

## Old Gods 791

Chapter 791: The Fated Evil God?

On the first day of the New Year, a light rain was falling.

Inside the bedroom of Cloud Sea Residence, Lu Ran listened to the patter of the raindrops, opening his drowsy eyes.

Beside him was the long and rhythmic breathing of the person next to him, soft, yet it did not escape his ears.

It made Lu Ran feel extremely at ease.

Lu Ran slightly turned his head, looking through the carved wooden window not far away at the swaying Immortal Jasmine tree in the rain.

The weather was uncooperative, the New Year's Eve bonfire party was held under the drizzle, but it did not dampen everyone's spirits.

The disciples of the Ran Sect celebrated on the open ground outside the Council Hall, grateful to have safely passed another year.

Lu Ran and the others gathered a tall bonfire in the backyard of Cloud Sea Residence.

This was his second New Year's Eve on Holy Spirit Mountain, more perfect than the last.

Because he had his childhood friends by his side, and the lovely Little Yuanxi.

Last night, Lu Ran had the fortune to witness Miss Xuan Shuang's sword dance, leaving him mesmerized, as well as astonishing Deng Yutang, Niu Zhengzheng, and others.

He wondered if those two went home last night and ended up kneeling on a washboard?

Hmm... most likely not.

After all, Bai Manni and Chang Ying were also dumbfounded.

Lu Ran didn't need to kneel, because Leng Xushuang had specially asked the Sect Master and Lady for permission, with Jiang Ruyi personally agreeing.

Leng Xushuang's sword dance wasn't something everyone was privileged to see; it was performed especially for Lu Ran under the guise of New Year's Eve.

Though it did benefit others...

To Lu Ran's surprise, Little Yuanxi also presented a song.

"Once upon a time, when I first encountered this world, I was reluctant to leave. Looking at the edge of the sky as if it were before my eyes, I was willing to brave fire and water to walk it again..."

Even now, his sister's singing still lingered by his ears.

Each lyric left Lu Ran feeling very complicated.

"Awake?" a gentle voice sounded by his ear, carrying the unique laziness of someone just awakened from a deep sleep.

"Hmm." Lu Ran drew the Immortal into his embrace, responding softly.

Jiang Ruyi rested her head on Lu Ran's chest, listening to the strong heartbeat for a long while, then whispered:

"Can't stay put any longer?"

Lu Ran lifted a handful of her long black hair, letting it cascade through his fingers.

"Hmm?" Jiang Ruyi lifted her face, smiling as she watched the person whose mind had already drifted far away.

Lu Ran looked down, and unexpectedly, Little Yuanxi's song echoed in his mind again.

"Now walking through this world, reluctant as always, as the years shift, unexpectedly breaking into your smile..."

"Just a New Year's, why so dazed?" Jiang Ruyi teased, as a slender hand gently caressed his cheek.

Lu Ran instead closed his eyes, his face brushing against her soft palm.

Jiang Ruyi couldn't help but raise an eyebrow slightly.

Is the Sect Master trying to imitate a little tabby cat?

"The Blood Pool is the last battle of my westward journey, I want to go see it." Lu Ran spoke softly.

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

To think I just found you as adorable as a little tabby cat.

Lu Ran gently held the slender hand on his cheek, lightly squeezing it: "I'll go and return quickly."

Jiang Ruyi didn't stop him; she just asked: "Others avoid that place, but you're eager to go, in such a rush. Does it hold any special meaning for you?"

Her words left Lu Ran momentarily speechless.

Did he want this westward journey to have a beginning and an end?

Or was it inherent in his bones, he was a warrior, longing for a challenge?

Or was it...

Lu Ran fell into deep thought, his girlfriend's casual question digging deep into his heart.

Gradually, Lu Ran's expression became somewhat strange: "I've never thought deeply about it, but now that you mention it, it seems..."

In my heart, I always believed that the Evil God·Blood Skull was the stone sculpture that suited me the most."

"Oh?" Jiang Ruyi mused.

Mentioning the Blood Skull Clan, three words appeared in her mind:

Instant Teleportation, Swift, Blade.

These three words seemed to describe Lu Ran?

Furthermore, the Blood Skull Clan carried a notorious and fearsome label—Evil Demon Leader!

Leader?

It seemed to suit Lu Ran even more!

Jiang Ruyi pondered for a moment and said, "Since becoming a Believer, you've only seen Blood Skull once, right, on the fifteenth night in Rain Alley City?"

Lu Ran confirmed: "Yes, just that once, but it was memorable enough."

In truth, Lu Ran now found it surprising to finally recognize his inner feelings towards the Blood Skull Clan.

"So do you want to activate the Evil Sculpture of Blood Skull?" Jiang Ruyi slowly sat up.

Lu Ran thought for a moment, ultimately shaking his head: "The Evil Techniques of the Blood Skull Clan, I have substitutes for them."

Summoning weaponry with Evil Technique·Blood Burning Blade; splattering boiling blood with Evil Technique·Blood Burning; explosively increasing all physical attributes with Evil Technique·Burning Blood Body.

With the additional perception effect, making enemies overwhelmed by murderous intent, falling into a frenzy with Evil Technique·Blood Rain.

Detonating the neck Blood Skull necklace with the Skill·Blood Explosion Grandeur; and the terrifying Instant Teleportation Technique·Blood Shadow.

Jianghai's Ultimate Move is even more impressive!

But it seems they all kind of have substitutes?

The only reasonable reason for Lu Ran to activate this Evil Sculpture was that First-class Evil Demons possess the Heavenly Realm Ultimate Skill!

Alas, Lu Ran did not know what the Heavenly Realm Ultimate Skill of that clan was.

Even academic prodigy Jiang Ruyi didn't know, given that in a low martial world like Human World Da Xia, there was no concept of "Heavenly Realm."

There was no relevant knowledge in books or online.

Lu Ran shared all his thoughts with his fiancée, receiving a somewhat bewildering response.

"Since you feel that Blood Skull is the Evil God that suits you the most, why not activate it?" Jiang Ruyi's voice was very gentle.

"There are... alternatives to every Evil Technique," Lu Ran responded.

Jiang Ruyi's face lit up with a smile: "You can activate the Ash God Sculpture, the West Wilderness Divine Sculpture, and the Nu Ying God Sculpture for your comrades. Why not activate the one you like?"

Lu Ran opened his mouth, but couldn't find any words to say.

Jiang Ruyi sighed softly: "Do you know why I agreed to let Xuan Shuang dance?"

"Why?"

"You've been too kind to her. Xuan Shuang is deeply thoughtful. If she doesn't do something for you, it's as if she's being suffocated by a heavy weight."

Lu Ran: "..."

Is that so?

He indeed hadn't paid much attention before.

Lu Ran whispered: "Then should I play the tyrant more often, frequently take her to Qianhua Ridge, and have her dance for me?"

"Go," Jiang Ruyi said with a playful scoff, then added, "Be good to yourself too."

Jiang Ruyi knew well the preciousness of the Stone Sculpture quota.

But today was the first time Lu Ran, after so many years of hard work, made it clear that he had a special feeling for a particular Stone Sculpture.

He should certainly get what he desires.

A match.

And worth it.

"Alright!" Lu Ran pursed his lips, then I'll be willful for once. Anyway, after ascending to the Heavenly Realm, the activation quotas will be plentiful again.

What if the Blood Skull really is my destined Evil God?

Maybe, those terrifying Evil Techniques would suit me better?

Suppressing his excitement, Lu Ran sat up: "Then I... should go now?"

Jiang Ruyi took off the Magic Artifact-Ice Heart Bracelet, held his hand, and helped him wear it.

"I'm full of convictions, with Spirit Defense from head to toe... er." Lu Ran stopped mid-sentence.

Because Jiang Fairy looked over with her beautiful eyes: "Wear it."

Lu Ran: "..."

So domineering?

Tsk~ Alright!

Even without wearing the phoenix robe, she possessed the demeanor of an empress.

Undeniably, the Ice Heart Bracelet's effects are more comprehensive than Spirit Defense Techniques.

It not only constructs a mental defense system for Lu Ran but also provides a cool energy that helps him maintain composure.

After donning the translucent Ice Heart Bracelet, he heard Jiang Ruyi say: "Later, visit Senior Lu Yuan, and bring him into the gourd to accompany you on this journey."

Lu Ran: "..."

Jiang Ruyi gently looked at Lu Ran, her lips slightly parted: "Be obedient."

"Yes, my empress," Lu Ran said jokingly, and with a flash, he was at the wardrobe, quickly changing clothes and returning to the mysterious Jianghu hero.

Little Ruyi is indeed cautious.

When there's nothing happening, Master Lu staying in the gourd affects nothing for Lu Ran. But if something arises, with Little Chi Feng's warning, Senior Lu can step in to help.

Just wonder, would Elder Lu secretly cuss?

Aware of repeatedly warning the sect leader that the Blood Pool is a forbidden zone! Yet, the leader insists on taking this old man in...

The name Lu Yuan is quite fitting indeed.

Truly a grievance.

Lu Ran, now dressed, returned to the bedside, gently picked up the lady's hand, and lightly kissed the back of her pale hand:

"Then I'll be off?"

"Return safely," Jiang Ruyi nodded with a smile.

Lu Ran instantly teleported to the study room, where several Divine Weapons flew in automatically, and he said in passing: "Evil Shadow, stay at home."

Yan Shuangzi: "..."

She knew that once the lady gave Lu Ran the Ice Heart Bracelet, it indicated that this journey had nothing to do with her.

Ten minutes later, beside the Galaxy Waterfall on Nine Heavens Cliff, a tall figure emerged from the Landing Mirror.

Lu Ran, using two fingers, adjusted the brim of his bamboo hat upwards and looked up at the sky filled with gathering storm clouds.

It's not raining here, but the sky is oppressively gloomy, enough to weigh one down.

Lu Ran glanced westward, and his figure vanished.

Although it's barely over a hundred kilometers, Lu Ran was very cautious, hiding his presence as if afraid that a Blood Skull would suddenly appear and stab him fiercely.

Along the way, not a shadow of the Human Clan or Evil Demons was visible; even the flowers, grasses, and trees gradually disappeared.

An expanse of desolate and dark mountains seemed to bring Lu Ran into a Different World.

"Oh my god..."

Lu Ran suddenly stopped, his entire body frozen on a high cliff.

In all his years, he had never seen such a bizarre sight!

Among the folds of the mountains, pools of blood lakes scattered like shattered mirrors, here and there.

The blood-red lake surfaces reflected the ash-grey sky, and the breeze carried a pungent blood smell, yet the surfaces remained unnervingly undisturbed.

The viscous blood seemed frozen, akin to the scabbed wound of the earth.

It was a chilling sight to behold.

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

No life.

No grass, no Evil Demons.

Except for the occasional breeze, Lu Ran couldn't hear a sound.

The world was a silent void.

Suddenly, Lu Ran squinted, noticing a massive Blood Pool where a blood-red head silently surfaced...

Chapter 792: Life and Death at the Edge of the Blade

"Oh?" Lu Ran felt a stir in his heart.

He was at a loss as to how to make a move, and now a head emerged from the blood pool, just perfect to lure it over?

Being new to this place, Lu Ran naturally wanted to act cautiously, drawing the enemy out for a one-on-one fight rather than rashly charging into the mountainous area filled with blood pools.

After pondering for a moment, he immediately canceled his invisibility.

In an instant, Lu Ran sensed that he was locked onto by a gaze.

But it wasn't the one he was looking at, it was...

"Phew!"

Lu Ran's heart tightened as he perceived the energy fluctuation behind him, and he instinctively flickered away.

When he reappeared, he was a hundred meters away.

Lu Ran looked up to see a bloody figure standing at the edge of the cliff where he had stood.

He appeared to be a tall young man, with thick blood flowing all over his body.

His face was particularly ferocious, with red hair and red eyes, and even his skin was crimson.

A small necklace of blood-colored skulls hung around his neck, his strong upper body was bare, wearing tattered shorts, and his naturally hanging hands each held a slender blood knife.

Da Xia's Evil Demon Leader · Blood Skull!

"Uh." Lu Ran couldn't help but shiver.

Blood Skull at the edge of the cliff suddenly turned his head, his blood-red eyes staring hard at Lu Ran, the sinister gaze sending chills down one's spine.

This f\*\*\*...

What blood skull?

It's purely a Blood Asura, Ghost Yasha!

One should know that Lu Ran's power level was at Sea Realm · Third Rank, and under this terrifying gaze, his heart contracted sharply.

This tribe is actually so strong?

This momentum... is it high-level Sea Realm? One minor rank higher than me!

He was clearly at the edge of the blood pool area, and just casually lured one, which turned out to be a Sea Realm Great Demon?

"Hm?" Lu Ran's eyes narrowed.

Blood Skull suddenly disappeared, leaving only a blood-colored afterimage in place.

Yet even the afterimage, with those vicious red eyes, continued to stare at Lu Ran.

Anyone with a weaker power level might shudder and panic under this gaze's lock.

And such a horrific scene, in Lu Ran's eyes, seemed so perfect!

If nothing unexpected happened, his future instant teleportations could also leave afterimages like this.

Whether used to lure enemies or intimidate them...

It would be excellent!

"Phew~" Almost simultaneously, Lu Ran detected the energy fluctuations behind him.

Without hesitation, he teleported away again.

It wasn't out of fear of battle, but Lu Ran wanted to distance himself from the blood pool area as much as possible; he didn't want to be fighting and attract a few more Blood Skulls.

How would that even work?

"Hiss!" Blood Skull let out a roar, the hoarse sound like a vengeful ghost.

Lu Ran flickered repeatedly, with Blood Skull closely following, leaving one blood-colored afterimage after another on the ground, permeating a pungent blood scent.

"Clang!"

A barren hill echoed with the sound of blade clashing.

One side was a mysterious hero wearing a green straw hat.

The other side was a relentless, ever-present blood-colored Asura!

"Clang! Clang! Clang..."

In a flash, the two clashed several times.

Blade light and shadow battled equally!

"Hm?" Blood Skull seemed a bit surprised, emitting a slightly upward nasal sound, and the blood shadow flickered silently.

Eight Desolate Blade swiftly slashed down!

Lu Ran's blade was fast, but he didn't manage to cut Blood Skull in half; he merely forcefully scattered the blood-colored afterimages.

"Phew!" Terrifying energy fluctuations surged.

Leaving Lu Ran not a moment to breathe.

The moment Lu Ran looked up, scalding blood was already sweeping towards him.

Boiling blood, like a blood-red arc of a blade! With incredible destructive power, it left deep marks wherever it passed.

Lu Ran immediately stepped aside, letting the blood arc scrape past his chest at high speed.

Blood Skull Evil Technique · Blood Burning!

This technique at River Grade and below could only sprinkle boiling blood, not forming a perfectly arched blood arc, more like a scorching blood whip.

Once it touched human clan bodies, the boiling blood could burn human water flow armor and flesh, leaving hole after hole.

At Sea Grade, Evil Technique · Blood Burning underwent a qualitative change!

The sprinkled blood would form a sharp blood arc, maintaining its scorching attribute while adding terrifying output effects.

"Phew! Phew!"

Blood arcs attacked rapidly, overwhelming anyone.

Even more terrifying, Blood Skull himself was flickering continuously, causing the blood-colored blade arcs to attack Lu Ran from various angles.

Attack speed was astounding!

Ordinary people would have died under the flurry of blades by now; how could they keep up?

But the performer can!

Lu Ran activated Martial Artist Divine Skill · Yan Lingfan, like a swaying leaf, darted and soared through the dense blood arcs.

"Hiss!" Blood Skull let out another hoarse roar.

Yet this voice seemed not to be in anger, but... excitement?

Blood Skull's eyes emitted a scarlet light, the originally sinister gaze becoming increasingly bloodthirsty.

"Sizzle..."

Blood mist thickened, spreading from the small skulls on Blood Skull's necklace around his neck.

Blood Skull Evil Technique · Blood Rain and Foul Wind!

A radius of a hundred meters swiftly became shrouded in blood mist.

This time, the performer was out of tricks.

Within the blood mist, everywhere had Divine Power fluctuations, how could Lu Ran's "leaf" drift again?

Cant think so... it doesn't matter.

Dog act!

Lu Ran was surrounded by the Evil Dog Evil Skill, with Evil Sense and Evil Sensitivity fully activated.

His fighting style suddenly changed, transforming into a swift and agile evil dog, darting back and forth, left and right, amidst the blood rain and foul wind.

"Ugh~" As Lu Ran dodged, he couldn't help but gag.

He naturally had a dog's nose, incredibly keen, and the pungent smell of blood kept drilling into his nose.

Making Lu Ran extremely uncomfortable!

"Hiss..."

Faint dragon roars began to echo.

Amidst the blood rain and foul wind, densely packed water droplets suddenly appeared, along with small Canglongs appearing too.

The blood mist thus perished, and the polluted battlefield returned to its former clarity.

The Blood Skull stopped.

Lu Ran also halted his steps, looking tens of meters away at the quietly standing blood shadow.

He saw the Blood Skull release the blood blade in hand, reaching out to touch a small Canglong, letting it swim slowly under his palm.

The gesture was very gentle.

Very different from the previous fierce demeanor of the Blood Skull!

Lu Ran frowned tightly, this Sea Realm Great Demon seemed to have considerable intelligence?

Without hesitation, he called out, "Maa~"

The Blood Skull's body trembled, suddenly lifting its head towards the young human clansman.

Then, the surrounding water droplets all dispersed, and the small Canglong shattered without a trace.

The purification effect of the Canglong Sea Domain does not distinguish between friend and foe, Lu Ran certainly wouldn't help the enemy regain clarity.

"Come."

Lu Ran casually grasped the Dawn Blade at his waist, while also gripping the Eight Desolate Blade with the other hand, tapping the ground before him with the blade tip.

"Hiss..."

A hoarse growl came from the Blood Skull as it similarly grasped a slender blood blade.

In the next instant, the figure of the Blood Skull flickered!

Lu Ran suddenly turned around, brandishing the Dawn Blade in his left hand to block, while horizontally slashing with the Eight Desolate Blade in his right hand.

Strangely, their movements were almost identical!

All four blades collided simultaneously.

"Crunch!"

Lu Ran's left hand Dawn Blade firmly blocked the opponent's horizontal slash, while his right hand brimmed with Fierce Heavenly Power, the Eight Desolate Blade shattered the opponent's blood blade.

Blood Skull: !!!

Lu Ran: !!!

Not only were both the human and demon's actions the same, but at the instant of deciding victory, they simultaneously flickered away.

A decisive touch and separation!

Because Lu Ran's Eight Desolate Blade, after shattering the enemy's blood blade, smoothly slashed through the blood skull necklace on the enemy's neck; the blade had already sunk shallowly into the enemy's neck!

Meanwhile, Lu Ran's Dawn Blade, which blocked the opponent's horizontally incoming blood blade, couldn't stop the spraying hot blood from the blade.

The boiling blood coalesced into a sharp blood arc, and at such close distance, the blood arc had already sunk shallowly into the water flow armor covering Lu Ran's neck.

Once again, the two were separated by a hundred meters.

The youth in the straw raincoat slightly lifted his head, underneath the wide brim of the bamboo hat were a pair of bright eyes.

The Blood Skull also lifted its head to gaze, under the messy red hair, were a pair of alarmed and enraged blood-red pupils.

"It seems, I should come here often in the future, to battle with your clan."

Lu Ran wiped the water flow armor at his neck with the back of his hand, where there was a shallow sword trace, stained with a tinge of crimson blood.

He had long forgotten when his water flow armor was last damaged.

When was the last time he was so close to death.....

Even the Heavenly Realm Great Monk-Tu Feng Master never caused harm to Lu Ran; from the beginning to the end, Tu Feng Master kept giving Lu Ran opportunities.

But the Blood Skull was different!

The recent blood arc really had the power to shatter armor.

Even now, the lingering blood was still burning, not allowing Lu Ran's water flow armor to "heal".

From being initially frightened out of his wits to now, Lu Ran was already boiling with blood!

He finally saw himself clearly.

The Blood Skull was still that Blood Skull, its exuding ferocity still sent chills down one's spine.

Yet Lu Ran's heart, was getting hotter!

In just a few short rounds, it surpassed all the battles on the western journey before.

Lu Ran understood, such an extremely dangerous creature could absolutely keep him at peak state, and even elevate his fighting status!

"Again!"

Lu Ran licked his lips, slightly crouched his legs, and swung a flourish with the blade in his hand.

The Blood Skull tilted its head slightly, but didn't move.

Lu Ran's expression changed, swiftly sidestepping to dodge.

Another blood arc attacked from behind, its speed unbearably fast.

While dodging, Lu Ran glanced to his back right, another blood-colored figure entered his view, his gaze sinister.

The newly arrived "Ghost Yasha" hadn't yet suffered a loss from Lu Ran and hadn't reached the stage of shock and anger.

"You can't do it, just at the River Realm." Lu Ran frowned slightly.

The Blood Skull couldn't understand human language, but the straw raincoat youth's expression and attitude were understandable to anyone.

"Hiss!" The Blood Skull let out a hoarse roar, and its figure flickered.

"Ha!!" Lu Ran suddenly shouted.

The roar from the Dong Ting Sect shook the Blood Skull's brain into dizziness; in the flickering moment it appeared, it was directly pinned in front of Lu Ran.

"Tss!"

The blade light flashed, the Eight Desolate Blade slashed from the Blood Skull's right shoulder directly to the left waist.

Half of the Blood Skull's body slid down diagonally, instantly perishing.

The leader of Da Xia's evil demons was indeed extremely dangerous.

But where was Da Xia's genius any inferior?

Life and death under the knife, in a flash!

Ignoring the standing half body of the corpse, Lu Ran licked his lips, turning his head towards the Sea Realm great demon:

"Come, let's continue."

...

Chapter 793: Is This Right?

"Left, back, right..."

Lu Ran murmured, his mind tense and body equally strained, as he continually swung his dual blades.

The Fourth Rank Sea Realm Blood Skull's assault was like a storm, giving Lu Ran not a moment to breathe.

On the mountain peak, blood shadows multiplied.

The interplay of blade gleams, the man and demon engaged in a fierce and exhilarating fight.

The speed of both was astonishing!

Be it movement speed or attack speed, they were equally matched! In just a few minutes, Lu Ran's Water Flow Armor was already covered in blood-colored sword traces.

Strands of fresh blood lingered stubbornly on the Water Flow Armor, burning and even affecting the straw coat beneath the water flow.

In fact, the Blood Burning Blade in the Blood Skull's hand had never actually struck Lu Ran.

But the Blood Burning Blade often flung out scalding blood arcs, and whenever they touched the Water Flow Armor, Lu Ran would rely on his unparalleled reflexes to instantly flicker away.

To prevent the armor from shattering, and also to protect his own flesh from injury.

The Blood Skull's body, too, was covered with sword traces!

But because the Blood Skull was entirely blood-colored, those crisscrossing wounds were not obvious.

In the absence of using Dong Ting Divine Technique-Thunder Shout, whenever Lu Ran's blade touched the Blood Skull, it would also flicker away.

Leaving only a blood-colored afterimage for Lu Ran to slash through.

The battleground constantly shifted!

The Blood Skull appeared high in the sky, with Lu Ran shadowing closely.

Lu Ran flickered to the edge of the cliff, the Blood Skull arrived instantly.

The so-called "storm" was naturally mutual; Lu Ran had no break, and the Blood Skull was equally restless!

And in this extremely intense white blade fight, Lu Ran's entire combat state soared!

He even found himself recalling the feeling of battling powerful Evil Demons during his weaker years, on a rainy night in Rain Alley City.

Extreme danger!

Made Lu Ran's body involuntarily tremble, and also made him... enthralled.

Utterly enthralled!

"Hiss!" The Blood Skull let out a hoarse roar, its keen mind clearly realizing what Lu Ran was doing.

A toy?

This young human, was he treating him as a mere toy?

The Blood Skull had indeed witnessed Lu Ran wield the Canglong Sea Domain, clear the Blood Rain, and seen Lu Ran's furious shout that pinned a weaker Blood Skull of the same clan in place, slicing it in half with one blow!

But in the ongoing battle, Lu Ran had not used those skills again.

Lu Ran was directly "stabbing", even though the Fierce Heavenly Power that should have infused his hands had dissipated quickly...

"Hiss!!" The Blood Skull roared in anger, feeling deeply humiliated.

A deep sense of humiliation!

"Hmm?" Lu Ran's heart trembled, quickly retreating while intensely watching the Blood Skull's body.

Like the Sea Merfolk clan, the Blood Skull also had a nearly perfect physique.

That streamlined graceful muscle, even made a man like Lu Ran secretly drool at the sight...

And at this moment, the Blood Skull's robust body was trembling, scalding blood beads splattering out from the sword wounds.

Evil Technique·Burning Blood Body?

Once activated, this technique couldn't be halted. The Blood Skull clan exchanged burning blood and energy for a comprehensive surge in physical attributes!

Wait a minute!

Lu Ran narrowed his eyes slightly, it wasn't just the Evil Technique·Burning Blood Body.

The scene before him was particularly eerie, the Blood Skull's perfect physique seemed to have some form of attraction.

Those splattering minuscule blood droplets, having flown only a few centimeters away, immediately flew back to the Blood Skull's body.

This is...

Blood Skull clan Sea Realm Technique·Blood Sacrifice Mountain River?!

This clan's River Realm Technique and Sea Realm Technique differed by just one character.

The River Realm Technique was called "Blood Sweeps Mountain River", where the Blood Skull clan could summon an enormous blood-colored blade from the sky, slashing down furiously.

This blade had a secondary impact, the moment its edge landed on the ground, it would unleash a terrifying sea of blood from the sides of the blade.

Crushing human structures and engulfing all living things.

Output was exceptionally terrifying!

The Sea Realm Technique-Blood Sacrifice Mountain River, however, erupted a fearsome sea of blood from within the Blood Skull, spreading in all directions.

The boiling blood was incomparably scalding, capable of consuming all creatures within its range, dissolving them into pure energy bodies, and then absorbing them to replenish itself.

"Swish~"

The Blood Skull left a blood-red afterimage where it stood, instantly appearing in front of Lu Ran.

Lu Ran didn't show any intention of resisting, escaping swiftly and decisively.

"Whoo!!"

As soon as the Blood Skull appeared, a tide of boiling blood surged from its body.

Lu Ran had already flickered a kilometer away, watching as a desolate mountain was engulfed by the boiling blood, unable to withstand such output, rapidly eroding.

"It's truly ferocious..." Lu Ran seemed to witness the birth of a brand-new blood pool.

But it was just an illusion.

For standing in the center of the blood pool, the Blood Skull was voraciously absorbing the surrounding scalding blood, converting it into pure energy and frantically integrating it into itself.

The true might of the Evil Demon Leader was fully revealed at this moment!

It must be known that the ultimate moves of other sects were extremely exhausting of Divine Power.

The Blood Skull clan was no exception, but since this clan could recycle blood, it meant that the Blood Skull could both slay and recharge!

As long as there were enough creatures around, the Blood Skull could potentially continue slaughtering indefinitely...

Fortunately, this technique was a Sea Realm Technique!

And thanks to the Human World Da Xia, there were rarely Blood Skulls descending to the world, otherwise, the consequences would be unimaginable!

"Ah!" The Blood Skull roared skyward, wielding a pair of blood blades, spreading them wide.

Perhaps it was trying to be fierce, or simply venting its anger.

The young human clan member escaped without a trace, and the surroundings were desolate; how could any creature transform into blood to replenish his energy?

In the midst of the hoarse roaring, from the distant blood pool region, one blood-colored head after another emerged from the large and small blood puddles.

A kilometer away, Lu Ran did not witness this scene; he only gripped the Eight Desolate Blade tightly, thrusting forward abruptly, his figure flashing instantly!

Ran Sect Blade Technique Third Form·Shuo Star!

"Sss!"

The blade pierced flesh!

The sharp Eight Desolate Blade pierced directly through the blood skull's abdomen.

Abdomen?

How could someone like Lu Ran, aiming for a kill with one strike, go for an evil demon's abdomen?

The Burning Blood Body is truly terrifying!

The blood skull moved incredibly quickly, with astonishing reflexes. As it desperately dodged, a pair of blood-red eyes locked onto Lu Ran, resolutely detonating the skull necklace around its neck.

"Boom!!"

The skull necklace exploded, a terrifying blast mixed with dense blood mist, resounded loudly.

Evil Technique·Skull Explosion Funeral!

Lu Ran's pupils nearly shrank to needle-thin size!

He desperately activated the Divine Technique, flashing away immediately, yet he was still affected by the horrific explosion.

"Crack! Crack..."

Lu Ran appeared once more a kilometer away, with cracks crazily spreading across his Water Flow Armor.

"Pfft! Cough cough... cough..."

Lu Ran landed heavily on his feet, and although the armor hadn't completely shattered, his blood and energy surged within.

Meanwhile, the distant blood skull had already exploded into pieces, with blood and flesh splattering everywhere.

With its own bones, it stirred up one final storm of blood and massacre.

The blood skull was not willing to be a plaything!

Although, in Lu Ran's heart, the opponent was not really a toy, but rather a sparring partner.

"Heh... heh..." Lu Ran's chest heaved violently as he finally steadied his breathing, looking quite shaken as he hurriedly examined the two knives in his hands.

The dense divine power covering the blades had also been shattered.

Lu Ran's heart tightened as he inspected the blade, but fortunately, the Dawn Blade and the Eight Desolate Blade were both second-rank Divine Weapons, strong enough in all attributes, showing no cracks on the blade.

Of course, this was mainly because Lu Ran dodged quickly.

If the Divine Weapon had taken the full output, how could it have escaped unscathed?

"This is just too fierce..." Lu Ran looked grim, struggling to remold the near-shattering Water Flow Armor with divine power.

After all, in the previous battle, Lu Ran had already shattered several small skulls on one side of the skull necklace.

Though the necklace was severely damaged, the explosive force was still so astounding!

Lu Ran pursed his lips.

In the future, when he equips this clan's evil technique, he must tear down the necklace and hurl it fiercely at the blood skull's face!

On a side note, the name "Blood Skull" originates from this skull necklace.

This necklace can be dismantled and thrown like shells, shattering everything.

It can also be directly detonated, perishing together with all nearby enemies!

"Hiss..." A hoarse voice came from afar.

Lu Ran turned to look, seeing another fierce blood-colored face and those familiar sinister eyes.

"Buzz~"

The Eight Desolate Blade trembled gently.

The Evil Technique-Skull Explosion Funeral, which ignites everything, seemed to have intoxicated the Eight Desolate Blade Spirit?

The second-rank Divine Weapon, of course, is not the end of the Divine Weapon's growth!

The Divine Weapon Domain can certainly have a second one!

Lu Ran felt the boiling heart of the Eight Desolate Blade Spirit, and he did not disappoint the blade spirit's expectation. He pointed the blade directly at the distant blood shadow:

"Mee~"

Continue!

Fight!

In the next instant, Lu Ran turned swiftly to block, the dual blades clashing, with a thick ferocity surging forward.

"Puff puff puff~"

Over ten kilometers away, a golden Spiritual Sparrow darted swiftly through the mountains and forests.

Its wingspan was about three feet, its entire body golden, with each long feather gleaming with noble golden light.

Its slender and soft tail feathers looked like golden satin, dreamy and surreal.

Such a unique appearance, anyone could tell that this was a disciple of the Huang Que.

Divine-Huang Que, ranked third line.

Like the Greedy Wolf and Dragon Carp beasts, it belonged to the "Eight Revered Heavenly Demons" series.

"Whoo~" The speed of the little Huang Que's forward flight suddenly slowed, landing on a large tree at the edge of the forest.

Flying further south would enter the most perilous blood pool region!

The barren mountain area ahead also reminded the Huang Que disciple that going further would be courting death!

The Huang Que hopped a little on the branch, hiding among the not-so-lush branches, turned back to look.

Its bird eyes searched for a long time, seeing no movement whatsoever, causing it to let out a sigh of relief.

"Hmm?" As the Huang Que turned its head back, it witnessed an incredible scene!

Several kilometers away, a mysterious individual dressed in a green straw hat, covered in blood-colored sword traces, was fiercely battling with a blood skull.

The two sides advanced and retreated, flashing three times a second!

The little head of the Huang Que bobbed rapidly like a bōlán drum, shaking left and right, overwhelmed by the sight.

"This? Ah, this..." The Huang Que slightly opened its bird beak.

Is this right?

...

Chapter 794: A Little Huang Que

Ten days later, Nine Heavens Cliff.

Amid the rumbling Galaxy Waterfall, Lu Ran sat meditating with his bare upper body.

The icy waterfall washed over his burning body, capable of cleansing the scent of blood from him, yet unable to wash away the hostility in his heart.

The past ten days were an extremely special training period for Lu Ran.

The intensity was explosive!

His combat state had been adjusted to the peak, and Lu Ran even felt like he was "making progress despite the already advanced stage."

A powerful opponent shapes an even more powerful self!

Ever since entering the Sea Realm, the fire of the Fierce Heavenly Sect and the pythons of the Jade-faced Snake clan could resolve 99% of Lu Ran's problems.

Coming to the Blood Pool, Lu Ran found his former self again.

Sufficiently lethal danger forced out the self who was once obsessed with swordsmanship, meticulous in every step, and focused on every movement.

Exhilarating!

And in the midst of one battle after another, one inevitably encountered situations where the Blood Skull Clan would detonate necklaces, perishing together with jade and stone.

At these times, the Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade would hum and buzz.

It seemed to be infatuated with the Blood Skull Evil Technique·Skull Explosion Funeral?

So, could the Eight Desolate Blade be the first Divine Weapon in Lu Ran's hands to advance to the third rank?

Could it be the first to unlock a second domain?

It's unclear.

Lu Ran simply did all he could to support and protect it.

The Blood Skull Clan was undoubtedly an excellent sparring partner and quite a delicious resource!

At this moment, Lu Ran's brain was buzzing, and the Evil Sculpture of the Blood Skull in the Sculpture Garden was advancing to the Sea Realm Fourth Rank.

And a few days ago, when Lu Ran was fighting the Blood Skull Clan, his entire set of skills had switched to Blood Skull skills.

The subsequent battles...

It was simply Evil Demon Blood Skull VS Human Clan Blood Skull!

If anyone had witnessed it, they would have been jaw-dropped... Indeed, on the day Lu Ran first arrived in this place, he did discover an observer.

It was a Little Huang Que.

Very beautiful, and it fled very quickly.

Lu Ran's senses were incredibly sharp, and even if he was intensely focused on battle, he had moments of pause.

He discovered the little bird hiding sneakily in the forest ten kilometers away.

And when Lu Ran executed Instant Teleportation there, countless golden sparrow shadows flew out from around Little Huang Que, which was frantically switching positions among the sparrow shadows and fled in a panic.

The densely packed sparrow shadows also blossomed with dazzling light, carrying a terrifying blinding effect.

Lu Ran was very clear that this was the Huang Que Sect Divine Technique·Huang Que Thousand Shadows!

The blinding effect was not the most terrifying.

Endless sparrow shadows could ignite brilliant flames and trigger chain explosions.

However, no explosion came to Lu Ran.

The opponent obviously dared not provoke him, let alone hope to harm him, only seeking a path to survival.

Amid the dazzling light, Little Huang Que transformed into a golden streak and swiftly escaped...

On reflection, it's no surprise.

Lu Ran had fought the Blood Skull Clan for so long, looking as if he had been fished out of a Blood Pool, exuding a strong scent of blood, causing anyone who saw him to flee in panic.

At that time, after searching for a while and not seeing the figure of Little Huang Que, another Blood Skull found Lu Ran.

In the face of a life-and-death crisis, Lu Ran naturally focused on the battle, not daring to be distracted in the slightest.

This little incident passed just like that.

As always, Lu Ran diligently refined his combat skills day by day, carefully nurturing the Divine Weapon.

And today, it was already the twelfth of the first lunar month.

In just a few days, it would be Little Yuanxi's birthday.

Lu Ran endured the buzzing in his brain while cleansing under the beautiful waterfall, attempting to wash away the hostility in his heart.

He didn't want to go back for Little Yuanxi's birthday celebration only to scare his little sister into trembling.

"Rumble..."

Terrifying torrents surged over Lu Ran's muscular body, and the Divine Weapon Blade placed flat on his knees suddenly moved.

When the Stone Sculpture advanced, Lu Ran couldn't hear the sound very clearly, and just as he was about to inquire, he suddenly saw a Little Huang Que flying down among the distant rocks.

Even with water splashes blocking his vision, Lu Ran could still spot it.

It was entirely golden, dazzling under the sunlight.

Noticing the young man's gaze, Little Huang Que visibly shivered and respectfully bowed its head.

A question mark appeared above Lu Ran's head.

The opponent dared to show up again, didn't they fear death?

Moreover, the opponent had actually found the Nine Heavens Cliff over a hundred kilometers away, and it seemed to be looking for him?

"Swoosh~" Lu Ran's figure flashed, leaving a blood-colored meditation shadow at the original spot, which was soon washed away by the waterfall.

Little Huang Que was utterly terrified!

Then it noticed that the young man had not come to catch it. Instead, it raised its golden head and looked around.

With the powerful Divine Technique·Huang Que Eyes, its gaze was extremely sharp, able to pierce through the night, fog, snow, sand, and other environments.

Far better than Lu Ran's eyes, which couldn't pierce through mist.

Of course, Lu Ran's excellent eyesight came from the Evil Dog Evil Skill·Evil Recognition, which enhances all five senses.

The Huang Que Divine Technique·Huang Que Eyes focused solely on enhancing vision, embodying specialization in skills.

Finally, Little Huang Que's gaze cut through the misty water vapor and spotted the young man's figure in the northern cliff.

Its eyes flickered, seemingly hesitant.

It hesitated for a moment but ultimately flew over, and in its sight, the young man was standing under a large tree, taking down a conical bamboo hat hanging there.

The bamboo hat was tattered and covered in sword traces!

Small burnt-out holes appeared, traces left by the boiling blood drops of the Blood Skull Clan.

Just this coat alone made Little Huang Que's heart jump in fright.

It carefully flew down behind Lu Ran, gazing at that tall silhouette, the graceful lines of his muscles, and the crystalline water droplets scattered over his back...

An indescribable sense of power and beauty intertwined under the outline of the sunlight.

So different from the blood-shell style of the Blood Skull Clan.

But in no way inferior!

What a pity, such an enticing shell was ultimately covered by a ragged raincoat.

Little Huang Que shook its head, dismissing its jumbled thoughts, and opened its beak to speak human words: "M... Master."

Lu Ran picked up the wide bamboo hat: "How come you dared to come out today?"

"M... Master, are you Ran Shen?"

Lu Ran's hand holding the bamboo hat stilled for a moment, then he placed it on his head: "You've recognized me?"

Little Huang Que's heart leapt with joy: "Recognized, but somewhat unsure."

Lu Ran nodded silently.

It had been struggling for so long, only daring to show itself again after such hesitation.

These past two years, Lu Ran had changed immensely.

No longer as green as when he participated in "Heavenly Pride," his strength and aura, among other aspects, were thoroughly tempered by this Holy Spirit Mountain.

The growth was indeed on a transforming level.

"Ran Shen, how come you... you wield Evil Technique... uh." Little Huang Que halted its words because Lu Ran turned to look at it.

"What's your name?" Lu Ran asked while gazing at the golden Little Huang Que by the cliff.

"My name is Jin Que'er." Little Huang Que gradually transformed into human form, becoming a beautiful young girl.

To call her a young woman might be more apt, but she possessed such a tearful sense of youth.

She wore a long golden dress, with a slightly chubby face partially veiled by translucent golden gauze, and two golden bells tied around her left ankle.

The breeze stirred, and the bells chimed with a crisp, melodious sound.

Clearly, that was a magic artifact.

Lu Ran slightly raised an eyebrow, genuinely surprised.

Little Huang Que's exquisite image could already be considered quite impressive, yet unexpectedly, this young human girl's appearance was equally outstanding, making a striking impression.

"Jin Que'er." Lu Ran murmured, "It suits you."

Jin Que'er looked up at Lu Ran, her eyes filled with pleading: "Ran Shen, will you take me in? I can be of use, I can... I can scout for enemies for you! I can also wash clothes for you, mend clothes, I can..."

Lu Ran: "..."

Do you take me for a loner?

Do I look like someone without companions... hmm.

Lu Ran glanced at his worn-out raincoat, acknowledging he probably did seem a bit pitiful?

Seeing Lu Ran's silence, Jin Que'er hurriedly added, "Ran Shen, I can do anything for you..."

Lu Ran asked, "You, being a Sea Realm Initial Stage, also a Strong God's disciple, the ruler of this Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, why stoop so low?"

Jin Que'er opened her mouth, and after a moment, lowered her head and softly said, "There is always a sky beyond the sky."

Indeed, it's true.

"Speak." Lu Ran stood leaning against a large tree, observing the woman not far away, "What is your true intention?"

"Ran Shen, I..."

"Spew the truth." Lu Ran's voice dropped, as the remaining evil qi in his heart affected the surrounding environment.

Jin Que'er's delicate body trembled faintly, as she stammered, "My home has been occupied, m... my faction has changed hands, and I've been driven out."

Lu Ran maintained a blank expression, gazing at the beautiful girl, "You want to use me to help you reclaim your faction."

"No, it's not using!" Jin Que'er shook her head repeatedly, crawling forward hurriedly, "I wish to ask for your help, you are Da Xia's genius, I imagine you will uphold justice for the heavens.

Possibly... you'd be willing to take action and eradicate those evildoers from Dong Ting..."

"Evildoers from Dong Ting?" Lu Ran suddenly spoke.

"Yes! Yes!" Jin Que'er eagerly nodded, "There's a group of disciples from Dong Ting who roamed into our place! While we were battling the Jinmi Demon Clan, they pretended to help us.

Initially, they acted harmonious and friendly, and we didn't dare to oppose them.

Later, they took over, replacing us in the Sky Sparrow Pavilion..."

Lu Ran asked in a deep voice, "How many Dong Ting disciples, what's the name of the leader?"

"Eleven evildoers from Dong Ting in total, but among them three are Sea Realm! The leader is a woman whose name is unknown, her subordinates call her Lady Bai... uh." Jin Que'er's body shivered, immediately falling silent.

Waves of horrifying evil qi enveloped Jin Que'er's body.

Beside her ear, the young man's low voice sounded: "She is in her forties, quite beautiful, eyes are long, with a tear mole at the corner of her right eye."

"Yes... yes!" Jin Que'er nodded repeatedly, stunned.

"She's called Bai Lenmei, the Second Lady of the former Jingting Mountain Sect."

Jingting Mountain?

Jin Que'er listened to the unfamiliar terms.

"Let's go."

"Huh?" Jin Que'er carefully lifted her head.

The young man remained enveloped in evil qi, yet a gentle smile appeared on his face.

The image was incredibly contradictory.

"Let's go, lead the way." Lu Ran nodded slightly, "In a couple of days, I have to celebrate my sister's birthday, don't delay."

After a moment of processing, Jin Que'er was overjoyed, responding excitedly, "Yes!"

Watching the girl in golden gauze transform into Huang Que and take flight, Lu Ran pressed his lips together.

Lady Bai...

I just finished special training at the Blood Pool, you came at... quite the opportune time?

...

Chapter 795: Sky Sparrow Pavilion

At dusk, over two hundred kilometers north of the Blood Pool, in a lush forest.

Within a hidden cave, a beautiful young girl in a magnificent golden dress, wearing a golden gauze over her face, stood quietly at the cave entrance, observing the forest outside.

Jin Que'er occasionally looked back, cautiously glancing at the young man in the straw rain cape, who remained motionless, having been meditating for several hours.

Ten kilometers away was the valley where the Sky Sparrow Pavilion was located.

As the former Pavilion Master of Sky Sparrow Pavilion, Jin Que'er longed to reclaim everything and reunite with her brothers and sisters, however...

The help she had painstakingly sought insisted on staying here.

Jin Que'er had no right to refuse, let alone urge him.

It wasn't that Lu Ran was putting on airs; his mind was buzzing, severely affecting his combat state.

With only 11 remnants of Jingting left, Lu Ran was determined to capture them all, leaving no room for error.

"Huff..."

After an unknown amount of time, Lu Ran exhaled slowly.

Jin Que'er immediately turned her head to look, her beautiful big eyes timidly watching Lu Ran.

Lu Ran moved his neck, the Evil Sculpture of the Blood Skull finally stopped vibrating, granting him complete relief.

Sea Realm·Fourth Rank!

It was enough.

"How many people are there in your Sky Sparrow Pavilion?" Lu Ran, after savoring a moment of tranquility, asked.

"We have 58 Huang Que disciples, and nearly forty Yaoqin, Xianpa, and Yudi disciples." Jin Que'er hurriedly replied.

"Oh?" Lu Ran was somewhat puzzled.

Aside from the believers of Huang Que Sect, were the rest just musicians?

Jin Que'er immediately explained, "Our sect isn't top-tier; we lack the ability and dare not accept too many people. You know, Ran Shen, our sect has a Divine Technique-Resounding Heavenly Sound."

Lu Ran nodded.

Huang Que disciples could cry out loud, removing fear, confusion, and all negative states.

And weak god disciples like Yudi, Xianpa, and Yaoqin were best known for using musical performances to perform various mental interference skills.

Naturally, they were perfectly restrained by the Huang Que Sect!

"We only accept such disciples to ensure no trouble in the Sky Sparrow Pavilion and don't take in other believers because...because..."

"Hmm." Lu Ran responded softly.

In actions, one must act within their capacity.

For the Sky Sparrow Pavilion to maintain its stability, not accepting disciples from other sects is understandable.

Jin Que'er let out a big sigh of relief and hurriedly said, "Ran Shen, our Sky Sparrow Pavilion has always conducted itself with integrity, never causing trouble.

That group of East Ting scoundrels is despicable! Invading my home..."

Lu Ran suddenly said, "Your Huang Que Sect is quite good at escaping."

Jin Que'er looked bitter: "Lady Bai is formidable. After understanding the pavilion's situation, she secretly turned the only Sea Realm Hall Master in the pavilion, capturing several important disciples.

Either they had particular influence, or they were related by blood or marriage to others.

Lady Bai coerced and bribed, using every means possible, leaving the remaining disciples no choice but to submit obediently..."

Lu Ran asked, "What does the turned Hall Master look like? So I don't accidentally kill the wrong one... Also, tell me all about the terrain and defenses of your Sky Sparrow Pavilion."

Jin Que'er, feeling excited, hurriedly started to describe.

A few minutes later, energy surged in Lu Ran's hand, summoning an Ancient Bronze Mirror.

Jin Que'er slightly parted her small mouth, staring blankly at Lu Ran.

"Wait here for me," Lu Ran said as the Ancient Bronze Mirror transformed into a Landing Mirror, and he got up and walked into it.

Jin Que'er stood foolishly at the cave entrance, taking a while to return to her senses.

She intertwined her fingers, her small hands twisting nervously. Ever since she saw Lu Ran, her complex emotions had never calmed.

Due to the reputation of Da Xia's genius, Jin Que'er dared to risk everything to seek help.

She truly had no other choice.

Not to mention whether others would be willing to help her... Even if they were, ordinary sects would hardly be a match for the disciples of the Second-class God-East Ting.

Not to mention, Lady Bai is a high-ranking Sea Realm, wielding the Divine Weapon-Fangtian Halberd, almost standing atop the Holy Spirit Mountain!

If she sought help from other First or Second-class Divine sects, her own life might be at risk.

Fortunately, divine intervention!

While fleeing to the most perilous area to evade pursuit by East Ting disciples, she encountered a renowned figure.

Fortunately, Jin Que'er made the right gamble!

The Pride of Da Xia was really willing to help her achieve justice.

But this genius was not quite the same as the one on TV. Jin Que'er was uncertain if she was inviting a wolf into the house...

The young girl here was filled with complex emotions, while over there, Lu Ran was facing a special situation.

He sent a mental message to summon the Evil Shadow Guardian to the sea cliff.

The woman had just appeared, and before Lu Ran could speak, her expression changed.

"Master?" Yan Shuangzi grasped Lu Ran's arm, looking at his tattered straw rain cape.

Sword marks covered it, extremely tragic.

It even had numerous small holes scorched by blood drops!

"Calm down, Sister Shuangzhi." Lu Ran felt surprised, never expecting the always composed Yan Shuangzi to panic like this.

Yan Shuangzi was no ordinary woman but a resolute warrior!

Mountains of knives and seas of fire were commonplace.

And at this moment...

"Good gracious!" Lu Ran originally thought that the Evil Qi on himself was already heavy enough.

But the great Evil Shadow in front of him, its condition kept changing, an aura of ferocity stirred in its heart, surging outward wave after wave.

Perhaps it hated its own incompetence, unable to stay by his side.

Or maybe it was burning with rage, hating the Blood Skull Clan for wounding Lu Ran this way...

Just as Lu Ran was about to say something, an extremely dangerous aura arose next to him, making him feel like he had fallen into an ice cave.

"Uh." Lu Ran's body stiffened, and he slowly turned his head.

He saw Deng Yuxiang approaching step by step, her expression equally dark and terrifying, naturally aware of who had hurt Lu Ran.

Lu Ran somewhat regretted asking these two to help with the formation...

But since the other was an East Ting disciple, eradicating evil entirely, naturally, they had to show their stance.

Lu Ran only felt his scalp tingling, suddenly moved, and directly asked: "Why do you not salute when you see the Sect Leader?"

Deng Yuxiang glanced over Lu Ran's battle robe, slowly kneeling on one knee.

Yan Shuangzi tightly pressed her lips, retreated two steps, and knelt down with her head bowed.

Lu Ran grinned.

Good gracious~

These two dames are scarier than the damn Blood Skull!

As they say, concern leads to chaos, and Lu Ran was somewhat moved by the reactions of the two guardians. At the same time, it reminded him, he absolutely couldn't appear in front of Jiang Ruyi wearing this attire.

"I've found the remaining Jingting on Thunder Mountain, you two come with me, we must eradicate them completely!" Lu Ran proclaimed the mission.

"Yes."

"Yes," the two responded in a deep voice.

Lu Ran opened a Landing Mirror, Deng Yuxiang went ahead and entered it.

She arrived in the back garden of Pear Garden House on the East Peak of the Pear Garden Sect.

There was no way around it, the west was too far, Lu Ran had to use an intermediary transfer.

Lu Ran once again cast a spell, and in a hidden cavern southwest of the continent, Jin Que'er immediately saw the Transmission Mirror open.

Immediately, her heart leapt into her throat.

The woman emerging from the mirror, her sharp eyes like daggers, pierced straight into Jin Que'er's eyes.

"My, my lord." Jin Que'er steeled herself, greeting with a quivering voice.

Her heart grew increasingly uneasy.

Had she indeed let a wolf into the house?!

"This is the Pavilion Master of Sky Sparrow Pavilion, Jin Que'er," Lu Ran stepped out of the mirror, casually picked up Yan Shuangzi's wrist behind him, and placed the Ice Heart Bracelet onto her wrist, "she provided us with the intelligence."

Deng Yuxiang's gaze fell to the golden bells at the ankle of the woman in the golden dress.

Jin Que'er forced a smile onto her face.

"There are only 11 leftover Jingting, 8 of them are from the River Realm." Lu Ran took out the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd, aiming it at Yan Shuangzi, "As with the last mission, make them tear up the contract.

Additionally, Elder Lu Yuan is inside the gourd, I've already had Little Chi Feng notify him, and Elder Lu will help subdue the prisoners.

Once your mission is completed, communicate with Little Chi Feng on your own and come out."

"Yes." Yan Shuangzi's figure kept shrinking, merging into the gourd.

Lu Ran stepped forward, patting Deng Yuxiang on the shoulder: "Let's go, Sky Sparrow Pavilion is deeply hidden, located in the deepest part of the valley, surrounded by mountains and cliffs.

You take Jin Que'er, guard the tunnel entrance to the mountain, allow no one to enter or exit."

"Yes."

Lu Ran patted Deng Yuxiang on the shoulder again, this time signaling to Jin Que'er: "Guide her, protect her brain."

"Flap flap flap~"

Jin Que'er caught on, instantly transforming into an exquisite Huang Que, stifling her inner fear, and flew onto Deng Yuxiang's shoulder.

"Hurry up, you two, I'll go ahead." As he spoke, Lu Ran's figure turned invisible.

A mere dozen kilometers of mountain road, of course, meant nothing to Deng Yuxiang.

Lu Ran, on the other hand, flickered repetitively, traveling through the air, quickly pinpointing a valley enclosed by mountains, as previously described by Jin Que'er.

The terrain here was unique, with steep walls tilting inward, and the valley floor densely forested, blocking sight.

Truly secluded!

If Lu Ran hadn't known about it, he might indeed have missed this place walking by.

Evidently, Sky Sparrow Pavilion had a clear sense of its own position. Yet, unfortunately, they were still encountered by the Jingting remnants.

"Dungeon..." Lu Ran murmured to himself.

Jin Que'er mentioned that a few important disciples were detained in the dungeon, and the prison guards were naturally East Ting disciples.

At least two or three, right?

Lu Ran plunged down a few hundred meters from the cliff, deftly avoiding the lush trees, finally catching sight of the elegant houses deep in the valley.

"Buzz~" Eight Desolate Blade lightly trembled.

[Don't rush, Blood Burning Blade, Blood Burning, must eventually be used on the Jingting remnants, it's overkill to use it on River Realm disciples.]

Since Lu Ran activated the Blood Skull Evil Sculpture, the Eight Desolate Blade was often covered in searing hot blood.

It doesn't harm oneself, only burns the enemy.

The Eight Desolate Blade had a fierce love for Blood Skull Evil Technique!

[A full three... well, four Great Powers of the Sea Realm, there's a lot in store for you.] Lu Ran's cold eyes scanned the silent valley floor.

There's a lot in store for me as well.

...

...

Chapter 796: Is Tianque Pavilion Yours?

The valley floor of Sky Sparrow Pavilion, a scene of tranquility.

Yet within the dungeon where Huang Que believers were imprisoned, their hearts were in turmoil!

They caught a faint scent of plum blossoms, experienced a momentary lapse of consciousness, and when some snapped out of it, the two prison guards outside their cell had disappeared.

Disappeared?

The prisoners immediately realized that the plum blossom scent they had just inhaled came from the Ice Plum Demon Queen's Evil Technique—Soul Capturing Cold Fragrance!

Of course, it might also be the work of a magic artifact.

Regardless, the two prison guards vanished, whereas the prisoners regained their clarity.

Whoever came, they clearly had no intent to harm the prisoners and retracted the eerie plum fragrance.

"Don't make any noise." A young voice quietly sounded, startling the few prisoners who wanted to cry out, causing them to fall silent.

Huang Que disciples possess the Divine Technique—Radiant Sky Sound, capable of dispelling all negative mental states.

However, these few were in the River Realm, unable to resist a Sea Grade evil technique. When they were still confused about the plum scent in the dungeon, they were already ensnared.

"I am the aide invited by Jin Que'er Pavilion Master. You stay in the cell; before the sun sets, Sky Sparrow Pavilion will be restored to its former peace."

Within the prisoners, a slightly older woman stepped forward excitedly and lowered her voice, "Hero... sir, directly above us on the surface, there's a wooden house with two Dong Ting fiends inside."

"Hmm, they have been dealt with. You stay put." The young voice sounded again, which invigorated the listeners.

On the walls outside the cell, torches were mounted.

The flickering flames could not cast even the slightest shadow of the mysterious person.

Everything felt so surreal...

"Sir, these four prison guards belong to Dong Ting evildoers—under the Five Thunder Hall Master's command. The Five Thunder Hall Master is Middle Sea Realm; once he discovers his men are missing... Sir? Are you still there?"

Silence reigned outside the cell; the mysterious figure seemed to have departed.

Indeed, Lu Ran had returned to the surface, eyes lifted to the dim sky.

It was twilight, and the sun was setting.

Need to speed up.

Among the remnants of Thunder Shock, there are three Sea Realm Great Powers, besides the leader Lady Bai, the others being Five Thunder Hall Master and Xiong Guan Hall Master.

Of these, Five Thunder Hall Master, along with four River Realm Dong Ting disciples, managed the dungeon.

Xiong Guan Hall Master, with another four River Realm disciples, guarded the valley's sole exit, stationed inside the mountain tunnel.

As for the betrayer within Sky Sparrow Pavilion, aside from Jin Que'er, the only Sea Realm Great Power within the pavilion—Li Ying Hall Master—had been taken as a maid by Lady Bai.

She aided Lady Bai in handling all matters within the valley, spending days instructing the Sky Sparrow Pavilion disciples to submit to Lady Bai and consolidate the new leader's rule.

[Nightmare, are you in position?] Lu Ran flew towards the mountain tunnel, transmitting mentally.

[Arrived, at the tunnel entrance.]

[Good, time for me to act.] Lu Ran silently sneaked into the mountain tunnel.

The lingering plum fragrance, truly a supreme magical treasure for killing and looting.

The only problem was the troops within the tunnel, besides the Dong Ting disciples paired two by two, included many Huang Que disciples.

And the range of the plum scent is difficult to control.

As Lu Ran proceeded in the same manner, capturing two River Realm disciples into the gourd, the Huang Que disciples at the tunnel's distant edge, brushed by the shifting plum scent, were not fully hit and fearfully activated their divine technique.

"Kree~~~"

Huang Que movement technique—Radiant Sky Sound!

The usually pleasing sparrow's cry, amplified by the tunnel environment, became unbearably sharp.

Lu Ran's expression wasn't good, swiftly maneuvering through.

He didn't blame the Huang Que disciples; anyone would strive to escape danger if they found themselves mentally disoriented.

Yet the objective fact is...

These little sparrows, their voices are truly piercing?

"What is the noise?" An electric-striding man hurriedly rushed over, his sharp rebuke echoing in the tunnel, "What is hap..."

Before the words finished, the man's heart fiercely palpitated.

Behind him, an overwhelming evil qi, like an invisible sea of blood, surged forth utterly immobilizing him at that very spot.

Such a scene was incredible!

Although the man was in the River Realm, having followed the Second Lady across various regions, he was naturally battle-hardened.

Yet, the terrifying presence suddenly appearing behind him didn't employ any skills; merely with its terrifying aura and oppressive force, it caused the Dong Ting disciple to stall momentarily.

Beside him, the Huang Que female disciple was also silenced.

She stared wide-eyed, stunned at the mysterious person in the straw raincoat.

As the straw-clad youth appeared, his palm had already fallen on the Dong Ting disciple's back, fingertips extending red silk thread effortlessly controlling the man, the gourd at his waist collecting the subdued spirit within.

"Zzzzz~zz~"

At the corner of the tunnel, the last River Realm Dong Ting female disciple rushed over, terrified almost to the point of being bloodless.

Faced with a life-and-death crisis, she didn't hesitate and turned to flee.

"Whirr!!"

Yet, before the River Realm female disciple could escape the tunnel entrance, a gale confronted her head-on.

"Ah!!" The woman screamed, forcibly blown back into the tunnel.

Deng Yuxiang tread amid swirling mist, moving at an astonishing speed, alone blocking the narrow and covert tunnel exit.

A stance ready to defend against all intruders!

"Don't panic, it's me! Everyone, stay calm!" cried a small Huang Que perched on Deng Yuxiang's shoulder.

Meanwhile, within the tunnel, Lu Ran had already caught the Dong Ting offender and stored him in the gourd.

"Damn, who?" A furious male voice exploded from behind.

Accompanied by crackling electric sounds, a tall, bearded middle-aged man abruptly halted.

Interestingly, the anger on Xiong Guan Hall Master's face instantaneously shifted.

"Gulp." Staring at the mysterious straw-clad figure's back, he couldn't help swallowing.

This mysterious figure was undoubtedly a Sea Realm Great Power!

Yet, this wasn't the cause of the proud Dong Ting disciple's unease; the key was the overwhelming evil qi emanating from the straw-clad figure!

Though seemingly colorless and shapeless, it manifested like a corporeal sea of blood, carrying a faintly malicious odor permeating the entire tunnel.

The wall-mount torches flickered in the wave-blown air currents, flames veering sideways.

As if on the brink of extinguishment.

The straw-clad figure slightly turned his head, glanced using his peripheral vision to the rear, within the intermittently bright tunnel light, revealing the side profile of the straw-clad youth.

Expressionless, his gaze icy cold.

Under the unique aura's enhancement, he looked... very much like a humanoid Blood Skull!

"Uh." The imposing figure of the Hall Master of the Xiongguan trembled uncontrollably.

Unexpectedly, with lightning entwined around his feet, he turned and ran away?!

Lu Ran: ?

Do you deserve to be called Xiongguan?

"Swish~" Lu Ran's figure flashed suddenly, leaving behind a blood-colored silhouette.

When he reappeared, he was already at the tunnel entrance in the valley, hiding behind the stone wall and fiercely sweeping backhand with his sword.

"Ziz~ Ziz~"

At the same time, a figure darted rapidly from within the tunnel.

The bloody light of the blade flashed, like a tripwire, directly slicing through the Hall Master's calf.

"Crack!!"

This was the sound of the Water Flow Armor shattering abruptly.

"Ah..." The Hall Master of Xiongguan screamed miserably, forcibly cut down both his calves.

Yet his momentum continued forward, his entire body rolling repeatedly on the ground, raising thick clouds of dust and crashing into a wooden hut.

The house collapsed with a bang, yet still could not stop the Hall Master of Xiongguan.

He continued to roll and slide back until stopped by a suddenly appeared figure stepping on his chest.

"Ah... uh!"

The Hall Master's scream abruptly halted because a blood-stained blade pressed against his Adam's apple.

The blade was wrapped in scorching blood, still dripping down.

The searing blood drops, highly destructive, easily burned through the Hall Master's skin, penetrating into his throat, continuing to burn through everything.

"Pop~"

The strange sound of fish blowing bubbles suddenly sounded, landing on the Hall Master of Xiongguan.

Healing the place where his legs were severed, and also healing the hole in his throat.

[Blazing Phoenix.] Lu Ran moved the bloody blade aside, his eyes always chilling and full of bloodthirsty aura, looking down at the man below his feet.

The Hall Master of Xiongguan was pale, already scared out of his wits.

His body constantly shrank, being sucked into the Treasure Gourd at Lu Ran's waist.

"Stop! You..." an astonished and angry voice came from a distance.

The screams of the Hall Master were too loud, not to mention a wooden shack had collapsed.

At this moment, many disciples in the valley emerged, watching the straw raincoat-wearing youth in horror.

Lu Ran looked up and saw a middle-aged woman of great charm.

Lv Second Lady·Bai Lengmei?

This appearance, this temperament... it's no wonder she was carefully selected by Sect Master Lv Xiao.

"Why does the Daoist intrude on my Sky Sparrow Pavilion?" Bai Lengmei didn't see how the Hall Master of Xiongguan was defeated, but she clearly saw her subordinate being sucked into the gourd.

Of course, she could sense the terrifying strength of the man in the straw raincoat.

The dripping blood on the sword, continuously burning through the ground, also announced the identity of the youth in the straw raincoat.

But Bai Lengmei was no small fry!

She still maintained the dignity of a superior, sternly asking.

"Intrude on your Sky Sparrow Pavilion..." Lu Ran suddenly laughed, looking at the woman several dozen meters away, "Is the Sky Sparrow Pavilion yours?"

Bai Lengmei's face turned gloomy.

Behind Lady Bai, stood a petite woman in a golden robe, her expression changing repeatedly!

As a traitor of the Sky Sparrow Pavilion, the Hall Master of Liying was undoubtedly quite sensitive to this statement.

Bai Lengmei's long and narrow beautiful eyes suddenly shifted slightly.

The two were several dozen meters apart, and to anyone, it seemed she was still staring at Lu Ran.

But how keen was Lu Ran?

He realized that Lady Bai's gaze brushed past the side of his face, looking behind him.

"Ziz~ Ziz!"

Sure enough, the sound of electricity crackled.

The Middle Sea Realm-Third Rank Five Thunder Hall Master launched an attack from behind, his speed so fast it seemed like instant teleportation!

The Five Thunder Hall Master wielded his battle axe, fiercely thrusting toward Lu Ran's back, while shouting sternly, electricity exploding beneath his feet.

There was a Thunder Shock, and a Thunderstorm Purple Light.

It was clear that the Five Thunder Hall Master was giving Lu Ran the highest level of respect, even if he couldn't stab Lu Ran to death, he wanted to pin him in place.

"Tss!"

The spear tip entwined with lightning pierced through a bloody afterimage.

The Five Thunder Hall Master suddenly turned pale!

His forward momentum didn't slow, yet at about a dozen meters, he encountered a "tripwire".

The youth in the straw raincoat knelt on one knee, holding a sword wrapped in scorching blood, swinging out a Blood Moon!

Within the Blood Moon, a boiling Blood Arc flashed by.

"Ah! Ahh... ahhh..."

The Five Thunder Hall Master couldn't react in time, both calves were directly severed, he continued to roll, spraying blood wildly, leaving a long trail of blood on the ground.

Bai Lengmei's pupils contracted violently!

She finally understood how the Hall Master of Xiongguan was defeated.

Is this the reaction speed of a Blood Skull disciple? The Five Thunder Hall Master was a Sea Realm Great Power, in a sneak attack, yet he failed?!

But the question is, why didn't the Thunder Shout stun the Blood Skull disciple?

How! Is! This! Possible?

"Hoo..."

Bai Lengmei suddenly sidestepped and stepped back, the Five Thunder Hall Master swept past her feet, rolling and sliding backward.

Lu Ran stood up, casually flipping the sword flower, the dripping blade tip, pointing far toward Bai Lengmei: "I asked you a question!"

Is the Sky Sparrow Pavilion yours?"

Chapter 797: Inner Peace

The young man's deep voice, filled with evil qi, plunged the valley into utter silence.

It also made Bai Lengmei's heart throb violently.

"Crack!"

Suddenly, a thunder strike descended from the sky, landing on Bai Lengmei's body.

Dong Ting Divine Technique·Thunderstruck Phase!

With the aid of the lightning, Bai Lengmei's body was immensely activated, boosting all her attributes significantly!

"Lady Bai is indeed clear-headed, much more than your fourth sister." Lu Ran looked at her expressionlessly.

As he spoke, his body grew increasingly hot, trembling uncontrollably.

Blood Skull Evil Technique-Burning Blood Body!

Lu Ran used the burning of blood and Divine Power as a price, causing his blood to boil and all attributes to skyrocket.

The effects of the two techniques were almost identical.

The difference was that Lu Ran's method involved self-harm, not only burning blood but also Divine Power.

And for the Evil Demon Minions, once this technique was activated, they couldn't stop.

"Fourth sister... Shen Xiaotang?" Bai Lengmei reached back, grabbing the incoming Divine Weapon Halberd, her long eyes glaring at the young man in the straw raincoat.

Lu Ran nodded lightly: "She was still naively imagining that I would spare her."

Bai Lengmei's face became increasingly unsightly.

It was apparent that Fourth Lady's Starry Valley had also been wiped out by this young man in the straw raincoat!

However, Bai Lengmei no longer had the time to clap in approval.

She looked shocked and angry: "Who the hell are you?"

She had initially thought that Jin Que'er had found this Evil Demon Disciple, paid some price, and sought help to reclaim the Sky Sparrow Pavilion.

Unexpectedly, this mysterious Evil Demon Disciple seemed to hold a deep grudge against Thunder Mountain?

"You, stay there, don't move." Lu Ran did not respond but slightly shifted the blade, pointing it at the petite Hall Master of Liying.

"Ah!" Liying Hall Master shivered in fright.

The skills of the Huang Que Sect, particularly in escaping, were indeed remarkable.

However, at this moment, since Liying Hall Master was in human form, even if she summoned endless sparrow shadows, she couldn't blend in.

How fast was the speed of a Blood Skull Disciple?

Just a moment ago, the young man in the straw raincoat injured the Five Thunder Hall Master with a single strike, and even now, the Five Thunder Hall Master was still crying out in pain in the distance!

Liying Hall Master knew well that if she dared to make the slightest move, she would instantly die a violent death.

But... during the fight between the young man in the raincoat and Lady Bai, of course, she had a chance to escape!

"Swish~"

The young man in the straw raincoat moved, leaving a blood-colored afterimage on the spot.

Bai Lengmei's body tensed, she moved with lightning speed, suddenly darting away.

The sound of their blades clashing rang several tens of meters away, causing Liying Hall Master's heart to tremble as she quickly transformed into a Little Huang Que.

Don't move?

Not moving would be foolish!

"Whoosh!!"

Suddenly, a gale blew in, just as Liying Hall Master transformed into the Huang Que, the entire bird was flipped over.

What's more terrifying is that the gale carried with it the sound of something slicing through the air.

It made one's scalp tingle just listening to it!

"Screech~!" The Little Huang Que suddenly shone, its long tail feathers like silk, trailing a beautiful golden light, dodging the Wind Blades with all its might, and rushing skyward.

Once the bow is drawn, there is no turning back?

But the Wind Blades rushing through the wind weren't just a few.

There were countless, thirty-two in total!

"Whoosh~whoosh~"

A large area was covered by Wind Blades, among which one Wind Blade pierced through Huang Que's wing fiercely.

"Ah..." Liying Hall Master let out a miserable scream, the flying bird immediately changed direction.

With a loud "bang," rocks shattered and flew everywhere.

The Wind Blade pierced Huang Que's wing, with the screaming bird plunging straight into the stone wall.

The people at the bottom of the valley looked over, only to see another mysterious figure in a straw raincoat.

This was a woman, seemingly also an Evil Demon Disciple!

Night Charm Believer?!

On the shoulder of the mysterious raincoat-clad woman, there was an exquisite Little Huang Que, which flicked its tail, launching three burning tail feathers toward the distant stone wall.

Huang Que Divine Technique·Blazing Fire Three Feathers!

Though there were only three burning golden feathers, their explosive damage was not insignificant, and crucially, they could automatically track enemies.

However, under the God-Demon System, Illusion Techniques have a fatal flaw:

Disciples of sects like Huang Que and Witch Crow, when transformed into birds, cannot be covered by Water Flow Armor.

This means that if these three burning golden feathers were to strike Liying Hall Master, it would directly take her life!

Deng Yuxiang furrowed her brows slightly, already reaching forward with her long, jade-like fingers pointing down.

Several Wind Blades instantly changed direction, intercepting the three burning golden feathers.

"Bang! Bang!"

"Boom..." The Wind Blades precisely shattered the golden feathers, triggering eruptions of golden flames.

"Sizzling—"

The swirling mist under Deng Yuxiang's feet shot straight toward the stone wall.

Jin Que'er was somewhat stunned and accidentally lost her grip on the raincoat woman's shoulder and fell down.

Deng Yuxiang reached into the shattered stone wall, grabbing the Little Huang Que and pulling it out directly.

The shrill scream of Liying Hall Master abruptly ceased.

The bird's body was fragile, seemingly on the brink of being crushed by the woman in the straw raincoat at any moment!

Deng Yuxiang looked at the traitor, his hand gradually tightened, and he said coldly, "Didn't I tell you not to move, can't you hear me?"

"S-sorry, my lord!" The Hall Master of Lovely Shadow forced herself to endure the intense pain as she spoke tremblingly.

In the distance, Jin Que'er was equally anxious.

She loathed traitors to the bone.

For a moment, she forgot her own situation and acted on her own initiative, unaware of the punishment that might await her.

Meanwhile, at the southern part of the valley floor, it was already engulfed in a thick blood mist, from which the continuous clashing of blades and battle axes could be heard, fine and unending.

Bai Lengmei gritted her silver teeth, only feeling as if she were trapped in a cage.

The blood mist obscured her vision utterly, and wherever she tried to escape, she was intercepted steadily.

If not for the aid of the Divine Weapon in her hand, she would have been beheaded already.

In fact, by now, her body was already covered in sword traces.

The Thunder Armor had just taken shape when it was ripped apart by the scorching Blood Arc. The Water Flow Armor remained in tatters, the bloodstains on it continually burning, not allowing it to repair itself.

Even more terrifying was the pungent smell of blood, which relentlessly invaded her nostrils.

Bai Lengmei realized, her mind was being devoured by murderous intent.

"Argh!" Bai Lengmei roared in anger, beside herself.

But this sound could only momentarily stun her opponent; it couldn't help her regain her reason.

Ironically, the valley floor was full of Huang Que disciples: anyone chirping could have helped her stay conscious.

But no one chirped.

Who would dare?

"Argh! Argh!!" Bai Lengmei's frenzied battle roar plunged her completely into madness, her slaughter instinct causing her to swing the Sky-piercing Halberd wildly, devoid of any order.

The Divine Weapon Halberd wanted to help, yet it could not awaken its sanity-lost master.

In the midst of blood rain, the frenzied battle cries turned into wrenching screams.

The sound of weapons clashing finally ceased.

A young man in a straw raincoat, covered in blood, emerged, carrying the lifeless Divine Weapon Halberd.

The blood mist gradually dissipated, but there was no longer any sign of Madame Bai, only a pair of severed legs scattered on the ground.

The Huang Que disciples, possessing the Huang Que eyes, could see through the blood mist and naturally saw everything that happened inside clearly.

The disciples retreated cautiously, secretly watching the youth in the straw raincoat walk towards the woman in the straw raincoat and hand over the Divine Weapon Halberd.

He then received the traitor Huang Que from the woman's hand.

Without pausing, he walked towards the Hall Master of Five Thunders, throwing out a small jet-black Little Mo Li.

"Pop~"

"My lord." Jin Que'er transformed into human form and called out cautiously.

"Let me use the dungeon." Lu Ran said casually as he approached the desolate Hall Master of Five Thunders and put him in the gourd.

"My lord, I'll take you there." Jin Que'er said urgently.

"No need, calm the disciples." As the words fell, only a blood shadow was left at the spot.

Jin Que'er opened her mouth, then fearfully looked at the woman in the straw raincoat.

Deng Yuxiang ignored her and instead hefted the Sky-piercing Halberd in her hand, snorting coldly in her heart.

It seems this Divine Weapon was also slaughtered into submission, with all spirit crushed.

Meanwhile, in the brightly lit dungeon.

"Go on, find your Pavilion Master." Lu Ran said in a deep voice, and the overwhelming Evil Qi in him made the prisoners too scared to even thank him, fleeing in panic.

Lu Ran sat cross-legged on the ground, taking a deep breath to calm his agitated mood.

Blood Skull Evil Technique... indeed has a kind of magic.

The overwhelming smell of blood, the intense murderous intent, easily consume the mind.

Now, I'll have to go cleanse myself in the Galaxy Waterfall for a while before I can return to see Little Yuanxi.

Lu Ran sat quietly, and it wasn't long before a figure flew out of the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd.

"Master." Yan Shuangzi reported softly, "The matter has been handled. Elder Lu was quite helpful."

Lu Ran handed over the traitor Huang Que in his hand, "Here's another one."

"Yes." Yan Shuangzi grasped the bird's head, looked around, and headed towards a nearby cell.

With a thought, Lu Ran released one after another of the Thunderstruck remnants from the Treasure Gourd.

Now, Lie Tian Divine Sculpture and Nu Ying Divine Sculpture can both ascend to the Heavenly Realm, right?

Hmm...better notify the Mad Immortal Guardian and Dragon God General, especially Wang Longxiang, lest she is on a mission, to prevent any mishaps.

"You! Who...who are you?" a woman's voice called.

Lu Ran looked over and saw Bai Lengmei, collapsed on the ground, seemingly having regained her senses.

Yet she was very weak, her body covered with sword marks.

By right, she shouldn't be injured, as Lu Ran had helped stop her bleeding and used the Resurrection Carp to heal her wounds.

Her miserable state should rightfully be credited to Divine Weapon· Ling Blade.

"I am..." Lu Ran paused in silence, then said softly, "A sinner."

"I was at the Mist Rain Lake, wiped out everyone at Thunder Mountain, but let the Second and Fourth Ladies left at home escape."

The straw-clad youth spoke plainly, making the eyes of a Thunderstruck remnant widen in astonishment.

Only then did they realize the mysterious aid from the Thousand Boat Alliance was the evil demon disciple before them!

The Sect Master of Thunder Mountain, the First Lady, the Third Lady, Hu Xu, Blood Shadow, Blood Moon, and numerous other hall masters were all slain by him?!

"Therefore, we had the tragedy at the Starry Valley, which led to the current Sky Sparrow Pavilion." The straw-hatted youth looked into Bai Lengmei's eyes, "Tell me, am I not a sinner?"

Bai Lengmei stood there dumbfounded, staring blankly at Lu Ran.

The straw-clad youth approached, and the Thunderstruck remnants scrambled backward in terror.

Lu Ran picked up Bai Lengmei, looking at that pale face, "Lady Lu, meeting you today...

I can finally be at ease."

...

Chapter 798: A Heavenly Sound Bell

Next morning, inside the dungeon of Sky Sparrow Pavilion.

Accompanied by the faint sound of bells, a young girl in a golden dress walked into the underground tunnel.

Turning around a corner, Jin Que'er immediately quickened her pace, lifted her charming face, and timidly looked at the woman in the raincoat: "My Lady, I come to... request to see Ran Shen."

Yan Shuangzi said expressionlessly, "Go back, it's inconvenient."

Jin Que'er felt a bit disappointed, nodded politely, and left.

[Evil Shadow, I'm awake.] The young man's deep voice imprinted in the woman's mind, [Let her in.]

"Pavilion Master Jin." Yan Shuangzi looked at the girl's back and slowly turned aside.

Jin Que'er was unsure why the raincoat-wearing woman changed her mind. Seeing this scene, she quickly nodded gratefully and carefully walked in.

The vast dungeon was pitch dark, the torches were extinguished.

Jin Que'er had sparrow-like eyes and saw the young man meditating cross-legged.

Lu Ran also had eyes akin to a dog's, and saw the elegantly dressed girl full of gratitude.

"Ran Shen." Jin Que'er took two steps forward, the bell clear and pleasant to hear.

Lu Ran noticed something different, the golden bell on the girl's ankle, how come there was only one left?

He no longer paid attention to these, and softly said, "Call me Lu Ran, has the sect stabilized now?"

"Thank you, Lu... Lu Tianjiao, for your assistance in upholding justice." Jin Que'er knelt and lowered her head, still not calling Lu Ran by his name directly, she stretched out her small hands, in her palms was a golden bell.

Lu Ran slightly raised an eyebrow, "What is this?"

Jin Que'er whispered, "Lu Tianjiao, Sky Sparrow Pavilion has nothing of value, this one Heavenly Sound Bell..."

"No need." Lu Ran interrupted directly, "I didn't come for rewards."

Besides, objectively speaking, Lu Ran had already gained too much.

Eliminating the remnants of Jingting relieved a burden from his mind.

Lu Ran's Nu Ying Divine Sculpture had also advanced to the Heavenly Realm-Lower Segment a few hours ago, his Lie Tian Divine Sculpture had reached the Sea Realm Peak, and it was still buzzing.

Heading towards the Heavenly Realm!

What Lu Ran meant by "awakening" was precisely when the vibrations of the Nu Ying Divine Sculpture ceased, leaving only the buzzing of the Lie Tian Divine Sculpture in his mind.

This allowed him barely to think rationally.

Just before Jin Que'er arrived, he was communicating with Deng Yuxiang, though the Divine Sculptures were annoying, their communication was fairly smooth, and the information from Deng Yuxiang had been conveyed.

In one night, Deng Yuxiang asked many disciples of Sky Sparrow Pavilion and learned a lot.

The sect rules of Sky Sparrow Pavilion were commendable, which made Lu Ran more favorable towards Jin Que'er.

Lu Ran was psychologically prepared for such a result.

After all, Jin Que'er knew Lu Ran was Da Xia's genius, that's why she dared to seek help using such terms as "enforcing justice on behalf of Heaven."

If Pavilion Master Jin were of the same ilk as the remnants of Jingting, how would she dare ask for Lu Ran's help?

"I know Lu Tianjiao is different from others, not coveting these." Jin Que'er paused and whispered, "I remember you said earlier, your sister is about to have a birthday?"

Lu Ran: "..."

Jin Que'er moved her small hands forward: "This Heavenly Sound Bell, similar to my sect's Divine Technique·Brilliant Heavenly Sound, can remove negative mental states.

Let the Heavenly Sound Bell protect your sister."

To be honest, Lu Ran was somewhat tempted.

Jin Que'er switched to a half-kneeling posture, indicating the other golden bell on her ankle: "I have another one, even if I fall into a trap, this Heavenly Sound Bell will help me regain mental clarity."

Lu Ran's heart moved slightly, "Is this a pair?"

"Yes."

Lu Ran: "After the two Heavenly Sound Bells recognize their owners, can they still communicate even with different masters?"

"It should be... it is possible." Jin Que'er lowered her head, embarrassed that her little thoughts were exposed.

Lu Tianjiao is great, his style cannot be faulted.

But his external demeanor is truly frightening! The terrifying Blood Skull Evil Technique was enough to make one's hair stand on end.

Jin Que'er knew Lu Ran's sister, Qiao Yuansi, had seen her on television, and knew she was a lovely girl.

No matter if Lu Ran's "sister" wasn't Qiao Yuansi, his deliberate return for the birthday celebration must mean he values his sister greatly.

Jin Que'er felt she could start with the sister.

As long as she could establish a good relationship, then she could deepen her connection with Lu Ran, allowing Sky Sparrow Pavilion to stand more firmly within this Holy Spirit Mountain.

Actually, until now, Jin Que'er didn't know if she was inviting trouble into her home.

Building a good relationship with Lu Ran was necessary...

"Alright." Lu Ran extended his hand, "In the future, if you encounter difficulties, you can contact us promptly."

"Okay." Jin Que'er hurriedly presented a Heavenly Sound Bell.

"I have established a sect power named Ran Sect, why not join us?" Lu Ran examined the bell in his hand and spoke softly.

"Ran Sect?" Jin Que'er's heart was mixed with emotions, what was meant to come had finally come.

"Yes, you are still the Pavilion Master of Sky Sparrow Pavilion, if you wish to continue staying in this hidden valley, I won't force you to leave." Lu Ran looked up at the girl with golden gauze, "Joining my Ran Sect, you will receive my protection, but you need to abide by the rules of my Ran Sect."

Jin Que'er whispered, "What are the rules?"

Lu Ran smiled, "Don't worry, you only need to maintain your original intention, uphold the integrity of the sect, be kind to your fellow people, and not stray from the right path."

"Yes, Sect Leader." Jin Que'er was overjoyed and felt immensely grateful to "Heavenly Pride."

What cost is there?

Purely receiving protection!

Da Xia specially hosted "Heavenly Pride" to select a hundred young people from across the land, was it targeted at the Holy Spirit Mountain?

"Decided so quickly? Not considering further?"

"Sect Leader, you actually don't need to seek my opinion." Jin Que'er snapped back to reality, speaking softly.

Lu Ran: "..."

Realizing Lu Ran's silence, Jin Que'er cursed herself for getting carried away and quickly said, "Sect Leader, my sect's Divine Technique is quite good, I can help you scout and harass the enemy."

The big move in my sect is also very good! If you need it, you can summon me anytime."

As a third-class god, Huang Que has given the sect disciples a River Realm Technique—Great Sun Burning Heaven Sparrow!

Huang Que disciples can transform into a gigantic golden sparrow, soaring through the sky, glowing brilliantly like a scorching sun, naturally causing a blinding effect.

Each call of the giant golden sparrow triggers a meteor fire that causes devastating damage over a large area, the output skill is indeed impressive.

But it has obvious drawbacks:

If you dare to transform into the Great Sun Burning Heaven Sparrow, you must persist until your energy is depleted and your Divine Power is exhausted.

Moreover, the golden sparrow is so large, and without Water Flow Armor...

A perfect target!

Fortunately, the Huang Que sect has extremely fast flying speed, making it somewhat compensatory.

"You too." Lu Ran looked at the girl in the golden dress, "Your sect's output skills are all related to fire, yet you set your sect near the stronghold of the Jinmi Demon Clan."

What kind of existence is the Jinmi Demon Clan?

They are Evil Demons that disregard high temperature environments and are immune to all fire attribute damage!

Mr. Conglong specially reminded Lu Ran to activate this Evil Sculpture.

Jin Que'er lowered her head, softly explaining, "That group of Big Black bears moves very slowly, they can't catch up with us, their output is terrifyingly potent, and no other sects' disciples dare to approach them..."

"Hmm." Lu Ran nodded lightly.

Indeed.

Jin Que'er remembered something and added, "Sect Leader, to the north of the Jinmi Demon Evil Nest, there's another sect formed by Melted Bear disciples, with a founding strategy similar to our Sky Sparrow Pavilion."

Divine·Melted Bear is also ranked third.

This is a typical beast deity and the last in the "Eight Heavenly Demons" sequence.

The Melted Bear sect is unique as one of the few strong god sects without a River Realm Technique.

Just like Greedy Wolf, also a third-class god!

Without a big move yet still in the strong gods' league, it means their "small skills" are particularly formidable.

For instance, Melted Bear disciples can transform into lava giant bears, expanding their size a hundredfold, shaking heaven and earth!

As the mortal enemy of the Jinmi Demon Clan, the Melted Bear sect is also immune to all fire attribute techniques, ignoring high temperature environments.

Jin Que'er's so-called similar sect-building strategy lies in the Melted Bear sect's resistance to fire output, residing near the Evil Demon·Jinmi Demon forces and leveraging the hand of Evil Demons to avoid intrusion from other Human Clans.

"I'm heading north next, with my destination being Ten Thousand Blade Mountain." Lu Ran said softly, "When I pass by there, I'll take a look.

If feasible, I'll have your two sects join forces to survive more stably."

Jin Que'er pursed her lips.

She seemed accustomed to being isolated from the world, hiding in a utopia, and didn't want too much contact with the outside.

Seeing her hesitation, Lu Ran said, "We'll talk about it later."

"Yes." Jin Que'er looked timidly at Lu Ran, suggesting, "Sect Leader, should I arrange a place for you to rest? Don't always stay in the dungeon."

"No need, I'm about to leave."

"Ah? You... you're leaving?" Jin Que'er felt conflicted, previously worried about inviting trouble and now not wanting Lu Ran to leave.

"I'm going to the Nine Heavens Cliff to cleanse the Evil Qi from my body." Lu Ran looked at the reluctant girl and smiled, "After some time, I have to meet the Jinmi Demon Clan.

By then, I'll come to rest at your place, and you can arrange a house for me where others are not allowed to enter regularly."

"Yes!" Jin Que'er suggested, "Shall I take you to see it now?"

In the dungeon, although there were no remnants of Jingting's evildoers, the blood scent was quite strong.

"Alright." Lu Ran stood up, "In a moment, call the forty Weak God Disciples in the pavilion, I'll change their fate, making them believers of Lie Tian, Jade Talisman, and Spiritual Fortune.

Help you predict dangers and guard the Sky Sparrow Pavilion together."

"Ah?" Before Jin Que'er had time to get up, she was already bewildered, looking up at the man in a raincoat.

The pretty girl showed a silly look, making Lu Ran chuckle secretly.

Along with that, a lot of the Evil Qi on him dissipated.

Lu Ran bent down, reaching out to gently pat Jin Que'er on the head: "Didn't I promise to provide protection for the Sky Sparrow Pavilion?"

"Uh..."

"Pavilion Master Jin, perform well." Lu Ran smiled, "If I'm satisfied, I'll change your fate too."

"Yes." Jin Que'er responded softly, having no doubt in her heart about Lu Ran's words.

"Get up, Pavilion Master Jin."

"Sect Leader, can you just call me Que'er?"

"Hmm."

### Chapter 799: Yuanxi

After leaving the Sky Sparrow Pavilion, Lu Ran went to the Nine Heavens Cliff-Galaxy Waterfall to focus on cultivation for two days before preparing to return home.

Before heading back to Cloud Sea Cliff, Lu Ran specifically borrowed a bamboo hat and raincoat from Deng Yuxiang.

Deng Yuxiang thought for a moment and understood Lu Ran's intention, giving him a sideways glance.

The Nightmare Guardian was rather indulgent, handing over the clothing and hat, and cradled the ragged, sword-marked raincoat in her arms.

Not despising it, nor intending to discard it.

This was undoubtedly a battle robe!

Since the Sect Leader dare not let the Lady and his sister see this robe, Deng Yuxiang planned to store it in her own closet as a keepsake.

"Such a nice scent~" Lu Ran sniffed at the wide raincoat of Deng Yuxiang, inhaling at the collar.

Especially her bamboo hat, which carried a faint camellia scent.

Beautiful~

Deng Yuxiang resisted the urge to kick him: "Activate the copper mirror."

"Hmm?" Lu Ran turned his head to look over.

Deng Yuxiang's voice was cold: "Activate Mirror Flower Moon."

"Stingy," Lu Ran muttered quietly, then turned around to perform the Evil Mirror Magic.

Deng Yuxiang watched Lu Ran's back, recalling his earlier antics of holding onto her clothes and sniffing around wildly...

For the first time, she actually felt her cheeks were a bit flushed.

The Transmission Mirror transferred through the Pear Garden Sect and then arrived outside Elder Lu's exclusive courtyard on Cloud Sea Cliff.

Deng Yuxiang left directly, while Lu Ran picked up the Treasure Gourd: "Evil Shadow, you've worked hard these past days, go back and rest."

"Yes."

Lu Ran released Elder Lu, and after a round of gratitude, finally headed home.

In the afternoon, Cloud Sea Residence was peaceful. When Lu Ran went to the study to store the Divine Weapon and Magic Artifacts, he happened to see Jiang Fairy cultivating inside.

"You're back." Jiang Ruyi rose to greet him, her cold visage quietly thawing, "This morning, Yuanxi was worried you might forget today."

The Divine Weapon Blade automatically flew out, each sheathed, landing on the wall-mounted sword rack.

Lu Ran, in a natural motion, encircled Jiang Fairy's slender waist and bent down to place the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd on the low desk.

Sniff~

This time, it was Jiang Ruyi's turn to sniff the floral scent.

Lu Ran's actions froze.

Shoot!

The fairy's beautiful eyes glided over as she gently gazed at Lu Ran.

"Um, listen to my excuse... no." Lu Ran was slightly embarrassed, clearing his throat, "You know what those of the Blood Skull Clan are like."

Jiang Ruyi raised her hand to help him remove his outer garment.

Lu Ran explained: "The Blood Skulls were spurting blood everywhere, my raincoat was soaked, blood-red and red, the Water Flow Armor couldn't wash it out, so I borrowed a piece from the Big Nightmare."

"Hmm." Jiang Ruyi responded softly and casually asked, "Are the lingering threats of Jingting completely eradicated?"

"Ended." Lu Ran exhaled deeply, with a sense of relief, "Finally over."

"As long as it's over, don't put too much pressure on yourself."

"Hmm." Lu Ran wrapped his arms around her again, savoring the rare inner peace.

Jiang Ruyi's body gradually softened, her chin resting on his shoulder, she murmured, "You're becoming more exceptional."

Lu Ran's expression was a bit peculiar: "Now, everyone meets me with such respect, speaking to me with flattery.

If you do that too, I might really get carried away."

Jiang Ruyi chuckled silently, explaining: "You were killing for so long in the Blood Pool, I thought you'd be full of hostility, but you're much calmer than I imagined."

Lu Ran nodded silently.

Not in vain being pounded by the Galaxy Waterfall for days.

"Is the Blood Skull Dark Magic useful?" Jiang Ruyi asked softly, seeing Lu Ran silent.

"Very useful, it suits me perfectly!" Lu Ran instantly perked up, like a child with a beloved toy.

Jiang Ruyi smiled at Lu Ran: "Then you will certainly like the gift Little Yuanxi prepared for you."

"Oh?" Lu Ran was quite surprised.

"Go to the backyard to find her, see her early, let her feel at ease sooner."

"Alright." Lu Ran flashed away, leaving a bloody remnant shadow.

Though terrifying, his gentle smile was faintly visible.

Very contradictory.

Jiang Ruyi raised her hand, her slender jade fingers gently brushing the cheek of the bloody remnant shadow.

Under her touch, the faint contour of the bloody mist quietly dissipated.

"Ha." Jiang Ruyi shook her head with a smile, it was evident, he really liked the Blood Skull Evil Sculpture.

Instinctive teleportation, no longer needing the Evil Dog Evil Skill-Evil Shadow Flash.

Lu Ran casually donned a white robe, arriving outside the west wing of the backyard and gently knocked on the door.

"Knock, knock, knock~"

"Who is it?" A girl's puzzled voice came from within, "Coming, coming!"

Accompanied by footsteps, the door parted to the sides.

"Bro!" Qiao Yuansi was full of surprise, giving Lu Ran a big hug, "You still know how to come home!"

"It's the fifteenth, of course I have to come home." Lu Ran tried hard to soften his voice.

"Humph, at least you have some conscience." Qiao Yuansi muttered softly, stepping back two paces, looking up and down at him, "How come you're not hurt at all?"

Lu Ran: ?

What kind of talk is that!

"All for nothing worrying about you." Qiao Yuansi covered her mouth with a light laugh, turning to go inside, "Come in."

Lu Ran: "..."

"Oh, right, brother, I prepared a birthday gift for you~" Qiao Yuansi remembered something, immediately running towards the bedroom.

Lu Ran's birthday is the seventh day of the lunar New Year, but he never celebrates it, only spending it with his sister on the fifteenth of the lunar calendar.

"Take it slow." Lu Ran walked into the hall and sat by the Eight Immortals table.

Before long, Qiao Yuansi came out, hands behind her back, all mysterious: "Close your eyes first!"

Lu Ran felt helpless but complied, closing his eyes.

He heard a soft sound, and something was placed on the Eight Immortals table.

"Open your eyes!" Qiao Yuansi was full of excitement, her little hands waving continuously, "Ta-da~"

Lu Ran was very curious, opened his eyes to see, and slightly opened his mouth.

A half-face mask?

The lower half of the face, it probably covers the middle of the nose bridge.

It's crystal clear, semi-transparent, seemingly made from blood-colored crystal.

Inside the mask, strands of blood lines slowly drift, sometimes gathering into a stream, sometimes dispersing into a thin mist.

Mysterious yet beautiful.

"Blood crystal material?" Lu Ran exclaimed in surprise.

"You have good taste!" Yuanxi sat at the table, supporting her chin with her small hand, "We melted down two blood crystal daggers to create it!"

"This..." Lu Ran picked up the blood crystal mask, it felt warm to the touch.

Yuanxi giggled: "Ten days ago, Jingxian Mountain sheltered a disciple, who happened to be a rare blood crystal believer!"

Divine·Blood Crystal, ranked eighth.

Like Heavenly Star Sect, the Blood Crystal Sect is also skilled in forging weapons.

This sect is naturally harmonious with Demon Cave's Mineral·Blood Crystal Stone material and has a unique flame, capable of forging blood crystal materials into weapons.

"Truly a decision against the ancestors." Lu Ran repeatedly examined the blood crystal mask, reluctant to part with it.

Yuanxi laughed: "This is Holy Spirit Mountain, how can Lord God intervene?"

The Blood Crystal Sect's flame is used for forging weapons!

It's not for making other items! In the Human World, if a blood crystal believer dares to do so, they are purely courting death.

Yuanxi whispered: "I wanted to forge a set of blood crystal battle armor for you, but Sister Ruyi stopped me, there isn't enough material, and its practical effect isn't great."

You'd still need to inject Divine Power into it, overlaying your Water Flow Armor on it, protecting it in turn..."

It's not just blood crystal materials, even the highest quality Tianchen Steel material, when Lu Ran wields the Cloud Sea Blade, he still needs to inject energy into it, overlaying a layer of Divine Power.

Otherwise, the Cloud Sea Blade easily shatters in battle.

By contrast, the Divine Weapon-Eight Desolates Blade is much better, it can release Divine Power on its own.

Even so, when faced with a skill impact, the Eight Desolates Blade can still shatter, the dangerous encounter from the previous battle with Blood Skull is the best example.

"Thank you, I like it very much." Lu Ran looked at Yuanxi, "What made you think of giving me this?"

Yuanxi held her face with both hands, her smiling eyes curved into beautiful crescent moons: "Sister Ruyi said, you've never explicitly mentioned liking any stone sculptures."

But on the morning of the first day, you said you particularly liked Blood Skull!"

Lu Ran nodded lightly.

Yuanxi: "This dark red blood crystal mask pairs so well with the Blood Skull Clan!"

"Indeed." Lu Ran tried on the blood crystal mask, covering the lower half of his face.

Yuanxi tilted her head to observe, clicking her tongue in admiration: "Really looks like a big villain!"

Lu Ran: "..."

Yuanxi laughed again: "By the way, since you like Blood Skull so much, you must be careful when you see mom in the future~"

The Sword One Sect despises the Blood Skull Clan the most! Don't let mom chop you down with a single sword strike..."

Lu Ran, wearing the lower face mask, spoke, his voice somewhat muffled: "I've reached the middle-level Sea Realm, I'm preparing to retreat this time to advance to the high-level Sea Realm upon my return.

No matter how powerful mom is, she wouldn't one-shot me, right?"

"How bold!" Yuanxi theatrically slapped the table, "Daring to question mother's divine might! Just wait until I see mother again..."

As she spoke, Yuanxi's voice grew smaller and smaller.

The joyful atmosphere in the room vanished without a trace, and the smile gradually faded from the girl's face.

Lu Ran looked at his somewhat melancholic sister, gently comforting her: "We will meet again."

Yuanxi pursed her lips.

Every year on her birthday, no matter how busy mom was, she would celebrate with her.

And with her brother.

That was the rare time of family reunion every year, and it was the happiest time for Yuanxi each year.

But this time, it wasn't possible.

Mom is in the Human World, while she is in Holy Spirit Mountain.

Far, far away from the Human World, far, far away in Holy Spirit Mountain...

"We will meet." Lu Ran softly reiterated, knowing Little Yuanxi missed mom.

That surging emotion was the best proof.

Lu Ran thought for a moment, then took out a bell from his pocket, coaxing: "Yuanxi, I also prepared a birthday gift for you."

"Mm." Yuanxi was still immersed in her emotions, until she saw Lu Ran kneeling at her feet, snapping back to her senses, "Brother?"

"Let me put it on for you, it's called the Heavenly Sound Bell, it can protect you and clear negative mental states for you."

"Should it be worn on the foot?" Yuanxi looked down at her brother.

Lu Ran paused, scratching his head: "Uh... I suppose you can wear it anywhere."

Because Jin Que'er wore the Magic Artifact·Heavenly Sound Bell on her ankle, Lu Ran's habitual thinking continued this way.

"Pfft... hehe~" Yuanxi snickered, seeing Lu Ran's bewildered look, she couldn't hold back her laughter, "Well, you can put it on."

She removed her shoes, placing a tender white foot on Lu Ran's knee, watching his gentle movements, wrapping the red string several times, carefully tidying it, then tying a bow.

Yuanxi silently watched, feeling slight ripples in her heart.

He is a middle-level Sea Realm great power, the revered Master of Ran Sect, the devoutly revered God by countless disciples.

But before her, he never changed.

His words echoed by her ear again: "You have me too, Yuanxi, I'll celebrate your birthday with you."

As he spoke, Lu Ran lifted his head: "And, we will definitely see mom again; we will reunite, I promise."

Yuanxi, pursing her lips, looked at his serious gaze, listening to his always gentle tone, her emotions welled up again.

Her eyes slightly reddened: "You... stand up."

Lu Ran stood up immediately.

Only to see Yuanxi extend her arms, reddened eyes, softly saying: "Hug me."

"Okay." Lu Ran stepped forward, gently ruffled her hair.

"Phew!!"

Suddenly, a violent energy fluctuation rippled out.

Lu Ran looked shocked, gazing down.

Little Yuanxi in his arms buried her face, her voice small and light:

"We will reunite, we surely will....."

Chapter 800: The Woman in the Glazed Realm

Lu Ran didn't expect his sister's birthday to end in such a way.

Advance to the Sea Realm!

He didn't dare to delay and immediately carried her horizontally, walking towards seclusion room number one.

Lu Ran's pace was not fast, ensuring that the Fog Dragon Roll descending from the sky was always connected to little Yuanxi. After sending her into the seclusion room, he didn't dare utter a word, immediately flashing away.

"Great, advancing to the Sea Realm is great..." Lu Ran appeared by the sea cliff, muttering, with a slight smile on his face.

This time, there's no reason to refuse her.

He had to take his sister out for some fun~

Poor Jinmi Demon Clan...

Those fierce bears are already somewhat clumsy. Can they even move when they encounter the true body of the Black Lantern, Qiao Yuansi?

Indeed, Holy Spirit Mountain nurtures people well.

Even any wild area, with its Divine Power density, rivals that of the ancient city under the feet of the Divine in the Human World Da Xia.

And over by Cloud Sea Cliff, it's even more amazing.

There are quite a few stone sculptures of the Ran Sect's true form, and everyone is thriving. The dense mist brought in whenever someone advances to a new level can also aid others in advancing.

Lu Ran, of course, was one of the beneficiaries.

Returning to the cliff this time, he had mentally prepared himself to be in seclusion for a long time to break through his cultivation bottleneck. Now, with the blessing little Yuanxi brought, his cultivation progress will naturally be greatly enhanced!

With that, Lu Ran sat by the sea cliff, both guarding the sect and massively cultivating Divine Power.

The days were rather calm.

Until four days later, Jiang Ruyi sent a message asking Lu Ran to lend the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd to Leng Xushuang.

Miss Xushuang is also about to touch the cultivation bottleneck?

[Xushuang.] Lu Ran immediately sent a message, [Come to the cliffside.]

[Yes, Sect Leader.] Shortly, a fairy-like figure accompanied by a faint plum fragrance floated over.

"Why didn't you ask me for the Little Chi Feng? You even needed the Lady to speak on your behalf?" Lu Ran asked softly.

Leng Xushuang kept her head low, eyes downcast, half-kneeling behind Lu Ran.

Lu Ran waited for a while, receiving no response, and couldn't help but say, "Here."

Leng Xushuang rose and took the flying Treasure Gourd in her hands, softly saying, "Thank you, Sect Leader."

"Go on, take it slow and steady."

"Yes." The woman said softly, the faint plum fragrance lingering as her fairy-like figure departed.

Lu Ran sighed; everything was fine with the young lady, except she gave off an oppressive feeling.

Maybe he really should take her to Qianhua Ridge, have her perform some sword dances to ease her heart a little?

The old saying goes: Great favors can turn into great resentment.

Miss Xushuang mustn't go from one extreme to another...

Indeed, I must use her more!

Lu Ran nodded in agreement with himself, this was not him being a foolish ruler.

It was all for the young lady's good~

In his thoughts, Lu Ran suddenly sensed someone calling him, giving him a feeling of being caught.

Lu Ran searched his spiritual world for a moment and sent a message: [Sister Xian'er?]

[Young Master! Can you lend me the Little Chi Feng? I'm going into seclusion soon, I've nearly touched the cultivation bottleneck!] Came the energetic voice of Si Xianxian in his mind.

Completely different from the previous Leng Xushuang.

Lu Ran was dumbfounded.

The Little Chi Feng... was just lent out!

What to do?

[Are you about to break through? How many days will it take?] Lu Ran asked.

[Yes~ Wahaha!] Si Xianxian was in a great mood, [How would I know how many days, but it's soon.]

Sister Xian'er never considered the possibility that Lu Ran might be stingy and not lend it; she was just simply happy.

[Hmm...] Lu Ran pondered briefly.

Mad Immortal Guardian and Xuan Shuang Guard both advanced in early September last year, with only two or three days difference.

[Young Master?]

[Here's the plan, go to seclusion room number three and find Leng Xushuang. You two can go into seclusion together.]

[Together... in seclusion?]

[Yes, Little Chi Feng is with her. Whoever among you is about to break through should use it first.] Lu Ran sent a message while nodding to himself.

I am indeed clever!

[Alright.] Si Xianxian clicked her tongue.

[As the head maid, you better not bully Xuan Shuang Guard.] Lu Ran sent a message with a smile.

[I wouldn't dare! Miss Xuan Shuang is favored by the Lady! Usually accompanying the Lady in sword practice, serving tea and water, bathing and changing clothes, I wouldn't even get a chance to massage the Lady's shoulders or legs...]

Lu Ran:?

Is there really such a thing?

[Why so silent, shocked?] Si Xianxian stifled her laughter, teasing.

[Hmm!] Lu Ran's expression was firm, [Once Cloud Sea Cliff stabilizes, I'll also bathe and change clothes for the Lady!]

Si Xianxian: ???

Goodness, another one to steal my job!

Lu Ran urged: [Go on and cultivate to advance, don't delay my important matters.]

Si Xianxian rolled her eyes and went to seclusion room number three.

Having waved off the "malicious" head maid, Lu Ran chuckled to himself for quite some time, then calmed his mind, focusing on cultivation.

There were several Sea Realm Great Powers advancing on the cliff, which, on an objective level, certainly served as a guardian for Lu Ran!

Reaching the Sea Realm Fourth Rank should logically happen sooner!

Everything was as Lu Ran expected. Ever since the fifteenth of January, when the Cloud Sea Cliff was enveloped in mist, this situation persisted until early February.

On the eighth of February, Lu Ran became a hands-off manager, officially entering seclusion room number one to cultivate.

Before this, there was also a piece of good news:

Mist Rain Lake·Thousand Boat Alliance has been incorporated into the Ran Sect!

He Yingcai of the Tangled Silk Shadow, under the nomination of the major island masters of Bi He and the careful election by the alliance members of Thousand Boat Alliance, finally achieved her wish.

According to Mr. Cong Long, He Yingcai has already moved to the Central Island·Thousand Boat Island, succeeding the position of Alliance Hierarch.

The intrigues and winding tales during the process were heard by Lu Ran with great interest.

Lu Ran also knows why Yu Changsheng facilitated He Yingcai's transformation, incarnating as the Evil God-Tangled Silk Shadow.

What was the Thousand Boat Alliance lacking?

This alliance, composed of the four sects of Sky Phoenix, Bi He, Chenghua, and Sword Lotus, excels in auxiliary streams, defense, control, and healing.

What it lacked most was output!

Specifically, it lacked the extreme powerful military deterrence in the face of external enemies.

And the Tangled Silk Shadow clan... their whole body is imbued with poison!

At Yu Changsheng's suggestion, He Yingcai openly presented herself as a Believer of the Tangled Silk Shadow, giving the alliance members what they most wanted.

As for her identity as an Evil Demon disciple, in this Holy Spirit Mountain, it does not matter.

What about being a disciple of the Divine?

For the tasks assigned by Lord God, don't they also constantly massacre their peers?

He Yingcai has a long history performing as the Island Master of the Bi He Sect, and her character, including the meritorious service to the Thousand Boat Alliance, is evident to all.

The alliance members are unclear about how she fell into the Demon Path.

However, people vaguely sense that it might be related to the mysterious Ran Sect.

After all, during this period, the Dragon Guardian from the Ran Sect has been accompanying He Yingcai.

It seems this is also a significant reason why the various islands of the Thousand Boat Alliance are willing to recognize He Yingcai as the new Alliance Hierarch.

People's names, like the shadow of trees.

After the Thousand Boat Alliance was invaded by Thunder Mountain, who would not recognize the Pride of Da Xia?

Lu Ran drew his sword to assist, such a righteous act kept the Thousand Boat Alliance standing to this day!

In many people's minds, following He Yingcai is essentially following the Master of Ran Sect·Lu Ran...

After Yu Changsheng helped He Yingcai claim the Thousand Boat Alliance, he continued to serve as the right hand of the Divine Color General, helping her win hearts, consolidate rule, and maintain the stable existence of the Thousand Boat Alliance.

On this, Lu Ran naturally had no objections.

He also knew that the Evil Mirror Team trained by his lady gained another stationing point, allowing them to collect Holy Spirit Energy from the Mist Rain Lake area.

If it were like in a game, unfolding a map of the Holy Spirit Mountain, representing the power and control of the Ran Sect in red...

The eastern, southeastern, and even southern coastal areas of the Holy Spirit Mountain continent have already formed a continuous red area!

In the central part of the continent, there is also a massive red area—The Forbidden City!

In the southwest of the continent, there is also a spark—Longxiang Valley, Sky Sparrow Pavilion.

When Chang Ying and others grow up, they could reclaim the Starry Valley in the southwest, and Lu Ran would have one more area to collect Holy Spirit Energy and illuminate another red spot.

Forge alliances with the neutral orderly Bee Elephant Valley and mutually support each other with Longxiang Valley within the Soul-locking Mountain.

Allow those rescued by the Longxiang Eight Riders in the Soul-locking Mountain to join the Starry Valley nearby, continuously expanding their power.

In the future, moving northwards to the Ten Thousand Blade Mountain area, the Ran Sect would also take down the West Desolation Sect·Tianhuang Mountain and station the Phoenix and Swallow Generals there.

In that desolate land, paint another dazzling red!

In the first two months of the New Year, good things happened one after another.

For Lu Ran, it was even more of an expectation for the future, and with such a mindset, his thoughts were exceedingly clear.

Cultivation was incredibly smooth!

Reaching the Fourth Rank of the Sea Realm also meant that the Heavenly Realm and Heavenly Realm were beckoning to Lu Ran.

And he clearly knew where his aptitude and abilities lay.

Time waits for no one, it was time to speed up!

Before ascension, Lu Ran wants to paint one fiery red patch after another in this gloomy Holy Spirit Mountain.

The spark from the Pride of Da Xia was indeed meant to set the prairie ablaze!

Meanwhile, as Lu Ran shut himself away for arduous cultivation day and night, in the Jade-faced Snake Clan's base 300 kilometers southwest of the Pear Garden Sect...

The seemingly fairyland-like Glazed Realm appeared as calm as usual.

Beside a secluded river, a Jade-faced Snake was gazing at the clear river water, staring at the reflection within in a daze.

Suddenly, a fair and slender hand emerged from the water.

"Hiss!" The Jade-faced Snake immediately returned to its senses, its expression angry, looking at the hand that appeared abruptly in the middle of the river.

In a moment, a woman slowly emerged from the water.

The Jade-faced Snake, having summoned its Jade Ruyi, froze on the spot.

It stared blankly at the beautiful human clan woman like a celestial being, and gradually, the Jade-faced Snake began to tremble.

The woman seemed to be in her mid-thirties, in the prime of her youth, and an elegant white dress accentuated her dignified and pure demeanor, reminiscent of the Jade-faced Snake Clan.

How strikingly beautiful she was!

Especially when a faint, ambiguous smile appeared at the corner of her mouth, her entire persona changed drastically.

Enigmatic and enchanting.

The woman slowly walked out of the water, slightly raising her hand as she passed by the Jade-faced Snake.

The First-class Evil Demon-Jade-faced Snake immediately lowered its noble head like an obedient pet.

She placed a hand on the Jade-faced Snake's head, and it kept bowing its body until it nestled by the woman's legs, its brows lowered, docile and obedient.

"Good girl." The woman slightly raised the corner of her mouth, her fingertips playing casually with the Jade-faced Snake's jet-black long hair, and looked up at the sky.

Cloud Sea surged, shrouding heaven and earth.

Yes,

Holy Spirit Mountain.