

Old Gods 1151

Chapter 1151: The Next Cycle of Reincarnation

The divine soul after death was completely devoured by the Jade Venerable.

The former Peak Master of Wuji Peak also vanished forever from this world, becoming nourishment for the Jade Venerable's energy.

The Heavenly General of the Burning Gate, we are one less.

The Eight Great Divine Generals, now eternally missing one.

"Wuwu..." Qiao Yuansi buried her head in Jiang Ruyi's embrace, unable to control her sobs.

On her ankle was a golden bell, a gift from Jin Que'er.

The two had established a close relationship in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, and during their time stationed in the Heavenly Realm, they often communicated privately through the Magic Artifact--Heavenly Sound Bell, encouraging each other to persevere through daily life.

Now, her sister Que'er was gone.

All that was left was the lonely Heavenly Sound Bell on her ankle.

"Phew~"

The mountain wind blew, carrying the cries of the young girl far, far away.

Jiang Ruyi wrapped an arm around Little Yuanxi, gently smoothing her hair, allowing the girl's tears to soak her clothes, while glancing at the emperor-robed youth not far away.

This battle report was nothing less than a devastating blow.

Lu Ran had indeed faced numerous dangers along the way, but with ample strategy and support from many sides, the result was ultimately favorable.

Ambushes, sieges, infiltrations, defections...

The fact proved that the God Demon Camp was already rotten, and the Ran Sect had successfully overturned everything.

But confronting the Faceless Jade Venerable, everything changed!

It was undeniable, the Jade Venerable's power was supreme, inherently suppressing the God and Demon alike, but fundamentally, the Ran Sect had never encountered such a situation before.

A massive number of dead and injured were now stacked upon Lu Ran's shoulders.

Jiang Ruyi knew very well what kind of person he was, and he would probably be feeling particularly guilty.

"Sect Leader." A voice came, awakening the warriors immersed in the atmosphere of grief and repression.

Lu Ran slowly turned his head, looking towards the Dragon Guardian.

Yu Changsheng said, "Victory or defeat is a common occurrence among soldiers! In the struggle for survival, casualties are inevitable. We can erect monuments for the Heavenly General, the Golden Divine General, and the fallen God and Demons.

We can ensure their stories are passed down, immortal in the hearts of the people.

We must rally; only achieving final victory would honor the sacrifices of the warriors."

The Dragon Guardian's words were strong and powerful, awakening everyone.

Lu Ran, expressionless, quietly watched Yu Changsheng.

The two exchanged gazes, the Dragon Guardian's confident eyes gradually changed, his face turning pale, and then lowering his head.

"Sect Leader, the Dragon Guardian is right." Another female voice came through.

Lu Ran turned his eyes to see the Nightmare Guardian looking up towards him.

Deng Yuxiang said gravely, "Only by winning can we let their names and stories be passed on! Let all beings know what they sacrificed for the continuation of our race, for the Human World Home.

And only by winning can we console the spirits of the soldiers in the afterlife."

Lu Ran silently watched the woman.

She did not avert her gaze, instead looked softly at Lu Ran.

The huge stone hand fell into silence.

Until a dozen seconds later, another female voice called out: "Sect Leader."

In the hands of the Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture, there were not many people standing; it was the extraordinarily high-status Emperor Jun Tian speaking, who did not perform soldiers' etiquette, nor did she call him "Ranran."

Qiao Wanju softly advised, "Time is pressing now, and matters like memorials should be handled after victory. We should now investigate the Jade Venerable Clan, ascertain their next move, and discuss strategies against them.

Sect Leader, you are the leader of the Ran Sect, the only one among all gods who truly inspires and leads."

There was no need to complete the statement; the meaning was clear enough.

All Ran Sect Gods listened intently, only the Emperor Lu, who had saluted alongside the soldiers, slowly raised his head, looking at that figure of unrivaled charm.

Qiao Wanju, sensing something, turned her head to look.

No need to deliberately search, she directly saw the only one among the gods who had lifted his head.

That was evidently the Heavenly Realm Body of the First-class Evil God Blood Skull.

Qiao Wanju slightly furrowed her brows, realizing the strange expression on this Blood Skull.

He should have looked ferocious, with a sinister gaze, but at the moment, those blood-red pupils were filled with... um, complex emotions.

Complex emotions?

"I've already come up with an initial plan to deal with the Jade Venerable." A hoarse voice came from behind the Blood Crystal Mask.

Upon hearing this, everyone's hearts raced and skin crawled!

"Ruyi, you manage the situation, I have some issues to handle." The hoarse voice lingered in the ears of all the gods.

For a time, many soldiers were worried, but dared not speak.

A few Gods and Demons instinctively looked up at the Master of Ran Sect, then nervously hung their heads.

Lu Ran named someone, "Wang Quan."

"At your service."

"Let's go." With a wave of his hand, Lu Ran formed a Landing Mirror.

Wang Quan immediately stood up and walked towards Lu Ran.

The two, one human and one god, left one after the other, and with the disappearance of the mirror, the surroundings fell silent again.

Jiang Ruyi understood very well that Lu Ran was doing his utmost, tirelessly working for the victory of the Ran Sect.

But he... perhaps he should encourage the soldiers or share some plans to give confidence to the gods.

Jiang Ruyi sighed inwardly, knowing he also had a lot of emotions to process.

In the end, he was a young leader who had never faced such a significant setback and was incredibly emotional.

"In this battle, our Ran Sect suffered heavy losses, but we also killed four of the Jade Venerable's true selves." Jiang Ruyi slowly spoke, "The soldiers will not have died in vain."

In the Sect Leader's Sculpture Garden, our Ran Sect's Faceless Stone Venerable will soon be completed."

For a moment, all the gods turned their gaze to the Lady of the Burning Gate.

The Faceless "Stone" Venerable?

Chapter 1152: The Next Cycle of Reincarnation

Such a name gives people too much room for imagination!

Compared to the Faceless Jade Venerable, is it stronger or weaker?

Jiang Ruyi still held Little Yuanxi, smoothing the girl's long hair: "The Sect Leader has always been diligently searching for ways to deal with the Jade Venerable Clan.

More eager, more diligent, and more effective than any of you."

After speaking, her cold eyes swept across All Gods, and she spoke lightly, "Don't let me hear what I don't want to hear, or perceive thoughts you shouldn't have."

All Gods: "..."

Who would dare?

To put it bluntly, who would dare?

"Cong Long."

"Lady?"

"Speak, what do you think the Ran Sect should plan next?"

"Lady, now our Burning Gate's Divine Mountain only has nine left, reaching a critical point in sustaining the Heavenly Realm, the margin for error is too low! I believe the most urgent matter now is to build new Divine Mountains and allocate personnel..."

On this side, the Burning Gate's Soldiers were having a meeting, while Lu Ran took Wang Quan and returned to the Duskbamboo Crossing surrounded by the bamboo forest.

"Wang Quan, keep these Rebirth Coins safe, I'll come back for them later." Lu Ran distinguished each Ancient Copper Coin, handing them over one by one.

"Yes." Wang Quan reached out to take them.

On the battlefield now, the death of a Burning Gate's Soldier meant a reduction in numbers.

The Ran Sect didn't have enough time, nor did Lu Ran have enough energy to resurrect his comrades; everything would have to wait until after the great battle.

Lu Ran sorted through them and left behind two Rebirth Coins imprisoning the Jade Venerable Divine Soul: "Later, you should take out more Rebirth Coins and give them to the Lady for distribution."

"Yes." Wang Quan continued to nod.

Lu Ran picked up two Rebirth Coins, paused for a moment, and said, "Your lifespan is about to end, you need to share the Divine Position with Li Rouyin to extend your life."

Wang Quan immediately nodded.

The decay of the Divine Sculpted Body is irreversible; only the injection of fresh blood can rejuvenate it.

Lu Ran continued, "Since you want to share the Divine Position with her, you must have signed not the Inheritance Contract, but the Master-Servant Contract?"

If Li Rouyin were an heir, she would replace Wang Quan, not merge with a God.

"Yes." Wang Quan nodded immediately.

Lu Ran said solemnly, "I need the Divine Technique: Rebirth Coin; you're not in my Sculpture Garden, and my Spring of Oblivion Stone Sculpture is forever a Fake God.

My Divine Technique of Spring of Oblivion can only reach Heavenly Grade at most."

Wang Quan looked at Lu Ran cautiously: "Sect Leader wants... um, what do you want me to do?"

"I want you to give up on the disciple Li Rouyin."

Wang Quan felt a pang in his heart!

Lu Ran pressed his hand, comforting the Lord God's restless heart: "I will let her sign the Inheritance Contract with the Spring of Oblivion Stone Sculpture in my garden, replacing it.

You will split half of the Divine Position to the Pseudo-God Li Rouyin, with her new body as the leading factor, and you two will merge as one.

In this way, your foundation will also be in the Sculpture Garden, under my command... Are you willing?"

Wang Quan felt a bitterness in his heart, his hands trembled slightly as he held the Ancient Copper Coins, slowly kneeling to the ground and bowing:

"Thank... understood."

Lu Ran watched in silence, looking at the bowed God.

According to Wang Quan's plan, after merging with the disciple, she would hold an absolute dominant position.

But now, it was different; the nature had completely changed.

Lu Ran knew his actions were rude and domineering, and Wang Quan had no choice but to submit.

Thinking about everything she had done for him all along, Lu Ran slowly said, "Treat the battle between Ran Sect and Jade Venerable as a turning point."

Wang Quan listened silently with her head lowered.

"If the Ran Sect wins, I promise you the next cycle of reincarnation."

"The next... cycle of reincarnation?" Wang Quan looked up.

Lu Ran nodded gently: "In billions of years, you and Rouyin's bodies will eventually decay.

At that time, I will create a brand new Divine Sculpted Body for you, sending your Divine Soul into it.

Granting you a new cycle of life."

Wang Quan's heart trembled violently, clutching the Rebirth Coins in his hand tightly, bowing her noble head deeply, trembling as she spoke:

"Thank you... Sect Leader!"

...

Chapter 1153: Another Expert?

The fifteenth of the winter month, within the Sculpture Garden.

Lu Ran floated before the Faceless Stone Venerable, pressing the final wisp of the Jade Venerable Divine Soul to her face.

His palm rested upon her forehead, feeling something intently.

"Still not enough... just a little more..." Lu Ran murmured to himself, slowly opening his eyes.

In the past ten days, he had torn apart the five Jade Venerable Divine Souls he captured into wisps and attached them to the Faceless Stone Venerable's body.

Meticulously crafting the hope of the Ran Sect.

Visually speaking, the Faceless Stone Venerable was already taking shape.

Aside from being a dull stone creation, it was otherwise identical to the Faceless Jade Venerable!

Yet, it still fell short by a thin margin.

Creating a stone sculpture is indeed difficult!

This time, Lu Ran brought back five Jade Venerable Divine Souls. A few months ago, he obtained another Divine Soul at the Heroine Divine Mountain, bringing the total resources to six souls.

One must know that these are Divine Souls! Such a considerable resource quantity still couldn't complete the Faceless Stone Venerable.

Hmm... no matter!

If it's just a little short, then let's go to the borderlands and kill some Jade Venerable minions.

Just as well, during these days, the Venerable Slayer Blade has been itching for action.

Regarding the Divine Weapon Domain, one cannot blame either the weapon or its master.

Power, after all, is the basis for transcendence.

The Venerable Slayer Blade's thirst for power manifested in enhancing its master's attributes in all aspects, which is not unreasonable.

If Lu Ran weren't the Lord of Gods and Demons, lacking myriad skills, he would surely treasure the Venerable Slayer Blade.

But Lu Ran has no shortage of attribute-enhancing skills.

This makes it awkward...

The Venerable Slayer Blade realized this, and after advancing to the Second Rank, it grew even more agitated, always eager to prove itself.

"Sect Leader." A voice sounded from the sky above and to the side.

Lu Ran raised his head and saw an enormous stone face.

One of the Eight Great Divine Generals of the Ran Sect, Li Rouyin!

She had a beautiful face, and since transforming into a stone sculpture, she no longer appeared morbidly pale but rather pleasing to the eye.

Her eye disease was also healed.

The once fragile human body could not withstand the blurred boundary between life and death, resulting in blindness.

Now she had a pair of stone eyes and regained her sight.

"Third Level of the Heavenly Realm now?" Lu Ran inquired.

"Yes, Sect Leader." Li Rouyin gently nodded. She had been waiting here for a long time, not daring to disturb Lu Ran until she saw him open his eyes, then she dared to call softly.

"I've made arrangements with Wang Quan to half a Divine Position with you. Let's go, I'll take you out."

"Yes!" Li Rouyin replied, bowing her head.

Inside the Rebirth Hall, Lu Ran opened his eyes, a hint of sorrow flashing in his gaze.

He once thought that the sequence of the Eight Great Divine Generals could be completed.

Now that Li Rouyin had arrived, Jin Que'er would never return.

The heavens do not grant what the heart desires.

Are the affairs of the world never allowed to be perfect...

Lu Ran took out the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd and entered it alone, arriving before the patiently waiting Forgotten Spring Divine Sculpture, handing over Pseudo-God Li Rouyin to it.

Afterward, he left.

Wang Quan knew what to do without Lu Ran's personal effort.

He emerged from the gourd, took one last look at the gloomy Rebirth Hall, and then activated the Transmission Mirror and left.

With one step, he arrived at the Immortal Mo Divine Mountain.

"You're back." A soft voice came from the horizon.

Lu Ran stepped down into her palm.

He looked up and saw another enormous enchanting stone face.

Much more attractive than Li Xiaochu.

"How's it going?" Jiang Ruyi cupped her hands.

[Wang Quan is sharing a Divine Position with Li Rouyin.] Lu Ran chose to reply telepathically, [On my side, the Faceless Stone Venerable is still almost formed, I need to kill some Jade Venerable minions.]

"Buzz!"

The Venerable Slayer Blade at his waist trembled intensely.

Of course, it couldn't hear the telepathic message, but it could sense its master's mental state.

Whenever Lu Ran harbored even a trace of killing intent, the Venerable Slayer Blade hastily responded.

Lu Ran casually drew the Venerable Slayer Blade, observing its shimmering sharp edge, feeling its extreme intense desire.

To the extent that he didn't hear what Jiang Ruyi said.

"Lu Ran?"

"Hmm?" Lu Ran gently brushed his fingers across the cool blade.

Despite being merely a Second-rank Divine Weapon, its level corresponding only to the vast Yangyang Sea, Lu Ran's divine realm hand trembled along with the blade's hilt.

How oppressed and eager is this fellow?

"Since the Venerable Slayer Blade is so eager that it might advance any moment, you should slay Jade Venerable minions near the Divine Mountain." A clear, cold voice approached from afar.

It was Jiang Ruyi's Heavenly Realm body.

She had just returned from the battlefield, carrying in her hand the equally weighty Divine Weapon--Jade Slaying Sword.

This pair of sword and saber were originally a set, bestowed by the late Deity Tianchen. Before the promotion of the Divine Weapons, the Jade Slaying Sword also responded earlier than the Venerable Slayer Blade.

However, under Lu Ran's cultivation, the Venerable Slayer Blade managed to surpass.

At this moment, the Jade Slaying Sword was only a First-class Divine Weapon, yet to comprehend the Divine Weapon Domain, while the Venerable Slayer Blade had reached the Second Rank and comprehended a... well, useless domain.

"Hmm..." Lu Ran pondered briefly, turning and looking down the mountain.

Twenty kilometers away, coincidentally, an ice-blue Teleportation Array activated, countless Jade Venerable minions transported here.

The two guards, Xuan Shuang and Yiren, were slaughtering relentlessly.

The Heavenly Realm Battlefield resumed its previous mode, and the soldiers wreaked havoc on the borderlands, dismantling the White Jade City Wall.

Alright,

Let the slaughter begin here!

As Fairy Jiang said, the Venerable Slayer Blade is indeed too urgent.

If I went on a mission to the borderlands and the Venerable Slayer Blade suddenly needed to advance, that would be quite a problem.

"Alright?" Jiang Ruyi looped her arm around Lu Ran's, softly speaking, "I'll have the soldiers slay the minions first, and leave the Dead Souls for you."

Lu Ran turned his head to look at Fairy Jiang, revealing a rare smile: "Thank you, my lady."

Others called her 'my lady' out of respect.

Lu Ran's way of calling her seemed to carry another meaning.

Jiang Ruyi tightened her hold on Lu Ran's arm. It had been a while since she had seen him smile.

Although the smile was hidden behind the Blood Crystal Mask, his eyes conveyed it, making him seem less grim and cold.

She missed those days of rising to power.

Despite the dangers, it was a time of bold vengeance, slaughtering gods and demons, sending them fleeing and discarding their armor.

Ever since Ran Sect became the new Cloud Sea and faced the Jade Venerable Clan, everything changed.

Facing absolute disadvantage, the Divine Mountain was shattered with grievous casualties.

Partings by death,

final farewells that even a grave couldn't contend with, had to be silently accepted.

Jiang Ruyi suddenly felt a tightness at her waist as she was pulled into Lu Ran's embrace with one hand. She leaned slightly back, looking up at the face close by.

"What are you thinking?" a husky voice came from behind the mask.

Jiang Ruyi felt a bit flustered; he rarely showed any semblance of a smile. Naturally, she didn't want other matters to disrupt his mood and quickly improvised:

"A few days ago, after you left with Wang Quan, Aunt Qiao and Uncle Lu..."

"What happened?" Lu Ran slightly raised an eyebrow.

Jiang Ruyi recounted what had transpired that day with her: "Aunt Qiao seemed to have sensed something. After the meeting ended, she stopped Blood Skull."

"And then?"

Jiang Ruyi slowly shook her head: "Uncle Lu didn't seem ready to face it, always with his back to Aunt Qiao.

Aunt Qiao asked him a couple of questions, but he remained silent, then teleported away."

Lu Ran's expression turned peculiar: "And then? Didn't Aunt Qiao ask about Blood Skull's identity?"

"No, Aunt Qiao just looked at the spot where Blood Skull vanished, standing there for a long time," Jiang Ruyi lowered her eyes, whispering, "Later on, Aunt Qiao gave me a cold look, then left."

"Ha." Lu Ran chuckled.

With one hand around Fairy Jiang's waist, he released the grip on the blade's hilt with the other, brushing aside a strand of hair from her forehead: "Don't take it to heart. That look was as if you took it on behalf of me and Little Yuanxi."

As he finished speaking, the Blood Crystal Mask moved aside slightly, guided by its owner's heart's thought.

Jiang Ruyi realized what was about to happen and immediately closed her eyes, welcoming a compensatory kiss.

She responded tenderly, cherishing the momentary warmth, nearly devout.

Ever since Lu Ran became the guardian, and since the Jade Venerable loomed over Ran Sect, such moments had become truly precious to her.

Sadly, they were fleeting.

Lu Ran soon donned the Blood Crystal Mask again, gripping the Venerable Slayer Blade, now constantly humming, and flashed away.

Slaughter.

Endless devouring.

Lu Ran had the heart of defiance, standing in an incredibly humble position, slicing through the Faceless Jade Venerable one by one.

Strangely, as waves of Jade Venerable minions were teleported here to battle with the Ran Gate Gods, they each acted with cold determination, going all out despite lacking the strength and realm.

Yet when facing Lu Ran, they would abandon resistance.

If that weren't enough, many of the Jade Venerable minions would direct a smirk at Lu Ran.

That was quite difficult!

After all, the faces of the Jade Venerable Clan were typically blurry.

"What does that expression mean?" After who knew how long of killing, Lu Ran finally couldn't hold back and asked.

The Faceless Jade Venerable stood with hands behind her back, lightly observing Lu Ran: "You seem so helpless."

"Ha." Lu Ran let out a cold laugh.

Me?

Helpless?

I'm waiting for Li Rouyin to become a god, for Divine Grade Floating Life Coin.

I'm waiting for the Faceless Stone Venerable to take form, bringing hope to Ran Sect.

I'm waiting for the Venerable Slayer Blade to advance, for it to help me slay your kin!

And you... what are you all waiting for?

Waiting to die?

"A helpless and desperate soul, the tragic human clan's essence," the Faceless Jade Venerable spoke indifferently, slowly flying forward.

She even pressed her forehead against the tip of the Venerable Slayer Blade: "Lu Ran, the God Demon will be utterly annihilated; you can't protect them."

How many more times can your Ran Sect withstand my attacks? Once, or twice?

I promise you, however many God Demons you bring back from the Netherworld, I will slay that many."

Lu Ran's face was somber as he gazed at the blurred face just a blade's edge away.

"Lu Ran, I admit your existence exceeds my understanding. Perhaps, like me, you were born out of an accident, brought forth by the heavens' grace."

The Faceless Jade Venerable spoke softly: "If you are indestructible, I accept it calmly, but one day you will have to face reality, realizing only you and I are allowed to exist in this world.

But if you can be destroyed..."

With those words, her face again showed that teasing smirk.

That face made Lu Ran's anger rise furiously!

"Buzz!!"

Suddenly, the Blood Crystal Mask quivered intensely.

Amid terrifying energy fluctuations, a Fog Dragon Roll swiftly gathered in the sky, gradually enveloping the area.

Lu Ran was taken aback.

Venerable Slayer Blade: ???

Another expert?

No! My master is tirelessly seeking a second Divine Weapon Domain, and you broken mask want to steal the spotlight...

...

Chapter 1154: My... Stone Venerable!

The Blood Crystal Mask's advancement was undoubtedly an unexpected delight.

Unlike Divine Weapons, magic artifacts were more independent and did not require Lu Ran's energy to grow or advance.

Therefore, when the always quiet Blood Crystal Mask suddenly entered its advancement mode, Lu Ran was quite pleased.

While he was killing within a small range, he was also waiting for good news.

In just over twenty minutes, Lu Ran reached a third-rank magical artifact!

It became more crystalline and the blood mist within the crystals appeared even more eerie.

Its effect at the first rank was to summon a blood mask, physically sealing the enemy's mouth and throat; at the second rank, it induced extreme fear at the thought of making any sound on a psychological level.

The effect at the third rank was to increase the number of blood masks.

At the moment the Fog Dragon Roll dissipated, all the Faceless Jade Venerables around Lu Ran had the lower half of their faces sealed by blood masks.

Three words: Shut up!

And as for those smirking expressions, what are you pretending for?!

Lu Ran suddenly remembered a phrase from Sister Xian'er: You think I'm giving you face, huh?

Cover those faces for me!

The Blood Crystal Mask went on a killing spree.

Even the Burning Gate's soldiers, as long as they got close to the Sect Master, would have their mouth and nose tightly sealed by a giant blood face.

Completely ruthless towards kin and others...

It must be said that blood's plasticity was indeed remarkable, regardless of the enemy's size or form, as long as they had a mouth, it could block it!

Absolutely domineering.

Yet Lu Ran felt it was a pity, lamenting how the Blood Crystal Mask was born at an inopportune time.

This is practically a Divine Artifact for speed-clearing Holy Spirit Mountain!

If you don't remove the blood face covering your face, you'll suffocate and die.

If you forcefully try to remove it, the blood threads that penetrate into your skin and throat will take flesh and tendons with them! Removing the mask would tear off half your face or even your throat as well.

No different than suicide?

So you can only try to crush it.

However, a third-rank magical artifact is on par with the Heavenly Realm! Except for beings of the Divine Demon level, it's genuinely hard for any creature to survive.

Born at an inopportune time...

The Jade Venerable minions, though not at the God Realm, did not need to breathe!

Their methods were equally impressive, with jade hands on the mask able to turn it into jade stone within mere seconds, freeing themselves easily.

Of course, they rarely had such opportunities.

After all, Lu Ran's killing speed was so swift, most of the Jade Venerable Clan would meet their death in silence.

From then on, no more nonsense from the Jade Venerable minions to Lu Ran.

He focused on cultivating the Venerable Slayer Blade, nurturing the Stone Sculptures in the garden.

The completion of the Faceless Stone Venerable was just a tiny step away.

Just a little!

Yet Lu Ran kept killing until Li Rouyin ascended to godhood until Wang Quan and Rouyin merged into one, settling in the Sculpture Garden together, and still, the Faceless Stone Venerable remained unfinished.

The difference between minion souls and Jade Venerable divine souls was indeed worlds apart.

Lu Ran could only regret not capturing more Jade Venerable divine souls in the previous war...

Two weeks passed in the blink of an eye, and on this day at the end of the winter month, Lu Ran's endless slaughter finally paid off!

In the Sculpture Garden, the Faceless Stone Venerable was finally complete!

"Buzz~"

Lu Ran paused, a hint of joy flashing in his eyes, then his slaughtering speed increased again.

In an instant, dead souls rose from shattered Jade Venerable bodies, seemingly drawn by a force, rushing towards Lu Ran's pupils.

Lu Ran did not control the dead souls.

The Faceless Stone Venerable in the garden absorbed them on its own.

Wonderful, wonderful!

Lu Ran was secretly delighted, immediately choosing to activate the Divine Sculpture, causing the Faceless Stone Venerable to tremble and expand continuously.

Mist Realm, Stream Realm, River Realm...

Until it reached the River Realm, the Faceless Stone Venerable's breakthrough speed finally slowed down.

After Lu Ran slayed this wave of enemies and absorbed all the Heavenly Realm souls into his pupils, he directly instant teleported back to the mountain peak.

The Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture always had its hand raised, and now it awaited the returnee.

As Lu Ran descended, a gigantic blood mask instantly covered the lower half of the Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture's face.

"Enough." Lu Ran said gloomily, "You've wreaked enough havoc, separate friend from foe now."

The Blood Crystal Mask: "..."

Lu Ran sat cross-legged, closing his eyes, intimately connecting with the Faceless Stone Venerable in the garden.

"Let me see what you're capable of."

Lu Ran placed the Venerable Slayer Blade flat on his knees, murmuring to himself.

The Immortal Jasmine Divine Sculpture slowly lowered its head, its gaze covering the small figure, only to see the emperor-robed youth frowning, seemingly encountering some perplexity?

A moment later, Jiang Ruyi's Heavenly Realm body flew back, carefully kneeling by Lu Ran's side, just in time to see him opening his eyes.

"The Faceless Stone Venerable is complete?" she asked softly.

Lu Ran's expression was grave: "Yes, but it has only three skills in total."

Jiang Ruyi was slightly surprised: "Only three?"

Lu Ran nodded and said: "None of them involve splitting the divine soul..."

The myriad divine demons possess only one original body; dead means dead, whereas the Faceless Jade Venerable can have many large bodies at the original's level!

For this ability, Lu Ran had long been coveting.

However, the reality was incredibly harsh.

After dedicating so much time and effort, consuming as many as six Jade Venerable divine souls and countless minion souls, this is what was produced?

Faceless Stone Venerable...

We are not greedy, you transform into the Divine Demon System, we're not asking you to be Pro, not asking you to be Max.

But don't give me a junior version, okay?!

Jiang Ruyi pondered for a moment and speculated, "The stone sculptures you make, after all, are 'Stone' Venerables within the Divine Demon framework, so there must be significant deficiencies in capabilities, right."

Lu Ran sighed heavily in his heart and said, "Make me a River Realm minion."

Jiang Ruyi immediately raised her hand, and another Jiang Ruyi quickly took shape.

Although the two were identical, there was a significant difference in aura.

"Come." Lu Ran extended his palm forward.

The Xian Mo minion trembled as it walked forward and held his hand.

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

Seeing Lu Ran holding hands with another version of herself felt somehow strange?

Thankfully, this minion was only of River Realm, with weak strength, unable to lift its head in front of Lu Ran. If it was a Heavenly Realm minion, would it sneak glimpses at him with loving eyes?

For a moment, Jiang Ruyi thought of those Yan paper minions.

"Hmm?"

As Jiang Ruyi was lost in thought, she was startled to find the Xian Mo minion's hand beginning to petrify!

It was not the usual Jade Stone transformation.

The flesh and blood of the Xian Mo minion's hand turned gray, rapidly spreading throughout the entire body.

In just a few seconds, the Xian Mo minion had turned into a 1.77-meter-tall statue.

"Crack~"

Lu Ran always held the Xian Mo minion's hand, and with a light squeeze, the stone hand turned into powder, cascading through his fingers.

Jiang Ruyi's eyes lit up!

Though there were only three spirit defense techniques, this first ability was already extraordinary, wasn't it?

The Jade Venerable could jade-stone their enemies, and when transformed into the Divine Demon System, the Stone Venerable could petrify their enemies?!

Jiang Ruyi looked at Lu Ran's hand, her eyes lighting up again!

Lu Ran's hand did not undergo any transformation in form, which meant he could petrify the opponent's body unnoticed.

Insidious, concealed.

Impossible to guard against!

"Crack~" With a thought, Lu Ran's Venerable Slayer Blade flew out with a swoosh, directly shattering the face of the Xian Mo minion.

Along with it, the entire statue shattered completely, scattering into pieces on the ground.

Then it dissipated into a faint mist.

Lu Ran reached forward, and the dead soul flowed into his body through his hand, turning into nourishment.

This was not about plundering resources from the height of a god or demon, but a skill!

In other words, minions created by the Faceless Stone Venerable could also absorb dead souls when killing enemies on the battlefield and bring them back to the Faceless Stone Venerable himself.

"Such a ruthless heart~" Suddenly, a soft, cottony voice rang out.

As Lu Ran looked up, he heard a "snap" sound.

Tian Tian's Divine Sculpture accidentally voiced her thoughts aloud, and as soon as the words left her mouth, she hurriedly covered it with her hands.

But it was too late!

Lu Ran and Sister Ruyi both looked up, and Tian Tian was so frightened that she shrank her head.

"Hehe." Lu Ran laughed.

A heartfelt laugh.

The days of struggling against the Jade Venerable were too bitter and oppressive, and the Gods of the Ran Sect were both respectful and afraid of him when they saw him.

This one sentence from Tian Tian gave him a little bit of relaxation and joy from the past.

"Don't be afraid, little Tian Tian." Lu Ran turned his gaze to the distant battlefield, "You're right. Next time, I'll struggle a bit, at least give your Sister Ruyi an explanation."

At these words, Jiang Ruyi rolled her eyes at Lu Ran, both angrily and amused.

Out of habit, she moved, then couldn't help but pause with a slight jolt.

Yes, this was their original way of interacting, talking and joking around.

When had this all disappeared?

Since the moment Lu Ran saw Lord Immortal Sheep off and turned into a tomb, since the heavy burden fell on Lu Ran's shoulders, facing the Faceless Jade Venerable.

These kinds of days... I hope they end soon.

"The third ability is the Spirit Defense skill." As Lu Ran spoke, he happened to see another wave of enemies being teleported over.

Jiang Ruyi glanced over softly, "Can you pollute Jade Stone?"

Lu Ran licked his lips, "I was just thinking of trying it."

Reverse contamination!

With that, Lu Ran flickered away.

When he returned, he was releasing a thin red thread in his hand, tethering a Jade Venerable minion back.

The Divine Grade Silk Thread couldn't control the Jade Venerable herself; her body was too unruly.

The paper mache men of the Yan Paper Sect couldn't mold her into a ball either.

But controlling a Heavenly Realm minion was more than enough.

"Be careful, don't touch her limbs." Jiang Ruyi said softly.

"Mm." Lu Ran causally manipulated the Jade Venerable minion, making her hover horizontally, her face displayed in front of him.

"Hmm?" The Faceless Jade Venerable slightly frowned, the lower half of her face covered by the blood mask, speechless.

Lu Ran placed a hand over one of her eyes.

second, 2 seconds, 3 seconds...

"Mmm!!" The Jade Venerable minion let out a muffled sound, her lone eye wide open.

Currently, Lu Ran could only use Jiang's Skill, but as time passed, the Heavenly Realm Jade Body was truly polluted!

The beautiful skin, like sheep-fat white jade, gradually dulled.

Gradually petrified!