

Old Gods 421

Chapter 421: After the Divine Ruins

In the depths of the forest, two trails of Immortal Fog outlined the paths of two Immortal Sheep Believers.

Lu Ran turned his head to look at the swift shadow passing by and praised, "You're adapting quite well, aren't you?"

Deng Yuxiang replied, "I've got a layer of wind beneath my feet."

Lu Ran understood in his heart.

So she used the Night Charm Evil Technique-Night Dance.

No wonder she could navigate the complex mountainous forest so easily.

Lu Ran suddenly showed a mischievous smile, "So? How does it feel to use the Evil Technique of your former arch-enemy?"

Deng Yuxiang's lips curled into a wanton smile, "Feels like it was made for me."

The mischievous smile disappeared from Lu Ran's face, replaced by a look of surprise in his eyes.

The Big Nightmare has really returned?!

Previously, on the day Lu Ran rescued Deng Yuxiang, even when he brought her back to Luoxian Mountain, she acted as if nothing had happened.

However, when Lu Ran bound the Night Charm Evil Sculpture to her, her state and reactions, including when she knelt on one knee towards him...

Lu Ran still felt that something was off.

More than half a month had passed, has she finally come around?

The phrase "feels like it was made for me" revealed an air of unrivaled confidence in every word, that kind of pride bordering on arrogance, made Lu Ran ecstatic!

"I'll go first." Deng Yuxiang gazed at the grand temple gate.

"Me first!" Lu Ran drew the Dawn Blade and Silent Night Blade.

"Whoever's faster goes first." Deng Yuxiang charged ahead.

Although both of their Divine Technique-Immortal Hoof were River Grade, Deng Yuxiang's casting strength surpassed Lu Ran's!

Because she was Jiang Realm-Third Rank, while Lu Ran was Jiang Realm-Second Rank.

In terms of speed alone, Lu Ran was indeed no match for the Big Nightmare.

"Are you forcing me to Instant Teleport?" Lu Ran retorted.

This feeling of not having to keep secrets was simply too delightful!

Deng Yuxiang frowned slightly, her voice cold, "Don't mess around!"

Lu Ran was immediately displeased, "How can you talk to the Evil Demon Lord like this?"

Deng Yuxiang gave Lu Ran a glance, "How can you talk to your sister like this?"

Lu Ran: ???

Hey, what the heck?

"Screech—"

Deng Yuxiang accelerated, the Immortal Fog beneath her feet churned, deliberately darting ahead of Lu Ran.

Lu Ran was speechless!

He was always the one leaving others in the dust!

Before Deng Yuxiang, this "battle sheep," joined the sect, when did Lu Ran ever receive such treatment?

Lu Ran also accelerated, rushing straight towards the palace gate.

"Boom!"

Deng Yuxiang wielded the Night-slaying Broken Blade, slashing heavily forward.

As the gate trembled, a tremendous force emanated from the broken blade, surging into Deng Yuxiang's body.

Shooting forward at high speed, she was like a cannonball, rebounding once more.

"Rumble!"

Lu Ran wielded a pair of Divine Weapons, slashing an "X" shape in front of him.

The gate trembled once more, the immense force struck!

Lu Ran's face suddenly changed!

With a "whoosh," Lu Ran was propelled into the air, internal energy churning.

"Crack!"

Lu Ran smashed through a tree, only coming to a stop when his back collided with the second trunk.

He slid to the ground, struggling to suppress the rampant energy within, feeling a sweetness in his throat.

"Little Lu Ran?" Deng Yuxiang looked shocked, quickly rushing to Lu Ran's side.

Blood was actually flowing from the corner of his mouth?

This?

She too was invaded by the energy, shaken with churning blood, but it shouldn't be to the point of spitting blood?

"I'm fine." Lu Ran said with a grave expression.

On the distant majestic temple gate, there were two traces left by slashes.

Deng Yuxiang half-kneeled beside Lu Ran, inspecting his injuries, calmly analyzing,

"Is it that the higher the attack level, the greater the rebounding damage?"

"Very likely." Lu Ran gripped the two Divine Weapons tightly.

Unfortunately, breaking through the Divine Ruins gate requires close combat.

Lu Ran couldn't perform ranged attacks, nor could he command the Divine Weapons to fly and stab.

In other words, the one being tested has to use their own body to shatter the Divine Ruins gate.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran suddenly sensed something, carefully feeling his internal state, "Sister, did you notice something?"

"What?"

Lu Ran closed his eyes, carefully sensing, "When we struck the Divine Temple gate, the feedback energy was indeed harming us.

But that energy seemed to also be enhancing us?"

"Oh?" Deng Yuxiang was a bit puzzled.

Lu Ran confirmed repeatedly, his expression growing more and more delighted, "It's like this!"

He looked at the woman beside him, "The energy invading us is indeed harming us, and we should suppress it as quickly as possible.

But at the moment this aggressive energy enters us, it's helping us widen our meridians!"

Deng Yuxiang nodded thoughtfully.

Compared to Lu Ran, her previous strike clearly lacked the output level required.

This also resulted in the temple gate's counter, not meeting the expected standard for her.

Therefore, what Deng Yuxiang likely received was pure damage, without the benefit of widening meridians!

"Sister, let's take turns!" Lu Ran immediately formulated a plan for attacking the gate, "We'll both use Dawn Silence Night, I'll slash then you slash!

After all, this Divine Ruins is made for us, it belongs to us.

Unlike the Beifeng Divine Ruins, where it's unclear where the treasure will fall, and the disciples must fight for it."

Deng Yuxiang, "... "

Those favored can indeed be so willful!

Lu Ran got up, "Let's go."

Deng Yuxiang quickly shifted her mindset, adapting to the favored role, and said,

"Then I'll clear the forest a bit, leaving a path for when one of us is blasted back, the other can help offload the force."

Lu Ran immediately nodded, "Alright!"

Moments later, the two Jiang Realm Great Powers prepared thoroughly, with Lu Ran positioned about a hundred meters from the Divine Ruins, poised to strike.

Unfortunately, the Soul-splitting Demon Evil Technique·Soul Splitting Power and Barbaric Female Demon Evil Technique·Wilderness Power cannot stack.

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Otherwise, Lu Ran's output could have gone up another notch!

Including the Evil Technique·Ghost General's Soul, it's not entirely satisfactory either.

Lu Ran summoned the General Soul's shadow over him, which indeed caused his overall attributes to skyrocket, but in terms of strength, it couldn't stack up.

It's really annoying~

"Ssss—"

Lu Ran looked towards the Divine Temple gate, the Immortal Hoof started again.

Deng Yuxiang stood halfway, her body tense.

As she heard a loud rumble, the Divine Ruins hummed and trembled, and Lu Ran was blasted back.

"Puh..."

This time, Lu Ran didn't just bleed from the corner of his mouth, but turned into a sprinkler, spitting out a mist of blood.

The rampant energy expanded Lu Ran's "body container" in a near-destructive manner.

Damn, it hurts like hell...

Deng Yuxiang suddenly darted forward!

She caught the returning Lu Ran and slid backwards, trying to absorb the impact.

The two slid far back before slowly coming to a halt.

Lu Ran trembled as he released his hands, and the Dawn Blade and Silent Night Blade automatically flew into Deng Yuxiang's palms.

Deng Yuxiang: "Are the Divine Weapons alright?"

Lu Ran tried to calm the chaotic energy within, speaking hesitantly: "No, they're fine, the energy all... cough cough, transmitted to us through the blades."

Deng Yuxiang looked at Lu Ran's pitiful appearance, feeling a bit distressed.

She whispered: "Little Lu Ran, hide in the bushes, cast Cage Fire, heal yourself a bit, I'll wait for you."

Suddenly, a sinister voice imprinted itself in both of their minds:

"You two..."

Lu Ran was startled and hurriedly urged Deng Yuxiang: "Go, go attack the Divine Ruins!"

Deng Yuxiang's heart also tightened.

She took large strides, carrying the two Divine Weapons, and dashed out!

"Hmph." Another cold snort echoed in Lu Ran's mind.

Lu Ran put on an obedient face, not daring to retort.

"Rumble!" The Divine Ruins gate once again emitted a violent roar.

Deng Yuxiang was blown back, she gritted her teeth, feeling the rampant energy raging within her.

Lu Ran was right!

What a pleasant surprise!

To expand one's meridians, a human believer usually has to upgrade or receive authentic Divine Blessing.

Unexpectedly, during the attack on the Divine Ruins, as long as your output was explosive enough, you could actually gain such benefits?

"Mm..."

Lu Ran grunted as he caught Deng Yuxiang steadily, trying to absorb the momentum.

He didn't dare delay, grabbing the two Divine Weapons, darting swiftly towards the Divine Ruins.

"Bang!!"

"Rumble..."

The two took turns to output, with earth-shattering sounds echoing through Yeyu City.

People in the city had already noticed a grand ancient palace appearing atop Luoxian Mountain.

People watched from afar, quickly taking pictures for posterity.

Compared to the public, the few at the east village gate of Luoxian Village felt increasingly heavy-hearted.

Every rumble was like a heavy hammer, pounding their chests hard.

Such high-frequency output, such high-frequency injuries...

If it were the Fifth Rank disciples from Beifeng City, they would have long been seriously injured, vomiting blood, and unconscious, right?

But on Lu Ran's side, there were only two of them!

The River Realm physique is indeed robust, but how long can it endure...

"Mm." Qiao Yuansi nestled in Jiang Ruyi's arms, unwilling to listen any longer, yet also unwilling to leave.

Of course, she wasn't the only one with such conflicting emotions.

Jiang Ruyi, Deng Yutang, Bai Manni...

Even the two Elder Chongs silently sighed.

"Thud."

In the distant mountain forest, Deng Yuxiang's mouth bled, struggling to get up, but wobbled and sat back on the ground.

Lu Ran was equally in a sorry state, tightly gripping the Divine Weapons with trembling hands, looking towards the distant palace gate.

The gate was already covered with cracks, seemingly on the verge of collapse.

But in the first three attacks, didn't the gate seem the same?

It was like giving the two hope, yet standing firm, mocking their helplessness.

Damn!

Lu Ran wiped the blood off his mouth.

Really want to unleash the ultimate move!

Summon the Sky-reaching Demon Spear of the Evil Spear Emperor Clan and smash that damn gate!

Or connect with the Barbaric Woman Clan, summoning a grand Barbaric Evil Axe!

Which wouldn't be a bombastic output?

Just let me into the Divine Ruins already!

This covert life, even a dog wouldn't take it...

No idea how I endured the past two years.

"Woof~ no, Big Nightmare?"

Lu Ran came beside Deng Yuxiang, his head buzzing.

"Mm..." Deng Yuxiang gritted her teeth, one hand supporting the ground, trying to get up.

Technically speaking, her condition was better than Lu Ran's, given Lu Ran's output was higher.

She was in such a sorry state at this moment because the last hit was her doing.

Deng Yuxiang finally stood up, reaching for the blades in Lu Ran's hands: "Let me."

Lu Ran dodged with his hand: "We agreed to take turns, you're going to replace me?"

Deng Yuxiang looked down and smiled, continuing to reach for the weapons in Lu Ran's hands.

Caring for you,

isn't it my duty?

"Let's go together." Lu Ran suddenly said.

"Hm?"

"After the third time, the gate was like this, I'm betting it's at the end of its tether!" Lu Ran stated solemnly.

Deng Yuxiang's head was still spinning, she squinted, trying to clearly see the distant gate:

"What if you're wrong?"

Lu Ran was also in a mood: "Then I'll unleash the ultimate move, use the Vermilion Paper Evil Technique·Eight Ghosts Carriage!

Let the Ghost Bearers carry us, and we'll just charge straight in!"

Deng Yuxiang wanted to laugh, but the excruciating pain from her limbs made her smile come out awkwardly: "You're going to ride the big red carriage with me?"

Aren't you afraid Ruyi will kill you?"

Lu Ran: "..."

Deng Yuxiang grasped the Silent Night Blade, blood dripping down as she moved.

She stubbornly said: "I'll do it."

"Go! Now!" Lu Ran dragged Deng Yuxiang's arm forward a few steps, suddenly a mist of immortality erupted beneath his feet.

Deng Yuxiang was startled!

She hastily adjusted her pace, since Lu Ran insisted, she definitely couldn't hold him back.

"Ssss—"

With strong control over her body, a mist of immortality erupted beneath Deng Yuxiang's feet as well.

One leading one, became the two of them moving together.

And this time, the Dawn Blade in Lu Ran's hand emitted an unprecedented radiance.

The golden-red light dazzling and brilliant!

Deng Yuxiang finally understood what Lu Ran intended to do!

If not successful, then die trying?

In their states, they couldn't endure much longer.

"Give me all you've got!" Lu Ran suddenly shouted.

Deng Yuxiang's expression froze!

"Execute the order!" Lu Ran commanded sternly.

"Ahhh!" In a flash, Deng Yuxiang had no time to think, the word "order" made her grab Lu Ran's back and give a hard push forward.

"Crack!!"

A flash of light, the Divine Ruins gate exploded open.

An extremely harsh sound shook people's eardrums painfully!

Like a giant glass shattering, or like the whole world tearing open a gap.

The small Human Clan charged one after the other into the solemn and sacred palace.

Lu Ran's eyes opened slightly.

He could only see straight ahead, there was a thick mist of immortality!

"Whoosh~ whoosh~"

The two rushed into the white mist one after the other.

At the same time, the sacred palace on Luoxian Mountain suddenly burst open.

Debris flew in all directions.

The prolonged sound of the gate assault finally ceased.

The scattered ethereal bricks carried endless energy, gifting it to the people.

Luoxian Mountain fell into jubilation!

Countless cultivators who had arrived early and waited eagerly scrambled for the scattered debris.

And the two Immortal Sheep disciples disappeared entirely from the Human World.

Meanwhile, in an unknown region.

"Thud, thud, thud..."

Lu Ran crashed heavily to the ground, bouncing repeatedly like a skipping stone, creating puffs of dust.

"Little Lu Ran?"

In a daze, a familiar voice faintly reached him, as if coming from the horizon.

Lu Ran lay on his side, opening his eyes, but shielding his face with one hand.

In the distance, the mountains undulated, and the setting sun was like blood.

Ha,

After the Divine Ruins.

Chapter 423: Cultivation... Divine Sculpture?

"Little Lu Ran?"

Suddenly, a shadow covered the blood-red setting sun.

She stumbled and fell next to Lu Ran, her hands stained with blood, trembling as she helped Lu Ran's shoulders up.

"It's okay, I'm fine." Lu Ran softly reassured her.

Both were severely harmed by the Divine Ruins, with serious internal injuries, feeling as if their organs were displaced.

"Mm." Deng Yuxiang breathed a sigh of relief, supporting Lu Ran as he leaned against her chest.

Unintentionally, blood overflowed from the corner of her mouth again.

The crimson blood flowed past her chin, dripping onto Lu Ran's head.

Lu Ran noticed and looked up at the woman.

Her miserable appearance and deeply concerned eyes made Lu Ran feel uneasy.

Clearly unable to protect herself, yet still worried about...

"Boom!"

Suddenly, a violent tremor interrupted Lu Ran's thoughts.

The earth quaked, and the mountains shook!

The whole world seemed to be trembling.

Both of them turned pale, looking up at the source of the sound.

At this moment, they were in no state to fight!

The sky was clear, yet there was nothing?

Lu Ran was filled with dread as he pushed the Evil Technique·Evil Recognition to its limits, yet saw nothing.

Deng Yuxiang frowned deeply, searching meticulously for a long time but found nothing either.

She cautiously glanced around.

They found themselves on a cliffside of a mountain peak.

The western view was wide open, revealing the undulating mountains, while the eastern forest was dense, its dangers unknown.

"Huff~"

Lu Ran struggled to lift his hand, and with a surge of energy, an ancient bronze mirror appeared out of thin air.

Evil Mirror Demon Technique·Connection Mirror!

Lu Ran concentrated, and the images in the mirror constantly changed, searching the surroundings.

Deng Yuxiang remained silent, but the images in the mirror filled her with a quiet terror.

Blood-red sunset, cliffside end.

The afterglow of the sunset illuminated the shadows of two figures leaning on each other.

Tragic, yet beautiful.

As if predicting an outcome...

Deng Yuxiang wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth; she was not satisfied with this outcome.

She looked at the unfamiliar environment and tried to muster her spirits.

From this moment on, everything from before was cut off.

Family, friends, the familiar society, past life...

All had moved away from her.

Even as Deng Yuxiang looked around, she couldn't find the way back.

Could they still return?

She didn't know.

How far is this place from home?

Unclear.

After the mysterious Divine Ruins, Lu Ran and she only had each other.

What kind of ending, should be written together by both.

"Cage Fire." Deng Yuxiang whispered softly.

Lu Ran looked at the ancient bronze mirror, seeing himself once again.

He softly said, "Within five hundred meters, there's no one."

Lu Ran concentrated again, and the oval ancient bronze mirror gradually enlarged, transforming into a full-length mirror.

A few hundred meters away, in the forest, a full-length mirror quietly appeared.

Lu Ran continued, "Let's go into the forest."

Being cautious is always good.

Not knowing what might exist above, the two of them standing on the cliffside were too conspicuous.

"Okay." Deng Yuxiang was already kneeling beside Lu Ran, she supported Lu Ran's back with one hand, and with the other, she slipped under his knees, directly lifting him up in her arms horizontally.

Lu Ran: ???

No!

Does the Evil Demon Lord not care about face?

Lu Ran hurried to struggle, but he was too weak.

His injuries were indeed much more severe than Deng Yuxiang's.

After all, when attacking the Divine Ruins earlier, Lu Ran's output far exceeded hers.

"Don't move, no one else is watching." Deng Yuxiang staggered a bit, sternly admonishing.

Lu Ran: "..."

In the setting sun, Deng Yuxiang's steps wavered, leaving droplets of blood in her wake.

She held him and turned sideways into the full-length mirror, suddenly her foot slipped, and they tumbled down before a large tree.

Lu Ran bore the weight crashing upon him, grimacing in pain.

Big Nightmare, why not just bring me swift relief?

Mental attack first, then physical torture.

The whole package of torment...

"Cage Fire." Deng Yuxiang struggled to roll off Lu Ran.

She leaned back against the tree, her chest heaving violently as she gasped for breath.

"Huff~"

In Lu Ran's hand, black flames ignited.

Black Lamp Evil Technique·Cage Fire Bath!

In just a few seconds, the black fire had enveloped Lu Ran's whole body.

"Come closer." Lu Ran whispered.

"Mm." Deng Yuxiang leaned slightly, her shoulder resting against Lu Ran's.

The black flames spread from his shoulder to her body.

The gentle black fire healed their severely wounded and weakened bodies.

The tense nerves gradually relaxed, and a wave of drowsiness came over them.

The trials of the Divine Ruins tested people in all aspects, including the spiritual plane.

Lu Ran softly said, "Take a nap, I'll let the Divine Weapon keep watch."

As he spoke, the Dawn Blade and Silent Night Blade were unsheathed, revolving around them, gradually expanding their perimeter.

"Mm." Deng Yuxiang did not refuse; in her current physical state, if danger were to arise, she wouldn't be able to help much.

The top priority was to recover as quickly as possible.

The sunset slowly fell in the sky.

She rested against Lu Ran's shoulder, feeling the nourishing warmth of the black fire as her eyes gradually closed...

"Huff~"

The mountain wind blew, bringing with it the pungent scent of blood.

And a faint aroma of camellia.

Lu Ran forced himself to stay alert, continuing to cast his spells.

He could indeed summon the Evil Demon-Black Lantern.

But he could only summon the River Realm Black Lantern, which could only use the River Grade-Cage Fire Bath, providing a vastly inferior healing effect.

And such item-type evil demons were not very intelligent, making them troublesome to instruct.

"Lord Immortal Sheep?" Lu Ran called in his heart.

Just right, he could consult the Lord Deity to understand the situation better and avoid falling asleep himself.

Chapter 424: Cultivation...Divine Sculpture?_2

"Immortal Sheep sir?"

Repeated calls, yet the deity did not appear.

Lu Ran felt heavy-hearted, realizing a serious problem!

The contract between a man and a god didn't seem as smooth as imagined?

Lu Ran channeled Divine Power, and his eyes gradually turned into a pair of horizontal pupils.

Divine Technique·Immortal Pupil!

No problem, still able to cast spells.

It's known that human believers must plead to the deity every time they cast spells, and only after obtaining approval can they use Divine Technique.

At this moment, Lu Ran could still use the Divine Technique of the Immortal Sheep faction, which meant he could still connect with the Immortal Sheep sir.

It's just that the "communication signal" between both sides was very weak!

Lu Ran could cast spells, but seemed to have difficulty in communicating with the deity?

"Damn." Lu Ran cursed inwardly, "Where the hell is this place?"

"Boom!!"

A heaven-shaking roar resounded again from the high skies.

The world trembled once more!

Deng Yuxiang suddenly opened her eyes, and her immediate subconscious action was to put a hand in front of Lu Ran.

To say Lu Ran wasn't moved was a lie.

When people are conscious, they can act, they can deceive.

But a person's subconscious reaction is largely from the subconscious, originating from the heart.

"It's alright, just the thundering sound from the sky." Lu Ran softly reassured, "Doesn't seem to have much impact on where we are."

Deng Yuxiang frowned, looked up.

The sunset had already fallen behind the mountains, the world was dim.

In this light, she couldn't see anything more.

She thought for a moment, turned to Lu Ran: "Whatever that is, it must be terrifyingly powerful. We better not explore it for now."

Lu Ran nodded in agreement: "Alright, let's rest first, and gather some intelligence on this world, see if we can learn indirectly."

Both of them had the ability to fly.

But to fly up and look?

Isn't that just courting death?

Lu Ran asked himself honestly, even with all his Evil Demon's techniques, he couldn't cause such commotion with his current strength!

"Go back to sleep." Lu Ran said softly.

His words seemed to carry some magical power, gradually calming her heart.

In the nourishment of the Black Fire, she felt warm all over, deeply comfortable, and drowsy.

She slowly closed her beautiful eyes, suddenly thought of something, and asked: "Why don't you make a Black Lantern?"

"The healing effect of the River Grade Cage Fire is better..." Lu Ran briefly explained.

"You should rest too." Deng Yuxiang gently advised, "Make a Black Lantern."

After several persuasions, Lu Ran couldn't resist Deng Yuxiang, and eventually summoned the Black Lantern.

A four-sided lantern, ancient in style, pitch black all over, with black fire flickering within.

Lu Ran spent quite an effort to make the Black Lantern understand his intentions.

With the Black Lantern taking over the healing work, Lu Ran also fell into a deep sleep.

Yet his sleep was restless.

The night sky would occasionally explode with thunderous sound.

Lu Ran was startled awake time and again, feeling as if he was on the verge of a nervous breakdown...

Until the dawn broke, the noise finally ceased.

Lu Ran finally had a chance to rest properly, and when he groggily opened his eyes, there was no one beside him.

Only an "oil-exhausted candle-burnt out" ancient lantern, still dutifully working.

The Black Lantern would absorb energy for a while, then immediately cast a spell to heal its master.

Only a few seconds later, it would be energy-depleted and then absorb energy again.

Repeating this cycle over and over.

It really... I could cry to death...

"Thank you." Lu Ran cupped the lantern gently.

"Crack!" The lantern shattered, finally free from its suffering.

Lu Ran looked around, near the edge of the mountain forest, at the cliff, he saw a proudly standing figure.

He stood up, stretched a bit, and his figure flashed.

"Swoosh~"

Deng Yuxiang's body tensed, and as she retreated, one hand was raised, gripping the hilt on her shoulder.

Only to find it was Lu Ran who stood before her.

Evil Dog Evil Skill-Evil Shadow Flash!

Deng Yuxiang: "..."

Lu Ran had a cute expression, smiling with lips pressed.

Deng Yuxiang glared at Lu Ran: "Rested well?"

"More or less, what about you?"

"Still okay." Deng Yuxiang casually replied, walking to the edge of the cliff, "We must be amidst mountains."

Lu Ran looked around, seeing thick clouds and mist enveloping the rolling mountains.

Look left, mountains.

Look behind, mountains.

All mountains, endless... Ten thousand grande mountains!

"Where should we go?" Deng Yuxiang's gaze was a bit confused.

The path they came from, nowhere to be found.

The path forward, also unclear.

Lu Ran was silent for a moment, shook his head: "No idea."

Deng Yuxiang looked up, the cloud sea above roiled, no sun in sight, no trace of anything.

Lu Ran summoned a Connection Mirror, brushing at it casually: "Why don't we head in one directions first... hmm?"

Deng Yuxiang looked immediately at the Ancient Bronze Mirror.

She saw a wisp of Immortal Fog, slowly descending.

This is?

Lu Ran's mind moved, and the 'camera pulled back.

He happened to see the treetop beneath the Immortal Fog, it was about to fall into the forest.

Deng Yuxiang immediately looked up to search; in the moment of turning around, her beautiful eyes focused: "That way!"

Lu Ran flipped his hand, the bronze mirror transformed into a floor mirror again.

He stepped in, a black cloud formed under his feet.

Evil Spear Emperor Evil Technique·Evil Cloud Stepping Mist!

Deng Yuxiang followed closely, also standing in midair.

Night Charm Evil Technique·Night Dance!

"What is this?" Deng Yuxiang didn't reach out rashly, but carefully examined it, "Such pure energy!"

"Gulp." Lu Ran's Adam's apple rolled, his eyes growing brighter.

Origin Energy?

This feeling, this kind of energy, Lu Ran was all too familiar with!

Every time he made an Evil Demon minion, he would use the energy contained within Evil Sculpture.

Origin Energy,

Belongs to gods themselves/Evil Demons themselves.

People of humble status like Lu Ran have no right to cultivate such power.

His way to obtain Origin Energy has always been rather singular.

By capturing the souls of Evil Demons, integrating them into the Evil Demon Sculpture of the corresponding race, absorbing the trace of Origin Energy contained within the soul.

Here's the problem!

This cultivation method is directional.

Although Origin Energy is universal, it's impossible to use the soul of a paper-doll demon to cultivate an Evil Mirror Demon Sculpture for Lu Ran.

But this wisp of Origin Energy in front...

It's not mixed within Dead Souls, won't be attracted to any Evil Sculpture.

It's simply a pure energy body!

For a moment, Lu Ran was greatly moved!

Doesn't this mean he can cultivate any Evil Sculpture with this wisp of Origin Energy?

No, not just Evil Sculpture!

Lu Ran became more and more excited, licking his lips.

He could use this pure energy to cultivate Divine Sculpture!

"Do you recognize it?" Deng Yuxiang had been observing Lu Ran's expression, reminding him, "The fog is about to hit the ground."

"Mhm." Lu Ran stepping on the black cloud, always accompanying the Immortal Fog flying down.

Upon hearing, he immediately reached out his hand.

The Immortal Fog fell into his palm, gradually merging into his skin.

Lu Ran's face froze.

He lacked the ability to absorb such a high existence, a supremely noble energy.

He merely subconsciously reached out to catch it.

Origin Energy, it fused into his palm automatically!

Then what?

Entered my body, yet I can't use it... darn it!

Lu Ran's expression darkened.

He realized, on another dimension, the Origin Energy was integrating into his soul.

So, humans are treated as containers?

Once human believers die, their souls will eventually embrace the deity's bosom.

By then, the deities can feast to their heart's content.

"Sigh~"

Energy surged through Lu Ran's eyes, opening a pair of Pupil of the Dead World.

Origin Energy within his body, hidden in the soul, completely useless.

Of course, it had to be used to cultivate sculptures within the garden!

Lu Ran immediately raised his head, lifted his hand.

In Deng Yuxiang's surprised gaze, he poured the Immortal Fog upon his eyes.

This wisp of Origin Energy, without Evil Demon souls to carry it, naturally wouldn't be absorbed into the Pupil of the Dead World.

So the problem now is:

Which statue should Lu Ran employ to absorb, handle this pure energy?

Sword One or Jade Talisman?

Spiritual Fortune or Lie Tian?

Ah, whatever, soon the Origin Energy will fully merge into my soul!

"Huf~"

Suddenly, the Immortal Fog flowing over Lu Ran's face found its place, all surging to those chilling horizontal pupils...

Lu Ran's heart was excited, it worked!

Does this world produce Origin Energy?

The dozens of Divine Sculptures within the Sculpture Garden, aren't they all accounted for?

Chapter 425: people?!

In the spirit world, within the God Demon Sculpture Garden.

Lu Ran stood before a towering stone sculpture, watching as Divine-Lie Tian absorbed the Origin Energy into its body.

Without a doubt, Lu Ran is the master of the Divine Sculptures and Evil Sculptures.

He can command them, control them, even fully represent them!

Following the philosophy instilled by the Immortal Goat, over half a month ago, Lu Ran became the full representative of the Night Charm Evil Sculpture and completed a contract signing with Deng Yuxiang.

And now, Lu Ran, accompanied by the Divine Sculpture-Lie Tian, has absorbed this wisp of pure Origin Energy.

"Immortal Goat? Are you here?"

After completing all this, Lu Ran looked around, searching for the figure of the deity.

However, the Black Fire Sheep Head, which always stayed within the Sculpture Garden, was now missing.

"Immortal Goat?" Lu Ran called out loudly.

The garden was filled with Divine Sculptures, standing silently.

Lu Ran waited for a moment and couldn't help but sigh slightly in his heart.

Is it disconnected?

Don't, I still need you to oversee it, help activate the statues... Hmm, wait.

I am the Evil Demon Lord and also the Master of Gods.

More accurately, currently still the "Master of Pseudo-God."

Shouldn't I also be able to activate the statues?

Just not sure, how much of my mental resources will be needed to activate the Divine Sculpture-Lie Tian?

Currently, I have activated a total of 11 Evil Demon Sculptures.

The Immortal Goat clearly stated: In the Mist Realm, I can activate 1 statue.

In the Stream Realm, an additional 2 can be added, 5 more in the River Realm, and 8 more in the Jiang Realm.

Currently, I am in the Jiang Realm.

1+2+5+8...

Total of 16 activation slots.

Subtracting the 11 slots used, I still have 5 slots?

In that case, should I try to activate the Divine Sculpture·Lie Tian?

The Immortal Goat often had this phrase on its lips: "Your own path, you walk it yourself."

So...

Give it a try?

Just earlier, when Lu Ran absorbed the Origin Energy, he indeed hastily made a decision.

But choosing to let Divine Sculpture·Lie Tian receive the energy wasn't a random choice either.

First, in Lu Ran's heart, the second protector of the Ran Sect·Mad Immortal has already been reserved!

Currently, Si Xianxian is still managing to stay alive, seemingly without much trouble.

But as she advances to the Jiang Realm, things could become troubling!

Secondly, Lu Ran was also considering himself.

Among all the Divine Sects, if you must choose one capable of crossing realms to slay, which would you choose?

The first choice for most people would undoubtedly be the Fierce Heavenly Sect!

The explosive output of the Fierce Heavenly Sect is just the foundation.

The fundamental reason lies in that the Fierce Heavenly Sect possesses a unique Divine Technique—Fiery Fire Heavenly Leader!

This technique ignites the body with fierce fire, continuously consuming Divine Power and energy, greatly enhancing the output of the Divine Technique!

This is the greatest assurance for crossing realms to slay!

The Immortal Goat has said it countless times, the world beyond the Divine Ruins is very dangerous.

Lu Ran naturally desires a piece of assurance!

"Activate!"

Lu Ran shouted in his heart.

Yet, the Divine Sculpture-Lie Tian remained motionless.

Lu Ran: "..."

He carefully sensed for a moment, feeling capable of activating the statue.

It's just that the Origin Energy of the Divine Sculpture-Lie Tian was still insufficient to operate.

Lu Ran had been battling in the human world for so long, absorbing many souls of the human clan believers.

But among them, there weren't any Fierce Heavenly believers, as the Divine People Bureau rarely recruits such "explosive barrels."

Hmm... Then I'll go and gather some more Origin Energy!

Thinking silently, Lu Ran opened his eyes.

Beside him, Deng Yuxiang silently stood guard, protecting Lu Ran.

"Sister."

"Hmm?" Deng Yuxiang turned her head to look, "All dealt with?"

Lu Ran nodded, the joy on his face not yet faded.

Deng Yuxiang asked, "What was that energy?"

Lu Ran began to explain, "That is the energy cultivated by all gods and evil demons, the fundamental force supporting the Divine Sculptures and Evil Sculptures.

It is what has allowed the Evil Sculptures in my garden to grow to this extent.

You can call it 'Qi.'

"Qi." Deng Yuxiang was thoughtful.

"Let's call it Source Energy." Lu Ran settled on the name, "Actually, both you and I have a trace of Source Energy in us."

Deng Yuxiang listened attentively, awaiting further explanation.

Lu Ran said, "When we became believers, the deities gave us a trace of Source Energy.

Source Energy is the foundation for signing the contract, also a mark.

On usual days, it hides within our soul, we can't use it.

Upon our death, the Source Energy will guide our soul towards the deity, to nourish the divine statue."

Deng Yuxiang frowned slightly.

She suddenly remembered, after the Battle of Beifeng City, as she woke up on the hotel bed, Lu Ran had said to her:

The North Wind wants your life, wants to take your soul, nourish their stone sculpture.

At that time, Deng Yuxiang's mind was in turmoil, she only heard the first part before losing focus.

Now recalling it...

That day, Lu Ran truly revealed many secrets to her.

"After people die, do their souls have to be taken too?" Deng Yuxiang's expression wasn't good.

When it comes to souls, most people are quite apprehensive.

Everyone knows that death is definitely not the worst outcome.

Many evil demon races have techniques to imprison and torment souls, their methods are unimaginably cruel!

Lu Ran shrugged: "Deities must really enjoy human souls.

Otherwise, why would the various Divine Sects rarely have soul-harming techniques?

Heh,

Perhaps the deities are worried about their 'food' being damaged."

Deng Yuxiang's expression turned even more unpleasant.

She was silent for a long time before quietly advising, "Watch your words."

After all, they were believers under the command of Divine-Immortal Goat.

"Oh." Lu Ran chuckled.

To this day, he hadn't told Deng Yuxiang that the so-called Evil Demon Sculpture Garden is actually the "God Demon" Sculpture Garden.

After all, Deng Yuxiang grew up in a unique era, the concepts instilled from a young age weren't something that could be changed overnight.

Hmm... Take it slowly, there will be suitable opportunities in the future.

Lu Ran shifted the topic: "Ordinary believers can't cultivate Source Energy, but you should be able to."

Deng Yuxiang thought for a moment and said, "Because I'm a Night Charm?

Essentially, I'm an Evil Sculpture?"

"Right!" Lu Ran nodded repeatedly, talking to smart people was indeed easy.

Deng Yuxiang pondered, "I didn't feel anything when facing that wisp of Source Energy earlier; perhaps it's because my compatibility with the Night Charm Evil Sculpture isn't high enough yet."

Saying that, she turned to Lu Ran: "Did you just absorb the Source Energy into the Sculpture Garden to nurture the Evil Sculptures?"

Lu Ran remained calm: "Yes, I used it to nurture the sculptures, the effect is pretty good."

Deng Yuxiang immediately said, "Then let's keep searching."

"Alright!" Lu Ran immediately summoned the Connection Mirror, swiping it, but found no Source Energy.

He then tilted his head up, utilizing Extreme Eye Power to search the skies.

Unfortunately, after searching for a long time, Lu Ran still couldn't find the drifting Source Energy.

He said, "Let's expand our search range."

"Which direction do you want to go?"

"East, purple energy comes from the east." Lu Ran said with a smile, summoning a black cloud beneath his feet.

Deng Yuxiang naturally had no objection, and the two immediately headed east.

Just a few minutes later, while riding on the clouds, Lu Ran suddenly turned around.

As he flew backward, he looked at the running Deng Yuxiang with a sad expression on his face:

"Poor Big Nightmare, still has to run so hard~"

Hmm... Guess the long legs aren't wasted?

Deng Yuxiang: ???

"Here." Lu Ran drew out the Dawn Blade, handing it backward.

"Whoosh~"

Deng Yuxiang suddenly summoned two Night Charm Blades, stabbing them into her ankles.

She leaped lightly, stepping onto the twin blades, flying forward while leaning her head towards Lu Ran.

Lu Ran: "..."

Alright, you're skilled, you know how to play.

Lu Ran retracted the Dawn Blade: "Then why didn't you use it earlier?"

Deng Yuxiang, seeing his deflated look, curled her lips: "Just warming up, stretching a bit."

Lu Ran suddenly felt the urge to transform into Yuanxi, nodding knowingly: "Stretching a bit~"

But he didn't dare.

Lu Ran looked up at the sky, occasionally swiping the Connection Mirror in his hand.

Though they had a target, their search was aimless.

After a long journey, Deng Yuxiang commented, "This world is abnormal, there aren't any birds or beasts."

"Indeed." Lu Ran nodded.

Endless trees adorned the mountains, appearing lush and vibrant, yet there wasn't any sign of animals among them.

It was truly eerie.

Just as Lu Ran was about to say something, suddenly his eyes brightened!

"It came up!"

Lu Ran was very excited, seeing the Source Energy in the mirror, he immediately altered the nature of the Connection Mirror.

Evil Mirror Demon Technique·Mirror Flower Moon!

He swiftly entered the ground mirror, his gaze fixed on the low shrubs, observing a wisp of Immortal Fog flowing continuously downward along the lush leaves.

Lu Ran immediately activated the Pupil of the Dead World, bending down, his face probing towards the shrub.

The next moment, Lu Ran's ears twitched: "There's movement!"

"Hmm?" Deng Yuxiang was rather surprised, turning her head to look.

In this deathly silent world, is there finally a living creature?

That's...

Deng Yuxiang's eyes slightly widened, expecting to see birds and beasts.

Unexpectedly, a few figures appeared?

People?

The dense forest obstructed their view.

As a man approached and saw this pair of man and woman, he was visibly taken aback.

"Two Daoists, you seem unfamiliar." From a distance, a middle-aged man spoke.

Lu Ran had long withdrawn various Evil Techniques, not responding, but focusing on absorbing the last trace of Source Energy into his eye.

As the man shouted, the rest of the searchers were drawn over.

"May I ask which deity's esteemed disciples you two Daoists belong to?" The man smiled amicably, stepping forward.

He wore a black robe, seemingly worn and tattered, with long hair draping over his shoulders, indicating he had been residing in this world for some time.

Deng Yuxiang observed for a moment and replied, "Immortal Goat."

"Imm... Immortal Goat?" The man's face showed surprise.

Deng Yuxiang was displeased: "What about it?"

"Ah... Haha." The man looked apologetic, smiling and cupping his hands, "In this realm, it is rare to see esteemed disciples of the Immortal Goat."

"Stand back." A woman's voice came from the forest.

Deng Yuxiang turned her eyes and saw a graceful middle-aged woman, draped in a big red robe, slowly descending.

The man lowered his head and respectfully backed away a few steps.

The woman looked at the duo, smiling: "Two young Daoists with such demeanor at a young age, you must be highly talented, having reached the Jiang Realm, my respects!"

As she spoke, she continuously observed the expressions of Deng Yuxiang and Lu Ran.

She continued, "I observe your states, perhaps you are new to this world?"

Deng Yuxiang didn't reply, instead, she asked, "Who are you?"

"Haha." The woman chuckled, shaking her head, her face showing a touch of bitterness, "Just a group of ignorant ones, challenging the Divine Ruins.

You two have just arrived here, so you must have many questions about this realm.

If you don't mind, you can come to the mountains for a talk."

[Eight people, four in front openly, four behind in the shadows.]

Suddenly, Lu Ran's voice conveyed into Deng Yuxiang's mind.

The woman approached, her smile gentle: "It's understandable if you're cautious.

I genuinely wish to befriend young talents.

To express goodwill, feel free to ask any questions, and I'll speak frankly."

Lu Ran's voice delivered again, sounding serious: [The four in the back are signaling, something's off!]

...

Chapter 426: seeking death!

[Are they unfriendly?] Deng Yuxiang remained expressionless, conveying her thoughts.

[It's possible.] Lu Ran immediately responded.

Deng Yuxiang, with an aloof demeanor, casually gazed at the woman in the red robe ahead, her eyes sweeping over the three men behind her.

Judging by their age, they all appeared to be in their thirties or forties.

By their aura and presence, it was clear they were far beyond ordinary people and should all belong to the River Realm!

The few naturally sensed Deng Yuxiang's scrutinizing gaze, secretly alarmed.

Anyone could tell these two were very young, possibly around twenty years old.

Or perhaps, not even twenty yet?

Yet, they both had a remarkable presence!

The young woman's demeanor was vibrant and her figure tall and straight, exuding heroic spirit between her brows.

Like a blazing sun, intense and dazzling!

The seventeen or eighteen-year-old boy, though not as domineering, was equally handsome and upright.

Especially those eyes, mysterious and profound.

No hint of emotional fluctuation could be seen in them, as if they could embrace everything... or devour everything.

What is the origin of these two?

Since they dared to challenge the Divine Ruins, they must be the crème de la crème among people.

The problem is, these two are too young!

So young that it makes one apprehensive, fearing for their future...

Meanwhile, the four hidden at the back were also quietly observing the back of Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang.

The youngest man among them appeared to be around twenty-seven or twenty-eight.

He squinted his eyes, filled with greed, observing the weapon on Lu Ran's back.

Eventually, his gaze fixed on the Magical Artifact-Blazing Phoenix Pattern Gourd attached behind Lu Ran's waist.

"Gulp." The man swallowed hard, then shifted his gaze to avoid being noticed for looking too long.

Had it not been for the apprehension toward this treasure, the four hidden in the shadows could have gotten closer.

Unfortunately, the techniques with which divine weapons and magic artifacts perceive the world differ, and getting too close might alert each other's presence.

The four hidden in the shadows were still unaware if there was a Divine Weapon among the four knives on Lu Ran's back.

But from what they observed from afar, at least the gourd casually attached to Lu Ran's waist without any bindings was certainly a treasure!

While both parties secretly assessed each other, Deng Yuxiang finally spoke, her lips parting gently:

"Last night, the roaring noise in the sky, who was it from?"

"We merely heard the sound, never saw the person." The woman in the red robe shook her head with a smile.

She continued: "However, since such a mysterious existence caused such an earth-shattering noise, we both already have an answer in our hearts, don't we?"

Deng Yuxiang remained expressionless, continuing to ask bluntly: "How do we return?"

"Return? To where?"

"Home, to the Human World."

"Hehehehehe." The woman in the red robe suddenly laughed, the bitterness in her smile seemed genuine.

She raised her head, staring at the peak covered in a sea of clouds, and sighed deeply: "Daoist, you've stumped me. We've come so far, can we still find our way back?"

Deng Yuxiang silently watched the woman, truly surprised at how powerful this sentence was.

Just one sentence, yet it brought tears of laughter to her?

"Pardon me." The woman in the red robe quickly regained her composure, nodding apologetically at Deng Yuxiang, her eyes filled with doubt, "Daoist, are you two really disciples of the Immortal Sheep?"

Deng Yuxiang softly said: "What if we are, what if we aren't?"

The woman in the red robe appeared utterly puzzled: "Forgive my boldness, I truly can't imagine disciples of the Immortal Sheep coming to this world."

Moreover, most members of the Immortal Sheep sect are gentle and friendly, averse to conflict.

I observe you two with an awe-inspiring presence and unyielding dignity, unlike disciples of Lord Immortal Sheep."

Deng Yuxiang's lips curved slightly, a smile that was not quite a smile: "You are quite attached to our identity as believers, aren't you?"

The woman in the red robe's smile froze, then she resumed her gentle smile: "Forgive my boldness, I am indeed curious."

A black-robed man behind her, with a cold expression, spoke up: "Young ones!

Our village chief's Lady has shown you respect and sincerity, don't be ungrateful!"

"Stand down!" The woman in the red robe frowned, reprimanding sternly.

"I've had it up to here with you!" Another short-haired, burly man stepped forward, "What are you pretending for?"

"Yan Biao!" The woman in the red robe's expression changed slightly, hastily moving forward to stop him.

It seemed the man's temper was impulsive, not one to be talked down with words alone.

"Ignorant fools!" Yan Biao shouted hoarsely, "Think this is Da Xia?

Think you're so mighty? Everyone has to worship you?

Who the hell isn't from the River Realm?"

Yan Biao seemed truly infuriated; even as the woman in the red robe stepped forward to stop him, he continued to push forward.

The woman in the red robe reprimanded loudly: "Jia Yan Biao!!"

[Heh, here it comes.] Lu Ran's cold laughter resonated in Deng Yuxiang's mind.

Deng Yuxiang watched coldly as the two shoved each other, then heard a soft exclamation from the woman in the red robe.

Jia Yan Biao became even more furious with his tirade, remarkably heavy-handed, he violently shoved the woman in the red robe away.

"Madam!"

"Lady Luo!" Including Jia Yan Biao, the three black-robed men simultaneously shouted and hurried forward.

The woman in the red robe, referred to as "Lady Luo," was hurled sideways towards where Deng Yuxiang stood.

"Sss!!"

Suddenly, a blood-colored aura surged from Lady Luo's feet, resembling a churning blood sea.

Prisoner Demon Divine Skill·Blood Sea Chaos!

This technique can disrupt the Divine Power within the target, interfering with their casting of spells.

The woman in the red robe finally revealed her true colors!

The malicious look in her eyes towards Deng Yuxiang was in stark contrast to her once gentle smile.

The sudden change of face was even unbelievable to behold.

Why?

Both belonged to the Human Clan and were meeting for the first time without deep-seated hatred, why immediately resort to killing?

However, by the time many people had asked such questions, it was already too late.

"Whoosh~ whoosh~ whoosh~"

At the instant Lady Luo unleashed the Divine Technique·Blood Sea Chaos, several phantom daggers shot out from the forest behind Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang.

The sharp whistling sounds were enough to make one's scalp tingle!

These daggers, all phantom-like, clearly were Sha Blades from the Divine Technique·Slaughter Blade.

It was evident the hidden figures were disciples under the Third-class God-Nuo Sha Sect.

And these Sha Blades thrusting from all angles were all aimed at Lu Ran.

It was clear that the two teams, one in front and one behind, had divided their roles very clearly.

"Sss!!"

At the same time, a thick white mist surged from under Lu Ran's feet, diffusing in all directions.

Jade-faced Snake Evil Technique·Immortal Scene!

This technique is a Purification Skill.

"Huh?"

"Wha...what?" Everyone's expressions changed dramatically!

This young man actually reacted so quickly?

He and Lady Luo struck almost simultaneously!

So, these two young people... had they already detected something amiss?

Then why didn't they run away?

Moreover, what kind of Divine Technique is this?

Immortal Hoof?

If it were Immortal Hoof, why didn't the youth move?

If it were Immortal Hoof, why would the white mist spread rapidly in all directions?

It's not right! Something's off!

"This guy?"

"He..." In the hushed voices of the Nuo Sha disciples, Lu Ran continued casting spells, his figure swaying repeatedly.

From beginning to end, Lu Ran never turned around, yet it was as though he had eyes on the back of his head, dodging one Sha Blade after another!

"Heh." Deng Yuxiang snorted coldly, reaching forward with one hand.

She stood proudly, directly facing the surging blood sea!

The fierce blood sea rushing at her was supposed to submerge her ankles, causing her Divine Power to run amok and be undetectable.

Yet the Immortal Fog would not allow it!

The dense Immortal Fog, also spreading out, not only blocked the blood sea but ferociously purified the battlefield's environment, expanding its shelter range.

The sea of fog thus forced the blood sea to retreat, bearing down on it!

"Whoosh~ whoosh~!"

Several Wind Blades flew out rapidly from Deng Yuxiang's palm, directly stabbing at Lady Luo in the red robe.

Lady Luo's pupils trembled: !!!

Wind Blade?

This little wretch was indeed not a disciple of the Immortal Sheep!

She was actually a Believer of the Second-class God·North Wind?!

"Such cunning!" Lady Luo gritted her silver teeth, squeezing out her words from between her teeth, the hem of her red robe fluttering.

The surprise attack failed, the initiative wasn't seized...

But so what?

A full eight highly experienced, battle-hardened River Realm Great Powers couldn't take down two wet-behind-the-ears kids?

"Ding! Ding! Ding..."

The Night Charm Blade connected in a string, piercing the Prisoner Demon Divine Skill·Blood Evil Garment!

The three black-robed men, led by Jia Yan Biao, were initially faking concern for Lady Luo, rushing forward to support her; at this moment their true nature was revealed, heading straight towards Deng Yuxiang.

But at the next moment, everyone froze.

"Whoosh!!"

A gale suddenly arose.

But it wasn't the Tornado of the North Wind Sect, rather a straightforward, pure gust of wind bellowing forward?

Night Charm Evil Technique·Night Wind Assault!

This... how is this possible?

Everyone was utterly bewildered!

The North Wind Divine Skill could adaptively change? Could it be utilized to such an extent?

Deng Yuxiang's lips raised slightly.

Her outstretched hand was tender and fair, her fingers slender.

Beautiful,

Yet it wove a nightmare for the few criminals who intended to kill and rob.

"Sss—"

At her feet, the Immortal Fog churned, unexpectedly streaming forth!

When everyone believed her to be a formidable North Wind disciple, they had naturally prepared mentally.

Yet Deng Yuxiang's sudden Immortal Hoof made everyone widen their eyes in disbelief!

"What is this?"

"How could... watch out!"

"Lady Luo!!" Exclamations arose, as countless blood chains suddenly appeared, attempting to intercept the enemy.

"Crack! Crack! Crack..."

The sound of chains shattering came in succession.

The dazzling girl wielded a broken blade as she advanced, leaving a long Sword Trace on the blade!

The attack power of the Sword Trace was exceptionally formidable, ruthlessly severing the crisscrossing blood chains on her path.

Night Charm Evil Technique·Night Shadow Charm Trace!

An unparalleled single-target assassination skill!

In the blink of an eye, Deng Yuxiang, with the broken blade in hand, was already before Lady Luo.

Lady Luo's heart leaped to her throat, she cried out in terror: "How dare you!!"

"Whoosh!!"

Her feet planted firmly on the ground, a countless number of blood-colored chains shot forth!

The sheer number of chains was uncountable, densely packed, shooting in every direction without dead angles.

Prisoner Demon Divine Skill·Prisoner Demon Array!

This technique was never meant to be used lightly.

Because the God·Prisoner Demon created this technique for believers to have the means to hold off hundreds in heavy encirclement!

And the utterly terrified Lady Luo used her trump card facing just a single attack from Deng Yuxiang.

"Whoosh!"

Deng Yuxiang's figure abruptly halted, seemingly devoid of any inertia.

Leaving everyone dumbstruck!

Her lips curled up slightly, a smile of pure delight.

Because...

Suddenly someone appeared out of nowhere, flashing above Lady Luo's head.

Above her head!

Here was devoid of the defense from the red robe, and the endless blood chains.

"Ssh!"

A flash of brilliance, the light dazzling.

Soul Splitting Power, power maxed out!

The tip of the blade pierced downwards, slicing through the layer of Water Flow Armor on Lady Luo's head.

Forcing its way into the crown of Lady Luo's skull!

"Ah...ugh." Lady Luo's scream of agony was cut short the moment it began.

Her face contorted, eyes bulging, filled with terror.

Under her feet, the ceaseless blood chains shooting in all directions abruptly became "limp," sagging lifelessly to the ground.

Lu Ran, with both hands on the hilt, stood behind Lady Luo, piercing through her body.

Nailing her to the ground.

In an instant, silence enveloped the battlefield.

All the Prison Demon disciples and Nuo Sha disciples seemed to hear the intense beating of their own hearts.

Lu Ran turned his head, looking towards the ghastly pale Jia Yan Biao in the distance, smiled, and said:

"Who the hell isn't from the River Realm, eh?"

Today, let me tell you what you are in the River Realm.

And what I am in the River Realm!

Chapter 427: Kill!

The previously chaotic and noisy battlefield had completely fallen into a deathly silence.

Lady Luo was just like that, pierced by a sword, kneeling on the ground, her death state incredibly tragic.

Her eyes were still staring, the pupils gradually dilating...

Such a scene made everyone's spine chill.

For someone who could cultivate to the River Realm, they must be accustomed to life and death.

What truly terrified people was this young man's method of killing!

How could a disciple of the Immortal Sheep possibly have Instant Teleportation?

So... is he a Believer of Gun Ruin?

"Damn!" Jia Yanbiao's face was deathly pale, and panic and unease grew in his heart.

These two young men were actually so insidious!

Claiming to be believers of the Nine-class God-Immortal Sheep?

In the end, one is a believer of the Second-class God·North Wind and the other is a believer of the First-class God·Gun Ruin!

No wonder, so young yet able to ascend to the River Realm and come to this territory... wait!

Something's not right!

How could a Believer of North Wind have Immortal Hoof?

How would a Believer of Gun Ruin have Purification Skill in the form of Immortal Fog?

"Shit!!"

Jia Yanbiao cursed inwardly, the extreme fear brought about extreme emotions.

Who exactly are these scoundrel believers?

"Buzz~" Inside Lu Ran's sleeve, the Rebirth Money trembled gently, the sound almost imperceptible.

Unusually, Lu Ran did not absorb the soul into his pupil but instead drew Lady Luo's dead soul into the Copper Coin.

Of course, this is just a temporary transit.

This woman was clearly a leader, even honored as the "Mountain Fortress Lady."

Since she held a high position, she must know a lot of intelligence.

Once the battle is over, she will naturally be interrogated thoroughly.

"Fellow Daoist, perhaps there's...some misunderstanding!" The long-haired man in a black robe stammered.

"Misunderstanding?" Lu Ran chuckled.

You divided into two teams of eight people, attacking from the front and back, openly and covertly; is this a misunderstanding?

Your Lady Luo was pushed to our side and suddenly released Blood Sea Chaos; is this also a misunderstanding?

Speaking of which, eight River Realm encompassing two River Realm, Lady Luo didn't directly take action, and still willing to put on a show like this, indeed shows a lot of sincerity.

"Ha." Lu Ran suddenly turned his head to look.

The speaker was the same long-haired man who had previously scolded Deng Yuxiang for being ungrateful.

Just then, he was sullen and threatening, but now he was groveling.

"Ah!" The long-haired man was suddenly frightened back a step.

Because, in the blink of an eye, Lu Ran had already opened a pair of horizontal pupils.

Immortal Sheep Divine Technique·Immortal Pupil!

This technique can amplify the fear in the target's heart.

And the prerequisite for the effectiveness of this technique requires the opponent to already harbor fear.

On this battlefield, this prerequisite condition has been perfectly fulfilled!

The terrifying means demonstrated by Lu Ran, and that Lady Luo, nailed to the ground, unable to rest in peace, was enough to make one's heart tremble!

"Swish~"

Lu Ran's figure flickered, instantly appearing behind the long-haired man.

The long-haired man's temples throbbed, and at the moment of turning, he swung out Blood Chains, the red robe flaring widely.

You have to admit, the believers of River Realm hold significant power.

In such fear, this person acted reflexively, even predicting Lu Ran's position, indeed quite remarkable.

But that's as far as it goes.

"Crack" a crisp sound.

The Dawn Blade flashed by, instantly splitting the Blood Chains.

Along with it, the man's red robe was also shredded with a tearing sound.

The Dawn Blade, a Divine Weapon already imbued with a Domain, its sharpness is higher than that of weapons like the Silent Night Blade!

Moreover, with the power boost of Lu Ran's River Grade·Soul Splitting Power...

Any Blood Chains, Blood Evil Garb, all shattered with one stroke!

"Ah~~~"

The long-haired man was struck backward, only the Water Flow Armor saved his life.

He flew backward, faced white as a sheet, even the scream carried a trembling vibration.

Because, without realizing it, he had looked into Lu Ran's pair of horizontal pupils again!

At this point, the long-haired man was terrified to the extreme, unable to maintain the Water Flow Armor.

"No!"

"Wait..." Jia Yanbiao and another teammate were shocked and angry.

Because Deng Yuxiang sped through, the broken blade in her hand had already slashed up.

Seemingly a broken blade, but in fact, a long sword trace dragged along the blade.

The extremely sharp sword trace slashed from the long-haired man's left shoulder to the right waist, cutting his body diagonally into two halves!

Neat and clean!

The two halves of the corpse flew past Deng Yuxiang's body on either side.

She was splattered with blood, exuding a fierce killing aura, looking back at Jia Yanbiao.

Misunderstanding?

Ha.

"Sizzle—"

The Big Nightmare had no words, Immortal Fog rose again underfoot, suddenly shuttling away.

At the same time, in the rear forest.

"Xiao Jun, hurry!" An elderly Nuoshua believer saw the unfavorable situation and hurriedly urged.

In an instant, two Prison Demon disciples had already died tragically!

This pair of young men and women are powerful, their skills bizarre, their methods ruthless and strong!

Absolutely unlike the weak lambs before.

On a day of hunting geese, today they were going to be pecked by a goose! If they don't leave now, they can't escape!

The youth called "Xiao Jun" spitefully glanced at the Flaming Phoenix-patterned gourd hanging on Lu Ran's waist, turned, and ran.

"Where are you going?"

Suddenly, a voice came from directly in front of them.

The youth who had just been on the distant battlefield was now blocking in front of the four of them.

Everyone's expression dramatically changed!

Almost at the same time, all four Nuoshua believers' faces were imbued with a fierce mask.

Nuoshua Divine Technique·Nuo Mask Fear!

This technique can inflict mental damage to targets, causing fear.

But Lu Ran was not afraid!

Why not afraid?

Because the Ghost General Clan disagrees.

The domineering Evil Spear Emperor Clan also disagrees!

In an instant, Lu Ran locked eyes with one Nuoshua believer.

Come!

Mental skill showdown!

You have Nuo Mask Fear, I have Tethering Silk Pupil!

Lu Ran's eyes subtly turned an enchanting red.

A Nuoshua believer immediately stiffened, feeling his vision blur as he was drawn into a crimson world.

Between heaven and earth, there was a bewitching, bright crimson color.

From all directions came countless fine red threads.

"Sizzle! Sizzle! Sizzle..."

"Ah!!" The Nuoshua believer cried out miserably and howled.

The endless needles of red thread pierced through every inch of his skin, his flesh, his bones...

The painful torment suffered in the mental world was fully reflected in the body's physical reality.

"Ah ah ah!!" The man's eyes bulged, cold sweat streaming.

The severe agony transmitted from his limbs caused him to lose control, and the next moment, he felt a chill in his chest!

The elusive Lu Ran appeared behind him, the glistening blade plunged into his back, and the blood-stained tip pierced through his chest.

The other three's expressions drastically changed!

"Ah!!" The only female Nuoshua believer couldn't help but scream, emanating a residual image.

Nuosha Divine Technique·Nuosha Dance!

The large divine image immediately started dancing, movement flowing grandly.

This technique can make targets within a certain range dance along with the residual image, thereby controlling the enemy's body.

The downside is that this technique extremely exhausts divine power and energy, and once activated, cannot be stopped.

The divine image continues until the caster's last bit of energy is drained, only then does the image dissipate.

"Go, Xiao Jun! Hurry run!"

The Nuoshua female disciple displayed a sacrificial spirit, signaling the elderly man and Xiao Jun to flee.

Speaking, she wielded twin short blades, charging at Lu Ran.

Yet Lu Ran flickered away, his figure disappearing without a trace.

Immediately, the Nuoshua female believer's face turned ashen!

The extremely dominant young man didn't choose to confront directly, but decided to leave?

Simultaneously, on the other side of the battlefield.

A Prison Demon believer was making a last stand, unleashing Blood Sea Chaos, dyeing the land red.

His red robe flailed, blood chains wildly lashing around, battling Deng Yuxiang.

As for the only other remaining Prison Demon disciple, the brutish Jia Yanbiao, he was utterly unscrupulous!

He abandoned his ally, fleeing frantically, flying deep into the forest.

Suddenly, a figure descended from the sky!

"Shit!" Jia Yanbiao's face transformed with surprise.

He made a sudden emergency brake, instinctively flicking his robe's hem.

"Boom!"

Lu Ran's feet landed heavily on the red robe's hem, energy surged wildly.

Soul-splitting Demon Evil Technique·Soul-splitting Demon Hoof!

Just one strike couldn't shatter Jia Yanbiao's red robe.

But under Lu Ran's "War Trample," Jia Yanbiao was slammed hard to the ground.

"Fellow Daoist! Little friend! Spare me... ah ah!"

"Whoosh!!"

A gale roared.

Lu Ran reached down, releasing a mighty wind from the Night Charm Clan, adding force to the falling Jia Yanbiao.

"Screw you..." Jia Yanbiao's eyes bulged, cursing and pleading incoherently.

But before he could finish cursing, a serpent's cry interrupted.

Serpent's cry?

Jia Yanbiao was so shocked that he thought he was hallucinating.

"Hiss!!"

However, indeed, a sharp serpent's cry echoed through the forest!

As Lu Ran released the gale, a phantom white-scaled giant python emerged from his hand?

Evil Technique of Jade-faced Snake·Immortal Sky Python!

The phantom giant python roared, diving fiercely and crashing down on Jia Yanbiao, crushing the earth.

"Crack!!"

The red robe shattered, and the Water Flow Armor further broke.

"Ah ah ah ah ah!" Jia Yanbiao's face flushed, veins bulging.

He cast spells wildly, straining to drive the remaining Water Flow Armor, and trying to escape the deep pit.

But the phantom giant python, thirty meters long, crashed down heavily, pinning Jia Yanbiao, driving him inch by inch into the ground!

"Whoa~"

Accompanied by the serpent tail of the Immortal Sky Python, a figure plunged rapidly.

Lu Ran's boot vigorously landing on Jia Yanbiao's face.

More precisely, on that foul mouth.

"Boom!"

Jia Yanbiao's already battered Water Flow Armor was crushed under Lu Ran's forceful stomp.

Along with it, Jia Yanbiao's lower face was smashed, bleeding profusely...

Lu Ran's eyes were chilling cold.

Soul-splitting Demon Hoof rose again, another War Trample!

He stomped fiercely on that blood-soaked skull without hesitation.

"Crack!"

The sound of bones breaking was hair-raising!

In the deep pit, there was only a headless corpse left.

Lu Ran's chest heaved slightly, wrath surging in his heart, his figure vanished.

On the other side of the battlefield, near the forest from the Nuosha's Residual Image.

Lu Ran appeared silently, sniffed the air.

Scent~

The next moment, his figure flickered again.

After several searches and flashes, he stood under a large tree.

Not far ahead, was a youth holding the Nuosha female disciple.

"You two." A faint voice came from behind.

The woman's heart pounded heavily, her eyes filled with despair: "Xiao Jun..."

Gao Shanjun's face stiffened, his steps stumbled to a halt.

He slowly turned, seeing the youth filled with wrath.

Lu Ran's eyes were ice-cold, word by word:

"Did I allow you to leave?"

Chapter 428: Clouds and a Pot of Wine

"Thud!"

Gao Shanjun, holding the woman, knelt towards Lu Ran: "I'm sorry, my lord, it's us who were blind, we beg you to spare our lives."

We know some information about this realm!

We are willing to serve you, to be your horses, we beg... beg you to spare our lives."

Lu Ran frowned slightly.

He's lived for 19 years and has never heard such words?

The man before him, a strong figure in the River Realm, yet so shameless!

Even though the opponent made such a grand gesture, the anger in Lu Ran's heart did not diminish in the slightest.

Spare your lives?

When you ambushed and surrounded me, did you ever think of sparing my life?

Lu Ran directly asked, "Where is that old guy?"

Gao Shanjun lowered his head, his face bloodless: "We split up... split up and ran."

"Which direction?"

"That way." Gao Shanjun hesitated for a moment, pointing to the northeast.

The female disciple from the Nuosha Sect looked at Gao Shanjun in disbelief, as if she didn't understand why he would betray his companion.

However, Lu Ran felt these two were acting and said in a deep voice, "You want to die."

"Really, I'm not lying to you! Absolutely not!" Gao Shanjun hurriedly said, "I swear on Nuo Sha's name!"

Lu Ran felt disdain.

So, is the information given by this person accurate?

And the woman's reaction real?

Lu Ran commanded, "Activate Divine Technique·Nuosha Dance."

"Ah?" Gao Shanjun looked surprised, raising his eyes to Lu Ran.

Lu Ran was unwilling to waste words: "Either activate it or die now."

Gao Shanjun's expression changed repeatedly, a layer of cold sweat emerging on his forehead.

"My patience is limited." Lu Ran said coldly.

Gao Shanjun's heart trembled heavily, he instinctively began casting, a large Nuo Sha's Residual Image unfolding from his body.

Notably, this residual image wouldn't move with the caster.

As a skill, the residual image would only dance in place.

"Stay kneeling here, wait for my return."

Leaving behind an order, Lu Ran flickered away.

In the vast mountain forests, finding a person was naturally as difficult as climbing to heaven.

But "Burning Dog" was not a name given lightly!

Sniff~

Just as Lu Ran transformed into a police dog, he suddenly heard a huge commotion from afar behind him.

He turned his head to look, his gaze slightly focused.

In the high sky, appeared a gigantic blade!

Is this the North Wind Sect's River Realm ultimate move·North Wind Divine Blade?

No!

This is the Night Charm Clan's River Realm ultimate move·Night Charm Evil Blade!

Only to see the giant blade, spanning hundreds of meters, slashing down fiercely, the momentum staggering, the earth trembling violently.

The terrifying gales almost leveled the surrounding mountains and forests.

[Sister, are you okay?]

[Remember to come back to collect souls.] The woman's words imprinted in his mind.

Lu Ran's heart stabilized, continuing to track the elder while leaving behind a communication, instructing some matters.

Deng Yuxiang did not execute the order immediately, instead asking in his mind:

[Which direction? I'll help you chase as well.]

[No need, I've found him!] Lu Ran licked his lips, watching the panicked figure fleeing ahead, his figure flashing again.

"Ah!" The elderly Nuosha believer's face turned ashen, suddenly stopping in his tracks.

In front, that eerie youth ultimately appeared.

Lu Ran raised his hands, slowly drawing out two blades from above his shoulders.

One was the Eight Desolates Annihilation, the other the Cloud Sea Dust Purification.

His expression was somber, his heart filled with surging anger: "Nuosha taught you God and Ghost Entanglement, to use for escape?"

Divine Technique·Divine Ghost Entanglement, its effect equivalent to Evil Dog Evil Skill·Evil Min.

Precisely because of this technique, the Nuosha Sect became known for their "speed and agility."

On the battlefield, the Nuosha believers' movement speed, attack speed, and other aspects far exceeded other sects!

"Young friend!" The elder's face wrinkled up, revealing an ugly smile, "This old man was also coerced by those Prison Demon Disciples, leading to this grave mistake.

Today's rash offense against you, I sincerely apologize."

Lu Ran scoffed in his heart.

Coerced?

Is it really so easy to say, do you even believe yourself?

As they say, birds of a feather flock together.

This old guy and that previous spineless youth seem very similar in style?

Seeing Lu Ran did not immediately take action, the elder hurriedly said, "This old man has survived in this realm for decades and has some knowledge.

If you do not disdain, I am willing to tell you everything, and thereafter follow you, dedicating loyal service.

I humbly beg you to be generous...

"Activate Nuosha Dance." Lu Ran suddenly spoke.

The elder's recently relaxed expression stiffened again.

Once such a technique is activated, it won't take long before he becomes a weak, helpless lamb!

Equivalent to handing his life completely into the opponent's hands!

Lu Ran stared directly at the elder, "Didn't you say you wanted to serve me loyally? Start now."

The elder's smile was forced, "Young friend, today's matter..."

"Three!" Lu Ran interrupted directly.

The elder's breath slightly halted!

"Two!" Lu Ran's legs slightly bent.

"Buzz~" Suddenly, a figure appeared beside the elder, identical to him.

Nuosha Divine Technique·Shadow of Evil!

This duplicate clearly had physical form.

The duplicate shifted sideways, its figure instantly becoming an illusion, merging with the elder.

Nuosha Divine Technique·Evil Shadow Follows!

Without waiting for Lu Ran to finish the countdown, the elder had already abandoned his illusions, readying for battle!

Indeed decisive.

Lu Ran's body flickered, reappearing behind the elder's flank.

"Ding!" A crisp sound!

The elder did not turn around, but the blade Lu Ran slashed down was blocked by the elder's shadow.

The shadow wielded a pair of illusory Sha Blades, with energetic coverage on the short blades, striving to block Lu Ran's attack.

However, Lu Ran's stance was exceptionally firm!

The Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade continued to press down forcefully, the blade tip forcibly tearing apart the elder's Water Flow Armor.

Competing in strength?

A mere shadow was not enough.

The shadow and the elder's body together might be able to make Lu Ran pause for a moment.

"Roar!!" Suddenly, a terrifying energy burst from within the elder.

Straightaway, countless illusory Sha Blades flew out from the elder's body.

Lu Ran instinctively moved, instantly flickering backwards over three hundred meters.

Standing by a tree, gazing at the terrifying sight in the distance, he sighed in his heart.

Opening with an ultimate move upon meeting?

Clearly, that was the Nuosha Sect's River Realm ultimate move-Sha Blades Thousand Blades!

"Old thing, indeed decisive." Lu Ran smirked.

Countless illusory short blades were ravaging everything around.

Trees were stabbed through with riddled holes, the sound of breaking and toppling continuously echoing.

Indeed, the Nuosha Sect should never have teammates.

Look at Divine Technique·Nuosha Dance, it makes no distinction between friend and foe!

As long as within a certain range, all have to dance along with Nuo Sha's Residual Image.

Look at the current River Realm ultimate move·Sha Blades Thousand Blades.

Once initiated, who cares about the teammates' lives or deaths?

Hmm...this technique is quite suitable for chaos?

Lu Ran leaned against the tree thoughtfully.

With one flicker, he could directly charge into the enemy's core, then activate such an ultimate move...

Belonging as the Living Yama.

During Lu Ran's contemplation, the elder ceased casting, cautiously surveying the surroundings.

Suddenly, faint energy fluctuations appeared behind.

"Young friend!" The elder was startled, quickly calling to stop, "Have mercy, I have realized my wrongs!"

Lu Ran was indeed amused.

Old thing!

Wishing to kill while begging for mercy?

"You're quite cute!"

Lu Ran appeared directly at the elder's flank, slashing down with a blade.

"Ding!"

The blade met the short blade.

But this time, from Lu Ran's blade, four streaks of black mist lashed out.

Evil Spear Emperor's Evil Technique-Evil Cloud Entanglement!

This technique was truly wicked!

Once ensnared by the black mist lines, the target would be restricted, their movements hindered.

Even more terrifying, those black mist lines could permeate through the Water Flow Armor, infiltrate the target's body, disrupting their casting!

"You! You...what is this?" The elder immediately sensed changes within his body, his face turning extremely grim.

"Heh." Lu Ran grinned.

Aren't you rapid in body and attack speed?

Aren't you known as "God and Ghost Entanglement"?

Come,

let my Evil Cloud also entangle you!

"I yield, young friend! I surrender..." The elder cried out in panic, struggling to resist.

He even intended to activate another ultimate move.

Yet those infiltrating black mist lines snaked through his body like sinister serpents, wreaking havoc, running rampant.

Disrupting his Divine Power unbearably, even unable to mobilize!

"Too late." Lu Ran said calmly.

"You can't kill me, I know a lot of information!" The elder yelled in a mixture of fear and panic, "I know who's fighting in the heavens!

I even know bigger secrets! I am more valuable alive!

You can't kill me!!"

As death loomed, the opponent's voice was so pitifully shrill.

Lu Ran remained unmoved, his horizontal pupils icy cold:

"Do you think the dead can't speak?"

The elder's pupils contracted violently!

Since the beginning of the combat, the bizarre youth before him, wielding technique after technique!

He indeed might possess methods of imprisoning, tormenting human clan's souls!

Lu Ran's light words, sounded in the elder's ears, completely shattered his fragile nerves.

"Ding! Ding! Ding..."

The blade and the broken blade kept clashing.

Lu Ran's offensive was fierce, while the elder was ashen-faced, having lost morale, only left with continuous retreat.

"Hiss!"

The Eight Desolates Blade sliced across, a head flew high.

Lu Ran raised his hand, offering the wrist's Rebirth Money, temporarily storing the elder's dead soul in the Magic Artifact.

"No! No!!"

The elder's soul screamed in agony, terrified to the extreme, having no escape, only able to fly into the Ancient Copper Coin.

Lu Ran didn't even look at this old thing.

He rotated his wrist, examining the Eight Desolate Annihilation Blade repeatedly.

"Sigh~"

Lu Ran swung downward, shaking off the blood pearls from the blade onto the ground.

"Now, the path of growth is clear."

"'Eight Desolates' refers to the far places in all directions, but I named you Eight Desolates, specifically referring to the world beyond the Divine Ruins."

"Now, we stand in this distant place."

Lu Ran tightened his grip on the hilt, staring at the gleaming blade: "Next is annihilation."

The Eight Desolate Annihilation Blade was silent, unresponsive.

Lu Ran didn't mind, he had patience.

He simply fell silent, lightly sighing.

Lord Immortal Sheep always said, this realm is extremely dangerous.

I thought there were some powerful Evil Demons at work, or world-destroying natural disasters making survival difficult for the Human Clan.

Instead,

the so-called danger was people.

People without grudges or enmity.

People widely respected in the Vast River.

People who should have stood side by side with Lu Ran, jointly resisting external enemies.

"Sigh~"

A mountain wind suddenly blew by, messing up his short, disheveled hair.

The corpse at his feet continued bleeding, staining his boots, bringing the stench of blood to his nose.

"Scratch!" Lu Ran sheathed the blade, picking up the Phoenix Pattern Gourd at his waist.

He gazed up at the sky-covering Cloud Sea, raising his head and taking a big swig.

To the once naive and innocent self.

Till we meet again.

...

Chapter 429: Holy Spirit Energy?

[Little Lu Ran?]

[Hmm?] Lu Ran paused, holding the gourd.

[How are things on your end?] A concerned woman's voice echoed in his mind.

[It's nothing, it's all over.]

[Good, I've found those two Nuoshua disciples, they're obedient, still kneeling.] Deng Yuxiang glanced at the trembling man, sneering inwardly.

She continued to transmit: [You return to the first battlefield and collect the souls.]

[I've already seen him.] Lu Ran, who was already looking up at the Cloud Sea, saw a dead soul of the Human Clan flying toward the sky.

It was indeed the Prison Demon disciple.

He's actually floating upwards?

A thought moved in Lu Ran's heart, the souls of Human Clan believers are meant to return to the embrace of the divine.

So, this soul floating uncontrollably upwards implies...

Is there a god in the sky?

Or perhaps, the statue of the divine still remains in the Human World, and the path back to the Human World lies above?

"Shua~"

Lu Ran's figure flashed, with a layer of wind beneath his feet, standing in mid-air beside the Prisoner Demon believer.

"You! You... no, don't come closer ahhh!!"

The man screamed in terror, yet was helpless, only able to condense in front of Lu Ran, constantly merging into his eyes.

This was a soul of a River Realm believer.

To Lu Ran, it was undoubtedly a great tonic!

Previously, Lu Ran hadn't activated the divine statue.

But he knew, to activate the Evil Demon sculpture, he needed 2000 Fog Realm·Evil Demon dead souls.

Calculating by ratio:

fog = 200 stream = 20 river = 2 river grades.

Which means, after this battle, Lu Ran could already activate the Prisoner Demon sculpture and the Nuoshua sculpture.

But Lu Ran's activation quota was limited, so he didn't plan to activate these two divine sculptures yet.

Mmm, let's hold onto them for now.

Laying a solid foundation, they'll be used someday.

Meanwhile, in the Snow Forest, beside a big tree far away from Nuo Sha's Residual Image.

Gao Shanjun staggered forward with the nearly exhausted Nuoshua female disciple, then "thumped" to kneel once again in front of Deng Yuxiang.

Deng Yuxiang's expression was displeased.

This scene gave her tremendous shock.

Before today, the people of the River Realm in Deng Yuxiang's heart were all high and mighty, with their pride and dignity!

Yet now, Deng Yuxiang saw a coward.

Mmm... thinking about it, it makes sense.

In the Human World, when Evil Demons invaded monthly, faced with such a massive crisis, the Human Clan naturally united unprecedently.

There was rarely strife among people.

Now it was different!

The lives of these two Nuoshua disciples were truly in her hands.

She had indeed broken her own taboo today, slaughtering her kin...

Of course, Deng Yuxiang wasn't some saint, she wouldn't regret it.

Faced with a group of fierce bandits determined to end her, Deng Yuxiang would undoubtedly make the strongest counterattack!

"Plea... please show mercy, my lord." Gao Shanjun tremorously said, with his head lowered even further.

After all, he was also River Realm, his Nuoshua's Residual Image would likely take some time to disperse.

As for the Nuoshua female disciple, she was completely slumped on the ground, her body weak beyond recognition.

Her Nuo Sha's Residual Image was still dancing in the mountains of the first battlefield. Looking at her state, the Nuoshua phantom would likely dissipate soon.

"Shua~"

Deng Yuxiang looked to the side, as Lu Ran's figure subtly appeared with faint energy fluctuations.

"Are you hurt?" Lu Ran stepped forward, black flames igniting in his palm.

In just a few steps, the vicious aura surrounding Lu Ran visibly dissipated.

Deng Yuxiang's fierce gaze also softened slightly.

She gently shook her head: "No."

Lu Ran still held her arm, passing the black fire "across."

Deng Yuxiang smiled, feeling her body warm up.

She took out a handful of Divine Power Pearls from her pocket, handing them to Lu Ran: "After the fight, only the Night Charm gown had a few tears, the Water Flow Armor wasn't damaged."

"Oh." Hearing this, Lu Ran nodded.

The Prisoner Demon Sect primarily excelled in defense and control, its output still lacked in some respects.

"May I ask then?" Deng Yuxiang placed the Divine Power Pearls into Lu Ran's hand.

"Alright." Lu Ran accepted the Divine Power Pearls, counting them, a total of eight.

The lowest was River Grade, and there was even a River Grade Divine Power Pearl!

It was crystal clear, faintly glowing, dreamlike.

This specification, it must be the size of a quail's egg.

Then Lu Ran suddenly remembered something, transmitting: [Sister, I'll go back and search that old man's corpse.]

His figure vanished, and upon returning tens of seconds later, he felt a chill down his spine!

Deng Yuxiang was exuding a terrifying aura!

Lu Ran glanced at her secretly, only to see Deng Yuxiang looking down, gazing at the man kneeling before her, her eyes exceptionally cold.

The disdain and contempt from deep within made her more overbearing than ever!

This kind of River Realm person indeed made her despise them.

"You and I have no grudges, why do you want to kill us?" The woman said in a cold voice.

Gao Shanjun's face was pale, like falling into an ice cave.

Even Lu Ran couldn't help but shiver.

He thought his own viciousness was already heavy enough.

But it still had to be the Big Nightmare!

So terrifying.

Gao Shanjun stammered: "I... we..."

Deng Yuxiang spoke again: "If there's any lie..."

"I wouldn't dare, I wouldn't dare!" Gao Shanjun shook his head repeatedly, hastily saying, "The rules here are just like this."

"Rules?"

"If we see newcomers, and they aren't from the same sect, it's likely we'll take action."

Deng Yuxiang's voice grew colder: "Why?"

Gao Shanjun trembled: "The sky will drop Holy Spirit Energy, resources are limited."

The more people there are, the more will try to seize it.

You two both have the talent of heavenly beings, sent here at a young age, the future is boundless.

If we don't eliminate you early, in the future, when scrambling for Holy Spirit Energy, the ones who'll die will probably be us..."

Holy Spirit Energy?

Deng Yuxiang thought for a moment, it should be what Lu Ran referred to as "Origin Energy."

She asked, "You and I are from the Human Clan, we can't cultivate Holy Spirit Energy, why are you snatching it?"

Gao Shanjun was a bit puzzled, but still didn't dare to look up, quickly said: "Before we came to the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, the Lord God once transmitted orders, asking us to collect Holy Spirit Energy."

Deng Yuxiang furrowed her brows slightly, a hint of doubt in her eyes, glancing at Lu Ran.

Without even transmitting, Lu Ran understood her meaning.

He shook his head gently: [Immortal Sheep didn't tell me anything about this either.]

Deng Yuxiang: "..."

What does it mean?

Other gods gave their believers clear instructions, why didn't Immortal Sheep say anything?

Could it be that Holy Spirit Energy is not desirable?

It shouldn't be.

After all, this is the foundation of the divine.

Gao Shanjun continued in a flattering tone: "We don't even know how to return home.

But we speculate that if we can collect enough Holy Spirit Energy and please the Lord God, maybe we can return to the Human World.

After all, we only have this one task after coming here."

"Heh." Lu Ran snorted coldly.

Return?

Your Lord God couldn't care less about you.

When you die, your soul will automatically return.

Wait a moment!

Lu Ran suddenly realized that everyone in this realm, if they stayed here long enough, their souls should all carry extra Origin Energy to some extent.

That is, the so-called Holy Spirit Energy.

In this way, I should be able to better cultivate the divine sculptures in the garden?

Ultimately, the true material for cultivating divine sculptures is not the souls of the Human Clan, but the trace of "Holy Spirit Energy" carried within the soul!

Deng Yuxiang pondered for a long time before asking: "Nuoshua and Prisoner Demon are not from the same sect, why do you gather together?"

Gao Shanjun lowered his head and said: "There are many forces within the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, we have no choice but to band together for survival."

Sometimes, even comrades from the same sect will fight each other."

"Many forces?" Deng Yuxiang asked in confusion, "Each God's sect rarely opens the Divine Ruins, where do all the people in this realm come from?"

Gao Shanjun answered truthfully: "Most are not here through challenging the Divine Ruins or entering the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm."

"Oh?"

"I was chosen by the Lord God during the pilgrimage and sent directly here."

"Hmm..." The Nuoshua female disciple groaned softly and completely passed out.

Clearly, she was exhausted.

To recover, she would need several days of quiet rest, but in this perilous world, being exhausted and unconscious could be tantamount to death.

Deng Yuxiang ignored the female bandit and continued: "Tell me about your forces."

Seeing his companion fainted, Gao Shanjun seemed to see his own end.

His divine power and vigor were rapidly depleting, his speech quickened: "Our mountain stronghold has over forty people.

The Village Chief is a Jade Talisman believer named Luo Tiantu.

He should be Sea Realm, but no one knows his exact strength realm.

The stronghold has three main factions, namely the Jade Talisman, Prisoner Demon, and Nuoshua disciples, originally with similar numbers..."

Deng Yuxiang interrupted: "In the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, is your stronghold considered strong or weak?"

Gao Shanjun immediately said: "To my knowledge, it's slightly below average. My lord, I..."

Deng Yuxiang looked displeased: "What?"

Gao Shanjun swallowed, his trembling hand reached toward his waist: "I have a divine... divine weapon, could I offer it to you in exchange for sparing my life?"

Deng Yuxiang's eyes filled with disdain: "You want to give your divine weapon to me?"

Gao Shanjun took out a beautiful dagger, offering it with both hands: "It... it originally didn't belong to me."

Deng Yuxiang sneered: "Heh, like killing us, stealing from others?"

"I'm sorry, my lord..." Gao Shanjun kept pleading.

Deng Yuxiang looked at Lu Ran, who nodded slightly.

Lu Ran had long noticed that this person possessed a divine weapon.

However, according to the Dawn Blade's prompt, this divine weapon had little spiritual nature.

Its basic attributes indeed entered the realm of divine weapons, but its Artifact Spirit sealed itself, seemingly refusing to connect with the outside world.

So, that's how it is.

[If you can't stand it, just do it.] Lu Ran looked at Deng Yuxiang's face, feeling her anger.

Against such murderous and treacherous individuals, Lu Ran naturally wouldn't keep him in the team.

Lu Ran further transmitted his thoughts: [Don't worry, I still have two more souls, we don't lack sources of information.]

In fact, even if this person died, Lu Ran could still make him speak...

"Hmm." Deng Yuxiang kicked Gao Shanjun's hand with her boot, and the dagger flew high.

She caught the dagger and casually flicked it downwards.

"Chi!"

The sharp dagger directly pinned into the back of the man's head.

Having done all this, Deng Yuxiang stood silently in place for a long time.

It was only her second day in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

Yet this world urged and forced her to change.

She finally understood why a few who made it back to the Human World remained silent about everything in this realm.

"Sister."

"Hmm?" Deng Yuxiang raised her eyes to Lu Ran.

She saw him extending the gourd with the Phoenix Pattern to her.

Lu Ran smiled: "Earlier, I toasted to my former self."

Deng Yuxiang pursed her lips, looking at the youth's concerned eyes, and that familiar gentle smile.

She slowly reached out and accepted the gourd with the Phoenix Pattern.

Fortunately, some things don't change.

"Gulp, gulp..."

...

Chapter 430: Bring it on

"Hoo~"

Amidst a surge of energy, a phantom emerged from the dagger.

Deng Yuxiang paused his movement of pouring wine, and Lu Ran immediately turned to look.

A spirit of the dagger?

It was a female figure, seemingly twenty-seven or eight years old, with cold indifference written all over her face.

She wore a white cloak and hood, with strands of long hair drifting beside her face, giving a somewhat melancholic beauty.

Presumably, this was the original owner's form of the divine weapon.

But when the artifact spirit saw the man being executed on his knees, there was finally a change in her expression.

She smiled.

It was a triumphant smile of ultimate revenge!

She looked on for a full ten seconds before turning to face Lu and Deng.

Especially towards Lu Ran!

Her smile vanished, replaced by a hostile expression, as if sensing his possession of multiple divine weapons.

"Come." Deng Yuxiang extended his hand, signaling the dagger to fly over.

The artifact spirit gave Deng Yuxiang a cold glance and looked at Lu Ran with extreme disdain.

"Hoo~"

Her figure silently retracted back into the dagger.

Sunbeam: [The artifact spirit has sealed herself again.]

Lu Ran smacked his lips: "I have quite a few divine weapon artifacts, so this dagger spirit probably took me for a killer and robber too."

Deng Yuxiang stepped forward and stomped on Gao Shanjun's head.

She bent down to grip the dagger lodged in the back of the corpse's head and pulled it out with force: "I'll establish a connection with the artifact spirit and explain the situation, then have her apologize to you."

"No need." Lu Ran said indifferently.

Deng Yuxiang picked up the dagger, observing its curved blade like a crescent moon:

"We saved her from torment and helped her kill her enemy."

If she doesn't thank us, it doesn't matter, but she shouldn't wrong you."

Lu Ran: "..."

The bossy ram has logged off, and the bossy Xiang Xiang took over?

So gentle yet so strong...

Sister, kill me!

Yet Deng Yuxiang had no intention of killing Lu Ran.

She gave the unconscious female bandit a kick, flipping her over, and with the dagger, slashed her throat.

Clean and swift!

Clearly, Deng Yuxiang was making an effort to integrate into the new world and adapt to its new rules.

Since they were sworn enemies, this treatment was to be expected!

Lu Ran opened his eyes to reveal cross-shaped pupils.

Interestingly, this female bandit was unconscious when alive.

After death, her soul was actually clear-headed.

She didn't cry out, just looked at Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang with venomous eyes.

But once she realized her own predicament, her venomous eyes gradually turned to regret...

Deng Yuxiang suggested, "Let's take care of the bodies and move away from here to find somewhere to rest."

Lu Ran, after confirming the dead souls were collected in his pupils, replied, "Okay."

Half an hour later, the two descended into a small ravine's bottom, where the dense trees and steep cliffs on both sides made it a great hideout.

"I'll open up a cave." Deng Yuxiang unsheathed the broken blade from her back, dragging a long sword trace on its blade.

"Sizzle!"

The sword trace penetrated the stone wall as if slicing through tofu.

As Deng Yuxiang dug into the mountain, Lu Ran took out a Connection Mirror and swiped it up and down.

"Ah?" Lu Ran halted his actions.

"What's up?" Deng Yuxiang turned to look.

Lu Ran immediately rotated the Ancient Bronze Mirror, pointing it toward the woman.

Deng Yuxiang was equally surprised: "Night Charm?"

In the Holy Spirit Mountain realm, there were still Evil Demons present?

Hmm... I was too hasty, I shouldn't have slain those two Nuoshua disciples without asking more questions.

Lu Ran flipped the mirror back over, carefully examining it for a moment, hesitated, "Shall we check it out?"

"Let's go."

"Get ready!" Lu Ran said seriously, holding the oval-shaped Connection Mirror until it transformed into a full-length mirror.

Deng Yuxiang, without hesitation, wielded her blade and strode in.

Lu Ran followed closely, just in time to see the Night Charm not far away, who stopped and turned to look.

Deng Yuxiang's body tensed, the battle seemed about to erupt.

Yet the next scene left both Lu and Deng dumbfounded.

This Night Charm, surprisingly, turned and fled.

Run?

Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang exchanged glances, seeing the astonishment in each other's eyes.

The Evil Demon faction and the human/divine faction perennially opposed each other, every encounter should be met with conflict!

Furthermore, the Evil Demon Clan's craving for human blood and tender meat was etched in their bones.

How could this Night Charm ahead be fleeing?

Could it be that this Night Charm had exceptionally high intelligence, not only recognizing the strength of the two but also forcibly suppressing her brutal nature and decisively opting to escape?

"Shwip~"

Lu Ran used instant teleportation, blocking the path right in front of the Night Charm.

"Screech—"

Deng Yuxiang, treading on Immortal Fog, swiftly traversing, halted behind the Night Charm.

The Night Charm paused, tensing up, each hand gripping a Night Charm Blade, ready for a formidable foe.

"Can you speak?" Lu Ran curiously examined the Night Charm, attempting to communicate.

Given this Night Charm's uniqueness, could she perhaps speak human language?

The response to Lu Ran was only endless silence.

Lu Ran persisted: "Having discovered us, why run?"

The Night Charm suddenly raised her hand, and suddenly a gale arose!

"CRACK! CRACK..."

The surrounding trees around Lu Ran snapped one by one, even some being uprooted by the gales, creating a chaotic scene.

However, Lu Ran stood firm and unmoved.

Barbaric Witch Evil Technique·Desolate Power!

The power from Earth made Lu Ran fearless of the winds and waves.

"Heh." Deng Yuxiang's lips involuntarily curled up, her eyes flashed with a peculiar light.

Lu Ran's heroic and extraordinary figure stood tall amidst the gale, enough to amaze anyone.

In the next moment, Deng Yuxiang charged forward, slicing at the Night Charm's back.

"Buzz~"

The Night Charm suddenly split into three!

When experts make a move, their skill is clear.

It was apparent that the Night Charm had anticipated the enemy's positioning, intending to encircle Deng Yuxiang the moment she approached.

But this time, the experienced Night Charm was completely miscalculated!

Because Deng Yuxiang abruptly halted!

Without any buffer, she stood at the edge of the encirclement.

Such an unexpected scene left the Night Charm unable to react.

"Die!" Deng Yuxiang swung her blade horizontally, the long sword trace sweeping across.

Unable to discern the real body?

Then kill them all!

"Meh~~~"

The sudden bleating of a sheep made the Night Charm's heart tremble.

And the sharp sword trace had already severed two phantom Night Charms, sweeping toward the real body's side.

Little lambs can really sneak in a blow at the most critical moment~

"Hiss!" At the crucial moment, the Night Charm desperately leaped up.

She tried to curl her legs up, but that sheep bleat just now did mess up things!

The Night Charm couldn't dodge Deng Yuxiang's strike entirely, the sword trace ruthlessly slashed at the Night Charm's leg.

"CRUNCH!"

The piercing sound came out, that was the sound of the Night Charm's garment breaking.

"SNAP!!"

That was the sound of two rows of canine teeth clamping fiercely.

Deng Yuxiang's continuous attacks, her upward swinging blade cutting into not a living being, but a headless corpse.

In midair, two rows of sharp canine teeth hadn't dispersed.

Evil Dog Evil Technique·Evil Teeth!

A Night Charm's head had already been bitten off by the fierce dog's fangs, plummeting to the ground.

Deng Yuxiang: "..."

She slowly turned her head to look at Lu Ran.

Lu Ran wore a look of innocence, blinking: "I have a lot of Evil Techniques, don't I?"

Deng Yuxiang amusedly glared at Lu Ran: "Quick, do the Soul Binding."

Just earlier she had thought he was majestic and heroic, looking at him now with that smug look...

He can't be praised!

Hmm, not even in her heart.

"Poof~"

The Night Charm, dismembered into numerous pieces, its parts dissolved into mist.

Lu Ran casually tossed a gourd over, simultaneously opening the Pupil of the Dead World.

The Phoenix Pattern Gourd hovered mid-air, automatically extracting the thick white mist.

Lu Ran carefully scrutinized this peculiar Night Charm.

Despite looking over and over, he couldn't spot any distinctive features.

"Hiss..." The Night Charm's soul stirred uneasily, unable to escape its fate of being absorbed into the Pupil of the Dead World.

"Buzz!!"

Within seconds, Lu Ran's brain buzzed!

Within the Sculpture Garden, the Night Charm Evil Sculpture at Jiang Realm·First Rank began violently trembling.

Was it about to advance?

Jiang Realm·Second Rank?

"Wow!" Lu Ran was completely astonished.

Once the evil sculpture within the Jiang Realm is cultivated further, advancing becomes particularly arduous.

After all, Lu Ran needed 100 Jiang Realm Evil Demon souls to upgrade the evil sculpture by even one minor rank.

of them!

What was that notion?

Every time during the fifteenth night, a Jiang Realm Demon Lord's appearance is termed a "special event".

Lu Ran had seriously contemplated cultivating Jiang Realm evil sculptures, implying he had to venture deep into the Demon Cave or the battlefield frontlines.

Otherwise, merely relying on battlefields like the fifteenth night, it'd be nearly impossible to cultivate sculptures to advance in a lifetime.

Who would've thought!

Absorbing one Night Charm soul here could upgrade the Jiang Realm-First Rank evil sculpture!

"Am I... Am I?"

Deng Yuxiang furrowed her brows, feeling a strange sensation within her body.

That tall, graceful figure also slightly trembled.

"You're advancing in rank." Lu Ran, after piecing it all together, was overjoyed!

Indeed!

Back in the Human World, Lu Ran would roughly calculate the need for Evil Demon souls to cultivate the evil sculpture.

Since each Evil Demon soul carried a thread of Holy Spirit Energy (Origin Energy).

Yet in the Holy Spirit Mountain realm, it's a completely different scenario!

No matter whether human or demon, how much Holy Spirit Energy resides in the soul is variable.

Like opening a blind box!

The longer one stays in this realm, the more Holy Spirit Energy collected within their soul should be.

To Lu Ran, it's like harvesting leeks!

Not to mention the human clan believers working for the All Gods, just those evil demon lackeys collecting Holy Spirit Energy in this realm...

Whenever Lu Ran encounters them, he'll strike mercilessly, without any guilt!

Are you working for the Evil Demon Lord?

Working day and night, arduously collecting Holy Spirit Energy?

Hand it over now~

Lu Ran grinned from ear to ear, initially thinking there were only the Human Clan here!

Soon, he'd have to yank out Lady Luo's soul for a good interrogation to check the Evil Demon distribution in this realm.

"Let's head back!"

Lu Ran, impatiently, despite his buzzing mind, summoned a full-length mirror.

The Phoenix Pattern Gourd, delighted, danced and chased after.

Deng Yuxiang, on the other hand, using the broken blade as a cane, trembled and trailed along...