

Old Gods 641

Chapter 641: A Sword Dance

Dark clouds shrouded the sky, and the rain drizzled down.

The chaotic Wolf Bone Village was filled with an oppressive atmosphere.

In the large meeting hall located in the central area, Lu Ran stood before a throne made of bones.

The bones summoned by the Thousand Bone believers through Divine Technique were essentially pieced together by energy.

After a period of time, the bones would eventually shatter into particles of energy.

However, the bone throne before him remained stable, indicating that these were indeed remains.

Human bones.

This filthy mountain taught Lu Ran yet another lesson.

Greedy Wolf, Thousand Bone.

One amplified human greed and brutality.

The other extinguished humanity, urging believers to desecrate the bones of the same clan.

What magnificent gods, worshipped by many!

"Ha." Lu Ran sneered coldly.

The hall was silent enough to hear a pin drop, and the Weak God Disciples were as silent as cicadas in winter.

Everyone knew that the youth in the Emperor Robe standing before the bone throne was their new ruler.

People were instinctively fearful of the Sea Realm's ruler.

As for the future, the Weak God Disciples were inwardly apathetic.

The dark clouds hovering over everyone's head were simply replaced by another; there was no fundamental difference.

"Sect Leader." Si Xianxian entered with two people and said, "These two are injured, but Mr. Cong Long has healed them completely.

Counting them, there are thirteen people in total."

"Thirteen people." Lu Ran frowned slightly.

Counting Leng Xushuang and the previously rescued eight Mud Venerate disciples, there were only 22 people?

Wasn't it said that Wolf Bone Village had 32 slaves?

Why were there so many missing, did they die in the recent battle... oh, right!

Lu Ran thought to himself, and the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd quietly lifted the Black Gold Emperor Robe and flew to the center of the hall.

Figures were released one by one, landing on the ground.

Apart from the initial four guards, Lu Ran absorbed six people into the gourd during the attack on the village with Leng Xushuang.

When counted carefully, there were exactly 32 people?

Lu Ran's heavy mood was momentarily relieved.

Rescuing everyone was not easy.

Although these 13 Weak God Disciples were not combatants and would not participate in battles, Si Xianxian's output was excessively explosive.

When she attacked the Thousand Bone disciples and bombarded the Greedy Wolf disciples, it would affect the village buildings and possibly affect others.

Nevertheless, these 13 people were only overshadowed by the Strong God Disciples, but in essence, they were true River Realm people!

Even if they were smashed by buildings or buried in rubble, they could survive.

"Good." Lu Ran turned around.

Everyone in the hall bowed their heads, revealing deep fear.

"Hoo~"

Lu Ran raised his hand and cast a spell, summoning a standing mirror.

In the distant Cloud Sea Cliff Feixian Hall, Song Yu had been waiting for a long time. Upon seeing the mirror open, he immediately entered with two Vice Hall Masters.

Song Hall Master was experienced in receiving new disciples.

In no time, Lu Ran dispersed the bronze mirror, leaving the hall empty and deserted.

With no one around, Si Xianxian addressed him with a changed title: "Master, shall we return to the garden side?"

"Let's go." Lu Ran opened the Transmission Mirror again.

Si Xianxian approached quietly, whispering, "That sister's fate is so tragic..."

Lu Ran nodded silently and stepped into the mirror.

The other side of the mirror opened at the back door of the mansion.

As soon as he stepped out, he saw a figure dancing gracefully among the sea of flowers not far away.

It was not an ordinary dance but a sword dance.

A sword dance in the cold frost rain, with falling plum petals.

Cold Plum in white clothes, faintly visible in the frost rain and falling plum blossoms, like a startled swan tracing the sky, graceful and elegant.

The Snow Plum Sword, emanating cold glints, continuously sliced through the rain curtain, scattering crystal raindrops that condensed in the air, turning into frost blossoms that drifted down.

Lu Ran gradually became enthralled.

The sword dance among the flowers was undoubtedly beautiful but carried an indescribable sadness.

Tragically beautiful.

"Do you like it?" Inside the mansion, a figure approached and stood next to Lu Ran.

Lu Ran instinctively nodded, then suddenly realized something.

He turned his head and saw Jiang Ruyi's face with a gentle smile.

Before Lu Ran could speak, Jiang Ruyi's voice was soft: "I also like it very much."

At her words, she looked again at the beautiful figure among the flowers, full of admiration.

Lu Ran's heart was slightly stirred, and he embraced Jiang Ruyi's slender waist: "When you have time, will you ask her for guidance?"

Jiang Ruyi immediately understood Lu Ran's thoughts.

She looked up at him and saw his burning gaze without any attempt to hide it.

Looking at her cold and alluring face, Lu Ran imagined her graceful dance and murmured:

"Dance for me."

"See... see how you perform." Jiang Ruyi's cheeks turned slightly red with embarrassment.

It's rare to see him act so assertively in daily life.

Since he liked it so much...

Then she'll learn it.

"It's a deal; no backing out." Lu Ran said with a smile, lightly imprinting his lips on Jiang Ruyi's forehead.

Jiang Ruyi pursed her lips, feeling a gentle ripple in her heart.

Naughty fellow...

Lu Ran looked back at the sea of flowers, quietly appreciating for a moment, and said: "This sword dance is too sad; when you learn it, change the style."

"Hmm." Jiang Ruyi admired it with him and sighed softly, "She must be mourning her deceased master."

Using the sword dance her master once taught, she comforted the soul of the departed.

Cold Plum succeeded in her revenge.

Wolf Bone Village Chief died tragically among the flowers, and the Second Lady had no chance of survival.

Ran Sect ended the Second Lady's life and handed over the bones to Cold Plum.

Afterward, Lu Ran and others searched and rescued the Weak God Disciples, while Jiang Ruyi stayed in the garden, witnessing Cold Plum return the favor in kind.

It was in this garden where her master was buried.

Cold Plum wielded the Snow Plum Sword, one strike after another, to give an account to her deceased master.

When Lu Ran returned, the sad yet cruel scene had already passed.

Only the lone dancing shadow remained among the flowers.

"Zoom!"

Suddenly, a surge of sword energy pulsated, with sparkling plum blossoms blooming alongside.

Leng Xushuang's sword maneuvers were increasingly fierce.

The rain falls, frost dances.

The fragrance of plum wafts through the air.

Jiang Ru's gaze gradually became dazed, feeling that this sword dance had ascended to another tier.

It's not just a visual impact!

The sound of the rain intertwining with the sword's aura seemed to compose a lamentation from the heavens.

Until the white-clad woman retracted her sword and stood, the lamentation dissipated.

Rain and snow soaked her garment, plum blossoms covered her shoulders.

Between heaven and earth, it seemed there was only this one person, one sword, and the ever-present sound of the rain.

"Ha..." Jiang Ruyi let out a long breath.

She always refrained from showing intimate gestures in front of outsiders, yet at this moment, she buried her head in the crook of Lu Ran's neck, calming her tumultuous emotions.

In the sea of flowers, Leng Xushuang stood quietly for a long time, slowly turned around.

She saw at the entrance of the mansion, a youth clad in a black gold emperor robe, holding an ethereal fairy, gazing distantly at this side.

Leng Xushuang dispersed the plum snow sword in her hand, strode out of the garden, step by step approached the entrance of the house.

She bowed her head, slowly knelt: "Sir's great kindness and virtue, Xushuang will remember eternally."

"Condolences," Lu Ran said softly.

Leng Xushuang's heart sharply ached, not expecting the emperor-robed youth to utter such words.

In this world, the feelings of the weak are not worthy of attention, insignificant.

During their first meeting, the emperor-robed youth's remark, "Pity the plum fragrance has dissipated" was the norm.

Her survival was not because human life was precious.

It was simply because he wanted to smell the plum fragrance.

And now...

Whether out of sincerity or mere politeness, Leng Xushuang truly heard a word of concern.

Though it was only a brief two words.

But it was also the first warm words she heard after her master's passing, during her dark, cold days.

Jiang Ruyi turned to look at this woman, leaned down to reach out, supported the other's arm: "Stand up."

With her head lowered, Leng Xushuang's eyes slightly reddened as she slowly stood.

Jiang Ruyi sighed inwardly.

From bone revenge to sorrowful sword dance, such actions should evoke intense emotional upheaval in Leng Xushuang, yet her expression remained emotionless.

Finally, it was upon hearing Lu Ran's two words that Leng Xushuang's eyes reddened.

What kind of devastation must this world inflict upon people to be considered complete...

Jiang Ruyi felt fortunate that she had been found early by Lu Ran.

This woman had many similarities with herself, and when one's strength is insufficient, beauty becomes a deadly poison.

Leng Xushuang's tragic experiences confirmed this point.

Jiang Ruyi led the woman inside, to the wooden table by the window.

The slanting wind and drizzle outside, the sea of flowers persisted.

The exquisite luxurious residence had changed owners.

Jiang Ruyi reached out to tuck a strand of hair from the side of Leng Xushuang's forehead behind her ear, gazing at this stunningly beautiful face.

Like admiring a beautiful piece of porcelain.

Those reddened eyes are like cracks on the porcelain.

"The dance was beautiful," Jiang Ruyi said softly.

Leng Xushuang remained silent, gently nodded.

"Teach me when you have spare time," addressing an outsider, Jiang Ruyi's tone was uncharacteristically gentle.

"Yes," Leng Xushuang answered softly.

Jiang Ruyi looked at the stunning woman, feeling pity for her devotion to the Weak God preventing her from protecting herself.

Then, she turned to Lu Ran across the table: "Would she make a good Sword One believer?"

Lu Ran raised his eyebrows slightly.

Indeed, Lord Cold Plum is known as a minor Sword One.

However, the Sword One Divine Statue in the Sculpture Garden, Lu Ran intended it for his mother.

If Leng Xushuang were to join Sword One Sect, she would only be bound by a master-servant contract.

If choosing the Fifth-class God, Cold Plum, though the Divine Technique is weaker, Leng Xushuang's potential would be infinitely elevated, allowing her to become a deity!

Despite the short period of interaction, Leng Xushuang's various demonstrations made Lu Ran quite satisfied.

Her resolute tenacity, her virtuous steadfastness, as well as everything she did for her master, repaying kindness and seeking revenge.

Opportunities are rare, a good general is hard to find.

Lu Ran believed that from now on, Leng Xushuang would be a loyal soldier under his command.

If so, why not elevate her to the Divine Altar?

"What are you thinking?" Jiang Ruyi tenderly asked.

"Ah," Lu Ran snapped back, smiled, "If she becomes a Sword One believer, she will no longer have the scent of plum blossoms."

Hearing this, Jiang Ruyi threw an annoyed glance at Lu Ran.

Cold Plum disciples possess the Divine Technique: Plum Snow Cold Fragrance, capable of releasing waves of cold enchanting fragrance.

This technique is a Purification Skill, also with a calming and soothing effect.

At this moment, Leng Xushuang also understood!

Even though reluctant to believe, everything the emperor-robed youth displayed compelled her to believe!

"Bene...Benefactor," Leng Xushuang looked at Lu Ran, her voice quivering, "Can you... can you let me join Sword One Sect?"

Lu Ran lifted his gaze to the woman: "Do you want to become a Sword One disciple?"

Leng Xushuang looked at his eyes, striving to comprehend his attitude.

Her thin lips parted, opened then closed, unable to utter any sound.

Precisely because she had enough of being weak, enduring suffering, her craving for a powerful sect, powerful Divine Techniques was insatiable!

But...

But the emperor-robed youth said he wished to smell plum blossom fragrance.

Jiang Ruyi also remained silent, waiting quietly for the woman's response.

"I... I..." Leng Xushuang finally spoke, softly said, "I'll remain a Cold Plum disciple."

"Why?" Lu Ran gazed at her star-like eyes, "You're giving up a chance to defy fate?"

Leng Xushuang's lips quivered, softly said, "I... am accustomed to being a Cold Plum disciple."

Lu Ran quietly observed her.

Leng Xushuang slowly lowered her lashes.

"Hmm." After a while, Lu Ran turned to look out the window, at the rain-swayed sea of flowers.

A material fit for divinity.

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Chapter 642: Wolf Bone Lady

The sky was gradually darkening.

The Ran Sect's soldiers finally finished plundering Wolf Bone Village.

Lu Ran activated the Transmission Mirror and tossed the weapons, jewelry, and the like into the treasure chamber at the bottom of Cloud Sea Cliff.

He handed the clothes they looted to the Hall Master of Feixian Hall, allowing Song Yu to distribute them to Ran Sect disciples based on their needs.

In the Mountain Realm, garments from the Human World were rare and valuable.

After finishing everything, Lu Ran held a small meeting with the soldiers in the grand house's living room to confirm their next steps.

A night raid on Wolf Flower Village was clearly unwise.

After all, Wolf Flower Village was also primarily composed of Greedy Wolf believers, who possessed night vision, whereas some Ran Sect soldiers did not, which was a natural disadvantage.

One of the Ran Sect's objectives in attacking the stronghold was to rescue the slaves.

A night raid would undoubtedly lead to more chaos and unnecessary casualties.

Not to mention, if Xian'er sister swung her hammer just a bit off target...

No one would survive.

"Then we'll set off for Wolf Flower Village tomorrow morning," Lu Ran, sitting in a beautifully carved, rather grand mahogany chair, glanced around at everyone, "You've all worked hard today, and it's getting dark. Find a place to rest."

"Nightmare, you and the Evil Shadow arrange the guard shifts."

"Yes!"

"Yes," everyone dispersed.

"Benefactor, I..." Leng Xushuang hesitated.

She had just joined the Ran Sect and was still unclear about her role.

Jiang Ruyi spoke up, "From now on, you can follow me."

"Yes, Lady," Leng Xushuang nodded slightly.

After this brief meeting, Leng Xushuang was already aware of Lu Jiang's identities.

"Oh dear, Xian'er sister is going to be replaced." Lu Ran gazed toward the back door of the mansion, jokingly.

At this moment, Si Xianxian was leaning against the door, gazing fondly at the sea of flowers.

Hearing these words, she pursed her lips in dissatisfaction.

Who's she trying to scare?

How could my dear Ruyi bear to leave me?

Besides, who says a maid can only be one person? As of today, this Xian'er is the head maid!

"From now on, just call me Sect Leader," Lu Ran added.

"Yes, Sect Leader," Leng Xushuang nodded again.

"Tonight, don't guard the Lady anymore; you've been through a lot. Go and rest well," Lu Ran gestured toward the door, "Go with the Mad Immortal Guardian; she can introduce you to Ran Sect."

"Yes," Leng Xushuang duly followed the Sect Leader's orders and turned to leave.

Si Xianxian felt a surge of excitement!

Haha, isn't this the perfect chance~

Just right, I can establish the position of "head maid"... hmm, Sister Xushuang's fate is a bit tragic.

It's better to be kinder to her.

Si Xianxian thought secretly, turned around to greet, intending to smile in welcome, only to be captivated by Leng Xushuang's beauty.

Fortunately, having been by Jiang Ruyi's side for years, Si Xianxian had developed some immunity to absolute pulchritude.

Otherwise, a certain Xian'er would undoubtedly swoon a bit.

Until their figures disappeared outside the door, Jiang Ruyi softly said, "Are you planning to let her replace the Cold Plum Divine Sculpture?"

Lu Ran looked surprised, "How did you know?"

Jiang Ruyi smiled gently, "Would you allow a companion to continue living humbly just to enjoy the scent of flowers?"

That's not your style."

Lu Ran: "..."

Is my mind really that easy to read?

Jiang Ruyi took Lu Ran's arm, "The souls of Cold Plum disciples aren't easy to obtain. It's hard for you to cultivate a Cold Plum Divine Sculpture, isn't it?"

"Yes," Lu Ran pondered briefly.

This indeed was true.

The Cold Plum Sect wasn't particularly powerful, and the nature of its disciples was well known: upright and principled.

So it's hard for Cold Plum disciples to become slave masters or abusers.

Lu Ran always adhered to the bottom line of being human.

He would never slaughter innocents for the sake of acquiring formidable strength.

This also meant that in Lu Ran's sculpture garden, the Cold Plum Divine Sculpture could only be cultivated with Holy Spirit Energy.

"The Ice Plum Demon Queen," Jiang Ruyi reminded softly when Lu Ran fell silent.

"A good substitute," Lu Ran was quite tempted, wrapping an arm around Jiang Xianxian's slender waist, gently planting a kiss on her soft lips.

The Evil Demon-Ice Plum Demon Queen was the arch-enemy of the Cold Plum Sect.

Both played with frost and wielded snow swords.

They had many similar techniques in their skill lists.

Once the Evil Demon-Ice Plum Demon Queen Evil Sculpture was activated, Lu Ran could also emanate a cold fragrance, with scattered plum blossoms floating around.

Whether paired with the Black Gold Emperor Robe, or a broad white robe...

Just thinking about it has a certain prestige?

"Hmm." Jiang Ruyi gently responded, only to quickly realize something was amiss.

Lu Ran seemed to have no intention of stopping?

"Lu... Lu Ran, wait." Jiang Ruyi turned her head slightly, murmuring, "We're outside."

"Wolf Bone Village has already been destroyed," Lu Ran said matter-of-factly, "And you previously mentioned that if I wanted to see you dance with a sword, I should perform well."

Jiang Ruyi: ?

I was referring to you doing well on your journey, not this!

Naughty thing!

Always misconstruing what I mean.

In her astonishment, Jiang Ruyi found herself being drawn step by step into the bedroom.

"Lu Ran," Jiang Ruyi called out softly.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran looked back at his fiancée.

Jiang Ruyi still had her head tilted, gazing at the luxurious bedroom, her brow slightly furrowed, "Dirty."

"Hmm," Lu Ran remained silent for a moment, realizing his oversight.

The room certainly wasn't dirty; it was very clean and tidy.

But to Jiang Xianxian, the Village Chief and the Second Lady of Wolf Bone were "dirty."

[Go find the Evil Shadow Guardian, stay with her tonight.] Lu Ran thought, extending his hand forward.

The hem of the Black Gold Emperor Robe fluttered, and the Eight Desolate Blade automatically unsheathed, flying out.

At the same time, Lu Ran had already opened an ancient bronze mirror with a classic charm.

With his fiancée, Lu Ran took a step forward, and the surroundings changed.

Jiang Ruyi only felt her vision blur, and in the dim light, she saw the familiar environment of her bedroom.

"Cloud Sea Residence." Lu Ran embraced the warm and soft figure, placing her on the bed.

The geographical separation meant nothing to Lu Ran.

Ends of the earth, just a step away.

"You..." Jiang Ruyi felt helpless yet amused.

Lu Ran's strength was all-encompassing.

Especially after advancing to the Sea Realm, whether in terms of combat power or survival, he had broken free from the constraints of the original rules.

Even Jiang Ruyi had to gradually adapt to this "half-human, half-god" being.

It's hard to imagine how Lu Ran would exist in the world when he advances to the Heavenly Realm.

Even harder to imagine, his appearance above the Heavenly Realm...

Jiang Ruyi lay on her own bed, knowing that it was inevitable tonight.

Lu Ran was a young man full of vitality and energy; after a great victory, who could stop him from wanting a reward?

Jiang Ruyi's cheeks flushed, and she turned her head away from Lu Ran, murmuring:

"Foolish ruler."

Lu Ran: "..."

How am I foolish?

I even remember leaving the Eight Desolate Blade in Wolf Bone Village!

Being watched by you and Cong Long every day, how cautious have I become...

Lu Ran thought angrily, when suddenly a female voice echoed in his mind: [Master!]

[Huh?] Lu Ran was stunned for a moment, [Evil Shadow?]

[The First Lady has returned to the village, she's on the way up the mountain!]

Lu Ran: ???

Could it be such a coincidence?

Wasn't she driven away by the Second Lady to unwind at Langhua Village?

All together, the First Lady left the village for no more than three days, traveling over sixty kilometers back and forth?

This...?

Jiang Ruyi noticed a change in Lu Ran's aura, her slightly dazed eyes instantly cleared, and she softly asked, "What's wrong?"

Lu Ran raised his hand to cast a spell, "The First Lady of Wolf Bone Village has returned to the mountain."

Jiang Ruyi's expression immediately turned icy.

She had initially planned to take out Wolf Bone Lady during a trip to Langhua Village, but unexpectedly, the opponent came to her?

At the same time, on the only road up the mountain to Wolf Bone Village.

Dusk had fallen, but it wasn't completely dark.

Two Greedy Wolf disciples moved stealthily, progressing secretly through the forest.

Eight Thousand Bone believers served as bearers, carrying a large litter made of bone, climbing at a fast yet steady pace.

The Qian Bone Sect had no perception techniques, it seemed they aimed to return to the camp before nightfall.

Four more Thousand Bone believers opened the road and followed behind, guarding the bone litter from front to back.

Inside the litter, a dignified middle-aged lady rested her chin, eyes closed, recharging her spirits.

"Madam!" A voice came from beyond the bone curtain of the litter.

"Hmm." The dignified lady responded casually.

"Something's off; the sentinels in the forest are gone. We tried signaling with a whistle, but received no response." One of the only two Greedy Wolf disciples in the team reported in a deep voice.

The leader-like Thousand Bone disciple appeared serious and suggested, "Madam, should we stop and investigate?"

The First Lady looked impatient.

She didn't even lift her eyelids, "What's there to investigate? Just a bunch of lazy fools."

The Thousand Bone disciple looked troubled, cautiously adding, "Madam, we should still..."

"Send someone to look, when we return, you both will face punishment."

"As you command!"

"As you command." The two cursed silently, but responded respectfully.

The Greedy Wolf believers hid their forms again, signaling another Greedy Wolf companion, they quickly moved toward the mountain village through the dense forest on either side of the road.

The bone litter halted mid-journey, without the Lady's order, the Thousand Bone believers dared not set the litter down.

Drizzling rain and wind made the bone curtain sway lightly, creating crisp, clear sounds.

Pleasant?

For the Wolf Bone Lady, perhaps it was pleasant.

To others, it was undoubtedly eerie!

The crisp, faint clacking of bones made the forest feel even more silent.

"Tsk tsk~"

In the serene environment, a tsk-tsk sound suddenly echoed, laced with a hint of mockery.

"Who's there?"

"Who?" The Thousand Bone believers collectively turned their heads, seeing two figures standing in mid-air behind them.

A man and a woman, both exuding the terrifying pressure unique to the Sea Realm.

The young man in an Emperor Robe, noble and imposing, the woman's gown fluttering, cold as frost.

This world had turned colder due to their presence.

Not an ordinary cold.

But a chilling intent beneath a murderous aura that froze one to the bone!

Such people dared to openly appear in Wolf Bone Village's territory?

The villagers of Wolf Bone couldn't help but think of many implications.

Could it be,

that their Wolf Bone Village had already been destroyed?

In view, the young man in an Emperor Robe looked displeased, coldly sneering:

"Wolf Bone Lady, such tyrannical power you have?"

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Chapter 643: Dīanpó

What a powerful deterrent?

Inside the sedan, the graceful and beautiful woman's expression changed, not hearing words like "bold" or "presumptuous."

Since the servants didn't dare to speak up, it meant the visitors were extremely powerful!

Regarding this, Lady Wolf Bone felt it herself too.

She steadied her mind and ordered, "Lower the sedan."

Eight Thousand Bone believers trembled and shakily lowered the large bone sedan.

"Ah!"

"Ah..." Two faint screams came from the distant dense forest.

Emerging from the sedan, Lady Wolf Bone's eyes darkened further.

She certainly realized that the visitors were not friendly.

It sounded like the two scouting Greedy Wolf disciples were also attacked.

It seems that this eerily silent Wolf Bone Village is probably doomed!

The more she thought, the darker Lady Wolf Bone's expression became.

She knew very well the strength and means of the Village Chief and Second Lady. If the two of them were obliterated...

Lady Wolf Bone suppressed her violently trembling heart and slowly raised her head, seeing a pair of man and woman standing in mid-air.

Just one glance sent Lady Wolf Bone's heart plummeting.

Two mighty Yangyang Seas!

Eyes full of killing intent.

They were so young, surely prodigies with extraordinary talents.

So... disciples under a First-class god from the Divine Sect?

Judging by their attire...

Sword Believers?

Qiang Xiu's disciples?

"Heh." For some reason, Lady Wolf Bone suddenly laughed.

Her sudden shift in emotion was bewildering.

Like a madwoman, the laughter grew louder and more frenzied: "Haha! Hahahahaha!"

Countless grievances from the dead bones finally lodged complaints to Heaven?

Has Heaven,

sent people to collect me?

Heh,

then you all better perform well.

The life of this lady isn't so easily collected...

"Yo?" Lu Ran was a bit baffled.

Traveling far and wide for so long, he truly hadn't seen such a crazy woman.

What was she laughing about?

"Whoosh!!"

Suddenly, a gust of gale blew.

Lady Wolf Bone abruptly attacked, swiftly raising her palm toward the sky.

Countless fragments of white bone appeared out of thin air, showering the sky like raindrops.

Thousand Bone Divine Technique·Shattering Bone Storm!

This technique covers a vast output range, with fairly rapid attack speed, capable of riddling targets with holes in an instant.

Jiang Ruyi immediately cast a spell, spreading several Golden Jade Talismans around her.

Lu Ran flew forward one meter, meeting the attack, coldly grunting in his heart.

This madwoman!

Not only was her laughter abrupt, but her attack was also sudden?

Other Sea Realm kings would still exchange a few words, be it threat or negotiation.

Lady Wolf Bone really had it figured out!

Quite straightforward, huh?

Lu Ran extended his hand diagonally downward, energy surging in his grip.

"Whoosh!!"

The gale swept through!

The fierce wind waves far surpassed the momentum of the Shattering Bone Storm.

Night Charm Evil Technique·Night Wind Assault!

After all, the Thousand Bone Sect played with bones, while the likes of North Wind Night Charm truly played with wind.

"Oh?" Lady Wolf Bone's face turned sinister, her smile had vanished completely.

The white-dressed woman being a Jade Talisman Believer was acceptable.

But this Emperor Robe youth turned out to be a Night Charm Believer?

"Crack crack..."

Fragile bones mixed in the two wind waves were crushed to powder.

In terms of power, Sea Grade Peak individuals' techniques were much stronger than those at the Initial Stage!

And yet Lu Ran was using Night Charm Evil Technique·Night Wind Assault!

There's indeed a sense of Wind Element specialization.

The wind level of this technique was indeed stronger than the Shattering Bone Wind.

The dense white bones were ground into powder like this, inch by inch, scattering back onto the ground.

"Little brat!" Lady Wolf Bone raised her other hand and mocked, "No wonder you're so young and already at Sea Realm.

Being controlled by Night Charm, becoming a puppet, how does it feel?"

"Heh." Lu Ran chuckled, and before he could speak, he suddenly felt a chill passing through his body.

Thousand Bone Divine Technique·Yin Bone Curse!

This technique is quite rare, neither physical nor spiritual skill.

Instead, it's independently classified as Curse type skill!

Thousand Bone disciples can curse enemies, gradually making their bones decayed, causing the target to slow down and eventually become immobile.

This technique is quite strong!

The only drawback is its rather slow effect.

So, the longer the battle lasts, the more beneficial it is for Lady Wolf Bone.

"Whoosh~~~"

Dense Immortal Fog suddenly spread under Lu Ran's feet.

Trying to curse me?

Did my Jade-faced Snake agree?

Within the white mist range, all abnormal states on the spiritual or physical level will be thoroughly cleansed!

Though it's River Grade·Immortal Realm, its priority is high, capable of dispelling your Sea Grade·Yin Bone Curse!

Lady Wolf Bone's expression froze: "Ah?"

This Emperor Robe youth worshipped two Evil Gods?

First-class Evil God·Jade-faced Snake?

Second-class Evil God·Night Charm?

This... ah??

"Boom!!"

The ground trembled.

Lady Wolf Bone couldn't care much anymore as loads of white bone surged beneath her feet, swiftly forming a thick bone shield.

Thousand Bone Divine Technique·Bone Prison!

This technique, originally meant to capture enemies, was used by Lady Wolf Bone as a defense shield.

"Crack crack!!"

Shattered bones and powder covered the ground as well as hammering onto the hemispherical Bone Prison.

"Whoosh~whoosh~"

Suddenly, two White Jade Stones shot downward.

Accompanied by the sound of the White Jade Stones shattering, the ground surged, with the terrifying Flowing Sand River rising and falling turbulently.

The hemispherical Bone Prison revealed its complete form, exposing the entire spherical Bone Prison.

"You little bastard!"

Wolf Bone Lady's eyes were fierce, and she squeezed a sentence from between her teeth.

In her mind flashed the face of the White Skirt Fairy.

Indeed, someone colluding with the disciple of the Evil Demon!

Appearing noble and holy, but in reality, extremely malicious at heart!

The Bone Prison seemed to have thick, impenetrable walls, but in truth, there were gaps.

A huge amount of flowing sand seeped in through every opening, crazily invading the Bone Prison. At this rate, it would not be long before the flowing sand buried everyone alive!

"Lady!"

"Lady... Save, save us, Lady!"

"Offer your lives to me," Wolf Bone Lady commanded.

Her voice was somber, chilling to the bone.

A crowd of Thousand Bone followers was in utter panic!

Indeed, within the ranks of the Qian Bone Sect, there was a technique that involved "sacrificing life"—the Thousand Bone Altar!

Followers could summon a Bone Mountain constructed from bones.

During the altar's existence, it could continuously restore the caster's Divine Power, stamina, and life force.

Even more terrifying was that the altar could enhance the power of bone-type skills!

And to initiate this powerful technique, at least one life needed to be sacrificed.

Note that it had to be a Human Clan life.

It didn't have to be a believer, but it must be a human life!

The lives of Evil Demons or other creatures couldn't be used as catalysts for the altar.

The greater the number of sacrificed lives and the higher their realm, the better the altar's amplification effect and the longer its duration!

"Huh?"

"No... Lady, please..." A crowd of Thousand Bone disciples pleaded incessantly.

"Silence!" the Wolf Bone Lady commanded coldly, "Offering your lowly lives to me to activate the altar is your greatest worth."

She continued casting with one hand, maintaining the Bone Prison.

While her other hand reached out to the side.

"Whoosh!!"

A burst of Shattering Bone Wind swept forth.

"Ah! Ahh!"

"No..." Screams echoed one after another.

Numerous bone fragments instantly riddled the Thousand Bone followers on her left with holes.

The Thousand Bone follower closest to the Wolf Bone Lady was even shattered to pieces!

Shattering into a mist of blood in the sky.

The Thousand Bone followers from other directions turned pale, retreating continuously.

But no matter how they retreated, how far could they really escape?

Under the Wolf Bone Lady's control, the thick walls kept contracting, eventually pushing and crushing everyone toward the central area.

Where stood the formidable Yangyang Sea-Wolf Bone Lady!

Even if she did nothing, merely with her Sea Grade-Water Flow Armor, paired with the thick walls of the Sea Grade-Bone Prison, she could crush everyone to death.

"Buzz!!"

The Bone Prison suddenly vibrated.

Underneath the Wolf Bone Lady, a vast number of bones surged forth.

With the life of a Human Clan as a catalyst, the Thousand Bone Altar successfully emerged.

The bone heap lifted the Wolf Bone Lady higher and higher, continuously piling into a mountain.

Many bones also filled the inside of the Bone Prison, compressing the people's living space.

In an instant, the expanding bone heap and contracting bone wall engulfed everyone, mercilessly crushing them.

"Crack! Crack..."

The Water Flow Armor was riddled with cracks, and the Thousand Bone followers screamed and pleaded.

Wolf Bone Lady was indifferent to all of this.

She slightly lifted her head and closed her eyes.

Feeling the lives pouring into the Thousand Bone Altar.

The bones underfoot injected terrifying energy into her body...

"Whoosh!"

Wolf Bone Lady raised her hand, and as the bone heap lifted her up, she even held open the top of the Bone Prison with one hand!

She didn't disperse the Divine Technique Bone Prison.

The Qian Bone Sect wasn't renowned for strength attributes.

But with her foot on the Thousand Bone Altar, the Wolf Bone Lady was infused with endless energy, forcibly supporting the Bone Prison with her hand!

"Boom!!"

The bone heap surged wildly, expanding its size greatly.

The Bone Prison could no longer contain the growth of the Thousand Bone Altar, and the thick walls shattered with a bang.

"Heh..."

Wolf Bone Lady wore a face of enjoyment.

She stood atop the high bone heap, her petite legs submerged, intricately linked to the countless bones beneath her feet.

The roaring Flowing Sand River couldn't disperse the bone heap at all!

The sand whips emerging from the river couldn't dismantle the altar.

The scene was indescribably chaotic.

Yet unfathomably spectacular!

Slowly, the Wolf Bone Lady opened her eyes, gazing at Lu Jiang duo, a cold smile forming at her lips.

Lu Ran snorted, "Crazy hag, your altar isn't eternal.

I'm retreating now, and will come back a little later...

What if you explode then?"

"What, are you scared?" mocked the Wolf Bone Lady coldly, showing no anger.

For she had no choice.

If she didn't activate the Thousand Bone Altar, the Wolf Bone Lady would die even faster!

Using a few servant lives to temporarily amplify her power, even if it extended her life by just one more second, was still worth it.

If she could counterattack and kill the enemy, it was even more of a gain.

"Little bastard! You dare to make trouble for me, you're worthy?"

Wolf Bone Lady shouted furiously, her body suddenly leaning forward, the bones beneath her feet flowing in order, bearing her forward to attack.

Unable to stop the enemy from retreating, she could only provoke them with words, actively seeking battle.

"Whoosh!!"

Wolf Bone Lady fiercely raised her palm, unleashing an even more terrifying Shattering Bone Storm.

The dense bones blocked out the sky!

"Swoosh~"

Lu Ran's figure flashed, appearing behind Wolf Bone Lady, slashing down with a blade!

Fooled you!

Retreating was never an option.

I fought my way from Da Xia in the Human World to the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, driven by two words:

Force through!

Chapter 644: The Young Man on Bone Mountain

"Screech—"

A shadowy figure carried a blade of light and came slashing down!

The sharp Dawn Blade sliced from the back of the Wolf Bone Lady's head down to her spinal cord.

The Water Flow Armor on her body was instantly rent open with a gash.

Under the blade, a wound deep enough to see bone appeared, with blood spurting out.

"Ah!!" The Wolf Bone Lady let out a tragic scream.

Her heart was filled with unimaginable terror!

Instant Teleportation?

The opponent actually had the Instant Teleportation Technique!

This little bastard! Just how many Evil Gods has he pledged allegiance to?

The White Bone Lady reacted swiftly, struggling to turn around, flinging a hand backwards.

She continued to wield the Thousand Bone Divine Technique·Shattering Bone Wind without stopping.

Wherever her hand moved, the Shattering Bone Storm would blow.

"I'm unworthy?" A deep voice, penetrating and resonant, drifted into the Wolf Bone Lady's ears, "I'm damn well worthy to kill you!"

The Wolf Bone Lady ground her teeth, reaching with her hand towards the sound.

The Shattering Bone Wind rose again!

Within just a few short seconds, the wound on her body had already healed.

The Divine Technique·Thousand Bone Altar was relentlessly channeling Life Force into her.

Doubtlessly, it also owed to the contribution of the 12 disciples of the River Realm·Thousand Bone believers.

For this battle, the Wolf Bone Lady didn't even bat an eyelid, sacrificing twelve lives.

And on the eastern side of the battle circle, Jiang Ruyi was plummeting rapidly, pushing a hand forward.

One by one, the specifications of the Golden Jade Stone Plates surged to 10 meters, standing in front of their master.

"Crack! Crack..."

Numerous shattered bones rained down densely, furiously bombarding the Golden Jade Talisman.

In an instant, the foremost Golden Jade Stone Plate shattered into pieces!

It had to be admitted, that the Wolf Bone Lady, standing on the Thousand Bone Altar and sacrificing many lives, was truly outputting terrifying power!

Undoubtedly, in the Human World of Da Xia, the Qian Bone Sect was restricted in its performance.

On the fifteenth night of each month, the Qian Bone believers who joined the battle were civil servants of the Divine People Bureau·Wangyue Army.

They aim to protect the people, abandoning no one, forsaking none, certainly never sacrificing the people!

But in this Holy Spirit Mountain...

The Qian Bone believers unleashed their altar without restraint, and they were truly formidable!

"Sigh~"

Jiang Ruyi plummeted rapidly, leaving the range of the Shattering Bone Storm.

She glanced upwards, seeing atop the high Bone Mountain, the Wolf Bone Lady constantly turning and stretching her hand, continuously releasing the Shattering Bone Storm.

[Lu Ran, activate the Jade Talisman Formation, don't let her face the west!]

As the message was conveyed, Jiang Ruyi waved her gentle hand forward.

Among the two rings of White Jade Stones surrounding her, two White Jade Stones flew out continuously.

Each flickering with strands of electricity!

"Sizzle~Sizzle~"

"Sizzle..." Lu Ran instantly activated the Jade Talisman Formation, as Jiang Ruyi's mind moved, the Electric Shackles Talisman simultaneously detonated.

The Sea Grade-Electric Shackles Talisman created a Thunder Domain with a diameter reaching 500 meters.

Why get close?

The Wolf Bone Lady's expression changed drastically!

The enemy's assortment of skills was beyond her comprehension.

Initially, she thought sacrificing her servants' lives had increased her abilities dramatically, allowing her to dominate the battlefield!

To kill this young couple with ease!

Unexpectedly...

The opponent, with a wave of Instant Teleportation, altered the battlefield situation completely!

The Wolf Bone Lady was constantly facing threats of life and death, leaving no energy to pay attention to the Jade Talisman disciple?

And as the Emperor Robe youth simultaneously activated the Jade Talisman Formation, running rampant in the Thunder Domain, the Wolf Bone Lady seemed to see an omnipotent deity.

"Ugh." The Wolf Bone Lady felt her whole body numb, her limbs stiffened.

Lu Ran surged through the Jade Talisman Formation, weaving through the endless currents, heading straight for the Wolf Bone Lady.

His chilling eyes pierced through the delicate electric beams, directly meeting her eyes.

A swipe of red light flashed by!

The Wolf Bone Lady, already numb and unable to move, was now in even more confusion, plunging into a deep red world.

Wolf Bone Lady: !!!

"Ah! Aaaaah..."

She screamed shrilly, her body shaking violently.

The Qian Bone Sect possessed no Spirit Defense Techniques.

Her instinctual reaction was to cover her head with her hands, but she was paralyzed and unable to move.

"Sizzle~Sizzle!"

Another Electric Shackles Talisman came hurling!

Far below, Jiang Ruyi extended one hand forward as the other naturally hung down, fingertips flashing with electric light, constantly delineating runes.

One by one, Electric Shackles Talismans silently flew out, returning to the Jade Talisman Formation, slowly encircling their master.

Jiang Ruyi then cast another Electric Shackles Talisman.

The Wolf Bone Lady, even with the foot on the Thousand Bone Altar, was destined to be controlled to death by the Immortal Jiang!

Lu Ran finally arrived before the Wolf Bone Lady, fingers released a red silk thread, linking to the Wolf Bone Lady's body.

With a flick of his fingers, the Wolf Bone Lady, like a marionette, jerked her head upwards.

Those wide-open eyes, full of pain, locked with Lu Ran's gaze!

"Aaahhh..."

The Wolf Bone Lady howled in anguish once more.

Evil Technique-Silk Pupil for Spiritual Output, Evil Technique-Silk Thread for physical control.

Further with Evil Technique-Tangled Silk, disrupting her Divine Power, obstructing her ongoing casting.

The Tethering Silk triad, who couldn't it kill?

The Water Flow Armor on the Wolf Bone Lady vanished completely! In the endless electricity, Lu Ran drew out the Cloud Sea Dust-Cleaning Blade from his waist.

"What Thousand Bone Divine Technique, even more evil than an evil technique..."

Lu Ran spoke coldly, slashing horizontally with one stroke.

"Sss!"

White Bone Lady's head flew high, enveloped by endless currents, suspended in mid-air.

Lu Ran had to be swift and decisive because the survival ability of the Qian Bone Sect was extremely strong.

This sect possessed the Divine Technique·Thousand Bone Body.

The believers' bones could be freely assembled and rotated.

With this unique bone structure as a foundation, powerful effects blessed the entire body!

Even if the believers were twisted like a pretzel or kneaded into a ball, with severely injured internal organs, there was still a possibility of survival.

So, decapitation was an excellent choice.

"Whoo~"

Jiang Ruyi casually waved her hand, and the sky full of currents vanished.

The Thousand Bone Altar still tightly gathered, the eerie white bones piled up into a mountain.

At the top of the mountain, a headless body stood motionless, while a head rolled down the slope...

In front of the village gate, two figures stood quietly.

Leng Xushuang looked up, staring blankly at the mountain of bones, at the young man in the Emperor Robe standing before the headless body, sheathing his blade.

Perhaps it was because the Bone Mountain was tall, the wind at the mountaintop was strong.

The slanted wind and fine rain swept by, lifting the young man's wide Black Gold Emperor Robe, fluttering fiercely.

Leng Xushuang was entranced.

From dawn to dusk, battle after battle, this young emperor repeatedly challenged her comprehension of reality.

The more she saw, the more unreal it felt to Leng Xushuang.

All that happened today...

Wolf Bone Village was destroyed, both the village chief and his wife were beheaded, and the Second Lady was cut into pieces by herself, the village servants were rescued.

Revenge, repayment of a master's kindness, regaining freedom.

Was all of this a dying fantasy?

In reality, had she already died in the serene river valley?

The cold corpse,

lying in the winding little river.

"Don't be afraid." Si Xianxian noticed that Leng Xushuang was trembling a bit, misunderstood, and immediately patted her shoulder, "The Sect Leader is gentle-natured, a very nice person!"

Although Si Xianxian was also amazed by this magnificent scene, she still pretended as if she was used to it.

She continued, "The Sect Leader is even better to his own people, not as cruel as other Sect Masters.

Believe me, as long as you are loyal to him, he will surely not let you down!"

These words of comfort gradually brought Leng Xushuang back to her senses.

The dying fantasy seemed not to have shattered.

The wind and rain blew past, brushed against her cheeks, bringing a slight chill.

This world seemed to be real.

"Poof!"

"Poof..." The majestic Bone Mountain broke apart with a boom, transforming into dense energy.

The Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd, seeing the delicious offering, immediately flew out from the Emperor Robe, devouring voraciously.

Lu Ran, on the other hand, had already summoned a black mist ball, capturing White Bone Lady into the Soul Prison.

White Bone Lady was sensible, not cursing in a frenzy.

She wasn't crazy anymore.

Well, not fun anymore.

Lu Ran opened a pair of Pupil of the Dead World, searching around, capturing the twelve wandering Dead Souls on the battlefield one by one into his eyes.

As for the two Greedy Wolf believers who died early, Lu Ran didn't see them.

Presumably, they were taken into the Rebirth Money by Deng Yuxiang.

"Hmm?" While binding souls, Lu Ran suddenly sensed that one of the Dead Souls was very low-level.

This is... Stream Realm?

A newbie accidentally ventured into nightmare difficulty?

How could this be?!

Perhaps...

Lu Ran furrowed his brows tightly, this Dead Soul, like other believers of Qian Bone, was of River Realm but should be defined as "broken"?

Yes, that makes sense.

If you consider a human soul as an energy body, then this Dead Soul has already had most of its energy extracted.

So, was it consumed by the Divine Technique·Thousand Bone Altar?

Lu Ran thought silently, but did not believe this.

He was very familiar with the greedy face of the All Gods.

Lu Ran was more inclined to believe that the strands of energy from this human Dead Soul were extracted by the altar and directly sent into the blood-red mouth of the gods through a special Divine Technique, nourishing the Divine Sculpture.

And to activate the Thousand Bone Altar, any person's life could be sacrificed.

It didn't have to be a Qian Bone believer!

So, is the Divine·Qian Bone snatching souls from believers of other sects in this way?

As for the process of activating the Divine Technique·Thousand Bone Altar, it's the process of soul extraction.

Until the Dead Soul is completely drained by the altar, or the soul of another sect's believer is extracted down to "Mist Realm," "Stream Realm" and then discarded, the Divine Technique would stop working?

"What's wrong?" Jiang Fairy flew up and asked, looking at Lu Ran's tightly knit brows.

"We'll talk about it when we get back." Lu Ran replied casually, weighing the black mist ball in his hand, "She just came back from Wolf Flower Village, should know quite a bit."

"Yes, let's interrogate her." Jiang Ruyi immediately nodded.

Lu Ran looked around, capturing the last Dead Soul into his eyes, then transmitted to the Evil Shadow Guardian: [Let the Shadow Guard Team clean up the battlefield.]

[Understood.]

"Let's go." Lu Ran called out to Jiang Ruyi, flying towards Wolf Bone Village together.

At the gate, they saw two little maidservants.

"You all go back and rest, there's still work tomorrow." Lu Ran said casually, quickly flying past the gate.

"See~" Si Xianxian watched Lu Ran leave, smiling broadly, "Clearly full of evil qi, but still casually caring for his subordinates.

You can't fake that, so don't worry!"

Leng Xushuang remained silent, nodding gently.

If all this is a dying fantasy...

I hope this world can last a little longer.

Chapter 645: Today's Wolf Flower

The night rain drizzled lightly.

A sea of flowers swayed in the rain, exuding a faint floral fragrance that wafted into the luxurious estate.

In the pitch-dark living room, the voice of the Wolf Bone Lady was intermittent.

Jiang Ruyi sat in a wide wooden chair, nestled beside Lu Ran, savoring a moment of peace while listening to the intelligence provided by the captive.

Langhua Village is somewhat stronger than Wolf Bone Village.

There are nearly forty Greedy Wolf disciples alone, led by the Langhua Village Chief, Lang Wen, and his wife, along with over ten Lantern disciples led by their adopted son, Lang Ziyi.

There are also thirty-six Weak God disciples from various sects.

The Langhua Village Chief and his wife are both Greedy Wolf believers with considerable strength, each at the Sea Realm Peak and High Rank.

They possess three Divine Weapons but no Magic Artifacts. The village chief has two Black Luminous Stone daggers, while the lady carries a Black Ice short blade.

However, none of the three Divine Weapons have activated the Divine Weapon Domain.

One particular point to note: the Weak God disciples in Langhua Village have a relatively better living environment.

It's not that the Greedy Wolf disciples have had a change of heart.

But because, within the ruling class of Langhua Village, there exists the Lantern Sect.

These dozen or so Lantern disciples, unlike the brutal Greedy Wolf disciples, form a special 'buffer zone.'

"Hmm," Lu Ran listened to the unique customs of Langhua Village, nodding silently.

The intelligence provided by the Wolf Bone Lady aligned closely with what he had interrogated from the Wolf Bone Village Chief and the Second Lady.

In truth, it wasn't easy for the Lantern Sect to achieve this!

After all, once a believer reaches the River Realm, they no longer see humans as humans.

That's the most basic logic!

Applicable to all sects and all believers.

Based on the 'dehumanizing' foundation, disciples from different sects indulge in revealing their true colors.

The Lantern disciples find themselves in the dirty environment of Langhua Village.

Not committing evil,

is the greatest virtue.

Jiang Ruyi spoke softly, "I heard that the Langhua Young Master is coerced."

The Wolf Bone Lady immediately responded, "Yes, Lang Ziyi's realm is exceedingly high, having reached the Middle Sea Realm. He is also an all-powerful auxiliary stream Lantern believer.

Lang Wen really wanted Lang Ziyi's assistance, initially bringing him under his command, and later forcibly adopting him as a foster son.

The Lantern believers also shared the ascendancy, breaking through the ranks alongside the young master."

Jiang Ruyi asked casually, "What's Lang Ziyi's real name?"

"Madam, I only know his surname is Shangguan, but not his first name."

Jiang Ruyi slightly tilted her head, leaning against Lu Ran's shoulder, "He could be incorporated into the Ran Sect."

A middle-ranked Sea Realm auxiliary would naturally be extremely useful.

Compared to the Dragon Carp believer, Yu Changsheng, the auxiliary capabilities of the Lantern Sect are more comprehensive!

Mentioning Lanterns, Lu Ran couldn't help but think of the little sister Yuanxi.

He wondered how the mischievous sister was faring in the human world.

Today seemed to be her birthday.

The fifteenth of the first month...

Lu Ran's gaze darkened a bit.

In previous years, he'd go to Beijing's Immortal Scenic Garden to celebrate little Yuanxi's birthday with his mother.

Jiang Ruyi sensed the change in Lu Ran's mood.

She snuggled against Lu Ran, her cheek resting on his shoulder, softly speaking:

"What's on your mind, feeling upset?"

"Sir, everything I've said is true, not a single lie..." the Wolf Bone Lady anxiously pleaded.

Before the interrogation, Lu Ran had burned her for a dozen seconds to ensure the accuracy of the information.

Recalling the scorching, bone-eroding pain, the Wolf Bone Lady's eyes were full of fear, hastily explaining.

In this world, there's no such thing as lunatics or madwomen.

When in pain and afraid, one becomes compliant.

"Shh." Jiang Ruyi gently frowned, stopping the noisy captive.

She extended a hand down, tenderly clasping his hand, soothing the dispirited person beside her.

In the darkness, Jiang Xianzi's gentle voice resonated: "Want to talk about it?"

"It's the fifteenth of the first month today," Lu Ran finally spoke.

Jiang Ruyi, astute as ice, combined with their previous conversation about the 'Lantern believers,' instantly realized why Lu Ran was feeling downcast.

After a moment of silence, she spoke softly, "Auntie's in the human world, and little Yuanxi has the Peace Bead you gave her, she'll be fine.

After we return, we'll make it up to her with a proper birthday."

"Mm." Lu Ran embraced Jiang Xianzi, lowering his head to kiss her hair.

"I'm tired," Jiang Ruyi murmured as she nestled in Lu Ran's arms.

Lu Ran recalled his fiancée's opinion of the mansion's bedroom, inquiring, "Shall we return to Cloud Sea Cliff?"

Jiang Ruyi silently nodded, saying no more.

"Whew~"

Lu Ran dispersed the Soul Prison, releasing the Dead Souls from within.

They were again confined within Lu Ran's eyes.

After waiting a moment, Lu Ran activated the Transmission Mirror, confirming the Eight Desolate Blade was still with the Evil Shadow Guardian. Holding his fiancée, he stepped into Cloud Sea Residence.

Upon returning, Lu Ran felt no urge to create mischief, lying quietly on the bed.

As countless thoughts swirled in his mind while he stared blankly at the ceiling, the person beside him murmured, "The Thousand Bone Divine Sculpture could be of some help to you."

"If you're tired, sleep early."

Jiang Ruyi closed her eyes, a hint of a smile appearing on her face: "Both ladies of Wolf Bone Village are at the Sea Realm, having been in the Mountain Realm for six to seven years at the shortest, and over ten years at the longest.

They must have collected a lot of Holy Spirit Energy.

Moreover, you have captured over twenty Dead Souls of River Realm Thousand Bone believers, which might allow you to cultivate the Thousand Bone Divine Sculpture to the Sea Realm."

"Hmm." Lu Ran nodded silently.

"If you can equip a Sea Grade Thousand Bone Body, your survival ability will greatly increase." Jiang Ruyi murmured, constantly thinking about Lu Ran.

Lu Ran is extremely mobile, able to move at high speed and flicker rapidly.

Within the Mountain Realm, it's hard for anyone to deal with him.

But Lu Ran's ultimate goal, after all, is the gods and demons above!

Against those beings, no matter how high Lu Ran's survival ability, it's never high enough!

Jiang Ruyi continued: "The Divine Technique Thousand Bone Body can also enhance your combat power. In the future, your limbs will be capable of reverse joint movement.

Wielding a blade will reach a new level... "

"Indeed." Lu Ran agreed deeply.

"Once we annihilate Langhua Village, you can open both the Thousand Bone Divine Sculpture and the Greedy Wolf Divine Sculpture," Jiang Ruyi pondered, then deliberately added, "This way, you'll be less easily crushed by gods and demons."

Her thoughts were clear; although amazed by Lu Ran's transformation after ascending to the Sea Realm, she didn't lose herself in it.

Human enemies seemed more like a chronic poison to her.

A poison that could make one's side smug and gradually inflate with pride.

Jiang Ruyi reminded Lu Ran between the lines, also constantly reminding herself.

Lu Ran could stand atop Holy Spirit Mountain, overlooking the masses.

But his eyes must always be fixed on the heavens.

"Hmm, alright." In the darkness, the young man's low voice came through.

Jiang Ruyi lay sideways, resting on his arm, slightly shifted her head to find a more comfortable position, then slowly exhaled:

"Good night."

"Good night." Lu Ran's gaze softened, watching her gradually drift into sleep through the darkness.

Lu Ran was grateful time and again in his heart, for meeting little Ruyi on his journey through life.

Her gentle attentiveness, her care and consideration for him, was constant throughout.

It made one indulge deeply.

Who could possibly resist this...

Nothing more was said that night, and the next morning.

The strength of their Sea Realm bodies allowed Lu Jiang to sleep peacefully through the night, sweeping away the fatigue from multiple battles the previous day.

The two took a step into Wolf Bone Village, quickly gathering their teammates, mounting Black Fire Colts, heading straight for Langhua Village.

The journey of thirty-three kilometers seemed too short.

The majestic Black Fire Colts strode through flowers of flame, racing wildly through the air, reaching their destination swiftly, barely had time to enjoy the ride.

The Lang brothers had hidden their village deep in the mountains and forests.

Moreover, the mountain they chose was similar, with steep terrain and only one path leading up.

Without surprise, numerous secret posts were hidden in the forests along the way.

With prior experience attacking villages, Ran Sect executed their plan accordingly.

Lu Ran once again led the Nightmare Guardian, Evil Shadow Guardian, and two Shadow Guards up the mountain.

The only difference was that Leng Xushuang, who used to walk behind Lu Ran, was now riding a Black Fire Colt equipped with the ability to fly.

Lu Ran and his team cleared the secret posts along the way.

Leng Xuanshuang used the Divine Technique Plum Blossom Fall to force out hidden wolf cubs that might exist but hadn't been discovered.

They fought their way to the front gate of the village, where Lu Ran saw the lesser god disciples acting as gatekeepers and finally met a Lantern Believer.

This man, dressed in lavish silk robes, carrying a delicate eight-sided lantern, clearly indicating his identity.

Trembling with nervousness, his face uncertain, he looked at the suddenly appearing mysterious youth:

"Sir... may I ask... you..."

"Lantern Believer." Lu Ran looked at everyone gathered at the village gate, the Second-rank Magical Artifact Jade Tiger Talisman around his neck functioning effectively.

Tiger Talisman Divine Artifact!

It wildly bolstered its owner's ki, suppressing all beings with overwhelming power.

River Realm people facing Sea Realm Great Powers were originally terrified.

Being affected by such an artifact, it was practically killing them...

"Indeed, my lord." The Lantern disciple broke out in a cold sweat, bowed respectfully, and responded shakily.

"You've done well." Lu Ran took out the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd, his gaze sweeping over the trembling lesser god disciples, "Everything will be alright."

As he spoke, the golden Phoenix pattern on the Treasure Gourd quietly brightened, absorbing the humans one by one.

The unfamiliar youth spoke mysterious words and even summoned a secret soul-eating artifact.

Yet no one resisted; not even dared to shout and flee.

Lu Ran became increasingly adept with the artifact, secured the Treasure Gourd, and led the Ran Sect team deeper into the village.

Until a shout rang out, awakening the entire village; the members of Langhua Village astonishedly realized a mysterious team had silently infiltrated their base!

At the moment Ran Sect was discovered, Mad Immortal Guardian immediately received Lu Ran's transmission.

"Hia~" Si Xianxian squeezed his horse's belly, riding swiftly through the sky.

Flames erupted from her body, wielding a War Hammer, lowering her head to swiftly search and identify the enemies.

"Whoosh!!"

The next moment, a burning Hammer Shadow plummeted rapidly.

Flames roared, earth shook.

Yesterday's Wolf Bone,

Today's Wolf Flower.

...

Chapter 646: The autumn wind sweeps the fallen leaves

"Run?"

High above the sky, Si Xianxian was engulfed in flames, her warhorse also ablaze with black fire.

Just like a damn fire goddess!

As her gaze swept downwards, she swung the Mad Hammer in her hand fiercely.

A burning hammer shadow spun rapidly, crashing heavily into the ground.

"Boom!!"

The surging airwaves instantly blasted away two enemies who were just about to hide, the intense explosion echoing to the heavens!

"Mr. Cong Long, where else?" Si Xianxian shouted.

Behind them, Yu Changsheng had already summoned the Rain-Invoking Carp, covering the mountain village with light golden drizzle, searching for hidden enemies.

Hearing this, he pointed with a folding fan in his hand.

But suddenly, he saw a large number of lanterns lift into the sky.

Dense, hundreds in number!

Exquisite eight-sided lanterns connected as one, each lantern shooting out golden-red energy beams, linking with each other.

Hundreds of lanterns wove together into a defensive net, continually moving skywards.

Lantern Divine Skill-Fire Cage Formation!

This massive defensive net seemed to have many "holes," but in fact, a light layer of golden-red energy covered the net, leaving no defense gaps.

"Oh?" Si Xianxian excitedly licked her lips, her desire for destruction surging.

She kept swinging the Mad Hammer, shadows of the hammer flung downward, bombarding the Fire Cage Formation relentlessly!

"Bang! Bang!"

"Booming..." The Fire Cage Formation trembled violently, seemingly on the brink of shattering.

The power of Si Xianxian's attacks had reached the Sea Grade level, and the Fire Cage Formation, able to withstand it, was undoubtedly also a Sea Grade skill.

In Langhua Village, there was only one Sea Realm·Lantern Believer, known as the so-called Young Master of Langhua.

At this moment, Lang Ziyi stood outside the Council Hall building, arms raised high, his expression extremely solemn.

Behind him, in the doorway, stood several men and women, including two middle-aged couples, dressed luxuriously, adorned in gold and silver, appearing sumptuous.

For Human Clan believers, especially after advancing to the River Realm, mundane things like gold and silver jewelry have little allure.

But there are exceptions!

If you are a Greedy Wolf believer, then the amplified greed would affect everything.

The man adorned in gold and silver looked about mid-forties, bearing a slight resemblance to the Village Chief of Wolf Bone, Lang Wu.

The woman appeared younger, seeming just over thirty.

Her face darkened severely, she barked, "All Lantern disciples, unleash the Divine Fire Magic Cage!

Seal that Fierce Heavenly believer, roast her immediately!"

"Yes!"

"As you command!" The three men and women cast their spells immediately.

Lantern Divine Skill·Divine Fire Magic Cage, is the River Realm's ultimate move for the Lantern Sect.

Believers can summon an eight-sided lantern, shooting out a sacred brilliant light, enveloping the enemy.

The enemy shrouded in light will experience immense suction, their body constantly shrinking, ultimately sealed within the eight-sided lantern, undergoing divine fire refining.

"Hoo!!"

Intense energy surged, three Lantern disciples rapidly manifesting exquisite lanterns in their hands.

"Whoosh~whoosh~" Just then, the sound of something cutting through the air streaked towards them.

The Village Chief of Langhua reacted swiftly, almost simultaneously turning to gaze.

His narrowed eyes widened suddenly!

Sea Grade Divine Skill·Wolf Perception allowed him to clearly catch sight of four white jade stones, rapidly flying with brilliant electric arcs flashing.

Jade Talisman Divine Skill·Electric Shackles Talisman?

To throw four white jade stones at once required a Sea Realm Great Power!

The Langhua Village Chief instinctively turned and fled swiftly.

He knew too well the coverage of the Electric Shackles Talisman, daring not to delay an instant.

Instinctive reactions can reveal one's true nature, and on this life-or-death battlefield, it can determine life or death!

Of course, seeking benefit and avoiding harm is human nature, nothing to fault.

But as the Langhua Village Chief ran two steps, he realized a problem: he should have taken his godson along!

Because Lang Ziyi knew the Purification Skill!

The Langhua Village Chief fled hastily, and the Greedy Wolf Divine Skill·Wolf Sensitivity ensured that including the Langhua Lady, the three Greedy Wolf disciples responded just as swiftly!

The abrupt retreat of their leader triggered a terrifying chain reaction.

The three Greedy Wolf disciples, including the Langhua Lady, took off trembling in fear!

The Village Chief was at the peak of the Sea Realm!

Even he retreated; what would you stand on? Your life?

Though appearing to follow the Village Chief's retreat, they were actually seeking their own safety in calamity.

Lang Ziyi and the three Lantern believers were left stranded here...

"Snap!"

The white jade stones shattered, rapidly expanding lightning domains.

Lang Ziyi's face froze!

The people gathered at the doorstep also changed color, the distance triggered by the Electric Shackles Talisman was far, yet currents almost instantly engulfed everyone.

The range of the Sea Grade·Electric Shackles Talisman was extremely extensive!

Not only the people at the door, even the massive Council Hall building was included entirely.

From the forest in front, a frosty beauty flew out rapidly, her body entwined by a Jade Talisman Formation, missing exactly 3 pieces of white jade stones.

Clearly, after throwing four Electric Shackles Talismans, she filled in her formation with another Electric Shackles Talisman, allowing her to move freely and unhindered through the lightning domain with the single white jade piece she retained.

"Stop, stop..." Lang Ziyi's body tingled, paralyzed by the four lightning domains, frozen in place, lips quivering.

Watching the white-dressed fairy wield her sword, Lang Ziyi's hands trembled, striving to cast spells with all his might.

Unexpectedly, the fairy did not thrust forward with her sword.

Before she flew to the doorway, eight Golden Jade Stone Plates suddenly spread around her.

The Golden Jade Eight Talismans autonomously sought enemies, pushing everyone aside, while the cold and elegant fairy charged straight into the council hall.

"Sss!"

The sword's edge pierced flesh!

In front of the great power of the Sea Realm, how could people of the River Realm have any chance of survival?

The absolute power of the Sea Realm, coupled with the sharpness of the Divine Weapon·Cold Night Sword, allowed Jiang Ruyi to directly pierce through the back of a River Realm·Greedy Wolf believer's head.

At this moment, Lang Ziyi, being of Sea Realm·Third Rank, finally pieced together a delicate fire cage beside his stiff and trembling hand.

The Divine Technique·Electric Shackles Talisman could numb the body and indeed bring great trouble to the enemy.

But essentially, the Electric Shackles Talisman controls the flesh of the target, not the Divine Power within the enemy.

To ensure the enemy cannot cast spells, additional power output is needed.

For instance, last night, on the high bone pile, the first moment Jiang Ruyi controlled the Lady of Wolf Bone, Lu Ran with Tethering Silk Pupil acted immediately...

"Hoo~"

Lantern Divine Skill·Holy Fire Cage!

The Holy Light eliminates all abnormal states of targets within the illuminated area.

The people at the doorway immediately "came back to life," the electric current dissipating from their bodies.

"Heh..."

"Ah!" Everyone gasped heavily, cold sweat streaming down their foreheads, feeling as if they had just returned from the Ghost Gate.

"Village Chief?" Lang Ziyi suddenly got up, holding the lantern as he went to the door, looking inside the hall.

The hall was filled with electric currents, and two bodies lay there.

The council hall had no back door, yet there were two extra openings on the wall deep inside the hall.

Presumably, they were smashed by the Village Chief and the Lady of Wolf Flower while escaping.

Amidst the endless electric currents, a cold and elegant fairy dressed in a white skirt, holding a Divine Sword dripping with blood, shattered the wall with an expanded Golden Jade Stone Plate and swiftly dashed out.

"Ziz~ Ziz..."

Suddenly, another Thunder Domain violently unfolded!

"Village..." Lang Ziyi's pupils slightly contracted.

The dense electric currents indeed obscured vision.

But through the door blasted open by the Golden Jade Talisman, he still vaguely witnessed an astonishing scene.

It was a heroic young man clad in a Black Gold Emperor Robe!

He was surrounded by a Jade Talisman Formation, hands gripping the hilt, the blade pointing down, still maintaining the posture of stabbing the ground.

This Thunder Domain was naturally unleashed by him.

Lang Ziyi's heart beat violently!

These two young Jade Talisman disciples were undoubtedly both from the Sea Realm!

And compared to ordinary Jade Talisman disciples, the presence of these two was excessively strong...

Divine-Lantern, was also a third-class god.

But after all, the Lantern Sect was an auxiliary sect, no matter how versatile the support methods were, they still had to bow in front of aggressive, hard-control sects like the Jade Talisman and Nuoshua.

"Crack!!"

The cold and elegant fairy reached forward with her jade hand, picked up a White Jade Stone Plate, and gently crushed it.

Another Thunder Domain arose!

She glanced back lightly, and the few floating Golden Jade Talismans around her immediately flew to the wall of the council hall, their size suddenly increasing.

The large Golden Jade Stone Plates blocked the openings in the walls, obscuring everyone's vision, as well as the purifying light of the Holy Fire Cage.

"Young Master?"

"This Sea Realm lord only kills Greedy Wolf disciples, perhaps she means no harm to us?"

"Stop dreaming, we... we better escape! She spares us because she wants us to submit to her and be used by her, just like the Village Chief of Wolf Flower..."

A few Lantern disciples trembled, looking at Lang Ziyi.

Lang Ziyi was about to speak when he suddenly perceived a drizzle of golden rain falling.

Just a moment ago, as the Thunder Domain unfolded, the faint golden beams had momentarily disappeared.

Lang Ziyi looked up and saw a man in a green cape and hat flying down, under the brim was a peerlessly handsome face.

"This must be Mr. Shangguan, right?" Yu Changsheng floated over, smiling and nodding at Lang Ziyi.

Seeing the Rain Requesting Carp floating beside the man in a cape, Lang Ziyi realized a horrifying truth!

The Village Chief and the Lady of Wolf Flower had probably been beheaded!

Otherwise, the man before him couldn't have activated the Divine Technique·Rain Requesting Carp.

This method was a perception technique, but also a purification technique!

But... could these people's speed in killing enemies really be so fast?

"I heard that Mr. Shangguan was forced to join Wolf Flower Village for the safety of the Lantern disciples."

Yu Changsheng stood before Lang Ziyi and continued: "Then you were forced to become an adopted son, enduring much grievance."

Lang Ziyi still sat in daze, stunned, looking at the dashing young gentleman before him.

The two parties were both auxiliary sects, both disciples under third-class gods, and both were Sea Realm great powers.

But the charisma and demeanor were as different as day and night.

After a long time, Lang Ziyi lowered his head as if resigning, with a self-mocking smile: "It can hardly be considered grievance, it was all for survival..."

Suddenly, a low young male voice came from behind:

"In the future, Mr. Shangguan, just follow me."

Lang Ziyi turned to look, not knowing when the Golden Jade Talismans blocking the wall had already moved aside.

At the opening stood a young man in an Emperor Robe, and the blade in his hand was still dripping blood.

Slowly, the Emperor Robe young man spoke again:

"With me, you and your brothers and sisters won't have to suffer."

...

Chapter 647: Unexpected news

The flames of war at Langhua Village calmed down quickly.

However, inside the Council Hall, Lang Ziyi's heart was restless and unpeaceful.

He held a beautifully crafted lantern in his hand, painting a layer of splendid gold-red light over the people below.

Lantern Divine Technique·Bright Fire Cage!

The caster can choose to envelop the target within the range of the light with a layer of defense shield according to their will.

"Enter." A cold voice came from the doorway.

Lang Ziyi turned his head to look, only to see a tall woman wearing a green cloak and hat gave him a faint glance.

"Ah!"

"Yes..." Another four Weak God Disciples stumbled inside.

When they saw several companions already present in the room and Lang Ziyi sitting in command, their hurried steps quickened once more.

"Young Master!"

"Young Master!" Enveloped in gold-red light, the four trembling Weak God Disciples felt slightly more relieved.

The auxiliary techniques of the Lantern Sect are particularly strong!

Just speaking of the defense technique·Bright Fire Cage, as long as the caster is a Sea Realm Great Power, all their teammates can possess Sea Grade level defense!

What kind of concept is this?

Lang Ziyi alone is a powerful defense system!

Having him by their side, Ran Sect's team's strength would rise qualitatively.

For people like Si Xianxian and Yan Shuangzi of the River Realm, their defense level would be directly elevated to the Sea Realm.

For people like Yu Changsheng and Deng Yuxiang of the Sea Realm, they would gain an extra life, with a Sea Grade armor on their body!

"Call Mr. Shangguan!"

A female disciple from the Lantern Sect reprimanded sternly, glaring fiercely at them, feeling both urgent and furious.

Are you idiots?

Don't you see these people are destroying Langhua Village? And still, you're calling "Langhua Young Master" here?

Are you afraid the people in cloaks won't kill us?

"Yes...yes!"

"Lord Shangguan..." The disciples shuddered, hurriedly admitting their mistake.

Lang Ziyi's mind was chaotic, he didn't say much, just gestured for everyone to remain quiet.

This sudden mysterious organization is powerful enough to cause despair.

It suffocates Lang Ziyi even more!

The Village Chief and Lady of Langhua Village, with just two Sea Realm·Greedy Wolf Disciples, were enough to control Lang Ziyi, forcing him to bow his noble head and accept them as his masters.

And in the troops attacking the village, a succession of Sea Realm Great Powers appeared!

With overwhelming power, they destroyed the filthy wolf den.

The supposedly elusive Greedy Wolf Disciples were found out by golden drizzle and scattered falling plum, and captured by sound positioning...

It's simply unbelievable!

These mysterious people even came from different sects?!

The unwritten rules within Holy Spirit Mountain seemed more like a rigid code.

The believers work for their own deities, having core interest conflicts with other sect disciples, coupled with the darkness, cruelty, and malice in the Mountain Realm, there is no sense of righteousness.

What kind of person could assemble such a troop?

Emperor Robe youth?

Lang Ziyi's mind flashed with the face of that heroic youth once again.

For the first time, Lang Ziyi had a concrete understanding of the phrase "Dragon Power and Phoenix Color".

The strength of the Jade Talisman Sect is indisputable.

Among the dozens of Divine sects in Da Xia, the Divine Believers specially singled out and labeled as "late-stage champions" are very few!

The Sea Realm, of course, is the so-called "late-stage", and the Jade Talisman Disciples are indeed very strong!

But the Emperor Robe youth doesn't seem to be a Jade Talisman Believer.

His aura, that overwhelming power, is it truly something a Jade Talisman disciple can possess?

Lang Ziyi even felt that the Emperor Robe youth should be a disciple of the Supreme Evil God·Evil Spear Emperor!

"Hoo..."

Lang Ziyi let out a deep sigh, striving to calm his emotions.

As a low-status member of the Human Clan, he had for the first time a rebellious thought:

Divine·Jade Talisman, unworthy of that Emperor Robe youth!

Lang Ziyi thought he was going mad...

"Boom!"

The sound of an explosion suddenly rang out, everyone inside the hall shivered collectively.

The phase of concentrated artillery fire had long passed, now the mysterious organization was clearing out the remnants of Langhua and searching for Weak God Disciples, only hearing a loud noise occasionally.

Sure enough, after the thunderous sound, the surroundings fell silent once more.

The oppressive atmosphere engulfed the Council Hall.

The bunch of Weak God Disciples were either in fear or sorrow, with some secretly sobbing.

An unknown fear tormented everyone's heart.

But they had no way to change the current situation, they could only stay and await the judgment of fate.

It's unclear how much time had passed...

Two figures walked in from the doorway.

Lang Ziyi immediately looked over and once again saw the Emperor Robe youth and the cold, beautiful fairy.

So, has everyone in Langhua Village been executed?

Lang Ziyi thought to himself, respectfully saying: "Sir, you're here."

The youth looked at the gold-red light flashing in the room, smiled: "It's quite festive."

Lang Ziyi's heart tightened, he hurriedly dispersed the Bright Fire Cage.

Despite being a Sea Realm, he lived in Langhua Village enduring the whims of others, honing his survival skills.

The Bright Fire Cage was meant to protect everyone from the flames of war.

Now that Langhua Village has been destroyed and the war has ended, why are you still using defense techniques in front of the young man in the Emperor Robe? What do you intend to express?

"A celebration is due. For you all, today is indeed a good day."

The young man spoke as he presented the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd.

As each believer was released, Jiang Ruyi counted them carefully and said softly, "Just right."

"Hmm." Lu Ran directly cast the Evil Mirror Magic.

Most people in the room lowered their heads, while Lang Ziyi clearly observed Lu Ran's casting process.

His eyes widened, and he was completely stunned.

It wasn't until several strangers emerged, addressing him as "Sect Leader" and "Lady," that Lang Ziyi came back to his senses.

Song Yu skillfully led the two Vice Hall Masters of Feixian Hall, bringing all the Weak God Disciples back to Cloud Sea Cliff.

Everyone turned to the Young Master of Langhua, seeking a bit of protection, wanting to stay by Lang Ziyi's side.

However, the Young Master remained silent.

Until 36 Weak God Disciples entered the territory, the Council Hall became somewhat empty, though there were still many people present.

Behind Lang Ziyi, there were still 13 Lantern Believers.

"You should go too; someone will explain everything," Lu Ran said.

His attitude wasn't stern, and his tone was even a bit gentle.

But the Second-rank Magical Artifact·Black Jade Tiger Talisman ran rampant, lending an air of undisputed authority to his words.

"Gulp."

"I..." Most people followed orders to leave, though two or three remained behind Lang Ziyi, their faces pale and heads bowed deeply.

Lu Ran looked at Lang Ziyi: "Mr. Shangguan, there's no need to worry. Life behind the mirror will be a hundred times better than in Langhua Village."

"All of you, go," Lang Ziyi directly commanded.

At this point, none had the right to resist.

While walking, a few glanced back at Lang Ziyi with pleading eyes.

Taking a step and looking back thrice.

Lu Ran: "..."

Next time, when accepting believers, it would be better to summon Hall Master Song in advance to give a talk and ease everyone's concerns.

Lu Ran thought silently, but he didn't think the speech would have much effect.

In this region, people are naturally hostile towards each other.

No matter how eloquent the speech is, it's better to let people experience it first-hand.

"Whoosh~"

Lu Ran dispersed the Ancient Bronze Mirror, walked over to a chair, and sat down heavily: "Mr. Shangguan, what's your real name?"

"Shangguan Hongfu."

Lang Ziyi responded in a low voice, revealing a name buried for a long time.

"Oh?" Lu Ran blinked, smiling as he looked at the man, "That's a great name, sounds lucky at first glance."

Shangguan Hongfu's eyes darkened, and his smile was somewhat forced.

Lu Ran understood his expression and added, "In a place like Holy Spirit Mountain, being able to protect yourself and your fellow disciples is not easy."

Honestly, anyone seeing Shangguan Hongfu for the first time would think he lives a life of comfort, completely unrelated to the word "suffering"!

Shangguan Hongfu was of medium build, with fair skin and a square face, looking dignified and imposing.

He wore a luxurious embroidered robe, pale purple with golden patterns.

Overall, he looked very much like a royal noble from ancient times, full of grandeur!

"Thank you for the compliment," Shangguan Hongfu replied modestly.

"In the future, just call me Sect Leader."

"Yes," Shangguan Hongfu replied immediately.

Lu Ran smiled and said, "No need to be so formal, Mr. Shangguan. Meeting each other today is also a matter of fortune for both of us.

As we roam Holy Spirit Mountain in the future, our situations will only improve."

Shangguan Hongfu remained humble, bowing his head: "I hope I don't disappoint the Sect Leader's expectations."

Lu Ran and Jiang Ruyi exchanged glances.

This great support from the Sea Realm was truly disciplined by the Langhua Village Chief.

Lu Ran didn't waste his breath recruiting, nor did Shangguan Hongfu set any conditions. He didn't even inquire about the Ran Sect, just followed Lu Ran.

Clearly a king of the Sea Realm, yet he lowered his stature so much.

Hmm... come to think of it.

At this moment, Lu Ran was no longer the same as when he recruited Yu Changsheng.

He and his Ran Sect had thoroughly improved.

Jiang Ruyi stood behind Lu Ran's chair and said softly, "I heard that Mr. Shangguan is of the Middle Sea Realm?"

"Reply to the Lady, I am of the Third Rank Sea Realm."

Jiang Ruyi nodded satisfactorily, recognizing that his history showed good character, and combined with his strong abilities, he could naturally be of use to the Ran Sect.

"Please sit, sir, and tell us your story." Lu Ran leaned forward, pulled a chair for Jiang Ruyi, and suddenly remembered something, "By the way, have you ever encountered any Immortal Sheep Believers in this realm?"

Shangguan Hongfu shook his head.

He had almost forgotten about the Immortal Sheep Sect after being in the mountain for so long.

How could such disciples appear here...

Lu Ran asked a few more questions, specifically describing Elder Cheng, but the answer was still negative.

Lu Ran wasn't discouraged, since he hadn't held much hope to begin with. "What about Dust Shadow Disciples?" he asked.

"Eight-class God·Dust Shadow Flower?" Shangguan Hongfu looked at Lu Ran.

"Yes, a male disciple named Qin Yanzhi, in his mid-twenties, around 1.8 meters tall..." Lu Ran still didn't hold much hope, asking as a formality.

Shangguan Hongfu pondered for a moment, nodded, and said, "I have seen such a Dust Shadow Disciple."

"Ah?" Lu Ran was a bit stunned.

"Thinking back, that Dust Shadow male believer resembles your description, Sect Leader."

"Ah??"

.....

Chapter 648: Qianhua Ridge?

So I can finally pay for my meals?

Could that Dust Shadow Believer be the childhood friend of the Wang Quan believer, Li Rouyin?

Lu Ran was deeply moved and immediately inquired.

Shangguan Hongfu knew everything without reservation: "It's been about two or three years since that encounter. At that time, I was living apprehensively within Qianhua Ridge."

"Qianhua Ridge?"

"Qianhua Ridge is located to the south, about three hundred to five hundred kilometers from here, named for its abundance of strange flowers and herbs."

Shangguan Hongfu paused, then continued: "A few years ago, Qianhua Ridge was occupied by the Poison Bee Sect and the Spiritual Image Sect."

We, the Lantern Believers disciples, depended on the Qianhua Gang to survive under their rule.

I recall once when I was out collecting Holy Spirit Energy, I saw a Dust Shadow Believer among the flowers."

Lu Ran raised an eyebrow slightly.

Third-class God · Poison Bee!

Third-class God · Spiritual Image!

Both belong to the 'Eight Great Heavenly Demons' series, along with beasts like Mountain Lord, Sky Phoenix, Greedy Wolf, Dragon Carp, etc.

Their combat power is quite remarkable!

It's just that Rain Alley City is too small, and there are none of these believers in the Moon Gazer troop.

Shangguan Hongfu continued: "That man was very young and had a clean appearance. Upon seeing us, he activated the Other Shore Flower and transmitted away."

Lu Ran: "..."

That's it?

Didn't even say a word?

Shangguan Hongfu understood Lu Ran's expression and said in embarrassment: "That young man was very cautious, not giving anyone the chance to approach or communicate, and left promptly."

Jiang Ruyi asked: "Since you were part of the Qianhua Gang, why did you flee here?"

Shangguan Hongfu: "There were eight Spiritual believers in the Qianhua Gang. One morning, all eight drew bad fortunes.

Without exception, eight bad fortunes."

Lu Ran slightly frowned.

For Divine-Spiritual Sign, this cursed being, he loathed him to the extreme.

But Lu Ran couldn't deny that his predictions were incredibly accurate!

Shangguan Hongfu: "That day, the Qianhua Gang was divided into two factions; one advocated leaving, the other was reluctant to leave their familiar home and wanted to continue guarding Qianhua Ridge."

Jiang Ruyi nodded lightly, because the so-called "bad fortune" covered a wide range.

The Spiritual believers could not specify what was going to happen, only predicting the day's luck.

Jiang Ruyi elegantly overlapped her legs, her delicate hands resting on her legs, playing with her fingers, and said calmly:

"Did you advocate leaving?"

Shangguan Hongfu didn't respond.

He never took a seat, and also hung his head lower.

Jiang Ruyi was silent for a moment, then softly said: "Mr. Shangguan need not be like this; the predictions of the Spiritual Sign Sect are precise, and you were only acting to stay alive."

At the words, Shangguan Hongfu breathed a sigh of relief.

The cold and beautiful fairy sitting before him, although very young, exerted an overwhelming pressure.

To Shangguan Hongfu, the pair of men and women in front of him were akin to the Village Chief and the Lady of Langhua Village.

Both were Sect leaders.

Such people consider issues from a different angle than ordinary folks.

No matter if Qianhua Ridge and the Qianhua Gang would face extinction, Shangguan Hongfu's action was leading the brothers and sisters away from the gang.

"What happened to Qianhua Gang?" Lu Ran asked, "Is it still there?"

"I fear the worst." Shangguan Hongfu shook his head, "That day, Qianhua Ridge descended into chaos, unable to reach a unified opinion.

When I led others and some teams left, it was already too late."

Lu Ran curiously asked: "What do you mean by too late?"

Shangguan Hongfu smiled bitterly: "We encountered the Wusheng Sect."

Lu Ran: "..."

That indeed was too late.

How could Third-class God believers compete with First-class God disciples?

Nominally, everyone is a disciple of strong gods.

If a real fight breaks out, wouldn't the Wusheng Sect slaughter through Qianhua Ridge?

Shangguan Hongfu continued: "Fortunately, they were not many in number, and our groups scattered and fled. I was lucky to escape."

Lu Ran: "Then, did you lead your team all the way north and get captured by the Village Chief of Langhua Village?"

Shangguan Hongfu silently nodded.

Lu Ran's eyes showed a hint of pity.

Clearly a Great Power in the Sea Realm, and an extremely supportive Lantern Believer, yet he ended up this displaced and anxious.

Hold on!

Shangguan Hongfu first was a member of Qianhua Gang, then of Langhua Village.

Both gangs faced catastrophe.

Now, Shangguan Hongfu has become a member of Ran Sect...

By routine,

next, it should be Ran Sect's turn to be wiped out?

Lu Ran's face turned strange as he looked at the man named "Hongfu" before him.

Jiang Ruyi spoke: "From now on, you need not wander anymore."

What we promised you, we will strive to do our best. Entering Ran Sect won't let your brothers and sisters suffer again.

You must also settle down and be loyal to your Sect Leader."

"Yes, Lady."

Shangguan Hongfu's expression was solemn. He tidied his fine robe and made a grand salute with utmost formality.

Lu Ran immediately got up to help.

Though he was a bit flustered inside.

But putting aside the messy thoughts, Lu Ran was still very happy to be able to recruit a champion of support.

From now on, the Ran Sect members' error tolerance will be even higher.

Yu Changsheng main healing, secondary perception purification, Shangguan Hongfu main defense, secondary healing control...

Two major Sea Realm assistants stand in the team!

Isn't Xian'er sister going to be free to run wild?

The Mad Xian'er just needs to swing the hammer!

The two great helpers are responsible for reporting, healing, purifying, controlling, deploying defense shields...

Just thinking about it, Lu Ran feels great for Xian'er sister!

Lu Ran pressed Shangguan Hongfu down onto a chair beside him and sighed, "Looks like we need to head south and check out Qianhua Ridge."

Shangguan Hongfu cautiously reminded, "Sect Leader, we don't know what force occupies Qianhua Ridge now. What if it's the Wusheng Sect..."

Lu Ran laughed and sat back down on his chair, "Even if it's the Yin Flower Dan tribe there, I have to take a look."

Finally getting some information, there's no way he'd let it slip away.

If there are still people inside Qianhua Ridge, maybe they have seen the Dust Shadow Believer?

Shangguan Hongfu hesitated for a long time, looking at the imperial-robed youth with immense power, and in the end, he didn't dare say anything more.

Jiang Ruyi whispered, "Both Wolf Bone Village and Wolf Flower Village are destroyed. We can return to Cloud Sea Cliff for a short rest."

"Mm." Lu Ran nodded in agreement.

It's time to go back, recruit the Weak God disciples as believers, and also activate the Greedy Wolf and Thousand Bone Divine Sculptures.

Vigorously enhance my strength!

Shangguan Hongfu remained silent, but inside, his heart was in turmoil.

He was still organizing his words, thinking about telling the Sect Master about Wolf Flower Village Chief's brother, the Wolf Bone Village Chief.

Yet... is it true that Wolf Bone Village has already been wiped out?

The Wolf Bone Village Chief and his two wives, three great Sea Realm powers, all beheaded?

"Don't forget to ask the Eight Desolate Blade, see how far those people have gone." Jiang Ruyi reminded thoughtfully.

Lu Ran immediately transmitted a thought, inquiring about it.

After a while, Lu Ran looked at Jiang Xian'er, "Rest assured, they are far away from us!

We spent only two days at Wolf Bone and Wolf Flower."

The Ran Sect members fought continuously, during which many things happened.

But in reality, Wolf Bone Village was destroyed yesterday, and Wolf Flower Village was taken down today!

Counting the days, not even two full days, the opposition hasn't gone very far.

"That's good." Jiang Ruyi nodded lightly.

Shangguan Hongfu listened quietly, although he didn't know what the two were discussing, he heard enough to discern the trajectory of Ran Sect's operations!

Two days, two villages?

Shangguan Hongfu paused, his heart filled more with bitterness than astonishment.

Whether it's Wolf Flower Village or Wolf Bone Village, they were places he could never escape in his lifetime, prisons that ordinary disciples could never break free from.

Yet, these young people had lightly trampled everything.

Following them, whether life would be good or not is still unknown.

But certainly, escaping their control seems impossible...

After a long silence, Shangguan Hongfu respectfully called, "Sect Leader."

"Hmm?"

"The first wife of Wolf Bone Village chief visited here, and just returned yesterday."

"Oh, we encountered that lunatic last night." Lu Ran grinned, "Good grief! She was truly vicious, sacrificed all her attendants!

The Thousand Bone Altar piled up to the sky."

Shangguan Hongfu: "..."

Jiang Ruyi looked at Lu Ran with a half-smile, feeling that this scene was somewhat familiar.

Acting again?

Lu Ran stood up and said, "Let's go plunder the village, complete the mission early, and return to Cloud Sea Cliff sooner."

While the Eight Desolate Blade's opponents are still far away, I can take the opportunity to initiate the Divine Sculpture.

Divine Sculpture upgrades take time.

Just as well, this gives the new disciples some time to buffer and digest.

Elder Bai can also give them lessons for two days.

Once I've cleared my mind, I can directly sign contracts with the disciples.

Lu Ran thought to himself as he walked towards the depths of the council hall.

He activated a transmission mirror with one hand and lifted a beautifully carved, grand, and magnificent village chief's chair with the other, stuffing it into the mirror.

The Greedy Wolf sect truly seeks luxury, that chair is gorgeous!

This craftsmanship far exceeds Xun Yifei's level ~

Later, I'll make another trip to Wolf Bone Village, empty out the second lady's mansion, distribute it to the protectors and Divine generals, improve their quality of life.

As for that garden...

Forget it.

The sea of flowers, while beautiful, with Leng Xushuang now part of the Ran Sect, may bring back painful memories if she sees it.

Thus, Lu Ran joined the plundering team.

By noon, Lu Ran left Shadow One and Shadow Two to accompany the Eight Desolate Blade and guard Wolf Flower Village, then led the team back to Cloud Sea Cliff.

It is worth mentioning that Lu Ran gave the two divine weapon daggers of Wolf Flower Village Chief to the Shadow Guard Team.

Now, this elite team of Lu Ran's is armed to the teeth.

The two village chiefs, Langwen and Langwu, had two obsidian divine weapon daggers each, now held by Shadow One and Shadow Two respectively.

Pitiful Shadow Three has been stationed at Cloud Sea Cliff all this time, getting nothing ~

Hmm... when her two sisters return, let them show some mercy and give her one, shall we?

The divine Black Ice short blade of the Wolf Flower Lady was given to Yan Shuangzi by Lu Ran.

This is made of Black Ice!

She already has a Black Ice Evil Moon Scimitar, and pairing it with a Black Ice Evil Moon Short Blade is a perfect match.

"Thank you for your hard work, go rest now, I need to close up and cultivate for two days."

In front of the small courtyard of Cloud Sea Residence, Lu Ran dismissed everyone, turned, and walked towards the residence.

Greedy Wolf Divine Sculpture!

Thousand Bone Divine Sculpture!

Here I come~

...

Chapter 649: more Divine Skills!

Give up resisting, I'm an idiot.

Following this principle, Lu Ran activated the Greedy Wolf and Thousand Bone Divine Sculpture, then lay on the bed with a vacant gaze, completely emptying his mind.

The time consumed by the Divine Sculpture upgrade wasn't far from what Lu Ran expected.

The Thousand Bone Divine Sculpture only vibrated for a day and a half, stopping at the Sea Realm, First Rank.

The Greedy Wolf Divine Sculpture, on the other hand, raced along until the third morning, reaching the Sea Realm, Third Rank, before stopping.

As expected of the Greedy Wolf brothers who've occupied the village for over a decade, they've gathered a lot of Holy Spirit Energy!

"Hmm..." Lu Ran let out a low nasal sound, blinking hard.

In a daze, he realized he wasn't lying on the bed.

Instead, he was sitting at the head of the bed, leaning against a soft embrace.

The back of his head and temples were even being gently massaged by fingers.

Lu Ran hesitated for a moment, then closed his eyes again, his body soft and cuddly as he nestled comfortably in his fiancée's arms.

"Ha." Jiang Ruyi couldn't hold back her laughter, pressing down a bit harder with her fingers in punishment, "Awake, still pretending to be confused?"

How thick is Ran Dog's skin?

Even though he was slightly embarrassed, he still clung to Jiang Fairy's embrace, pretending he didn't hear anything.

"Hmm?" The lady lowered her head, looking at Lu Ran's profile with a smile, letting out a slightly rising nasal sound.

"Huh?" Lu Ran couldn't keep up the act, putting on a bewildered look and opening his eyes.

Just at the next moment, he wasn't confused anymore.

Because Jiang Fairy's fingers moved down, pinched his cheek, and pulled slightly.

"Hey? No, no, no..."

"Hmph." Jiang Ruyi snorted, releasing that thick-skinned face, "Are the Stone Sculptures all stabilized?"

"Yes, they're stable." Lu Ran sat up straight, muttering under his breath, "Stingy."

Jiang Ruyi leaned against the head of the bed, looking at Lu Ran with amusement.

Suddenly, Lu Ran made a big turn of his head!

What is a "big turn of the head"?

degrees!

Meaning, Lu Ran was still facing away from Jiang Ruyi, but his face was facing Jiang Ruyi directly.

For ordinary people, their necks would've been broken!

But for the Thousand Bone disciples, this was nothing at all.

Thousand Bone Divine Technique · Thousand Bone Body!

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

Lu Ran blinked his eyes: "When we return to the Human World, let's go scare some people for fun~"

Jiang Ruyi tilted her head slightly, seemingly with a question mark above it.

Lu Ran chuckled: "Just think! I'm walking in the dark alley of Rain Alley City, walking, walking, and suddenly a big turn of the head!"

Randomly scare a passerby behind to death!

"Haha~" Jiang Ruyi couldn't help but laugh.

She reached out to stroke his cheek, pinching it again: "You are already in the Sea Realm, no need to turn your head, people will instinctively fear and tremble beside you."

"I am so gentle, I can hide this imposing presence, right?" Lu Ran said this way, yet he wasn't so sure himself inside.

As he spoke, Lu Ran turned his head once more.

Not turning back the way he came, but making a 360-degree turn from where he was, facing forward again.

That scene, just looking at it made one's teeth ache!

Ever since Lu Ran had the Divine Technique · Thousand Bone Body, this skeleton in his body wasn't the kind of bones people usually thought of anymore.

The bones could be reassembled and rotated at will.

Based on the special skeleton, everything in this flesh and blood body, including the skin, muscles, and internal organs, received a certain degree of protection.

This physique,

is too suitable for being abused!

Honestly, during the Fifteenth Night of the Human World, when the Evil Demons invaded, if the Human Clan troops really encountered unbeatable evil demons, like Tangled Silk Shadow or Rou Paperman or something like that...

Just send them a Thousand Bone believer to play with first~

After all, these kinds of evil demons are looking to torture people, to slowly torture them to death, eating up their negative emotions, not just killing them directly.

During that time, the Moon Gazers could resolve other battles, and then come to the rescue of the Thousand Bone disciples...

"Rattle rattle~"

With the crisp sound of bones, Lu Ran turned his head back, tilting his neck left and right.

No big deal!

Lu Ran clicked his tongue in admiration, turning his head once more to look behind him.

Jiang Ruyi leaned lazily against the head of the bed, raising an eyebrow slightly, unsure what new trick he wanted to play.

She actually enjoyed this scene very much.

Just felt like Lu Ran was a child who got a new toy, especially happy.

In Jiang Ruyi's sight, Lu Ran turned his head 180 degrees, then his upper body also turned 180 degrees.

Then it was his waist and both legs...

Jiang Ruyi timely advised: "The Thousand Bone Body needs to be actively activated, don't forget that."

Lu Ran was speechless.

Am I a fool?

Lu Ran remembered something, saying: "Even if I forget to activate it, as long as I don't die immediately when I'm broken, and activate the Thousand Bone Body right away, it's fine."

Jiang Ruyi nodded gently: "That's what I meant."

Many Thousand Bone believers died miserably because they were overconfident and lost the necessary sense of awe."

"Got it, Ms. Genius." Lu Ran nodded repeatedly, looking all obedient.

Jiang Ruyi smiled and glared at Lu Ran: "The Bone Prison and Yin Bone Curse are both pretty good, use them more often in the future."

The Bone Prison can not only imprison people, Lu Ran can also control the thick bone walls to crush the prisoners inside.

It's a good means to capture people.

The Yin Bone Curse is even insidiously boundless!

It directly curses people, causing their bones to decay, slowing their movements, until they're completely immobilized.

Thinking about it carefully, this kind of death is quite despairing.

If the Divine Technique · Thousand Bone Body can bless the bones within the body, spreading blessings to the flesh...

So, Divine Technique-Yin Bone Curse also uses a cursed skeleton to radiate the enemy's flesh and blood!

The enemy is clearly a twenty or thirty-year-old, strong and healthy believer, yet they are corrupted by Lu Ran's curse, accelerating the decay!

Gradually becoming a seventy or eighty-year-old, on the brink of death, aged body...

Who wouldn't be devastated?

Thankfully, this technique takes effect slowly!

If the enemy leaves the battlefield or slays the Thousand Bone believers, they can successfully dispel the curse.

If this technique worked a little faster, Divine Thousand Bone would probably be able to bump into the sequence of a First-class God!

Jiang Ruyi asked again, "What levels are these two Divine Sculptures?"

"Thousand Bone is First Rank in the Sea Realm, Greedy Wolf is Third Rank in the Sea Realm."

As Lu Ran spoke, his figure suddenly vanished.

Jiang Ruyi was originally looking at Lu Ran, but now her gaze passed right through and saw the exquisite eight-foot-high screen in the distance.

The screen, with red wood as the frame, is classic and elegant, with carvings of mountains, rivers, flowers, and birds, lifelike.

It was captured from Langhua Village.

After that, the bedroom was no longer unobstructed, upon entering, the classical screen covered the interior, the bed area.

Jiang Ruyi tried to focus on the air in front of her, seeing no signs of any living presence.

Lu Ran disappeared so thoroughly; it wasn't just simple invisibility!

The scent on his body, the energy fluctuations within him, including the terrifying pressure specific to Yangyang Sea, all vanished without a trace.

Greedy Wolf Divine Technique-Wolf Concealment!

Greedy Wolf Sect is a rare sect without any River Realm Techniques among the third-class Gods.

Without a big move, Greedy Wolf can still be among the third row, showing how strong its "small skills" are!

"Hmm?" Jiang Ruyi suddenly lowered her eyes and looked at the bedside.

Lu Ran is invisible, not voidified.

He has a physical body!

Jiang Ruyi leaned against the headboard and saw the quilt beside her leg indented, and also saw the quilt beside her waist slightly indented.

Someone's silent antics were betrayed by the soft quilt revealing their movement track.

Jiang Ruyi naturally knew he was right in front of her.

Just as she thought about reaching out, she felt a soft touch on her lips.

"Mm." Jiang Ruyi slightly widened her eyes.

Gradually, her cheeks showed a hint of blush, she reached out to hold the invisible face before her:
"You, you come out... Mm."

"Hehe~" After a while, she was released, and a teasing laugh was heard by her ear.

Jiang Ruyi was a bit shy and annoyed, biting her lower lip.

She really wanted to smash an ice Frost Talisman, freeze someone's body, and paint it with frost and snow.

Lu Ran finally appeared, sitting shoulder to shoulder with her at the headboard, murmuring: "Now, I can silently carry out assassinations."

Jiang Ruyi gently exhaled, speaking softly: "Wolf Concealment can hide your aura in your normal existence state.

Once you use other skills, the Divine Power fluctuations can't be hidden."

The shift in tone caught Lu Ran somewhat off guard.

He looked at Jiang Xianzi's delicate profile, carefully asking: "You're... angry?"

Jiang Ruyi said discontentedly: "Let me see you next time."

If it weren't for the fact that there were only two people in the bedroom, she would really have blown up...

After pondering for a moment, Lu Ran also became serious: "I promise, I won't invisibly approach you anymore. If there's a task requirement, I will inform you in advance.

If I don't inform you and you detect an invisible person approaching, act directly, kill without mercy!"

Looking at Lu Ran's serious demeanor, Jiang Ruyi lightly nodded: "Alright."

"Alright, don't be mad anymore!" Lu Ran tilted his body, gently nudging her shoulder.

"Hmm." Jiang Xianzi got up out of bed, "Your head has been buzzing for several days, take a good rest, sleep a bit. I'm going to Feixian Hall to check things out."

Lu Ran asked: "How are the disciples, have they adapted to the new environment?"

"Quite well, they're not as terrified now, very grateful, and well-behaved." Jiang Ruyi said elegantly while arranging her skirt.

She suddenly remembered something and said: "Do you want to accept those thirteen Lantern disciples?"

"Hmm..." Lu Ran paused in thought.

Now, the two have a deeper understanding of the operation mode of Holy Spirit Mountain.

After the believers within the mountain die, Gods will most likely select believers from the Human World to fill them in, continue collecting Holy Spirit Energy.

Previously, after Lu Ran and others destroyed Tiantu Mountain, Jiang Ruyi was filled in.

After the two reunited at Ten Thousand Blade Mountain, they talked in detail about this matter and found that the timing matched!

Back to now, sister Yuanxi is a Lantern disciple!

Lu Ran doesn't know sister Yuanxi's strength, can she catch the eye of Divine-Lantern lord?

There are indeed countless Lantern believers in the Human World, strong ones are endless, it might not fall to Qiao Yuansi to enter the mountain.

And the Lantern believers within Holy Spirit Mountain can die at any time.

All of these are beyond Lu Ran's control.

But...

As long as Lu Ran doesn't allow his Lantern believers to tear up the contract, these 13 people firmly occupy 13 slots!

No, it's 14!

There's also Shangguan Hongfu.

Seeing Lu Ran's contemplation, Jiang Ruyi softly said: "It's better to keep them, the defense Divine Technique of Lantern Sect is good, very suitable for garrisoning Cloud Sea Cliff.

During New Year's and festivals, let them light some lanterns, decorate Cloud Sea Cliff a bit, it can also make Ran Sect disciples happier."

Lu Ran looked at Jiang Ruyi, smiling and nodding: "Sure."

Indifferent as she is, she wouldn't care much.

Lu Ran knew very well, she also doesn't want Qiao Yuansi to enter the mountain, doesn't want him to be constantly worried.

Even though, mere dozen Lantern disciples can only be considered a drop in the bucket.

Chapter 650: First Anniversary

January 19.

This is a special day, marking the one-year anniversary since Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang entered the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

At this moment, they are both in the Feixian Hall.

Deng Yuxiang leans against the smoothly polished stone wall, her gaze glancing over the devout figures, looking deep into the hall at the youth standing in midair.

No matter how many times she sees that Black Gold Emperor Robe, it never gets old to her.

She has to admit, the Sect Leader's wife has decent taste.

"One year..."

Deng Yuxiang sighs inwardly, glancing around Feixian Hall.

Nearly two hundred disciples of the Ran Sect, one after another, as if protectors capable of destroying heavens and earth.

Who would have thought that when they first arrived in this realm, the two were chased down and fled miserably, with only each other to depend upon...

Reflecting on those tough times, Deng Yuxiang felt quite sentimental.

Now, it seems he has everything.

Great power, loyal subordinates.

Devout disciples, a peaceful and harmonious sect home.

Staying in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm doesn't seem to be a bad idea?

Deng Yuxiang raises her eyes, looking deep into the hall at the youth floating between two huge stone sculptures.

Suddenly, the youth looks back, their gazes intertwine.

"What's wrong, sister?" Lu Ran asks, puzzled.

"Nothing."

"Then why were you staring at me?"

"Heh." Deng Yuxiang smirks, "Why, is the Sect Leader feeling shy?"

Lu Ran: ?

What kind of talk is this!

Who has skin as thick as mine... eh, why am I insulting myself?

Lu Ran instinctively wants to scratch his head but forcefully restrains, after all, the hall is packed, he should maintain the dignity of the Sect Leader.

"Sign the contracts, the disciples are getting impatient." The voice of the Big Nightmare echoed in his mind again.

"Oh." Lu Ran slowly descends, heading to the left phalanx.

Just like last time, Lu Ran provided disciples with two choices: Jade Talisman and Lie Tian.

At this moment, the combined 68 Weak God disciples from Wolf Bone Village and Langhua Village have all chosen.

It proves that the Fierce Heavenly Sect is indeed more favored!

Even though Lu Ran clearly informed everyone that the Divine Technique·Fiery Fire Sky Leader has been sealed by him, only to be unlocked in life-and-death crises at Cloud Sea Cliff.

Yet, the Weak God disciples still flock towards the Fierce Heavenly Sect.

Lu Ran can hardly imagine if any sect dared attack Cloud Sea Cliff....

Ran Sect, nearly a hundred Lie Tian disciples, move together!

Each unleashing Fiery Fire Sky Leader, it'll be a barrage of heavy bombardment!

Who could withstand it?

"Thank you, Sect Leader, thank you..."

As Lu Ran signed the contracts with the disciples, voices of gratitude kept echoing, often accompanied by sobs and tears.

One for defying fate, another for stable refuge.

Each offering Lu Ran provides the disciples is granting them a new life.

Deng Yuxiang frowns slightly at Lu Ran's expression, realizing his heavy heart, immediately shouts sternly:

"Silence!"

Feixian Hall instantly falls into a silent hush.

Lu Ran remains silent, signing contracts with sect members one by one.

When the abstract concept of suffering materializes into one tear-streaked face after another, who can feel content?

The multitude,

The agony of divine spirits have persisted for long...

Until the contract with the last disciple is completed, Lu Ran promptly leaves Feixian Hall.

Walking out of the hall, sunlight bathes over him.

Forest breeze brings the scent of the sea, brushing his face, making Lu Ran feel much more relaxed.

"It's quite nice." A woman's voice suddenly calls from behind.

"Hm?" Lu Ran turns his head, seeing a radiant face.

Deng Yuxiang smiles, looking at Lu Ran's solemn appearance: "Compassion, empathy.

You're still concerned, treating others as people."

Lu Ran snorts coldly, stubbornly: "Each of you is more cold-blooded than the last, if I don't cushion things a bit, this life will be unbearable."

"What are you two chatting about?" A clear voice interrupts casually, undoubtedly another aloof presence.

"Big Nightmare is praising me." Lu Ran casually remarks, "Says I've got the heart of a Bodhisattva."

Deng Yuxiang remains noncommittal, turning respectfully: "Lady."

If there were only three people present, she wouldn't use this title.

At this time, Leng Xushuang had already "taken up duty," closely following behind Jiang Ruyi.

"Hm." Jiang Ruyi nods, stepping forward to take Lu Ran's arm, "Going to the Council Hall now?"

This was prearranged; after the Sect Leader receives disciples, a small meeting with Ran Sect's upper echelon is to follow.

"Let's go."

When Lu Ran arrives at the Council Hall, he finds its interior set up quite differently.

Deep inside, there's a remarkable seat, it used to be the Wolf Bone Village Chief's throne, solemn and grand.

In front of the throne is a thick desk with an antique feel.

Beside and slightly behind the desk lies Jiang Ruyi's seat, though slightly smaller in size.

Below the hall, two rows of seats are lined on each side.

These exquisite seats come from both Langhua Village and Wolf Bone Village, indeed elevating Ran Sect's prestige quite a bit.

"This?" Lu Ran stands at the door, already not recognizing his own Council Hall.

He never ordered the hall's style to change, so this must be Jiang Ruyi's handiwork.

"What's the matter?" Jiang Ruyi asks with a smile.

Lu Ran smiles as well: "Why didn't you hang a 'Justice Hangs from a High Place' plaque for me?"

Place a box of verdict slips on the desk, some inscribed with 'Execution by Decree?'"

"Get out." Jiang Ruyi scoffs lightly, leading him inside.

Lu Ran waits a while in the hall, as protectors, Divine Generals, Hall Masters all gather.

He was hoping to catch some excitement.

But everyone orderly found their own places.

"Alright, let's commence!" Lu Ran elbows resting on the desk, supporting his face with his hand, "Esteemed Great Powers, any grievances to air?"

A gentle laughter came from below the hall, but no one got up to complain.

Lu Ran's gaze swept over the crowd and finally settled on Shangguan Hongfu.

Shangguan Hongfu, being a master of observation, immediately stood up, awaiting orders.

Lu Ran slowly said, "In this session of disciple recruitment, I didn't make the 13 Lantern Disciple change sects. They possess excellent healing skills and have previously shown care for the Weak God disciples at Wolf Flower Village.

Now that Ran Sect members have increased, I plan to establish a Medical Hall with the Lantern disciple overseeing it.

"Mr. Shangguan, how do you feel about being the Hall Master?"

Shangguan Hongfu was momentarily surprised, then bowed gratefully:

"I'll follow the arrangement of Sect Master."

Shangguan Hongfu was indeed somewhat surprised, after all, he had previously told Lu Ran about his experiences at Qianhua Ridge.

Earlier he thought Lu Ran would recruit those 13 Lantern Disciples.

But Lu Ran didn't force anyone.

After the disciple recruitment ceremony today, Shangguan Hongfu thought that this loyal group of brothers and sisters following him would be spread out and assigned to various halls.

Unexpectedly, Lu Ran still kept the 13 together.

Even allowing Shangguan Hongfu, the team leader, to personally lead?

Shangguan Hongfu felt the trust of the Sect Master, and more so the confidence of the Sect Master!

"I promised you, Mr. Shangguan, not to let you and your brothers and sisters suffer." Lu Ran looked at Shangguan Hongfu.

Surprised, ashamed, grateful.

The subtle expressions and glances of others naturally couldn't escape those observant eyes.

Lu Ran smiled briefly and sighed softly, "Life at Holy Spirit Mountain is so difficult, it's better for close individuals to stay together.

Don't separate."

"Thank you, Sect Master!" Shangguan Hongfu expressed gratitude.

"What should the Medical Hall be named?" Lu Ran rested his chin on his hand, suddenly rekindling the feeling of sitting in a classroom at a school desk.

Xinglin Hall?

Huichun Hall?

Cloud Sea Cliff First People's Hospital?

"Sect Master." From the first seat on the right, Yu Changsheng stood up.

"Does Mr. Yu have any good ideas?" Lu Ran perked up.

"How about Fushou Hall?" Yu Changsheng lightly shook a paper fan, "The 'Fu' from Mr. Shangguan's name, combined with 'Shou', embodies our Ran Sect's beautiful aspiration."

"Not bad." Lu Ran nodded repeatedly, "That's settled! This Fushou Hall will be managed by Mr. Cong Long."

"Yes!" Yu Changsheng nodded in agreement.

The four Great Protectors of Ran Sect, now each has their own division.

Demon Control Hall, Feixian Hall, Fushou Hall, Shadow Guard Team.

The Shadow Guard Team is an exception with no Hall Master, as for the other three halls...

Hall Masters should consult their own Lord Guardians for matters!

Don't bother the Sect Master.

Incredibly busy~

Lu Ran gave a few more instructions, checked on everyone's current situation, and intended to adjourn the meeting.

At this moment, Luo Ying stepped forward, "Sect Master."

"Divine General Luo?" Lu Ran looked at the young mother.

Luo Ying requested, "I wish to bring the children to reside at Cloud Sea Cliff, I wonder if..."

"Sure!" Lu Ran was somewhat surprised but nodded immediately.

Luo Ying felt warmth in her heart seeing Lu Ran agree so readily.

Lu Ran continued, "However, with so many Ran Sect members now, it's a bustling place..."

Luo Ying obviously had long prepared for such a decision, she explained clearly, "Disciples cherish the chance to live at Cloud Sea Cliff; the atmosphere inside the cliff is great.

I am fortunate to have a statue in the Feixian Hall, disciples hold me and Yifei in high regard.

My residence is located on the eastern part of the cliff, ordinary disciples aren't allowed to venture..."

Lu Ran listened and nodded, "Alright, as long as you and your husband have thought it through.

Living at Cloud Sea Cliff, the children's lives will be richer, the place to play larger."

"Thank you, Sect Master!" Luo Ying looked grateful.

"Thank what? It's my honor." Lu Ran smiled at the young mother.

Children are the lifeblood of the Xun Luo couple.

The couple making such a decision indicated their absolute trust in Lu Ran, approval of Ran Sect's environment and safety.

Their secluded valley courtyard was indeed hidden, but their daily hunting and fishing, traveling back and forth, posed hidden dangers.

Lu Ran said, "When moving just tell me, I'll open the Transmission Mirror for you."

The journey of several kilometers, traveling with children, indeed carries risks.

Listening to Lu Ran's gentle tone and feeling his thoughtfulness and care, Luo Ying was moved, and softly said:

"Thank you, Sect Master, just today."

"Alright, does anyone else have anything?" Lu Ran's gaze swept over the crowd.

Seeing no one standing up, he announced the meeting over.

After everyone left, Lu Ran opened the Transmission Mirror for Luo Ying, directly to her valley residence.

Both agreed to meet again at dusk, then Lu Ran dispelled the mirror, stretching fiercely:

"Ah~~~"

Ah, desks do have a sort of magic power, don't they?

Tired.

Lu Ran lay down on the antique desk, smelling the wood fragrance.

Beside him, Jiang Ruyi looked on with a peculiar expression at the youth sleeping on the table.

Behind her, Leng Xushuang stood silently, observing the Emperor Robe-clad youth.

Returning to Ran Sect, he was like a different person compared to his time at Wolf Flower Village and Wolf Bone Village.

One was a decisive, powerful king.

One was a gentle, benevolent leader.

"Anything going on?" Lu Ran rested his arms and appeared to be sleeping with eyes closed, yet suddenly spoke.

Leng Xushuang hurriedly lowered her gaze.

Jiang Ruyi chuckled, "Are you planning to sleep here?"

"Ruyi, tell me about mathematics." Lu Ran suddenly uttered.

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

What meaning?

Help to sleep?