

Humanity 551

Chapter 551 Spirit Energy-Storing Ring

The batch of resources was shared by many sects of the Haotian Alliance, but thanks to Lu Ye's merits, the Righteous Blood Sect got the lion's share.

It was precisely because of that batch of resources that Shui Yuan finally stepped into the Divine Sea Realm.

But at that time, the sect needed to continue developing, so Shui Yuan dared not use too many resources.

However, as Lu Ye maneuvered through the Core Circle and extorted materials worth twenty or thirty million from the major sects of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge's Core Circle, Shui Yuan was no longer restricted in using resources for cultivation.

It was foreseeable that, with another batch of resources coming in, Shui Yuan's cultivation would grow even higher in the future.

After all, currently in the entire Righteous Blood Sect, only she and the sect master were at the Divine Sea Realm, and the sect master no longer needed to cultivate much. If Shui Yuan wished, she could pour all the sect's resources into herself, an advantage that no other Divine Sea Realm cultivator could match.

Lu Ye was currently only in the Cloud River Realm and didn't need to consider the future too deeply, it wouldn't be too late to think about it after advancing to the True Lake Realm.

Within the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, Lu Ye picked through his storage space, selling some items that neither he nor his sect needed in the immediate future, and his merit points increased at an impressively fast rate.

He stopped only when he nearly reached the three hundred thousand mark.

Nearly three hundred thousand merit points were enough for him to use, even if he met some irresistible danger in the future, he could still summon a Heaven's Augury Pillar to escape.

But then again, it's not always certain that calling a Heaven's Augury Pillar in danger will ensure escape.

In the hunting grounds, he was protected by the Golden Body Token, which is why so many cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge couldn't handle him. Without the Golden Body Token, even if he summoned a Heaven's Augury Pillar, he might not be able to reach it.

Therefore, only with enough space and time to maneuver could he use this method to save his life.

Immediately after, Lu Ye began purchasing Earth's Core Fire, devouring them one after another.

The fuel for the Talent Tree needed urgent replenishing. Previously, he only knew that the Talent Tree could burn toxins, but now he knew it could even burn Soul-Destroying Divine Lightning that had invaded his body. There might be other things it could burn in the future, so he naturally had to pay more attention to fuel.

Time passed, and the portions of Earth's Core Fire were devoured clean.

To Lu Ye's surprise, the leaves of the Talent Tree showed no reaction at all.

It was not until he had devoured nearly two hundred portions of Earth's Core Fire that a leaf on the Talent Tree began to show signs of burning.

Lu Ye guessed that his recent experiences had also caused some crisis for the Talent Tree, so the previously devoured Earth's Core Fire had all been stored as fuel until it felt that it had enough reserves to allow the leaves to change.

It had been a long time since he had obtained new spirit runes from the Talent Tree. Lu Ye was curious about what spirit runes he would get next, so he continued to buy and devour more Earth's Core Fire.

After buying about another hundred portions, when Lu Ye wanted to purchase more, he was startled to find that the Earth's Core Fire was gone!

This revelation left him stunned; he had always thought that this item in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault was inexhaustible.

Upon reflection, he realized he had taken it for granted. The items in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault did not appear out of thin air; every treasure had a specific source.

The most widespread statement was that the items in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault were closely related to the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union.

Because someone had once sold items to the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, they ended up finding traces of those items in the treasure vault.

Thinking of this, the Earth's Core Fire must also be something that cultivators collected from somewhere and then sold to the treasure vault. Lu Ye wasn't sure how this item was collected, but those who used it were either engaged in alchemy or artifact refining, and the amounts they purchased were not very large, which is why there was always a large stock.

But in his case, he often bought dozens or hundreds at a time, and this time, buying several hundred portions at once, he had bought out all the stock of Earth's Core Fire.

Without Earth's Core Fire, there should still be other fires.

Led by a slight stirring of his mind, Lu Ye uses the Heaven's Augury treasure vault to search for the things he wanted.

A moment later, many items related to flames appeared in his view.

However, each of these items was somewhat different, and the most numerous were pill fires.

Pill fire was not the flame used for alchemy, but the demonic pills of fire attribute demon beasts, each pill like a bundle of burning flames.

The prices also varied greatly, starting from five or six hundred merit points, with some costing several thousand to tens of thousands of merit points.

In them, Lu Ye also saw an item called Extreme Icy Flames, which seemed to be a type of uncanny fire. Just looking at it gave a profoundly cold feeling, as the flames displayed a ghostly blue color.

This item was expensively priced at one hundred eighty thousand merit points!

It reminded him of the Phoenix True Fire he obtained in the Land of Fiery Flames.

If placed in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, it would probably also be valued highly, possibly even more than the Extreme Icy Flames, because what Lu Ye had were just meant to be devoured by the Talent Tree, whereas others could use such uncanny fires to cultivate some unique secret techniques, naturally making their value incomparable.

Devouring the Phoenix True Fire had added a Fire Phoenix Spirit Rune to the Talent Tree. Lu Ye was curious to know if devouring the Extreme Icy Flames would cause any change to the Talent Tree.

But the price of one hundred eighty thousand merit points made him dismiss the thought.

Even though he had the capital to afford this amount of merit points, after some consideration, he decided against it.

It wouldn't make sense to devour the Extreme Icy Flames only to end up with an ice flame type of spirit rune, as there were no such spirit runes in the world, and obtaining no corresponding spirit runes while merely devouring it would not be cost-effective.

After sweeping away all the flames priced under a thousand points, Lu Ye finally stopped.

Almost three hundred thousand merits, and in an instant, he spent a hundred thousand. Indeed, money came fast and went fast.

This was only in the Cloud River Realm. Once he reached the True Lake Realm and Divine Sea Realm, that was when he would need to expend the most merits. The path of a cultivator's cultivation, while talent and aptitude were important, without sufficient financial support, it was still difficult to rapidly increase one's cultivation.

The Talent Tree was still devouring those flames, but this time, Lu Ye planned to save some for later use, to avoid a situation where the Talent Tree ran out of fuel again.

As he immersed his mind, with each flame being devoured, the leaves on the Talent Tree also began to burn one by one.

Lu Ye couldn't help but feel expectant.

Compared to the spirit runes he learned from books, the spirit runes on the Talent Tree were what he could freely manipulate, often indirectly boosting his strength.

He continued searching in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault.

He was looking for a spirit artifact that could store spirit force.

The Fire Phoenix Spirit Runes, he had used them twice, and those experiences were still fresh in his memory.

It must be said, at times, this spirit rune could play a decisive role, but the cost required to activate it was too great.

Not to mention the side effects which he could slowly recover from afterward as long as his situation was safe.

However, the amount of spirit force needed to support the activation of this spirit rune was alarmingly huge, which was a problem that needed to be solved.

Previously, he had relied on the spirit energy storing spirit runes to construct this spirit rune, but if he had a spirit artifact for storing spirit force, it wouldn't be so troublesome.

He could completely store the spirit force in the spirit artifact in advance, and use it when needed.

The Heaven's Augury treasure vault had all kinds of treasures, and surely there were numerous spirit artifacts for storing spirit force.

Sure enough, moments later, hundreds of spirit artifacts capable of storing spirit force appeared in Lu Ye's view, each differing in quality, price, and even shape.

Lu Ye carefully picked and chose, eventually selecting a ring.

This object was convenient to wear and not easy to lose, and its quality was also good, with the classification of a supreme-grade spirit artifact.

In the category of spirit artifacts, quality primarily depended on how many restrictions were constructed during the making of the artifact.

Below nine restrictions, it was a low-grade spirit artifact.

From nine to eighteen restrictions, it was mid-grade.

From eighteen to twenty-seven for top-grade.

From twenty-seven to thirty-six, it was supreme-grade.

Different qualities meant different prices. Generally, if one were to buy a supreme-grade spirit artifact from the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, the price would usually be between fifteen hundred to two thousand points, with not a great disparity.

From Lu Ye's perspective, a mere one or two thousand merits were naturally not much, easily obtainable.

But for most Cloud River Realm cultivators, one or two thousand points of merit was already a lot, especially since each cultivator possessed more than one spirit artifact.

As their cultivation continuously improved, spirit artifacts also needed to be replaced, so cultivators spent a lot of their merits on spirit artifacts.

Of course, they could also use Spirit Stones to make purchases from the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union instead of using merits, but the prerequisite was having enough Spirit Stones, and indeed, it turned out to be even more expensive when calculated.

The spirit energy-storing ring chosen by Lu Ye was ridiculously expensive, amounting to four thousand merits.

Firstly, spirit energy-storing artifacts were specialized spirit artifacts, not weapons for cultivators to battle with, making them pricier than normal spirit artifacts due to their rarity.

Secondly, this was the smallest of all spirit energy-storing artifacts, the most convenient to carry, and naturally, it was even more expensive.

With the spirit energy-storing ring now in hand, Lu Ye wore it on his finger, fitting perfectly and not affecting his usual sword swinging. It inherently had the capability to absorb and store the spirit force that normally floated around a cultivator's body, so even if Lu Ye did not actively infuse it with spirit force, as long as he wore it over time, it could store a substantial amount of spirit force.

When Lu Ye needed it, he could directly extract the spirit force from it, much more efficiently than using elixir pills to recover his own.

Having bought what he needed and sold what he should have, Lu Ye checked his own battlefield marking.

On the merit column, it clearly showed: one hundred and ninety-three thousand six hundred forty-three points.

The main event was about to begin.

The rewards from the Kills Ranking in the hunting field!

Since his return from the hunting field, Lu Ye hadn't dealt with this matter, choosing instead to immediately enter the Spirit Stream battlefield after he had recovered.

Now he finally had the time.

When the hunting field closed, Heaven's Augury had granted him a golden marking on the back of his hand. With this marking, Lu Ye could connect to any Heaven's Augury Pillar, link to the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, and claim his rewards.

Chapter 552 New Spirit Runes

The reward for ranking first on the Kills Ranking was what Lu Ye most anticipated, for it was something that could directly enhance his cultivation, and nothing was more important to him at this time.

In the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, Lu Ye immersed his mind, touching the golden mark on the back of his hand, and in the next moment, his vision blurred and he directly appeared inside a small chamber with a table in the center, which bore nothing but two chests, one large and one small, both looking extremely ancient.

Each chest had a golden mark similar to the one bestowed on Lu Ye's hand by Heaven's Augury. The mark resembled a golden octagonal compass, nothing special to behold.

He stepped forward, and lifted the lid of the larger chest, instantly filling the chamber with a dazzling golden light.

As the golden light receded, Lu Ye looked down into the chest, where rows of gold-hued spirit fortune sticks emerged into view.

He took them out, one by one, neither more nor less, exactly nine.

Counting the two gold-hued spirit fortune sticks he already possessed, he now had a total of eleven.

He also had some other quality spirit fortune sticks...

For a cultivator at the Cloud River Level 3 to possess so many spirit fortune sticks was unimaginable. Since ancient times, there had been no cultivator in the Nine Provinces who had obtained so many spirit fortune sticks at such a low level of cultivation all at once.

If it were not for the rewards from the Kills Ranking, Lu Ye could not have achieved this, mainly because the last Fire Phoenix Spirit Runes had killed quite a few cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge, allowing him to take the top position on the Kills Ranking in one fell swoop.

With so many spirit fortune sticks in hand, Lu Ye estimated that if he used them all, advancing to the Cloud River Level 5 realm should not be too difficult.

Of course, these nine gold-hued spirit fortune sticks were not all his. He would need to share them with Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan later, only keeping three for himself.

After securing the spirit fortune sticks, Lu Ye looked toward the smaller chest.

The larger chest contained gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, while the smaller one probably held the legendary Class A Spring Spirit.

Though Lu Ye had owned a Class C spirit ground, he had never seen what a spring spirit actually looked like.

He lifted the lid of the smaller chest, no strange phenomenon occurred, and he looked down, furrowing his brow.

Lying within the chest was a white, plump object resembling a silkworm cocoon, about the length of a palm. It seemed to be a living creature, for Lu Ye could feel it breathing, and as it breathed, its body seemed solid at times and ethereal at others.

This was a Class A Spring Spirit?

It was a bit different from what he had imagined...

But since it was a gift from Heaven's Augury, it must be right.

It was said that with this item, no matter where in the Cloud River battlefield one was, it could be used to create a Class A Spiritual Spring, thereby generating a Class A Spirit Ground.

However, this was limited to the Cloud River battlefield, as the phenomenon of a spiritual spring generating a spirit ground was unique there, not found anywhere else, making the spring spirit only functional in the Cloud River battlefield.

Lu Ye grabbed the plump spring spirit in his hand, surprised by the unexpectedly pleasant tactile feel.

But how to store this thing? It seemed to be a living creature, and he wondered if putting it directly into a storage sack might pose any problems.

After a moment's thought, Lu Ye looked at the smaller chest again, then placed the spring spirit back inside and grabbed the chest.

This chest, too, was a gift from Heaven's Augury. Although he didn't know what material it was made of, it was definitely a fine item. He might as well take it with him, as it might come in handy later to store something.

To his surprise, no matter how much force he used, the chest wouldn't budge. The same was true for the larger chest alongside it.

The chests could not be taken! Heaven's Augury was really being a bit too stingy.

Having no choice, Lu Ye resigned, took out a spirit beast sack, and stored the spring spirit inside.

Storage sacks could not hold living creatures, but spirit beast sacks were no problem.

Having collected the rewards from the Kills Ranking, Lu Ye slightly stirred his mind and exited the Heaven's Augury treasure vault.

Returning to his senses, he stood in front of Heaven's Augury Pillar, surrounded by quite a few disciples, who saluted him as he opened his eyes.

Lu Ye responded briefly, exchanged a few encouraging words with the crowd, and then used Heaven's Augury Pillar to return to the Righteous Blood Sect headquarters.

Amber sensed Lu Ye's return and rushed in from outside, nuzzling him with his big head.

"Where's Yiyi?" Lu Ye asked.

Amber looked up and indicated a direction; Lu Ye then knew Yiyi was at the sect master's place, cultivating.

Since Yiyi was a magic cultivator and the sect master was also a magic cultivator, he was naturally a good teacher. Compared to Lu Ye, Yiyi could be considered the sect master's closed door disciple.

Not wanting to disturb, Lu Ye headed straight for Shui Yuan's residence.

Upon finding Shui Yuan, he took out all the materials he had collected from the outside, causing Shui Yuan to be so shocked that she was somewhat speechless: "This much again?"

The scene seemed familiar; just a few months ago, Lu Ye had brought in a large amount of materials, and surprisingly, in just a few months, he had brought back another haul.

When Lu Ye had entered the Spirit Stream battlefield, he had said he was going for revenge, but looking at the current situation, it was more like he had gone on a shopping spree.

Having fallen into the hands of the same person twice in a row, one could only imagine what the mood at Ten Thousand Demons Ridge was like now...

"Sister, the days ahead will be better and better, and you won't need to be frugal with your cultivation. Right now in our sect, it's only you and the sect master who are in the Divine Sea Realm. The sect master is getting older and some matters are too burdensome for him, so the sect will rely more on you in the future."

Shui Yuan nodded, "I understand. It's you who has the tough part."

Although she did not know exactly what Lu Ye had done to make Ten Thousand Demons Ridge compromise once again, unless it was unavoidable, there must have been some conflict and slaughter, otherwise such a large camp would not have easily sought peace.

"Sister, take your time to organize. I'll be leaving now."

Having said this, Lu Ye summoned his Spiritual Artifact and soared into the sky, heading straight for Emerald Bamboo Peak.

Looking at the mountain-like pile of various resources in front of her, Shui Yuan smiled and shook her head; another busy yet fulfilling day. The sect's treasure vault was almost stuffed full...

In the sleeping chamber on Emerald Bamboo Peak, Lu Ye split the fortune sticks he held into two parts—one part containing six gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, reserved for Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan.

The other part included five gold-hued, one purple, one blue, two green, and four white spirit fortune sticks, mostly spoils of war obtained in the hunting fields, as well as some from opening the fortune stick chest.

He wasn't in a rush to use these fortune sticks for cultivation, because Yiyi was not around.

Once Yiyi had time, they could cultivate together and enhance their strength as a pair.

He continued to feed various flames to the Talent Tree as time trickled by, the leaves of the Talent Tree igniting one by one.

It wasn't until only thirty portions of Earth's Core Fire remained that Lu Ye stopped.

He saved a bit of Earth's Core Fire for emergencies, to avoid a situation where the Talent Tree ran out of fuel again.

He began to examine the spirit runes carried on the leaves of the Talent Tree.

As before, most of the leaves did not carry complete spirit runes but rather special embedding techniques, which were of great use to Lu Ye. They formed the basis and the foundation for his improvement in the Path of Spirit Runes; otherwise, knowing only how to construct spirit runes without understanding how to embed and connect them would be ineffective.

Spirit runes could be deployed independently or driven by formations. If the latter, these embedding techniques were necessary. Strictly speaking, spirit runes and formations complement each other.

It took almost one Shichen for Lu Ye to examine all the burning leaves.

He acquired a total of four new spirit runes.

And each new type was generally more complex than the previous ones, each supported by more than one leaf.

For instance, the Guarding and Sharpness spirit runes that Lu Ye initially obtained were basic and simple to construct, requiring only a single leaf to carry all the information.

However, more complex runes, such as the Void Spirit Runes, needed dozens of leaves to bear them, and the Fire Phoenix Spirit Runes were even more exaggerated; when traced together, the leaves resembled a Fire Phoenix squatting on the Talent Tree.

The more complex the spirit rune, the more leaves it required to be carried.

The three types of runes he obtained this time required at least three to four leaves, with some needing as many as seven or eight leaves.

This meant that constructing them was much more difficult than making basic runes like Guarding or Sharpness.

Beast Trap.

Mist.

Mirage.

Sky Prohibition.

These were the four new spirit runes.

Lu Ye had seen each type in books, and he had even setup the Beast Trap in the hunting fields. This spirit rune, aside from the Void, was another practical type he learned from books for use in combat.

The trap arrays he previously set up centered around the Beast Trap spirit rune. In the hunting fields, he used it to stall the pursuit of Level 9 Cloud River cultivators twice, which allowed him to escape with his life. The tremendous utility of this rune went without saying.

However, learning from books and being inspired by the Talent Tree offered different experiences for Lu Ye.

Self-learned runes posed a risk of failure and were less efficient, whereas the runes from the Talent Tree could be deployed at will, greatly increasing the efficiency of setting up trap arrays using these runes.

The Mist Spirit Rune, as the name suggests, could create a dense fog, the thicker the more energy consumed.

This spirit rune was specially used for array setups and could form the core of a Delusion Array. If set up exquisitely, along with other methods, it could completely disorient enemies within it.

The Mirage Spirit Rune worked similarly to the Mist Spirit Rune, but it created illusions instead of fog, achieving effects where the fake seems real and vice versa. Similarly, this rune could also serve as the core of an Illusion Array.

If Mist and Mirage spirit runes were combined, it would create a perfect Grand Delusion Array.

As for Sky Prohibition, as the name implies, it had the power to forbid flying in the air, and if used as the core of an array, it would create a sky prohibition array.

These four runes did not greatly enhance Lu Ye's own strength, but they offered him more options in the Array Path.

A peculiar feeling arose in Lu Ye's heart; the last time he obtained four runes from the Talent Tree, he found himself advancing further on the path of magic cultivators.

This time, with these four runes, he was advancing further down the path of array cultivators.

He wondered what spirit runes he might get next time.

Chapter 553 Rune Tattoo Path

He left Emerald Bamboo Peak and headed straight for Bright Heart Peak.

He had not paid his respects to Madam Yun since his return, and it was also time for him to exchange some books for new ones. The books he had brought from Madam Yun's place had been read over and over until he knew them by heart.

Bright Heart Peak was always so tranquil and peaceful. Although some disciples of the Righteous Blood Sect now had the freedom to come and go between the sect headquarters and their stations, none would dare to set foot on Bright Heart Peak without good reason. Only Lu Ye could come and go without notice.

Upon arriving at Bright Heart Peak, he met with Madam Yun under the guidance of the mute maid.

Lu Ye paid his respects with great reverence.

To Lu Ye, Madam Yun was held in high esteem. Although his cultivation journey as a spirit runes master was triggered by the Talent Tree he bore, strictly speaking, Madam Yun was the true guide on this path. Though they did not have the formal title of master and disciple, their relationship was as such in practice.

Madam Yun was undoubtedly very pleased with Lu Ye's intelligence and talent. She had even once considered taking Lu Ye as her disciple but had to give up the idea due to certain reasons.

Even so, Madam Yun's guidance for Lu Ye was without any reservation. She genuinely treated him as her own disciple, imparting her knowledge wholeheartedly.

In the great hall, as in the past, Madam Yun examined Lu Ye's recent practice in the Path of Spirit Runes. Lu Ye answered every question one after the other and demonstrated by hand.

Although he received no praise from Madam Yun, the look in her eyes was enough to show that she was very satisfied with Lu Ye's progress in the Path of Spirit Runes.

Afterward, Madam Yun created some complex spirit runes for him to solve, and Lu Ye completed each one flawlessly.

This game of Madam Yun creating spirit runes and Lu Ye solving them was a method that swiftly improved a spirit runes master's understanding of rune construction. According to Madam Yun, knowing how to create spirit runes simply meant copying others, but truly mastering a spirit rune meant understanding how to quickly solve it.

After the examination, Madam Yun smiled and said, "Now you can be considered a true spirit runes master. However, humility brings benefits while arrogance causes losses. Remember never to be complacent."

"Yes," Lu Ye respectfully replied. After some thought, he spoke up, "Disciple wishes to learn the Rune Tattoo Path from Madam."

"Oh?" Madam Yun seemed surprised. "Why the sudden interest in this area? You have some achievements in Array Path. Why not continue to delve into that?"

Lu Ye said, "Disciple will certainly not give up on Array Path, but besides that, Disciple also wishes to explore the Rune Tattoo Path. Currently, our sect is still developing, and although it's early days, our foundation is weak. In the future, when departing from Spirit Stream battlefield to enter the Cloud River battlefield, inevitable conflicts and frictions will arise. If Disciple could learn the Rune Tattoo Path, I could also help them by tattooing some spirit runes, providing them with some assistance."

Madam Yun chuckled upon hearing this. "Those are worries the old immortal should be considering. You need only focus on your cultivation."

The "old immortal" she referred to was the sect master.

Lu Ye said, "Disciple also wishes to contribute his part. Moreover, having multiple skills won't be a burden. Understanding more things may necessarily not bring benefits, but it surely doesn't do any harm."

Madam Yun nodded slightly, "Since you wish to learn, then learn. A rune tattoo master is a branch of spirit runes masters. You already have rune tattoos on your body, so you should know what they are."

Lu Ye nodded.

"However, being able to construct a spirit rune doesn't mean you can tattoo that rune onto someone else. This requires very delicate techniques and control over one's spirit force. Additionally, it requires some special materials for assistance. These materials are not limited to various beast blood, medicinal herbs, and so forth. Often, the materials needed for each kind of rune tattoo vary."

Having agreed to teach Lu Ye the Rune Tattoo Path, Madam Yun began explaining all sorts of basic knowledge about rune tattoos. Even though Lu Ye was already familiar with some aspects, he still listened attentively.

For anyone, having the opportunity to receive teachings from a top spirit runes expert like Madam Yun is an invaluable chance.

Through Madam Yun's explanations, Lu Ye slowly gained a systematic understanding of the Rune Tattoo Path.

Only then did he realize that the Rune Tattoo Path was not as simple as he had imagined. However, in his pursuit of mastering the Rune Tattoo Path, Lu Ye had some unique advantages.

The control of spirit force and the strength of his spirit were among his advantages. No cultivator of the same rank could match him in these aspects.

As time slowly passed, Madam Yun taught earnestly for more than two hours before she stopped and called for Lu Ye, "Come with me."

Lu Ye got up and followed.

Before long, they arrived at the library.

Madam Yun glanced around and with a sweep of her hand, dozens of books varying in thickness flew off the shelves. She placed these books in front of Lu Ye.

"These are written by various rune tattoo masters, containing their own foundational insights into the Rune Tattoo Path. Take a look at them, and I'll come to teach you more tomorrow."

"Yes."

Reading was not a chore for Lu Ye. Ever since studying the Path of Spirit Runes with Madam Yun, he had read no fewer than several hundred books on the subject.

On the Spirit Stream battlefield, and at Cloud River, during his leisure time, he also enjoyed holding a book and reading. This had almost become a habit for him.

Randomly flipping through a book, Lu Ye studied it intently.

Madam Yun had already left.

Lu Ye spent the entire night reading over a dozen books. After all, these were not extremely profound works, so they were not difficult to read, and he gained quite a bit from them in his heart.

The next day, Madam Yun directly came to the library to continue teaching Lu Ye more about the knowledge of the Rune Tattoo Path.

In this way, day by day, Madam Yun verbally and practically instructed him, and by night, Lu Ye would read and study in the library; life was calm and uneventful.

It was not until ten days later, after testing Lu Ye's theoretical knowledge on the Rune Tattoo Path, that Madam Yun nodded in satisfaction, "You have already understood the basics of the Rune Tattoo Path quite well; what's left is hands-on practice now. The essence of the Rune Tattoo Path lies in practice, and it carries significant risk, which is different from other branches of spirit runes masters."

No matter what, rune tattoos are meant to be tattooed on living bodies to function, and if a rune tattoo master's techniques are not skilled enough, or their craftsmanship isn't refined, a failure in tattooing is a minor issue. More seriously, it might even cause irreversible damage to the person being tattooed.

If that happened, things would become very troublesome.

"Before you start practicing, you need to have a set of tools of your own," Madam Yun spoke and extended her hand, and a jade box appeared on her palm. She slid it toward Lu Ye, "These are a set of tattoo needles I used in earlier years. They've been unused for many years, but today I'm giving them to you."

Lu Ye accepted them respectfully, "Thank you, Madam."

This was a great help to him; if he didn't have these from Madam Yun, he would have had to find a set of tattoo needles himself. Perhaps there were some for sale in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, but they would surely cost a lot of merit, and their quality would certainly not match the set given to him by Madam Yun.

Upon opening the jade box, he saw forty-nine tattoo needles of varying lengths neatly arranged within. Taking one at random, he found that the needles were hollow, which mainly facilitated the injection of materials, such as a mixture of beast blood and herbs...

Moreover, these tattoo needles varied not only in length but also in firmness; some were extremely hard, while others were incredibly soft.

Each needle had its own role to play, and when tattooing a rune, a rune tattoo master would often need to use many different tattoo needles.

"When you first start practicing tattooing, you should choose some simple spirit runes. With continuous practice to familiarize yourself with the tattooing techniques, you can select more complicated tattoos once your skills become more refined."

"Yes," Lu Ye responded, then curiously asked, "But Madam, what should I practice on?"

Madam Yun revealed a meaningful smile, "The initial practice subject for a rune tattoo master is only one, and that's yourself!"

Lu Ye's eyes couldn't help but twitch; he had previously thought about whether he could catch some wild animals or demon beasts to practice on.

"Only by working on yourself can you precisely grasp the essence of rune tattooing and better familiarize yourself with the force of the tattoo needles. After all, the feedback from your own body is the most real and the most clear-cut. When you first practice, don't think about becoming a master in one step by directly tattooing spirit runes. Instead, start from Yin-Yang Dual Origins, just as if you are learning the Path of Spirit Runes from scratch."

"Disciple understands."

Madam Yun smiled slightly and with a gesture, a jade vial appeared in front of Lu Ye.

"The vial contains some medicinal solution. Use this for practice. Even if you fail, it won't cause any harm to you."

After a moment, Madam Yun left, and Lu Ye looked at the tattoo needles and the vial of medicinal solution laid out in front of him. After some thought, he rolled up the sleeve of his right arm, revealing his forearm, picked up a needle with his left hand, dipped some medicinal solution, and quickly, yet decisively, tattooed onto his right arm.

The technique of dropping the needle was already second nature to him; it needed to be quick, accurate, and stable. Moreover, at the instant the needle dropped, he also had to inject the material dipped from the needle into his body to form a basic element. Each needle could only create one basic

element, which meant that to tattoo a spirit rune, as many Yin-Yang Dual Origins as the rune had, that many needles had to be dropped.

This undoubtedly posed a great test for a rune tattoo master's mental focus and control over spirit force.

The first needle fell, and unsurprisingly failed.

Building Yin-Yang Dual Origins with spirit force was second nature to Lu Ye, but creating them with a tattoo needle was extremely difficult.

Madam Yun's statement to start over in learning the Path of Spirit Runes was not wrong.

Lu Ye felt like he was a beginner who had just started learning about spirit runes, with everything to learn from the ground up.

The first attempt failed, the second attempt failed, the third, the fourth...

On Lu Ye's right arm, a succession of tiny needle holes appeared, each exuding a faint purple hue, the color of the medicinal solution.

It was more than two hours later when, with the fall of Lu Ye's needle, a basic element was finally completed.

His brow lifted, he promptly re-dipped the needle in the medicinal solution, and the second needle fell.

Chapter 554 Cloud River Level 4

Through unceasing practice and tattooing, when there was nowhere left to needle on his right arm, Lu Ye moved to tattooing his thigh. Once his thigh was full of pinholes, he switched to his lower abdomen.

His physique was strong, such needling wounds had no real effect on him, and in just one night, he was ready to tattoo again.

However, because of the purple medicinal solution, his body was tinged with a shade of purple.

The skill was visibly growing with each passing moment, and Lu Ye could tattoo more and more basic elements.

Two days later, he managed to tattoo a Level 9 spirit rune.

Such numerical spirit runes were the simplest kind, made up of only nine basic elements. Although they are also spirit runes, they have no special functions and are usually used by beginners to practice.

Lu Ye had practiced these before, but this time he was relearning them through the method of rune tattooing, which was undoubtedly much more difficult than before.

With the success of his first attempt, he undoubtedly gained a deeper understanding and insight into the Rune Tattoo Path.

As time passed, Lu Ye could tattoo increasingly complex spirit runes, it must be said that tattooing consumed a great deal of mental strength.

The spirit runes he tattooed now were the simplest ones. For something like the Void Spirit Rune, which consisted of more than three thousand basic elements, requiring over three thousand stitches without any mistakes or pauses, one needed to complete the task in one go. If one's mental strength wasn't powerful enough, it was difficult to endure.

In the blink of an eye, several days passed. In the study, as Lu Ye finished with the final stitch, a rune tattoo took shape on his right arm.

This rune tattoo was not the numerical kind, but rather the Sharpness spirit rune he initially acquired from the Talent Tree.

The entire shape of the spirit rune resembled an arrowhead.

Successfully tattooing such a practical spirit rune undoubtedly indicated that Lu Ye had entered the gateway to the Rune Tattoo Path, and from here, all he needed was continuous practice to accumulate experience.

Only because this rune tattoo was purely created with medicinal solution, it was for show and could not exert any real power.

If he were to use the appropriate beast blood mixed with the medicinal solution for tattooing, that would be a real rune tattoo. Then, if he were to channel spirit force into it, the spirit rune could exhibit its sharp power.

Taking a long breath, only at this moment did Lu Ye feel a trace of fatigue.

Since his entry into Bright Heart Peak, almost half a month had elapsed, and during this time he had not rested. Even with his strong body, he could hardly keep going anymore.

It was time to bid farewell to Madam Yun.

For a cultivator, raising one's own cultivation realm is the most crucial aspect, while the Path of Spirit Runes is just a flourish on the path to becoming stronger. Lu Ye, having this talent and foundation, would not forsake the essentials for something lesser.

He took out the books he had finished from his storage space, placed them back on the shelves, and selected some new books on the Rune Tattoo Path that he hadn't read yet.

He chose mostly books related to the Rune Tattoo Path this time. Since he had learned the Rune Tattoo Path from Madam Yun, he naturally planned to devote more effort to it in his spare time.

After leaving the study and meeting with Madam Yun,

Learning his intention, Madam Yun did not try to detain him but instead imparted him with some final knowledge about the Rune Tattoo Path, then let him depart.

Lu Ye bowed respectfully, expressing his gratitude before leaving.

After not seeing the sun for many days, the sunlight felt overwhelming, and Lu Ye couldn't help but squint his eyes.

He returned to Emerald Bamboo Peak, took a bath, changed into clean clothes, and went to sleep fully clothed, falling into a deep slumber.

At the Cloud River Realm stage of cultivation, the need for sleep was already very low. Cultivators are essentially in a semi-rested state when meditating. As long as the efficiency of cultivation was high enough, one could remain full of energy.

However, eating and sleeping are innate human tendencies, which can hardly be erased no matter how advanced one's cultivation is.

Lu Ye was woken up by a licking sensation.

Upon opening his eyes, he saw Amber's head close to his face, its large tongue happily licking his face.

He pushed it away with his hand and sat up.

Not sure how long he had slept, but the fatigue had been swept away, and after rubbing his face, he felt refreshed.

The scent of food wafted in from outside. Out of curiosity, Lu Ye walked out to find a table full of dishes, still steaming, obviously prepared not long ago.

The door opened, and Yiyi came in carrying a dish. Seeing Lu Ye, she exclaimed joyfully, "You're awake!"

Lu Ye responded, sat at the table, and began to eat with his chopsticks.

He was surprised, "Did you make this?"

Yiyi giggled, "Second Senior Sister made it. I just brought it over."

So that's why the flavor was exactly like what Second Senior Sister would make. It seemed Yiyi didn't have such culinary skills.

While eating, Lu Ye casually chatted with Yiyi. The full table of dishes was quickly devoured by Lu Ye like a gust of wind sweeping through leaves.

After having his fill of food and wine, Lu Ye left the grand hall to stretch his limbs.

Half a Shichen later, within the grand hall, Lu Ye and Yiyi sat facing each other with Amber in between them.

"It's starting," Lu Ye announced.

Yiyi replied with excitement, "Ready."

Lu Ye smiled, took out all the spirit fortune sticks that belonged to him from his storage space, and then casually crushed a white one.

A white vortex appeared, and from within that vortex, a vast amount of pure spirit force gushed, coherent and lingering in front of the two and one tiger. There was almost no need to refine it; simply breathing allowed those powers to surge into their bodies and become a powerful asset.

The white spirit fortune stick's duration wasn't long, merely lasting for the time it took an incense stick to burn before it completely vanished, prompting Lu Ye to crush another one.

When the white ones were exhausted, he used green ones, and when the green ones were gone, he used blue, followed by purple, and finally the five gold-hued spirit fortune sticks.

As the effects of the second gold-hued spirit fortune stick were about to run out, Lu Ye distinctly felt that the river of spirit force within his body had reached a limit, and that familiar feeling of fullness once again descended.

This was a sign of a breakthrough.

When he returned from the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain's secret realm, he broke through to Level 3 and had already made some progress within that level. Later, he obtained a purple spirit fortune stick from Xia Qianqian and had been consuming elixir pills for many days, so he wasn't far from reaching Level 4.

Now, the breakthrough was a matter of course.

More power was devoured and refined, surging into his body, enlarging the volume of the river of spirit force.

Then, at a certain moment, Lu Ye felt the river of spirit force in his body swell, followed by the sudden disappearance of the feeling of fullness, as if something had been broken through, replaced by an indescribable comfort.

A wave of energy swept in all directions, Cloud River Level 4!

Compared to his previous promotions, the time taken to advance from Level 3 to Level 4 was undoubtedly much longer, but this was primarily due to the recent delays; otherwise, it wouldn't have taken so long.

If he had possessed the cultivation of Cloud River Level 4 in the hunting ground, eliminating Hea Bing of Level 7 would not have been so troublesome. However, while in the hunting ground, Lu Ye dared not use the spirit fortune sticks to enhance his strength, for a gold-hued spirit fortune stick could last a full day and night. If he encountered an enemy during that time, it would have been too wasteful.

Almost at the same moment as his promotion to Cloud River Level 4, there was a commotion from both Yiyi and Amber.

Yiyi's body was briefly illuminated by a flash of spirit light, while Amber's blood Qi also roiled for an instant.

It was clear they had made breakthroughs too!

However, as Yiyi was a Spiritual Body and Amber a demon beast, their Cultivation Realms were not easily categorized. But judging from the fluctuations of spirit force emanating from them, they had undoubtedly stepped into the threshold of Cloud River Level 2.

There were still three gold-hued spirit fortune sticks remaining, the cultivation continued.

Three days later, all the spirit fortune sticks had been consumed.

The two humans and one tiger had not achieved another breakthrough. Lu Ye still possessed the cultivation of just Level 4, but after consuming three gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, he had accumulated quite a bit within that level.

As for Amber and Yiyi, they were both on the verge of advancing to Level 3. With some more diligent cultivation, they should be able to break through.

As one's cultivation improves, the consumption of resources increases, and naturally, the more spirit fortune sticks one has, the better.

The spirit fortune sticks Lu Ye obtained had to be shared with Yiyi and Amber. Fortunately, his cultivation didn't have strict environmental requirements. While a good environment was certainly beneficial, it wasn't a barrier. Consuming elixir pills sufficed, providing him with an advantage that other cultivators couldn't easily match.

The one-month deadline set by Li Baxian had passed by several days. It was time to reunite with him in the Cloud River battlefield. He still had six gold-hued spirit fortune sticks in hand to be given to his Fourth Senior Brother and Feng Yuechan, as those were rightfully theirs.

There was also a Class A Spring Spirit to find a suitable location for in the Cloud River battlefield. Lu Ye might not have strict environmental needs for his cultivation, but Yiyi still needed it, as did his Fourth Senior Brother and Feng Yuechan, not to mention Giant Armor...

Thinking of Giant Armor, Lu Ye couldn't help but twitch the corner of his eye.

The last contact with Giant Armor was almost two months ago. At that time, the fellow had gotten lost in the Cloud River battlefield. Lu Ye had told him to stay put in one location and not to move. With so much time elapsed, he had no idea what had become of Giant Armor.

On second thought, during the nearly twenty-plus days he spent in the hunting ground, Giant Armor had not contacted him either...

After some preparations, Lu Ye left Emerald Bamboo Peak with Amber and Yiyi and soon arrived on Righteous Peak.

After seeing Shui Yuan and informing her of his intention to enter the Cloud River battlefield, she did not stop him but simply admonished him to be careful in all matters. After all, for cultivators of the Cloud River Realm, training in the Cloud River battlefield was the fastest way to improve their cultivation, because only there could they get spirit fortune sticks.

After bidding farewell to Shui Yuan, Lu Ye went straight to the Heaven's Augury Hall. He placed his hand on the Heaven's Augury Pillar and connected his mind to the Cloud River battlefield.

In the next moment, countless points of light appeared in his consciousness, each representing a Heaven's Augury Pillar. Lu Ye could choose any point of light and enter the location where that particular pillar stood.

Last time, that was how he had entered, going directly into a Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union.

Among the multitude of points of light, one stood out as particularly special. All the other points were white, but this one was blue.

After a moment's thought, Lu Ye realized that this blue point represented the Heaven's Augury Pillar he had requested in the hunting ground!

Chapter 555 Entering the Cloud River Battlefield Again

The Heaven's Augury Pillar that a cultivator personally spends merits to summon can only be used by themselves and those whom they have permitted; others cannot use this pillar.

Therefore, the Heaven's Augury Pillar in the hunting ground, although worth a hundred thousand merits, ended up as an abandoned item.

Lu Ye had not arranged a meeting place with Li Baxian beforehand, but he felt that they would probably be waiting for him near the hunting ground, so after a moment's thought, Lu Ye chose the blue light spot.

His field of vision shifted, and his body felt lighter.

In just an instant, his entire being disappeared from the Heaven's Augury Hall.

At the Cloud River battlefield, the original location of the hunting ground, in front of the Heaven's Augury Pillar, Lu Ye's figure appeared and he immediately scanned his surroundings.

Nothing was out of the ordinary. Although it was a bustling place over a month ago, since the hunting ground had been closed for so long, naturally, no cultivators remained there.

However, looking around, he could still vaguely see the various remnants of the fierce battles that had taken place, especially where the Fire Phoenix Spirit Runes he had released had ravaged the area, with scorched earth still strewn about, highlighting the intensity of that day's fight.

Lu Ye placed his hand on the battlefield marking and sent out a message, "Fourth Senior Brother, I'm back!"

It wasn't long before he received a response from Li Baxian. Lu Ye had guessed right—Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan had not gone far. Since they had not agreed on a meeting place before, they had spent the past month training on their own within a thousand miles of the area, waiting for Lu Ye's return.

After a brief exchange, they agreed to meet at the nearby Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, and Lu Ye sent a message to Giant Armor.

With a simple and clear sentence, he asked, "Location!"

Atop a spirit mountaintop, a huge figure sat still like a statue, his body covered with the marks left by wind and frost, nearly buried in fallen leaves.

The large figure neither breathed in nor out, and the breath of life from his body was so faint it was almost imperceptible, with hardly any sign of vitality.

Even if someone were to pass by him, they might think he was a dead person.

Sitting in this spot for nearly two months, Giant Armor had entered a state of stillness.

He had received a message from Lu Ye before, instructing him to wait in place, and so he had obediently stayed put, not moving until now...

He hadn't even noticed the passage of time.

It was only when his battlefield marking stirred that Giant Armor slowly opened his eyes, looked down to check the message, and the fallen leaves fluttered down as two birds perched on his head took flight with a flap of their wings.

Giant Armor scratched his head and pulled a bird's nest from atop it, seemingly reluctant to destroy it. After thinking it over, he placed it back on his head.

Lu Ye had asked him to report his current location. Though perplexed, Giant Armor still relayed where he was.

On the other side, upon reading Giant Armor's reply, Lu Ye was taken aback because the location reported was exactly the same as the one given nearly two months ago.

"You never left?"

"Mm!"

"Keep waiting there for me."

"Okay."

After ending the communication with Lu Ye, Giant Armor began to faintly sense something unusual about his surroundings. Turning to look, he saw packs of giant wolves, each as large as a calf, either squatting or standing around, their beastly eyes fixedly staring at him.

The number of giant wolves was not small; there were at least a hundred of them.

Any other cultivator facing such a situation would probably be terrified, but Giant Armor was merely taken aback for a moment, because he didn't see any malice in the wolves' eyes. Instead, there was more human-like surprise and curiosity. The wolves seemed to find it unbelievable that Giant Armor was actually alive!

After all, Giant Armor had not moved for nearly two months, with no sign of breathing or life, so all the wolves thought he was an inanimate object.

After observing for a while, Giant Armor closed his eyes again and soon re-entered that peculiar state of stillness.

Surrounded by such a wolf pack, he felt no sense of danger. In his philosophy, there was no issue as long as the other party had no ill will toward him.

Moreover, even if the wolf pack were to attack, he was not without the power to protect himself.

As Giant Armor sank back into stillness, the somewhat restless wolf pack calmed down too. Soon, one of the giant wolves approached Giant Armor, sniffing him carefully as if trying to determine whether this fellow in front of it was dead or alive...

Ultimately it walked away, still puzzled.

Night fell, and the moon shone brightly amidst sparse stars.

The moonlight enveloped Giant Armor, who was in a state of stillness, and a milky glow suddenly radiated from his body. This glow seemed to resonate uniquely with the moonlight from the sky, drawing it down in streams.

Looking across the vast spirit mountaintop, the moonlight surged incessantly, bathing the entire spirit mountaintop in the milky light, making it appear profoundly sacred.

That Giant Armor could cultivate by absorbing moonlight was something that Lu Ye had known for a long time. Amber had also cultivated alongside Giant Armor in this manner before, and according to Yiyi's observations, it benefited Amber greatly. Unfortunately, ever since they separated in the Spirit Stream battlefield, they had not met again.

The reason this wolf pack was attracted was due to the nightly spectacle that emerged on the spirit mountaintop. If Amber could benefit from cultivating with Giant Armor, then naturally, the wolf pack could too.

Five days after Giant Armor settled here, this pack of wolves discovered his presence. Demon beasts have simple thoughts. Regardless of whether Giant Armor was dead or alive, he was ultimately an existence that could bring them immense benefits. Therefore, even when Giant Armor woke up just now, the wolf pack did not reveal any malice.

In their view, Giant Armor was akin to the sacred object of their tribe, capable of swiftly strengthening and expanding them, which is why they constantly guarded this place.

As the moonlight poured down, the giant wolves also instinctively looked up and inhaled.

With the moon high in the sky, the oddities atop the spirit mountaintop became even clearer.

The attraction of this oddity brought not only the wolf pack but also other demon beasts.

The concept of territory is deeply ingrained in demon beasts; such a sacred object that could strengthen the tribe had long been regarded as forbidden prey by the wolf pack, never allowing other demon beasts to get involved.

As a result, almost every moonlit night, the wolf pack had to fight a great battle with other demon beasts that were attracted here. It was these constant battles that established the wolf pack's exclusive claim over this territory.

Of these matters, Giant Armor was utterly unaware.

He had always felt that he had merely taken a short rest...

In the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, within a guest room, Lu Ye was engaged in reading and cultivation when a knock on the door sounded, and Yiyi got up to open the door.

Li Baxian, wearing the masks of a boy and girl, and Feng Yuechan arrived hand in hand.

Lu Ye stood up to greet them.

Removing his mask, Li Baxian's face was filled with shame, "Junior Brother Lu, I'm sorry for the troubles you faced in the hunting ground. I, as your senior brother, couldn't offer any help, how shameful!"

Li Baxian had been feeling guilty whenever he thought about the events in the hunting ground. Fortunately, Lu Ye had a profound foundation and was favored by Heaven's Augury; he managed to escape from that desperate situation in the end.

Lu Ye said, "Senior Brother is exaggerating. When I was being hunted, I received assistance from many strong members of the Haotian Alliance. Without Senior Brother's connections, I wouldn't have lasted until the end."

Li Baxian sighed, "In the end, one must be strong oneself."

In the Spirit Stream battlefield, he and Senior Sister Feng had been respected alone for many years. But upon arriving at the Cloud River battlefield, their former reputations brought not convenience, but greater danger, filling him with a multitude of emotions.

Did Lu Ye not feel the same?

Before the hunting ground incident, he could act in the Cloud River battlefield without too much worry. But after the hunting ground episode, it was believed that Ten Thousand Demons Ridge would spare no effort to track his movements and devise ways to kill him again.

His future circumstances on the Cloud River battlefield might not be as peaceful as before.

Feng Yuechan advised on the side, "Strength grows little by little. Don't be too hasty. Compared to others, our cultivation has already improved very quickly."

"What Senior Sister Feng says makes sense," Lu Ye replied.

Lu Ye invited them to take a seat and had Yiyi serve tea. Then he took out the 6 spirit fortune sticks and pushed them toward the two, "This is the portion for Senior Brother and Senior Sister Feng. I have already used mine."

Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan did not refuse and each took 3 spirit fortune sticks to keep.

With these gold-hued spirit fortune sticks, they could ascend to the Level 5 realm in a short time. The speed of this cultivation increase could not be said to be slow. And with their Level 5 realm cultivation, even if they encountered someone of the Level 7 realm in the future, that person might not necessarily be their opponent.

Lu Ye then took out a spirit beast sack and extracted the plump, white Class A Spring Spirit.

"So this is a Class A Spring Spirit?" Aside from Lu Ye, it was the first time for everyone present to see this, and they couldn't help being curious.

Yiyi approached and even poked it, causing the Class A Spring Spirit to suddenly curl up.

"It's still alive?" Feng Yuechan was astonished.

"Should we use this spring spirit ourselves or sell it, what do you think, Senior Brother?" Lu Ye asked.

After a moment of contemplation, Li Baxian spoke, "Certainly there would be no difficulty selling it, but ordinary items are not of much use to us. As for trading with spirit fortune sticks, we are also unclear about the value of such a Class A Spring Spirit, and furthermore, others may not be able to gather enough spirit fortune sticks in a short time. Currently, we are all at the Level 4 realm, and we will reside in the Cloud River battlefield for a long time. If we could have a Class A Spirit Ground, our cultivation would be more efficient."

Lu Ye nodded, "That's what I was thinking, too."

Instead of selling the Class A Spring Spirit for some spirit fortune sticks, it really would be better to use it oneself.

Moreover, even if they were to advance to True Lake and leave the Cloud River battlefield, the Class A Spirit Ground they leave behind could also be passed on to the disciples of their own sects.

In the Cloud River battlefield, there are many such spirit grounds that have been handed down from generation to generation, each belonging exclusively to a sect.

"But if we really intend to use it ourselves, there are some problems we need to address, with the most significant issue being the location of the spirit ground," Li Baxian slowly began.

With a Class A Spring Spirit, as long as one is in the Cloud River battlefield, any location chosen could create a Class A Spirit Ground. But if the location is not well chosen, it will inevitably lead to endless troubles in the future.

First and foremost, it must be sufficiently concealed.

But to the high-level cultivators in the Cloud River Realm, where in the entire Cloud River battlefield could be considered especially hidden? Unless it's in forbidden lands that cultivators are reluctant to tread, environments similar to the Ten Thousand Poisons Forest or the Land of Fiery Flames of the Spirit Stream battlefield.

Even with Lu Ye's array setup, it would not guarantee much. Before, Lu Ye still set up a formation before leaving that Class C Spirit Ground, but in the end, it was still broken through by others, and even the spring spirit was plundered away.

Chapter 556 Great Wilderness Mountain

Therefore, for Lu Ye and the others, if they really intended to use the Class A Spring Spirit themselves, the first issue to resolve was the selection of the spirit ground.

After all, their cultivation was not high, and with their level of cultivation, occupying a Class C spirit ground wouldn't be too problematic or likely to attract covetous eyes. However, if it was a Class A spirit ground, the situation would be different.

Once discovered by outsiders, it could potentially cause some trouble.

Moreover, no matter who among the three, their identities were all highly sensitive, and they were precisely the individuals that the forces of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge were trying to eliminate. Once the possession of a spirit ground by the trio was exposed, it would inevitably lead to a large number of cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge besieging them. By then, not to mention keeping the spirit ground, even their safety would be at risk.

"I'll figure out a solution for the site selection," Li Baxian pondered briefly. As he had been in the Cloud River battlefield longer than Lu Ye and had better connections, it was most appropriate for him to handle this matter.

"Thank you for your efforts, Senior Brother."

Feng Yuechan said, "This Class A Spring Spirit should be able to create a small spirit ground. Even though it's small, it can accommodate five people. We currently have only four, so if Junior Brother Lu has a suitable candidate, he could bring them in, to avoid wasting a spot."

"As for the candidate, I do have one person in mind." He turned to look at Li Baxian, "Senior Brother, do you still remember Giant Armor?"

Feng Yuechan had not met Giant Armor, but Li Baxian had, although they had not interacted much. After pondering a moment, he recalled, "That physique cultivator?"

"Exactly. He arrived at the Cloud River battlefield a few months before me. I was planning to look for him before the hunt, but I was delayed because of the hunt matters, and up until now, I haven't been able to meet up with him."

Li Baxian nodded, "His constitution seems a bit extraordinary. Junior Brother has a good eye. In that case, ask him to come and join us, with him we will have exactly five."

And in a group of five, with one warrior, one soldier, one swordsman, and two mages, such an arrangement was also very reasonable. Even if they encountered any trouble in the future, they could handle it together.

Lu Ye sighed, "Giant Armor seems to have some difficulty with directions. I had asked him to meet me, but he got lost in a deep mountain forest. I told him to wait there for me, so I will need to go and look for him."

Li Baxian couldn't help but laugh wryly, "There's still such a matter..."

It was hard to imagine that someone as big as Giant Armor could also get lost in the Cloud River battlefield, but there are always individuals with a unique nature who cannot be judged by usual standards.

"Then let Junior Brother Lu go look for Brother Giant Armor first. It's perfect because Senior Brother and I will cultivate with the spirit fortune sticks here. Once we figure out a location for the Spring Spirit, we will contact you."

"That would be very good." Lu Ye nodded in agreement.

With the matter settled, Lu Ye did not delay. Giant Armor had already been waiting for him for nearly two months, and he wondered if he was getting anxious.

Moments later, in front of the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, Lu Ye stepped out and launched his Flying Spirit Artifact into the sky, rushing toward the position previously given by Giant Armor.

Checking the ten-part map, Giant Armor's current location was within a mountain range known as the Great Wilderness Mountain. According to the map, this area of Great Wilderness Mountain was very extensive, and the core region was prominently marked with the word "Overlord."

This implied that an Overlord-class demon beast resided in the deepest parts of Great Wilderness Mountain.

Overlord is not a realm but a title, a designation for strength that has reached the pinnacle.

The strength of an Overlord-class demon beast in the Spirit Stream battlefield had reached the limit that the Spirit Stream battlefield could accommodate.

The same was true for the Overlords in the Cloud River battlefield, achieving the limit that the Cloud River battlefield could accommodate.

The strength of the two was distinctly different because their realms were not the same.

Generally, where Overlord-class demon beasts reside, it is fundamentally a no-go zone for cultivators; no cultivator would dare to intrude into the territory of an Overlord-class demon beast unless they were tired of living.

This was also the reason why Lu Ye, as a cultivator, was able to establish a dominant position in Ten Thousand Demons Ridge after that and caused a great psychological shock to all the big sects of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge.

Since ancient times, there had been no cultivator on the Spirit Stream battlefield who had achieved such a feat, not even Feng Yuechan, who had topped the Spirit Luster List for more than a decade.

Having an Overlord-class demon beast at the core of Great Wilderness Mountain undoubtedly indicated that this was not a benevolent place. Such deep, old forests harbored numerous demon beasts, and the deeper one went into the wilderness, the more fraught with peril it became.

Great Wilderness Mountain was not close; even with Lu Ye's current speed, it would take at least ten days to arrive at the earliest.

Fortunately, he was accompanied by Yiyi and Amber along the way, making the journey somewhat less dull, and they took turns controlling their artifacts, allowing them to travel day and night and shorten the time by about half.

As they swept through the air, experiencing the unique scenery of the Cloud River battlefield, their journey was uneventful.

They occasionally encountered other cultivators, most of whom did not interfere with each other. A few, relying on their high cultivation or numerical superiority, looked for trouble, but Lu Ye managed to avoid them in advance or escape using his wings and Flying Spirit Artifacts.

With his current Level 4 cultivation, as long as he wasn't relentlessly pursued by any Level 8-9 powerhouses, he generally wouldn't face any danger.

On the Cloud River battlefield, there were quite a few cultivators at Level 8-9, but no one would chase after a cultivator of unknown allegiance without good reason.

During his journey, Lu Ye didn't forget to consume elixir pills to aid his cultivation.

Six days passed in a flash, and a travel-weary Lu Ye entered the Great Wilderness Mountain and made contact with Giant Armor again to confirm his current exact location.

Comparing the ten-part map, Lu Ye raised his eyebrows.

Giant Armor was quite bold, not located at the periphery of the Great Wilderness Mountain but rather deeper within. Staying there for so long, it was uncertain whether he had encountered any dangers.

However, the guy was physically unique, tough-skinned and thick-fleshed, so his ability to protect himself was something Lu Ye couldn't match; hence there generally wasn't a need to worry about his safety.

There were quite a few cultivators appearing in the Great Wilderness Mountain, mostly in groups and seldom alone.

This place was a paradise for demon beasts. On the entire Cloud River battlefield, there were seven or eight places like the Great Wilderness Mountain where large numbers of demon beasts gathered; such places naturally attracted cultivators.

Cultivators could hunt demon beasts here and gather some heavenly materials and earthly treasures to exchange for cultivation resources they needed. Although cultivators from big sects received a monthly stipend, it generally wasn't enough to satisfy the needs of their cultivation.

The reason for this was not entirely due to the stinginess of the sects but more so by design.

If the stipend provided by the sect was sufficient to meet the cultivators' needs, there would be no need for them to gain experience through adventures, which wouldn't be beneficial for their personal growth.

Thus, no matter how prosperous the sect, the stipends given to their disciples were never enough to meet all their needs. The stronger the sect, the more this held true, to ensure that the disciples developed the habit of relying on themselves for everything.

Lu Ye, however, had enough cultivation resources. Even if he didn't enter the Cloud River battlefield and just stayed within his sect consuming elixir pills to cultivate, he could still improve his cultivation.

But such growth wasn't very significant. A cultivator only becomes truly powerful by constantly facing various trials and combats; merely increasing cultivation without corresponding combat capabilities would ultimately result in a facade.

Lu Ye had only been in the Great Wilderness Mountain for half a day when he felt several aftereffects of battles, indicating some cultivators were currently engaging with demon beasts.

He watched from a distance at one of the battlefields and found those cultivators had a well-coordinated division of labor—some were on guard, some were fighting head-on, and some attacked from the shadows. With such teamwork, as long as they chose the right opponents, they could finish the battle quickly and then take some spoils of war.

Along the way, he occasionally encountered a few lone demon beasts, not very strong. Lu Ye, along with Yiyi and Amber, easily killed them.

He collected the beast blood, demonic pills, and some other useful items from the demon beasts for future needs.

While at the Spirit Stream Realm, Lu Ye had also killed some demon beasts, but the items from those beasts were not of high value and he didn't bother collecting them.

However, it was different in the Cloud River Realm. At least, the demon beasts in the Cloud River Realm had demonic pills, which were Amber's favorite delicacy.

When he had left the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, he had even spent nearly ten thousand merit points to buy a batch of demonic pills to put in Amber's storage sack as snacks.

Moreover, the blood of demon beasts could be used for the Rune Tattoo Path.

As for the other miscellaneous materials, some could be used in Alchemy, and some in Artifact Refining. It all depended on who could make different uses of them.

The deeper he went into the interior, the stronger the demon beasts he encountered. Conversely, the fewer the appearances of cultivators became.

If one said that any cultivator of the Cloud River Realm could enter the outermost parts of the Great Wilderness Mountain for training, then in the place where Lu Ye currently was, without being at least Level 5-6 of Cloud River Realm, it was hard to guarantee one's safety.

In this area, Lu Ye dared not fly recklessly in mid-air. This damned place had many avian-type demon beasts, and encountering them in the sky could hardly end well.

He truly couldn't understand why Giant Armor, just by getting lost, had ended up in such deep mountain and old forests. When he found him, he really needed to educate him to avoid carelessly wandering into such dangerous places in the future.

As night fell, Lu Ye was about to find a hidden spot to rest and recuperate when he suddenly felt something and looked toward a certain direction.

It seemed there were some voices coming from there, the sound of people talking, and not just a few.

After a brief hesitation, he stuffed Amber into the spirit beast sack and enhanced himself with Concealment Spirit Runes, quietly moving toward that direction.

In a short while, a clearing came into view. There were at least thirty to forty cultivators gathered there, some alone, some in groups of three to five. It was unclear what they were doing there.

However, seeing many of them meditating to conserve energy, it seemed they were about to embark on some important action.

So many people gathering clearly were not from the same sect or even the same faction, and some of them obviously had injuries.

Chapter 557 The Birth of an Exotic Treasure?

On the perimeter of the clearing, Lu Ye hid himself and lay in wait, silently observing.

He still couldn't figure out what these people were gathered here for, nor did he know their origins, so of course, it wasn't good to reveal himself.

However, one after another, more cultivators arrived from all directions, entering the clearing.

Seeing this, Lu Ye pondered for a moment, then simply dispelled his concealment and strolled forward nonchalantly.

A few glances came his way, but they were quickly redirected elsewhere.

With a mask adorning his face, concealing his appearance, and Amber already tucked away into his spirit beast sack, even if someone thought he was a bit suspicious, they wouldn't think much of it.

Not every cultivator liked to act this way, but there were still quite a few who walked the battlefield wearing masks.

He leisurely found a corner to sit down cross-legged in, adopting an attitude of being at ease now that he was here, while silently keeping an eye on his surroundings.

Soon, he picked up bits and pieces of information from snippets of conversation. The talks weren't specific, but he vaguely deduced that somewhere nearby, some exotic treasure had appeared. On nights with moonlight, strange phenomena would occur, and all these people were gathered here to compete for the treasure.

Unfortunately, the area where the treasure appeared was extremely dangerous, with a large number of powerful demon beasts gathering around. So even after many days of effort, no one had yet managed to find out exactly what that treasure was.

Lu Ye had heard of treasures appearing before; this too was a kind of opportunity. However, treasures that could generate phenomena were rare. Normally, such objects were extremely precious, which explained why they attracted so many cultivators.

This was only what Lu Ye had seen. There might be even more cultivators converging here out of his sight.

Having figured out why these people were gathered here, Lu Ye suddenly lost interest.

He had come here only to look for Giant Armor. Although treasures were good, with so many people having spent many days without success, he didn't think he had any particular chance.

Thinking this, Lu Ye was about to leave.

However, just at that moment, a low shout came, "It's starting!"

At this word, the cultivators gathered here all stood up and soared into the sky, gazing together in a certain direction.

Following their gaze, Lu Ye saw at the end of his vision, atop a spirit mountaintop, moonlight poured down like a column from the sky. The entire peak was enveloped in a vast and hazy moonlight, giving it an air of holiness.

"A natural phenomenon, truly a sign of a treasure's birth!" someone whispered with a tone of delighted surprise.

Such treasures that could produce phenomena were extraordinary. If a Cloud River Realm cultivator obtained it, even if they could not use it themselves, selling it could bring a large amount of cultivation resources.

"This treasure must have a great attraction for demon beasts. In the past few days, every night with moonlight, a large number of them have gathered there, fighting each other to death. It seems tonight will be the same."

"Unfortunately, so far no one has been able to see clearly what the treasure is. Instead, many have fallen over there. Everyone, when we act, we must cooperate sincerely. At the very least, we need to figure out what that object is."

"What this Fellow Daoist says is true."

Conversation after conversation reached Lu Ye's ears as he stared fixedly at the phenomenon of the moonlight slanting. His brows furrowed.

This scene... why does it look somewhat familiar?

He couldn't help but recall the time back at Tianyan Sect when Amber and Giant Armor were cultivating under the moon. Comparatively, the scene before him was even more magnificent than back then.

A dreadful suspicion suddenly rose in Lu Ye's heart...

With that thought, he instantly sent a message to Giant Armor.

Soon after receiving a reply from Giant Armor, Lu Ye thought for a moment and gave him an instruction.

The next moment, atop the mountain where the moonlight was pouring, all sorts of phenomena suddenly converged, vanishing without a trace.

A twitch flashed at the corner of Lu Ye's eye, and he instantly understood that he was right; these weren't signs of a treasure's birth, but Giant Armor was cultivating!

A Cloud River Realm cultivator's practice causing such a commotion, drawing so many cultivators to investigate, was indeed unprecedented.

As Lu Ye was inwardly ranting, the disappearance of the phenomena also changed the expressions of the many cultivators.

"Has someone gotten it?"

Unless someone had laid hands on it, the phenomenon wouldn't have disappeared inexplicably.

With this thought expressed, the many cultivators grew anxious and hurried toward the direction of the spirit mountaintop.

Meanwhile, low growls and roars also came from the direction of the peak, accompanied by chaotic fluctuations of spirit force. Under the moonlight, many birds flew in the sky, with colorful lights beginning to bloom.

Even before the cultivators could join in, the demon beasts there had already started fighting due to the disappearance of the phenomena.

For many cultivators, such scenes were nothing new, as nearly every moonlit night, the demon beasts there would fight chaotically. Many powerful demon beasts had already died near that spirit mountaintop.

More howls of wolves rose, one after the other, gradually overpowering other beastly roars.

Lu Ye hovered in mid-air, gazing steadily in the direction of the spirit mountaintop. No trace of any cultivator could be seen around him for the moment, and he felt a headache coming on.

The phenomena came from Giant Armor's practice, not only attracting many cultivators but also causing countless demon beasts to fight endlessly over there. One could imagine just how chaotic the scene was.

Giant Armor's situation was naturally not too good.

Lu Ye, after a brief moment of contemplation, flashed his body and flew towards that direction.

However, before he could get close, a huge shadow descended from the sky, accompanied by a thunderbolt-like lightning strike that plunged down like a Wandering Dragon.

This was surprisingly a Storm Thunder Eagle, and judging by the might of its attack, it was certainly a demon beast equivalent to the Cloud River Level 8 Realm.

Facing such a fierce strike, Lu Ye did not dare to withstand it directly. He immediately controlled the spirit ark to plummet downward while weaving left and right.

Yet the thunderbolt chased after him like a living creature, relentless in its pursuit.

Lu Ye awkwardly landed, and the Boulder Mountain Saber roared out of its sheath, slashing towards the incoming lightning strike.

The massive impact caused Lu Ye's body to fly out at an angle, the force of the thunderbolt traveling through his body, numbing him all over.

Struggling to stabilize his form, the Thunder Eagle swooped down again. Lu Ye raised his hand and unleashed several streaks of saber light, briefly stalling the Thunder Eagle while he lunged to the side. A foul stench lingered at his nose as a large patch of grey mist flared up on the Talent Tree.

A gust of wind struck from behind, and Lu Ye hurriedly fell to the side. In his field of vision, a thick figure swept past in front of him.

This figure was astonishingly a venomous python that had been lurking nearby.

It had intended to launch a sneak attack on Lu Ye. Having missed, it opportunistically lunged at the Thunder Eagle instead.

The two massive demon beasts clashed in an instant, their cries and hisses unceasing. Moments later, the Thunder Eagle soared high into the sky, its Sharpness talons sunk into the python's flesh, while the python's body was coiled around the Thunder Eagle...

Leaving Lu Ye cold and sweating as he watched from his spot.

The scene was incredibly chaotic, with demon beasts of various species gathered here in a frenzied battle, joined by cultivators. Within about 30 miles of this area, it was sheer pandemonium.

Lu Ye had only advanced about three miles when he encountered several dangers, even witnessing a cultivator, who appeared to be of the Cloud River Level 7 Realm, being brutally killed by a bear-like demon beast that stood upright.

The manner of death was extremely tragic!

He could not venture further; this place was too dangerous. Even a cultivator of the Cloud River Level 9 Realm might not be able to ensure their own safety here.

No wonder he had heard other cultivators say that many days had passed, and to this day, no one had figured out what the emerging exotic treasure actually was.

This far from the spirit mountaintop where Giant Armor was cultivating, the cruelty was already unbearable. One could only imagine the situation closer to the spirit mountaintop.

To discern the nature of the emerging exotic treasure amidst such circumstances was as difficult as ascending to heaven.

Moreover, the cultivators' plans were doomed to fail because there was no exotic treasure emerging at all—there was only Giant Armor!

Lu Ye was very curious about how Giant Armor had managed to survive in such a chaotic scene. Did the demon beasts not attack him?

Even if Giant Armor had entered the Cloud River battlefield a few months earlier than him and even if there was some leftover power in his demonic pill, Giant Armor's cultivation level couldn't be too high.

But on second thought, perhaps the demon beasts really wouldn't attack Giant Armor. The phenomena brought about by Giant Armor's cultivation could benefit the demon beasts as well, which also explained why so many of them were gathered here.

Placing his hand on the battlefield marking, Lu Ye sent a message to Giant Armor and then quietly retreated towards the outskirts.

If Giant Armor had managed to stay safe here for nearly two months, then he would certainly be unharmed tonight. After daybreak, he would have him come to meet up.

He was currently nearby, so Giant Armor couldn't possibly still get lost.

Time passed, and the battle among the demon beasts continued. Most cultivators had retreated, as the phenomena had ceased, which meant the unknown treasure might have been taken by someone. In such a case, there was no reason for them to risk further adventure.

However, there were still cultivators with high skills and bold courage, taking advantage of the chaos to snatch treasures from the fire.

On a normal day, killing higher-level demon beasts was not easy, but here, there were opportunities to profit.

For instance, at this moment, Lu Ye was staring blankly ahead, feeling the whims of fate.

Not far in front of him, a huge figure was struggling frantically—the very Storm Thunder Eagle that had earlier attacked him.

The condition of the Thunder Eagle was clearly not good. It was entwined with a venomous python, and the ground was covered in splattered beast blood. The python lay motionless, most likely dead, but the

state of the Storm Thunder Eagle was not much better. Lu Ye could clearly sense its life force rapidly draining away, and its body was enveloped by a faint green aura.

This was obviously a sign of poisoning.

Lu Ye had not expected to encounter these two demon beasts as he withdrew in this direction.

After observing for a while and confirming that the Storm Thunder Eagle was at the end of its strength, Lu Ye immediately approached with his saber ready.

The killing intent alerted the struggling Thunder Eagle, whose sharp gaze swept over, exuding the majesty of a king even at the brink of death.

With the Boulder Mountain Saber unsheathed, Lu Ye advanced with his saber dragging behind him, easily evading several lightning strikes as thin as chopsticks that the Thunder Eagle launched at him. Leaping high into the air, his saber came slashing down.

The shrill cry of the eagle resounded as the Sharpness-edged saber struck through its head, and a gush of fresh blood shot towards the sky.

Chapter 558 Lu Ye Looks for Me

Two demon beasts, comparable to those from the Cloud River Level 8-9 realm, would be formidable opponents for Lu Ye individually, but at this moment, these two beasts had fought each other to one's death and the other's severe injury, filling Lu Ye with a sense of being mysteriously favored by Heaven's Augury.

He took out an empty water sack and collected beast blood, then proceeded to extract the demonic pills from the two beasts.

Each demonic pill was considerable in size, with the Thunder Eagle's pill entwined with threads of Thunderbolt power, while the venomous python's was a vivid green, clearly indicating potent toxicity.

After all, these were the essences of the demon beasts' cultivation, perfectly matching their inherent attributes.

The Thunder Eagle's demonic pill could be fed to Amber, and as for the venomous python's, it could be set aside for Hua Ci, who would likely appreciate it.

Next, Lu Ye collected some materials he deemed valuable, such as eagle claws, beaks, and feathers before dismembering the entire body of the venomous python, storing everything into his storage space and then made his exit with ease.

The flesh and blood of demon beasts were always greatly nourishing; physique cultivators needed to consume large quantities of it every day to enhance their blood Qi. Hence, regardless of the location, there was always a demand for it.

Snake meat, in particular, was a favorite of both Lu Ye and Amber. Ever since their first taste, they had been consistently craving it, and he wasn't about to pass up such an opportunity this time.

As Lu Ye moved away, the clamor behind him gradually subsided. He found a secluded spot, set up a formation, and lay in wait.

Time passed, and occasionally, cultivators and demon beasts could be seen flitting through the air or nearby, until chaos finally settled by daybreak.

Lu Ye sent a message to Giant Armor, asking him to come for a rendezvous.

Atop the spirit mountaintop, the towering figure of Giant Armor stood.

Hundreds of giant wolves gathered around him, many fixated on him, especially the lead wolf, significantly more robust and completely white compared to others, stood three meters in front of Giant Armor, slightly lowering its head as it looked down at him, its eyes filled with confusion.

After a night of bloody battles, many wolves were injured; now, they were quietly licking their wounds, while others dragged the bodies of other demon beasts to share with their mates, their mouths bloody from the feast.

The pack was very united, so no matter how many other demon beasts came, they were collectively repelled, which was a key reason they had dominated this spirit mountaintop recently.

But at this moment, the being they considered a Sacred Object not only had survived but also seemed about to leave, and how could the wolf pack agree to that?

They had been here for less than two months but had already personally experienced the benefits the Sacred Object brought to the tribe.

The mountain breeze brushed past as Giant Armor looked into the wolf's eyes with a helpless expression.

He had never realized there was so much excitement around him until last night when Lu Ye's message disturbed him. Amidst the surrounding chaos, he had felt bewildered, but knowing the situation was dire, he had wisely chosen not to act rashly, staying put with the wolf pack's protection, which kept other demon beasts and even cultivators away from this spirit mountaintop.

Now, Lu Ye had messaged him, being nearby, he decided it was time to meet up.

However, the lead wolf seemed reluctant to let him go, and though no words were exchanged, Giant Armor could sense what the lead wolf was thinking.

After a long stare, Giant Armor finally grumbled, "Lu Ye is calling for me!"

The lead wolf tilted its head, looking puzzled.

Despite having strength comparable to the Cloud River Level 9 realm and a decent understanding of human nature, these demon beasts lived deep in the forests, rarely interacting with cultivators, and could not comprehend human speech.

Giant Armor then demonstrated his intent by walking forward and pushing the lead wolf, grumbling, "Don't block my way."

With just a push, he made the lead wolf, which was even bigger than him, stagger back a few steps.

Passing the lead wolf, Giant Armor strode in a certain direction.

The surrounding wolves, whether healing or feasting on flesh, all stood and watched as the large figure prepared to leave, appearing somewhat at a loss.

Their tribe's Sacred Object was about to run away, and how could that be allowed?

A wolf's howl resonated, the head wolf took steps forward, catching up to Giant Armor, lifted its head, and gently nudged his back, sending Giant Armor flying high before landing securely on the wolf's back.

If the Sacred Object had to leave, it was difficult to prevent, so it decided to follow!

Perceiving the head wolf's thoughts, Giant Armor did not refuse, but instead pointed in a direction, "This way."

The lead wolf then stepped forward, its agile figure weaving through the woods.

Behind them, a large pack of giant wolves followed, causing a tremor across the land as they passed.

Dozens of miles away, in the area where Lu Ye was hiding, he had already released Amber from the spirit beast sack, while Yiyi lurked nearby on guard.

An incense stick's time later, Lu Ye suddenly felt something unusual, and hastily pressed his hand to the ground, furrowing his brow.

The ground was stirring, seemingly with many demon beasts galloping and running, creating such a noise that it undeniably indicated a large number of them.

And from the sound of it, they were getting closer...

In places fraught with danger, it's not wise to linger long.

Just then, a message arrived through the battlefield marking, and upon checking, he found it was from Yiyi.

"Lu Ye, Lu Ye, Giant Armor has brought a lot of giant wolves here!"

Lu Ye stared at the message, somewhat confused for a moment. What did she mean by 'brought a lot of giant wolves here'?

Just as he was about to ask for clarification, he already saw a snow-white figure rushing towards him in his field of vision.

Sitting upon the back of that snow-white figure was another tall figure.

Gazing at that tall figure, Lu Ye was slightly distracted, and Amber, crouching on Lu Ye's shoulder, also widened his tiger eyes in surprise, staring at this scene.

A moment later, the snow-white figure stopped ten meters away from Lu Ye, its wolfish eyes quietly staring at him, its supple fur fluttering in the wind.

Behind this figure, followed closely by no less than a hundred giant wolves.

Lu Ye finally understood what Yiyi meant—Giant Armor really did bring many giant wolves with him!

What was this situation? Lu Ye was momentarily unable to react. Giant Armor was only a physique cultivator, and it was never heard that he had beast-taming capabilities. How then could he mingle with so many giant wolves?

Moreover, looking at his stance now, this entire wolf pack seemed to follow his commands.

He couldn't help but recall the noises from last night and indeed heard intermittent howling of wolves. Now it seemed, it must have been this wolf pack making the noises.

What astonished him even more was the quality of this wolf pack.

The one carrying Giant Armor, presumably the alpha, must undoubtedly be a demon beast comparable to the Level 9 realm of Cloud River. The rest of the giant wolves, the fierce aura emanating from them, rarely was below the Level 4-5 realm, and Level 8-9 realm wolves were everywhere.

The combat power of such a wolf pack was simply terrifying beyond imagination.

After not seeing each other for almost half a year, Giant Armor was clearly very happy at this reunion. Even his usually stoic face had a trace of a smile as he dismounted from the alpha wolf and strode towards Lu Ye.

As he approached, his shadow covered Lu Ye.

Looking up at this giant, Lu Ye was surprised to discover that he had grown even taller. His simple clothes could not conceal his physique; the exposed skin shone with a bronze luster, as if cast from fine iron.

With hands like fans, he lifted one and patted Lu Ye's shoulder, pressing Lu Ye down slightly.

Giant Armor grinned without speaking, simply expressing the joy of reuniting after a long separation in a simple and honest manner.

Amber leapt from Lu Ye's shoulder onto Giant Armor's head and settled down adeptly.

Amidst the wild mountainous landscape, two figures, one tall and one short, stood facing each other with the tall figure's back shadowed by the quietly waiting snow-white giant wolves—an indescribably bizarre scene.

Lu Ye twisted his body, peered past the blockade of Giant Armor's figure, and looked at the wolves, lowering his voice to ask, "What's going on?"

For the time being, these giant wolves were brought by Giant Armor and had not shown any malice toward him or Giant Armor, but Lu Ye was still somewhat uneasy. How had Giant Armor subdued such a wolf pack in just half a year?

"They're following me," Giant Armor said with a helpless expression.

"Why?"

Giant Armor shook his head, indicating that he wasn't quite sure himself.

He had only been waiting for Lu Ye on that spirit mountaintop. A few days ago, as soon as he opened his eyes, he found a large group of giant wolves gathered around him. Today, when he decided to leave, the wolf pack followed, and he hadn't figured out why the wolves insisted on following him.

Seeing no clear answer from Giant Armor, Lu Ye gave up and said, "Then just come with me. I have arranged to meet with Fourth Senior Brother and Senior Sister Feng, let's go find them."

"Hmm," Giant Armor had no objections.

Lu Ye raised his hand and summoned his spirit ark, calling out to Yiyi who was lurking nearby. Yiyi appeared immediately, greeted Giant Armor, and then leaped onto the spirit ark.

Giant Armor also stepped onto the spirit ark.

However, just then, the snow-white figure charged like a gust of wind and slammed directly into the spirit ark, sending it tumbling away and causing Lu Ye and the others to land awkwardly.

The Boulder Mountain Saber was drawn, and Lu Ye warily watched the alpha wolf standing not far away. However, he soon sheathed his saber because, although the wolf had overturned the spirit ark, it didn't show a strong intention to attack. It seemed to only want to prevent them from leaving.

It wasn't stopping him, but Giant Armor!

The alpha wolf seemed reluctant to let Giant Armor leave.

Combining last night's experiences with what he saw now, Lu Ye vaguely had some guesses.

The phenomenons during Giant Armor's cultivation attracted so many demon beasts, undoubtedly proving that those phenomenons greatly benefited the demon beasts. If this wolf pack wanted to keep Giant Armor for this reason, it seemed plausible.

After a brief ponder, Lu Ye spoke, "Yiyi, try communicating with them and ask what exactly they want."

Yiyi nodded, "Okay."

Yiyi alone naturally couldn't communicate with demon beasts, but with Amber's help, it could be done.

Amber jumped down from Giant Armor's head, shook its body, its Demon Origin surging, revealed its true form, and walked with an imposing stride towards the alpha wolf.

Subsequently, Lu Ye saw a scene that baffled him.

Amber and the alpha wolf growled and howled at each other, managing to communicate for about the duration of one incense stick's time, before turning and walking back.

Yiyi stood beside Lu Ye, perceiving Amber's thoughts, and understood, "They don't want to let Giant Armor leave. They want him to stay, and the alpha wolf even said, 'Giant Armor is their Sacred Object.'"

Chapter 559 Great Reversal Valley

"A Sacred Object?" Lu Ye frowned.

"That's the rough idea, it can also be interpreted as a totem," Yiyi continued to explain, "They have followed Giant Armor for a very long time, and since Giant Armor can help enhance the strength of their pack, they won't let Giant Armor leave... The alpha wolf also said we're free to go, they won't stop us."

If Lu Ye couldn't bring Giant Armor to meet up with his fourth senior brother and Feng Yuechan, then what was the purpose of his coming here?

He could forcibly leave, of course. With his and Giant Armor's current cultivation, even without using the Flying Spirit Artifacts, they could still travel through air. From the looks of it, this pack of demon wolves didn't possess the power to fly, so they wouldn't be able to catch up to them.

But with the demon beasts' power reaching such levels, even without the ability to fly, they still had means to attack enemies in the air. If he acted rashly and angered them, it was not certain he could escape unscathed.

It was a bit troublesome.

Sensing Lu Ye's thoughts, the alpha wolf suddenly let out a howl, and Amber responded with a defiant roar. In the next instant, the demon origin on the bodies of the hundreds of giant wolves surged up, and a piercing killing intent enveloped the area.

Lu Ye immediately felt a prickling sensation on his skin and raised his hand to rest on the Boulder Mountain Saber.

In that tense moment, Giant Armor suddenly raised its palm large as a fan and slapped it down on the head of the alpha wolf, causing it to stagger.

"Behave yourself!"

The alpha wolf shook its head, and its ferocious gaze quickly subsided. The savage nature of the hundreds of giant wolves also quickly retreated, becoming harmless to humans and animals alike.

Lu Ye watched in amazement.

From the current situation, Giant Armor indeed had an unparalleled status in the eyes of this wolf pack. Even as the alpha wolf got hit, it showed no sign of anger, which was not the usual reaction of a demon beast.

It seemed that Giant Armor didn't know the Path of Beast Taming and had never commanded these demon wolves, but the benefits he had brought to the pack during this time had given him the leverage to control the entire wolf pack.

The alpha wolf, with its head lowered, glanced at Giant Armor, then at Lu Ye, and let out a few low growls in its throat.

Yiyi immediately said, "It's saying that we can leave if we want to, but we should take them with us. They want to follow Giant Armor, and wherever Giant Armor goes, they will follow."

Lu Ye was somewhat amused yet exasperated, thinking how they were haggling now.

He had never expected that Giant Armor, such a sizable figure, would be clung to by a pack of demon beasts. Such an encounter was probably unprecedented in the entire history of the Cloud River battlefield.

If those from the beast-taming factions were to see this, they would surely be astounded by Giant Armor.

However, bringing such a wolf pack with them was clearly impractical. Demon beasts were of great value to cultivators, and taking them out of here would only invite numerous troubles.

But the wolves had already made their offer, and if he didn't agree to take the whole pack with him, they definitely wouldn't let Giant Armor leave. Following Giant Armor was their greatest compromise.

If he tried to leave by force, the wolf pack wouldn't attack Giant Armor but would come after him instead. Despite the alpha wolf's docile and submissive behavior in front of Giant Armor, it was only reserved for Giant Armor alone.

Lu Ye frowned; things were getting complicated.

Leave Giant Armor behind? With such a wolf pack as guardians, Giant Armor would indeed face little danger in his daily life and could thrive in the Great Wilderness Mountain.

But the issue was the anomalies produced during Giant Armor's cultivation, which had already attracted so many cultivators and a large gathering of demon beasts. Even though they had safely passed so many days, mishaps could happen at any time.

As thoughts churned in his mind, Lu Ye suddenly realized something.

The reason he wanted to take Giant Armor away was to meet up with his fourth senior brother and Feng Yuechan, and then find a suitable location for establishing a Class A Spirit Ground. It was his senior brother's responsibility to choose the location for the spirit ground, and they had not contacted him for several days, obviously still searching.

Finding a suitable location was not easy; first, it had to be sufficiently concealed, and second, it needed strategic advantages...

Perhaps the Great Wilderness Mountain was a good choice?

It was a natural fortress, teeming with powerful demon beasts. While many cultivators came here to slay the demon beasts, they would never venture too deep. So as long as the chosen spot was deep enough, the spirit ground could minimize the risk of being discovered by cultivators.

And if the wolf pack insisted on following Giant Armor, then they were the spirit ground's natural guardians. With such a powerful force behind them, even if they ventured deeper into the Great Wilderness Mountain, they could protect themselves against the vast majority of threats.

So... there might be no need to take Giant Armor away. Setting up the spirit ground deep in the Great Wilderness Mountain seemed like a better choice!

Realizing this, Lu Ye's mind suddenly cleared, as if he had emerged from darkness into the light.

Looking up, the huge wolves, the size of young calves, seemed much more pleasing to the eye.

Of course, all this hinged on the wolf pack's loyalty to Giant Armor. Without sufficient loyalty, having such a pack around would give no one a sense of security.

However, from the current situation, the wolf pack's loyalty to Giant Armor didn't seem to be a problem, since they still depended on his cultivation to enhance the strength of their pack.

"Amber, ask it to find us a quiet and safe location," Lu Ye said.

Amber growled softly at the alpha wolf, which responded intermittently and then looked up at Lu Ye, its wolf eyes filled with almost human-like expressions.

After a while, the alpha wolf turned, lowered its head to nudge Giant Armor onto its back, and started striding towards the depths of the forest.

Hundreds of giant wolves closely followed behind.

Lu Ye also climbed aboard the tiger's back, and with a few swift steps, Amber sprinted to the side of the lead wolf, matching its pace.

Racing along, they continuously delved into the depths of Great Wilderness Mountain, with Lu Ye pulling out the ten-part map for reference.

The area they were now in was already considered deep within Great Wilderness Mountain. The demon beasts that lurked here were generally not weak. Any cultivators passing through this area in normal times would be ill at ease, never knowing when a hidden demon beast might launch an attack.

However, none of the demon beasts dared to show their heads and provoke them as the wolf pack passed by.

Lu Ye even saw a demon beast with a powerful presence avoiding the wolves' path, and only after the wolves had passed did it symbolically roar a few times, seemingly venting its dissatisfaction at the intrusion into its territory.

After half a day, the wolf pack stopped in a mountain valley.

The valley was picturesque, with colorful flowers vying for beauty, and the constant chirping of birds and insects.

The valley was quite large, with mountains on three sides. One side backed onto a cliff, from the top of which a waterfall poured down, its thunderous sounds unceasing. Looking up, the spray of the waterfall, illuminated by the light, reflected a rainbow of colors.

Beneath the waterfall flowed a river, beside which many wild animals were drinking.

"How beautiful!" Standing atop Amber's head, Yiyi gazed entranced at the waterfall and the rainbow.

Very few knew that within the precarious Great Wilderness Mountain there lay such a hidden paradise.

Lu Ye examined the ten-part map; this place was marked as Great Reversal Valley.

Using weapon control, he flew around the valley, saw no traces of demon beasts.

It was a wonderful place, not just for its beautiful scenery and pleasant environment, but also for its natural barriers. Should Giant Armor continue cultivating here in the future, even if some anomalies arose, they would likely be obscured by the valley's surrounding barriers without causing too much disturbance.

"Lu Ye, Lu Ye," Yiyi called out excitedly, "let's choose this place for the spirit ground, shall we?"

Clearly, she had this idea too.

Lu Ye nodded, "I'll message Fourth Senior Brother."

Raising his hand and touching the battlefield marking, a message was sent out, "Fourth Senior Brother, have you found any leads on the spirit ground?"

Li Baxian responded promptly, "Don't rush, Little Junior Brother, I am still searching."

"I have found a suitable place here."

"Oh? Little Junior Brother has found one? Where is it?"

"Great Wilderness Mountain, Great Reversal Valley."

After waiting a moment, Li Baxian did not respond, presumably checking his own ten-part map for the precise location of Great Reversal Valley.

Quite a while later, Li Baxian finally sent a message back, "Little Junior Brother, that location is too deep into Great Wilderness Mountain, it's not safe. If we really were to set up the spirit ground there, it might reduce the risk of being discovered by others, but the demon beasts there are not to be trifled with."

"The situation is a bit complicated. Brother and Senior Sister Feng should come over and meet with me first, then you'll understand."

"Alright." Li Baxian didn't ask too much. Since Lu Ye asked him to come and meet, he immediately set off with Feng Yuechan toward their location.

After ending the communication, Yiyi asked, "What did Fourth Senior Brother say?"

"They're on their way here, it should take a few days. Let's use this time to familiarize ourselves with the area and scout the surroundings to see if it's really suitable for setting up the spirit ground."

"Okay."

With a decision made, Lu Ye immediately took action. Although he had already circled the valley and found nothing unusual, caution was still necessary. After all, some demon beasts naturally excel at concealment, a skill even more formidable than the Path of Concealment practiced by ghost cultivators.

Giant Armor also joined in the scouting.

Worth mentioning, wherever he went, the wolf pack followed, especially the lead wolf, which kept its eyes on Giant Armor as if afraid he would run away.

After less than half a day, Lu Ye had thoroughly scouted the vicinity for about 30 miles and confirmed there were no dangers. Apart from some wild animals, there weren't any other powerful demon beasts around.

Night fell, and the full moon hung high in the sky.

The wolf pack gathered around Giant Armor, their eyes pleading, obviously waiting to cultivate with him.

However, Giant Armor was in no mood for cultivation as he sat next to Lu Ye by the campfire, staring at the sizzling, oily snake meat and swallowing saliva eagerly.

Ever since he had separated from Lu Ye, he had been exposed to the elements when eating and especially in the past two months, he had been in a state of seclusion and had gone a long time without satisfying his hunger.

Amber also sat nearby, devouring raw meat. A large piece of snake meat quickly disappeared into its stomach, and still not satisfied, it trotted over to Lu Ye and nudged him with its big head. Lu Ye then took out another piece of snake meat for it.

Soon, the snake meat was cooked, and Lu Ye and Giant Armor divided and ate it. Despite their vastly different sizes, when it came to eating, there wasn't much difference between them – even the bones were crunched loudly and swallowed whole.

Chapter 560 Is It Reliable?

Having eaten his fill, Lu Ye took out some materials from the storage space and began refining array banners with his spirit force.

In the hunting ground, he had hardly any array banners left to use, and since he would need to set up many array banners to establish a spirit ground here later, it was wise to start refining them in advance to be well-prepared.

At first, Giant Armor simply sat quietly to one side, savoring the delicious snake meat, but as time passed, he slowly closed his eyelids and entered a deep state of tranquility.

His breathing was imperceptible, and even his life force and aura were concealed to the extreme, as if he were a living dead.

A milky glow emanated from his large and towering figure, drawing down the moonlight from the heavens. In an instant, most of the valley was bathed in the hazy and majestic moonlight.

The wolves gathered around Giant Armor looked up together, greedily devouring the moonlight that fell from the sky, and even Amber, perched atop Giant Armor's head, assumed the same posture as the wolves.

Lu Ye stopped what he was doing and silently observed.

He was not sure why Giant Armor's cultivation could cause such a phenomenon, but one thing he was certain of was that this phenomenon was greatly beneficial to demon beasts, otherwise the wolf pack wouldn't cling to Giant Armor.

Amber had trained with Giant Armor before, and it indeed proved helpful.

It was rumored that demon beasts inherently had the ability to cultivate by swallowing the essence of the sun and the moon, but usually, such cultivation didn't create much of a disturbance, except in the case of Giant Armor, who was somewhat different.

After pondering, Lu Ye also gathered his mind and attempted to cultivate.

However, he soon gave up in frustration because it seemed there were no particular effects; the moonlight bathing his body was warm, but it did not enhance his strength.

The same was true for Yiyi.

In the end, they concluded that this method of cultivation was only suitable for demon beasts!

Without a doubt, Giant Armor was an exception.

After instructing Yiyi, Lu Ye stood up and soared into the sky with his spirit ark.

He wanted to see how far-reaching the phenomenon caused by Giant Armor's cultivation was. Although the valley was surrounded by mountains on three sides, which could conceal the phenomenon to a great extent, if the phenomenon was too noisy, it could still risk exposure. Then the demon beasts of the Great Wilderness Mountain would certainly gather here, leading to a lot of trouble, and if cultivators were also attracted, this place would no longer be suitable for establishing a spirit ground.

After an inspection, he found the situation to be okay.

Most of the phenomenon was hidden by the valley, and unless one was close enough, it would not be easy to detect.

If he set up a big array specifically for Giant Armor to conceal his nightly cultivation phenomenon, there should be no major issues.

Returning to his original spot, Lu Ye continued to refine array banners.

By dawn, he began working with Giant Armor and Yiyi to build dwellings.

Since they had decided to establish a spirit ground here, dwellings were naturally essential. Even though cultivators didn't require much in terms of living environment, they still needed a place to shelter from the wind and rain.

Constructing a few wooden houses was not a difficult task.

In this way, several days passed in a blur. The picturesque valley now had a few small wooden houses, and regarding formations, Lu Ye had only set up a big array to conceal Giant Armor's cultivation phenomenon at night; other preparations were still pending.

Everything had to wait for Li Baxian and the others to arrive and confirm that the spirit ground would be established here.

One day, as Lu Ye was refining array banners, he suddenly felt something and looked up in a certain direction. He saw two streaks of light entering his field of vision, rapidly approaching from afar.

Straining his ocular power, he recognized the figures within the light and stood up to greet them.

Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan had arrived!

Seeing Lu Ye's figure, they both flew toward him and soon met up. Lu Ye greeted them, "Fourth Senior Brother, Senior Sister Feng!"

Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan looked travel-worn and somewhat disheveled.

Although both had reached Cloud River Level 5 realm, they still encountered some difficulties on their way here. The Great Wilderness Mountain was teeming with demon beasts, and no matter where they came from, trouble was inevitable.

If it hadn't been for the many treasures Feng Yuechan possessed, just the two of them, with their cultivation alone, would have never been able to reach this place.

Even so, they had recently nearly been targeted by a powerful demon beast and had barely escaped.

Now seeing Lu Ye, Li Baxian finally breathed a sigh of relief, "Junior Brother, this place is really not easy to get to."

But precisely because it was not easy to get to, it was concealed enough.

Feng Yuechan was captivated by the picturesque scenery. She looked around and, upon seeing the many large demon wolves scattered about, her expression became serious. She tugged at Li Baxian's clothes and pointed forward, "Senior Brother, look."

Li Baxian looked up and his expression changed slightly, looking at Lu Ye with surprise and uncertainty, "What's going on?"

So many demon wolves gathered here clearly indicated a wolf pack, and what puzzled him was that his junior brother seemed to be coexisting peacefully with this wolf pack?

"Talking about it would be a long story," Lu Ye beckoned for Giant Armor to come over and introduced each other first.

Giant Armor greeted them gruffly, acknowledging the presence of Li Baxian and Feng Yuechan.

Feng Yuechan looked up at Giant Armor, who was two or three heads taller than herself, and despite having seen many robust physique cultivators, she couldn't help but think, "Extraordinary talent!"

Just the sight of Giant Armor's physique gave a strong sense of oppression, making it hard to imagine the terrifying strength hidden within his tower-like body.

Li Baxian had seen Giant Armor from a distance before but had never had a direct encounter, and at that time, Giant Armor's cultivation had been much lower than his. Now, seeing him again, the impression was entirely different, and even without clashing, Li Baxian could tell at a glance that Junior Brother Giant Armor was not going to be easy to deal with.

"The wolf pack was brought by Giant Armor. There are some phenomena during Giant Armor's cultivation that are very beneficial to the wolf pack, so they consider Giant Armor as a Sacred Object of their race and have a sort of dependent relationship with him," Lu Ye explained briefly.

"Dependent?" Li Baxian clicked his tongue in wonder and then realized, "Is this the complex situation you mentioned earlier?"

Lu Ye nodded.

Li Baxian didn't know what to say.

This situation was beyond 'a bit complex'; it was unheard of for a wolf pack to choose to depend on a cultivator, truly unimaginable.

"Is this reliable?" Li Baxian asked.

"For the time being, it is reliable. These past few days, the wolf pack hasn't shown any hostility towards me. They only want to cultivate alongside Giant Armor."

"And what are these phenomena? Why would they make a wolf pack follow Junior Brother Giant Armor?"

"Uh, you'll know come evening. It's a type of phenomenon that's very attractive to demon beasts. Many cultivators saw it before and thought an exotic treasure had appeared, causing quite a stir."

Li Baxian suppressed his doubts, nodded slightly, and then looked around the environment, saying, "This place is deep in the Great Wilderness Mountain, with excellent natural conditions and scenery, plus a natural barrier... If the wolf pack is reliable, it is indeed suitable for establishing a spirit ground. Junior Brother, you have a good eye."

Lu Ye shook his head, "This place was found by the wolf pack." He pointed to the largest demon wolf, "That's their leader; I usually communicate with it when there's something to deal with."

"Oh?" Li Baxian looked in the direction Lu Ye pointed and saw the head wolf looking this way, curiosity in its lupine eyes, seemingly confused as to why two more members of the human race had appeared.

But in the head wolf's mind, as long as the Sacred Object of the race, namely Giant Armor, remained, having more humans around didn't matter. So after a brief glance, the head wolf lowered its body and no longer paid attention to them.

"Do you think this place is suitable for establishing a spirit ground, Senior Brother?" asked Lu Ye.

"If the wolf pack is reliable, then it's suitable," Li Baxian replied. In settling a spirit ground here, the only issue they needed to consider was fending off demon beasts that might come to disturb them, and the beasts that appeared in such a place would certainly not be weak.

If the wolf pack was dependable, then they would be a natural barrier, and it was unlikely that many demon beasts would dare to provoke them.

"I want to know, what is the approximate strength of that head wolf? And what's the average strength of this wolf pack?" Li Baxian asked cautiously.

"Having observed them for a few days, the head wolf has the strength of Cloud River Level 9, and the pack's strength varies. There are those at Level 8-9, and also those at Level 2. Most are above Level 5, with only about thirty percent below that," Lu Ye responded, "I know what you're worried about, Senior Brother. I've considered this issue as well, but according to my observations these past few days, aside

from a strong dependence on cultivating with Giant Armor, the wolf pack has shown no other intentions."

"And what about Junior Brother Giant Armor?" Li Baxian asked further.

"Giant Armor is at Level 4."

His cultivation was equal to Lu Ye's at the moment.

He had entered the Cloud River battlefield a few months before Lu Ye, but when Giant Armor ascended to Cloud River, the power of the demonic pill within him had not been completely exhausted, so after ascending, he already had a certain foundation in cultivation.

Lu Ye's cultivation had advanced so quickly because he had obtained many spirit fortune sticks, but Giant Armor was different. His cultivation improvement came from the diligent practice during periods of solitude.

Back on the Spirit Stream battlefield, Lu Ye had realized that Giant Armor was someone who could endure loneliness. Apart from cultivating, his greatest pleasure was eating with Lu Ye. Beyond that, there was little else that interested him.

Lu Ye had met many people, and none lived as purely as Giant Armor did. It was precisely because he was so pure that, even through only hard work, his cultivation advanced very quickly.

Not to mention, Giant Armor's method of cultivation was more unique than anyone else's.

"Senior Brother, are you worried that Giant Armor isn't strong enough to suppress the wolf pack?" Lu Ye saw Li Baxian's concern.

Li Baxian nodded, "After all, demon beasts are still demon beasts, untamed by nature. Without enough power, it's difficult to subdue them."

His concern was natural—if one day the wolf pack suddenly went berserk and attacked them, none would have an easy time.

But such a guarantee was indeed difficult to provide.

As they spoke, Giant Armor, who had been standing bored on the side, suddenly looked up and made a strange sound in the direction of the head wolf. The sound was deep, akin to a wolf's howl but not quite similar.

The squatting head wolf immediately stood up and ran to Giant Armor, looking at him enquiringly.

Giant Armor raised his hand and patted its head a few times, creating a thumping sound.

Lu Ye and Li Baxian watched, their eyelids twitching.