

Old Gods 961

Chapter 961: Righteousness Becomes Evil...

Southwest Region of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield - Star Moon Divine Mountain.

Lu Ran concealed himself, gazing afar at the lush, tree-covered Divine Mountain.

When he previously picked up the Leng Tianxing and Leng Tianyue siblings, Lu Ran had come near Star Moon Divine Mountain, but that time, he didn't observe it this closely.

Now, upon a closer look, Lu Ran couldn't help but marvel in secret.

The Divine Mountain was covered with beautiful Moon Laurel trees.

They appeared similar to the Moon Laurel trees of human society, but the flowers blooming among the luxuriant branches distinguished them from ordinary laurels.

Those were round silver-white flowers.

They resembled small full moons, emitting a faint pure glow.

Nine-tier Evil Demon - Moon Laurel!

In the Da Xia Evil Demon system, this name was the least like an evil demon.

Not just the name, but its pleasing appearance also made it hard for people to associate it with evil demons.

Of course, when people were lured by the beautiful flower trees and came under the trees to admire them, only to be strangled by slender branches and hung on the trees, they would no longer find them lovely...

Additionally, the silver-white flowers blooming on the trees would occasionally project flower-shaped shadows of the same shape.

That was the Nine-tier God - Cold Silver Flower!

Here's an interesting fact: the big move of Third-class God-Moon Spirit is called "Moon Laurel Cold Silver Flower."

To put it bluntly: Lady Moon Spirit could surpass the entire combination of Moon Laurel-Cold Silver Flower just with this one big move...

The skills of the Moon Laurel-Cold Silver Flower factions were indeed underwhelming.

It was quite fitting for the positioning of a Nine-tier God Demon.

If one day in the future, Lu Ran could fulfill the grand wish in his heart, he would plant some of these beautiful flower trees around his house.

Forget about the others, solely the bits of pure glow emitted by the flowers and trees would already give a chill.

In the scorching summer, it would be nice to cool off~

"Whew~"

Lu Ran slowly flew close, and all over the Divine Mountain, Flash Star Demons and Silver Toads were visible, both being Third-class Evil Demons, harboring Star Officials and Moon Spirits within them.

A male Star Official in formal clothes with an aristocratic air.

A female Moon Spirit in white robe, beautiful and charming.

They gave off quite a matching vibe~

"What a pity." Lu Ran murmured in his heart, as after this battle, he would be breaking up this couple.

Hmm... why did it feel like it gave him more motivation instead?

The aforementioned godly demonic minions were all rather pleasing to the eyes, even the mediocre-looking Nether Toad had a skin that shimmered with the moonlight, seemingly acceptable.

The most out of place in this realm, was the Sixth-rank God Demon Yema - Soul Hooking Horse!

Each Soul Hooking Horse stood upright, at least 8 meters tall, with long chains hanging from their front hooves, swaying and clanging continuously.

What's the difference between this damn thing and a Yama horse?

The eerie horse whinnies, the chains constantly moving, and the ghostly burning gray fire made the Star Moon Divine Mountain appear quite chilly with evil winds blowing.

It really spoiled the atmosphere.

After observing for a moment, Lu Ran quickly understood.

Star Official Moon Spirit was the head of the house, the Flash Star Demon was a servant, the Nether Toad was a pet, and the Moon Laurel Cold Silver Flower was the home's flora.

The Soul Hooking Horse was here purely as a laborer!

They were the only ones among the mounts capable of Soul Binding throughout the entire Divine Mountain.

Case solved, the lowly creatures were indeed unsightly, yet indispensable!

"Wang Ling, when will you find Qianhua Ridge..." Lu Ran thought to himself as he flew upward alone.

Crossing the thick sea of clouds in the sky, he arrived in the Second Heaven.

As expected, the battle here was even more intense, yet Lu Ran wasn't inclined to linger. He carefully flew forward, then halted from a distance.

The silver-white petals scattered in the wind had perceptive functions.

Lu Ran glanced sideways at the sky, and slipping through a cloud break near Divine Mountain, flickered to the Third Heaven.

With familiarity, he waited for a moment and selected one out of a total of eight swirling dark clouds.

"Swish~"

Lu Ran's figure flashed as he dove into the Demon Cave where the Nether Toad resided.

"Ribbit~"

"Ribbit! Ribbit ribbit!"

The sounds coming from all directions made Lu Ran uncomfortable and agitated.

Under the pitch-black night sky lay an endless muddy swamp, with bizarre-shaped trees standing and vines hanging down, looking eerie.

Yet, within this filthy domain, spots of holy white glimmers shone everywhere.

As if the bright moon in the night sky had shattered and spilled all across the Demon Cave.

Without a doubt, those were the Nether Toads.

No matter how fantastical the scene might appear, it couldn't withstand the incessant croaking of the frogs.

This is way too noisy...

Lu Ran flew up along the mountain wall, reaching the upper level of the Demon Cave.

Using the Divine Weapon, he slowly flew backward, a giant stone toad coming into his view.

The countless little lumps on its skin made Lu Ran shudder.

It'd be alright soon.

After this battle, there would no longer be the Evil God-Nether Toad in this world, only the dignified and gracious Aunt Leng Tianyue.

[Have you prepared the combat plan?] Lu Ran mentally connected with several decision-makers.

[Second team, commence.] Jiang Ruyi said directly.

[Huh?] Lu Ran was taken aback. With the current capability of Ran Sect, could they dispense with assigning forces individually and just act according to the group?

Ran Sect's second team...

Apart from the scouts Wei Yun and the prophet Bai Yanhui not being in the Garden, the second team was indeed formidable, wasn't it?

Team leader Deng Yuxiang, assault positions Wu Xiao, Luo Ying, Gao Yunyan, and Xue Fengchen.

Supporting position He Yingcai and teleporter Lu Yuan.

[I have already set up the tactics, besides Xuan Shuang, Xian'er, and I will lend assistance, rest assured.] Jiang Ruyi spoke calmly, instilling Lu Ran with great confidence.

What a sense of assurance?

[Alright, then I'll start the countdown!] Lu Ran moved to a location 800 meters behind the Nether Toad, gazing at its lackluster skin.

[3...2...Attack!]

"Whew!!" With Lu Ran's order, several figures darted out.

"Tss——" Deng Yuxiang grabbed a stone sculpture of Luo Ying and a stone sculpture of Feng Yan (Swallow Form) with one hand each and dashed towards the front left.

The Martial Emperor flew straight forward, with fierce flames igniting on his body, and shot a Sea-piercing Flame directly at the giant toad crouching on the stone pillar.

The Xuan Shuang Guard also grabbed Lady and Mad Fairy with one hand each and flew upwards.

The elder Lu's hand bloomed with an illusory Other Shore Flower, encompassing the Divine General.

"Gwa??"

Due to its bodily structure, the Nether Toad did not turn its head directly like other Evil Gods but chose to turn around, and instinctively let out a giant croak.

The sound obviously carried a tone of bewilderment, and habitually mixed with a skill during vocalization.

Divine Grade Evil Technique: Silver Toad Croak!

This is a provocation skill, precisely what the Ran Sect members sought.

The giant croak echoed through the Demon Cave, everyone heard it!

However, facing the Divine Grade Evil Technique's output, everyone proceeded methodically, attacking according to plan.

The Xuan Shuang Guard emitted a subtle plum fragrance, protecting the brains of Xian Mo and Mad Fairy; while Luoshen had already summoned the Canglong Sea Domain, safeguarding the minds of Nightmare and Feng Yan.

Wu Xiao possesses the Peach Garden Heart, He Yingcai the Lotus Heart, Lu Yuan the Flower Shadow Dust Heart!

As for Lu Ran, there's no need to mention, he has all the hearts the soldiers possess!

He also possesses all the resolve that the soldiers lack!

Everyone present, they don't absorb spiritual output!

"Gwa~~~"

The giant Nether Toad croaked loudly, and under the impact of the Sea-piercing Flame, was pushed away from the stone pillar, flying northward.

Suddenly, the Nether Toad's body trembled violently.

On its bumpy skin, energy surged, and small particles burst repeatedly, scattering bright white light points in all directions.

Evil Technique: Silver Toad Shaking Light!

"Whoosh!!" Almost simultaneously, a terrifying tornado rose suddenly from the ground.

Deng Yuxiang, with Luo Ying on his left hand and Gao Yunyan pinched under his right arm, extended his right hand forward, casting spells swiftly.

The enormous toad was instantly enveloped by the tornado, and the light points scattered in all directions were also sucked in, unable to harm others.

Just in the Sculpture Garden, everyone collaborated to devise strategies against every possible technique the Nether Toad might employ.

Deng Yuxiang's tornado intercepted most of the light points, with considerable effect!

However, a small amount of light scattered toward Wu Xiao, who was very close by.

But the Martial Emperor suddenly transformed into a leaf falling in the wind, and before the light touched him, he was gently blown back by the Divine Power wave, floating lightly.

"Gwa!!"

The toad in the wind was unbearably noisy, its croak loud.

Suddenly, an even bigger silver toad shadow unfolded from the tornado, it opened its huge mouth and directly swallowed the entire storm.

So domineering!

The Nether Toad clan's big move: Toad Swallowing Three Thousand Realms!

This technique is equivalent to the simplistic version of the Jade-faced Snake's big move: Celestial Python Swallowing Heaven, as the silver toad shadow can only devour enemy techniques, converting them into Moonlight Power, replenishing itself.

The Celestial Python Swallowing Heaven swallows techniques along with people's bodies and even Dead Souls, leaving nothing behind.

The difference between a First-class Evil Demon and a Third-class Evil Demon is quite apparent.

"Whoosh~" It was at this moment when Lu Yuan, who hadn't moved, quickly gathered the flowers in his hand.

A 3D array opened behind the Nether Toad!

Lu Yuan, with He Yingcai, fell from the array, and suddenly, in the wet and muddy swamp, a sea of vivid red Other Shore Flowers bloomed.

Anything submerged in the red flower sea would fall into the past years.

The Evil God, Nether Toad, naturally has its past experiences.

No one knows what it would recall, but the Ran Sect members knew that the giant silver toad shadow was busy devouring flowers.

Just then, a full ten red silk threads pierced through the brilliant red Other Shore Flower bushes and stuck onto the Evil God, Nether Toad.

As the old saying goes: "Better to barge into Yama Palace than to touch Tethering Silk Thread!"

Poor Nether Toad...

He Yingcai lightly flicked her fingertips, and the Evil God, Nether Toad, was directly pulled away from the silver toad shadow.

Toad Swallowing Three Thousand Realms quietly shattered.

The Divine General remained graceful and composed, his threads moved with his fingertips, fixing the Nether Toad high up, and its energy was also stirred into chaos.

"Gwa!!!"

This croak was exceptionally miserable.

For the Nether Toad was turned around by the threads, and in He Yingcai's beautiful eyes, a deep red glimmer emerged.

Divine Grade Evil Technique: Silk Pupil!

"Mother of God..." Lu Ran clasped his head with both hands.

No longer concerned whether he was a minion or a cheerleader.

In his impression, the elegance like a lotus of Senior Sister He, her ruthless tactics were no less than those of Tangled Silk Shadow!

Lu Ran often used Silk Pupil, but each time during combat, he could only use it once, and the enemy would be pain-ridden, shaking their heads, averting their gaze.

But at this moment, He Yingcai managed to firmly tether the Evil God, Nether Toad, rendering it immobile, and even blinking was prohibited!

The two sides maintained eye contact all the while!

The Nether Toad remained within the Illusion Realm, enduring the agony of thousands of threads piercing its body within the deep red world.

Damn...

The Nether Toad suffered greatly in the Illusion Technique world.

And in the real world, He Yingcai gently raised her delicate fingers, lifted the Evil God, Nether Toad high up, presenting it before the Ran Sect members.

The Divine General still wore a charming smile, his demeanor graceful, softly said:

"Ladies and gentlemen, please."

Deng Yuxiang brandished the Night-cutting Blade, Wu Xiao gripped the Mad Dragon Spear, Gao Yunyan picked up the Yellow Sand Axe, Luo Ying drew the Golden Law Bow.

Si Xianxian looked at the Evil God which was ready for slaughter, eyes blazing with excitement, swung the Mad Hammer...

This is a God Demon level existence, killing such a creature with Divine Weapons could possibly boost the weapon to a higher level!

Lu Ran gazed at this scene from afar, feeling uneasy.

Let's just say, who exactly is the villain here?

Poor Mr. Cong Long... cough, poor Nether Toad, how can you survive?

...

Chapter 962: Max Level?

Leaving Holy Spirit Mountain at dusk, returning home late at night.

Hunzi Ran, with a keen eye for detail, immediately released the crowd of God and Demon Residue to cultivate outside the garden upon returning to Tianya Residence, while he himself went directly to the study.

The lavishly decorated bedroom, the soft big bed... all left to the Evil God girlfriend and the Mad Immortal protector.

Truly understanding.

Lu Ran once again sat behind the low table, sprawled over it, a few words suddenly popping into his mind:

"The Incompetent Husband"

"The Resigned Wife"

"The Male-Bully-Female-Wicked Maid"

"Uh." Lu Ran was lost in thought, and the punishment of happiness arrived as expected.

With the sharing of resources among the stone sculptures in the garden, the stone sculptures of Wu Xiao and Yan Chou began to tremble one after another, in addition to the already buzzing Leng Tianyue stone sculpture, Lu Ran completely lost the ability to think.

His eyes gradually turned vacant, his expression dazed.

Mentally incapacitated.

Meanwhile, in the hall, on the Taishi chair at the top, Jiang Ruyi slowly opened her eyes.

The God Demon Sculpture Garden was Lu Ran's backyard, and as the mistress, Jiang Ruyi managed everything for him before shifting her focus to the physical body inside Tianya Residence.

Her right hand landed on her left wrist, fingers gently brushing the cool Magic Bracelet.

Below, the muttering of a certain maid could be heard: "So satisfying! Ah..."

Jiang Ruyi smiled lightly.

Xian'er was clearly still savoring that recent battle.

Indeed, the soldiers fought very joyfully! Hard to imagine, the once lofty Evil God before the Ran Sect, was like a weak little lamb.

Mourning pitifully, at the mercy of others.

Then, Leng Tianyue claimed the Divine Position, striding to the top of the Divine Altar, while the two warriors Wu Xiao and Yan Chou advanced towards the Third Level of the Heavenly Realm!

When everyone left Holy Spirit Mountain, it was just evening, fully calculated, how long has it been?

Somewhat reminiscent of "warming wine and beheading Hua Xiong".

Jiang Ruyi gently let out a breath, unknowingly, Ran Sect had grown so powerful.

Where did the qualitative change begin?

Of course, it was from hunting the Angry Sea Flame Flood Dragon!

Lu Ran's adventurous yet stubborn decision brought an opportunity for Ran Sect to soar, with subsequent battles going smoothly one after another.

And Ran Sect's next target, Evil Dog, was also a result of Lu Ran standing firmly against all dissent!

Presumably, it will further elevate Ran Sect to new heights.

"Ruyi, Ruyi," Si Xianxian got up and approached, whispering, "The night is not over yet, let's go to sleep~"

Jiang Ruyi played with the Ice Heart Bracelet on her wrist, casually replying, "In your current state, can you really sleep?"

"Mm." Si Xianxian sat sideways in front of the Taishi chair, hugging Jiang Ruyi's calves, her face resting on her knees, "The opportunity is rare, I want to stick with you a little longer."

Jiang Ruyi was unmoved, speaking calmly, "You are strong."

Si Xianxian was stunned for a moment, her high spirits were dampened quite a bit, cautiously saying, "I seem... to be a little strong?"

Jiang Ruyi gently nodded, "Yes, I am stating a fact."

Si Xianxian: ?

So you're praising me?

Scared the living daylights out of me! It sounds like a reprimand...

Jiang Ruyi then said, "But your power has reached its limit, have you realized this?"

Si Xianxian opened her mouth, but couldn't find words to say for a while.

She had only just advanced to the God Realm, having just seized the position of the Evil God, coupled with her extremely explosive output, she was immersing herself in the present joy, unstoppable all the way.

Who would have thought of such a thing?

"Now that the two of us are absorbing energy, there can only be a change in quantity." Jiang Ruyi's delicate hand fell, gently sorting Si Xianxian's hair.

"Mm." Si Xianxian calmed down.

The path of cultivation has always been like rowing a boat against the current.

But the problem is, the God Realm seems to be the highest level, the limit that all beings can reach.

Jiang Ruyi sighed lightly, "From the perspective of slaying gods and demons, we should indeed be grateful that the path of cultivation has an end."

"Why?" Si Xianxian was somewhat puzzled.

"If the climb was never-ending, how could we possibly kill gods and demons?" Jiang Ruyi shook her head, "How long have the stone sculptures been in existence? And we, how many years have we been cultivating?"

"That's true..."

Jiang Ruyi continued, "In this world, there are tens of billions of believers who constantly offer faith to the gods, providing the Power of Faith. On the fifteenth of every month, the Evil Demons feast on the negative emotions of living beings in the Human World."

Si Xianxian completely understood.

Indeed! If there were no limit in cultivation, how could the Human Clan ever have a day to turn over their fortune?

This is from the perspective of breaking the old order and overthrowing the rule of gods and demons.

And from the perspective of personal growth, beings like Xian Mo and Mad Immortal, Evil Gods, are already standing at the pinnacle of the world; there's no possibility of taking another step up.

"Lu Ran once said that after we shattered the dual-natured gods, the Divine Position became complete, and our strength could increase once more; that might be the last step up." Jiang Ruyi spoke softly.

"Don't be so pessimistic, we can find other ways to enhance ourselves!" Si Xianxian shook Jiang Ruyi's calf, comforting her.

"So after becoming a god, you should focus on your Divine Weapon," Jiang Ruyi gently advised.

"Mad Hammer?"

"Yes, you just killed an Evil God, and your spirit is high; you should seize the opportunity to cultivate your Divine War Hammer, instead of clinging here with me."

Si Xianxian: "..."

Jiang Ruyi instructed, "Go, let your physical body return to the seclusion room to cultivate, focus back on the Sculpture Garden, and let your true stone sculpture cultivate the War Hammer well."

"Alright." Si Xianxian responded helplessly, reluctantly standing up and leaving.

Jiang Ruyi continued to sit on the Taishi Chair, her right hand resting on her left wrist, gently turning the Magic Artifact, the Ice Heart Bracelet.

Unlike Si Xianxian, when the residue of Xian Mo appeared, it brought several Divine Weapons along, which now took their original form, accompanying Xian Mo's physical body.

The Ice Heart Bracelet constructs a spiritual defense system for its owner, with exceptional effects.

However, it is merely a Second-rank Magical Artifact, comparable to Sea Grade.

It can indeed defend against higher levels, obstructing Heavenly Grade Spiritual Output Skills for its owner, but to block Divine Grade Spiritual Skills, the Ice Heart Bracelet needs at least to advance to Third Rank.

Jiang Ruyi stirred her heart thought.

The Magic Artifact, Immortal Binding Whip, hung at her waist, parted the phoenix-patterned robe, and extended outward.

The red whip seemed to infinitely extend, exploring into the study, gently binding the young man behind the desk, lifting him up, and taking him to the bedroom.

Jiang Ruyi silently sat in the hall, slowly closing her eyes.

Since the Realm level cannot progress further, the focus must be on Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts.

Speaking of which, the growth path of Divine Weapons is traceable; the Human Clan can forge various weapons themselves and strive to cultivate them to gather Artifact Spirits.

The birth of Magic Artifacts, however, is entirely without a trace.

Each Magic Artifact when initially crafted is just an ordinary mundane object.

At most, they have finer appearances or are more costly.

Under the Divine Demon System, Divine Power permeates all corners of the Three Realms.

In such a world setting, it's possible any ordinary object could gain sentience at any moment.

Thus strictly speaking, you cannot truly autonomously create a Magic Artifact.

You can only wait.

Wait for the myriad things in the world, over long years, to gather Divine Power between heaven and earth, autonomously gather Artifact Spirits to form.

Compared to Divine Weapons, Magic Artifacts are undoubtedly rarer existences!

Just mentioning the area of the Ran Sect, often covered in fog, how rich is the Divine Power? Over the years, there hasn't been any mundane object that has gained sentience.

For the populace, the main way to obtain Magic Artifacts is through... plunder.

Jiang Ruyi currently possesses four Magic Artifacts: the Second-rank Ice Heart Bracelet, Immortal Binding Whip, Third-rank Phoenix Dignity of Nine Heavens Robe, and two Fourth-rank Ghost Talismans.

Without exception, all were acquired by the Ran Sect.

Lu Ran also has four Magic Artifacts: the Second-rank Ink Jade Tiger Talisman (left and right halves), Third-rank Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd, Smoke and Mist Silk, and several Magic Artifact Fragments: Rebirth Money.

Although not obtained through plunder, they were all gifts from others.

Lu Ran has never personally cultivated even a single Magic Artifact, as there was simply no pathway!

However, the Ran Sect is already quite wealthy; based on the existing Magic Artifacts, if they could be cultivated to Fourth Rank, it would undoubtedly significantly enhance one's combat strength.

Jiang Ruyi pondered secretly, picking up the Immortal Binding Whip: "To bind the God Demon, you still need to ascend two more times."

[Master, I'm afraid I can't advance further.]

"Hmm?" Jiang Ruyi slightly frowned.

The Artifact Spirit of the Immortal Binding Whip confessed in fear: [Master, please forgive, I... understand myself, I have nearly no potential left to exploit.]

Jiang Ruyi remained silent for a long time, putting down the red whip. Her fingers tapped the Magic Bracelet on her wrist: "How about you? Since you followed me, these years you only advanced one level, and then there was no movement.

Is it also because you reached the growth limit?"

The Ice Heart Bracelet's voice was very small: [Master, I...]

Three days passed in a blur.

On the nineteenth day of the lunar calendar, Lu Ran, with his mind restored to clarity, came out of the bedroom: "Ruyi?"

"You're awake."

Lu Ran stood at the bedroom door, looking through the mist at the dignified seated lady of the Ran Sect on the Taishi Chair: "Why did I run... ah!!

Why did I sleep in the bedroom?"

"Heh." Jiang Ruyi amusedly said, "Isn't this your home, isn't that your bed?"

"Oh." Lu Ran awkwardly scratched his head, "I thought Sister Xian'er..."

"Sent off to cultivate Divine Weapons by me, the Mad Hammer is still at First Rank." Jiang Ruyi spoke somewhat dissatisfiedly.

"Right, right, it truly isn't acceptable." Lu Ran nodded repeatedly.

Jiang Ruyi spoke: "In the past few days, I've discussed with Cong Long Nightmare and want to talk to you about something."

"What is it?"

Jiang Ruyi did not immediately explain, but said: "After ascending to the God Realm, the soldiers no longer have a path for growth."

Lu Ran nodded silently.

For those who have struggled all the way, this brings inevitable great discomfort.

After all, the Ran Sect soldiers are influenced by Da Xia's culture, constantly holding a series of ingrained beliefs like "learning never ends," "no progress means regression," etc.

Yet the Divine Demon System clearly presents the limit.

Don't push it, friend!

You have reached the max level!

"I want to leave a few soldiers in the Holy Spirit Mountain Realm to gather some Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts," Jiang Ruyi finally revealed her plan.

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

After reaching the maximum level, focusing on equipment?

Indeed, it's a way to continue growing stronger.

Jiang Ruyi continued: "We will not engage in activities harming heaven and earth, before the soldiers act, they will thoroughly understand the opponent's conduct.

If that person is truly evil, then they will move to execute."

Lu Ran considered for a while and said: "Let's kill the dogs first! Exterminate the Evil Dog, and then talk!"

...

Chapter 963: God Demon War

No time to lose! Delays could lead to unforeseen changes!

With this central thought in mind, Lu Ran, consumed with thoughts of Divine Generals and Heavenly Generals, hurried to the northwestern part of the Heavenly Realm Battlefield.

In an area closer to the front lines, he saw a majestic Divine Mountain.

This mountain was intimidatingly pristine!

Lu Ran cautiously approached, and when he looked around, he saw only two groups of God Demons: Qiang Xiu - Evil Spear Emperor, and Greedy Wolf - Evil Dog.

This unusual combination even made him feel a bit confused.

He almost thought he had encountered the Erlang God and the Howling Celestial Dog...

Subsequently, Lu Ran also spotted another Evil Demon on the Evil Spear Emperor and Evil Dog - the Soul Pearl!

Eighth-rank Evil Demon·Soul Pearl.

Its appearance is merely a phantom bead, but about the size of a palm. Its specific function is almost identical to a ninth-rank Evil Demon·Soul Jade, both used to absorb Dead Souls.

Lu Ran was rather unfamiliar with the Soul Pearl clan; neither in the Human World nor on Spirit Mountain had he ever seen this clan.

But the two sides of the Evil God·Soul Pearl are quite infamous!

Eighth-rank God·Heavenly Pearl!

Indeed, Lu Ran had never seen a Heavenly Pearl Believer, but including himself, all of the Human Clan must feel grateful to the Heavenly Pearl Sect.

Why?

Because the Divine Power Pearl, which accompanies believers in life and death, and sustains cultivation, is produced by the Heavenly Pearl Sect.

In fact, the divine entities responsible for creating weaponry and equipment almost all rank eighth.

For instance, the eighth-rank god·Tianchen Sect, whose disciples are dedicated to crafting weapons made of Tianchen Steel.

Additionally, there are sects like the Black Ice Sect, Blood Crystal Sect, and Golden Brilliance Sect. Their disciples possess unique skills, which involve a special flame to forge weapons of corresponding materials.

If the sect does not correspond with the ore material, forging is impossible.

For instance, Qiao Yuansi once gifted Lu Ran a Blood Crystal Mask personally crafted by a Blood Crystal Believer; if you switch to a Tianchen disciple, Tianchen Sect's fire could not melt Blood Crystal Stone, this kind of mineral.

Consider it a kind of technical barrier.

Lu Ran gazed at the Spear Saint Divine Mountain, observing the misty Evil Spear Emperor and the flickering Evil Dog. He dared not get any closer.

"Phew~"

Lu Ran didn't delay and flew straight upwards.

He navigated easily and reached the Second Heaven and then with another instance of Instant Teleportation through an opening in the Cloud Sea, he arrived at the Third Heaven.

At this Divine Mountain Peak, only six whirlpools of black clouds existed.

Lu Ran noticed several Evil Dogs linked together, falling from the sky.

"Whoosh~" Seizing the opportunity, he flashed again to the bottom of the whirlpool and flew straight upwards.

In an instant, the sky turned pitch black.

Looking up, he couldn't even see a single star in the night sky; surveying the surroundings, it was only a desolate wasteland.

Lu Ran suddenly had a "homecoming" illusion.

An ordinary wasteland, however, stirred memories deep within him - Evil Dog Village!

"Ha." Lu Ran chuckled silently.

Of course, this wasn't Evil Dog Village outside Rain Alley City, but the terrain was identical. If there was a torch trail stretching to the horizon, it would be more perfect.

Evil Dog Village,

The first Demon Cave Lu Ran ever entered.

Many things happened in the village, leaving him with too many memories.

He once covered his eyes with a blindfold here, wandering and bleating aimlessly in the dark wasteland.

He also once secured first place in a school examination here with his teammates.

Unfortunately, even first place as a team couldn't hold onto overly proud members.

Lu Ran also once brought a girl named Si Xianxian to Evil Dog Village for training; the fiery young lady attacked some annoying fellow with a series of slaps in a Stone City inn.

Thus ended up in jail.

Sigh...

All memories!

Lu Ran steadied his mind; on the eve of demon-slaying, a faint smile appeared on his face as he slowly flew upwards.

However, when he reached the upper Demon Cave, his smile stiffened.

On the stone pillar, it was deserted.

Where's the Skinny Dog?

What??

Where did the Evil Dog run off to?

Lu Ran was bewildered, constantly looking around a vast wasteland full of Skinny Dogs, yet the figure of the Evil God was nowhere in sight.

Are you joking with me?!

The Evil God Stone Sculpture itself, rather than properly stationed on the Divine Mountain's stone pillar, is actually running around.

Perhaps it encountered some unexpected situation!

Impossible; he flew up from the First Layer of Heaven, and along the Divine Mountain inside and out, there were Evil Dog lackeys everywhere.

Lu Ran searched for a good while, but still didn't see any sign of the Evil Dog. After hesitating for a moment, he decided to communicate with the Lord God:

[Immortal Sheep Lord, do you have a moment?]

[Speak.] A solitary word, very raspy.

[The disciple intends to deal with the Evil God-Evil Dog, but on the stone pillar connecting the Divine Mountain, the Evil God figure is missing, this...]

[Evil Dog?]

[Yes! The stone pillar is empty, has the Evil Dog gone to support the front lines or encountered some accident?] Lu Ran felt a bit uneasy.

[Ha, Evil Dog.] Immortal Sheep snorted coldly, [You truly have courage.]

Lu Ran awkwardly scratched his head, weakly transmitting: [The disciple is well prepared, Invisibility Technique and Instant Teleportation Technique are indispensable in the Ran Sect.]

[I'm not clear on the Evil Dog's movements; both situations you mentioned are possible.]

Lu Ran: "..."

[As for you, you've taken down two Evil Sculptures in just a few days, the God Demon camp is starting to fall into chaos.]

Lu Ran felt a tightness in his heart: [Chaos? What kind of chaos?]

[Many gods and demons have started merging.] The voice of the Immortal Sheep grew colder, [Now on the southern defense line, there is no longer any trace of the Fisherman, only the flesh-and-blood henchmen of Ash.]

Lu Ran was stunned for a moment, then said: [What does Ash look like now?]

[Change appearance?]

Lu Ran hesitated: [When two stone sculptures merge, their appearance will change, right? Didn't War Horn and Colored Jade hang the Netherworld Horn and Soul Jade on their waists respectively?]

The stone sculptures of Feng Rao and Feng Yan from the Ran Sect, these combinations merge into one, can switch images between the two, the main prerequisite being having a compassionate heart!

Only then can they coexist.

With Ash's temperament, could she have any pity for the Fisherman?

What puzzled Lu Ran was that the Fisherman was not an item-type Evil God, but a genuine humanoid Evil Sculpture.

What exactly will Ash become?

How should she explain it to the world...uh, lay the cards on the table, stop pretending?

The Immortal Sheep let out a cold laugh: [The Fisherman wanted to merge with the Ash stone sculpture, after all, his level was there, he could try to resist, and still have the possibility of retaining awareness.]

But do you think, Ash would be willing?]

Upon hearing this, Lu Ran vaguely realized something.

Immortal Sheep: [There was no merging at all, Ash directly killed the Fisherman, shattered the Evil Sculpture, absorbed the broken Origin Energy, and devoured the Fisherman's Divine Soul.]

She took everything from him.

Tell me, why should she change her appearance?]

Lu Ran: !!!

The ominous words imprinted in his mind again: [Maybe, the Evil Dog you are looking for shares the same fate as the Fisherman.]

Lu Ran's heart skipped a beat.

No way!

The most fatal flaw of the Evil Dog is its extremely low intelligence.

If it gets eaten by the Greedy Wolf, it won't be fun at all.

Lu Ran suddenly thought of something, and hastily said: [The disciple just checked the two Divine Mountains of the First and Second Heaven, the number of Evil Dog henchmen is not small.]

[So, the Evil Dog has just left the stone pillar, you haven't seen it descend from the swirling dark clouds, it might still be inside the Demon Cave.]

[Okay, the disciple will look for it now.]

Lu Ran quickly responded, instantly teleporting into a pitch-black wilderness, giving a command in his mind: [Evil Shadow, Heavenly General Yin, both of you emerge with your afterimages.]

[Yes.] Yan Shuangzi did not understand, but complied without question.

Yin Yan, rarely receiving an order from the Sect Leader, swiftly flew out from Lu Ran's pupils.

Unfortunately, there were only two scouts; the second team's scout, Wei Yun, had not yet ascended to the Heavenly Realm.

Lu Ran quickly explained the situation, indicating to both: "You use the Invisibility Technique, you transform into the wind, let's search in different directions and report immediately if anything occurs."

"Yes!"

"Yes." As the words fell, the two disappeared without a trace.

One afterimage concealed its form and performed instant teleportation away; another turned into a wicked wind, rapidly flying far.

Lu Ran naturally did not delay, immediately flashing away.

He continued surveying the pitch-black Demon Cave, becoming increasingly anxious; fortunately, the wilderness terrain was vast and open, as long as possessing a night vision skill, the search was relatively convenient.

[Sect Leader, did something happen?] It wasn't long before Cong Long's concerned voice echoed in his mind.

[Ah, I'm in the upper layer of the Demon Cave, the Evil Dog is not on the Divine Mountain stone pillar... hold on!]

Yu Changsheng was quite astonished, being firmly silenced by an order from Lu Ran, he dared not speak again.

[...There is something abnormal here!] Yin Yan's transmission continued, [A large number of Evil Dog henchmen met tragic deaths, and there are huge claw marks.]

[Okay, you hold your ground, I'll go over there now.] Lu Ran hurriedly replied.

Yin Yan's stone sculpture body stood right in Lu Ran's mind, she certainly knew where her afterimage was located.

Guided by the main sculpture's clues, Lu Ran swiftly arrived on site, witnessing an incredibly bloody scene.

Corpses were strewn everywhere, rivers of blood flowed.

Furthermore, there were huge claw marks all over the battlefield.

Lu Ran kneeled on one knee, reaching a hand into a pile of flesh, the blood and flesh touched by his fingertips were still warm.

"Sect Leader, judging by the width of the claw marks, these are very likely to be the wolf claws of the Greedy Wolf!" Yin Yan arrived beside Lu Ran.

The Evil Dog Clan had slender features all around, and so were their dog claws.

Although the Greedy Wolf's claws weren't overly plump, they still had obvious differences from the Evil Dog's.

"Moreover, judging by the direction of the claw marks, the Greedy Wolf likely headed that way." Yin Yan pointed left ahead.

"Alright, you come back first." Lu Ran stood and looked into the distance.

Yin Yan pursed her lips, ultimately bowed respectfully: "Yes."

Lu Ran naturally sensed the oddity in the Heavenly General Yin, but he couldn't care about so much right now. Absorbing Yin Yan into his pupils, he called back the Evil Shadow and pursued along the claw marks by himself.

The enormous wolf claw prints appeared intermittently, but the general direction was certain.

Lu Ran blinked a few times, his figure halted.

Under the pitch-dark night, he saw from afar two massive stone beasts, fiercely fighting each other.

"Woof! Woof woof!"

"Ooo~!"

The barking of dogs and the howling of wolves continuously reached Lu Ran's ears.

One was vicious and violent, the other was shrill and horrifying.

Lu Ran focused his mind, watching the increasingly brutal scene; it was his first time witnessing a battle of gods and demons in his lifetime.

[Master, I have arrived.]

[Mm.] Lu Ran's eyes became ever colder.

Were the combatants on the field the Greedy Wolf and the Evil Dog?

No,

these were my Great Evil Shadow's two divine positions...

...

Chapter 964: Scheming Wolf and Gap-Toothed Dog

"Beast, just a beast..."

Lu Ran murmured in his heart, letting Yan Shuangzi's invisible afterimage flood into his eyes, gazing at the fiercely fighting battlefield.

This battle was a bit too primitive.

Setting aside size, aura, and other factors, what difference was there between the Evil Dog and the village mutt?

The Evil Dog clearly possessed powerful skills, for example, the Evil Technique-Evil Tooth, capable of long-range output, summoning two rows of jagged gigantic dog teeth to fiercely crush the enemy.

The biting force was astonishing, supplemented by Instant Teleportation Technique, enough for the Greedy Wolf to drink a cup.

However, Lu Ran had watched for a long time and hadn't seen the Evil Dog use it!

The Evil Dog had another powerful lure technique, Evil Shadow. This technique could summon stable clones at Heavenly Grade to fight alongside the original. The God Grade Evil Shadow Clone's effectiveness was unimaginable.

Yet the Evil Dog had no awareness of using it!

The frequency of using the Instant Teleportation Technique was high, but every time the Evil Dog used it, it was to rush at the enemy and bite fiercely.

Compared to output techniques, it preferred to solve problems with its real dog mouth.

Thanks to the Greedy Wolf having enough intelligence, devious and cunning.

Otherwise, this high-class God Demon battle might really devolve into a brawl between two dogs at the village head...

"Awooo~~~"

The sound of wolf howling arose, shaking the hearts and spirits of all creatures.

As the Silky Dog flickered to its side, the Greedy Wolf planted three claws on the ground, lightly shifting sideways while its remaining right front claw slapped hard at the dog's mouth.

The Evil Dog wouldn't use Evil Technique·Evil Tooth, but the Greedy Wolf would use Divine Technique·Wolf Claw!

"Crack!"

The incredibly sharp wolf claw hit the dog's mouth solidly.

The dog's head jerked violently, not only did cracks crawl out at the dog's mouth, but even two teeth flew out.

"Whimper~ whimper whimper~~~"

The Evil Dog instinctively flickered away, emitting a distinctive canine wail.

Lu Ran: "..."

Was this slap turning the dog into a whimpering creature?

I mean, aren't you supposedly an Evil God, can you have a bit of bearing?

The Evil Dog received a fierce slap, finally remembering its long-range output technique, two rows of huge dog teeth quickly emerged.

Once again, the Greedy Wolf tapped its toes on the ground, shifting lightly sideways.

In the equally ferocious Greedy Wolf, Lu Ran actually sensed a touch of elegance.

Hmm... it was probably because of the bleak contrast with its companion.

Lu Ran looked at the furious Evil Dog, then at the lightly bouncing Greedy Wolf.

The contrast shouldn't be too obvious!

The Evil Dog had Evil Sense and Evil Sensitivity, while the Greedy Wolf also had Wolf Sense and Wolf Sensitivity!

The perception abilities of both sides, their ability to gather information on the battlefield, and their control and sensitivity to their bodies should be on par.

Yet the word 'intelligence' let the Greedy Wolf process battlefield information several levels above its opponent.

It let the Greedy Wolf gain complete advantage in this battle!

While watching, Lu Ran suddenly noticed a small detail:

The Greedy Wolf howled relatively frequently, and every howl coincided with the moment the Evil Dog pounced to bite.

Moreover, the Greedy Wolf deliberately lowered the technique grade, neither scaring the Evil Dog into a frantic escape nor making it slightly shiver, fear a touch.

It was this small detail that let the Greedy Wolf gain advantage time and again in the face-off against the Evil Dog!

For both God and Demon, the slightest tremor and hesitation were enough to determine the round's victory.

"Learned something..." Lu Ran couldn't help but admire in his heart.

What a cunning and deceitful Greedy Wolf!

A bit remarkable, huh?

But continuing like this, as the injury accumulates, the Evil Dog will ultimately realize its head is about to shatter, teeth all over the ground.

There will always be a moment when it runs, right?

Once the Evil Dog teleports away, not playing with you anymore, then what will you do?

Lu Ran, harboring doubts, carefully observed the battlefield.

To this day, there weren't many beings who could instruct him in melee techniques.

The Greedy Wolf definitely counted as one!

With a retreat step, turn, and rear claw sweep, it was as if Lu Ran saw the Brazilian Battle Dance.

The wolf tail pierced deeply under the ground, taking root, with its shadow weaving in and out, and weaving unpredictably, it brought Lu Ran onto the court.

Filled with feints!

Full of scheming wolf.

The Greedy Wolf's thoughts, reactions, and movements were all at a master's level, but in the end, it still came down to battling with claws against the other's canine mouth.

In such a splendid yet plain melee fight, the Evil Dog's Evil Sculpture kept adding fissures, being chipped away bit by bit by the devious Greedy Wolf!

Forget the brainless Evil Dog, even Lu Ran, who was watching from the sidelines, realized too late.

The Evil Dog's Evil Sculpture was already covered in fissures...

"Woof! Woof woof! Woof!" Barked the furious Evil Dog, increasingly enraged.

The most annoying of all was the persistent wolf howl that repeatedly unsettled the Evil Dog's mind.

Yet the Divine Technique-Wolf Howl's grade was deliberately lowered, allowing the Evil Dog to quickly react under the Greedy Wolf's exquisite control.

Upon realizing it was thwarted again, with new wounds on its body, the fire in the Evil Dog's heart blazed even more fiercely.

"Damn, incredible!"

Lu Ran rarely swore, but at this moment, he couldn't help himself.

Can techniques be used like this?

The effect of the Wolf Howl is to instill fear in the enemy, how could it be used in reverse to constantly fuel the Evil Dog's anger?

The Evil Dog's traits and flaws were being thoroughly exploited by the Greedy Wolf!

It had a significant flaw in spiritual intensity, allowing the Greedy Wolf to lower the grade of its spiritual output.

Its poor intellect, ferocity, and aggression so that slight fright + new wounds + constant setbacks brewed endless rage.

Lu Ran thought that this battle would not be evenly matched, but at least it would be a give-and-take.

As he watched, it turned into a one-sided affair!

He went from watching the two dogs at the village head fighting with a critical eye to becoming a devout apprentice.

Seriously taking in the lessons of Master Greedy Wolf's mind games.

It's true that comparisons can be deadly, and comparing one's possessions can lead to throwing them away!

Lu Ran's battles with the Evil Dog Clan were countless.

Every time he displayed excessively strong power, the dogs' nature of seeking benefit and avoiding harm would overpower their vicious instincts, and they would flee in panic.

But look at this current battle!

The Evil Sculpture on the Evil Dog was covered in cracks, with many teeth broken, yet it was not running but was instead engulfed in rage!

The Greedy Wolf's small class had started again!

To deal with something that relies purely on instinct, you can't just hit it with three sticks right away, dogs will flee in distress.

You have to entice it, infuriate it little by little, and move slowly, devouring step by step.

Until it reaches the critical point that exceeds its emotional threshold.

Until...

"Woof!!" An angry roar from the Evil Dog, its figure flickered instantly.

Lu Ran's eyes narrowed, only to see the Evil Dog suddenly beside the Greedy Wolf, biting towards the Greedy Wolf's neck.

Poor doggie, originally its teeth were sharp and terrifying.

Now when it opens its mouth, it becomes a "gap-toothed" dog...

"Whimper~whimpering~~~" Once again, Lu Ran heard the special howling sound of canines, but this time, the sound was not from the Evil Dog.

It came from the Greedy Wolf!

Lu Ran's expression changed, thinking the Greedy Wolf would easily dodge as before.

But this time, the Greedy Wolf was actually bitten hard on the neck by the Evil Dog?!

Is this right?

Lu Ran's mind was filled with the Greedy Wolf's swift and fierce postures.

How could it not dodge?

It was... intentional!

Lu Ran immediately understood everything, realizing that the Greedy Wolf's whimpering howls sounded different now to his ears.

It turns out, the Greedy Wolf's strategy was successful.

The more pitifully it howled, the more excited the Evil Dog became, and the fiercer it bit!

But the issue is, in previous battles, the few prominent and sharp teeth in the Evil Dog's mouth had already been broken by the wolf's claws.

Can the remaining gap teeth in the mouth cause lethal damage to the Greedy Wolf?

No!

At least not in the short term.

On the contrary, the dog's head covered in cracks suffered further damage during the process of biting the wolf's neck, with chunks of skin peeling off.

"Howl~"

"Howl~~~" Waves of howls came from all directions.

Lu Ran's eyes lit up, this was the first time the Greedy Wolf had used the Divine Technique·Wolf Shadow Killing Array since the start of the battle!

It was clearly aiming to kill the enemy!

A large number of gray wolf shadows appeared out of thin air, pouncing on the Evil Dog.

"Growl!!" The Evil Dog let out a low growl, seemingly lost its mind, frantically biting at the Greedy Wolf's neck, completely ignoring the wolf shadows in front of it.

"Good, good, good..." Lu Ran conceded.

He just thought that the Greedy Wolf was too reckless, paying too much.

Even if luring the enemy, there was no need to expose the neck area, just let a wolf leg be nibbled by the dog.

Now looking again, Lu Ran realized he was wrong.

The output of the Wolf Shadow Killing Array was not as strong as imagined. The defensive power of the Evil Sculpture of the Evil Dog was not as weak as imagined!

And the Evil Dog's refusal to let go was precisely because the place it was biting was deadly enough!

The sacrifices made by the Greedy Wolf were significant enough, the temptations offered were immense, which is why under the impact of countless gray wolf shadows, the Evil Dog endured its body being torn apart, still fiercely biting the enemy.

If it were a wolf leg, the Evil Dog might have fled.

Now, the overwhelming anger accumulated by the Evil Dog found a place to vent, giving it hope of victory, hope of biting the opponent to death, so it didn't want to give up this rare opportunity, choosing to continue biting.

"Truly ruthless." Lu Ran sighed again and again in his heart.

What a Greedy Wolf!

Learned something new...

Indeed, no matter how brainless the Evil Dog is, it has the instinct to seek profit and avoid harm. If you don't expose your neck to the Evil Dog, making the opponent think you are on the brink of death, why would the Evil Dog trap itself in?

It must be said, the Instant Teleportation Technique of the Evil Dog made the Greedy Wolf pay a great price.

However, to ensure the success of the plan, the Greedy Wolf also took many measures, taking out some insurance.

It broke many cracks on the dog's head, limiting the opponent's bite ability to a certain extent, and even in previous battles, it swatted away many of the dog's sharp teeth, greatly reducing the damage it would suffer when bitten.

It's enough!

"Crunch! Crunch! Crunch..." The cracking sound from the Evil Dog's Evil Sculpture grew increasingly shrill.

"Whimper~whimpering~~~"

The Greedy Wolf was still pretending!

It kept struggling, its piercing howls continuing.

"Growl!!" The Evil Dog angrily bit down, its jagged teeth firmly embedded in the wolf's neck, with cracks spreading outward from the teeth.

Lu Ran reached into his waistband and gripped the Eight Desolate Blade.

Teacher Greedy Wolf, thank you for your patient guidance and for giving your disciple lesson after lesson.

Combat skills, tactics, strategy, psychology...

Student Lu Ran has nothing to repay you with, so today he will show filial piety to his mentor.

Sending you off on a journey!

Chapter 965: First Blood! Fall of the Divine

"Woo~~~"

"Woo!" The sound of wolf howls echoed, as massive gray wolf shadows frenzily assaulted the shattered Evil Dog sculpture.

Lu Ran instantly teleported above the wolf and dog.

Accompanied by the "crack crack" sound of shattering, Lu Ran tightly gripped the Eight Desolate Blade. He knew the defeat of the Evil Dog was already determined!

The completely enraged Evil Dog still bit and tore at Tan Lang's neck.

It's like racing against death, to see whether it shatters first or Tan Lang's neck does.

However, the condition of the Evil Dog sculpture was on a completely different level from the shattered state at Tan Lang's neck.

"Buzz~" The Eight Desolates Annihilation Blade trembled violently.

It had already sensed its owner's intent to kill!

"Crack!!"

The piercing sound of breaking was earth-shaking.

Before the Evil Dog could shatter Tan Lang's neck, its own slender dog neck was shattered by the gray wolf shadow!

Tan Lang triumphed!

Strangely, the lone canine head did not fall but still clutched the wolf's neck tightly.

The scene was particularly gruesome!

"Woo~~~" Tan Lang finally stopped pretending to wail.

It howled towards the sky, full of spirit, its howl piercing far through the night.

"Poof!!"

The canine head on the wolf's neck shattered explosively, turning into dense mist.

Lu Ran's body was tense, his cold eyes piercing through the mist, fixing on the fine cracks on the wolf's neck.

This is the moment!

Lu Ran's figure flashed abruptly, directly rushing into a "hole."

A hole?

To the minuscule Human Clan, this was a hole for sheltering.

Moreover, the inside of the hole was curved, precisely the silhouette of canine teeth!

Yes, this was the deep tooth mark left when the Evil Dog bit at Tan Lang's neck.

"Ding!"

The tip of the Eight Desolate Blade glowed brightly as it forcibly pierced into the stone body.

Third Divine Weapon Domain · One Blade Opens Heaven!

The victorious howl of Tan Lang abruptly ceased.

Tan Lang's beast-like eyes widened!

Not only did it detect something mischievous beneath the skin, but it also sensed a terrifying energy being infused into its body.

It was certainly not aiding its cultivation but brewing something...

"Shatter!!"

Lu Ran forced out a word through clenched teeth.

Terrifying waves stirred up wind and turbulent currents, blowing his short hair wild, revealing those shockingly fierce eyes.

This blade could make the heavens tremble, mountains collapse.

This blade could also cause the Divine Demon body to fall apart, disintegrate!

First Divine Weapon Domain · Eight Directions Annihilation!

"Crack! Crack! Crack..." From Tan Lang's neck, fine cracks crawled out in all directions.

The defensive power of the Divine Demon stone sculpture was extremely high!

If faced with an intact Divine and Evil Sculpture, Lu Ran might not achieve a miraculous effect even with a stab.

But not now!

Tan Lang's neck, bitten by Evil God·Evil Dog, had visible fracture patterns.

The hardest point to attack was already conquered by the slender dog for Ran Dog!

As the Eight Desolate Blade's First Divine Weapon Domain was activated, terrifying energy burst from the fracture patterns, rapidly spreading to the outer circle.

"Woo~ woo~~~."

Tan Lang shook its head and wagged its tail in panic.

It wanted to fling the mischief out, but such movements only hastened the tearing of the wound.

"Crack! Crack..."

Tan Lang:!!!

The howl that could intimidate all living things had no effect, unable to forcefully stop the insignificant ant.

Tan Lang was thoroughly panicked!

Those ferocious wolf eyes no longer had their former sinister look; it suddenly leaped high, lying on its back, and slammed down.

"Boom!"

The heavy stone body heavily crashed to the ground.

"Hmph!" Lu Ran snorted coldly, continuing to cast spells.

Sky turning, what does it have to do with me?

No matter how you roll and spin, I have the assistance of the Third-rank Magical Artifact·Smoke and Mist Silk.

Feet untouched by the ground, yet incredibly stable!

Just watch if your neck shatters and it's over!

At this moment, Tan Lang completely understood Evil Dog. The situation of both was astonishingly similar, racing against time and death.

"Hiss..." Tan Lang suddenly let out a low growl, abruptly stopping its roll, then revealed its wolf claw.

Inside the tooth-marked cavity, Lu Ran's face stiffened.

He didn't know what happened outside, but all his Divine Weapons were telling him:

Run quickly!

"Swish~" Lu Ran reacted swiftly, fully trusting his Divine Weapons, abandoning his advantageous situation, his figure flashed abruptly.

"Crack!!"

The sharp wolf claw fiercely grabbed at Tan Lang's neck, forcefully tearing it half apart.

Lu Ran stood in the sky, secretly clicking his tongue.

What a Tan Lang!

Fierce to the enemy and fiercer to itself!

Such a scene even made one worry about how long the remaining half of the neck could support the heavy wolf's head.

Suddenly, the gigantic Divine Sculpture vanished without a trace.

Tan Lang finally gained a chance to breathe through self-mutilation. Though it couldn't shred the insignificant ant, it at least forcibly halted the enemy's spell casting.

Lu Ran's heart trembled as he watched Tan Lang disappear.

No! No! It's not okay?

"Swish~" Lu Ran flashed once more.

As he reached forward with a grab, the Smoke and Mist Silk beside him swung swiftly, seeking the enemy.

Splash! A crisp sound.

The Smoke and Mist Silk clearly caught something and tightly swirled around.

[Wolf tail.] The voice line exclusive to Smoke and Mist Silk, smooth as silk, lightly drifted across Lu Ran's mind.

[Hold tight!] Lu Ran was shocked, secretly grateful.

His flashing landing point was Tan Lang's neck, but unexpectedly in this moment, Tan Lang had already darted so far forward, the Smoke and Mist Silk caught the wolf tail.

This was even with Tan Lang's neck shattered!

If Tan Lang's body were intact, its darting speed would undoubtedly be faster, likely disappearing entirely!

[Xian Mo Xuan Shuang!] Lu Ran immediately issued orders, his whole body carried by Smoke and Mist Silk, abruptly flying forward.

"Hoo!!"

Two stone sculptures formed rapidly from the eyes and assembled swiftly, and within this incredibly short time, Lu Ran was carried forward close to a thousand meters!

For the insignificant Human Clan, one kilometer is quite far.

For Stone Sculptures that are two to three hundred meters tall, a thousand meters is just a few steps away.

Greedy Wolf sensed the terrifying energy surging from behind but dared not turn its head, as if afraid its neck might get twisted off.

In the face of life and death crisis, Greedy Wolf had long lost its divine majesty, nor did it care who the enemy was.

It only wanted to get away from the trouble!

But...is it possible?

Within the pitch-black Demon Cave, suddenly there was a thick pillar of fire shooting skyward.

This pillar of fire came from the tail of Greedy Wolf.

This extremely conspicuous fire pillar also allowed Evil God and her maid to locate the hidden enemy's specific position.

"Chase!" Jiang Ruyi commanded.

"Whoosh~" Leng Xushuang clasped Lady's slender waist and flew straight ahead.

Countless plum petals fluttered around, forming a sequence of stunning afterimages.

Greedy Wolf was fast, but the Ice Plum Demon Queen was not far behind!

"Bang! Bang! Bang!"

Greedy Wolf's tail swung fiercely, constantly smashing into the ground.

Due to Greedy Wolf's fragile neck, it dared not easily turn its head, and with pursuers behind, it had no time to deal with the nuisance on its tail.

So Greedy Wolf frantically swung its tail, trying to fling away the annoying pest.

For a moment, Lu Ran was swung left and right, dizzy and disoriented.

Smoke and Mist Silk unleashed its power!

One end of the ribbon wrapped around Lu Ran, striving to keep its master suspended steadily in the air, while the other end wrapped around the wolf tail, desperately extending the ribbon's length.

Within just a few seconds, Lu Ran was no longer spinning.

No matter where the wolf tail swung, Smoke and Mist Silk maintained sufficient length to let it sway.

The first thing Lu Ran did upon "coming back online" was to flick his trembling fingers, sending a White Jade Stone flying downward at high speed.

Jade Talisman Divine Method·Quicksand Talisman!

"Boom!"

The barren landscape transformed into a rushing Mud Flow River.

It was thought that the heavy Divine Sculpture of Greedy Wolf would sink into the mud flow, but to everyone's astonishment, with the boost from its absolute speed, Greedy Wolf managed to achieve a "water-skimming" sensation.

The sand whips emerging from the river couldn't catch up...

Lu Ran noticed that the invisible Greedy Wolf slightly adjusted its direction, poised to dart out of the domain.

"Go!" Jiang Ruyi waved her stone hand, sending two giant Ghost Talismans flying forward.

The flying speed of Xuan Shuang Guards was already extremely fast, and the Ghost Talismans hurled by Jiang Ruyi were outrageously faster.

"Awoo!!" Greedy Wolf sensed a disturbance behind it and let out a howl.

But sadly, this intimidating howl still couldn't take effect.

Greedy Wolf was extremely anxious; its broken neck did not allow it to make large movements, let alone dodge swiftly. Even changing its running direction required tiny adjustments.

It dodged as best as it could, listening to the sound of the first Stone Token crashing into the Mud Flow River without any joy.

Because the second Stone Token had already arrived!

With no other choice, Greedy Wolf had to abandon its tail, and decisively took action to try and bat away the incoming Stone Token.

"Snap!!"

In the blink of an eye, the massive figure revealed itself.

Greedy Wolf's body shuddered, its expression changed drastically!

The sudden situation made it somewhat unable to respond, instinctively swinging its tail fiercely.

[Go!] Lu Ran grasped Smoke and Mist Silk, flickering away.

The sound of smashing echoed continuously, mud splattering.

The wolf tail smashed into the Mud Flow River repeatedly, while the Ghost Talisman stuck firmly to the wolf tail like adhesive.

"Whoosh!!"

The enemy revealed its form; Leng Xushuang slightly adjusted her direction and abruptly accelerated, overtaking Greedy Wolf from the top side.

Jiang Ruyi floated around with a full 64 pieces of Black Talisman Paper, pointed her slender fingers to the lower diagonal, and scattered no less than 16 Yin Thunder Talismans downward.

As many as six or seven Yin Thunder Talismans stuck to various parts of Greedy Wolf's body.

The remaining ones were not important; the most crucial was the one carefully controlled by Jiang Ruyi on the shattered wolf neck!

In an instant, the sky gathered dark clouds, thunder roared.

"Crack! Crack!"

Thick bolts of lightning struck down, resembling waterfalls of electric current.

Since Greedy Wolf was still running, the lightning struck diagonally, each flash precisely hitting the Yin Thunder Talismans on Greedy Wolf.

"Awoo~~~"

Despair filled Greedy Wolf's eyes; it leaped up, and its howl abruptly stopped.

The already shattered neck was devastated by a thunderous lightning waterfall.

In mid-air,

the Divine Body, the head was separated.

A lonely massive wolf head flew away, while the huge body behind it was again engulfed by a lightning waterfall, crashing to the ground with a thunderous blow!

Leng Xushuang's figure stopped abruptly, Jiang Ruyi remained expressionless, lightly waving her stone hand.

The black talisman papers on the Divine body rapidly vanished, the dark clouds in the sky scattered swiftly.

"Puff!" Thick energy surged and spread.

At the same time, one massive Stone Sculpture after another erupted from Lu Ran's eyes.

"Quick, where's the Evil Shadow? Quickly flicker into the mist, I'll show you the position, hurry and swallow Greedy Wolf's Divine Soul!" Lu Ran commanded loudly.

The accompanying warriors showed various expressions.

Is there really a Greedy Wolf?

Just now, Yan Shuangzi and Yin Yan, upon returning to the Sculpture Garden, reported this news to Lady, saying Greedy Wolf was likely to have slipped into the Evil Dog Demon Cave.

It seems the information was accurate; Greedy Wolf was really here, and now it's dead?

This was a Divine Entity!

Previously, Ran Sect killed Evil Gods, the nature was entirely different!

If a Divine Entity falls, then the Human World Da Xia, even the whole world...

What kind of upheaval would ensue?

"Everyone, enter the mist to absorb resources! Evil Shadow come with me; over there is the Divine Soul of Evil Dog too!" Lu Ran saw Yan Shuangzi absorb the Divine Soul cleanly with shivering figure, immediately commanded loudly.

Everyone:!!!

Greedy Wolf-Evil Dog, both dead?

Leng Tianxing and Wuya exchanged a glance, no wonder it was our turn to absorb energy, turns out two died?!

Yan Chou gripped the Divine Sword bestowed by Young Master tightly, his soul shaken.

Young Master...did you just slay two Divine Demons?

Beside him Bai Rao extended her long tongue, habitually licked her lips, her enchanting eyes shone brightly.

Little Lu, My Little Master Lu...

Really makes me delight~

Invisibility plus Instant Teleportation!

In this vast sky filled with Divine Demons, who can guard against Ran Sect's ambush, resist Ran Sect's destruction and slaughter?

Not far now, that day is really not far at all! Can Jade-faced Snake be added to the ranks now?

Tsk, ever since transforming into Stone Sculptures, it's been a long time since I've nestled by your leg, caring and loving you well.

Then...for a little while.

...

Chapter 966: Chaos Erupts!

Da Xia, Western Region · At the foot of Helan Mountain.

Within Ningyin City, constructed by humans, stands an ancient divine city — Xiao Yue City.

The ancient city venerates a beast deity, and the incense has always been abundant, with an endless stream of pilgrims and tourists coming to admire the deity's presence.

This was the situation before.

Since last month, things have changed.

Now in the late October, only shortly after the city's lockdown was lifted, the inside and outside of the ancient city are already overcrowded, with an astonishing number of visitors.

Outside the city, there are long queues of people wanting to enter, likely needing to line up for days and nights.

At this moment, above the city gate of the inner city, a slightly plump young man dressed in tidy and spirited black clothes is looking down at the bustling scenes on the streets and alleys of the outer city.

If Lu Ran were here, he would definitely recognize this high school classmate — Gao Zhonglin!

In the small Rain Alley First Middle School, within the 2016 student cohort, there were two "cubs" who were quite famous.

Unknown on the rankings before paying respects to the gods, they suddenly emerged as forces to be reckoned with afterward, dominating the rankings until graduation.

One was a little lamb cub.

The other was the little wolf cub · Gao Zhonglin.

The two once influential figures on campus have each embarked on their own paths, with the little lamb cub ascending to the pinnacle of Heavenly Pride, becoming renowned all over.

The little wolf cub, however, came to Xiao Yue City, gradually progressing from an outer sect disciple, only allowed in the outer city, to an inner sect disciple, and now holding some authority, responsible for overseeing the guards on one side of the inner city's wall.

The transformation in status naturally followed the growth in strength.

The little wolf cub diligently trained day and night, progressing steadily, and now has reached the River Realm, becoming a Great Power.

If it weren't for a certain overly dazzling individual, Gao Zhonglin would undoubtedly be the pride of Rain Alley First Middle School, and Rain Alley City as well.

Of course, he is still the pride of his school and hometown.

But whenever people mention Rain Alley City, the first person they think of is definitely not the bespectacled little fat wolf cub...

"Huh?" Gao Zhonglin suddenly let out a light sound of doubt.

In his sight, a large group of men and women are kneeling a few streets away, hands clasped, praying devoutly to the Divine Sculpture.

That is the closest spot tourists can reach to the deity.

Any further, and Gao Zhonglin's subordinates would go forward to dissuade them from advancing, as the inner city is sacred, where Lord God stands, and not everyone is qualified to enter.

But the problem is, as Gao Zhonglin watched, he suddenly found his vision becoming slightly blurred.

Blurred?!

What kind of joke is this!

As a Great Power, the Divine Technique · Wolf Sense he practiced is of River Grade.

It doesn't even need River Grade; his nearsightedness wasn't that severe, and he had gradually stopped wearing glasses since reaching Stream Realm, observing the world clearly.

But now...

Gao Zhonglin outwardly remained calm, but inwardly his heart skipped a beat!

What happened to his vision?

The Divine Technique unexpectedly failed; had he displeased Lord Greedy Wolf in some way, causing the deity to deny him the use of magic?

"Hiss..." Just as Gao Zhonglin was about to turn and gaze upon the majestic Divine Sculpture, he suddenly gasped, clutching his head.

It felt as if a nerve in his brain suddenly snapped.

The pain contorted Gao Zhonglin's face, making his expression extremely unpleasant.

Weirdly, such scenes were playing out repeatedly inside and outside the Xiao Yue City.

"Ah!"

"Ah! Ah ah ah..." From all directions came cries of pain as numerous disciples of the Greedy Wolf Sect held their heads in agony, either kneeling or collapsing, mostly clutching their heads.

As the main city of the Greedy Wolf Sect, Xiao Yue City gathered a large number of Greedy Wolf disciples, and the sudden turn of events threw the entire city into chaos.

"Senior Brother!"

"Senior Brother Gao, Gao... uh." Above the city wall, several disciples called out, while believers, unsure of what was happening, instinctively sought a backbone.

With a gloomy face, Gao Zhonglin realized he was not the only one affected.

So, it wasn't Lord Greedy Wolf forbidding him from using magic but severing the contract with the believers?

This situation was difficult to understand, but with disciples generally experiencing unbearable headaches, after much thought, this was the only possibility.

Why?

Why is Lord Greedy Wolf so furious?!

Who on earth committed such a sacrilegious act that made Lord God angry with all the disciples in the city?

While Gao Zhonglin was pondering in secret, he suddenly heard a loud cracking sound.

"Crack! Crack..."

Surprised, Gao Zhonglin turned his head sharply.

Even with slight nearsightedness, the enormous Divine Sculpture was large enough, and the crack on it was long enough.

Gao Zhonglin's expression changed dramatically!

What... what what is this?

"Greed..."

"Lord, Lord Greedy Wolf..." Trembling voices came from all around.

The densely packed Xiao Yue City momentarily froze, as if the entire world had hit the pause button.

Whether they were the believers suffering from headaches or the incense-offering devotees and tourists, they all stood dazed, watching the majestic Divine Sculpture gradually fracture.

"Crack! Crack!"

A massive stone skin peeled off, falling downward.

With a great sound, the stone shattered, turning into a thick mist.

Only then did the people realize the Divine Sculpture was hollow!

It had only a stone skin as an external shell, with the inside completely hollow.

The stone skin continued to peel off, and kept transforming into a thick divine power, spreading throughout the inner city.

"Ah!!"

"No, don't! Don't..." Reactions varied among the crowd, and chaos ensued in Xiao Yue City.

Some looked in disbelief at the fracturing Divine Sculpture, dazed in place.

Some knelt on the ground in despair, pleading with Lord God not to depart.

Some could not accept such a scene, and screamed out.

Others... wildly absorbed the rich energy.

Gao Zhonglin reacted swiftly. Despite the tremendous upheaval in his heart, the foundational qualities of the Greedy Wolf were still present, as an affected disciple of the River Realm.

"Close the city gates; no one is allowed to enter or leave until the situation is stabilized!"

Gao Zhonglin ordered loudly, supporting himself with the city teeth, flipping over and leaping down.

Even though the Divine Contract was broken, Gao Zhonglin had no Divine Technique to employ, but his River Realm body remained, his physical strength undiminished, and the universal Divine Technique, Water Flow Armor, was still active.

The little wolf pup landed heavily, stood on the spacious avenue behind the city gates, welcoming the rushing surge of divine power.

Since things have come to this, let's cultivate first!

Not only did Gao Zhonglin himself absorb divine power, but he also activated several precious high-grade Divine Power Pearls, frantically absorbing energy.

Damn!

What the hell is going on?

Lord God... could He have fallen?

In the past, Gao Zhonglin wouldn't even dare to think of such a thing—it was a great disrespect to the Lord God!

But things are different now; since the lunar calendar September 15, the whole world has changed—the Evil Gods fell one after another, and Demon Caves liberated.

Human society, under the guidance of the Lord God, finally welcomed the dawn.

Look at those Evil Gods!

Now they've become trophies, hanging from the Lord God's waist.

Some Evil Gods were directly killed by the Lord God, utterly erased!

This is official news released by Da Xia, and the liberated Demon Caves corroborate the authenticity of the official statements, further showcasing the glorious achievements of the Lord God!

The joyous atmosphere has persisted since September until now, and even to this day, Da Xia is still celebrating everywhere!

Just look at Xiao Yue City; why is it so overcrowded?

It's because the Evil God was slain, elevating the world's sentiments of reverence, worship, gratitude toward the Lord God to unprecedented heights.

But here's the problem!

Given that the Lord God can slay demons, can't demons also...

Could Lord Greedy Wolf's death be the call for a counterattack by the Evil Demon Camp?

The more Gao Zhonglin thought about it, the darker his expression became.

He also wanted to cover his eyes and ears, deceive himself, and say the Lord God is invincible.

But the reality is clear: the tug-of-war between the Lord God and the demons has lasted over 40 years; if demons were truly that weak, they would have been wiped out long ago.

And don't forget, there were many situations of "divine disappearance" at the beginning of the Lord God's arrival.

What the hell is divine disappearance?

The Lord God simply died in battle! Everyone just tacitly agreed to use a pleasant term.

So, was Lord Greedy Wolf killed by demons?

What should be done?

Under Greedy Wolf's feet lies the truly threatening Evil Dog Village, not some minor Demon Cave outside his hometown Rain Alley City.

Without the Lord God guarding, will the Evil Dog Clan rush out?

Invade the human world?!

The human military within the Demon Cave...

Da Xia must quickly send troops here! Hurry up to beg and plead with other gods to station here!

"Brother Gao, is Gao Zhonglin there?" A male voice called from afar.

"Here!"

"The City Lord commands! All River Realm disciples within the city must immediately enter the Demon Cave to assist the troops in defending Stone City!"

Gao Zhonglin: !!!

"Brother Gao?"

"Yes." Gao Zhonglin responded in a deep voice, his expression shifting with mixed emotions, having no choice but to start walking.

...

On Jinghong Peak, at the cliff behind the mountain.

A tall woman stood silently at the edge of the cliff, motionless, yet exuding a majestic presence, akin to a small goddess statue.

"Peak Master, Peak Master, something bad happened!" Suddenly a voice called from afar.

Chen Jingjing flew swiftly on her sword, reaching the cliff edge.

The goddess statue finally showed some reaction; she slightly furrowed her brows, and the subtle change in her mood altered the atmosphere of the entire area.

Chen Jingjing's heart trembled violently!

Just as she was about to step forward, she hastily knelt down and bowed: "Peak... Peak Master Qiao, Lord Greedy Wolf is shattered."

"Hmm?"

"The Divine Sculpture of Greedy Wolf within Xiao Yue City is shattered; in other cities too, Lord Greedy Wolf's separate stone sculptures have fractured! I've just contacted many, and every disciple of the Greedy Wolf Sect has lost the Divine Contract!"

Upon hearing this, Qiao Wanjun was quite surprised.

Greedy Wolf is dead.

Was it the Faceless Jade Venerable who killed him?

The Jade Venerable Clan's traits are obvious; though they overpower the God Demon in combat strength, they lack battle methods and facing the invisible Greedy Wolf, it wouldn't happen so easily.

The likelier possibility is...

Qiao Wanjun's eyes slightly moved; her once indifferent gaze was like a deep, icy pond, without a trace of ripple.

Now, however, it stirred a slight ripple.

Did Ranran kill him?

Earlier he slew Evil God Ghost Talisman Doll and possesses the Fourth Rank Stone Talisman, which specifically counters invisibility...

Qiao Wanjun pondered quietly, raising her hand to tidy a few stray strands of hair blown across her face by the wind.

She faced away from Chen Jingjing, also against the entire Jinghong Peak.

A faint, barely noticeable smile crept onto her lips.

...

Chapter 967: Great Evil Shadow

The chaos of the mortal world was something Lu Ran was unaware of.

Ever since he seized the souls of the Greedy Wolf and Evil Dog, Lu Ran swiftly returned to the Holy Spirit Mountain, Tianya Residence, entering a dazed mode.

The Divine Aura dispersed from the remnants of these divine beings was quite considerable.

Especially the Greedy Wolf!

Truly living up to the name "Greedy".

The Origin Energy contained within was exceedingly abundant, far beyond compare to the Evil God.

Under normal circumstances, a fallen Evil God allows the Ran Sect to forge a new god from its soul and use its Source Energy to advance two Fake Gods to the Heavenly Realm's Third Level.

The Source Energy given by the Greedy Wolf to the Ran Sect was enough to further four Fake Gods from the Second Level of the Heavenly Realm.

The Ran Sect truly feasted!

And Lu Ran truly suffered...

With Jiang Ruyi managing the back garden, he was naturally very assured. The Fake Gods in the garden advanced in batches, orderly, keeping Lu Ran consistently in a dazed state.

Not until the twenty-eighth of the lunar October that Lu Ran finally awoke from his sleep.

"Ugh..." Lu Ran opened his groggy eyes, only to find the room still shrouded in thick mist.

The advancement of a Heavenly Realm's Great Power truly takes a long time.

Lu Ran eased himself for a while, gently clenching his palm.

The low table in the study room floated automatically, crossing the hall and arriving in the bedroom.

"Pop."

Lu Ran embraced the Treasure Gourd: "Little Blazing Phoenix, you have to give more effort, or else, I truly might be done for."

He woke from a dream rather than emerging with clarity from a crashed state.

Meaning Lu Ran had fainted yet again.

He thought he had developed some tolerance, yet the emergence of the Evil Shadow Guardian made Lu Ran experience anew the meaning of splitting headache, worse than death.

"Buzz~" The Treasure Gourd quivered slightly, conveying strands of grievance.

Little Blazing Phoenix certainly wished to help the master, but advancing to the fourth rank, isn't that easy?

Lu Ran sat up, leaning against the bedhead, grasping the Treasure Gourd in both hands: "According to rules, the fourth rank is a Divine Grade, at the level of God Demon, the energy used is Holy Spirit Energy."

The Blazing Phoenix-patterned Gourd jumped up and down in Lu Ran's palm.

It's difficult to discern whether Little Blazing Phoenix was nodding in affirmation or treating Lu Ran's palm as a trampoline.

"Perhaps, this is your direction for growth?" Lu Ran speculated.

The Treasure Gourd tilted slightly, as if cocking a little head.

Lu Ran pondered, "You are presently third rank, whether absorbing, storing energy between heaven and earth, or refining corpses, living beings, all remain at the level of Divine Power.

For fourth rank, maybe you could delve into Holy Spirit Energy.

Absorb, store, or actively purify, you could explore this direction."

"Buzz~" The Blazing Phoenix patterned Gourd quivered.

"Good." Lu Ran smiled, holding the Treasure Gourd again to his chest.

"Awake?" A cold voice echoed.

Lu Ran glanced over, catching sight of a figure in regal phoenix robe at the side of the screen.

Today's Evil God had some changes.

Fairy Jiang tied up her long hair, using the Magic Artifact Smoke Green Gauze.

Other Heavenly Realm's Great Powers lost their aura wearing Smoke Green Gauze, but for Jiang Ruyi, the artifact's effectiveness sharply diminished!

Nevertheless, Lu Ran noticed he felt less intimidated.

The unseen rules amid heaven and earth finally let him go a step, his heart no longer shuddered intensely.

"Why aren't you speaking?" Jiang Ruyi stood at the screen side, not rashly approaching.

Lu Ran rose from the bed, stepping forward, while she consistently kept her eyes shut, making him find it amusing yet somewhat guilty.

"Hm."

Jiang Ruyi sensed an arm wrapping around her waist, feeling the familiar and warm embrace.

Her chin resting on someone's shoulder, she whispered: "Not afraid anymore?"

In the soft voice, a hint of teasing lingered.

"Afraid."

"Then why are you?" Jiang Ruyi slightly raised an eyebrow.

"Just like this, let it breathe." Lu Ran buried his head in her neck, inhaling deeply the faint scent of jasmine.

Jiang Ruyi's delicate face turned slightly red but didn't resist, quietly standing there, indulging in the rare tranquility.

Until Little Blazing Phoenix snuck over gently, cautiously squeezing into their embrace...

"Go." Jiang Ruyi flicked her finger, lightly tapping the chubby Treasure Gourd.

Little Blazing Phoenix instantly became obedient, tilting as it soared, with a downcast look, flying over the screen's top, heading to the study room.

Once the little fellow left, Jiang Ruyi sensed someone secretly acting mischievously.

The kiss fallen on her neck wasn't light but seemed plucking strawberries?

A kiss mark to be left?

"Hmm..." Jiang Ruyi kept her eyes closed, her long eyelashes gently trembling, her already flushed cheeks blushing even deeper.

She indeed wanted to retrieve the interaction mode of the past.

Not wanting Lu Ran to tremble in body and spirit, so unbearable.

For this, she didn't hesitate to lower herself, stepped down from the Divine Altar, and borrowed Smoke Green Gauze from the Nightmare Guardian.

And now Jiang Ruyi recalled that within the past interaction mode...

This person was a rascal!

She softly said, "The... the Evil Shadow Guardian has ascended as a god, possessing a complete Divine Position, should... should we summon her, see the specific scenario?"

Lu Ran's expression turned odd, feeling everything had returned.

Little Ruyi used a tone of inquiry, instead of issuing cold commands.

"Sure, I was just thinking of meeting her, see the True God's demeanor." Lu Ran thought for a moment, "Let's go to Mo Gu Peak then, to avoid any trouble."

"Mm." Jiang Ruyi responded softly.

In no time, the two arrived at the end of Holy Spirit Mountain, Mo Gu Peak.

"By the way, what date is it today?" Lu Ran stepped into the massive mountain cave.

"The twenty-eighth."

"It's almost a month now, General Hua should have been promoted successfully." Lu Ran muttered.

"Hua Qingying has already been successfully promoted."

"Oh?" Lu Ran turned his head to look at his demon girlfriend.

He saw her still with her eyes closed: "She was promoted successfully the day before yesterday and came to visit you at Tianya Residence. I chatted with her and arranged a place for her in the Underground City, letting her stay on standby."

"Oh, then little Yuanxi should be successful soon too."

"Mm, she's been advancing for more than twenty days." Jiang Ruyi said softly, "Guan Yiren has reached the Fourth Rank of the Sea Realm, and both Wei Yun and Bai Yanhui have ascended to the Sea Realm Peak."

"Good, good, good." Lu Ran nodded repeatedly.

Finally, the Flower Lantern - Black Lantern stone sculpture could be handed over to little Yuanxi.

Once little Yuanxi fuses with the stone sculpture, Lu Ran can directly propel her to the Heavenly Realm, Third Level!

This is what's called boosting a junior's rank~

Below the Heavenly Realm, you must cultivate diligently on your own, that's just how it is.

But as long as you ascend, I'll help you leap across two whole Great Realms.

Sword towards divinity!

The Lantern Sect, known as the king of the Support Realm, combined with the powerful techniques of the Black Lamp Clan, once a Divine Position is complete, who knows what kind of chemical reaction could happen with the fusion of Divine and Evil Techniques?

Little Yuanxi is about to take off!

Lu Ran thought happily, a smile appearing on his face.

If little Yuanxi were present, she'd probably say her brother is silly again.

"Whew!!"

Winds surged, terrifying energy filled the vast cave, a colossal stone sculpture rapidly formed, standing firmly within the cave.

"Roar!!" Lu Ran let out a battle cry to boost his fighting spirit.

He got a mouthful of wind and sand, hurriedly covering his face with one hand, pushed back repeatedly by the gusts.

What a great Evil Shadow!

Is it really that fierce?

Lu Ran retreated to the cave entrance, only then did he strain to look up at the towering figure.

This statue wore a wide stone bamboo hat, draped in a stone cloak, with a Black Ice Divine Weapon - Evil Moon Scimitar at its waist, a Black Ice Divine Weapon - Xiaoling Short Sword hidden in the right leg boot.

Clearly dressed as a mysterious Jianghu heroine, yet due to its extremely terrifying aura, Lu Ran was pulled from the martial world back into a fantasy world.

Actually, Yan Shuangzi also had a Magic Artifact - Moonlight Tassel Fragrance Pouch.

However, the effect of this artifact is to slightly increase the wearer's cultivation speed, so it was lent to other Ran Sect disciples.

"Master, Lady." The deity spoke faintly, its voice seemingly from the heavens.

Lu Ran suddenly felt a sense of inadequacy for his position.

What virtue or capability do I have?

A truly significant deity actually addressed him this way.

"How is it, how do you feel?" Lu Ran asked loudly.

The deity lowered its gaze, overlooking the insignificant creature at the cave entrance, without powerful perception techniques, it would be difficult to even notice this tiny ant.

"The mindset isn't great."

"Mindset?" Lu Ran had expected Yan Shuangzi to speak of physical changes, or techniques.

He did not expect it to be psychological.

"More arrogant, not like myself." Yan Shuangzi knelt on one knee, her gaze enveloping Lu Ran.

Yet even so, her face was far from the cave entrance.

Lu Ran watched the "heavens" collapse again, and shouted once more: "Roar!"

Yan Shuangzi: "..."

Jiang Ruyi picked up her phoenix robe collar with one hand, covering her neck, gazing up at the deity: "Changes in status require time to adapt."

Actually, to Jiang Ruyi, it didn't matter if the Evil Shadow Guardian adapted or not.

As long as the attitude towards him remained unchanged.

From Yan Shuangzi's demeanor, nothing seemed to have changed.

"Yes." Yan Shuangzi responded softly, then said, "The Divine Position also granted me many new abilities, I need time to comprehend them."

Jiang Ruyi: "I can share with you the experiences the Evil God Position granted, but what the Divine Position gives you, you must comprehend on your own."

After all, Jiang Ruyi's Divine Position is incomplete.

She cannot craft Divine Ruins, nor can she bring down pillars of blessings to temper bones for the Human Clan.

"Thank you, Lady."

Lu Ran looked passionately, gazing up at the goddess's face: "Immortal Sheep Lord did say, once the Divine Position is complete, your combat power will increase to some extent.

For example, your body strength, speed, and power, various attributes.

Additionally, Divine and Evil Techniques with similar effects can also fuse, exerting even greater effects."

Yan Shuangzi squinted her eyes slightly.

In the techniques of Greedy Wolf - Evil Dog sects, similar ones include Evil Sense - Wolf Sense, Evil Sensitivity - Wolf Sensitivity.

Such techniques are already almost bug-level existences!

And they can still fuse, exerting even greater effects?

How formidable must that be?

Yan Shuangzi finally understood why the little figure at her feet looked so full of anticipation.

She was moved too!

...

Chapter 968: True Divine Grade!

Regarding technique fusion, the Evil Shadow Guardian still needs some time to delve deeper.

However, in the two factions of Evil Dog and Greedy Wolf, those techniques that are quite distinct do not have the concept of fusion; Divine Grade is the highest grade.

Upon Lu Ran's suggestion, Yan Shuangzi began the experiment.

Evil Dog has a total of six skills, which are: 1 Evil Sense, 2 Evil Teeth, 3 Evil Sensitivity, 4 Evil Shadow, 5 Evil Bark, 6 Evil Shadow Flash.

The First Evil Technique and the Third Evil Technique await fusion, so Yan Shuangzi started with the Second Evil Technique-Evil Teeth.

She arrived outside Mo Gu Peak, reaching forward with one hand, with energy surging in her palm.

"Whew~"

Two irregular rows of canine teeth suddenly appeared in the distant sky, not biting immediately.

Jiang Ruyi watched the specifications of the canine teeth, secretly nodding.

Lu Ran was equally composed, as he had already witnessed the terrifying canine teeth during the previous God Demon War.

Among them, the four longest canine teeth in the front row, both top and bottom, were probably 200 meters long.

Two hundred meters?!

Yan Shuangzi's own size was only about two hundred seventy to eighty meters!

"No wonder it's Divine Grade." Lu Ran sighed lightly, "Reached the end..."

"Cover your ears." The divine being whispered, but her voice was highly penetrating, sprinkling across the world.

Lu Ran immediately covered his ears and conveniently turned off his Perception Techniques.

"Crunch!!" The two rows of canine teeth clamped down fiercely, emitting an extremely piercing sound, as if about to tear open space.

Interestingly, although the canine teeth were irregular and varied in size, they meshed perfectly.

Those small creatures, hoping to hide between the teeth to survive under the attack of Evil Teeth, might find no hope at all.

Lu Ran observed carefully for a moment and suggested, "Try the Fourth Evil Technique-Evil Shadow."

Yet, Yan Shuangzi did not respond.

This was rather peculiar.

In the entire Ran Sect, it's the Evil Shadow Guardian who is most obedient.

Lu Ran looked up only to see Yan Shuangzi deep in thought, and he instantly stopped disturbing her, waiting patiently.

After only a dozen seconds, the Evil Shadow Guardian lowered her hand, with energy surging in her palm.

Suddenly, two rows of small canine teeth appeared out of thin air.

In terms of specifications, this resembled River Grade Evil Technique, with the largest canine tooth only about one meter.

However, the energy fluctuations these two rows of canine teeth emitted were far beyond what River Grade Evil Technique could reach!

This?

Jiang Ruyi slowly flew to Yan Shuangzi's shoulder: "You can adjust the specification of the techniques?"

"Yes, Lady." Yan Shuangzi said softly.

Jiang Ruyi's heart stirred slightly; to shrink the size of the Jade Token and Black Talisman Paper, she would have to lower the technique's grade.

At this moment, Yan Shuangzi did not do so!

Is this the characteristic of Divine Grade-Evil Teeth, or the ability after the Divine Position is complete?

The other Evil Gods in the Ran Sect cannot adjust the specifications of their techniques either, such as the fire pillars Si Xianxian pushes out.

Regarding Evil Technique-Sea-piercing Flame, whether you use River Grade, Sea Grade, or Heavenly Grade is evident to everyone.

Because the diameter of fire pillars at each grade is fixed, as are the jet speed, impact, and damage of the fire pillar.

Maybe, after Si Xianxian swallows the Heavenly God Sculpture and the Divine Position is complete, he could freely manifest his techniques?

"Phew!!"

As Jiang Ruyi pondered, she suddenly sensed a terrifying energy surging ahead.

Another enormous Stone Sculpture suddenly descended upon the world!

Stone Bamboo Hat, Stone Cape, curved blade and short blade, everything was complete.

Evil Dog Evil Skill-Evil Shadow!

Yan Shuangzi's codename was derived from this technique.

"Wow!" Lu Ran looked up with all his might at the towering Stone Sculpture.

Lu Ran turned around and looked behind, then turned to look ahead, then turned back again...

In front and behind me are two tall-standing Divine Sculptures.

One is Evil Shadow.

The other is also Evil Shadow.

It's a buy-one-get-one-free situation~

Excited Lu Ran was soon splashed with cold water; the Divine Grade Evil Shadow Clone, though it has a Divine Body, still cannot manifest any techniques.

Well... one shouldn't be too greedy.

Simply having a "Divine Body" is terrifying enough.

Yan Shuangzi and the Evil Shadow Clone are mentally connected, sharing thoughts, able to control two bodies as one person.

"Quick, test the maximum control distance of your clone!" Lu Ran, renewed with combat spirit, promptly suggested, "By the way, try Evil Shadow Flash."

Jiang Ruyi, standing on the shoulder of the Evil Shadow, instructed, "Invisibility, see if you can instantly teleport to the sky."

"Yes." Yan Shuangzi immediately concealed her form.

Jiang Ruyi, standing on her shoulder, vanished along with her.

Lu Ran: !!!

Divine Grade-Wolf Concealment can actually hide a living person together?

When Lu Ran hunted the Greedy Wolf previously, the opponent did hide and flee in panic, at that time Lu Ran used Smoke and Mist Silk and was perpetually tailing the wolf.

The problem was, Lu Ran himself was also performing the invisibility technique, so he didn't realize anything was off.

Now, he realized belatedly.

Divine Grade-Wolf Concealment has reached such heights... wait a minute!

Wolf Clan's invisibility can carry someone, then the Dog Clan's instant teleportation...

"Gulp." Lu Ran's Adam's apple rolled once, his heart growing increasingly restless.

Can Divine Grade-Evil Shadow Flash teleport a living person?

If it can, Ran Sect's mobility will undergo a qualitative leap!

"Uh." Lu Ran shuddered as Yan Shuangzi revealed her form again.

In the whisper of the divine, there was a hint of apology: "Master, I cannot traverse to another world, cannot flash to the Heavenly Realm Battlefield."

"Ah... it's okay, teleport a hundred meters first! Ruyi, stand firm, don't move!" Lu Ran immediately commanded.

The two women naturally realized what Lu Ran wanted to confirm.

"Swoosh~"

The majestic Divine Statue instantly teleported a hundred meters.

Lu Ran couldn't help clenching his fists, his heart pounding wildly.

Jiang Ruyi still stood on Yan Shuangzi's shoulder, flashing over together with the god!

"I'll go, I'll go..." Lu Ran muttered.

Immortal Sheep, I praise you!

All along, Immortal Sheep always told Lu Ran to tread his own path.

In such a significant undertaking of slaying gods and demons, Immortal Sheep also tried to give Lu Ran as much autonomous power as possible.

Let him run wild and grow fiercely.

Only when Lu Ran was particularly reckless did Immortal Sheep give a hint: "Needs improvement."

This already showed the Immortal Sheep's idea of nurturing an heir, yet the only thing this mentor forcefully made Lu Ran do was activate the Evil Dog Evil Sculpture!

Immortal Sheep's value is still rising!

The Evil Dog Evil Skill that could teleport people had an even more skyrocketing value!

It's worth knowing that Evil Technique·Evil Shadow Flash had not been fused with other skills; it had simply ascended from Heavenly Grade to Divine Grade.

Its effects are terrifying to such an extent.

How terrifying would the fusion of other divine and evil techniques be?

"So fierce, so fierce..." Lu Ran grew more and more excited, eager to teleport to Yan Shuangzi right now and kiss her stone face hard.

Hmm... forget it.

Little Ruyi is here.

Easy for her to smack me dead with a slap.

Yan Shuangzi even possessed Double Divine Position, a truly perfect god!

If you upset her, a slap would absolutely be heavier and harsher than Jiang Ruyi's...

"Not bad." Jiang Ruyi softly praised, naturally aware of how much value Yan Shuangzi's ability to teleport living beings brought to the Ran Sect.

All along, Ran Sect focused primarily on physical and mental output and control.

No choice; everyone was challenging higher powers with weaker forces and had to arm themselves heavily.

And now, the functional skill of Divine Grade greatly broadened everyone's vision, bringing unexpected delight.

"Thank you, Lady." Yan Shuangzi responded softly, her enormous stone eyes constantly fixed on the little figure beneath her.

She didn't care about others' recognition and praise, even if that person was Lady Ran Sect.

In contrast, Lu Ran's joyous appearance filled her heart with satisfaction.

Lu Ran walked back and forth excitedly, suddenly stopped in his tracks, and his expression turned more and more peculiar:

"Tsk, what an unjust death for the Evil Dog, wasn't it?"

Q: How did the Evil Dog die?

A: The dog was biting Greedy Wolf's neck relentlessly when it was killed by the forceful impact of the gray wolf shadows.

Purely silly dog!

You should have just grabbed Greedy Wolf and teleported away!

Although Greedy Wolf could keep summoning the gray wolf shadows, you could just bite the prey and keep teleporting.

The gray wolf shadows indeed moved extremely fast, making it unavoidable for the Evil Dog to get hurt, but at least it could buy more time for itself!

Lu Ran understood that one shouldn't argue with a dog utterly blinded by anger... well, a dog with no brain to begin with.

But you this...

He finally understood why Greedy Wolf patiently carried out so many procedures, continuously provoking the Evil Dog.

Only when the Evil Dog got exceptionally fierce, ignoring everything, could Greedy Wolf deal with this silly dog.

Thankfully!

If the teleportation skill were given to one with higher intelligence, it would indeed be unmanageable!

There is already a ready example in the God Demon camp.

Who else can teleport?

Blood Skull!

Deservedly the Evil Demon Leader!

Thinking of this, Lu Ran's expression changed repeatedly.

The characteristic of the Divine Grade Instant Teleportation Technique means Blood Skull can take people away anytime, anywhere.

What a catastrophic news?

Blood Skull isn't a "trade intelligence for teleportation" silly dog!

Once Ran Sect is exposed, Blood Skull alone can utterly ruin Ran Sect...

Teleportation is far faster than transmission, making it indefensible!

"Lu Ran, it's a place rarely seen by people, but let's be quick now." Jiang Ruyi reminded.

"Oh!" Lu Ran suppressed his tumultuous feelings, gazed at the god, "Invisibility, teleportation, let's test the maximum moving range with a single spell."

Yan Shuangzi carried out orders, vanished and flashed away.

Lu Ran turned his head, looking at the Evil Shadow Clone half-kneeling behind him: "It seems Divine Grade Wolf Concealment still can't hide the Divine Power fluctuations during spellcasting."

The Evil Shadow Clone nodded silently.

A few minutes later, the two women returned to Mo Gu Peak; Yan Shuangzi reported: "A single teleport, maximum range can reach a thousand kilometers."

"Ah!!"

Lu Ran let out a fierce shout, fueling his battle intent: "Did you and the Evil Shadow Clone maintain connection throughout?"

Though he asked, he was very certain.

Because he had been interacting with the Evil Shadow Clone just now.

This divine body's shell had no self-consciousness, which meant Lu Ran was always interacting with Yan Shuangzi herself.

"Yes." Yan Shuangzi whispered.

"Go!" Lu Ran nodded heavily, "I'll first take you sky-high to see if you can continue controlling the clone across realms."

He reached behind his waist, intending to store the god in the Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd.

Ended up grabbing empty.

Lu Ran then remembered, moments ago at Tianya Residence, the little Blazing Phoenix had suffered a swell from her mother's head-slap, dejectedly flying away...

...

Chapter 969: Who Cares If the Floods Rage Outside

Lu Ran invited the little Blazing Phoenix to continue the experiment, but the results were disappointing. Yan Shuangzi and her Evil Shadow Clone could only connect their thoughts within the same world.

This also shows that the God Demon Residue is much higher than the Evil Technique.

Afterwards, Yan Shuangzi demonstrated the Divine Grade Greedy Wolf Divine Skill.

The effects were quite impressive.

Especially the Divine Wolf Claw, its sharpness was astonishing!

The Divine Grade Golden Jade Eight Talismans, demonstrated by Jiang Ruyi, were designed for defense. Under Yan Shuangzi's fingers, they shattered without any resistance.

It makes sense; during the previous God-Demon war, one strike from the Greedy Wolf's claw left cracks on the Evil Dog's jaw area and knocked out several of its teeth.

The defensive strength of the Divine Demon's body, how strong is it?

The Greedy Wolf Sect had no Power Amplification techniques, causing such damage solely relied on the sharp characteristics of the Divine Technique Wolf Claw.

Lu Ran felt grateful once again that he didn't get too excited and teleport beside her to give a kiss.

Yan Shuangzi's Wolf Claw is no joke!

Lu Ran was only in the Heavenly Realm; even if her fingertips barely touched him, his small body might split apart...

"Come back, and let's thoroughly study technique fusion," Lu Ran called out to the Great Evil Shadow.

Yan Shuangzi nodded gently to Lady of Ran Sect and then returned to the Sculpture Garden.

Under Mo Gu Peak, a pair of man and woman remained.

Lu Ran watched Jiang Ruyi slowly fly down and suddenly smiled.

"Why?"

"After the Evil Shadow Guardian ordeal, you're not as scary anymore," Lu Ran shrugged.

Is this the so-called collapse therapy?

Jiang Ruyi smiled silently, gazing up at the sky; the sunset at Mo Gu Peak is one of the Seven Views of the Holy Spirit.

Unfortunately, it was still morning, far from sunset.

"By the way, you mentioned before about sending soldiers to the mountains to hunt for treasures?" Lu Ran switched the topic.

Jiang Ruyi looked toward the northwest sky and softly responded: "After obtaining two Divine Positions, the soldiers' strength can't be further improved, and the advancement of Divine Techniques has its limits.

To continue growing and increasing combat power, we can only work on Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts."

Lu Ran nodded in agreement.

Jiang Ruyi placed one hand on her waist, holding the Immortal Binding Whip: "Obtaining Divine Weapons and Magic Artifacts doesn't mean great success; they also have talent limitations.

Most will remain at the first or second rank forever."

"Are Divine Weapons relatively better?" Lu Ran naturally knew the difference in magic artifacts.

After all, these treasures emerge by absorbing the Divine Power of the heavens and earth.

The ultimate form that various magic artifacts can grow into is often determined at the moment of their creation.

We don't deny the importance of effort, luck, and other factors.

But talent is inevitably the premise of everything.

The so-called hard work may allow some portions of talent to realize more, but it can never increase the upper limit of growth.

Take, for example, the Magic Artifact Ink Jade Tiger Talisman.

Being beside a master like Lu Ran, the resources for the Tiger Talisman's cultivation are top-notch, and Lu Ran's role perfectly aligns with the meaning of the Tiger Talisman's existence:

commanding the heroes.

But to this day, the Ink Jade Tiger Talisman remains a second-rank magic artifact, with no signs of promotion.

It seems there is no room for growth.

By comparison, Divine Weapons are much better.

In terms of creation, growth, or advancement, the weapons are closely tied to the Master of Divine Weapon. The master's obsession, ambition, and journey of struggle significantly influence the achievement height of the Divine Weapon.

From this perspective, Divine Weapons indeed have talent limitations.

Because people differ.

Experiences differ, mental realms differ, goals differ.

Lu Ran and Jiang Ruyi casually chatted for a moment, then suggested, "Who do you plan to send to execute the task?"

Jiang Ruyi glanced at Lu Ran lightly; you, the carefree manager, are quite comfortable indeed.

This casual glance seemed to trigger a switch in Lu Ran.

He shouted loudly, "Hey!"

Jiang Ruyi: "..."

Lu Ran: "..."

He scratched his head awkwardly and quickly suggested, "Wind Emperor, Phoenix God General, Dragon God General, how about them?"

He Qifeng, Xue Fengchen, Wang Longxiang?

Jiang Ruyi pondered for a moment and immediately understood Lu Ran's selection criteria — quality.

For this mission, the executor must use personal will to determine the life and death of the Master of Divine Weapon and Master of Magical Artifact within Holy Spirit Mountain.

Who did Lu Ran send?

All were Fake Gods, each in the Heavenly Realm!

Taking these individuals from Tianya Haijiao and putting them on Holy Spirit Mountain continent, all creatures within their gaze would appear as ants.

If self-restraint is not strong enough, the journey would be a blood sea and mountain of corpses.

Thus, suitable candidates must be chosen.

Lu Ran decisively chose three of Da Xia's geniuses.

Among them, Xue Fengchen had deviated slightly, gradually stepping onto a path of conquest during his wild growth.

But his inherent nature remained, and he was extremely obedient.

Lu Ran felt that with a little instruction, there wouldn't be any issues.

Jiang Ruyi contemplated for a moment and said, "The choice is good, but while executing tasks in the Mountain Realm, it's best to leave the original stone sculptures in the Mountain Realm."

"Indeed," Lu Ran agreed.

He often travels between the Heavenly Realm and the human world, and even enters the Demon Cave to slay gods and demons. If the original stone sculptures of several generals were left in the Sculpture Garden, they might occasionally lose connection with their physical bodies.

Jiang Ruyi continued: "Do you plan to split the Feng Rao stone sculpture?"

He Qifeng and Bai Rao can indeed be split apart.

However, once divided, the Origin Energy would also need to be split, possibly affecting their strength.

Fortunately, both are fake gods.

There is no division in terms of divine position, skills, or even physical strength, which avoids many troubles.

Lu Ran nodded and said, "Let's divide it. Aunt Bai, I need to keep with me. In the entire Ran Sect, she absorbs energy the fastest."

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

It's like treating Bai Rao as a human-shaped Fiery Phoenix Patterned Gourd...

Lu Ran continued, "Before the division, let the warriors in the garden nurture the Feng Rao Stone Sculpture to ensure that after separation, both remain at the Third Heaven of the Heavenly Realm.

No need to divide the Feng Yan Stone Sculpture; just add a Yan God General to the task personnel list."

In such a large Holy Spirit Mountain, having four people carry out missions is certainly not too many.

Gao Yunyan and Xue Fengchen exhibit the same traits, both like ancient generals, following their lord Lu Ran.

Loyal and obedient, issuing orders and following through.

There is no problem.

"You should comfort them well," Jiang Ruyi reminded, "staying in the Mountain Realm to carry out missions means that, for a short time, the Ran Sect won't provide them with divine positions to seize."

Lu Ran sighed softly, "West Desolation, Barbaric, and Nu Ying are all rooted on the front lines, not easy to move. The Martial Monk is a First-class God, and we still need to accumulate strength."

Jiang Ruyi nodded gently, "That's a good argument."

Lu Ran grinned, "I didn't make up a reason; that's the reality."

He also wanted to directly confront the Spiritual Fortunes!

But all the unseparated gods and evil demons are stationed on the front lines.

Immortal Sheep, Spiritual Fortunes, Nu Ying, Blood Skull, Rou Paperman...

Lu Ran once asked Lord Immortal Sheep, why can some gods and demons remain united, and what is the cost?

At that time, Immortal Sheep coldly responded to Lu Ran, telling him to see for himself.

Now, Lu Ran has understood the battlefield situation on the Third Heaven. Those gods and demons who haven't split into two forms are fighting on the very front line!

This is probably the result of the gods and demons' struggle.

There is, however, one exception—Sword One!

Strictly speaking, Sword One is stationed in the second line, but her support for the front line is substantial.

Whether it's out of necessity or her own desire, that's another matter.

"Hmm, let's go back," Jiang Ruyi suggested, "Let's dispatch the warriors early."

"Okay."

...

After returning to Tianya Haijiao, Lu Ran was busy to the bone.

He entered the spiritual world, watching Jiang Ruyi lead the warriors to nurture the Feng Rao Stone Sculpture, then proceeded with the division of the Feng Rao Stone Sculpture.

Afterward, Lu Ran invited the Evil Shadow Guardian, allowing a true god and four fake gods—Wind, Dragon, Phoenix, and Yan—to sign a master-servant contract, equipping the four with invisibility and instant teleportation.

Now, they can carry out missions without being noticed.

Lu Ran spoke candidly with them, explaining the situation and detailing the tasks.

Besides searching for divine weapons, Lu Ran specifically mentioned East Thunder believer Hao Tian to them.

Even if there is little hope, why not give it a try?

Sigh...

By the afternoon, Lu Ran submerged three stone sculptures into the sea.

All four are not adept at water combat, moving in the sea is difficult, like blind men.

But as stone sculptures, there's no risk of drowning...

At Tianya Haijiao, disciples often advance, and the three stone sculptures staying here can also intensely purify the Holy Spirit Energy.

After settling the pseudo-god stone sculptures, Lu Ran activated the Transmission Mirror, sending off the flesh bodies of the four fake gods.

Gao Yunyan went to the northwest Mo Gu Peak, Xue Fengchen went to the northeast Sword Ridge Peak.

Wang Longxiang went to the southwest Soul-locking Mountain, He Qifeng went to the southeast Jingxian Mountain.

"Phew..." Lu Ran sat on the Taishi Chair, letting out a long breath.

Let's wait for good news.

On the side of the Taishi Chair, Jiang Ruyi's smile was playful, "Is the Sect Master tired out?"

Lu Ran replied, "Do you think, with gods and demons like this, they still have a mind to manage the Holy Spirit Mountain? Should we reclaim the lost land?"

Upon hearing this, Jiang Ruyi's smile faded.

"Ruyi?" Receiving no response for a while, Lu Ran tentatively inquired.

Jiang Ruyi softly said, "Gods and demons are probably more strict in control, the greater the disadvantage, the more they need the human clan."

"Hmm..."

"Why not have a chat with Lord Immortal Sheep to understand the specific situation?" Jiang Ruyi suggested, "With the fall of Greedy Wolf and Evil Dog, the gods and demons are likely to have a significant reaction."

Lu Ran nodded; this was a serious and weighty topic, yet his face suddenly broke into a smile:

"Fortunately, we have already acquired the Cross-level Slaughter Technique, and have now also seized Invisibility and Instant Teleportation."

Fully equipped!

No matter how the external world floods or how gods and demons react.

My Ran Sect now has the capital to stand firm in the Three Realms.

And with the ability to overturn the heavens!

"Phew~"

Lu Ran's heart surged with excitement, the Smoke and Mist Silk fluttering lightly around him.

"Heh." Lu Ran gently stroked the ribbon in his palm, "Smoke and Mist, when will you elevate to the Fourth Rank and help me bind the gods?"

[What about you?]

"Huh?"

[When will you advance to the Third Heaven of the Heavenly Realm?] Smoke and Mist Silk's voice was soft, like a strand of gentle, flowing silk, drifting through Lu Ran's mind.

Lu Ran: ?

It's simply Reversed Celestial Spirit!

...

Chapter 970: Bait of the God Demons

Lu Ran accepted Jiang Ruyi's suggestion to find Immortal Sheep and have a chat, to understand what changes had taken place in the world over the past week.

He didn't return to the Human World, after all, many soldiers were cultivating within Tianya Haijiao.

Lu Ran arrived at the First Layer of Heaven, headed to the southwest region, with the principle of lighting up the map and exploring more, he arrived at the previously unvisited Bee Elephant Divine Mountain.

No harm in coming!

As Lu Ran approached Bee Elephant Divine Mountain, he froze in mid-air.

"This..." he was shocked, looking at the towering mountain shrouded in thick mist.

From the thick clouds in the sky, numerous significant Fog Dragon Rolls descended, connecting to the midsection of the mountain.

Is someone advancing on the Divine Mountain?

Lu Ran was quite surprised, weren't the God Demons supposed to be wary of the Human Clan, not allowing believers to advance further?

Because the battlefield situation changed, did the God Demons capitulate and lift the restrictions on Human Clan believers?

"Heh." A smirk appeared at the corner of Lu Ran's mouth.

I just slain a few God Demons, and the believers have been liberated, these God Demons really know how to adapt to circumstances.

Wait a minute!

Lu Ran suddenly remembered someone: Yunhai Veteran·Xiang Wang.

Senior Xiang is a Spiritual Image believer, said to be personally suppressed by the Divine Spirit Elephant.

Now with the mist swirling around the Divine Mountain, could it be Senior Xiang advancing?

Lu Ran's heart raced with excitement, he cautiously flew forward, through the mist, he saw the chaotic battlefield and the bare Divine Mountain.

Bee Elephant Divine Mountain should be covered with purple Poison Flowers, releasing poisonous mist and scattering pollen.

But where are the flowers?

Upon closer inspection, Lu Ran discovered that each purple Poison Flower had moved to the bee tails!

Third-class God Demon Poison Bee—Poison Flower, they are two sides of the same coin.

Now, a god and a demon have combined together!

In their normal form, Poison Bee minions naturally exist in a shadow state, resembling the wasps of the Human World, but now the Poison Bee minions have gained form.

They are huge in size, about 2 meters long, with beautiful purple petals blooming at their tails.

Likewise, a 2-meter long, exceptionally sharp bee stinger had grown from the flower's center.

"Tsk tsk~" Lu Ran marveled secretly.

This combination of a god and a demon turned out quite beautiful?

Poison Bee tail flowers, the centers shine poisonous stingers.

Thinking about it, this is likely the result of a peaceful fusion between a god and a demon. If one had devoured the Divine Soul of the other, then the winner's form likely wouldn't change much.

Take the Spiritual Image, for example!

Lu Ran grinned, listening to the earth-shaking trumpet of the elephants.

Spiritual Image minions have also gained form, but their appearance hasn't changed much, resembling the Asian elephants of the Human World, but their size is unparalleled by earthly creatures.

Each Heavenly Realm·Spiritual Image minion must be as tall as a dozen floors!

30-plus meters perhaps?

Apart from the Divine Technique, merely the sheer weight and impact would be enough to overwhelm anyone.

Lu Ran watched with his own eyes as a Spiritual Image minion used the Evil Technique of the Demon Elephant Clan.

The answer is clear!

The Divine Spirit Elephant had killed the two-sided God Demon·Demon Elephant, retained its own form, and reclaimed the Demon Elephant's Evil Technique.

"Oooo~~~"

The trumpet blared loud and clear, shaking heaven and earth.

Lu Ran instinctively covered his ears, watching helplessly as the gigantic Spiritual Image charged, surrounded by dancing Poison Bees, and accompanied by massive black apes running alongside its body and legs.

Seven-class God·Profound Ape!

And these are Profound Ape minions with physical form!

But this time, Lu Ran couldn't ascertain whether the Divine Spirit·Profound Ape had devoured the Evil God·Black Ape or peacefully merged with it.

In the Da Xia Divine Demon System, the Profound Ape-Black Ape God Demon combination bears the most similar appearance.

Both are shaggy, massive black apes.

The reason Lu Ran was certain the Spiritual Image killed the Demon Elephant, devouring the Evil God's soul, is because the Demon Elephant's skin was entirely rotted, looking utterly disgusting.

If the two had merged peacefully, the Spiritual Image minion's skin couldn't be so normal.

"What a Divine Mountain Zoo I've got here..."

Lu Ran murmured to himself, it was clearly a battlefield of intense fighting, yet he couldn't help but be amused by the sight.

Bees, elephants, and apes aren't the only guardians of this Divine Mountain.

A few beautiful seven-tailed White Foxes were also seen moving about the mountain, on occasion a phantom of an elderly white-haired figure could be seen above their heads.

Finally, Lu Ran understood!

Ghost Moon Fox—Caster!

These two clever fellows have maintained their previous collaboration model.

Haven't they reached an agreement yet?

Lu Ran cautiously flew forward until finally, 20 kilometers outside Bee Elephant Divine Mountain, he established contact with Immortal Sheep.

[Immortal Sheep, disciple has come to report on mission progress, Greedy Wolf and Evil Dog, both were taken down by disciple!]

[Not bad.] A deep voice imprinted itself in Lu Ran's mind.

Eh?

Who was speaking?

Oh, it turns out to be the cold-hearted sheep.

Tsk~ Sheep General knows how to give compliments?

Though merely two simple words, for Lu Ran, this was indeed a rare occurrence.

Much like how if one of the three thousand disciples of the Ran Sect received a word or two of praise from the Chief Guardian·Deng Yuxiang, it would be akin to incense wafting from an ancestral grave!

[As long as Immortal Sheep is pleased.] Lu Ran replied, cautiously observing his surroundings as he did so.

No way, the Poison Bee Clan's flying speed is very fast, and now that the Poison Flower has bloomed at its tail end, there's a high probability that pollen will scatter wherever the Poison Bee passes.

The Evil Technique of the Poison Flower Clan·Poison Pollen is qualitatively different from normal Perception Techniques.

The scattered poison pollen primarily functions to invade the bodies of all living creatures, causing the target's thoughts to stagnate and limbs to stiffen.

Through this special toxin, the Poison Bee Sect can establish a special connection with the target.

And thus achieve the effect of "sensory sharing."

At this moment, both inside and outside the Divine Mountain, endless thick mist swirls, and the masses can't see the battle clearly at all.

But Lu Ran can see through the fog!

Once he is contaminated by the poison pollen, the casting Poison Bee minion can then have a comprehensive view of the entire battlefield.

What kind of concept is this?

It's like a green player in the fog of war, exploring cautiously, suddenly discovering the entire map has been lit up, everything in the fog clearly visible...

Could that be right?

Even if Lu Ran hides himself, the Poison Bee can quickly lock onto Lu Ran's position through his field of vision.

Spirit Defense Techniques can't stop this special toxin.

To detoxify, Healing Techniques won't work; you must use the Purification Skill.

Of course, there are also two other solutions:

The Poison Bee Sect possesses the Divine Technique-Immunity to All Poisons, which fundamentally solves the problem, making the caster immune to all poison-type techniques.

The Poison Flower Clan has the Evil Technique-Honey Kiss, with nectar oozing from the flower stamens that also has the effect of curing all poisons.

Both inside and outside this Divine Mountain, the divine and demonic minions can fight normally, as they must have nectar on them.

The disadvantage of the Faceless Jade Venerable is very obvious.

Even though this clan has maxed out Spirit Defense and Physical Defense, their poison resistance clearly isn't maxed out.

In battle, they are significantly impacted.

Yet the Jade Venerable Clan still madly charges at the Divine Mountain, seemingly determined to disrupt the Human Clan's advancement.

Are the threats from the Human Clan believers really that substantial?

The Faceless Jade Venerable doesn't have Perception Techniques, their vision severely limited in the fog...

Lu Ran voiced his inner doubt, to which the Immortal Sheep replied with this:

[If you continue this recklessness, your mother may soon be released.]

[Hmm.] Lu Ran tightly pressed his lips together.

He yearned for it!

Since childhood, Lu Ran had always looked up to his mother.

He still does now.

But nowadays, Lu Ran has reached a certain height, with a new hope in his heart, wanting to fight alongside his mother.

He dared not imagine how exhilarating that day would be!

Qiao Wanju had suffered at the hands of the overwhelming divine and demonic powers. The Cloud Sea Sect she painstakingly built, meant to help resist external threats, ended up in its current situation.

The sect was trampled to pieces by the divine and demonic forces, leaving less than one in ten of its forces intact.

Lu Ran dared not imagine how exhilarating it'd be when he and his mother stood before the divine and demonic powers, raising their slaughter blades!

Justice will prevail, and retribution is inevitable!

What is meant to come will always come.

[Immortal Sheep, which divine demon should I target next?] Lu Ran asked solemnly.

The Immortal Sheep did not respond directly, instead saying: [You've seen the condition of the Divine Mountain with your own eyes. The divine and demonic beings have realized the crisis of life and death and have mostly merged back together now.]

Lu Ran nodded gently.

There are eight divine and demonic beings within the Hive Elephant Divine Mountain, except for the Ghost Moon Fox-Caster, which remains unchanged; the other three groups of divine and demonic beings have all merged in various ways.

To ensure the integrity of the Divine Position, they abandoned the mortal feast that Evil Demons could enjoy.

[It has become much more difficult for you to slaughter gods and demons now.] The voice transmitted slowly, unhurriedly.

[Are there still many divine and demonic beings that haven't merged?] Lu Ran mused, [Ghost Moon Fox-Caster must not be an exception, after all, the feast of the fifteenth night is yet to be held.]

Could just the Ghost Moon Fox Clan cover the entire Da Xia territory?

Even if they could, Lu Ran certainly doesn't believe the divine and demonic beings are so united that they would let only the Ghost Moon Fox Clan enjoy the resources of the mortal world.

Pausing, Lu Ran continued analyzing: [The fifteenth night is not just a gluttonous feast for the Evil Demons. The crisis that occurs once a month is a magical treasure to make all Human Clan revere the divine beings!]

[You see through it very clearly.] It was evident that the Immortal Sheep was quite satisfied.

Lu Ran scratched his head, his smile a little shy: [Immortal Sheep, please, don't praise me too much, I'm not quite used to it.]

The Immortal Sheep ignored Lu Ran, instead asking: [So, do you plan to choose your next target among the divine and demonic beings that haven't merged?]

[This is the disciple's initial plan, does the Immortal Sheep feel it's feasible?] Lu Ran sought guidance.

The Immortal Sheep's voice instantly turned icy: [The divine and demonic beings are thinking the same way.]

Lu Ran's heart skipped a beat.

Immediately, he realized!

Indeed, now that most of the divine and demonic beings have merged into one, the remaining ones could very likely become the Ran Sect's target.

Is this bait deliberately laid out by the divine and demonic beings for the Ran Sect?

The Immortal Sheep's voice grew even colder: [If you choose your next target within the range circled by the divine and demonic beings, do you think you won't fall into an ambush?]

Lu Ran slightly opened his mouth, realizing the gravity of the situation.

[You said, you're at the Hive Elephant Divine Mountain?]

[Yes.]

[The Ghost Moon Fox and Caster are the only ones left on that Divine Mountain, who haven't merged.]

[Yes.] Lu Ran nodded again.

[Heh.] A cold laugh from the Immortal Sheep, [Then, would you like to enter the Demon Cave of the Ghost Moon Fox to see what kind of beings are hiding around the fox?]

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