

Powerful 1191

Chapter 1191: Entering the Inner Ring, the Eerie Demonic Beasts

Ye Changqing observed the situation in the Ancient Abyss Sect and expressed his concerns to Sect Leader Dan Xuan. However, as this was an internal matter of the Ancient Abyss Sect, they couldn't intervene and had to quietly watch the developments.

"Everyone, stop!"

With a commanding shout, Sect Leader Lin An subdued the two opposing factions.

"Yang Yan, you brought him up here. Why don't you have a talk with him?"

Yang Yan exchanged a wordless glance with Frost Heaven, then, under the watchful eyes of the disciples from the two sects, walked to the back of the Wandering Dragon Boat to a secluded spot.

Lin An also quickly dispersed the two groups that were about to clash, ensuring no one interfered or eavesdropped on Yang Yan and Frost Heaven's conversation.

After a short while, Yang Yan and Frost Heaven silently returned to their respective sect's camps.

When the two met, the feared confrontation didn't occur, but the cold attitude between them clearly revealed the distance that remained.

When he returned to the side of the Four Swords, Guo Guoguo quickly approached to comfort him, afraid he might become too upset.

Only after Yang Yan repeatedly assured her that he was fine did she leave, still somewhat doubtful.

After that, Yang Yan and Frost Heaven used telepathy to convey what they had learned to the four women.

Since joining the Sword Sect, Frost Heaven had been highly favored by the Sect Leader due to his extraordinary talent. His progress was smooth, but as a newcomer, his foundation was shaky. It would take time to establish himself and gain trust.

This time, for instance, he volunteered to lead the disciples following him to lure away these spider swarms to cover the Sword Sect's continued advance, aiming to build his prestige among the Sword Sect disciples.

Yang Yan had never doubted the abilities of the Ten Swords. Hearing that Frost Heaven was doing well now, he was somewhat relieved.

As the disciples from both sects gradually calmed down, they realized they had indeed been somewhat impulsive, yet neither side could bring themselves to apologize to the other, so they remained in a stalemate, ignoring each other.

Seeing Sect Leader Lin An approaching for inspection, one leading disciple of the Sword Sect took the opportunity to step forward and apologize:

"Xiao Lin, a disciple of the Sword Sect, representing all disciples, thanks Sect Leader Lin for saving our lives. We were quite rude earlier, and I apologize on behalf of the others!"

Although the disciples of the two sects had a conflict earlier because of Frost Heaven, no one could deny Lin An's help to them. Otherwise, their lives would have been hard to predict!

"It's alright, there's no reason not to save someone in danger. Besides, the disciples of my Ancient Abyss Sect were also at fault, and I apologize for any embarrassment caused."

Seeing how generous Lin An was despite being the Sect Leader, Xiao Lin cupped his hands and smiled, and the relations between the two sects eased significantly.

Then, Lin An took the opportunity to ask:

"However, I'd like to know how you managed to antagonize such creatures?"

At this, Xiao Lin's expression dimmed slightly, but after pondering for a moment, he began to speak:

"This matter is quite peculiar. Our Sword Sect journeyed straight ahead, progressing smoothly until we reached the inner circle of the Land of the North Cold, and we acquired many treasures along the way."

"But the closer we got to the inner circle, the stranger things became. Though the creatures inside were higher in level and stronger, they almost entirely lacked intelligence and couldn't transform into human form."

Hearing this, Yang Yan also became alert. It seemed the abnormal creatures they encountered earlier were not isolated incidents but a common occurrence in the entire Land of the North Cold.

"What happened next, you all saw. Somehow, we became the targets of these Spider Demons, relentlessly pursued. If they caught us, it would only mean death!"

Yang Yan couldn't help but interrupt:

"Are you sure none of your people provoked this spider swarm or moved something they shouldn't have?"

"Absolutely not! We hadn't even gotten close, and they attacked us proactively. They indeed kill on sight, acting entirely irrationally!"

"We had no choice but to split up and retreat, but these spider swarms pursued us like they had seen their nemesis, never letting go."

"Thanks to your assistance, we survived that ordeal."

Saying this, Xiao Lin's tone grew heavier.

"Well, since that's the case, rest assured. We've already shaken off those Spider Demons. You can relax a bit now."

Lin An, upon hearing this, reassured them.

"Yes, and thank you, Sect Leader Lin! Please wait a moment."

Xiao Lin said, cupping his hands. He suddenly jogged back to where the Sword Sect disciples were and, when he returned to Lin An, was holding a square jade box.

"Sect Leader Lin, this is what we disciples of the Sword Sect obtained on our journey. We present it as a token of gratitude. We hope you'll accept it, and also hope you'll take us to rendezvous with our Sword Sect."

Lin An subconsciously wanted to decline, but upon hearing the last sentence, he understood. It turns out these disciples wanted to catch a ride.

Given this, it was indeed hard to refuse.

"Well... it's a trivial matter, not worth mentioning. No need to be so formal."

Lin An replied:

"Regarding this matter, you should discuss it with Sect Leader Dan Xuan."

Hearing this, Xiao Lin realized his request was somewhat rash, but he still insisted on leaving the jade box.

Watching Xiao Lin lead the group to a nearby boat to find Dan Xuan, Yang Yan pondered for a moment and also suggested:

"We should indeed enter the inner circle. If we can encounter the Sword Sect forces on the way, it would be good to let them reunite sooner."

Yang Yan then conveyed the situation he learned from Frost Heaven to Lin An.

"It seems that our previous speculation was quite close to the worst-case scenario."

Hearing this, Lin An also spoke in a somber tone.

Yang Yan felt this journey was becoming far more complicated than he had expected, with an unshakable sense of crisis growing within him.

At the same time, Dan Xuan truly was brought over by Xiao Lin. As soon as he saw Yang Yan and Lin An, he said:

"Just now, I also discussed with the elders of our sect. If the inner circle is indeed as abnormal as these Sword Sect disciples described, we might need to investigate."

There must be something strange when things go awry!

The two sect leaders were not shortsighted and decisively put the big picture first, quickly reaching a consensus to go investigate the inner circle.

"Xiao Lin, I'll trouble you to lead the way."

The disciples of the Sword Sect were overjoyed upon hearing this news.

Guided by the Sword Sect disciples, everyone headed straight for the inner circle.

The journey went relatively smoothly, with no magical creatures blocking their path.

As they approached the inner circle, the number of presences within their sensing range suddenly increased significantly.

"Everyone, we are about to enter the inner circle. Prepare yourselves and beware of unexpected attacks from magical creatures!"

With the reminders from the two sect leaders, the already cold and frozen land saw its temperature drop even further, forcing the disciples to speed up the operation of their spiritual power to ward off the cold.

"Hmm, over there is... the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers?"

In Yang Yan's perception, a familiar aura suddenly appeared. Looking in that direction, it was indeed the group from the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers with whom they had parted earlier.

Similarly aware of them, the Valley Master of Ten Thousand Flowers nodded politely to Sect Leader Lin An and Dan Xuan.

"Yizheng Sect people? Hmph! What a narrow meeting."

"Ancient Abyss Sect people? How unlucky!"

It seems enemies are fated to meet, as the people of the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers were gathered near those of the Yizheng Sect.

The disciples of the Ancient Abyss Sect and the Yizheng Sect exchanged a glance, grumbling internally.

Yang Yan glanced and thought to himself:

"It seems other sects have also noticed something amiss, which is why they've all coincidentally entered the inner circle."

The four sects stepped into the Land of the North Cold's inner circle.

The Ancient Abyss Sect and the Pill Sect quickly experienced the scenario previously described by the Sword Sect disciples firsthand.

The magical creatures Yang Yan and his group encountered earlier were nothing compared to the ones here!

Seeing the dense magical creatures on the ground, the disciples, who had never witnessed such a scene before, couldn't help but feel their scalps go numb.

"Wow... is that, the Cold Radiance Snake? So many?"

"Those Snow Demons, and the Poisonous Cold Spiders! My goodness!"

Encountering so many troublesome magical creatures they had previously faced, along with many unheard-of ones, left the disciples wide-eyed in disbelief, relieved they were flying and didn't have to confront the creatures directly.

However, the boat suddenly rocked, delivering a rude awakening to those who were feeling relieved.

Looking down, they realized that while the creatures couldn't reach them, they could launch various long-range attacks. Just now, the Wandering Dragon Boat was shaken because an ice spike hit the bottom of the ship.

Before the boat could stabilize, a barrage of attacks surged upwards from below.

"Quick, activate the Protective Spirit Array!"

At a critical moment, Elder Dugu rapidly changed his hand seals, causing a Defensive Spirit Array to appear at the bottom of the Wandering Dragon Boat, blocking the rain-like barrage from below.

Even so, the boat shook violently for a moment.

"Steady the boat, everyone give it your all and charge through!"

Sect Leader Lin An transmitted orders using spiritual power while constantly infusing the Wandering Dragon Boat with a tremendous amount of spiritual power, typically unleashed only by Golden Core cultivators, significantly increasing its speed.

Yang Yan looked at the positions of the other three sects and noticed they were all using the same method, with the most powerful sect leaders driving the Wandering Dragon Boats swiftly through while others defended against the magical creature attacks to stabilize the boat.

If coordinated well and without further complications, they might actually break through!

That was until the sky, suddenly like a Celestial Net, was filled with countless flying magical creatures.

And these creatures indeed, as the Sword Sect disciples described, seemed to have lost all rationality with only killing intent in their minds.

The strength of these creatures ranged around the Foundation Establishment level, with some even nearing the Golden Core level, posing significant pressure even for the sect leaders.

As a result, the Wandering Dragon Boats from the four sects felt like they were moving through a swamp, their speed gradually slowing down, unable to maintain their initial momentum.

Disciples below Foundation Establishment were fundamentally unable to contend with these creatures, rendering them ineffective.

Seeing this, Lin An had no choice but to switch tactics, taking to the front alongside Elder Dugu to personally clear a path.

Upon checking the other sects, they were also using a similar strategy, with the sect leaders and elders leading the charge, while others protected the remaining disciples.

With his fighting spirit ignited, Yang Yan was about to join the battle with Star Night, but Sect Leader Lin An entrusted him with protecting Guoguo, so he had to stay on the boat, responsible for defense and occasionally dealing with stray creatures trying to approach the Ancient Abyss Sect's Wandering Dragon Boat.

Though he only managed to kill a handful of creatures, leaving him somewhat frustrated.

However, this allowed him to conserve enough energy, and watching the sect leaders, who rarely engaged in combat, display their Divine Techniques was highly beneficial for Yang Yan and the other disciples' cultivation.

With this in mind, Yang Yan felt relieved and started patrolling throughout the boat, clearing out any magical beasts that made their way inside.

Numerous male disciples watched Yang Yan handle the situation with ease, feeling a pang of bitterness in their hearts.

However, many female disciples cheered enthusiastically, casting admiring glances his way.

"Yang Yan, over here, another strange bird is swooping in!"

Chapter 1192: Displaying Divine Techniques

Yang Yan had just struck down a demon creature when he heard Guo Guoguo's voice coming from the other side of the Wandering Dragon Boat. As he rushed over, all he saw was a bird-like demon creature that had been wounded and was flapping its wings trying to escape, with no need for intervention.

After a few rounds of this, Yang Yan couldn't help but suspect that this girl might be holding a grudge against him for not letting her act, and was deliberately retaliating.

At this moment, Yang Yan noticed that some of the defeated demon creatures were not continuing to harass, but were instead fleeing towards the outskirts of the Land of the North Cold.

Thinking of the demon creatures he encountered earlier that should have appeared in this inner circle, Yang Yan couldn't help but worry that leaving such powerful creatures outside would be a threat to people.

"You don't need to worry about this, Master Ancestor!"

Upon hearing Yang Yan's concerns, Guo Guoguo exaggeratedly replied and continued:

"You don't think Wandering Dragon Star is only visited by the top ten sects, do you? There are also some hidden forces that don't usually reveal themselves, including those eighth or ninth-level small sects who want to join in and share the spoils!"

"However, given their strength, they can at most enter the middle and outer circles, so let them defend the outer circle!"

Yang Yan nodded, dispelling this concern, and continued to observe with interest how other sects dealt with demon creatures.

He saw that the sect elders and disciples above Foundation Establishment Phase from other sects were energetically and vigorously fighting demon creatures.

It seemed overly enthusiastic, even to a point of fanaticism, as if they wouldn't stop until they completely killed these challenging demon creatures.

Yang Yan carefully observed for a while and understood that after defeating these demon creatures, they were extracting various treasures from the bodies before moving on to the next battle.

"Their appetite isn't ordinary!"

Yang Yan complained to himself. Although they previously extracted Ice Spirit from the slain Snow Demon, it was based on having defeated the opposition.

Now, whether they can break through the demon swarm is still unknown, yet they think of plundering more treasures, which indeed seems to be putting the cart before the horse.

He was about to continue observing the combat techniques of various sects when he saw Zhuge Wushuang, initially left on the boat for defense, tightly gripping her Slaughter Sword with evident excitement in her eyes.

Looking again at the other swords, including Frost Heaven, they seemed ready to "unseal". Yang Yan knew they couldn't hold back, eager to join the battle.

"Go ahead." Yang Yan met Zhuge Wushuang's eager gaze and nodded in approval.

Swish!

The moment Yang Yan assented, the five swords charged forward like runaway horses, instantly plunging into the chaotic battle.

With these five swords guarding the ship's exterior in coordination with Lin Zimu and others, the Wandering Dragon Boat was truly impregnable, leaving Yang Yan with little opportunity to act, sparing him some idleness.

This also gave him the chance to observe more of the battles between sects and demon creatures.

Facing formidable enemies, sect leaders and elders, who rarely act, displayed their divine techniques, allowing disciples to feast their eyes and seize the chance to learn.

Even Yang Yan had to admit that witnessing battles by Golden Core Realm experts broadened his perspectives.

The Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers, whose primary practice is the Flower Dao, performs well against humans, yet its power is greatly reduced against these unintelligent demon creatures, making it seem redundant.

Fortunately, the Flower Dao's commendable aspect isn't attack damage but the weakening or strengthening of the status of allies and enemies on the battlefield.

Thus, the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers people deployed the Flower Dao, offering physical recovery or enhancing defense to others, paired with basic attacks, greatly boosting combat effectiveness.

This reminded Yang Yan of the Dusk Race he encountered in the Hidden World, but the Dusk Race's empowering ability was no match for the Flower Dao of the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers.

Moreover, the Flower Dao's strength didn't end there.

The two elders from the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers, with Golden Core cultivation, cast the purification technique within the Flower Dao, generally weakening the demon creatures' attacks while countering some, either immobilizing them or controlling them to retaliate.

The Valley Master of Ten Thousand Flowers, using some Daoist technique, had summoned several giant Cannibal Flowers that devoured the demon beasts without discrimination, handling them with ease.

The Pill Sect specializes in Alchemy Skill, and in terms of combat prowess and Daoist techniques, is inferior to Yizheng Sect and Ancient Abyss Sect.

However, Ye Changqing's Life Spirit Flame had a unique brilliance when dealing with these demon creatures.

Instead of causing harm, the Life Spirit Flame's greater role was repelling and intimidating these creatures.

The demon creatures here should logically withstand Life Spirit Flame's burning, yet they have a natural fear of the special flame, instinctively retreating, none daring to provoke.

If Ye Changqing's cultivation were sufficient, he could pave a wide path directly through Life Spirit Flame, clearing a route for passage.

However, he can at most use Life Spirit Flame to protect himself, not cover a large area, so demon creatures keep attacking other parts of the Wandering Dragon Boat.

But as one of the ten sects, it's impossible for the Pill Sect not to have some means?

Sect Leader Dan Xuan, upon noticing the demon creatures' abnormality, attempted to identify the cause through separation and extraction techniques needed for Alchemy.

Though still uncertain about what was extracted, separating it from the demon creatures calmed them considerably.

Compared to exhausting energy killing these creatures, this method is evidently more convenient.

Thus, with separation extraction and Ye Changqing's Life Spirit Flame, dealing with demon creatures was easier for the Pill Sect than for purely force-reliant sects like Yizheng and Ancient Abyss Sect.

As for the Ancient Abyss Sect, Zhuge Wushuang's murderous aura had been fully unleashed.

At this moment, she was like a berserk demon, slaughtering any demon creature she saw, many having perished under her Slaughter Sword.

No longer content with defending the ship, she had plunged alone into the demon swarm below, relentlessly killing.

Those unfamiliar with her ability to grow stronger with more kills might have thought she had lost her senses.

Seeming deranged, yet she was quite lucid, having meticulously gauged the demon creatures' strength beforehand, knowing clearly which she could kill and which she should avoid.

Meanwhile, Lin An was surrounded by talismans, and around Elder Dugu were spirit arrays of various levels, the unique aura of Golden Core cultivation combusted between the two, smashing wave after wave of demon swarm.

Thus, the four sects each used their divine techniques, steadily passing through the demon swarm.

At this time, on the outskirts of the Land of North Cold.

"Jing Hong? You're here too!"

Juechen saw Jing Hong from afar.

"Hmm."

Jing Hong was ever so cool. Juechen was used to this and continued,

"Heard that Sanqian, Longsword, and Red Dust are all here. Have you seen them?"

"No."

Jing Hong's reply was again just a few indifferent words.

Juechen suddenly used telepathy and said to Jing Hong:

"We're here treasure hunting, no doubt they're all inside."

Jing Hong glanced at Juechen and replied:

"Hmm, we must seize the chance to contact Wang."

"Great minds think alike! Should we wait for Sanqian and the others?"

Juechen asked again.

"No need. Let's head straight inside."

Jing Hong said and ignored Juechen, leaping forward, disappearing from sight.

"Alright, hey, wait for me!"

Juechen called out from behind and quickly followed with a flash of his figure.

Chapter 1193: Growing More and More Eerie

"Damn... why haven't we reached the end yet?"

Baihua Fairy swung a thin vine, knocking away a Sparrow Demon that attempted to take advantage of them.

Initially thinking they could quickly break through the demon swarm, the people of the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers grew a bit anxious after fighting their way through for over an hour without seeing the edge of the swarm.

As for the few giant Cannibal Flowers summoned by Valley Master Hua, they were ultimately overwhelmed by the demon tide, gnawed to pieces by the demon swarm. Only one was still holding on, but it could only serve as a living target at best.

"Howl!"

"Flying Divine Tiger!" Baihua Fairy, while grumbling about not reaching the end, suddenly saw a creature with the head of a white tiger, resembling a Giant Eagle from afar, appearing right in front of her!

This creature was no pushover!

The roar of a tiger reverberates through the forest; a tiger is the king of the forest!

The strike of an eagle soars in the sky; an eagle is the overlord of the skies!

You tell me, is a monster that combines these two abilities easy to deal with?

Fortunately, the Flying Divine Tiger's strength hadn't yet broken through the Golden Core Stage!

Otherwise, even some sect leaders would find it hard to deal with!

Under normal circumstances, Flying Divine Tigers rarely attack humans, but with so many strange things happening, even Baihua Fairy had to be extra cautious!

Yet she couldn't help but feel puzzled!

What on earth is going on here!

The bloodline of the Flying Divine Tiger is rare, almost unheard of. Although the Land of the North Cold is rich in treasures, how could a Flying Divine Tiger show up here?

Could it be that the Flying Divine Tiger Clan has also come?

They are the supreme rulers of the Tiger Race!

Why would they come here?

But for now, Baihua Fairy dared not act recklessly; other demon beasts should be killed!

But this Flying Divine Tiger Clan, anyone with a bit of knowledge on Wandering Dragon Star knew not to provoke them.

The Flying Divine Tiger Clan is considered part of the Divine Race, while the Demon Race is only half that!

And the Flying Divine Tiger Clan on Wandering Dragon Star is considered alien guests! Though referred to as a clan, there are only about seven or eight! They are the descendants left by two great Flying Divine Tigers back in the day.

After all, Wandering Dragon Star has had sparse Spiritual Qi since its inception, making it incredibly difficult to nurture such a Divine Beast.

This Flying Divine Tiger Clan has already been envied by the heavens, birthed with extreme difficulty, and now they're on Wandering Dragon Star, truly facing insurmountable challenges!

Luckily they're not purebred, or else there might not even be seven or eight! Back then, those second-generation Divine Tigers were mostly descendants of that male Great Power and some human women!

"What? Flying Divine Tiger?" When Valley Master Hua heard this news, her heart skipped a beat.

Primarily because there were so many demon beasts here, densely packed! Not being in the same direction, it's hard to see them.

She immediately rushed to Baihua Fairy's side!

"Don't act rashly just yet!" The Valley Master's face was grave, as the Flying Divine Tiger was only twenty yards in front of them! It would definitely attack, but if they wanted to leave a path for the future of the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers, it's best not to attack yet!

Baihua Fairy nodded and immediately unleashed her Spiritual Power to assist the nearby junior sisters.

"Something's wrong!" After all, old ginger is spicier; Valley Master Hua detected something amiss when the Flying Divine Tiger approached within ten yards.

This Flying Divine Tiger only had the shape, lacking the divine traits.

It possessed neither the tiger's might nor the eagle's power!

This creature lacked a bit of momentum! This was a genuine feeling.

She and Baihua Fairy were qualitatively different; Baihua Fairy only learned about the Flying Divine Tiger from books, while she had seen one with her own eyes!

"Shoo!"

A beam of spiritual light shot out like an arrow, piercing through the Void straight for the Flying Divine Tiger's forehead.

"Master!" Baihua Fairy screamed, her eyes filled with confusion and surprise.

"No worries, my Spiritual Power isn't very aggressive!"

Before she finished speaking, the Flying Divine Tiger had disappeared, replaced by a Transformed Bird with a three-foot-long tail, a sparrow's beak, and clad in colorful feathers.

Baihua Fairy couldn't help but cheer for her master upon seeing this change.

"Hmph! Looks like this Transformed Bird had a stroke of luck!" Valley Master Hua had made the right bet.

Fortunately, these demon creatures lacked intelligence and only had instincts. Otherwise, Valley Master Hua would also have had no way of dealing with this Transformed Bird. If it didn't change form, who could force it to?

It's just that the Transformed Bird instinctively sensed that its Flying Divine Tiger disguise was useless, so it reverted to its original form!

However, its ability to devour the complete soul of a Flying Divine Tiger only further aroused Valley Master Hua's suspicion about the Inner Circle Secret.

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"Yang Yan, do you think Baihua Fairy is prettier or me?" Guoguo suddenly posed this question. She had been wanting to ask Yang Yan this for a long time.

"Um..." Yang Yan's face was lined with black streaks. Miss, this is a battle, a battle! Although he had more free time now, he shouldn't be answering such a frivolous question!

Moreover, the battles of the various sects in the distance were quite a visual feast for him!

"Yang Yan!"

"Do you think Baihua Fairy is prettier?"

Guoguo cried out twice in surprise!

Yang Yan turned back, looking at Guoguo not far behind him. Was there any need to say it? Of course, Baihua Fairy was prettier!

But he didn't dare to say it out loud, as women naturally love to compete for attention, comparing beauty with one another, even if they're strangers. If one woman is told she's not as pretty as another, she won't be too happy.

Can't you see that Guoguo is getting jealous of Yang Yan? If he doesn't speak carefully now, he might provoke this Little Witch!

So he smiled, "Of course you're prettier than her!"

"Then why do you keep looking over at the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers? And with such a lecherous look?"

Yang Yan's eyes widened; he was looking because he noticed something unusual going on over there!

"Why did the Valley Master run over to Baihua Fairy's side?"

To maintain defense, they must ensure that each point around is evenly matched; usually, they wouldn't move arbitrarily.

Especially since the Valley Master is the top powerhouse of the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers, she should be guarding the front of the Wandering Dragon Boat, so how could she run around freely?

Who would've thought that because of this, he got marked by Guoguo!

"Madam, are you underestimating me, Yang Yan? Baihua Fairy may be well-endowed in the right places, but I'm not some greenhorn fascinated by a beauty at first sight. Do I really need to guard against her every time?" Yang Yan truly felt misunderstood.

"Ah! Yang Yan, there's another strange bird behind you."

Yang Yan turned around, raising his Star Night Sword, slashing it once, twice, thrice.

Behind him, Guoguo could not help but chuckle mischievously, feeling immensely satisfied! He actually said I was prettier than Baihua Fairy!

"Yang Yan, there, there, another one!"

"Where? Where? How come I didn't see it?"

"It flew away, it flew away! All because you reacted too slowly!"

Chapter 1194: Young Master of Biluo

"Have the people from Biluo Sect arrived too?"

The four Sect Leaders saw the group behind and couldn't help but get excited.

The monster tide is too overwhelming, even the combined force of the four sects found it hard to advance; they needed support.

A middle-aged man in a green robe with a square face stood at the forefront of the Wandering Dragon Boat of Biluo Sect, feeling helpless.

If he had known it would be like this, why did he come here?!

But seeing this scene now, he couldn't possibly ignore it!

Shaking his head, he decided to go ahead and support them.

"Which sect are those people from?" Seeing a Wandering Dragon Boat suddenly appear nearby, Yang Yan pointed at their sect's flag and asked Guoguo next to him.

"Biluo Sect!" Guoguo looked over and laughed lightly while blinking, "Yang Yan, isn't such a simple thing known to you?"

Yang Yan was speechless for a moment.

This was a blatant provocation!

"What, aren't you convinced?" Guoguo laughed mischievously.

This time, she had finally avenged Yang Yan's mockery of her ignorance back then.

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"Father, what's going on?"

"Baihua Fairy is outside!"

"What!"

The pale-faced man abruptly stood up!

The woman under the table felt her breath suddenly become smooth, but still stayed quietly in her original position, cursing in her heart.

This damned fiend!

Just hearing Baihua Fairy made him excited.

Earlier, even knowing his father was here, he didn't care at all.

Now, he left her alone and ran out actively!

The man obviously didn't notice his indiscretion.

Baihua Fairy clearly tugged at his heartstrings too much, making him unable to stop thinking about her.

Fortunately, he had considered this table. Otherwise, if his father came upon this scene, it wouldn't have been so calm.

If his father saw this, he would surely lose a couple of pounds of meat at the very least.

"What are you still dawdling here for? Not going out to help? They're fighting monsters." His father obviously noticed the situation and glared at him, showing a face full of exasperation.

"Oh! Oh! Fine, fine, thanks, Father!" The man agreed verbally but did not act immediately.

However, his father said nothing further, turned, and left with a fierce flick of his sleeve.

After all, he had to manage the overall situation and couldn't indulge in such affairs with his son.

"So, has your father left?"

A woman with a highly alluring appearance and a beauty mark at the corner of her mouth asked with a sweet smile.

The man said nothing, with an endless fury inside wanting to vent.

He then sat back in his original position and pulled the woman into his arms.

She moaned softly, twisting her waist like a snake, combed her hair by her temples, and stared directly into the man's eyes, filled with seduction...

Ever since Guoguo got jealous at Yang Yan, he didn't glance toward the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

Anyway, the surrounding battles were not lacking that sect's involvement.

Especially with the involvement of Biluo Sect, Yang Yan had a heightened interest.

He truly didn't know much about this sect and was glad for the opportunity to get acquainted.

But that Little Witch still wouldn't stay calm. After pondering Yang Yan's words, she unexpectedly went off to compare beauty with Baihua Fairy.

Of course, she did not leave the Wandering Dragon Boat.

Her father had painstakingly created a chance for her to be alone with Yang Yan, and she wouldn't let go of it.

She just glanced at the other end of the boat and the end of another boat, eyes blazing with fiery sparks.

After some internal comparison, she concluded that aside from having slightly more assets in front, Baihua Fairy wasn't much else.

Thinking like this, Guoguo was at ease.

"Yang Yan! Just look! This Baihua Fairy is so unclean, she even hooked up with Lin Hao!" Guoguo suddenly said.

"Lin Hao?" Yang Yan frowned slightly.

"See for yourself!"

Yang Yan looked in the direction Guoguo pointed, and indeed saw another young man among the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers.

"Baihua Fairy, I'm here to assist you!"

It wasn't anyone else speaking but the pale-faced man, Lin Hao.

"Lin Hao, why aren't you helping your father and coming over to help me?" Baihua Fairy raised her brows lightly and asked coldly.

"Biluo Sect can handle those monsters just fine." Lin Hao said with a cheerful tone, "Helping you is my heartfelt intention! By the way, I heard you confessed to the Ancient Abyss Sect's Saint Son during the apprentice ceremony!"

"Got rejected. What about it?" Baihua Fairy's face was cold.

Ever since childhood, she had always been the center of attention.

Before Yang Yan, she was always the rejector rather than the rejected herself!

"Don't be mad, Fairy! There are countless men in this world, why focus on one tree?"

"Lin Hao, right? Your past is quite notorious, isn't it!" Baihua Fairy never really liked Lin Hao, and immediately laid it out clearly.

What about being the son of Biluo Sect Leader?

Her Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers wasn't much lacking compared to Biluo Sect!

Lin Hao laughed a "hehe" without minding and said: "Who doesn't have a somewhat tragic past? Fairy, that's all in the past anyway!"

Baihua Fairy sneered dismissively, saying: "The past? You probably haven't repented until today!"

Lin Hao was not annoyed, still smiling as he said:

"Fairy, you should reassess me. Autumn grass will revive with vibrant life in the next spring!"

Baihua Fairy's gaze darkened, and her voice became even colder: "You're saying about the Love Gu you planted, right?"

Lin Hao had a bitter smile, shaking his head slightly, saying somewhat self-deprecatingly: "No matter what I say, you're just not willing to believe, right?"

Baihua Fairy gave him a knowing look before wholeheartedly entering the battle.

Lin Hao's lips curled into a cold smile but transferred his jealousy onto Yang Yan.

Hmph! It's just a Celestial Flood Dragon Saint Body?

Why does Baihua Fairy need to stoop so low?

Once I master this Love Gu, my physique will be a superior Dao Body!

With further development, I don't believe I can't win over him with my heaven-defying technique!

When that time comes, won't Baihua Fairy be the one begging me!

Lin Hao secretly fumed, while Guoguo criticized him endlessly.

"I tell you, Lin Hao is disgusting. Apart from having some strength, his character is horrid! If it weren't for Biluo Sect shielding him, he'd be dead long ago!"

"Hmm?" Yang Yan discerned something different from Guoguo's words.

Guoguo bit her lip and continued:

"Did you know? He's cultivating an evil technique from Ancient Times!"

Saying this, she couldn't help but pause, seemingly recalling something extremely repulsive.

Yang Yan frowned and asked:

"What's the matter, tell me?"

Guoguo pursed her lips:

"Well, you asked. It's said his cultivation technique trains women who fancy him like raising Gu; after successfully breeding them, he absorbs them to death!"

"Training?" Yang Yan was somewhat clueless.

"Yes!" Guoguo nodded, "It means making a woman fall for themselves and willingly give her all, of course not death ha!"

"How to put it... Hmm! It's like making a woman a slave to love and lust, but supposedly because she loves him she's willing to do this!"

"This technique is said to be forbidden in Ancient Times, condemned as evil. However, the kid is protected by Biluo Sect, and no one dares to move him for now!"

The more Yang Yan listened, the tighter his frown became.

Yet at Guoguo's final comment, he couldn't help but chuckle.

Lean on Biluo Sect?

You're also leaning on Ancient Abyss Sect, Miss Guo!

But he generally understood.

To put it simply, the technique is about making a woman collect Yang Qi from other men, while Lin Hao gathers the Yin Qi refined by the women.

Chapter 1195: Who Is the Hunter, Who Is the Prey

"The Biluo Sect really has some nerve!"

"Indeed! Lin Xuanzhi aided and abetted before this matter was exposed, then assumed a righteous stance as soon as it was revealed!"

Guo Guoguo's eyes were practically ablaze; such evil and demonic paths should not exist in this world. Yang Yan saw through these people's ugly faces.

"So does this mean that Lin Hao's next target is likely the Baihua Fairy?"

"It's possible, but who knows if Lin Hao is still using that Cultivation Technique? After all, his father pretended to abolish his cultivation in a secret sect meeting, presenting a facade of starting anew as a gesture to preserve Lin Hao's life!"

"Hmph! I bet he's still cultivating it." Yang Yan snorted coldly, hitting the nail on the head.

He saw through the sect's underhanded dealings clearer than anyone.

Especially when this person was his own son—how could the Biluo Sect's leader not fully cover for him?

"However, there is still a flaw in this technique! That is, a woman must...must use her mouth!"

After saying this, Guo Guoguo coyly covered her eyes.

But the pretense only lasted a few seconds, clearly just for Yang Yan's sake.

Then she continued,

"So, if a woman insists on practicing this Cultivation Technique, the man becomes a tool for her cultivation, and will be devoured in turn!"

"By the way, Yang Yan, you mustn't disclose these matters, not even to the senior brother! In fact, outside of the ten major sect leaders, there are definitely less than twenty people on Wandering Dragon Star who are privy to this!"

...

Lin Hao glanced at the focused and battling Baihua Fairy beside him, feeling increasingly restless.

Especially the fragrance permeating the air, which made his blood boil, as if his whole being was igniting.

The Baihua Fairy seemed oblivious and continued using cunning tactics, fully engaged with her enemy.

But is this really the case?

Lin Hao was nurturing a Love Gu, and wasn't Baihua Fairy also raising Lin Hao as a gu?!

Did the other nine major sects genuinely want to give Lin Hao a chance to be reborn?

Clearly not.

This was a reshuffle of power, something that an old fox like Lin Xuanzhi could see clearly.

Therefore, he was desperate to keep this secret for his son!

Only then could his son Lin Hao truly develop and grow.

Otherwise, all the time and effort invested would be like drawing water with a sieve.

But when the truth came to light, everything shattered like a dream.

Lin Hao was suddenly regarded as an Immortal Elixir.

As long as he practiced this Cultivation Technique, he would perpetually be viewed as a medicinal catalyst by others.

Lin Xuanzhi should have realized that there are no secrets that remain hidden.

Yet he was too eager for his son's success!

The Baihua Fairy's every step seemed unrelated yet repeatedly plunged Lin Hao into an abyss of no return.

Expressing feelings to Yang Yan, rejecting Lin Hao...

Every move was calculated, each one provoking Lin Hao!

Even the woman with Lin Hao in the secret chamber was attracted to Lin Hao as an Immortal Elixir.

And she was a pawn from another sect!

Lin Hao only knew that the woman beside him was a ploy, a piece set up by others to harm him.

He maneuvered and manipulated with ease.

Yet, unexpectedly, it was the indifferent woman beside him who opened a wide, gaping maw to devour him!

Nothing is more wicked than a woman's heart.

Even the cunning Lin Xuanzhi failed to see this.

Because the Baihua Fairy was too indifferent to his son, leaving no room for suspicion.

However, his son could not help but get involved with Baihua Fairy.

After all, Baihua Fairy possessed an exceptional Dao Body, unparalleled across the entire planet.

If Baihua Fairy could fall in love with Lin Hao, his strength would elevate to a whole new level!

This was the Baihua Fairy's brilliance.

She understood men too well.

With youthful beauty, as long as there was a suitable method, men would be drawn to her like bees to nectar, eager to indulge.

Even knowing that the nectar led to a mousetrap, they would rush in like moths to a flame!

Of course, it was also because Baihua Fairy had enough resources, allowing her to cast a long line to catch big fish while she remained unaffected.

Lin Hao's chambered foxy lady could not afford such luxury.

She couldn't afford to watch and wait idly for Lin Hao to fall in love with her, her only chance was to strike first.

She had to seek light in the darkness by all means!

Even forcing herself to love Lin Hao to gain his trust.

Guo Guoguo knew too little. Though she was intelligent, she was still an inexperienced child.

A person growing under the sect leader's protection could never grasp reality, envisioning the world through her own emotions!

Ultimately, Lin Hao couldn't resist.

He needed to vent!

To vent madly!

Beautiful women never failed to awaken his desires.

Especially those cold and aloof women!

He had grown weary of those who would throw themselves into his arms unbidden, to the point of discarding them.

Such women were utterly boring.

If not for cultivation, he would have long ignored such women.

All these developments were unforeseen by Lin Xuanzhi.

He forgot about human nature, forgot his son was just a young man.

On the other hand, his ambition was too grand, wanting to have his son reach the top with a single leap.

To be revered by tens of thousands, worshipped by all.

This was the peak every cultivator aspired to reach.

Lin Xuanzhi, who fancied himself clever, was no exception.

Lin Hao bid farewell to Baihua Fairy and hurried back.

"Why are you back? Didn't I tell you to help Baihua Fairy?" Lin Xuanzhi asked with a furrowed brow.

"Dad, I...I need a break!"

Lin Hao replied, stammering, unable to meet his father's eyes.

The surrounding disciples all wore knowing smiles.

Everyone was certain that Lin Hao had probably been rejected by Baihua Fairy again!

In the ship's secret room, the Foxy Lady was still half-reclined on a chair, until she caught a whiff of that familiar scent...

Gathering the strength of five sects, they forcibly carved out a path through the demon tide.

They finally escaped their predicament.

Now was the time to handle the spoils of battle.

Meanwhile, Juechen and Jing Hong arrived at the location of the five major sects' Wandering Dragon Boat but concealed their presences in the shadows.

"Guo'Er, are you okay?" Sect Leader Lin An asked with concern.

Guo Guoguo beamed and replied, "I'm fine, Dad! Yang Yan protected me carefully!"

Zhuge Wushuang had just brought the spoils up from the boat when she stumbled upon the scene, feeling a wave of helplessness.

Having a capable father sure has its perks!

Not only do you avoid life-and-death struggles, but someone as powerful as Wang also ensures your protection.

Such is the life of the young mistress.

If only one day I could stop struggling, with someone handling all my affairs for me.

"Hey! Wushuang, what are you daydreaming about?"

Yang Yan's sudden words snapped Zhuge Wushuang back to attention, making her awkwardly approach Yang Yan.

On the other side, Baihua Fairy continued discussing the Transformed Bird with the Valley Master.

After all, a Flying Divine Tiger is exceedingly rare, and its soul is equally so!

"Could something incredible within the inner circle have attracted the Flying Divine Tigers?" the Valley Master pondered in curiosity.

The Baihua Fairy frowned and replied, "It's unlikely under normal circumstances. But first, it's essential to rest for a bit."

Confused for a moment, the Valley Master eventually shook his head and said, "When we enter the inner circle later, let's not mention seeing a bird transformed from a Flying Divine Tiger's soul!"

"If anything unlikely happens, I'll handle it, you stay silent!"

Baihua Fairy hurriedly and respectfully responded, "Yes, Master!"

Chapter 1196: The Ambition of a Wolf

"Why do you feel your vital energy and blood are unstable lately?" Lin Xuanzhi questioned.

"I should be entering a critical phase of recovery. You know, Father, ever since you forcibly crippled my cultivation that time, my meridians have been problematic, and my body hasn't fully recovered yet!"

"That time was a bit harsh, but it's not without solutions! By the way, is Baihua Fairy still taking a dislike to you?"

"That woman has really eaten a bear's heart and leopard's guts, dare to treat me like this repeatedly! But, Baihua Fairy will end up in my hands one day!"

"Don't get emotionally involved!" Lin Xuanzhi said sternly. He is still a bit uneasy about Baihua Fairy, considering she's a leading figure of the Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers, better not steal a chicken only to end up losing rice.

"Father, rest assured!"

Although he said this, Lin Hao knew his situation well and was starting to worry.

Because he hadn't had normal relations with the foxy lady in the secret chamber for quite a while now! Continuing this way, all his past efforts might truly be wasted.

Only Baihua Fairy can occasionally spark his desire to fight! But these things, he definitely couldn't tell his father, only finding excuses to delay them!

Sometimes, he even feels he's become the Love Gu himself, a premonition that has become increasingly strong lately! He no longer has the initial strategizing confidence.

...

Ever since Pill Sect Leader saw Lin Hao of Biluo Sect, his face was flushed with anger.

He didn't want to see such a person. During the ten sects summit years ago, he felt this scoundrel should be killed, but he was aware of the entangled interests, so he hadn't revealed his true intention.

Ye Changqing also sensed some issues. After all, Pill Sect Leader didn't purposely hide anything, as very few truly knew the inside story! To the common eye, it appeared merely as the sect leader disliking Biluo Sect.

"Sect Leader, we've had huge gains this time!"

"Big rewards are normal, everyone's been fighting bloodily! First, give your brothers and sisters some pills!"

The Yizheng Sect Leader stood at one side of his Wandering Dragon Boat, his eyes gloomy, staring at Ancient Abyss Sect side, as their relationship with Yang Yan seemed beyond repair now, and once Yang Yan grew, Yizheng Sect would face a crushing disaster!

...

"Jing Hong, should Wang be alright?"

Juechen looked at the mass of corpses below the Wandering Dragon Boat with worry!

Jing Hong didn't reply, just kept staring numbly at the Wandering Dragon Boat in the sky.

"Hey! You, rushing here urgently and now acting dumb?"

"Find a spot to hide first!" After saying this, Jing Hong left.

"Right, they might land soon, exposing us wouldn't be good!" Juechen licked his lips and vanished as well.

Inside the Ancient Abyss Sect's Wandering Dragon Boat, Yang Yan had long noticed Juechen and their arrival!

"Let's go, Yang, to claim some war loot below!"

As Lin Zimu invited Yang Yan, they began jumping off the Wandering Dragon Boat.

Meanwhile, seeing the successful navigation through the demon tide, several sects quickly retracted their Wandering Dragon Boats, their disciples entering the Treasure Hunting Ground below.

Thanks to the sect leaders' management, the disciples didn't trespass on others' territories to seize the spoils. Sect leaders ceremoniously implemented a sharing system in places hard to define ownership.

"What a coincidence!" Sword Sect Leader slowly led disciples from another side.

But when Sword Sect Leader found some of his disciples in the territory of Ancient Abyss Sect, his expression was exceptionally vivid. Not understanding the situation, he felt his rage rising.

The Sword Sect disciples left in Ancient Abyss Sect quickly bid farewell and departed when their sect arrived.

"Sword Sect disciple Xiao Lin thanks Sect Leader Lin for the shelter!"

"No problem, the ten sects should support each other!" Lin An smiled, not just as a pleasantry but also to disgust Yizheng Sect and Sword Sect Leader.

"Good to have you back! Frost Heaven did a great job!" The words were blatant provocation! Sword Sect Leader couldn't miss Lin An's implied meaning, and immediately, with a smile, spoke to Frost Heaven.

Ancient Abyss Sect's disciples fumed, feeling Sword Sect Leader was rubbing salt in their wounds, yet couldn't retort, as sect leader's words shouldn't be interrupted by disciples. Moreover, Sword Sect Leader's words were above reproach!

Praising his disciples, isn't Sword Sect Leader allowed to commend them?

"Sect Leader Xu, ah!"

"Hey! Sect Leader Wang, hello!"

Yizheng Sect Leader Wang Bingye squeezed through Valley of Ten Thousand Flowers people to greet Sect Leader Xu as though meeting an old friend.

"Sect Leader Xu, how about catching up at our Yizheng Sect?"

"Just what I was thinking! Haha!"

"Please!"

"Let's go, meet Yizheng Sect's talents!" Sect Leader Xu called his disciples and followed Yizheng Sect Leader.

"Just knowing how to hold onto someone's thighs!" A disciple of Ancient Abyss Sect, once ambushed together with Yang Yan, spat quietly, though with a small voice.

But what kind of people were the surrounding sect leaders?

Yizheng Sect Leader had barely stepped off when he paused slightly, then continued to walk forward.

"Yang Yan! Be extra cautious with your future plans!" Lin An warned worriedly.

Sword Sect dared so blatantly to walk with Yizheng Sect, which raised suspicions, especially with sect leaders watching!

Openly showing affection isn't a good sign! Isn't it a clear alliance announcement?

Especially being overly enthusiastic upon meeting, had they planned it out?

Biluo Sect Leader Lin Xuanzhi saw this scene and his eyelid twitched furiously.

What kind of sect is Yizheng Sect?

It's a sect that can't bear to see others prosper, once the tiniest hint of rise surfaces, they suppress ferociously! Lin Xuanzhi couldn't forget the scene of annihilating the Pill Sect's foremost disciple!

So when Lin Hao gained that cultivation technique and started rising, he feared a repeat of the Pill Sect disciple's fate!

And now this sect is actually allying with Sword Sect? Is the stable structure of the ten sects finally about to change?

Sword Sect Leader sensed someone watching and, smiling slightly, nodded towards Biluo Sect Leader, along with a subtle smile to Lin Hao beside Lin Xuanzhi!

...

Night fell!

Disciples from various sects went to sleep.

"You'Er, how's the matter going?"

"Hehe, is there any man I can't captivate when I step in?" The lady leaned against Sect Leader Xu, an alluring charm flowing towards him.

"It's been long since releasing your nature, feeling itchy? Hmm!" Sect Leader Xu smiled subtly, his hand slapped hard on the woman's plump rear and began kneading it fiercely, "I missed you."

Chapter 1197: Setting the Net

"Hmph!" The woman snorted coldly, brushing away Sect Leader Xu's hand that wandered across her lower back, stepping back a few paces to maintain a distance from him.

Sect Leader Xu stared blankly at the woman before him, ready to embrace her again!

"Xu Caomu!"

"Eh!" Sect Leader Xu responded happily, thinking that You'Er was just joking with him because of the name that lingered in his memory. But unexpectedly, the woman accused, "The name I gave you back then was apt; you are truly an unfeeling plant. Tell me, why did I ever fall for you?"

"You'Er! You!" The emotional collapse of the woman prompted Sect Leader Xu to rush forward to console her! "Didn't we agree to revive the Sword Sect together?"

"Yes!"

"Yes!"

The woman said as two clear tears fell.

"You'Er! What's wrong? Did that little bastard do something bad to you?"

"Yes, he did something very bad to me! And then? Will you bring me back to your side?"

"I said that whenever you want to come back, you should come back. Wasn't it because of your physique problems and the need to revive the Sword Sect that I sent you there?"

"Easy for you to say! Leaving me by that bastard's side, have you come to see me? You've probably long forgotten about me! Maybe you've found another confidante by your side? Would you still let me return?"

"You'Er, you are the shadow of the Sword Sect! You've been working secretly for the Sword Sect all these years, don't you understand the importance of absolute secrecy?"

"Hmph! First, tell me if you currently have another confidante?"

"No, absolutely not!" Before the words from the Sword Sect leader could finish, he directly pinned the woman to the ground!

...

"Wang!"

"Hmm!"

"Juechen, what secret cultivation matters has your intelligence station uncovered?"

"Wang, my current strength is still too weak, so it's just some verbal secrets from low-level disciples." Juechen laughed slyly.

"Take your time!" Yang Yan had long anticipated this outcome.

...

"You've torn all my clothes!"

"It's good enough that I didn't swallow you whole, You'Er, I really want to do it again!"

"Alright, stop this, let's focus on the important matters!" You'Er's heart was filled with happiness, though she didn't show it at all.

"By the way, I need to change into another outfit since this one is torn!"

Just as the words fell, there was a "tear" sound in the darkness as You'Er's clothes ripped into a long slit.

"No!"

...

"Let's talk business!" You'Er coquettishly said; it had been so long since she had been like this with the one she loved.

Sect Leader Xu held her tightly on his lap, their heads snugly resting against each other.

"If you're really unwilling to do it, come back." Sect Leader Xu inhaled the fragrance of You'Er's body.

"Hmm! I know! I'm just afraid you'll forget me!" You'Er paused, "By the way, that little bastard seems quite interested in Baihua Fairy!"

"Baihua Fairy? Let him be! Anyway, as long as we get what we want, it doesn't matter if he likes Baihua Fairy or not. As long as we're fast enough, that Spirit Pill will ultimately be ours!" Sect Leader Xu let out a cold laugh, "By the way, in the end, I want him dead! I want his soul to be torn clean!"

"Hmm!" You'Er smiled, turning back to lightly bite the Sword Sect leader's ear. She knew this was the Sword Sect leader extracting interest for her. Just like when she was raped by the senior brother, Xu Caomu disregarded sect rules and brutally dismembered the senior brother with a sword!

"By the way, the kid still can't bear to use the cultivation technique on me, only willing to enjoy it alone."

"I trust your ability!"

"Then I'm leaving!" You'Er, having changed into new clothes, swayed her hips as she prepared to leave.

"It's been hard on you, You'Er!"

"Not hard!"

The night swallowed the past, and the morning sunlight awakened the sleeping people!

The inner circle was filled with the thoughts of various sects!

The anomalies along the way made them suspicious that treasures were hidden deep within the Land of the North Cold!

Yet they faced the dilemma of being unable to explore the secrets with just one or two sects.

Within 500 meters from the Pill Sect's base in the inner circle of the Land of the North Cold, there were bases of four other sects.

"With the rise of the Ancient Abyss Sect, what does Sect Leader He think?"

"This is interesting!" The Sect Leader of Lingying Sect stroked the beard beneath his lips as he received the sound transmission.

"Do you think we should make some small moves inside?"

"Rest assured, the Sword Sect will take the first shot for us! Sect Leader Xu of the Sword Sect is no ordinary character. Among our ten sect leaders, he's the youngest, but he's the most skilled!"

"The Sword Sect has met its match, haha, but if I'm not mistaken, the Sword Sect should have made quite a few small moves against the Ancient Abyss Sect already! Old Xu is not one to be lonely!"

"Indeed! Even years ago when Yang Yan hadn't appeared yet, the Sword Sect's activities were quite frequent!"

"However, now the Ancient Abyss Sect is truly hard to deal with! If we let that demon grow, how will our other nine sects survive? Even if Hengshan Sect survives, it certainly won't maintain half of its current glory!"

"Let's watch and wait! Even if we join forces from nine sects to destroy the Ancient Abyss Sect and kill Yang Yan, who will ultimately be the winner? At that time, our two sects might even be suppressed indefinitely?"

"Haha! Sect Leader He is still honest!" Hengshan Sect's leader laughed.

"And so is Sect Leader Li!" Sect Leader He replied.

...

"What did the spies report?" Sect Leader He asked the elder beside him in the tent.

"About 500 meters to our right is the gathering place of the six sects! And the spies particularly mentioned that the Sword Sect seems quite close with the Yizheng Sect!"

"Looks like the Sword Sect can't bear the loneliness and wants to march like a tiger!"

"What should our sect do then?"

"Let's watch, don't decide too early! The current ten great sects are like a pot of chaos; stir it too much, and not only will the skin break, but even the meat might spill out!"

...

"When they enter the innermost circle, should we still hold back?"

"Hmm?"

"The Sword Sect's net can't hold anymore; if we rashly enter, we might be trapped like turtles in a jar! And the key to breaking the impasse is the attitude of the other sects! As long as they don't support the wrong side, things will be much easier to handle!"

"What's your suggestion?"

"We must quickly tie the Pill Sect onto the same boat with us!"

Chapter 1198: Ancient Demon Cave

"Haha! Not bad! But Yang Yan, whether this can bind the Pill Sect entirely depends on you!"

Lin An smiled meaningfully.

After all, Yang Yan is innately talented, with extraordinary strength of his own, and his future is limitless.

The other sects might ignore the Ancient Abyss Sect, but they can't ignore Yang Yan!

"Indeed, we should pause in the innermost circle! But I'm afraid the other sects won't dare let us stop!"
Lin An said solemnly.

Yang Yan understood immediately.

Sect Leader Lin An is speaking of 'not daring', but he himself has a rather strong subjective consciousness.

The other sects will definitely watch all his actions now, but their actions won't be too significant.

Because there's still one thing tantalizing them.

That is the strangeness of the Land of the North Cold!

The leadership of each sect has secretly speculated that there must be an extraordinary treasure inside.

Yang Yan can always be dealt with, but once the treasure is missed, it will never come back.

Yang Yan gave Lin An a glance, yet Elder Dugu nearby still couldn't make heads or tails of the situation.

"So, this time, should we persist in staying or leave?" Elder Dugu couldn't help but ask.

"Leave!"

Yang Yan smiled and said confidently.

Now all sects can only proceed cautiously; surely, they'd prefer bringing more people in to take risks!

In that case, the Ancient Abyss Sect has to go in together.

Otherwise, people might suspect the Ancient Abyss Sect of sitting back to reap the benefits without taking part.

...

"Sect Leader Lin, what are your thoughts on the innermost circle?" the Sword Sect Leader suddenly asked.

"Certainly, it's best to enter together with the strength of all ten sects! But I wonder where are the other four sects located?" Lin An, as if knowing the question beforehand, replied matter-of-factly.

"Should be not far from here!" the Sword Sect Leader smiled slightly, appearing very sure.

Before his voice fell, the other four sects appeared on one side of the Pill Sect.

Beside him, Lin Zimu whispered in Yang Yan's ear:

"Look! The one led by the female sect leader is the Celestial Sound Sect!"

"And the one with the long beard is the Lingying Sect Leader, with Hengshan Sect to the side."

"The one who hasn't been introduced yet and looks quite beautiful is the Lenghe Sect Leader!"

At the disciple recruitment ceremony that day, although the sect leaders were supposed to be present, Yang Yan, as the focus, surely didn't pay much attention to others.

This was the case even for the sect leaders of various large sects.

"Lenghe Sect Leader!"

Yang Yan focused eighty percent of his gaze on him.

The Wandering Dragon Star Mirror also mentioned this sect leader briefly.

With no ulterior motives, just finding him too beautiful!

Even Baihua Fairy, known for her beauty, pales in comparison before him.

When Yang Yan initially read the passage, he didn't take it to heart.

But upon seeing this person's gorgeous appearance, he felt the descriptions in the Wandering Dragon Star Mirror didn't do him justice!

He was simply a demonic existence.

Comparing Baihua Fairy and him, they are similar in looks, but this man can only be described as captivatingly charming.

While Yang Yan was observing him, his gaze also assessed Yang Yan!

Regarding the Saint Son of the Ancient Abyss Sect, he only had one encounter during the disciple recruitment ceremony, but Yang Yan's appearance was etched in his memory.

Seeing the simultaneous appearance of these four sects, the leaders of the other six sects immediately went to greet the Pill Sect.

No matter what, face must always be given.

Latecomers are guests, therefore those who arrived earlier should go to welcome them.

"Dai, it's been a while!" The Sword Sect Leader first greeted the Lenghe Sect Leader.

"Haha! Xu!" The Lenghe Sect Leader cupped his hand in response, familiarly.

"Old Xu seeing Old Dai is like a mouse seeing rice—overjoyed!" The Yizheng Sect Leader couldn't help but tease.

A person resembling an elder beside him immediately chimed in: "I reckon both haven't been married yet, waiting for each other maybe?"

"Haha! Just joking, just joking!" The Lenghe Sect Leader naturally heard their conversation, giving a cold glance but speaking casually.

As if it were a joke.

"Greetings, Sect Leader Lin! The Ancient Abyss Sect is indeed flourishing!" The Celestial Sound Sect Leader hurriedly changed the subject to avoid internal conflict, chuckling as he cupped his hands to Lin An.

Those aware of the two's grievances laughed without saying anything.

But Lin An simply sneered and didn't reply.

"Sect Leader Lin remains as aloof as before, indeed!" The Celestial Sound Sect Leader stared into Lin An's eyes:

"I've heard the Ancient Abyss Sect's Saint Son is remarkable, a disciple of mine who fell short wishes to see the Saint Son's magnificence, wanting to spar!"

Evidently, Lin An couldn't let her shift the focus and had to laugh heartily:

"Thanks for Sect Leader Lan's compliment. But the most urgent concern now should be eliminating demons! Opportunities for battles are aplenty in the future, no need to rush!"

While strings were being pulled outside, the situation at the battlefield center was increasingly alarming.

Pale black demonic qi tightly surrounded ancient structures vaguely visible within.

"Why do I suddenly feel an urge to kill!"

One disciple's eyes turned bloodshot, filled with viciousness.

But he still managed to suppress his bloodthirsty desire for the time being!

"It's evil qi!" The Sword Sect Leader's face was somewhat solemn, perceiving the strangeness himself.

No one expected the treasure to turn out to be evil qi!

Yet, historically, evil qi affecting so many fierce beasts was unheard of.

"Demon Sect! It's the Ancient Demon Sect!"

In another direction, Lin Hao was extraordinarily excited.

He felt something inside was calling him.

This aura had a bloodline connection with the cultivation technique he practiced, making him restless.

This was his opportunity!

It must not be missed.

"If not for this evil qi being absorbed mostly by the beasts, perhaps we wouldn't be standing here rationally!"

Sect Leader Lin An analyzed with furrowed brows.

"This might be the Demon Cave recorded in historical texts!" Sect Leader He similarly frowned, somewhat unsure as he spoke.

"Oh! Sect Leader He, would love to hear more!" Lin An immediately pursued.

Sect Leader He pondered a moment before saying: "I too, by coincidence, came across a record in a damaged script in my sect."

"As you know, our Lingying Sect is the only one among the ten sects passed down since ancient times."

"Although my sect has been through numerous wars and many historical texts have been lost, coincidentally, this one recorded the Demon Cave sect!"

"And the current scene resembles the depiction in the texts closely! Hence, I'm sixty to seventy percent sure this is the sect described in those records."

At this point, Sect Leader He suddenly looked around cautiously, then slowly spoke in a lower voice:

"Seven-angled pinnacle, lingering evil qi, around the Demon Cave, grasses change color!"

Yang Yan raised his head and indeed, as Sect Leader He mentioned, the architecture truly had seven angles.

Chapter 1199: Entering the Demon Cave

The back of the building, although not clearly visible, can roughly be inferred.

If this is just a coincidence, how come each corner is topped with a bead!

Looking again, all the grass beside that building is withering like in autumn...

It seems to indeed be the Demon Cave that Sect Leader He mentioned.

Seeing everyone's face change drastically, Sect Leader He continued:

"This Demon Cave is said to be the hall of demon cultivators from the past, a sacred place eagerly sought after by countless devout demon cultivators!"

"But later, the demon cultivators were uprooted! And the Demon Cave was sealed and sank underground, making it hard to find."

"So now it's very difficult for us to find authentic demon cultivator cultivation techniques!"

After speaking, he deliberately glanced at Lin Xuanzhi.

"Demon cultivator!"

The disciples' eyes flickered.

It's not that they all want to become great demons, but some demon cultivator techniques that temporarily boost strength by burning blood essence, are considered sacred arts by some sects today, requiring high achievements to obtain!

After all, it's not the era of righteous and evil wars, some people are educated to believe anything related to demons is bad!

Yang Yan felt the change in atmosphere among the disciples around him and couldn't help shaking his head.

Since ancient times, treasures have moved people's hearts.

But you have to have the life to claim them!

These sect disciples are truly clueless, they can't see the bigger picture.

Moreover, how can these people be so sure they can break the demon cultivator's restraints?

"I'll go take a look!"

Lin Hao, feeling he had a destiny inside, decided to try his luck.

"Lin Hao! What are you doing?" Lin Xuanzhi's gaze darkened, shouting sternly.

"Dad, it's fine!"

After speaking, Lin Hao didn't wait for his father to speak further, directly walked to the Demon Cave, wielded his sword, passed through the Evil Qi, and arrived before the Sealing Array's barrier.

The closer he got, the stronger Lin Hao's feeling became.

His whole body began to tremble slightly with excitement.

He knew, there was indeed something inside summoning him.

He bit his teeth, and resolutely took a step forward, unexpectedly passing through the seal and disappearing inside.

Yang Yan stared at this scene, his eyes flashed sharply.

Could it be, that guy also knows some secrets of the Demon Cave...

But then he thought, suddenly feeling something was off, if Lin Hao really knew something about the Demon Cave, why wouldn't he bring his father and fellow disciples along?

Obviously, it's likely something inside is drawing him.

...

"Huh! Where's he gone?"

The disciples from various sects exclaimed.

And those with ambition immediately followed suit, bursting into the seal one after another, the sect leaders couldn't stop them, since treasures have always stirred people's hearts!

The leaders were helpless, and there were also many who wanted a share, so they too slowly approached the array.

Unexpectedly, when the leaders were still a foot away from the array, they were all suddenly blown away.

The remaining disciples immediately felt dispirited.

Originally they intended to follow the leaders, to ensure safety, but now the leaders couldn't enter, thus losing their support!

Some quickly realized, since the leaders can't enter, and ordinary disciples can, without these strong competitors, their chances of obtaining treasures greatly increased.

They turned and rushed in, followed by the others.

If they delayed any longer, others might seize all the opportunities, seeing a majority of disciples flying in, the leaders didn't stop them.

Instead, they stood up, patted the dust off their clothes, tidied up their somewhat disheveled appearance, their eyes flickered, and called upon the disciples, those who wanted to go went.

After all, anyone with insight could see this was likely some kind of inheritance; if stopped now, it might lead to internal strife!

Yang Yan's eyes flashed sharply, and he beckoned his four swordsmen to enter.

After a few breaths, besides the leaders and elders, there was only one disciple left, that was Song Qiao of the Pill Sect! He wasn't interested in demon cultivator items.

Although nobody knew how dangerous this Demon Cave was, obviously the greed within had already conquered many disciples!

...

In sight, the mountain expands with the plains! A world of light and shadow spreads across the earth, contrasting starkly with the outside Evil Qi, seeming like a celestial paradise.

In the four directions east, south, west, and north each has a grand hall, adorned with carved railings and jade buildings, at the center stands a tower approximately a hundred meters high, each level of the tower edges forms a seven-angled bead setting, starkly resembling the outer appearance of the Demon Cave, many disciples headed straight for the central Seven-Angled Tower.

Yang Yan was also at a loss here, instinctively wanting to follow Lin Hao, but where was Lin Hao's shadow now? He had a premonition, this Lin Hao would definitely thrive here!

Maybe he holds unexpected surprises within.

Just as Yang Yan anticipated, as soon as Lin Hao entered, he felt the psychic feeling within him nearly leap out of his body, intensely, he immediately darted towards the eastern direction.

...

"Yang Yan! Which direction?" Lin Zimu asked.

Unexpectedly, a voice suddenly sounded from behind, "Lin Zimu, what a coincidence!" It was Ban Deming and some Sword Sect disciples.

"Hmph!" Lin Zimu didn't bother responding to these provocateurs, looking inquiringly at Yang Yan.

Even Lin Zimu ignored this guy, why would Yang Yan care about this defeated rival?

Surely treasures take precedence, at this moment he led his people away.

Ban Deming seemed just there to annoy Lin Zimu.

After all, last time he was defeated by Yang Yan, affecting his prestige, he needed Lin Zimu to remind others that he once dominated the Ancient Abyss Sect's senior disciple.

"Let's go east now!" Yang Yan pointed towards the eastern building.

Unbeknownst, it was the same direction as Lin Hao's choice.

...

"Closer, closer, it's right here!"

Lin Hao laughed joyfully, the building before him made him exceedingly happy, like encountering a lover, he was about to knock on the door.

Unexpectedly, as soon as he knocked, a puppet burst out from within, landing a blow on Lin Hao's body, catching him off guard almost made him spew blood!

"Early Foundation Establishment!"

Lin Hao exclaimed in disbelief! The dignified gatekeeper of the Demon Cave's building was only at the early Foundation Establishment!

But clearly, this was not the time to investigate, with a shake of his wrist, a treasured blade appeared in his hand, fiercely swung, the three-meter blade light directly attacked the puppet.

The puppet swung its right fist, causing the blade light to dissipate.

Lin Hao definitely didn't want to fight the puppet for long, a flash of spiritual light appeared in his left hand, revealing that foxy lady!

A spatial spiritual treasure that can store people! Rarely seen!

"Ruohe! Lend a hand!"

"Alright!" The lady responded promptly, joining the battle between Lin Hao and the puppet!

This puppet only had the early Foundation Establishment strength, shortly lost under two opponents of equal strength, disappearing!

Chapter 1200: Everything Is Predestined

Just as Lin Hao set foot inside, a sudden sound of cutting through the air arose, and Yang Yan had already arrived.

However, everything seen was still the same as Lin Hao had seen upon entering, the door was tightly shut.

Yang Yan exchanged a glance, then Zhuge Wushuang opened the door with a series of flashes.

When she appeared, she stood at three zhang in front of the door, ready for defense.

On the other side, Lin Hao crossed through an array into a secret chamber.

Walking along the way, You'Er felt that Lin Hao seemed very familiar with this place.

Except for that puppet, everything seemed as if he had been here before!

Her heart stirred, ready to test Lin Hao.

"Lin Hao, could you be a monster that's lived for thousands of years!" Ruohe asked in a half-joking tone.

"Ruohe, what's wrong?" Lin Hao frowned slightly.

Ruohe chuckled lightly and asked casually, "Why are you so familiar with this place? It feels... like you've been here before!"

"Just intuition!"

Lin Hao was evidently unwilling to answer more.

He knew that the woman beside him was a pawn of a certain sect.

Though he sometimes lost control over himself, he would never be careless about such matters.

You'Er saw Lin Hao did not answer directly, and was not in a hurry.

She had yet to utilize her methods!

"Where could it be?" Lin Hao rudely rummaged through bottles and jars around him, with a trace of madness in his eyes.

Since he stepped into this chamber, he felt like he had lost connection with that thing.

He felt that the surroundings seemed to affect his senses greatly.

This made him extremely anxious.

Suddenly, upon touching a certain bottle, that connection reestablished.

He was sure this was what he had been searching for!

Opening the bottle, inside was a round pill!

Instantly, its emitted pill fragrance encompassed the entire medicine chamber.

You'Er and Lin Hao felt as if their souls were about to break free from their bodies upon inhaling the pill fragrance.

With a thought, Lin Hao tilted the bottle, dumping the pill into his hand.

Then with a direct toss, the pill rolled into his mouth, evidently fearing You'Er would contend for it!

You'Er was stunned, completely unprepared for Lin Hao's actions, a hint of regret surfaced.

Just by looking at it, you could tell this was a precious treasure.

Yet unexpectedly, after Lin Hao consumed it, his face flushed red, losing his senses, embracing You'Er began a chaotic nibbling.

You'Er clearly hadn't anticipated such a fragrant pill was actually an aphrodisiac, inwardly relieved she hadn't consumed it.

Before You'Er could process thoroughly, Lin Hao's eyes were bloodshot, seething animalistically at her, mumbling:

"Ruohe, quickly, quickly, I can't hold on anymore!"

At this moment, Lin Hao was near hysteria, the flames of desire seemed to consume him entirely.

You'Er watched the scene coldly.

Now Lin Hao was unclear-minded, a perfect opportunity to act.

However, she was exceedingly cautious, outwardly remained composed, slowly said:

"My little sweetheart, do it the same as before?"

You'Er chuckled, not actually expecting Lin Hao to respond, as she needed Lin Hao in this half-awake state!

If Lin Hao awoke after the effect faded, wouldn't she be exposed?

Thus, even if later Lin Hao was clear-headed, she could still claim, isn't this your usual preference?

Tearing sound!

Lin Hao yearned desperately, veins bulged on his arms, seeming to rupture, extremely terrifying.

The force in his hands was so intense, causing You'Er to even feel pangs of pain.

Yet thinking about the benefits to gain, the current suffering paled.

"You little rascal!"

After a brief entwining with Lin Hao, You'Er began unbuttoning his garments.

The scene before her startled her slightly.

But hesitatingly, she still leaned closer...

Lin Hao hazily felt the essence within him rapidly depleting.

Wanting to do something, yet utterly powerless.

Everything was driven by instinct, wholly dominated by the blaze of desire, unable to extricate himself.

You'Er was unaware of the changes within Lin Hao.

She only felt an immense surge of power, as if returned to her peak days!

Her body, struck down by an intense battle in the past, never fully recovered.

Especially the Dantian area, further agitated causing a loss of strength.

Since then, her cultivation level dropped from early Golden Core to Foundation Establishment.

Now, You'Er realized her body has restored.

Currently, her cultivation is merely temporary, recovery is just a matter of time.

In fact, Lin Hao was unaware, this aphrodisiac was never meant for him, but for his Love Gu.

The creator of that cultivation technique was indeed a genius.

Throughout his refining journey, he felt the progress was still too slow, thus, he improved it, pairing a Love Acceleration Pill to harvest girls excessively.

This Love Acceleration Pill wasn't simply as it appeared, it contained ingredients of the Loss of Wisdom Pill.

Utilizing aphrodisiac elements to incite the Love Gu, harmonizing with himself, the Loss of Wisdom component renders women mindless, becoming puppets of desire, continuously providing power to the male.

At this point, the woman truly becomes a Love Gu!

Yet all in creation has its predestined fate!

The final inheritor was disastrously harmed by the founder's kindness.

Lin Hao's brain was now entirely obliterated by the Loss of Wisdom Pill.

His mind rapidly displayed scenes like a slide show, repeatedly deepening the memory...

Boom!

Suddenly, a puppet darted out of the room.

The crowd chuckled.

A Foundation Establishment stage puppet!

With so many experts here, a singular Foundation Establishment stage puppet seems negligible indeed!

Yang Yan merely frowned thoughtfully.

Considering the previous sect leader's circumstances, his inner certainty firmed regarding prior suspicions.

Caution leads to longevity.

Who knows why the Demon Cave has appeared now!

Could it truly be merely meant for disciple inheritance?

Seeing this scene, he felt there's about a sixty percent chance it's indeed inheritance!

Yet he remained vigilant.

However, the restriction outside the house seemingly sensed the opposing strength was formidable this time, with two whooshes, two more puppets appeared.

Of course, to Yang Yan's party, they were insignificant.

"Wait!"

Wushuang intended to shatter the puppet, but Yang Yan intervened, stopping him.

Yang Yan took interest in this puppet, attempting Soul Searching Technique, in hopes of retrieving useful information.

Unexpectedly, this probing actually revealed insights.

Turns out these puppets were initially recast bodies via Secret Technique, integrated with soul imprint crafting.

Moreover, in certain scenes, Yang Yan identified magical battle traces from the Hidden World's previous Anti-Demon warfare, distinct Demonic Qi from the Demon Race!

Yet comparatively, it was more refined.

Yang Yan secretly transmitted findings to companions Ruyan, Wushuang, Xiaocao, Qingcheng, and led the charge within the gate.