

Old Gods 861

Chapter 861: The Path Traveled

"She's here!"

Lu Ran said in a deep voice, his gaze tightly locked onto the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Deng Yuxiang's heart tightened. He was about to say something when Lu Ran continued, "Shall we try?"

Try?

Deng Yuxiang peeked out from behind the stone peak, looking towards the north.

In the Heavenly Realm, there was only a sea of mist and mountains, making it difficult to distinguish north, south, east, and west.

However, privately, Deng Yuxiang defined the direction of the mist's flow as moving from west to east.

Thus, the directions became clear.

On the northern peaks, a large jade sculpture was slowly flying over.

Against the dim sky, her body, like mutton-fat jade, shimmered with a marvelous glow.

That blurry face started to become clearer as she flew closer, gradually coming into Deng Yuxiang's view.

Noble and holy, like a deity.

The blurry face added a touch of solemn, sacred aura to her, much like the divine sculptures standing in the human world, whose faces were equally indistinct.

One couldn't help but think of many things.

"She's heading straight for us..." Lu Ran's eyes flickered as he spoke softly, "It seems like it's just the two of us in this area."

Deng Yuxiang immediately sent a voice transmission to remind: [The Heavenly Realm is not like other regions; it's best to only use the Immortal Sheep Sect's Divine Technique.]

Who could guarantee there weren't other Ghost Moon Fox—Casters lurking around?

Or perhaps Greedy Wolf henchmen?

In the God Demon Series, there are many sects that can conceal themselves!

Apart from the aforementioned, Witch Crow, Nine Nether Sparrows, etc., are all good at hiding themselves.

[Hmm, that's even better.] Lu Ran responded, feeling a trace of excitement rise in his heart.

Unleash the Immortal Sheep Divine Technique!

Return to the essence of a little lamb!

It's been so long since he last "baa"-ed, hasn't it?

Just now, the Faceless Jade Venerable demonstrated incredibly terrifying power, especially with her hands and feet, whatever she touched was transformed into white jade stone.

Lu Ran thought he would be in awe or fear.

Indeed, he felt both.

But more than that, his blood was boiling!

"Whoosh!!"

The overwhelming oppressive force bore down as the Faceless Jade Venerable approached, overwhelming them.

The hand holding Lu Ran's saber even started trembling.

He was afraid, but also extremely excited!

"Try it!" Lu Ran held the Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade in his left hand and the Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword in his right, suddenly sidestepping away into the sea of mist.

The Faceless Jade Venerable remained expressionless, watching the fearless little Human Clan member.

With a muffled "thud,"

The Faceless Jade Venerable landed steadily, gently brushing a hand through the long hair fluttering behind her head.

Elegant,

Truly timeless!

Even as his enemy, Lu Ran couldn't help but silently admire her demeanor.

When his little Ruyi ascends to the Heavenly Realm, she surely wouldn't lose to this jade sculpture, would she?

As the distance between the two parties closed to about twenty or thirty meters, their sizes were clearly contrasted.

Lu Ran, standing at 182 cm, found his waist submerged by the misty sea.

With the same mist thickness, the Faceless Jade Venerable's lower legs were only submerged, as it flowed around her knees.

Hmm... not bad.

Lu Ran didn't need to jump up to strike her knees; he could just slash while standing.

He lifted his head, carefully observing her face.

From this angle, Lu Ran discovered a new world! The Faceless Jade Venerable's eyes were not half-closed, but open.

It's worth mentioning that although her eyes were carved out, they were still entirely made of milky white jade.

No pupils, just a solid white expanse of "eye whites."

This made it difficult for Lu Ran to distinguish what exactly she was looking at.

The next moment, Lu Ran found out.

Because the Faceless Jade Venerable lowered a massive hand, lightly beckoning him.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran raised an eyebrow.

He couldn't deny that this jade hand was excessively exquisite, glossy white and moist, with long and delicate jade fingers.

But beneath its refined exterior, it hid a deadly poison!

Would Lu Ran take the bait?

"Whoosh!!" A terrifying surge of energy unexpectedly erupted from the side.

The Faceless Jade Venerable slightly turned her head, raising the hand just in time to meet the incoming long saber.

From the side, Deng Yuxiang held the Night-slaying Great Saber, with a 28 meter energy blade extending from the broken edge!

Although the brand new blade grew out from the blade's broken part, in both color and material, it was almost indistinguishable from the Tianchen Steel of the Night-slaying Great Saber.

Divine Weapon Domain-Endless Night!

Also known as "Broken Blade Reforged," as Lu Ran called it.

"Clang!"

At the instant the long blade connected with the giant jade hand, a tremendous energy erupted.

"Crack! Crack..."

The Faceless Jade Venerable's expression subtly changed!

A mere Human Clan member, with just one slash, carved two fracture lines on her palm?

Deng Yuxiang's expression also changed!

Was this the only effect of his full-force blow, just a few fracture lines?

This blade, a divine weapon domain with extremely strong armor-piercing effects!

Deng Yuxiang was already at the First Level of the Heavenly Realm, with power above the standard line, and more importantly, had the Magic Artifact·Blood Jade Ring on his finger.

This ring, from the Sect Master of Thunder Mountain·Lv Xiao, bestowed a frenzy of power on its wearer.

With such a combination of factors, was the sole outcome a few measly fracture lines on the Faceless Jade Venerable's hand?

The Faceless Jade Venerable's formidable defensive power certainly startled Deng Yuxiang.

"Snap!"

The Faceless Jade Venerable grabbed the blade, her blurry face revealing a hint of anger.

In an instant, where she held the blade, it rapidly transformed into white jade stone.

"Hmph." Without opening her mouth, the Faceless Jade Venerable let out a cold snort, suddenly yanking back with her jade hand.

Deng Yuxiang's eyes widened instantly!

The Magic Artifact·Blood Jade Ring buzzed, glowing a blood-red hue, struggling to channel raging power into its master.

In just a moment, the victor was decided.

Deng Yuxiang was yanked off balance!

The temples on her head throbbed!

Judging by the aura, the Faceless Jade Venerable was also at the First Level of the Heavenly Realm.

But in terms of physical attributes, be it strength or defensive power, she absolutely crushed any human of the same realm!

Hmm... it makes sense.

Just moments ago, the Faceless Jade Venerable had decisively triumphed over the Ghost Moon Fox—Caster lackey pair from the Heavenly Realm.

Even faced with the Heavenly Evil Technique·Flowing Light Moon Tail, she remained unscathed!

Her combat strength was undeniably beyond conventional limits.

"Hoo~"

Faceless Jade Venerable's jade robe fluttered, resounding in the air, as they suddenly flew forward.

The enormous hand seemed like it intended to crush the small Human Clan into pieces, pressing directly towards the woman in the straw raincoat on the peak.

"Screech——"

Deng Yuxiang's steps stumbled, but suddenly changed, darting to the side.

Before casting Divine Technique·Immortal Hoof, she decisively canceled the Divine Weapon Domain, leaving the once 28-meter-long blade with only a 1.1-meter blade.

Faceless Jade Venerable's hand grasped empty air, unable to control the woman in the straw raincoat wielding the saber.

"Boom!"

Faceless Jade Venerable immediately appeared at the Stone Peak, crushing the mountain's tip.

"Screech——"

The mist spewing from a distance closed in rapidly, alarmingly fast.

Faceless Jade Venerable quickly turned their head, but it was already too late!

The young man in the straw raincoat, with mist swirling beneath his feet, swiftly swept past Faceless Jade Venerable's leg, the Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade in his hand slashing harshly across their calf.

The crackling sound echoed once more.

This time, it was continuous and dense!

"Crack! Crack! Crack..."

The sharpness of the Third-tier Divine Weapon·Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade may not rival the Second-rank Divine Weapon·Night-slaying Great Saber in the Divine Weapon Domain.

But the amplification of power by Heavenly Grade·Fierce Heavenly Power far exceeded the First Rank Magic Artifact·Blood Jade Ring.

Faceless Jade Venerable's face completely changed!

The sudden occurrences made her realize these two small Human Clan individuals were far from the weaklings like Ghost Moon Fox-Caster minions.

"Hoo!!"

Faceless Jade Venerable headed straight for Lu Ran.

Since she previously stood upon the peak, when Lu Ran slashed at her calf, he was charging obliquely upwards from the ground.

This meant Lu Ran was rushing towards the sky... no!

The moment Lu Ran swept past their leg, the Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword took him, falling obliquely downwards.

Lu Ran and his mother's Divine Sword were equally experienced in battle.

But Faceless Jade Venerable wasn't to be underestimated!

The sudden forward motion of her form assuredly means she could intercept Lu Ran before he fell into the Sea of Mist!

"Delusional!!" an icy female voice carried over.

How could Deng Yuxiang let the opponent have their way?

The 28-meter-long saber struck again, not only with incredible speed, but with mist swirling beneath the wielder's feet, moving even faster.

"Hoo~~~"

In a flash, Faceless Jade Venerable's broad jade robe swept sideways.

The robe's hem clashed heavily with the Night-slaying Great Saber.

Deng Yuxiang felt a massive force coming from the saber, numbing her palm, nearly losing grip of the hilt.

She was instantly thrown off balance!

A problem arose: how fast was the speed of Heavenly Grade·Immortal Hoof?

In essence, this skill involved high-speed movement, but reaching this Heavenly Grade level, it was nearly akin to short-range instant teleportation.

"Boom!"

In no time, Deng Yuxiang crashed into a mountain peak.

The Stone Peak shattered, debris scattering chaotically.

Deng Yuxiang didn't stop, her body continuing to smash through like a cannonball.

[Dodge...] Lu Ran's anxious words imprinted in Deng Yuxiang's mind.

The terror of Faceless Jade Venerable manifested in all aspects!

Comparatively, at this moment, Lu Ran was closer to Faceless Jade Venerable and more susceptible to attack.

Yet, Faceless Jade Venerable's decisiveness was astonishing!

As soon as Deng Yuxiang showed a flaw, Faceless Jade Venerable abandoned the nearby young man in the straw raincoat and headed directly towards the woman in the straw raincoat...

"Screech——"

Deng Yuxiang couldn't bother to adjust her posture, mist spewing beneath her feet, desperately altering direction, darting sideways.

Faceless Jade Venerable's forward form almost synchronized with their prey, instantly changing direction.

It was at this moment she sensed the approaching young man in the straw raincoat from behind.

Originally flying forward, her figure suddenly stopped, turning in an instant, stepping towards the small Human Clan.

Deng Yuxiang's expression changed suddenly: "Lu..."

Lu Ran's pupils slightly contracted.

So, was Faceless Jade Venerable's target always him?

Was it all to set up this fatal strike?

Intent on saving the person, Lu Ran employed Heavenly Grade-Divine Technique Immortal Hoof, his speed so swift that Faceless Jade Venerable didn't need to actively step, he rushed towards it!

If it were anyone else, they probably couldn't react.

But Lu Ran's Evil Dog Evil Skill-Evil Agility was fully active!

Leaving Holy Spirit Mountain, he dared not recklessly display myriad skills, seemingly constraining himself.

In truth, this returned Lu Ran to being The Pride of Da Xia, who slaughtered through countless nights of the fifteenth day in the Human World!

Unable to easily execute skills, was it truly a restriction?

Yes.

But it was also Lu Ran's path!

Within this familiar constraint, Ran Dog, Ran Mei, Ran General, Emperor Ran... Ran Shen, emerged!

Lu Ran remained unflustered, without losing momentum in his forward charge, only his upper body suddenly "falling" obliquely downwards.

"Baaa!!"

He sprinted diagonally downwards!

And his running posture also transformed into one of crouching, ready to spring.

"Tap~" Faceless Jade Venerable's giant foot did indeed touch Lu Ran, but her foot scraped only the edge of his wide bamboo hat.

The hat was lifted, Lu Ran's hair fluttering chaotically.

In a crouched stance, his head pressed close to her heel, sweeping under her foot.

"Boom!"

Faceless Jade Venerable's foot heavily landed on the ground.

Lu Ran wielded the Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword like a straight blade, slashing obliquely backward without looking back.

His hand was imbued with Fierce Heavenly Power, carrying the Third-tier Divine Weapon Sword, savagely cutting across Faceless Jade Venerable's calf.

"Crack!!"

The sound of jade shattering erupted.

The Eight Desolates Blade of seconds earlier, the Cloud Sea Sword of seconds later, slashed at the same leg of Faceless Jade Venerable, the same area.

The leg, already crawling with fine crack lines...

Broke!

Faceless Jade Venerable's eyes widened fiercely: !!!

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Good!

Deng Yuxiang was worried initially, but now seeing Lu Ran's swift movement technique and fierce blade skills...

She recalled the days when he was the pride of the Human World.

[Don't move!] Deng Yuxiang had many thoughts but did not act slowly.

"Sss—"

The Charm Shadow darted through, her long hair flowing.

The dark cyan gauze flowing through the woman in the straw raincoat's hair was more dreamlike compared to the misty sea below her feet.

In her hand, the broken blade transformed once more into a giant blade, 28 meters long, slashing directly at the Faceless Jade Venerable.

At this moment, the Faceless Jade Venerable's eyes were wide open, immersed in some emotion.

She was injured.

Injured by two lowly human clan ants.

She was incomplete.

This noble jade body had a lower leg severed, becoming shattered.

Becoming... ugly!

"Hmm?" The Faceless Jade Venerable's face showed anger, suddenly sensing a sharp blade attacking from the side.

"Whoosh!!"

She instinctively flung her jade robe, the tail swirling like glittering white waves, sweeping to the side.

The robe and the giant blade intertwined once more.

As it turns out, even a damaged jade sculpture could not be easily humiliated by mere human believers.

Deng Yuxiang sliced fractures into the jade robe and was again overthrown by the immense force.

Failed?

No!

As the Nightmare Guardian, she was clear about her role—that she was disrupting the enemy, creating opportunities for the main attacker.

"Kneel!"

Suddenly, a deep male voice came through, accompanied by the sound of raging mist.

The Faceless Jade Venerable was startled!

When she reacted, the remaining intact leg had already been slashed by a sharp blade!

While uttering a command, Lu Ran's charging posture seemed somewhat unusual.

He moved sideways, skirting past the side of the Faceless Jade Venerable's leg, hands positioned one in front, one behind.

Left hand with the Eight Desolate Blade first!

His palm infused with Fierce Heavenly Power, violently hacked across her slender lower leg.

Right hand with the Cloud Sea Sword followed!

Lu Ran's gaze locked onto the long leg ahead, slicing horizontally along the fresh fracture line that had just formed.

"Crack! Crack!!"

Previously, Lu Ran took two bouts to cut off the first leg of the Faceless Jade Venerable.

To sever the second leg, he took merely one exchange!

A seamless coordination between the blade and the sword, the attack flowed smoothly as water, precisely striking the same area.

What kind of terrifying battlefield adaptability was this?

Every split-second on the battlefield, every move the enemy made, he was adapting, learning, adjusting!

The Pride of Da Xia was not just an empty title!

"You..."

The sudden word made Lu Ran's heart tremble.

The authoritative voice came with a hint of anger, mingled with an untouchable fearsome divinity.

Lu Ran side-slipped, turning his head to look.

The Faceless Jade Venerable had not knelt.

Even with her lower legs severed, she in her jade robe remained floating in mid-air.

However, from the fractures at her knees where her legs were severed, cracks spread, crawling all over her body.

Glittering white jadeite dust fell steadily from her shattered knees.

Like beautiful starlight.

"Whew..." Lu Ran slowly halted.

Seeing this jade sculpture climb irreversibly into fracture lines, he knew the enemy was about to disintegrate.

Yan Chou had said: the Faceless Jade Venerable was unlike any living being Lu Ran had ever encountered. She did not need to suffer fatal injuries to pass away.

The noble jade sculpture, with defensive power terrifyingly strong.

But when any part of the Faceless Jade Venerable suffered enough area and degree of trauma, unable to maintain her stability, she would shatter on her own.

The Faceless Jade Venerable before him, after having her lower legs severed, had evidently exceeded the critical point of injury!

Lu Ran turned slightly, through the slowly swirling mist, seeing the pair of scattered jade legs among it.

Hmm... truly a pair of jade legs.

Slender and graceful legs, delicate white feet.

Especially after being chopped off, bringing a tragic beauty of fragmentation, looking even more like a work of art...

Unfortunately, like her master, they were breaking into starry dots, drifting and dissipating.

Neither Lu Ran nor Deng attacked again.

The Faceless Jade Venerable did not flee; she quietly floated in mid-air. The outcome was decided, she instead calmly embraced her defeat, showing no trace of anger on her face.

Those pupil-less eyes stared at the young man in the straw raincoat within the misty sea.

As if wanting to memorize his appearance.

However, with the lower half of Lu Ran's face covered by a mask, she could not as she wished.

"What is your name?"

The Faceless Jade Venerable's voice was round and jade-like, contrasting her visage covered in fracture lines.

She actually spoke?

"And you?" Lu Ran retorted.

Neither side answered each other.

The Faceless Jade Venerable expressionless, jade lips slightly parted: "Human clan, you are different from those lowly ants."

"Different?"

Still without answering, the Faceless Jade Venerable spoke lightly, "The god demons see you as swine and dogs, yet now you've reached here, seeing everything clearly, and let me see you."

"So?" Lu Ran slightly raised an eyebrow.

In his ear, the continuous "crack" noises emanating from her body.

The Faceless Jade Venerable ignored it, still maintaining an elegant posture, gently stroking her long hair: "You should kneel at my feet, revering the new master."

"You... like the God Demon?" Lu Ran's heart stirred slightly and immediately asked.

"God Demon." The Faceless Jade Venerable's lips curled faintly, revealing a barely noticeable curve with a hint of mockery.

"You seem disdainful?"

"God Demon, just a group of exiled fleeing defeated generals."

Lu Ran's face was taken aback.

Exiled? Fleeing? Defeated soldiers?

So the God Demons descended into the human world, being hunted down and exiled here?

The unwarranted disaster suffered by the Human Clan, being forcibly initiated into the era of universal reverence, facing evil invasions on the 15th of every month, is the root of it the internal strife of the God Demons?

Where did the God Demons originally live?

The one who defeated them, leaving them helmets and armor abandoned, is it the Faceless Jade Venerable before me?

So many doubts filled Lu Ran's mind.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's gaze enveloped the young Human Clan, her broken countenance revealing a faint smile:

"God Demons, just old things unwilling to exit the stage."

Old things...

Old gods?

Lu Ran asked, "Then what are you, a new god?"

"Crack! Crack..."

The body of the Faceless Jade Venerable began to crumble, gradually dissipating, leaving faintly behind a phrase: "Human Clan, we will meet again."

"Poof~" The exquisite jade sculpture completely shattered.

Sparks of light rippled out in a most enchanting manner.

[Nightmare, use the Rebirth Money to collect the Dead Souls!] Lu Ran immediately ordered.

[Yes.] Deng Yuxiang wielded the blade and flew into a field of starlight, raising the Ancient Copper Coin on her wrist.

After this jade sculpture shattered, a Dead Soul remained as well.

In essence, it was naturally Origin Energy.

But a problem appeared!

Since the exchange began, the Faceless Jade Venerable always carried herself with the posture of the master, not a minion.

This led to Lu Ran being unclear whether this Faceless Jade Venerable shared knowledge with her true self.

Caution is the parent of safety!

Lu Ran dared not directly employ the Soul-splitting Demon Evil Technique-Soul Prison to interrogate this Dead Soul.

"Alright." Deng Yuxiang flew down.

"Keep it for now." Lu Ran pondered, "Once we reach the Divine Mountain region, we'll ask Lord Immortal Sheep, or..."

Lu Ran's heart slightly stirred.

In the present, I can traverse freely across realms.

Should I directly return to the human world, to Luoxian Mountain, to ask Lord Immortal Sheep?

This battle, with its sudden emerging intel, indeed startled Lu Ran.

[Or what?]

[Should we first make a trip back to the human world?] Lu Ran looked at the woman and said, [You heard it just now, right? She claimed that the God Demon faction was defeated by her?]

Deng Yuxiang nodded gently. She was also deeply exploring this intel.

She immediately looked around, searching for any possible creatures: [Be cautious, let's find a Stone Peak we can hide in and open the Transmission Mirror there... huh?]

Before she could finish her words, Deng Yuxiang suddenly looked up.

Lu Ran followed her gaze upward, and immediately, his mouth formed an O shape!

Holy Spirit Energy?

Previously, the earth-shattering sound in the sky seemed to have delivered resources to the Lower Realm.

But... why is there so much Holy Spirit Energy?

In the sky's Cloud Sea, strands of Holy Spirit Energy descended, and as Lu Ran gazed, within his line of sight, he saw at least a dozen strands!

What does this mean?

In the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, spotting one or two strands of Holy Spirit Energy in a week would be exceedingly lucky.

The Evil Mirror Demon clan dispatched by Lu Ran, occupying overseas islands, enjoying all resources within a hundred-mile radius, could only collect 13 strands of Holy Spirit Energy on average per month.

Yet this wave in front of him had 13 strands.

"Hmm." Lu Ran, wearing a Blood Crystal Mask, made a muffled sound.

Because Deng Yuxiang pressed down on his head with one hand.

Lu Ran was a bit puzzled, instinctively resisting.

What for? Even my mother never made me kneel!

Big Nightmare this... is indeed Reversed Celestial Spirit!

[Hide in the mist, conceal yourself, instant teleport to draw Holy Spirit Energy.] Deng Yuxiang tugged Lu Ran behind a Stone Peak, pushing him into a recessed stone wall, pressing him further down.

Lu Ran: "..."

In this world, indeed he had not seen any creatures, but Big Nightmare was unbelievably cautious.

Lu Ran did not say anything further, surrounded by three stone walls, and concealed by Deng Yuxiang, he crouched into the thick fog sea.

Invisibility, instant teleportation, all in one go.

Lu Ran rapidly absorbed the Holy Spirit Energy descending from the sky, which he used to nurture a brand-new Divine Sculpture — the Dust Shadow Flower!

In this realm, a full 13 strands of Holy Spirit Energy were all absorbed by Lu Ran.

With a faint wave of Divine Power, Deng Yuxiang realized that Lu Ran had crouched back in front of her.

[Remain concealed.] Deng Yuxiang also crouched into the fog sea, [Put me into the gourd, quickly teleport and continue collecting this wave of Holy Spirit Energy.]

[Alright!] Lu Ran readily complied.

It now seemed that what Lord Immortal Sheep said was true.

The resources in the Heavenly Realm far exceeded those of the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

Therefore, the Holy Spirit Energy erupted from the battlefields of the Upper Realm, should traverse through the Third Heaven, Second Heaven, First Layer of Heaven...

And only then fall into the Mountain Realm?

Lu Ran mused as he placed Deng Yuxiang into the gourd, then his figure flickered to mid-air.

He gazed into the distance, entering search mode.

Let's return to the human world later!

Let me first fill up~

Chapter 863: Doubt?

Lu Ran was full.

After some searching, he absorbed hundreds of strands of Holy Spirit Energy.

In the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, the work that an Evil Mirror Demon stationed on an island could only complete after half a year, Lu Ran accomplished in just half an hour.

During this time, he inevitably encountered other beings.

There was the terrifying Faceless Jade Venerable, and also combinations of Evil Demon-God minions, which truly broadened Lu Ran's horizons!

Even though Lu Ran was mentally prepared, his perception was still fiercely overturned.

In the Human World, Gods and Evil Demons are irreconcilable.

In the Heavenly Realm, Gods and Demons intimately collaborate, working together...

Yet, from childhood to adulthood, family, school, and even the entire society told Lu Ran: Gods are our saviors, we must be grateful, devoutly worship them.

Evil Demons are the root of chaos in the Human World.

As someone born in the era of Gods and Demons, Lu Ran's outlook was shaped in such a background.

But since entering the Holy Spirit Mountain, his inner world gradually began to collapse.

This world seems not to be as people say.

Entering the Heavenly Realm, Lu Ran witnessed firsthand the scene of Evil Demon-God minions working hand in hand, living and dying together...

A stark naked irony!

Lu Ran could also imagine how desperate others would be.

When people ascended to the Heavenly Realm, finally breaking free from the shackles of lies, only to find they could do nothing.

Above their heads, there are Gods and Demons suppressing.

External enemies present an even greater crisis, forcing the Human Clan to endure humiliation and continue to serve the Gods and Demons.

Lu Ran's feelings were very complex.

In just half an hour, the descending Holy Spirit Energy was quickly divided among the numerous Faceless Jade Venerables and Evil Demon-God minions.

Lu Ran found a slightly larger Stone Peak, hid within it alone, and activated the Heavenly Evil Technique·Mirror Flower Moon.

With one step, he was in the Human World.

In the Immortal Worship Hall on Luoxian Mountain, an elder was kneeling before a prayer mat, devoutly praying to a Stone Sculpture.

"Whew!!"

A terrifying Energy Fluctuation came from behind the elder.

Hundreds and thousands of small Immortal Sheep sculptures along the walls of the hall trembled continuously.

"Who is it?" Cheng Yi felt his heart sink, suddenly turning to look.

The Demon Cave beneath Lord Immortal Sheep's feet was precisely Galaxy Bay, a Demon Cave that produces the Evil Mirror Demon clan!

Upon seeing the Ancient Bronze Mirror, Cheng Yi faced a formidable enemy, thinking a Great Demon had escaped.

Immediately, his cloudy eyes slightly widened!

He was astonished to find a young man in a bamboo hat stepping out of the mirror?

"Grandpa Cheng." Lu Ran nodded slightly, a familiar yet somewhat muffled voice resonated from within the Blood Crystal Mask.

"Mount...Mountain Master?" Cheng Yi spoke with a trembling voice, his mind somewhat not functioning.

The Evil Technique and such were temporarily set aside, the terrifying pressure from the Majestic Heaven Realm made his spirit dazed, only feeling he had seen a God.

As the young man walked forward step by step, it seemed like a towering mountain was crushing down.

As a first-generation believer, Cheng Yi regarded himself as knowledgeable, but in his lifetime, apart from meeting the God himself, he had never felt so small.

Has the Luoxian Mountain Master...already approached divinity?

If Lu Ran knew Cheng Yi's thoughts, he might chuckle wryly.

How could there be such a humble God?

Just after battling a Faceless Jade Venerable, Lu Ran needed Deng Yuxiang's assistance on the side to jointly defeat the enemy.

Even having to slide on his knees past the Faceless Jade Venerable's feet to avoid a dire situation...

"Don't tell anyone about my return." Lu Ran instructed softly.

"Yes, Mountain Master, your skill..."

"Enough, go down." Lu Ran did not explain, looked up at the Immortal Sheep Stone Sculpture, and added, "By the way, Grandpa Cheng, could you find me a bamboo hat? I got it crushed into sheep-fat jade during the fight."

Cheng Yi did not understand what kind of battle Lu Ran was involved in, nor could he comprehend what "sheep-fat jade" meant.

But he wasn't foolish, the Mountain Master specially mentioned this, it was likely conversing with the deity?

"Yes." Cheng Yi, filled with deep doubts, immediately retreated, and after leaving the hall, securely closed the heavy door.

Lu Ran came to the table, selected three incense sticks, and lit them before the furnace.

"Whew~" From his waist swelled a surge of energy, as the Cloud Sea Sword Spirit materialized.

Lu Ran turned his head, seeing the ethereal image of his mother.

He observed her complex gaze.

"Is this your gaze, or hers?" Lu Ran asked softly.

"Is there a difference?" the Cloud Sea Sword Spirit countered.

Lu Ran pursed his lips, finally saying nothing, and silently inserted the three incense sticks into the incense burner.

"Your combat style really is unexpected," the Cloud Sea Sword Spirit softly intoned, its expression becoming increasingly complex.

There was admiration, but seemingly also some fear.

"How does it compare with hers?"

"Different in style, equally impressive."

Lu Ran laughed, his laughter full of joy.

He stepped back a few paces, clasped his hands together, and looked up at the Immortal Sheep Stone Sculpture: "Lord Immortal Sheep, your disciple has returned after a glimpse of the Heavenly Realm."

A low voice resonated in Lu Ran's mind: [How was the experience?]

"Quite magical," Lu Ran shook his head with a smile, "I saw some of the lower-ranked God-Demon minions, rarely seen in the mountain."

[Did you see any external enemies?]

"I did." Lu Ran paused, and uttered a profoundly irreverent remark, "A very elegant jade sculpture."

[Heh.] The Immortal Sheep let out a cold laugh.

"She said..."

[She said?]

"After I chopped off her legs, as she was completely dissipating, she told me something," Lu Ran truthfully narrated, feeling some doubt within.

Is there a problem with this?

[Heh.] The Immortal Sheep sneered, [Quite insightful.]

Lu Ran was even more puzzled and turned to look at the ethereal Qiao Wanjun beside him.

The Sword Spirit of the Cloud Sea gently nodded: "Indeed, the Faceless Jade Venerable can communicate, but she despises conversing with ants, so most people are unaware of this.

You are one of the very few who can make the Faceless Jade Venerable speak voluntarily."

Lu Ran: "..."

No wonder the Sword Spirit of the Cloud Sea had a complex expression.

Lu Ran initially thought it was because of his battle style of dancing on the knife's edge, but now it seemed there was another reason.

On a first meeting, with just one battle, one could make the Faceless Jade Venerable speak.

Could it be that I am as valuable as that?

[What did she promise you?]

"She didn't promise the disciple anything." Lu Ran had a peculiar expression, scratching his head, "She said that my efforts to reach the Heavenly Realm have now made me visible to her.

She said I should kneel at her feet and worship my new master."

As he spoke, Lu Ran pursed his lips.

It's as if being noticed by her is some great honor!

Did I strive so hard to reach the Heavenly Realm just to become your servant?

[It seems your conversation was short.] The transmitted voice carried a hint of teasing, [When you truly understand her, perhaps your heart will waver.]

"Huh?" Lu Ran was startled.

He raised his head to look at the Immortal Sheep's stone figure, finding it hard to imagine these were the words of a deity.

"What... what is her background?"

The Immortal Sheep did not respond but asked: [What else did she say?]

Lu Ran organized his words: "She said, that gods and demons are just remnants fleeing in panic, unwilling to exit the stage of history?"

After the words fell, the Immortal Sheep remained silent for a long time.

Lu Ran patiently waited for a long time, unable to hold back, he asked: "Is what she said true?"

[Who knows.] The deep voice was somewhat hoarse.

Lu Ran: ???

No!

If you don't know, how could I?

Suddenly, the voice transmitted again: [Everything in existence has its own stance. Instead of letting me decide, you should verify, think, and judge for yourself to form your own understanding.]

For once, the Immortal Sheep was not stingy with words.

[You entered the Mountain Realm first, then ascended to the Heavenly Realm, your perceptions constantly collapsing and reshaping, this is the process of growth, the journey of self-construction.]

[Seek the truth.]

[The road, must be walked by oneself.]

Lu Ran opened his mouth, but for a long while, couldn't say anything.

In the Immortal Worship Hall, there was silence.

And Lu Ran had realized, what the Faceless Jade Venerable said was likely an objective fact.

Gods and demons, perhaps truly a remnant of fleeing panic-stricken soldiers; whether they are outdated relics that should exit the stage of history, to be eliminated, all these need Lu Ran to judge for himself.

Strictly speaking, as far as Lu Ran was concerned, this was not really a problem.

Because he was on a path to kill gods and demons, to replace them!

As for the Faceless Jade Venerable...

What gives her the right to claim to be "something new"?

Such audacity!

Looking at her appearance and character, she's just another lofty stone, even if intricately carved, what's the difference from gods and demons?

Lu Ran saw the deity no longer transmitting sound, so he spoke: "Lord Immortal Sheep, I have captured the dead soul of a Faceless Jade Venerable, within the Rebirth Money under my command.

She always speaks from the perspective of her true self, and I dare not reveal other skills in front of her for fear she would share what she sees and hears with her true self..."

[Anyone you defeated could only possibly be a lowly minion.]

Lu Ran: "..."

Your words, dear sheep, truly sting.

[Go, don't waste any more time in the Human World.]

"One more thing!" Lu Ran requested, "The disciple believes we can use the Faceless Jade Venerable as a cover to bring the executioners who follow me into the Heavenly Realm, and take them under my command. What do you think?"

However, Lord Immortal Sheep no longer paid attention to Lu Ran.

He reverted back to being the aloof sheep.

Lu Ran waited for a long time and assumed silence meant consent, then bowed and left towards the door of the great hall.

The heavy doors were slightly pushed open, and as expected, Cheng Yi stood outside waiting with a bamboo hat.

Lu Ran took the hat, instructed him to tidy up the hall, and then shut the door, turning to the Sword Spirit of the Cloud Sea: "Is there something she wanted to say?"

The Sword Spirit had always accompanied Lu Ran, presumably to relay a message.

The ethereal Qiao Wanjun gently nodded, her tone cold: "Within your abilities, slay more of the Faceless Jade Venerable, their figures are scattered throughout the Heavenly Realm, always hunting and devouring the forces of the gods and demons.

The Holy Spirit Energy contained within them far exceeds your imagination.

This is a shortcut, a way to rapidly enhance your Sculpture Garden."

Those in the Heavenly Realm can only rely on arduous cultivation, painstakingly extracting Holy Spirit Energy from the vast Divine Power within their bodies, to nourish themselves.

And it's only a temporary possession!

After all, once Holy Spirit Energy appears, it won't be long before it dissipates, merging into the soul of the Human Clan, left to offer to the gods and demons after death.

But Lu Ran's warriors and the Stone Sculptures in his garden could skip the arduous cultivation process!

Earn painstaking money, save painstaking money...

How is that faster than grabbing money?

Lu Ran silently nodded, retrieved the Ancient Bronze Mirror with one hand, and asked: "Anything else?"

The Sword Spirit of the Cloud Sea slowly shook her head: "That is all the master said."

"Whew!!"

The Landing Mirror forcefully tore through time and space, gradually taking shape.

Lu Ran looked at the ethereal Qiao Wanjun, gazing directly into her eyes, and whispered:

"Take care of yourself, wait for me."

...

Chapter 864: My Executioner

Holy Spirit Mountain·Heaven's Edge.

Lu Ran walked out of the mirror, and was startled to find himself surrounded by mist.

"Who?" A figure flew up from outside the cliff, questioning in a deep voice.

"It's me." A muffled voice came from behind the Blood Crystal Mask.

"Young Master?" Yan Chou was surprised, and his expression turned somewhat grim, "Are you injured?"

Lu Ran left early in the morning, and now it's still morning. It's inevitable for Yan Chou to think of many things and assume that Lu Ran was forced to flee back to the Mountain Realm to recuperate and restore energy.

"No." Lu Ran asked, "Who is ascending?"

Yan Chou landed by the cliff, knelt, and bowed: "It is said it is the Martial Emperor under your command. Clown Slave was sent by the Lady to guard Heaven's Edge."

"Oh?" Lu Ran finally showed a trace of joy.

Wu Xiao, ah Wu Xiao, you have finally ascended!

As long as I remain in the Mountain Realm, you take things easy? Do you only feel urgency after my successful ascension and venturing into the Heavenly Realm?

Lu Ran smiled and shook his head, sending a mental message: [Evil Shadow.]

[Master?] A delighted female voice came from his mind.

[Call Senior Bai Rao, and Generals Feng Yan to Heaven's Edge.]

Lu Ran issued commands in his mind, as the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd flew into his palm automatically.

Using his Simurgh Eyes, he looked at the man in the Emperor Robe amidst the fog: "Follow me to the Heavenly Realm."

"Yes!" Yan Chou nodded repeatedly, overwhelmed with excitement.

This sight made Lu Ran feel deeply moved. Holding the Treasure Gourd, he collected this loyal former general of the Cloud Sea into it.

Suddenly, a graceful figure appeared with Instant Teleportation: "Master, I have already informed the others."

Lu Ran nodded: "This time upon returning, I will take Bai Rao and Yan Chou to the Heavenly Realm. Then I will summon Senior Tu Feng to Heaven's Edge to continue protecting Ran Sect.

After I leave, inform the Lady."

"Master, why don't you tell her yourself..."

Yan Shuangzi was cut off by Lu Ran before she could finish her sentence: "No need."

Just as he says a word to Ruyi, they must part again.

Why torment her so?

This morning, as she pretended to be asleep during their farewell, is still vivid in Lu Ran's mind.

She's not good at pretending. Each time she truly sleeps, her shallow breaths are long and rhythmic, always giving Lu Ran a particular sense of peace.

But not this morning.

Clearly a cold and indifferent person, yet troubled by emotions.

Sigh...

Am I truly a calamity?

"Xiaolu~" A seductive voice came from behind.

Lu Ran turned his head to see a beauty snake twisting her alluring figure, rapidly crawling on the ground towards him.

He immediately reached down, predicting her path.

Sure enough, Lu Ran's hand rested on Bai Rao's head, avoiding becoming a pole for her: "Return to the sky with me?"

"Really?" Bai Rao beamed with joy, her beautiful eyes exceptionally bright.

Of course, she knows what this means!

The young master of Lu Sect is finally going to take her under his wing, gifting her a Divine Sculpture.

"Hmm." Lu Ran was somewhat dazed, seeing the smile of a child on the face of this world-shattering Great Power.

How happy is she?

This cruel world is truly adept at creating sorrow and joy.

"Alright~ I'll follow you," Bai Rao slightly shook her head, rubbing against Lu Ran's palm.

Lu Ran: "..."

What's this woman been turned into by the Evil God·Jade-faced Snake...

"Go on in." With Bai Rao absorbed into the gourd, Lu Ran had gathered everyone he intended to bring.

Why not take Tu Feng along?

Because Bai Rao reveres the Jade-faced Snake, and Tu Feng reveres the Martial Monk.

One God one Demon, two sides of a whole.

Having witnessed the God and Demon working together in the Heavenly Realm firsthand, Lu Ran naturally believes that the interactions between the Martial Monk and the Jade-faced Snake would be relatively frequent.

Both Heavenly Realm·Human Clan disciples tearing the contract simultaneously (souls devoured by the Faceless Jade Venerable, severing contract links) clearly seems inappropriate.

They should stagger the timing.

Lu Ran waited a moment longer at Heaven's Edge before welcoming Feng Yan, the two generals. He opened a landing mirror leading to Mo Gu Peak and ordered: "You two clear the field first, wait for me."

"Yes!"

"As you command." The two responded one after another, quickly stepping into the mirror.

After finishing everything, Lu Ran then looked at Yan Shuangzi, who was standing silently: "The Heavenly Realm is still manageable, Nightmare and I can handle it, don't worry."

"Hmm." Yan Shuangzi responded softly.

Lu Ran placed a hand on her shoulder: "The Stone Sculpture you will merge with in the future will be very popular on the Heavenly Realm Battlefield. Evil Dog can teleport, and Greedy Wolf can turn invisible.

You are more exceptional than everyone else; you have the ability to collect Holy Spirit Energy by yourself and strengthen.

You might find it hard to believe, but after you ascend to the Heavenly Realm, you could level up faster than within the Sea Realm."

Yan Shuangzi of course believed Lu Ran's words and nodded firmly: "Yes!"

"I'm going to invite Peak Master Tu, in a while, you liaise with him."

...

A few minutes later, within the Heavenly Realm.

A larger Stone Peak suddenly trembled, and a landing mirror opened inside.

Lu Ran cloaked himself and emerged, immediately dispersing the landing mirror and then flickering into the air, scrutinizing all directions.

After ensuring safety, only then did he return to the cave, releasing the three from the gourd.

"Back again." Bai Rao lowered her hand and swirled the misty sea around her waist.

[How about it, can we interrogate the Faceless Jade Venerable?] Deng Yuxiang quickly transmitted a message, rushing to the cave entrance, cautiously looking outside.

Lu Ran smirked: [Lord Immortal Sheep said, the only ones we can defeat are the lowly minions.]

Deng Yuxiang: "..."

So, ask away?

[Let's ask later, I'll take in two disciples first.]

Lu Ran looked at the man in the Emperor Robe: "Chou Nu, can you reach the Evil Spear Emperor?"

Yan Chou felt carefully for a moment, shook his head, and said: "No, the contract connection is very weak; I need to be near the Divine Mountain region to possibly communicate with the Evil God.

Moreover, Young Master, even when residing in the Divine Mountain region, the communication between the Human Clan and God Demon is not very clear."

Lu Ran had already concluded; here, his connection with Lord Immortal Sheep is extremely weak.

However, between the Heavenly Realm and the Mountain Realm, there should still be a slight distinction in God Demon's perception.

"Come." Lu Ran extended a hand forward, "I'll have the Evil Spear Emperor's Stone Sculpture sign an Inheritance Contract with you. Just act according to my guidance."

"Yes!"

"Hoo!!" Within Lu Ran, a huge Evil God shadow unfolded.

Bai Rao stood to the side, her beautiful eyes sparkling with visions of her future.

Lu Ran was already well-versed in the matter of accepting disciples.

With a muffled groan from Yan Chou, under Lu Ran's protection, he tore apart the original master-servant contract.

In bygone days, the executioner under the banner of God Demon, now belonged completely to Lu Ran.

The moonlight shimmered in Lu Ran's hands as he pressed it atop Yan Chou's head, nurturing his body and soul:

"Soon, I will take you back to Holy Spirit Mountain, make a trip to Mo Gu Peak, bring you to merge with the Evil Spear Emperor Evil Sculpture."

"Yes."

Lu Ran continued: "You can swallow the same source God·Qiang Xiu Divine Sculpture, and gain all the Divine Techniques of the Qiang Xiu faction."

"Gulp." Yan Chou's Adam's apple bobbed.

The Evil Techniques of the Evil Spear Emperor Clan were already strong enough.

And now they can add the Qiang Xiu Divine Technique?

One God, one Demon, although their skills are quite similar, there is a significant difference: the Evil Spear Emperor Clan does not have Instant Teleportation Technique!

The Qiang Xiu faction does!

Yan Chou hardly dared to imagine how powerful he might become equipped with Instant Teleportation...

"Th...thank you, Young Master, for your great kindness!" Yan Chou said tremblingly.

Lu Ran spoke softly: "You were once my mother's old retinue. When she was forced to leave, you never abandoned her and have protected her sword for so many years; this is your due."

"Chou Nu..."

"Enough." Lu Ran interrupted, turning to Bai Rao.

Bai Rao immediately approached: "Xiaolu, I am wholeheartedly devoted to you, as evident as the sun and moon..."

"Aunt Bai rescued me from Tiangang City and protected my Ran Sect soldiers as they advanced at Mist Rain Lake, I won't forget it."

Hearing Lu Ran's words, Bai Rao showed an enchanting smile on her face, but the next sentence from Lu Ran left her dumbfounded.

"Is Aunt Bai certain about binding with the Jade-faced Snake Stone Sculpture?"

Bai Rao froze for a moment, then panicked!

"Xiaolu Xiaolu~" She appeared pitiful, pleading sweetly, "You mustn't tease me!"

Lu Ran rolled his eyes; what kind of words were these!

He resignedly said: "You've seen Yan Chou's situation; combining Divine Sculpture with Evil Sculpture will surely greatly enhance your abilities!"

You know, the Martial Monk and Jade-faced Snake are two sides of the same coin, and my Martial Monk Divine Sculpture is already bound with Wind Emperor."

Bai Rao suddenly fell silent.

Lu Ran: "Aunt Bai mentioned before, you were once a disciple of Sky Phoenix?"

Originally, Bai Rao hesitated, but upon hearing the words "Sky Phoenix," she seemed to react instantly and promptly replied: "I want to become the Jade-faced Snake."

Lu Ran: "..."

"God Demon can cooperate; I should be able to with Wind Emperor too?"

"Indeed."

Bai Rao breathed a sigh of relief, lightly grasping Lu Ran's sleeve: "Xiaolu, let me become the Jade-faced Snake; I...Aunt Bai begs you."

Looking at the woman pleading softly, Lu Ran remained silent for a long time, gently nodded: "Alright."

"Really?" Bai Rao excitedly grasped Lu Ran's wrist: "Good, good..."

Inheriting the Stone Sculpture, how can it be child's play?

To Bai Rao, no matter how kind-hearted Lu Ran was, someone destined for greatness inevitably puts their career first, with everything else following.

Unexpectedly, Lu Ran agreed!

She hadn't considered that, from Lu Ran's perspective, having Bai Rao collaborate with He Qifeng might be a decent choice.

He Qifeng's character is extremely strong!

Bai Rao's personality is... well.

Their cooperation could allow them to complement each other and also mutually constrain.

Lu Ran placed a hand atop Bai Rao's head, expanding the Jade-faced Snake shadow within: "If Aunt Bai doesn't wish to return to Sky Phoenix, insists on becoming a snake... After this contract, tell me your story."

Bai Rao lowered her eyelids, whispered: "Is this Young Master Lu's command?"

Lu Ran paused in silence, then said: "No, consider it a request."

Bai Rao suddenly laughed.

Other matters, I can promise you, except for this, if it's merely a request...

I am indeed quite heartless.

Speaking of which, how could such a cold world have a ruler like you?

Bai Rao closed her eyes, slowly swayed her head, gently rubbing Lu Ran's warm palm.

...

Chapter 865: The Path of the Fake God

Lu Ran was very steady.

The signing and tearing of contracts with the executioners needs to be completed in the Heavenly Realm, trying to let the Faceless Jade Venerable take the blame as much as possible.

The fusion of the executioners with the stone sculptures, however, has to take place in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

After all, Lu Ran needed to invite the stone sculptures out, and with their massive size of two to three hundred meters, they were too conspicuous.

Thus, Lu Ran led the team to the Holy Spirit Mountain·Mo Gu Peak.

The two generals, Feng Yan, had been waiting here for a long time. With the experience from last time, the couple released the Sand Sea to cover the vast cave walls, ensuring the stability of the mountain.

With the assistance of the two divine generals, Yan Chou successfully merged with the Evil Spear Emperor Stone Sculpture.

Afterward, he followed Lu Ran's pupils into the God Demon Sculpture Garden.

"Umm..." Lu Ran's face looked very unpleasant, as he pressed his hand on his forehead, with his thumb and middle finger rubbing both sides of his temples.

Seeing this scene, Bai Rao immediately crawled over, leaning on Lu Ran's back, reached out with a pair of soft jade hands, and placed them on Lu Ran's temples.

Gently massaging him.

Next to them, Deng Yuxiang watched this scene with a blank expression.

This woman... is really quick and sharp, isn't she?

"Xiao Lu~"

"Hmm?" Lu Ran responded softly.

"I have been fighting in the Heavenly Realm for years, collecting a lot of Holy Spirit Energy and I've also swallowed many Faceless Jade Venerable's dead souls~" Bai Rao's eyes sparkled.

Lu Ran nodded quietly.

In fact, he had already thought of this, which is why he chose her over Tu Feng first.

The improvement in human cultivation is not entirely consistent with the stone sculpture cultivation method.

The human clan enhances through purifying Holy Spirit Energy, using the brief stay of energy in the body to nourish and strengthen their bodies, thus continuing to break physical limits.

The advancement of stone sculptures is incredibly pure, purely relying on the accumulation of Holy Spirit Energy!

Bai Rao, as a disciple of the Jade-faced Snake, possesses a special move·Immortal Python Devours Heaven, allowing her to devour both the enemy's body and dead souls together.

In other words, the Holy Spirit Energy contained in Bai Rao's soul must be extraordinarily vast!

"Didn't Xiao Lu say that after I merge with the stone sculpture, I will transform into the Fake God deity and be able to harness the Holy Spirit Energy hidden within my body?"

Speaking, Bai Rao couldn't help sticking out her scarlet long tongue, licking the corner of her lips, "Maybe, I can directly ascend to the Second Heaven!"

"That would be best." Lu Ran responded softly.

He had already learned from Lord Immortal Sheep that the gap between the First Layer of Heaven and the Second Heaven is a significant difference in the Great Realm.

The amount of Holy Spirit Energy needed for the human clan to ascend to the Second Heaven is hard to quantify; it all depends on how people utilize the Holy Spirit Energy and the degree to which their bodies are nourished and strengthened.

The Fake God Stone Sculpture advancing to the Second Heaven, however, is relatively clear, requiring approximately a hundred thousand of Holy Spirit Energy.

A hundred thousand strands of Holy Spirit Energy!

Aunt Bai actually able to consume so many?

Lu Ran was quite looking forward to it!

If she really could, wouldn't the Evil God·Jade-faced Snake feel unbearable losing such a "blood pack"?

Hehe~

Lu Ran reached out with one hand and said, "Come on, let's try it and see."

If she could really ascend to the Second Heaven, she would be able to create a body with the strength and realm of the First Layer of Heaven and accompany Lu Ran on his journeys...

The key point is, Lu Ran still carries her original stone sculpture with him!

Is this the Fake God·Jade-faced Snake?

No, this is Lu Ran's great reliance, a Stabilizing Needle!

"Hoo!!"

Pure yet terrifying energy surged up all at once.

The Jade-faced Snake Evil Sculpture slowly pieced together, with its long lower snake body coiling around, appearing in the vast cave.

"I'm going~" Bai Rao couldn't hold back her excitement, quickly crawling toward the massive Jade-faced Snake.

As one person and one sculpture lightly touched, the pieces of stone sculpture peeled away.

Soon, Bai Rao entered Lu Ran's mind in a brand-new form.

"Ugh." Lu Ran's face looked even worse; two Heavenly Realm-Stone Sculptures merging left him feeling overwhelmed!

With his head buzzing, even his body swayed a bit.

Deng Yuxiang immediately stepped forward, supporting Lu Ran's arm, and frowned, "Take a rest for a while."

"Okay." Lu Ran nodded.

In his current state, he certainly wasn't suited for battles in the Heavenly Realm.

With the assistance of Deng Yuxiang, he reached a spot in front of a stone wall and sat down heavily.

Feng Yan's two generals withdrew the Sand Sea and were about to take their posts when they heard the sect leader's words: "Feng Yan."

"Yes!"

"Sect Leader?"

"Come." Lu Ran waved his hand, forcing himself to endure the buzzing head, and opened a Landing Mirror, "Go back and cultivate well, in the near future, you will have this day too."

"Yes!"

They respectfully saluted and successively stepped into the mirror.

"Whew..." Lu Ran exhaled a long breath, like a puddle of mud, and his body slumped down.

Only Deng Yuxiang remained beside him, so he no longer had to maintain the facade of a sect leader.

In private, Deng Yuxiang finally shared his own thoughts: "The stone sculptures in the Sculpture Garden require you to personally slay enemies and devour dead souls to cultivate, so it's better not to let too many warriors merge with the stone sculptures."

"Yan Chou and Bai Rao's merging is quite necessary." Lu Ran tapped his forehead in distress, "Yan Chou has fought in the Heavenly Realm for more than ten years, even longer than Bai Rao."

Unfortunately, Yan Chou, as a disciple of the Evil Spear Emperor, does not possess the skill to devour the dead souls of enemies, and can only collect the scattered Holy Spirit Energy.

Lu Ran pondered, "I don't know if Yan Chou can advance to the Second Layer of the Heavenly Realm. It would be best if he could, but if not..."

After he devours the stone sculpture of Qiang Xiu, he can then teleport instantly."

Deng Yuxiang caught up with Lu Ran's line of thought and mused, "Even if he's still at the First Layer of Heaven, only able to create a Sea Realm Peak physical body, if he can teleport, he has the capital to operate in the Heavenly Realm."

He can collect the Holy Spirit Energy on his own and grow himself."

"Right, he and Yan Shuangzi are of the same kind, not needing my personal nurturing," Lu Ran replied weakly, with his head resting against the stone wall.

They can be left to develop on their own.

"The most important thing is, Yan Chou becoming a Pseudo God Stone Sculpture now has the ability to devour dead souls," Lu Ran continued.

The stone sculpture itself cannot be easily summoned, due to the hefty appearance fee.

But the physical body created by Pseudo God Yan Chou, its soul comes from the god demon remnant shadow that can fully represent the original stone sculpture!

Deng Yuxiang nodded secretly, sat beside him, and took off his bamboo hat.

"Mm~" Lu Ran enjoyed the massage from the Big Nightmare, feeling somewhat more comfortable.

There's no denying, the technique of the Big Nightmare is far superior to Bai Rao's...

In the pitch-black environment, there came a faint female voice: "I will not merge with the stone sculpture for now, I will accompany you as a human clan to fight and continue to grow."

Within Lu Ran's sculpture garden, there were already four pseudo gods of the human clan.

Even if you exclude Yan Chou and Bai Rao, there were still Yu Changsheng and Luo Ying, who needed Lu Ran's personal cultivation.

Adding one more Deng Yuxiang was too much pressure for him.

"Sis."

"Hm?"

"I admit you have excellent talent, but don't forget, you were chosen by the Second-class God·Beifeng."

Hearing the words "Beifeng," Deng Yuxiang's fingertips pressed slightly harder.

Lu Ran grimaced, "Yan Chou and Bai Rao are disciples of the Evil Demon, and even the top-class disciples, their talent might be above yours."

Deng Yuxiang: "..."

Indeed so.

Lu Ran, with a spirit of mischief, continued, "Two first-class evil demon disciples with top-tier talents have been fighting in the Heavenly Realm for so long, yet they are still at the First Layer of Heaven!

You, a Second-class God disciple... ouch~ it hurts~"

Deng Yuxiang hurriedly eased the strength in her hands.

She really didn't do it on purpose; she realized her own weakness and slight loss of composure.

Undoubtedly, becoming a pseudo god, embarking on another path of advancement, relying solely on the accumulation of Holy Spirit Energy, step by step reaching the top is her best choice!

She is not Qiao Wanjun.

How many Qiao Wanjun are there in this world?

Deng Yuxiang thought well, hoping Lu Ran could be a bit more relieved, but reality did not allow it!

"Everything is difficult at the beginning," Lu Ran gently advised, "Once you pseudo gods reach the Second Layer of the Heavenly Realm and can create a heavenly-realm-strength physical body, I can be liberated.

The more pseudo gods, the more you help each other, the more I can let go and lie at home, allowing you to grow wildly..."

"Mm." Deng Yuxiang quietly responded.

Lu Ran was comforting her, but what he said was the truth!

Once the snowball started rolling, the pseudo gods in Lu Ran's sculpture garden would indeed grow frantically!

Lu Ran suddenly turned and looked at Deng Yuxiang, "You seem unaware that Mr. Conglong and the Luoshen General are now being let loose by me."

Deng Yuxiang slightly raised an eyebrow.

Lu Ran shrugged his shoulders, "Their Sea Realm Peak bodies are left in the Mountain Realm! They are slaughtering in the sea at the ends of the earth.

They are constantly devouring dead souls, drawing in Holy Spirit Energy, and continuously growing."

Deng Yuxiang nodded, "Leaving just the Dragon Guardian in that sea area is enough; Luoshen General can be sent back to the mainland, thrown into the evil demon headquarters."

"There are plenty of Ink Carp clan, Sea Shark clan, and Angry Sea Flame Flood Dragon in the ends of the earth sea area..." As he spoke, Lu Ran suddenly leaned his forehead forward.

Deng Yuxiang: ?

Lu Ran's forehead rested on her arm, and he mumbled, "Oh, sis, just listen to my arrangements. My head is aching, don't make me think for now..."

Deng Yuxiang looked at the young man with his face buried on her arm, his expression growing increasingly strange.

Are you acting coquettishly?

You're already twenty-two, you know that?

Being in your twenties doesn't matter, but the fact is you are a Majestic Heaven Realm! You know that?

Indeed, birds of a feather flock together.

He must have been led astray by that bad woman Bai Rao...

"Nightmare Guardian."

"Here." Deng Yuxiang subconsciously responded.

"Your sect leader just said his head hurts." Lu Ran's voice was low, with a hint of dissatisfaction.

"Ha." Deng Yuxiang suddenly laughed, "The soft approach doesn't work, so you're trying the hard way?"

"How should I know you're so ruthless, just watching me, not moving at all." Lu Ran grumbled, then suddenly muttered, "Do you think I'm Deng Shao?"

"Ha." Deng Yuxiang laughed again.

This time she was laughed out of anger.

She gently yet firmly turned Lu Ran's head straight, "Shut up and rest."

"Okay."

...

Chapter 866: The New God at Her Fingertips

Two days later, at night.

Lu Ran suddenly realized that his condition had eased a bit.

What is this?

He immediately entered the spiritual world, arriving at a misty gray God Demon Sculpture Garden.

Lu Ran hovered in the air, facing a huge handsome face — Yan Chou!

"Young Master!"

"It worked." Lu Ran said, unable to hide the look of disappointment on his face.

It seems that Yan Chou, after fighting in the Heavenly Realm for over a decade, did not gather the ten thousand strands of Holy Spirit Energy, even with the purified Holy Spirit Energy.

"I am ashamed, Master." Yan Chou sensed Lu Ran's disappointment, feeling deeply guilty, and made a move to kneel down.

"Hey? Stop!" Lu Ran quickly stopped him.

Yan Chou immediately froze in place.

Lu Ran said helplessly, "This is my spiritual world, don't move around, I can't bear it."

Yan Chou: "..."

Lu Ran continued, "When we go to battle in the Heavenly Realm, you'll quickly advance to the Second Level of the Heavenly Realm."

Is ten thousand Holy Spirit Energy a lot?

Indeed.

But on the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, it isn't considered many.

As everyone knows, one pure River Realm Dead Soul is equivalent to one strand of pure Holy Spirit Energy.

If we calculate based on common sense...

Heavenly Realm = 10 Sea Realms = 100 River Realms!

In other words, every time Yan Chou slays a Faceless Jade Venerable, even without the additional resources they collect, just its own Dead Soul equates to a hundred strands of Holy Spirit Energy!

Calculating it this way, ten thousand is not much at all.

Indeed, the Faceless Jade Venerable is incredibly powerful! Not only is it extremely difficult to kill, but even a slight touch from it can lead to severe injuries or death.

But no matter how brave, one can't withstand a pack of wolves!

Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang together can slay one Faceless Jade Venerable, and in the future, Lu Ran's Fake God team will grow stronger, and the situation will improve.

"Let's go!" Lu Ran thought more and more, "I'll take you to devour the Qiang Xiu Divine Sculpture..."

Before finishing, he sensed something else.

Yan Chou replaced the position of First-class Evil God·Evil Spear Emperor, and on his right side stood First-class Evil God·Jade-faced Snake.

Bai Rao had already fused with the Evil Sculpture, but she hadn't stopped trembling.

Her realm was rushing towards the Second Level of the Heavenly Realm!

Oh~

How delightful!

Lu Ranfei observed for a moment, even more delighted.

It must be Aunt Snake!

Greedy snake, huh?

Clearly, the ability to devour Dead Souls widened the gap between their strengths.

Here, a concept must be clarified: the vast majority of Divine Demons cannot devour Dead Souls!

They can absorb Origin Energy (Holy Spirit Energy), and this energy is precisely contained within the souls of all living beings, leading to the Divine Demons' ability to "devour Dead Souls".

Thinking carefully, there are few methods involving the soul level on the side of the Divine Camp.

However, there are a few races on the side of the Evil Demon Camp that possess skills to imprison and torture Dead Souls.

In the highest Third Level of Heaven area, how are resources actually allocated between the God Demon camps?

Could it be that those evil demons capable of imprisoning Dead Souls also work for strong gods and strong demons?

Lu Ran pondered silently, leading Yan Chou as they flew across the river to the Divine Camp.

"Channel your Holy Spirit Energy to Qiang Xiu's Stone Sculpture, just a bit," Lu Ran ordered, "Give less, just enough to activate him."

"As you command!" Yan Chou cautiously knelt halfway on the ground, extending a gigantic finger to touch the small Stone Sculpture.

Qiang Xiu, a short-statured old man with wrinkles covering his face.

He looks stubborn~

However, in this one-acre piece of the Sculpture Garden, Lu Ran is naturally the largest!

He activated the Qiang Xiu Divine Sculpture, then guided the old man to cooperate in his destiny, merging with Yan Chou.

As Yan Chou entered his condition, Lu Ran finally turned to the two Fake Gods.

Yu Changsheng, Luo Ying.

One was a Second-class God, the other a Third-class God, both stood on the Divine Camp side.

"Sect Leader."

"Congratulations, Sect Leader, on gaining another fine general." Yu Changsheng thoughtfully extended his hand, allowing Lu Ran to stand in his palm.

Lu Ran smiled, then said, "Do you have something to say?"

Yu Changsheng's face turned serious, "I didn't dare to disturb you, but after you ascended to the Heavenly Realm two days ago, did you return to the Human World?"

"Ah!" Lu Ran's heart skipped a beat, "I did go back for a short while to discuss some issues with Lord Immortal Sheep.

Your and Luoshen's remnants left in the Mountain Realm, have they disconnected from the body stone sculptures? Did the flesh body dissipate?"

"Sect Leader, do not blame yourself, important matters are at hand, our flesh bodies have not dissipated." Yu Changsheng immediately replied.

"Next time, I'll definitely inform you early to move the flesh bodies to a safe place," Lu Ran apologized.

Yu Changsheng achieved his goal, immediately shifted the topic: "It seems that the First Layer of Heaven is noticeably closer to the Holy Spirit Mountain compared to the Human World."

Previously, after Lu Ran ascended to the First Layer of Heaven and concluded the battle with the Faceless Jade Venerable, while collecting Holy Spirit Energy, he had communicated with the duo.

At that time, Yu Changsheng and Luo Ying in the Sculpture Garden had not completely lost contact with their flesh bodies left in the Mountain Realm.

However, the connection had weakened significantly.

Back then, Yu Changsheng had speculated that once Lu Ran advanced to the Second Level of Heaven, the Fake Gods' flesh bodies in the Garden might not stay in the Mountain Realm.

Should be able to stay in the First Layer of Heaven?

Lu Ran suddenly frowned and pondered, "Mr. Conglong, the move of bringing out your body indeed consumes a lot of Origin Energy.

But we haven't tested yet whether your body staying outside long-term without fighting, just standing, would continuously consume Origin Energy?"

"Sect Leader means..." Yu Changsheng's heart slightly moved.

"If you both keep your body stone sculptures stationed in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, there wouldn't be a disconnect with the flesh body."

Lu Ran paused and continued, "No matter where I go, it won't affect your battles or resource collection."

Luo Ying furrowed her brow slightly, wanted to say something, but held her tongue.

If it were before Yan Chou and Bai Rao joined the Sculpture Garden, she would have surely advised Lu Ran to always carry her with him for safety.

But now, the situation is noticeably different.

Yu Changsheng suddenly asked, "Sect Master, if Luo Divine General and I leave the Sculpture Garden, can you still perform the technique of Dragon Carp, Mo Li, and Ash, the fisherman?"

"That's not a problem, I have plenty of techniques to substitute... uh." Lu Ran suddenly grinned.

"Sect Master?" Yu Changsheng felt a pang in his heart, looking at the little guy in his palm.

"Headache, I won't think about it now. Let me take my time to recover first." Lu Ran waved his hand with a pained expression, "I'm off to play the fool."

Yu Changsheng: "..."

Luo Ying: "..."

The little person in the palm vanished without a trace. The two Fake Gods exchanged a glance and cautiously returned to their original place.

Afraid that a bigger movement might drive the Sect Master crazy.

Fortunately, Lu Ran did not suffer for too long.

The upgrade between the Human Clan and Stone Sculpture are completely different concepts!

Take people from the Sea Realm as an example, upgrading a small rank takes 5-10 days, whereas a Sea Realm Stone Sculpture upgrade takes as little as half a day or at most a day.

Clearly, the Human Clan follows the path of breaking physical limits.

The extremely extended breakthrough time continuously attracts mist, nourishing and enhancing the physical strength of the Human Clan while expanding the body container.

Stone Sculptures are different.

As long as the Holy Spirit Energy is sufficient, the specs will expand.

On the nineteenth of September, Lu Ran's mind cleared up completely!

Yan Chou successfully merged with the Divine Sculpture Qiang Xiu, and the trembling body of Bai Rao gradually calmed down, no longer causing trouble for Lu Ran.

"Ah~~~" Lu Ran couldn't help but let out a pleasurable moan.

Say no more!

Thank the two executioners for their great mercy, sparing me my life!

"All good?" At the tunnel entrance, Deng Yuxiang, who was on guard, immediately returned to Lu Ran's side, inquiring with concern.

"Woo~" Listening to the genuine woman's voice, Lu Ran was almost moved to tears.

Logically speaking, Lu Ran's head often hummed, he should have been somewhat accustomed to it.

The problem is he is impatient!

Eagerly wanting to witness the demeanor of the Heavenly Realm Second-Level Great Power!

Besides, there is a Dead Soul in Deng Yuxiang's Rebirth Money, waiting for the two to interrogate.

It's been three or four days!

Though the Dead Soul with Heavenly Realm strength won't dissipate, dragging it out isn't ideal either.

"Wait a moment, I'll take a look." Lu Ran sat up straight, closed his eyes, and returned to the God Demon Sculpture Garden.

Directly confronting the Evil Demon Camp, Jade-faced Snake Evil Sculpture!

No,

The past half-human-half-snake Evil Sculpture has now transformed into a Human Clan Evil Sculpture.

It's just that Bai Rao's Stone Sculpture is too large!

Lu Ran, inside the garden, couldn't see her entire body, and could only jump out of the garden to perceive her whole being.

"Hmm?" Accompanied by a slightly lifted nasal sound, a pair of enormous stone eyes gazed over.

Even though Bai Rao had transformed into a Stone Sculpture, she still couldn't hide her supreme elegance.

In front of outsiders, Bai Rao always resembled a solemn and dignified goddess statue.

Now, she truly deserved the name!

Lu Ran clicked his tongue secretly, since ascending to the Heavenly Realm, rarely did any being give him such an intense sense of oppression.

"It's little Lu~"

The solemn goddess statue's demeanor shifted, eyes filled with a touch of flirtation.

She extended a gigantic stone finger, gently lifting the small human in front of her face.

Lu Ran also gazed at her, feeling a very contradictory sensation.

The stronger Bai Rao became, the more terrified yet accomplished he felt!

After all, she is his soldier!

"Congratulations, Second Level of the Heavenly Realm." Lu Ran said.

"Hehe~" Bai Rao suddenly laughed, her laughter growing louder and louder, "Hehe~ Hahaha!"

Without the composure a goddess statue should have, she laughed endlessly, increasingly wildly...

Her laughter sent chills down Lu Ran's spine!

Really?

You're not pretending anymore?

I already have Sister Xian'er in the Ran Sect, adding another mad beauty and I wouldn't know how to handle it.

"Whew~"

Bai Rao raised her other stone hand, covering her face.

The madwoman-like laughter gradually dimmed, faintly interspersed with choking sounds.

The extreme emotional fluctuations also affected Lu Ran's mood swings.

He could feel her immense joy.

He could also feel the sense of relief as if a weight had been lifted off her heart.

Even... liberation?

After being oppressed for so many years, it seemed she finally found a way out.

After a long while, her emotions slightly stabilized, and she whispered:

"Did I scare you?"

"No... it's fine, letting out your emotions is good."

"Hmm." Bai Rao lowered the hand covering her face and looked at the little person on her fingertip.

Even the Second Level of the Heavenly Realm isn't enough to make such a goddess statue lose her composure, laughing and crying without regard for her image.

The true reason lies in the significance behind this realm.

It's about having no more chains of the past.

It's about no longer being oppressed by the Evil God.

The Evil God, who never allowed her to progress further, can no longer control her, can no longer stop her from raising the butcher's knife...

Slowly, Bai Rao tilted her fingertip, as if trying to see him more clearly.

Yes, she has a new master now.

A new god she willingly serves.

...

Chapter 867: True Pain

Under Lu Ran's guidance, Bai Rao and Yan Chou both crafted their physical bodies.

The difference is that Yan Chou's body is at the Sea Realm Peak, while Bai Rao's body is at the Heavenly Realm, Level One.

Hmm... it's enough!

"Young Master!"

"Sect Leader." Yan Chou and Bai Rao both saluted, making Lu Ran raise his eyebrows slightly.

Yan Chou, as a former member of Cloud Sea, always showed great respect to Lu Ran.

But Bai Rao, this enchanting beautiful snake, for the first time acted so properly.

"Grateful words, let's not say them." Lu Ran looked at the two executioners, one black and one white, "The road is still long... Oh, I need to give you code names."

"Young Master can still call me Chou Slave." Yan Chou suggested.

Lu Ran smiled, "My mother and I can call you that, but others can't."

Yan Chou fell silent.

Lu Ran leaned against the stone wall, pondering, "Let's call you Heavenly Generals!

You are both great powers from the Heavenly Realm, to me, you are a gift."

Yan Heavenly General, Bai Heavenly General, Tu Heavenly General...

Alright, it's decided.

Both of them naturally had no objections, just a code name, but unexpectedly, Lu Ran continued: "The Heavenly Generals are under the protectors in hierarchy."

Bai Rao: "..."

After going around in such a big circle, it's just to make me, accept the leadership of the Nightmare Guardian?

She glanced at the woman in bamboo clothes beside her, naturally knowing that this incredibly lucky woman was the first to follow Lu Ran.

Sigh...

Bai Rao sighed inwardly.

How many times has it been that she felt a sense of regret that she was born too late to meet him?

This path of struggle, she indeed arrived a bit late.

Fortunately, for now, she is the highest in strength and realm within the Ran Sect!

Although arriving a bit late, in his eyes, she can still shine brightly.

"Sect Leader." Deng Yuxiang suddenly spoke.

"Hmm?"

"The two Heavenly Generals have been fighting in the Heavenly Realm for many years, they must have familiar people, should they disguise themselves a bit?"

"Makes sense!" Lu Ran looked at the handsome Yan Chou in an Emperor Robe, and then at the charming Bai Rao in white clothes as pure as snow.

It's not just about changing attire.

They must cover their faces too!

In front of the corresponding Evil God, they are both considered dead, if the disciples and underlings of the Evil Spear Emperor and the Jade-faced Snake see them still alive, it might expose us.

"I'll have Evil Shadow prepare bamboo hats and bamboo clothes for you two, and make a mask..."

Hearing Lu Ran's decision, Deng Yuxiang nodded secretly, this is indeed more prudent.

After issuing the orders through sound transmission, Lu Ran flipped his palm, revealing a cloud of black mist:

"Let Evil Shadow prepare, now, let's interrogate the prisoner."

Deng Yuxiang immediately stretched out her palm, summoning the Rebirth Money on her wrist, releasing the imprisoned dead soul.

Yan Chou's gaze slightly sharpened!

In the cloud of black mist, he saw a somewhat blurred face.

Faceless Jade Venerable?!

The vast cave was dimly lit, with only a faint light falling from the tunnel entrance more than ten meters above.

Faceless Jade Venerable's gaze lingered momentarily on Yan Chou and Bai Rao, as if identifying something.

It was clear she recognized the two of them!

After all, every underling can be considered an intelligence officer.

As they fell in battle and their souls returned to the main body, the Faceless Jade Venerable naturally knew all the information.

The recreated underlings, inheriting the essence of the main body, also carried some of its memory, at least bearing relevant battlefield intelligence.

"It seems you are indeed different from those lowly ants." Faceless Jade Venerable withdrew her gaze, realizing where she was.

Lu Ran said in a deep voice, "You say the God Demons are the old things unwilling to leave the stage, but you are a stone statue yourself, how are you different from them?"

Faceless Jade Venerable did not answer, but said: "Human Clan, you know quite a few techniques."

"Answer the question!" Deng Yuxiang sternly reprimanded.

Faceless Jade Venerable's mouth slightly curled up, the arc barely noticeable: "If I don't answer, will you burn me?"

Lu Ran's face darkened, "Since you know of Soul Fire, then answer the question."

Unexpectedly, Faceless Jade Venerable looked at Lu Ran calmly: "Burn me."

"What?"

"Let me see your means." Faceless Jade Venerable said lightly.

"Heh, alright!" Lu Ran sneered coldly, "I've never heard such a request before.

This is at your behest!

"Hoo~"

In an instant, a ghostly Soul Fire ignited within the Soul Prison.

The expected screams didn't occur, Lu Ran almost thought his technique had failed.

This is a Heavenly Grade Soul Fire!

No matter how tough the man, most would completely soften in a few seconds.

Yet, Faceless Jade Venerable just watched Lu Ran, letting the Soul Fire burn.

Even more terrifying, her mouth curled into an even more distinct arc.

She was smiling!

In the midst of the most brutal torture, she smiled at Lu Ran.

"You..." Lu Ran was shocked.

Is this possible?

Lu Ran even felt a bit of admiration for Faceless Jade Venerable!

"Is this all your means?" The fiercely burning Faceless Jade Venerable, even her voice did not tremble.

Does she have no sense of pain?

Lu Ran was very puzzled, but he was burning her soul, not her body...

"Can you be immune to this fire?" Lu Ran asked with a frown.

"You are very young."

"What do you mean?"

"You haven't experienced true pain." Faceless Jade Venerable spoke softly, with a hint of a smile.

Lu Ran slightly opened his mouth, staring at the emotionless Faceless Jade Venerable, completely overturning his understanding.

[Young Master.]

[Hmm?] Lu Ran turned his head to look.

[It's very unlikely to be effective.] Yan Chou gently shook his head, [The willpower of this clan is beyond anything you've seen!]

The Cloud Sea Sect once captured the dead soul of Faceless Jade Venerable and tortured him harshly, but never got any useful information."

Lu Ran pressed his lips together and silently extinguished the Soul Fire.

Faceless Jade Venerable looked at Lu Ran with a calm expression, "Are you the inheritor of one of the stone sculptures, and yet a believer of the other?"

Lu Ran's heart sank.

Unexpectedly, Faceless Jade Venerable considered this possibility.

Although the other party guessed wrong, this kind of enemy was undoubtedly different from all those Lu Ran had faced before.

Faceless Jade Venerable stood at a very high position, knowing much information!

If anything is exposed in front of her, it must be completely wiped out; if her soul is allowed to return, there will be endless troubles!

"There seem to be more secrets on you." Faceless Jade Venerable ran her hand through her long hair, pondering, "Your power could come from that bull.

But that you could slip away from my feet, your reflexes and agility are also extraordinary."

Ordinary Heavenly Realm beings would have been crushed to pieces and died tragically on the spot.

Not only did Lu Ran escape, but he also counterattacked and killed her.

On the battlefield of Heavenly Realm strength, victory and death often occur in the blink of an eye.

"Is your target also God Demon?" Lu Ran suddenly asked.

A deliberately exposed flaw indeed caught the other party's attention, only to hear Faceless Jade Venerable softly say:

"Also?"

For Lu Ran to say such a thing, he certainly did not intend to let the Dead Soul go back.

Since force couldn't obtain intelligence, Lu Ran resolutely adjusted his strategy, trying to advance by retreating.

Lu Ran nodded and said, "Our Human Clan suffers oppression, enslaved for generations, I'm unwilling!"

Faceless Jade Venerable nodded lightly, "You should cross these several heavens and kneel at my feet."

"You seem to have no difference from God Demon." Lu Ran's face was gloomy, "No matter who of you wins or loses, the fate of our Human Clan will not change."

Faceless Jade Venerable's pair of sculpted, blurred eyes stared directly at Lu Ran, saying lightly:

"If you don't try, how will you know it won't change?"

"Why do you claim to be something new?" Lu Ran thought he had already opened the topic, so he followed up by asking.

Unexpectedly, Faceless Jade Venerable said, "The time left for you is not much."

"What do you mean?"

"There aren't many beings worthy of my second glance." Faceless Jade Venerable wore a mysterious, ambiguous smile on the corner of her mouth.

A slight foreboding rose in Lu Ran's heart.

Could it be that in the battle against the God Demon camp, she has already gained the upper hand?

Or is she bluffing?

"Let me go, Human Clan, this is a rare opportunity for you."

Lu Ran frowned slightly, remaining silent.

Faceless Jade Venerable seemed to have predicted this, saying softly: "If you are unwilling, then the next time we meet, you and I will still be strangers."

It would be hard for you to get me to look at you again."

"That won't happen." Lu Ran smiled.

Realizing it was impossible to gain anything more from this prisoner, he revealed his true nature: "If I can kill you once, I can kill you a second, third... countless times."

For once, Faceless Jade Venerable slightly raised an eyebrow.

But her eyes gradually showed a hint of mockery.

Clearly, she was held captive in the Soul Prison, held in the palm of Lu Ran's hand, yet her lofty demeanor seemed to look down on the lowly ants beneath her feet.

"What, you don't believe?" Lu Ran said coldly.

He considered himself to have strong psychological endurance, but Faceless Jade Venerable's demeanor made his temper flare!

Lu Ran's hatred for God Demon was already maxed out.

Holding Faceless Jade Venerable, who was clearly a God Demon type or even more powerful entity, as one of the sources of chaos in the Human World.

Her expression...

Lu Ran even felt like a weak kitten, flaunting its sharp claws before a mighty tiger, overestimating its abilities.

"Live longer." Faceless Jade Venerable remained calmly accepting her fate.

And her words were not expectations, but all mockery!

[Chou Slave.]

[Young Master!]

[Use your body stone sculpture to devour her Dead Soul.] Lu Ran ordered sternly, placing the black mist cluster in front.

Strength!

Only with solid strength can there be an equal dialogue!

Currently, Lu Ran was not even worth a meaningful glance, just an extra glance.

Faceless Jade Venerable's wording was always to kneel at her feet, not stand before her.

"Hoo~" Lu Ran fiercely dispersed the Soul Prison Team.

Faceless Jade Venerable...

Just you wait!

See what kind of stance I'm in when I appear before you!

"Buzz!!"

Lu Ran's brain suddenly buzzed, and the Chou Slave stone sculpture in the garden began to tremble.

Yan Chou was both surprised and delighted: "Young Master! This Dead Soul contains an immense amount of Holy Spirit Energy, Chou Slave seems to be... to be..."

Ascending?!

Lu Ran commanded: "Return the remnant shadow! This Sea Realm body, forget about it."

"As you command!"

...

Chapter 868: Skull Underfoot

The Chou Nu Stone Sculpture began its ascension to the Second Level of the Heavenly Realm, which indeed lifted Lu Ran's spirits quite a bit.

If all goes as expected, Yan Chou will probably take two or three days to complete the promotion.

Lu Ran certainly won't waste these few days!

He immediately looked at Deng Yuxiang and suggested, "Sister, while Chou Nu is leveling up, why don't you also fuse with the Night Charm Stone Sculpture."

Deng Yuxiang hesitated for a moment and then nodded.

Now that Lu Ran has already glimpsed into the Heavenly Realm, he understands the general situation. More importantly, Yan Bai, the two Heavenly Generals, are back to accompany him through their first-level Heavenly Realm bodies.

The Nightmare Guardian should complete its mission soon!

The earlier it becomes a Stone Sculpture with the ability to devour dead souls, the sooner it can leave the Sculpture Garden again and continue to protect him.

"Wait a moment, I'll call Feng Yan the two generals over, and let them bring the bamboo hat and bamboo clothes..."

Regarding the matter of fusing the Stone Sculpture, Lu Ran is already skilled and practiced.

With Deng Yuxiang devouring and replacing the Night Charm Evil Sculpture, Lu Ran also retracted her into the Sculpture Garden.

This time, Lu Ran was a bit overwhelmed.

Yan Chou was leveling up and Deng Yuxiang was fusing.

If he's going to act senseless, then why not go all the way? Lu Ran casually activated the Divine Sculpture·Beifeng...

All these are, of course, happy dilemmas!

Since Lu Ran's ascension to the Heavenly Realm on September 15th, it's only been about four or five days.

In just a few days, the strength of the Ran Sect has grown exponentially, and two powerful figures at the second level of the Heavenly Realm have come under Lu Ran's command!

Who wouldn't be confused?

Indeed, Lu Ran was quite distressed, but also genuinely happy...

Everything went as he anticipated; three days later, the Chou Nu Stone Sculpture successfully ascended, and the Divine Sculpture-Beifeng also solidified early at the Sea Realm-Third Rank.

The latter disappointed Lu Ran somewhat.

Didn't even reach the Heavenly Realm?

The Sword Ridge Peak sect of those years was indeed slaughtered by the "Deviation" of Wang Peak Master, leaving Lu Ran and his allies with only defeated remnants.

Lu Ran no longer considered the past; the first thing he did was go into the Sculpture Garden to find Deng Yuxiang.

"Tsk tsk~"

Lu Ran gazed at the Nightmare Stone Sculpture, decked out with a bamboo hat and wide bamboo clothes, feeling a mysterious and elegant aura emanating towards him.

Nightmare!

My Big Nightmare...

Lu Ran circled her, observing from head to toe, going around again and again.

Deng Yuxiang's legs were originally long, with a perfect body proportion, and now as she became a two to three hundred-meter-high Stone Sculpture, those long legs...

What a sight~

Who could resist this!

Due to her enormous size, the hair cascading down her head truly turned into a "waterfall."

The smoke blue gauze interwoven among it, though presented in stone form, carried a gentle and undulating curve, delightful to behold.

As her hair settled down, it trailed all along her waist.

How truly beautiful~

Deng Yuxiang naturally noticed the bothersome small presence continuously orbiting and gazing at her.

Occasionally, it even emitted praises of "tsk tsk."

Was it appraising an artwork?

Interestingly, Deng Yuxiang felt a blend of shyness and annoyance, suddenly turning around and said, "Little Lu Ran."

"Ah?" Lu Ran was startled.

In the sky, a giant face broke through the gray mist, slowly descending.

"Do you think it's beautiful?" Deng Yuxiang looked at the bothersome little human.

"Beautiful... uh." Lu Ran gazed up at the immense stone eyes at close range, hurriedly correcting himself, "Not beautiful... hmm, is it beautiful or not?"

"How long do you plan to revolve around me?" Deng Yuxiang directly asked.

Lu Ran awkwardly scratched his head, "It's mainly because I've been hoping for you to replace Night Charm, fantasizing about this day for so very long, and now that the dream has come true, I just took a few extra glances..."

Upon hearing this, Deng Yuxiang's stiff facial lines gradually softened.

"Hmm." She quietly consented, extending a massive stone hand to gently lift Lu Ran.

This was indeed the truth.

She would always remember that day three years ago, when she fought to the death in the Human World·Beifeng City, and Lu Ran risked his life to save her.

After fleeing Beifeng City, in a pitch-black hotel room, he confessed everything to her.

Later, he also gave her an aspiration: hoping she would replace the Night Charm.

Time swiftly passed by—three years.

"Ha..." Deng Yuxiang let out a light sigh, she ultimately advanced to this point, just as he wished.

But the task was not yet complete.

Becoming a Fake God·Night Charm was only the first step; she still had to replace the real Night Charm.

Replace the true Beifeng!

"Why the sigh, aren't you happy?" Lu Ran inquired.

"And you?"

"I'm happy, of course!"

"Hmm." Deng Yuxiang smiled.

Then I'm happy too.

Lu Ran opened his mouth but eventually said, "Let's go and devour the Divine Sculpture·Beifeng."

"Let's go!" Deng Yuxiang's gaze gradually turned icy.

The two crossed rivers and directly flew to a male sculpture on the side of the Divine Camp.

He wore a snow-colored cloak, wielded a slender blade, and had an exquisite tied hair crown.

Strikingly heroic, especially stern!

Divine·Beifeng!

"The Divine Sculpture·Beifeng is Sea Realm Third... uh." Before Lu Ran finished speaking, suddenly his face turned somewhat unpleasant.

"Boom!"

The Sculpture Garden trembled, as Deng Yuxiang kicked the Divine Sculpture·Beifeng to the ground!

Standing in the same row, Luo Ying, and behind him, Yu Changsheng, all turned to look.

It wasn't until Deng Yuxiang stepped on the head of the Divine Sculpture of Beifeng that she realized, looking down at the little man in her palm, and apologized:

"Does your head hurt?"

"It's nothing." Lu Ran's expression was odd as he flew down through her fingers, looking at Lord Beifeng under her feet.

Why do you want to reward him?

Deng Yuxiang slowly bent down and asked, "Now?"

"Yes, yes!" Lu Ran nodded repeatedly and said seriously, "Swallow him... crush him!"

Just as I wished!

Deng Yuxiang exerted more force under her foot, grinding with her boot.

"Crack! Crack..."

The head of the Divine Sculpture of Beifeng continuously cracked, tiny stone fragments falling away.

Lu Ran nodded silently.

Consider it a rehearsal!

One day in the future, when the Ran Sect truly raises the butcher's knife against Divine·Beifeng, the Big Nightmare should do the same.

The humiliation of that year, repaid double.

Stomp him to pieces!

And judging from the speed of Ran Sect's current strength development, that day is really not far away.

...

Three days later, on the Heavenly Realm battlefield.

Inside a slightly larger stone peak, a full-length mirror suddenly unfolded.

Three men and women dressed in green raincoats and bamboo hats emerged in single file.

The youth in the bamboo clothes wore an exquisite blood crystal mask, covering the lower half of his face.

The other two mysterious individuals in bamboo clothes wore metal masks covering their entire faces, revealing only their eyes.

The two gleaming metal masks did not come from small origins!

They were crafted by the sole Tianchen disciple of the Ran Sect, made by melting weapons of Tianchen steel material.

"Hoo~" The full-length mirror quickly dissipated.

Yan Chou leaned slightly forward, his figure instantly shutting away, disappearing without a trace.

Spear Withering Divine Skill·Cloud Piercing Shadow!

When Yan Chou teleported outside the stone peak, stepping on a white cloud from the Qiang Xiu sect, he felt it was somewhat dreamlike.

Once a believer of the Evil Spear Emperor, now equipped with the Spear Withering Divine Skill, playing both the God and Demon factions.

He thought Sect Master Qiao was the one leading him to defy the heavens.

The old master seemed to have spawned an even more terrifying person.

Not just defy the heavens?

Directly reverse fate!

Yan Chou quickly composed his thoughts, observed carefully for a moment, then teleported back inside the peak to report solemnly: "Young Master, the surroundings are relatively calm."

Lu Ran nodded: "Can you recognize which place this is?"

Yan Chou shook his head: "In the Heavenly Realm, the terrain is much the same, difficult to distinguish."

Bai Rao, peering at the cave entrance, also spoke: "Only by finding a certain Divine Mountain, looking at the troops stationed and the clans there, can we roughly determine the location."

"Divine Mountain..." Lu Ran muttered.

"Young Master, the Divine Mountain is the connecting channel between the Lower and Upper Realm and the passage for the souls of human clan believers and God Demon followers after death."

Yan Chou paused, then continued: "Each Divine Mountain is heavily guarded to ensure resources are not stolen by outsiders."

Lu Ran nodded slightly.

He already knew that the dead souls from the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, pulled by contracted threads, would be transmitted to the Divine Mountain region and then through the channel into the God Demon's embrace.

And the human clan believers and God Demon followers who died on the Heavenly Realm battlefield, their dead souls would also approach the vicinity of the Divine Mountain.

Lu Ran said in a deep voice: "I need a large number of dead souls to cultivate the pseudo-god stones in the garden. Do you think we should hunt near the Divine Mountain?"

Bai Rao quickly crawled back, her jade hand gently holding Lu Ran's calf:

"The Divine Mountain is a resource channel, so it's the most dangerous area in the Heavenly Realm."

Yan Chou pondered and said: "There are pros and cons! The Young Master should be able to quickly grow his forces in the Divine Mountain area and might even find remnants of your mother's Cloud Sea."

"And one more thing, Little Lu~"

"What?" Lu Ran looked down at the woman crouching by his feet.

As she was wearing a Tianchen steel mask, only a pair of eyes were exposed, making her alluring gaze even more captivating.

"There are many people and eyes on Divine Mountain; the Faceless Jade Venerable can sense the location of dead souls, and the God Demon camp also has similar entities."

Bai Rao felt a bit worried as she continued: "If we go and devour souls, it will easily expose us."

She was well aware of the suffering of being targeted by God Demons.

Previously, the Evil God always kept her alive to squeeze her dry.

And now?

Once the secret is exposed, everyone will surely be concentratedly targeted by the God Demons, and as long as the Ran Sect isn't eliminated, the God Demons won't stop.

There is no other possibility!

"We should indeed be cautious; I'll first go and have a look around to understand the situation," Lu Ran said stolidly.

He had already thought of this, finding it quite troublesome.

In any case, first, move closer to the Divine Mountain.

"Let's go!" Lu Ran shook his little leg to signal the woman to let go, "We fight our way while searching!"

Hopefully, before finding the Divine Mountain, get the Big Nightmare, Cong Long, and Luo Shen all to the Second Level of Heaven Realm!

After reaching this stage, Lu Ran's concept was completely changed.

His underlings were no longer the human clan, laboriously cultivating for breakthroughs.

The dreams that Lu Ran pursued all along have finally come true, with the likes of Big Nightmare transforming into pseudo-god stones.

Rob, and you can get rich!

Get infinitely rich.

Devour, and you can grow recklessly!

Grow so recklessly that Lu Ran, the God Demon Lord, is afraid he can't keep up with the growth rate of his subordinates.

The God Demon Sculpture Garden bestowed by Lord Immortal Sheep truly revealed its worth to Lu Ran only after the Ran Sect soldiers ascended to the Heavenly Realm:

What! Is this damn gold content!!

...

Chapter 869: Human Clan? Believer?

The peaks appeared and disappeared, the sea of fog blanketed the battlefield.

A group of three walked westward, against the flow of the fog sea.

Though they were three, Lu Ran always had an illusion, as if he were acting alone.

Deng Yuxiang, serving as the scout, moved like a ghost, observing the surroundings all the way.

This middle-aged man in his forties seemed to have gotten a beloved toy, shuttling back and forth continuously.

Lu Ran could understand Chou Nu's feelings.

This was Instant Teleportation!

Who wouldn't love it?

Heavenly General Bai was also unseen, as she was crawling beside Lu Ran's feet, her whole body submerged in the sea of fog.

She did not possess the ability to see through the mist; such behavior was akin to drawing boundaries and imprisoning oneself.

Yet she was sweetly satisfied.

Seeing nothing instead allowed a more focused sense of someone's presence, quietly following.

Lu Ran found it hard to imagine what she had gone through.

As he stepped onto a stone peak, Bai Rao finally emerged from the thick sea of fog.

[Aunt Bai.]

[Hmm?] Bai Rao looked up curiously.

[You are no longer the disciple of the Jade-faced Snake, no longer poisoned by the Evil God, no longer controlled by it.] Lu Ran lowered his head, gazing into those charming and captivating eyes.

[Is little Lu tired of me?] Bai Rao softly tugged at Lu Ran's pant leg, her voice carrying a hint of grievance.

As if Lu Ran was some heinous villain.

[You are your own god.] Lu Ran patiently guided her.

[Hmm.] Bai Rao's eyes smiled tenderly, her shoulder gently leaning against Lu Ran's calf, [I will stand up, there's no rush.]

[Young Master, the west!] Suddenly, Deng Chou's voice echoed in his mind.

In the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, direction was a non-concept.

It's simply people defining the flow of the fog sea as moving from west to east.

Lu Ran looked up and saw a humanoid figure.

He resembled a male of the Human Clan, dressed in neat blue attire, with flowing short hair.

In terms of looks, he was far more handsome than average human men, though of course, couldn't compare to a demon like Yu Changsheng.

The most striking feature was his blue eyes!

They truly looked like cold stars in the night sky, emitting a peculiar glow, making his handsome face even more mystical.

Evil Demon, Flash-Star Demon!

Third-class God, a nemesis of the Star Official.

"He's in trouble~" Bai Rao laughed with schadenfreude.

Because behind the Evil Demon, Flash-Star Demon, a Faceless Jade Venerable was pursuing, the horizontal floating hem of the jade robe indicating the Venerable's speed was frightening!

"Woosh~ Woosh~"

The Flash-Star Demon was wrapped in two stars, revolving in an "X" pattern, while frantically fleeing and throwing stars behind him.

The Evil Technique of the Flash-Star Demon clan was almost identical to the Divine Technique of the Star Officials.

The difference was, the Star Official Sect summoned stars to descend from the heavens, while the Flash-Star Demon threw stars from his hand.

In comparison, the output method of the Evil Demon was obviously superior to the God.

"Whew~"

The Faceless Jade Venerable displayed terrifying reflexes and agility, dodging left and right, without slowing her forward momentum.

Such a scene revealed much information to Lu Ran.

The Flash-Star Demon's Evil Technique was clearly a significant threat to the enemy!

What kind of existence was the Faceless Jade Venerable?

She faced all outputs with a tough attitude, crushing them outright!

Back then, Lu Ran wielded a Third-tier Divine Weapon, carrying immense momentum, his hands filled with Fierce Heavenly Power, barely managing to carve a few fine cracks on her.

Such a terrifying creature, dodging minor technique outputs from the Flash-Star Demon, was this right?

This... was very right!

Lu Ran immediately recalled the most famous skill of the Star Official Sect/Flash-Star Demon clan—Tian Shu Po Jun Star!

Star Official Sect has a saying:

"One star shatters ten thousand armors, Tian Shu decides life and death!"

In terms of armor-piercing, the Tian Shu Po Jun Star is almost the top existence in the Da Xia God Demon system among all Divine and Evil Techniques!

No matter if you use the Water Flow Armor or any sect's robe war armor...

Take my Tian Shu Po Jun, see if yours shatters and that's it!

The problem is also obvious: this star can uniquely blend into enemy armor, causing it to break, although it only targets defensive armor.

Its impact on the enemy's physical layer is not ideal.

It coincidentally happens that the Faceless Jade Venerable, entirely composed of white jade, seems to be "armor" inside and out?

Star Officials and Flash-Star Demons, when facing foreign enemies...

Professional match?!

"Woosh~ Woosh~"

While Lu Ran was pondering, he saw the Flash-Star Demon fleeing, casting stars backward.

The Faceless Jade Venerable dodged again.

"Bang!"

Due to being so close, this time, the Faceless Jade Venerable didn't entirely evade.

The blazing blue star grazed her flowing jade robe hem.

"Kacha~"

A barely audible sound emerged.

Lu Ran's eyes narrowed as he saw a few cracks crawling up a corner of the jade robe.

Though the patterns were shallow, they couldn't escape Lu Ran's keen eyes.

What a Tian Shu Po Jun Star!

Don't think these are just a few shallow cracks.

Can an ordinary First Level Heavenly Realm Great Power really break the defense of the Faceless Jade Venerable?

Deng Yu is the best example!

She is First Level of Heaven Realm, holding a Second-rank Divine Weapon, with the Divine Weapon Domain open, and powered by the Magic Artifact, Blood Jade Ring, barely managing to chop off a fragment on the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Yet the Flash-Star Demon just used one star to achieve what Deng Yu had exhausted all her resources to accomplish!

But seemingly... that's all it amounted to.

The shallow crackles and complete fracture are two entirely different concepts.

The Faceless Jade Venerable is already infinitely close to the Flash Star Demon!

Her flying speed, agility, strength, reaction... and all other attributes completely crush the Flash Star Demon.

How can one fight this?

On the Flash Star Demon's face, Lu Ran read two words—despair.

"Ah!!" The Flash Star Demon suddenly let out a sharp screech; despite having a male appearance, the scream did not fall short of that of a female Evil Demon.

"Buzz!"

The Flash Star Demon suddenly stopped, the whole body emanating a beautiful starlight, flashing abruptly in place!

In just an instant, the Faceless Jade Venerable pierced through the Flash Star Demon's body and continued to sprint ahead for tens of meters before stabilizing.

Flash Star Demon's Ultimate-Starlight Flashes!

Flash Star Demon and Star Official Sect have almost identical minor techniques, with only a slight difference in output methods.

Another difference between the two lies in their ultimate skills.

Star Officials, as third-class gods, possess the River Realm Ultimate-Yaoguang Star Disc, capable of randomly summoning various stars to crash down on the battlefield, indifferent to friend or foe.

Whereas the Flash Star Demon race has an ultimate skill during the River Realm that allows them to transform into brilliant starlight, flashing in place.

Note, they cannot use instant teleportation!

Just standing there, twinkle twinkle little star...

This technique can be used to dodge and resist enemy attacks, and unexpectedly surprise during close combat, giving Human Clan soldiers a hard time.

"Whoosh!" In the dazzling starlight, a phantom suddenly unfolded.

Divine Minion·Star Official!

When the Flash Star Demon activates its ultimate skill, it cannot move or perform other techniques, so the Star Official minion naturally steps up.

This phantom, also male in appearance, wore a square black gauze cap, draped in a wide blue robe embroidered with exquisite dark patterns.

The wide robe with big sleeves exudes an air of elegant grace.

Anyone who sees it would surely compliment its elegance!

As soon as the Star Official minion appeared, he summoned stars one by one, descending from the sky.

"Whoosh~"

The Faceless Jade Venerable appeared even more impressive!

As soon as she managed to stabilize herself, she immediately flew towards her prey, her wide jade robe fluttering in the wind.

The Star Official minion's face turned unsightly, frantically summoning stars to fall and noting the solitary youth dressed in a straw raincoat standing on a stone peak in the east.

He immediately said something to the Flash Star Demon.

The Flash Star Demon, no longer flickering, turned to flee as soon as it evaded the Faceless Jade Venerable, and upon hearing the Star Official minion's guidance, adjusted its direction again.

Flying straight towards the east!

"Diverting trouble eastward?" Bai Rao's expression was unkind.

"Human Believer, come with me to deal with the foreign enemy!" The Star Official minion shouted loudly, speeding up.

With you?

Lu Ran snorted coldly in his heart, "You've been beaten to the point of fleeing in desperation."

You really have the nerve, huh?

The minion's image, identical to that of the divine original, seemed utterly distressed, truly deteriorating their dignity!

In contrast, was the "graceful dance" of the Faceless Jade Venerable from behind.

Stars fell in succession; the Faceless Jade Venerable twisted and turned nimbly within the stars, without losing momentum in her pursuit.

Her form was graceful, yet her stance was unwavering!

Forming a stark contrast with the frantic escape of the God Demon's minion, like cloud and mud.

"Human Believer!" The Star Official minion barked harshly at the indifferent youth in the straw raincoat!

His eyes rounded in anger, extremely stern.

Lu Ran couldn't help but grin.

Unable to defeat the foreign enemy, yet quite adept at intimidating humans.

Well... makes sense.

Though a minion, its core identity stems from the divine, representing the divine, naturally holding a noble status, superior to the Human Clan.

What does it matter if they boss humans around?

"Young Master, should we help?" Yan Chou flitted beside Lu Ran.

Bai Rao furrowed her brows slightly, looking up at Lu Ran.

"Help?" Lu Ran scoffed.

Beneath his short hair, above the blood crystal mask, his pupils were exceedingly cold—not emitting the icy glint like the Flash Star Demon—but just as chilling as cold stars.

"Ugly Servant."

"Yes."

"Remember! After you follow me..." Lu Ran slowly drew out the Eight Desolate Blade, "Divine, Evil Demon, Faceless Jade Venerable, they are all the same."

Yan Chou's gaze was fervent, responding deeply, "Yes!"

Bai Rao's beautiful eyes sparkled as she couldn't help but extend her long red tongue, licking her lips.

"Tap."

Lu Ran, holding the Eight Desolate Blade, lightly patted her head with the blade hanging by his leg: "Jade Ruyi, Immortal Sky Python."

"Alright~" Bai Rao reached out and grasped a delicate Jade Ruyi.

Watching as the Star Official - Flash Star Demon minion drew ever closer, Bai Rao gently parted her red lips, breathing lightly onto the Jade Ruyi.

"Hiss!!"

The serpent's hiss reverberated through the heavens and earth!

A large white-scaled python roared out, piecing together as it charged fiercely ahead.

"You!" The Star Official minion's expression changed drastically.

The human believer is indiscriminate, attacking allies... attacking those representing the supreme God Demons on their own side?

The Flash Star Demon reacted quickly, instinctively flying to the side.

"Hiss!" The white-scaled python charged directly at the Faceless Jade Venerable, not turning to attack the two.

This scene slightly eased the Star Official minion's expression.

Looks like these lowly humans haven't forgotten their status, haven't defied the divine's order, they're following commands, attacking the Faceless Jade Venerable.

But at that moment, a figure appeared abruptly beside the Flash Star Demon.

Yan Chou, holding a spear pieced together from white clouds, thrust it forward fiercely.

Spear Withering Divine Skill·Cloud Cutting Spear Technique!

Instantly, countless spears made of white clouds converged into a torrent, roaring at the Star Official - Flash Star Demon minion!

The Star Official minion's face stiffened:!!!

...

Chapter 870: Unyielding

Yan Chou was elated!

He was once a disciple of the Evil Spear Emperor. When he performed the Evil Technique·Evil Cloud Spear Technique, dark clouds would gather, and a rain of spears would fall, launching an area attack.

The Spear Withering Divine Skill·Cloud Cutting Spear Technique would directly unleash a long spear torrent in the direction of his spear thrust.

Which is superior is obvious at a glance!

"How dare you!!" The Star Official minion's eyes widened in anger.

In his shadow form, he wasn't afraid of physical attacks. Comparatively, the wind raised by the flying spear posed a greater threat to him.

However, the Cloud Cutting Spear Technique wasn't purely a wind element skill, so it couldn't completely disperse the Star Official's shadow.

"Ah!!" The Flashing Star Demon let out a sharp scream, and brilliant starlight burst forth from his body.

Yan Chou suddenly appeared beside him, attacking at close range. With the spear torrent so wide, how could the Flashing Star Demon avoid it?

He could only remain rooted in place, starting the "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" dance again.

"Stop, human clan! Are you defying my orders?" The Star Official minion's phantom body was riddled with holes.

Although pierced like a sieve, his mouth remained stubborn.

Yan Chou's face hidden behind the Tianchen mask was chillingly cold!

Defy your orders?

More than that!

I am killing you, isn't it obvious?

Yan Chou was about to use the Evil Technique·Evil Cloud Entanglement to cast out black mist lines, polluting the Flashing Star Demon's body and preventing him from casting spells.

At that moment, a sheep's bleat came from afar:

"Baaa~~~"

The Star Official minion's body trembled, his fury, already beyond restraint, was further fueled by it, as a sadistic, savage thought invaded his mind.

The Flashing Star Demon was similarly affected, suddenly turning his head to look in the direction of the sound.

There, a young man in a straw cape stood atop a nearby Stone Peak, looking towards them.

His gaze was icy cold, yet the sheep's bleat he emitted symbolized weakness, helplessness, even despair.

"Baaa~~~"

Torture me! Ravage me...

Kill me!!

The Evil Demon-Flashing Star Demon's hidden savagery erupted uncontrollably within the continuous bleating of the little sheep, leading to his complete loss of self.

The Flashing Star Demon was flickering in place, wanting to capture the little sheep, which required him to halt his spellcasting.

The instant the Flashing Star Demon stopped his big move, a succession of blade-cutting-flesh sounds ensued.

"Squelch! Squelch! Squelch..."

The spear torrent pierced the Flashing Star Demon with countless holes, tearing away strips of flesh and blood.

The Star Official minion was also hit, but as a God minion, he had greater mental resilience, crucially lacking the inherent cruelty of the Evil Demon Clan.

Therefore, before the Star Official minion completely lost himself, he could still resist somewhat.

The problem, however, was that the Evil Demon minion served as the vessel for the God minion.

Once the Flashing Star Demon died, the Star Official minion would lose his foundation, and his shadow would dissipate.

"You damned beast! You fool!" The Star Official minion hated the Evil Demon-Flashing Star Demon for being weak, yet couldn't awaken him from the little lamb's influence.

Two lives lost in one fell swoop!

The God Demon minions perished together in the spear torrent.

Yan Chou couldn't help but look towards his Young Master.

He possessed the Evil Technique-Evil Cloud Will and would not be overwhelmed thanks to the protection of Spirit Defense Techniques.

His expression was one of pure admiration.

When had the sound of a sheep's bleating ever echoed on such a top-tier battlefield like the Heavenly Realm?

At least, in Yan Chou's decade-long campaign here, he had never encountered an Immortal Sheep Believer.

Yet the sheep's bleating Lu Ran made was obviously not the pleading, humble sound known to the world.

It was more like a variant skill!

Like... Immortal Sheep Evil Technique?

It wasn't a plea but a bizarre sound asking for abuse, asking for slaughter.

The Young Master needed only one move to ensure the complete demise of the resisting God Demon minions.

Simple and brutal!

The effect of this method was so potent that even someone with exceptionally high willpower like Bai Rao had to activate the Purification Skill.

Fearing she might lose control and transform into the White-Scaled Python, devouring Lu Ran whole.

"Mmm~" Bai Rao extended her scarlet tongue, licking her red lips.

She stared intently at the young man in a straw cape. Though she wouldn't truly skin and eat him, she couldn't help but be slightly enticed.

A little lamb, teaming up with a great white python...

It's indeed a bit off.

On the battlefield, one presence remained wholly unaffected—Faceless Jade Venerable!

Previously, after dodging the White-Scaled Python's assailment, she was surprised to find that the three humans were attacking the God Demon minions.

Faceless Jade Venerable leisurely stopped to watch as if it was a "dog eat dog" show.

Unexpectedly, the God Demon minions were so pathetic, perishing in an instant.

Faceless Jade Venerable looked at the spot where the God Demon minions died, immediately flying over, seemingly to devour the dead souls.

"Ha!" a powerful shout exploded in the air.

Yan Chou wove through the air, his spear thrusting directly at the Faceless Jade Venerable's facade.

A crisp "ding" was heard.

Faceless Jade Venerable extended her large hand, her palm against the spear's tip, continuing to fly forward.

At the moment the spearhead touched the palm, it instantly changed nature, turning into a bright white jade stone.

"Ha!" Yan Chou pressed forward with force, using the rebound's strength, his silhouette arched backward, instantly spanning a segment of distance.

In terms of power, a mere human was no match for the Faceless Jade Venerable.

At the moment Yan Chou retreated, he decisively abandoned the spear, reappearing with another long spear, stabbing through the air.

The Cloud Cutting Spear Technique rose again!

The long spear was like a torrent!

Faceless Jade Venerable remained unafraid, or rather, she had no qualms at all.

"Ding! Ding! Ding..."

A dense array of stabbing sounds rang endlessly!

However, Faceless Jade Venerable's palm, body, and even the face touched by the attack bore not a trace of a crack.

Yan Chou's expression turned grave.

As expected, it doesn't work!

After all, other disciples of Qiang Xiu could not shatter external enemies with the Cloud Cutting Spear Technique, so why could he?

This physical body is only at the First Level of the Heavenly Realm after all.

So, it still needs to go big!

[Continue, let her underestimate you, let her think she has the upper hand!] At this moment, Lu Ran's command imprinted in Yan Chou's mind.

Yan Chou naturally wouldn't question the Young Master's decision, and immediately gave up the idea of going big, continuing to foolishly resist.

The torrent of long spears continued.

The Faceless Jade Venerable maintained a domineering stance, flying forward continuously.

The insignificant Human Clan was indeed annoying and should have been shattered with a slap.

However, the Faceless Jade Venerable did not change her target. Her long hair, as lustrous as jade, spread extravagantly, seeking the Dead Souls in the area.

The Faceless Jade Venerable could not see the Dead Souls.

In fact, almost all the Gods and Demons could not see the Dead Souls.

Even those Evil Demons who possessed skills on the soul level could only drag the Dead Souls into their own dimension through spellcasting, then observe them with the naked eye.

For instance, the Soul-splitting Demon Evil Technique·Soul Prison, Evil Mirror Demon Evil Technique·Soul Hooking Mirror.

The God·Wang Quan, who was banished by All Gods and Demons, was extremely special!

Li Rouyin, the Believer of Wang Quan, had to pay the price of blindness to truly see the Soul Bodies.

Although the Gods and Demons could not see the existence of another dimension, they could perceive the Dead Souls!

At this moment, the Faceless Jade Venerable scattered her long hair and spread her wide jade robe, searching for the Dead Souls of the God Demon minions based on a vague perception.

Even if her hair tips or the hem of her robe touched the Dead Souls slightly, she could absorb them into her body.

"Ding! Ding! Ding..."

The torrent of long spears continued, the stubborn little Human Clan frighteningly persistent, weaving back again and again in futile efforts.

The Faceless Jade Venerable completely ignored them.

"Zzzz——"

And just at this time, a figure rapidly approached.

The Faceless Jade Venerable flew in mid-air, suddenly accelerating forward slightly, this dodging action just barely gave some face to the Immortal Sheep Disciple.

Or perhaps, she wasn't dodging at all, just happened to accelerate.

Arrogance,

eventually comes at a cost!

Someone's blade and sword are meant to cut creatures above all living beings!

"Zzzz——"

Lu Ran stepped on an invisible wave of wind beneath him, angling his trajectory into the sky.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's figure suddenly halted.

Found it!

The floating hair finally touched the Dead Soul.

At the same time, a tall figure flashed by from beneath her spread jade robe.

Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword advanced first, slashing towards the left knee of the Faceless Jade Venerable!

"Crack!"

The Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade followed, striking directly at the cracked textures left by the long sword on her knee.

"Crack!!!"

The sword and blade seamlessly connected, flowing smoothly.

Lu Ran, who swept under the Faceless Jade Venerable's leg and robe, continued to dash diagonally skyward.

A solitary calf, following suit, exploded away.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's expression changed violently!

Her perpetually expressionless face, eyes widened inconceivably, looking down at her severed calf.

It seemed as if time in heaven and earth froze at this moment.

Yan Chou couldn't help but grin.

Tough!

The sword tough, the blade tougher...

And the person, even tougher!

In a single encounter, they forcibly dismantled a leg of the Faceless Jade Venerable?!

"Hiss!" The sharp cry of a snake resounded in the heavens and earth, the thousand-meter-long Immortal Heaven Python lunged at the Faceless Jade Venerable.

The Faceless Jade Venerable was suddenly yanked back to reality, turning abruptly, flying backward and upward, simultaneously pressing a hand towards the python's head.

The head of the python was immediately dyed with another shade of white, rapidly petrifying it into jade.

At this moment, another figure appeared beneath the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Yan Chou, the notorious old member of Cloud Sea Sect, was not a person of undeserved reputation.

He shuttled beneath the Faceless Jade Venerable, directly unleashing a Cloud Cutting Spear Technique on her broken leg!

Fiercely attacking the cripple's bad leg!

The once torrent of long spears couldn't leave even the slightest crack on the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Now the torrent of long spears, fully enjoying Lu Ran's focus, ruthlessly followed the cracked texture at the enemy's severed leg!

Just one move!

The torrent of long spears whistled by, and the remaining half of the Faceless Jade Venerable's thigh was also shattered and dissipated.

The so-called wound, or cracked pattern, continued to extend toward the Faceless Jade Venerable's waist.

Yan Chou did not attack anymore.

Stop at a point?

No! The Faceless Jade Venerable had already suffered enough trauma, the entire jade statue was cracking all over!

"Crack!!"

The Immortal Heaven Python, with more than half of its head remaining, was still charging fiercely, shattering along with the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Bai Rao looked up, her beautiful eyes glowing as she gazed at the youth in the straw raincoat standing in the air.

Yan Chou shuttled to the Stone Peak, moving his gaze away from the shattered python head, also with fervent eyes, looking toward the sky.

Having once followed Sect Master Qiao, he thought he had seen the pinnacle of the Human Clan.

He thought he would not be amazed anymore.

And now, Sect Master Qiao's son...

A simple command transmitted in his mind, speaking with a weak sheep's bleat, brandishing a pair of swords and blades, mightily broke into his heart.

And at this moment, Lu Ran was staring with his transverse pupils at the God Demon minion Dead Soul that 'narrowly escaped death'.

The Star Official minion evidently felt a suction force and realized that the youth in the straw raincoat was staring at him, his face astonished: "You... you..."

Lu Ran sheathed his weapon, a muffled voice emanating from behind the Blood Crystal Mask:

"Yes, I am."