

Old Gods 441

Chapter 441: Can you do me a favor?

In the high sky, several disciples of Lord Jian Yi gathered.

The few were not very old, the oldest being in their mid-thirties at most.

She looked down upon the peak beneath and said faintly, "I wondered why Sister Leng Jin isn't seeking the Holy Spirit Energy; turns out she's discovered someone leveling up here."

The once overbearing slave master demeanor of Leng Jin was nowhere to be seen at this moment.

She dutifully replied, "Senior Dongfang, the commotion caused by the person in the mountain is not small; it's likely of the high ranks of the River Realm."

Dongfang Ning: "Still haven't found the person?"

Leng Jin's expression wasn't good, and she whispered, "The Ice Butterfly squad is still searching."

Dongfang Ning happened to see an Ice Butterfly disciple flying across the peak, her gaze looking down as if at a lowly ant: "A group of useless wretches."

"Senior Dongfang, please don't get angry. If she bothers you, I will take her out." Leng Jin reached out a hand, and energy surged in her jade palm.

"Whoosh~ whoosh~"

A total of sixteen flying swords shot out, stabbing straight at the peak.

To be precise, they were targeting the Ice Butterfly female disciple searching desperately on the peak.

"No! Don't!"

The middle-aged woman was horrified, looking up abruptly.

The Ice Butterfly Divine Technique·Ice Sense enabled the Ice Butterfly believers to establish a clever connection with frost and snow, perceiving all things within.

It is noteworthy that such frost and snow could be released by the Ice Butterfly believers themselves or naturally formed within the natural world.

Therefore, when Leng Jin casually unleashed her flying swords, the Ice Butterfly believers searching below sensed it immediately.

"Please, I'm just about to find it, I..."

The woman's voice trembled in plea, and her words cut off abruptly.

"Slash! Slash..."

Blades pierced flesh!

The swiftly attacking long swords instantly penetrated the head, heart, and limbs of the Ice Butterfly disciple.

A living person was thus nailed to the peak.

Until the last second, this person didn't even think of escaping; she was only begging for mercy.

Perhaps she knew in her heart that escaping Leng Jin's kill was impossible.

Or perhaps, in the days of being a slave or servant, this Ice Butterfly disciple had been utterly crushed by Leng Jin, daring not even to think of resisting.

With the tragic death of the Ice Butterfly female disciple on the spot, the remaining two male Ice Butterfly disciples immediately searched with more fervor.

They had no time to mourn their companion.

Their hearts were filled only with fear, wanting only to quickly find the person leveling up within the mountain!

The weak, in this realm, had no rights to speak of.

Perhaps in the human world, they were revered beings, guardians beloved and supported by the people.

But here, they were mere servants clinging to life, depending on others for subsistence.

"Sister Leng Jin, you're quite ruthless."

In the high sky, Dongfang Ning's lips curled, turning to look at the young junior.

Leng Jin smiled and nodded: "She was crying incessantly, I found her bothersome too."

A charming visage, a faint smile, and a pair of bright eyes, appearing so beautiful.

As if the person who brutally killed the servant wasn't her just now.

"If they're not found, cut down this mountain peak." Among the four disciples of Lord Jian Yi, the tallest woman spoke.

Her eyes were equally cold, overlooking the peak below: "Don't delay us in collecting Holy Spirit Energy for Lord Jian Yi."

Another relatively petite woman nodded in agreement at once: "Yes, if she belongs to our sect, and she's come this far, we'd have found her at Our Sword Mountain Peak, settling down before leveling up..."

In just a few sentences, the group unanimously agreed on this decision.

By rights, the disciples of Lord Jian Yi were cold and not prone to meddle.

But this was the Holy Spirit Mountain!

Since they encountered someone leveling up, they couldn't sit back and do nothing.

If ignored today, then a week later, a month later, a year later... the one who leveled up successfully in the River Realm might stand before you, brandishing their cutlass.

"Hoo!!"

Leng Jin raised her right hand.

Above the high sky, a Frost Great Sword continuously took shape.

Sword One Divine Skill-Frost Cold Nine Provinces!

"Ah!"

"There, someone!" Two Ice Butterfly disciples shouted loudly.

A slender figure appeared at the top of the snow mountain, without knowing since when.

Carrying four Tang Blades on his back, he looked up at the sky and shouted, "Seniors, could you please defer?"

Saying so with his mouth, Lu Ran held no hope in his heart.

He only took the opportunity to observe a few disciples of Lord Jian Yi, ignoring the two Ice Butterfly believers... Hmm, they're not worth worrying about.

Lu Ran's gaze finally landed on the beautiful woman in her thirties.

Her aura...

She was probably of the Sea Realm Great Power.

Damn!

This time, it's going to be life and death!

Lu Ran was fairly cautious, thoughts turning quickly in his mind.

Teleporting back to the cave now and taking Deng Yuxiang to teleport away?

How is that different from interrupting Deng Yuxiang's leveling up?

At this moment, Deng Yuxiang had already connected with this world, with boundless energy rushing into the mountain.

If Lu Ran took her away, the endless supply of energy from heaven and earth would be cut off.

Seeking another place and starting anew, who knows if it could continue...

"Instant Teleportation Technique, is he a disciple of Qiang Xiu?" In the high sky, the short woman's face darkened.

In this case, the person leveling up in the mountain might also be a disciple of Qiang Xiu!

That's not good!

The noble and aloof disciples of Lord Jian Yi were indeed at the top of the pyramid.

But the Divine Qiang Xiu was also a First-class God!

Spear Withering Divine Skill Cloud Piercing Shadow allowed Qiang Xiu disciples to appear and disappear mysteriously, extremely tricky in battle.

"What a handsome young man." Dongfang Ning was quite surprised.

"Yes, so very young." Leng Jin squinted her eyes, a gleam flashing in her eyes.

Having slaughtered for so long in this Holy Spirit Mountain, she had only seen middle-aged and old people, not meeting peers for a long time.

No, he was visibly even younger.

If he were in the human world, he might just be starting university?

"Heh." The tall woman sneered coldly, looking at Lu Ran contemptuously, "Leng Jin, strike."

Leng Jin did not like the arrogance of her senior, but she held back.

She raised her hand, closely connected with the Frost Great Sword in the sky, eyes flashing with a hint of vindictiveness.

Being so young to be here in the Holy Spirit Mountain, he must be Heaven's Chosen!

He indeed couldn't be allowed to live!

Leng Jin didn't think that with one strike, the opponent would die on the spot.

But this strike could certainly interfere with the Qiang Xiu believer's breakthrough and leveling in the mountain!

The enemy must not level up!

Mercy towards the enemy is cruelty to oneself.

Perhaps the young Qiang Xiu disciple on the peak, for the sake of his companion, might unleash the Qiang Xiu faction's great move-Heavenly Spear to counter her Frost Cold Nine Provinces?

Come, try it!

"Since none of you wish to spare us..." On the peak, Lu Ran's voice came again.

However, before he could finish speaking, his figure flashed!

Leng Jin's expression changed, sensing the energy fluctuation beside her, instinctively retreating sideways.

"Shua~"

A figure suddenly appeared beside the tall woman, a brilliant dawn light flashing by!

The tall woman was evidently prepared, her face showing sarcasm, wielding her sword to block.

With a crisp "crack" sound.

The tall woman's expression suddenly shifted!

The sword she wielded, enveloped in dense Divine Power, was indeed a strong Divine Weapon Seed.

Yet this sword, was a notch made by the Dawn Blade?!

But it didn't stop there!

A terrifying force struck from the sword, shaking the tall woman's hand, nearly making her lose the grip on her long sword.

But at this moment, she could no longer think about where this great force came from.

Because the Dawn Blade was pressing against the sword, continuing to slash with brute force!

Bearing a forceful destructiveness!

The swiftly sharp Dawn Blade forcibly gouged open the Jiang Grade·Water Flow Armor, instantly tearing the tall woman's garments.

"Ah!!!" The tall woman cried out in pain, her clothes torn, blood lines spurting from her chest.

It must be admitted, the Jiang Grade flying sword moved incredibly fast!

If not for the woman's feet swiftly retreating on the flying sword, she would have been cut in half by the Dawn Blade.

"Impertinent!" Dongfang Ning was both shocked and enraged, throwing out over a dozen flying swords.

Together with overwhelming pressure surging towards Lu Ran's direction.

Lu Ran's body stiffened.

Damn!

Worthy of the Sea Realm, such terrifying pressure!

Lu Ran leaned forward, pretending to pursue the tall woman, his figure flickering again.

Dongfang Ning's face was furious, scanning the surrounding energy fluctuations, then flinging several flying swords towards Leng Jin's side.

"Whoosh~ whoosh~"

Amidst the sound of breaking through the air, Lu Ran indeed appeared beside Leng Jin!

His feint was seen through by Dongfang Ning...

After all, Lu Ran's aim was to prevent Leng Jin from striking down the Frost Great Sword.

His target, of course, should be Leng Jin!

Silent Night Blade: "Behind you!!"

The eternally silent Silent Night Blade finally conveyed the message.

"Shua~"

Lu Ran's back turned cold, drenched in cold sweat!

The Jiang Grade·Water Flow Armor, under the sea-grade flying sword, was like flimsy paper.

Just as the sword tip barely pierced into Lu Ran's Water Flow Armor, his figure suddenly flickered away.

Truly·escaped from death!

The four disciples of Lord Jian Yi scattered and retreated, seeing this scene, their faces changed.

Was this the Spear Withering Divine Skill·Cloud Piercing Shadow?

No! Something was off!

Leng Jin swiftly retreated, a huge wave churning in her heart.

His spell had no prior gestures, before the shuttling, there was no movement intent at all.

Ignoring the very small time difference, seemingly negligible.

But just this small bit of time was enough for the flying sword to pierce into his back!

This technique, surely wasn't Cloud Piercing Shadow!

This was...

Evil Dog Evil Skill·Evil Shadow Flash?

This overly young guy was actually an Evil Demon disciple?

Leng Jin's thoughts raced, along with losing her connection to the Frost Great Sword in the sky.

This world-destroying big move required a high degree of concentration from the caster.

Before, Leng Jin had many thoughts, but at least she wasn't utterly shocked in mind like now.

"Aaah!!"

A sudden scream shocked the few terribly.

No one knew what happened, they just saw the tall woman withdraw in panic, shaking her head wildly!

Turns out, the narrowly escaped Lu Ran, didn't launch another sneak attack, but appeared over ten meters directly in front of the tall woman.

One second ago, the tall woman was still furious.

She covered the torn clothing on her chest with one hand, staring at Lu Ran with fixed eyes, raising another hand, about to act.

It was at that moment that a bewitching deep red flash crossed Lu Ran's eyes...

Evil Technique-Silk Pupil!

Thus, the tall woman screamed while flying back.

Dongfang Ning was absolutely furious!

Detecting Lu Ran's disappearance again, she abruptly swung her sleeve.

In an instant, flying swords poured down like rain, aiming at the tall woman's surroundings.

Omnidirectionally, with no dead angles!

To save her companion, more so to pierce that elusive young man!

"Whoosh~ whoosh~ whoosh!"

The sharp long swords flew one after another, yet Lu Ran did not appear.

"Crunch!!"

Replaced by two rows of sharp canine teeth, fiercely biting at the tall woman's waist.

"Aaah!!" The tall woman screamed.

The sound was shrill, with disheveled hair.

Where was the mocking, commanding demeanor from earlier?

Under the torment of Silk Pupil, her Water Flow Armor was extremely unstable.

The two extremely strong biting canine teeth forcibly bit through the tall woman's Water Flow Armor in the midst of the flying sword array!

After crushing the armor, the teeth slightly lost momentum, failing to cut her in half.

But they left her waist and abdomen a bloody mess, gruesome to behold.

One blood cave after another, blood flowed unceasingly...

Dongfang Ning's face was livid!

Her flying swords naturally aimed for contours, yet the teeth appeared amidst her companion's waist, avoiding all the swords!

The closest petite woman watched her companion fall, daring not to pursue downwards.

Two more rows of canine teeth rapidly emerged above the tall woman, swallowing her as she fell...

"Crunch!!"

This time, truly cut in half.

And the young man who flickered and disappeared...

"Seniors!" Ahain, the voice of the youth came from the peak.

They immediately looked down.

Lu Ran still stood in the original spot, as if he had never moved.

His face was somber, his gaze scanning over the three lofty disciples of Lord Jian Yi: "The dissenting one is dead.

Now, could you please defer?"

Everyone: !!!

Chapter 442: Must be lifted... even if it doesn't want to be!

Don't be fooled by Lu Ran's gloomy expression; he was actually panicking inside!

Just moments ago, he was nearly pierced through the back by a flying sword!

The flying sword thrown by the Sea Realm Great Power, whether in strength, speed, or terrifying destructive power, made Lu Ran's heart tremble with fear.

In the face of such output, his River Grade Water Armor was as good as paper!

Even if Lu Ran covered himself with the Night Charm, Evil Cloud Robe, and other such "papers," it would be of no use!

The suppression of levels and the crush of skill grades left no room for survival.

Reflecting on the scene he had just witnessed, Lu Ran felt his heart turn cold.

What chilled him even more was the fact that it was very hard for him to inflict effective damage on this Sea Realm Great Power.

Sigh...

He still needed to search for more Holy Spirit Energy and quickly cultivate the Fierce Heavenly Divine Sculpture.

Without the Fierce Heavenly Divine Skill·Fiery Fire Sky Leader, he couldn't break through others' defenses!

"Gulp."

"This..." Two Ice Butterfly disciples hovered mid-air, dumbfoundedly staring at the young man standing proudly atop the mountain.

No matter how panicked Lu Ran was inside, at least he maintained a dignified pose.

It was truly a gloomy expression with words as solid as gold!

"You!" Dongfang Ning bit her silver teeth tightly, so angry that even her fingers trembled slightly.

Lu Ran had just killed one of the Sword One disciples right under her nose!

Truly brazen and audacious!

What infuriated Dongfang Ning even more was that, despite her repeated efforts to save him, she couldn't bring him back.

Earlier, the tall woman's sneer and her imperious command "slash" failed to fracture the peak, instead proclaiming her own death!

Truly ironic.

"You're an Evil Dog follower." Leng Jin said coldly.

Regardless of whether her comrades noticed, she needed to convey the information.

"Heh." This time, it was Lu Ran who sneered.

He shrugged his shoulders, "Demon disciple, divine believer. What's the difference between us... oh, there is."

Lu Ran looked around and found the Ice Butterfly disciples shivering in the wind and snow.

"Ah!"

The two Ice Butterfly disciples were terrified, retreating madly, seemingly recalling something which left them pale as ghosts.

After all, the other party was an Evil Dog follower!

No matter how fast you fly or how far you retreat, what's the use?

Lu Ran gazed at the sky, "There is a difference indeed. I don't kill the innocent or enslave my compatriots."

"Ha." Dongfang Ning laughed in fury.

Her cold gaze was like two frost-dipped swords piercing straight into Lu Ran's eyes.

"Gulp." Lu Ran's Adam's apple bobbed.

He surely didn't want to appear cowardly, but the suppression of levels was like a mountain, leaving him breathless.

This constantly reminded all beings that one must not defy their superiors.

Lu Ran, suppressing his heart palpitations, shouted, "Let's make a deal, elder.

If the elder is willing to spare me and leave, your two companions here will be safe and sound.

What do you think?"

Dongfang Ning's eyes widened in shock!

She was being threatened?

And by a mere River Realm brat?

Insolent wretch!

How dare you humiliate me like this?

Dongfang Ning's chest rose and fell violently, the might of the Sea Realm overshadowing everything!

Her two companions beside her were also pale, their bodies trembling uncontrollably.

Indeed, Lu Ran's words were a reminder to Dongfang Ning: Just now, right in front of you, I killed your comrade!

Now, I'm telling you clearly: if you don't retreat, I'll kill again!

Today, whether you lift your noble hand...

You'll lift it, whether you like it or not!

"Fine! Fine, fine, fine!" Dongfang Ning squeezed the words from between her teeth, her face covered in frost, "I'll see what you're worth!"

"Whoosh~ whoosh~"

The next moment, flying swords flew out from Dongfang Ning's hand.

Counting carefully, it seemed there were more than thirty!

The flying swords surrounded the three, spinning rapidly, their speed like a terrifying storm of blades.

Dongfang Ning's voice was exceptionally cold as she gave her command: "Jiao'e, Leng Jin, Frost Cold Nine Provinces!"

The short woman called "Jiao'e" didn't want to unleash her big move.

In fact, having witnessed Lu Ran's resolute stance and terrifying methods firsthand, Huang Jiao'e had already developed thoughts of retreat.

And just now, Lu Ran's threat echoed in her heart, piercing straight to her core.

She didn't want to die!

She didn't want to provoke such a fiend from the demon camp.

But Huang Jiao'e had no choice but to obey the order.

Dongfang Ning's authority was absolutely unchallengeable!

The Sword One disciples were indeed comrades, helping one another, but there was an extremely strict hierarchy within their sect.

To put it harshly, given Dongfang Ning's own strength and her status on the Sword Mountain Peak in Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, even if she ordered Huang Jiao'e to end her own life, Huang Jiao'e would have to obediently comply.

Otherwise, Huang Jiao'e would face a fate worse than death.

"Yes!" Out of necessity, Huang Jiao'e raised her hand tremblingly.

However, while raising her right hand, she flung numerous sword shadows into the woods behind her with her left hand.

Upon landing, the illusionary sword shadows immediately transformed into figures.

Sword One Divine Skill-Sword Dance Clear Shadow!

After this skill advanced to River Grade, the caster's body could freely travel among the shadows.

In a sense, it was a sort of instant teleportation skill.

Crucially, it could be life-saving in a pinch!

The same gesture was made by Leng Jin, without any hesitation, decisively raising her right hand.

She understood very well that the grudge between sides was firmly established and must end in conflict.

Lu Ran, so young and already so powerful, implied that the person in the mountains who was advancing was likely even more terrifying!

If that person truly succeeded in advancing, the consequences would be unimaginable!

Lu Ran's heart sank as he watched the endless flying swords surrounding the three in the sky.

If he dashed in, he would likely meet his end.

High in the sky, two massive frost great swords gradually took form.

Their majestic momentum suggested the power to shatter mountains and rivers!

Lu Ran's face remained especially gloomy, with an icy gaze: "Very well! Then I'll show the elder my capabilities!"

He grasped the Dawn Blade with both hands, the tip pointing skyward, standing upright in front of him.

"Buzz!!"

In the next moment, the Dawn Blade began to vibrate, its golden-red light illuminating the world.

Huang Jiao'e changed her expression drastically: "G-god... Divine Weapon Domain?"

Leng Jin's pupils slightly contracted.

This guy, younger than herself, not only possessed a divine weapon but even activated a domain?

That brilliant, dazzling Black Ice Blade was truly radiant, but the Sword Holder standing atop the peak was even more dazzling!

In a daze, Leng Jin seemed to see the young man displaying a sense of divinity!

Was he truly a demon disciple?

How could those golden-red eyes be so majestic and glorious?

"Whoosh~"

Streaks of dawn light flew from the blade.

Like soft veils or vibrant brocade.

Frost and snow still floated in the sky, the cold wind blowing.

Yet as the vibrant brocade flew upward, the frost and snow along its path were burned away completely.

"Slash!!" Dongfang Ning stared intently at the young man atop the peak, her forehead veins throbbing.

Huang Jiao'e and Leng Jin brought their palms down with force.

The winds raged, the frost and snow flurried.

Two massive frost great swords slashed toward the mountain.

The flying vibrant brocade moved at incredible speed, soaring toward the sky.

"Sizzle..."

When the frost great swords and the vibrant brocade met, the expected catastrophic impact was conspicuously absent.

Instead, the sound of vaporization and evaporation was audible?

If the frost great swords were compared to "tempered steel," then the brilliant dawn light would be the "soft caress."

The vibrant brocade entwined the frost great swords, dyeing their snowy blades.

The dawn light burned its way up, consuming and annihilating.

The frost great swords were burned inch by inch, turning to white steam, then blown away by the wind.

Sword One's ultimate move-Frost Cold Nine Provinces?

World-destroying? Mountain-river shattering?

No!

Wherever the dawn light passed, frost and snow disappeared, leaving a clear sky and peaceful air!

In the past, Divine Weapon Domain-Blessed Cloud could repel the Paper Kite Clan's Night of Ghosts, and now it could also incinerate Sword One's ultimate move-Frost Cold Nine Provinces.

Dongfang Ning's face turned livid, her fists clenched.

Without Water Armor, her fingernails might have punctured her palms.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran slightly furrowed his brow, his ears twitched.

More people were arriving?

The two Ice Butterfly disciples had long since retreated, worried about being caught in the crossfire between these celestial beings.

However, the newcomer, despite witnessing the sky's phenomena, continued to cautiously approach, implying some level of skill.

Lu Ran felt the gravity of the situation as multiple streaks of dawn light surged toward the three Sword One disciples!

"Retreat!" Huang Jiao'e shouted in alarm.

"Senior Dongfang?" Leng Jin called while also flying back on her sword.

The Sword Cultivator's movement speed was indeed fast!

The dawn light's speed was already remarkable, yet it couldn't catch up with those retreating on their flying swords.

"Whoosh~ whoosh~"

Countless flying swords penetrated the dawn light.

Some flying swords were even directly incinerated, shattering into mist.

The shimmering dawn light, seemingly golden-red ribbon, had no physical form.

"Ah!!"

A shrill cry suddenly pierced the air.

Huang Jiao'e?

More than ten streaks of dawn light disrupted the formation of the three. Just as every Sword One disciple feared for their lives, Lu Ran made his move!

Leng Jin felt terror grip her heart!

If Huang Jiao'e was attacked, why didn't she teleport away?

Didn't she previously set up shadows in the mountains?

Was she... mentally traumatized and unable to leave?

What kind of evil magic did this Evil Dog youth use?

The precautions they took earlier now seemed like a joke!

Cold sweat trickled down Leng Jin's forehead as she realized she was merely lucky, not chosen by the Evil Dog youth.

His threatening words still echoed in her ears; since they didn't show mercy, he would continue to kill!

Now,

The Evil Dog youth's revenge arrived!

"Ah!!"

In the distant sky, Huang Jiao'e had just emerged from the deep red illusion world, feeling as if thousands of needles pricked her body and brain.

Her eyes bulged, hands tightly gripping her hair!

The sword beneath her feet flew erratically, the Water Armor on her body no longer stable.

The shadows linked to her spirit throughout the mountain shattered one after another!

"Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!"

Endless sword rain poured down, its terrifying whistling sound making hearts pound.

This time, the flying swords thrown by Dongfang Ning did not deliberately avoid her companion.

In an instant, Huang Jiao'e was stabbed to death by the torrent of swords!

With the sword rain over his head, Lu Ran's heart leaped to his throat, maximizing his Evil Sense and Evil Sensitivity.

Activating Evil Shadow Flash, with all his might he sidestepped and tilted his head, narrowly avoiding two rapidly incoming flying swords.

"Whoosh~"

Lu Ran appeared atop the snowy mountain peak.

Both the mountain beneath him and he himself stood firmly!

However, Lu Ran's right side was slashed open, clothes and Water Armor both torn, and a shallow sword mark appeared on his left cheek.

Blood slowly trickled from the sword mark.

By now, the streaks of dawn light in the sky had dispersed.

The Divine Weapon Domain required Lu Ran and the Dawn Blade to work in unison; from the moment he began attacking, each dawn light couldn't last long.

"Bang!"

Huang Jiao'e's lifeless body fell from the sky, crashing heavily on the snowy mountain, sending up waves of snow mist.

Lu Ran wiped the blood on his face with the back of his hand, gazing at the shocked and furious Dongfang Ning.

His deep voice echoed, each repeated word like ultimate mockery, or perhaps a genuine plea, syllable by syllable:

"I implore the elder, spare your noble hand!"

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Chapter 443: dogs?

The cold wind howled.

It chilled Leng Jin to the bone.

She tightly pursed her lips, flying silently backward, but didn't dare to leave because Dongfang Ning hadn't spoken.

And Dongfang Ning...

Was completely enraged!

"Whoosh!!"

Five illusory sword shadows flew out from her body, quickly transforming into long frosty swords, suspended around her.

"Senior Dongfang?" Leng Jin looked utterly incredulous.

"You..." Lu Ran felt a sudden chill in his heart upon witnessing this scene.

This woman was courting death?

As everyone knows, each Divine Sect typically bestows six techniques.

However, third-class or higher deities might grant a seventh Divine Technique to their followers, known as the "River Realm Big Move."

In reality, these big moves aren't limited to just this!

Some believers receive compatible Divine Techniques upon advancing to the Sea Realm!

However, those are owned only by first and second-class Divine Sects.

At this moment, five long frosty swords were suspended around Dongfang Ning, clearly indicating the Sea Realm Technique of the Sword One One Sect: Frost Sky Sword Fall!

This was truly an ultimate move capable of destroying heaven and earth!

Among the five long swords, inexhaustible frost energy was released, coalescing into countless frosty long swords, forming an ice sword cascade to smash everything.

And once this technique was activated, it couldn't be stopped voluntarily.

Only when the caster completely depleted their energy and Divine Power could it cease.

"Senior, please think carefully!" Lu Ran shouted loudly with an unpleasant expression, "I can instantly teleport away, this technique can't harm me!

If you insist on activating Frost Sky Sword Fall, once you're exhausted, it will be your death."

Dongfang Ning stared icily at Lu Ran, her inner fury seemingly about to fill the entire sky and earth.

She coldly exclaimed, "Oh really? If you're afraid to die, then get lost quickly!"

Lu Ran's eyes darkened: "Senior, think twice!"

Dongfang Ning reached downwards, creating massive waves of energy as she shouted fiercely, "Aren't you fighting to death just to protect your comrades in the mountains?"

Listen carefully!

Today, your companions will not advance! They'll be stuck at this stage forever!"

Lu Ran: !!!

This woman... really was insane!

"Clap! Clap! Clap!"

Applause suddenly erupted, completely out of place in the tense atmosphere.

Dongfang Ning turned her head with an unpleasant expression.

From the side of the peak, a tall figure soared up.

He wore a flowing white robe, and his jet-black hair swirled in the cold wind; his face was extraordinarily beautiful, almost genderless.

"Young friend, what a spectacle!"

Yu Changsheng smiled subtly, holding a paper fan, elegantly landing.

Lu Ran's face lit up: "Mr. Yu?"

He had sensed someone approaching and expected them to reap the benefits without any effort.

Unexpectedly, this person chose to show themselves.

Even more surprising, it was the bath-loving Master Yu?

"Yu Changsheng?" Leng Jin frowned deeply.

This Dragon Carp believer was well-known within the Holy Spirit Mountain.

Although powerful in the Sea Realm, he rarely turned a sword against the Human Clan.

Out of kindness, Yu Changsheng had saved many from the clutches of Evil Demons.

However, it had been ages since anyone heard of Yu Changsheng saving lives.

Perhaps he had been betrayed too often and his heart broken?

Though no longer rescuing or aiding, Yu Changsheng didn't hunt either; instead, he practiced daily, seemingly indifferent to the competition for the Holy Spirit Energy.

This individual was perpetually out of sync with the world around him.

All the great powers within the Holy Spirit Mountain sought to recruit this great Sea Realm healer.

But Yu Changsheng ignored everyone, and his strength was unparalleled.

The Dragon Carp Followers' craftsmanship in slipping away was absolutely top-notch, completely ungraspable...

Thus, Yu Changsheng gradually became an extraordinarily unique presence within the Holy Spirit Mountain.

Apart from the overly bold, no one dared provoke him; instead, they preferred to befriend him.

"Mr. Yu appearing here, what is your intention?" Dongfang Ning's voice was abnormally icy.

At this moment, the Sword Cascade had not yet surged out, and Dongfang Ning still had a chance to stop the casting.

But the five frosty long swords still suspended around her were incredibly intimidating!

Yu Changsheng laughed heartily and said, "I have past ties with this young friend..."

The rage in Dongfang Ning's heart was almost uncontrollable, her visage even somewhat twisted: "Past ties? He's an Evil Dog Follower!"

Yu Changsheng glanced at Lu Ran, his smile growing ever more mysterious.

Lu Ran: "..."

A few days ago, he even declared his noble Immortal Sheep Believer status to Yu Changsheng.

Even bleating like a sheep~

Yu Changsheng adopted a reminiscent demeanor: "Such reckless disregard for his own life, willing to challenge the Sea Realm might to protect his comrades, truly admirable!

Worthy of song and tears, worthy of song indeed!"

Upon saying this, Yu Changsheng looked at Dongfang Ning: "So what if he's an Evil Dog; though not bright, at least he's loyal.

Dogs are man's best friends after all~"

Lu Ran: ???

The fury within Dongfang Ning surged even more fiercely: "Yu Changsheng! Do you really think I can't kill you?"

Though Yu Changsheng once saved a Sword One Disciple's life, this so-called affection meant nothing to Dongfang Ning; she simply didn't acknowledge it.

Within the realm of the Holy Spirit Mountain, was there truly so much righteousness?

Yu Changsheng gently waved his paper fan, looking helplessly at Lu Ran: "Young friend, you're truly something? Managed to anger the cool Sword One Disciple to this extent."

Even in peril, Dongfang Ning was determined to disrupt advancements of those within the mountain?

What kind of grudge could warrant this?

Indeed, how bold Lu Ran was!

Always he mouthed words of surrender, while committing audacious deeds!

At this moment, the once dignified Sea Realm expert, Dongfang Ning, had no face left to speak of.

Two Sword One Disciples had fallen one after another, like slaps to the face of a mighty Sea Realm expert.

Painful, burning slaps!

"Die!!" Dongfang Ning let out a fierce cry, and from the five frosty swords around her, endless cold frost was released.

The dense aura combined into countless long frosty swords, surging towards the snow-capped summits.

Five "Frost Sword Torrents" converged, forming a grand waterfall!

The frosty swords gushed ceaselessly, incredibly fast, overwhelmingly majestic.

Sending shivers down one's spine!

Sea Realm Technique·Frost Sky Sword Fall!

"Damn!" Lu Ran's face turned extremely grim.

This woman truly couldn't care less for her life!

He must take Deng Yuxiang with him, regardless of her advancement... huh?

"Pop~"

The sound of fish blowing bubbles echoed through the heavens and the earth.

An immensely giant Dragon Carp appeared, covering the sky, swimming up towards the grand Sword Cascade!

Yu Changsheng took action!

Sea Grade·Dragon Carp Heavenly Boat!

Instantly, the sound of sword tips striking the head of the Dragon Carp was endless.

The torrent within the Sword Cascade flowed rapidly, countless frosty long swords shot with incredible speed, fiercely impacting the giant Dragon Carp.

Lu Ran did not believe that his Divine Weapon Domain could withstand the impact of the Sword Cascade.

Even ordinary Flying Swords could pierce through the Blessed Cloud, let alone this "Frost Sword Torrent"?

"Take your companions and leave quickly!"

Yu Changsheng, seldom anxious, fervently supported the magnificent heavenly boat, shouting loudly.

Lu Ran gripped his Tang Blade and his figure flashed.

Leng Jin, tense, rushed to escape the sky, her form darting to a figure within the mountains and forests.

"Swish~"

Lu Ran appeared high above behind Dongfang Ning, not daring to get too close, as she was surrounded by the Sword Cascade herself.

In such a situation, anyone who dared close in on her would be cut to shreds by a thousand swords!

"Woof! Woof woof! Woof!"

Without a word, Lu Ran barked madly at Dongfang Ning.

Evil Dog Evil Skill·Evil Bark!

This was a taunt technique.

Lu Ran's choice of this technique was deliberate.

Indeed, the Divine Technique·Sound of Despair is a higher grade than the Evil Technique·Evil Bark.

But Sound of Despair is meant to show weakness to the enemy, enticing them to maim and kill you.

However, Dongfang Ning was already seething with rage, and Lu Ran's goal was to fan the flames of her emotion!

Hence, Lu Ran opted for the infuriating Evil Technique·Evil Bark.

His purpose was simple: to have Dongfang Ning command the ice sword waterfall to shift targets and come to kill him!

But...

Dongfang Ning bit her lip hard, surprisingly unmoved?

It should be noted that her hatred for Lu Ran had reached an astonishing level!

Yet, relying on her absolute dominance and the mental strength of the Sea Realm, Dongfang Ning stubbornly withstood the taunt technique.

"What is this barking?"

Dongfang Ning snarled furiously.

She glared viciously at the mountain peak, determined to smash the mountain into smithereens, and shred the one who advanced atop it to pieces!

She held fast to one belief:

Destroy the mountain, then swiftly return to her lair, Sword Mountain Peak!

How could she easily send herself to die?

Dongfang Ning bit her lower lip hard.

The vile creature had slain two Sword One Disciples right under her nose.

She would repay this hatred one day!

And before leaving, whatever the Evil Dog youth deemed worthy of sacrificing himself to protect...

I will destroy it!

"Damn it!" Lu Ran looked at the unmoved Dongfang Ning within the Sword Cascade; he, too, was about to explode.

Once again, he felt the absolute suppression of a higher rank.

"Whoosh!!"

Lu Ran immediately raised his Dawn Blade, and golden-red light reappeared.

Divine Weapon Domain... activate!

Let's see if the Water Flow Armor of a mighty Sea Realm can withstand my Blessed Cloud!

Meanwhile, inside the mountain cave.

A sudden wind gust sprang up.

A woman holding a Blazing Phoenix Pattern gourd abruptly opened her eyes!

Her beautiful eyes shimmered, yet her gaze bore no joy, only intense hostility: [Sect Leader.]

[What?] In the urgent situation, Lu Ran failed to react immediately, [You... what's wrong?]

[I've successfully advanced, lots of commotion outside, who's attacking?] Deng Yuxiang quickly stood up, drawing out the broken blade from her back.

Upon hearing this, Lu Ran rejoiced immensely!

What! A complete turn of events!

Lu Ran hurriedly transmitted: [Stay where you are; I'll come to get you!]

In the tunnel, Deng Yuxiang's forward-moving figure halted, and she hurriedly retreated: [Yes!]

"Swish~"

Lu Ran's figure flashed, appearing on the peak: "Mr. Yu, leave quickly; the two of us will find you in the Lake District!"

Yu Changsheng immediately understood Lu Ran's intentions.

"Crack!!"

The enormous Dragon Carp Heavenly Boat shattered abruptly.

The endless torrent composed of countless long icy swords surged fiercely, crashing towards the mountain peak.

Lu Ran's figure flashed once more, instantly appearing in the cave, swiftly summoning an Ancient Bronze Mirror, transforming it into a floor mirror.

"Go! Hurry!" Lu Ran grabbed Deng Yuxiang, Immortal Fog shooting from his feet.

"Sss—"

The two shot into the mirror, emerging near the lake in the mountain forest.

"Crack" sounded crisply!

Deng Yuxiang rammed against a large tree under Lu Ran's push, directly snapping it.

Yet, Deng Yuxiang didn't even frown. She worked hard to ease the force, wrapping one arm around Lu Ran, instinctively protecting him.

Lu Ran turned around and waved, quickly dismissing the floor mirror.

Not far away, on the lake's surface.

A small, pale golden Dragon Carp leapt from the water, quietly transforming into human form.

Yu Changsheng raised an eyebrow slightly, looking at the two who narrowly escaped death.

No, such a description wasn't accurate.

Yu Changsheng knew that if Lu Ran wished, he could teleport away at any moment.

But it was...

The loyal dog crazily dueling a Sea Realm great power for the sake of his companions!

He had won precious time for his companions, enduring until the very last moment!

"Rumble..."

In the distant distance, a faint rumbling sounded like the collapse of the mountains.

"Mr. Yu." Lu Ran sheepishly smiled when he saw the handsome youth standing on the lake.

Yu Changsheng gazed at Lu Ran with a teasing, amused look:

"Hello there, Immortal Sheep Believer."

Lu Ran grinned: "Hehe~"

Chapter 444: First note it down in a little notebook...

"Thank you, Mr. Yu, for your assistance!"

Lu Ran put away his embarrassed smile, clasped his hands in salute, and sincerely thanked him.

Yu Changsheng did not accept this sentiment, smilingly said, "Consider it a reward for your loyalty."

Lu Ran: "..."

Can't go three sentences without mentioning loyalty?

Poor guy, just how badly have you been betrayed?

Moreover, if there's a reward, it should be the Big Nightmare rewarding me, what's it got to do with you, an outsider?

Yu Changsheng lightly shook his paper fan, gazing toward the north, "Looking out, this Holy Spirit Mountain is full of ugly faces, and those who are ungrateful are everywhere.

I haven't seen someone like you, who disregards life and death and loyally protects his master, in a long time."

Lu Ran: ???

Loyally protect what?

Do you really think I am some loyal dog?

Deng Yuxiang's expression did not look good.

She wasn't aware of what had happened outside the mountain, but from Mr. Yu's words, Lu Ran must have gone through a lot.

Moreover, the one who made Lu Ran flee so desperately must be extremely powerful!

Deng Yuxiang placed a hand on Lu Ran's shoulder, gripping slightly: "Who was it that attacked just now?"

Lu Ran casually said, "Just a few disciples from the Sword One Sect, no need to worry."

Yu Changsheng looked Lu Ran up and down, his smile growing wider.

What an interesting fellow.

Having gone through so much, yet he speaks so lightly about it.

Is he afraid of worrying this beautiful lady too much?

Considering the dangerous circumstances just now, it's not too much for this lady to be worried!

"Sword One disciples." Deng Yuxiang murmured.

Lu Ran promptly said, "Let's set that aside for now and thank Mr. Yu for his help first."

The reason he was speaking lightly was indeed to prevent Deng Yuxiang from worrying excessively, but the main reason was that Lu Ran was very confident!

Lu Ran could take Deng Yuxiang and leave at any moment.

However, he wanted to hold on for a bit longer, to win more time for Deng Yuxiang.

Since she started her advancement mode, three days have already passed, and she could breakthrough successfully at any time!

Heaven rewards the diligent!

Lu Ran had accomplished it! So, even though the outcome was a desperate escape, he was still somewhat satisfied.

"Thank you, Mr. Yu, for saving us, this kindness will be remembered!" Deng Yuxiang clasped her hands in salute toward the young man in the lake.

Yu Changsheng casually waved his folding fan, and when facing Deng Yuxiang, his words were different:

"It's quite a pity for two people who are still alive to die just like that."

Deng Yuxiang didn't think he was talking nonsense, but felt that there was a hidden meaning in his words.

Two people who are "still alive"?

Yu Changsheng turned his gaze to Lu Ran, clearly more interested in the "dog."

He could see that although the woman's strength and realm were higher and more assertive, the young man, the Evil Dog, was the one actually in charge in this duo.

Yu Changsheng spoke, "Little friend Lu, aren't you going to explain things to me?"

"Oh~" Lu Ran chuckled, "These days, who doesn't have a little secret?"

Yu Changsheng said with a faint smile, "Little friend's secret doesn't seem so little!"

Lu Ran fell silent.

What to do?

Kill to keep the secret?

What a joke, would Lu Ran really repay kindness with vengeance?

However, Lu Ran was clearly an Immortal Sheep Believer, and had even baa-ed at Yu Changsheng, yet now he had exposed the Evil Dog Evil Skill.

How should he explain this?

It didn't matter if Lu Ran's enemies knew he was an Evil Dog Believer.

After all, in each battle, he had always presented himself as an Evil Dog disciple.

Lu Ran had also exposed the Tangled Silk Shadow Evil Technique-Silk Pupil at times, but anyone who fell for it was inevitably slaughtered by Lu Ran!

Their very souls were absorbed into him, cleanly and safely.

But the man before his eyes...

Yu Changsheng lightly shook his paper fan, smiling and waiting, not in a rush.

Suddenly, Lu Ran spoke up: "Mr. Yu, let's talk about it when we get back.

The Sword One disciples have unleashed their big move on the battlefield, and they will eventually run out of power, I plan to go back and take a look."

Deng Yuxiang's heart trembled!

In the Divine Techniques of Sword One, there are only two moves that can be called "big moves."

The one that can exhaust the caster is undoubtedly the Sea Realm level Divine Technique·Frost Sky Sword Fall!

In other words, Lu Ran had just been fighting a Great Power of the Sea Realm?

She immediately turned her eyes towards Lu Ran.

Lu Ran seemed to have anticipated this, reaching out to hold her wrist, gently gripping it.

It was to comfort her, but also to stop Deng Yuxiang from speaking.

Yu Changsheng said, "Dongfang Ning is not a fool. Though she may appear furious, she actually has a retreat.

Since she can't find you, she has probably already returned to Jian Mountain Peak by now."

Lu Ran insisted, "Let's go take a look, and we'll visit you later, Mr. Yu, if that's alright?"

A vendetta of life and death has been established, and there's no reason for anyone to show mercy.

Yu Changsheng gave Lu Ran a meaningful look, and after a moment, he smiled and said, "Little friend, go as you please."

Lu Ran also smiled, "Mr. Yu, aren't you afraid we won't come back?"

"Jian Mountain Peak is full of experts, and there are many Sword One disciples." Yu Changsheng slowly submerged into the lake, "Just make sure you can come back."

Lu Ran: "..."

The language of Da Xia is truly profound~

"Sssss——" He dashed into the forest.

"Sssss——" Deng Yuxiang spurted out Immortal Fog at her feet, instantly following.

Until the two of them vanished into the deep forest, only then did Lu Ran activate a ground mirror.

He wasn't sure if this was overkill at this point.

Lu Ran's head was a bit muddled, he needed some time to clear his thoughts and make decisions.

They walked into the mirror one after the other, entering a vast white Snow Forest.

Deng Yuxiang's expression was grave, gazing into the distance.

The snow-capped mountain that stood before had now completely collapsed.

It was hard to imagine what kind of earth-shattering power could have blasted a high mountain to pieces!

"Sigh." Lu Ran sighed, "Just as expected of Holy Spirit Mountain! Even if there was no past grievance, just advancing in this realm is considered a huge crime."

"Little Lu Ran." The sudden change in address caught Lu Ran off guard.

"What?" Lu Ran asked in confusion.

Deng Yuxiang didn't know what to say, just looked at him with a complicated gaze.

The wound carved on his cheek by a blade had already scabbed over.

She knew that this small wound was just the tip of the iceberg.

Deng Yuxiang was terrifyingly silent, clearly a radiant woman, yet like a beast on the brink of rage.

Guilt, heartache, anger...

Her expression kept changing, making Lu Ran's heart tremble with worry, hastily persuading, "The matter at hand is more urgent."

"Mm." Deng Yuxiang obediently stepped forward two steps.

Through the not so thick wind and snow, she saw the distant destroyed forest.

Deng Yuxiang said in a deep voice, "The opponent must have returned with the Frost Sky Sword Fall active, we should follow the destroyed path to find the enemy."

"Let's go have a look." Lu Ran nodded immediately.

The two pursued, climbing mountains and crossing ridges.

After a long time, following the destroyed path, they indeed found the lair of the Sword One disciples, Jian Mountain Peak.

This mountain was exceptionally towering and lofty!

Clouds only hovered at mid-mountain level, while the peak pierced through the heavens, reaching into the sky.

Among the towering mountains, Jian Mountain Peak undoubtedly stood out!

It quite fits the Sword One Sect's reputation, doesn't it?

When Lu Ran and the two were in the Snow Forest, looking at the distant Jian Mountain Peak, the rumbling sound still continued.

The Divine Power and stamina reserves of a Great Power from the Sea Realm are truly astounding!

Dongfang Ning's ultimate move still hadn't ended.

The spectacular Frost Sky Sword Fall descended from the heavens, targeting a specific area as guided by its master.

The earth and sky rumbled!

[There's no opportunity.] Lu Ran transmitted.

Once Dongfang Ning exhausts her strength, the Sword One disciples within Jian Mountain Peak will surely come forward.

[Mm.] Deng Yuxiang, expressionless, responded softly.

[We'll just treat this as opening the map.] Although Lu Ran responded thus, he couldn't swallow this grievance quietly.

He had a strong impulse to sneak into Jian Mountain Peak at night to take good care of that Sea Realm Great Power!

No matter how enduring you are, I don't believe you can keep going until the second half of the night!

By that time, surely you'd be weak and defenseless, ready for slaughter?

But reason quelled Lu Ran's impulsive thoughts.

Trying to infiltrate the lair of the Sword One Sect is a task akin to ascending to the heavens!

At least Lu Ran knew that the Sword One disciples had slaves, and those Ice Butterfly disciples possessed perception techniques, which was tricky!

And that's only what Lu Ran knew.

What if Jian Mountain Peak had other sect believers as slaves and maids?

The Divine Techniques of the various sects were bewildering, making it easy for Lu Ran to fall into a trap!

[This place is not suitable for a prolonged stay.] Lu Ran immediately cast a spell, summoning the ground mirror.

Power, power...

Stepping back into the ground mirror, Lu Ran took one last deep look at the cloud-piercing Jian Mountain Peak.

This vendetta, I will remember it in my little book first.

Just you wait...

[Nightmare, I'm thinking of recruiting Yu Changsheng, what do you think?]

[He is very powerful, capable of significantly enhancing our combat effectiveness.] Deng Yuxiang pondered for a moment, then added, [However, can you trust his character? Moreover, can he accept your identity?]

[I'll probe a bit, by the way, let's search the battlefield first. I killed two Sword One disciples earlier, I'm not sure if their corpses are still there.]

[Mm.]

...

At noon, in the high mountain lake area, two figures emerged from the forest.

Lu Ran gazed at the tranquil lake surface and called, "Mr. Yu?"

The water rippled gently.

Slowly, Yu Changsheng surfaced: "You're back?"

Lu Ran nodded, "You were right, that woman is cautious with her life, she's slipped back to her lair."

Yu Changsheng wasn't surprised by this result.

He looked at Lu Ran with an amused gaze, "Since you're back, you should have prepared your words, thought about how to trick me."

Lu Ran: "..."

"Hahahaha!" Yu Changsheng, seeing Lu Ran's unnatural expression, couldn't help but laugh out loud.

Lu Ran awkwardly cupped his hands, "Mr. Yu, you are indeed a clever man."

Yu Changsheng laughed, "You, an Evil Demon disciple, stop trying to flatter me."

Lu Ran pretended not to hear, stepped toward the cold lake, "Is the pool cold today?"

Yu Changsheng: ???

Pool?

In your eyes, am I soaking in this as a bath?

Lu Ran waded into the lake, feeling the bone-chilling cold, "Mr. Yu, what do you think of the gods?"

Hearing this, the smile on Yu Changsheng's face gradually faded.

What do I think of the gods?

Kid, you dare to have such a question, your thinking is dangerous!

Hmm... I like it!

...

Chapter 445: are you very opposed?

"The brilliance of All Gods, towering and mighty, saves the common people from calamities, granting us humans the Divine Technique to resist the invasion of Evil Demons."

Yu Changsheng, half of his body exposed on the lake surface, gently waved his paper fan as he spoke confidently.

Lu Ran's expression was strange: "Stop it."

Yu Changsheng: ???

Is this how you talk to a Great Power of the Sea Realm?

Besides, did I... did I joke around?

Lu Ran chuckled: "Mr. Yu is so kind to me, this disciple of Evil Demons, even saving me.

I feel like, Mr. Yu doesn't seem to revere the gods that much either?"

Yu Changsheng slowly shook his head, not hiding his admiration for Lu Ran: "I'm not kind to an Evil Demon disciple; I just have a slight liking for you."

Lu Ran pondered: "Because I... am loyal?"

Yu Changsheng looked at the "lively" young Evil Dog before him and smiled without speaking.

Lu Ran thought for a moment, his expression becoming somewhat serious: "My companions and I haven't been in this world long, at most half a month, but that short time is enough for us to realize one thing:

This realm is the burial ground for our Human Clan."

Yu Changsheng remained silent, waiting for more.

Lu Ran continued, "The humans selected by the gods and sent to Holy Spirit Mountain are without exception strong. Even if temporarily weak, they are definitely people of great potential.

Yet the gods' command, letting believers compete for Holy Spirit Energy, is fundamentally the reason for our mutual slaughter.

The gods are weakening our Human Clan's strength, not allowing the status quo to change at all."

Lu Ran looked up at Yu Changsheng: "The gods maintain their dominance this way; the Human Clan can only be slaves for generations."

Yu Changsheng neither affirmed nor denied and asked: "Is this why you fell into the demonic path?"

Lu Ran shook his head: "Gods and Evil Demons collude, both sucking people's blood. Why would I join the Evil Demon camp just because I'm disappointed with the gods?"

Yu Changsheng nodded silently.

Lu Ran took a breath and said: "Mr. Yu should have noticed that I am qualitatively different from the demonic disciples you imagine."

Yu Changsheng nodded: "Indeed, on you, the Evil Dog Evil Skill can coexist with the Immortal Sheep Divine Technique."

Can a person sign contracts with both the gods' camp and the Evil Demon camp at the same time?

Would Immortal Sheep and Evil Dog really allow this to happen?

Yet Lu Ran has made it happen!

Lu Ran explained: "I haven't deceived Mr. Yu; we are indeed Immortal Sheep Believers.

It's just that we found a path."

Yu Changsheng: "A path?"

Lu Ran turned to look toward the lake shore.

Deng Yuxiang leaned against a large tree, arms crossed in front of her, watching the two in the water.

With Lu Ran's nodding gesture, Deng Yuxiang's body surged with energy.

Instantly, she donned night attire, wore a bamboo hat, and the soft black veil fluttered gently.

Yu Changsheng's eyes narrowed!

This beautiful human woman suddenly turned into a mysterious Night Charm.

Lu Ran looked at the Big Nightmare with its slender waist and long legs, feeling once again:

The Night Charm Evil Sculpture being replaced by her was a blessing from eight lifetimes of the Night Charm!

Lu Ran felt much better: "We've found a special path.

She isn't a Night Charm believer; she just mingled among them.

On this special path, as long as we continuously slaughter Night Charms, she will grow stronger as a Night Charm."

"Gulp." Yu Changsheng's Adam's apple bobbed.

The ever-calm him, at this moment, finally broke his composure.

"Alright." Lu Ran waved his hand.

Deng Yuxiang immediately canceled the Night Charm attire, returning to her human appearance.

Only at this point did Yu Changsheng realize how terrifying the youth's secret truly is!

How shocking!

Lu Ran continued: "We dream that one day, we'll be strong enough to slay the true Night Charm, maybe even replace the Evil God, thus breaking the balance of the God Demon camp from within.

You know, Mr. Yu, gods and demons collude, and none of them are good!

They oppress us together, feed on us, making us slaves for eternity, so..."

Yu Changsheng interrupted: "You just mentioned continuously slaughtering the Night Charm Clan to strengthen yourself?"

Lu Ran nodded slightly.

Yu Changsheng fell silent.

Such startling news was hard for him to digest at once.

This lady isn't a Night Charm believer, but sneaked into the Night Charm Clan's ranks?

And is secretly grasping the power of the Evil God·Night Charm?

How... how did she manage that?

If Deng Yuxiang hadn't demonstrated the Evil Technique·Night Charm, Yu Changsheng wouldn't believe any of it.

If Lu and Deng hadn't just left when they displayed the Immortal Sheep Divine Technique·Immortal Hoof, signifying them as Immortal Sheep disciples, Yu Changsheng wouldn't believe Lu Ran's words either.

But...

All this was happening right before his eyes, causing Yu Changsheng's worldview to receive a massive shock!

The Lake District was silent, except for the sound of the wind blowing.

After a long time, Yu Changsheng looked at Lu Ran: "And you? Did you also sneak into the Evil Dog Clan's ranks through some method?"

"More or less."

"But the Evil Dog Clan has no corresponding evil technique to let you bring a person along and escape the battlefield together."

"Mr. Yu's foundational knowledge is really solid!" Lu Ran grinned.

Yu Changsheng didn't feel like joking, just quietly watching Lu Ran.

Lu Ran casually summoned an Ancient Bronze Mirror: "As you can see, I've also infiltrated the Evil Mirror Demon clan's ranks."

Yu Changsheng: !!!

The dual identities of Immortal Sheep believers and Evil Dog followers cannot coexist.

So can the identity of Evil Dog followers coexist with that of Evil Mirror Demon believers?

Of course not!

Three factions, three identities!

Coexisting?!

This... this this...

Yu Changsheng controlled his expression, trying hard to maintain the composure befitting a Great Power of the Sea Realm.

He looked at the Ancient Bronze Mirror and said softly: "Aren't you afraid that I'll expose your secret?"

Lu Ran shook his head and sighed, appearing regretful: "Well, you caught me! Sigh, I was too hasty; I shouldn't have bleated at you back then.

But Mr. Yu, I genuinely want to befriend you!"

Lu Ran paused, eyes exceedingly sincere: "You're the first to show me goodwill within Holy Spirit Mountain.

You're a Great Power of the Sea Realm, yet you don't want to eliminate competitors and kill me for treasure!

You even kept advising me not to easily trust others. Truly a kind-hearted Dragon Carp believer..."

Yu Changsheng suddenly spoke: "Stop flattering me, speak honestly!"

Lu Ran paused, then shrugged: "This world's mountains are high and roads are far; believers can't connect with the gods, so you can't report to the God·Dragon Carp."

"Just talking about gods?" Yu Changsheng mused, "So, you're not worried I'll tell your secret to other major forces?"

Lu Ran chuckled: "Stop it."

Yu Changsheng: ???

Why that phrase again?

Did I joke around somewhere... Hmm, am I courting you?

Lu Ran was quite serious: "Mr. Yu, we are in the same camp! And the god you revere is one of the real culprits oppressing the Human Clan!

I trust Mr. Yu's character.

For the Human Clan to be slaves for eternity, now someone wants to change that. Whether Mr. Yu wishes to join me or not, at least..."

Lu Ran's pitch-black eyes gazed directly into Yu Changsheng's: "At least, Mr. Yu will not be a traitor."

As the words dropped, the Lake District fell silent once more.

The two in the lake looked into each other's eyes from afar, the handsome white-robed young master completely outshining Lu Ran in looks.

Yet Deng Yuxiang's gaze was always on Lu Ran.

She'd long accepted that the boy had grown up.

But the sheer strength and charm Lu Ran displayed, exclusive to the strong...

Still made Deng Yuxiang's eyes shine brightly.

She wasn't just admiring him; she felt proud.

"The precise term would be 'traitor to humanity,'" Yu Changsheng suddenly spoke.

"Ah, more or less," Lu Ran smiled and nodded.

"Indeed not," Yu Changsheng looked at Lu Ran's "vibrant" face, his mind stirring with waves.

He had thought Lu Ran was new to this world and thus temporarily alive, his heart not yet extinguished.

He'd never imagined Lu Ran lived because he had hope and an exceptionally grand vision.

That's a... desire to overthrow the entire world's ambition!

What's even scarier is, many people have ambition and determination, but lack the strength to match it.

But this young man before him, his methods are brilliant!

So... should he lend him a hand?

Lu Ran invited: "Mr. Yu, interested in joining us?"

Yu Changsheng suddenly asked: "Does the Immortal Sheep you revere know you intend to rebel?"

Lu Ran chuckled: "If I say the god is leading me in rebellion, do you believe it?"

Unexpectedly, Yu Changsheng nodded.

That's it!

The "special path" Lu Ran mentioned should logically be the path found by the god.

Otherwise, with countless believers in the world, why would Lu Ran have such means?

Thinking of this, Yu Changsheng felt a subtle excitement.

The god camp isn't monolithic.

This lowest-ranked, seemingly weak and timid Nine-class God-Immortal Sheep, wants to shuffle the deck?

Wants to change the layout, redistribute the benefits?

Yu Changsheng played with the paper fan in his hand, the corners of his mouth slightly raised: "Are you sure your god doesn't have ulterior motives, using you?"

Lu Ran said solemnly: "I have my own judgment, and that's another matter."

No matter the god's motivations, its goals perfectly align with Lu Ran's.

Always, the god has treated Lu Ran with endless kindness, which he reciprocates with deep gratitude.

Even taking a step back:

Even from a perspective of reciprocation, Lu Ran will steadfastly follow the god along this path!

"Hmm." For the first time, Yu Changsheng sensed Lu Ran's inner resistance.

So he didn't pursue the topic, planning to engage gradually over time.

Yu Changsheng pondered for a while, then said: "Hypothetically, if you really killed the true Night Charm, what then?"

Lu Ran shook his head: "That's too far off, Mr. Yu. We're currently just on the road, with a firm goal—change the survival situation of the Human Clan.

Right now, I only have the next step in mind, to make a move in Night Charm Lake!

My Big Nightmare is already desperate!"

Deng Yuxiang furrowed her brows, dissatisfied: "Watch your words."

Lu Ran pouted, equally unhappy: "The Big Nightmare is already desperate."

Deng Yuxiang: ???

Watch words where?

Was I asking you to remove "my"?

Lu Ran was already looking at Yu Changsheng: "A few days ago, we went once, and got defeated pathetically. If Mr. Yu joins us..."

"Sure." Yu Changsheng nodded with a smile.

Lu Ran's eyes lit up: "Really? Mr. Yu plans to join us and make a mark?"

Yu Changsheng gracefully unfolded the fan, gently fanning: "Let me accompany you to Night Charm Lake first. As for making a mark..."

He looked at Lu Ran's eager expression, smiling: "We'll see."

Lu Ran muttered softly: "A mouth at 37 degrees, how can it utter such cold words... have you soaked in too many cold baths?"

Yu Changsheng: ???

"Ahem." Deng Yuxiang lightly cleared her throat.

Lu Ran immediately changed his expression, smiling at Yu Changsheng: "Alright, Mr. Yu. Let's first form a small team.

I guarantee we won't disappoint you!"

Yu Changsheng looked at the determined Lu Ran, finding him so vibrant and bright.

Completely opposite of himself!

This is a person still holding on to hope.

Someone with ambition, and a firm goal.

A... truly living person.

"Rumble!!"

A deafening sound suddenly came from the heavens above.

Yu Changsheng lifted his head, gazing at the sky.

What,

do you oppose?

Yu Changsheng's smile grew even broader.

...

Chapter 446: Cong Long's Minister

Once the rumbling in the sky subsided, Deng Yuxiang asked, "Mr. Yu, what exactly is your power level?"

This kind of questioning was a bit impolite and could easily offend the other party.

But since Yu Changsheng had already decided to join the team, Deng Yuxiang thought it was necessary to understand his teammates.

She didn't want Lu Ran to be the bad guy, so she asked herself.

Unexpectedly, Yu Changsheng responded straightforwardly, "Sea Realm, Fourth Rank."

Lu Ran was taken aback: "Sea Realm, Fourth Rank?"

He initially thought that Yu Changsheng was at the Initial Stage of the Sea Realm, but didn't expect him to be at a High Rank?

Higher than Deng Yuxiang by an entire Great Realm?

Seeing Lu Ran's eyes light up, Yu Changsheng smiled and asked, "What's up?"

Lu Ran sincerely praised, "I'm just amazed at how young Mr. Yu is and already achieved so much."

Lu Ran was truly happy!

Picked up a big treasure, how could he not be happy?

Yu Changsheng couldn't help laughing, "I've wasted away thirty-two years... or maybe it's thirty-three?"

Yu Changsheng paused noticeably, then sighed lightly, "Forgot, must be around this age."

Having stayed too long in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, he'd forgotten what year and month it was in the human world.

Forgot his own age.

"Thirty is the age to establish a career!" Lu Ran winked at Yu Changsheng.

Lu Ran always thought Yu Changsheng was around twenty-eight or twenty-nine years old.

Certainly, these humans who can destroy the heavens and the earth, all with impressive charisma, looking young is quite normal too.

"In that sense, Young Lu has established quite early." Yu Changsheng naturally knew of Lu Ran's ambitions and joked, "Are you even twenty this year?"

Lu Ran: "..."

Yu Changsheng's smile deepened, "Hmm?"

After holding it in for a while, Lu Ran suddenly blurted out, "I'm not twenty, but I have a fiancée!"

Yu Changsheng: "..."

This little rascal, your words can really hurt.

He looked at Lu Ran with exasperation and then turned to Deng Yuxiang, saying, "Congratulations to you both then."

Lu Ran quickly said, "Not this one, I have another... No! I only have one, it's a different one!"

Deng Yuxiang leaned back against a large tree, arms crossed in front of her, looking at Lu Ran in half-amused, half-exasperated disbelief.

Yu Changsheng: "You're quite lucky, young friend."

Lu Ran awkwardly lowered his head and played with the water.

Turning the topic, Yu Changsheng continued, "Did you also help your fiancée sneak into an Evil Demon team?"

"No," Lu Ran shook his head, mumbling to himself: I'd lead her to challenge the gods directly!

Yu Changsheng pondered, "Is this unique path of yours not suitable for everyone?"

Lu Ran shook his head, "Not necessarily, it's just that the time is not yet ripe."

Yu Changsheng pursued, "Then what conditions need to be met for the time to be right?"

Lu Ran thought for a moment and replied, "When one sees clearly the true face of the God Demons, sees the essence of the world.

When that person is mentally and physically prepared."

Yu Changsheng nodded lightly.

Lu Ran added, "Mr. Yu is a Dragon Carp believer, having signed a master-servant contract with the divine.

Although this realm has high mountains and long roads, making it difficult for believers to communicate with the divine, if Mr. Yu infiltrates another sect, I'm still worried Divine-Dragon Carp might notice."

Yu Changsheng understood.

Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang are Immortal Sheep Believers, and Divine-Immortal Goat is the initiator of all these plans.

So Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang can act wantonly, possessing multiple identities.

Lu Ran continued, "Mr. Yu, I'm very willing to arrange a path for you, but we still need to be cautious.

If Mr. Yu wants to take this path, I'm afraid you have to trouble yourself to first leave the Dragon Carp Sect."

Yu Changsheng was intrigued, "What path do you intend to arrange for me, young friend?"

Lu Ran instead asked, "Does Mr. Yu have a preferred sect?"

Yu Changsheng's heart stirred slightly, probing, "Any choice?"

Lu Ran shrugged.

A simple gesture, yet it revealed an astonishing message enough to make anyone gape in amazement.

This young man had brought too many shocks to Yu Changsheng.

Yu Changsheng calmed his mind and spoke softly, "Dragon Carp Sect."

Lu Ran was puzzled, "But Mr. Yu is already a Dragon Carp believer?"

Yu Changsheng shook his head slowly, "No, I want to walk the Dragon Carp path you arrange for me."

Lu Ran was taken aback!

He opened his mouth, evidently not prepared to hear such a sudden statement.

Yu Changsheng examined Lu Ran closely and suddenly exclaimed, "You brat, you're really something!"

Lu Ran: "..."

Yu Changsheng clenched his folding fan, "So, you can gain energy by slaughtering the Night Charm Clan, absorbing the energy of the Night Charm deity.

Can you also absorb Divine Dragon Carp's energy through the slaughter of Dragon Carp... Dragon Carp believers?"

Lu Ran's face wrinkled into a bun.

For real, is this possible?

No! You... this?

Not far away, Deng Yuxiang intervened to calm the situation: "We have indeed held some things back because it's too shocking.

However, we didn't intend to keep it a secret forever, just wanted to reveal it gradually to Mr. Yu."

Lu Ran, on the other hand, changed the topic apologetically: "The Dragon Carp path is truly not easy to arrange."

Dragon Carp believers are already rare, and those who come to the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm are even rarer!

Moreover, Dragon Carp believers are healers at heart, mostly kind and compassionate.

If they don't brandish their knives against Lu Ran, why would Lu Ran go on a senseless killing spree?

The Holy Spirit Energy descending from the sky could certainly cultivate the Dragon Carp Divine Sculpture in the garden, but Lu Ran also needed to cultivate the Lie Tian Divine Sculpture!

He absolutely couldn't interfere with the growth plan; Lu Ran desperately needed the qualification for "exceeding-level slaughter."

So...

Lu Ran looked at Yu Changsheng and asked, "Mr. Yu, what do you think of the Mo Li Clan?"

The Evil Demon·Mo Li, is Divine·Dragon Carp's arch-nemesis.

There are certain similarities in their skill lists.

Yu Changsheng's face softened significantly, "What, reluctant to kill Dragon Carp believers?"

Lu Ran shrugged again.

The meaning was self-explanatory.

"Hehe." Yu Changsheng chuckled softly, adding no further comments.

A person who's willing to slay demons, and even intends to slay gods, but can't bear to harm Dragon Carp believers.

It seems that he is not one to use unscrupulous means for the so-called greater good.

Just as Yu Changsheng was silently contemplating and evaluating the future leader, Lu Ran spoke up, "By the way! Is there a Mo Li Clan in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm?"

While in the human world, the Mo Li Clan primarily haunted coastal areas.

As for terrain like rivers and lakes, this clan seemed to look down upon them?

Though they also had the ability to fly, they hardly ever appeared inland, let alone in the mountains.

"Yes, this realm does have a sea." Yu Changsheng nodded, "I've never traveled too far west, but heading all the way east, one will eventually see the ocean."

"The Holy Spirit Mountain Realm has a sea?" Lu Ran looked surprised, then got excited, "In that case, would you mind blending into the Mo Li Clan?"

Yu Changsheng: "The cost is, I must sever my contract with Divine Dragon Carp and abandon everything related to Dragon Carp?"

Lu Ran nodded, a trace of longing in his eyes.

Yu Changsheng suddenly laughed, "I'm just asking, wanting to learn more; let's talk about these later."

Lu Ran: "..."

For a human to willingly destroy a contract requires not only courage but can also risk backlash!

Lu Ran realized he had indeed been a bit impatient.

As if he hadn't heard Yu Changsheng's words, he spoke, "Mr. Yu, you can surely wait a bit.

When we return to the human world, I'll plead with Divine-Immortal Goat to solve the problem from a higher dimension, helping you sever the master-servant contract.

This way, you can ensure your power level remains intact, not suffering severe injuries."

"Oh?" Yu Changsheng was slightly surprised.

There were many factors causing him hesitation, and backlash was quite a significant point amongst them.

Lu Ran gestured towards the woman not far away, "That's how she came through, stable condition, solid Realm, didn't drop a rank."

Yu Changsheng looked at Deng Yuxiang, "What believer were you before?"

Deng Yuxiang was silent for a moment, then said softly, "North Wind."

Yu Changsheng was moved.

North Wind, the mortal enemy of the Night Charm Clan.

So did she turn to the Night Charm Clan just by coincidence?

Including Lu Ran's recent suggestion, is it also purely due to similar skills, easier to handle?

Or maybe because...

Yu Changsheng faintly sensed something but wasn't quite sure.

As he was silently pondering, Deng Yuxiang spoke, "Sect Leader."

"Hmm?"

"When do we set off?"

"Don't rush, you just successfully leveled up, stabilize your Realm first."

"Yes." Deng Yuxiang responded.

With deep implications in his eyes, Yu Changsheng glanced at Deng Yuxiang, and then back at Lu Ran, "Sect Leader?"

Lu Ran grinned, this time not in a hurry, "I established the Ran Sect, planning to find more like-minded people like Mr. Yu.

I'm waiting for the day Mr. Yu recognizes us!

Then, I'll appoint you to be a protector."

Once again, Yu Changsheng saw the vibrant, spirited smile of Lu Ran.

This young man, who suddenly entered his life, exposed his heart full of love for talent and recruiting intentions without any concealment.

He persistently planned to lead him down a brand new path.

Yet the young man's smile... seemed a tad too bright.

Like a dazzling beam of light piercing through the heavy clouds covering the world, falling on the dour Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

Illuminating his decaying skeletal remains.

For a moment, Yu Changsheng didn't want to remain reserved, didn't want to evaluate any longer.

What more is there to lose?

Life?

But wasn't he already rotten before meeting him?

"Which 'Ran' character?" Yu Changsheng suddenly asked.

"The 'Ran' for 'burning'." Lu Ran leaned back, attempting to lie on the water's surface, "Named after me, I'm Lu Ran."

"Ran Sect, sounds quite fiery." Yu Changsheng toyed with his folding fan carefreely, "Then appoint me as a protector."

With a splash.

Lu Ran paddled with his hands and stood up.

He looked at the Sea Realm, Fourth Rank grand healer, both surprised and delighted, "Have you decided to join us, Mr. Yu?"

This wasn't just joining a team but truly joining the Ran Sect!

Yet, didn't Yu Changsheng just refuse the invitation, saying to consider it later?

Suddenly changed his mind?

Yu Changsheng couldn't help but laugh, jokingly saying, "Who could refuse the temptation to become a god?"

Lu Ran giggled, "Well, that's true."

"Probably not many in the Ran Sect?"

"Uh, indeed. Just the three of us for now."

Yu Changsheng didn't mind, casually twirling his paper fan.

What man could resist having a separate page in the family register?

If one day, he truly achieves his desires...

He could be considered a follower of the dragon, couldn't he?

...

Chapter 447: Ascend?

"Choose a code name for yourself, sir," Lu Ran beamed with a broad smile.

Poor Sister Xian'er, destined to be the third protector~

Lu Ran looked at Yu Changsheng's handsome face, the more he looked, the more he liked it.

He's a Dragon Carp Grand Healer from the Sea Realm·Fourth Rank!

Tsk tsk~

In the future, wandering in this Holy Spirit Mountain, dying would be quite the challenge, wouldn't it?

Yu Changsheng asked curiously, "Code name?"

Lu Ran pointed to a woman in the distance, "In this realm, we don't want to use our real names, so we choose code names.

My sister's real name is Deng Yuxiang, now she is Ran Sect's first protector, 'Nightmare.'

Yu Changsheng didn't refuse, saying casually, "Just call me Changsheng."

Lu Ran hesitated for a moment, "This code name feels like I'm just calling your name?"

Yu Changsheng is more than a cycle older than Lu Ran, directly calling "Changsheng" seemed a bit impolite?

"Hmm..." Yu Changsheng pondered for a moment, then said fluently, "Then call me Cong Long."

"Cong Long?" Lu Ran blinked.

Deng Yuxiang suddenly spoke, with a hint of admiration in her eyes, "Mr. Yu, quite ambitious."

She obviously understood the meaning of the code name.

And was quite satisfied!

Yu Changsheng looked at the bright and charming yet heroic woman, smiled and nodded, "Likewise."

Lu Ran looked a bit embarrassed and said, "No! I do want to achieve something, but I never thought of ascending the throne!"

Yu Changsheng smiled without saying a word.

Deng Yuxiang still leaned against the big tree, looking at the sky covered with clouds, her lips slightly lifted, "It's not up to you."

Lu Ran: "..."

Yu Changsheng said, "When you're ready to leave, just call me."

He acted as if to dive down, and Lu Ran hurriedly said, "By the way, Mr. Yu, can I ask you about someone?"

"Who?"

"Have you ever heard of Qin Yanzhi? He's a Dust Shadow Believer, twenty-four years old, about one point eight meters tall."

"Never heard of him." Yu Changsheng shook his head, then added, "I haven't heard of a base for that sect's believers in this realm either; Dust Shadow Believers should be quite rare here."

"Oh." Lu Ran sighed slightly in his heart.

They don't even have a hideout?

This childhood friend of Miss Li Rouyin might be hard to find.

Yu Changsheng: "Do you have a past with him?"

Lu Ran shook his head, "A friend entrusted me, wanted to see if he's still alive."

Yu Changsheng nodded and said no more.

Lu Ran added, "Mr. Yu, have you heard of Cheng Xin? He's an Immortal Sheep Believer, has been in this realm for over thirty years.

If he's still alive, he should be nearing sixty, standing over one point seven meters tall..."

"Over thirty years?" Yu Changsheng was slightly surprised.

Seeing Yu Changsheng's reaction, Lu Ran knew he was about to return empty-handed again.

Yu Changsheng also noticed Lu Ran's disappointment and comforted, "The realm of Holy Spirit Mountain is vast. Just because I haven't heard of them doesn't mean something happened to them."

"Mm-hmm." Lu Ran nodded.

Yu Changsheng hesitated for a moment but said, "If this senior entered the mountain more than thirty years ago..."

Lu Ran: "What?"

Yu Changsheng: "As long as he's still alive, he must be exceptionally powerful! Perhaps, he's above."

Lu Ran looked confused, "Above?"

Yu Changsheng held his folding fan and pointed to the sky.

Lu Ran was shocked, "Isn't the sky of the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm a forbidden zone? Anyone trying to fly upward might be shattered by some unknown energy?"

Yu Changsheng gently nodded, "You also said, 'might' be shattered. This world is never short of those itching to move.

Some people don't believe in the supernatural and insist on challenging it.

Some people miss the human world and want to return home.

Perhaps some people are just utterly exhausted, tired of this hopeless life, only seeking a swift release."

Lu Ran slightly parted his lips, turned his head, and exchanged a glance with Deng Yuxiang.

Yu Changsheng smiled, and his smile carried a hint of bitterness, "Believe me, after you've been tortured for ten or eight years in this realm, you might also become numb and despairing, risking everything to fly towards the sky."

Lu Ran asked, "Mr. Yu, have you ever flown towards the sky?"

Yu Changsheng slowly shook his head, "No."

He looked at Lu Ran, and added two more sentences in his heart:

Almost.

If I hadn't met you.

Deng Yuxiang gazed at the sky, her eyes somewhat unfocused, "Up there, is it the way home?"

Yu Changsheng advised, "Since we have a clear goal and can grow wantonly in this realm, it's better to focus on the present.

We'll discuss ascension matters later."

Lu Ran was taken aback, "Ascension?"

Yu Changsheng smiled, "There's no such concept, just my jest.

After all, those who fly upwards, most are smashed to pieces, and few disappear without a trace."

Disappear without a trace?!

Lu Ran looked up at the sky, but unfortunately, it was blanketed by clouds today.

So, those who successfully "ascend" vanish without a trace?

Where did they go?

The human world?

Or is there another Holy Spirit Mountain above?

Yu Changsheng watched the two silently staring at the sky, then slowly sank to the lake's bottom.

It wasn't until much later that Lu Ran snapped out of it.

Mr. Yu is right!

First, I need to fiercely improve myself in this realm!

Been here just over half a month, and already thinking of going home?

Does home have Holy Spirit Energy?

Lu Ran cupped the cold lake water in his hands, fiercely washed his face, and then looked at Deng Yuxiang, "Sis, do you want a bath?"

Deng Yuxiang: "..."

Lu Ran chuckled, "To sober up, Mr. Yu is already Sea Realm·Fourth Rank and doesn't dare to fly up to the sky! We juniors from the River Realm better not act recklessly."

Deng Yuxiang raised an elegant eyebrow, "Did I say, I miss home?"

Lu Ran shook his head like a rattle, "No, no, you're the Iron Lady! You're the iron-hearted..."

Deng Yuxiang clicked her tongue lightly and strode with her long legs directly towards Lu Ran.

Seeing the situation was unfavorable, Lu Ran decisively dove towards the lake's bottom.

Speaking of which, he had activated so many Evil and Divine Sculptures, but surprisingly, none of them involved water-based skills.

After all, Lu Ran had always been battling on land.

So... should I go to the coast and look for the Mo Li Clan?

On one hand, it would be in preparation for Yu Changsheng, and on the other hand, it's always good to be prepared.

What if one day, we run into a sea battle, it would be good to have the strength to fight.

Lu Ran secretly nodded, this matter could be put on the agenda!

First, head to Night Charm Lake, then Tiantu Mountain.

If everything goes smoothly, the three of Ran Sect can continue heading east to see the sea!

One goal after another, these little days sure are promising!

As he thought about it, Lu Ran felt suffocated and quickly swam upwards.

"Pfft~" Water splashed everywhere.

Lu Ran wiped his face just in time to see a pair of pitch-black leather boots in front of him.

Deng Yuxiang stepped on a layer of wind and waves, standing on the lake surface, looking down at someone:

"I thought you'd hide for a long time, until my anger subsided."

Lu Ran quickly admitted defeat, "I'm wrong, I'm wrong. Mr. Yu is still below, he just joined our Ran Sect, at least give the Sect Leader some face."

Deng Yuxiang looked at Lu Ran pretending to be obedient and couldn't help but snort.

But the corners of her lips slightly curved upwards.

Would I miss home?

Maybe a little.

Mom and Dad, Rain Alley City, the familiar bed.

But with him here, life isn't so hard to bear.

...

Three days later, in the Snow Forest.

An ancient bronze mirror quietly opened, and the three of Ran Sect walked out.

The cold wind howled like ghosts wailing and wolves howling.

Lu Ran looked at the vast whiteness of the sky, suddenly squinting his eyes.

He exerted his extreme eye power and then reached to his side, summoning an ancient bronze mirror.

"Swish~"

The ancient bronze mirror transformed into a floor-to-ceiling mirror, and a floor-to-ceiling mirror appeared in the high sky.

A wisp of Holy Spirit Energy fell into it.

Lu Ran immediately opened his oblique pupils, inhaling deeply.

Yu Changsheng stood with his hands behind his back, quietly observing Lu Ran's work, while Deng Yuxiang was alert to the surroundings, searching for any possible Night Charm Clan.

"Buzz~"

Lu Ran's mind trembled, and in the God Demon Sculpture Garden, the Fierce Heaven Divine Sculpture buzzed.

Finally!

He smiled in joy, as the Fierce Heaven Divine Sculpture, which had reached the Stream Realm·Fifth Rank, was finally about to ascend to the River Realm.

The technique of cross-realm slaughter, Fiery Fire Heavenly Leader, Lu Ran could now equip it!

Speaking of which, when the Fierce Heavenly believers use this technique, once activated, they can't stop.

Their burning bodies will deplete the caster's last bit of divine power and strength...

"Hmm." Lu Ran pursed his lips, thoughts racing.

The Fierce Heavenly believers had to adhere to the Divine Technique rules, that's undeniable.

Do I have to too?

I'm not a believer but the master of Fierce Heaven!

After the battle, I can directly command or replace the Fierce Heaven Divine Sculpture to turn off the divine technique, right?

"Hiss!"

"Hiss!!" The sudden hissing sounds, mixed with the howling wind, were particularly eerie.

"Five night... six Night Charms!" Deng Yuxiang listened intently.

"Let me handle it." Yu Changsheng raised his hand.

This was his first battle since joining Ran Sect, showcasing more would help teammates get familiar and adapt quickly.

"Pop~"

One by one, pale golden little dragon carps appeared out of nowhere, swirling around the handsome man's fair and slender hand, moving lightly.

"Sect Leader, could you use the Mirror Flower Moon to open another mirror in front of the Night Charms?" Yu Changsheng suggested.

Oh?

Want to play a combo move with me?

"Sure!" Lu Ran immediately nodded, reaching a hand in front of Yu Changsheng.

"It's coming." Deng Yuxiang suddenly opened her eyes and raised her head, seeing a team of Night Charms rushing from the sky.

A full-length mirror quickly appeared in front of Yu Changsheng, while another appeared in the air, standing more than ten meters directly in front of the Night Charm team.

"Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh!"

The leading Night Charm reacted swiftly, casting a string of Night Charm Blades, which directly pierced towards the full-length mirror.

Yu Changsheng reached out, his slender hand passing through the mirror, appearing in mid-air.

"Whoosh!!!"

Countless pale golden little dragon carps surged forward.

Sea Grade·Dragon Carp Break!

This wasn't just a few fish; it was a staggering, dense school of fish!

The terrifying school of fish, engulfing the sky and earth, instantly swallowed the oncoming Night Charm team.

The snow forest below wasn't spared either, assaulted by the swarming fish...

"Good gracious!"

Lu Ran clicked his tongue secretly.

Dragon Carp Divine Technique·Dragon Carp Break is the most basic divine technique of the Dragon Carp Sect.

When the followers are in the Mist Realm, they can only release a small fish.

But in the hands of the Great Power in the Sea Realm, Yu Changsheng... this is outrageous!

Lu Ran felt like he wasn't in the icy land, but in the deep sea.

So many fish~

So many, many...

No doubt the second protector of my Ran Sect!

Hehe~

Chapter 448: Physician? Military Strategist?

Working within the territory of the Night Charm Clan, there's a strong sense of "the tree longs for tranquility, but the wind won't cease".

Ever since Yu Changsheng slew a team of Night Charms, they have been relentlessly pursued.

The Night Charm Clan is incredibly numerous!

Coupled with their sensitivity to wind elements, the Night Charms can always track down Lu Ran and the others.

Thankfully, Lu Ran possesses the Teleportation Skill·Mirror Flower Moon!

He can relocate the team over large distances, thus avoiding being encircled.

Also, thanks to the addition of Yu Changsheng, a great power of the Sea Realm, Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang narrowly escaped death...

The Night Charm Evil Sculpture in Lu Ran's domain continued to advance amidst this endless slaughter.

In just ten days, the Night Charm Evil Sculpture had trembled twice!

It was advancing towards the Jiang Realm·Fifth Rank!

"Let's go!" Lu Ran held the trembling Deng Yuxiang with one arm, while quickly casting a spell with the other.

A full-length mirror rapidly formed in front of them.

"Got it!" Yu Changsheng released a terrifying school of fish with one hand, retreating while fighting, stepping back into the mirror in a few strides.

Lu Ran swiftly dispelled the mirror.

Suddenly, the surroundings plunged into silence and darkness.

This was a cave hidden deep within the mountain, serving as the base for the Ran Sect.

"Pop~"

Yu Changsheng casually released a tiny fish, instantly illuminating the pitch-black cave as golden silky rain gently fell.

Dragon Carp Divine Skill·Rain Prayer Carp!

This dual-sensing and purification skill provided some illumination due to its external manifestation.

"C-Cong Long." Deng Yuxiang spoke with a tremulous voice.

"What's wrong?" Yu Changsheng asked with concern, releasing two more small fish from his hand.

"Pop~"

The pale golden dragon carps were extraordinarily exquisite and exuded a luxurious aura.

Their long fins flowed like thin gauze, dancing slowly in the air, dreamlike.

The two small fish swam around Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang, emitting a noble light and diligently healing them both.

Dragon Carp Divine Skill·Eternal Carp!

Then, the two tiny dragon carps plunged into Lu Ran's embrace, shattering into energy that merged into both of them.

"Oh my." Lu Ran's breath caught, and his gaze seemed a bit hazy.

An overwhelming surge of vitality poured into his body.

Lu Ran felt filled to the brim with vibrant energy, as if he were about to explode...

Is this the value of the great physician of the Sea Realm?

Killing enemies is as simple as breaking dry twigs.

Saving people raises their spirits to fervor and enthusiasm!

Deng Yuxiang said shakily: "Cancel, Rain Prayer, Carp."

Evidently, Yu Changsheng misunderstood. Deng Yuxiang wasn't injured; she just didn't want Yu Changsheng to perceive her embarrassing state.

This trembling appearance was already embarrassing enough for Lu Ran to see.

She didn't want anyone else to see it...

"Alright." Yu Changsheng immediately dispelled the Rain Prayer Carp.

The cave fell into darkness once more.

"Uh." Lu Ran supported Deng Yuxiang, leaning against the stone wall and sitting down, then he too sat heavily on the ground.

The advancement of the Night Charm Evil Sculpture made his head buzz.

However, the thought of the Evil Sculpture advancing to the Jiang Realm·Fifth Rank cheered Lu Ran considerably.

In just ten days!

Advancing from the Jiang Realm·Third Rank to the Jiang Realm·Fifth Rank!

What does that mean?

In all the races of the world, one by one, who can grow at such a terrifying speed?

Cultivating to level up?

That would take forever.

Lu Ran's Night Charm Evil Sculpture did not become a god through cultivation but through plundering!

This power was snatched forcefully from the hands of the Evil Demon's true self!

It feels very satisfying~

It's worth mentioning: The Night Charm, being the mortal foe of Second-class God·Beifeng, also possesses Sea Realm techniques.

Undoubtedly of earth-shattering magnitude!

However, for Deng Yuxiang to perform the ultimate Sea Realm technique, she must also advance to the Sea Realm.

So, Lu Ran, wanting to see her proud demeanor, must wait patiently for a while...

"Sect Leader."

In the darkness, Yu Changsheng's gentle voice suddenly sounded.

"Mr. Cong Long?"

In the past ten days, Lu Ran's way of addressing Yu Changsheng had changed repeatedly, from initially calling him by his code name to later adding the term "Mr." as a sign of respect.

Yu Changsheng whispered, "We've thoroughly angered the Night Charm Clan. Do you think we should perhaps ease off for a bit?"

Lu Ran pursed his lips.

The Night Charm Clan was indeed furious!

The intensity of their search revealed just how much they hated the three of Ran Sect.

What's even scarier is that despite Lu Ran causing upheaval in the Night Charm territory, he still hadn't gotten close to Night Charm Lake!

The further north they went, the more numerous the Night Charms became.

They seemed endless, continuously emerging from the Snow Forest.

Lu Ran had a hunch!

There might be an Evil Nest near Night Charm Lake, constantly producing and providing Night Charm minions!

However, Lu Ran's guess could not be confirmed.

The concept of "Night Charm Lake" was somehow spread, known by many but never witnessed firsthand. Even someone as strong as Yu Changsheng hadn't investigated deeply into the Night Charm Clan's lair.

Two days ago, as Lu Ran and the others ventured north, they even encountered a Sea Realm·Night Charm squad.

It wasn't just a single Sea Realm Night Charm, but an entire squad!

Lu Ran ran with great speed!

He immediately activated the Transmission Realm, escaping southward with his companions for dozens of kilometers.

There's no chance they'd venture north again!

In the dark, Yu Changsheng couldn't see Lu Ran's expression, but Lu Ran's silence seemed to convey much.

Yu Changsheng gently advised, "Do not rush, Sect Leader; cultivating the Nightmare Guardian to godhood is not accomplished in a day.

We will be in the Holy Spirit Mountain realm for a very long time."

"Mr. Cong Long is right." Lu Ran held his forehead, rubbing his temples.

Yu Changsheng breathed a sigh of relief.

Through days of interaction, he had come to understand that Lu Ran, despite his polite and courteous demeanor, was a very stubborn individual.

When he makes up his mind, it's hard to change it.

And Deng Yuxiang's loyalty to Lu Ran was absolute.

She regarded Lu Ran as her center; whatever Lu Ran said, she would unconditionally obey, especially when it came to tasks related issues.

Yu Changsheng even believed that if Lu Ran ordered Deng Yuxiang to her death, she would go...

This, in another sense, further fueled Lu Ran's autocratic behavior.

One must know that when they first encountered the Sea Realm·Night Charm squad, Yu Changsheng had advised Lu Ran to retreat.

The appearance of such high-level demons undoubtedly signaled grave danger!

But Lu Ran, with a clear goal, chose not to withdraw immediately.

Of course, he indeed has the capability to act recklessly.

Deng Yuxiang's current "abnormal state" is undoubtedly the best proof.

Yu Changsheng had seen a similar state once before.

It was a few days ago when Lu Ran's Night Charm Evil Sculpture advanced from the Jiang Realm·Third Rank to the Fourth Rank.

After that night, Yu Changsheng clearly noticed the difference in Deng Yuxiang!

In terms of "Sound Positioning," Deng Yuxiang had made significant progress!

She seemed like a human radar, becoming increasingly precise in judging the number, location, and distance of enemies.

This time, with Deng Yuxiang's further growth, it's unknown how much her abilities will expand...

Apparently unaware, Yu Changsheng didn't realize Deng Yuxiang was merging.

After binding with the Night Charm Evil Sculpture, every day she existed fused her more with the Evil Sculpture.

And each time the Evil Sculpture advanced was a moment of great gain for Deng Yuxiang.

The level of harmony between the sculpture and her reached a profound increase at this special point!

"Once she returns to normal, we should leave." Lu Ran whispered.

He initially wanted the Night Charm Evil Sculpture to advance to the Sea Realm, allowing the Big Nightmare to undergo another astonishing transformation, before undertaking the next task.

But...

The outside is indeed too dangerous, so the task should be postponed for now.

Yu Changsheng asked, "What plan does the Sect Leader have next?"

Although Yu Changsheng held the esteemed position of the Sea Realm, after joining the Ran Sect, he placed himself in the protector role, treating the Ran Sect leader with great respect.

Lu Ran, in turn, respected Yu Changsheng deeply, and their relationship grew closer over time.

"Let's rest for a few days first." Lu Ran pondered, "Mr. Cong Long, do you mind if I conflict with the Human Clan?"

Yu Changsheng remained calm: "The Sect Leader wants to kill Human Clan believers?"

"It's for revenge."

"Revenge?" Yu Changsheng connected some dots, "Does the Sect Leader plan to target Sword Mountain Peak?"

"No." Lu Ran rubbed his temples, "When I first came to this realm, the people from Tiantu Mountain truly taught me a lesson. That group of murderous thieves is a scourge to be dealt with."

Yu Changsheng frowned slightly: "Tiantu Mountain may not be a major sect, but it does have two Sea Realm great powers in place.

With the Sect Leader's growth speed, why rush for revenge?"

Lu Ran replied gravely, "I'm not that arrogant; I don't intend to directly cut down Luo Tiantu and Lady Kong.

My idea is, before we head east to seek the sea, to cause some trouble for Tiantu Mountain, to weaken its strength."

Yu Changsheng said gently, "In my opinion, Sect Leader's revenge should be a deadly blow rather than merely weakening the enemy."

Lu Ran looked at the handsome man: "Hmm?"

Yu Changsheng continued, "The Holy Spirit Mountain realm differs from other regions. If we cannot wipe out the enemy, it will only make Tiantu Mountain's Village Chief more wary.

He will most likely recruit more soldiers, gather servants, ally with other forces, and might even join other factions.

When we return to fight again, the enemy will be even more difficult to overcome."

Lu Ran nodded thoughtfully.

The point is, killing Jade Talisman believers and harvesting souls is a preparation for future battles against Luo Tiantu.

The Divine Technique·Jade Talisman Formation might absorb the output damage of Jade Talisman believers!

And the Holy Spirit Energy that descends from heaven, Lu Ran will use to cultivate the Lie Tian Divine Sculpture...

Yu Changsheng kindly advised, his tone gentle: "The Sect Leader has unparalleled talent and an astonishing rate of power advancement. Do not risk danger over a moment's emotional battle.

The Nightmare Guardian has already reached the Jiang Realm·Fourth Rank, and the Sea Realm is within reach.

Once her strength significantly surpasses, she will better counter Sea Realm enemies, aiding Ran Sect in wiping out that thief's den."

Lu Ran was silent for a long while, eventually saying, "Alright..."

Yu Changsheng breathed another sigh of relief, puzzled as to why the Sect Leader was so easily persuaded this time.

Was he mistaken about him?

Or perhaps, the Sect Leader truly cared about Deng Yuxiang and was therefore swayed?

Lu Ran decided, "Then we'll rest for a few days, then head east to seek the sea, to find the Mo Li Clan."

"Good." Yu Changsheng lowered his gaze.

He knew that Lu Ran's decision to go east was largely due to him.

"Thank you, Mr. Cong Long, for the guidance." Lu Ran leaned back against the stone wall, speaking softly.

Is this a two-for-one deal?

Did he not only gain a physician but also a strategist...

Yu Changsheng replied in a warm, respectful tone:

"The Sect Leader is too kind; this is my duty."

Chapter 449: Ambush from Ten Sides

In a pitch-black cave, Deng Yuxiang's trembling body gradually returned to calm.

She remained silent, her head lowered, seemingly a bit ashamed.

Lu Ran, however, knew she had regained her composure because his mind was no longer buzzing.

Night Charm Evil Sculpture, finally reached the Fifth Rank!

The peak of the River Realm!

Unfortunately, the Night Charm Clan had already erupted in chaos. If Lu Ran had more opportunities to cultivate the Night Charm Evil Sculpture to the Sea Realm, then he could produce River Realm Night Charm minions!

Having more servants, wouldn't that be wonderful?

Lu Ran sighed with regret but could only suppress his impulse, softly calling, "Nightmare?"

"Mm." Deng Yuxiang responded in a low voice.

"If you've recovered, then let's go back. This is Night Charm territory, after all. The sooner we leave, the better."

"Yes." Deng Yuxiang hid her inner emotions behind a blank expression.

Lu Ran chuckled to himself but didn't expose her.

After all, she's a young woman in her early twenties, proud and arrogant, yet every time she advances in her evil sculpture, she is left shivering in such an undignified manner...

It's indeed quite embarrassing~

"Let's go, Mr. Cong Long, we're heading back to the Lake District to rest." Lu Ran promptly summoned the Landing Mirror.

After several days of continuous battle, even with a grand healer from the Sea Realm relieving their fatigue, they were all in desperate need of a proper rest.

Upon hearing this, Yu Changsheng, who had been hiding at a distance, immediately stood up and approached.

When they teleported outside to the Snow Forest, they found that it was already deep into the night.

Lu Ran cast the Evil Technique·Mirror Flower Moon several times, and the three members of the Ran Sect finally returned to the mountain forest beside the high mountain lake.

The sky tonight was still shrouded by a Cloud Sea.

The forest was pitch black.

Yu Changsheng raised his hand to summon Little Fishy, but Lu Ran was quick and grabbed his hand.

"Shh." Lu Ran issued a silence command in a soft, quiet voice.

Yu Changsheng's heart tightened!

In this extremely dark night, he couldn't observe his surroundings.

The only thing Yu Changsheng could rely on was the Divine Weapon·Smoke and Rain Fan in his hand.

However, apart from the various divine weapons carried by Lu Ran, the Smoke and Rain Fan did not detect any similar auras.

[Don't move.] Lu Ran grasped Yu Changsheng's hand with one hand and issued a command to Deng Yuxiang through their mental link.

Deng Yuxiang was already very alert and, upon hearing Lu Ran's transmission, listened even more intently.

Scent~

Lu Ran sniffed: [There are people, quite a few!]

Deng Yuxiang's expression turned grim: [Are they resting by the lakeside or ambushing us?]

[Suppress your aura; don't let anyone detect us.] Lu Ran commanded in his mind while discreetly summoning an Ancient Bronze Mirror.

Evil Mirror Magic-Connection Mirror!

With a subtle thought, the images in the mirror continuously transformed.

Seemingly flat surfaces were deliberately highlighted by the Connection Mirror.

Without a doubt, people were hiding underground!

Lu Ran counted over ten spots on the ground through the Connection Mirror.

This indicated that within a 500-meter radius from his location, there were at least ten or more people hiding in the soil.

Lu Ran lifted his head, gazed into the distance, and carefully inspected the surroundings.

It seems this group had set an ambush centered around the lake?

The area of this high mountain lake is quite large, and beyond the 500-meter radius, who knows how many more ambushers are lurking around the lake district!

[Let's go.] Lu Ran's expression turned dark.

He held onto one in each hand, carefully retreating with his two protectors into the still-open Landing Mirror.

Even after the trio's figures disappeared, the Landing Mirror remained open.

Lu Ran popped his head back out of the mirror, using Extreme Eye Power, his gaze locked onto a distant tree.

He slowly raised his hand, and suddenly five thin red threads slithered out from the tips of his fingers.

Tethering Evil Technique·Silk Thread!

As they say: Better to storm the Yama Palace than to dabble with Silk Thread!

"Today, you've kicked the hornet's nest." Lu Ran murmured in his heart as the five thin red threads slowly crept forward.

Just like five venomous snakes hidden in the darkness!

Yet far more sinister and harder to detect than any snake.

The Silk Thread sneaked to the foot of the tree, silently piercing into the ground.

"Huh? Ah!!!"

The unexpected cry awakened the previously dead silent forest.

Divine Power surged in Lu Ran's hand, the five threads clinging tightly to the ambushers.

Tethering Evil Technique·Tangled Silk!

This technique, which also interferes with the target's Divine Power and disrupts spell-casting, is built upon controlling the enemy's physical body through thin threads!

"Come!"

Lu Ran shouted angrily in his heart, yanking back hard.

A tall woman was forcibly pulled out from the ground, flying straight towards the Landing Mirror.

"What's going on?"

"An enemy attack?"

"Ugh~~~" The lake district immediately fell into chaos as the sound of a war horn rang out.

Before the horn sounded, the woman had already been dragged into the mirror and the Landing Mirror then vanished.

Eighty kilometers away, deep within a dense mountain forest.

Lu Ran flicked his fingers lightly, leaving the tall woman dangling in the air like a marionette, slowly turning.

He said nothing, a flamboyant red gleam flashing in his eyes.

Tethering Evil Technique·Silk Pupil!

Lu Ran's expression turned sinister, as he thought, let me... huh?

Lu Ran was somewhat taken aback, intending to issue a greeting gift by using Silk Pupil to torment and intimidate the captive, making her more compliant.

Unexpectedly, his illusion had been repelled?

This woman... was she immune to mental skills?

What kind of believer is she?

What do I care about which kind of believer you are!

Do you think my Evil Technique·Tangled Silk is a joke?

Lu Ran's Divine Power surged, crazily suppressing the woman's Divine Power through the red threads.

More enchanting red seeped into his eyes once again.

"Ah! Ahhhhh!!!"

The tall woman howled miserably as if a thousand needles were piercing her body and brain.

The excruciating pain coursing through her entire body distorted her face and made her body spasm continuously.

Spirit Defense Techniques require active activation; once Lu Ran further disrupted her internal Divine Power, he could naturally disturb, or even disable her Spirit Defense Technique.

"Quiet!" Deng Yuxiang hissed, full of authority.

"Ngh." The tall woman instinctively obeyed the command, but the extreme pain made her unable to suppress her groans.

After ensuring that the captive had no storm to stir up, Lu Ran glanced around: "Let's find a hidden spot first."

Simultaneously, not far from the high mountain lake, on a broken cliff.

It was some time ago, before Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang explored the lake and met Yu Changsheng, they had rested here.

At this moment, a woman stood there, her face frighteningly cold!

"Mas...Master." A trembling man knelt behind her.

"Speak." The woman in white coldly uttered a single word.

"Jing Hong... Jing Hong, she... she has disappeared." The man stammered, his forehead pressed against the ground, "We just searched, conducted a search but couldn't find her."

"Worthless!" The woman in white spat out the word through clenched teeth.

With her growing anger, the surrounding temperature plummeted.

"Stab!"

The sword pierced the skull.

With a flick of her sleeve, the woman in white sent a flying sword shattering the man's Water Flow Armor, pinning him to the ground.

She executed the slave, yet couldn't quell the rage inside.

The sound of the searching, exploring horns still resounded in the forest.

Under the invisible sound waves, the woman in white's actions were clearly perceived by those playing the horns.

No one dared to express a hint of resentment; instead, they searched more diligently.

Whether in grief, despair, or possible anger... all emotions had to be buried deep down.

The muted tone of the war horns carried a distinct timbre, echoing in the quiet night.

As if paying a somber farewell to a departed comrade.

...

In a hidden cave within a mountain, a tiny golden fish swam gracefully in midair, illuminating the small newly excavated cavern.

It's worth noting that this fish originated from the lowest grade of Mist Quality Rain-Praying Carp.

Evidently, Yu Changsheng was worried his Purification Skill might interfere with Lu Ran's operations and thus intentionally lowered the quality of his Divine Technique.

"Sect Leader, quite the technique."

Yu Changsheng's eyes bore into Lu Ran as he watched the red threads extending from his fingertips.

My dear Sect Master!

Just how many Evil Demon organizations have you infiltrated?

During the past ten days of warfare, Lu Ran occasionally showcased a certain Evil Technique, astonishing Yu Changsheng.

And tonight,

Lu Ran unveiled the Tethering Silk Clan's Evil Technique?

Yu Changsheng was struggling to maintain his composure.

But the weight of a person's reputation looms like a tree's shadow!

This seductive group, brimming with toxins, inflicted significant harm on the Human Clan.

Anyone would develop fear, remain vigilant.

Yu Changsheng truly did not expect that gentle Lu Ran, beneath the surface, was this perilous!

"Mr. Cong Long is joking." Lu Ran casually said, eyes fixed on the captive.

Fine red threads controlled the woman.

Five threads respectively touched her forehead, wrists, and ankles, controlling her completely.

This woman was over forty, and taller than Deng Yuxiang by a head.

Compared to the curvaceous Deng Yuxiang, this woman was more robust.

She wore a black suit faintly marked by repairs.

Due to Deng Yuxiang's prior command, the woman dared not plead for her life, but her eyes were brimming with tears, her face full of supplication.

"What kind of believer are you?" Deng Yuxiang interrogated.

The tall woman's lips trembled: "War... War Horn believer."

Fifth-class God·War Horn!

The War Horn Sect lacked offensive means but excelled in support.

They mingled in the Moon Gazer squad, yet most war horn believers were recruited by the military.

Out of the six Divine Techniques of the War Horn Sect, five involved sound skills!

Various horn sounds, fully functional, and quite effective.

Recall when Lu Ran summoned Evil Demon·Yan Paperman on the God Worship Platform; students wailed in terror, scared witless.

Back then, a teacher had once blown the horn to control the chaos.

The chaotic playground swiftly fell silent as well.

Demonstrating the War Horn believers' potent crowd control abilities!

"A War Horn believer?" Deng Yuxiang's rage intensified.

She privately hypothesized that someone Yu Changsheng had tangled with previously tracked them to the lake district and set an ambush.

But the War Horn believer was too specifically targeted.

Among Lu Ran's few weaknesses was sound readiness!

Could this be a coincidence?

If Lu Ran wasn't vigilant enough, his dog's nose particularly keen...

Perhaps by now, he'd be immobilized at the lake district by the horns!

"Who sent you?" Deng Yuxiang grabbed the woman by the throat, dragging her to eye level.

The woman's lips quivered: "Jian... Jian Mountain Peak, Dongfang Ning."

Deng Yuxiang's beautiful eyes slightly narrowed, the fury in her chest couldn't be contained, filling the entire cave.

Dong! Fang! Ning!

Chapter 450: Human Skin Evil Demon

After Yu Changsheng joined the Ran Sect, he informed Lu Ran and others of a lot of information.

Lu Ran naturally also learned of the name of Dongfang Ning, the great power of the Sea Realm.

He was even thinking about revenge in the future!

Unexpectedly, this woman came to him first.

Yu Changsheng suddenly asked, "How do you know where we're staying?"

Yu Changsheng did not have a fixed residence; he had only recently settled in the mountain lake.

"I, I don't know," the tall woman said tremblingly, "I just followed the team here; it's the master's... it's Dongfang Ning's order that brought us here."

Yu Changsheng's face didn't look good. He turned to Lu Ran with an apologetic expression and said, "Sect Leader, this matter should be my fault."

Lu Ran was puzzled, "Why do you say that?"

Yu Changsheng replied, "Previously, we stayed in the Lake District for a few days, inevitably leaving some traces of activity."

Lu Ran responded, "That was because Nightmare and I were careless. It has nothing to do with Mr. Cong Long."

Yu Changsheng thought aloud, "Lakes are scarce in the mountains and easily attract the investigation of Human-Demons. It's not a good place to settle.

But I'm a Dragon Carp believer and am used to living and recuperating in the water.

Perhaps the enemy associated those stationed in the lake district with us because of this."

Listening to Yu Changsheng's detailed reasoning, Lu Ran raised a hand dismissively:

"Next topic."

Yu Changsheng paused for a moment, seeing that Lu Ran was adamant about not pursuing the matter, he could say no more.

Fortunately, nothing happened tonight!

Even the slightest mistake, and the three of the Ran Sect would be in life-and-death danger!

Yu Changsheng lowered his eyelids.

Now, he was no longer alone; he couldn't just slip away so easily anymore.

Now he had colleagues and a leader to follow.

Yu Changsheng felt more responsible.

Some details had to be anticipated and handled more cautiously.

Deng Yuxiang asked coldly, "How many of you came?"

The tall woman answered trembling, "Nearly 30. Led by Dongfang Ning, with four Sea Realm First Stage disciples leading the team, the rest are us servants..."

Lu Ran said, "Four Sea Realm First Stage disciples?"

The tall woman pleaded, "Sir! I'm just a slave, I am forced, I have no choice..."

"Shut up." Deng Yuxiang's voice was low.

The tall woman shivered, not daring to defy Deng Yuxiang's command, and could only pleadingly look at Lu Ran.

She obviously saw that this young man was the leader.

She also recognized early on that this young man carrying four swords was Dongfang Ning's target.

Before setting off, Dongfang Ning had given a death order that if they indeed encountered the prey, they were to disregard anyone else and make sure to kill this "Evil Dog youth" first!

Who really knows why this young man offended Dongfang Ning?

Moreover... is he an Evil Dog believer?

Isn't he a believer of Evil Demon·Tangled Silk Shadow?

Upon thinking, the woman felt more desperate!

Being in the hands of such a person would be a fate worse than death!

It's over.

Completely over!

The woman knew that she was bound to face this day sooner or later.

In this Holy Spirit Mountain, she was the lowest of the low, her life and death entirely at the whim of the Sword First disciples.

But she never thought the end of her life would involve an extremely cruel Tangled Silk Shadow believer!

Fear, helplessness, despair...

The woman's tears uncontrollably flowed.

Her emotions gradually collapsing, she forgot Deng Yuxiang's command, tremblingly pleading, "Please, I'm just a servant, I was coerced, please spare my life."

She shook her head incessantly, as if wanting to wake up from a nightmare: "I don't want to come to this place, I really don't! I have children back home, I have a mother..."

That trembling sob was heart-wrenching to hear.

The woman seemed to suddenly come to her senses, realizing she was at the Holy Spirit Mountain.

Taking advantage of Deng Yuxiang not stopping her, the woman hurriedly pleaded, "Please give me a swift end! Don't torture me, please, sir, give me a swift end..."

Lu Ran said, "Shush."

The woman fell completely silent, her face ashen.

"Sect Leader, Sword Mountain Peak has dispatched four Sea Realm great powers, we'd better avoid the confrontation for now," Yu Changsheng suggested.

Seemingly fearing that Lu Ran, being young and eager, might be impulsive, Yu Changsheng added, "Sword Mountain Peak isn't going anywhere. We can seek revenge when we are stronger!"

Lu Ran silently nodded.

Seeing this, Yu Changsheng felt a little relieved and continued, "Let's find another place to rest, and this woman..."

"Take her with us," Lu Ran said promptly.

Deng Yuxiang listened to the woman's sobbing, turned to look at Lu Ran.

The Holy Spirit Mountain realm is deliberately set up by gods as a slaughter arena, a breeding ground for sin.

If everyone in this realm were taken out and lined up in a row.

Executed one by one, some might be wronged.

Skip one and then kill one; some would definitely escape!

But Deng Yuxiang also knew the middle-aged woman before her was telling the truth.

Weakness is the original sin.

This woman couldn't dictate her own fate.

You can't expect everyone to have the courage to die nobly.

The instinct to survive is human nature.

No matter how hard life might be, who doesn't dream, hope to seize a glimmer of hope?

"Take her?" Deng Yuxiang looked at Lu Ran, then released her grip from the woman's neck.

Lu Ran pulled back the red strings.

With a "thud," the woman suspended in mid-air fell to the ground.

She hurriedly lifted her head, wiped her moist eyes, and looked at Lu Ran in surprise and fear.

Lu Ran inquired, "What's your name?"

"Jing, Jing Hong," the woman stammered, "Thorny Jing, Red Hong."

"Strength."

"Jiang Realm Fourth Rank."

"How long have you been at the Holy Spirit Mountain?"

"Seven or eight years, maybe more than ten years." Jing Hong answered carefully, not quite sure.

Lu Ran said, "In the Human World, it's 2020."

Jing Hong, a bit dazed, took a while to react, "I've been in this realm for seven years."

Lu Ran nodded, "Then you should be quite familiar with the Holy Spirit Mountain realm?"

Jing Hong looked mournful, "When I came here, I didn't spend long before I was captured by Sword Mountain Peak..."

Seven years as a servant?

This fate is truly miserable.

These Sword First believers held themselves high and cold even in the Human World.

After coming to the Holy Spirit Mountain, they saw human lives as worthless, becoming enslavers who oppress and harm all beings!

Lu Ran was silent for a moment, then said, "From now on, you follow us."

Jing Hong looked shocked, then immediately knelt properly, "Yes, sir, I will do my best to serve you..."

Lu Ran frowned slightly, interrupting her, "Stand up, there's no need for that here. You're just a tool in Dongfang Ning's hand; I won't harm you.

But you've seen many secrets of mine, so I can't let you go back."

"Yes, yes!" Jing Hong hastily complied, trembling as she stood up, a glimmer of hope for survival rising within her.

Even if this young man is an extremely cruel Tangled Silk Shadow believer, she would accept it!

If possible, no matter how slim the chance, Jing Hong still wanted to live.

She longed one day to see her two children, to see her mother.

As for how to return home... she didn't know.

Maybe she'd have to fly upwards.

Though most likely the end would be a shredded body.

And War Horn believers are not capable of flight.

The difficulty of ascending to the heavens, that taste of despair, is something Strong God believers cannot comprehend.

But no matter what, first live on!

Survival comes first...

"Take her with you," Lu Ran looked at Deng Yuxiang, "Ask her more about Sword Mountain Peak's intelligence."

"Understood," Deng Yuxiang nodded in response.

She had no objections to Lu Ran's decision and complied unconditionally.

Yu Changsheng, on the other hand, didn't make any suggestions this time.

"We head east. Move far enough, then find a place to rest," Lu Ran walked out of the cave first.

"Wait a moment," Yu Changsheng nodded lightly to Deng Yuxiang, then quickly followed.

Deng Yuxiang remained silent, leaving enough space for the two of them.

"Whew..."

Outside the cave, Lu Ran exhaled deeply.

Yu Changsheng stood slightly behind Lu Ran and said softly, "The Holy Spirit Mountain is ugly; the Sect Leader retains a bit of goodwill for his kin in this world, which is rare."

Lu Ran asked, "Sir supports my decision? Doesn't think it's a hidden danger?"

Yu Changsheng smiled, "She's merely Jiang Realm Fourth Rank, what trouble can she cause?"

Lu Ran went silent.

Such hurtful words!

I'm only at Jiang Realm Second Rank.

Yu Changsheng softly said, "As long as this person shows a hint of gratitude, once she realizes the fundamental difference between you and Dongfang Ning, she will eventually be grateful to you."

Thankful for rescuing her from a life of suffering."

Saying this, Yu Changsheng silently added in his heart: If this person doesn't understand sense and dares to have a trace of disloyalty, then I'll personally deal with her!

Yu Changsheng's support for Lu Ran is not mere lip service.

He is confident in protecting Lu Ran.

However, Yu Changsheng felt that if something did happen, Deng Yuxiang would probably act before he needed to...

"Maybe," Lu Ran said, feeling somewhat conflicted.

Since entering the Holy Spirit Mountain realm, he had been taught lesson after lesson.

In the Human World, strength is also respected.

But at least there is the shell of law, still some moral restraint.

But in this realm...

People can no longer be called "people".

Everyone is a demon in human skin.

The evil is pure.

Lu Ran had a belief: He would adapt here but not integrate here.

His mother's earnest teachings still lingered by his ear:

"Do not lose yourself."

When thinking now, his mother's advice may not just be about the God Demons.

Perhaps she was warning him not to let the Holy Spirit Mountain erode his humanity...

Lu Ran thought of the gentle face of his mother, as if again he was in that study room, seeing her drinking tea across the desk.

In a trance, he seemed to smell a faint jasmine fragrance.

"Mm." Lu Ran shook his head hard, clearing his mind.

His gaze pierced through the dark night, looking at the distant mountains, casually summoning an Ancient Bronze Mirror.

Behind, within the gold rain-filled cave.

Jing Hong, using the faint light, saw the Evil Technique exclusively of the Evil Mirror Demon clan.

Evil Mirror Magic?!

"Gulp." Jing Hong felt a chill in her heart, unable to stop from swallowing.

Until now, she still hadn't fully figured out what kind of existence she was following...

Deng Yuxiang casually gave Jing Hong a glance.

Jing Hong instinctively knelt, her body trembling a bit, hurriedly bowing her head.

Having been a servant for seven years, she already knew under endless oppression and torture how to serve her master properly.

Deng Yuxiang said, "..."

"He just said, we don't use those here." Deng Yuxiang looked at the woman with the messy short hair, "From now on, use one knee."

Although just a small postural change, the meaning could be very different.

"Yes." Jing Hong was very disciplined, obeying orders.

"Let's go." Yu Changsheng's voice came from outside.

"Move."

...