

Origin Powers 491

Chapter 491 - Opportunity for Breakthrough_2

The will has long since been tempered to be as strong as steel, incredibly resilient.

They are all talents.

More importantly...

These talents are currently unclaimed, Wind Fist Style?

Apologies, as an individual school, I must admit Feng Zhichen's character is extremely high, but if compared in the depth of Martial Tao, he's truly miles behind the Sect.

At worst, allow them to hold dual sect identities...

Sun Bumie thought that even if only a tenth of the Baoyan Army Legion joined the Cuowu Sect, its strength would leap to the top among the Five Sects.

How could he pass up such a rare opportunity...

So, even though it was late at night, he couldn't wait to visit in person.

As far as these people are concerned, Xu Lingjun's status is lofty and unshakeable.

This is not an issue, Xu Lingjun's current status is too high, so he can't simply remain in the Cuowu Sect, besides with his current strength, if he stayed, Sun Bumie might actually be pleased, who knows.

For Sun Bumie, befriending Xu Lingjun was perhaps the wisest decision of his life.

.....

In the blink of an eye.

More than ten days had passed.

In these ten days, as the holiday began.

The Baoyan Army Legion each returned home to visit their families, and among them, a large batch were actually orphans adopted by Feng Zhichen, without family ties, nearly half of these people went back to the Cuowu Sect with Sun Bumie.

Going anywhere is the same, since Sun Bumie has offered them many conveniences, they naturally want to see if these conveniences are real or not.

Even the Commander allowed it... they didn't mind taking on one more identity.

During this time.

Xu Lingjun did not attend any meetings, as the Polar Star Battlefield was under reconstruction and expansion, he was too lazy to manage...

He just peacefully resided in the villa.

Working at sunrise, resting at sunset daily.

At the Polar Star Battlefield for two years, he worked hard on cultivation, but his focus wasn't there...

Now, he is just a hair's breadth away from the Guiyuan Grandmaster Realm.

Every time he recalls the battle between Liu Zhiyuan and Pavilion Master Tai Zhengyuan of Central City Martial Mansion.

He feels a dreamy haze...

At that time, it seemed such formidable power.

And now, his strength is no less compared to them then...

He naturally can't wait to breakthrough into the Grandmaster Realm.

To completely refine his True Qi into True Essence.

Half a month later.

Cuowu Sect.

Inside the Sect Martial Arts Hall.

Two figures are moving as fast as a blur, so quick that they are hard to see.

Suddenly intersecting, suddenly colliding, each clash would cause limitless shockwaves, forcing everyone to step back continuously, the hall, though large, left those watching driven backward until nearly forced outside.

Yet even so.

All observers still have their eyes glued to the battlefield.

Even though True Qi like blades and swords attacked their bodies, clothes were torn and tattered, but such a grand opportunity is extremely rare.

Everyone was watching totally engrossed.

The Supreme Elder suddenly challenged the Sect Leader... expressing a desire to have a friendly spar.

Though just a private spar between two people, their positions within Cuowu Sect are extremely sensitive, leading others to easily speculate about power struggles, dissatisfaction, sect infighting, and other strange information.

Especially since the one vying for power is the current Commander in Chief of Polar Star Battlefield.

Those Baoyan Army warriors who had followed Xu Lingjun for long, yet rarely saw him take action personally, and Cuowu Sect disciples were naturally curious about what power their Commander truly possessed...

There were even those placing bets, speculating how many moves Xu Lingjun could withstand from Sun Bumie...

It's not like they lack confidence in Xu Lingjun, in fact, his strength was always undoubtedly the strongest in Qisha Military District.

Many people observed the reasons he would often seek sparring, yet no one dared accept his challenges.

But without entering the Grandmaster realm, there's still a significant gap from it.

Sun Bumie thought the same...

In his view, Xu Lingjun must have hit a bottleneck, unable to breakthrough, thus wishing to experience the pressure of a Grandmaster up close.

However, when the two truly started fighting, he was shocked to realize.

Xu Lingjun's current strength already faintly has the capability to rival his own.

The Elders watched in amazement...

Everyone understood why Sun Bumie befriended Xu Lingjun; he sought to cultivate future value.

Although Xu Lingjun has quickly demonstrated his worth, with influence perhaps surpassing the Cuowu Sect, but that's his capability, not force.

Who could have predicted, even in terms of sheer martial prowess, he already possesses power equivalent to Sun Bumie!

The two exchanged hundreds of moves...

Sun Bumie surprisingly did not gain much advantage, almost making a huge fool of himself due to underestimation amidst the disciples.

Only with rich combat experience he quickly turned the tide back.

The two fiercely fought for more than half an hour...

By the time their evenly matched bout ended.

The onlookers, who had been watching entranced, were stunned, evidently not expecting their Commander in Chief, who hadn't entered the Grandmaster realm, to already possess power rivaling a Grandmaster.

Sun Bumie was equally refreshed, he hadn't deliberately held back...

Though, if the battle continued, he had at least seventy percent confidence of winning.

Chapter 492 - Breakthrough Opportunity_3

But facing someone who is not even at the Grandmaster level, fighting to this extent, he could actually be considered to have lost.

"Supreme Elder's power is impressive. I didn't expect that in only two short months, while Elder has been busy with military affairs, your martial strength has not been neglected at all!"

"If I continue to fight, I'm bound to be defeated."

Xu Lingjun was a bit speechless...

He couldn't help it; he sought a spar with Sun Bumie because he had his eyes on his power.

He's now just short of one final step, and if Sun Bumie used his full strength, it could provide him with substantial assistance... Although it might cost him somewhat, since it's a spar, where there is loss, there is gain.

But during the battle, he deliberately exposed several flaws, trying to lure Sun Bumie to attack him.

But Sun Bumie ignored these flaws, gently passing them by... It was clear that he did not want to take advantage of him.

As a result, although Xu Lingjun's power increased significantly in this battle, it fell far short of his expectations...

In Sun Bumie's view, Xu Lingjun must have been displeased due to the lack of victory in the battle.

He sighed and said, "Uncle can fight me to such a level with your Dongxuan body. When you naturally break through to the Grandmaster Realm, I'm afraid I won't be your match. But... Uncle seems eager for quick success, or has cultivated a habit on the battlefield of taking any means necessary to succeed in killing the enemy? If I attacked the openings you deliberately exposed just now, I might have fallen into your trap and become passive, but in doing so, undoubtedly, you would have suffered severe injuries..."

He earnestly advised, "As martial artists, we must prioritize nurturing our bodies. If any irrevocable injuries occur, it can be devastating to one's path in the Martial Tao."

"Hmm, I understand, thank you Sect Leader for the advice."

What else could Xu Lingjun say?

I came precisely to get beaten, I just wanted you to hit me... You couldn't hit me, so I exposed flaws on purpose to let you hit...

Forget it, forget it.

For sparring, I'm afraid I have to find someone like in Han Yun City, where once their strength erupts, their IQ plummets, to truly enhance my power.

I was thinking of harvesting all the 'chives' that should be cut.

But now, it seems unnecessary to go to the Sun and Moon Bright Sect. If I want to spar with the Sect Leader of Tomorrow, perhaps it would end in a fight, making me seem too concerned about victory or defeat.

Xu Lingjun suddenly thought of that jade pendant from Tomorrow...

He wondered if by leveraging the power of the jade pendant...

A similar jade pendant once helped him break through almost two realms.

But thinking about it, he decided against it.

His current strength is completely incomparable to back then; just one jade pendant is probably insufficient.

It requires a bloody battle, a fight to the death.

Xu Lingjun shook his head...

He accepted a towel from his subordinate, wiped the sweat from his forehead, and smiled, "Thank you Sect Leader for the guidance, I have gained a lot from this battle and will surely have considerable insights when I close myself off to meditate."

"I feel the same way."

Sun Bumie smiled, "After this battle, I must consider going into closed-door meditation as well... Uncle's strength is formidable, and your understanding of 'Reversed Tao Qiankun' surpasses mine, which benefits me greatly!"

Several Elders quickly stepped forward to speak.

After this battle, they had to admit...

The decision by Sun Bumie to befriend Xu Lingjun back then was wise indeed.

This is truly a genius in every possible way.

However, Xu Lingjun was already deeply pondering to himself.

Now that he's promoted to Commander in Chief, sooner or later, he will have to return to the Polar Star Battlefield.

But now that he has time, and the Chi Yu mysterious clan is eradicated, he doesn't have to return so urgently, hence he intends to use this time to break through to the Grandmaster Realm in his cultivation.

If he could completely refine his True Qi into True Essence...

The subsequent power boost would be inestimable.

He calculated it.

With his abilities, breaking through to the Guiyuan Realm would just require six months to a year of closed cultivation, after which he could naturally enter the Guiyuan Grandmaster Realm.

A Grandmaster at the age of twenty-two or twenty-three was unimaginable in the past.

But Xu Lingjun doesn't want to wait that long...

A series of exhilarating battles.

Or several exhilarating battles?

He could then seize the opportunity to break through his cultivation.

Xu Lingjun really wanted to frankly tell Sun Bumie to just give him a good beating, so he could break through.

But the secret of absorbing others' power for one's own use can never be divulged to anyone.

If he did reveal it, Sun Bumie probably wouldn't dare to fight him.

It seems he'll have to find another way.

Chapter 493 - The Secret of Blue Star

The journey to the Cuowu Sect, although it brought quite a bit of combat experience.

After all, Xu Lingjun had not had a few bouts with Guiyuan Realm Grandmasters, but none were as patient and wholeheartedly dedicated as Sun Bumie, who sparred with Xu Lingjun seriously.

The duel between the two lacked the slightest hint of fireworks, clearly resembling a friendly exchange between fellow disciples...

Indeed, it brought Xu Lingjun a great deal of insight.

It turns out, unconsciously, without relying on those moves that harm oneself to unleash power, his true strength had actually reached such a level.

Compared to a true Guiyuan Grandmaster, he was not inferior in the slightest.

It's just a pity that the real purpose still wasn't achieved... Even because of this fight, it seems that there's no need to go to the Sun and Moon Bright Sect anymore.

In Xu Lingjun's current view, the Sect Leader of Tomorrow should indeed be slightly superior to Sun Bumie.

But so what...

It's only a spar, if he really would, with just two words from Xu Lingjun, unleash full power onto him without hesitation.

Then Xu Lingjun would really have to wonder if this person has some kind of problem.

This trip turned out to be a wasted effort.

Especially since the Polar Star Battlefield just achieved a great victory, nearly driving all the mysterious races of the heavens out of the Star Ring.

Even if he wanted to go to the Polar Star Battlefield and gain some experience, there's no point anymore.

It seems there's really no shortcut...

Better to honestly cultivate.

At worst, wait for another year.

As long as he breaks through to the Guiyuan Grandmaster Realm, by that time, with great improvement in strength, wouldn't the whole world be his to travel?

Xu Lingjun was actually never in a hurry before, because he knew, not to mention those of the same age, even compared to older predecessors, his strength was not inferior in the slightest.

He had already walked ahead of everyone...

Some things can't be rushed, no matter how urgent they are.

In the quite long period that followed, daily during the day he diligently cultivated, and at night he trained Wang Qingya and Su Huanqing.

Both women had no heart for Martial Tao.

But the issue is, having married a martial arts master, can they not practice martial arts?

Right now, it's still fine...

But if he someday breaks through Guiyuan and steps into Creation.

He can't just every time after the deed give them a Talent Source Immortal Bean, and let them swallow it whole, can he?

In Dragon Ball, why were Immortal Beans consumed like food early on, but later on they became so precious? Xu Lingjun didn't want to repeat the same mistake as Sun Wukong and the others...

So the training has to start now.

Especially since neither of them have the intention to delve deeply into Martial Tao...

So it's enough to just teach them some health-strengthening cultivation techniques.

Especially Su Huanqing...

Wang Qingya has good self-awareness, finding out about her lack of endurance, she proactively started purposefully searching for some basic martial arts cultivation techniques, and through scientific analysis, she learned from the best and modified what wasn't as good.

Over several years, she had already made considerable progress.

But Su Huanqing...

This woman once dreamed of joining the Martial Detective Martial Mansion, luckily she didn't go, with such a lazy temperament, she'd just be hindering law and order.

Xu Lingjun still had to push her from behind, forcing her into the door, and daily gave her a harsh thrashing, only then did she, amidst her half-crying sobbing, completely absorb and digest the essentials of True Understanding of Martial Arts, thereby gaining a lot of experience.

But compared to Wang Qingya, who started practicing long before and often sought Xu Lingjun's instruction for practice, her skills were naturally much inferior.

In the blink of an eye.

A month had passed...

In this month.

Xu Lingjun's strength was still advancing by leaps and bounds.

Especially with a clear mind and refreshing energy, living in the wilderness, truly had a bit of the feeling of a mountain hermit.

So when Han Yun City came looking for Xu Lingjun.

Seeing Xu Lingjun peacefully fishing at the riverbank, holding a fishing rod and with a fishing basket beside him, he couldn't help but say, speechless: "You're living quite the carefree life, having been promoted to Commander in Chief, yet not going to the Polar Star Battlefield to take charge, instead staying here stealing leisure amidst busyness... Do you know, those Commanders have started complaining to Your Majesty about you."

Xu Lingjun: "I guess the ones complaining must be Commanders Lin Jing, Fang Lie, and Xu Liang, right?"

"Because at first they wanted to send the Baoyan Army over temporarily to fill their ranks, but I didn't let them have their way."

Xu Lingjun no longer had any reverence for so-called Commanders for a long time.

Now having become their superior, he understood what this group of Commanders was like in private... they were basically a bunch of old rascals.

Even Lin Jing, who had the most delicate appearance and seemed quite like a military belle, often cursed fluently in private.

"Yes, even my father knows, you want to use this downtime to break through to the Guiyuan Realm, if successful, the title of Blue Star's youngest Guiyuan Grandmaster naturally becomes yours, so he's never urged you."

Han Yun City sat down beside Xu Lingjun.

He said: "But you don't need to be anxious, as long as you can break through to Guiyuan Grandmaster within ten years, this title will be yours regardless..."

Xu Lingjun glanced at Han Yun City and said: "It's not your matter, that's why you're not anxious, not to mention, if you were just a step away from achieving something, would you be anxious?"

"Sorry, I can't feel what you feel."

"That's because you're incapable."

Xu Lingjun gave a look of resentment at Han Yun City as if hating for his incapability.

Chapter 494 - The Secret of Blue Star_2

This is probably the only person who can engage in a life-and-death battle with him during a spar, and back then contributed a lot of True Qi...

Unfortunately, he lacks spirit, and now their strengths have diverged.

"Don't think I don't know your trump cards."

Han Yun City sat down next to Xu Lingjun, rummaged through his fishing gear, and found a fishing rod. He baited it and cast it into the water.

He glanced at Xu Lingjun and said, "If I could transform the True Qi my enemies strike into my body into my own use, my progress wouldn't be so much inferior to yours now... But alas, I don't have it."

He sighed with a bit of envy.

What he cultivated was the Supreme Level Technique, Emperor Blood Heaven Slayer, which, in terms of destructive power, ranked in the top three among Supreme Techniques.

Thus, he was always worried, what if one day Su Xun overtook him, what would he do...

Where would he find an opponent?

But who would've thought he was overthinking it entirely, and the one actually left behind was him.

As for Han Yun City's words,

Xu Lingjun wasn't too surprised, as the two had sparred countless times together over time... Especially Han Yun City, who was adept at breaking through before battles. Yet, even though every time they fought it was invigorating, not only did his cultivation not advance, it regressed instead.

Though the lost True Qi could be quickly replenished...

But Han Yun City wasn't foolish, naturally understanding that the cultivation technique Xu Lingjun practiced might be far beyond his Emperor Blood Heaven Slayer.

"I really wonder what kind of miraculous technique you are cultivating, to be so much more profound than mine."

Xu Lingjun said, "The origin of my cultivation technique should be quite clear, right? Years ago, I kindly helped an old lady, and a beggar saw it, then sold me a copy of 'Infinite Divine Demon Body Refining Technique' for ten bucks, which led to the Xu Lingjun you see today. Honestly, my biggest regret in life is not buying all of his techniques, sigh, now when I want to find him again, I can no longer locate him."

Han Yun City pouted and said, "Ling Jun's Biography!"

"What?"

"Your story is exactly like a popular recent novel called 'Ling Jun's Biography'."

Han Yun City said, "And another one called 'Overbearing Lingjun Falls in Love with Me,' where your cultivation technique source is from you loving learning in the past and accidentally finding a 'Pure Yang Divine Skill' inside a textbook, which is why you have today's achievements... Oh right, there's an even more absurd novel saying you sleep by day, but in your dreams, your real self goes to another world to hone, hence the rapid progress..."

He paused, then said, "Why did you stop talking?"

Xu Lingjun: "Because I don't know what more to say, the imagination is just too wild, isn't it?"

"Those people make their living this way, how can their imagination not be rich?"

Han Yun City said, "I was puzzling before why you specifically went to Cuowu Sect, what scheme you were brewing. Now I understand, you were trying to use Sun Bumie's strength to break through to the Profound Realm, right? Did you fail?"

Xu Lingjun shook his head: "What I need is a life-and-death battle, not everyone is as crazy as you."

"I do have a suggestion, should you be interested."

Han Yun City suddenly opened his mouth.

"What is it?!"

Han Yun City said, "Do you remember the secret Sun Yangwei told you before he died?"

Xu Lingjun asked, "The real reason why Blue Star is targeted?"

"Actually, this has been on my father's mind all along."

Han Yun City said, "Know thyself, know the enemy, and you will never be defeated in battle. If we can find out what might make our Blue Star so coveted, we can counter it... So, during this time, although we've been plotting the Polar Star Battlefield battles externally, we've also begun exploring the Secret Realm proactively."

"What were the results?"

"Twelve Grandmasters entered different Secret Realms separately, trying their best to explore inside, seeking anomalies, but the results were nothing but failure."

Han Yun City said, "The further in you go, the stronger and harder to deal with the Demon Beasts become. Out of the twelve Imperial Grandmasters, only nine returned safely, and three Grandmasters remained forever inside the Secret Realm."

Xu Lingjun was shocked: "Even Grandmasters perished?!"

"After all, inside the Secret Realm, who knows what environment we're really facing... So what dangers lie within, remain equally unknown to us. The surviving Grandmasters didn't delve very deep, and the deceased, even more so, couldn't reveal the truth to us."

Han Yun City shook his head and said, "Over the past year, many batches of Martial Artists entered, even deploying Mecha within, all to no avail. Once they ventured too deep into the Secret Realm, all communication devices lost efficacy, rendering surveillance impossible."

Xu Lingjun's gaze lingered long on Han Yun City, after over a year of not seeing each other.

His current cultivation had already reached the Seventh Layer of Profound Realm.

Yet, combining it with his Emperor Blood Heaven Slayer's increasingly valiant battle prowess, although not a match for Grandmaster Realm masters, if fighting at his limit, it wouldn't be impossible to have a chance.

Regrettably, it would take a limit fight to achieve...

This past year and more, it seems that not only he has made progress.

This young man has progressed rapidly as well, just not to such an exaggerated extent.

Chapter 495 The Secret of Blue Star_3

Xu Lingjun sighed, "You seem to know a lot."

"That's because I've also been there."

Han Yun City laughed heartily twice, then said, "You know, Emperor Blood Heaven Slayer gets stronger with each fight. It needs to improve itself in life-and-death battles, and what's more perilous than the depths of a Secret Realm?"

He explained in detail, "In fact, I've dived deep into the Secret Realm several times, but unfortunately, like those Grandmasters, I sensed a huge life-and-death crisis after reaching a certain distance. My instincts told me that if I went further, I would definitely die... so I always stopped at the edge, not daring to proceed hastily."

Xu Lingjun's eyes brightened slightly, "You want to invite me to team up?!"

"I don't want to enter with those experts from the Imperial Family; it's too troublesome. They always protect me from behind, never giving me a chance to act. Teaming up with you would be more interesting, and I'd feel more at ease entrusting my back to you. Doesn't it seem very exciting?"

Han Yun City's eyes sparkled, his spirit seemed somewhat elated, and he said, "Back then, you and I teamed up for the first time in a Secret Realm. Now we've both reached bottlenecks in our strength. Teaming up again to explore the Secret Realm, this time going deeper..."

Xu Lingjun casually tossed aside the fishing rod and asked, "Do you have detailed intelligence? The information gathered over more than a year of exploration..."

"Of course, but it's all with my father. This matter is very secretive. In fact, besides you, me, and my father, others have explored deeply several times, but they don't even know what they're looking for."

"What are we waiting for? Let's go!"

Xu Lingjun rose to his feet.

He recalled the words of Sun Yangwei back then.

Blue Star contains something the Mysterious races of the heavens desire...

He spoke earnestly, and as one facing death, his words should be virtuous. Xu Lingjun was certain his words were undoubtedly true.

And now the Mysterious races of the heavens have been driven back.

The Great Xia Empire won't be troubled by the Mysterious races of the heavens for a while; if only they could make a trip into the Secret Realm.

The worst outcome...

Even if they gain nothing, the chance for Xu Lingjun to break through to the Profound Realm is enticing enough.

Without delay, the two headed straight for the Imperial City.

At this moment...

Han Xu Yang was handling state affairs, a pile of memorials stacked high in front of him.

Seeing Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City arriving specially...

He sighed helplessly, "Xiao Cheng, if you're really feeling idle, why not help your father with the memorials? Your father is overwhelmed with work. You used to have your sister help, but now you don't let me ask your sister, and you won't help me either. Luckily I'm not a Martial Artist; otherwise, I would really hit you."

"But compared to the mundane affairs of the Great Xia Empire, Commander Xu Lingjun and I both think that the news within the Secret Realm is more important... After all, to be coveted by the Mysterious races of the heavens, the secret inside the Secret Realm must be extremely significant!"

Han Yun City said, "If we could grasp this secret, maybe we could control the entire Blue Star, Father. Maybe you could experience being the Master of the Blue Star before you die!"

Han Xu Yang said speechlessly, "I really can't tell if you're trying to please your father or curse him. Never mind, the information is in the inner chamber; go check it yourself."

"Thank you, Your Majesty!"

Xu Lingjun responded respectfully, not even completing his salute before Han Xu Yang dragged him inside.

He said, "Anyway, sooner or later, we'll be family. With such high achievements, to prevent your merits from overshadowing the sovereign, you either marry my sister, or my younger sister... or simply marry both..."

Xu Lingjun said speechlessly, "Your younger sister just turned one year old!"

"In over ten years, you'll only be in your thirties, still young and vigorous. My father may not be a Martial Artist, but he can still have another daughter in his forties or fifties... Don't tell me you're not as good as him, already worn out in your thirties..."

Han Yun City spoke without reservation.

Han Xu Yang could only smile helplessly, waving his hand at Xu Lingjun to signal him to go in quickly.

Yet inexplicably, a bit of anticipation emerged in his heart...

Little Cheng had been there a few times; he had no expectations.

But Xu Lingjun...

This is someone who has continuously created miracles, even destroying the Chi Yu mysterious clan. Who knows... maybe he really could...

"Blue Star, this is our homeland. Even if there's a secret, it must be in the hands of us natives."

His eyes showed a determined look.

Chapter 496 - Didn't Expect You to Have Time for Serious Business

The secrets within the Secret Realm are stored in the most hidden places.

And it requires extremely high permissions to access them...

But for Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City, there's naturally no defense against them.

The two flipped through the secret library for a long time, finally understanding Han Xu Yang's gains over the past year.

Although they learned this secret...

Such things cannot be easily disclosed without concrete evidence.

For this reason,

Han Xu Yang carefully concealed this matter, not even telling Han Qingxue.

He only secretly dispatched several Grandmaster-level experts, lightly equipped, to infiltrate the depths of the Secret Realm.

There are many entrances to the Secret Realm, but they were all divided by the Four Great Martial Mansions, so those Grandmaster-level martial artists entered from the various Secret Realms of the Four Great Martial Mansions...

Over the past year, they indeed reached very deep places.

Even places where no human had ever set foot...

But in terms of gains, a heap of demon beast blood and fur certainly can't be considered as gains.

"The Thunder Ruins of the West Origin Martial Mansion, the Miwu Ghost Forest of the Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion, and the You'an Forest of the Dongxu Martial Mansion."

Han Yun City said seriously, "At that time, my father dispatched more than a dozen Grandmaster-level experts, which was quite cautious. Although everyone suffered varying degrees of injuries, the Grandmaster-level experts from these three places did not return safely... meaning they encountered a crisis inside."

Xu Lingjun understood his meaning.

In other words, these three Secret Realms, if explored further, likely hold crises far above the other Secret Realms...

Of course, it's not ruled out that those Grandmasters, driven by greed, ventured deeper than others, thus encountering more perilous crises.

But this remains a direction to pursue.

The two exchanged a glance, both understanding the other's intention.

Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City said in unison, "Then it's the Thunder Ruins."

One came from the Dongxu Martial Mansion, the other still held the title of incoming Pavilion Master in the Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion...

The Miwu Ghost Forest and You'an Forest had almost been overexplored by them, leaving little room for surprises.

Especially Xu Lingjun, who had previously turned the Miwu Ghost Forest upside down as Jigsaw, so there was naturally no surprise left for him there.

Han Yun City invited Xu Lingjun to explore the Secret Realm...

Partly to unravel the real reason Blue Star was being targeted, because after all, the secret was spread by the two of them, and claiming they had no interest whatsoever was utterly impossible.

But more so, both of them found their skills plateaued at a certain level.

They needed fierce life-and-death battles to break through their current realm...

And the deeper parts of the Secret Realm, where even Grandmasters might perish, were just the place for that.

As for seeking novelty...

Without a doubt, the West Origin Martial Mansion was the most suitable.

"I'll go pack up my gear and also arrange for my official duties."

The current Han Yun City wasn't as solitary as before, holding the position of Inspectorate Chief in charge of the Imperial Capital's security.

Simply put, he was the head of security... suddenly leaving would naturally require a lot of arrangements.

Xu Lingjun, without hesitation, said, "I'll head off first and wait for you at the West Origin Martial Mansion."

"Why..."

Before the question was finished, Han Yun City realized.

Looking at Xu Lingjun in exasperation, he sneered, "Be careful, or you might get drained of your Essence Qi even before entering the Secret Realm, ending up too fatigued to even lift a foot. Instead of exploring secrets, you'd be delivering yourself on a silver platter to the enemy."

Xu Lingjun coldly smiled, "Be thankful you're not a woman, or I'd definitely make you regret saying that."

With that, the two went off to handle their respective matters.

Xu Lingjun first returned to Zhanzheng Academy...

To bid farewell to Wang Qingya and Su Huanqing, not mentioning he was off to an adventure, only saying he was visiting the West Origin Martial Mansion.

Wang Qingya thought he was going to see Sun Lingli, enthusiastically preparing a pile of gifts for him to deliver.

Xu Lingjun directly boarded his private flying device, speeding toward the West Origin Martial Mansion...

The Four Great Martial Mansions, named by direction, with the West Origin Martial Mansion not adjoining the Baoxue Empire, yet still quite a distance from the Imperial Capital.

The private flying device flew for over an hour before successfully landing on the tarmac within the West Origin Martial Mansion...

At this time, outside the field, a young girl had been waiting for some time.

Her long braid danced in the wind, her charming face barely hidden behind thick glasses.

Ever since forming the closest bond with Xu Lingjun,

though still in her original attire, she unmistakably retained her core, and yet Sun Lingli's allure was no longer masked by those heavy glasses.

Once appearing as just a plain, clumsy little girl,

now just seeing her face, still plain, yet curiously enticing, one can't help but anticipate how dazzling she might be if those glasses were removed and her slightly awkward braid undone.

Upon seeing Xu Lingjun approach,

Sun Lingli quickly jogged a few steps forward, and only after he disembarked did she run all the way up to him.

She proactively grasped Xu Lingjun's hand, exclaiming in delight, "Xu Tongxue, it's been a long time!"

"Hmm, it's been a long time, Lingli."

"Yeah, I thought you had completely forgotten about our Lingli after getting everything you wanted from her."

Chapter 497 - Didn't Expect You to Have Time for Serious Business_2

Zhou Qingwan was nearby, her voice carrying some resentment as she complained, "Before, you would visit Lingli during breaks, but now you've not come for almost a month... Are all men really that fickle?"

Xu Lingjun hadn't spoken yet when Sun Lingli preemptively explained, "Pavilion Master, Xu Tongxue isn't like that. He already told me in advance that he had to visit the Sect..."

"Yes, yes, anyhow, you two are willing to give and take, I naturally won't say much from the sidelines. Lingli, the task of hosting Commander in Chief Xu is yours."

Xu Lingjun's current status was, strictly speaking, even above the four Pavilion Masters.

Zhou Qingwan naturally needed to personally greet him...

But it was only a formal greeting, ever since she saw the folic acid tablets secretly tucked in Sun Lingli's bag, she had been quite indifferent towards Xu Lingjun.

This was practically destroying her prized student's martial path, was it not?

After the routine greeting,

She left.

And Xu Lingjun also signaled his subordinates to leave.

He took Sun Lingli by the hand, strolling with her in the West Origin Martial Mansion, explaining the reason for his visit in a gentle voice.

There was nothing he couldn't say to Sun Lingli.

Even if he wasn't specifically coming to see her, as long as she got to see Xu Lingjun, it was already a great joy for her, she wasn't someone who cared about such trivialities.

Feng Zhichen truly was a good teacher.

Under his guidance, Sun Lingli became well-read and considerate, arguably more like a true noble lady than Wang Qingya.

And learning that Han Yun City might take a few more days to arrive, Sun Lingli squinted her eyes in a happy smile.

This meant Xu Lingjun could spend several days with her...

"Come on, I'll show you the strategy for the Thunder Ruins!"

She tugged Xu Lingjun's hand, smiling, "The Thunder Ruins is a high level Secret Realm of the West Origin Martial Mansion. I've only been inside seven or eight times. It's indeed dangerous... Luckily, many predecessors of our West Origin Martial Mansion have left lots of useful annotations. If you're going on an adventure, you better be well-prepared."

Seeing Sun Lingli suddenly full of enthusiasm.

Xu Lingjun understood her intentions... she was overjoyed to finally be able to help him.

He obediently followed her lead.

The two walked towards the West Origin Library, occasionally having to pull back the always energetic Sun Lingli, laughing, "No need to hurry. That kid from Han Yun City is busy with official duties, he won't be done in just two days... I can stay here for quite a while. Besides, once I successfully break through the Grandmaster Realm, I could stay here for a while, or maybe take you back to my villa..."

"I'm not in a hurry."

Sun Lingli retorted, turning back.

Then she blushed and laughed.

In the blink of an eye, four days had passed...

During those four days.

Sun Lingli seemed like a joyful butterfly, leading Xu Lingjun's steps through every corner of the West Origin Martial Mansion.

And more often, they paused in the library.

Xu Lingjun knew Sun Lingli's nature all too well; she was the kind to get a headache just by looking at a book... Yet as long as she was with him, she found even reading to be sweet.

This astonished Xu Lingjun.

And when Han Yun City finally finished all his official duties in the Imperial Capital and arrived, albeit late.

Seeing the strategy Xu Lingjun had prepared, that thick stack of notes... he was shocked, "You've been actually getting tasks done these past few days?"

"What did you think I've been doing these past few days?"

Han Yun City didn't say much, only casting a glance at Sun Lingli, then another glance...

The implication was clear on his face.

Sun Lingli's face turned red, and she couldn't help but hide behind Xu Lingjun.

And Xu Lingjun retorted, "Nothing good comes out of a dog's mouth. Quickly look at these strategies, memorize them, and we can enter the Thunder Ruins."

"You really took my instructions to heart."

Han Yun City suddenly let out a satisfied sigh, took the strategy, and seriously started reading it.

And Xu Lingjun pulled Sun Lingli again, heading out... planning to show off a bit.

Nowadays, with Xu Lingjun's nurturing, Sun Lingli had just begun to show her charm. It was said that before, she wasn't even ranked among the top ten beauties of the Martial Mansion... but now she had suddenly become third, even with her beauty under seal.

What top ten beauties...

Xu Lingjun always felt like these students were from a decade ago, too outdated.

But he had to formally declare that Sun Lingli was already taken.

And the next morning.

Having been engrossed in reading all night, Han Yun City didn't even think about resting, hurriedly washed up, ate breakfast, and then set off with Xu Lingjun for the Thunder Ruins!

Sun Lingli didn't have the lack of discretion to request to go along.

The reason she previously couldn't match Xu Lingjun was because Feng Zhichen had been diligently laying her foundation... Over the past two years, her strength had already entered a period of rapid growth.

Unfortunately, the gap between them had become even larger.

She could still manage if she entered the Thunder Ruins, but she knew Xu Lingjun and their destination was that untouched virgin land.

Others might not know, but as a local of the West Origin Martial Mansion, Sun Lingli knew well that a Grandmaster had once been lost there forever...

Chapter 498 Didn't Expect You to Have Time for Serious Business_3

If she insisted on entering, instead she would be causing trouble for Xu Lingjun.

It actually left Han Yun City unable to help but praise...

Just feeling that this kid Xu Lingjun really knows how to pick them, each woman more understanding and thoughtful than the last.

In fact, regarding this issue, the two of them even had an intense discussion on the road.

Of course, it was mainly Han Yun City speculating... while Xu Lingjun listened with a smile.

But in his heart, he couldn't help but secretly despise, are you kidding me, how could I possibly tell you the truth?

That's right...

The reason Xu Lingjun's harem is so stable is naturally because he has the most generous main wife in history.

My Sister Yaya not only doesn't get jealous, but also often wants to bring home good ones she sees.

Hmm, if my Sister Yaya doesn't get jealous, do they even dare to be jealous?

What a pity...

This kid will never encounter such a soulmate.

At this moment, Xu Lingjun looked at Han Yun City with a condescending gaze.

.....

Thunder Ruins is a high-level Secret Realm of the West Origin Martial Mansion, a high-risk place only True Transformation Realm Martial Artists are allowed to enter.

The Four Great Martial Mansions advance and retreat together, and the rules are naturally similar... Here, it corresponds to the Ice Snow Realm of the Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion.

But just as the inside of the Ice Snow Realm is an endless world of ice and snow.

When the two stepped into the Secret Realm.

The first feeling was dampness.

Damp... as if water droplets were seeping out everywhere.

Looking up, they saw an immensely gloomy sky, with heavy clouds seemingly ready to collapse at any moment.

And in those dense dark clouds...

Occasionally, dazzling white light would suddenly illuminate the world, followed by a violent rumbling sound a moment later.

"Let's go."

Xu Lingjun walked forward first.

Their goal was to explore the depths of the Secret Realm... A place like this outermost area had long been explored thoroughly by countless people, leaving their traces.

Even if the two of them searched again, they wouldn't uncover anything new.

It's better to keep moving deeper in.

Once they reached places that no one had visited, then the two could truly achieve their goals.

"Xiaoya, explore the surrounding environment and report to me at all times."

Xu Lingjun put on the detector.

A 3D viewing map appeared before his eyes, showing the scene of this Thunder Ruins.

And all the Demon Beasts' locations were clearly marked on the 3D map as well.

He looked back at Han Yun City, who had already drawn his weapon and seemed ready to fight his way through, and said, "Put away your weapon and follow me, you don't need to fight for now."

Han Yun City was taken aback, and Xu Lingjun had already leapt into the distance.

Along the way...

Though it was a completely unfamiliar environment, with the naked eye, they could clearly see every hidden corner.

Even two thousand meters away, they could clearly see two students doing something in the wild...
Whoa... I didn't expect the students of the West Origin Martial Mansion to be so bold?

Unfortunately, we at Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion are not that daring.

It's too cold.

By the time you're done, you're probably frozen stiff and beyond repair, and then it would truly be a disaster.

But this feeling of seemingly coming for the first time, yet knowing everything like the back of your hand...

Xu Lingjun murmured, "This feeling really is nostalgic... just like being back home."

Isn't that right, with Xiaoya here, it's just like being home. If not for the limited time to linger here, Xu Lingjun would have loved to put on the Jigsaw mask and go over to have a good game with that couple.

But right now.

The important matters come first.

"Stick close to me."

Xu Lingjun's pace was extremely fast, so fast that it almost made Han Yun City suspect this kid thought he could dodge all Demon Beasts just because he did his homework?

But after they walked some distance...

He had to admit.

This kid really did evade them.

Over dozens of miles, they saw quite a few students, but surprisingly, they didn't encounter a single Demon Beast.

Or rather, under Xu Lingjun's guidance, this kid perfectly avoided all the Demon Beasts.

Chapter 499 Just the Beginning

Though it is a Secret Realm, to Xu Lingjun, it feels no less than his own backyard.

The feeling of leisurely strolling, especially for Han Yun City, is even more evident.

He had explored it twice before...

During those two in-depth explorations, almost every time at the very beginning, they encountered attacks from Demon Beasts. Proceeding was a journey close to death, with threats lurking so deeply that even Grandmasters dared not underestimate them in the slightest.

But now, following Xu Lingjun is a completely different experience.

As if he had foreseen it.

They could always avoid all the Demon Beasts' territories...

Han Yun City even saw a hint of nostalgia on Xu Lingjun's face.

What on earth is there to miss about such a perilous Secret Realm?

Until two hours later.

Xu Lingjun's pace slowed down...

And Han Yun City also drew his weapons again, a Giant Sword almost taller than himself.

Ready to infuse it with Blood Qi at any moment.

"Be careful."

He said, "It's right here. From this point on, I can feel a deadly threat, not from any single Demon Beast, but from this entire place."

Even with Xu Lingjun by his side, Han Yun City still felt that way.

An extraordinarily keen sense of life and death made him feel that the dark jungle ahead seemed like an ancient beast, with its mouth wide open, waiting for the two of them to walk into the trap...

And the occasional flashes of sullen lightning in the sky added to the eerie feeling of the dense forest ahead.

Xu Lingjun's expression gradually grew serious.

Here they were, right at the edge of the Thunder Ruins... beyond this point, it was no longer human territory.

In fact, Xu Lingjun had noticed a change half an hour earlier.

Previously, Xiaoya could perfectly help him avoid all the Demon Beasts' territories, allowing smooth and unobstructed progress... But the further they went in, the more ferocious the Demon Beasts became. They were no longer simply bound to their territories.

Even if they avoided their territory.

Once they sniffed the scent of humans, they would still actively pursue Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City.

Only their sheer speed, combined with the fierce conflicts among the Demon Beasts themselves, gave them a chance to escape.

But now.

"Let's go."

Xu Lingjun took the lead.

At that moment, a silver serpent flashed through the gloomy clouds... accompanied by rumbling thunder, adding even more danger to the somber environment.

Their speed increased slightly.

The deeper they went, the stronger the Demon Beasts became.

Their current area was mostly dominated by Level 7 Demon Beasts.

The strength of these Demon Beasts, to be honest, posed no real threat to Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City.

Avoid when possible...

Moreover, although their purpose was to break through the Realm by entering here.

Now feeling the treacherousness within this Secret Realm, neither Xu Lingjun nor Han Yun City was content with such a simple goal...

At the very least, they had to find some clues.

Two figures moved swiftly from tree to tree, as light as shadows, extremely fast.

And gradually...

Below, there was no gap to step on.

Around them, the presence of Demon Beasts was ubiquitous; warnings from Xiaoya kept on sounding.

Xu Lingjun seemed to see the incessant flashing of the word "danger" over himself and Han Yun City.

Helplessly...

Nanometer Armor was equipped.

And Han Yun City no longer needed to hide himself here, as his enormous wings spread open and he leaped into the sky.

The two moved through the sky.

But by now, the sky was no longer a safe place, especially with electric arcs dancing wildly and silver snakes flickering, dangerous as they were... A moment's carelessness would result in being struck by the endless thunder.

At least, though, the number of Demon Beasts eyeing them had noticeably decreased.

Yet, even so...

They hadn't flown for long.

"Watch out!"

Xu Lingjun shouted.

He saw a colossal bird, like an eagle or a hawk, charging out from the vast clouds... clearly mistaking Han Yun City for some kind of bird, aiming to capture him.

Unwilling to cause more trouble, Xu Lingjun immediately took out the Space Time Gun to try to transfer it.

But considering the uncertainty of the Space Time Gun...

They were not too far from the West Origin Martial Mansion. If by any chance this giant bird was transmitted there.

He retracted the gun,

held the Sword of Oath and Victory in reverse in his hand, and fiercely slashed, the dazzling golden light of Excalibur pierced the sky, directly engulfing the giant bird and even tearing open a huge gap in the clouds.

"Let's go!"

Having achieved its purpose with a single strike, Xu Lingjun slipped away without hesitation.

"Watch out!"

This time Han Yun City shouted.

Blood Qi enveloped, the giant blade mixed with the explosive force of Blood Flame, striking toward Xu Lingjun's back.

Xu Lingjun turned smoothly...

Holding the sword, he flew into the sky.

By now, as the clouds were gradually dispersing under the cut of the Sword of Oath and Victory, the immense dome of this space was exposed in front of them.

A vast darkness, blocking the sky and the sun...

The clouds they faced were not mere clouds, but flocks of massive black birds, acting not alone, but collectively.

Numbering in the hundreds.

Without the cloud cover, these birds seemed to have no reservations anymore, rushing toward the two below them, encircling them in an instant...

"Break through!"

Xu Lingjun shouted, flipping his hand.

The Deus Ex Machina Mecha appeared beneath them, and then, intense cannon fire burst in all directions.

For a time, the air was filled with the mournful cries of birds.

Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City seized the chance to rush downward... indeed, by then, even the sky was no longer safe.

Upon descending to a certain height.

Even though the birds screeched and howled in anger, they dared not descend further, as if something extremely horrifying lay below.

"Master, be careful!"

Xiaoya suddenly called out... without enough time to react.

A massive shadow had already wound up.

A giant python as thick as two adults' embraces shot out from the vines, winding itself around the Deus Ex Machina.

Evidently, compared to the two small fry, this giant creature was more to its taste... After all, as long as it could enter its mouth, digestion wasn't a problem.

Despite the great strength of Deus Ex Machina, it was no match for the giant beast, getting tightly wrapped instead.

"Xiaoya!"

Xu Lingjun leapt forward, dodging the giant serpent's tail sweep, while Han Yun City leapt up behind, securing its tail firmly to the ground with his giant blade.

Xu Lingjun forcefully pierced its body with the Sword of Oath and Victory, racing upward along the tail... leaving a trail of spurting blood.

The giant python let out a painful howl, collapsing weakly on the ground.

The Deus Ex Machina Mecha took advantage of the momentary respite, aimed its cannon at the python, and with one shot... shattered it into countless pieces.

"It's the Level 8 Exotic Beast, Green Forest Bone Python!"

Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City exchanged a look, seeing the grave expression in each other's eyes.

The power of an 8th Level Demon Beast was enough to threaten the life of a Grandmaster... had they reacted a moment slower, the Deus Ex Machina might have already been dragged away.

They had barely arrived and already faced such a crisis.

Evidently, the dangers within this Secret Realm were far greater than they imagined.

He waved and stored away the heavily damaged Deus Ex Machina Mecha.

Its massive size would only make it a more conspicuous target in such a perilous place.

And as for the Invisibility Device...

To Demon Beasts, the primary way to locate enemies was not sight, but scent.

The Invisibility Device, even if it could isolate body heat, was of no use.

"From now on, we must be careful."

"Indeed."

Han Yun City nodded, understanding Xu Lingjun's point.

This... was just the beginning.

Chapter 500 - Human Skeletons

The journey that followed.

As expected, it became increasingly challenging the further they went...

Xu Lingjun couldn't help but wonder how Zhou Qianmo managed to make it all the way from the Secret Realm of the Nanyun Martial Mansion to the Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion.

The numerous dangers along the way could easily claim the life of even a Grandmaster if they were the slightest bit careless...

Both of them barely had the strength to contend with a Grandmaster, not to mention Xiaoya's support and early warnings.

Still, their journey was full of stumbles and mishaps.

Danger?

Very dangerous...

Several times Xu Lingjun himself encountered attacks from enemies, although they all ended with him unscathed and the attackers being counter-killed.

But walking along and suddenly being snatched by a wild beast was quite a thrill.

Half a day later.

The two leaned against a tree to rest.

Both of them had high vitality and strong defenses, especially Xu Lingjun, who could fight bloodily with the enemy for three days and nights without blinking.

But unfortunately, in this Secret Realm, their spirits had to be highly focused at all times.

The stress was immense...

So much so that they had to stop occasionally to rest and recover their energy.

"Honestly, I've been at the Polar Star Battlefield for two years, and the level of danger here in the depths of the Secret Realm far surpasses that of the Polar Star Battlefield!"

Recalling the encounters along the way.

Xu Lingjun still felt a lingering fear.

While passing by a river, cannibal fish several meters high suddenly leaped from the water, lunging at them.

A vine might very well be a deadly snake in disguise.

Resting against a tree, the tree itself might try to devour you.

Crisis lurked around every corner...

They could hardly find a single safe place.

"After all, one is an open blade and the other is a hidden trap; you know what they say, 'an open attack is easy to dodge, but a hidden arrow is hard to avoid.'"

Han Yun City carefully applied antidote potion to his arm.

His defense was ultimately a notch below Xu Lingjun's... not yet at the point where even a Level 8 Demon Beast couldn't penetrate it.

This made him all the more astonished at Xu Lingjun's current strength.

He had the feeling that if Xu Lingjun were to enter the Secret Realm alone, there would be no need to dodge or evade.

"If it wants to bite, let it bite; if it wants to eat me, let it eat; if it wants to coil around me, let it coil."

Once its excitement passed and it exposed a flaw, I would just kill it outright.

Even if he were swallowed alive, the beast probably couldn't digest him...

This skin was too thick; it seemed like the person in front of him besides their brains had nothing but skin, as if all other internal organs had disappeared.

Han Yun City silently criticized Xu Lingjun in his heart but solemnly said, "And don't forget, the current area of the Secret Realm occupies less than a tenth of Blue Star's land. In reality, it's because this piece of land has been compressed, and the original Blue Star was likely more than ten times larger."

"Now, although the area has shrunk, the number of Demon Beasts hasn't decreased much. Their territories have suddenly and drastically been reduced. We don't know the specific situation over these years, but for sure, brutal battles have broken out within the Secret Realm... How many simple ones could have survived?!"

"Indeed."

Xu Lingjun said, "Rest for half an hour, then continue onward."

He gazed towards the seemingly endless expanse of the Secret Realm and said, "I have a gut feeling we're gradually approaching the truth."

Unconsciously, both their mindsets had changed by now.

Initially, they merely sought to break through in power; uncovering secrets was a secondary goal that they could let go of if hopeless.

But now...

Faced with the succession of dangers they had encountered, they both suddenly felt that if they could uncover the true secrets of Blue Star amidst these layered perils, it might very well be a world-shaking revelation capable of changing Blue Star's entire status quo.

They had to find it...

In other words, both Xu Lingjun and Han Yun City felt that enduring such hardships along the way, merely breaking through to a new realm would be too unrewarding.

The half-hour passed quickly.

"Let's go, get the Immortal Beans ready."

"Don't worry, when it's time to use something that important, I won't be stingy."

The two stood up and continued to venture deeper.

Xiaoya carefully sat on Xu Lingjun's shoulder, her small hand tightly clutching his collar.

The dangers they had encountered along the way were so unpredictable that even she couldn't always give warnings in time...

It had indeed frightened her.

Pressing onward.

But after some rest, their condition had vastly improved compared to earlier, aside from initially having been caught off guard.

As they gradually acclimated to the perilous environment...

They felt like fish in water.

Despite still being in the most dangerous part of this planet, they had transformed into two of the fiercest beasts themselves.

Feeling even more in their element.

Along the way...

They encountered further attacks.

Nonetheless, both managed successful counter-kills.

Xu Lingjun even found time to skin, gut, and harvest meat and gall from these Demon Beasts, storing everything in the Transformation Capsule.

The flesh and blood of Level 8 Demon Beasts was indeed good stuff.

If they brought it back and kept consuming it...

As long as the supply of this blood and flesh was ample, Xu Lingjun was confident he could break through to become a Guiyuan Grandmaster within a month with such a massive boost in Blood Qi.

Of course, more likely, he could complete the breakthrough directly within this Secret Realm.

In just a single day, through constant battles encountered back-to-back...

Although these Demon Beasts lacked True Qi, their powerful strikes upon him provided notable benefits...

While they didn't match up to a Grandmaster Level expert, sheer numbers made up for it.

The deeper they went, the more dangerous it became.

Yet paradoxically, they felt more fluent and even relaxed, killing and laughing as they went... Xiaoya's warnings turning unnecessary.

Since they could already rely on their instincts to preempt their enemies' attacks.

Along the way...

They even caught sight of traces of a Level 9 Demon Beast and carefully avoided it.

Undoubtedly, they had truly reached the deepest part of the Secret Realm.

The very core of the Original Blue Star's territory...

It was at this moment.

Xiaoya, who had been quietly sitting on Xu Lingjun's shoulder and hadn't spoken in a while, suddenly said, "Master, in the direction of 85 degrees to the left, there are human remains. Judging from the weathering of the bones, they haven't been dead for very long!"

"What?!"

Just about to charge forward, the both of them momentarily froze.

Xu Lingjun was shocked and asked, "Human... remains?!"

They exchanged a glance, shocked expressions in each other's eyes.

This was already the deepest part of the Secret Realm, impossibly far for humans to reach... yet there lay human remains?

"Most likely Grandmaster Liu's corpse."

Han Yun City gravely stated, "We're close to where he perished, Old Xu, we should go over there at least to gather Grandmaster Liu's remains; don't let them lie here without a proper resting place."

"Alright, Xiaoya, lead the way."

"Understood."

Xiaoya's voice was noticeably more cheerful; evidently, she was eager to be used by Xu Lingjun.

Previously, he had made it through on his own ability...

Though she said nothing, in her heart, there was no telling how disappointed she was.