

Old Gods 921

Chapter 921: War of the Gods

The remnant shadow of Lady Ying suddenly stopped, her immense, ethereal eyes firmly fixed on the southeast.

Consequently, the chaotic battlefield seemed to halt for a moment.

"Boom!"

The heavens shook, the earth trembled!

The sudden, overwhelming sound caused Lu Ran's face to turn exceedingly grim.

He suddenly jerked his head upwards, only to see the majestic Divine Mountain vibrating. A colossal Stone Sculpture was crashing down from the vortex of dark clouds.

It landed steadily atop the peak of the Divine Mountain!

Is that... Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture Avatar?

Lu Ran's eyes widened, witnessing the remnant shadow of Lady Ying swiftly flying up to merge with the Stone Sculpture.

Could it be that Lady Ying's Avatar has truly manifested?

But, as a god standing tall in the Human World, if her actual divine sculpture has arrived here, is there still a Stone Sculpture of Lady Ying in the ancient cities of Da Xia?

Lu Ran furrowed his brow.

The battle between gods and foreign foes evidently has been going on for a long time.

While living in the Human World, Lu Ran had never heard of any ancient city's divine sculpture suddenly vanishing, departing.

But the godly sculpture towering over the Divine Mountain has a magnificent physique, unmistakably resembling the divine sculpture...

"Szip!"

Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture reached out a massive stone hand, gripping a blade, wiping it horizontally with force.

Lu Ran was well-acquainted with this movement.

Lady Ying's disciples often cut their palms, staining the blades with their fresh blood, but as a Stone Sculpture, the God Lady Ying did not have blood flowing.

However, alongside swirling terrifying energy, the blade in her hand still glimmered blood-red.

"Hmph!"

A voice full of majesty resonated through the sky.

Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture held the blood-red blade, pointing it cautiously to the southeast.

"Gulp." Lu Ran's Adam's apple rolled.

He abruptly realized he was about to witness a battle of gods!

Lady Ying versus Jade Venerable?

Is it feasible?

With the Faceless Jade Venerable approaching swiftly, Lu Ran clearly understood that Lady Ying and Faceless Jade Venerable were not in the same league!

Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture was indeed enormous, perhaps around two hundred eighty to ninety meters tall.

Nearing three hundred meters, it deserved to be called a colossal entity.

But the rushing Faceless Jade Venerable was far larger than Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture...

"Swoosh~~~"

The jade robe fluttered, dyeing the entire overcast sky in a sheen of white.

Faceless Jade Venerable's flight showed no sign of slowing down, instead accelerating!

Lady Ying's armor abruptly changed to a pitch-black hue, and the stone long ribbon tied behind her head turned red.

Suddenly, Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture lunged forward with a powerful leap.

"Boom!!"

With just one leap, the earth shuddered and the mountains quaked.

Lu Ran worried whether the Divine Mountain would be shattered by Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture!

The closer they came, the more apparent the size difference.

Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture barely reached the chest of Faceless Jade Venerable, the disparity between them was over a hundred meters.

Height couldn't fully represent the gap between them, the key was their physiques matching their height!

Faceless Jade Venerable completely dominated!

Lu Ran never anticipated that the god towering over all beings would become the relatively "short" one.

Are they really going for it?

Really... Oh gosh!

Lu Ran hurriedly used Instant Teleportation to leave, simultaneously shutting down Perception Techniques and covering his ears with both hands.

Over twenty kilometers away, the Stone Sculpture and Jade Venerable collided heavily.

"Boom!!!"

The sky collapsed and the earth shattered, as if nothing could compare!

Lu Ran stood with his mouth agape, dumbfounded, staring at the distant battlefield, the terrifying energy swirling wildly.

Is that... Holy Spirit Energy?

So that's how it is!

Lu Ran finally understood!

Back in Holy Spirit Mountain, he often heard the booming noise from the heights of the sky, caused by the clashes between Divine Demon and Faceless Jade Venerable.

After the loud noise, there would always be Holy Spirit Energy descending from the sky.

It matched up!

The explosive collision between the two sent terrifying energy splashing in all directions.

Aren't those all Holy Spirit Energy?

They would seep through the ground, reaching the Second Heaven, the First Layer of Heaven, and after several rounds of collection by the followers on both sides, inevitably a few might escape, falling into Holy Spirit Mountain Realm.

The struggling human clan followers in the mountains were fighting for those scant strands of Holy Spirit Energy.

Accumulating little by little, ultimately dying, their souls returning to the god's embrace, offering the Holy Spirit Energy to the god.

"Boom! Boom! Boom..."

A series of thunderous sounds echoed continuously.

Lady Ying was flipped over!

Her shoulder armor cracked, fragments flying off, the entire Stone Sculpture like a stone skipping on the lake, bounced up and slid backward amidst the thick fog sea.

Blade!

Lu Ran suddenly had a thought.

The shoulder armor was shattered, then the blade in her hand...

It's intact.

Lu Ran felt full of disappointment, seeing the giant blade intact, still firmly clutched by Lady Ying.

It seems she treasured that weapon dearly.

When making a frontal collision with the enemy, she didn't use the blade to strike, but instead rammed with her shoulder.

"Boom! Boom..."

Lady Ying was still flying backward, bouncing.

Amidst the sequence of dull sounds, a bizarre sound of flesh and jade being crushed mixed in.

On the path of her backward flight and fall, there was a small segment, precisely a defense line!

The god's Avatar crashed down, a host of god's followers and Faceless Jade Venerable's minions were thus crushed into pulp, ground into powder.

Damn it!

Lu Ran's heart pounded chaotically.

This was the intensity of a battle of gods?

Compared to Lady Ying's Stone Sculpture that was blasted away, Faceless Jade Venerable seemed much better.

She also flew backward several hundred meters.

But upon Faceless Jade Venerable, not a single crack was seen.

Her jade robe fluttered as she steadied herself and then swiftly descended, her feet landing heavily on the ground.

Her legs bent, her upper body leaned forward, sliding backward while gradually slowing her momentum.

Wherever her jade feet tread, countless beings were crushed to death.

This...

Such a scene severely struck Lu Ran's confidence!

Whether it was the God Demon minions or Faceless Jade Venerable minions, they were all Heavenly Realm beings.

To die in such a humble manner!

If it were Lu Ran himself, wearing the Heavenly Grade Water Flow Armor, could he withstand the blows from a God?

"This is bad, bad, really bad..."

Lu Ran's face turned pale, murmuring constantly.

Since becoming a Believer, he had always been particularly focused on the use of Divine Technique and Evil Technique.

However, on this Highest Heaven, when two top-tier existences clashed, would they really meet body against body, at the level of sheer force?

Do the Pseudo God Stone sculptures in the garden have such body strength?

To this day, Lu Ran hadn't yet called upon the Pseudo God Stone sculptures, and he was feeling very uncertain about it.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran's eyes brightened.

He saw the retreating and rolling woman's hand finally support the ground, sliding backward in a half-kneeling position.

At the same time, she suddenly swept her blade.

"Hoo!!"

A blood-colored blade light shot forth from the tip of the blade rapidly.

Divine Technique of the Woman Warrior-Scarlet Blood Blade Light!

"Good, good, good..." Seeing the gigantic blade light swung out, Lu Ran also saw the Faceless Jade Venerable decisively dodge, which put his mind at ease.

Dodging is good!

Fear is good!

Lu Ran was truly worried that the stone bodies of Faceless Jade Venerable and all God Demon were so strong that they were not afraid of the output from Divine Technique and Evil Technique.

Of course, the Scarlet Blood Blade Light swung by the Woman Warrior's Divine Sculpture was not a Heavenly Grade.

But of a higher grade, something only Divine Demon itself was qualified to wield.

Hmm... let's temporarily call it "Divine Grade"!

Understanding this, Lu Ran was a bit worried again; if the Divine Demon stone sculpture only feared Divine Grade techniques and wasn't afraid of Heavenly Grade techniques, what would be done?

Immediately, he ceased pondering about these matters.

Lu Ran was stunned to find that the Faceless Jade Venerable slid and dodged sideways, and with the situation exploited, stepped onto the defensive line.

It was obviously intentional.

The Faceless Jade Venerable crushed a massive crowd of minions and quickly absorbed the Dead Souls.

At the same time, many Faceless Jade Venerables, like moths to a flame, madly pounced towards the towering Jade Venerable body, then transformed into endless jade stone powder, merging with the Jade Venerable's body.

Fighting while gathering resources?

"Whoosh! Whoosh!!"

One after another, blood-colored blade lights swung out, and the Woman Warrior charged forward, pressing towards the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Clearly having long-range output skill, and although the opponent's body was evidently stronger, the Woman Warrior's Divine Sculpture persistently engaged in close combat.

Why is this so?

Lu Ran secretly contemplated the reason, watching as the two parties were about to clash again, immediately opening a pair of Pupils of the Dead World.

So many Dead Souls!

Especially along the path where the Faceless Jade Venerable slides back, one layered upon another of the Soul Body, overlapping densely.

They're damn near overlaid...

"Rumble!!"

The Woman Warrior and the Jade Venerable clashed again, Origin Energy splattering everywhere.

The Woman Warrior was once again forced to retreat.

The Faceless Jade Venerable slid back once more.

Lu Ran licked his lips, focusing on a heavily layered soul area, and resolutely teleported into the scene!

[Si Xianxian!!]

[Huh? Young master, wha... what's wrong?] Si Xianxian was startled.

Such a stern tone hadn't been heard for years.

Ever since she joined Lu Ran's sect, with her life under his complete control, he had treated her warmly, no longer reprimanding her.

But now...

[Eat! Eat a large bite! Hurry, hurry, eat!!] Lu Ran said urgently, his voice stern.

[Oh, okay!] Si Xianxian was bewildered, hurriedly absorbing the Dead Souls.

You scared me! Eat already, why shout so loud?

I swear, I haven't climbed into the Lady's bed lately... wow! Why so many Dead Souls?

Struck rich, struck rich!

[Young master, did you blow up the God's lair? Did you topple the Divine Mountain?]

[Cut the nonsense! Eat and can't even shut your mouth...] Lu Ran stopped transmitting, his figure suddenly flashing.

"Swoosh~"

Just as Lu Ran left, the Faceless Jade Venerable flew past in reverse.

Blocking the sky and covering the sun!

Like a towering mountain, it crushed over vigorously.

It's damn thrilling!

Lu Ran's heart was in his throat, turning to look at the battlefield, slightly adjusting his view.

Following the direction of the Woman Warrior's Divine Sculpture being knocked back, Lu Ran saw, from afar, a stone sculpture rapidly flying in.

A First-class God·Martial Artist?

No, not just the Martial Artist!

On the Martial Artist's Divine Sculpture was also a voidified figure.

A First-class Evil God·Yin Flower Dan!

Well, good heavens!

A pair of Divine and Evil True Bodies coming to support?

Lu Ran glanced at the battlefield; although the Woman Warrior's Divine Sculpture was indeed brave, she was a lone God, evidently not a match for the Faceless Jade Venerable.

Fortunately, the Faceless Jade Venerable was more inclined towards harvesting resources!

Otherwise, the Woman Warrior's Divine Sculpture might have been beaten back relentlessly.

Apparently, it's due to the swift support from Divine and Evil that the Woman Warrior launched such fierce attacks and delayed the opponent, while the Faceless Jade Venerable quickly harvested Dead Souls?

Cannot be!

Can't let you have it all easy.

My great Mad Xian'er is still waiting to ascend to Third Level of Heavenly Realm!

Lu Ran with wide eyes rapidly gathered battlefield information and suddenly flickered away!

Chapter 922: Small Boat

The battlefield was in chaos, with roars echoing all around.

"Lantern Shadow Shield! Lantern Shadow..."

The woman in the white dress held an oil-paper umbrella, surrounded by several green lanterns, constantly retreating backward.

But the sky was filled with weapons, and the robe of the Jade Venerable fluttered, danger was everywhere.

What was even more despairing was that the Heroine Divine Sculpture and Faceless Jade Venerable hung over her head like a sword, ready to take her life at any moment.

When the intensity of battle reached the level of the gods, nowhere was truly safe.

Even if you fought your way through thousands of troops, escaping kilometers away, in the next second, the magnificent form of a God might crash down upon you.

"Hoo~"

Qingying abruptly opened the oil-paper umbrella, resisting diagonally upward, the umbrella shadows knocked away several flying swords, causing her momentum to halt.

A terrifying pressure surged from the west.

Qingying turned to look and saw that the powerful gods had arrived!

First-class God, Martial Artist.

First-class Evil God, Yin Flower Dan.

"Hei!" The Martial Arts Divine Sculpture shouted violently, and one of the six command flags suspended behind it immediately shot out.

The gale raged, like the cries of ghosts and the howling of gods.

A series of terrifying tornadoes, not only very large in scale but also dispersed all around.

The overall direction of the tornadoes was moving east, intending to trap the Faceless Jade Venerable within the wind formation.

At least to limit the Faceless Jade Venerable's vision and hinder its movement.

But the problem was, this was just the general direction; the specific path of each tornado was completely unpredictable.

Divine Technique, Gale Camp Order!

Qingying bit her lip and paused for a moment.

The exalted gods naturally wouldn't care about the insignificant Human Clan.

Even if Qingying was really useful and adept against the minions of the Faceless Jade Venerable, she could always complete tasks better than the God Demons' minions, offering more resources to the Chenghua lord.

However, she was still a humble member of the Human Clan.

Even her own God, Chenghua, could freely humiliate and trample her, so how could other gods possibly show her any consideration?

"Huff! Huff!"

The terrifying tornado whipped up the sea of fog on the ground, transforming into fearsome "Fog Dragon Rolls."

The world changed color because of it.

The tiny ants were thoroughly lost in the wind and gray fog.

Fortunately, Qingying had a magic artifact, an oil-paper umbrella that had accompanied her for many years, which informed its owner of the fog dragon roll's path within a hundred-meter radius.

However, the Gale Camp Order's reputation was not just for show!

The tornadoes not only had unpredictable paths but also moved swiftly.

"Ugh." Qingying let out a muffled groan, heavily crashing to the ground.

She tried her best to fly to the side, narrowly avoiding the fog dragon roll, but failed to escape the chaotic turbulent winds.

In just a few seconds, the green lanterns surrounding her had already scattered.

Qingying had no chance to catch her breath; with the reminder of the magic artifact, she awkwardly dodged again.

"Boom!"

The earth-shattering roar came from a distance, indicating that the great god had once again clashed head-on with the Faceless Jade Venerable.

No way!

Continuing like this would only lead to a dead end.

Qingying gripped the umbrella handle tightly, energy surging in her hand.

In an instant, the world around the woman changed.

"Swish swish..."

A gentle, illusory rain began to fall.

A tranquil river surface appeared silently, vast and misty.

The chaotic and peril-laden battlefield was dragged into a serene and peaceful painting of Jiangnan's misty rain.

Chenghua Divine Technique, Misty Rain in the Human World!

In the system of gods and demons, purification techniques were of extremely high priority.

High enough to purify beyond their levels!

The only issue was the lack of relevance in specialization.

The Gale Camp Order is an output skill! It's not the sand from the West Desolation Sect or the Frost Snow from the Ice Burial Clan, nor is it a support skill that alters the terrain environment.

Misty Rain in the Human World could only restrict or influence the tornadoes, it couldn't completely erase them.

But Qingying had no other choice.

To survive, she could only do this, and what happened next left Qingying utterly panicked.

Her desperate struggle seemed to have angered the gods.

"Yiyiyi~~~"

From high in the sky came a shrill tone that sent chills down one's spine.

Martial Arts Divine Technique, Opera Soul Tone!

God Martial Artist, Evil God Yin Flower Dan, Goddess Heroine, and even Faceless Jade Venerable, all were immune to spiritual output.

The Martial Artist and Yin Flower Dan had Pear Garden Hearts, the Heroine possessed Heroic Soul Will, and the Faceless Jade Venerable had both physical and spirit defense maxed out!

So this high tone shouldn't have appeared on the battlefield.

Now that it had, it meant the great god was displeased with a certain Human Clan disciple!

You filthy thing!

How dare you meddle with the Gale Camp Order that this god has issued?

"Ugh." Qingying's pupils shrank to needle points, her face turning pale.

With a thud!

She shivered violently, collapsing to the ground, her soul trembling fiercely.

The illusory scene of misty rain immediately shattered and disappeared.

The one lost in the wind and fog temporarily lost the ability to act.

The divine-level spiritual output was obviously beyond what someone in the Heavenly Realm could withstand. Without spirit defense techniques, the Chenghua disciple was harshly punished.

"Buzz!!"

The oil-paper umbrella trembled incessantly, extremely anxious.

The terrifying fog dragon roll was turning at a bizarre angle, about to sweep back around!

Yet its owner still hadn't come to their senses.

"Hoo~" The oil-paper umbrella couldn't care about much anymore and began to retract itself.

During the process of closing, the trembling woman also quickly shrank, being absorbed into the paper umbrella.

"Whoosh!"

The oil-paper umbrella rapidly shot away, only to be caught in the terrifying chaotic winds, spinning out of control.

"Boom!"

An explosion sounded abruptly from afar.

Layers of expanding fire flames even dyed the dark clouds in the sky into fiery clouds.

Martial Arts Divine Technique, Blazing Fire Camp Order!

The Martial Artist's attack target was, of course, the Faceless Jade Venerable, but the range of the fire sea was too wide, and the explosive shockwaves were incredibly powerful.

"Crack! Crack..."

The oil-paper umbrella, despite having wooden ribs and a paper canopy, emitted sounds similar to shattering glass.

It spun rapidly, just swallowed by the edge of the firestorm, then suddenly tossed away by a wave of air.

"Dong! Dong!"

The oil-paper umbrella smashed heavily onto the ground, bouncing continuously.

Only when it rolled backward and slid, did a figure finally emerge.

"Ting, Ting Yu!"

Qingying stammered, crawling forward in a panic, clearly still affected by what had just happened.

The woman with disheveled hair no longer possessed her usual elegance.

Like the Magic Artifact·Ting Yu Umbrella, the ribs of the umbrella showed dense cracks everywhere.

A dignified Third Rank Magic Artifact, known for its defensive power.

Yet under the output of the Divine Technique, it could not escape unscathed.

"Ting Yu..." Qingying held onto the Magic Artifact that had accompanied her for years, her heart almost breaking.

"Buzz~" The Ting Yu Umbrella trembled softly.

"Let's go, let's go..." Qingying hurriedly muttered, divine power surging from her trembling palm, raising another illusory oil-paper umbrella.

Fortunately, the tornadoes had already passed, both the person and the umbrella were blown out from the edge of the firestorm.

Just escaping in the opposite direction should be enough.

Just escape... huh?

Qingying's forward-flying figure abruptly stopped.

"Crack!"

A huge thunderbolt struck down dozens of meters ahead.

It wasn't just a thunderbolt; it should be called a "Thunder Waterfall"!

Despair flashed across Qingying's eyes.

Sure enough, followed by one thunder waterfall after another, with no pattern, continuously striking everywhere.

Thunder Strike Order?!

The Martial Artist was fiercely battling the Faceless Jade Venerable, too preoccupied to care about the lowly Human Clan, or else continuing the Opera Soul Tone would have sufficed.

Yet even so, this divine battle would inevitably affect all creatures within this realm.

Ting Yu Umbrella lightly struggled, intending to open its canopy once more over its owner's head.

But this time, Qingying clutched the Ting Yu Umbrella tightly, instead protecting it in her arms.

Its umbrella ribs already bore many cracks.

It could no longer withstand the relentless bombardment of the thunder waterfall.

The Chenghua Sect did possess the ultimate skill·Heavenly Net Canopy, capable of opening a tremendously large oil-paper umbrella to shield against any output descended from the heavens.

But...

Qingying dared not act rashly.

Setting aside whether the Heavenly Grade·Heavenly Net Canopy could withstand the divine-grade thunder bombardment.

Once she opens the Heavenly Net Canopy, it would undoubtedly protect a substantial area.

The Martial Artist Lord might just take her life!

Qingying plummeted quickly, fleeing afar.

Could she escape the range of the thunder strike?

Uncertain.

Must try.

Her sister would be seventeen next year, soon to ascend the God Worship Platform, and be taken in by Chenghua.

As long as she was alive, still serving the Chenghua Lord, her sister ought to fare slightly better.

If she dies, her sister would lose any value for existence.

Might even incur the wrath of the gods...

No!

Can't die, can't!

"Crack!!"

A massive thunder waterfall crashed down.

Next to the waterfall, a human clan member fleeing in disgrace was instantly blown away.

Falling, rolling.

Water Flow Armor tore apart, groaning in pain.

The insignificant human, like a small boat wavering in a tempestuous sea.

She was struggling for survival, helplessly begging the heavens for mercy.

Also awaiting the verdict of fate.

"Pa!"

Qingying pushed herself up from the ground with one hand, painstakingly rising, dashing forward.

But the intense sound of divine combat emanated from directly ahead in the sky!

Qingying halted her stride, face ashen.

The gods' battle positions constantly shifted, barely moving for the magnificent Divine Sculptures.

But for the multitude, distances were calculated in kilometers.

"Buzz~"

Ting Yu Umbrella trembled again, as if reminding its master of something.

The woman stood amidst gray mist, listening to the thunderbooms descending from all directions, listening to the gales rising once more ahead.

Gale Camp Order.

Inferno Blaze Encampment.

Thunder Strike Order.

Would the command flags injure the Faceless Jade Venerable? Uncertain.

But enough to obliterate any lowly ants.

Life, struggle.

Unrealistic aspirations.

"Don't give up."

Suddenly, a young man's voice came from behind.

The voice was low and gentle.

Qingying's mind buzzed, dazed, thinking she was hallucinating.

The next moment, she suddenly realized an arm had wrapped around her waist.

"Sss—"

The sound of mist spraying abruptly burst forth.

Through layers of gray fog, amidst dense thunder strikes, Qingying was swiftly moving, her long black hair wildly dancing.

She didn't know where she was being taken.

But she could hear the sounds of wind, fire, thunder, and lightning growing distant.

Like a dream.

Making her dare not act rashly, fearing to puncture this unreal illusion.

In her mind again appeared the gentle whisper of the mysterious youth:

Don't give up.

Qingying's nose suddenly soured, eyes turned red.

...

Chapter 923: The Fifth of the Cheng Family?

Who is he?

An Immortal Sheep Believer?

Qingying quickly composed herself, secretly pondering. Among the disciples of all gods and demons, there were not many whose speed could reach such a level.

Combined with the sound of mist being sprayed, a jaw-dropping answer emerged.

This person is a disciple of the Nine-class God-Immortal Sheep!

Cheng Xin?

No, how could it possibly be Senior Cheng?

Judging by the mysterious man's voice, it was clearly a young man's...

Qingying held tightly to her Magic Artifact, the Listening Rain Umbrella with one hand, and wrapped the other around the invisible youth.

"Snap!"

Unexpectedly, an equally invisible ribbon accurately wrapped around her wrist, pulling her hand away, preventing her from touching its master.

So domineering.

Its master hugging her waist, that's allowed.

But if she wanted to touch him, no way!

Qingying naturally realized that what stopped her was a Magic Artifact, hidden very well.

Clearly, she had contact with this Magic Artifact, yet she couldn't feel its presence at all.

Since she had determined that the mysterious youth was a disciple of Immortal Sheep, she didn't regard the Invisibility Technique as a Divine Technique but as the effect of some Magic Artifact.

Qingying's expression was complex, biting her lower lip.

Who knew how powerful this mysterious clansman truly was.

Just as her mind was turning over, she suddenly felt herself being pulled backward. She immediately opened her oiled paper umbrella, adjusting her posture, landing steadily on the ground.

"Hoo~~~"

In the thick sea of mist, Qingying slid backward, stirring up layers of gray mist.

"Hello?" she called out, looking around.

"Boom!"

From the sky far away came the dreadful sounds of gods clashing.

The earth-shattering collision made the world she was in feel even more dead and silent.

"Thank you, benefactor, for your help. Could you reveal yourself for Qingying to see?" Qingying said, holding her oiled paper umbrella.

The surroundings remained silent.

Had the mysterious youth left?

Qingying waited patiently for a long time, still speaking softly: "Are you a disciple of the Immortal Sheep Sect? I have old ties with Senior Cheng Xin of your sect. We once fought side by side..."

"Ah?" An abrupt voice of surprise startled Qingying.

Actually, Lu Ran was also startled!

After leaving Qingying, he immediately returned to the frontline, voraciously devouring dead souls.

Just now, Lu Ran was almost caught in the crossfire and instinctively dodged with Instant Teleportation.

Unexpectedly, when he just returned here, he heard Qingying revealing such information.

Cheng Xin's grandfather?

The fifth son of the Cheng Family who disappeared for decades?

"Benefactor?" Qingying looked in the direction of the voice.

"Wait for me here."

The mysterious youth left a sentence and then fell silent again.

Qingying hesitated for a moment, still standing silently in her place, gazing southward.

The Third Layer of Heaven was already dim.

From such a distance, she couldn't even see the most iconic Divine Mountain, only able to hear the sounds.

Qingying habitually bit her lower lip, constantly recalling the few words of the mysterious youth.

Don't give up.

Wait for me here.

The first sentence was a gentle whisper, the second became much more serious, sounding a bit domineering.

Not quite like the style of an Immortal Sheep disciple.

So, could this mysterious "youth" also be an elder, like Senior Cheng Xin, an original disciple whose voice just sounded young?

Yes, aside from the original disciples, how could someone from the Immortal Sheep Sect enter the Heavenly Realm?

Or perhaps, he truly was very young.

It's just that his fate mirrored her own, once a disciple under a First-class God, later forced to join another sect?

Qingying's mind was in turmoil.

She held the oiled paper umbrella in both hands, her mind matching numerous images to the mysterious person.

Switching constantly between a handsome youth and an immortal-like, white-bearded elder.

Qingying never expected that she would wait until the battle's end.

Lu Ran also didn't expect that even with the arrival of a pair of First-class Gods and Demons, the Faceless Jade Venerable could still press the God Demon faction!

Moreover, although Faceless Jade Venerable had the upper hand, he chose to retreat.

Could it be that, if they dragged on any longer, more gods and demons would come to aid?

This was no longer within Lu Ran's consideration, as he had eaten his fill, his head buzzing nonstop.

[Young Master!! I love you so much!!]

[Shut up!] Lu Ran scolded.

Eating doesn't shut your mouth.

Leveling up can't shut your mouth?

Indeed, the Mad Immortal Stone Sculpture was already vibrating, striding into the Third Level of the Heavenly Realm.

Just one trip to the frontline, encountering the great war between gods and demons and foreign enemies, and Lu Ran was stuffed full!

It was far better than staying near the Divine Mountain in the First and Second Heavens, waiting aimlessly.

Even more wonderful was that there were four gods participating this time!

Martial Artist, Yin Flower Dan, Woman Hero, and Faceless Jade Venerable, all capable of directly absorbing dead souls!

With so many resources missing from the battlefield, who could be blamed?

You all go ahead and guess~

This one is off with a tap on the behind!

In the Sculpture Garden at this time, both the Xian Mo and Mad Immortal Stone Sculptures were leveling up. Lu Ran was in poor condition and didn't dare to take too long, immediately flashing back.

Qingying had finally adjusted her state, faintly sensing the presence of Divine Power.

She tentatively called: "Senior?"

Lu Ran: "..."

"May I ask for Senior's esteemed name?" Qingying inquired.

"And you?" Lu Ran countered.

"Junior's surname is Hua, first name Qingying." Hua Qingying immediately responded.

Hua as a surname?

Quite rare.

But Lu Ran was not too surprised, with famous figures like Hua Mulan and Hua Rong, there were many well-known people.

Lu Ran couldn't do much else, but he had listened to many storytelling sessions; back in the human world, he even used to fall asleep listening to them...

"Hua Qingying, this name is truly beautiful~" Lu Ran murmured.

Hua Qingying felt a slight tremor in her heart.

Whether it was the voice or the tone, the other party seemed like a young person, without any signs of age.

"By the way!" Lu Ran said again, "You said you fought side by side with Cheng Xin?"

"Yes."

"Where is Cheng Xin? Is he also in the Third Heaven?" Lu Ran asked.

"Cheng Senior is... at the front line! He should be stationed at the southwestern Blood Dust Divine Mountain."

Hua Qingying was very puzzled, throwing out the Immortal Sheep disciple was meant to open up the situation.

But this mysterious person is unaware of the fellow disciple's information?

"Blood Dust Divine Mountain." Lu Ran understood in his heart and let out a big sigh of relief.

Grandpa Cheng isn't dead!

It turns out, the long-missing fifth member of the Cheng Family has always been under Lord Immortal Sheep's command.

You cold-hearted sheep!

Why didn't you directly tell Cheng Yi and Cheng Li, instead of letting the two old men worry for so many years?

Blood Dust Divine Mountain,

is exactly where Lord Immortal Sheep resides!

When Lu Ran was roaming the First Layer of Heaven, he never went to such a remote place.

He didn't have a deliberate reason to go there, it's impossible to live in seclusion near the Blood Dust Divine Mountain.

Stealing food from his own Lord Immortal Sheep?

Lu Ran wouldn't still be human!

The most crucial thing, according to Huangfu Zhao, besides Dust Shadow Flower – Evil Mirror Demon minions permanently stationed there, the Blood Skull Clan also appears on that mountain.

Blood Skull!

This kind of evil demon is the fundamental reason why Lu Ran stayed away from the Blood Dust Divine Mountain.

However, Huangfu Zhao's wording was special, the Blood Skull Clan is not a permanent garrison, the clan's terrifying combat power often has them wandering outside.

Other god demon minions collect Holy Spirit Energy everywhere, avoiding Faceless Jade Venerable at all costs.

But Blood Skull is different!

They wield a Blood Blade, enforcing the law around the world.

"Senior?" Hua Qingying called softly.

"Hmm." Lu Ran responded casually, sounding somewhat absent-minded.

If it were before, he would have figured out many things already, but now his brain was buzzing, making it hard to think.

In the First Layer of Heaven, there was no concept of "front line."

As for the Second Heaven, Lu Ran was unclear, and Huangfu Zhao only knew the general situation of the First Layer of Heaven.

But in this Third Heaven, Lu Ran obtained a piece of information: is Blood Dust Divine Mountain the front line?

Is it like this divine mountain guarded by the God-Lady Ying here?

Strange!

Why does Faceless Jade Venerable run free in the First Layer of Heaven and Second Heaven?

Yet in the Highest Heaven, there's a "front line"?

Lu Ran followed Hua Qingying all the way here, discovering a peaceful journey where wars were mostly concentrated on the defensive front line...

"Uh." Lu Ran held his forehead with one hand, massaging his temples.

His little head buzzing!

"Is the senior injured? You can return with me to Hua Qing Divine Mountain, the Crying Willow Clan has healing techniques..."

Eighth-class Evil God·Crying Willow.

The God·Master of Rain's two facets, but it does not resemble a willow tree, more like the willow branch held during the Master of Rain's sacrifices and rain prayers.

Crying Willow indeed has healing techniques, but the effects... well, it's hard to say.

What Hua Qingying referred to as "Hua Qing Divine Mountain" is likely the divine mountain she guards.

"Go back?" Lu Ran snorted, "The ten green lamps you brought are all destroyed, not fulfilling the task assigned by the God. If you go back, you might suffer humiliation again."

Hua Qingying tightened her grip on the umbrella handle.

She realized that this mysterious senior knows many things!

Instead of using the word "punishment," he used "humiliation."

Has this person seen the scene where she was trampled under Chenghua Sect Leader's feet, being tortured until she vomited blood?

"Don't go back anymore, from now on, you come with me."

Lu Ran rubbed his temples, feeling distressed.

From the moment he helped, there was no way to send the girl back.

There's a risk of exposure!

"Sigh..." Lu Ran sighed inwardly.

The great act of demon slaying is right ahead, he shouldn't be distracted.

But seeing a member of his human clan struggling on the brink of death, how could he stay indifferent?

"Follow... you?" Hua Qingying was a bit confused.

"Yes, follow me." Lu Ran closed his eyes, furrowing his brows, "Just right, there's a divine battle here, dying in this battle is fitting."

Hua Qingying became even more confused.

What does this mean, faking death?

There's no possibility of faking death between the God and human believers' contract unless breaking the contract... hmm?

Hua Qingying felt a huge wave of shock within, seemingly realizing what the other party intended to do.

"Senior does not know!" Hua Qingying said anxiously, "Qingying... Qingying can't leave the Chenghua Sect."

"Why?"

"I... I..." Hua Qingying opened her mouth but was somewhat stuck.

Lu Ran finally opened his eyes, looking at the helpless woman, suddenly uttering: "They say appearance comes from the heart.

You are so dignified and serene, you must be someone with upright values and a grateful heart."

Hua Qingying: ???

She was completely dumbfounded.

Slowly confirms that the mysterious and invisible person is a young man.

In this dark and oppressive Heavenly Realm battlefield, she hadn't heard such vivid and lively words in a long time.

"I clearly tell you, I want to blackmail you for gratitude!" Lu Ran directly stated, "Don't respect Chenghua anymore in the future.

I will give you the skills of the Chenghua Sect."

Hua Qingying's eyes widened: !!!

After a while, she trembled and said: "Senior, who exactly are you... you... are you a senior?"

Now, it was Lu Ran's turn to be dumbfounded.

He had anticipated that Hua Qingying would ask various questions, and prepared plastic bags.

But you...

The amount of information in the last sentence exploded, yet you focus on my age?

Alright, alright!

I've been pretending all my life, you're the first to make me put the bag back in my pocket!

Lu Ran rubbed his temples, muttering discontentedly: "Could be, I'm fine with anything~"

Hua Qingying: "..."

...

Chapter 924: He Said

"Your sister..." Lu Ran murmured.

As Hua Qingying spoke, Lu Ran also understood why she was unwilling to leave the Chenghua Sect.

The God had informed Hua Qingying that He wanted to take her sister as a believer.

Clearly, it was to better control Hua Qingying.

So Hua Qingying could not have the slightest thought of rebellion; she had to willingly continue being enslaved, continuously offering resources to the God to ensure her sister's normal life.

At least she would not be targeted by the Chenghua Lord.

Lu Ran couldn't help but ponder.

Back then on the God Worship Platform, why was it Lord Immortal Sheep who came to save the day?

As the son of Qiao Wanjun, if he was taken under Sword One's door, wouldn't it better control Qiao Wanjun?

Sword One wouldn't even need to use force!

Thinking back, Qiao Wanjun had taken her two children to pilgrimage to Jiantianque City for three consecutive years, willing to send her children under Sword One.

But Sword One didn't want them!

Was it because Sword One's nature was aloof and disdainful of doing such lowly things?

But if she didn't, there were others... uh, there were gods who would!

Among all the gods and demons, what kind of nature wouldn't they have?

Could it be that Immortal Sheep and the Flower Lantern were specifically chosen to take Qiao Family's children as disciples and use the siblings as hostages?

"Hmm..." Lu Ran pondered, feeling something was not quite right.

There was a story in this!

The last time Lu Ran returned to the human world, he spoke at length with his mother and clearly remembered that she defended Sword One.

"Senior?" Hua Qingying called softly.

Since she explained the reason, the mysterious person had been silent, the quiet pressing her down until she almost couldn't breathe.

For she harbored a slightly unrealistic fantasy from the bottom of her heart.

After all, the mysterious senior was so strong that it surpassed her understanding; maybe he could really change something?

Heavenly Realm, Mountain Realm, Human World.

On every inch of land under gods and demons, "hope" was something extremely cruel.

A person who has completely adapted to darkness, their logic and actions have long achieved self-consistency through years of suffering.

Such a person cannot see a glimmer of light.

Once they do...

They cannot survive.

"You've been enslaved for too long; it's time to try stepping out and reassessing the situation," Lu Ran said.

"Step out?"

"The old you didn't have the qualification. You wanted to live, and you loved your family, and there was no way."

Lu Ran sighed softly and continued, "Now it's different. I have given you a way out. Everything Chenghua gave you, I can give as well."

Hua Qingying habitually bit her lower lip.

Her originally blooming lips gradually lost their color.

"Your death would instead make your sister no longer receive special attention from Chenghua." Lu Ran said solemnly, "If the story has no beginning, then it has no continuation."

"But, but..." Hua Qingying's expression was complex.

"Didn't you just say your sister is to ascend the God Worship Platform next year?" Lu Ran suddenly interrupted.

"Yes."

"Alright." Lu Ran suddenly laughed, "When the time comes, you go."

"I go?"

"Yes, replace Chenghua, appear above the God Worship Platform, and have your sister worship you."

Hua Qingying opened her mouth in surprise.

The color of her lips gradually warmed.

This was the most rebellious thing she had ever heard in her life!

The most arrogant!

And the most heart-stirring!

The young man's deep voice entered her ears once more, "You dying in the God War is reasonable and not at your will; this is a heaven-sent opportunity."

Hua Qingying realized that the young man was approaching step by step, causing her body to tense involuntarily.

"I have here a Chenghua Stone Sculpture for you, allowing you to possess everything of Chenghua, until one day you surpass the gods and completely replace the gods."

Listening, Hua Qingying felt a hand landing on her forehead.

"In the future, follow me."

"Senior, what... what do I have to give?"

"Prepare your resentment, hatred, and anger towards Chenghua, and when you face her in the future, return it a hundredfold."

"This doesn't sound like a price?"

Lu Ran smiled and ruffled her hair, "There are not only Chenghua as gods."

Hua Qingying, of course, understood Lu Ran's meaning and, suppressing her turbulent emotions, couldn't help but ask, "Who exactly are you?"

"Me... I am someone who is not willing to accept things."

...

Ten minutes later.

Holy Spirit Mountain Realm · Tianya Haijiao.

A landing mirror tore through space-time, appearing at Heaven's Edge.

A woman holding an oiled paper umbrella cautiously came out.

Blue skies, white clouds, and clear sea waves.

The sudden beauty made Hua Qingying stop in her tracks.

"Whew~" The landing mirror behind her disappeared with the wind.

A tall silhouette appeared quietly in front of her.

Hua Qingying came back to her senses, realizing that she was finally going to see the true form of the "God."

In the past few minutes, her fate had undergone a significant transformation!

She had become the inheritor of the Pseudo God · Chenghua Stone Sculpture, completely freeing herself from the control of the God · Chenghua.

As planned, she fell on the front line, "dying" in the God War.

And all of this was orchestrated by the mysterious person in front of her.

"Previously, when Chenghua stomped you down until you vomited blood, it was because you asked the God to allow you to advance to the Heavenly Realm · Third Level?"

Lu Ran turned around, looking at the woman.

Hua Qingying's eyes widened slightly.

This was the first time she truly saw the mysterious figure's face.

The faces of those white-bearded old men in her mind were relentlessly dispelled by her, even the youthful faces she had imagined were driven away one by one.

The young man before her was far younger than she had imagined.

More ethereal and otherworldly.

His white robe fluttered without wind, and his sash danced lightly, like an exiled immortal.

And when he disengaged his invisibility, his aura burst forth! Though his tone was calm, it carried an undeniable authority.

Each word seemed to be infused with the unparalleled Heavenly Dao Laws.

"Qingying?"

"Ah! My former... benefactor." Hua Qingying snapped back to her senses, looking dazed.

"Former benefactor?" Lu Ran had an odd expression; had his position been demoted so quickly?

Hua Qingying was slightly embarrassed, but in the face of this excessively youthful fellow, it was hard to address him as a senior.

"You will break through to the Heavenly Realm, Third Level here." Lu Ran did not dwell on it, stamping his foot lightly, "There is a cavern below; go into seclusion."

"Where is this place?"

"Holy Spirit Mountain."

"Holy Spirit Mountain?" Hua Qingying tightly clutched the oilpaper umbrella.

She had never thought she would return to this place of sin in her lifetime.

"Yes." Lu Ran turned around, looking into the distant horizon where the sea and sky met, "In a while, I'll gather some Holy Spirit Energy to cultivate the Chenghua Stone Sculpture. When it levels up, your body will also tremble.

Don't be alarmed; that's the process of you merging with the Pseudo God Stone."

Just now, Lu Ran communicated with the Conlong Stone Sculpture, requesting Lord Strategist to transfer a wisp of Holy Spirit Energy to the Chenghua Stone Sculpture.

The Chenghua Stone Sculpture had only been activated; it could form a contract but its realm was extremely low.

It still needs further cultivation.

Many doubts lingered in Hua Qingying's heart, but she finally suppressed them and asked the most important question: "May I ask benefactor's name?"

"Lu Ran, Lu as in 'land,' Ran as in 'burning.'" Lu Ran smiled and shook his head, "To be fair, your divine penalty is somewhat related to me."

"Why?"

Lu Ran sighed deeply: "Your path to promotion was blocked by my mother."

Hua Qingying reacted for a moment, then her expression turned shocked: "Are you... are you from Qiao Sect Master's family?"

"It seems you have heard of my mother." Lu Ran nodded slightly.

Heard of?

Who in the Heavenly Realm does not know the Cloud Sea Sect?

Who does not know of Qiao Sect Master's illustrious reputation?

Hua Qingying stood frozen in place.

Suddenly, it seemed everything made sense.

If he was that person's child, nothing about his astounding qualities would be surprising...

"Go into seclusion; I'll inform the guards so no one will disturb you." Lu Ran instructed.

"Lu... Lu..."

"Just call me Sect Leader." Lu Ran looked at the girl he had brought along.

Hua Qingying had a natural naivety about her, vastly different from the composed elegance she had when Lu Ran first met her.

She seemed as if she was cluelessly led into his hands by someone...

This gave Lu Ran an inexplicable sense of guilt.

"Sect Leader, is there...is there anything else I should do?" Hua Qingying asked softly, clutching the oilpaper umbrella.

Lu Ran sighed heavily.

People who have been enslaved for so long indeed have issues in their hearts.

A sense of inadequacy.

"No eating, no drinking, cultivate to death, quickly advance to the Third Level of the Heavenly Realm." Lu Ran commanded.

Hua Qingying bit her lower lip again.

Lu Ran thought of something and switched his tone: "In a few days, Ran Sect plans to slay a god; we're thinking of dealing with an Evil God first for practice."

Hua Qingying: "Wh, what?"

Lu Ran shrugged: "So you need to quickly advance to the Third Level of the Heavenly Realm, come help me sooner."

"I... I..."

Lu Ran contemplated: "Come to think of it, the Angry Sea Flame Flood Dragon has an Evil Technique, 'Raise Fire to the Sky,' which poses a significant threat to us."

'Raise Fire to the Sky' is a rather special skill.

The Angry Sea Flame Flood Dragon must first shoot fireballs into the sky, disperse layers of fire clouds, and only then can it scorch all things.

After reaching the River Grade, flames continue to fall from the fire clouds, like a rain of fire from the heavens, covering a large area with astonishing killing power!

"Sect Leader, 'Raise Fire to the Sky' is an output skill. My 'Smoky Rain in the Human World' might not be able to block it; I can only restrict it..."

"Some restriction is better than none, and you can certainly block other things." Lu Ran continued, "Wind, sand, rain, snow—during our god-slaying venture, you'll be the stabilizing needle of our team.

Keep the battlefield environment tightly controlled for me!

Don't give those filthy creatures any chance."

"Yes!" Hua Qingying understood her value, immediately achieving self-assurance.

Commands from a superior made her no longer lost, her beautiful eyes brightened.

"Bo~"

Lu Ran nodded gently, and promptly sent out a Resurrection Carp.

The small, dark Mo Li struck the girl's forehead, breaking into a flood of life force, surging into her body.

Hua Qingying only saw a flash before her eyes.

The immortal disappeared without a trace.

She finally had the chance to gaze upon the long-lost blue sea and sky.

Yet, she closed her eyes and took a deep breath.

This was a path she had never envisioned.

In her long years of dying struggle, in places unseen by others...

A young human, unwilling to accept his fate, continued on a unique path.

He declared,

He would slay a god.

...

Chapter 925: Slay the God Today!

Four days later, at the crack of dawn.

"Hmm..." Lu Ran, lying on the main bedroom's bed, slowly awakened.

He stared blankly at the stone ceiling above for quite a while before recalling the recent events.

Last night, the stone sculptures of Xian Mo and the Mad Immortal had ceased trembling one after another.

Instead of rushing into action, Lu Ran just went to sleep.

Xian'er was so overjoyed that she disturbed his rest, annoying Lu Ran enough to telepathically ask Jiang Ruyi to have the Lady of the Flame Gate deal with the maid.

And then, it seemed the little maid got scolded?

Hehe~

Lu Ran yawned, sat up against the headboard, and rubbed his temples with one hand.

The Magic Artifact, Smoke and Mist Silk, quietly floated up, transforming from a mist into silk, rolling its two ends into small balls that settled on either side of Lu Ran's forehead and gently massaged him.

Lu Ran: "..."

This is quite spiritual, isn't it?

With you, who needs the Big Nightmare or Little Ruyi?

The Smoke and Mist Silk, soft and cool, massaged Lu Ran until he nearly dozed off again, his eyelids drooping.

No way!

Lu Ran snapped awake; there were important tasks to be done.

Now that the Lady of the Flame Gate, the Nightmare Guardian, the Mad Immortal Guardian, and Huangfu Tianjiang had all advanced to the Heavenly Realm, Third Level.

Everything was prepared and ready to go!

With this thought, Lu Ran's spirit soared, and he immediately sent a mental message, summoning all the teams back to Holy Spirit Mountain.

The three captains received the Sect Leader's command and responded immediately.

Lu Ran leaned to the side and, moving from his seat by the headboard, appeared directly in the main hall, sitting in the Taishi Chair.

"Shadow Guard? Who's there?"

"Sect Leader."

"Sect Leader!" Shadow One and Shadow Two appeared simultaneously.

"Go to Heaven's Edge Cave and invite Hua Tianjiang here." Lu Ran commanded.

While the large force was returning, he could introduce Hua Qingying to her comrades, showing off a little.

A few days ago, Lu Ran unsuccessfully tried to pull out a plastic bag; the memory was still clear in his mind...

Moments later, under the guidance of the Shadow Guard Team, Hua Qingying arrived at Tianya Residence.

"Sect Leader." Hua Qingying called softly, embracing her paper umbrella.

"Is the Magic Artifact better?"

"There are still some cracks on the umbrella's ribs." Hua Qingying was visibly saddened, "If Qingying could advance, the abundant energy during the process should help it self-repair."

Lu Ran nodded: "Please, sit."

But Hua Qingying asked, "Is there something specific you want me for, Sect Leader?"

"Didn't I tell you before that I wanted to slaughter an Evil God for practice?"

Hua Qingying's heart trembled slightly, biting her lower lip as she focused intently on Lu Ran.

"It's time." Lu Ran smiled, "I've already summoned the Flame Gate soldiers back, so you'll get to know all your comrades at once."

"Yes." Hua Qingying was very curious and, at Lu Ran's indication, took a seat at the side of the hall.

Soon, a team entered the hall.

The leader was a heroic woman wearing a straw raincoat, tall with long hair down her waist, her eyes as sharp as knives.

Yet the woman carried no hint of Divine Power.

Deng Yuxiang, expressionless, glanced at the unfamiliar woman, but without stopping, she marched straight to the center of the hall.

"Sect Leader!" Deng Yuxiang knelt on one knee, bowing her head in salute.

Her followers all followed suit.

Lu Ran's gaze swept over the group, sensing the overwhelming murderous aura, and couldn't help but inwardly praise.

Truly, the kind of general determines the kind of soldiers!

Look at these people under the Big Nightmare!

In offensive positions are the Martial Emperor, Luo Shen General, and Feng Yan Generals, adept at both attack and defense.

In support roles is He Yingcai, Alliance Hierarchy of the Thousand Boat Alliance, whose whole body is infused with poison.

Scouts Wei Yun, the Prophet Bai Yanhui, and Teleporter Lu Yuan.

No ordinary person among them!

Even the scout and prophet, whose strength realm is relatively weaker at the Sea Realm High Rank, are outstanding individuals.

One is a top elite of Pear Garden Sect, the other a prestigious Valley Master of Sinless Valley in the Mountain Realm for decades.

Counting Captain Deng Yuxiang, the team comprised nine people in total.

Their combat power was off the charts!

Lu Ran was well acquainted with his comrades, but Hua Qingying, meeting them for the first time, was shocked by their terrifying aura.

Especially Luo Ying and Gao Yunyan!

Hua Qingying observed the two from head to toe for a long time, struggling to determine who was more fearsome.

One exuded killing intent thoroughly, cold and pure.

The other was recklessly arrogant to the core, hiding an air of "above all others under heaven" even while bowing respectfully.

These two...

Hua Qingying was secretly amazed.

The bow-wielding woman should be the Second-class Fake God, Ash?

The axe-wielding woman must be the Second Rank Fake God Barbaric Woman Banshee!

Hua Qingying was a hundred percent sure of this!

So wild and fierce!

Wild enough to worry that this tall, strong woman might not get angry, rise up, chop down Little Lu Sect Leader with an axe, and declare herself king!

While watching, Hua Qingying, as if discovering treasure, turned her gaze to Wu Xiao.

She observed him for a moment, astonished to realize this unassuming, introverted man was in no way inferior to Ash or the Barbaric Woman Banshee!

What kind of god or demon is this?

A First-class God Demon?

A storm of astonishment was raging in Hua Qingying's heart.

Meanwhile, Lu Ran's eyes landed on He Yingcai, teasing with a smile: "Well, how do you find it, senior? Is the Heavenly Realm fun?"

He Yingcai looked up, her eyes showing a hint of grievance.

Causing Lu Ran's scalp to tingle!

She always wanted to be with Yu Changsheng, but the Flame Gate lacked manpower.

As the inheritor of Bi He - Tangled Silk Shadow, He Yingcai was skilled in defense, control, poison, and healing, singlehandedly bearing the flag of support, so she was deployed to the second team to make her mark.

"Hehe~" Lu Ran chuckled awkwardly, "Don't worry, when the Divine Seeking General, Little Yuanxi, and Bull Sparrow grow stronger, the team will be reshuffled."

Luo Ying: "..."

Her husband's name should not have appeared among the names of these young people, such as Qiao Yuansi, Golden Sparrow, and Niu Zhengzheng.

Unfortunately, Xun Yifei is not up to it!

He's been stuck at the Sea Realm Peak for so long...

"Master, Yingcai really likes the second team. The atmosphere within the team is great, and the efficiency of killing is very high," He Yingcai said softly.

Lu Ran scoffed.

Oh, come on! When you say the efficiency of killing is high, I naturally agree.

But a great atmosphere?

With that Big Nightmare face, I don't even dare make a sound!

"I suppose you've gained a lot. Come back and take the Holy Spirit Energy to the Stone Sculpture for proper digestion... Oh, right, this is our new comrade."

Lu Ran briefly introduced Hua Qingying, keeping Deng Yuxiang behind, and then welcomed several shadows of gods and demons back into his pupil.

The shadows left their bodies, and each flesh and blood dissipated with the wind.

Wei Yun and Bai Yanhui, being the real bodies, also went back to rest under Lu Ran's indication.

"General Hua, which god or demon did you inherit?" Deng Yuxiang sat heavily on the chair, turning his head to look at Hua Qingying.

"Chenghua." Hua Qingying stood up subconsciously, holding her oiled paper umbrella.

She could never figure out what level of strength this mysterious Nightmare Guardian had, and why there was no energy fluctuation at all.

It was as if the other party was always activating the Divine Technique: Wolf Concealment, yet constantly revealing their true form.

"Why follow Master Lu?" Deng Yuxiang looked up and down at the gentle and beautiful lady.

"I... I..."

"Young Master!" Hua Qingying's words were interrupted by a steady and powerful male voice.

As Hua Qingying looked over, she couldn't help but be taken aback.

Among this group, there were one or two faces that were somewhat familiar to her?!

Huangfu Zhao was at the forefront.

Following behind were the damage dealers: Yan Chou, Wuya, Leng Tianxing.

The support Leng Tianyue.

The scout Yan Shuangzi, the prophet Bai Manni, the teleporter Shangguan Hongfu.

The Hall Master of Fushou Hall, who was once a Flower Lantern disciple, had now become a Dust Shadow Believer.

It couldn't be helped.

In the God-Demon camp, only the Dust Shadow and Evil Mirror Demon factions possess Teleportation Skills, so Shangguan Hongfu could not hold the identity of a Fake God.

But after Shangguan Hongfu changed factions, he also gained an advantage.

Nominally, he revered the Fake God Lu Yuan (Dust Shadow Flower).

In reality, within the Sculpture Garden, the stone sculptures of Lu Yuan and Qin Yanzhi had already merged into one, leading to a phenomenon where Shangguan Hongfu can use the skills of both factions!

Such a phenomenon is quite common in the Ran Sect.

Take for example the disciples who revere the Lady of the Ran Sect.

Since Jiang Ruyi replaced the Jade Talisman and devoured the Ghost Talisman, all her believers can use the techniques of both the Jade Talisman and Ghost Talisman...

Of course, the premise is her permission.

"Young Master."

"Young Master!" Compared to the last team, this squad had more people addressing the Young Master.

As many as five people!

The unique title, coupled with the somewhat familiar faces, made Hua Qingying realize that those five men and women of older age were once disciples of Master Qiao!

Cloud Sea Sect.

Undoubtedly the number one sect in the world!

And now... The child inherits the mother's career?

"Where's the first team?" Lu Ran looked towards the tunnel entrance, a bit puzzled.

Shangguan Hongfu was merely Sea Realm, capable of large-scale transfers on the battlefield but without the ability for cross-realm transportation.

Huangfu Zhao's third squad of the Ran Sect could only hitch a ride back to the Holy Spirit Mountain.

"Young Master, we came back with the second team," Huangfu Zhao replied immediately. "The Nightmare Guardian reported the task first. We've been waiting outside the Tianya Residence."

"Oh." Lu Ran smiled, his gaze sweeping over the soldiers.

They truly looked fierce and menacing!

Lu Ran suddenly had a thought.

If Deng Yuxiang's second team and Huangfu Zhao's third team were to face off with real weapons...

Who would win?

Over there, led by Night Charm, they have Martial Artist, Ash, West Desolation, Barbaric.

There's also Tethering Silk and Dust Shadow Flower.

On this side, they have the bug-level Dong Ting leading the way! Under him are Qiang Xiu, Nuoshua, Star Official, Moon Spirit.

The key is there's another bug-level, disguised Evil Dog wearing wolf skin!

Who would win, though, is really hard to say?

"Lady!"

"Lady." Lu Ran was engrossed in a hypothetical battle scenario when the third wave of military supplies arrived!

Jiang Ruyi entered the hall.

Followed by damage dealers He Qifeng, Bai Rao, Tu Feng, Wang Longxiang.

The supports Yu Changsheng, Leng Xushuang.

The scouts Yin Yan, prophet Chang Ying, teleporter Qin Yanzhi.

"My goodness~" Lu Ran had fallen into a certain train of thought, unable to extricate himself.

Jade Talisman leads the team! Under them are Martial Monks, Jade-faced Snake, Prison Sky Demon, Nüying.

There's also the Dragon Carp, Yinli Tiger, Cold Plum, and Evil Mirror Demon.

The configuration of the third team is the most complete!

They are truly powerful!

Yet, Sea Realm's Spiritual Fortune, Witch Crow, Caster, and Ghost Moon Fox aren't even on the table.

Lu Ran couldn't help but lick his lips, with a hint of bloodthirsty intent.

Poor Ghost Talisman Doll...

If I don't blast you to smithereens, I'd be letting this configuration down!

Hmm... Almost forgot, I still have a world-shattering Mad Immortal!

Enough said.

Let's dispatch the troops immediately!

Slay the gods!

...

Chapter 926: The Secret of the Demon Cave

All gods return to their places!

A multitude of Ran Sect soldiers, shadows of gods and demons flew out from their bodies, like birds returning to their nests, entering Lu Ran's eyes one after another.

The bodies left in the hall became soulless shells, no longer qualified to exist, breaking into mist one after another.

They were also absorbed cleanly by Lu Ran.

Don't waste any~

Soon, in the once crowded hall, only a few people remained.

"You all can go back and rest." Lu Ran's gaze swept over Chang Ying, Bai Manni, and Shangguan Hongfu.

"Yes."

"Subordinates take their leave," the others responded in unison, only Chang Ying stayed in place, not leaving.

Lu Ran naturally noticed the anomaly of the dark-skinned girl and joked, "What's up, Fortune Teller Chang? Is there something you want to tell me, a little revelation of the heavens?"

Chang Ying looked up at Lu Ran, her expression serious, "Wishing the sect leader victory at the outset!"

Lu Ran raised an eyebrow slightly, "So it's a good result huh? What exactly is the sign?"

Chang Ying said in a deep voice, "Where there is a will, there's a way!"

Lu Ran's expression turned odd, "You're really getting more and more like a fortune teller, huh?"

Asking about the sign you drew!

And you tell me 'Be brave, be brave my friend'?

"What sign?" Jiang Ruyi softly interjected.

Chang Ying bowed her head, "Apologies, Lady, this subordinate cannot calculate it."

"Ah?" Lu Ran was taken aback.

In the hall, Deng Yuxiang, Yu Changsheng, Huangfu Zhao, and Hua Qingying were seated, Leng Xushuang making tea to the side, and Yan Shuangzi guarding secretly.

It was clear that the mood of these people had changed somewhat.

Causing the atmosphere in the room to quickly become oppressive.

"Clatter~"

Lu Ran personally took action, a surge of energy in his hands, holding a stick cylinder.

As he shook it continuously, the wooden sticks inside clattered.

second, 2 seconds...5 seconds...10 seconds!

Lu Ran was stunned!

The others were also dumbfounded.

No stick coming out?

In the cylinder, there were a total of five sticks: best, good, medium, bad, and worst.

Lu Ran kept shaking the cylinder, but no stick ever flew out.

Could it be said that when a question involves the survival of gods and demons at the highest level, the Spiritual Sign Sect cannot calculate it?

Lu Ran slowly put down his hand, his expression grave.

He finally understood that Chang Ying stayed specifically to remind him of this matter.

"Understood." Lu Ran slowly spoke, breaking the silent atmosphere in the room, "This sign is indeed named 'Where there is a will, there's a way.'

Chang Ying showed an apologetic expression, her head hung even lower.

As an inheritor, Chang Ying was deeply bound with the Spiritual Sign Sect, and in her own professional realm, she indeed felt guilty for not being able to provide support to Lu Ran.

One must say, Chang Ying's change was quite dramatic.

Even though it wasn't her problem, the Valley Master of Starry Valley still had a sense of "no shirking responsibility."

"Sect Leader, this is also a good thing," Yu Changsheng said softly.

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

Yu Changsheng analyzed, "The sect leader and the Valley Master of Starry Valley can't calculate, perhaps even the Spiritual Sign deity can't calculate it either."

"Let's hope so." Lu Ran replied.

Chang Ying used the Sea Grade technique, Lu Ran used the Heavenly Grade technique.

The Spiritual Sign deity could wield an even higher level Divine Technique! Who could ensure that that damned thing couldn't calculate it?

As the saying goes: a fortune-teller cannot predict their own fate, nor can a doctor cure themselves.

Hopefully, all this is not due to the grade of the technique, hopefully, the Spiritual Sign deity simply cannot decipher its own destiny, or even the destiny of all heavens' gods and demons.

Of course, these were all Lu Ran's beautiful fantasies, no matter what, some things must be done!

Being cautious is necessary, but by today, Lu Ran had not been to many places.

For example, the remote southwestern border.

Even though Lord Immortal Sheep was at the Blood Dust Divine Mountain, due to the presence of the Blood Skull Clan, Lu Ran had never ventured there.

And then the northwest frontier.

Because Spiritual Sign stayed in that Divine Mountain, Lu Ran dared not wait there, fearing that that damned thing might draw a bad sign, and then deliberately investigate where exactly the problem lay.

Whether it could be found out, that's another matter.

After all, the Spiritual Sign Sect's fortune-telling concludes only with 'good' or 'bad', giving you a best sign, worst sign, or something like that.

It can't give specific matters.

But why would Lu Ran need to alert the other side?

Thus, caution is necessary, but at the same time, being excessively cautious is absolutely unacceptable!

The blade must be raised against gods and demons when necessary as well!

"Thanks, Yingying." Lu Ran no longer called her Fortune Teller, but thanked her sincerely, "Go rest."

"Yes." Chang Ying stood up and took her leave.

After the Valley Master of Starry Valley left, the room fell into silence.

Until Leng Xushuang offered tea, Lu Ran reached out to receive it, finally breaking the silence, "Everyone, the newly joined Hua Qingying lady has provided me with a lot of intelligence."

Jiang Ruyi momentarily glanced over, her gaze falling on the dignified and quiet lady.

Hua Qingying immediately stood up.

A wave of Ran Sect soldiers repeatedly shocked her heart and mind.

Among a multitude of fake gods, what most caught Hua Qingying's secret admiration was this young Ran Sect Lady.

The words 'celestial charm' seemed tailor-made for the Ran Sect Lady.

When the Sect Leader and Lady sat on opposite sides of the Eight Immortals Table, seated on the prominent Taishi Chairs...

A verse popped into Hua Qingying's mind:

Rarely are husband and wife so young!

Truly enviable.

In this filthy world, stagnant like a pool of dead water, such youthful power is indeed needed to break all the old shackles.

"General Hua told me about my Immortal Sheep Sect's senior Cheng Xin, and also talked about what's really inside the cloud vortex pierced into the peak of the Divine Mountain in the Third Heaven."

At this point, Lu Ran looked at the woman: "Why don't you tell everyone about the cloud vortex."

"Yes." Hua Qingying respectfully accepted the order, her eyes growing ever more reverent.

People are complex creatures.

Hua Qingying joined the Ran Sect partly because she still harbored a sliver of hope in her heart, partly because Lu Ran had indeed saved her life.

And partly because she knew deep down that beneath Lu Ran's seemingly gentle words and actions lay absolute strength.

In some ways, Lu Ran and the God, Chenghua, were indistinguishable.

In front of both, Hua Qingying had no choice whatsoever.

And it was precisely this third point that perfectly matched her long-standing survival-driven mentality of constant adjustment and self-consistency.

Today, as batch after batch of "armaments" arrived, and terrifyingly powerful fake gods bowed respectfully to Master Lu, Hua Qingying's heart surged with excitement.

Lu Ran's wings were far fuller than she had imagined!

He was a new god rising majestically!

And this "new god" was of her own kin, who even promised her that in June of next year, she would personally ascend the God Worship Platform.

For the rest of her life, she would personally protect her sister, watching over her as she grew...

"General Hua?" Lu Ran prompted, noticing Hua Qingying's distraction.

"Ah!" Hua Qingying hurriedly said, "Inside the cloud vortex is the Demon Cave, where numerous evil demon minions wander."

Deng Yuxiang squinted: "The Demon Cave? The one where the Human Clan trains?"

"Yes."

The people in the room weren't fools, and they quickly figured out the location relationship between the Human World, Demon Cave, Heavenly Realm, and Holy Spirit Mountain.

"Continue." Jiang Ruyi absorbed this shocking information, speaking softly.

"The Demon Cave is divided into two levels." Hua Qingying organized her words, "The upper level of the Demon Cave is connected to the Human World and is where believers train and where the Human Clan's corps are stationed.

The lower level of the Demon Cave is connected to the Third Heaven."

Her words left everyone's expressions varied.

Who would have thought that back when they were young and weak, during their training in the Mist Realm and Stream Realm, they were so close to the world's most advanced battlefield?

Hua Qingying continued, "The evil demon true forms, made of stone, are mostly stationed in the upper level of the Demon Cave.

Their location is usually far from the Demon Cave Gate, giving the Human Clan ample buffer zones to let believers train and the army to station and build defense works."

Jiang Ruyi nodded thoughtfully: "Only evil demon minions in the lower level?"

"Madam, the lower level of the Demon Cave is more like a massive Evil Nest! Different strength levels of evil demon minions are constantly being born there."

Hua Qingying paused, then continued, "The relatively weaker minions go to the upper level of the Demon Cave to create the illusion of the Evil Demon Clan continuously attacking the Human World.

The stronger minions come down to the Heavenly Realm, collecting energy for the evil demon true forms across the First, Second, and Third Heavens."

"Sigh..." Yu Changsheng let out a long sigh.

He had long understood that this world was wrapped up in a gigantic lie.

Yet, when everything became clear, Yu Changsheng couldn't help but sigh.

The God Demon... truly had a heart.

Hua Qingying continued to demonstrate her value, combining it with her thoughts: "Qingying believes that the lower level of the Demon Cave, the Evil Nest, can also be considered a buffer zone.

The Evil Gods are probably worried that Faceless Jade Venerable will suddenly break through the blockade and charge into the cloud vortex.

So the evil true forms remain in the upper level, creating evil demon minions in the lower level."

"And the gods?" Jiang Ruyi asked abruptly.

Hua Qingying: "Each Divine Mountain has many peaks, piercing into different cloud vortices. The Divine Sculpture uses the Demon Cave to pierce the earth, connecting the stone pillars beneath with the Divine Mountain.

Divine Sculptures and Evil Sculptures exist between two worlds.

We have all seen the true form of the gods, and the Divine Sculptures stand in the Human World, towering over ancient cities."

Deng Yuxiang coldly said, "Where do you think we should start from for our journey to slay the Evil God?"

Hua Qingying looked at Lu Ran and softly said, "With Sect Leader's strength, he can start from anywhere. But entering the cloud vortex directly from the Third Heaven makes the search more convenient."

Yu Changsheng grasped her thinking: "Directly follow the stone pillars upward?"

"Exactly!" Hua Qingying nodded repeatedly.

From the Human World, one can descend into the Demon Cave.

From the Third Heaven, one can also ascend to the Demon Cave.

The difference is, going from the Third Heaven requires crossing a buffer zone, passing through the Evil Nest.

It's clear that Hua Qingying has absolute confidence in Lu Ran, having personally experienced the mystery of Lu Ran when hidden.

And she had witnessed firsthand as one fake god after another entered Lu Ran's vision.

Lu Ran carries a mighty army at his side!

He only needs to conceal himself, and once he reaches the designated location, he can instantly deploy an entire force.

"Young Master."

"Mr. Huangfu?" Lu Ran looked at the man who rarely spoke up.

Huangfu Zhao said solemnly, "This matter is of great importance! I suggest you first communicate with Lord Immortal Sheep."

"Naturally." Lu Ran nodded, then said, "Let's first formulate the specific plan to hunt the Evil God, Ghost Talisman Doll, so when I report to Lord Immortal Sheep, I can also receive guidance."

"Swish~" Yu Changsheng elegantly unfolded his paper fan, fanning it gently.

Lu Ran looked at the strategist: "Mr. Conglong, you must already have a plan in mind?"

Yu Changsheng stood up and saluted, "The Ghost Talisman Doll has low intelligence, weak spirit defense, and habitually voidifies itself, making it easy to disrupt on the spot.

If we focus on these three points, we will surely succeed against this clan!"

Lu Ran gently nodded: "Let me add something, Mr. Conglong."

Instinctively, everyone in the hall turned to look at Lu Ran.

"The Ghost Talisman Doll standing in the Sculpture Garden was not the genuine one, Mr. Conglong, it was misleading, it's inevitable." Lu Ran slowly explained, "The true Evil God, Ghost Talisman Doll, is a pair of boys and girls holding hands.

And those little hands held together can be separated."

"Oh?" Yu Changsheng's eyes lit up.

Lu Ran nodded solemnly: "Let me tell you in detail..."

...

Chapter 927: No Turning Back

A meeting lasted until noon.

Lu Ran, brimming with confidence, stored all the fake gods in his mind, then stored Huangfu Zhao in the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd, before returning to the Third Heaven.

Destination of this journey: Blood Dust Divine Mountain!

Despite his apprehension towards the Blood Skull Clan, this time, Lu Ran had to go.

To seek the Immortal Sheep.

Also, to preemptively navigate the Demon Cave in preparation for slaying the Ghost Talisman Doll.

Although the shapes of the demon lairs in the world vary, they all have the same essence. Lu Ran planned to carefully observe the upper and lower layers of the Demon Cave under the protection of Lord Immortal Sheep.

Regarding the matter of slaying gods, it's never too much to prepare thoroughly!

With the help of the Heavenly Grade Evil Technique: Evil Shadow Flash, Lu Ran traveled swiftly and soon reached the remote southwestern frontline.

"Hoo~"

Amidst the flickering divine power, Lu Ran's figure stopped.

He concealed his form, standing in mid-air, using his extreme eye power to gaze into the distance.

Within the Third Heaven, everywhere was dark, but here, the sky was particularly bright.

Countless dots of white light seemed to form a surging tide, presenting an incredibly magnificent scene!

The battlefield here was grander, a couple of levels above the one at Nu Ying Divine Mountain!

"Wow!" Lu Ran clicked his tongue in awe.

So many Faceless Jade Venerables?

The southwestern frontline was brutal to this extent?

He flew forward, gazing up at the skies, and found this divine mountain equally towering, with various sharp peaks puncturing several black cloud vortices.

Which vortex leads directly to the Mortal World Da Xia's Luoxian Mountain?

Huh?

Lu Ran suddenly blinked his eyes.

What are those?

All around the divine mountain were figures of Evil Mirror Demons, surrounded by Faceless Jade Venerables who were not attacking recklessly.

Ah! Right!

Lu Ran suddenly understood.

Evil Mirror Magic: Mirror Puppet Shadow!

The Evil Mirror Demon clan can summon special mirrors that reflect the enemies' shapes, thereby replicating identical creatures.

In the past, when Lu Ran trained in the Demon Cave: Galaxy Bay, he was once "taught" by a River Realm Evil Mirror Demon.

At that time, the charming little demon took out a mirror and directly duplicated a copy of Lu Ran.

However, the "Puppet Shadow Lu Ran" that crawled out from the mirror had many flaws.

Lacking intelligence, unable to inherit martial arts.

Most importantly, it couldn't perform techniques!

For Lu Ran, such a puppet shadow was easily dealt with, as he is human, with a fragile flesh and blood body.

Lu Ran relies on his powerful skills and exquisite swordsmanship.

To the point that the mirrored puppet shadow of Lu Ran had low defense, thin blood, and was quite amateurish in its skills...

Faceless Jade Venerables are different!

Their bodies are made of jade stone, not fragile at all.

The puppet shadow of Faceless Jade Venerables created by Evil Mirror Demons had high defense, thick blood, fast movement speed, and were ferocious!

"Truly eye-opening." Lu Ran grinned.

The various special mirrors of the Evil Mirror Demon clan were derived from the Basic Technique: Mirror of Sin.

And the Basic Technique: Mirror of Sin had a limited number.

For each realm the caster advances, they can summon an additional basic mirror as their technique grade improves.

In other words, a Heavenly Realm Evil Mirror Demon minion could possess six Mirrors of Sin.

After transformation, one Evil Mirror Demon can replicate six Faceless Jade Venerables!

What does this mean?

Lu Ran had just understood why the frontline here was far grander than that at Nu Ying Divine Mountain, with Faceless Jade Venerables surging like a tsunami.

Turns out most of the terrifying tide was their own people?

The Evil Mirror Demons were also adorned with Dust Shadow Flower shadows, mysterious and beautiful Other Shore Flowers blooming continuously.

A multitude of teleportation arrays stretched out over the battlefield.

Puppet shadow jade venerables were constantly deployed onto the battlefield, with many Evil Mirror Demons leading their fully assembled squads to teleport behind enemy lines for surprise attacks.

Lu Ran couldn't help but be impressed!

As he flew closer, his expression became increasingly peculiar.

Wait!

Lu Ran realized he had been mistaken twice.

The dense dots of white light were not just Faceless Jade Venerables and Puppet Shadow Jade Venerables; there was another presence—Immortal Sheep!

To be precise, Immortal Sheep minions.

"Wow!" Lu Ran's mouth formed an 'O' shape.

So many!

So many dominating sheep!

This was his first time seeing Immortal Sheep minions, as if witnessing countless miniature versions of Immortal Sheep remnants.

Each Immortal Sheep minion stood upright, their two hind hooves on the ground, and their front hooves hidden in wide sleeves.

They were all draped in white jade robes!

Their garments were even more exquisite than the robes of Faceless Jade Venerables, as lustrous and smooth as mutton-fat jade, flashing with an ethereal glow in this gloomy world.

Immortal Sheep minions darted through the mist with astonishing speed, continuously ramming enemies with their immortal horns.

Indeed, Faceless Jade Venerables had extraordinary defensive power.

But empowered by Immortal Hooves, the charge of Immortal Sheep minions was astounding, their horns carrying a force as if with the weight of mountains!

They truly could ram Faceless Jade Venerables, creating numerous cracks.

"Maa!!"

"Maa~~~"

As Lu Ran flew closer, the bleating of sheep reached his ears, rising and falling.

It made Lu Ran's heart itch!

He had a strong feeling of finding his kin~

He felt a compelling urge to dive into the white jade waves and bleat along with them...

Come to think of it, the bleating of the Immortal Sheep minions wasn't mixed with any spiritual output, after all, Faceless Jade Venerables had maxed-out spirit defense, unaffected by any interference.

Contrarily, neither the Evil Mirror Clan nor the Blood Skull Clan have learned Spirit Defense Techniques, so they often fall for tricks.

[Here it comes.] A low, hoarse voice abruptly echoed in my mind.

[Lord Immortal Sheep!] Lu Ran hovered from afar.

The Dust Shadow Flower - the Evil Mirror Demon couldn't detect the invisible Lu Ran, but the Immortal Sheep could. After all, there was a contract binding the two, one man and one god.

"Baaa!!"

Suddenly, a piercing sheep bleat was heard, standing out amidst the endless chorus of "baa baa" sounds.

Lu Ran followed the sound and searched for a while in the jade white waves before spotting a peculiar sheep.

This sheep... was very small.

You could completely describe it as a "little lamb"!

The little creature stood on all fours without any clothes, looking exactly like an ordinary lamb.

When Lu Ran noticed it, the little lamb had just been harshly crushed by an underling of the Immortal Sheep.

"Crack!!"

The little lamb died tragically on the spot, its body suddenly swelling, transforming into a shattered Faceless Jade Venerable.

Immortal Sheep Divine Technique·Sheep?!

Lu Ran's pupils slightly contracted.

It's often said, the fewer the words, the bigger the event!

The Immortal Sheep Divine Technique·Sheep is domineering, forcibly turning a Faceless Jade Venerable into a lamb awaiting slaughter.

It's been five years since Lu Ran became an Immortal Sheep Believer.

He has never used this technique.

Because it extremely consumes divine power, energy, and qi power, and even drains the soul.

What's more terrifying is that once this technique is used, the caster becomes incredibly weak, losing all combat ability for a certain period.

The severe consequences made Lu Ran hesitant.

Additionally, this technique only works on enemies of the same level or lower.

Who was Lu Ran?

He's someone who often kills enemies of higher levels! Facing enemies of the same level, he'd just crush them directly, how could he need such a technique.

But for the Immortal Sheep's underlings, this technique is excellent!

One on one, how could they defeat a Faceless Jade Venerable?

Trading one life for another, isn't that wonderful?

"Gulp." Lu Ran's throat moved, the more he looked, the more startled he became.

No wonder the Blood Skull Clan rarely stayed at the Blood Dust Divine Mountain!

No wonder he searched for so long and only saw a few Blood Skull underlings.

Because there's simply no need!

Da Xia's Evil Demon Leader?

Yeah, I get it, just go play on the side~

The Evil Mirror Demon is a Summoner, capable of summoning puppet jade venerables several times the enemy's number to hold the front line and ambush the back.

The Dust Shadow Flower is a Teleporter, capable of sending people where defenses are weak in an instant.

The Immortal Sheep Sect has explosive combat power!

Where is there any sign of cowardice?

Lu Ran was stunned!

This damn... this group of Immortal Sheep underlings, each is fiercer than the last!

A Faceless Jade Venerable, you say?

Heard you're wild?

Heard you roam the Heavenly Realm, unmatched?

Come!

I'll trade lives with you!

[Lord Immortal Sheep, this is...] For a moment, Lu Ran didn't know what to say.

[This what?] The still deep voice carried a hint of amusement.

[Lord Immortal Sheep is so strong! It feels like you could handle the Faceless Jade Venerable alone.] Lu Ran sincerely exclaimed.

Just throw a single Immortal Sheep Divine Technique-Sheep over!

Even the Faceless Jade Venerable would turn into a little lamb, right?

[Heh.] The Immortal Sheep gave a cold laugh, [If I resolved the Faceless Jade Venerable, how would you overthrow the domination of this vast sky of gods and demons?]

Lu Ran's breath hitched!

Immortal Sheep... didn't say no?

Damn domineering sheep boss!

You this... this, this, this?

[If I turn the Jade Venerable into a sheep to be slaughtered by the gods and demons, what do you think would be my fate then?] The cold words, like the morning bell and evening drum, echoed in Lu Ran's mind.

Knowing the nature of the gods and demons, Lu Ran absolutely didn't believe they would treat Lord Immortal Sheep as a hero!

If the Immortal Sheep can resolve the Faceless Jade Venerable, then given enough time to recuperate, the Immortal Sheep could naturally resolve any god or demon.

What a threat is this?

Inevitably, some god or demon would seize the opportunity to smash the Immortal Sheep's stone sculpture!

[Indeed, Lord Immortal Sheep must grasp the Divine Technique carefully, never to display it lightly.] Lu Ran immediately sent a message.

[What business do you have here?]

[Lord Immortal Sheep, the troops under my command are ready and prepared! I came this time planning to pass through this dark cloud whirlpool and incidentally survey the state of the Demon Cave, leading directly to Luoxian Mountain.]

[Ready?]

[Yes!] Lu Ran nodded heavily, [After returning to the mountain, I plan to report the battle plans to you.]

[Have you thought it through? The fall of an evil god affects everything.] Immortal Sheep's words were not cold, but gentle, [Once the bow is drawn, there is no turning back.]

Lu Ran was exceedingly solemn, speaking word by word: [I've thought it through.]

From the day I embarked on this path,

I've imagined a glorious outcome, but also thought of shattering into pieces along the way, beyond redemption.

The only thing I never considered, is regretting setting foot on this path.

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

Indeed so.

No turning back!

...

Chapter 928: Return to the Human World

Lu Ran's response was straightforward and decisive.

With no transmission falling in his mind, he waited quietly, gazing at the fiercely battling battlefield in the distance.

The truth proved that an imposter remained an imposter.

Even though the Faceless Jade Venerables had superior numbers, their overall combat strength was still inferior.

The Faceless Jade Venerables indeed had high defense and health, but they did not possess the corresponding skills. When their limbs touched the enemy, they couldn't corrupt the enemy's body and turn it into jade.

The true Faceless Jade Venerable could!

Lu Ran also discovered an interesting phenomenon: the Faceless Jade Venerables were inherently made of jade, and when they were corrupted, the naked eye couldn't distinguish the difference.

But the corrupted Faceless Jade Venerables would become particularly fragile, their skin peeling off in chunks, turning to powder and scattering in the wind.

So, even the Faceless Jade Venerable herself feared her own output?

[Thought it over, then come.] After a long time, Lord Immortal Sheep finally sent a transmission, [The vortex at the far southwest.]

[Yes!] Lu Ran immediately agreed, looking up and locking onto the destination.

Then he remembered something and asked, [Right, I heard that Senior Cheng Xin has always been on your side?]

[You know quite a lot.]

Lu Ran's heart settled! He finally confirmed that Cheng Xin was still alive.

Ignoring the cold demeanor of the domineering Lord Sheep, he continued, [I've long heard the great name of Grandpa Cheng, and I'm eager to meet the esteemed elder...]

Lu Ran's words were interrupted by a transmission: [He will appear if necessary.]

[Ah?] Lu Ran's face froze.

From the tone of Lord Immortal Sheep, it seemed he wasn't going to let him meet Senior Cheng?

Is there something behind this?

[What? Without him, you can't slay demons?]

[Not at all.] Lu Ran shook his head repeatedly, [I merely wish to see him in person to confirm his well-being.]

[Come back.] The deep voice ended the conversation directly.

Lu Ran pressed his lips, his figure flickered, and he arrived in the northwest of Blood Dust Divine Mountain, gazing at a vortex of dark clouds.

"Phew~"

With sword in hand, he flew upward with the help of the Divine Weapon, not exposing a trace of Divine Power.

Closer, getting closer...

Lu Ran flew along the steep mountainside, watching as the vortex of dark clouds drew nearer, feeling a bit uneasy inside.

Suddenly, Lu Ran's vision blurred.

The sounds of fierce battling on the battlefield disappeared without a trace.

The whole world seemed to be muted, a very peculiar feeling.

The dark clouds in the sky and the sea of mist on the ground all dissipated.

In their place was a brilliant starry sky.

Moreover, a wide and beautiful galaxy, like a ribbon shimmering with strange luster, spanned the entire night sky.

A familiar feeling surged in Lu Ran's heart.

He'd been here before!

This is the Demon Cave · Galaxy Bay!

It's the Demon Cave that produces the clan of the Evil Mirror Demon.

In the Human World, atop Luoxian Mountain in Da Xia, Lord Immortal Sheep's true form suppressed Demon Cave, which was precisely Galaxy Bay.

That's right, as Hua Qingying mentioned, the side of the Gods would make a detour through Demon Cave. Though the true form stands in the Human World Da Xia, the stone pillar beneath the feet would pierce deep underground, connecting with the Divine Mountain of the Third Heaven.

Lu Ran strained to look up, following up the peak of Divine Mountain.

He found that the peak was towering, piercing into a "Starry Sky Curtain" several hundred meters in the sky.

Starry Sky Curtain?

Lu Ran was also very familiar with it; wasn't it the same as the Demon Cave Gate?

And the Evil Demons?

Lu Ran suddenly realized the problem; wasn't it said that there were many Evil Demons roaming in the lower Demon Cave?

Even the entire lower Demon Cave could be seen as an Evil Nest?

Lu Ran looked around, seeing no trace of Evil Demons.

After pondering for a moment, he immediately sought Lord Immortal Sheep's guidance, receiving a simple response: the lackeys of Evil Demons would be born by the Evil God.

The dark cloud vortex above the Divine Mountain seemed not far.

But once entering the lower Demon Cave, the peak of Divine Mountain connected by Immortal Sheep God Sculpture was far apart from the peak connected by Evil Mirror Demon Sculpture.

Along the Divine Mountain rooted by Immortal Sheep, go all the way up, straight to the Human World.

If climbing up along the Divine Mountain rooted by Evil Mirror Demon, the destination would be the deepest part of the upper Demon Cave.

Lu Ran nodded silently.

He flew up along the mountain wall, entering the Starry Sky Curtain.

"Hmm?" Lu Ran was startled to find the ground beneath him was solid, surrounded by bright torches and stone buildings.

The mountain wall beside him completely turned into a huge stone pillar.

Along the stone pillar, circles of stone steps were built, spiraling upwards to the Starry Sky Curtain at the top.

Lu Ran remained silent for a while.

This time, he thoroughly understood.

He'd arrived at the upper Demon Cave, within the grand Stone City built by the Human Clan Regiment!

And the stone pillar beside him was the pillar under the feet of the God.

The stairway built around the pillar was the only path that all Human Clan believers took when going to every Demon Cave for training.

Lu Ran had walked on such stairways many times in one Demon Cave after another.

"Ha..." Lu Ran let out a deep sigh, continuing to fly upwards.

Once again, he pierced through the Starry Sky Curtain, which was truly the Demon Cave Gate, appearing alone inside the military camp.

Lu Ran remembered clearly that the Demon Cave · Galaxy Bay was exceptionally dangerous and not open to the public.

The Da Xia military stationed midway up Luoxian Mountain, with military camp structures located within the mountain body.

So...

Lu Ran's figure flickered and appeared directly in the high sky.

The sky was azure, dotted with white clouds.

On Luoxian Mountain, the Immortal Sheep God Sculpture stood tall and majestic, shaking the heavens and the earth.

Looking further down, the beautiful waters of Erhai shimmered, with the distant Cang Mountain standing like a screen.

The Human World Da Xia · Luoxian Mountain!

Lu Ran concealed his figure, silently standing above in the high heavens, with emotions immeasurably complex.

He had returned.

He had... clawed his way back home.

From the lowest Holy Spirit Mountain, after experiencing all the sufferings of the world and hearing all the laments in the mountain, he ascended the Heavenly Realm.

In the Heavenly Realm Battlefield, he visited various Divine Mountains, gathered the old forces in the Cloud Sea, raised the Ran Sect team, and cultivated numerous Fake Gods.

He ventured through the black cloud vortex, passed the lower Evil Nest, and reached the familiar upper Demon Cave...

Returning to the Human World.

As a believer of the Human Clan, after being thrown into Holy Spirit Mountain by a God, how long is the journey home?

Or rather, is there even a way home at all?

"Hoo~"

The Smoke and Mist Silk gently fluttered, like a soft palm gently caressing Lu Ran's cheek.

Lu Ran closed his eyes, slightly tilted his head, and rubbed his cheek against the light, floating ribbon.

He had returned to the Human World several times before.

But this time, he took the route a true Human Clan believer should take.

The Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword also sensed Lu Ran's mood and trembled slightly.

Beneath the vast heavens, it did not dare to reveal its Sword Spirit.

Not daring to appear in Qiao Wanjun's form in this tranquil, beautiful sky, it could only slightly tremble, caressing Lu Ran's palm.

Lu Ran opened his eyes and looked down at Yeyu City below.

At the end of the lunar August, the Human Clan society seemed stable, with bustling crowds and busy streets.

The people dwelling in this world continued to live positively and optimistically.

"Returned." The energy of the Cloud Sea Sword Spirit flowed along the sword's hilt, speaking softly.

Lu Ran realized that it was his mother communicating with him through the Divine Weapon.

He gazed intently at the city, his figure flickered, arriving at the Luoxian Pavilion, and finally revealing his true form.

"Is everything going smoothly?"

"Mm... smoothly." Lu Ran stood by the pavilion pillar, his body leaning slightly, shoulder resting gently against the pillar, gazing into the distance.

Behind him, the ethereal form of Qiao Wanjun gradually took shape.

She gazed at her son's back, her voice gentle, "Ranran, is there something you're hiding from mom?"

Lu Ran remained silent for a moment, ignoring his complex emotions, and spoke softly:

"I am about to unsheathe my sword against the God Demons."

Hearing this, Qiao Wanjun was silent for a long time.

Of course she knew how hard her child had worked and how treacherous the journey had been to reach this point.

Lu Ran was doing it for this moment.

But now that the time had come, how could she, as a mother, not worry?

[Wait for an opportunity.] Suddenly, a hoarse voice imprinted itself in his mind.

"What?" Lu Ran looked up at the majestic Immortal Sheep God Sculpture.

[Once the Ghost Talisman Doll falls, the God Demons will surely notice, and by then your space for survival will be greatly compressed,] the Immortal Sheep said indifferently.

Lu Ran silently nodded.

[So you can wait, wait until the Heavenly Realm falls into chaos again.] The God's voice suddenly turned chillingly cold.

"Chaos again?"

[Heh.] The Immortal Sheep let out a cold chuckle, [The frontline situation changes rapidly, and I cannot always hold the line.]

Lu Ran was stunned for a moment, then asked, "Does Lord Immortal Sheep intend to... let the Faceless Jade Venerable in to slaughter the God Demons?"

[Do you think when I speak of the bow drawn without turning back, it only refers to you making a move?]

Lu Ran suppressed his surging emotions, realizing what Lord Immortal Sheep meant.

[All along, the God Demon camp harbored hidden agendas and lacked unity, and they had already shown a declining stance in the face of the Faceless Jade Venerable's attack.]

Lu Ran nodded again.

He had been to several Divine Mountains, where the God Demon stronghold seemed stable, but only because the Divine Mountains had not yet been shattered.

In terms of battlefield situation alone, the Faceless Jade Venerable undoubtedly held the upper hand.

The cold words fell again: [Once the Faceless Jade Venerable charges in, the God Demons will be further devoured and hasten to demise, or perhaps unite in desperation to counterattack the Jade Venerable; all situations remain unknown.]

"So?"

[No matter which way the end goes, at least when the Faceless Jade Venerable wreaks havoc, it's a good cover for you.]

The Immortal Sheep paused, continuing: [If you can secure the Divine Position without exposing yourself, the God Demons' first guess won't be human interference.

The Sculpture Garden I granted you is not something the God Demons can comprehend.]

Lu Ran's heart shivered slightly!

Beyond the God Demons' comprehension?

Such words...

So, is Lord Immortal Sheep an existence above the God Demons?

[The God Demons might think there's a traitor within the camp, suspecting those God Demons capable of Instant Teleportation or invisibility.]

[The God Demons might also consider it an attack by another Heavenly Realm's Jade Venerable, cooperating with the local Jade Venerable to launch a successful surprise attack.]

"Another Heavenly Realm?"

[In a world full of stones, do you think the Mountain Realm and Heavenly Realm only exist here in Da Xia? Are God Demons only hunted by Jade Venerables here in Da Xia?]

Lu Ran gripped the Cloud Sea Dust Clear Sword tightly.

...

Chapter 929: The Eve

"Lord Immortal Sheep, how many Heavenly Realm Battlefields are there?" Lu Ran asked.

[Five.]

"Five..." Lu Ran's expression was solemn, "How are things going on those battlefields?"

[Not good.] Immortal Sheep said coldly.

Lu Ran was naturally prepared, so he asked, "Where are things the worst? Is it in our Da Xia?"

[Tianzhu.]

Lu Ran was about to say something but then realized another problem: Lord Immortal Sheep only mentioned the name of one country.

So, in other words...

"Is Tianzhu just like our Da Xia? Does a single nation occupy an entire battlefield?" Lu Ran was somewhat stunned.

There are only a total of five battlefields in the world!

It's one thing for Da Xia to bear one alone, but Tianzhu also bearing one alone?

Where are the remaining three battlefields?

With such a vast world map, is it enough to be divided?

[What's the matter?]

"Oh, right!" Lu Ran slapped his forehead, realizing his error in thinking.

The battlefields follow the Gods.

When the Gods descended upon the world, they fought not for territory but for the people living on the land!

The numerous Gods descending upon Da Xia were not because the region was vast.

It was because there were many people!

Likewise, the population size of Tianzhu is no less than Da Xia's!

And other regions around the world, no matter how vast the territory, if the population is sparse, then the Gods will be few.

[This isn't something you need to consider now. What you need to think about is how to arm yourself as best as possible in the upcoming chaos.]

"Hmm..." Lu Ran immediately collected his thoughts.

He pondered for a long time, looking up at the Immortal Sheep God Sculpture, "Our Da Xia, with a neat God Demon faction, still cannot reverse the decline. If the internal God Demon gets chaotic, can the front line still hold?

Will the Faceless Jade Venerable invade the human world?

Standing at the Faceless Jade Venerable's height, the Human Clan is merely ants.

If she enters someone else's home with a knife, her target is certainly the home owner, not the small ants crawling in the yard.

But the problem is, she simply doesn't need to deliberately step on them!

Each step she takes in the yard would be a catastrophe for the Human Clan.

[Time will provide the answer.]

Lu Ran nodded silently.

[Heh.] Immortal Sheep coldly snorted again, [If they can't hold, top Human warriors might be liberated, like your mother.]

Lu Ran lowered his head and looked at the coldly glimmering Cloud Sea Sword.

Indeed, when truly at the brink of death, the Gods and Demons might release Qiao Wanjun to hang on...

And that Cloud Sea Sect disciple, Xiang Wang, if he were still alive, might also regain freedom?

"Heh." This time, it was Lu Ran's turn to snort.

Is this considered a curved approach to save the country?

[Wait for my news...] The voice transmission grew quieter.

Lu Ran also turned around, looking at the ethereal Qiao Wanjun.

"Finished talking?" Qiao Wanjun stood with hands folded behind, her hair and dress spontaneously moving without wind, her transcendent and ethereal temperament made Lu Ran feel inferior.

After all, Lu Ran's divine appearance was mostly granted by the Smoke and Mist Silk.

His actual looks should still be that of a hero wearing a green cape and blue hat, adorned with the Blood Crystal Mask.

"Mother, there's something... I hope you won't be too saddened upon hearing it." Lu Ran said softly.

"Something happened to Yuanxi?"

"No, no." Lu Ran shook his head repeatedly.

"Then it's..." Qiao Wanjun paused in her words, fell silent for a moment, and slowly sighed, "Is it related to the Cloud Sea Sect disciple?"

"Yes." Lu Ran raised his hand, and a Treasure Gourd flew out from his wide sleeve, producing a silhouette.

Huangfu Zhao!

The moment he appeared, he immediately observed his surroundings and then froze in place.

It wasn't because of the ethereal Qiao Wanjun, after all, she was just the Sword Spirit, and Huangfu Zhao had seen her several times.

He was stunned on the spot because of the flowers and grass of Luoxian Mountain.

Because of the brilliant sunlight.

Because of the cool autumn breeze.

Because of the shimmering waves on the beautiful Erhai Lake.

"Mr. Huangfu." Lu Ran called softly.

"Young Master?" Huangfu Zhao hurriedly came to his senses.

"The Cloud Sea Sword Spirit is connected with my mother's spirit." Lu Ran's words made Huangfu Zhao abruptly turn his head to look at the Sword Spirit.

Only then did he realize that this place was the human world, where the Divine Weapon and its master could have smooth conversations.

"Talk to her, about yourself, about the old members of Cloud Sea."

"Qiao... Qiao Sect Master!" Steady as Huangfu Zhao was, his body unexpectedly trembled, and with a thud, he kneeled down.

Lu Ran silently lowered his gaze, listening to the middle-aged man's trembling voice, for a long time, and then turned to walk outside the pavilion.

Giving some personal space to the former Cloud Sea Sect Master and disciple.

As a junior, Lu Ran also didn't want to see Huangfu Zhao's overly lost demeanor, intending to give this veteran warrior in his fifties a bit of dignity.

"Heh..."

Walking on the forest path, Lu Ran was full of thoughts.

Just like Lord Immortal Sheep said, there's no turning back once the bow is drawn.

No one can foresee what ultimate fate the God Demon faction will lean towards, or how much Lu Ran and his warriors can capture in this chaos...

No one can foresee, only time will provide the answer.

Unconsciously, Lu Ran arrived at Luoxian Residence, standing in the small courtyard.

He hesitated for a moment, slightly raising his head, calling out a certain name in his mind.

[Returned to the human world?] Immortal Jiang heard the call and immediately responded, her voice as cold as ever.

[Mhm.] Lu Ran replied softly.

Jiang Ruyi indeed understood Lu Ran, instantly realizing his low mood, concernedly asked, [Are you okay? Did something... Mmm, can I come out?]

[Sure.]

"Whew~"

A phantom immortal figure perfectly overlaps with Lu Ran's flesh and blood body.

Xian Mo's lingering shadow looked left and right, then slowly flew out of Lu Ran's body, gently gazing at him: "Did Lord Immortal Sheep criticize you?"

Lu Ran shook his head.

He extended his hand, attempting to hold hers.

Unfortunately, he grasped at emptiness.

Xian Mo's lingering shadow displayed a hint of a teasing smile on her face.

Compared to her cool voice, her gaze was much more tender.

"Whew!"

Surges of energy gathered, and a physical body gradually formed.

She stood silently, expressionless and with vacant eyes, like a beautiful doll.

As Xian Mo's lingering shadow merged into the flesh, her crystal clear eyes suddenly showed a glint of brilliance.

Adding the final touch.

Lu Ran once more extended his hand, grasped her soft palm, as if confirming her reality, lightly squeezing the center of her hand.

"Feeling down?" Immortal Jiang uncharacteristically stepped forward, resting her chin on Lu Ran's shoulder.

"Just now, Lord Immortal Sheep said..." Lu Ran wrapped her slender waist, briefly recounting.

Jiang Ruyi silently listened, looking at the path through the forest outside the courtyard, stretching into the lush mountains.

"Who knows what the future will look like." Lu Ran sighed.

Jiang Ruyi still gazed at the lush mountains, her lips slightly parted: "You are the most steadfast person I've ever seen."

"Hmm?"

"Your goals are always clear, for so many years, I've never seen you lost." Jiang Ruyi showed a faint smile.

"I... never felt lost?"

Jiang Ruyi tilted her head slightly, lightly pressing the side of her forehead against Lu Ran's cheek:
"Stubborn."

Lu Ran: "..."

This word is indeed rarely heard.

Jiang Ruyi's eyes moved slightly, analyzing softly: "Are you worried that if we do this, the world will become worse?"

Lu Ran pursed his lips, not speaking.

Afraid of being called "stubborn" again.

"Or are you worried, if we really overthrow the god demon's rule, we can't safeguard the human world's peace, can't repel foreign invasions?" Jiang Ruyi whispered.

Lu Ran became increasingly silent.

Who can say?

Lord Immortal Sheep did say it has the power to turn Faceless Jade Venerable into a lamb waiting for slaughter.

From this perspective, Lord Immortal Sheep absolutely has the ability to turn any god demon into a lamb.

Undeniably, this gave Lu Ran great confidence.

So, what exactly is the background of Lord Immortal Sheep?

Immortal Sheep also clearly stated that the existence of the God Demon Sculpture Garden cannot be understood by the gods and demons spread across the sky.

Is Immortal Sheep truly a god?

Is it... really Immortal Sheep?

"We have the upper hand over gods and demons." Jiang Ruyi spoke softly, "Gods and demons seem to join forces to repel the enemy, but in reality, they calculate against each other, resembling a pile of loose sand."

Lu Ran couldn't help but turn his head to look at the girl's profile.

Jiang Ruyi similarly turned to gaze at him: "The layout of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield has already clearly shown that gods and demons seem to help each other, but in reality, they only cooperate within small scopes.

They guard their respective Divine Mountains, only with a few cooperation among Divine Sculptures and Evil Sculptures.

We are different, Lu Ran."

Lu Ran looked into her dark eyes, seeing his reflection within.

Indeed, he seemed somewhat worried.

Jiang Ruyi's voice was gentle: "Ran Sect has one leader, the only leader, with warriors wholeheartedly devoted, obeying orders strictly."

This, Lu Ran did not deny.

No matter how strong a troop's might, if internally divided, guarding and calculating against each other, it is undoubtedly self-destructing.

Facts prove that the god demon camp is indeed walking on this road.

Yet a dying camel is still bigger than a horse, this road to decline might still be very long.

"The most crucial thing is, Ran Sect's sole leader possesses countless skills and techniques, the combined powers can exhibit a combat strength that no worldly god demon can match."

"Little Ruyi, are you trying to flatter me to death?" Lu Ran's expression turned strange.

Jiang Ruyi's lips slightly curved: "Quantitative changes lead to qualitative changes, the height you can attain by integrating Divine Technique and Evil Technique, even the leader of gods Sword One or Evil Demon Leader Blood Skull can't compare."

Lu Ran's gaze shifted down to her delicate lips.

Immortal Jiang's composed demeanor gradually disappeared, clearly realizing what someone was about to do.

"Mm." Jiang Ruyi closed her eyes, allowing him to lightly kiss her.

White clouds drifted across the blue sky.

A gentle breeze blew, bringing the rustling sound of leaves rubbing against each other, adding tranquility to the peaceful courtyard.

"Huff..." Jiang Ruyi slightly lowered her head, her forehead resting against Lu Ran's face, softly panting.

The two hadn't been this intimate for a long time.

Xian Mo's stone sculpture indeed stood in his mind, yet the garden was shrouded in mist, isolated from the outside world.

Her physical body led a team, fighting in the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

He was also venturing in the heavenly realm, with an upgrade period of nearly a month in between.

Roughly calculated, this little couple hadn't properly spent time together for three or four months.

Unexpectedly, this kiss after several months...

Occurred on the eve of a great battle.

Occurred at the time when the world's structure was about to face unprecedented changes.

Jiang Ruyi blushed, her eyes lowered, the smile and composure on her face had already transferred to the other.

Lu Ran lifted his hand, combing the hair by the side of the girl's forehead, gently tucking it behind her ear.

Can this world become better?

Unknown.

Will it become worse?

Perhaps.

But one must always try.

...

Chapter 930: Two Yellow Paper Talismans

Two days later.

In the western part of the Second Heaven, near a Divine Mountain shrouded in dust.

Lu Ran concealed his figure, his Simurgh's Eyes peering through the light dust, gazing at the towering Divine Mountain reaching into the clouds.

He had found the Divine Mountain where the Ghost Talisman Doll Clan resided!

Following the gap in the sky, Lu Ran could directly blink to the Third Heaven, diving into the vortex of dark clouds in an instant.

He just needed to be mindful of the floating sand particles.

This was the Dry Sea's Divine Technique · Floating Dust Sand Realm, every grain of sand was closely linked to the perception of the Dry Sea minions.

Because of the high precision of this technique, the effective range was not as vast as other perception techniques.

The Heavenly Grade Floating Dust Sand Realm had a perception radius of only 500 meters.

Sufficient for Lu Ran to act stealthily.

"This combination is really impressive," Lu Ran murmured to himself, carefully observing the Talisman Sand Divine Mountain.

On this Divine Mountain, there were eight types of God Demon minions: Jade Talisman-Ghost Talisman Doll; Dry Sea-Sand River Doll; Red Cloth-Ghost General; Blazing Blood-Black Fire Colt.

If forced to count, a ninth type could be added—the Soul Jade.

Don't underestimate the Evil God · Soul Jade, even though it's ranked ninth, due to its ability to absorb dead souls, this clan is widely present in the defensive forces of various Divine Mountains.

Lu Ran observed quietly for a long time before he was shocked to find that the third-class God Demon minions like Jade Talisman and Sand River were not the main forces guarding the mountain.

It was the black armored Ghost Generals riding fiery war horses that were the main attacking force.

Really fierce, aren't they?

The Ghost Generals and Black Fire Colts could both voidify, having a natural advantage when fighting against Faceless Jade Venerable.

"Deng Shao, Deng Shao, when will you come down from the mountain..."

Lu Ran murmured in his heart, continuously approaching the Divine Mountain.

The perception techniques of the Dry Sea sect only had a radius of 500 meters, so Lu Ran could get closer to the mountain, secretly plundering dead souls, while waiting for news from Lord Immortal Sheep.

"Seize the opportunity to cultivate the Mountain Lord Divine Sculpture," Lu Ran muttered to himself.

Lu Ran was prepared for a long-term lurk, but to his surprise, within just seven or eight days, he received a voice transmission:

[The Jade Venerable has already broken through the defenses and gone in.]

At that time, Lu Ran was absorbing the soul of a Faceless Jade Venerable and his eyes lit up at the news:
[And the disciple...]

[Are you ready?]

[The disciple is on this side of the Talisman Sand Divine Mountain and has also locked onto the vortex where the Evil God · Ghost Talisman Doll resides,] Lu Ran immediately responded.

Evil Demon minions would fall from the dark cloud vortex in the Highest Heaven.

Most would walk out from within the Divine Mountain, reaching the Second Heaven, the First Layer of Heaven, and join the mountain's defensive force.

But some minions would fly down along the mountain.

After so many days, Lu Ran had confirmed the dark cloud vortex of the Ghost Talisman Clan.

[Ready.] Another brief voice transmission fell.

So few words, yet they made Lu Ran's heart pound anxiously.

Is it finally time?

After so many years, he was finally going to strike the first blow against the God Demon!

Lu Ran looked up at the Divine Mountain, gazing through the swirling sand dust and the gap in the cloud sea, looking toward the high sky of the Third Heaven.

Be cautious not to blink into the sand.

"Swoosh~"

Lu Ran's figure flashed, and he appeared several kilometers away from the Divine Mountain in the Third Heaven.

Silence enveloped the world!

In the Highest Heaven, there were almost no defensive forces around the Divine Mountain, nor were there Faceless Jade Venerables.

Occasionally, traces of God Demon minions were seen falling from the vortex, rushing to the Lower Realm for support.

[Lord Immortal Sheep, should I directly enter the Ghost Talisman Doll's Demon Cave? Just say the word, and I'll start the killing?!]

[Yes.]

[Alright.] Lu Ran fixed his gaze on the dark cloud vortex, patiently waiting.

Following another wave of falling Ghost Talisman Dolls, Lu Ran's figure flashed, instantly delving into the vortex, arriving at the lower Demon Cave.

The scene changed!

A crescent moon hung in the night sky, casting a shadow over a sinister forest below.

"Woo woo woo~~~"

"Ah!" Everywhere in the forest, there were cries and strange calls, making Lu Ran's skin crawl.

He hurriedly flew upwards to avoid the vortex, so as not to block the path for the Ghost Talisman Doll Clan descending.

Lu Ran heightened his senses, scanning his surroundings, seeing little ghosts flitting through the forest, ghostly shadows overlapping.

Immediately, his gaze locked onto a distant withered tree.

The withered tree was towering!

Its bark was lined with ugly cracks, and the twisted branches resembled long, dry fingers.

It looked utterly eerie!

Beneath the withered tree stood a pair of children who seemed four or five years old, dressed in ancient garb with festive tiger head hats, joyfully playing together.

"Hee hee~"

"Ooh ooh!" They held hands, turning circles around the big tree, clearly very happy.

However, an anomaly suddenly occurred!

For some reason, the yellow paper talisman attached to the little girl's tiger head hat suddenly fell off.

"Whoosh~"

In an instant, flames ignited on the hat, reducing it to ashes.

The little girl's adorable face turned deathly pale in an instant.

Her eyeballs vanished!

All that was left were two dark, empty sockets, an especially terrifying sight.

"Huh?" The little boy suddenly stopped.

Originally, he was holding the girl's hand, hopping around the withered tree.

But with the yellow paper talisman drifting away, the little girl's appearance and form changed; her body completely voidified, and the boy could no longer hold her hand.

"Ah!" The little girl reached backward to grasp the boy's hand.

However, this pair of children, one was solid, one was void, and neither could touch the other.

"Oh~ ooh wah!" The little girl cried out anxiously.

Time after time she reached for her playmate, and time after time she grasped nothing.

"Wah wah wah!" The little boy pouted and started crying too.

Lu Ran didn't feel much pity for them.

Putting aside their identities as evil demons, their appearance... and the intense ghost energy emanating from them were truly terrifying!

Speaking of which, after Jiang Ruyi devoured the Fake God Ghost Talisman Doll's Evil Sculpture, she also gained the ability to voidify her body.

However, she didn't have a tiger-headed cap or anything like a yellow paper talisman.

She could voidify her body at any time and didn't need to remove a yellow paper talisman before changing form.

I wonder if, after Jiang Ruyi crushes the real Evil God, she will add this process?

Lu Ran raised his head and looked upward along the mountain wall, seeing a pitch-black curtain.

Diving into it would lead to the upper layer of the Demon Cave.

Lu Ran heightened his Evil Sense, vigilantly observing his surroundings and cautiously flying upward.

In the lower layer of the Demon Cave, there were indeed many Ghost Talisman Dolls.

But Lu Ran clearly sensed that the energy fluctuations within the mountain were more terrifying, and ghostly howls constantly emanated from within.

Obviously, the vast majority of evil demon lackeys were born within the mountain.

"Hoo~"

Lu Ran suddenly sensed a surge of divine power beside him and quickly dodged away.

What you fear truly comes to pass!

A pair of childlike boy and girl rapidly assembled, suddenly appearing where Lu Ran had just been.

They lacked flight capability and immediately fell downward.

During the fall, they lost their yellow paper talismans and both turned into ghost-faced pale children...

"Goodness~" Lu Ran's heart pounded. Seizing the opportunity, he quickly dived into the curtain above.

In just an instant, he felt a chilling aura enter his body, filling him from head to toe!

Lu Ran: !!!

He dared not flicker or use Divine Technique for flying, fearing that he would expose his presence.

Lu Ran tried his best to conceal his divine power fluctuations and, with the help of the Divine Weapon, flew backward.

The upper layer of the Demon Cave was no different in environment from below.

The same crescent moon hovered in the sky, but amidst the sinister and dead woods stood two giant stone sculptures.

Evil God Ghost Talisman Doll!

Lu Ran gazed upward, continuously flying backward.

The stone sculptures of the Ghost Talisman Dolls weren't particularly large in scale.

Other Divine Sculptures and Evil Sculptures would be as tall as 270 or 280 meters, but the two Ghost Talisman Dolls seemed under a hundred.

Their entire bodies were made of dark stone; their cute tiger-headed caps and the paper talismans stuck on the caps were all stone artifacts.

Honestly, the boy and girl in stone form weren't quite as "eerie".

They held hands, with faces showing... well, alright.

Still eerie.

Their faces were obviously cute, yet their smiles were so bizarre?

Lu Ran retreated several kilometers, then gently hovered, continuing to scrutinize the Ghost Talisman Dolls.

Who knows when the Faceless Jade Venerable that broke through the defense line will make an impact and turn the battlefield upside down...

[Lord Immortal Sheep, do you have time?] Lu Ran transmitted a message.

After waiting for a moment, there was no response in his mind.

Lu Ran thought for a bit and added: [Disciple would like to take this opportunity to report the battle plan to you.]

[Hmm.] Lord Immortal Sheep finally responded.

Lu Ran felt assured and immediately transmitted a message: [Doesn't the Ghost Talisman Doll clan have a trait? Once the yellow paper talisman drops, they become void...]

[The lackeys are like that.]

[Ah?] Lu Ran was taken aback.

[If the talisman on the Evil God Ghost Talisman Doll's head is removed, the body is most likely to voidify, but it's not guaranteed.]

Lu Ran's heart tensed.

After all, the plan discussed by the Ran Sect's members was centered around the "yellow paper talisman".

[Heh.] Lord Immortal Sheep snorted coldly, [You have a whole set of Divine Weapon and Magic Artifacts, didn't they tell you?]

[Tell disciple wha...] Lu Ran paused in his speech.

A moment later, Lu Ran's eyes opened slightly wider as he became aware of a piece of information.

The Evil God Ghost Talisman Doll's body has the aura of a Magic Artifact!

Lord Immortal Sheep spoke mildly: [The two talismans pasted on the heads of the Ghost Talisman Dolls are fourth-rank Magic Artifacts.

They are specifically used to reveal the true forms of all creatures.

Not only can they make creatures with void bodies reveal their true forms, but also those with misted, dusted, or invisible bodies...]

Lu Ran was shocked, his mouth slightly agape.

Four... fourth-rank Magic Artifacts?!

If a yellow paper talisman sticks to me, will my invisibility be broken?

[Those two talismans stuck to the Evil God's head will definitely reveal the true form of the Ghost Talisman Doll. If the talisman falls, the doll can keep a solid state or voidify.]

Lu Ran calmed his mind, his expression growing more solemn.

No wonder young Ruyi doesn't have a talisman, nor needs procedures, and can voidify at will.

So those two talismans are actually Magic Artifacts?!

Fourth-rank Magic Artifacts!

[However...]

[However what, Lord Immortal Sheep?] Lu Ran hurriedly asked.

[The Ghost Talisman Dolls are not very intelligent. If you truly remove the talismans, they will mostly voidify their bodies. I mention this just to inform you of the possibility of exceptions.]

[Disciple understands.] Lu Ran nodded lightly, his expression still serious, [Do those fourth-rank... talismans have other functions?]

[Their function is broad but also specific, targeting any creature that doesn't reveal its true form honestly.]

Lu Ran remained silent for a moment, whispering a question: [Disciple is always invisible; it doesn't know where I am, so it can't stick to me, right?]

The reply dropped coldly: [That's why I permitted you to enter the Demon Cave, to allow you to strike at this clan first.]

[Oh.] Lu Ran shrank his neck.