

Old Gods 881

Chapter 881: The Sickwood Divine Mountain

[Lu Ran, have you gone to the Heavenly Realm?] Jiang Ruyi looked grave.

[Yes, what's going on?]

[The Cold Night Sword has sensed the divine weapon that has been suppressing it.]

[Oh?] Lu Ran raised an eyebrow slightly.

Unlike the previous buzzing of the Silent Night Blade, this time, Lu Ran was not too flustered.

Because the owner of the other divine weapon was likely not the Divine Demon itself.

After all, Lu Ran was not in the Divine Mountain region, which also meant that the Master of Divine Weapon and he were both in the same realm—the First Layer of Heaven!

So, the other party should be a human believer wandering the Heavenly Realm?

[Which direction is the opponent in... Hmm, give me the Cold Night Sword.] Lu Ran changed his mind midway.

"Whew~"

The ghostly shadow of the Divine Demon flew out from Lu Ran's eyes, with terrifying energy surging, transforming into a Black Ice Long Sword at the side of Jiang Ruyi's shadow.

"Clap." Lu Ran grasped the sword hilt with one hand.

"Buzz~" The Cold Night Sword trembled slightly, with the energy of the Sword Spirit flowing over the hilt, seeping into Lu Ran's palm, conveying strands of emotion.

The words that Lu Ran was about to say stopped.

He extended two fingers to gently stroke the cold sword body. He had given too little attention to this divine weapon, which never cried or made trouble.

"This is the Heavenly Realm." Jiang Ruyi's shadow flew to the entrance of the cave, looking at the mountain peaks soaked in a sea of mist.

"Mm." Lu Ran gripped the hilt before asking, "Which direction is the opponent in?"

The tip of the Cold Night Sword turned, pointing southeast.

"Is it far?"

The sword tip nodded a bit, then wobbled again.

"Not too far, not too close, huh?" Lu Ran twirled a Sword Flower, forming a plan in his mind, "Let's go and take a look."

"Buzz!"

Lu Ran smiled, turning his head to Jiang Ruyi's shadow: "Xian Mo, are you coming back?"

Since Jiang Ruyi had taken the Jade Talisman and Ghost Talisman, transforming into the pseudo God Stone sculpture, the code name set long ago could finally be used.

The shadow of Xian Mo slowly flew back: "You want to take the Cold Night Sword to find the opponent?"

Lu Ran nodded: "Anyway, I have to find the Divine Mountain. The opponent might just be a warrior guarding it."

This conclusion was well-founded.

On the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, those wandering around collecting the Holy Spirit Energy were nothing but God Demon lackeys and the Faceless Jade Venerable.

As for the human believers, most of them lived nearby the Divine Mountain, waiting for orders from the God Demon Lord.

Human believers capable of wandering around had to have a relatively special status.

For example, those who could instant teleport or move at high speed.

If they didn't have a "Vajra Drill," it would truly be easy to be caught and plundered by the Faceless Jade Venerable, and the God Demon wouldn't want to suffer a loss for nothing either.

"Hmm..." Xian Mo's shadow frowned slightly.

Strictly speaking, Jiang Ruyi was the true Master of Divine Weapon. She should be the one taking the Cold Night Sword to challenge opponents.

Divine Weapons were not mundane objects at all.

They were exceedingly proud entities!

The vast majority of Divine Weapons could never tolerate their masters retreating, nor would they willingly fall into outsiders' hands to resort to trickery and let others help defeat enemies.

This path to godhood had to be carved out jointly by the Divine Weapon and its master!

The path for the Cold Night Sword to becoming a god was quite special.

It was indeed Jiang Ruyi's divine weapon, but its Sword Spirit formation, awakened thinking, and even the direction of its Divine Weapon Domain insight were entirely centered around Lu Ran.

Lu Ran indeed wasn't the Master of Divine Weapon, but he was by no means an outsider either.

This was a genuine bug...

"Let me do it." Lu Ran gently stroked the sword body, "The Cold Night doesn't object, it likes being with me, right?"

"Buzz~"

Jiang Ruyi couldn't help but chuckle, the core of the Sword Spirit came from the Master of Divine Weapon, could the Cold Night Sword refuse Lu Ran's request?

"Come back."

"Mm, then be careful." Jiang Ruyi said no more and merged into Lu Ran's pupils alone.

At a thought, Lu Ran let the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd spew out one Heavenly Realm Great Power after another.

"Flutter flutter flutter~"

Wei Yun first transformed into a black crow, then swiftly concealed himself, flying out of the cave.

Listening to the sound of the scout flying away, Lu Ran spoke: "Elder Bai, any prediction?"

Bai Yanhui immediately formed a hand seal, spreading out an illusionary text from within—心 (Heart).

Everyone waited for a moment, then saw Bai Yanhui nodding slightly, saying something reassuring: "This old man's mental realm is relatively calm, it seems nothing unexpected will happen."

Lu Ran was quite pleased, stepping to Deng Yuxiang's side, placing a hand on her back, and from the perspective of the Dust Shadow Divine Technique, left an invisible space mark.

"This sword?" Deng Yuxiang noticed the Black Ice Long Sword in his hand.

Lu Ran didn't explain, instead saying: "Everyone, proceed with your tasks. I'm going to seek out the Divine Mountain. If anything happens, alert me promptly."

"Yes!"

"Yes." The officers' responses were firm and powerful.

Lu Ran nodded to everyone, then turned and walked towards the cave entrance.

At the same time, on a rather special Divine Mountain.

This mountain was covered with beautiful ice-blue rose blossoms, while also densely populated with tall withered trees, forming two extremes.

A black-clad woman with disheveled hair leaned against a withered tree, her gaze terrifyingly fierce.

She was of a slender build, with a gaunt face and skin as pale as illness. As she grasped the sword at her waist, that intimidating gaze finally softened slightly.

"Whew~"

The long sword made of Tianchen Steel quivered lightly, with the Sword Spirit slowly piecing together.

This was also the image of a woman, and it could be seen that the Sword Spirit bore some resemblance to the woman in black.

However, the Sword Spirit had long flowing hair and a cold, beautiful demeanor, unlike the disheveled and haggard appearance of the woman in black.

"They are coming." The Sword Spirit spoke softly.

Upon hearing this, the slightly softened expression of the woman in black turned gloomy again.

She lifted her head to look at the Sword Spirit, wanting to say something, but she found the Sword Spirit was just gazing towards the northwest, not looking at her at all.

Once, as master and follower, their relationship was not like this.

Until one day, her beloved died on the battlefield...

"It's time for me to leave." The Sword Spirit muttered, gazing at the cloudy sky.

"No." The woman in black said sharply.

The Sword Spirit remained expressionless, slightly turning her head, glancing sideways at the Master of Divine Weapon: "If you won't accompany him, I will."

"Shut up!" The woman in black was clearly provoked, she clutched the sword hilt tightly, her tone and gaze growing increasingly venomous.

It was hard to imagine such a relationship between a Master of Divine Weapon and her weapon.

"Heh heh heh heh..."

A chilling, strange laughter came from above the woman in black.

With an extremely sinister gaze, the woman whipped her head around.

The dead tree she had been leaning against was not an ordinary large tree; it was the Evil Demon known as the Tree Face Demon.

At that moment, on the thick tree trunk, a cracked face appeared. It was frightfully ghastly, and on top of that, let out a series of mocking laughs.

It was apparent that the Tree Face Demon clan, once unable to speak, seemed to have "evolved" after advancing to the Heavenly Realm.

They could now vocalize.

"Crack!"

With the Divine Sword already in her hand, the woman in black struck the tree trunk with force.

"Hiss!!" The Tree Face Demon let out a shriek, and the withered branches swayed violently, emitting an ear-piercing friction sound.

It was teeth-grindingly unbearable to hear.

"Yin Yan! What are you doing?" A voice came distantly, filled with shock and anger, "Have you gone mad! Do you want us to be punished..."

The woman in black, named "Yin Yan," turned around, and the chiding voice abruptly halted.

"He is already dead." Cold words came from the Sword Spirit's mouth.

Yin Yan stood with her back to the Sword Spirit, her eyes slightly widened, and the pale hand gripping the sword hilt trembled uncontrollably.

A surge of malicious aura spread from her body.

Even the Tree Face Demon, who had been enjoying the spectacle, stopped mocking her.

Truly, this place was the Divine Mountain, constantly under the watchful eyes of God Demons.

The group of God Demon lackeys represented the Divine Demon itself, and human believers were to show utmost respect to these lackeys.

Yet, after all, this was a world where strength spoke!

"To save you." The Sword Spirit appeared oblivious to the terrifying aura of its master, its cold words deeply stabbing the heart of the Master of Divine Weapon.

Yin Yan slowly turned, looking at the Sword Spirit.

Through the unparalleled grace of the Sword Spirit, she seemed to see her former self.

However, it was that very self, full of spirit and vigor, that uttered words which now pained her deeply:

"It's your fault."

"Shut...shut up!"

The Sword Spirit slowly floated closer, coldly staring at the Master of Divine Weapon: "I should have stepped aside long ago, if you and I could not protect our loved one, then we should not delay others from protecting their beloved."

"I told you...to shut up." Yin Yan slightly bowed her head, trembling as she spoke.

The Sword Spirit slightly raised its chin, coldly gazing at the woman with a lowered head, commanding, "Let go, I'll go find them."

Reversed Celestial Spirit?

Yes.

But this scene was more like the once high and mighty Yin Yan, maintaining her elegance and decisiveness of old, looking down upon the now lost and desolate Yin Yan.

"Buzz!"

The Divine Sword suddenly trembled, attempting to escape its owner's grasp.

However, as powerful as a Third-tier Divine Weapon, it remained tightly held by Yin Yan's pale hand, unable to escape.

"Do you hear, Yin Yan." The Sword Spirit coldly stated.

"Wait for them to come." Yin Yan grasped the sword hilt with one hand and directly held the sharp blade with the other.

"Why put on such a pretense?" The Sword Spirit looked at the Master of Divine Weapon who refused to let go, "Must you make me despise you?"

Yin Yan bit her lip hard, saying nothing.

She had nothing left of his.

Whether it was his remains, clothes, or his Divine Weapon, everything, she failed to protect.

This Divine Sword of Longing was her last remnant of memory.

Although Yin Yan always told the Sword Spirit to shut up.

Yet her stubbornness in keeping the Divine Weapon by her side, wasn't it also to let the Sword Spirit remind her, to punish herself day and night?

"Yin Yan." The Sword Spirit of Longing coldly said.

"Wait for them to come." Yin Yan slowly sat under the tree, "If they are worthy, I will fulfill your wish."

The Sword Spirit was silent for a long time and did not return to the sword.

She turned to look into the distance.

Wherever the Tree Face Demon resided, the mountains cracked, and not a blade of grass grew.

This race would absorb surrounding energies, drain all nutrients, just like they once drained his remains.

Yet swathes of Ice Roses still bloomed splendidly.

Hiding ugliness beneath a beautiful facade.

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Chapter 882: The Demonic Name, Yin Li

The sky was shrouded in a sea of clouds, with misty waves flowing between the peaks.

Between heaven and earth, a mysterious youth wearing a green hat and blue raincoat walked alone.

"Buzz~"

The Cold Night Sword trembled slightly, as if reminding the youth that he was not alone.

"What?" Lu Ran reached into his waist and grasped the hilt of the sword.

A celestial figure quietly appeared, lying on his back with her side face resting on his shoulder, whispering, "We're almost there."

"Oh?" Lu Ran felt a stir in his heart, "Are we very close to the opponent?"

"Yes." The Cold Night Sword Spirit responded softly.

Unconsciously, the person and the sword had been traveling for nearly half a month.

The Heavenly Realm Battlefield was fraught with dangers, yet Liang Ye felt incredibly at peace, and moreover, time seemed to fly by, leaving him helpless.

As the distance to the opponent's Divine Weapon grew closer, Liang Ye knew that such special and beautiful days were coming to an end, and he was about to face a crucial moment in his life.

Death and dissipation, or soaring to the sky...

This occasion would be decisive.

The Cold Night Sword Spirit slowly closed her beautiful eyes, feeling the warmth of the hand holding the hilt, willing to believe that her fate would be the latter.

If not, then the past half month's time was as if he was seeing her off deliberately.

It would still be perfect enough.

"Are you nervous?" The youth's muffled voice came from behind the Blood Crystal Mask.

"No." The Cold Night Sword Spirit's response was straightforward.

Despite receiving a negative answer, Lu Ran continued to speak on his own: "I'm here."

"Yes." A faint smile appeared on the dazzling face of the Cold Night Sword Spirit.

"Come back." Lu Ran suddenly spoke with a serious tone, his gaze focused as he saw a small battle group appear in the distant southeast.

In front, rapidly fleeing, was a huge white tiger.

Chasing relentlessly from behind was a delicate and beautiful white jade sculpture.

"Whirl~" The Cold Night Sword Spirit heeded the order, merging into the sword's body.

Lu Ran swiftly moved forward, arriving at a stone peak, hiding behind the mountain, carefully checking his surroundings, ensuring safety before revealing half his face to once again observe the distant battle group.

At this glance, he happened to witness the moment the white tiger shattered into wind.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's palm hit the empty air, her body passing through the storm.

As she slowed down and turned around, the energy storm reassembled, transforming back into a fierce and malevolent white tiger.

"Goodness~" Lu Ran bared his teeth.

What a fierce beast!

Its huge figure, incredibly vicious face, and those scarlet eyes were emitting a terrifying radiance.

The white tiger had black stripes like lines of dark flames, not only attached to the tiger's skin but extending in all directions, dancing freely in the air.

Black mist spread, thick with evil qi covering the sky, making one's skin crawl!

Evil Demon-Yinli Tiger!

"Hmm..." Lu Ran pondered slightly.

Was this Divine Mountain he approached the domain of the Mountain Lord-Yinli Tiger?

What a stroke of bad luck!

Lu Ran had been thinking if he could live in seclusion near this Divine Mountain, to ambush and seize Dead Soul resources while training diligently.

If this bunch existed in this mountain, then he definitely couldn't stay long!

The Mountain Lord-Yinli Tiger pair, in terms of perception, was by no means inferior to the Evil Dog Clan.

In terms of ranking, the Mountain Lord-Yinli Tiger was genuinely a second-class God Demon!

In the Great Xia Divine Sequence, it was ranked among the top three ranks of beast gods, renowned as one of the "Eight Great Heavenly Demons."

Due to attributes, temperament, and other aspects, the second-class God-Sky Phoenix, with its medical skills and benevolence, was always praised as the leader of the Eight Great Heavenly Demons.

But any clear-sighted person knew, from a combat strength perspective, the Mountain Lord was the true king of beast gods!

"Roar!!"

The tiger's roar came from afar, not seeming particularly majestic, instead releasing a brutal and ferocious aura.

Evil Technique-Yin Tiger Roar!

All living beings would be terrified and experience soul-throbbing fear amidst this unique roar!

Unfortunately,

The Jade Venerable is faceless and heartless.

All spiritual output techniques have no effect on her.

Lu Ran saw clearly that the Faceless Jade Venerable was unfazed, once again pouncing towards the gigantic creature.

The Yinli Tiger was indeed too large at the Heavenly Realm level.

Its body length was probably around twenty-four or five meters, with a shoulder height over ten meters, as tall as a three-story building.

The long, powerful tiger tail was likely over ten meters long as well.

It must be known that the Faceless Jade Venerable wasn't small in stature, generally four or five meters tall, even if Lu Ran stood on tiptoes, he couldn't reach her waist...

Yet she seemed so small before such a colossal beast.

Though small in stature, her strength was ferocious!

The Faceless Jade Venerable, in her grand jade robe, wildly fluttered, single-handedly charging at the Yinli Tiger, letting the endless black "whip" lash her body.

"Crack! Crack...."

It was the Evil Technique of the Yinli Tiger Clan-Yinli Whip, which when struck on the target, not only had immense destructive power but could directly lash the souls of living beings through the flesh!

For ordinary foes, they would have lost combat abilities long ago under the chaotic lashing of the Yinli Whip.

However, the Faceless Jade Venerable showed no fear!

Fighting like a damn war god!

The Yinli Tiger dodged continuously; despite its large size, it was exceptionally agile and quick.

This clan possessed extremely sharp tiger claws, but clearly, the Yinli Tiger dared not touch the Faceless Jade Venerable, only using dark mist long whips to harass its enemy.

The Yinli Tiger seemed to be on the defensive, but in fact, this "kite flying" tactic was quite effective.

Quantitative changes would eventually lead to qualitative changes!

As long as the Faceless Jade Venerable received enough lashes, there would soon come a moment when her jade body would crack with fissures.

"Hmm." Lu Ran nodded secretly.

Truly a second-class Evil Demon!

Facing the Faceless Jade Venerable one-on-one, yet not falling behind! Such combat prowess in a God Demon minion was rare... Whoa?

Lu Ran suddenly widened his eyes.

He originally thought the Yinli Tiger dared not engage the Faceless Jade Venerable, yet realized it took action?

So bold?

"Roar!" The tiger's roar, filled with violent aura, echoed far and wide.

Only to see the black whips extending from the tiger's stripes suddenly gather together, transforming into a pair of dark mist long wings.

No need to flap black wings, the Shadow Tiger moved gracefully in the air, suddenly changing direction with its sharp tiger claws shining.

Evil Technique·Shadow Wind Wings!

Evil Technique·Shadow Claws!

"Sss!"

For a moment, Lu Ran thought he saw sparks flying.

The Shadow Tiger, with a single claw toe and the incredibly sharp tip of its nail, sliced through the robes of the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Only insiders see the subtlety!

Its timing and precision control of distance were truly remarkable.

As the people of Da Xia watched "Heavenly Pride", they probably had the same feeling towards the ghostly Lu Ran?

Lu Ran initially thought he had rated the Shadow Tiger clan highly enough, but unexpectedly, this clan turned out to be so terrifying!

They have courage and guts!

Going head-to-head with the Faceless Jade Lord!

Back when Lu Ran was fighting east and west at Holy Spirit Mountain Realm, he once battled the Sea Realm Great Demon of the Shadow Tiger clan, and even then he realized the combat power of the Shadow Tiger clan was formidable.

Now looking at the Heavenly Realm's Shadow Tiger, it's incredibly strong.

And incredibly sneaky!

"Hoo!"

Lu Ran witnessed firsthand as the Shadow Tiger suddenly shattered into wind, allowing the Faceless Jade Lord to penetrate through again, before piecing back together.

Evil Technique·Ghost Soul Dispersion!

Lu Ran thought that this technique should be called "Ghost Soul Undispersion" to be fitting.

The Shadow Tiger might not have the Instant Teleportation Technique, but simply this move of transforming flesh into wind is enough to put it in an unbeatable position.

The Faceless Jade Venerable almost only has physical output means, unable to cope.

If it were Jiang Ruyi, she'd cast a Bursting Flame Talisman straight away!

Or if it were Deng Yuxiang, she'd send a Tornado over...

Dare to shatter into wind in front of me?

Then you're done for.

Unfortunately, the Faceless Jade Lord doesn't have the techniques to counter the enemy.

Surprisingly, Lu Ran did not see the Faceless Jade Lord in a panic; she relentlessly pursued, seeking opportunities in the fierce hunt.

It makes sense.

The Shadow Tiger can whip the Faceless Jade Lord a thousand times, scratch her a hundred times with sharp claws, but if it lets the Faceless Jade Lord touch it once...

It would be over!

The Shadow Tiger clan doesn't have defensive techniques, with only their nails being the hardest.

The Faceless Jade Venerable only needs one palm or one kick to pierce the Shadow Tiger.

The intense entanglement was thrilling to watch for Lu Ran!

He somehow empathized with the Shadow Tiger...

Lu Ran doesn't think he could withstand one slap from the Faceless Jade Venerable.

But he, like the Shadow Tiger, can dance on a knife's edge and actually harm the Faceless Jade Lord.

So the more thrilling the Shadow Tiger's steps, the more sense of involvement Lu Ran felt.

There's another situation that Lu Ran has been enduring.

Every time the Shadow Tiger shattered into wind, Lu Ran couldn't help but want to reach out and release the North Wind Divine Skill-North Wind Roar!

To make the Shadow Tiger completely offline, merging with the Tornado, disappearing between heaven and earth...

Luckily, Lu Ran is rational enough, and the battlefield is distant enough.

As time passed, the victory or defeat between the intensely entangled sides became increasingly apparent.

The Faceless Jade Lord is truly about to lose!

This is a true one-on-one kill! From beginning to end, Lu Ran never saw the God's minions-Mountain Lord.

Lu Ran quietly retreated from the mountain peak, his figure fading into the sea of fog.

The foggy sea, over 1 meter thick, was enough to conceal his figure, allowing him to approach silently.

Relying on a pair of Simurgh's Eyes, even within the misty fog sea, Lu Ran could clearly see outside.

The Faceless Jade Lord was still chasing!

Even though she was already covered with cracks, she showed no signs of panic or withdrawal.

Could it be that she truly believes she can win?

Lu Ran didn't know for a moment whether to say she had a good mindset or to say she was arrogant.

"Crack! Crack..."

The sound of the Jade Venerable breaking kept echoing.

Lu Ran, like a possessed Bai Rao, was crawling swiftly across the ground; at this moment, he could be considered dual stealth.

Not only hiding within the fog sea, but also activating the Greedy Wolf Divine Technique·Wolf Concealment.

For this, Lu Ran deliberately left the Cold Night Sword at the bottom of Stone Peak, fearing that while invisible, he'd also conceal the aura of Cold Night Sword, allowing the opponent's Divine Weapon to detect abnormalities.

"Roar!"

The Shadow Tiger let out an angry roar, making all beings tremble!

It seemed to be a roar of victory, also the growl of the final strike.

The Shadow Tiger opened its pair of black wings, its enormous body flickering, rapidly approaching the Faceless Jade Venerable with sharp tiger claws gleaming.

The Faceless Jade Venerable abruptly hovered in mid-air, her indifferent eyes quietly observing the Shadow Tiger.

"Whoosh~"

Suddenly, the jade robe fluttered!

The Faceless Jade Lord, full of cracks, suddenly lunged forward without warning.

The Shadow Tiger's eyes glowed red, seemingly ready to give the enemy a fatal blow, but at the critical moment, its body shattered into wind once more.

The Jade Venerable's shattering is a foregone conclusion, why take the risk?

The Shadow Tiger clan is indeed fierce, but also ruthless, merely toying with prey.

However, in the dense fog sea, there is a lamb cub wearing invisible wolfskin, even more insidious and cunning!

"Hoo!!"

Suddenly, a Gale arose from the ground.

It enveloped the Shadow Tiger shattered into wind, and also the Faceless Jade Venerable full of cracks.

The Faceless Jade Venerable froze!

Lu Ran gazed at the shattered jade sculpture in the wind, sending a mental message: [Lord Xian Mo.]

[Huh?]

[Dinner's ready.] Lu Ran licked his lips, [Today's dish is extraordinary, tiger meat, tiger bones, tiger... uh, very nourishing!]

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

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Chapter 883: Longing

[How is it?] Lu Ran opened a pair of Pupils of the Dead World, watching two Dead Souls fly in succession, continuously converging before his eyes.

The Faceless Jade Venerable remained as elegant as ever.

During her flight, she kept curiously watching Lu Ran, secretly pondering something.

The Yinli Tiger was much more irritable.

Yet no matter how furious it became, it couldn't escape the outcome of being seized by Soul Seizing.

[Indeed, abundant resources.] Jiang Ruyi sighed softly.

[Isn't it, isn't it~]

[Hehe.] Jiang Ruyi couldn't help but laugh, the dignified Master of the God Demon, speaking as if seeking praise like a child.

Before Lu Ran could transmit his voice, she asked again: [How come there are no Dead Souls of the Mountain Lord's underlings?]

It wasn't that Jiang Ruyi was greedy, but rather that she was worried about Lu Ran being exposed.

Any soul that witnessed Lu Ran's display of divine power and returned to the embrace of a God Demon's wraith might provide corresponding information to the God Demon.

For the past half month, every time Lu Ran slaughtered a God Demon's underling, Dead Souls always appeared in pairs.

[Perhaps the Yinli Tiger clan is somewhat special? Or maybe the Mountain Lord's underlings were already dead before I engaged in the battle.]

[As long as nothing is missed, that's good.] In the Sculpture Garden, Jiang Ruyi closed her stone eyes, [I feel like I'm about to advance.]

[Good!] Lu Ran's face showed excitement, and his enthusiasm was even more abundant for a moment.

This place was not far from Divine Mountain, though not inhabitable, yet he could try to snatch food from the jaws of a tiger, to escort little Ruyi on her way!

"Shoo~"

Lu Ran was searching for Dead Souls when the Cold Night Sword flew over from afar, the hilt fitting into Lu Ran's palm.

"They've moved." The voice of the Cold Night Sword Spirit was just like Jiang Ruyi's, making Lu Ran's heart tighten.

"Moved?"

"Hmm, they are heading in our direction, very quickly." The Sword Spirit's tone also became grave.

Lu Ran frowned slightly, temporarily dispelling the plan to seize Dead Souls.

If nothing unexpected happened, the other side should be the soldiers stationed at Divine Mountain, but the question was, why had they endured for half a month and now lost their patience?

Lu Ran had always thought that the other side would stay within Divine Mountain, waiting for his visit.

Maybe they would even rely on the advantage of terrain and the power of Divine Mountain, the status of gods, to exert pressure on his side.

But now it seemed that wasn't the case?

"Hmm..." Lu Ran pondered for a moment, surveyed his surroundings, and chose a medium-sized Stone Peak, slowly flying over.

Regardless, the other side abandoning their home field advantage was a good thing!

Lu Ran, therefore, also planned to wait here.

Meanwhile, in the Divine Mountain region.

A black-clad woman with disheveled hair, wielding a Tianchen Long Sword, grew a pair of black mist tiger wings on her back, dashing swiftly towards the northwest.

"Yin Yan!" On the tall mountain behind her, a Human Clan soldier shouted urgently and angrily.

However, Yin Yan ignored the shouting, flying with remarkable speed.

Near the Divine Mountain of Sick Wood, there were many Faceless Jade Venerables wandering and hunting, and Yin Yan sensed that the Divine Weapon approaching her had stopped at a certain place for a long time.

This inevitably made her believe that the Master of the Divine Weapon was intercepted by the Faceless Jade Venerable!

In theory, the other side had been gone for half a month, proving their own strength, sufficient to roam the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, but Yin Yan still wanted to check out the situation.

Toward the challenger, she felt not only curiosity but also a hint of anticipation.

Being able to share the same Domain as the Love-Seeking Sword is no easy task, and it is even rarer for someone to enter the Heavenly Realm with a Divine Weapon.

So, what kind of person is the other party?

Another... miserable wretch on the verge of losing self?

"Heh." With this thought, Yin Yan smiled self-mockingly and flew even faster.

Suddenly, there was the sound of a silk robe fluttering.

The lackeys collecting Holy Spirit Energy outside wanted to return to Divine Mountain for orders, having first to pass through the Faceless Jade Venerable, and those heading out from the Divine Mountain area also have to break through the Faceless Jade Venerable's blockade.

"Whoosh~"

Yin Yan, not interested in fighting, broke herself into wind and continued rushing northwest.

The Faceless Jade Venerable chased for a long time but eventually stopped.

If the other party had been a Yinli Tiger underling, by their nature of loving battle and vicious beastly nature, they might have stopped.

But this woman was a Human Clan Believer, wholeheartedly fleeing, giving no opportunity for the Faceless Jade Venerable to engage, continuing pursuit would only waste effort.

The energy storm belonging to the Yinli Tiger clan was colorless and formless.

In an instant, the Yinli Tiger female disciple vanished without a trace.

Curiously, the God Mountain Lord appeared more ground-attributed, known for the famous Earth Escape Technique.

The Yinli Tiger, on the other hand, was wind-attributed, flying swiftly and nimbly.

It's hard to imagine what terrifying chemical reaction would occur if a God and a Demon merged into one.

Wouldn't it be able to soar to the heavens and escape to the earth, omnipotent?

"Whoosh~"

The Cloud Sea and Mist Sea flowed east.

Between heaven and earth, a fierce wind counterflowed, continuously moving west.

Suddenly, the wind stopped, assembling quietly in mid-air, forming the silhouette of a woman.

Yin Yan, holding the Love-Seeking Sword, instantly locked onto the mysterious cloaked figure sitting atop the Stone Peak.

By the build, this person should be male?

He sat cross-legged, his wide bamboo hat concealing his face, adding an air of mystery.

A Black Ice Long Sword lay flat across his knees, and his fingertips repeatedly brushed over the cold blade.

Yin Yan squinted her eyes.

The man's fingers were long and fair, appearing very young, which somewhat surprised her.

"You've arrived."

The heavy voice came from the Stone Peak.

His voice made Yin Yan even more certain of her guess, and as the mysterious cloaked figure slowly raised his head...

Yin Yan's heart skipped a beat!

Even though she had some guesses, the eyes exposed beneath the brim of the bamboo hat, above the blood crystal mask, with their spirited brows, still left Yin Yan utterly shocked.

This is just...just a child?

Lu Ran likewise was observing her, seeing a disheveled woman with maddened hair, and beneath the tangled locks, her sickly pale face.

The physical strength of a great power in the Heavenly Realm is beyond what ordinary people can imagine.

At this stage, the human clan's body has already begun transforming into a pure energy body. Even if Lu Ran were to fight intensely day and night without rest for a month, he wouldn't end up in such a state.

In other words, to harm oneself to such a pitiful extent, it's not easy.

"What's your name?" The woman in black looked down at the young man on the peak.

Lu Ran did not respond, instead he asked, "And you?"

"Yin Yan," the woman did not conceal, "Yin of gloomy rain, Yan of bright sun."

Lu Ran nodded silently, looking at Yin Yan's haggard appearance; he sighed heavily in his heart and slowly asked, "Is he gone?"

Yin Yan gripped the sword hilt tightly, her knuckles bloodless from the force.

The one who understands you the most is either someone very close to you or your opponent.

The divine weapons in their hands had the same domain direction.

It was naturally not hard for Lu Ran to guess what had occurred with her.

After a long silence, he pursed his lips but still uttered two words: "Condolences."

The lightness of those words could hardly comfort someone so deeply in love, but Lu Ran truly did not know what else to say.

He, of course, considered her as an opponent.

Yet at the same time, the two of them were the same kind of people.

There was a vast silence between heaven and earth.

The young man sat on the peak, the woman stood in the air, each staring at the other without a single movement, the atmosphere suffocatingly oppressive.

The only thing continuously flowing was the eternally surging sea of mist.

"Whew..." After a long time, Yin Yan closed her eyes and took a deep breath.

She tried to suppress her turbulent emotions, not wanting to reveal too much in front of a young stranger, although she knew there was no hiding from the Master of Divine Weapon with a similar kind.

The hand grabbing the sword hilt slightly relaxed, "Your person is still there."

Lu Ran nodded.

To be precise, he was exactly that person.

Because the Cold Night Sword belonged to Jiang Ruyi, but it wasn't wrong for her to say it like that.

Yin Yan looked directly into Lu Ran's eyes and said softly, "So young, so deeply affectionate, quite unexpected."

Lu Ran shrugged, accepting the praise on behalf of Immortal Jiang.

"Have you thought about it, you may never see her again in this life?"

"Why?" Lu Ran looked at the woman.

Yin Yan opened a hand, indicating this heaven and earth, the meaning clear without words.

Lu Ran fell silent.

To him, the human world, the Mountain Realm, and the Heavenly Realm were all his to travel freely.

But to other human believers, from worshipping gods, growing through cultivation, to being tossed into the Mountain Realm slaughterhouse, then forcibly ascending to the Heavenly Realm battlefield.

Every part of it is orchestrated by gods and demons.

Whether it's the human world, Mountain Realm, or Heavenly Realm, it's all an inescapable prison for people.

The only difference is, people born in the human world, growing there, have a special term for that equally cruel prison—home.

"What if she is also in the Heavenly Realm?" Lu Ran suddenly asked.

Unexpectedly, a faint sorrow emerged in Yin Yan's eyes, "I hope you're just being glib."

Compared to fighting for survival every day on the Heavenly Realm battlefield, it would be better if she stayed in the human world.

Even if they can never meet again, at least she's alive.

There remains a sliver of hope.

Lu Ran said, "Your temperament doesn't seem like a disciple of the Yinli Tiger."

"Heh." Yin Yan laughed, slowly shaking her head, "I just happen to meet someone who shares my sorrow and said a few more words."

Lu Ran nodded lightly, then changed the subject, "You've been stationed at the Divine Mountain all this time, why come out now?"

Yin Yan raised her long sword, looking at the gleaming blade, "The Sword of Longing is eager to meet you, to see what kind of person you are."

"Longing." Lu Ran murmured, it truly is a good name.

"To see if you are worthy of entrusting the Divine Weapon Domain to."

Lu Ran couldn't help raising an eyebrow, hearing that, was she here to die?

Considering everything that happened to Yin Yan, it somewhat made sense, yet Lu Ran wouldn't be easily convinced.

He smoothly asked, "And how should I be judged to be qualified?"

"By receiving two moves from me, two kinds of Divine Weapon Domains."

"That suits me." Lu Ran smiled, "Cruel and devious, it's how the Yinli Tiger clan should be."

Yin Yan also smiled but didn't explain, instead she said, "Aren't you curious, about what your Divine Weapon Domain looks like?"

Lu Ran slowly stood up, brushed the dust from his backside and said, "I'm here to defeat you, not to take your test."

Yin Yan watched the young man's untidy actions, made all the more free and easy by that resolute martial spirit.

"Besides, the heavens have already arranged too many tests for her and me."

Lu Ran twirled the sword into a flower, pointing it at the woman hovering in the air, his eyes turning cold, "I'm tired of it."

Suddenly, the brutal and violent aura unique to the Yinli Tiger clan filled the heavens and earth.

Yin Yan similarly twirled a sword flower, her voice icy and piercing, "I hope she can wait for you."

"She never waited for me."

"Hmm?"

"She's always been running toward me."

...

Chapter 884: Questioning the Past

"Hoo!!"

Yin Yan sprouted a pair of black mist tiger wings from her back and charged directly at Lu Ran.

The speed of the Yinli Tiger clan was no less than that of the North Wind - Night Charm. Lu Ran's body tensed, and he swiftly stepped back to block.

"Clang!"

The Acacia Sword and the Cold Night Sword clashed fiercely, emitting a piercing sound.

Yin Yan's expression changed slightly; she felt a tingling in her palms, and her Divine Sword almost slipped from her grasp.

This young man... what tremendous strength!

Lu Ran was about to counterattack when suddenly, two black mist strands shot out from Yin Yan's tiger wings, striking fiercely towards his face.

He tilted his head and stepped back.

In an instant, Lu Ran moved seamlessly, tilting his head to dodge the first whip and retreating to avoid the second.

At the moment his toes touched the ground, he suddenly darted forward.

Retaliation is only polite!

"Whoosh~"

A gust of wind surged.

Yin Yan's tiger wings didn't flap at all, yet her entire body flew backward and upward.

In the blink of an eye, the two exchanged blows and separated again by more than ten meters.

"Impressive skills." Yin Yan's tone was as cold as her gaze.

Lu Ran looked up at the woman standing in mid-air, silent and speechless.

He was aware that being in the Da Xia's god and demon system, the gods and demons stationed on this land naturally carried an "Eastern hue."

Sword One, Martial Artist, Flower Lantern, Spiritual Fortune...

Just a few random examples — these divine beings, from their core to their appearance and skills, were richly imbued with Eastern charm.

Of course, there were some gods and demons whose Eastern hue wasn't prominent, but they were never disconnected from the culture nurtured by this land.

It's hard to tell if this is a coincidence or if there's some inevitable connection.

In battles with most enemies, Lu Ran didn't feel anything out of the ordinary.

But today was different!

Yin Yan's personal image truly resembled a Western fallen angel!

Pale complexion, jet-black eyes, ink-like long hair cascading to her calves, heavily misted black wings...

This inevitably led Lu Ran to ponder a bit more.

On Da Xia's side, there were the Holy Spirit Mountain and the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

Presumably, other countries and regions in the world also have their own Holy Spirit Mountains and Heavenly Realm Battlefields.

Lu Ran didn't believe that the believers in other regions lived well; at least in the human world, evil demons invaded all over the world, month after month.

The question was whether in the Heavenly Realm Battlefields of other regions, the foreign enemies were also Faceless Jade Venerables?

What was the situation on those battlefields?

Was it also like the Eastern battlefield, struggling to resist and achieve a balance?

A Faceless Jade Venerable had once threatened Lu Ran, telling him to kneel at her true self's feet, and after sensing Lu Ran's resistance, the Faceless Jade Venerable had said something particularly memorable:

"Your time is running out."

Lu Ran wasn't clear if this was a psychological tactic from the Faceless Jade Venerable or if she indeed had made breakthrough progress in some aspects or regions...

"Bang! Bang! Bang..."

"Rumble!"

Lu Ran agilely dodged, eventually landing in a thick sea of mist.

Under the whipping of fine black whips, the stone peaks shattered.

"What kind of person is she?" Yin Yan suddenly asked.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran was momentarily stunned, naturally knowing who the "she" referred to by his opponent was.

And at that moment, Yin Yan attacked directly.

The Yinli Tiger clan flew incredibly fast!

In this move, her disheveled long hair was "straightened" by the wind, flowing diagonally backward like a silky black ribbon.

Fully revealing her pale and beautiful face.

What a sickly tiger, truly sinister, huh?

The person hasn't arrived, but the whip strikes first!

"Bang! Bang! Bang..." countless long black mist whips extended from Yin Yan's back, frantically whipping the youth in a raincoat.

Even a slight brush of the Yinli whip could cause not just skin lacerations but would make the soul tremble!

But the scene unfolding before her eyes...

Yin Yan was stunned!

She didn't know what kind of existence the raincoat-clad youth was, to be able to dodge and weave through such dense whip shadows.

Up till now, she didn't even know which sect or school Lu Ran was a disciple of!

Is he a Wusheng Sect disciple, able to sway with the wind?

No!

The Wusheng Sect's power skills lie within the grand move of Dual Hero Masks: Fierce Black Face, but the raincoat youth clearly hadn't unleashed it.

And from the way the raincoat youth was dodging, he wasn't a feather being pushed by Divine Power waves.

He didn't have the gentle, swaying feeling with the wind; instead, his movements were extraordinarily swift!

Could it be, that he was a Mountain Lord believer?

Was this terrifying movement technique purely trained?

"Roar!" Yin Yan let out a fierce shout.

The Yin Tiger Roar from the Yinli Tiger clan could make enemies tremble with fear.

However, the raincoat youth pressed forward instead of retreating, as if unaffected, continuing to dodge the dense whip shadows, aiming his sword directly at Yin Yan's face!

"You!" Yin Yan instinctively flew backward at an angle.

"Baa~"

A sudden bleating sound made Yin Yan's face change!

The violent aura in her heart couldn't be suppressed, and even her retreat slowed down.

"Hiss—"

Mist billowed from beneath Lu Ran's feet, and he suddenly appeared right in front of Yin Yan.

"Clang!"

The two swords clashed!

The battle-hardened Yin Yan always kept her weapon in front of her; it was a battle detail she honed through numerous life-and-death duels.

It was precisely this small detail that blocked most of the enemy's attacks.

The young man in the straw cloak had overwhelming power, slashing the long sword from Yin Yan's hand, sending it flying.

The Lovesick Sword "whooshed" away, but a streak of light, at the moment the two swords clashed, was imprinted into Lu Ran's body.

He had no time to dodge!

First, because the attack caught him off guard, and secondly, because the distance between them was too close, and the streak of light was so fast that by the time Lu Ran reacted, the light had already vanished.

Lu Ran even thought he was hallucinating.

"Screech!"

In an instant, what happened didn't stop Lu Ran's slashing movements; the Lovesick Sword flew away, and the Cold Night Sword scraped across Yin Yan's front, tearing a gash in her Water Flow Armor!

The sword tip even ripped open her clothing, leaving a shallow blood mark on her body.

"Hiss..." Yin Yan gasped, her whole person sobering up considerably, retreating backward diagonally from the strike.

At this moment, she truly smelled the breath of death.

With the terrifying combat prowess displayed by the young man in the straw cloak, would he possibly stop pursuing?

Perhaps, since Lu Ran was hit, but Yin Yan couldn't gamble her life on it.

"Hoo!!"

She decisively shattered into wind, endless black whips dispersing, a demonic wind flying into the sky.

And Lu Ran... indeed did not pursue.

To be precise, maintaining a slashing posture, he was fixed in place!

The streak of light imprinted into his body was not a physical attack because the Water Flow Armor didn't react.

A mysterious streak of light, it was also definitely not a mental attack since Lu Ran's Spirit Defense Techniques couldn't block its effect.

Lu Ran's eyes widened slightly, his lips behind the Blood Crystal Mask trembling gently.

Like a sculpture, he was completely fixed in place.

Evil Technique: Yin Tiger's Howl, an attack on the enemy's soul layered on spiritual output.

You must first be mentally impacted before your soul gets injured.

Evil Technique: Yinli Whip, attacking the enemy's soul layered on physical output.

You must first be whipped by the black mist long whip on the flesh to have your soul whipped.

And the streak of light just now drilled directly into Lu Ran's body, torturing his soul!

"Hoo~"

In the sky, a blast of demonic wind took shape, Yin Yan once again spreading a pair of pitch-black wings, standing in mid-air.

The Lovesick Sword, which flew away, returned, observing the young man in the sea of mist with her.

The previously intense battle came to a halt.

Yin Yan extended her hand, pale fingers stroking the shimmering sword blade:

"This sword does not cut the body, only questions the past."

Lu Ran slowly straightened his body, raising his hand to cover his eyes, needing no explanation from his opponent, he was already being interrogated.

Is there regret in your heart?

Do you have obsessions?

Are there unresolved ties?

Lovesick Sword · First Divine Weapon Domain · Question The Past!

"Buzz!!" The Cold Night Sword trembled violently, as if reminding Lu Ran, to pull him back from special thoughts.

Yin Yan remained silent, carefully sensing the changes in the world around her.

The emotions of a Great Power in the Heavenly Realm could, of course, affect the surrounding environment, even enslaving weak beings, making them lack personal emotions and just drift along.

[Lu Ran.] Suddenly a cool voice imprinted into his mind.

[Ah!] Lu Ran awoke with a start, like a drowning person grabbing a lifesaving straw, being pulled out of the lake, gasping heavily.

[I'm here.] Jiang Ruyi said softly.

"Hmm..." Lu Ran lowered his hand, eyes downcast.

No regret.

A deep obsession with her indeed. The embodied figure rests in the Sculpture Garden.

Unfinished ties also deeply engrained in my mind, accompanying me along the journey, writing the unfinished story together.

"Is that it?" Lu Ran raised his head, looking at the woman standing in mid-air.

Yin Yan's face turned icy cold, replying frostily, "I misjudged; you're not as deeply emotional as I thought."

"Why be so arrogant?" Lu Ran gazed at her from afar, "My story isn't tragic."

"Heh." Yin Yan let out a cold laugh, hard to imagine these words spoken by someone wandering alone in the Heavenly Realm.

"Hoo!!"

She suddenly raised her long sword, energies surging wildly.

Soon, countless transparent sword shadows like fine rain blanketed the entire area.

Each sword shadow didn't fall straight down; they truly seemed like rain threads swaying in the wind, drifting down.

A step forward, a sidestep, a head tilt...

Once again, Yin Yan saw amidst the dense attacks that figure strolling leisurely.

Unexpectedly, Lu Ran reached out proactively, lightly touching a falling sword shadow beside him.

Upon this touch, Lu Ran's weaving figure halted.

Sorrow falls like rain, thoughts entwined like wind.

Lovesick Sword · Second Divine Weapon Domain · The Deepest Longing!

Every sword shadow clung desperately to Lu Ran's mind, igniting his thoughts and feelings.

Yin Yan grew completely furious!

Looking at the young man in the straw cloak bathed in sword rain, she angrily shouted, "Are you Faceless Jade Venerable?"

How could someone be so indifferent?

By now, Yin Yan no longer hoped for Lu Ran's mental breakdown, nor the loss of will to fight.

But at least you shouldn't be so unresponsive!

"Heh." Lu Ran laughed, raising his eyes to look at the enraged woman.

Could there be a possibility...

That I carry the antidote with me?

...

Chapter 885: Lament in the Sea of Mist

[Something's wrong with him!] The words of the Lovesickness Sword Spirit echoed in Yin Yan's mind.

[What do you mean?]

[The Divine Weapon he cultivated has overlapping domains with mine. He cannot be a heartless person!] The Lovesickness Sword Spirit was absolutely certain.

Of course, the Lovesickness Sword is not invincible.

The world is not short of cold-blooded, emotionless people, and as cultivators ascend, there are even more "emotionless sages."

If someone else were caught by this move and remained indifferent, the Lovesickness Sword would not react this way.

But who is this mysterious young man?

He and Yin Yan are the same type of person!

When he was caught by the First Divine Weapon Domain·Tracing Past Dust, he also covered his eyes, his heart trembling, clearly showing he has emotions and desires.

It's just that the young man's reaction didn't match Yin Yan's psychological expectations.

And as the Second Divine Weapon Domain·Deep Longing opened, the young man's reaction became even more unpredictable.

There must be something amiss!

He...

Yin Yan's face momentarily froze, a flash of insight struck her mind, and she suddenly said, "Is your beloved right beside you?"

Lu Ran remained silent, secretly sighing.

Figured it out so soon?

Indeed, there were too many limiting conditions.

Seeing Lu Ran not responding or denying, a storm surged in Yin Yan's heart!

Indeed, only being within reach could continually dispel the emotions of longing that were constantly aroused.

He could maintain his normal sanity.

Before the battle even began, the Lovesickness Sword had informed Yin Yan that the young man carried the aura of many Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts!

It seems that perhaps among these artifacts, there is one that can house human beings?

"You're... truly a madman! You brought her to such a dangerous place?"

"Mind your own business." Lu Ran said coldly.

"Ha." Yin Yan didn't pay him any more attention, instead she clenched her fist and tapped her forehead.

Suddenly, she understood something that the young man had said earlier: she never waited for me.

She was always running towards me.

So that's how it is...

[It seems I have another reason to leave.] The Lovesickness Sword Spirit conveyed its thoughts again.

Yin Yan lowered her eyes, looking at the long sword in her hand.

Lovesickness Sword: [You and I have already failed, he has not.]

Yin Yan slowly held the sword hilt tightly, her eyes full of bitterness.

[He qualifies.] The Lovesickness Sword Spirit uttered four short words, as if delivering a final ultimatum.

From the moment she met the young man, both she and the sword had been repeatedly shocked.

From his age to his martial arts, to his identity as a believer.

Now, she and the sword realized that this mysterious young man was carrying his beloved with him...

This is the Heavenly Realm Battlefield!

Foolish! Reckless!

Enough to make one insanely envious.

[I am tired, Yin Yan.] The Lovesickness Sword Spirit sighed deeply, [I... am too pained.]

"Mhm." A faint sadness flashed in Yin Yan's eyes as she suddenly spread her black mist tiger wings and charged fiercely at Lu Ran.

The sudden scene made Lu Ran fully alert.

He held tightly to the Cold Night Sword, his hand filled with Fierce Heavenly Power, and charged forward abruptly.

"Crack!!"

The sound of the sword breaking was unbearably sharp.

Again, it was so crisp and decisive.

Lu Ran's eyes widened in disbelief, never expecting that a majestic third-tier Divine Weapon would shatter so easily.

The wielder of the sword never injected Divine Power into the Lovesickness Sword.

Including the Lovesickness Sword itself, it dissipated all its energy as if it wanted to turn into ordinary steel, ready to be broken.

And behind the Divine Weapon was the wielder!

How fast is Yin Yan?

In just an instant, she would be cleaved into two by the Cold Night Sword...

"Swipe~" Lu Ran flickered on the spot!

The Cold Night Sword blade barely grazed Yin Yan's upper body, leaving a scratch, but didn't harm her further.

He flickered on the spot with Lu Ran, letting the opponent "pass through" the long sword.

"Thud" sounded a dull thump!

Yin Yan crashed heavily into the misty sea, like a stone skipping on a lake, bouncing continuously, crashing towards the distance.

Lu Ran stood where he was, looking back.

Previously, he was caught off guard by Yin Yan, accidentally caught in her First Divine Weapon Domain-Tracing Past Dust.

This time, in the clash, Lu Ran's nerves were tense! Yet, this caution didn't help him evade, but rather saved his opponent's life.

"Buzz~" The Cold Night Sword trembled lightly.

In the dark, there was no longer an invisible hand suppressing it, preventing any movement.

From now on, the sky is high and the bird flies freely!

Lu Ran opened his Simurgh's Eyes, looking at the woman in the misty sea, slowly coming to a halt.

She lay there motionless, seemingly lifeless.

Is she... dead?

Judging from her and the Lovesickness Sword's final strike, the duo seemed to be seeking death.

Lu Ran pursed his lips, his heart filled with mixed emotions.

Since she was a Yinli Tiger disciple, with a ruthless nature and notorious reputation, Lu Ran always remained cautious.

Unexpectedly, she truly meant it!

Not only was there no energy on the Lovesickness Sword, but she also dispersed her Water Flow Armor, not setting up any defenses...

It seems that the death of that person really hit her hard.

Lu Ran stood silent for a moment, then stepped forward.

Yin Yan had fallen heavily into the thick sea of mist, her mind was hazy, she couldn't see anything, but faintly heard what seemed like approaching footsteps.

Soon after, a large hand gently grasped her arm.

With just one action, a sourness rose in Yin Yan's nose.

A layer of mist welled up in her eyes.

The woman's pale face slowly emerged from the misty sea of fog, a vague silhouette appearing in her hazy vision.

"You... you came to fetch me." Yin Yan murmured.

Her gaze shifted between sadness and delight, constantly changing, her emotions fluctuating wildly.

Lu Ran released his hand and silently retreated.

"You... still, still refuse to forgive me..." Yin Yan's hand froze in mid-air, murmuring softly.

She was still immersed in a special emotion, but the pain from her limbs gradually brought her back to her senses.

No!

No, that's not right!

Yin Yan hurriedly wiped her eyes, looking forward.

In her vision, the vague tall silhouette revealed its true face.

Green cloak and hat, masked young man.

Lu Ran showed an apologetic look and nodded slightly.

I'm sorry, I'm not the person you wanted.

"No, how... how could it be?" Yin Yan's hand fell in front of her, the diagonally opened wound still oozing blood.

Thrown into confusion, under intense pain, she finally became fully awake.

No!

It shouldn't be like this.

Yin Yan covered her face with both hands.

The young man's sword clearly had already cut her in two!

She had clearly... seen him...

"What kind of person is he?" Lu Ran spoke softly.

Yin Yan ignored him, covering her face tightly, slowly squatting down, engulfed by the sea of fog.

The sobbing grew louder.

Gradually turning into crying, then into heart-wrenching screams.

Lu Ran felt a pang of bitterness in his heart.

It was clear that neither side of this battle were normal people, as could be seen from the Divine Weapon Domain they were fighting over.

Lu Ran indeed felt a bit of "the rabbit dies, the fox grieves" sentiment.

He listened to the sorrowful cries, raising his head, silently looking up at the sky shrouded in dense clouds.

Until the sound of robes fluttering in the jade wind came from afar, bringing pressure with it.

Lu Ran turned his head and saw an exquisite white jade statue.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's flying speed did not slow, sweeping a glance over Lu Ran, and then, following the cries, landed on the foggy sea beside.

Lu Ran sheathed his sword, drawing out the Eight Desolate Blade and Cloud Sea Sword.

"Whoosh~~~"

The Faceless Jade Venerable overlooked below expressionlessly, evidently indifferent to the joys and sorrows of insignificant ants. As her jade robe billowed, she rapidly descended, a delicate jade foot aiming directly at Lu Ran's face.

Lu Ran quickly stepped back.

"Screech—"

His movements were seamless, evading the jade foot's stomp the moment the fog below his feet shot, swiftly shifting sideways.

"Ding!"

That was the sound of the Cloud Sea Sword striking against the Faceless Jade Venerable's knee.

"Crack!!"

That was the sound of the Eight Desolate Blade cutting through, cracking the jade-stone knee.

The Faceless Jade Venerable's expression changed drastically!

Due to her rapid descent, the tail of her jade robe that had floated upwards had not yet fallen, but a small leg had already been severed.

She turned her head sharply, looking at the audacious ant.

Yet she saw that the despicable human ant had already charged back, moving at astonishing speed.

"Whoosh~"

The Faceless Jade Venerable immediately flew backward and upward.

"Screech—"

Unexpectedly, the human ant charging back, could still further increase its speed?

Even by two full levels, catching her off guard!

Lu Ran, his legs submerged in the sea of fog, the fog spurting beneath his feet, suddenly shifting from River Grade-Immortal Hoof to Heavenly Grade-Immortal Hoof!

Ran Sect Blade Technique First Form-Moon Inquiry!

Again, the Cloud Sea Sword attacked first, followed by the Eight Desolate Blade.

Once more, her silhouette flashed beneath the jade robe, and again a leg was sent flying.

"Crack! Crack..."

The Faceless Jade Venerable froze in mid-air, fine cracks continuously climbing from her shattered knees, spreading across her entire body.

"You..." The Faceless Jade Venerable's cold and indifferent expression had already changed as she looked at the cloaked young man in the shrouded fog.

She frowned lightly, very puzzled.

The mysterious young man's powerful strength left her both astonished and confused, and his combat display undoubtedly represented ample battle experience.

Surely, he had encountered her countless times already.

Yet, since they had battled countless times, how could she not remember such a powerful young man?

So... could he devour Dead Souls?!

The Faceless Jade Venerable's expression shifted slightly, suddenly flying straight upward.

In the next moment, a figure flashed to the side of the Faceless Jade Venerable, slicing viciously at her waist.

"Crack!!"

The white jade statue, full of cracks, exploded violently.

Lu Ran floated in mid-air, absorbing the Dead Soul of the Faceless Jade Venerable.

"This is how you spared my life." A hoarse woman's voice came from far below.

Lu Ran looked down to see the woman who moments ago had been emotionally collapsed, crying in pain, now had composed herself.

Only the bloodshot eyes told him that everything just now was not an illusion.

"Why?" Yin Yan's voice was hoarse.

"Buzz!!"

The Immortal Hoof stone sculpture in the Sculpture Garden suddenly vibrated.

Lu Ran was silent for a moment and then slowly spoke, "If someone I cared about met with misfortune, I wouldn't die so aggrieved."

Yin Yan's eyes were unclear, staring intently at Lu Ran.

...

Chapter 886: Legend

"Are you going to see him like this? Won't you feel guilty?" Lu Ran slowly descended into the sea of mist, with a pair of swords sheathed.

Yin Yan's already pale hands clenched tightly, devoid of any blood color.

"Who killed him?" Lu Ran asked.

"What do you want to do?" Yin Yan's voice was icy cold, "Do you still want to help me take revenge?"

Lu Ran didn't respond, repeating, "Who killed him?"

Yin Yan's face changed repeatedly, finally spitting out a few words: "Faceless Jade Venerable! Ice Rose, Thorn Rose!"

Lu Ran frowned slightly.

Faceless Jade Venerable being the culprit, he could understand.

But the seventh-level God Thorn Rose, and its opposite, the seventh-level Evil God Ice Rose?

Since she made up her mind to speak, Yin Yan completely opened up: "Ice Rose and Thorn Rose on the Divine Mountain were only concerned with amplifying the Cold Plum - Ice Plum Demon Queen, ignoring the lives of the Human Clan believers, turning the battlefield into a world of ice and snow.

He got frostbite! He was slowed down and his skull was crushed by Faceless Jade Venerable."

Yin Yan's hands grabbed her hair, tearing it in pain: "I took back his remains! I took them back...

But then they were taken by the Tree Face Demon, his body was drained, becoming nourishment for the Tree Face Demon tribe!!"

Lu Ran listened in silence to the heart-wrenching cries.

Indeed, she had no way out.

Whether it's the direct culprit Faceless Jade Venerable, or the indirect culprits Thorn Rose-Ice Rose underlings.

Or the desecrating Tree Face Demon tribe...

Whom can Yin Yan take revenge on?

The God Demon underlings, how could she possibly challenge them.

To vent, she can only slay Faceless Jade Venerable day in and day out.

But isn't doing so just working for the gods and demons who killed her lover for the rest of her life?

Truly suffocating.

Living must be particularly painful for her.

"Tell me what to do... what can I do..." Yin Yan seemed deflated, collapsing into the thick sea of mist.

Emotions that had just been sorted quickly broke down again.

"I harmed him... it's me..." The whispered murmurs from the sea of mist made one's heart break.

Lu Ran slowly spoke: "Know who your enemy is, then kill them."

"Haha, haha...ahaha!"

The woman's choking whispers turned into sneers, gradually becoming maniacal laughter.

Lu Ran spoke sternly: "Why, you don't want to?"

"Huff!!"

A gust of demonic wind blew past.

Lu Ran steadied himself, resisting the urge to flinch.

A pale face pieced itself together before him, Yin Yan stared straight into Lu Ran's eyes: "You want me to destroy Disease Wood Divine Mountain? Then kill up to the Third Heaven?"

Lu Ran showed no fear, looking back at her: "You're not afraid to die. Killing one breaks even, killing two is profit."

Yin Yan suddenly turned her head towards the southeast.

There, it was clearly the direction of Disease Wood Divine Mountain.

Lu Ran understood her gaze, it was a hatred so intense it couldn't be dissolved...

"Wait!" Lu Ran immediately spoke.

Yin Yan glanced at Lu Ran, extremely vicious.

"What I just said was merely giving you a big direction." Lu Ran's face showed seriousness, "I spared your life not to have you exchange blows with a few minions."

Are the true enemies those minions?

Of course not, it's Jade Venerable itself, it's the Divine Demon itself!

"You want me to serve you?" Yin Yan coldly eyed Lu Ran, clearly knowing Lu Ran had other intentions.

And her thick defenses, that kind of internal and external resistance, anyone could detect.

Lu Ran did something unexpected.

He drew the Cold Night Sword from his waist and spoke: "I want to create a better world, want to always be with her, live peacefully together."

Yin Yan's gaze shifted, the viciousness gradually faded, staring blankly at Lu Ran.

The two were the same kind of people, cultivating the same Divine Weapon and Domain.

Expressing the issue from this angle, Yin Yan had no doubts at all.

"And you want to take revenge for your lover, we have the same goal, right?" Lu Ran continued.

Yin Yan spoke again, her voice still icy: "You think you can easily crush Faceless Jade Venerable, thus qualify to challenge the gods and demons?"

"Things are done by people."

"Heh." Yin Yan coldly snorted.

"I'm very young." Lu Ran shrugged, "What do you think?"

Yin Yan was silent.

The cloaked youth before her indeed could not be judged by ordinary standards.

He achieved the Majestic Heaven Realm at a young age, more frighteningly, his astounding combat skills!

Yin Yan asked herself, she could definitely not disarm Faceless Jade Venerable's leg in one face-off.

Even less could she take Faceless Jade Venerable's life in just a few attacks!

This mysterious cloaked youth was frighteningly strong...

"It seems you have nothing left to lose." Lu Ran spoke softly, "You've already died once, what's the harm in trying?"

Yin Yan silently looked at the youth, suddenly said: "There were also powerful humans in the Heavenly Realm, standing very high, bringing like-minded people, trying to fight against fate."

Lu Ran raised an eyebrow slightly.

He realized that he seemed... to be listening to her story.

Yin Yan: "Do you know what the outcome was for those people?"

Lu Ran nodded slightly: "The leader was taken away by gods and demons, the entire sect was scattered, disciples were sent to various Divine Mountains, strictly monitored."

Yin Yan felt somewhat surprised: "You've heard the story of the Cloud Sea Sect?"

Lu Ran's heart was very complicated.

On this battlefield far from home, he heard stories about his mother from the mouth of a stranger.

This feeling...

Lu Ran quickly composed himself and asked, "Is that group of people at your Divine Mountain?"

"Once there was."

"Once there was?" Lu Ran's heart sank.

"He is." Yin Yan lowered his head, a bitter smile on his lips.

Lu Ran was initially stunned, then his face turned completely grim.

On the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, the status of Human Clan believers is indeed not high.

Unlike at Holy Spirit Mountain, where the executioners who came from the heavens had overwhelming power, and the Sea Realm Great Demons did not represent the Evil God, naturally bowing and scraping before human disciples.

Lu Ran initially thought that the minions of the prick rose Ice Rose on the Divine Mountain were truly giving the Cold Plum Ice Plum Demon Queen's clan augmentation, hence changing the battlefield to an icy wasteland.

But if Yin Yan's beloved is from the old Cloud Sea faction...

Then is there also a deliberate element in this?

"What?" Yin Yan looked at the young man and naturally noticed his unusual expression.

"What type of believer is he, and what is his name?" Lu Ran asked.

"Mountain Lord believer, Zheng Qingshan."

Lu Ran's hand fell to his waist, feeling the Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword, trembling slightly.

The energy of the Sword Spirit flowed over the hilt, and Lu Ran also detected a faint sadness.

"What's going on?" Yin Yan unexpectedly placed a hand on Lu Ran's shoulder, "Do you know him?"

Lu Ran opened his mouth, the mask covering the lower half of his face slightly concealing his expression: "I... have heard the stories of the Cloud Sea Sect, and I greatly admire those seniors.

Hearing such tragic news, I feel regretful."

Yin Yan's hand on Lu Ran's shoulder tightened slightly.

"Are you not from the Cloud Sea Sect?" Although Lu Ran asked this, he already had an answer in his heart.

If the other party was from the old Cloud Sea faction, the Cloud Sea Sword would have already come out to acknowledge him.

Yin Yan's jet-black eyes were intensely aggressive, scrutinizing Lu Ran's eyes as if trying to discern something: "When I ascended to the Heavenly Realm to find him, the Cloud Sea Sect had already been scattered."

Lu Ran nodded: "Do you still know where there are any remnants of the Cloud Sea?"

Yin Yan frowned tightly: "What exactly do you want?"

"As I said, I have long admired the Cloud Sea Sect. The disciples of the Cloud Sea Sect should be people of like mind with me."

Yin Yan's voice suddenly raised a bit: "They have already failed! They've been scattered and are being watched by various God Demons! If you go looking for them, aren't you walking into a trap?"

Lu Ran: "..."

Yin Yan slowly withdrew his hand, speaking word for word: "Young man, you're not honest."

"Hmm?"

"Tell me, what's your real relationship with the Cloud Sea Sect?" Yin Yan asked.

"Hmm..." Lu Ran pondered for a moment.

Yin Yan hates God Demons so deeply, it's unlikely she would go and betray him.

There's no advantage for her in doing so.

Lu Ran also believed he had enough means to recruit a strong individual like her into the Ran Sect.

Yin Yan waited quietly, suddenly hearing the young man ask, "Do you know the leader of the Cloud Sea Sect?"

"Zong Master Qiao," Yin Yan thought, "Sword One disciple, Qiao Wanjun."

"It seems Senior Zheng mentioned it to you."

"Yes, Qingshan admired her greatly," Yin Yan said softly, and when she brought up this special name, she couldn't help but think of her lover's almost devout demeanor.

In the Divine Mountain area, every move of Zheng Qingshan was monitored, unable to reveal too much.

The few times he mentioned the name of the Sect Master, his face was full of reverence...

Yin Yan also wanted to see for herself what kind of person could command such deep respect and stand at the peak of the Human Clan.

"Hmm." Lu Ran nodded quietly.

"What?" Yin Yan frowned at the young man, already tired of the cryptic talks.

Unexpectedly, a sentence slipped from the young man's mouth: "I am her son."

Yin Yan was instantly stunned!

Lu Ran nodded gently, assuring her she hadn't misheard.

"You... you are..." Yin Yan was indeed shocked.

She never had the chance to see that legendary figure with her own eyes, but she never thought she would meet that person's son?

Yin Yan finally understood why the young man could ascend to the Heavenly Realm at such a young age and possess such terrifying combat skills.

Zong Master Qiao stood at the pinnacle of the Human Clan.

She was someone that even all the God Demons in the sky feared!

Was it not normal for her twenty-year-old son to ascend to the Heavenly Realm?

No wonder he wanted to find the remnants of the Cloud Sea!

Was he here with an order from Zong Master Qiao?

Did he want to... recruit the remnants of the Cloud Sea and inherit his mother's legacy?

"So, do you know where there are still remnants of the Cloud Sea?" Lu Ran asked softly.

"Qingshan... had a close friend who once visited Sick Wood Divine Mountain. The person is an East Thunder disciple named Huangfu..."

Huangfu!

This was the second time Lu Ran heard this name.

East Thunder believer, it matched the account!

Yin Yan continued, "It is said that Huangfu is located in a Divine Mountain in the southeast, which is also the Divine Mountain where the minions of the Dongting Purple Thunder Demon Roc reside."

"Oh?" Lu Ran's eyes lit up.

So the Divine Mountain of the Dongting faction is further to the southeast?

Chapter 887: Marvelous~

The dense Cloud Sea envelops the heavens and earth.

Between the peaks, two shadowy figures, one in front and one behind, silently move forward.

Yin Yan gazes at the slender figure ahead, her eyes obscure and unclear.

Indeed, there is nothing left for me to lose. If I can do something, perhaps when we meet again beneath the Nine Springs, it will provide you with some solace.

Qingshan...

Yin Yan raises her head, gazing at the sky's Cloud Sea.

I have encountered the child of your old master, this youth... seems to be doing something extraordinary.

If you were still here, surely you would follow him.

After all, you revered Sect Master Qiao so much, willing to lay down your life. Now that you are not here, let me walk this path for you!

"Bingmu Divine Mountain..." Lu Ran halts his steps, gazing southeast, vaguely seeing the outline of the mountain.

He dares not get too close, for observation is mutual.

Lu Ran possesses a pair of dog eyes, while the Mountain Lord - Yinli Tiger possesses a pair of tiger eyes!

Not inferior to Lu Ran.

Speaking of which, the last Divine Mountain he saw was covered with flowers all over.

Lotus and roses, with ice butterflies fluttering.

And the distant Divine Mountain has blooming thorn roses and ice roses too, but what's more striking is the towering dead trees covering the mountain.

Every dead branch seems capable of extending infinitely, intricately entwined, revealing a strong sense of decay.

From Yin Yan, Lu Ran has already learned the specific information of this Divine Mountain.

The mountain's guardian General is under a Second-class God Demon, and a lackey of the Mountain Lord - Yinli Tiger.

Additional underlings include a Fifth-class God Demon, Cold Plum - Ice Plum Demon Queen; a Sixth-class God Demon, Bi Wu - Tree Face Demon; a Seventh-class God Demon, Thorn Rose - Ice Rose.

Thinking of this, Lu Ran cannot help but compare the strength of this Bingmu Divine Mountain with the previously seen Flower Sea Divine Mountain.

Perhaps it's somewhat evenly matched?

Lu Ran opened his pair of Pupil of the Dead World, observing closely, speaking: "Heavenly General Yin."

"Sect Leader." Yin Yan immediately spoke.

Their terms of address both changed; Lu Ran as wished, gained a powerful war general.

He had confidence from the start, relying on his means to subdue Yin Yan, as he was the only person in the world able to grant her revenge.

Unexpectedly, Yin Yan was also connected with his mother's Cloud Sea Sect, and had a deep love with an old subordinate within it.

The Domain of Divine Weapon, proven through their life-and-death commitment.

This further secured Lu Ran's subjugation of the Heavenly General.

"You shouldn't get near the Divine Mountain anymore." Lu Ran turned to look at the pale-faced woman, "I'll perform some tasks here, then we'll continue southeast."

Yin Yan hesitated, saying: "Sect Leader, the Yinli Tiger lineage has only a few Human Clan disciples. If I remain away from the mountain for long, it might raise the Evil God's suspicion."

"Hmm..." Lu Ran pondered briefly.

For now, he cannot allow Yin Yan to break the contract, which would signify her "death."

On the way to the next Divine Mountain, Lu Ran still needs Yin Yan to enter the mountain, establishing ties with Huangfu.

So, should he allow this tigress to return to the mountain?

No matter from which aspect, Yin Yan would never sell Lu Ran out.

The only issue is whether Yin Yan can come out again after returning...

"Do you usually, as disciples of Yinli Tiger, get sent out by the Evil God to collect Holy Spirit Energy?" Lu Ran asked.

"Yes, I can apply for it." Yin Yan immediately replied.

To be qualified for roaming the Heavenly Realm, one must possess a "Vajra Drill."

For instance, those who can teleport instantly or move rapidly, and indeed the skills of the Yinli Tiger lineage grant Yin Yan this qualification.

The disciples of this clan fly incredibly fast, crucially able to transform into demonic winds, making the Faceless Jade Venerable helpless.

"Alright!" Lu Ran boldly changed his mind, "You return to guard the mountain first, and await my order before accompanying me to the next Divine Mountain."

As he spoke, his hand reached into his collar, picked up the ink-colored Tiger Talisman, gently squeezed it with his fingers.

The complete Tiger Talisman immediately split into two halves.

Lu Ran handed over one half of the talisman and advised: "On this mission from the mountain, engage fiercely with that Master of Divine Weapon, ultimately defeated, returning in distress.

However, also gain a little advantage, in the fight, steal the Magic Artifact from that Master of Divine Weapon."

Yin Yan lightly nodded, listening to the script Lu Ran arranged.

"You need to be cautious... Well, better to speak less, act as if you're lost and spiritless, for having been defeated, it also lays a foundation for your next departure, to give the Evil God collected Holy Spirit Energy."

"At your command." Yin Yan responded in a deep voice.

Lu Ran's gaze fell on her waist, where there was a scabbard, with the yearning sword inserted.

The broken yearning sword no longer has a Sword Spirit.

Lu Ran knows fully that given another chance, he would still issue a challenge. But having cut off Yin Yan's Divine Weapon, his mind inevitably feels complex.

"Sect Leader."

"Hmm?"

"This outcome was willingly chosen by the yearning sword itself." Yin Yan's eyes of ink, stared straight into Lu Ran's eyes, "It was too pained, eternal slumber is its release."

Lu Ran was silent for a moment, softly saying: "I will contact you using the Tiger Talisman in several days."

"Yes."

"Go then." With Lu Ran's words falling, the woman turned into a gust of demonic wind, speeding southeast.

Lu Ran stood behind the Stone Peak, silently watching for a moment, then descended into the thick foggy sea.

Under the cover of the mist, Lu Ran initiated the Invisibility Technique, then with a flash, approached the Bingmu Divine Mountain, embarking on the journey of resource looting.

This mountain clearly isn't suitable for long-term hiding.

Lu Ran was just thinking about cautiously gathering a wave of resources and then leaving this place.

In the Sculpture Garden, the Xian Mo Stone Sculpture continued to expand its specifications, rushing toward the Heavenly Realm · Second Tier.

The Cong Long Stone Sculpture and the Tu Feng Stone Sculpture were anxiously waiting to be fed...

To Lu Ran's surprise, the process of cultivating these two stone sculptures was exceptionally smooth!

It seems both had really worked hard for their growth in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm! Whether it was the Dragon Guardian rooted in the deep sea or Tu Feng in the Soul-locking Mountain areas, they had accumulated a lot of Holy Spirit Energy.

On a day in mid-December, with the Tu Feng Stone Sculpture buzzing, Lu Ran decisively returned to the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

To cultivate these three Pseudo God Stones, Lu Ran spent only a month!

Clearly, he had become increasingly adept, with terrifying efficiency.

"Whew!!"

On Heaven's Edge, a violent wave of Divine Power pulsated, tearing open the space as a Landing Mirror gradually took shape.

A staggering figure emerged from it.

"Ugh~" Lu Ran staggered a bit, realizing he had walked into dense fog.

Is someone advancing in the Ran Sect again?

It's truly... wonderful.

Lu Ran smiled; the days where everything improved and good news kept coming were truly satisfying.

Every increase in Ran Sect's strength brought him a step closer to challenging the Divine Demon...

"Sect Leader!"

"Sect Leader, you've returned." A few respectful voices came from the sky.

Without looking, Lu Ran knew it was the diligent patrolling disciples of Huang Que.

"Who is advancing?" Lu Ran inquired.

"Wind Emperor in the Forbidden City," a disciple reported.

He Qifeng?

Has she finally broken through the peak, stepping into the Heavenly Realm?!

Lu Ran immediately asked, "When did this happen?"

"Late winter month, it's been over twenty days."

"Good." Lu Ran nodded repeatedly, sensing carefully before saying, "It seems there's more than just her?"

"This..." The Huang Que disciples were perplexed.

"Alright, you all continue patrolling." Lu Ran waved his hand, figuring the subsequent person to advance likely hitched a ride with He Qifeng's progress; as for who exactly it was, the patrol team members didn't know.

Lu Ran came to the edge of the cliff and sat down.

Within him, two shadows of Divine Demon emerged—Jiang Ruyi and Yu Changsheng.

"Thanks for your support, Sect Leader!" Yu Changsheng came to Lu Ran's side, grateful.

"No need to be polite." Lu Ran smiled, "By the way, regarding the search for Cloud Sea's former members, I found a breakthrough."

"Oh?" Yu Changsheng was curious.

Being in the Sculpture Garden, he wasn't aware of what had happened outside, so Lu Ran immediately told them about Yin Yan.

Yu Changsheng nodded repeatedly, filled with admiration: "The Sect Leader is indeed charming... ahem, wise and powerful!"

Jiang Ruyi's mouth slightly curved upward.

Lu Ran: "..."

Yu Changsheng continued to exclaim: "This Heavenly General Yin, with such a unique identity and experience, must be wholeheartedly devoted to the Sect Leader!

She, being a disciple of the Yinli Tiger, is qualified to roam the Heavenly Realm Battlefield; there's no one more suitable than her!

Tsk tsk, marvelous~"

Lu Ran felt a bit embarrassed by the praise, muttering: "Why did Mr. Conglong have to learn to meow like a cat?"

Yu Changsheng: ???

"Hehe~" This time, Jiang Ruyi couldn't hold back, chuckling softly.

Yu Changsheng shook his head helplessly before continuing the serious matter: "From the existing information, your mother's former Cloud Sea member, Mr. Huangfu, is an exceptionally important figure.

Heavenly General Yan has seen this person, and so has Heavenly General Yin!

In my view, Mr. Huangfu is likely visiting the Divine Mountain in the Heavenly Realm! Once we find him...

Lu Ran licked his lips and continued, "Finding him means finding all of Cloud Sea's former members!"

"Exactly!" Yu Changsheng nodded emphatically, contemplating, "If all goes well, Ran Sect's comprehensive strength will undergo a phase of explosive growth.

Even the second and third teams could be put on the agenda."

Those former Cloud Sea members who followed Qiao Wanjun to fight for the world just lacked a stone sculpture as a stepping stone.

In overall strength, comprehensive qualities, and all other aspects, they must surpass the disciples of Ran Sect by a good margin!

Jiang Ruyi rarely spoke, adding, "This Mr. Huangfu is likely to possess a lot of information. We can also inquire from him which Divine Mountain is suitable for you to live in seclusion."

"Right!" Lu Ran's mood improved increasingly.

With a clear direction, he no longer had to wander aimlessly like a headless fly.

The expansion of Ran Sect's first, second, and third teams is inevitable; it's just a matter of time.

Once they found a "wait and see" location, Lu Ran could enter semi-automatic mode, dedicating more effort to cultivation, making strides toward the Heavenly Realm's second tier!

Lu Ran clenched his fists quietly.

Mother could complete the heavenly realm rapidly in just a few short years...

I, Lu Ran,

can also do the same!

...

Chapter 888: Human World, Us

Jiang Ruyi's premonition was correct.

It was indeed a month before Lu Ran had another opportunity to sleep.

At this moment, on the bed in the bedroom of Tianya Residence, Lu Ran was peacefully asleep, embracing Xian Mo's Heavenly Realm body from behind.

The warm breath fell on Jiang Ruyi's ear, making her feel at ease.

In the thick fog, Jiang Ruyi dared not move at all, fearing she might disturb someone's peaceful dream.

The rapid growth of her and the soldiers of the Ran Sect was all thanks to Lu Ran fighting tirelessly day and night!

Speaking of which...

Lying on her side, resting on Lu Ran's arm, Jiang Ruyi's eyes flickered slightly.

Since her successful reverence of the deity, she had been trying to catch up with Lu Ran, yet at this point, in terms of strength and realm, she had truly surpassed him.

Xian Mo's Stone Sculpture is of the Heavenly Realm·Second Layer!

Following Mr. Cong Long's theory and her own intuition, Jiang Ruyi knew that the real combat strength of her stone sculpture body far exceeded others of the same realm.

She couldn't even imagine how powerful she would be if she released all her strength...

So far, she hadn't participated in a battle in her true form. On the contrary, she was more familiar with her physical body of the Heavenly Realm·First Layer.

"Huh?" Jiang Ruyi suddenly sensed something unusual.

The fog brought by the Wind Emperor's promotion was naturally white, but in the bedroom, the fog was suddenly replaced by black mist.

Is this the Black Lamp Evil Technique·Smoke Fire Cage?

The image of Little Yuanxi immediately appeared in Jiang Ruyi's mind. Only she would dare to cause such a scene within the sect.

"Whew~"

Jiang Ruyi's figure abruptly voidified, penetrating Lu Ran's embrace, gradually floating upward, and passing through the stone wall above.

This was neither a Divine Technique nor an Evil Technique, but a trait from the Evil God·Ghost Talisman Doll!

How powerful is this trait?

And how rare is it?

In a word: this is a terrifying trait that only a top-tier Evil God-Yin Flower Dan has!

"Uh." Qiao Yuansi hurriedly took a step back.

Beside her feet, a beauty's skull slowly floated upwards until the phantom form fully emerged from the ground, and then Jiang Ruyi turned into a body of flesh and blood.

"Ru... Sister Ruyi." Qiao Yuansi called softly, looking as if she had done something wrong.

Jiang Ruyi couldn't see the person in the fog, just placed a hand on Qiao Yuansi's head, playfully scolding, "Naughty."

"It wasn't me, it was Sister Xian'er who made me do it!" Qiao Yuansi immediately reached out a small hand, pointing to the side.

"Hey?" Si Xianxian's eyes widened immediately, almost laughing in anger.

What the heck!?

I thought you dragged me here to meet the master and the lady and catch up with them.

Unexpectedly, you dragged me here to take the blame?

Si Xianxian was about to say something when she felt a surge of pressure approaching, her heart pounding violently, and she instinctively shrank her neck.

The dense fog environment amplified Si Xianxian's fear infinitely.

Although, Jiang Ruyi just glanced this way...

"Let's move a bit further, your brother's resting." Jiang Ruyi's voice was soft, as she gently tousled Little Yuanxi's hair.

"Oh." Qiao Yuansi pouted, taking a step forward.

Behind her, Si Xianxian followed with a downcast look, accepting her fate.

The three walked in the woods for a while before Jiang Ruyi spoke again, her voice slightly louder: "You're at the Third Rank of the Sea Realm now."

"Uh-huh, it was last month. I heard from Sister Que'er that my brother returned two days ago, so..." The more Qiao Yuansi spoke, the smaller her voice became.

As if realizing she was wrong, with a hint of grievance.

Lu Ran had indeed returned for two days. He could sleep peacefully now because the vibrating from the Tu Feng Stone Sculpture in the garden had just ceased.

Jiang Ruyi smoothed Little Yuanxi's long hair: "Missed him?"

"No."

"Don't miss him?" Jiang Ruyi raised an eyebrow slightly.

"No! Not at all." Qiao Yuansi stubbornly insisted.

"But he does miss you." There was a playful look in Jiang Ruyi's eyes.

"Ah? Really?" Qiao Yuansi asked hastily.

"I asked him to take me to the Moon Shadow Heavenly Pool, and he actually refused me."

Qiao Yuansi blinked her eyes.

Jiang Ruyi continued, "He said some little girl had already booked it, saying she wanted to go alone to see it after she ascends to the Heavenly Realm."

Qiao Yuansi's expression instantly brightened, her smiling eyes like crescent moons.

Jiang Ruyi teased, "Since you don't miss him, why are you here?"

"The Underground City is too stuffy, so I came out for some fresh air~" Qiao Yuansi hugged Jiang Ruyi's arm, "Ah~ Sister Ruyi, stop teasing me."

"Hmm." Jiang Ruyi revealed a faint smile, turning to look behind her.

Si Xianxian immediately felt her heart tighten, even her steps felt stiff.

She didn't have Qiao Yuansi's talent, unable to interact normally with Heavenly Realm Great Powers.

"Sister Xian'er is already at the Fourth Rank of the Sea Realm." Jiang Ruyi sensed carefully for a moment and added, "You should be able to keep up with the third team of the Ran Sect."

Si Xianxian wore a bitter face.

It had been so long since they interacted closely as best friends.

Apart from the objective impact brought by their realm differences, now the Lady of the Flame Gate had her mind focused entirely on her strength, on Lu Ran's career and development, seemingly having no spare thoughts.

The remaining bit of warmth was reserved for her younger sister, while for her, there were only expectations and demands from a superior to a subordinate.

Jiang Ruyi suddenly stopped walking.

Si Xianxian hurriedly followed suit.

"Sister Xian'er?"

"Yes, madam, I will... I will try my best." Si Xianxian's voice trembled, increasingly filled with grievance.

Watching her close friend ascend to greatness, leaving her behind step by step...

The feeling of powerlessness was utterly terrible.

For the past few years, this feeling had always been with her.

"I'll wait for you, and then we'll go together." Jiang Ruyi smiled and said.

Si Xianxian inherited the Lie Tian Stone Sculpture! Its output explosion level is definitely beyond comparison to other Fake Gods.

To say the least, the Mad Immortal Guardian alone can carry the entire team's output!

As Jiang Ruyi was pondering, she finally noticed Si Xianxian's low mood.

Humble weaklings are not even worthy of attention.

The deep emotional foundation laid down previously allows for charity to become possible.

"Sister Xian'er." Jiang Ruyi's voice softened considerably.

"Hm?"

"In a future day when gods and demons are all vanquished, perhaps everything will return to its original state." Jiang Ruyi waved her hand.

The Divine Weapon Mad Hammer strapped on Si Xianxian's back indeed helped greatly.

It informed its owner of the Lady of the Flame Gate's actions, making Si Xianxian tread carefully:
"Return... to original state?"

A cold jade hand caressed Si Xianxian's cheek:

"The Human World, us."

"Hm." Si Xianxian lifted her hand, grasping the palm gently caressing her face as if wanting to feel something.

To savor something.

Yet, the strict god and demon systems prevent her from going back to before. Apart from upgrading as quickly as possible, she has no better solution.

However, this psychological state can be carefully preserved.

Several months later, when she ascends to the Sea Realm Peak and attempts to step into the Heavenly Realm, she can revisit and reminisce.

Helping her ascend faster!

Si Xianxian trembled slightly, stubbornly holding Jiang Ruyi's hand, refusing to let go for a long time.

Until...

The fog in the sky seemed to have cleared somewhat.

Jiang Ruyi was the first to notice the abnormal environment!

The dense fog had indeed reduced slightly, but not completely dispersed, indicating only one person has successfully ascended.

This person, likely He Qifeng?

After all, she fired the opening shot.

Originally thought that Feng Yan would be the first duo to fuse in the Flame Sect.

Now it seems highly possible it will be He Qifeng and Bai Rao.

I also wonder what form the collaboration between the Martial Monk and the Jade-faced Snake Fak Gods will take?

Jiang Ruyi pondered secretly, simultaneously in the master bedroom at the Tianya Residence, Lu Ran suddenly opened his eyes.

Someone is calling him!

Very intensely!

Who could it be? Could it be...

Lu Ran searched carefully within the Spiritual World, ultimately locking onto the Martial Monk Stone Sculpture: [Wind Emperor?]

[Lu Ran, I've reached the Heavenly Realm! The Heavenly Realm!] The woman's resolute voice carried thick joy.

Lu Ran's slight morning drowsiness immediately vanished into smoke.

With a smile on his face, his transmitted voice was not forgiving: [Congratulations, finally eh?]

He Qifeng's smile froze.

A certain person's annoying words echoed in her mind: [This is only the first step in the journey of tens of thousands of miles, your counterpart Evil God Bai Rao is already at the second level of the Heavenly Realm.

If I let her fuse with you, you'd be utterly consumed~]

He Qifeng: "..."

[Why aren't you speaking? Hey? Are you still there?]

[I'll catch up to her as soon as possible!!] Although He Qifeng was transmitting sound, Lu Ran could hear the grinding sound of gritting teeth.

[Heh, how many years has she been ascending to the Heavenly Realm? What do you have to chase her?]

[...] He Qifeng's face lost all traces of joy, filled with words that she couldn't say.

[Okay, okay, I'll help you! Give me... hmm, roughly half a month, I'll help you catch up to Bai Rao.]

He Qifeng: ???

The information possessed by the two was clearly unequal.

Ever since He Qifeng ascended to the Sea Realm Peak, she had been immersively comprehending, rarely paying attention to outside matters.

Her understanding of everything about the Heavenly Realm, Heavenly Realm Battlefield, etc., was only superficial.

Lu Ran went to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield on the fifteenth of September, only three months ago, He Qifeng was unaware of how far he had advanced these months.

Now with this one sentence from Lu Ran, he directly confused her...

[Only... half a month?] He Qifeng asked.

Half a month compares to others' several years?

Honestly?!

[Can't be any shorter, the Sect Leader's life matters too...]

He Qifeng wanted to rush out from the Underground City and fly to Lu Ran, giving him a punch.

Does the City Lord think half a month is long?

[Come on, I'll take you to Mo Gu Peak and first fuse with the Martial Monk Stone Sculpture.]

[Are you at Holy Spirit Mountain?]

[Nonsense! If I were elsewhere, could our communication be this smooth?]

He Qifeng "thumped" and stood up, clenched fists: [Where are you? I'll come find you right now!]

On the bed in the bedroom, Lu Ran suddenly shivered.

This tone, why does something feel off?

Oops,

Pushed the plastic bag too hard!

That Martial Monk big girl isn't planning to deal with me, is she?

...

Chapter 889: Heart of the Caster

"Where have you been?"

Lu Ran, through a pair of Simurgh Eyes, pierced the mist and saw an ethereal figure slowly descending from the stone wall above.

"Did I wake you?" Jiang Ruyi manifested into physical form, stepping onto the soft white fox fur carpet.

Ever since Lu Ran ascended to the Heavenly Realm, he had witnessed true jade-like feet.

As beautiful as they were, compared to them, Lu Ran still preferred little Ruyi's...

After all, Lu Ran was human.

Ice skin and jade bones could be metaphors, but you couldn't take them literally...

"Lu Ran?" Jiang Ruyi called softly, wondering why he was silent.

"Ah!" Lu Ran snapped back to reality and awkwardly averted his gaze.

Luckily, the thick mist in the room served as a good camouflage, he immediately said, "No, no, I just woke up, disturbed by He Qifeng."

"Wind Emperor?"

"She's ascended to the Heavenly Realm, I'm planning to take her to Mo Gu Peak to fuse with the Divine Sculpture."

"Alright." Jiang Ruyi gently nodded, casually beckoning, "It's perfect, I'll take Liang Ye to comprehend the Second Divine Weapon Domain."

In the eastern study, a Black Ice Long Sword floated into the air.

Over the past two days, Jiang Ruyi had already taken the Divine Weapon to understand the first domain and upgraded to a Second-rank Divine Weapon.

Everything went smoothly.

After the yearning sword shattered, the Cold Night Sword had no more restraints, and the Cold Night Sword clearly knew the forms and functions of both Divine Weapon Domains.

Now, Jiang Ruyi and the Cold Night Sword were like copying answers.

Naturally, it was unimpeded and progressing rapidly!

Lu Ran hardly expected his third Third-tier Divine Weapon to be the Cold Night Sword.

Eight Desolates, Cloud Sea, Cold Night...

What? The Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword is mother's?

What belongs to mom is mine~

Is the Cold Night Sword little Ruyi's?

No, no, what belongs to my wife is also mine...

"Bang!" Jiang Ruyi grasped the flying Cold Night Sword, turned towards a corner of the bedroom, intending to go to the underground seclusion room.

"Good luck, you'll definitely succeed!" Lu Ran watched his fiancée's silhouette.

"Mm." Jiang Ruyi, along with the Divine Sword, turned ethereal, her figure slanting into the ground.

Lu Ran watched with a burst of admiration.

The Ghost Talisman Doll's Evil Sculpture is truly remarkable! It granted little Ruyi such a cheat-level trait.

If she were in human society, she'd be considered a menace.

No security door can stop her, no gunshot or bullet can harm her in the least...

The scene of taking the world by storm would be complete~

It's worth mentioning that Lu Ran didn't possess this trait, he wasn't the one fused with the Evil Sculpture, only able to be closely linked with Lady Xian Mo, using the series of skills of Jade Talisman and Ghost Talisman Doll.

"Ha~" Lu Ran yawned, got up, and came to the wardrobe, casually pulling out a wide white robe.

Not knowing when he'll be able to take off the bamboo hat and mask, dressed in a white robe or Emperor Robe, make a grand appearance in the Heavenly Realm!

Mm...that day won't be too far away.

The sound of footsteps in the hallway also told Lu Ran that he had gotten a little closer to success.

"Wind Emperor, long time no see?" Lu Ran's figure flickered as he sat down in the Taishi Chair in the hall.

He Qifeng was startled, looking over, gritting her teeth:

"Lu! Ran!"

Lu Ran smiled at the lady, admiring her closely.

As they say, people rely on clothes, but in the Wind Emperor's case, it is completely reversed.

She wore a wide golden brown robe, her dignified and solemn aura made the clothes appear extremely noble.

"What did you call me?" Lu Ran suddenly interjected.

He Qifeng pursed her lips, eventually slightly bowed her head, murmuring, "Sect Master."

"That's right~" Lu Ran nodded with satisfaction.

He Qifeng rolled her eyes.

"Haha!" Lu Ran laughed aloud, each time seeing her irritated yet helpless look, he found it particularly amusing.

"Wait a bit, I've summoned Feng Yan's two generals, without them escorting you, Mo Gu Peak might collapse when you fuse with the Divine Sculpture."

He Qifeng responded with a sound, standing in place.

"Have a seat, there's no one else here."

"Humph." Only then did He Qifeng slide a few steps and find a chair.

It was apparent that after ascending to the Heavenly Realm, she was not only radiant but also full of spirit!

When Wuji Peak was eradicated, the Forbidden City was destroyed, Heavenly Realm executioners arrived, what kind of suppression did this martial monk gal face?

Look at her now!

She's regained her former glory and dares to grumble at the Sect Master again.

Strength, indeed, is the basis of everything.

"You've been thriving in the Heavenly Realm these past few months, haven't you?" He Qifeng cautiously inquired.

"Steady development." Lu Ran, for once, spoke humbly.

"What is the Heavenly Realm Battlefield like?"

"Similar to Yin Qian Mountain, filled with god demon minions, Faceless Jade Venerables everywhere."

"Faceless Jade Venerable..." He Qifeng murmured, having naturally heard of the notorious enemy.

Lu Ran followed the course: "Faceless Jade Venerable is incredibly strong! Now, you have a challenge."

He Qifeng retorted, "With your skills, surely you've found a way to counter them?"

"Not really." Lu Ran's expression turned peculiar.

He Qifeng's heart sank: "Is the opposition really this strong?"

"It's truly strong." Lu Ran nodded, "I need to strike 2~3 times to take down a Faceless Jade Venerable."

He Qifeng tilted her head: ???

Is this human speech?

Killing one with two or three strikes, and that's not finding a solution to defeat them?

"Others have a hard time! But as the representative of high attack and defense, your output is certainly not an issue."

Lu Ran pondered for a moment and added, "You have a casting delay with your Ultimate, may not hit Faceless Jade Venerable, try more of the Golden Wind Shattering."

The Martial Monk Divine Skill·Golden Wind Shattering can gather energy into fists, feet, weapons, and then detonate the golden energy.

Explosion output is quite substantial!

"Peak Master Tu also specifically mentioned it." He Qifeng nodded and said, "By the way, about Peak Master Tu...?"

"He has already replaced Prisoner Demon Divine Sculpture and Prison Sky Demon Evil Sculpture."

He Qifeng secretly nodded.

A third-class God Demon is already very impressive.

Our Sect Master has not mistreated this person who has merit and has turned to the light.

"In the future, when the Ran Sect forms the second squad, you two might be in the same team." Lu Ran contemplated.

Tu Feng has been a Martial Monk all his life and is thoroughly familiar with this sect, completely capable of serving as He Qifeng's mentor and guiding her in battle.

"I will follow the Sect Master's arrangements for everything," He Qifeng said solemnly, "Also, Sect Master, you said in half a month that..."

"Sect Master!"

"Sect Master." Feng Yan and two others strode into the hall.

"Everyone is here, let's go!" Lu Ran immediately stood up, grinning at He Qifeng, and indeed saw her gritting her teeth again.

It's very entertaining~

Meanwhile, somewhere on the Heavenly Realm battlefield.

A Faceless Jade Venerable was flying in the air, her giant jade hand reaching forward repeatedly.

Clearly, there was nothing there, but when she tightly grasped, she unexpectedly caught a black crow?

"Puff~"

With that grip, the pitch-black crow was instantly crushed, scattering into wisps of mist.

Obviously, this crow was not the true body, but a substitute!

"Hoo~" The Faceless Jade Venerable flew forward several meters, grabbing again, and unexpectedly caught another black crow out of thin air.

Once again, the crow was crushed to powder, transformed into energy.

Witch Crow Divine Skill·Witch Shadow Substitute!

"Flap flap flap~"

The sound of wings flapping came from beside her, and the Faceless Jade Venerable sharply flicked the tail of her jade robe.

Wei Yun: !!!

This invisible crow was indeed the warrior of the Ran Sect, Wei Yun!

His pair of pitch-black eyes of the crow stared at the approaching jade robe, and at the critical moment, he activated the Substitute Technique again.

The jade robe, like a surging wave, swept past.

The Crow Substitute was shattered to pieces, while the true body of the crow relied on leaving behind the substitute to escape the slap of the jade robe in an instant.

It had some sense of "frame-perfect invincibility."

Also, a feeling of "perfect dodge."

If Lu Ran were here, he might willingly add a sound effect of perfect dodge to Wei Yun in his mind...

"Ding!!"

A piercing sound of a stabbing came through.

Wei Yun breathed a huge sigh of relief, only to see a tall figure appear diagonally above the Faceless Jade Venerable.

This person wore a green straw cloak, a Tianchen Steel mask on his face, and held a long spear made of white mist, galloping to the rescue!

Ran Sect-Yan Chou!

"Hmph." The Faceless Jade Venerable snorted coldly, her demeanor overwhelmingly strong, and directly reached out to grab.

Yan Chou stabbed the Faceless Jade Venerable's shoulder with his spear, forcefully, leveraging the recoil to lean back and traverse away again.

The Faceless Jade Venerable grabbed into thin air, almost simultaneously, a sound of breaking the air rang out.

"Whoosh~whoosh~"

The Faceless Jade Venerable seemed somewhat impatient, turned and flicked the robe.

A string of Water Flow Arrows were instantly shot down by the majority.

And within the clanging sounds, a sound of airflow hissed secretly.

"Sss—"

The Faceless Jade Venerable frowned slightly, a rapidly approaching woman from behind, also wearing a green straw cloak, wielded a broken blade extending nearly 30 meters in length!

An impressive momentum!

"Crunch!"

This time, the Faceless Jade Venerable was no longer invincible, as her floating jade robe was slashed into streaks of cracks by the great saber.

"Hmph." A similar cold snort was returned by Deng Yuxiang.

A pair of pitch-black eyes swept coldly over the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Impudent!!

The Faceless Jade Venerable rarely showed a hint of anger, not just because of the damage to her robe, but also due to the other's presumptuous attitude.

"Snap!" The Faceless Jade Venerable grabbed the giant blade, pulling it fiercely backward.

Deng Yuxiang reacted quickly, immediately canceling the Divine Weapon Domain, and the Night-slaying Great Saber returned to a broken blade.

The long sword pulled by the Faceless Jade Venerable rapidly transformed into a white jade stone texture, shattering into bits of energy.

"Wah ya ya ya!"

Below, a sudden rough and turbulent voice was heard.

Another man wearing a green straw cloak charged up, enveloped in a vague dark shadow, exuding thick Evil Qi.

The eyes behind his mask transformed into looped eyes, shooting out two beams of black light.

Wusheng Sect's ultimate move-Twin Heroes Mask-Mighty Black Mask!

The Faceless Jade Venerable stomped down with one foot.

Wu Xiao drifted in the wind, his hand charged with rampant power, wielding a Third-tier Divine Weapon-Purple Thunder Mad Dragon Spear, swung backhandedly!

"Crunch! Crunch..."

More cracks appeared!

The spear tip carried a black mist energy, exhibiting an amazing tearing effect.

"Hiss!!" Snake hiss sounded throughout the sky.

The Black Mask Wu Xiao was directly pushed away by the divine power fluctuations, the Immortal Sky Python roared from below to above, killingly rampaging.

Yan Chou instantly flashed to high altitude, firmly stabbing down with his spear.

A torrent of spears descended from the heavens, trapping the Faceless Jade Venerable with nowhere to escape above, no refuge below!

"Hoo!!"

Deng Yuxiang once again activated the Divine Weapon Domain, aiming at the Faceless Jade Venerable caught between attacks, the broken blade in his hand fiercely swiped across.

"Dang!!"

The bowstring trembled.

On the other side of the battlefield, Luo Ying held a bow level in front of him, his fingers releasing the bowstring as a row of Canglong opened its teeth and claws, spreading out, blocking the Faceless Jade Venerable's retreat.

In the distance, there were still two men wearing green straw cloaks standing on the Stone Peak, not participating in the battle.

"Elder Lu." One of them suddenly spoke, his voice aged, "Suddenly, I feel uneasy in my heart..."

"Oh?" Lu Yuan's face turned grave, quickly scanning the surroundings.

Accompanied by a surge of energy, an illusory character "Heart" prominently unfolded.

Bai Yanhui sensed carefully, his expression suddenly changing, and he shouted loudly, "Nightmare Guardian, hurry with the slaughter!

This place is not suitable for lingering!"

...

Chapter 890: Exposed?

"Crunch!!"

The Faceless Jade Venerable exploded, countless pieces of stone scattered in all directions.

Deng Yuxiang, however, felt little joy from victory, as this scene had happened countless times already.

Everyone was at the Peak strength of the Ran Sect; if they couldn't win, that would be embarrassing.

She reached forward, using the Magic Artifact-Rebirth Coin on her wrist for Soul Binding; the five attackers present were all Fake Gods in body, with souls made from God Demons' remnants.

In other words, Deng Yuxiang, Wu Xiao, and the others possessed the ability to directly devour and digest the dead souls of the enemies.

But now was clearly not the time to distribute the spoils; while binding souls, she glanced at the two elderly men in straw capes: "Is there a situation?"

Everyone also looked over; they had heard Bai Yanhui's call earlier.

Lu Bai and the two elders immediately approached, among them, Bai Yanhui said: "Absorb quickly, let's go!"

"Hmm." Deng Yuxiang received the prompt from the Rebirth Coin, commanding, "Wei Yun, return."

"Flutter flutter flutter~"

In the empty sky, the sound of ravens flapping their wings came from far to near, landing on Deng Yuxiang's shoulder.

"Go!" With a command from Lord Guardian, Lu Yuan opened his aged palm, flowers instantly bloomed and rapidly constricted.

In an instant, the battlefield was vacant.

Silhouettes disappeared alongside the flower buds without a trace.

And just a few seconds after they left, multiple figures suddenly appeared.

"Lu..." A rather large thin dog, with saliva dripping from its mouth, surveyed the surroundings.

"Lu?"

"Woof~ Woof woof!" Five evil dogs simultaneously sensed something was amiss.

In the next moment, they were already in the center of the battlefield.

Dog heads, some raised, some hung low, moved their noses again and again.

Within this squad, there were also two silhouettes of a Human Clan male and female.

Among them, the Evil Dog male disciple was crawling on a collapsed Stone Peak, surveying the wounded mountain body, sniffing closely.

"It's them!" The man looked back behind him.

The Evil Dog female disciple's face was gloomy.

This mysterious group, aren't they remarkable?

Escaping without a trace once or twice might be considered a coincidence, but now it's happened four or five times, this group always leaves a step ahead, how could it be just coincidence?

There must be a "Prophet" among this squad!

Also, the members possess the ability for large-scale shifting.

What kind of group are they?

"Sniff~"

The man bowed his head, took a deep breath, also smelled the lingering scent of Faceless Jade Venerable.

No doubt, this mysterious squad has just slain another Faceless Jade Venerable!

In previous pursuits, he could smell the lingering essence on the battlefield from Faceless Jade Venerables, but he also detected remnants from other God Demon underlings.

Which means, this powerful squad not only has the strength to defeat Faceless Jade Venerables, but they also slaughter God Demon underlings, reducing the power of the God Demon faction!

This is the fundamental reason why the Evil Dog male and female disciples continue their pursuit.

"Should we go back and report to Evil Dog Lord now?" As soon as the male disciple finished speaking, his body stiffened, choosing silence over resistance or evasion.

"Thud!"

The Evil Dog female disciple stomped the man's head into the collapsed mountain: "Days have passed, and still no results!"

If you report back now, do you want to be tortured to death by the Evil Dog Lord?"

The woman got more agitated as she spoke, grinding her toes harshly.

Don't you understand the nature of Evil God·Evil Dog?

Even if you perfectly complete the task, you might be tortured for its amusement! You go back with this little information, what's the difference from asking for abuse?

If you want to die, don't drag me along!

"But... the longer we delay, we... ugh."

The Evil Dog female disciple stepped down hard, forcing the man to shut up, then looked at the searching Evil Dogs: "We better discover something before they die."

Even Heavenly Realm·Evil Dogs, their intelligence is worrisome, unable to explain with clarity.

Only when these few Evil Dogs die, with their souls returning to Evil God true form, can the Evil Dog Lord possibly figure things out.

Why "possibly"?

Because even the Evil God·Evil Dog doesn't have high intellect, its brutal beast nature overshadows everything; it can't handle complex situations and dislikes using its brain.

By the way, it's lucky that among this squad, none of the Evil Dog underlings carry the God realm's Greedy Wolf underling.

The Greedy Wolf Clan is not like these dumb dogs!

When the God Demons split, the Greedy Wolf likely took away most of the intelligence...

Considering this, it makes sense the Evil Dog Clan possesses Instant Teleportation while the Greedy Wolf doesn't.

Evil Dog: Envious that I have Instant Teleportation?

Traded it for intelligence.

If their squad had Greedy Wolf underlings, it might have already self-slain, returned to God's embrace, and reported this strange event.

"Then let's... hurry, hurry and find something that will satisfy Evil Dog Lord." The male disciple whispered nervously.

"Hmm." The female disciple replied coldly, looking grim.

She didn't know that in the direction her eyes were gazing, several hundreds of kilometers away, a squad was hiding within Stone Peak caves.

"This is the fifth time." Deng Yuxiang lightly caressed the broken blade, expressionless, "Seems like a team is pursuing us."

The cave was shrouded in darkness, and the atmosphere was oppressively terrifying.

Bai Rao stood elegantly, her beautiful eyes behind the mask revealing a terrifying divinity. She spoke calmly: "In the past month, our efficiency in killing enemies has been high, so being targeted is normal."

Bai Yanhui replied: "Whether it's the same group of people, this old man is not clear."

After all, the intensity of the Mountain Realm battlefield is too high. Bai Yanhui, being from the Sea Realm, might worry any approaching enemy could unsettle the Casters.

Deng Yuxiang said: "Let's head south, change the battlefield! This way, we can avoid slaughtering too many god demon minions of our kind, attracting unnecessary attention."

Bai Rao, however, said: "Should we talk to young Lu about this?"

Deng Yuxiang hesitated, not wanting to disturb him too much.

"Nightmare Guardian!" Bai Yanhui spoke again.

"Hmm?"

"This old man is about to encounter a cultivation bottleneck. Why don't we return to the Mountain Realm for a while to recuperate?" Bai Yanhui suggested.

As the former Valley Master of Sinless Valley, he is naturally not an ordinary person.

Bai Yanhui clearly understood how proud this group was, and if he directly suggested "laying low," it might cause dissatisfaction among the warriors.

"Elder Bai is about to advance?" Deng Yuxiang raised her eyebrows slightly, her mood lifted a bit.

The stronger the Prophet within the team, the better they can carry out missions.

"Yes." Bai Yanhui nodded.

Since he merged with the Divine Sculpture of the Caster, it had been more than four months. The concentration of Divine Power on the Heavenly Realm battlefield far surpassed that of the Holy Spirit Mountain.

As a Fake God, Bai Yanhui no longer had a cultivation limit, and his growth rate was quite remarkable.

"Alright." After a moment of contemplation, Deng Yuxiang nodded in agreement with this proposal.

After more than a month of battling, it was indeed time to take a break, especially to send the Holy Spirit Energy contained in the god demon remnants back to the original Stone Sculpture.

The usually silent Yan Chou suddenly spoke: "I will stay in the Heavenly Realm to continue gathering Holy Spirit Energy."

It would indeed be challenging to let Yan Chou fight the Faceless Jade Venerable alone.

But for him to slaughter other god minions and gather Holy Spirit Energy...

Yan Chou certainly possessed strong combat power and mobility to wreak havoc in this realm.

"Operating alone makes you prone to exposure." After a moment of consideration, Deng Yuxiang shook her head.

Yan Chou gazed at the young woman, frowning.

Everyone could naturally feel the displeasure of the Great Power from the Heavenly Realm, but Deng Yuxiang's attitude was firm as she looked at the man: "I was appointed as the team leader by him."

Just one sentence brought Yan Chou back to his senses, making his imposing aura quickly recede.

Obeying the orders of the First Guardian is a matter of duty for the soldiers of the Ran Sect, but when facing the overly powerful remnants of the Cloud Sea, Deng Yuxiang still had to wield someone else's authority to constrain.

Seeing Yan Chou calm down, a certain face floated in Deng Yuxiang's mind involuntarily.

More than a month had passed, and she wondered how young Lu Ran was doing.

Hmm... could it be considered not meeting?

Her original Stone Sculpture had always been deeply embedded in his mind, never separated for a moment.

[Lu Ran?] Within the Sculpture Garden, the Nightmare Stone Sculpture directly called out, [young Lu Ran?]

[Ah... ah?] Over here, Lu Ran had just put He Qifeng into his mind and returned to Tianya Haijiao when he heard the voice of the Big Nightmare.

[Is it convenient to speak?]

[What's the matter, sister? Did something happen?] Lu Ran quickly inquired.

Deng Yuxiang's heart warmed, and even her cold gaze softened: [I want to bring the team back to the Mountain Realm for a temporary rest.]

Lu Ran breathed a sigh of relief: [Alright! It's been over a month, and the remnants of your god demons should be sent back... do you need me to come pick you up?]

[No need, let's talk when we meet later.] Deng Yuxiang knew that Lu Ran was at the Holy Spirit Mountain.

After all, her original Stone Sculpture had always been carried by Lu Ran, and she could naturally sense the distance between her corporeal self and her original form.

[Heaven's Edge.] Leaving a message, Lu Ran headed directly to the edge of the cliff.

Soon after, he saw an illusory, magnificent Teleportation Array.

"Hoo!!"

Figures fell down one after another, all in green rain capes and steel masks, filling Lu Ran with a sense of achievement.

"Sect Leader!"

"Young Master." Through the dense fog, the group respectfully bowed towards the edge of the cliff, their imposing manner overwhelming!

Lu Ran felt a sense of pride in his heart~

Yes, yes, they are all my great generals!

"Thank you everyone for your hard work, was the mission successful?" Lu Ran faced the sea but turned his head 180 degrees to see the powerful figures kneeling behind him.

"The team may have been exposed. We are not sure if a group has been tracking us the entire time." Deng Yuxiang reported.

"Oh?" Lu Ran's face darkened.

This matter, indeed, cannot be avoided.

The longer everyone wreaks havoc in the Heavenly Realm battlefield, the greater the risk of exposure!

After listening to Deng Yuxiang's account, Lu Ran nodded thoughtfully: "You all go back to the park first."

He had initially thought that since more people in the Ran Sect had advanced to the Heavenly Realm over the past period, he could try forming a second team.

But now with the current situation...

[Mr. Conglong.]

[Sect Leader?]

[Come to Heaven's Edge, let's talk.]