

Old Gods 901

Chapter 901: I've Got Everything Covered

Tianya Residence, within the underground seclusion room.

As a gust of wind spread out, the young woman sitting cross-legged slowly opened her eyes.

Her beautiful eyes sparkled brilliantly, filled with a terrifying divinity.

"Swish~"

A Charm Shadow flickered.

The young woman seemed slightly impatient, completely ignoring the instability of her newly acquired Divine Power, and instantly teleported to the bedroom above.

"Thud" - a muffled sound!

Yan Shuangzi immediately looked down, but the fog was too thick. She crouched down and discovered that her footsteps had created two shallow pits.

The solid ground spread out with a web of fragmented cracks from her footprints.

Feeling somewhat frustrated, Yan Shuangzi clearly hadn't yet adapted to her Heavenly Realm body.

She had always handled everything with ease, but now, she had to be more cautious to avoid inadvertently harming her surroundings, including people.

Yan Shuangzi carefully adjusted for a while before daring to take a small step forward.

In her perception, there was no one in the bedroom.

He... must be at the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

It makes sense; how could he wait at home for a whole month?

Yan Shuangzi suddenly stopped walking.

Unknowingly, she had entered the relatively private area of the bedroom, behind the screen was the bed, and the floor beneath was covered with a soft fox-fur carpet.

Yan Shuangzi quietly stood beside the screen, gazing in the direction of the bed.

Despite not seeing his sleeping figure there.

Despite seeing nothing in the dense fog.

Yan Shuangzi stood motionless for an unknown period, her expression turning hesitant.

Should she send him a message?

To tell him the good news.

But doing so might disturb him; what if he is fighting?

Yan Shuangzi pressed her lips together, struggling internally.

He knows when she started her breakthrough; he should calculate the days to return. Even if there's some error, it's just a few days difference.

"Ha..." Yan Shuangzi sighed deeply.

Her good friend had long accompanied him to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, guarding him, leading a Ran Sect squad, fighting for him.

Now, she has finally reached the Heavenly Realm too!

Far too late...

Yan Shuangzi took a step back, leaving the soft carpet, kneeling down on the floor.

Just wait here.

He will come back... no, that's not right.

Every time he returns, his Landing Mirror seems to open at Heaven's Edge?

After pondering for a while, Yan Shuangzi's figure flickered again.

At Heaven's Edge, a Charm Shadow wearing a green cloak and bamboo hat appeared, the disciples of Sky Sparrow Pavilion in the forest approached for inspection but were sent away.

The cloaked woman quietly knelt, as if a stone statue.

Perhaps two or three days, or five or six days.

Day alternated with night, the sky brightened and darkened.

The dense fog between heaven and earth never dispersed, and the patrolling disciples of Sky Sparrow Pavilion never saw the cloaked woman move until...

"Whoosh!!"

A violent wave of Divine Power surged out from Heaven's Edge.

Yan Shuangzi suddenly raised her head, looking in the direction of the Divine Power's surge.

"Sis?" A familiar voice echoed in her ears, seeming like an illusion, feeling somewhat unreal.

The young man's words carried a hint of curiosity, pulling Yan Shuangzi completely back to reality:

"Why are you waiting here?"

Yan Shuangzi opened her mouth: "I'm... I'm here on duty, guarding the Ran Sect officers' breakthrough."

"Oh, who is breaking through?" Lu Ran stepped forward, casually helping the woman up.

Yan Shuangzi: "..."

"What's wrong, sis? Why do you seem dazed?" Lu Ran asked with concern, seeing her not speak for a while, "How long hasn't it been since you've slept?"

Poor rest indeed causes a rusty mind.

"I don't know who's breaking through." Yan Shuangzi felt somewhat frustrated again, speaking in a low voice, "After my successful breakthrough, I came here... on duty."

"Oh, congratulations!" Lu Ran said with a smile.

Standing close, Yan Shuangzi naturally saw his smiling eyes.

Thinking about it, the half of his face hidden behind the Blood Crystal Mask would likely be smiling too.

"That's great!" Lu Ran continued, "You replaced the Evil Dog, devoured the Greedy Wolf, now not only can you teleport worldwide, but also completely conceal your form."

Yan Shuangzi looked into Lu Ran's bright eyes; she slightly lowered her gaze and nodded softly: "Mm."

"Flap flap flap~"

The sound of wings flapping, from far to near.

Lu Ran turned his head, using his Simurgh Eyes to see the patrol squad of Huang Que in the mist, he immediately waved: "Who is breaking through?"

"Returning to Sect Leader, it's Yan God General and Feng God General!"

"Good." Lu Ran nodded in satisfaction, "How long now?"

"About eight or nine days."

"Got it, go ahead." In a cheerful mood, Lu Ran smiled looking at Yan Shuangzi, "Later we'll go to Mo Gu Peak, I need to personally unleash the Sand Sea, to support you with the mountain cave."

Yan Shuangzi had long sensed the formidable presence not far behind Lu Ran.

Adjusting her mood, she asked, "Who is that person?"

"My mother's subordinate, Wuya, now also part of Ran Sect, you can call him Heavenly General Wu."

"Heavenly General Wu."

"I presume you are the evil shadow guardian."

"Does Wu Heavenly General know me?"

"I've been following the Young Master for several days, unable to suppress my impatience, I once asked myself when I could fuse with the Stone Sculpture. The Young Master said to wait for the Evil Shadow Guardian to advance, then we could go to Mo Gu Peak together."

Yan Shuangzi pursed her lips and gave a slight "Hmm."

"Off we go, Mo Gu Peak!" Lu Ran quickly summoned a Landing Mirror, stepped into it, and arrived at the edge of the world.

Unfortunately, it was midday, the sun blazing fiercely.

The trio couldn't witness the breathtaking sunset.

Yan Shuangzi finally saw Wuya clearly, and indeed was startled by the other's appearance.

The collective attractiveness of the Ran Sect warriors was relatively high.

There were Jiang Ruyi, Leng Xushuang, and Yu Changsheng, these three from the Human World, all of exquisite beauty!

Someone as fierce as Niu Zhengzheng was already the bottom line of the Ran Sect, and now there's another near the bottom...

Not ugly, but... Hmm, he certainly looks like a tough character!

"Come, Wu Heavenly General." Lu Ran called out, circling the Fiery Fire Divine Mountain a few times in recent days, easily advancing Nuoshua Divine Sculpture to the First Level of the Heavenly Realm.

Though it hadn't reached the Second Level, let's allow one person and one sculpture to fuse first.

Upon returning to the Heavenly Realm, further cultivation can be focused on.

"Wu Heavenly General?" Lu Ran called out again, turning his head to look at the cave entrance, where he found the person staring at the sun.

The sun does not exist in the Heavenly Realm.

Wuya, having not seen the sun, moon, or stars for many years, couldn't believe his eyes; it seemed unreal yet true.

The God Demon was quite kind to the Human Clan believers of Holy Spirit Mountain, at least willing to create some natural scenery to deceive people a little.

But the question is... Is this possible?

Wuya sneered!

With the character of the God Demon, would they be willing to do such a thing? So how was Holy Spirit Mountain formed?

"Wu Heavenly General!" Yan Shuangzi spoke coldly.

"Hmm?" Wuya turned his head and saw the two people's gaze, immediately turning and walking over, "Sorry, Young Master."

Lu Ran teased, "Haven't been back for a long time, do you miss the prison here?"

"I was wondering how Holy Spirit Mountain was formed," Wuya responded truthfully.

Lu Ran had a moment of realization.

Indeed! People become oblivious to things they see often.

Lu Ran had become accustomed to the mountains and vegetation of Holy Spirit Mountain, even used to the lack of flying birds or beasts, not a single insect to be seen.

How were Holy Spirit Mountain and the Heavenly Realm formed above the Cloud Sea?

Lu Ran pondered briefly, temporarily suppressing his doubts, and with Wuya and Yan Shuangzi, proceeded to fuse with the Stone Sculpture.

He was quite adept at the fusion process, but reinforcing the cave wall with sand from the West Desolation Sand Sea during the fusion was a first for him.

Fortunately, the process went smoothly.

The two fused with the Stone Sculpture in succession and entered Lu Ran's Sculpture Garden, and Lu Ran immediately returned to Heaven's Edge.

Just in time for the advancement of Feng Yan Second Generals, the divine power at the ends of the earth was dense, comparable to the Heavenly Realm battlefield.

Lu Ran's condition wasn't favorable, so he decided to stay within the Sect and purify the Holy Spirit Energy on the spot.

The only drawback was that he couldn't wait around, with no Dead Souls automatically offering themselves to him, but for the sake of safety, Lu Ran decided to lay low.

In just two or three days, the two successfully replaced Nuoshua Divine Sculpture and Evil Dog Evil Sculpture.

The two moved without pause, and devoured the Evil Sculpture and Greedy Wolf Divine Sculpture respectively.

As Wuya had just succeeded, and Yan Shuangzi was still devouring Greedy Wolf, Lu Ran suddenly received a communication request.

This is... Nightmare?

[Big Nightmare?] Lu Ran quickly found the bearer, connecting tightly with the Nightmare Stone Sculpture within the Sculpture Garden.

[Something's up!] A weighty voice resonated.

Lu Ran's heart leaped into his throat: [What's wrong? Did your second team run into trouble?]

[Not yet, but I've just sliced a Faceless Jade Venerable, and the Night-cutting Blade is about to advance!] Deng Yuxiang's tone grew even heavier, [Should I return...]

Without thinking, Lu Ran immediately ordered: [Find a nearby Stone Peak! If it's too far, forget it, advance on the spot! Focus!]

Deng Yuxiang was evidently hesitating whether to return to the safety of Holy Spirit Mountain and take a chance.

Why take a chance?

Whether it is a person or a Divine Weapon, once the advancement mode is commenced, it means being tightly linked with the surrounding world.

Moving territories broadly at this point is not merely a risky issue but rather severing the road to ascension!

Night-cutting Blade is a second-rank Divine Weapon!

The advancement window is rare and hard to come by!

If successful, how much would this blade enhance Deng Yuxiang's combat powers?

[Wei Yun, did the Night-cutting Blade attract the fog?] Lu Ran quickly contacted the scout of the second team.

[Returning to the Sect Leader, it has indeed attracted it! The specs are high, there are many Fog Dragon Rolls.] Wei Yun immediately responded.

"Whew!!"

Lu Ran spread open his palm, a large Other Shore Flower blossomed.

Simultaneously, Deng Yuxiang's hand trembled slightly as she wielded the blade.

On her tall physique, a Teleportation Array unexpectedly unfolded, hanging above her head.

With the fog too dense, she couldn't see anything.

But she could sense a figure falling down, landing steadily behind her.

A hand reached out from behind, gently pressing on her shoulder, a deep yet familiar voice resonated: "Focus and let Night-cut advance, I have everything covered."

Deng Yuxiang's taut nerves gradually relaxed.

It was an unprecedented sense of security.

Something others could not provide.

"Clack!"

Deng Yuxiang grasped the Night-cutting Blade handle with both hands, slightly bowing her head, tightly closing her eyes:

"Hmm."

...

Chapter 902: Commence!

"Elder Bai, how do you feel?"

Lu Ran approached Bai Yanhui and asked.

Bai Yanhui had a somewhat grim expression and sighed, "Before the Sect Leader arrived, I was deeply anxious, but now I've eased a bit, yet still feel restless."

"Gurgle, gurgle..."

Lu Ran picked up the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd and gulped it down.

"Burp~" He burped and wiped his mouth with the back of his hand, "Understood, Elder Bai, please enter the gourd first."

"Sect Leader, be careful," Bai Yanhui cautioned, as he let the Treasure Gourd absorb him inside.

Lu Ran opened his Simurgh's Eyes and gazed around through the fog.

Besides Deng Yuxiang, who was advancing his Divine Weapon, the team included Yan Heavenly General, Martial Emperor, Luoshen General, Elder Lu,

and Wei Yun, the Hall Master, who was hidden in the sky.

Divine Weapon advancement can take as little as a few minutes or as long as half an hour.

We should be able to withstand it.

It's worth mentioning that there are two Wu Xiaos in the team.

This comes from the Evil Technique-Yin Flower Shadow of the first-class Evil Demon-Yin Flower Dan clan!

Similar to Evil Dog Evil Skill-Evil Shadow, it's also a bait-type skill. In lower grades it's just an image, used to confuse the enemy.

At River Grade, it becomes an unstable physical state clone, and after Sea Grade, it becomes stable and can be controlled from a third-person perspective by the caster.

The bait skill undergoes a qualitative change at Heavenly Grade, allowing the caster's perspective to enter the clone.

Incredibly powerful!

Such a dominant skill naturally has limitations and restrictions, such as not being too far from the main body, otherwise, the perspective cannot be entered, and the clone cannot use skills, etc.

But in terms of baiting, Evil Shadow and Yin Flower Shadow have already reached the peak.

When Lu Ran arrived, there were already two Wu Xiaos, indicating that the Martial Emperor had mastered this technique proficiently, able to switch perspectives back and forth between two bodies, assisting in battles on the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

In the future, Yan Shuangzi will certainly be able to do the same.

Hmm... By then, this seat will have two Evil Shadow Guardians beside me~

Lu Ran observed silently for a moment and spoke, "Luoshen General."

"Present!"

"Nightmare Guardian is advancing his Divine Weapon, the command position will temporarily be yours."

"Yes!" Luo Ying immediately accepted the command.

Everyone present was a mighty leader, all capable of commanding.

But the thick fog in the air limited everyone's vision, reducing the number able to command.

As soon as Lu Ran gave the order, droplets of water emerged around, along with little Canglongs swirling around.

Heavenly Grade Divine Technique·Canglong Sea Domain!

A powerful Divine Technique combining purification and perception, encompassing everything within a radius of five hundred meters within Luo Ying's perception range.

However, such a strong technique still couldn't fully cover the fog's scope.

With the advancement of the Night-cutting Blade to a third-tier Divine Weapon, the phenomenon attracted rivals the scale of humans advancing to the Heavenly Realm!

Fog Dragon Rolls descended from the sky, enveloping a person and a blade, with the Night-slaying Great Saber at the center, a radius of eight hundred meters was completely imperceptible.

"Don't worry about me." Lu Ran left a sentence and flashed into the high sky.

He slowly turned around, scanning for possible enemies.

"Sigh..." The energy from the Artifact Spirit flowed over the sword sheath surface, a gentle sigh followed.

"What's wrong?" Lu Ran reached into his chest and grasped the sword hilt.

Cloud Sea Sword Spirit seemed a bit worried, "I was born in a battlefield environment like this."

Hearing such words, Lu Ran couldn't help but recall the story of Cloud Sea Sword.

Back then, when Cloud Sea Sword coalesced and formed a Sword Spirit, it brought huge trouble to Qiao Wanjun and the disciples of Cloud Sea Sect.

Eventually, the sword spirit did form.

But some Cloud Sea Sect disciples also perished on the battlefield.

"M...Mother, you don't need to worry about me." Lu Ran hesitated a bit but still addressed her that way.

The Sword Spirit remained silent.

Lu Ran drew the Cloud Sea Sword and ran two fingers over its icy blade, "All this time, you've only known me to be strong, seen me effortlessly slay a Faceless Jade Venerable with a few strikes.

But perhaps you've never seen me at full power?"

The special environment during Divine Weapon advancement provided an excellent opportunity for Lu Ran's reckless abandon.

"Ranran."

"What did you say?"

"Stay humble and avoid impatience," Cloud Sea Sword Spirit gently advised.

"Oh." Lu Ran smiled and nodded.

To be honest, Cloud Sea Sword Spirit was much more gentle than his mother.

Lu Ran looked around, and in just a few minutes, he saw two mists approaching.

A black mist and a fire mist.

"Phew~"

A fire mist slammed diagonally from a distant stone peak, transforming into a tall and majestic horse. Its entire body had pitch-black fur with traces of flames lingering, radiating grandeur!

Evil Demon·Wu Huoju?

As the fire mist descended, the dense black mist landed, piecing together a tall and stalwart figure.

Wearing a black helmet, clad in black armor, holding an Azure Dragon Crescent Blade, riding atop the Black Fire Colt.

On the face shrouded in black mist, two eyes emitted red light, staring eerily in this direction.

Evil Demon·Ghost General!

They truly were a pair of inseparable partners.

During the Full Moon Night in the Human World, Ghost Generals and war horses often appeared together, and now on this Heavenly Realm Battlefield, Lu Ran saw this classic pairing once again.

Lu Ran immediately spun a Sword Flower.

The identity of the person in the fog was indeed easy to recognize.

Minions of God Demon and the Faceless Jade Venerable clan didn't undergo advancement.

On the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, only the Human Clan possessed the trait of "growth."

As for whether the mist dragon rolls involved human advancement or Divine Weapon advancement, that's another matter altogether.

Ultimately, the result points to a single group—humans!

To this day, Lu Ran hadn't seen any God Demon minions wielding a powerful Divine Weapon.

"Ah!"

In the next moment, the majestic Ghost General transformed into a black mist, drifting away into the distance.

The Black Fire Colt followed suit, also turning into mist and departing.

Lu Ran was momentarily stunned.

He was prepared to battle and show the Ghost General what curiosity killed the cat meant, but this...

They ran?

Lu Ran suddenly realized this was the Heavenly Realm Battlefield!

The Human Clan and God Demon minions were in the same camp, defending against external enemies.

From this perspective, seeing human advancement and not coming to help, then turning and leaving seemed quite unprincipled for the Ghost General, right?

Hmm... Fine then.

Lu Ran continued to look around, but after just a few dozen seconds, the two mists flew back.

Lu Ran once again landed on the stone peak, and this time, as the Ghost General pieced together, a vast shadow spread from within him.

Red Scarf henchmen?

Lu Ran frowned slightly, noticing that the Red Scarves were conversing with the Ghost General.

Then, the Ghost General squeezed his legs tight around his warhorse's flanks and charged towards the mist.

Lu Ran had already understood the positioning of the Human Clan in the Heavenly Realm, so the Red Scarf henchmen specially rushed back, intending to investigate the identity of the person in the mist?

"Heh." Lu Ran let out a cold snort.

This is what you brought upon yourselves!

Our Ran Sect is not something you can probe at will!

Lu Ran's body tensed up as he swung his sword down hard, then his figure suddenly flashed!

Ran Sect Blade Technique Third Form·Shuo Star!

First, the sword strikes, then the flash.

Sit in rows in the Yama Palace~

In an instant, Lu Ran appeared next to the Ghost General, his hand filled with Fierce Heavenly Power, wielding the Third-tier Divine Sword, and slashed down fiercely.

"Crack!"

The Cloud Sea Sword instantly shattered the Ghost General's shoulder armor, cutting downward with force, aiming to slice the Black Fire Colt beneath him in half.

"Pff~"

The Heavenly Realm Ghost General is indeed formidable!

Though the sword blade had already split his upper body and even slashed the horse's back beneath him, the Ghost General still unleashed the Evil Technique·Ghost Mist Body.

A warrior and his horse have a telepathic connection!

Black Fire Colt sensed an unprecedented crisis and immediately unleashed the Evil Technique·Fire Mist Body.

"Heh." Lu Ran let out another cold snort.

If facing external enemies, the Evil Demons' choice would naturally be very correct.

Being lifeforms created from pure energy forms, as long as the Ghost General is vaporized and reassembled, his body can be restored to its original state.

The underlying logic is to exchange energy for damage.

But the problem is, can you vaporize in front of me?

That! Can! You!

"Whirr!"

Lu Ran suddenly blew out a wind bundle.

Paper Simurgh Evil Technique·Paper Wind Bundle!

Very thin,

yet very deadly!

Countless paper feathers of the Luans emerged, swirling and outlining the silhouette of this wind bundle.

The Ghost General's black mist, along with the Black Fire Colt's fire mist, were both drawn together and churned into the rapidly spinning wind bundle.

This time, the Ghost General's warhorse could no longer reassemble their bodies.

Neither could escape the entangling pull of the wind bundle.

In the blink of an eye, the rapidly spinning wind bundle completely tore apart the two Heaven-level henchmen.

No, it should be four Heaven-levels!

After all, there were two henchmen from the Divine Camp too.

[Wuya, snatch the souls.] Lu Ran ordered, flying upward with an air of ease.

[Yes.] Wuya immediately began the snatch.

If not snatched, the Ghost General's souls would belong to Deng Yutang...

Hmm, let's aggrieve Young Deng for now.

After all, he is only at the initial stage of the Sea Realm, far from ascension, while this Wu Tian General here needs the nourishment of souls more urgently.

"Still worried?" Lu Ran gripped the sword hilt.

"Hehe." The Sword Spirit chuckled lightly, a hint of reproach in the voice, repeating, "Be neither arrogant nor impatient."

"Oh." Lu Ran smiled.

He cast his gaze afar, carefully scanning, and from the distant east, spotted a rapidly approaching Faceless Jade Venerable.

This needed no elaboration.

A pure enemy!

"Whirr~"

Lu Ran gripped the Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword tightly, the blade trailing a fine wind trace extending 18 meters.

More accurately, two traces, yet identical in length, fused as one.

North Wind Divine Skill·Residual Wind Trace!

Night Charm Evil Technique·Night Shadow Charm Trace!

Simultaneously, Lu Ran, always hidden, ignited in blazing flames.

Fierce Heavenly Divine Skill·Fiery Fire Sky Leader!

"Mother."

"Hmm?"

"You know all my secrets, so you know I'm strong." Lu Ran's eyes turned icy as he fixed them on the rapidly approaching enemy, "But you really just 'know.'"

Cloud Sea Sword Spirit: "..."

Lu Ran's gaze sharpened just as the Faceless Jade Venerable entered the thick mist, his figure flashed!

"Crack!!"

The piercing sound of shattering followed.

Fire from the Fierce Heavenly Sect burned the traces of North Wind and Night Charm.

Lu Ran, wielding immense power, forcefully cut into the Faceless Jade Venerable's right waist with his sword!

"Urgh!" The Faceless Jade Venerable's large eyes widened, letting out a strange throat sound.

She reacted swiftly, retreating decisively, and simultaneously flung her jade robe forward.

"Whirr!" Lu Ran also retreated to evade.

The surging wave-like jade robe didn't manage to cover his face.

But the 18-meter long Heavenly Grade wind trace, following the jade slit cut by the sword, slashed ruthlessly across the Faceless Jade Venerable's waist, cutting out again from her left waist!

In an instant, the Faceless Jade Venerable was sliced in half at the waist.

Her upper and lower body quickly began crawling with fractures.

Climbing along her slender, fair legs, reaching her exquisite jade feet.

Also climbing along her graceful upper body, to that coldly enchanting, yet thoroughly astonished face.

"Crack!"

The vast Jade Venerable shattered dramatically.

Lu Ran flicked a sword flower, holding the sword before him, his long fingers brushed the cold blade:
"So, Mother, you needn't worry for me."

The previous tragedy will not unfold in this thick mist.

I don't know how strong you were back then.

But if we talk about playing tricks,

you still have to stand back a bit...

...

Chapter 903: Human Clan Revealed

In the mist, Lu Ran weaved unseen, slaughtering all the enemies that dared to invade.

Every time an enemy just broke into the mist, not yet within Luo Ying's perception range, they were suddenly slain by sword and blade.

Lu Ran alone, could rival an entire army!

He was the army!

The eyes of the Luans, the swift instant teleportation and stealth of the wolfhound.

The strength and fire of the Fierce Heavenly Sect, the long wind traces of the North Wind Night Charm.

Since Lu Ran ascended to the heavenly realm, he had fought countless battles, and this time, his slaughter was the fiercest.

No matter whether it was the occasional god-demon minion coming to scout, or the swarming Faceless Jade Venerables...

None shall be spared!

"Crack!"

Another piercing sound of breaking echoed, a pair of blades drawing long wind traces, carving an "X" on the Faceless Jade Venerable's upper body.

The once-untouchable Faceless Jade Venerable was quartered amid the crisscrossed wind traces.

Lu Ran endeavored to absorb the energy between heaven and earth, turning his gaze backward and downward.

Deng Yuxiang still held her blades, her head bowed, lost in her own world.

She had maintained this posture for a quarter of an hour now, hadn't she?

Though the Night-slaying Great Saber could ascend any moment, Lu Ran was ready to fight for another quarter-hour.

Half an hour is a critical point.

If it hadn't succeeded by then, it would mean the Night-slaying Blade and the second divine weapon domain had no destiny to meet, perhaps never advancing to the third rank in this lifetime.

Lu Ran slightly raised his eyes, scanning the distance, spotting several Faceless Jade Venerables rushing from the south.

"They just keep coming..."

Lu Ran frowned deeply.

The phenomenon triggered by the second-rank divine weapon upgrade was enormous, detectable by the Faceless Jade Venerables from afar.

In comparison, very few god-demon minions arrived.

Lu Ran had just realized that the ghost generals and Black Fire Colts he initially killed were exceptions.

The god-demon minions obviously knew the advancement of a Human Clan warrior would attract the frenzied siege of Faceless Jade Venerables.

Coming here meant facing a multitude of Faceless Jade Venerables in direct combat!

Perhaps before the rise of the Cloud Sea Sect, minions would indeed come to assist.

But now?

The Human Clan's position in the heavenly realm was very unique.

God-demons had contradicting feelings, wanting Human Clan believers to help kill foreign enemies while fearing the believers' growth potential might threaten their status.

This led to the current unique structure of the heavenly realm.

God-demons wanted the Human Clan to remain forever at the first level of the heavenly realm, eternally under control, serving endlessly. If one finds a chance to break through...

Then you should die!

The second level of the heavenly realm might not threaten the majestic god-demons.

But your ability to ascend is grave enough!

This means the god-demon you revere can no longer suppress you! It also signals your unparalleled growth potential.

Who, if not you, should perish?

Honestly, if the Faceless Jade Venerables weren't so impervious, just a bit more adaptable, temporarily calling for a ceasefire, perhaps the god-demon minions would join the battle, jointly attacking the person in the mist.

"Hoo~"

Once more, the fire of the Fierce Heavenly Sect ignited on Lu Ran, his figure flashing abruptly.

Come!

Fight!

Your hands are beautiful, chop them off for me.

Your legs are nice too, I want them as well...

Both Lu Ran and the Faceless Jade Venerables had their reasons to be crazed.

He fought to protect his own Great Nightmare, while the Faceless Jade Venerables wanted to seize the opportunity to annihilate the Human Clan here.

Otherwise, in the future, they would be the ones slaughtered.

The upside was, with so many Faceless Jade Venerables attacking, the god-demon minions almost vanished, reducing the exposure risk of Squadron Two of the Ran Sect.

After all, within the Da Xia god-demon system, a few sects could see through the mist.

The downside is...

There are too many Faceless Jade Venerables!

Where on earth are they coming from?

Lu Ran silently cursed.

According to Huangfu Zhao, the Faceless Jade Venerables had no Divine Mountain base, surging from all directions, continually joining the battlefield.

The specifics of their origin remain unknown.

"Loo..."

"Hmm?" At the battlefield center, Luo Ying suddenly turned her head southwest, where dense floating water droplets alerted her to a large thin dog at that location.

Lu Ran forcefully split a Faceless Jade Venerable, his expression equally startled, turning to look.

Until now, very few god-demon minions had ventured to this land of turmoil.

First, due to the lack of ability to partake.

Second, because the god-demon minions weren't stupid enough to march to their doom.

But now, a capable and foolish creature appeared!

Evil Dog?

Lu Ran was shocked.

"Woof! Woof woof~ woof!" The Evil Dog sniffed around, apparently catching a scent, wagging its tail excitedly, barking vehemently in Deng Yuxiang's direction.

Evil Technique·Evil Bark was quite annoying, making one's mind restless.

Fortunately, Luo Ying's Canglong Sea Domain not only had perception effects but could also purify all abnormal states of living beings within its realm.

This ensured that Deng Yuxiang could continue ascending with the divine weapon.

Lu Ran couldn't let the dog run rampant, immediately ordering in his mind: [Adjust the Canglong Sea Domain to Sea Grade!]

[Yes.]Luo Ying followed the order, rapidly reducing the radius of the Heavenly Grade·Canglong Sea Domain from five hundred meters to one hundred meters.

All Purification Skills possessed the ability to purify beyond levels.

The radius of the Canglong Sea Domain sharply decreased, ensuring the protection of Deng Yuxiang while also letting the Evil Dog exit the purification area.

Simultaneously, Lu Ran's figure flickered, and in the instant of the slashing blade, he uttered the Sound of Despair:

"Baa~"

"Swish!" The Evil Dog Clan's lightning-fast reaction was simply outrageous!

In the instant Lu Ran appeared, the evil dogs almost simultaneously flashed away, and the Eight Desolate Blade swung into thin air.

However, the moment Lu Ran's blade tip touched the ground, a fierce wave of Divine Power surged in front of him.

"Swish!"

The evil dogs unexpectedly flashed back again.

Because Lu Ran appeared with a "baa" sound, the evil dogs did run away, but the hit ones returned with bloodshot eyes and drooling mouths, ready to kill again!

"Ha!" Lu Ran immediately shouted fiercely, his voice like thunder.

The evil dog's mind went blank instantly and was completely frozen in place.

Dong Ting's Divine Technique·Thunder Shout!

Why hadn't Lu Ran used such a technique that restrained the evil dogs earlier?

He feared the evil dogs would flash away too quickly, fixing them outside!

But why use it now?

At this time, Lu Ran had filled the air with hatred, and the evil dog was bent on biting to death this little sheep!

"Slash!"

The gleam of the blade flashed, and the dog's head hit the ground.

Lu Ran had no time to pause and rapidly flashed again, rushing towards a Faceless Jade Venerable flying into the fog.

Between these comings and goings, two Faceless Jade Venerables already charged in, seeking enemies.

Lu Ran hurriedly rushed over, the sword trace following through.

"Growl..." The Evil Dog Clan's low growls startled Lu Ran once again.

How were there still more dogs?

One mountain cannot contain two tigers, nor can one fog hold two dogs!

In this world, having just one flaming dog is enough, while you...

"Growl!"

"Woof! Woof woof~" Several dog barks echoed.

One by one, the evil dogs were unusually excited and opened their bloody mouths wide.

Luo Ying's breath stopped, and he didn't even care to pull the bow and shoot arrows, grasping Deng Yuxiang's waist with one hand and hurriedly pulled them to the side.

"Snap!"

"Snap..." A jagged row of giant dog teeth appeared out of thin air at the position Deng Yuxiang was at earlier, fiercely biting down.

"Eek eek eek~~~"

From within the dense fog came the unique singing voice of the Wusheng Sect, chilling the evil dogs to their souls.

Three evil dogs immediately shifted their targets and aimed their teeth at the location they sensed where Wu Xiao was.

Wu Xiao swiftly retreated.

Amongst the constant "snap snap" sounds, several evil dogs simultaneously instant teleported away.

Due to the same background color, their choices were surprisingly consistent, and they were more inclined towards close combat, using their real dog mouths to tear the Human Clan apart.

"Whoosh!"

A torrent of spears rushed over.

The environment restricted Yan Chou too much.

He could also instant teleport, but because he lacked perception techniques, he was extremely passive, having to rely on the Magic Artifact·Black Cloud-patterned Gourd to lock on the enemy's position.

Perceiving on one's own versus hearing others report a position are fundamentally different.

Especially in this battlefield where lives are decided in seconds.

"Swish~"

Three evil dogs instant teleported again.

Dogs are dumb, but they are really strong!

Back then, the only stone sculpture Lord Immortal Sheep strongly urged Lu Ran to activate was the Evil Dog Evil Sculpture!

Evil Sense, Evil Sensitivity, Evil Shadow Flash, with this whole set of techniques combined, who can truly hurt the dogs?

The spear torrent roared past, stabbing nothing.

In the next moment, a figure appeared abruptly, saying coldly, "Who are you people?"

In an instant, the faces of Ran Sect members changed together.

Human Clan?

And a Human Clan that appeared via instant teleportation?

Luo Ying's face turned ugly, seeming to realize who had come.

Before, when Ran Sect had only one small team, old man Bai Yanhui would often forewarn them, leading everyone to flee.

Everyone also speculated that there was a mysterious group constantly investigating and pursuing the Ran Sect team.

Now, encountering the evil dog team, everything was explained.

No wonder no matter how they tried, they couldn't shake them off!

Only the evil dog team had sufficiently keen sense of smell and the highest level of mobility, always persistently keeping their jaws locked onto Ran Sect members.

Luo Ying had thought about this, and Lu Ran thought of it too.

He also realized that this couldn't possibly be brushed off easily!

After all, on the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, the Human Clan and God Demon's minions stood on the same side, how could one attack upon arrival?

In the continuous pursuit of the evil dogs, they must have deduced something from clues.

Whether by observing from afar or using the dog's nose to sniff, in any case, this small team had already determined that Ran Sect's team was committing acts of great rebellion, even killing God Demon's minions!

"Ash disciple?" The mysterious woman reached into the suspended water droplet, her voice even colder, "What about the others? What God Demon do you serve?"

"Ding!" Suddenly, a crisp sound was heard.

Lu Ran used his double swords to resist the incoming Jade Robes, the power filled in his hands preventing the Divine Weapon from being let go.

His face looked harsh, naturally knowing that being distracted on the battlefield is a major taboo of military strategy.

But in this situation, how could he not think?

"Comrades!" Lu Ran shouted loudly, "Is there a misunderstanding among us? Don't let the evil dogs attack us anymore!"

We are all Human Clan, hurry... hurry and help us fight against the Faceless Jade Venerable!"

The woman's figure flashed, truly skilled and courageous, unexpectedly appearing from the lower rear of Lu Ran.

Her voice was icy and threatening, "Don't you understand human language? I'm asking! Which God Demons are you all followers of!"

If you still don't say, I'll kill the one who is upgrading right now!"

Lu Ran desperately dodged the Jade Robes, his face dark and frightening.

A pair of cold eyes quietly flashed a hint of deep red.

...

Chapter 904: Scream

"Night Charm Master!" Lu Ran hurriedly said, "Mistress, I revere the Night Charm Master!"

His feet lifted him upon a layer of storm winds, moving sideways in mid-air to dodge the jade robe approaching him.

Although there was some performance in this, it was undeniable—the Faceless Jade Venerable was truly strong!

With Lu Ran neither concealing himself nor using most of his techniques, the Faceless Jade Venerable's attacks were as relentless as waves, forcing Lu Ran into retreat step by step.

"Mistress, is there perhaps some mis..."

Before Lu Ran could finish speaking, he once again changed direction, fleeing desperately to the rear.

Though it seemed forced, this was an inadvertent adjustment in direction, sending Lu Ran towards the black-robed woman's position!

"Misunderstanding?" The Evil Dog disciple sneered, "A bunch of traitorous beings, daring to strike at the minions of God and Demon.

Tell me, who instructed you to do this?"

Who instructed?

Lu Ran gripped the knife hilt tightly.

It was my identity as a member of the Human Clan that instructed me.

It was my heart unwilling to be enslaved that instructed me, is that enough?

"Hulala~~~"

The wide sleeves of the jade robe fluttered, as a jade hand reached straight for Lu Ran's head.

Lu Ran hastily dodged, retreating hurriedly.

"Speak!" The Evil Dog disciple sternly questioned again.

The powerful perception, along with the Divine Sword hanging from her waist, both indicated one fact: the young man claiming to be a disciple of Night Charm was being beaten down by the Faceless Jade Venerable.

And more and more Faceless Jade Venerables were flying toward the misty region.

The mysterious young man, including this mysterious team, if they don't display their hidden cards soon, might face complete annihilation.

Meanwhile, the Evil Dog disciple remained as steady as a rock, she and the few Evil Dogs wildly rampaging needed only a flash to elegantly withdraw.

"We didn't... ah!!" Lu Ran suddenly screamed in agony.

The jade robe fluttered, sweeping away the sword and knife blocking him and crashing heavily against his body.

"Boom!"

Lu Ran was like a cannonball, slamming diagonally into the ground, and like a skipping stone on a lake surface, bouncing consecutively.

The Evil Dog disciple continued to sneer.

The Night Charm Clan excelled at listening to the sound of the wind, providing them a substantial advantage on the misty battlefield.

But what of it?

The youth was constantly disturbed by her incessant questioning.

Listening to the wind?

No, listen to me!

Then die here!

[Young Master!] Yan Chou naturally heard Lu Ran's scream, both shocked and enraged.

The misty environment indeed limited many people, and the Faceless Jade Venerable was indeed strong, but here was the Young Master's home ground, how...

[Don't move!] Lu Ran commanded in his mind, while his mouth continued to scream in agony, "Ah! Ah ah!"

Inevitably, the Evil Dog disciple turned towards the muffled sounds.

Yet her gloating face dramatically changed color!

The Evil Dog disciple was completely oblivious, as a pair of cold eyes saw through the mist, reflecting an eerie deep red, intertwining with her gaze.

Instantly, she plunged into a crimson world.

Thousands of red threads wove through, piercing her flesh, stabbing through her bones.

More terrifyingly, the Evil Dog disciple didn't even manage to make a sound!

At the very moment the red threads pierced her body, an echo of a battle roar, like thunder, rang near her ears:

"Ha!"

From the Tethering Silk Clan's Silk Pupil, unsettling the opponent instantly.

From the Dongting Sect's Thunder Shout, completely immobilizing the opponent!

It seemed immaterial whether immobilized because accompanying the roar came a flash of a blade.

"Crack!!"

The Water Flow Armor covering the Evil Dog disciple's neck shattered violently.

The fire from the Fierce Heavenly Sect, bearing the mark of the Night Charm of North Wind, wielded on the Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade, swiftly slashed across her neck.

"Sizzle!"

A head soared high.

The Evil Dog disciple's expression was utterly contorted.

Seemingly agonized yet as if stunned, glaring wide-eyed.

She naturally was aware, this team was far from ordinary as it appeared.

Otherwise, during past pursuits, the team could not have slipped from her grasp time and again.

The Evil Dog disciple remained on the battlefield because Instant Teleportation Technique gave her boundless confidence.

And due to the special battlefield setting, granted her "first-class" status.

Her perception was beyond others!

Today, she was indeed going to personally oversee the battle!

Intending to rely on the Faceless Jade Venerable's hand, along with her disrupting techniques, to slaughter these traitors thoroughly.

Thus could she report to the Evil God.

Also to own the countless Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts possessed by these people.

Traitor Night Charm disciple, traitor Ash disciple, traitor Martial Artist disciple, traitor Qiang Xiu disciple...

What an incredible group of traitors?!

Die!

However, the Qiang Xiu disciple might not die easily, as this sect also could teleport... but it's alright.

Just hard enough trap the others will do.

The rest, when she returns, she only needs to report to the God Demon.

Unveiling such a team, eliminating such hazards, what a great merit this would be!

Not only would her own Evil Dog Master, but also the other betrayed powerful first-class, second-class God Demons would regard her differently, right?

The Evil Dog disciple imagined beautifully.

Yet all of this, everything, vanished like smoke.

Left standing is a headless corpse, the severed neck still spraying fresh blood.

"Snap!" A crisp sound!

At the moment Lu Ran released the Cloud Sea Sword, he grabbed the sword hanging at the waist of the headless corpse and drew it directly from its sheath, his figure flashing again.

He appeared directly in mid-air, wielding the sword to mercilessly stab at the head of the Evil Dog female disciple.

"Sss!"

The three-foot long sword made of Golden Brilliance Stone pierced from the woman's forehead and emerged from the back of her head.

This act of desecrating a corpse seemed unlike Lu Ran's usual style.

Because he had even harsher means—Soul Torture.

But at this moment, Lu Ran was truly about to explode with anger!

Damn it!

Do you so love being lapdogs for the God Demons?

Both sides are Human Clan, if the Evil Dog female disciple showed even the slightest sign of wavering or a willingness to negotiate, Lu Ran would attempt to win her over.

But the woman's past conduct, and her vicious actions on the battlefield today, clearly marked her as a complete traitor to humanity.

Even ascending to the Heavenly Realm and seeing the God Demon's true colors and dirty dealings, she still wholeheartedly aided them.

Good dog!

"Hoo!!"

Lu Ran infused Divine Power into the Divine Sword, shattering the head worn on the sword.

From beginning to end, the Divine Sword showed no resistance.

It didn't even dare to tremble.

"Whoosh~ Whoosh~"

In the battlefield, Water Flow Arrows still shuttled around, and the Cloud Mist Spear continued to whistle.

Wu Xiao was locked in a deadly battle with a Faceless Jade Venerable, also drawing external enemies away from Deng Yuxiang's position.

Compared to the Faceless Jade Venerable's rigid moves, those few crazed Evil Dogs in the thick fog were even more lethal!

[Evil Dog disciple is dead.]

Due to the Sea Grade Canglong Sea Domain not covering the area with its radius of a hundred meters, Lu Ran naturally reported through telepathic command.

At the same time, he lifted a ball of black mist in his hand, quickly scanning the battlefield.

[Sect Master landed, Cry of the Lamb!] Luo Ying, holding a bow in one hand and embracing Deng Yuxiang in the other, flew into the sky, yelling orders, "Dust Shadow Rota!"

[Yes!] Lu Ran put away the Evil Dog female disciple's Dead Soul and descended straight downwards.

Since he had given command to the Luoshen General, he followed orders immediately.

It seemed Luoshen General intended to first deal with those extremely threatening Evil Dogs.

Lu Yuan similarly obeyed without question, spreading his hands wide.

"Hoo!!"

Under the surging Divine Power, clusters of Other Shore Flowers bloomed at both small and large sizes, radiating from Lu Yuan's central point, extending over a radius of five hundred meters.

In a blink, within a kilometer circumference, it was a sea of crimson Other Shore Flowers.

Dust Shadow Divine Technique-Dust Shadow Rota!

This was an Illusion Technique; anyone engulfed by the flower sea would be trapped in past memories, unable to extricate themselves.

The Evil Dog Clan, with its inherently low intelligence, likely had no deeply penetrating memories.

Yet they would still be affected, dragged into the Illusion Realm.

"Meh~~~"

A feeble sheep-like cry floated far, far away.

"Roar!"

"Woof! Woof Woof!" The Evil Dog Clan fell prey immediately, rushing towards the little lamb.

As they appeared on the ground, the beautiful, vibrant sea of flowers, drifting with thin mist, completely invaded the brains of the Evil Dogs.

Previously, Lu Yuan had not used this technique because there were also Human Clan members among the Evil Dogs and if the Evil Dog female disciple sensed unfavorable circumstances and used Instant Teleportation to leave, the situation would become uncontrollable.

The Ran Sect members were elites among elites, and most had anticipated this point.

Lu Yuan abstained from acting, and Luo Ying similarly refrained from issuing orders.

However, the Sect Master did not let them wait long, within mere lines of dialogue, the Evil Dog female disciple was already slaughtered!

And now, this female disciple was within a ball of black mist, held in Lu Ran's palm.

"You! You all actually... Ahhh! Ahhh..."

This time, the Evil Dog female disciple couldn't finish her sentence.

Dim Soul Fire ignited, her stern questioning transformed into pitiful wailing.

Lu Ran's expression was gloomy; with one hand he burned the soul, while with the other he wielded the Divine Weapon belonging to the Evil Dog female disciple, slaughtering one Evil Dog after another amidst the lush flowers.

The woman's shrill screams naturally attracted the enemy.

Now the battlefield situation had changed, with seven or eight Faceless Jade Venerables approaching the battlefield center.

Ensuring Deng Yuxiang's safety was naturally the utmost priority!

Thus, Lu Ran did not silence the imprisoned Dead Soul; instead, he made the Soul Fire in his hand burn even fiercer:

"Scream!"

"Ah! Ahhh..." The Evil Dog female disciple suffered unprecedeted torment, her piercing screams drawing enemy attention.

The more Faceless Jade Venerables attacked Lu Ran, the less pressure on his allies.

"Behave!" Lu Ran unexpectedly clenched the sword hilt, menacingly uttered a word, and judging the moment, threw the seized Divine Weapon out, [Yan Chou, it's yours!]

"Snap."

Yan Chou, flying through the clouds, caught the sword hilt: [Thanks to the Young Master for granting the sword!]

[Bring the Ancient Copper Coin from the wrist of the Nightmare Guardian.] Lu Ran had no intention to immediately consume this Dead Soul, as he needed to interrogate.

This woman has pursued for so long, the God Demon faction should already know of the mysterious team (Ran Sect squad)'s existence.

Lu Ran needed to ascertain the current actions of the God Demons.

[Understood!] Yan Chou's figure shuttled away and disappeared.

The Faceless Jade Venerables in hot pursuit behind him momentarily lost their prey, their brows furrowing in annoyance.

The battlefield environment severely restricted this clan.

The several Ran Sect warriors also lacked Perception Techniques, but they all had Magic Artifacts by their side, allowing them to lock onto living beings within a hundred meters radius.

The Faceless Jade Venerables had no Magical Treasures, hearing only a continuous scream of a Human Clan woman.

Extremely shrill, continuing unabated...

...

Chapter 905: Embers

Faster!

Even faster!

Deng Yuxiang gripped the knife handle tightly, growing increasingly anxious inside.

The longer the Divine Weapon's upgrade took, every extra second increased Lu Ran's danger! She knew she should focus entirely on guiding the Divine Weapon's upgrade.

Easy to say!

Since the battle began, Deng Yuxiang had been led by Luo Ying, flying up and down, dodging left and right.

The questions from the Evil Dog female disciple made Deng Yuxiang furious!

The enemy was indeed catching up at such a critical moment, quite the timing...

As it turned out, you could always trust Lu Ran!

Even if the opponent was a Heavenly Realm Evil Dog disciple, he could still take them down with force!

Deng Yuxiang listened to the cold words of a strange woman turn into shrill screams, her heart filled with delight!

Just as one wave settled, another arose; more and more Faceless Jade Venerables emerged from within the mist...

"Buzz!"

The Night-slaying Great Saber trembled slightly.

Deng Yuxiang gripped the knife handle tightly, holding her breath, desperately seeking an outcome with the Divine Weapon.

First Divine Weapon Domain · Endless Night, could extend the broken blade into a 28-meter-long blade body.

The "Night" of the Night-cutting Blade originally symbolized the fifteenth night in the Human World.

Now, having ascended to the Heavenly Realm and step by step becoming a god, the "Endless Night" in her Divine Weapon Domain symbolized the rule of God Demons.

She compared the over forty years of Human Enslavement and Oppression to a dark, endless night.

As long as night does not end,

battles will continue!

In the breakthrough direction of one person and one blade, the concept of the second Divine Weapon Domain was rooted in the first, only with a stronger, sharper blade body.

Still following the principle of six words:

Night does not end, battles will continue!

"Buzz!!"

The Night-cutting Blade trembled violently under the influence of the Master of Divine Weapon's perception, climbing upwards with vigorous momentum.

A gust of wind blasted outward!

Deng Yuxiang's long black hair swung in the wind, moving with a beautiful rhythm, interspersed with faint smoke-blue silk, overwhelmingly beautiful.

Third-tier Divine Weapon · Night-slaying Great Saber!

"Crack!!"

The ear-piercing sound of cracking awakened both the weapon and the master.

On the battlefield not far away, Lu Ran shattered a Faceless Jade Venerable with a strike and suddenly turned his head to the right.

[Success!]

At that instant, Deng Yuxiang's voice imprinted in Lu Ran's mind.

Finally!

Quarter hour after quarter hour, all time had passed, and the massive weapon had finally come together.

[Retreat.] Lu Ran immediately transmitted the command, [I'm heading to your side now, don't resist, enter my gourd.]

With the Divine Weapon's upgrade complete, the phenomena would gradually dissipate. Once the dense fog cleared, the Faceless Jade Venerable's combat power would certainly surge.

[The surrounding enemies are numerous, let me strike once!] Deng Yuxiang said resolutely.

Before her voice faded, the Night-slaying Great Saber in her hand erupted with astonishing energy.

She saw the broken blade rapidly growing, becoming increasingly colossal.

Just as Lu Ran put away Wei Yun, they saw the infinitely extending blade in the Big Nightmare's hand.

meters?

No, it seemed to be heading towards 280 meters!

Interestingly, the Night-slaying Great Saber's handle remained at a regular specification, easily gripped by its master.

But from the blade onward, nothing was right anymore.

"Ahhh!" Deng Yuxiang stood mid-air, letting out a passionate battle roar.

Usually a calm and composed warrior, she was often silent during battles.

Now, her uncharacteristic outburst saw the Magic Artifact · Blood Jade Ring on her finger splatter with deep crimson luster, empowering the mistress with violent strength.

"Hoo!!"

Deng Yuxiang swung the blade horizontally, spinning her body and lashing fiercely.

The blade body, assembled from pure energy, resembled the Tianchen Steel material of the Night-slaying Blade, but with even sharper cold light.

A frigid moon suddenly appeared!

Where the cold light passed, the sound of shattering jade echoed incessantly.

"Crack! Crack..."

As Lu Ran put Wu Xiao into the gourd, they couldn't help but smirk.

Was it always this domineering?!

The Faceless Jade Venerables struck by the blade had their jade stone skin genuinely shattered!

The Divine Weapon Domain · Endless Night inherently had potent Armor-Piercing traits.

Now, this domain had garnered comprehensive enhancement!

Just one strike could maim the enemy!

Sigh~

Such a Big Nightmare!

No wonder it's the sharpest blade I envisioned holding!

Quick, return, everything around you has been cleared out.

"Get in." Lu Ran's figure flickered as he picked up the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd, aiming it at Deng Yuxiang, Luo Ying, and Lu Yuan.

The fog was about to dissipate.

At this point, there seemed to be no end to the enemies.

Within an 800-meter radius, numerous Faceless Jade Venerables appeared, and outside the fog, a continuous stream of enemies surged in.

Wanting to eliminate them all was clearly impossible.

Through this battle, the presence of the Ran Sect team was bound to be exposed.

Well... we'll just have to take it one step at a time.

Lu Ran early transformed into invisibility, bringing Yan Chou into the gourd, then collected a few dead souls, and immediately flickered away.

The mist gradually dispersed.

The petty figures within the mist had vanished without a trace.

The battlefield, once fiercely contested, fell into an eerie silence.

Only faceless Jade Venerables lingered, some flying in the air, others standing on peaks, surveying the realm.

Most of their eyes were cold, with not a few bearing expressions of anger.

There was a sense of being mocked by the petty humans.

Each faceless Jade Venerable unfurled their jade robes, letting their thick hair spread in the air, to maximize their area of contact in search of compatriots' dead souls, continually inhaling them into their bodies.

On the battlefield, no one spoke.

Only the sound of jade robes fluttering could be heard.

This was undoubtedly a great defeat! The only consolation being that the humans had not succeeded in advancing to the Heavenly Realm-Second Layer.

The human team evidently had no strength left to resist further, having to halt miserably and give up on advancing.

From this point on, this human's life would struggle to progress any further.

Of course, there was another possibility: it wasn't a human believer advancing, but a Divine Weapon advancing.

At the thought of this possibility...

A few faceless Jade Venerables' aloof and cold faces turned somewhat fierce.

Meanwhile, to the east of the Fiery Fire Divine Mountain.

Inside a large stone peak.

"Ugh." Lu Ran leaned against the stone wall, and with a thought, the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd at his waist spat out a figure.

As soon as the woman appeared, she reached out to steady Lu Ran's arm, whispering, "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Lu Ran shook his head.

Deng Yuxiang looked complicated: "Was it worth it?"

"What?"

"This time with the Night-cutting Blade's upgrade... our existence has entered the faceless Jade Venerables' sight."

"It was bound to happen." Lu Ran waved his hand.

Constantly standing by the river, how can one not get their shoes wet?

Ran Sect has at least two teams roaming the Heavenly Realm, they were bound to be discovered.

But the opportunity for the Divine Weapon upgrade was only this once! Missed it and it's gone.

Just now, Deng Yuxiang displayed the Divine Weapon Domain and also used action to show Lu Ran that what he did was worth it.

Lu Ran suddenly said, "The scale of the God Demon Stone Sculptures is about two to three hundred meters."

"So?" Deng Yuxiang was puzzled.

Lu Ran suddenly smiled, "Using your Night-slaying Great Saber to chop would be just right."

Deng Yuxiang looked at the young man's smiling eyes and nodded gently: "Yes."

Indeed so!

"By the way." Lu Ran took out an Ancient Copper Coin, handing it to the other, "Inside is the dead soul of that Evil Dog female disciple, you should investigate thoroughly."

Deng Yuxiang took the Rebirth Money, her expression becoming more solemn.

It now seemed that the God Demon faction probably already knew of their existence, just unclear how much intelligence the Evil Dog female disciple gathered.

"You lead the team back to Holy Spirit Mountain first, find Niu Zhengzheng, and interrogate together." Lu Ran added.

Deng Yuxiang realized that Lu Ran intended for everyone to lay low for a while.

Indeed, Lu Ran continued, "I'll go find the first squad, and bring them back as well."

Deng Yuxiang immediately said, "Let's go back together, why open the Transmission Mirror twice?"

Lu Ran tapped his temple, "After this battle, the Wuya Stone Sculpture should be close to upgrading too. I'll stay around the Divine Mountain for a few more days and return then."

Speaking, Lu Ran called out an Ancient Bronze Mirror: "You go back first for the interrogation, and contact me any time."

"Alright." Deng Yuxiang nodded in agreement.

The Landing Mirror tore through space, rapidly forming.

Deng Yuxiang stepped through, and Lu Ran also guided the gourd into the mirror, releasing everyone inside, before withdrawing his arm and closing the Landing Mirror.

Subsequently, Lu Ran contacted the Ran Sect's first squad, temporarily halting their mission.

More than a month of fighting had brought ample harvests to the Fake Gods.

Among them, Chang Ying of the Sea Realm, though unable to grow by devouring dead souls, had transformed after over a month of war tempering.

That was the spirit and demeanor only possessed by a life-and-death warrior — a unique tenacity and decisiveness.

Lu Ran wasn't sure if what he did was akin to forcefully nurturing a plant, but seeing Chang Ying again... she truly seemed like a big shot!

That charisma was something that contemporaries like Deng Yutang, Bai Manni, and Tian Tian could not compare to.

Lu Ran sighed with emotion, also storing the first squad within the gourd, then proceeded as planned to the vicinity of the Divine Mountain to seize resources.

Until days later, the Wuya Stone Sculpture within the Sculpture Garden began to tremble, he could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

Finally able to return!

Before leaving, Lu Ran specifically contacted Huangfu Zhao to check on him.

Within the First Layer of Heaven, Lu Ran's communication with the Magic Artifact-Ink Jade Tiger Talisman was clearer, but communication might become vague after returning to the Holy Spirit Mountain.

Unexpectedly, Huangfu brought both good news and many bad news.

[You say, only the Leng brothers, Leng Tianxing and Leng Tianyue, survived?] Lu Ran's face looked grim.

Of the old constituents of the Cloud Sea, only 6 remained.

After Huangfu Zhao's extensive search, only 2 were found alive?

[Young Master, of the remaining four, three dead, one missing.] The Tiger Talisman conveyed Huangfu Zhao's words, tinged with sadness.

Lu Ran tightly clenched the handle of the Cloud Sea Sword.

Politely calling it missing, but everyone knew what it meant.

Less than one in ten of the old Cloud Sea faction?

Far more!

Huangfu Zhao, Yan Chou, Wuya, the Leng siblings, and the imprisoned Xiang Wang.

Only six remained.

The once towering flames now reduced to mere embers.

How could he explain this to his mother?

...

Chapter 906: Piling Up Gods

Tianya Haijiao, rare to find a moment of clarity.

Inside the hall of Tianya Residence, Lu Ran and Jiang Ruyi sat on the Taishi chair at the upper end, both appearing pensive.

On one side below the hall sat Deng Yuxiang and Yu Changsheng.

Additionally, Niu Zhengzheng stood in the center of the hall, holding a black mist in his hands, within it the face of a woman appeared.

Just a few days ago, this Evil Dog female disciple was questioning Lu Ran insistently, determined to destroy the Ran Sect team, but now she was docile and submissive.

After several days of interrogation, she had already spilled all the information.

The situation was unexpectedly good!

The Evil Dog female disciple had discovered the existence of the Ran Sect team early, but she never reported it to Evil God.

This was completely unexpected by everyone.

The female disciple did not report, on the one hand for selfish ambition, but more due to the cruel nature of Evil God Evil Dog!

Communicating with Evil God requires immense courage; if you can't make sense of things, you're likely to be viciously abused.

Fear drove the female disciple to collect more information before reporting to the master.

However, the Ran Sect team's movements were elusive, forcing the female disciple to delay again and again.

Lu Ran also learned that in this Evil Dog team, there was originally a male disciple who couldn't stand the constant delay and feared punishment from Evil God, and couldn't help but want to report.

Then, the Evil Dog male disciple died.

He was secretly killed by the female disciple, even his soul was "offered" to Faceless Jade Venerable, fearing his dead soul would go to Evil God to complain...

Upon hearing this news, Lu Ran's hair stood on end.

This woman is truly ruthless!

Lu Ran had thought he was used to the filth of the world, but the appearance of the Evil Dog female disciple taught him another lesson.

How vile can human nature be?

"What kind of abuse?" Lu Ran asked, "What made you so fearful?"

In the black mist, the Evil Dog female disciple showed a look of terror, as if recalling something.

"Answer the question!" Niu Zhengzheng rudely ordered loudly.

"The... master will inject energy into our bodies, disrupting my flesh... meridians, putting us on the brink of explosion and death, repeatedly tortured, listening to our screams... for amusement."

The Evil Dog female disciple stammered as she spoke.

Lu Ran nodded silently, he also possessed such methods.

He could also command the stone sculptures in the garden, through the master-servant contract, to inject a large amount of Divine Power into the bodies of Ran Sect disciples, causing their bodies to be in chaos.

Such a conduct would cause the disciples to endure extreme pain.

Back when Ran Sect was based at Cloud Sea Cliff, Lu Ran had experimented on the Hall Master of Feixian Hall, Song Yu.

Lu Ran hadn't gone all out, but Hall Master Song still turned pale, trembling and collapsed on the ground, powerless to resist.

If Lu Ran had been more ruthless, the torture method would have turned into a killing method, Song Yu, being someone from River Realm, wouldn't be able to withstand that magnitude of Divine Power and his body would be completely blown apart.

"Sometimes, the master will also personally descend..."

"Descend?" Jiang Ruyi suddenly spoke.

"Yes, the master's remnant image will personally descend on an Evil Dog minion, tearing human clan disciples apart." The female disciple's voice grew smaller, trembling, "There was once a human clan disciple who was eaten alive by the master..."

Lu Ran furrowed his brow.

The picture in his mind was of a wild dog brutally tearing apart human clans.

"Eating alive" such cases are considered routine operations for Evil Demons.

A significant portion of Evil Demon minions won't directly kill humans, but instead will try to prolong their death time as much as possible, making people watch with their own eyes how they're being consumed.

Letting people die little by little in endless despair and pain.

In these circumstances, the extreme emotions people can provide make the Evil Demons more excited and delighted.

"Since this is the case, why do you still serve Evil Dog?" Jiang Ruyi said coldly.

The woman in the mist opened her mouth, after a long while, she lowered her eyes and said: "Evil Dog Evil Skill is the most... top-tier survival technique."

Indeed.

Evil Sense, Evil Sensitivity, especially Evil Shadow Flash.

On the Heavenly Realm battlefield, possessing Instant Teleportation Technique is tantamount to standing undefeated.

For this series of techniques, the risk is worth taking.

At the entrance of the hall, Yan Shuangzi, hiding her figure, sighed softly in her heart.

Others who want to have all this, need to take enormous risks, day and night with ferocious beasts, living in constant fear, and must devote all to serve.

Having all this for herself, it only took asking someone once...

"Anyway, the current situation is much better than we imagined." Deng Yuxiang sat in the chair, gently tapping the armrest with her fingertips.

She continued: "But exposure is inevitable, we must prepare mentally and think ahead of countermeasures."

Yu Changsheng sighed lightly: "Apart from the word 'strength', there is no other solution."

The people in the room nodded in agreement.

Yu Changsheng looked at Lu Ran and asked: "Sect Leader, how is your cultivation?"

"Quite good." Lu Ran carefully sensed his own body, "Cultivation is going relatively smoothly, the flesh and blood body moving closer to a Pure Energy Body."

Since entering the Heavenly Realm, the cultivation indicators have changed.

The essence of cultivation for the Human Clan before the Sea Realm is to use Divine Power to nourish the body, strengthen the flesh and bones, continuously enhance physical strength, and expand the body container.

After reaching the Heavenly Realm, the Human Clan must transform the existential nature of the body!

However, Lu Ran is still unclear about the extent to which his physical body needs to be transformed to reach the threshold of the Heavenly Realm's second level and what percentage is required.

The only thing he knows is that he started his advancement mode and entered the Heavenly Realm on the eighth day of the eighth month last year.

It's been more than half a year since then.

"That's good," Yu Changsheng lightly shook his paper fan, "Next time when ascending to the heavens, Sect Leader can station next to another Divine Mountain to keep an eye out and focus on cultivation."

"Hmm."

"Sect Leader, can we perhaps concentrate resources to nurture a few Pseudo God Stone Sculptures?" Yu Changsheng laid enough groundwork, then shifted the topic.

Lu Ran turned his gaze and listened to Yu Changsheng continue, "Once a third-level Pseudo God comes forth, the Ran Sect squad will naturally have more confidence fighting in the Heavenly Realm.

This mindset could also be applied in our future struggles against the Divine Demon itself."

Lu Ran nodded slightly, "Does Mr. Cong Long have any suitable candidates?"

The biggest risk of this strategy is that those sharing interests might have thoughts.

As the saying goes, "Do not worry about scarcity but uneven distribution!"

However, the uniqueness of the Ran Sect provides a possibility for this approach.

The Master of Ran Sect possesses absolute influence and personal charisma. Under his leadership, the warriors are united and wholeheartedly dedicated.

In truth, this tendency can be seen as early as in the distribution of Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts within the Ran Sect.

The importance of Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts to the warriors is self-evident.

When the Ran Sect waged war in the Mountain Realm, they acquired many Magical Treasures, and Lu Ran personally decided all rewards and distributions, giving to whomever he wished.

It is never distributed based on labor but needs.

The disciples never complain, as it is all for the benefit of the entire Ran Sect.

Hmm... It may appear that Lu Ran wields power arbitrarily, ruling with an iron hand, but he actually handles it well, as he never hoards anything for himself, and all Magical Treasures are awarded to the disciples.

To this day, the few knives and swords Lu Ran carries, the Magic Artifact Gourd, and the Tiger Talisman were either brought by him or gifted by others.

None were seized.

Perhaps this is one of the invisible factors that enable Lu Ran to win the crowd's trust?

"The first and second-class Pseudo Gods are all good candidates that the Sect Leader can choose from at will," Yu Changsheng offered a broad selection.

"Hmm." Lu Ran nodded thoughtfully.

"When Protector Xian'er is promoted to the Heavenly Realm, we can focus on nurturing, paving the way for new talents," Yu Changsheng continued.

Getting a special mention from the strategist speaks volumes about the quality.

Even though the first and second-class Pseudo Gods within the Ran Sect are powerful, the inheritor of the Seventh-Class God, Lie Tian, is undoubtedly the strongest output!

"Da, da, da..."

Deng Yuxiang's fingertips lightly tapped on the armrest of the chair.

Lu Ran was surprised to find it matched his own heartbeat rhythm, as if her fingers were tapping directly on his heart.

She began to speak slowly, her voice full of magnetism, "Carefully select and concentrate resources to nurture several warriors who can genuinely threaten the Divine Demon.

As long as we can slay one Divine Demon, we can slay a group."

"That's quite right," Lu Ran agreed, having thought about this before.

Suddenly, Deng Yuxiang stood up, took a big step to the center of the hall, and solemnly kneeled on one knee, bowing her head, "I earnestly request the Sect Leader give me this opportunity!"

As the Ran Sect's first protector, it was natural for her to take on the heavy responsibility!

"You may." Lu Ran's reply was equally straightforward.

As the inheritor of North Wind-Night Charm, Deng Yuxiang possessed enough output capability, excellent control methods, and formidable mobility.

Both publicly and privately, she deserved to be given special focus in nurturing!

Yu Changsheng lightly shook his paper fan, seemingly already anticipating this scene.

He also stood up, clasped his hands in respect, and said, "Sect Leader, our group of pseudo-gods all have the ability to mobilize the Holy Spirit Energy within us."

Lu Ran was moved, "What does Mr. Cong Long mean?"

Yu Changsheng smiled and said, "Why not try it now? Under the premise of not falling from the Heavenly Realm's second level, we can give all our excess Holy Spirit Energy to Nightmare Guardian."

Lu Ran could not help but raise an eyebrow.

Mobilizing the entire Ran Sect's pseudo-gods to try to pile up a third-level Pseudo God Stone Sculpture?

Origin Energy could indeed be transferred.

Once upon a time, in Beifeng City of the Human World, when Lord Immortal Sheep came to the rescue, he bestowed a lot of Origin Energy upon the North Wind, saving Lu Ran and Deng Yuxiang from death.

"It can be tried." Lu Ran waved to Niu Zhengzheng.

Niu Zhengzheng stepped forward, and at the Sect Leader's signal, dispersed the black mist.

Lu Ran absorbed the Dead Soul into his pupils, allowing the Nightmare Stone Sculpture to feast.

Deng Yuxiang pursed her lips.

It's said that ascending to the third level of the Heavenly Realm requires a million pure Holy Spirit Energy!

There's no telling if the Ran Sect's warriors fighting in the Heavenly Realm for so long can enable her own advancement?

...

Chapter 907: 8.51 Million Kills?

In the God Demon Sculpture Garden, Lu Ran stood in the palm of the Nightmare Stone Sculpture, looking up at the face of the goddess statue.

All around, huge stone sculptures stood in the same manner.

They were all soldiers of the Ran Sect, who had, under Lu Ran's orders, donated the Holy Spirit Energy to the Nightmare Stone Sculpture, ensuring they didn't lose rank.

The garden was silent at this moment, a group of Fake Gods waiting for a result.

Yet, there was no reaction from the Nightmare Stone Sculpture.

"Sigh..." A sigh was heard as the Nightmare Stone Sculpture opened its eyes, looking apologetically at Lu Ran.

It seemed things hadn't gone as hoped, and she couldn't open the door to the Heavenly Realm Third Level.

"The Origin Energy is still insufficient," Lu Ran murmured.

"No matter." Another huge stone hand reached over, its long fingers touching the palm of the Nightmare.

There aren't many in the Ran Sect who dare to touch Deng Yuxiang's hand, not to mention "snatching" someone.

Yan Shuangzi could reluctantly be counted as one, and Jiang Ruyi definitely as another.

Lu Ran understood, flying to Jiang Ruyi's fingers and letting her bring him before her face.

"A million Holy Spirit Energy, sounds impressive, but it's just equivalent to ten thousand God Demon underlings," Jiang Ruyi slowly turned her finger, the pad facing up.

Lu Ran: "..."

Just equivalent to ten thousand?

You little Ruyi, you really don't take the enemy seriously...

But Lu Ran couldn't say much, after all, Immortal Jiang was the captain and commander of the first team of the Ran Sect, having fought in the Heavenly Realm Battlefield for over a month.

No casualties and quite good results.

Immortal Jiang's calculations had no issues at all: One Heavenly Realm Dead Soul equals about one hundred River Realm Dead Souls, equating to one hundred wisps of Holy Spirit Energy.

To cultivate from Heavenly Realm Second Level to Third Level indeed requires ten thousand Heavenly Realm Dead Souls.

Ten thousand cuts?!

On this path to Becoming a God, it's indeed littered with bones and a sea of blood.

"Everyone, return," Jiang Ruyi glanced around, offering encouragement, "Next time we battle in the Heavenly Realm, make sure to strive harder."

"Yes!"

"Yes," the Fake Gods agreed and left one by one.

Deng Yuxiang mumbled, "Reaching the Heavenly Realm Third Level means we can challenge the Divine Demon physically, right?"

"Not quite sure." Lu Ran shook his head, "Perhaps it's simply having the capacity to pose a threat.

To truly confront Divine Demons, we need a sufficient number of Heavenly Realm Third Level Fake Gods."

Jiang Ruyi agreed with Lu Ran's assessment, admonishing Deng Yuxiang with words: "We indeed need to make comprehensive preparations, better an excess of power than a lack of it.

Once the bowstring is drawn, there's no turning back.

If we fail the challenge, it will be the end for us."

Deng Yuxiang respectfully answered, "Yes, Lady."

This was hardly a private setting, with Deng Yuxiang standing in the second row of the Divine Camp, surrounded by Ran Sect soldiers.

Lu Ran tapped Immortal Jiang's fingertip, as a greeting, before his figure disappeared.

At Tianya Residence, inside the hall.

Lu Ran opened his eyes, scanning the few people in the room, "Rest and recover, I'll take Yin Yan and Feng Yan to merge with the stone sculptures."

Everyone took their leave, Lu Ran then turned to look at Immortal Jiang beside him, "Wait for me at home?"

"I'll go with you, easier to bring you back." Jiang Ruyi smiled softly, "Merging with three stone sculptures simultaneously, you'll turn into a fool, right?"

"Watch your words!" Lu Ran rolled his eyes, telepathically commanding several people to come over.

"Hehe~" Jiang Ruyi couldn't help but laugh.

Unexpectedly, Lu Ran suddenly blurted, "When you bring me back, don't even think about a princess carry!"

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

Lu Ran muttered, "Aren't I a young man in my twenties, with some dignity."

Jiang Ruyi's expression was odd, "Then should I use the Enchantment Array to pull your soul, getting you to come back with me?"

The Evil Technique Enchantment Array, is a skill of the Ghost Talisman Doll clan.

Those ensnared would experience "Ghost Hitting the Wall," roaming aimlessly in the Illusion Realm like headless flies.

In reality, those ensnared would move within an array formed by black talismans.

Like a donkey turning a mill, unable to escape the small circle.

The caster can also control the black talismans (Enchantment Array) to move, enabling manipulation of the ensnared person's movements.

This technique is rather advanced.

The Ghost Talisman Dolls are tender children, aged three to four, with very low intellect; even in the Sea Realm, the Ghost Talisman Dolls rarely use this skill.

Evidently, when the God Demon divided, that rascal Jade Talisman didn't spare the Ghost Talisman Dolls from harm.

"Is your heart made of ice?" Lu Ran looked unsatisfied.

The stone sculpture trembled in his mind, and he was already tormented enough. Did Immortal Jiang have to enchant him too?

Jiang Ruyi smiled, "It's very effective. Many of the God Demon minions were caught in the Enchantment Array on the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, awaiting slaughter... I mean, waiting for me to send them home."

Lu Ran shivered, "Forget it, I won't need you to do it, I'll let Shuangzi handle it..."

Jiang Ruyi raised an eyebrow slightly, "Hmm?"

"Ahem." Lu Ran coughed awkwardly, just as Qin Yanzhi entered the hall, Lu Ran quickly stood up to greet him, "General Qin is here, long time no see!"

Qin Yanzhi: ?

I live in your mind... and we just met in the Sculpture Garden, didn't we?

The sudden enthusiasm left Qin Yanzhi bewildered, unsure where to place his hands.

Behind, Jiang Ruyi looked silently at someone's back.

Her slender hand fell, touching the Magic Artifact at her waist, the Immortal Binding Whip...

With the arrival of Yin Yan and Feng Yan, Lu Ran led the team to Mo Gu Peak, expertly guiding them to merge with the Fake God Stone Sculptures.

This time General Qin accompanied them, naturally sparing Lu Ran from having to hold it all together.

After the task was completed, he decisively played the fool, acting as a carefree boss.

When Lu Ran regained consciousness, it was already two days later, during dusk. He lay on the large bed in the bedroom of Tianya Residence, with a figure sleeping soundly beside him.

"Uh." Lu Ran rubbed his temples and groggily sent a mental message, [Evil Shadow?]

[Master.]

Yan Shuangzi originally thought Lu Ran would ask how many days it had been, but to her surprise, he asked:

[How did I get back?]

Yan Shuangzi stifled a laugh and softly said, [Lady used the Immortal Binding Whip to tie you up and brought you back.]

Lu Ran: "..."

Little Ruyi, quite interesting... uh, quite a move?

Won't let me hug, won't let me use the Enchantment Array, so she tied me up with a whip to bring me back?

Lu Ran turned his head to look at the beautiful woman sleeping sweetly in her dreams.

After merging with the stone sculptures, even the fake gods no longer needed sleep, but this body was still in human form, so a nap or two wasn't a problem.

Lu Ran's gaze dropped down to her soft lips.

He didn't hesitate long before he pressed his lips on them.

"Mmm..." Immortal Jiang suddenly opened her eyes. Moments later, her cold eyes softened with a hint of reproach, then slowly closed again.

Only, she suddenly thought of something and slightly turned her head: "Evil Shadow is still... still there, right?"

Lu Ran propped his hands on either side of her body, looking down at her flushed face with a somewhat strange expression: "Things are different now. She's an Evil Dog-Greedy Wolf hybrid now.

Even if she said she left, intentionally hiding without going, we wouldn't know, right?"

"You!" Jiang Ruyi curled her fingers, annoyed and amused, knocking on his forehead.

So you just gave up?

Lu Ran slightly lifted his head and said, "Why don't you go rest?"

[Yes.]

"Alright, she's gone." Lu Ran looked down at the immortal beneath him, then added, "Maybe."

Jiang Ruyi rolled her eyes gently at Lu Ran, pushing him away with one hand: "If you're not sure, then forget it."

"Uh?" Lu Ran's face stiffened, really wanting to slap himself.

This damned mouth of mine~

Lu Ran quickly said, "No! Sister Shuangzi must have left; she's very obedient!"

Seeing his frantic appearance, Jiang Ruyi couldn't help but chuckle softly, as she got up and leaned against the bedhead: "Let's talk later; it's almost dark."

Lu Ran: "..."

You better have something to say to me!

The fact is, Lu Ran did understand Jiang Ruyi well. With more soldiers from the Ran Sect ascending to the Heavenly Realm, she also began planning the formation of the third squadron.

Now the Ran Sect has decided to concentrate power on nurturing a few stone sculptures, elevating them to the third level of the Heavenly Realm.

If three squadrons could seize resources in the Heavenly Realm, the speed of cultivating fake gods would naturally be faster!

"Let's wait for Mr. Huangfu's news." Lu Ran also leaned on the bedhead, thoughtfully analyzing, "As long as the Huangfu siblings and the Leng siblings join the team, the third squad's DPS will be sufficient."

More than sufficient?

It would be top-tier!

Jiang Ruyi naturally trusted the abilities of the Cloud Sea veterans.

She even thought that the second stone sculpture, to be completely focused on by the Ran Sect, should be Mr. Huangfu!

Huangfu Zhao has battled in the Heavenly Realm for so many years; how abundant is his combat experience?

As the future inheritor of the Dong Ting-Purple Thunder Demon Roc, Huangfu Zhao has enough DPS, powerful control, and the top speed in the world.

Such a person is undoubtedly the Ran Sect's best choice for opening a situation and their first strike against the God Demon!

Jiang Ruyi expressed her thoughts, earning Lu Ran's continual nodding in agreement.

She then continued, "In the third squadron, Evil Shadow can serve as a scout and advance warning... uh, are you planning on putting Manni in the squad?"

Lu Ran nodded readily, "Manni is also in the Sea Realm; the squad's strength is strong enough to protect her, but as for the teleporter..."

In the Da Xia God Demon system, only the Dust Shadow Flower-Evil Mirror Demon has the teleportation skill.

Looks like, we'll need to pull another disciple from the Ran Sect into the formation.

And this person can only become a believer of Dust Shadow or Evil Mirror Demon, with no inheritor qualifications.

As Lu Ran thought about it, he suddenly said, "Ruyi, later I want to return to the human world."

"Return?"

"Yes, I want to seek some advice from my mother on cultivation issues. In this world, perhaps only she can enlighten me."

Having said that, the smile on Lu Ran's face gradually faded, and he sighed softly, "Moreover, her old units from the Cloud Sea are all gathered..."

Jiang Ruyi naturally sensed the bitterness in his heart.

She nestled next to Lu Ran, slightly tilting her head to rest on his shoulder: "Tell her after the old units have joined the Ran Sect, there are still a few who haven't rejoined."

Lu Ran was silent for a long time before nodding, "Alright."

This shouldn't count as evasion, right?

Little Ruyi made sense; a few haven't returned yet. If Lu Ran spoke to his mother prematurely, if any mishaps occurred, it would hurt her a second time.

It's unnecessary.

Jiang Ruyi changed the topic, "Should we take this opportunity to bring the two grandfathers from the Cheng Family into the Ran Sect?"

Cheng Yi and Cheng Li are both first-generation battle sheep, both in the Sea Realm. Ever since a few years ago, the two old men benefited from the blessing of the gods, thanks to Lu Jiang, and their strength steadily increased.

Cheng Yi should be at the second rank of the Sea Realm, while Cheng Li is even more formidable, having reached the fourth rank of the Sea Realm!

Lu Ran pondered, "We don't need to bring them to the Holy Spirit Mountain. We can provide the two elders with a stone sculpture, preparing for the future. Let them continue under Lord Immortal Sheep's protection for mountain guarding and cultivation."

Jiang Ruyi thought aloud, "Then, what type of stone sculpture do you plan to let them inherit?"

That's a good question!

So, what to choose?

...

Chapter 908: Reunion Under the Moon

Human World Da Xia·Luoxian Mountain.

Under the moonlight, the Erhai Lake shimmered beautifully, intoxicatingly.

Within the Luoxian Pavilion, a young man in a broad white robe leaned against a pavilion post, gazing distantly at the long-unseen beauty, lost in thought.

Behind him, a phantom of a woman stood, speaking softly:

"Ranran, is there something you'd like to say to your mother?"

"How have you been lately?" Lu Ran asked softly, without turning around.

Indeed, the ethereal Qiao Wanju was merely the Cloud Sea Sword Spirit. She had always been by Lu Ran's side, aware of what he was hiding, yet Lu Ran still hesitated to look at her.

"Not bad," the woman replied softly.

"Has your Jinghong Peak become a Spirit Mountain?" Lu Ran asked about his mother's circumstances.

The implication was to inquire whether the avatar of Divine-Sword One had descended upon Jinghong Peak. He naturally remembered his mother's long-standing wish to lead a Spirit Mountain.

"No," Qiao Wanju shook her head, "Sword One never came."

Lu Ran frowned slightly, "I've always had a question: since the God Demon did this to you, why do you still revere Sword One so much? Insisting on becoming the Peak Master of Jinghong Peak?"

Qiao Wanju had been harmed by the God Demon; shouldn't she hate the God Demon intensely?

Apart from her personally, just her heart's creation, the Cloud Sea Sect, had been ravaged by the God Demon to such an extent that she should be irreconcilable with the God Demon!

But Lu Ran remembered that during the three years living in Beijing, every New Year's Day, his mother would take him and Little Yuanxi to worship and offer incense at Sword Heaven City where Lord Jian Yi resided.

Lu Ran could understand this as a mere formal gesture, his mother compromising for the sake of her children.

But he also remembered his mother repeatedly requesting, hoping Lord Jian Yi would take her children as disciples.

The then Lu Ran understood nothing, thought it was a mother humbling herself, earnestly pleading for her children's future prospects.

And now Lu Ran knew much more, so Qiao Wanju's behavior...

Is this right?

"Sword One is not quite as you imagine," Qiao Wanju said softly.

"Not quite?" Lu Ran frowned deeper.

"The affairs of this world are not simply black or white," Qiao Wanju stepped forward, standing shoulder to shoulder with Lu Ran, gazing at the moonlit Erhai Lake.

"Sword One she..." Lu Ran's face was astonished as he turned to look at the woman's profile.

"She certainly confined me to Beijing," Qiao Wanju stood with her hands behind her back, speaking lightly, "but from another perspective, this was also to protect me."

Lu Ran slightly opened his mouth, nearly thinking he misheard.

Qiao Wanju smiled, "Do you think, the simple term 'God Demon' can encompass an entire group?"

Lu Ran very much wanted to say yes.

But rationality, stopped his words.

"Every stone sculpture is an independent entity; they have thoughts, personalities, and naturally make some of their own choices."

"Then... why would Lord Jian Yi protect you?"

"Perhaps her majesty is unassailable, her servants are not others' to meddle with? Or perhaps, I still have some use."

Qiao Wanju turned her head, her beautiful eyes looking straight at Lu Ran, jokingly said, "Could it be because she also couldn't tolerate certain things?"

Lu Ran wasn't sure if his mother was really joking.

He also didn't know what exactly had transpired over the twenty-odd years between his mother and Sword One, the nature of their relationship.

From the perspective of Lu Ran, this "outsider," he leaned more towards Qiao Wanju still having some use.

It's not that Lu Ran had a dirty mind, but he had seen too many lies and deceptions.

And also seen too much filth and ugliness.

Qiao Wanju still has value, can be used!

This should be the correct explanation.

Qiao Wanju raised her hand, gently tidying Lu Ran's hair, regretfully, her phantom fingers passed through his strands: "According to most God Demons' ideals, I shouldn't be alive."

Lu Ran nodded silently.

Qiao Wanju suddenly said, "You found the Cloud Sea disciple."

Lu Ran: "..."

Before returning, he had asked the Cloud Sea Sword to conceal this matter, but the Sword Spirit did not explicitly agree.

At that time, the Sword Spirit did exactly the same motion, phantom hand arranging Lu Ran's hair.

"Ranran?"

"I... I found Huangfu, Wuya, heard news of the Leng Family siblings, still investigating," Lu Ran organized his words, unwilling to deceive his mother, yet not wanting to speak too bluntly.

He wasn't sure if the Sword Spirit had told his mother.

After all, Qiao Wanju was the true master of the Cloud Sea Sword.

"Huangfu, Wuya..." Qiao Wanju sighed softly, seemingly recalling something.

In the Luoxian Pavilion, silence prevailed, Lu Ran did not disturb her recollection.

After a long while, Qiao Wanju spoke, "Tianyue has a nice Magic Artifact, the Smoke and Mist Silk, if it's still there, let her gift it to you."

"Huh?" Lu Ran was a bit dumbfounded.

So domineering?

Qiao Wanju faced Lu Ran, phantom fingers tracing his broad white robe, "The Smoke and Mist Silk is a ribbon, very beautiful smoke and mist color.

It matches well with your Dawn Blade and attire style."

"I especially changed into this white robe to see you," Lu Ran hurriedly said, "In the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, I always dressed in bamboo hat and bamboo clothes, a vagabond knightly style."

Qiao Wanju indeed was not one to change her mind, unmoved.

She directly said, "You found them, and also gifted Cloud Sea remnants stone sculptures, they should show some gratitude."

Lu Ran: "..."

How should they express gratitude?

Look at Yan Chou, then look at Huangfu Zhao!

Truly, one more loyal than the other, nearly etching "exhaust oneself unto death" on their foreheads.

Lu Ran has every reason to believe that Wuya and the Leng siblings, who joined the team later, also won't be lacking.

"Let's talk business, what do you want to ask?"

"I... How long did it take you to cultivate from the First Level of Heaven Realm to the Second Heaven? How exactly did you cultivate?"

"How do you cultivate?" Qiao Wanjun countered.

"I can't control the Holy Spirit Energy, so I have to start from the source, letting the Holy Spirit Energy appear where I want to use it to transform my physical body."

Qiao Wanjun nodded. This method of cultivation growth was something Lu Ran should have realized when he advanced from the Sea Realm Peak to the Heavenly Realm.

Whether through self-understanding or divine guidance, only in this way can the believers of the Human Clan advance to the Heavenly Realm.

"Three times," Qiao Wanjun said.

"What?"

Qiao Wanjun softly replied, "After you use the purified Holy Spirit Energy to strengthen every inch of your skin, every piece of muscle and bone three times, you should be able to reach the bottleneck."

"Three rounds, huh?" Lu Ran's eyes sparkled.

"Something like that. The Cloud Sea Sect also had some disciples at the Second Heaven, and their situations were quite similar," Qiao Wanjun said gently, then asked, "What's your progress?"

"Nearly two rounds already." Lu Ran clenched his fists.

Qiao Wanjun raised an eyebrow slightly, "Did you advance to the Heavenly Realm last autumn?"

"Yes, I broke through the bottleneck at the beginning of August last year and successfully advanced at the beginning of September!" Lu Ran nodded repeatedly.

In comparison, the month he broke through and advanced actually transformed Lu Ran's body even more deeply.

"Not bad, your cultivation speed is very fast."

"How about compared to you?"

Qiao Wanju smiled, "What, are you also competing with your mother?"

Lu Ran shook his head repeatedly, "No, no, I hope you cultivate faster. In my heart... um."

Qiao Wanju's eyes softened even more.

She naturally knows the way her child has always looked at her.

Admiration, reverence.

With a touch of fear.

But unexpectedly, Lu Ran murmured, "If you're not better than me, then truly no one above me will be holding me down, and I might float away."

Qiao Wanju's face was momentarily stunned, then she laughed softly, "Haha~"

Strength, indeed, is the cure for everything.

The sensitive and self-abased young man from back then is gradually fading away.

If given another chance, holding a hot cup of milk to the study, he probably wouldn't hesitate at the door anymore.

Qiao Wanju has always wanted such a parent-child relationship, feeling that she owes it, yet he is always cautious, while the daughter is more mischievous and knows how to tantrum better.

Qiao Wanju turned her head, seemingly gazing at the distant mountains under the stars and moon, and softly asked, "How is Yuanxi?"

"Little Yuanxi is already at the Third Rank of the Sea Realm, in seclusion focusing on cultivation, rushing toward the Fourth Rank of the Sea Realm." Mentioning Qiao Yuansi, Lu Ran's face also showed a gentle smile.

Seclusion, focus, cultivation.

These words seem not meant to describe their daughter.

Sigh...

The children have all grown up.

Twenty-one years old, at the Third Rank of the Sea Realm, absolutely unimaginable in the Human World.

This Sculpture Garden bestowed by Lord Immortal Sheep has achieved many people, but the future...

Thinking of this, the smile on Qiao Wanju's face gradually faded.

"When Little Yuanxi ascends to the Heavenly Realm, I'll bring her back to see you," Lu Ran added.

"Anything else?" Qiao Wanju asked softly.

"Mother is tired?" Lu Ran carefully inquired.

A sentence brought Qiao Wanju back to those years, she noticed her child's attitude and gently shook her head, "No, it's just that you rarely come back, you can ask more if you have inquiries."

Lu Ran thought for a moment and asked, "What is the Second Heaven like?"

"It's similar to the environment of the First Layer of Heaven, except that more Holy Spirit Energy falls there, and the battles between the minions of God Demon and external enemies are more intense."

Also, the Cloud Sea near the Divine Mountain is thinner."

The last sentence made Lu Ran's heart jolt.

He reacted, unable to help feeling excited, "If the Cloud Sea is thinner, does that mean I can see above..."

The Cloud Sea enveloping the heavens is fundamentally different from ordinary fog.

To say it's Cloud Sea is not as accurate as saying it's a tangible rule.

Lu Ran, possessing the Paper Simurgh Evil Technique-Simurgh's Eyes, in the First Layer of Heaven, couldn't see through the sky and the ground, unable to see the Second Heaven above him or the Holy Spirit Mountain beneath.

Qiao Wanju nodded gently, "Yes, you can see many gods and many evil demons."

Lu Ran clenched his fists.

He felt a step-by-step ascension, finally about to witness the Highest Heaven.

"So when I ascend to the Second Heaven, how do I reach it? Should I fly up along the mountainside of the Divine Mountain?"

"Anywhere is fine, the rules will allow you to see a broader world through the thick Cloud Sea."

"Good." Lu Ran nodded, already eager to ascend to the Second Heaven, stand outside the Divine Mountain, gaze at the sky, and observe the Third Heaven.

To glimpse the true forms of All Gods and various demons!

Yes, I need to hurry back and cultivate.

If I transform my body again with Holy Spirit Energy, I should be able to touch the bottleneck of the Heavenly Realm·Second Level!

The Highest Heaven,

is getting closer...

...

Chapter 909: Third Rank Magic Artifact?!

Lu Ran stayed in the human world for one night, solved some issues, and then returned to the Mountain Realm to lead the crew to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

Because the third squad's troops were not complete, Yunhai's old member, Wuya, was temporarily assigned to the first squad of the Ran Sect.

The two Feng Yan generals had just merged into one, and were still at the first level of the Heavenly Realm, requiring Lu Ran to cultivate them further.

Yan Shuangzi persistently pleaded with the Lady of the Flame Gate and ended up staying by Lu Ran's side.

Such an operation left Lu Ran utterly puzzled!

Didn't the Evil Shadow Guardian want to stay with me? Shouldn't she have spoken to me?

Why go to plead with little Ruyi?

Speaking of which, this tactic was quite effective!

The Lady of the Flame Gate agreed, so Lu Ran couldn't say much...

This time, Lu Ran did not retreat to seclusion at the Fiery Fire Divine Mountain, but came to the far north of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield - Sword One Divine Mountain.

This mountain looks terrifyingly "pure"!

There are no flowers, trees, or birds and beasts, only a group of cold female sword immortals.

Sword One minions!

Moreover, these Sword One minions have flesh and blood bodies!

Here's the question, divine minions should all appear in phantom form, so why do Sword One minions have physical bodies?

The answer is evident: Sword One stone sculptures, there is no division between gods and demons.

She doesn't have an opposing evil god!

Thus, the prevalent understanding is wrong.

The leader of the Da Xia gods and the leader of the Da Xia evil demons are not literal arch-nemeses.

They might truly have conflicts or there might be some unknown secret, but these are not important.

What matters is that these two seemingly opposing "No.1" figures are complete entities!

Perhaps, this is one of the reasons why both can firmly hold the top positions of gods and demons?

Without two sides of a coin, the stone sculpture's power is naturally not weakened.

The reason Lu Ran came here for seclusion is that Sword One Divine Mountain is incredibly clean, the mountain only hosts Sword One Sect, there are no perceptual type god or demon minions.

Strictly speaking, there are other beings on Sword One Divine Mountain - Ninth rank evil demon, Soul Jade.

However, these piles of jade tokens are merely tools.

The female sword immortals wear the soul jades at their waists to collect dead souls after killing enemies.

Only upon reaching this divine mountain did Lu Ran understand what was meant by being impregnable!

In the light frosty mist, the female sword immortals freely shuttled through the sword shadows.

The flying swords darting everywhere, the frost sword torrents like a waterfall, the grandiose sword hanging upside down in the sky...

Who needs external support?

The Sword One Sect is contending with the Faceless Jade Venerable, clearly having the upper hand!

Lu Ran couldn't help but silently praise what he saw.

Sometimes, it's understandable why others are aloof and proud.

Strength speaks for itself!

Lu Ran's hiding place retreated repeatedly.

No choice, the coverage range of the female sword immortals' output was too wide, too dense.

Lu Ran occasionally joined in the fight, and it left him feeling extremely full...

Yan Shuangzi's presence was indeed a big help.

Lu Ran was indeed capable of self-preservation, but during cultivation, keeping his ears and eyes open was unavoidable. Now with an evil dog by his side, he could focus more on his cultivation.

Time flashed by, reaching more than half a month later.

On this day, listening to the torrential sword rain pouring from the distant north, while purifying the Holy Spirit Energy, a thought suddenly came to Lu Ran's mind.

Black Jade Tiger Talisman?

Lu Ran was stirred at heart, immediately transmitting a message: [Directly convey Mr. Huangfu's words.]

[Young Master, Leng Tianxing and Leng Tianyue have already left the Divine Mountain and come to join us.]

[Good!] Lu Ran felt assured, [The usual practice.]

[Young Master, if convenient, you can teleport directly over, I am within a stone peak, the surroundings are safe.]

Inside a stone peak cave, Lu Ran stood up from the sea of mist: [Evil Shadow, come to my side.]

In the next moment, a faint divine power fluctuation appeared beside Lu Ran, clearly, someone was on his right, but the person remained invisible, only revealing their presence when casting a spell.

"Show yourself, I'm afraid the flower won't choose you." Lu Ran said softly.

Sure enough, a tall woman appeared by his side.

"Whew~" Lu Ran spread his palm, and an illusory black Other Shore Flower blossomed forth.

At the same time, in the southwestern part of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, inside a large stone peak.

Huangfu Zhao suddenly looked up, seeing a dreamlike teleportation array.

To his left and right stood two middle-aged men, their long bodies clad in luxurious blue robes, with grim expressions and somewhat similar appearances.

"Whew!!"

From the array, two figures dressed in green raincoats and bamboo hats fell down.

One of the raincoat-clad women disappeared the moment she appeared.

Only a youth wearing a blood crystal mask remained, exuding a heroic aura and gazing intently at the others.

"Young Master!"

"Salute the Young Master." With Huangfu Zhao bowing respectfully, the Leng siblings hesitated not, following suit immediately.

"No need for formalities." Lu Ran breathed a sigh of relief, murmuring, "Now, I can give my lady mother an explanation."

Leng Tianxing and Leng Tianyue stood up, scrutinizing the son of their old master.

Remembering that his mother had mentioned the Magic Artifact, Smoke and Mist Silk, Lu Ran couldn't help but have his gaze fall on the woman in the blue robe.

Indeed, there was a semi-transparent ribbon, misty like smoke, floating behind Leng Tianyue, skimming past her arms to the front and spreading across her waist.

Wasn't this exactly the type of sash the immortals wore in the immortal realm?

The Divine Weaponry on Lu Ran told him that this Smoke and Mist Silk was actually a third-rank Magic Artifact!

"Phew~"

Suddenly, an illusory figure appeared, standing behind Lu Ran.

The Leng siblings were still observing the young man, and upon seeing the phantom woman, their faces momentarily froze.

Then, they immediately bowed in greeting, "Sect Master Qiao!"

"Sect Master Qiao."

This time, the voices of the seemingly stern man and woman bore an unmistakable hint of excitement.

"I am the Cloud Sea Sword Spirit," the phantom Qiao Wanjun said softly, "I recently communicated with the master."

The Leng siblings raised their heads, gazing at the illusory woman with unrivaled charm.

Confirmed, Sect Master Qiao is not dead!

Even Huangfu Zhao nearby became secretly excited, knowing well of Lu Ran's prowess, aware that the Young Master could freely traverse the Heavenly Realm and the Human World.

"Assist him well," the Sword Spirit indicated to the cloaked young man, speaking coolly, "His orders are my orders."

"Understood!" replied the Leng siblings in unison.

"Additionally, Tianyue." The phantom Qiao Wanjun spoke again, "Gift your Smoke and Mist Silk to Lu Ran."

Lu Ran hurriedly refused, "No... mother, no need."

To his surprise, Leng Tianyue did not hesitate, walking forward with the long Smoke and Mist Silk in hand.

This was a Third Rank Magic Artifact!

Leng Tianyue's lack of objection was frightening enough, and even the Artifact Spirit had no objection?

One master, one artifact, don't they even need to negotiate?

Oh my, Sect Master Qiao, what kind of existence are you within the Cloud Sea Sect...

"Take it, be obedient," Qiao Wanjun's phantom hand descended, her face smiling, gently patting Lu Ran's head.

"Young Master," Leng Tianyue looked up at the tall young man, speaking softly, "Sect Master Qiao made this decision for a reason, please take it."

Lu Ran: "..."

Leng Tianyue tiptoed, hands holding the Smoke and Mist Silk, directly draping it around Lu Ran's neck.

Like Tibetan compatriots offering khata...

Then, a rather contradictory scene unfolded!

The mysterious knight from the Martial World, with an immortal's ribbon from the Immortal World floating behind him.

It was indeed a cross-realm mix and match style.

Lu Ran opened his mouth but didn't know what to say.

Was Mother forcing him to change into a loose white robe...hmm?

Lu Ran instinctively tilted his head to dodge.

The Smoke and Mist Silk that had come close to his cheek suddenly stopped.

Originally, it moved on its own, dancing behind Lu Ran, its ends passing under his arms and spreading horizontally.

After being rejected for a touch, the Smoke and Mist Silk actually sagged down?

It seemed to transform into a mundane item, hanging around Lu Ran's neck, its long ends dragging on the ground.

"No, I didn't mean it," Lu Ran hurriedly lifted the Smoke and Mist Silk.

But where Lu Ran's hand lifted it, the semi-transparent smoke-like ribbon turned into wisps of blue smoke.

Lu Ran's hand merely passed through, unable to lift it!

"This?" Lu Ran's face showed embarrassment as he looked at the middle-aged woman in front.

Cold Tianyue's cold expression softened slightly, she smiled silently and stepped back.

Leng Tianxing then spoke up, "Young Master, the Smoke and Mist Silk is a Third Rank Magic Artifact with three functions."

Given the situation, Lu Ran couldn't avoid it anymore and graciously asked, "Please enlighten me."

"I wouldn't dare!" Leng Tianxing cupped his hands and said, "The first function, which Young Master has already experienced, allows the Smoke and Mist Silk to change its form in existence, its material between smoke and silk."

Lu Ran nodded and tried to lift the Smoke and Mist Silk.

He failed again.

Leng Tianxing continued, "In its smoke form, no physical means can harm it. In the silk form, the Smoke and Mist Silk can emit dawn light, blocking enemy attacks."

As a Third Rank Magic Artifact, ordinary Heavenly Grade Techniques find it difficult to break through its defense."

Lu Ran clicked his tongue internally and immediately asked, "Is the temperature high?"

He naturally recalled his Dawn Blade, whose emitted dawn light could scorch everything!

Leng Tianxing shook his head, "No, it's purely a defensive means."

Lu Ran nodded.

Leng Tianxing continued, "The Smoke and Mist Silk seems to be seven feet long, but it can actually extend indefinitely, helping you bind enemies, sheltering you from wind and rain."

This function is extremely significant. If in future battles the Smoke and Mist Silk truly gets damaged..."

Leng Tianxing paused, emphasizing, "All the Young Master needs to do is keep a small piece of the Smoke and Mist Silk, and it can fully recover."

Goodness~

Lu Ran grinned, trying to lift the draped ribbon, but failed again.

Having quite the temperament?

Lu Ran pondered for a moment, then tilted his head, raised his shoulder, and nudged the Smoke and Mist Silk with his cheek.

Clearly, he remembered why the ribbon got upset.

The dignified Young Master of the Cloud Sea Sect, thick-skinned, insisted on making peace with the Smoke and Mist Silk.

This touch was extraordinary!

The light smoke-like ribbon quietly transformed, and a faint gold red appeared on the silk band.

As colorful as a sunset.

Ha!

The Smoke and Mist Silk is giving a chance?

Not afraid of your aloofness, just afraid of your nonchalance.

Well done! Then you're mine forever, don't ever think of escaping from my grasp~

Chapter 910: Fragment

Lu Ran gently held the Smoke and Mist Silk in one hand, savoring its extraordinary texture.

It was as light as morning fog and as delicate and smooth as silk, with a golden-red gloss reminiscent of a magnificent sunset.

Lu Ran was inwardly delighted~

The Smoke and Mist Silk seemed to perceive Lu Ran's admiration, slowly rising and swaying to create a graceful melody on its own.

Lu Ran admired it for quite a while before he realized there were still three distinguished people waiting in the cave.

Looking around, Leng Tianxing remained stern-faced, Leng Tianyue also had an icy demeanor, but with a softer gaze.

Huangfu Zhao, on the other hand, smiled warmly at Lu Ran without any reservations.

He even gave off a feeling of paternal affection...

The three present were indeed from the generation of Lu Ran's parents; the Leng siblings looked similar in age to his mother, while Huangfu Zhao was simply an "uncle".

"Ahem." Lu Ran cleared his throat and looked at the Leng siblings, "Now, let's discuss what Divine Sculpture and Evil Sculpture you both will inherit."

The siblings glanced at each other.

"I hear one of you is a Star Official Disciple, and the other a Believer of the Flashing Star Demon?" Lu Ran continued.

"Yes, Young Master," they replied.

"Both of us have revered the Star Official. Since ascending to the Heavenly Realm, I was claimed by the Evil God-Flashing Star Demon," Leng Tianyue explained in more detail.

"Claimed?" Lu Ran raised his eyebrows slightly.

Leng Tianyue nodded and said, "Unlike other believers who fell into the Demon Path, I had no choice. Switching allegiance to the Flashing Star Demon clan was decided by the God Demon."

"Oh," Lu Ran acknowledged.

It seems that as Human Clan believers entered the Heavenly Realm, the God Demon no longer pretended.

Well... There's no need to pretend anyway, given the battlefield full of God Demon minions joining forces to resist enemies.

Lu Ran pondered for a moment and said, "You siblings will continue to serve as Star Official and Flashing Star Demon, but the difference is, you are no longer believers controlled by the God Demon, but inheritors of the Stone Sculpture."

Fake God!

The siblings had already been briefed by Huangfu Zhao and knew the extent to which they would be radically transformed.

"Young Master." Leng Tianyue made a gesture to perform a grand salute.

Lu Ran, quick as a flash, released red silk threads from his fingertips, directly tethering the woman, "Among our own, there's no need for such courtesy. Aunt Leng... just speak frankly about your thoughts."

Leng Tianxing's gaze flickered slightly at the red silk threads from the Tangled Silk Shadow clan.

As the threads withdrew, Leng Tianyue pleaded, "Young Master, can I depart from the Star Official-Flashing Star Demon faction?"

"You can. Aunt Leng, do you have any favored God Demon you wish for?"

"Moon Spirit, perhaps?" Leng Tianyue felt a bit anxious inside and looked up at the gallant young man.

She desired a Divine Sculpture!

Moreover, she might receive an Evil Sculpture as a bonus! It's the qualification for Becoming a God and the leverage to challenge God Demons.

By comparison, a mere Third Rank Magic Artifact-Smoke and Mist Silk fundamentally pales in value.

Her ability to stand here and speak was entirely thanks to Sect Master Qiao's protection.

Upon hearing "Moon Spirit," Lu Ran naturally glanced at Huangfu Zhao.

Clearly, Mr. Huangfu had shared a lot with the siblings. Last time when selecting Stone Sculpture at Wuya, coincidentally clashed multiple times with Ran Sect warriors.

Now, the Stone Sculpture chosen by Leng Tianyue happened to have no inheritor.

Even the normally composed Huangfu Zhao seemed a bit flustered, bowing his head, "Young Master, I was with the Leng siblings..."

"No worries." Lu Ran waved his hand with a smile, "Considering the Cloud Sea old members is considering the Ran Sect."

Huangfu Zhao felt somewhat relieved.

"Then let it be Moon Spirit." Lu Ran muttered.

The brother is a Star Official, the sister is Moon Spirit, isn't it quite fitting?

Third-class God-Moon Spirit!

The Moon Spirit faction excels in both offense and defense, most techniques are associated with the Moon Element.

The Moon Spirit herself is depicted as a lady, with a cool elegance, her face veiled, making people wish to glimpse her beauty.

Her counterpart Evil Demon is a beast-like Evil God.

Such pairings are quite common in the Da Xia God Demon system.

Martial Monk corresponds to Jade-faced Snake, Dong Ting corresponds to Purple Thunder Demon Roc, Lie Tian corresponds to Angry Sea Flame Flood Dragon.

Moon Spirit's duality is a toad...

It's quite fantastical.

And fitting.

Lu Ran looked at Leng Tianxing, "Uncle Leng still chooses Star Official-Flashing Star Demon?"

Leng Tianxing cupped his fists and bowed, "Yes! The Young Master can call us Tianxing and Tianyue, that's what your mother called us."

"Alright." Lu Ran then turned to Huangfu Zhao, "When do you plan to join my Ran Sect, sir?"

Huangfu Zhao naturally wished to detach himself from the control of Divine-Dongting as soon as possible and attempt to break through to the Heavenly Realm-Third Level.

Yet he harbored some reservations.

Once he threw his lot in with Lu Ran, from Dong Ting's perspective, Huangfu Zhao would be considered dead, his soul swallowed by Faceless Jade Venerable.

Henceforth, Huangfu Zhao could no longer approach the Divine Mountain nor gather intelligence.

"Mr. Huangfu?"

"Young Master, Xiang Wang he..." Huangfu Zhao hesitated.

Lu Ran sighed inwardly.

Spiritual Image Disciple-Xiang Wang, one of the six remaining Cloud Sea old members who hadn't returned.

He was stamped under the foot of the God, imprisoned in the Divine Mountain.

From the perspective of blocking the Human Clan's advancement, the God should easily be able to wreak havoc on a believer's body, causing meridian damage and severe internal injury.

Thus, Xiang Wang's prolonged imprisonment is definitely not due to physical strength.

But rather, his refusal to concede!

If he were as adaptable as Wuya, Xiang Wang might have been released by now.

Obviously, he is a person of considerable persistence.

He is also a person who does not bend.

How does one rescue a prisoner personally imprisoned by a God?

Hide oneself and simply steal the person away?

Bee Elephant Divine Mountain is full of poisonous flowers, with pollen floating in the air; hiding would get you discovered.

Just snatch him?

Not to mention entering the den of gods and demons to steal someone away, Xiang Wang's sensitive status makes this imprudent.

To this day, Lu Ran and the two small teams of the Ran Sect have been extremely cautious, aiming to improve their Realm and combat power as much as possible before the gods and demons notice.

Acting rashly would inevitably cause many entanglements.

The ever-unfailing solution to all difficulties and obstacles ultimately points to a single answer—strength.

"Sir, please go to Bee Elephant Divine Mountain once more." Lu Ran sighed softly, "If Senior Xiang Wang is still imprisoned, then sir, please join my sect.

Integrate with a Stone Sculpture soon and enhance your strength as quickly as possible."

"Yes." Huangfu Zhao nodded.

He also understood that becoming stronger was the right path.

Lu Ran pondered silently, and the figure of Grandpa Cheng Li of the Cheng Family appeared in his mind.

The first generation battle sheep is one of the few in Lu Ran's camp who can openly enter the Divine Mountain.

If Cheng Li could be dispatched to the Heavenly Realm under the guise of seeking asylum to enter Bee Elephant Divine Mountain, gather intelligence, and report in real-time, it seems like a good solution?

Unfortunately, Grandpa Cheng Li is of the Sea Realm, Fourth Rank, ineligible for ascension, and has no reason to appear in the Heavenly Realm.

Last time returning to the Human World, Lu Ran deliberately gave two Stone Sculptures, Bi Wu and Tree Face Demon, to Cheng Yi and Cheng Li.

The two elders have been battle sheep all their lives; having them change their style is naturally extremely difficult.

Their core combat system is, of course, the Immortal Sheep Divine Technique. Allowing the two elders to inherit Bi Wu and Tree Face Demon holds greater significance in increasing the cultivation limit and speed.

Another point: This pair of gods and demons both possess the Rejuvenation Technique!

They can use the Healing Technique to often heal and maintain their aging bodies, rejuvenating them and helping them ascend to the Heavenly Realm more smoothly.

"Young Master, this subordinate has something to report."

"Please speak, sir." Lu Ran returned to his senses and looked curiously at Huangfu Zhao.

"This subordinate's situation is somewhat special." Huangfu Zhao said seriously, "After breaking free from the control of Lord Dong Ting, this subordinate thought about temporarily not integrating with a Stone Sculpture.

I can attempt to challenge the Third Level of the Heavenly Realm with a human body!"

"Oh?" Lu Ran's eyes lit up, "Sir's potential is not yet exhausted and can still reach higher levels?"

Huangfu Zhao nodded emphatically: "This subordinate believes that my talent has not been fully realized! The years of cultivation have always been stagnant, very possibly due to Lord Dong Ting's interference."

Lu Ran nodded, suddenly blurting out, "Still calling him Lord, huh?"

Huangfu Zhao was slightly stunned, then smiled self-deprecatingly: "This subordinate has been controlled for too many years, trained to the point of not being human."

"Sir, please don't say such things. After meeting me, your resolute decision to walk with me shows you've never given up the fight."

Huangfu Zhao remained silent, saying nothing.

He didn't want to contradict the Young Master, nor did he want to flatter himself.

At this stage of development, his fate has reached here only because of Lu Ran's timely appearance.

A few days later, who knows what would have become of that numb body.

Lu Ran faintly sensed Huangfu Zhao's feelings and changed the subject: "Coincidentally, I'm also working hard towards the Second Level of the Heavenly Realm. Maybe I can ride on sir's success."

The matter of advancement, those concrete plans aren't set yet, but Huangfu Zhao, being cautious, immediately said:

"Young Master, breaking through on the Heavenly Realm battlefield, I'm afraid it will be fraught with difficulties!"

Lu Ran agreed very much.

A few days ago, the Divine Weapon's advancement during the Big Nightmare truly taught Lu Ran a lesson.

It was so damn hard!

Fortunately, the Divine Weapon only needed half an hour to advance; if it were a human's advancement, it would take a month... what do humans have to advance with?

Without being in the Divine Mountain and under the protection of gods and demons, human Believers have no path but death!

"So we will cultivate on the Heavenly Realm battlefield, and once everything is ready, return to Holy Spirit Mountain to break through." Lu Ran offered the solution.

That sounds great!

Huangfu Zhao nodded repeatedly, then spoke to excuse himself: "Then I'll head to Bee Elephant Divine Mountain."

"Take care, sir." Lu Ran looked at the resolute-faced man.

Huangfu Zhao nodded to the Leng Family siblings, electric current spreading at his feet, a purple glow darting away.

This trip is a chance for Xiang Wang.

It's also a chance for himself.

Lu Ran watched the rapidly disappearing silhouette, feelings growing heavier.

There was something he never said.

Do gods and demons really indulge those who defy them?

Do they indulge those unyielding souls?

Xiang Wang is said to be imprisoned, but Huangfu Zhao has never seen him!

Is Senior Xiang... already...

"Whew~"

Smoke and Mist Silk danced gracefully, drawing a beautiful arc, and gently took off half a mask.

It tenderly brushed against Lu Ran's cheek.

Lu Ran lowered his head, rubbing his cheeks from side to side, and softly said, "Thank you."