up to him. Fierce and pure Soul Power surged, constantly battering Lu Ye's Psyche Barrier, while the fire dragon coiled around Ji Boyun opened its jaws wide and bit down toward Lu Ye.

Not only that, two more fire dragons appeared out of thin air in Ji Boyun's hands, transforming into two ropes that shot toward Lu Ye, trying to bind him.

If this had been two years ago, when he had just advanced to Sun Blaze, facing an old-brand Sun Blaze like Ji Boyun, Lu Ye would definitely have suffered losses just from the clash on the psyche level. But over the two years of cultivation in the Soul Race ancestral land, his Soul Suppressing Secret Technique had reached minor completion, and his Psyche Barrier had become much tougher. So although he could feel Ji Boyun's Soul Power assault at this moment, it did not affect him.

As saber light flashed, Lu Ye's figure darted away, dodging Ji Boyun's offensive in an instant, while he slashed out fiercely with a blade.

Ji Boyun instantly broke out in a cold sweat.

He had originally thought that by suddenly making a move, using his Late Stage cultivation to deal with an Early Stage brat, and moreover doing so inside a Formation he himself had laid, the other side would definitely have no power to fight back. Who would have thought this Li Taibai would react so swiftly, and his Soul Power was absurdly strong, to the point that Ji Boyun's psyche suppression had no effect at all.

In his arrogance, he had almost been injured by Lu Ye instead.

As expected, anyone qualified to gain a foothold on this Giant Red Planet was no simple character!

"What are you dazing for, join hands and take him down! He can Control that Sun Flaming Beast King. With it as the hub, we can control the entire Sun Flaming Beast herd. Sun Flaming Beasts are born with the ability to temper Scorching Sun Essence; this will be a tremendous help to our cultivation!" Ji Boyun roared.

His sudden strike just now had come without the slightest warning, leaving Jeu Se and Lie Huo completely at a loss. Only now, after hearing Ji Boyun's words, did the two of them react.

Yes, Sun Flaming Beasts have the ability to temper Scorching Sun Essence; they both knew this. In the past they had also thought about using this ability of the Sun Flaming Beasts to speed up their own cultivation, but they could not communicate with the beasts at all. After many attempts ended in failure, they could only kill them, take their Crystal Cores and refine them.

But now it was different. With a cultivator of the beast-taming faction like Li Taibai here, and it seeming that he had already enslaved that Sun Flaming Beast King, then using the beasts' talent to cultivate was no longer just empty talk, but something that could truly be achieved!

Old ginger really is spicier—neither of them had thought this far, yet Ji Boyun had already made his move. Their minds stirred; they no longer hesitated and lunged at Lu Ye from left and right!

The moment Ji Boyun shouted that, Lu Ye knew things were going bad.

With his current foundation, facing someone like Ji Boyun, a Sun Blaze Late Stage, he did not actually fear him. Though they had only clashed for a brief moment, Lu Ye had more or less gauged his true current strength. Fighting above his level had always been commonplace for him.

But adding Jeu Se and Lie Huo into the mix was different. The cultivation of these two was not much different from Ji Boyun's. Their strength might not match his, but would not be too far behind either.

Three against one, there was simply no way he could be their match.

Even if Lu Ye wanted to flee, the Formation was now imprisoning all directions; he would have to break the Formation first.

He let out a faint sigh. "Why must you force me?"

He did bear some responsibility for this matter, but standing from different positions, it was hard to judge right and wrong. That was why, at the beginning, he had said he was willing to compensate these three to a certain extent, and could ensure that their future cultivation would not be disturbed.

He was not someone unreasonable.

But in this cultivation world, sometimes reason was utterly useless.

Ji Boyun had taken a fancy to his Beast Taming skill and wanted to capture him and keep him for his own use. Lu Ye naturally could not agree.

As three mighty auras locked onto him, Lu Ye suddenly put away the Boulder Mountain Saber and leisurely brought out the sword gourd.

Since Ji Boyun didn't want to talk reason with him, he could only compare fists with the man.

The gourd's mouth opened, aimed toward Ji Boyun. His Mental Consciousness locked onto the man's figure, and he urged his Mana!

Almost at the very moment Lu Ye brought out the sword gourd, Ji Boyun abruptly felt a sense of great calamity descending upon him. Boundless terror fell; every hair on his body stood on end. In all his years of cultivation he had never felt such horror, especially now that he was already Sun Blaze Late Stage—there were few in this world who could threaten his life anymore.

Until this very moment!

He did not hesitate in the slightest and suddenly bellowed, "With my body as the price, life merges with the Array Amalgamation Technique!"

In an instant, his Sun Blaze Late Stage Mana and Soul Power surged and roiled wildly. His entire person resonated violently with the Formation, and in a flash, the area around him was shrouded in firelight. That firelight twisted and swelled without stop, and in the blink of an eye turned into a Fire Giant that towered between heaven and earth. Moreover, as time passed, it was still growing larger.

This was an array cultivator's life-risking secret technique, the Array Amalgamation Technique, fusing oneself with the Formation one had laid, body and destiny becoming one, burning one's own psyche and Mana as the price to gain far greater power for a short time.

It was a secret technique many array cultivators cultivated, but would never lightly use, because once it was used, grave damage to one's vital energy was the lightest consequence; one careless misstep and it would be psyche and body both destroyed.

But under that fatal threat, Ji Boyun could no longer care about so much.

Even after activating the Array Amalgamation Technique, he still had no sense of safety; instead, that latent deadly aura only grew more intense.

Jeu Se and Lie Huo had long since backed away...

In fact, the two of them had sensed something was wrong almost the instant Lu Ye brought out the sword gourd. Even though Lu Ye had no intention of targeting them, they still felt their psyches trembling and their minds horrified. This prompted them to make the correct choice.

And now, seeing Ji Boyun actually merge himself with the Formation left them utterly shocked.

No one had expected the situation to develop like this. At first, none of them had taken this newcomer Lu Ye seriously at all—he was just a Sun Blaze Early Stage. Even if he had some means to Control the Sun Flaming Beast King, who here didn't have a few special tricks? For cultivators, it still ultimately came down to whose strength was greater.

There was no doubt that the three of them were all far stronger than Lu Ye. Yet the current situation was clearly not right.