

Humanity 501

Chapter 501 Provoked Someone

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The key is that within these twenty-four hours, every six hours, that special spirit fortune stick will burst with energy, instantly revealing the position of the cultivator holding it, no matter how well they hide!

This kind of spirit fortune stick often becomes the target of struggle among powerful cultivators.

After all, compared to relying on luck when receiving Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune sticks, this type of spirit fortune stick is a genuine gold-hued spirit fortune stick, which is a sure gain if one's cultivation is high enough to seize it.

As Lu Ye recalled various pieces of information about the hunting ground, his expression remained calm.

Since he couldn't avoid it, he could only participate.

It was foreseeable that in the coming days, a large number of cultivators from all directions would rush into the hunting ground, especially those with high cultivation and strong power.

For Lu Ye, the hunting ground meant more danger, but for cultivators with sufficient strength, it promised more opportunities, and these individuals would not miss such chances.

Lu Ye did not expect to encounter much fortune within the hunting ground, but at the very least, he hoped to preserve his life and not die!

Currently, his cultivation might not be high, but his survival ability was much stronger than that of other cultivators at the same level.

In terms of hiding, he had Concealment Spirit Runes and Breath-concealing Spirit Runes.

In terms of escaping, he was equipped with Wings and Move-Like-The-Wind.

So, as long as he didn't encounter an overwhelmingly powerful expert, he was confident in preserving himself.

But this wasn't enough. More preparation was needed. As thoughts flitted through his mind, Lu Ye made plans, feeling secretly relieved that he had crafted enough array banners previously; without them, he wouldn't have much of a sense of security in this environment.

Within the hunting ground, there actually was a Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union outpost after all, considering the hundreds of thousands of miles territory. It was impossible that not even a single one would be present. But when the hunting ground appeared, the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union would not do business but would instead close directly.

So even if there was a Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, it was not possible to enter it for refuge, let alone to purchase goods.

This was also the rule of Heaven's Augury.

Lu Ye had plenty of Spirit Stones, elixir pills, array banners, and array bases on hand, so as long as he was careful, he should have no problem surviving until the hunting ground closed.

Generally, from the emergence to the closure of the hunting ground, it would not exceed one month. Most last between half a month and a month, with the specific duration being difficult to determine. Before the hunting ground disappeared, Heaven's Augury would issue some warnings, and all cultivators within it would be able to sense it.

As he was pondering over these things, the red light curtain beside him suddenly distorted, and a figure squeezed through from outside, appearing not far from Lu Ye.

Someone had come in from outside!

The person who came didn't expect to encounter Lu Ye as soon as he entered.

Their eyes met, and a blue light uncontrollably burst forth from the back of Lu Ye's hand, while a red light was emanating from his counterpart's!

The other party was from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge!

Judging by the other's physique and the robustness of his blood Qi, this person was unmistakably a physique cultivator.

Daring to enter the hunting ground alone, the cultivator's cultivation would certainly not be low, as those with low cultivation would never take the initiative to enter the hunting ground.

Enter just to die?

There was a slight stalemate. The physique cultivator glanced at Lu Ye, then at Yiyi beside him, and pronounced firmly, "Passing by!"

Despite the fact that they were from opposing factions, the physique cultivator apparently had no intention of instigating a fight before understanding the extent of Lu Ye's cultivation, especially since Lu Ye and Yiyi were a pair.

Having revealed his intention, he nodded slightly to Lu Ye and walked away from the side.

Lu Ye watched him expressionlessly, making no move to stop him, and Yiyi also just stood quietly beside Lu Ye.

After walking several dozen yards, the physique cultivator suddenly stopped and said, "You're planning to leave this place, aren't you?"

As soon as these words were uttered, Lu Ye pounced directly at him, and at the same moment, Yiyi, who had been ready to launch an attack, raised her hand and unleashed a Golden Arc Slash toward the physique cultivator.

The physique cultivator whirled around, punching out, and met Yiyi's magic and spells head-on, shattering them with a bared-teeth sneer, "Just as I thought!"

Having just come in and seen Lu Ye and Yiyi together, he hadn't dared to take action because he didn't know the extent of the enemy's cultivation and didn't want to act rashly.

He verbally claimed to be just passing by, but it was actually a probe to test Lu Ye and Yiyi's strengths.

If Lu Ye and Yiyi were strong enough, they naturally wouldn't have let him leave easily; a fight would have been inevitable anyway.

But Lu Ye and Yiyi did not make a move, allowing him to leave, from which the physique cultivator concluded that the duo's strength couldn't be too formidable.

Furthermore, the two of them standing on the edge of the hunting ground clearly had the intention to leave. If they were really strong enough, why would they plan to leave just as the hunting ground appeared? Any cultivator at the Level 4-5 realm wouldn't make such a choice.

Therefore, the physique cultivator immediately determined that these two must be cultivators who had only recently come to the Cloud River battlefield. They could not be above Level 3, and were certainly clueless about the hunting ground, otherwise, they wouldn't have come to the edge of the hunting ground.

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With this certainty, the probing came to an end.

As soon as Yiyi and Lu Ye made their move, he realized his judgment was indeed correct. The slight-framed female magic cultivator was of the Cloud River Level 1, and the combat cultivator wearing the fox-face mask was at the Cloud River Level 3!

This was like meat delivered to his mouth; there was no reason to let it go.

Facing such two foes, he didn't even bother to summon his big spirit force shield, but simply shattered Yiyi's magic and spells with a single punch.

A bright flash of the saber sliced through his field of vision, and the grin of the physique cultivator froze as blood spattered. The physique cultivator threw a punch that sent Lu Ye reeling back while he hastily retreated himself.

Looking down, he saw a huge wound had appeared on his abdomen, which caused his eyelids to twitch. He was shocked. How could the killing power of a Level 3 combat cultivator be so terrifying?

As a Level 5 physique cultivator with an extremely strong body, even if cut by a combat cultivator of the same level, he wouldn't suffer such wounds. Yet, a Level 3 combat cultivator had just turned his understanding upside down.

His failure to summon the big spirit force shield immediately was due to overconfidence in himself. But at this moment, that confidence was shattered.

More spells rapidly struck, as the small-framed girl from Level 1 showed an astonishingly swift spellcasting speed.

These two... were no ordinary Cloud River Realm cultivators! Especially that combat cultivator, he must have been on the Spirit Stream Ranking before.

Thoughts flickered through his mind like lightning, and the physique cultivator didn't dare to be careless anymore; he quickly summoned his spiritual artifact big shield to block the numerous spells from Yiyi.

A fierce intent to kill swept over from behind. He had lost sight of the combat cultivator, and the physique cultivator didn't even notice when his opponent had gotten behind him.

This speed... was rather exaggerated!

He turned around in a hurry, thrusting the big spirit force shield forward just in time to block a stab from Lu Ye. Sparks flew, and the overwhelming power numbed the physique cultivator's arm.

This strength... was also abnormal!

The physique cultivator screamed inwardly, what kind of person had he provoked? He thought these were two pieces of fat meat delivered to his mouth, but they turned out to be so troublesome.

With a fierce exertion, he pushed his spiritual artifact big shield forward, deflecting Lu Ye's long saber, and a mace-like spiritual artifact that had appeared in his other hand shone brightly as he smashed it down viciously toward Lu Ye.

As for the spells coming from behind, he could no longer care about them and had to resist with his spirit force and blood Qi.

Bang, bang, bang sounded continuously; even for a physique cultivator with thick skin and flesh, enduring Yiyi's attacks directly still shook him violently. Blood streamed down his back. However, the disparity in strength between Level 1 and Level 5 was indeed too great. Such injuries were merely flesh wounds to a blood Qi-rich physique cultivator, hardly anything serious.

Opposite him, Lu Ye's blood Qi mingled with Amber's, converging towards his right arm. Facing the mightily falling strike, he swung the Boulder Mountain Saber in a backhand motion.

With a boom, the physique cultivator's eyes bulged; because, at the instant when their spiritual artifacts touched, he felt a force no less than his own coming from the opponent. Under this impact, he nearly lost grip on his own spiritual artifact, and his whole body was thrown backward, wide open!

Lu Ye had already sheathed his saber, positioning the Boulder Mountain Saber in front of him for a thrusting stance.

The physique cultivator's hair stood on end, willing to block, but he was far too slow in changing moves compared to Lu Ye. Just as he steadied himself, Lu Ye had already thrust out with the saber.

A chill ran down the physique cultivator's spine, frantically urging his own spirit force, placing the spiritual artifact big shield before him.

He had experienced the terrifying killing power of the combat cultivator wearing the fox-face mask; he knew that relying on his physical defense alone, he couldn't possibly block this strike!

But at that moment, a heaven-shaking tiger's roar erupted, and a visible wave of force rushed straight at the physique cultivator's forehead.

It was as if someone had lifted open his skull and hammered down viciously onto his brain with an invisible mallet.

The physique cultivator felt an unseen impact, his thoughts briefly stalling for a moment.

That moment... was a matter of life and death.

The long saber, sticking to the edge of the spiritual artifact big shield, pierced into the physique cultivator's abdomen, going straight through.

A flash of light on the blade, augmented by Cactus Spirit Runes.

Excruciating pain made the physique cultivator roar as he pushed forward with his spiritual artifact big shield, sending Lu Ye flying, while the mace came crashing down, with Lu Ye promptly bringing his saber horizontally in front of him.

The immense force transmitted through the long saber forced him down, skidding across the ground for more than a dozen yards, leaving two deep furrows in the solid earth.

Unrelenting spells pounded from behind onto the towering figure of the physique cultivator, staggering him. Fresh blood gushed from his abdomen, and the agonizing sensation twisted his face grotesquely.

He could sense that his injuries were severe, for when the combat cultivator's long saber pierced his body, there were spikes like those of a cactus exploding inside him, muddling his organs to a messy pulp.

As his life swiftly drained away, the physique cultivator spun around, glaring fiendishly at Yiyi, who kept attacking him, and gnashed his teeth in furious shouting, "Seeking death!"

He knew that his odds of survival were slim, but before dying, he was determined to drag someone to the grave with him.

The Level 3 combat cultivator was too agile; in his current state, he had no chance of killing his opponent, leaving only one choice.

For a Level 1 magic cultivator, if he could get close enough, just one strike would be enough to turn her into mush.

Chapter 502 Kills Ranking

The physique cultivator charged at Yiyi ferociously, but Yiyi did not attempt to dodge at all. Standing in place, she continuously cast spells. While her attacks caused the opposing spirit artifact big shield to flicker with light, she was fundamentally unable to interrupt the enemy's charge.

Confusion flashed in the physique cultivator's eyes—he didn't understand why the delicate-looking female magic cultivator wouldn't flee!

Under normal circumstances, when there was a huge disparity in cultivation between them, the weaker party would certainly flee in the face of such a situation. Even if they didn't flee, they would at least try to dodge. But there she was, just standing in place...

There was no time for further thought as the physique cultivator, enduring the onslaught of Yiyi's magic and spells, reached her. A trace of joy replaced the despair in his eyes, and he hastily changed his mind about killing the female magic cultivator. He intended to capture her alive instead, to use her as a bargaining chip for his own survival!

He pushed his spirit artifact big shield forcefully forward, aiming at Yiyi, but he pulled back a bit of strength because he feared that if he exerted his full force, the female magic cultivator would explode on impact.

The spirit artifact big shield hit nothing but air, and the physique cultivator's eyes instantly bulged, scarcely believing what he saw.

Just as his spirit artifact big shield was about to collide with the frail figure, she suddenly sank into the ground and disappeared without a trace.

What was this?

What on earth was this?

Many thoughts surged in his mind, but the physique cultivator failed to understand what had just happened. A living person had just sunk into the ground right before his very eyes, yet the ground showed no signs of a pit and remained perfectly intact.

What he had seen appeared to be just an illusion.

He did not understand how she could sink into the ground; all he knew was that he was really in trouble now, because a fierce killing intent was already assaulting him from behind.

Pivoting in haste, he saw a flash of fiery red saber light and quickly raised his spirit artifact to defend.

With a clang, the physique cultivator stumbled backward. His internal injuries greatly affected him, and the strength he could exert was significantly reduced.

Seeing Lu Ye attack once more, he couldn't care less about anything else. He spurred his spirit force and leapt into the air, intending to escape from the place.

If he could have taken someone with him in death, he would have accepted his fate. But now, since he couldn't even find a person to accompany him in death, dying here would be too great a loss.

So, no matter what, he had to flee.

Watching the physique cultivator leap up, a buzzing noise came from the supplies box at Lu Ye's waist, and nine streaks of Move-Like-The-Wind shot out. Not just that, the long saber in his hand swiftly struck forward three times.

Three crescent-shaped saber lights burst forth, arranged in a character "品" to assault the physique cultivator.

Sounds of impact "thud thud thud" were heard. The physique cultivator, with his back to Lu Ye, was violently shaken by the nine weapon control strikes and sliced by the three saber lights, no longer able to maintain his form. He had risen only a dozen feet into the air before screaming and plummeting down.

Crashing heavily on the ground, his vision swarmed with stars, and by the time his vision cleared, the image of a fox-face mask entered his sight. Lu Ye, with a saber gripped in reverse, stood in front of the cultivator and did not hesitate to thrust his blade downward.

The blade pierced through the chest and out the back.

The physique cultivator's body abruptly stiffened. He raised one large hand toward Lu Ye's face, seemingly wanting to rip off Lu Ye's mask to see who had killed him.

It was all in vain.

As Lu Ye withdrew his long saber, blood spurted out, and the physique cultivator's raised hand feebly dropped down, his eyes' light permanently fixed.

A speck of red light flew out from the physique cultivator's corpse and landed on the back of Lu Ye's hand.

Lu Ye bent down to pick up the cultivator's two spirit artifacts, and he removed the storage sack, ensuring nothing was left behind, before signaling to Yiyi, "Let's go!"

This was not a place to linger.

This location was at the edge of the hunting ground, and the news of the hunting ground's emergence must have already spread. If someone intended to enter from the outside, they would most likely appear at the edge first.

And those bold enough to venture into the hunting ground at this time certainly had ample confidence in their strength. Staying here would mean nothing but endless trouble.

Moreover, the powerhouses inside the hunting ground were undoubtedly heading for the edge at this moment. They could lie in wait here, ambushing cultivators from opposing factions who were breaking in from the outside!

So, no matter what, during the early stages of the hunting grounds' opening, the edges were places that a lower-level cultivator like Lu Ye absolutely must not remain in.

The first three days were when the most deaths occurred at the edges!

Yiyi returned to the Amber interior, and Lu Ye dashed out.

He didn't dare to fly but opted to run along the ground. By doing this, his speed might not match that of flying, but with the enhancement from the Move-Like-The-Wind Spirit Runes, he was still not slow.

As he was running, a dazzling light flashed across the sky caught the corner of his eye.

Lu Ye paused and looked up, only to see a torrent of brilliant red light wriggling across the top of the blood curtain, like fresh blood flowing out, then transforming into something resembling a flag.

In the entire hunting ground, covering a vast area of several hundreds of thousands of miles, any cultivator who looked up could see this flag.

The blood-red flag fluttered in mid-air. At first, Lu Ye didn't understand what it was, but soon, he realized.

That was the Hunting Ground Kills Ranking! Or, more simply, the Kills Ranking!

A foreboding feeling suddenly surged in his heart...

Because he had just killed a Cloud River Level 5 physique cultivator, rising above two classes...

The blood-red Kills Ranking slightly shook, and lines of gold-hued text appeared. The first line was divided into three groups, displaying names, kill points, and rewards.

Starting from the second line, the rankings begin.

Going down in order:

Lu Yiye, one hundred and twenty, one Class A Spring Spirit, nine paths of gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

Xia Liang, one hundred, nine paths of gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

Thang Ke, eighty, seven paths of gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

Yooi Fumeng, fifty, five paths of gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

Tan Sheng, forty-five, five paths of gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

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Staring silently at the Kills Ranking that had suddenly appeared, Lu Ye's eyelid twitched.

His name hung high at the top, dominating the number one spot, and it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that it caught the attention of tens of thousands!

If he truly had enough strength, having his name appear on the Kills Ranking and occupying the top spot wouldn't matter. But the key issue was that he was only in the Cloud River Level 3!

Without sufficient strength, yet occupying such a high position, wasn't that equivalent to putting himself on a scalding gridiron?

At that moment, probably everyone in the hunting ground had seen his name.

The only consolation for him was that the Kills Ranking wasn't like the Spirit Stream Ranking; it did not reveal one's sect, nor did it reveal one's cultivation realm.

If it revealed his sect, the hunting ground would probably explode in commotion. Even if these Cloud River realm cultivators didn't know of his existence, many had at least heard of the Righteous Blood Sect, and if they became interested in him because of this, that would be really bad news.

Furthermore, this list was subject to change at any time. If someone's kill points surpassed his, they would push his ranking down, and Lu Ye's temporary position at the top of the list was just that—temporary.

The Kills Ranking was not fully presented because only a dozen people were listed so far. The hunting ground had just appeared after all, and real battles had not yet erupted. The dozen or so people listed were just those who were lucky enough to kill the nearby opposing cultivators.

Just like Lu Ye, if that Level 5 physique cultivator had not appeared near him with malicious intent, he and Yiyi would not have joined forces to kill their opponent.

The complete Kills Ranking should display a hundred spots; currently, there's just a blank space after those dozen or so names.

The one hundred and twenty behind Lu Ye's name clearly had a direct connection to the merit points he had received for killing the physique cultivator. The basic merit points represented by a Level 5 Cloud River realm cultivator were forty points, and since he, being in the Level 3 realm, exceeded two levels to slay his adversary, he rightfully received one hundred and twenty points.

In other words, the number of merit points one receives for killing the enemy is the number that appears next to their name on the Kills Ranking.

As for the one portion of Class A Spring Spirit and the nine paths of gold-hued spirit fortune stick, these are rewards to be bestowed by Heaven's Augury upon the number one spot when the hunting ground closes, and are not rewards that Lu Ye could immediately claim.

Of course, if he still occupies the number one spot when the hunting ground closes, then those rewards would be his.

But this clearly wasn't realistic.

The rewards for the Kills Ranking were not fixed because every time the hunting ground opened, the range varied in size. The larger the scope of the hunting ground, the better the rewards. This time it was a large hunting ground, so the rewards granted by Heaven's Augury were extremely generous.

Setting aside the nine paths of gold-hued spirit fortune sticks for the moment, if Lu Ye could secure the top spot, advancing to a Level 5 realm would be a breeze!

Apart from the nine paths of gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, there's also one portion of a Class A Spring Spirit at stake—a highly sought-after and elusive item! If he had one Class A Spring Spirit, he only needed to find a suitable location to place it, and he could immediately possess a Class A Spirit Ground!

A Class C Spirit Ground wasn't much in Lu Ye's eyes, but if he could really own a Class A Spirit Ground, it would be enormously helpful for both his and Yiyi's cultivation.

The reward for the second place on the ranking wasn't bad either; it was just one Class A Spring Spirit short compared to the first place.

The third place award was missing two paths of the gold-hued spirit fortune sticks.

Rewards from fourth to sixth place include five paths of gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, while from seventh to tenth place, three paths.

Even the top twenty spots were rewarded with gold-hued spirit fortune sticks!

After the twentieth place, it dropped to one or two purple-hued spirit fortune sticks.

After the fiftieth place, it decreased to one or two blue-hued spirit fortune sticks.

As for the rewards beyond the hundredth place... the Kills Ranking didn't show, and Lu Ye didn't know; there might be none, or there might be some.

It could be said that the real value of the Kills Ranking was concentrated in the top ten, especially the top three, the quantity of spirit fortune sticks enough to make Lu Ye green with envy.

One could imagine that the Level 8-9 Cloud River realm cultivators would go all out for the rewards of the Kills Ranking.

For those at their level of cultivation realm, the benefits brought by one or two paths of gold-hued spirit fortune sticks were not significant anymore, and the bounty of the Kills Ranking was undoubtedly what they desperately needed.

Within a territory of hundreds of thousands of miles, countless cultivators were rushing over in succession. The hunting ground would soon be in upheaval, and Lu Ye had no expectation of securing a good rank on the Kills Ranking. His only thought now was to hold on and survive!

Anyway, there was no escape; to live was to win!

The only problem now was that his name was displayed on the Kills Ranking, at the very top, and it's highly likely it had already attracted some attention-seekers. If so, his situation from here on out might be extremely perilous.

Chapter 503 Lu Yiye is your junior brother?

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Lu Ye no longer paid attention to the Kills Ranking and continued to sprint forward. His urgent matter was to quickly leave the edge of the hunting ground. Of course, he couldn't go to the very center. The area between the center and the edge would be the best place for him to hide.

Meanwhile, in a certain part of the hunting ground, 30,000 miles from Lu Ye's position, Wei Que, who had been fruitlessly searching for Lu Ye, stared at the Kills Ranking, suddenly bursting into laughter upon seeing the name in the first place.

He had been scouring the vicinity for Lu Ye with no success, bitterly regretting that he had missed a golden opportunity. The Cloud River battlefield was vast, and if Lu Yiye truly intended to conceal his whereabouts, it would be difficult to locate him again.

However, the sudden appearance of the hunting ground somewhat alleviated his sense of loss.

As a cultivator of Cloud River Level 9, he was undoubtedly like a fish in water within the hunting ground. After all, at this level of the Cloud River Realm, no one had a higher cultivation than him.

Although his strength was not top-notch, it was certainly not weak. As long as he wasn't exceedingly unlucky, securing a spot in the top ten of the Kills Ranking was definitely not a problem. In such a large-scale hunting event, the reward for the top ten would at least include three gold-hued spirit fortune sticks.

The Kills Ranking soon appeared, and as he had guessed, the reward for the top ten did indeed include at least three gold-hued spirit fortune sticks. What made him even more ecstatic was that the name displayed in the first place on the ranking was Lu Yiye's!

This was like finding what he sought without effort after a long and fruitless search!

So this fellow was also in the hunting ground.

With no exit from the hunting ground until its closure, this fellow had no hope of leaving. And as long as he remained within the hunting ground, Wei Que would have his chance!

The rewards for the top ten, the bounty for killing Lu Yiye, and various other benefits were beckoning him. How could Wei Que not rejoice?

Wei Que was not the only one fixated on Lu Ye's prominent name; thousands of miles away, the Jiang brothers, Jiang Liuzi, and Jiang Chengzi, were also looking at the Kills Ranking.

"Now that the hunting ground is active, Lu Yiye has 120 kill points. That's equivalent to having killed a Level 5 cultivator."

With a quick calculation, Jiang Liuzi understood what Lu Ye had done.

Although with his strength he could also kill an ordinary Level 5 cultivator, he could not possibly act so swiftly.

From the opening of the hunting ground to the appearance of the Kills Ranking, only a few dozen breaths of time had passed.

The strength of Lu Yiye was somewhat terrifying. But thinking back to the confrontation in the valley, it wasn't surprising that the other party possessed such strength, for that was the man who had defeated him head-on. If not for Wei Que's interference, his own fortune might have been bleak.

"He's still in the hunting ground! Have brother Loo Shu and the others come over quickly. We mustn't let Wei Que get there first," said Jiang Liuzi to his brother Jiang Chengzi, who nodded immediately.

Although they had cooperated with Wei Que before and it was Wei Que who had informed them about Lu Ye, that was merely teamwork. If Wei Que intended to leave them behind and go it alone, they didn't need to pin their hopes on him. With such a huge opportunity in front of them, the only ones they could rely on were their own sect brothers.

Elsewhere, within a gorge, the smell of blood filled the air and several bodies lay strewn around following the cessation of a fierce battle.

In the midst of the corpses, Xia Liang, dressed in sharp attire, looked up at the Kills Ranking. His brow furrowed upon seeing the names that were temporarily revealed.

He was only ranked second?

The hunting ground had just opened, and he had killed a few reckless fellows on his side, expecting to firmly occupy the first place for the time being. Unexpectedly, he was only second.

Glancing at the names behind him, most were familiar. Even if he hadn't met them, he had heard of them. They were all from Cloud River Level 8-9. After all, they had all entered the Cloud River battlefield at around the same time, had previous encounters on the Spirit Stream battlefield, and natural frictions in the Cloud River battlefield were inevitable.

Looking at the one at the top of the standings... Lu Yiye.

Who was this guy?

Having attained 120 kill points in such a short time, he must be someone notable, yet Xia Liang had never heard of him.

No, that name sounded somewhat familiar; he seemed to have heard it somewhere.

After pondering for a moment, he suddenly remembered: two months ago, a junior brother who had advanced to the Cloud River had entered the battlefield and brought him a message from the sect.

Lu Yiye from Righteous Blood Sect had entered the Cloud River battlefield, and the sect commanded that if he had the chance, he must eliminate this individual! Because the sect had suffered great losses at the hands of this person.

On the Spirit Stream battlefield, this person had extorted resources worth 300,000 merits from his sect, along with twenty treatises on saber skills cultivation, which the sect considered a great humiliation!

That's right, Lu Yiye from Righteous Blood Sect!

Although there were many people with the same name and surname in this world, the name Lu Yiye was not common; it was very likely the one he was looking for. Besides, even if it wasn't the one he was after, so what?

Daring to compete with him for the top spot on the stand, he must be tired of living!

Moreover, this person was the sect brother of Li Baxian. If Li Baxian knew he was in the hunting ground, would he come to support him?

If Li Baxian also entered, then things would get interesting!

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Thinking of Li Baxian, Xia Liang's expression turned cold and fierce.

His senior brother Yan Xing died at the hands of Li Baxian. This enmity must not go unavenged. His mastery in saber skills was all taught by Yan Xing. To him, Yan Xing was both a brother and a father. When he first learned of Yan Xing's death in battle, he had sworn a vicious oath to kill Li Baxian and avenge Yan Xing's death.

On the Spirit Stream battlefield, Li Baxian was a figure he had to look up to, but on the Cloud River battlefield, his strength was far superior to Li Baxian's. Regrettably, the Cloud River battlefield was too vast, and he had yet to find a trace of Li Baxian.

Here was an opportunity.

With that thought in mind, Xia Liang sent out several secret communications.

Soon, the news that Lu Yiye of the Righteous Blood Sect was trapped in the hunting grounds spread far and wide.

An hour later, at Wangjiang of the Cloud River battlefield—a place named after a grand river that stretched tens of thousands of miles through from north to south.

At this moment, a man stood proudly above the Wangjiang, casting a cold gaze around and speaking in a chilling tone, "Li Baxian, I know you're hiding here. What's the matter, a grand sword cultivator not daring to come out for a fight? Where's that unbreakable sword spirit of yours?"

He had pursued all the way here and lost Li Baxian's trail, certain that Li Baxian was hiding within Wangjiang, but where exactly was impossible to discern.

It must be said, sword cultivators really know how to flee swiftly. Even though his cultivation was far above Li Baxian's and despite Li Baxian being encumbered with another person, he still couldn't catch up to them.

But he didn't dare to venture deep into Wangjiang to search for Li Baxian. Who knew where Li Baxian might be concealed? If he were to be ambushed, he could very well capsize in the gutter.

As he hesitated, his battlefield marking suddenly received information. After checking it, he burst out laughing, "Li Baxian, that Lu Yiye is your junior brother, isn't he?"

Under the sand and stones at the bottom of the Wangjiang, hidden beneath a magic artifact that resembled an umbrella, Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan were quietly lying low. Both of them looked weary—there was no helping it; since entering the Cloud River battlefield, they were mostly in a state of being hunted. If not for Feng Yuechan's many life-saving treasures, they could not have held on for this long.

Hearing Lu Ye's name, Li Baxian's expression turned icy, while Feng Yuechan quickly grabbed his arm and shook her head gently, fearing he might rush out on impulse.

This person was very strong; even joined together, they were no match for him. Otherwise, they wouldn't be forced to hide here daring not to show themselves. They absolutely couldn't expose themselves at this time.

Then they heard that person's voice carrying over from afar, "I might as well tell you, your junior brother is currently trapped in the hunting grounds, unable to escape, and many have already gone looking for him! I'm going to find him too. I'll kill your junior brother first, then come back to deal with you!"

Saying so, he flew off through the air.

Continuing to stay here was pointless. Since Li Baxian was resolved not to show himself, he didn't have much else he could do. Besides, with the emergence of the hunting grounds, he wanted to have a share of the spoils; with his strength, he certainly qualified to do so.

Below the riverbed, Li Baxian wore a look of astonishment. His little junior brother was trapped in the hunting grounds?

Having entered the Cloud River battlefield months earlier than Lu Ye, and having many more years of cultivation compared to Lu Ye, Li Baxian naturally knew what the hunting grounds were.

If his little junior brother was indeed trapped in the hunting grounds, then that was a big problem. It was a place from which one could not return, and with the news now leaked, Ten Thousand Demons Ridge would surely target his little junior brother in various ways.

Poor little junior brother, having been in the Cloud River battlefield for less than two months, he likely hadn't even achieved Level 2. In such a situation, what chance did he have to survive?

With that thought, he hurriedly sent a message to Lu Ye, inquiring about the situation.

Soon, he got a response confirming Lu Ye was indeed in the hunting grounds.

"Senior brother!" Feng Yuechan called out softly.

"No need to persuade me. If little junior brother is in the hunting grounds, I must go find him," Li Baxian said with determination.

If he hadn't known about this, it would be one thing, but knowing it now, he couldn't possibly abandon Lu Ye. If he truly did nothing, Lu Ye's chances of surviving would be slim.

"I meant to say, I'll go with you," Feng Yuechan said.

Li Baxian glanced at her, knowing any attempt to persuade her otherwise would be futile, and nodded immediately, "Alright."

If he could have convinced Feng Yuechan to leave him, he would have done it long ago, but the two had grown up together since childhood, close as green plums and bamboo horses. He knew Feng Yuechan's temperament too well—if he insisted on making her leave, she might well charge into the hunting grounds alone.

The girl might seem tender and fragile on the outside, but she was very steadfast at heart.

As the Loyal Heart Sect was a 2nd grade sect, there were naturally powerhouses active on the Cloud River battlefield. Moreover, the sect's Cloud River Realm had possession of two spirit grounds. When Li Baxian had just entered the battlefield, he tried to persuade Feng Yuechan to go to one of those spirit grounds and join up with other cultivators from the Loyal Heart Sect. This suggestion angered Feng Yuechan, and he had to spend much time to appease her.

But thanks to Feng Yuechan staying by his side, there were several occasions where only she enabled them to turn peril into safety.

Li Baxian might not be well-favored within the Loyal Heart Sect, but Feng Yuechan was different. She had always held a high position within the sect, and her mother was even one of the sect's senior members, her status almost equal to that of the Vice Sect Leader. With her beloved daughter entering the Cloud River battlefield, how could she not be endowed with treasures to preserve her life?

This spirit umbrella-like artifact was not only powerful in defense but also capable of concealing from others' detection, a true life-saving magic artifact.

Chapter 504 Being Too Lucky Isn't Always a Good Thing

Under a blood-red sky enveloping the hunting grounds, more than ten zhang below the earth, a cave bustled with activity as Lu Ye busily planted one array banner after another, setting up formations.

The Kills Ranking had revealed his name and surname, and he didn't know how many Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators it would attract, but one thing was certain—it would definitely not be too few.

The ripples he had stirred in the Spirit Stream battlefield were too big; which one of those Core Circle sects from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge wouldn't want to put him to death?

In the Spirit Stream battlefield, Ten Thousand Demons Ridge never had a chance, but the Cloud River battlefield was different. Here, countless powerhouses with higher cultivation levels could kill him; this was an opportunity for the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge side.

He believed that the moment he entered the Cloud River battlefield, those powers from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge that had previously suffered at his hands must have already sent messages to their disciples, telling them to watch his movements.

It didn't matter much when he wasn't exposed before since he could sneak around without many noticing him, but once exposed, he was bound to become the target of all.

Especially now that he was still trapped in the hunting grounds, unable to escape.

Thus, Lu Ye had to prepare some escape routes for himself.

He had many spirit runes at his disposal, suitable for hiding, for concealment; but accidents happen and if someone were to stumble upon his trail, he would need to flee swiftly under the premise that he couldn't fight them off.

Using a teleportation array was a good method.

The teleportation arrays he had set up before were single-point to single-point parent-child arrays, which could be surprisingly effective for escaping and saving one's life normally, but in the hunting grounds, naturally, he had to choose a more secure method.

So what he was setting up now was a multi-point to multi-point teleportation array!

Every teleportation array that was set up was both a child array and a parent array. In this way, he didn't need too many; he only needed to set up about seven or eight teleportation arrays, scattered throughout the hunting grounds. Then, he would be able to teleport back and forth between all the arrays, which would allow him to be completely at ease.

His cultivation not being high enough, Lu Ye resolved to absolutely not initiate trouble deliberately.

Although it's a teleportation array, the multi-point to multi-point array was undeniably more complex to set up, but fortunately, as his cultivation increased, the difficulty of array setup correspondingly decreased.

An hour later, a teleportation array was properly set up. Lu Ye also arranged a Concealment Array and an explosion array nearby. This way, even if someone accidentally stumbled upon this place and didn't

thoroughly investigate, they wouldn't be able to find any traces of the array. To step back and say, even if one accidentally entered the range of the array, the explosion magic array would be triggered, and then everything would be thoroughly destroyed.

This was also a precaution, to prevent others from discovering the safety measure he had set up.

After ensuring everything was in place, Lu Ye left the area.

Now, he needed to find some concealed places to continue setting up arrays.

He still dared not fly through the air, so he sped close to the ground, keeping his senses pushed to the limit. If he perceived any disturbance, he wouldn't hesitate to shield himself with a Concealment Spirit Rune and hold his breath in stillness.

With such cautiousness, he managed to travel quite smoothly.

As he moved, he occasionally sensed bursts of spirit force, signifying the battles between cultivators taking place within the hunting grounds. From time to time, powerful cultivators would brazenly fly overhead. Those who acted with such disregard were either Level 8 or Level 9...

Such individuals were the ones Lu Ye absolutely did not dare to provoke.

After running for more than a hundred li, Lu Ye surveyed his surroundings to confirm no one was near. Then, he constructed a Void Spirit Rune to connect with the teleportation array he had previously set up, ensuring their link.

Unaware of the maximum distance between his teleportation arrays, he had to conduct various tests from time to time.

The connection between the Void Spirit Rune and teleportation array remained tight, which indicated he hadn't reached the limit yet.

Continuing on until he was nearly two hundred li away, that connection started to weaken, almost reaching its limit.

Therefore, given his current level of cultivation, the maximum distance his teleportation array could cover was about two hundred li, a significant improvement from before.

It also made the execution of his plans more convenient. The farther the teleportation distance, the safer he undoubtedly would be.

Calling out Yiyi, he asked her to burrow underground in search of suitable locations for array setup, while Lu Ye himself started searching nearby.

In a short time, he found a cave. The location wasn't great because, if cultivators discovered this cave, they would certainly come in to investigate. However, there were no better places nearby.

Lu Ye had no choice but to pick this cave. He went inside, delved about a dozen zhang deep, and began to work busily at the bottom of the cave, all the while having Yiyi stand guard outside to prevent being cornered inside.

Being trapped inside before the array was set up would truly mean having no way to heaven and no door into the earth.

After busying himself for another hour, another teleportation array was properly arranged, concealed by a Concealment Array, with an explosion array set up as a precaution.

In this way, even if cultivators entered the cave, as long as they didn't reach the very bottom, they wouldn't trigger the explosion array.

Stepping out of the cave, Lu Ye looked up to see the Kills Ranking still suspended high in the sky. The blood-red banner-like list was extremely conspicuous. His gaze swept over it, and he noticed that his ranking had already dropped beyond the fiftieth place.

It was quite normal; the hunting grounds had been open for four hours, and battles had erupted everywhere during this time. With battles came deaths, and with deaths came kill points.

A little over a hundred kill points wasn't too many, so naturally, Lu Ye's ranking kept sliding downward.

At this rate, it wouldn't be long before his name disappeared from the Kills Ranking.

Lu Ye had no interest in the Kills Ranking; within the hunting ground, his only goal was to stay alive.

As he continued to press forward, the Concealment Spirit Runes came in extremely handy. Without them, Lu Ye would have had much difficulty making any progress. But with the Concealment Spirit Runes hiding his form, even if someone passed by nearby, as long as they weren't too close, he could remain out of harm's way.

For most of the day, Lu Ye intermittently set up four teleportation arrays that corresponded with one another. Only then did he feel a slight sense of security.

But it wasn't enough; he needed to set up more.

While sneaking around quietly, Lu Ye suddenly looked up toward the distance, where he saw a whirl of five-colored aurora converging at the horizon, swiftly forming a multicolored cloud.

The Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick had arrived!

This phenomenon, the appearance of Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune sticks, occurred almost daily on the Cloud River battlefield, but ordinary cultivators wouldn't come across it often. After all, the Cloud River battlefield was vast, and even if there was a Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick every day, who knew where the colorful clouds would appear.

In Lu Ye's case, he had been on the Cloud River battlefield for nearly two months and had only encountered it once.

However, in the hunting ground, it was different. There was almost a Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick every day within a territory of hundreds of thousands of miles. It wasn't particularly large, nor was it small, and once the colorful clouds appeared, many cultivators could see them clearly. It could be said that within the hunting ground, one had a twenty to thirty percent chance of participating in the chase for each Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick.

Furthermore, the Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune sticks within the hunting ground almost always manifested as five-colored clouds. In other words, there would inevitably be one or even several gold-hued spirit fortune sticks — an irresistible temptation for the strong.

Gazing at the swirling five-colored cloud, a foreboding sense suddenly rose in Lu Ye's heart. He remembered the last time he encountered a Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick...

What he feared was precisely what came to pass.

After the five-colored cloud had formed, it drifted directly toward his direction. Although it was still far away, it was indeed floating toward him.

Lu Ye made a quick decision, changing direction and creeping to the side.

If he weren't in the hunting ground, he might have been interested in joining the fray, as no one knew to which faction he belonged. As long as he wasn't too greedy fighting for spirit fortune sticks above blue, grabbing a white or green one would have been no issue.

But this was the hunting ground!

If he truly got involved, his Haotian Alliance faction simply couldn't remain concealed. Once he soared into the sky, he would be surrounded by foes with red lights emerging from the backs of their hands. On spotting Lu Ye, they would think, "Ah, a Cloud River Level 3 dares to show up."

Not even ten lives would be enough for him to survive that.

As he fled, Lu Ye observed that the five-colored cloud was still drifting towards him.

Lu Ye's eyelid twitched. It seemed that sometimes having too much good luck wasn't a good thing!

In the midst of his flight, Lu Ye suddenly came to a halt, quickly concealing his form because someone in the sky ahead rushed over with the momentum of a meteor, clearly drawn by the colorful cloud.

From the fluctuations of spirit force alone, this person was unmistakably Level 8. Naturally, without such cultivation, one wouldn't dare to behave so conspicuously within the hunting ground.

That person stopped abruptly about a hundred yards away from Lu Ye, silently watching the colorful cloud drifting towards this area.

Lu Ye immediately felt uncomfortable, only able to maintain the Concealment Spirit Runes, not daring to move.

He had no idea to which faction the other belonged. If they were from the Haotian Alliance, it wouldn't be too bad, but if they were Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators, exposing his whereabouts at such a time would leave him with no place to be buried.

The emergence of the five-colored cloud undoubtedly alarmed a large number of cultivators; some chased after it, others met it head-on, and within a short time, many eyes were watching.

Lu Ye could only pray that the five-colored cloud wouldn't stop too close to him.

As time passed, the cloud drew ever nearer. Beneath it, cultivators were either flying through air chasing it or running on the ground, with occasional battles erupting.

Suddenly, Lu Ye felt something was off. His senses picked up the aura of life approaching not far from him.

Silently activating the Insight Spirit Runes, enhancing his eyesight, various colors flowed and transformed within his view. Lu Ye looked towards a spot about a dozen yards away.

There, a ghost cultivator with their form concealed!

The battlefield marking on his hand showed no reaction; they might be from the Haotian Alliance.

But Lu Ye wasn't sure if the battlefield markings would react if both parties were hiding and the distance between them was short.

Logically, they shouldn't. If the markings still reacted when someone was concealed, then the ghost cultivators' advantage would essentially be nullified.

Ghost cultivators were known for their ability to lurk and assassinate. If battlefield markings still reacted when they were concealed, that would basically serve as a warning to those they targeted, indicating nearby ghost cultivator presence.

As if sensing Lu Ye's gaze, the ghost cultivator suddenly turned their head in Lu Ye's direction for a moment.

But Lu Ye had the Insight Spirit Runes, and they did not, so naturally, they couldn't see anything.

Chapter 505 Unlucky Guy

This ghost cultivator sensed Lu Ye's gaze, indicating his strength wasn't weak. However, without certainty about Lu Ye's exact location, he dared not act recklessly.

A moment later, he quietly moved away from the area where Lu Ye was, clearly wary or perhaps misunderstanding something.

The multicolored cloud stopped, about several miles away from Lu Ye.

Looking in that direction, Lu Ye felt a surge of relief. That position was likely where he had first noticed the cloud. In other words, had he not run, he would now be directly underneath it.

That was a close call, fortunate that he had run, or his current situation would be quite awkward.

Wait a minute!

Lu Ye suddenly remembered the situation with the heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick last time. The sticks flying out of the cloud radiated outward in all directions. Being directly underneath, he really couldn't have grabbed any sticks.

So, his current position was actually the truly awkward one.

About ten miles from the cloud was exactly within the range where the spirit fortune sticks would radiate.

Ah well...

Lu Ye didn't know what to say.

At this moment, he dared not make any rash moves. In just a short while, several presences had appeared around him, evidently all cultivators who had calculated the distance and position and had come here to compete for the spirit fortune sticks.

The closest one was only about sixty yards away, hiding in a large tree and looking up at the sky.

He could only respond to changes by remaining unchanged. When the spirit fortune sticks fell, the scene would definitely get chaotic. He could look for a chance to leave then.

Silently lying in wait.

Everyone was waiting, even the Cloud River Level 8-9 powerhouses didn't create any additional complications at this time. The main thing now was to snatch the spirit fortune sticks.

About the time it takes to half-finish a cup of tea, a commotion suddenly erupted nearby. Lu Ye looked up and saw the multicolored clouds in the sky tremble and then, centered on the clouds, streaks of light burst out, falling in all directions.

When the spirit fortune sticks first appeared, they did not reveal their true colors, so no one knew what color the sticks were. Only when they fell to a certain distance would they reveal their colors, making it clear whether they were gold, purple, blue, green, or white.

The stronger cultivators naturally targeted the higher-quality spirit fortune sticks, while the weaker ones adhered to a principle of proximity, competing for the easiest-to-snatch sticks closest to them.

The immense number of cultivators attracted by the heavenly descent of spirit fortune sticks meant the scene was bound to be chaotic.

Under the watchful eyes of all, streaks of light floated in all directions, quickly revealing various colors. In an instant, nearly all cultivators sprang into action, each towards their own target.

Some grouped together in threes and fives, others fought separately. The scene was extremely lively, and in a blink, most of the spirit fortune sticks had been claimed, with some still being contested.

Several cultivators near Lu Ye also soared into the sky, seizing the opportunity, and he swiftly moved.

He still maintained concealment spirit runes, so he moved slowly, roughly equivalent to the speed of a person walking normally. It wasn't that he didn't want to move faster, but moving too quickly would render the concealment spirit runes ineffective. Under the premise of maintaining the effectiveness of the concealment spirit runes, this was the fastest speed possible.

Various chaotic fluctuations of spirit force came from behind him, occasionally mixed with curses and roars, and also cries of shock and agony.

Without looking back, Lu Ye knew that the fight there had become extremely fierce and lively.

Normally, when competing for heaven-bestowed spirit fortune sticks, cultivators wouldn't fight desperately, but the situation in the hunting grounds was different. Competing for spirit fortune sticks made it very easy to discern whether the others were from a rival camp or not; if so, they naturally battered each other mercilessly.

While sneaking away, suddenly, a cry of agony from far to near rapidly reached his ears.

Lu Ye looked back and saw a cultivator, his body streaked with blood, falling from the sky. This fellow was clearly defeated in the just-past combat and it was unclear who had injured him. Judging by the bleeding, the injuries were obviously severe, otherwise, he wouldn't have been unable to maintain his form.

As luck would have it, he was falling right where Lu Ye was standing.

If that strike hit him hard, Lu Ye was certain that his own physique, although comparable to physique cultivators of the same level, couldn't withstand it.

Without any hesitation, he quickly dodged to the side.

This action caused the continuously maintained concealment spirit runes to break on their own, revealing his figure.

With a thud, mud flew as the falling person crashed heavily onto the ground, rolling several times before barely stopping. He struggled to rise, but failed twice. Spitting out a mouthful of fresh blood, he knelt on the ground, panting heavily, his complexion pale as paper.

His almost dispersed gaze suddenly fixated on his hand which burst into a bright red light!

Someone from the Haotian Alliance!

The man immediately looked up and spotted Lu Ye standing not far away, his expression slightly helpless.

Lu Ye, who only wanted to quietly leave this place of strife, obviously hadn't expected to encounter this situation.

At this moment, a faint blue light blossomed from the back of Lu Ye's hand. The light wasn't strong, but in the blood-drenched surroundings, it was extremely conspicuous.

With a helpless look fading away, eyebrows slightly lowered, Lu Ye's legs powered him forward and his figure burst out like a cheetah. The Boulder Mountain Saber thundered out of its sheath!

He didn't know how high the cultivation of this unfortunate soul was, but given the other's clearly severely injured state and the fact that his own whereabouts were exposed, it was impossible to pretend he hadn't seen anything.

Seeing Lu Ye coming to kill him, the man gritted his teeth trying to stand up, but he had already been heavily injured by someone else and had just fallen from mid-air. His spirit force was scattered, not to mention his bones were broken in numerous places, leaving him unable to stand.

He didn't even have a chance to get up, as Lu Ye had already brushed past him. A fiery red saber light traced an arc, slashing through the man's neck.

The man's figure stiffened in place, his mouth moving as if he wanted to say something, but no words came out.

A speck of red light drifted out and fell onto the back of Lu Ye's hand.

Another figure descended from the sky, powerful fluctuations of spirit force around him, clearly demonstrating that he was a Cloud River Level 9 cultivator!

Lu Ye turned around to look at him, glanced at the back of the man's hand, and relaxed his tense mood.

Everyone's battlefield marking showed no reaction, indicating that they were all from the Haotian Alliance.

Looking at the corpse then at Lu Ye, the man said irritably, "You little rascal really know how to pick the easy gains!"

From this man's words, it was clear that the guy who had fallen from the sky was his doing, originally an easy target for merits and kill points, but Lu Ye had gotten there first.

Lu Ye looked innocent; he hadn't planned it, but since the guy had fallen right in front of him, he had to strike first.

Although annoyed that Lu Ye had picked up an easy advantage, the Haotian Alliance cultivator didn't intend to cause him trouble. Realizing that Lu Ye was only at the Level 3 cultivation, he frowned and said, "This place is dangerous, leave quickly!"

Lu Ye clasped his fists in thanks and swiftly darted off into the distance, not even caring to activate the Concealment Spirit Runes to hide his form anymore.

After Lu Ye left, the man bent down to pick up a storage sack, then pried open the dead man's hand and took a blue spirit fortune stick from it.

It wasn't that he wanted to rob Lu Ye of his loot; this was rightfully his.

Turning around, as the multicolored clouds trembled once again, streaks of light scattered in all directions. The spirit fortune sticks were being contested once more, and the man soared into the sky, joining in the conflict.

Lu Ye ran nearly about 30 miles in one breath, turned around to look back, and saw that the volume of the multicolored clouds had shrunk to half its original size. He knew the Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune sticks were nearing their end, and the gold-hued spirit fortune sticks would soon appear. Along with the appearance of the gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, the cultivators from the two camps would likely scramble frantically.

Feeling slightly regretful, if his cultivation had been a little higher, not even much, just at Cloud River Level 5, Lu Ye felt he too would have the qualifications to participate in such a grand event, not to scramble for the golden purple spirit fortune sticks, but to contest for the ones less than purple.

Level 3 cultivation was still too weak. In such a chaotic scene, being alone, it was better not to participate.

Just as he was about to divert his gaze, Lu Ye's eyes fixed on the Kills Ranking.

At that very moment, the rankings on the Kills Ranking were constantly changing, occasionally someone's name would disappear from the list, which meant they had died in battle; otherwise, they would not disappear without reason.

Some people's rankings shot up, clearly having killed opponents, while others' rankings were dropping.

Lu Ye looked at the name ranked fifteenth, his eyes twitching uncontrollably.

Lu Yiye, three hundred and seventy points, one gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

...

...

Earlier, his ranking was in the fifties, and was continuously dropping as time passed. In less than half a day, he would likely fall off the Kills Ranking.

But at this moment, his ranking suddenly shot from the fifties to fifteenth, a jump from one hundred and twenty, the kill points had increased by two hundred and fifty!

Crazy!

Within the hunting grounds, he had only killed two people in total, but he had managed to secure the fifteenth rank. This didn't reflect the weakness of the others; those currently on the Kills Ranking were mostly Level 7 cultivators, with many at Levels 8-9.

His achieving the fifteenth position had mostly come from the benefits of surpassing his rank in combat.

The first had been two levels above him, a Level 5, which had instantaneously added one hundred and twenty points.

As for just now, that had directly added two hundred and fifty points.

Lu Ye quickly calculated and arrived at a conclusion.

The unfortunate soul he had just beheaded was actually a Level 7...

A Cloud River Level 7 represented a base merit of fifty points, surpassing four ranks meant a fivefold profit, which was exactly two hundred and fifty merits.

Level 7...

This... Lu Ye didn't know what to say.

He had thought that it wouldn't take long before his name fell off the Kills Ranking, but this sudden surge had made him wonder how much longer he would have to wait.

Lucky for him that the Kills Ranking didn't reveal the cultivators' cultivation levels; otherwise, a Level 3 mixed among a group of Levels 8-9 would be extremely conspicuous!

Just like that time at the Spirit Stream battlefield, when he, with a 7th Heaven cultivation, had fought his way into the Spirit Stream Ranking, shocking everyone on the battlefield.

Chapter 506 Feeling Targeted

Lu Ye withdrew his gaze and continued to dash forward.

An hour later, he found a cave, darted inside, and began to set up a Formation.

The Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick event had ended, and the five-colored clouds had disappeared, but the fighting had not ceased. Those cultivators at Levels 8-9, who had vied for the spirit fortune sticks and wished to avoid complications, now had their hands free and were naturally no longer courteous.

People were killed from time to time, and on the Kills Ranking, names fluctuated inconsistently.

For cultivators with lower cultivation, the hunting grounds were indeed dangerous, but the various fortunes here continuously attracted them into the hunting grounds. Hence, as time passed, the total number of cultivators inside the hunting grounds did not decrease but showed an increasing trend.

For most cultivators, their goal was not the Kills Ranking, for they lacked the qualifications to be listed. Moreover, even if they barely made it onto the Kills Ranking, if their rank wasn't high enough, the rewards they received would be insignificant. The real value of the Kills Ranking lay in the top twenty, where varying numbers of gold-hued spirit fortune sticks were granted.

Their goal wasn't even the Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick, as every occurrence was chaotic—it was a stage for many powerful beings to exert their strength. For cultivators with lower cultivation, participating was what mattered; if they could snatch something, all the better, but if not, there was no loss as long as they preserved their lives.

Their real goal was the various fortunes scattered throughout the hunting grounds!

Just now, after Lu Ye had set up the Teleportation Array and tested that this Formation was connected with several nearby ones, he had just walked out of the cave when a light caught his eye not far away.

He could be certain that this light had appeared not long ago because if it had been there earlier, he would have noticed—after all, he wasn't blind, and such an obvious thing couldn't be missed.

In other words, this light had appeared while he was inside the cave setting up the Formation.

Seeing the light, Lu Ye guessed vaguely from what the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union had recorded regarding this aspect.

Without hesitation, he hurried forward, reached the light, and grabbed it.

The light converged, and as Lu Ye withdrew his hand, he held a spirit fortune stick, which wasn't anything special, just a low-quality white spirit fortune stick.

But for such an easily acquired item, one couldn't have high expectations. Picking it up was a gain.

He didn't dare to linger in the place and quickly left.

Throughout the hunting grounds, such randomly appearing lights were common, but what they might contain was uncertain.

It could be a Spirit Stone, elixir pill, Spiritual Artifact, or even a spirit fortune stick. In short, various resources needed by cultivators could appear within these lights—this was what fortune meant.

Undoubtedly, these randomly occurring fortunes were the workings of Heaven's Augury, as if an invisible hand was scattering various cultivation resources within the range of the hunting grounds, attracting cultivators to advance relentlessly towards them.

Thus, every time the hunting grounds opened, it was a feast for cultivators.

It was due to these readily available fortunes that many cultivators risked entering the hunting grounds. They couldn't touch the Kills Ranking, and the Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick was too dangerous for them, but as long as they stayed alive in the hunting grounds, they had the chance to obtain various benefits.

Although Lu Ye had only picked up a white spirit fortune stick, if he was lucky, he could pick up a gold-hued spirit fortune stick or even a spring spirit, and some had even found a spirit treasure in the hunting grounds, making a fortune overnight.

Lu Ye continued to seek suitable places to set up Formations. He had Concealment Spirit Runes and strong perception, so as long as he was cautious enough, preserving himself wouldn't be too problematic.

Time passed.

A day later, Lu Ye was hidden deep within a cavern underground, sitting cross-legged inside a Teleportation Array.

He had set up twelve Teleportation Arrays in total, each one capable of connecting with at least two others remotely. This ensured that if someone discovered him and meant him harm, if he couldn't defeat them, Lu Ye could always escape using the Teleportation Array.

He didn't wander around but stayed still inside this cave.

The hunting grounds indeed held many fortunes, but they were also fraught with dangers, especially since his presence had been revealed. It was unknown if any powerful beings from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge were tracking him; hence, it was best to seek stability and not wander around.

Hidden in the underground cavern, Lu Ye couldn't see the Kills Ranking and didn't know whether his name had fallen off the list. The last time he checked, his rank had dropped to beyond the fiftieth position. At this rate, it would still take some time for his name to drop off the Kills Ranking.

Every two hours, he would slightly activate the Teleportation Array to check the status of the other Teleportation Arrays to make sure none had failed.

Although the locations of his Teleportation Arrays were relatively concealed, it was hard to guarantee that no cultivator might accidentally stumble upon them. In particular, the various caves might contain scattered fortunes, so cultivators wouldn't easily overlook such places and would usually enter to investigate, in case there was something valuable inside.

However, he wasn't worried about exposing his Teleportation Arrays since each one was secured by an explosion array. If triggered, it would activate immediately.

Faint spirit force fluctuations were transmitted from afar, clearly indicating that nearby cultivators were fighting. Judging by the intensity of the fluctuations, both cultivators had a cultivation of at least Level 7.

The hunting grounds were always this chaotic.

Fortunately, he only needed to hide here. With twelve Teleportation Arrays interconnected, even if a few were exposed, it didn't really matter; he could always teleport elsewhere.

Very stable! Lu Ye felt cheerful. All he had to do now was wait for the hunting grounds to close, and then he could leave this prison.

He took out an elixir pill and swallowed it, then took out a book to study. He had already finished the books he had brought from Madam Yun, but reading a book multiple times always yielded new insights, making it an excellent way to pass the time.

Immersed in the textbook, Lu Ye suddenly shifted his expression and looked up, only to see a tiny black dot unexpectedly appear in the space before him. It quickly expanded and rotated, and a streak of golden light burst forth.

With the bloom of the golden light, a gold-hued spirit fortune stick inexplicably appeared before Lu Ye, as if held up by an invisible force, quietly hovering.

This spirit fortune stick looked almost identical to the one he had obtained before, the only difference being a layer of faint cyan power swirling around the surface of the one in front of him.

Lu Ye's eyes narrowed slightly.

Things did not look good!

While contentedly absorbed in his reading, the sudden appearance of this gold-hued spirit fortune stick clearly signified something to Lu Ye.

In the hunting ground, each day, Heaven's Augury would select a person to bestow a gold-hued spirit fortune stick, which could neither be discarded, kept, nor used until after twelve Shichen, when it would function like a normal spirit fortune stick.

If that were all, it wouldn't be too bad, but the real problem was that every three Shichen, this Heaven-bestowed gold-hued spirit fortune stick would erupt, exposing the holder's location no matter where they hid, thereby attracting the attention of other cultivators.

Looking at the gold-hued spirit fortune stick, Lu Ye felt inexplicably restless.

He wasn't sure if this was good or bad luck.

To say it was bad luck, amongst the thousands of cultivators in the hunting ground, Heaven's Augury had chosen him, bestowing this gold-hued spirit fortune stick upon him. To say it was good luck, he had already decided to lay low here until the hunting ground closed. Now with this fortune stick, how could he continue to lay low? Every three Shichen, it would expose his location three or four times in twelve Shichen.

What was this all about?

Lu Ye felt somewhat targeted, recalling the time when he was bestowed the Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick. Despite having concealed his figure, the five-colored clouds had stopped just ten miles from him.

What happened to being Unparalleled in luck?

Looking at the gold-hued spirit fortune stick before him, Lu Ye thought quickly and, in desperation, activated the Teleportation Array. The next instant, he felt the unique sensation of teleportation, as if stepping into a bottomless abyss, his figure continuously plummeting.

Unless absolutely necessary, Lu Ye would not lightly activate a Teleportation Array since activating it caused spirit force fluctuations, detectable at both the sending and receiving Arrays. If someone was nearby, it could easily expose him, which was detrimental to his plans.

But at this moment, he had no other choice.

As the sensation of teleportation faded, Lu Ye appeared somewhat dizzy on another Teleportation Array two hundred li away.

He immediately sensed his surroundings to ensure there was no activity around before he felt relieved.

However, when he looked up, his expression turned helpless.

Even though he had teleported two hundred li away, the gold-hued spirit fortune stick still hovered not far in front of him, sticking to him like a burrowing maggot, impossible to shake off!

Although he had anticipated this outcome, Lu Ye could not help but feel disappointed after confirming it.

After all, this was the work of Heaven's Augury, not so easily evaded.

Unable to resist, his only choice was to accept.

He reached out and grabbed the gold-hued spirit fortune stick, squeezing it hard... to no avail. The faint cyan light swirling around the surface of the spirit fortune stick might not look much but made it exceptionally sturdy.

He attempted to store the spirit fortune stick in his storage sack or storage space, equally without success.

Indeed, this object could not be used, kept, or disposed of until twelve Shichen were up; he had no choice but to carry it with him.

Although this change of events caught him off guard, from another perspective, it was not all bad.

For an ordinary Level 3 Cloud River cultivator bestowed with such a gold-hued spirit fortune stick, the chances of misfortune were high unless protected by a powerful cultivator. Merely exposing one's location every three Shichen was enough to challenge anyone's endurance.

But with this object in Lu Ye's hands, the possibilities expanded greatly.

He was extremely grateful that he had arranged the Teleportation Array immediately; in fact, he had set up no fewer than twelve Teleportation Arrays.

The exposure of his location was not an issue; he could simply teleport to the next location. At most, he would lose a Teleportation Array. Over twelve Shichen, he would lose three or four arrays, but in exchange, he would obtain a gold-hued spirit fortune stick, a trade he was completely willing to accept.

What Lu Ye lacked now were high-quality spirit fortune sticks; he needed to enhance his cultivation quickly.

With this thought, his mood calmed down.

Chapter 507 An Encounter in a Narrow Lane

Once he had a clear understanding, Lu Ye became less concerned about the danger brought by the gold-hued spirit fortune stick. He tucked it into his chest and continued reading and cultivating.

Time flew by, and roughly six hours later, Lu Ye put aside the book he was reading, took out the spirit fortune stick from his chest, and sat quietly on top of the Array, waiting.

The intelligence report indicated that every six hours, the gold-hued spirit fortune stick would erupt once, revealing the position of the person holding it. However, exactly how it would erupt, Lu Ye was not clear, as this was his first time encountering such a situation and he had no experience in it.

A moment later, without warning, the spirit fortune stick in Lu Ye's hand suddenly burst into dazzling light; the glow penetrating any obstruction soared into the sky, creating a beam of light right where he was.

Not only that, but there was also a strong wave of spirit force energy fluctuating violently.

Even though he was mentally prepared, Lu Ye couldn't help but squint his eyes; such a commotion would surely alarm people within about 30 miles.

The bright pillar of light lasted for about ten breaths before gradually fading away, and the gold-hued spirit fortune stick returned to its original appearance, as if everything that had just happened was only an illusion.

However, Lu Ye could already hear the sound of someone cleaving through the air rapidly approaching, followed by voices of conversation.

"Here, there's a cave here!"

"The person inside has no wisdom, actually hiding inside a cave, cutting off his own retreat. He probably knows nothing about the battlefield's layout."

"Be cautious, first ascertain his faction."

Several voices spoke in turn, clearly a group of cultivators who were traveling together. Their numbers were not many, only three or four. Those who traveled in groups generally did not have very high cultivation; it was usually the powerful who preferred to operate alone. On one hand, the strong scorned forming groups; on the other hand, being solo meant that one did not need to share any loot with others.

"Fellow Daoist inside the cave, which faction do you belong to? We are from the Haotian Alliance. If Fellow Daoist is one of us, please come out and meet us!" Someone called out.

Lu Ye naturally wouldn't readily trust them. Regardless of which faction the newcomers belonged to, he was preparing to leave.

"The night is long, with dreams aplenty. Let's make it quick," someone else said. They were the closest ones, so they arrived first. However, certainly more people would be drawn to this place, so they mustn't delay here for long.

While they were by no means weak, they weren't particularly strong either; they would be no match for a true powerhouse.

Along with the voice's echo, a peculiar fluctuation of spirit force suddenly emanated from the cave.

The group exchanged looks of confusion, not understanding what was happening, as the leader charged into the cave, his spirit force primed and ready for action. The rest rushed to follow close behind.

Three breaths later, a massive humming accompanied by a burst of firelight emerged, and several figures scrambled out in a sorry state, cursing and swearing.

No one had anticipated that what awaited them upon entering was an explosion array. Although it didn't cause any casualties, they were all covered in dust, suffered minor injuries, and their blood Qi was in turmoil.

How infuriating, the one hiding in the cave turned out to be an array cultivator.

A figure suddenly descended from the sky, landing before them, and in an instant, the battlefield markings on everyone's wrists lit up.

The newcomer was not weak—clearly a Level 8 cultivator. He glanced over the dusty group and said indifferently, "Where is the item?"

The group looked serious and were on high alert, with one of them quickly responding, "We didn't find it; there was no one inside!"

This was quite puzzling; there was clearly a fluctuation of spirit force within the cave mere moments ago, but upon entering, they had found nobody.

As he spoke, he found it hard to believe himself, but that was the truth.

The newcomer obviously did not believe it and snorted coldly, "Hand it over, and I will leave; otherwise, you all die!"

"There really was no one inside." The one who had spoken earlier tried to explain, "We were the first to get here, but there was only an explosion magic array left inside, and we saw no trace of anyone. I swear by Heaven's Augury!"

The brows of the Level 8 cultivator furrowed. Since the other party dared to swear an oath by Heaven's Augury, it meant he was not being deceived. After a brief contemplation, he cast a Dao technique forward with a wave of his hand.

No matter where the gold-hued spirit fortune stick was, he couldn't let these people, who chanced upon him, get away.

In an instant, a great battle erupted.

Not long after, more and more cultivators, attracted by the commotion caused by the erupting spirit fortune stick, gathered. Around the collapsed cave, the forces of two opposing factions of varying numbers clashed against each other in a chaotic battle.

At that very moment, Lu Ye was already in a cave over 60 miles away, naturally unaware of the mess he had left behind.

Moreover, it was none of his business.

However, having witnessed the eruption of the gold-hued spirit fortune stick, he realized that the idea of using an array to cover up the noise was not feasible.

He had planned to attempt array setup to conceal the commotion caused by the eruption of the gold-hued spirit fortune stick, but now it seemed that was a rule of Heaven's Augury, beyond the reach of

human intervention. If even the beam of light erupted from the cave could shoot into the sky, how could he cover it up?

He only had the option to sacrifice a teleportation array to move his position after the eruption of the spirit fortune stick. Fortunately, he had set up a sufficient number of teleportation arrays.

After waiting quietly for a while, ensuring there was no activity nearby, Lu Ye put away the gold-hued spirit fortune stick and continued to cultivate and read.

In the blink of an eye, another six hours passed.

Just as before, the gold-hued spirit fortune stick erupted on time with dazzling light shooting up into the sky, accompanied by a strong surge of spirit force.

This time, Lu Ye didn't wait for anything else and immediately stimulated the teleportation array to move to the next location.

Moments later, someone broke into the place where he had just been, activating the explosion magic array, which exploded, leaving the intruder dizzy and cursing incessantly.

As had happened six hours earlier, many cultivators nearby were drawn over, and a melee broke out.

At this very moment, tens of thousands of miles away from the hunting ground, a streak of sword light swiftly crossed the sky. Standing atop the flying sword were two figures rushing toward the direction of the hunting ground—Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan.

Having learned that Lu Ye was trapped in the hunting ground, Li Baxian had hurriedly searched for its location. If it were too far away, he wouldn't make it in time to save him. Fortunately, this time the hunting ground was only a two-day journey away, so there was enough time.

He didn't tell Lu Ye that he was coming to find him, because he knew that if he said so, Lu Ye would definitely stop him. Just as he was worried about Lu Ye's safety, Lu Ye would worry about his, unwilling to involve him in such troubles.

Better to enter the hunting ground directly and then join up with Lu Ye.

Poor junior brother, he is probably involved in the hunting ground without even boasting Level 2 cultivation, and who knows what kind of hardships he is facing right now.

Almost every shichen, Li Baxian would check on Lu Ye's battlefield marking to see if he was unharmed.

Junior brother, hang in there, your elder brother is on his way!

In the hunting ground, Lu Ye sat quietly within the teleportation array, silently calculating the time.

Since the time he had collected the gold-hued spirit fortune stick, almost twenty-four hours had passed. It wouldn't take much longer than the time it takes to drink a cup of tea before the spirit stick would burst forth for the third time. As long as he endured this one last time, he could then rest easy.

Because, Lu Ye guessed, by the twenty-fourth hour, there shouldn't be a fourth burst of energy from the spirit stick. According to the rules set by Heaven's Augury, once the twenty-four-hour limit was reached, the spirit fortune stick would truly belong to him, so there would be no more bursting forth.

Of course, he couldn't be entirely sure of this; in any case, he would inevitably have to sacrifice at least three teleportation arrays.

Waiting quietly.

In a small half cup of tea's time, dazzling light suddenly burst forth from the spirit fortune stick, with violent fluctuations of spirit force, just as it had the previous two times.

Lu Ye waited for the light to subside and immediately activated the teleportation array, his figure instantly vanishing from sight.

About 30 miles away in a cave, the instant Lu Ye's figure appeared, he immediately sensed something was wrong. Looking up, he saw a figure standing about a dozen meters away, looking back at him with a surprised expression.

Clearly, they hadn't expected a living person to suddenly materialize in front of them!

Teleportation is something that cultivators often experience: entering and leaving the Spirit Stream battlefield, in and out of the Cloud River battlefield, all involve using the power of Heaven's Augury Pillar.

But that's with the power of Heaven's Augury Pillar, the power of Heaven's Augury.

No cultivators from Cloud River Realm had yet managed to set up their own teleportation arrays for teleportation, so when Lu Ye suddenly appeared in front of this person, they were at a loss for a moment.

This person had entered the cave by chance, just as Lu Ye had previously worried, since the hunting ground contained various scattered opportunities. Thus, cultivators would normally explore such caves in case they missed something.

The Formations Lu Ye set up were usually at the very bottom of the cave, so as long as the cultivators who entered didn't venture too deep, they wouldn't trigger the Formation.

This person had entered the cave to explore and found nothing, so they were about to turn and leave when Lu Ye happened to teleport in—it was truly a narrow escape from an adversary.

Quickly, he noticed the faint blue light on the back of Lu Ye's hand.

At the same time, Lu Ye also saw the dark red light on the back of the other person's hand.

Almost without hesitation, the other person raised their hand and cast a magic spell towards him. In this terrain, for a magic cultivator like themselves, it was a godsend. As long as they maintained their attack,

even if the opponent's cultivation was one level higher, they wouldn't be able to break through to their proximity.

"Don't!"

Lu Ye's face changed, and he quickly shouted, but it was too late.

The magic spell flew past, and the powerful fluctuations of spirit force instantly triggered the explosion array, the dazzling light bloomed accompanied by a huge humming sound, and the magic cultivator's face showed a look of astonishment.

The violent spirit force swept through, completely destroying Lu Ye's array in an instant, and the powerful shock lifted him off his feet, slamming him hard against the cave wall. The cave ceiling crumbled, showering rocks down, nearly burying Lu Ye.

Lu Ye didn't come out unscathed, nor did the magic cultivator; the explosion array had been triggered so suddenly that he had no defense prepared. In the instant he realized something was amiss, he quickly protected himself with a spirit force barrier but was still hit by the falling rocks, covered in dirt and dust.

It took a while for the chaos to subside.

This particular cave was relatively sturdy, and it did not collapse from the explosion array.

As dust filled the air, the magic cultivator waved his hand, coughed lightly, and looked up, his attention drawn to a flash of gold.

Chapter 508 The Brave Wins

In the disarrayed mountain cave, the magic cultivator saw the enemy who had suddenly appeared earlier buried under rubble, seemingly unconscious. Beneath the torn mask was a handsome, young face, and there was a glint of gold in his embrace.

Looking closely, his expression changed. This was actually a gold-hued spirit fortune stick!

Overjoyed, he thought he deserved this fortune. Although he didn't know why this fellow from the Haotian Alliance had appeared out of the blue, or why there was an explosion magic array here, with a gold-hued spirit fortune stick in front of him, how could he not be tempted?

He instinctively walked forward a few steps but quickly stopped.

Though the power of the explosion magic array was not small, killing a Cloud River Realm cultivator with it was somewhat difficult. In other words, the opponent was probably not dead!

And judging from the opponent's attire, he seemed to be a combat cultivator.

This fellow was most likely feigning unconsciousness to lure him in close!

The magic cultivator was no fool. He immediately guessed this, and in such a narrow space, difficult to maneuver within, if he let a combat cultivator get close to him, it certainly would not end well.

With a decision made in mind, the magic cultivator's body surged with spirit force as he shaped magic and spells in his hands.

No matter whether he was feigning unconsciousness or not, he decided to bombard him with magic first. If the opponent was truly unconscious, he would definitely be killed by the bombardment. If he was feigning unconsciousness, he would not be able to escape unscathed. Either way, he would be in an invincible position. As for the gold-hued spirit fortune stick in the opponent's embrace, as long as he killed him, all his belongings would be his.

Just as he was about to make his move, suddenly spiritual power fluctuations came from behind, followed by the sound of something cutting through the air.

The magic cultivator was startled, and he whirled around to find his vision filled with several bright Golden Arcs. At the entrance of the cave, unbeknownst to him, stood a petite figure.

Spirit force roiled beside the petite figure. Following in the wake of the Golden Arcs came a ball of Raging Flames, tearing through the air.

When did she...

The magic cultivator's face drastically changed. He was, after all, a Cloud River Level 6 cultivator, his senses were not weak by any means. Only a ghost cultivator not much weaker or stronger than himself could approach him without him noticing. Otherwise, he should not have failed to detect an enemy getting so close behind him.

But he truly had not noticed, and if the other party hadn't made a move, he would not even have known that there was someone behind him.

The one who made the move was naturally Yiyi. In the chaos that ensued when the explosion magic array was activated and rocks rained down, she had quietly emerged from Amber, moved underground, and arrived behind the magic cultivator.

This series of moves was not about power but speed. In the blink of an eye, she cast one spell after another.

In the narrow cave, the magic cultivator couldn't dodge such an attack and could only desperately urge on the spirit force barrier to block the incoming spells.

The sound of impacts was incessant, his body shook continually, and he stepped back, looking quite embarrassed. However, he was not greatly harmed. If not for the restrictive environment, making it difficult to maneuver, his situation would not have been so awkward.

Level 1!

How dare you be so presumptuous in front of me!

The magic cultivator was about to counterattack when a rustling sound suddenly came from behind.

This is bad!

Upon hearing that sound, the magic cultivator's scalp tingled. The sudden twist of events made him forget about the combat cultivator behind him!

With a lethal intent coming his way, the magic cultivator almost instinctively urged his spirit force. In the next moment, a huge repulsive force erupted from him, sweeping in all directions from the center.

Under the tattered fox-face mask, Lu Ye's face was only half-visible, and a crimson line of blood traced down his cheek, a result of being hit on the head by a large stone. The bright red bloodstreak coupled with the torn mask made his calm expression seem a bit ferocious.

The vicious stab with his saber did not achieve its purpose, as the massive repulsive force swept towards him, making his stance unstable.

Lu Ye quickly changed from a stab to a slash, bringing down his saber in a fierce cut.

The ferocious cut landed on the back of the magic cultivator but was blocked by the spirit force barrier, leaving him unharmed. However, the huge impact made the magic cultivator stagger and grimace in pain.

"Level 3!" the magic cultivator growled lowly, accurately gauging Lu Ye's cultivation.

Originally, he thought this might be the end for him, given that being trapped here as a magic cultivator left him unable to exert his full strength.

But once the fight began, he discovered that his two adversaries, one at Level 1 and the other at Level 3, were actually...

"Seeking death!" the magic cultivator roared angrily, lifting his big hand toward Lu Ye's direction and making a grabbing motion. Robust spirit force converged and surged, transforming into a giant handprint that reached straight out for Lu Ye.

The Level 1 magic cultivator wasn't much of a threat to him, so the priority was to deal with this Level 3 combat cultivator. Despite being three levels higher in cultivation than Lu Ye, in such an environment, it would indeed be troublesome if Lu Ye managed to close in.

As long as he could deal with Lu Ye, a Level 1 magic cultivator would be easy for him to handle.

Spell after spell cast by Yiyi continued to bombard him, striking the spirit force barrier around the magic cultivator, causing spirit light to flash wildly.

As the giant handprint grabbed at him, Lu Ye raised his hand to meet it with a Fire Phoenix Technique, and their spells collided, causing intense spirit force to clash unceasingly.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Lu Ye had already rushed out, heading straight for the magic cultivator.

The magic cultivator's expression was icy as he stared at Lu Ye. When Lu Ye approached within a certain distance, the magic cultivator repeated his previous tactic, unleashing a violent burst of spirit force. The powerful repelling force swept in every direction, so strong that even Yiyi's magic and spells couldn't get close.

However, Lu Ye seemed unaffected. As the repelling force reached him, he paused for a brief moment and then continued to charge forward.

He had killed many magic cultivators before and was all too familiar with this type of technique—a life-saving magic and spells for magic cultivators that repels enemies nearby. To break it was simple, one just needed to get the distance right.

He rapidly closed the gap, and his right arm wielding the saber suddenly swelled.

With a powerful and heavy strike, the saber came crashing down.

Single Flash!

Surprise flickered in the magic cultivator's eyes, but he remained unfazed. He had been slashed by Lu Ye before and knew that the blow from a Level 3 combat cultivator wasn't much of a threat to him. His spirit force barrier could withstand the strike; the only frustration was the inability to block the violent power, meaning the impact would hurt but wouldn't be life-threatening.

As expected, as the saber came down, the spirit force barrier remained intact, merely growing slightly weaker. But that was of little consequence; he just needed to channel more spirit force to completely restore the barrier.

Yet the massive impact twisted his face with pain, and his body involuntarily flew backward. Just as he was about to reinforce his spirit force barrier, Lu Ye closed in like a persistent maggot, delivering another saber slash.

The barrier grew even weaker...

The third strike descended!

The sound of breaking bones echoed, the magic cultivator's face becoming a mask of terror. He desperately channeled spirit force to replenish the barrier, but replenishment was a process, no matter how quick.

The dimming barrier had just begun to recover when Lu Ye's fourth strike hit.

Repeated Slashing!

With a cracking noise, the barrier shattered. The magic cultivator, stumbling backward, could not defend himself any longer. Blood sprayed as the saber cleaved his right arm away.

A scream erupted instantly.

Lu Ye landed, breathing heavily. Regardless of how much his cultivation had increased, using Single Flash and Repeated Slashing was always a heavy burden, as each strike was a full-force burst.

The flesh on his right arm was rapidly writhing, with gathered blood Qi unable to dissipate in such a short time, and his entire right arm radiated an alarming heat. But that was already irrelevant.

In the cave, Yiyi's spells continuously bombarded the fallen cultivator, causing his staggering form to cry out in pain.

With his right arm severed, his Major Circumambulation cycle disrupted, and his strength greatly diminished, the magic cultivator clutched his bleeding wound, but couldn't stop the gushing blood, his eyes filled with shock and horror.

He would have never imagined being at such a disadvantage to a Level 3 combat cultivator, confronting saber skills as relentless as a violent storm, the likes of which he'd never seen before in his life.

He quickly turned and lunged towards where Yiyi was, unleashing a spell with a wave of his hand as he fled.

Yiyi swiftly dodged, burrowing into the ground.

Even as the magic cultivator was fleeing, this eerie sight stunned him.

Before he could grasp what happened, a heavy slash struck from behind, overwhelming pain swept over him, and the force of the blow sent him sprawling to the ground.

In such a situation, as a magic cultivator leaving his back exposed to a combat cultivator, was undoubtedly an unwise move.

Even with his right arm severed, if he had fought back desperately, he might not have been without a fighting chance, considering the foundation he had at Level 6.

Yet the pain of a severed limb and the crisis of death caused him to lose his rationality and make the wrong choice.

It wasn't that his willpower wasn't strong enough; facing death, few could remain calm and composed, and in a crisis, most would act on instinct.

Pathetically collapsed, his back bore a huge, gaping wound through which his twitching intestines could almost be seen.

Before he could attempt to rise, Lu Ye had already sprinted over and stepped on his back, reversing the grip on his saber. A flash of radiance on the blade, followed by the enhancement of Double-Sharpness spirit runes, he thrust the saber straight down into the existing wound on the back.

The blade entered through the back and exited the chest, piercing through the magic cultivator's heart.

And that was not the end. With the Cactus Spirit Runes' enhancement, numerous sharp spirit force spikes ruptured within the magic cultivator's body.

The upper half of the magic cultivator's body jolted upwards, the indescribable pain contorting his face. Gathering the remaining spirit force within his body, he unleashed a burst that sent Lu Ye flying, slamming him against a nearby rock wall. His saber, separated from his grasp, drew with it a spray of blood.

By the time he stood up again, the magic cultivator on the ground had ceased moving, a pool of crimson blood spreading beneath him.

Yiyi's figure emerged from not far away, swiftly arriving at the corpse of the magic cultivator. She took the storage sack from the body and threw it at Lu Ye, then dove back into the Amber, completing the sequence of actions smoothly and swiftly.

Lu Ye, meanwhile, did not stop; he dashed off and quickly vanished into the night.

Shortly after, cultivators attracted by the commotion came to investigate but found only a mutilated corpse. From the wounds on the body, it appeared the fight had been fierce, and the victor was a physique cultivator who fought with a saber. As for further details, they were beyond anyone's guess.

On the Kills Ranking, after nearly two days of fierce competition, Lu Ye's rank had fallen beyond the eightieth position, and he was close to being dropped from the list. However, following his slaying of the magic cultivator, the name "Lu Ye" slightly flickered and suddenly leapt to above the fiftieth position. The kill points behind his name also increased from 370 to 550.

This scene attracted the attention of many keen observers, all of whom were astonished, especially Wei Que. Over the past two days in the hunting grounds, he had been searching for opportunities while also trying to track down Lu Ye. He had found some opportunities, but Lu Ye's whereabouts were elusive, leaving him feeling helpless. After all, in a region spanning hundreds of thousands of miles without any precise clues, he had no idea where to start looking for Lu Ye.

He knew that Lu Ye was only at Cloud River Level 3 cultivation. With an increase of 180 kill points, a quick calculation told him that Lu Ye must have killed someone at Cloud River Level 6; otherwise, the points couldn't have increased by that much.

A Cloud River Level 3 cultivator actually killed a Level 6... Truly terrifying.

No wonder the big sects of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge were extremely wary of him. With such a formidable foundation, it wouldn't be good for the forces of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge if he were to grow stronger. Today he was capable of surpassing his level to kill in Cloud River; another day, he might kill across levels in True Lake and even exterminate those in Divine Sea.

The Jiang brothers also noticed the changes in the Kills Ranking and felt a sense of relief and fear, thankful that they had called over Brother Loo Shu earlier. Otherwise, if they had encountered Lu Ye with the strength he was currently displaying, they likely would have been the ones to die.

They also admired Lu Ye's foolhardy boldness. A Cloud River Level 3 cultivator, while in the hunting grounds, not only dared to engage in killing to claim a spot on the ranking, truly showing no regard for the strong cultivators of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge.

If Lu Ye knew what they were thinking, he would surely cry injustice.

In the hunting grounds, he had set up twelve teleportation arrays and had been hiding all along, never taking the initiative to cause trouble. But things don't always go as people wish; he didn't want to stir up trouble, yet trouble always seemed to find him.

What could he do? He was really helpless.

Lu Ye had no time to pay attention to the changes in the Kills Ranking. After hurriedly leaving the cave, he found a hidden area nearby and quickly set up a teleportation array.

An hour later, the new teleportation array was arranged, and Lu Ye calmed his mind.

He popped an elixir pill into his mouth and slowly began to restore his spirit force.

Twelve teleportation arrays had been set up; three were destroyed, and now with another newly set up, there were ten left.

Reflecting on the previous battle, although it was dangerous, the fact that he was able to kill the magic cultivator so quickly was also because the opponent was too careless.

Yiyi launched a sneak attack from behind the man, diverting much of his attention, which gave Lu Ye the opportunity to approach and strike. Additionally, the environment also gave him a significant advantage.

The unique environment allowed him and Yiyi to create a pincer attack, with Yiyi distracting the mind while he struck down the enemy. This allowed him to cut through the chaos swiftly. If he had encountered the opponent under normal circumstances, Lu Ye did not think he would necessarily be a match.

With his current strength, he could kill someone at Cloud River Level 5 realm, but killing someone at Level 6 would be difficult, and as for Level 7... he didn't even want to think about it. If he actually met one, the right move would be to run for his life.

He still needed to increase his cultivation as soon as possible; otherwise, if he encountered enemies whose cultivation far exceeded his own, all his various techniques would be difficult to employ.

The fox-face mask was shattered. After all, it wasn't exactly top-notch and was quite fragile. Previously, in the cave, his head was hit by a giant rock, which also slightly injured Lu Ye.

He removed the broken mask and put it away, then lay in hiding, still and quiet.

The twenty-four-hour limit was about to be up, and he didn't know if the gold-hued spirit fortune stick in his arms would have one last burst of energy. If it did, the teleportation array here would inevitably be abandoned.

Time passed.

Until at a certain moment, the gold-hued spirit fortune stick in Lu Ye's arms suddenly erupted in a dazzling light, making his expression one of resignation.

At the last moment, the spirit fortune stick burst forth again; a pillar of light shot upwards into the sky, and intense spirit force fluctuations spread in all directions, drawing the attention of all cultivators within about 30 miles.

Decisively activating the teleportation array, Lu Ye originally planned to transfer to another location, but to his shock, he discovered that the location he intended to teleport to had lost contact.

In other words, the teleportation array at that location was gone...

Most likely, someone had entered the location of his teleportation array and triggered the explosion magic array, destroying everything inside.

There was nothing he could do about it. Although he chose extremely hidden and remote locations for his teleportation arrays, in the hunting grounds, where cultivators scoured for scattered opportunities, they would not overlook any suspicious locations.

Fortunately, he had anticipated this. Each teleportation array he set up was linked to at least two others. If one was lost, he could still teleport to another.

The array activated, and Lu Ye's figure vanished.

The moment he reappeared, Lu Ye immediately sensed his surroundings to confirm he was not exposed and that there was no one around. Only then did he relax.

Lu Ye took out the gold-hued spirit fortune stick from within his clothes. Now that twenty-four hours had passed, the faint cyan light swirling around the spirit fortune stick had disappeared. Lu Ye tried to store it in his storage space, and this time there was no obstacle, allowing him to easily tuck it away.

Acquisition of a gold-hued spirit fortune stick!

Exchanging a few teleportation arrays for a gold-hued spirit fortune stick was indeed worthwhile. However, if possible, Lu Ye hoped that Heaven's Augury wouldn't select him again to receive such a stick.

Before, he felt that setting up twelve teleportation arrays would be sufficient.

But it didn't seem to be the case now. In theory, he still had eight arrays left; however, whether that was true was unclear, because each teleportation array could only connect to two or three nearby arrays, and not to all of the arrays, unless he checked each one by one.

But activating a teleportation array would cause a fluctuation of spirit force. If someone was nearby, it could easily expose the array's presence. Therefore, he wouldn't use the teleportation arrays unless it was absolutely necessary.

He could set up more arrays, but he needed to refine more array banners. He didn't have many array banners left from his previous refining. While he still had materials, refining array banners would also emit spirit force fluctuations, which could expose his hiding place.

The opening time for the hunting ground was uncertain, generally between half a month and a month. Only two days had passed, yet three to four out of ten of his teleportation arrays had been destroyed. It seemed very difficult to last until the end of the hunting event.

Inside the cave, Lu Ye was cultivating in meditation with Yiyi on the lookout, and warning formations set up, so he didn't have to worry about someone sneaking up on them.

What he didn't know was that the moment he stored the gold-hued spirit fortune stick into his storage space, his ranking on the Kills Ranking suddenly soared drastically, leaping from somewhere beyond fiftieth straight to first place!

The kill points behind his name also jumped from five hundred and fifty to one thousand five hundred and fifty, increasing by a full thousand!

A thousand kill points was a terrifying concept. Considering that a Level 5 cultivator from Cloud River was worth only forty merit points, one thousand kill points meant one would have to slay twenty-five Level 5 Cloud River cultivators to acquire them.

Though the powerful cultivators of Level 8-9 Cloud River had also killed enemies in the past two days, none had accumulated as many kill points as he had.

Xia Liang, currently ranked second, hadn't even broken through the thousand-point mark. On the Kills Ranking, figures were generally in the three to five hundred range. With one thousand five hundred and fifty kill points, Lu Ye's lead was decisive and far-reaching.

This sudden turn of events left all the cultivators in the hunting ground astounded. Those who had already been paying attention to Lu Ye needless to say, but even those who had not were now taking notice of him.

Instantly, the hunting ground was abuzz with discussion.

"Who is this person? Why have we never heard of him before?" Being so far ahead in the hunting ground, he must surely be a formidable figure dominating the Cloud River battlefield. Yet, the name Lu Yiyi was completely unfamiliar. Those who had not heard of him were obviously cultivators who had spent years in the Cloud River battlefield, oblivious to the affairs of Spirit Stream battlefield let alone the Nine Provinces. Otherwise, they would have surely heard of Lu Yiyi from the Righteous Blood Sect.

"How could he suddenly gain a thousand kill points? Did Heaven's Augury make an error?"

Even if a Level 1 Cloud River cultivator killed a Level 9 Cloud River cultivator, the kill points awarded would not be as high. But Heaven's Augury was fair and just, so how could it be mistaken?

"The increase in kill points doesn't come just from slaying enemies but also from possessing that special gold-hued spirit fortune stick. Didn't the person who held the gold-hued spirit fortune stick yesterday gain three hundred kill points all at once?" someone explained the matter.

"Why was it three hundred yesterday and one thousand today?" someone asked, puzzled.

"It has to do with the cultivator's level and the duration the stick is held. The lower the cultivation level and the longer the stick is held before the twenty-four-hour time limit is up, the more kill points one can gain. As for how many points one can get, Heaven's Augury has its own measures. But a full thousand points... this person must have held that gold-hued spirit fortune stick for the full twenty-four hours, and his cultivation level definitely isn't high, probably not surpassing Level 5, and it could be even lower."

"I've never heard of this before; thanks for the insight."

"A cultivator below Level 5 realm holding it for the full twenty-four hours... what kind of methods does this person have to pull off such a feat?"

"Must be a ghost cultivator, only those skilled in stealth would have such convenience."

"Wrong, wrong. I've heard of this Lu Yiye. He's a disciple from the Righteous Blood Sect in Bingzhou. He previously caused quite a stir on the Spirit Stream battlefield. As far as I know, he's not a ghost cultivator, just a combat cultivator. Moreover, his cultivation level is definitely not at Level 5; it might only be at Level 1 because he entered the Cloud River battlefield less than two months ago."

"Level 1!" Gasps of astonishment could be heard.

A Level 1 cultivator would face extreme difficulty moving an inch in this hunting ground, yet could hold that special gold-hued spirit fortune stick for the full twenty-four hours, which was almost unimaginable.

But then again, if one couldn't achieve the extraordinary, how could one possibly receive a thousand kill points?

While some had been puzzled about Lu Ye suddenly gaining so many kill points, it now seemed that this was clearly a reward from Heaven's Augury.

If it were any one of them, even with Level 7-8 cultivation, they couldn't confidently say that they could hold onto that spirit fortune stick for the full twenty-four hours.

Chapter 510 This Person is Remarkable

Outside the hunting grounds, a sword light descended, revealing two figures, none other than Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan.

The two, having traveled day and night without delay, had finally reached this place within two days.

They didn't rush in immediately because both were seriously depleted. Although they had never experienced the hunting grounds before, they had heard much about these suddenly famous places and knew that at this time, many would be ambushing at the edges of the hunting grounds, attacking those who entered from the outside to gain kill points.

Finding a hidden spot, they each sat in meditation to recover.

After six hours, they both rose to their feet, exchanged glances, and everything was prepared.

Sharp sword lights began to emerge, swirling around them, with more than fifty streams of light visible.

"Are you ready?"

Li Baxian asked.

Feng Yuechan nodded.

"Let's go!"

As Li Baxian's words fell, the plethora of sword lights converged into a spiraling sword dragon, enclosing both their figures, and with a thunderous crash, it burst into the blood-red light screen.

The sound of the sword buzzed; the sword dragon soared.

The next moment, at the edge of the hunting grounds, cultivators who had concealed their presence and lay in ambush saw a sword dragon charging toward them, its brilliant sword light making the heaven and earth pale, and the terrifying Sword Intent instilling fear in their hearts.

The sword dragon swept across the sky, heading swiftly into the distance, disappearing in the blink of an eye.

During this time, none of the cultivators lying in ambush at the edge had dared to interfere.

The newcomer was a sword cultivator; just a glance at the whip-like sword light was enough to tell he was not to be trifled with. Who would dare to intercept, risking drawing the ire of such a formidable opponent?

However, some powerful figures soon realized that the incoming sword cultivator's cultivation wasn't very high, but by the time they thought to interfere, it was too late. The sword light had already vanished miles away, as fast as thunder.

Moments later, in the wilderness, the sword dragon dispersed, the sword light retracted, and Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan landed one after another.

The two quickly surveyed their surroundings to make sure no one was around before relaxing.

"I wonder how my junior brother is doing," Li Baxian said with a worried expression, and then he pressed his hand on the battlefield marking on the back of his hand and began to contact Lu Ye.

He had not contacted Lu Ye earlier to avoid worrying him, but now that they had entered, it was natural to meet up with Lu Ye first.

Although their cultivation levels were not very high, the two of them together were much better off than Lu Ye alone and could barely protect him.

While he was contacting, Feng Yuechan, bored and idle, looked around curiously. It was her first time entering the hunting grounds, and she was intrigued, having heard that the hunting grounds were full of opportunities. Unfortunately, she had never seen this herself, but now she had a chance.

Soon, a blood-red, flag-like Kills Ranking in the sky caught her attention.

Glancing over, Feng Yuechan's beautiful eyes widened in amazement, staring at the top of the Kills Ranking, almost doubting what she saw. But upon closer inspection, there was no mistake.

The name at the top was unmistakably "Lu Yiye," and behind it, the kill points reached as many as one thousand five hundred fifty.

The second place, Xia Liang, had just barely broken a thousand!

"Senior brother..." Feng Yuechan tugged at Li Baxian's clothes.

"Hmm?" Li Baxian, who was contacting Lu Ye, asking for his location, turned his head toward Feng Yuechan upon sensing her movement.

"Look at that," Feng Yuechan pointed upwards.

Li Baxian followed the direction of her finger, and the next moment, his eyes narrowed: "First?"

His initial reaction was that it was impossible for his junior brother to be so formidable. The hunting grounds spanned hundreds of thousands of miles, filled with numerous strong cultivators. Having been in the Cloud River battlefield for only two months, how could Lu Ye possibly hold the first position, and be so far ahead of the second place?

To have over fifteen hundred kill points, how many had he slaughtered?

Could it be that someone shared the same name as his junior brother?

But the name Lu Yiye wasn't very common. Even if there really was someone else with the same name, it was unlikely they'd be in the hunting grounds too. There are no such coincidences in the world.

Was it really his junior brother?

Li Baxian felt somewhat dizzy. He had assumed that Lu Ye would be constantly facing danger in the hunting grounds, walking on thin ice. But if that was indeed his junior brother, then he had completely misjudged the situation before.

To attain so many kill points, his junior brother must have been slaughtering left and right in the hunting grounds, utterly invincible!

Still uncertain, he decided to ask.

"Junior brother, the Lu Yiye at the top of the Kills Ranking, is that you?"

Sitting cross-legged on the teleportation array, Lu Ye was stunned by the question and immediately denied it: "No, how could it be me?"

His best previous ranking had been just around the teens, and though he had killed a Level 6 magic cultivator afterward, so much time had passed that his name should have long fallen off the Kills Ranking.

Since entering the hunting grounds, he had only killed three people in total, garnering five hundred fifty kill points. There was no way that would put him in first place.

"Someone must share your name, Lu Yiye. This person is incredibly powerful, boasting fifteen hundred and fifty kill points," Li Baxian said, filled with emotions. The man who shared the same name as his junior brother must undeniably be of the Level 9, otherwise it wouldn't make sense for him to be so formidable.

Xia Liang, someone he knew, had crossed paths with him on the Spirit Stream battlefield. Originating from the Mad Saber Sect and once among the top ten on the Spirit Stream Ranking, Xia Liang was naturally formidable on the Cloud River battlefield and must be of the Cloud River Level 9 now. This person who shared the same name as his junior brother and could outshine Xia Liang must undoubtedly be even more formidable.

This person truly is extraordinarily powerful!

In the cave, although Lu Ye felt something was off, he didn't think much of it. In his mind, with only five hundred and fifty kill points, it was impossible for him to rank first under any circumstances.

However, what moved and made him feel helpless was that his fourth senior brother had actually come looking for him, evidently concerned about his safety.

Moreover, he hadn't breathed a word about it earlier, only informing him after entering the hunting ground.

Taking out the ten-part map, he verified the location, then informed Li Baxian.

"We are coming to find you, wait for me, junior brother."

Ending the message, Li Baxian, with Feng Yuechan, quickly moved towards Lu Ye's location. The distance from their spot to where Lu Ye was wasn't too far. Ordinarily, traveling by flying sword wouldn't take more than two to four hours, but flaunting such capabilities was naturally unwise in the hunting ground, so their speed was much reduced.

Moving forward.

In the cave, Lu Ye quietly waited.

His fourth senior brother coming to find him was also a good thing. Regardless of whether they joined forces, which would greatly increase their strength, even if they encountered an unbeatable enemy, they could still escape using the teleportation array.

However, when his fourth senior brother had messaged earlier, he used the word "we" indicating someone else was with him, most likely Feng Yuechan.

He wondered about their current strength. Accounting for the time, they had entered the Cloud River battlefield a few months before him, so their strength shouldn't be too bad. Moreover, the two had accumulated over a decade of foundation in the Spirit Stream Realm, their profound depth unmatched historically, definitely capable of defeating higher-level opponents.

After all, historically, there hadn't been talents like them who stayed in the Spirit Stream Realm for over a decade.

Not to mention their kind of talent, even ordinary talents stalling over a decade in the Spirit Stream Realm was a losing proposition. Such a long time was enough for a cultivator to advance to the Cloud River or even the True Lake.

After thinking it over, Lu Ye didn't stay in place but left the cave where he was hiding, found another spot outside, and activated the Concealment Spirit Runes to hide.

With his fourth senior brother hurrying this way, if he continued to stay in the cave and someone entered, bursting his cover, would he go or stay?

If he left, it would delay his meeting with Li Baxian, but if he didn't, he might have to face a battle with the intruder, being problematic either way. So, he decided not to stay inside.

Having concealed himself, remembering what his fourth senior brother had asked earlier, he looked up at the Kills Ranking and frowned.

Indeed, as his fourth senior brother had said, the name Lu Yiye was ranked first on the Kills Ranking!

Was there really someone with the same name as his? This was quite interesting.

His gaze shifted downward, continuing to investigate.

Soon, Lu Ye noticed something was amiss.

Because the cultivator in the last place on the Kills Ranking had five hundred and thirty points!

According to his calculations, he should have five hundred and fifty points, meaning five hundred and fifty points were indeed enough to make it onto the Kills Ranking, likely around the ninetieth place.

But his name wasn't at the ninetieth place at all!

The only Lu Yiye on the entire Kills Ranking was the one at the top.

Had he miscalculated? Didn't he have five hundred and fifty points?

But that didn't seem right. As a Level 3, he had successively killed a Level 5, a Level 7, and a Level 6 cultivator, earning one hundred twenty, two hundred fifty, and one hundred eighty points respectively, correctly adding up to five hundred and fifty points, tied directly to merit, the calculation could not be wrong.

Looking again at the first-place kill points, fifteen hundred and fifty points...

This number was also intriguing, exactly a thousand points more than he had calculated!

Could the person ranked first possibly be himself?

It made no sense, where did those extra one thousand kill points come from?

While puzzled, suddenly, not far away, fluctuations from a battle reached him. Lu Ye immediately refocused, listening intently, hearing faint sounds of sword cries, and looking up, he saw bursts of light on the horizon, apparently powerful magic and spells being unleashed.

He quickly reached out to Li Baxian but got no response.

"Yiyi!" Lu Ye called out lowly, and Yiyi, understanding him instantly, flashed out from Amber and tunneled underground towards the source of the conflict.

Lu Ye also hurried towards that direction.

With no response from his fourth senior brother, it meant he was too occupied to reply. Considering the time, they must be nearby, and with the sounds of sword cries and spells, it unquestionably indicated that one of the parties involved was Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan.

Before long, Lu Ye arrived at the location, and looking up, he saw the fierce sword light and mighty Sword Qi, several figures moving rapidly within a small area, battling heatedly.

Of those figures, were there any other than Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan?

At this moment, Li Baxian was fully unleashing his power, with a hundred paths of sword light swirling around him, his flying sword traversing the sky back and forth, the terrifying killing power of a sword cultivator displayed without doubt.