

Old Gods 1111

Chapter 1111: Sword One's Smile

"Speaking of which, the Faceless Jade Venerable hasn't shown up for over half a year," Deng Yuxiang changed the topic.

"The Ran Sect is thriving; perhaps she wants to bide her time," Lu Ran analyzed.

Deng Yuxiang snorted, "I think she's nurturing a potential threat. During the battle on the third day of the third month, the Ran Sect fully absorbed the Northwest Gods and Demons, and many disciples within the sect became gods.

In recent months, Uncle Lu, Chen Jingjing, Cheng Li, and Cheng Yi have all become gods in succession.

The Yutang group has also made progress now."

Lu Ran did not respond immediately.

He had discussed this matter extensively with Jiang Ruyi.

The meticulous Fairy Jiang had even put forth a perspective to Lu Ran: Even if given the chance to invade the Human World, the Faceless Jade Venerable might not crush billions of people.

Upon first hearing this theory, Lu Ran was quite taken aback.

Jiang Ruyi gave an irrefutable reason: The last time the Faceless Jade Venerable destroyed the world, the gods and demons fled.

They embarked on a long journey of escape, eventually becoming exiles here.

This time, if the Faceless Jade Venerable again uproots and threatens the existence of gods and demons, they would flee again, seeking other means of survival.

In this process, many things would slip out of the Faceless Jade Venerable's control.

The Human World,

is the foundation of the gods and demons' existence.

Seen from another angle, the Human World is also a prison for gods and demons!

The Faceless Jade Venerable having suffered a loss, perhaps wants to capture all the divine and demonic beings here.

Therefore, the strategy of slowly nibbling away over the long years, like boiling a frog in warm water, is undoubtedly the optimal choice!

Jiang Ruyi believes this for two crucial reasons:

First, the Faceless Jade Venerable is eternally immortal!

Time holds no significance for her.

Second, the Faceless Jade Venerable possesses unparalleled strength, and she likely has enough confidence that no matter how the gods and demons develop, they cannot undermine her foundation.

She understands the limits of the gods and demons.

Lu Ran, however, is the only variable, a person who has never appeared before, someone capable of integrating countless skills into one.

But it seems... that's all there is.

No matter how Lu Ran absorbs various strengths, the so-called "various" are still just gods and demons.

No matter his immense abilities, Lu Ran cannot escape the framework of gods and demons.

Despite this, when Jiang Ruyi presented her viewpoint, she still expressed concern, thinking the Faceless Jade Venerable would do her utmost to eliminate Lu Ran, the variable.

As she hasn't made a move yet, and everything in the Great Xia Battle Zone is usual, it may be the Faceless Jade Venerable trying to lull Lu Ran into a false sense of security.

The opponent may be plotting something in secret, or patiently waiting for an opportunity to strike a fatal blow!

"You also handpicked soldiers and nurtured other gods."

"You let Hu Jiaojiao inherit the Poison Bee Divine Sculpture."

"You bestowed the Jun Lan and the Battle Horn Divine Sculpture upon Song Yu of the Feixian Hall and Jing Hong of the Demon Control Hall," Deng Yuxiang continued.

Lu Ran snapped back to reality, looking at the woman.

"Cong Long's team is still infiltrating various battle zones, ready to bring in powerful gods and demons at any time," Deng Yuxiang looked directly into Lu Ran's eyes. "We should continue advancing steadily, consistently growing stronger."

Lu Ran suddenly laughed, finally understanding what she meant.

The words were gentle, but the persuasion was unmistakable.

"What's funny," Deng Yuxiang slightly furrowed her brow.

Lu Ran looked at those eternally sharp eyes, shrugged, "You're my sharpest blade."

Deng Yuxiang squinted her eyes, "What, a blade can't remind you to proceed steadily?"

"Yes." Lu Ran conceded under those beautiful eyes, speaking softly, "I'm not steady enough... Yutang is about to come online, so save some fire to teach him a lesson."

Deng Yuxiang: ?

"Ahem, well, you train my dad well, I'll head back to the battlefield first."

Saying this, Lu Ran weighed the Venerable Slayer Blade in his hand, "When I was just facing the patriarch, the blade trembled twice, felt a bit off-balance."

"Oh?" Deng Yuxiang was quite surprised, her attention indeed diverted.

Lu Ran looked troubled, "It's meant to kill the Faceless Jade Venerable specifically, but after three months of trying, it hasn't reacted."

Not sure what's going on, but just once when I faced my dad, it responded..."

Deng Yuxiang pondered, "The Soldier Spirit needs to be led by its master; recall your mental state during the battle."

Lu Ran reflected and admitted sheepishly, "I was a bit hesitant inside, felt it was disrespectful to my father, against natural law and human ethics."

But Lu Ran knew clearly what he was doing and naturally overcame the psychological barrier.

Of course, the fierce facade of his father helped Lu Ran a lot...

Deng Yuxiang commented, "Defying the superior."

"Pretty close." Lu Ran nodded.

"Hold onto that mindset." Deng Yuxiang, as a top Swordman, immediately provided insight, "When you return to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, don't regard the Faceless Jade Venerable as a minion.

Consider them as part of the original entity.

For you, the Faceless Jade Venerable is the absolutely dominant force, a superior being above the gods and demons."

"Makes sense!" Lu Ran's eyes lit up.

The more he thought about it, the more tempted he felt.

"What an excellent Big Nightmare, truly a standout among blades!" Lu Ran looked at the radiant woman and immediately started praising.

"Hmph." Deng Yuxiang snorted lightly, turning her gaze to the distant battlefield.

She still maintained a cold face, yet her mouth couldn't help but lift slightly, forming a barely noticeable curve.

However, Lu Ran had keen eyes.

He found the curve at her lip beautiful.

Despite feeling a bit happy, she insisted on keeping a straight face.

A bit awkward.

But also quite amusing~

Lu Ran hefted the Venerable Slayer Blade, looking towards his father's blood-soaked figure: [Dad, I'm off now.]

Chapter 1112: Sword One's Smile (Part 2)

[Hmm.] Lu Xing responded with a sound, his sword technique still sharp and fierce.

Little did he expect, Lu Ran transmitted a message again: [Stay in good condition, Dad, once the Nightmare thinks you're ready, I'll take you to find Mom.]

Lu Xing's movements became stiff.

His heart was in chaos, and so was his sword.

In front of a Nightmare Minion, if you dare to be the slightest bit distracted, it's a death sentence.

Thus, Lu Ran's stats changed to 7-0-1.

Originally just seven kills and zero deaths, now he had to add an assist...

The giant shadow of the Evil God stretched out again, Lu Xing's gaze enveloped him.

"Uh." Lu Ran scratched his head awkwardly, "I'm off, see you~"

With that, he fled quickly, his figure disappearing without a trace.

It seems that Father still cares about Mother; otherwise, he wouldn't be so unsettled.

One wonders, when that icy woman, standing at the top of the Human Clan, sees her resurrected ex-husband, will she be moved?

Lu Ran thought secretly, carrying the guiding thoughts of the Big Nightmare, returning to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

The effect was truly remarkable!

In just a few days of fierce fighting, the Venerable Slayer Blade trembled several times.

However, one thing slightly delayed Lu Ran's plan to nurture the blade, on the ninth day of the ninth month, two young gods were welcomed to Immortal Mo Divine Mountain!

The Deng Yutang holding the double divine positions of Red Cloth - Ghost General!

Though only holding a single divine position, Guan Yiren, who possesses the skills of both the Sky Phoenix - Paper Simurgh!

As a second-class God Demon, the Sky Phoenix - Paper Simurgh is the most powerful healer within the Great Xia Divine Demon System.

Of course, Lu Ran had to keep a trick up his sleeve!

The Evil Paper Simurgh Sculpture in the garden had taken the divine position of the Sky Phoenix, allowing it to possess both skills and remain in the Sculpture Garden forever, serving only Lu Ran in the future.

"Sect Leader."

"Sect Leader, Lady." The two divine beings stood before the Lady of the Burning Gate, kneeling respectfully with bowed heads.

"Rise." Jiang Ruyi seemed to be in a good mood, looking up and down at her old classmates.

Deng Yutang stood up and saw the Goddess Sculpture: Tian Tian, who was secretly delighted behind the Lady.

Counting the small Lu Ran, the former Rain Alley's team was together again.

Well... the original version.

After all, the team had undergone an adjustment and added new member Chang Ying.

Chang Ying is not on Immortal Mo Divine Mountain; she replaced the previous Spiritual Fortune position and is now personally leading a Divine Mountain at the northwest front of the battlefield.

"Quickly adjust your condition, this is a battlefield." Jiang Ruyi said softly, then arranged, "Yutang, go to the northwest front, under Chang Ying's command. I've already notified the Blazing Blood Colt; it will be your mount."

Deng Yutang's heart trembled.

To ride... ride a divine being?

Although the Blazing Blood Colt is an eighth-rank god, it is indeed a god.

"Young Master Deng, just follow the orders." On the fingertips of the Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture, Lu Ran said with a smile.

"Yes!" Deng Yutang immediately replied.

The Burning Gate has two warhorses; one is Blazing Blood, the other is Liu Huo, who took the divine position of the Evil God Black Fire Colt.

The Liu Huo guard can't possibly serve as a mount for the Young Master of the Deng family!

She belongs only to the Martial Emperor!

Even Lu Ran wouldn't dare touch it.

"Yiren, you will stay by my side from now on." Jiang Ruyi looked at the woman similar to herself in type.

Once a believer in Sword One, Guan Yiren is also of a cold demeanor.

But now, there's already an essential difference between their temperaments.

Both are cold beauties; the Lady of Burning Gate has already stepped up, being the leader of the Da Xia Gods and Demons, undeniably the Empress.

"Yes, Lady." Guan Yiren bowed her head slightly and moved her lips.

"What, unwilling?" Jiang Ruyi's voice turned cold.

"No." Guan Yiren quickly shook her head, her hand resting on the hilt at her waist, "This subordinate has found the Divine Weapon that hinders her Heavenly Incline Sword."

"Which direction?"

"Northeast." Guan Yiren immediately responded.

The Immortal Mo Divine Mountain is located in the southwest of the battlefield; there are many Divine Mountains in the northeast direction.

Lu Ran's expression was odd: "Could it be my mother's Divine Weapon?"

He then briefly described the Divine Weapon Domains of the Dragon Abyss Sword and the Heavenly Blade.

The Cloud Sea Dust Clearing Sword needn't be counted, as Lu Ran always carried it in the Mountain Realm, and Guan Yiren had seen it for herself.

"It shouldn't be." Guan Yiren analyzed the effects of the Divine Weapon Domain and slowly shook her head.

"It's all among ourselves, we'll discuss it later." Jiang Ruyi said casually, "The ancient city of the Human World is ready for you both, with many followers waiting for the return of the Red Cloth and Sky Phoenix.

Tian Tian will explain the specifics of garrisoning a Divine Mountain to you.

...

"After understanding everything, the Sect Leader will guide you to descend to the Human World."

Lu Ran immediately said, "You two, go learn quickly. Today is the Double Ninth Festival, an auspicious day; today we will establish a sect!"

"Yes!"

"Yes!" The two accepted the order and walked towards Tian Tian.

Meanwhile, in the northern part of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield-Sword One Divine Mountain.

The Human Clan woman atop the mountain suddenly turned to look up at the Divine Sculpture: "Lord Jian Yi, did you call me?"

The cold wind blew past.

Specks of frost and snow dyed the world.

The Divine Mountain was silent. Gradually, Qiao Wanjun turned to look towards the southwest.

Ranran or Ruyi, have they already cultivated the sword into a Divine Weapon so soon?

Truly remarkable...

The domain can even match Lord Jian Yi's Divine Weapon.

"Lord, please rest assured and recuperate. I will contact Ranran, and no one will disturb you," Qiao Wanjun said softly, hands clasped together.

From this response, it is evident that Qiao Wanjun's standing has changed.

On one hand, Lord Jian Yi has no will to battle, likely uninterested in crushing the enemy or raising Divine Weapons.

On the other hand, the power of Lu Ran and the Ran Sect is evident! If a Divine Weapon Domain clashed, who would genuinely be in mortal danger...?

It would certainly not be the Human Clan, but the head of the Great Xia Gods!

"Hoo~"

In the snowy mist, a woman in white, riding a sword, descended to the cliff's edge.

With hands behind her back, she gazed far off to the southwest: "I hindered your steps to Becoming a God, and blocked your path to counterattack the Faceless Jade Venerable."

Qiao Wanjun shook her head: "Defeating the Faceless Jade Venerable is no overnight task; Ran Sect is still accumulating strength and remains in a steady development phase."

The woman in white was silent for a moment before turning to Qiao Wanjun: "You and your child truly keep your promises."

"The lives of the disciple and Ranran are all protected by you."

The woman in white, expressionless, spoke faintly, "Have you considered that perhaps a hundred years from now, I will still be lingering?"

Qiao Wanjun smiled: "I am Qiao Wanjun, also the Martial Emperor of the Ran Sect."

A gentleman does what should be done and refrains from what shouldn't be done."

The woman in white silently looked at Qiao Wanjun for a long time, then slowly turned to gaze into the dark southwestern sky:

"You would make a good Sword One."

Qiao Wanjun remained silent, unsure what to say.

"The taste of decline, the sense of growing powerless; I have long experienced them."

"Lord Jian Yi, you..." Qiao Wanjun realized something and hesitated, for once noticing a touch of age in the god's cold eyes.

The eternally expressionless face of the woman in white suddenly revealed a trace of a smile: "This lingering life has nothing new to offer."

Qiao Wanjun lowered her head silently.

Those eyes, like deep cold pools, showed slight ripples of sorrow.

"Wanjun."

"Lord."

"What would you say is the meaning of existence?" The tone of the woman in white was somewhat bewildered.

Qiao Wanjun pondered carefully for a moment, then gently shook her head: "Perhaps there isn't one.

But while living, finding a goal and bearing some mission gives a motive to continue living."

Woman in white: "If there were no God Demon descending to enslave your Human Clan, what would be your meaning in living?"

Qiao Wanjun lowered her gaze.

No heavy shackles, no thick sea of clouds.

Am I just an ordinary woman?

After a long time, Qiao Wanju spoke softly, "The meaning... might be in experiencing life and accepting all its gifts."

"Gifts?"

"The rise and set of the sun and moon, the flowers of spring, the leaves of autumn, the bitterness of parting with life and death." A hint of memory flashed in Qiao Wanju's eyes, her voice very light, "The stars in his eyes."

"Are these special?"

"I am merely of the Human Clan, with a life of no more than a hundred years."

The woman in white nodded slightly: "Therefore, when my life is short enough, fragile enough, everything gains meaning."

Qiao Wanju's lips trembled, but in the end, she kept her head down and said nothing more.

"In three months." The woman in white said softly.

Qiao Wanju's heart trembled as she slowly looked up to gaze at the god.

The sword gazed into Qiao Wanju's eyes, smiling gently.

...

Chapter 1113: Burn

On the ninth day of the ninth lunar month, it was a day of nationwide celebration.

On this day, two human deities descended upon Da Xia! From the ancient city where the two settled, it could be seen that this young man and woman respectively represented the Red Cloth Sect and Sky Phoenix Sect.

The loyal and brave Red Cloth disciples have returned!

Though the Red Cloth is a Fifth-class God, among the Moon Gazer and other forces, Red Cloth believers have always been a major force, guarding the city on the fifteenth of every month, holding high prestige in the hearts of the people.

The return of the Red Cloth Sect is undoubtedly a strong boost to the human clan!

Its effect is remarkable.

The Sky Phoenix Sect is even more extraordinary; they are doctors who save lives and heal the wounded, and their healing techniques are the best among all the major divine sects of Da Xia!

Now, the Sky Phoenix believers are returning to the human world to relieve suffering.

How can people not be thrilled and ecstatic?

This joy naturally affected Lu Ran.

In Jinyang City of the Three Jin Lands, in the original Red Cloth ancient city, Lu Ran stood invisibly on the shoulder of the Jade Hall Divine Sculpture, looking at the bustling city, feeling deeply moved.

Such scenes have occurred several times in recent months.

Yet, he still felt a surge of excitement!

At this moment, the struggle had gained tangible significance.

Cheng Yi, possessing the Third-class God Demon Dry Sea-Sand River Doll Double Divine Position, Chen Jingjing, with the Fifth-class God Ice Butterfly-Ice Burial Man Double Divine Position, Cheng Li, holding the Sixth Rank God Demon Green Parrot-Tree Face Demon Double Divine Position...

Every time a human deity descends to the world, it causes a stir.

God demons from the Outer Realm witness the flourishing of the Da Xia human clan!

The Ran Sect's influence is growing increasingly strong, which is very favorable for Yu Changsheng's team to infiltrate other battle zones.

God Demons control the human world.

The human world is also a prison for God Demons.

They will not abandon this foundation, yet they lack the ability to conquer the Great Xia Battle Zone and cannot prevent this situation from unfolding.

Faced with the rising power from the East, submission and dependence will inevitably become the mainstream choice.

[Young Master Deng, enjoy your moment, establish sects, and recruit believers.] Lu Ran laughed and transmitted the message, [I'll be taking my leave now!]

[Yes, Sect Leader!]

Lu Ran suddenly remembered something and added, [By the way, let me inform you in advance, your sister is going to give you special training.]

Deng Yutang's heart immediately tensed: [Special training?]

His nervousness did not stem from the special training, but from the person involved.

Since childhood, Deng Yuxiang had left countless psychological shadows in his heart! As long as it involved her, Deng Yutang's heart would always leap.

[Hmm, she probably wants to help you improve your combat strength.] Lu Ran showed a sad expression and was about to leave when he suddenly felt a tremor at his waist.

This is... the Cloud Sea Dust Clearing Blade?

How curious.

Lu Ran gripped the hilt and asked with concern, "What's wrong?"

[Mom has returned to the human world, in the East.]

The Cloud Sea Blade Spirit couldn't lock onto Qiao Wanjun, but due to a conflict in the Divine Weapon Domain, it could constantly sense the location of the Cloud Sea Dust Clearing Sword.

"Oh?" Lu Ran was quite surprised.

Since the third day of March, Mother had stayed at the Sword One Divine Mountain.

Killing enemies, nurturing divine weapons, trying to let Lord Jian Yi live peacefully.

Why did she suddenly return to the human world?

Lu Ran thought for a moment and then flickered out of sight.

The direct distance from Jinyang City to Beijing is only about four hundred kilometers, and with several instant teleportations, Lu Ran arrived at the destination.

Under the perception of the Cloud Sea Blade Spirit, Lu Ran confirmed the specific location and flickered once again, returning to the family residence in the Immortal Scenic Garden District.

This luxurious flat-layered apartment hadn't been inhabited for a long time, but it was spotless, as if someone had just cleaned it.

"Who's there?" A cold voice rang out.

"Me." Lu Ran turned his head to look, revealing his true form.

Though he was indeed hidden without a trace and devoid of energy fluctuations, there were faint traces of frost snow in the room, a perception technique of the Ice Butterfly Sect.

"Young Master." Upon seeing the emperor-robed youth, Chen Jingjing immediately sheathed her sword and hurriedly saluted.

The emperor robe's hem fluttered lightly, supporting Chen Jingjing.

Now, Mother's personal maid had also become a deity, just as Lu Ran had anticipated. The frost-snow-affine Chen Jingjing was well-suited to continue accompanying Mother.

[Did you return for something specific?] Lu Ran switched to transmitted sound.

[The Peak Master and Lord Jian Yi are in the study.] Chen Jingjing truthfully responded, [I'm not sure what they're discussing...]

Before she finished speaking, a voice called from the study: "Ranran is here."

"Ah!" Lu Ran flickered to the door of the study, still behaving properly, and gently knocked on the door.

"Come in." The woman's voice was soft.

"Creak~"

Lu Ran opened the door, and a faint jasmine fragrance wafted through the air.

On the corner of a low bookcase, a small Immortal jasmine was still in bloom, evoking many memories for Lu Ran.

Also thanks to the rare herb produced in the Demon Cave--Spiritual Charm Mountain, if replaced by ordinary flowers and plants, they might have withered long ago due to years of neglect.

On either side of the low bookcase, Lu Ran saw two female sword immortals sitting opposite each other.

Though they were both flesh and blood, they felt like two ice sculptures, each more chilling than the last.

However, Qiao Wanjun was gradually "thawing," her eyes growing increasingly gentle as she looked at him.

"Mother." Lu Ran respectfully greeted and, pressing his hands together, bowed to the woman in white, "Lord Jian Yi."

Sword One quietly observed Lu Ran.

The last time they met, this human youth was still attempting to overthrow the God Demons' rule. Today, upon meeting again, he had become the absolute leader of the Great Xia Gods and Demons.

Unexpectedly, this emperor robe was likely a gift from the Evil Spear Emperor.

This was an honor.

The greater significance lay in recognition.

It was the Evil Spear Emperor's final declaration to the Great Xia Gods and Demons, and to all the God Demons in the world.

"Come." Qiao Wanju patted the cushion beside her.

Lu Ran walked over to his mother, kneeling in front of the low desk: "What are you two..."

Qiao Wanju whispered: "Lord Jian Yi wants to experience some things."

Lu Ran looked at the woman in white across from the desk, his heart full of confusion.

Experience... things?

The cold eyes of Sword One gazed back at Lu Ran, her tone calm, yet it stirred great waves in Lu Ran's heart:

"Three months later, your mother will be the new Sword One."

Lu Ran's hand beneath the table trembled slightly.

Without a doubt, he was pleased.

Unlike Lord Immortal Sheep, Lu Ran had no deep personal feelings for Sword One.

But Sword One had saved his mother's life and sheltered their family of three, so Lu Ran's emotions were complex.

"New Year's Day." Sword One spoke lightly.

New Year's Day?

Less than three months.

Lu Ran felt a heaviness in his heart, unable to tell that Sword One was already on the brink of death.

Could it be that Lord Immortal Sheep was secretly exerting power?

The tomb, knowing Sword One blocked the path of the Ran Sect, then voraciously consumed the Sword One Divine Statue?

Qiao Wanju whispered: "Lord Jian Yi can still exist for a long time, it's just that..."

Upon hearing this, Lu Ran knew he had wronged Lord Immortal Sheep, but his heart was even more puzzled.

Sword One reached out her jade hand, fingertips falling beside the immortal jasmine: "Your mother said, when life is short enough and fragile enough, everything becomes meaningful."

Lu Ran's eyes narrowed.

This world truly is... alas...

People desire longevity, desire immortality.

Yet Sword One held no attachment to anything, deliberately setting her own death date, just to feel the meaning of life in a brief period of time?

"I never really appreciated flowers before." Sword One twirled the delicate petals between her fingers.

Lu Ran remained silent, feeling the faint sadness permeating the room.

Mother's emotions, evidently impacting the surrounding atmosphere.

Lu Ran's hand beneath the table slightly shifted, grasping her cool, soft hand, gently holding it.

"Lu Ran."

"Lord Jian Yi?"

"If you had no mission, if gods and demons never descended upon the human world, what would be the meaning of your life?" Sword One looked at the mother and son across the desk, sensing the faint warmth between them.

The emotions among the minuscule Human Clan, stemming from blood ties, are indeed miraculous things.

The room fell into dead silence.

Even Chen Jingjing, who came to deliver tea, paused outside the door, hesitating whether she should knock.

As she hesitated, the young man's voice came from inside: "Do you know the mayfly, my lord?"

"I do not." The deity, omniscient in the eyes of the world, had no care in responding in such a way.

"To set the mayfly in the world, is but a mote in the sea." Lu Ran recited a high school Chinese text, "The mayfly is a very small, very fragile creature.

So small... born at dawn and dies by dusk."

"Born at dawn and dies by dusk."

"Yes." Lu Ran paused, speaking softly, "Mayflies wait for years, patiently awaiting the right moment, to emerge from the muddy riverbed and swim to the surface."

"In a brief time, they undergo transformation, growing delicate wings to soar into the sky."

"They chase light, feel the wind, smell the fragrance of grass and wood, using their fragile lives and brief time to measure this boundless world."

Sword One seemed a little intrigued: "Go on."

"They soon exhaust everything, falling back onto the river surface along with countless others, completing the final extension of life before it disappears."

"The next generation of mayflies will continue to wait, for the right moment, bursting forth from the silt with their companions to fly out of the water, soaring into the sky."

"Transforming into the next flood of life, born and died by dusk."

Sword One's eyes slightly shifted, listening to the young man's gentle voice.

With just a few words,

she already felt the full life of a mayfly.

Lu Ran softly said: "To you, the Human Clan is no different from the mayfly, my lord.

Born at dawn, and died by dusk, living towards death."

Sword One nodded slightly, a century's time to her is but a blink of an eye.

Lu Ran: "Mission or not, I wish to burn fiercely, like the mayfly, to spread my wings and leave my own trace of life once burned.

Even if in this vast world, in the long river of history, it is insignificant.

But that mark is mine, proof that I lived once with all my might, in grandeur."

Sword One softly replied: "Hence your name is Lu Ran."

Lu Ran was momentarily stunned, then shook his head: "The name was given by my parents."

"It fits well." Sword One shook her head with a smile, "Indeed, brevity gives it meaning, but in the future, when you break free from the shackles of the Human Clan, will you continue to burn brightly?"

"I will." Lu Ran whispered.

Sword One turned to Qiao Wanju: "Unfortunately, I will not live to see the day he breaks his promise. You will witness it for me."

Qiao Wanjun remained silent, giving no response.

In Lu Ran's mind, there emerged an eternally burning Black Sheep Head.

He... will eventually inherit everything, and in the weighty expectations, burn eternally?

He looked up at Sword One, his face solemn, responding in a deep voice:

"I will."

...

Chapter 1114: Jade Venerable Once Again

Lu Ran no longer disturbed his mother and Lord Jian Yi, respectfully took his leave, and returned to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

The exquisite ancient bronze mirror tore through space brutally.

Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture sensed something, and immediately raised her hand. The emperor-robed youth who walked out of the mirror stepped into her palm.

"Everything went smoothly?" She lowered her eyes to look at the tiny living being.

"Smoothly. The human world is quite bustling." Lu Ran hid his thoughts, gazed up at the exquisite stone face, and communicated via mind, [As planned, I should also go to explore the frontier area.]

This had been decided a long time ago.

The day Deng Yutang and Guan Yiren disguised as Divine Sculptures and left the Treasure Gourd was the day Lu Ran started his journey.

Jiang Ruyi pondered for a moment, then transmitted: [Bring the Evil Shadow Guardian with you.]

When it came to exploration, she could not be of much assistance.

Other people being present would rather expose Lu Ran's whereabouts. Even scouts like Wei Yun and Jin Que'er, who could turn invisible, could not match Lu Ran's mobility.

The Evil Shadow Guardian was the only one who could keep up with his pace.

That being said, Lu Ran would still store the Evil Shadow Divine Sculpture inside the gourd.

[Alright.] Lu Ran sat down and closed his eyes.

Seeing this, Jiang Ruyi no longer disturbed him, unaware that after contacting the Evil Shadow, Lu Ran was secretly praying to another existence.

[Lord Immortal Sheep, are you there?] Lu Ran was a little anxious.

Silence filled his mind. Lu Ran waited for a long time before attempting to call again:

[Lord Immortal Sheep?]

[Heh, I thought you wouldn't dare to face me again.]

Lu Ran pursed his lips, lowered his head: [Disciple... Disciple is going to the frontier of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield to collect intelligence on the Faceless Jade Venerable Clan. Do you have any instructions?]

A hoarse voice, tinged with a hint of coldness: [Don't die.]

Lu Ran: "..."

[Master, I have arrived.] Another female voice imprinted in his mind.

[Mm, enter the gourd.] Lu Ran responded, the black gold emperor robe surged like waves, lifting the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd behind his waist and sending it backward.

The invisible divine sculpture gradually shrank and entered it.

Lu Ran looked up at Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture: [I'm leaving, rest assured, I will be very careful. This trip is only for reconnaissance.]

Jiang Ruyi's lips moved slightly, and she finally softly replied with a "mm".

Lu Ran hesitated for a moment, then his figure flickered, arriving at her lips.

He removed the Blood Crystal Mask, leaned forward, and pressed lightly on her lips: [I will be back soon.]

Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture closed her eyes as if trying hard to feel, but unfortunately, someone was too tiny.

This kiss was too light.

"Swish~" Lu Ran disappeared instantly, simultaneously turning invisible.

He stood under the tumultuous dark clouds, gazing at the dim south.

Teleporting, continuously teleporting.

Each time moving nearly a hundred kilometers.

Of course, his vision was not limited to this, but unfortunately, this was the maximum displacement distance of the Heavenly Evil Technique--Evil Shadow Flash.

If he displayed the Divine Grade Evil Shadow Flash, each time would cover thousands of kilometers.

Lord Immortal Sheep's cold attitude was understandable. At this point, Lu Ran had already begun his mission action against the Faceless Jade Venerables.

From any angle, he should detach from the Heavenly Realm.

Step into the God Realm!

How long could escape and procrastination last?

Immortal Sheep did not know that Lu Ran was already slowly accepting it.

Especially just now, during the conversation with Lord Jian Yi, Lu Ran had already thought of inheriting everything from the "tomb" and burning eternally.

Time,

The remedy for everything.

Lu Ran paused, squinting his eyes slightly.

In the distant sky, a group of Faceless Jade Venerables was flying swiftly.

Lu Ran extended his gaze towards their direction of arrival, then teleported away again.

The number of Faceless Jade Venerables was increasing!

As Lu Ran advanced, the frequency of the Jade Venerable Clan's appearance also continued to increase.

Gradually, he dared not teleport recklessly anymore.

A group of Jade Venerable minions one after another, any incautious flashing appearance triggering a Divine Power fluctuation would be detected by this clan.

He changed his travel method, flying and flashing at the same time.

He also realized why Wei Yun, Jin Que'er, and others could not reach the frontier area.

This was too dense...

"Hulala~~~"

The sound of the jade robe fluttering reached from far to near.

Lu Ran hovered in mid-air, concentrating and holding his breath, as the massive Jade Venerables brushed past him.

His heart, which was on edge, gradually relaxed as the sound faded away.

But looking into the distance again, Lu Ran was involuntarily filled with trepidation.

[So many enemies.] A young man's voice, identical to Lu Ran's but more fierce, echoed in his mind.

Eight Desolate Blade Spirit!

[We are not here to fight, restrain your thoughts.] Lu Ran conveyed his heart's intention, cautiously moving forward.

The farther he went, the harder it became.

The originally dim world had been turned into a crystalline, warm white by the Jade Venerable Clan.

As they flew, it seemed like an endless tide made of white jade, surging endlessly, wave after wave, towards Lu Ran.

"Swish~"

Lu Ran, struggling to move forward, had just aimed at an opening far ahead, flashing there alone, only to freeze in place.

Huh??

Lu Ran slightly opened his mouth, his gaze sweeping over the dense swarm of Faceless Jade Venerables, seeing a white jade wall in the further distance between the heavens and the earth.

Of course, it was not a wall, but a massive army!

They hovered silently.

In an orderly manner, they nearly filled the entire sky, as if... as if they were mech units awaiting activation?

This was an incredibly magnificent scene!

The "White Jade City Wall" rose from the sea of fog on the ground, reaching all the way to the cloud sea in the sky.

Its thickness was immeasurable!

Even with Lu Ran's excellent vision, he couldn't see through it, only able to peer through the few layers in front.

While observing, numerous Jade Venerable minions were shuttling within, emerging from the gaps, becoming part of the white jade tide, surging towards Lu Ran's direction.

This... this?

What kind of scene lies behind this wall that connects heaven and earth?

"Hmm?"

Suddenly, a nasal sound came from the lower left side.

Lu Ran's heart jumped to his throat as he evaded and darted to the side!

He watched the faceless Jade Venerables flying towards him, cautiously moving to the upper right.

On the battlefield at the level of Gods and Demons, Lu Ran always seemed insignificant.

Even the Jade Venerable minions were over four meters tall, and Lu Ran scarcely reached their thighs.

But in this exceedingly peculiar environment, he was no longer insignificant!

"Whoosh~"

"Whoosh~~~" A group of Jade Venerable minions swooped in from ahead.

Their jade robes billowed, and their long hair danced in the air.

No matter if it was the hem of their clothing or a strand of hair, if it so much as brushed against Lu Ran, they would notice immediately!

Lu Ran fully activated his Evil Sense and Evil Sensitivity!

He evaded with meticulous care, narrowly and precariously passing through this wave of tides.

But the next moment, his heart tightened once more!

Lu Ran was astonished to find that the faceless Jade Venerable, the one who had just voiced a dubious sound, several dozen meters away, had not left.

Didn't leave?!

She always held her vague face upturned, eyes gazing in this direction, watching as the previous group flew across this area.

"Hoo~"

The faceless Jade Venerable came flying slowly, but her position was slightly off, her jade hand lightly touching the empty space in front.

Lu Ran dared not linger, turning and floating upward.

Coincidentally, yet another wave of the white jade tide arrived, forcing him to retreat slightly diagonally downward.

At this very moment, a faint voice came from behind:

"Lu Ran."

Lu Ran's expression changed dramatically: !!!

As the faceless Jade Venerable uttered this name, the restless white jade tide suddenly halted.

Countless faceless Jade Venerables halted mid-air, turning to look in the general direction of where Lu Ran was.

This scene... even made Lu Ran feel a chill!

A mass of faceless jade statues, motionless, staring at this side, enough to make anyone's scalp tingle, right?

The world fell into a dead silence.

Only the one speaking, the faceless Jade Venerable, slowly lowered her hand that had been pointing into the void, and spoke softly:

"I've been waiting for you all along."

Lu Ran bit his lip tightly, of course, he would not reveal himself!

"I know it's you, it can only be you," the faceless Jade Venerable stood with hands behind her back,
"Those subordinates of yours, those Gods and Demons, they couldn't possibly come this far.

Come out, I won't harm you."

The surroundings remained silent.

The anomaly here affected the distant surging tide, gradually bringing the whole world to a standstill.

"Hoo!"

"Hoo!!" The frozen scene suddenly sprang into motion.

Lu Ran's face stiffened, not daring to turn his head too much, he moved his eyes towards the direction of the White Jade City Wall.

Countless faceless Jade Venerables flew left, right, and upward, actually clearing a path?

And at the end of this "White Jade Tunnel," a colossal white jade sculpture appeared.

Her size was akin to that of a God and Demon, around two hundred seventy-eight meters tall.

Her entire body seemed made of mutton jade, exuding a beautiful luster and a hint of sanctity.

On her likewise vague face, only those eyes were intricately carved.

She cast her gaze downward, her eyes enveloping the empty path: "You came to understand me, didn't you?"

Lu Ran remained unmoved, his gaze extending afar, trying to investigate the area behind the faceless Jade Venerable.

However, the dense throng of Jade Venerable minions blocked his entire view.

Lu Ran's expression suddenly stiffened!

Because the colossal Jade Venerable slowly raised her hand, her palm facing upward, and a giant finger slightly lifted.

Ha!

Lu Ran nearly laughed out loud from annoyance.

Do you really take your fingertips as a trap for the Master of Ran Sect?

What kind of hand is that?

It can turn any creature it touches into jade stone!

Not to mention living beings, how many Divine and Evil Sculptures have been turned into jade and crushed into dust by your hand?

"I said, I won't harm you," the colossal Jade Venerable spoke slowly, her voice sonorous and melodious.

Lu Ran snorted inwardly, turning his head back.

Behind him, heaven and earth had been entirely sealed by the white jade tides.

But that didn't matter; Lu Ran had flickered all the way here, and he didn't need to watch the road on his way back.

Whether by nearly a hundred kilometers of instant teleportation or using the Other Shore Flower to transport, it was a breeze.

"Hoo~"

But as Lu Ran watched, the white jade tide blocking the way back suddenly disassembled, slowly parting to the sides.

Creating a path home for him.

"I've given you a chance, Lu Ran."

Lu Ran frowned, glancing behind him.

The colossal Jade Venerable gazed at her fingertip, speaking blandly: "In the future, I won't wait for you again."

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Chapter 1115: You Can Crush Me Now...

Lu Ran furrowed his brow, looking at the path before him.

Revealing himself was impossible.

However, a substitute could be made through a clone.

Let me see what you intend to do!

Lu Ran silently flew above the Faceless Jade Venerable's fingertip, Divine Power surging within him, forming a physical body.

This was the Evil Dog Evil Skill-Evil Shadow, although it was a decoy technique meant to confuse enemies, at the Heavenly Grade it allows the caster to project their consciousness into it.

"Boom." The clone Lu Ran landed steadily on the Jade Venerable's finger, while Lu Ran's true body took advantage of the Divine Power fluctuations to flicker and disappear.

The Faceless Jade Venerable was expressionless, seemingly unsurprised.

She only slightly raised her hand, her pupil-less white eyes observing the tiny figure on her fingertip.

The Black Gold Emperor Robe was devoid of any majesty.

As the Lord of Gods and Demons, standing at the pinnacle of the Human Clan, the young man was merely an empty shell, completely lacking in expected charisma.

Only those eyes were somewhat passable.

To ordinary beings, he was certainly a terrifying Heavenly Realm Power, but in the Faceless Jade Venerable's eyes...

A counterfeit.

"You say, you're waiting for me?" the clone Lu Ran lifted his head, his muffled voice passing through the fake Blood Crystal Mask.

The Faceless Jade Venerable responded, "You have no faith in me."

Lu Ran slightly frowned, "We are enemies."

The Faceless Jade Venerable slowly shook her head, "We are the same kind."

"The same kind?"

"You and I are alike, both finding our own paths under the enslavement of those stones."

Lu Ran nodded thoughtfully.

"The creators are fair." The Faceless Jade Venerable seemed a little wistful, "Your Human Clan's life is short and fragile, yet possesses potentials that other species cannot rival."

Lu Ran remained silent, not denying this point.

The Faceless Jade Venerable whispered softly, "In mere years of cultivation, you can ascend to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

In just a few decades, one or two generations, you discovered a way to break the deadlock and nurtured beings like yourself."

This time, Lu Ran felt unworthy.

If it weren't for Lord Immortal Sheep, he would be nothing.

Well... that's not quite right.

After all, there is the Yan Zhi Rou Paperman!

Perhaps he would act as an Evil Demon Disciple, ultimately becoming the other half of the Evil God, sharing the Divine Position with her.

The one certainty Lu Ran had was that regardless of what fate imposed on him or which path he took, he would try to do something.

To seek revenge, to bring change.

The Faceless Jade Venerable raised her hand again, placing the tiny human in front of her eyes: "You and I, only our methods differ, I have witnessed the entire process of you eliminating the Gods and Demons.

You have a very unique ability, creating your own Stone Sculptures to replace those old entities that ruled over you."

It seemed that regarding the idea of "old entities", the Faceless Jade Venerable and Lord Immortal Sheep shared the same view.

"Then, Lu Ran?" the Faceless Jade Venerable inquired.

Lu Ran responded, "You could break into the Human World at any moment, destroy my home, and annihilate my clan."

"I said, we are the same kind." The Faceless Jade Venerable spoke softly, her tone suddenly shifting, "But we can also be enemies."

"All the humiliation you've suffered, the despair, pain, and struggle... ultimately forged the blade with which you shattered the Gods and Demons." The Faceless Jade Venerable's gaze enveloped the young man of the Human Clan, "We are the same kind.

I've seen another version of myself."

Lu Ran remained silent, waiting for her next words.

"Now that you've replaced them, if you become them again, you and I will be enemies."

"I will not become them." Lu Ran shook his head, "Once I've eradicated all Gods and Demons, the Human World will no longer face evil invasions and will be at peace."

The Faceless Jade Venerable shook her head: "You will."

"Ah?"

"The existence of the Gods and Demons, their power system, inevitably leads to a singular outcome."

Lu Ran fell silent.

Such words hit the nail on the head!

The cultivation system of the Gods and Demons was indeed the core problem.

Recalling the student days, Jiang Ruyi was then called "Beauty Jiang", tenderly treating the world.

And look at her now!

Majestic, indifferent, even cruel.

Such a situation is not an isolated incident, but a widespread phenomenon.

There's nothing to hide, this so-called path of cultivation is a road that erodes humanity.

Only Lu Ran, a believer in the "Tomb", remains steadfast to his true self.

As Lord Immortal Sheep always demands:

Walking his own path.

"It seems, you also agree with my words." The Faceless Jade Venerable murmured.

"I agree with your assessment of the power system, but I do not agree with the conclusion." Lu Ran raised his head, directly confronting her gigantic eyes.

"Hmm?"

"We in Da Xia have a saying: The gentleman evaluates actions, not intentions."

Lu Ran's demeanor was solemn as he continued, "I am their leader, I have both the ability and means to manage every subordinate. Under me, they will not transform into Gods and Demons."

The Faceless Jade Venerable slowly shook her head: "Only by abandoning this power system can one avoid becoming a God Demon."

"Ha." Lu Ran chuckled, "Do you want us to forsake our martial prowess? And then, we're the same kind, not enemies?"

The Faceless Jade Venerable's expression remained unchanged, and her level tone bore no emotional fluctuation:

"In your heart, you know I speak the truth."

"Haha." Lu Ran was once again provoked into laughter, "Then Da Xia will have no combat power, the Human World's gates wide open, welcoming your arrival?"

The Faceless Jade Venerable remained calm: "My goal is only that pile of stones, I promise not to harm your clan, your Human World Home.

You and your followers can join me, together eradicating the source of chaos."

Lu Ran's smile disappeared.

His expression was particularly grave: "You are the only opponent Nu Ying respects, I won't rashly refute you. Perhaps you have your own principles, perhaps you keep your promises, but none of that matters.

Matters of life and death are no trifling matter!

I cannot entrust myself, or the fate of billions of the Human Clan, to others."

Fantasy,

Can never be tolerated!

The Faceless Jade Venerable was silent, slowly twisting her fingertip.

Lu Ran gazed into her eyes: "Rights to survival, dignity, and the future, all of these never were, and will never be, gained through the mercy or handouts of others.

I may fall, or I may die.

But Faceless Jade Venerable, I will never pin my hopes on your whims."

The Faceless Jade Venerable suddenly spoke: "Previously I said, only by leaving this power system will you not become Gods and Demons.

I now take that back."

Lu Ran raised an eyebrow slightly.

The Faceless Jade Venerable slowly leaned forward, her enormous eyes fixed on the tiny human on her fingertip, speaking word by word:

"Only through extinction will the Human Clan not become Gods and Demons."

Lu Ran's expression grew dark.

The Faceless Jade Venerable reached out with her thumb, pinching the small being, her tone returning to its former calmness: "It seems, we are enemies."

Lu Ran did not struggle in the slightest, merely crushed between her fingers, speaking in a low voice:

"Yes, you can crush me to death now."

"Crack! Crack..."

The sound of crisp bones cracking resonated repeatedly.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's gaze was icy, lightly twisting her jade fingers.

The small being was crushed into pieces, turning into a pool of flesh and blood, turning into a trace of crimson on her fingertip, then into a powder of jade.

It fell, gently, from between her fingers.

...

...

Chapter 1116: Personal Campaign?

Lu Ran's doppelgänger died, but his main body was unharmed.

However, this matter cannot be casually brushed aside.

Though it was a doppelgänger, in truth Lu Ran's consciousness was housed within the body, so strictly speaking, he died once.

That feeling of helplessness made him acutely aware of his own fragility and insignificance.

It was very painful, and also very despairing.

"Hoo!" On Immortal Mo Divine Mountain, another Landing Mirror activated.

Jiang Ruyi sensed it, immediately raising her hand as an Emperor-robed Youth stepped into her palm.

Seeing Lu Ran safely return, she felt relieved, but upon noticing his ghastly appearance, she immediately asked through voice transmission:

[How did it go?]

Lu Ran, pale-faced, slowly sat in her palm and shook his head: [I couldn't cross the borderland either; the defenses of the Jade Venerable Clan are too tight.]

Then, Lu Ran briefly explained the situation, and Jiang Ruyi's expression grew serious as she listened.

Their differing ideologies meant that the matter could not be peacefully resolved, which was expected.

Concerning Lu Ran's decision, Jiang Ruyi fully approved.

It was a matter of life and death; one could not gamble! Nor place hope in the whim of others.

Moreover, while contemplating Lu Ran's entire mission, a very thorny problem emerged—the number of Faceless Jade Venerables!

One must understand that the heavenly realm battlefield is bordered on all sides.

Why should Lu Ran, heading in a single direction, be able to meet the Jade Venerable?

Certainly, Lu Ran adjusted his direction during the journey, progressing towards where the Jade Venerable minions flew from, but essentially, Lu Ran was heading generally south.

What about the north?

What about the east and west?

Due to comparing the specifications and strength of the Divine and Evil Sculptures, the Ran Sect referred to the massive Faceless Jade Venerables as "Jade Venerables".

But is she really the main body?

Even if she is, how many such "main bodies" are there?

Jiang Ruyi expressed these thoughts to Lu Ran.

Lu Ran nodded, meditating for a long while, then closed his eyes: [Lord Immortal Sheep, I have returned.]

[As long as you're not dead.] fell the nonchalant response.

Lu Ran pressed his lips, opting not to mention his brush with death, and quietly said: [I met with the Jade Venerable, she wishes to annihilate all God Demons and invited me to join her.]

The God's voice carried a hint of mockery: [Not giving it a try? You and your family might live forever under her heel.]

Lu Ran didn't respond directly, but asked: [Exactly how many Faceless Jade Venerables are there?]

The words fell, and his mind was met with silence.

[This disciple ventured to explore the borderland, only to immediately encounter one! This number is...] Lu Ran's face grew increasingly grim.

Immortal Sheep slowly said: [The Faceless Jade Venerable can summon minions and has skills that can jade-stoneify anything touched; it all seems to align with the power systems of the God Demons.]

I fear the God Demons still believe the Faceless Jade Venerable is just a powerful fellow... but that's not the case!]

Lu Ran listened silently.

Immortal Sheep's voice turned hoarse, reiterating: [I told you before, she is a being that separates eras.]

She is fundamentally different from the Old Gods.]

Lu Ran nodded inwardly, fully aware of the absoluteness and uniqueness of the "Tomb".

[Therefore, I cannot give you an accurate answer, I don't know what sort of power she possesses.]
Immortal Sheep's voice dropped even lower, [I don't even know how to defeat her.]

The eternally domineering and ruthless Sheep General had a hint of desolation in his tone now.

It pained Lu Ran's heart.

Recalling the past fierce battles in the heavenly realm, he once sought reassurance from Lord Immortal Sheep: If the Faceless Jade Venerable attacked, Immortal Sheep could go to extremes to ensure mutual destruction!

To directly reduce the Jade Venerable to a sacrificial lamb.

Now it seemed, Immortal Sheep indeed could do it, but only with one Faceless Jade Venerable.

Lu Ran spoke lightly, downplaying the critical point: [The main body's number shouldn't be too many, otherwise she would have broken through the God Demon camps long ago.]

[Lu Ran.]

[Here, disciple present.]

[Your Ran Sect is continuously growing, but have you thought, perhaps during this period, the Faceless Jade Venerable is also evolving, accumulating strength?]

Lu Ran sighed inwardly.

It indeed was possible.

After all, even Immortal Sheep didn't understand the power system of the Faceless Jade Venerable, hence using terms like "perhaps."

But the reality was: The Faceless Jade Venerable had already been oppressing countless God Demons for so many years!

Even if she is growing and amassing strength day by day, it wouldn't surpass the year and a half Ran Sect has gathered to become gods.

Lu Ran understood Lord Immortal Sheep's point, responding: [Disciple has been taught and has already begun actions against the Jade Venerable.

Disciple will endeavor to find a balance between development and confrontation.]

[Mm.] Immortal Sheep nodded in satisfaction, then added, [The Anger Fire Divine Pattern you captured is born from rage, and once extinguished will disappear completely, lacking a proper way to control it.]

The sudden topic change startled Lu Ran.

He couldn't help feeling a sense of loss.

Lu Ran had long coveted the Anger Fire Divine Pattern, often recalling the battle prowess of the Heavenly God Sculpture.

Covered entirely with divine patterns, Lie Tian's physical strength was simply explosive!

As a single divine position god, he managed to outmatch Wu Xiao, who possessed double divine positions, even relentlessly pursuing the Martial Emperor!

Of course, the cost was also tremendous.

To harbor an invincible posture, one had to forsake nearly all reason.

[This anger spreads from the soul dimension, your Spirit Defense techniques can't block it, you must find other ways to calm yourself.]

Immortal Sheep elaborated before arriving at the final conclusion: [This Magic Artifact has significant effects, if you wish to own it, Lie Tian has provided the best usage method.]

Lu Ran's mind raced, and he asked: [Can I pick a few unused Stone Sculptures in the Sculpture Garden to serve as emotional outlets, is this okay?]

[Of course, but the anger rising from your soul will continuously affect you.]

"Sigh..." Lu Ran heaved a long sigh.

Indeed, no matter how one vents anger externally, the emotions originate internally, surging from the depths of the soul.

What a pity...

Life rarely goes as wished, nine times out of ten.

[If you are unwilling to be a slave to your emotions, you can bestow them upon subordinates, many will desire this formidable power.]

Lu Ran furrowed his brow: [To turn the Burning Gate's soldiers into the next Lie Tian, to wreak havoc on Human Clan believers?]

[Ha ha.] Immortal Sheep's laughter was coarse, [Come over and take the Anger Fire Divine Pattern.]

Lu Ran was listening to the divine transmission when he suddenly sensed someone calling out to him.

The prayer was exceedingly devout, the sentiments exceedingly strong!

Lu Ran swiftly reacted, locating the messenger: [Que'er?]

[Sect Leader! Bad news, the Faceless Jade Venerable is leading an army over here!!]

Lu Ran's heart immediately sank.

Jin Que'er was speaking swiftly, her tone immensely anxious: [There are so many enemies! Like a massive tidal wave, they're coming in droves...]

Lu Ran hurriedly asked: [Which way are they heading, Thunder God Mountain?]

Since Jin Que'er became a god, she was dispatched to the Eastern Front, Thunder God Mountain, under the command of Huangfu Tianjiang.

As a powerful scout, she had countless minions under her command, with her reconnaissance range covering the entire eastern front.

[Not here! Judging by the Jade Venerable's flight path, she might be heading to Yan Paper God Mountain, or Heroine Divine Mountain!]

Lu Ran stood up with a start.

The Faceless Jade Venerable wasn't avoiding confrontation anymore?

Had their recent talks, or his attitude, or perhaps a single comment made her change her mind and strategy?

"What's going on?" Jiang Ruyi felt a pang of panic, looking at the tiny human in her palm.

Lu Ran's expression was grave: "The Faceless Jade Venerable is coming!"

...

Chapter 1117: Come, Save Again

Thick dark clouds shrouded the Heroine Divine Mountain.

At the top of the mountain stood a majestic Valkyrie.

She was draped in tattered black armor, with a long red silk ribbon floating behind her head, holding a wide-backed great cleaver of pale gold, solemnly gazing southeast.

Behind Nu Ying stood a similarly styled stone sculpture—Wang Longxiang!

To this day, the Dragon God General remains a Fake God, possessing all the skills of Nu Ying's faction but is only at the Third Level of the Heavenly Realm.

Because she doesn't hold a Divine Position, Wang Longxiang is able to serve the True God.

She obtained transcendent slaughter flames from the Mad Immortal Guardian, terrifyingly powerful enough to rival the gods.

"Afraid?" Nu Ying suddenly spoke.

"The disciple has long been expecting this." Not only was Wang Longxiang unafraid, she looked resolute, with fiery eyes.

"Good." Nu Ying nodded in satisfaction.

Even before the unification of the God Demon Camp, under the direction of Lu Ran, Wang Longxiang resided at Heroine Divine Mountain, always following Lady Nu Ying.

For so long, the Dragon God General displayed nothing that could be criticized by Nu Ying.

She seemed to see another version of herself.

If one day in the future, they could truly defeat the Faceless Jade Venerable...

Nu Ying held the Fourth-class Divine Weapon--Soaring Dragon Blade, her slender fingers gently brushed over the pale golden blade, her eyes slightly shimmering.

After the fall of the Faceless Jade Venerable, her only mission would also conclude.

Letting Wang Longxiang inherit her legacy wouldn't be a bad decision.

And it wouldn't tarnish her own prestige.

The summit was filled with a sense of impending battle, with both Valkyries eager to test their mettle.

Not far behind them, another goddess stood, face full of worry.

Hua Qingying, Heavenly General of Burning Gate.

As a god with the Double Divine Position of Supporting Flower - Green Lamp, her role was to assist, diligently fulfilling her duties and forming a strong rapport with the soldiers.

Life as a guardian of the Divine Mountain was good, very good.

Until just moments ago, a scout reported the invasion led by the true Jade Venerable...

What to do?

Prayers to the Sect Master went unanswered... Hm?

Hua Qingying widened her eyes slightly!

The distant sky, once dim, was suddenly illuminated.

The Faceless Jade Venerable spread across the sky, shining brilliantly, sweeping over with overwhelming momentum!

Hua Qingying's delicate body trembled lightly; she had never seen such a grand spectacle.

What on earth did the Faceless Jade Venerable intend to do?

Is this the final showdown?

Why hasn't the Sect Master arrived...

"All soldiers hear my command!" A powerful shout brought Hua Qingying back to her senses.

Nu Ying already stood at the cliff's edge, her voice impassioned and spirited: "Form up, repel the enemy!"

Midway up the mountain, the Fourth-class God: Mud Venerable, accelerated the production of his minions, commanding them to summon the Mud Flow River.

Streams of mud flowed unceasingly, even filling the gaps around the Divine Mountain.

At the base, the Nine Bamboo and Bamboo Wood Demon stood ready, likewise instructing their minions to summon a bamboo forest as a barrier, taking root in the Mud Flow River, intending to resist the oncoming White Jade Tide.

"Roar!!"

Another entity, the Seventh-level Demon God: Xuan Ape (Black Ape), roared loudly.

As a surrendered general from the Northwest, since joining the Burning Gate, the Xuan Ape had been sent to the Southeast Front, using its indomitable strength to become the vanguard under Nu Ying.

"Whoosh~"

"Whoosh~~~" The sound of fluttering jade robes quickly faded away, and the Jade Venerable's minions besieging the Divine Mountain retreated southeast like an ebbing tide.

Merging into the grander "White Jade Tsunami."

"Uh." Hua Qingying's face grew increasingly pale, watching the tsunami approach relentlessly.

Once, she too was a general capable of holding her own, but now... she was no longer a puppet under divine manipulation.

Under Lu Ran's command, she broke free from her shackles, became a god, finally reunited with her family, taking her younger sister under her wing, protecting and nurturing her.

She gained everything she had ever dreamed of, no longer living a reckless life!

And so... she began to fear.

"Whoosh!!" Suddenly, an energy fluctuation rippled outward.

Hua Qingying's spirit trembled, and she looked up sharply.

In the distance was the resplendent White Jade Tsunami, and closer by, on the mountain summit, a blue teleportation array suddenly unfolded.

Hua Qingying's heart leapt with joy, clenching her fists.

In the next moment, massive figures began to descend from the array.

Two great protectors under the Master of Ran Sect: Evil Shadow and Mad Immortal!

Martial Emperor of the Southern Pear Garden Divine Mountain; Divine General Luo of the Southeast Conquering Dragon God Mountain; Heavenly General Bai of Central Golden Jade Divine Mountain...

Even among gods and demons, there were differences in strength.

These colossal figures made Hua Qingying immensely excited; if not for her stone sculpted body, she may have already been in tears.

She didn't want to die.

After enduring years of darkness and hardship, her life had finally caught a glimmer of light; she truly didn't want to die...

"Sect Master!" Wang Longxiang knelt on one knee, bowing her head in salute.

Only then did Hua Qingying see, standing upon Mad Immortal Guardian's fingertip, a tiny figure.

"Sect Master." She hurriedly greeted and paid her respects.

Only Nu Ying stood proudly, slightly turning her head to gaze sidelong:

"They're here."

"Mm." Lu Ran blinked and stood on Nu Ying's shoulder, looking out at the Jade Venerable's army surging like waves, "There's movement in the Northwest too, Ruyi led a team for support."

"Oh?" Nu Ying raised an eyebrow slightly.

"The conflict likely isn't confined to just our location." Lu Ran's expression turned exceptionally grave, "Scouts are still investigating other areas of the Heavenly Realm."

Nu Ying's gaze was razor-sharp, searching for the true body of the Jade Venerable in the tumultuous White Jade Tsunami:

"Does she seek to battle us to the death?"

Chapter 1118: Come, Save Again

Lu Ran was silent, watching as the tsunami connecting heaven and earth gradually slowed down twenty or thirty kilometers away.

The surging tide slowly dispersed to both sides, revealing a giant jade figure, slowly drifting to the front of the army.

There was dead silence on the Divine Mountain.

Even the Mud Flow River at the foot of the mountain slowed its speed.

"Lu Ran." The words, spoken softly, were incredibly penetrating, filling the heavens and earth.

"What?" Lu Ran's voice wasn't loud, surely couldn't float twenty or thirty kilometers.

But the whispered words truly wound around the ears of the giant jade figure.

Ghostly Eyes Evil Technique: Corpse Whisper!

A faint smile seemed to appear on the vague face of the giant jade figure: "You say, I can crush you now."

Lu Ran's face was dark.

"As you wish." The giant jade figure slowly raised a hand, pointing towards Heroine Divine Mountain.

Countless Jade Venerable minions suddenly moved, charging forward in a mighty surge.

"Divine General Luo, Ten Thousand Dragons Sea Suppressing Arrow!" Lu Ran ordered.

"Yes, sir!" Luo Ying, who had long been ready with a drawn bow, immediately responded.

A "twang" resonated through the air.

The bowstring trembled!

The shot was not a single arrow, but a massive Cyan Dragon.

"Roar!!"

The massive Cyan Dragon, with teeth bared and claws spread, roared as it charged towards the Jade Venerable army, then shattered mid-flight, transforming into thousands of smaller Cyan Dragons.

Covering the sky, a thousand arrows in one release!

The arrow rain formed by the small Cyan Dragons soon faced off with the White Jade Tide.

In an instant, the sound of breaking was continuous.

The Heavenly Realm Jade Venerable minions were pierced through by the divine-grade Ten Thousand Dragons Sea Suppressing Arrow, falling one after another.

But more Jade Venerable minions used the temporarily remaining corpses of their comrades as shields, continuing a mad advance.

On the Divine Mountain, the faces of the officers and soldiers looked grim.

The likes of Mud Venerate and Nine Bamboo shivered with fear.

Such fierce waves coming could wash away the entire Divine Mountain, right?

"Hiss!!"

The serpent's cry cut through the sky, shaking souls.

Bai Rao's stone sculpture, originally grey and dull, suddenly emitted a glowing white sheen, rapidly expanding in size.

In the blink of an eye, a White-Scaled Immortal Heavenly Python, ten thousand meters long, coiled in the sky above the Divine Mountain.

The scene was incredibly magnificent!

The ancient beast shrieked sharply, its cry reverberating through heaven and earth, its long tail sweeping forward fiercely.

The troops were revitalized! The White Jade Tsunami covering the sky was cut open horizontally by the thick long tail, smashing countless Jade Venerable minions.

"Dong! Dong! Dong!"

At the foot of the mountain, the Profound Ape clenched its massive fists, pounding excitedly on its chest, howling at the sky: "Roar~~~"

First-class Evil God: Jade-faced Snake, truly the Beast God King!

Even the likes of Yinli Tiger and Spiritual Image must bow their heads in submission.

However, the Jade-faced Snake is an Evil God, and thus not included in the Human Clan's "Eight Great Heavenly Demons" sequence.

The Profound Ape doesn't care who this ancient giant python is; it knows it has submitted to Lu Ran, and the Jade-faced Snake is also under Lu Ran's command.

This is enough!

But in the next moment, the Profound Ape's shout abruptly ceased as it sensed a light descending from the sky.

It turned out that the ancient beast's tail sweep had smashed countless enemies, but its tail was also stained with debris!

The giant jade figure clung to the snake's tail, with the tail sweep, smashing countless fellow minions, and when Bai Rao retracted its tail, the giant jade figure was "retracted" towards the Divine Mountain.

No way could this be allowed!

Bai Rao realized the situation was wrong, and immediately swung its tail fiercely, trying to shake off the annoying insect.

The first tail swing did not succeed.

The second tail swing...

The giant jade figure, already prepared, kicked hard against the snake's tail, using the force to rapidly charge towards the Divine Mountain, slashing towards the mountain foot.

Its speed was astonishing, jaw-dropping.

The charge was so fierce that no being had the ability, nor dared, to intercept!

Anyone appearing in its path would be directly smashed, right?

Yan Shuangzi dared to intercept!

She instantaneously appeared, the Evil Moon Scimitar fiercely cutting from obliquely above, leaving a suspended black sword trace.

At the same time, the howl of wolves echoed, masses of grey wolf shadows leapt from mid-air, pouncing towards the obliquely inclined Faceless Jade Venerable.

"Crunch! Crunch..."

The Faceless Jade Venerable smashed through one wolf shadow after another, with shallow cracks emerging on the jade stone skin.

[Dodge!] The Master of Ran Sect also dared to intercept!

Lu Ran flickered into a position more angled behind Yan Shuangzi, decisively issuing a command.

Yan Shuangzi immediately used Instant Teleportation to leave, almost simultaneously, the giant jade figure forcibly penetrated the suspended black sword trace.

This sword trace has severed many enemies at the waist, the scene bloody and brutal, but now falling on the Faceless Jade Venerable, it only leaves a shallow scar.

The strength of the Jade Body is astonishing!

"Hoo!!"

Lu Ran, enveloped in blazing flames, reached upward with his hand, launching a thick column of fire from his palm.

The Great Jade Venerable's jade robe fluttered, shielding in front.

She endured the Sea-piercing Flame, with only the slightest slowdown in momentum.

"Sect Leader!"

"Young Master, quickly dodge! Dodge away!" A desperate voice echoed from the mountain, as massive figures rushed to aid.

But without the Instant Teleportation Technique, how could they keep up?

"Gulp." Lu Ran's Adam's apple rolled once, with barely any time for reaction, he teleported away alone.

The Great Jade Venerable supported the cracked jade robe, swiftly passing through the lush bamboo forest, continuing to crash diagonally towards the foot of the mountain.

Directly bombarding the Profound Ape!

The Profound Ape couldn't afford to care about much, immediately springing its feet and bursting its massive body out of the mountain.

It wasn't a normal leap but the Black Ape Evil Technique: Black Shadow Attack.

This technique allows the caster to dash forward rapidly over a distance, very suitable for penetration and breakthrough.

Yet unexpectedly, the Great Jade Venerable adjusted direction, continuing to crash diagonally, while drawing a curved arc amidst the broken bamboo forest.

"Roar!"

The Profound Ape felt its head covered by a white glow, immediately giving a startled roar and activated defense techniques.

Mystic Ape Divine Technique: Steel Bones + Black Ape Evil Technique: Copper Head Iron Arm!

Double techniques combined!

The Seventh-class God: Profound Ape maximized the defensive attributes to their limit within its capability, and thus lost the ability to move, its body completely rigid.

"Bang!!"

The crystal-clear radiant jade body collided fiercely with a dim stone-sculpted body within the bamboo forest.

The white jade was supposed to be the more fragile one, yet it was the Profound Ape's shoulder that was shattered.

The strength of the Jade Venerable's stance is truly unparalleled in the world!

She even used her chest to ram the Profound Ape's shoulder, and in the instant of their intense collision, she completely ignored her own injuries, fiercely grabbing the Profound Ape's head with her jade hands.

Dragging it to continue crashing towards the ground!

Visible to the naked eye, that dim ape's head was dyed with a white jade hue!

Under the Faceless Jade Venerable's palm, it continuously shattered, turning into jade stone powder.

Yan Shuangzi's eyes widened suddenly!

The Venerable's attitude of disregarding the entire Ran Sect and its leader made Yan Shuangzi's heart churn with hostility.

Her figure flashed again!

"Puff!!"

She instantly appeared beneath the two, crushed along with them into the Mud Flow River.

The rapidly aiding soldiers changed color in horror!

Only to see at the landing point of the Faceless Jade Venerable, the raging Mud Flow River quickly turning into jade stone.

"Swish~"

Yan Shuangzi, with stone-textured skin stained with patches of jade color, instantly teleported out.

Holding the head of the shattered Profound Ape, she stood poised in mid-air, her gaze viciously fixed on the jade-transformed Mud Flow River.

"Ah!!" The Mad Immortal shouted fiercely, equally infuriated!

Already descending rapidly, she no longer had any concerns, fiercely launching a thick flame towards below.

"Boom!"

Jade shattered, mud splattered.

Suddenly, the Seventh-class God: Nine Bamboo at the foot of the mountain sensed something amiss!

"Puff~"

Though the nearby Mud Flow River was not jade-transformed, from within burst a sparkling figure.

Faceless Jade Venerable?!

"Ah!" Nine Bamboo hurriedly dodged, summoning bamboo to rise from the ground, and swung the Bamboo Whip fiercely.

However, the bamboo was shattered, and the Bamboo Whip was grabbed by the Venerable and pulled viciously.

Nine Bamboo's face turned pale!

The oppressive presence brought by the Faceless Jade Venerable was overwhelming, and in extreme panic, Nine Bamboo did not release the whip in time and was pulled towards the Venerable.

In sight, the giant jade hand approached rapidly.

"Snap!"

The Great Jade Venerable covered Nine Bamboo's face gate with one hand, forcibly seizing the other's head, as the billowing jade robe swept the entire Divine Body like a tide.

"Crack! Crack..."

The Faceless Jade Venerable casually dangled Nine Bamboo at her side, letting it struggle at the brink of death.

While she dodged the thick fire column in a backward flight, she completely ignored Si Xianxian, instead gazing at the hovering Yan Shuangzi, and said faintly:

"Come, rescue again."

...

Chapter 1119: Death Battle! Jade Venerable!

"Crack! Crack..."

Nine Bamboo's head continuously transformed into jade stone, shattering piece by piece in the hands of the Jade Venerable.

The thing All Gods and demons prided themselves on the most should be their defensive attributes; the stone-like bodies of most divine grades of defense techniques were unmatched in sturdiness!

However, the Faceless Jade Venerable seemed to be born specifically to counter All Gods.

Under her "contamination," the formidable defensive power of the Divine Sculpted Body was effortlessly dismantled.

"Crack!!"

A piercing noise emanated from within the Jade Robe.

The Pangda Jade Venerable was still flying backward rapidly, dodging the huge pillars of fire, when suddenly a thick fog dispersed, obscuring an area.

That was the Origin Energy released after the Divine Sculpture shattered.

Nine Bamboo ranked seventh, indeed a weak god, with mediocre body attributes and skills.

But no matter what, this was still a god!

Yet in front of the Faceless Jade Venerable, it wasn't even a match for one round!

"Damn it! Stop, you stop right there!" Si Xianxian was furious, pushing the Sea-piercing Flame in her hand, sweeping it recklessly through the mist.

Lu Ran's temples throbbed as he stared intently at the rapidly flying Pangda Jade Venerable in the mist.

It was the first time he saw the Jade Venerable here at the Heroine Divine Mountain.

At that time, the Pangda Jade Venerable was almost pressing down on the Martial Artist, Yin Flower Dan, and Nu Ying in battle!

1V3!

The Jade Venerable still had the upper hand, eventually seizing a large amount of resources and retreating gracefully.

The Martial Artist and Yin Flower Dan were both First-class God Demons, while Nu Ying was a Valkyrie with Double Divine Position!

So in Lu Ran's heart, he had a rough estimate of the Faceless Jade Venerable's strength.

But at this moment, Lu Ran realized he still underestimated her!

The Jade Venerable seized an opportunity, using the force of an ancient fierce beast's tail swing, to forcefully break into the Divine Mountain, nearly taking the life of the Profound Ape.

Although she ultimately didn't succeed, she didn't get discouraged for a moment and decisively took Nine Bamboo's life.

This damn it!

"Whoosh~~~"

The Jade Robe flapped wildly, as the Pangda Jade Venerable flew out of the thick mist.

She had many shallow cracks on her body, but still maintained a proud posture, standing in mid-air, overlooking the beings of the Divine Mountain.

"Something's wrong with her!" Nu Ying suddenly spoke up.

"What?" Lu Ran immediately asked.

"The attitude is off!" Nu Ying's eyes burned brightly, not having seen such a presence in the Faceless Jade Venerable for a long time.

The last time the Jade Venerable displayed such an invincible stance was in the previous world.

It was during the destruction of the God Demon homeland!

Since the God Demons embarked on the road of exile, everything had changed.

After the God Demons found a new foothold, the subsequent pursuit by the Faceless Jade Venerable wasn't as terrifying as her earlier resistance.

The resources of the Human World were indeed rich, allowing the God Demons to rise again.

The Faceless Jade Venerable changed her strategy, focusing on plundering resources over forty years, capturing the most dead souls at minimal cost, but now...

Strong assault?!

Using her chest to hit the shoulder of the Profound Ape, even while the Profound Ape activated defense techniques.

What kind of battle attitude is this?

Nu Ying's gaze grew hotter.

She realized that the old opponent had reappeared; although it was unclear why the Faceless Jade Venerable was acting this way, the one who overthrew the God Demon rule back then had returned!

A muffled "thump" occurred!

Standing at the edge of the cliff, Nu Ying suddenly launched herself, wielding a blade to attack the high sky.

"Hmm?" The Faceless Jade Venerable turned her gaze.

Unexpectedly, she didn't confront her directly.

Earlier, facing the Seventh Rank Divine Profound Ape and Nine Bamboo, the Jade Venerable was overwhelmingly strong, but now she flew downward and decisively dodged.

"Come!" Nu Ying shouted loudly, waving her blade repeatedly, with a blood-red sword aura slashing toward the Jade Venerable.

"Heh." The Faceless Jade Venerable let out a cold snicker, suddenly raising her robe to cover her front.

"Die!!" The Mad Immortal shouted angrily, coordinating with Nu Ying's rapidly slashing sword aura, while the large fire pillar in her hand fiercely struck the target.

"Crack! Crack..."

Cracks rapidly crawled over the Jade Robe.

Even if that exquisite jade stone material was half rank stronger than that of the Divine and Evil Sculptures, it couldn't withstand the explosive output of the Mad Immortal's attack.

"Crack!!"

Accompanied by an extremely piercing noise, the Jade Robe was shattered.

Within the massive fire pillar, the Pangda Jade Venerable spun rapidly and plummeted.

The Mad Immortal Guardian's beautiful eyes were fierce, still ferocious, while the Mad Hammer and Fiery Hell Hammer simultaneously reminded their master that a large number of enemies were approaching!

What enemies?

A sky full of Jade Venerable Minions!

A dignified god moving to deal with Heavenly Realm minions, how could that be?

It must be dealt with!

Within the Divine Demon System, it's true that there isn't a situation of a colossal one being bitten by many ants, as long as you are one rank higher, most cannot break through your defense.

However, the Jade Venerable Clan...

They operate outside the Three Realms, not within the system!

The Jade Venerable Minions have the ability to taint the stone-like skin of the God Demons. With enough numbers, they can dismantle all defensive methods of the gods, including those of divine-grade.

Never mind this robe or that armor.

Even if a Divine Monk came with a Golden Body, they would be defiled!

"Get out of the way!" Si Xianxian angrily turned around and flew backward, the Sea-piercing Flame in her hand never ceasing.

In front of her, countless Jade Venerable Minions, each over four meters tall, formed a terrifying wave, intent on engulfing Si Xianxian completely.

She swung the huge fire pillar vigorously.

The "Crack, crack" sound was incessant.

Numerous Jade Venerable Minions fell on the spot, yet Si Xianxian kept flying backward.

The enemies were truly overwhelming!

"Hiss!!"

High in the sky, the snake's cry was sharp and piercing.

The snake's tail swept wildly around the Divine Mountain, while the Heaven-swallowing Snake spewed Immortal Qi towards the "White Jade Tide," dissolving all things.

Chapter 1120: Death Battle! Jade Venerable! (Part 2)

"Hulala~~~"

The Pangda Jade Venerable swiftly darted past, with more than half of her jade robe gone, the remaining pieces tattered and continuously shedding jade dust as she sped along.

Cracks sprawled across her body, yet her offensive did not diminish in the slightest, showing no intention of retreating.

The Pangda Jade Venerable bypassed Nu Ying, heading straight for the mountainside.

The Fourth-class God: Mud Venerable's face was rigid as he hastily raised his hands, a massive torrent of mud shooting towards the Jade Venerable.

Jade Venerable, Mud Venerable.

Only one character's difference, yet the disparity in strength is worlds apart!

"Hoo~~~"

The Pangda Jade Venerable seemed to have eyes at the back of her head, sensing the approaching surge of divine power from behind. She deftly dodged Nu Ying's blood-red blade aura, spiraled around the incoming mud flow, and thrust forward.

This astonishing scene was not merely a crush in terms of physical attributes.

It was an enhancement through battle experience!

An ultimate display of comprehensive prowess!

Within that crystalline, shattered body lay a determination cast aside life and death, to decisively slay the enemy!

Mud Venerable, resembling a stern middle-aged man in appearance.

Always with a solemn expression.

But at this moment, he was utterly terrified.

Through that expressionless jade face, he seemed to see the nightmare from back then, daring not to spray the mud flow any longer to obstruct her.

"Hoo!!"

Lu Ran arrived in an instant, shooting a pillar of fire from his hand, intending to join forces with Mud Venerable to intercept the enemy together.

One mud column could not block her, but with an additional pillar of fire, the situation would be completely different!

"Rumble!"

However, Mud Venerable was already scared witless, summoned a Mud Flow River without caring whether the Divine Mountain remained stable or not.

The next moment, he transformed into mud, merging into the surging mud flow, and fled in panic.

Mud Venerable knew full well that he couldn't possibly stop the Faceless Jade Venerable.

The hope of survival lay one part in self-rescue, nine parts in the Ran Sect!

Indeed, it was so.

The Master of Ran Sect indeed arrived, and was indeed sold out!

"You!" Lu Ran's face turned ashen.

Along this journey, those by his side were all loyal and reliable comrades, with whom they could entrust their backs.

Yet here, Lu Ran came to save Mud Venerable, but Mud Venerable ran!

Ran!!

"Swish~" Mud Venerable had fled, while the Evil Shadow Guardian arrived, arriving at the mountainside almost simultaneously with Lu Ran.

Clearly, she was here to assist.

Instead of saving Mud Venerable, she ended up facing the enemy alongside the Sect Leader.

Yan Shuangzi's face was equally unsightly, but now was evidently not the time to settle scores; she immediately summoned the Fourth-class Divine Weapon--Night Charm Saber, slashing fiercely forward.

"Buzz!" The Divine Weapon trembled violently.

A gale suddenly arose!

The terrifying sound of breaking through the air spread out from her blade's tip.

Countless long sword traces appeared out of thin air, as if ready to tear apart all things, densely packed and blocking the path of the Pangda Jade Venerable's advance.

"Ha." The Pangda Jade Venerable let out a cold snort, refusing to force her way into the Divine Weapon Domain, skewed and pierced into the mountain itself.

"Bang! Bang!"

"Rumble..."

The Divine Mountain trembled, the loud sound extending all the way to the peak.

Hua Qingying immediately panicked!

As an auxiliary, she hurriedly retreated backward, whereas Wang Longxiang, knife in hand, charged upstream, brushing past Hua Tianjiang, and followed the noise within the mountain to attack.

"Clang, clang, clang, clang~"

The sudden sound of drums and gongs resounded at the peak of the Divine Mountain.

Wu Xiao, light as a swallow, arrived ahead of Wang Longxiang, abruptly erecting a semi-transparent barrier.

The sound of the gong settled the world!

Come, come, come, take the stage!

"Ding" a crisp sound!

The Faceless Jade Venerable had just broken through the soil when Wu Xiao had already thrust his spear, the tip of the spear aiming directly at the Faceless Jade Venerable's face.

"Crack!"

At this moment, Wu Xiao's face was dark, surrounded by a black evil qi, and the spear tip with a strong tearing effect actually broke through the Jade Venerable's facial shield.

The Pangda Jade Venerable's eyes focused!

After all, she had clawed her way out by reaching forward with both hands, yet the opponent precisely found the gap in her defense.

Ha, splendid!

What an outstanding martial artist of the Ran Sect!

The Pangda Jade Venerable rarely showed a hint of emotion, her eyes flaring with anger, immediately swinging her hand horizontally.

"Wayaayayaya!" In the black-faced state, Wu Xiao also rarely shouted, moving with incredible speed!

More accurately speaking, on his stage, everything around was like slow-motion playback.

"Screech!"

The Martial Emperor wielded his spear with a fierce horizontal swipe, the spear tip shrouded in evil qi forcefully tearing apart the Faceless Jade Venerable's appearance.

The Pangda Jade Venerable burst out from underground, its jade hand suddenly grabbing towards Wu Xiao's calf.

As the Martial Emperor retreated to evade, he swung the Sky-piercing Halberd horizontally to his waist, spinning his whole body 360 degrees in the process!

His long ponytail floated horizontally, covering the lower half of his face.

The halberd tip, shrouded in black mist, drew an arc around him.

"Sizzle!"

The sharp halberd tip attacked from the other side of the Pangda Jade Venerable, slashing fiercely across her waist.

The jade body was cut open, splattering fragments of stone everywhere.

The Pangda Jade Venerable suddenly flew backward!

The Martial Emperor was equally quick, closing in with the Purple Thunder Dragon Halberd stabbing repeatedly at her face.

"You are stronger than a Martial Artist!"

The Pangda Jade Venerable actually complimented someone?

She leaned her upper body back, no longer as reckless as before; her shattered jade face wouldn't allow her to casually handle the enemy before her.

"Wow ah ah ah!"

What responded to the Jade Venerable was the theatrics of the Martial Emperor.

And his continuous stabs with the Purple Thunder Dragon Halberd!

As a quiet gourd, without this black face, he probably wouldn't say a word.

The Pangda Jade Venerable suddenly tilted her head, the halberd tip brushing past the side of her face.

She tapped her foot, retreating while hurriedly lowering her head.

Because the Sky-piercing Halberd in the Martial Emperor's hand swung horizontally, the crescent blade slashing down, cutting off a large portion of her jade hair.

Two massive stone sculptures, each about two hundred seventy-eight meters tall, were engaged in fierce close combat.

While the giants battled, a small figure was wreaking havoc!

"Sizzle—"

The sound of mist spraying emanated from the Jade Venerable's waist.

Lu Ran, holding the Dawn Blade, appeared at the Pangda Jade Venerable's left waist, the blade tip against her jade skin, mist spraying from beneath his feet, rushing towards her right shoulder.

Wherever the emperor-robed youth passed, a very thin, extremely bright line of dawn light was left behind.

The retreating Pangda Jade Venerable's expression changed!

She slapped towards her waist.

Lu Ran's pupils slightly contracted, focusing on the gigantic jade hand slapping down.

"Sizzle—"

He actually didn't flicker away; instead, mist sprayed from beneath his feet as he changed direction.

With a crisp "snap,"

The massive jade hand slapped hard on her waist.

The tiny human ant unexpectedly moved between her middle and ring fingers before her palm landed.

Precise! Ingenious!

Extremely dangerous!

The Faceless Jade Venerable's expression froze as her middle and ring fingers abruptly closed, trying to crush the ant.

But unexpectedly, the little human moved incredibly fast, breaking free from her fingers at the last moment and continuing toward her right shoulder.

Pangda Jade Venerable: !!!

"Ding!"

In front of the Martial Emperor, you dare lose focus?

The halberd tip stabbed fiercely into the Pangda Jade Venerable's left eye, spreading spider-web-like cracks outward from the eyeball.

The Martial Emperor remained expressionless, slashing horizontally with the halberd.

"Crack!!"

The Pangda Jade Venerable's head tilted as the halberd tip slashed through her eye socket and emerged from her left temple, causing fragmented jade stones to scatter.

"Sizzle—"

The line of dawn light flashed rapidly before the Jade Venerable, directly pressing towards her right shoulder.

The Martial Emperor was driving the Jade Venerable back step by step, and the Master of Ran Sect was even going to take her life directly!

And the Pangda Jade Venerable...

She no longer tried to swat at the ant in front of her.

As if she had made some resolution, she no longer distracted herself with Lu Ran. Facing the Martial Emperor's incoming thrust, she dodged and then turned around.

Wu Xiao frowned slightly.

The Jade Venerable was actually aiming the back of her head at him?

The remaining half of the shattered jade robe was too fragile to clear the obstacles behind her.

Regardless, the Martial Emperor couldn't let such a good opportunity slip by; he tapped his foot, charged forward, leaned his body, and thrust the halberd tip with all his might toward the back of her head again.

"Ding!"

The Pangda Jade Venerable suddenly leaped forward, and the halberd tip failed to hit the back of her head but struck her back instead.

"Crash..."

The jade robe shattered with a thunderous crash.

The Pangda Jade Venerable lunged straight ahead, withstanding the thrust with her jade robe, long hair, and relatively intact back.

Under multiple layers of protection, the halberd tip didn't penetrate her back but instead allowed her to take advantage of the force to lunge forward.

Wu Xiao's eyes suddenly widened!

The rapid forward path of the Pangda Jade Venerable...was Wang Longxiang!

...