

Teacher 251

Chapter 251 Life-and-death Letter!

The atmosphere instantly turned tense.

The eight-gate cloud was too precious. If one obtained it, as long as they used it appropriately, their clan would be able to prosper for a thousand years.

Who wouldn't want such a rare and precious mysterious species of darkness?

Chen Anfu's eyes emitted killing intent. If it wasn't for him expending too much spirit qi in the battle earlier, leading to him unable to kill these people, he would surely silence them all.

Swish

The cloud in the shape of the eight trigrams appeared again. It then flew into the air with unbelievable speed.

Sun Mo used Divine Sight to observe some data, but his eyes weren't able to track its movements. "Let's leave!"

Jin Mujie instructed.

"Teacher Jin!"

Yi Jiamin called out. An ownerless and priceless mysterious species of darkness would belong to whoever had the capability to snatch it. Why would she want to give it to Chen Anfu?

"Can you win against him?"

Jin Mujie's voice was ice-cold. "I won't object to it if you want to remain behind."

Jin Mujie retreated. Sun Mo and Gu Xiuxun immediately followed her.

After seeing this, Yi Jiamin glanced in the direction where the eight-gate cloud was hiding. He stomped fiercely on the ground, not daring to remain behind. If not, Chen Anfu would surely be able to kill him with ease.

"Are you guys resentful about my decision?" Jin Mujie gazed at Sun Mo and Gu Xiuxun. "Nope. Under this situation, we would surely not be able to snatch it."

Sun Mo knew his own limits. "That cloud still wants to play tricks, getting everyone to fight over it. Interesting!" Gu Xiuxun naturally wanted that mysterious species of darkness. However, she wasn't anxious. Given the intelligence displayed by the eight-gate cloud, it couldn't be captured easily. Hence, she could take her time and come up with a more detailed plan.

Jin Mujie started a bonfire. As the smoke rose into the sky, Pei Yuanli saw the signal and immediately led the students over here to gather.

"Because the incident was too sudden, the tour of the new student group will conclude here. We will begin our return journey now."

Teacher Jin gathered the teachers and spoke of her plans.

“What’s wrong?” Pei Yuanli frowned.

“Chen Anfu is attempting to capture the eight-gate cloud. If we stay behind, we might be killed by him!”

Jin Mujie explained.

“Teacher Jin...”

Yi Jiamin grew anxious. (How can you tell others such a huge secret? Wouldn’t that be increasing the number of your own competitors?)

“What did you say? An eight-gate cloud?”

“The creature that’s ranked #10 on the mysterious species list?”

“It can’t be, right? How can such a valuable species appear on the first level of the Darkness Continent?”

All the teachers were completely stunned. After that, heat rose in their chests. If they could capture this species, their lives would begin to rise to the peak.

“Teacher Jin, are you sure?”

Zhang Qianlin asked.

“The few of us saw it with our own eyes.”

Since it was impossible to keep it a secret, Yi Jiamin immediately gave a suggestion. “How about we form a team? After we obtain the eight-gate cloud, we can share it among us. What do you guys think?”

Everyone fell silent. After all, everyone would want to have the sole rights on such a creature.

“I don’t care what you guys want to do, but we have to guarantee the safety of our students. After we sent them back to Jinling, you guys can do whatever you want.”

Jin Mujie frowned.

“Teacher Jin, if we return now, it would at least take five days for the journey. At that time, everything would already be too late.”

Yi Jiamin grumbled, “In addition, all the teachers of the Myriad Daos Academy know the secret as well. They would definitely track that mysterious species of darkness immediately.”

“Why don’t we arrange two teachers to escort the students back? The rest of us will track the eight-gate cloud.”

Even Zhou Shanyi, who had always taken things easy, was now filled with greed.

“You all...”

Jin Mujie was vexed. “Where are the responsibilities you all ought to have after becoming teachers?”

“Teacher Jin, you can’t put it this way. If we managed to capture the eight-gate cloud, it would be beneficial to the school as well.”

Zhang Qianlin also engaged in sophistry for his selfishness.

"It's only returning to Jinling, what danger can there be?"

Even Pei Yuanli felt Jin Mujie was making a mountain out of a molehill."

"Alright, since we can't see eye to eye. There's no need to say anything more. You guys can do whatever you like, I will escort the students back to Jinling."

After Jin Mujie spoke, she rose and departed.

Sun Mo swept his gaze over the teachers and followed after Jin Mujie.

Gu Xiuxun felt conflicted. But after some hesitation, she still decided to chase after Jin Mujie.

Upon seeing this, Xia Yuan initially planned to leave but she was stopped by Du Xiao.

"Sister Xia, this is a rare opportunity. Why don't we gamble on it?"

Du Xiao and Xia Yuan had quite a good relationship. If the two of them work together, the chances would be slightly higher.

"You are willing to give up on that mysterious species of darkness?"

Sun Mo surveyed Gu Xiuxun.

"No."

Gu Xiuxun felt that the eight-gate cloud would surely not be easy to capture. By sending the students back first, she could improve her image in their eyes, letting them know that she was concerned about them. At the same time, she could use the opportunity to purchase some equipment in the city as preparation.

Naturally, Gu Xiuxun had another thought. When these people fought each other for the eight-gate cloud, she would act as the fisherman, getting the benefits after the fish fought each other for the bait.

Jin Mujie was concerned about the safety of the students, but the students weren't grateful and didn't appreciate the kindness. When Yi Jiamin 'carelessly' exposed the eight-gate cloud's secret, most of the students didn't want to leave.

"Teacher Jin, we wish to capture that mysterious species of darkness too!"

The gazes of the students were filled with a fiery expression. They basically didn't consider the fact that they might die. All of them were fantasizing about how they would use the eight-gate cloud to climb to the peak of life after capturing it.

These were all new students and their presence already made it so that the tour group wasn't that united. And now, under the temptation of enormous benefits, the sense of unity completely crumbled.

In order to stay behind, the students spoke all sorts of excuses.

"Alright, since that's the case. Please sign a life-and-death letter!" Jin Mujie said.

After signing a so-called life-and-death letter, a student would be responsible for their own actions. Even if they died, they couldn't blame anyone.

"Yi Jiamin, 'well done'."

Jin Mujie glared at Yi Jiamin, her expression was filled with rage. "I will report this to An Xinhui and suggest for her to fire you!"

"When this daddy gets the eight-gate cloud, why would I still care about being a part of that broken school?"

Yi Jiamin coldly laughed.

Time would wait for no man. The teachers and students like Zhang Yanzong, who didn't suffer from spirit pressure allergies, formed a temporary group and went to search for the eight-gate cloud's traces.

This cloud intentionally showed itself sometimes. Only after people saw it did it floated toward the depths of the Spiritwind Canyon.

This action could be considered poking the hornet's nest. Now, even the students with spirit pressure allergies wanted to go.

There was no solution to this. Money would always stir the hearts of people. In addition, the eight-gate cloud was something rare to encounter even once in 1,000 years. It was even more valuable than money.

"You are not allowed to go!"

Jin Mujie shouted.

This was a bottomline. Students like Zhang Yanzong had enough strength. With a little luck, they might really be able to capture the cloud.

But for the remaining students, there was absolutely no hope.

"Sigh, being able to see it but not possess it feels so painful!"

The students sighed as though they had just encountered doom's day. However, they also understood that Jin Mujie was doing this for their own good.

The Myriad Daos Academy also formed a temporary group of students and sent them to track the cloud's movements.

Upon seeing this, Jin Mujie's mood became much better. It seemed like this situation was unavoidable for both sides. After all, if she was more unyielding, those teachers and students might have chosen to quit the Central Province Academy on the spot.

"Teacher, we should hurry and move out too!"

Tantai Yutang urged. "Move out where?"

Sun Mo counter-asked.

“Eh? Are we not going to catch that mysterious species of darkness?”

Ying Baiwu was surprised.

“No, we are not!”

Sun Mo stared at his six students, observing their expressions.

Lu Zhiruo was Sun Mo’s crazy fan. No matter what her teacher said, she would just do it. Although Li Ziqi felt regretful, she didn’t really mind not catching the cloud.

Ying Baiwu was very conflicted, but she didn’t dare to defy Sun Mo’s orders. Jiang Leng’s face was as cold as a corpse’s. Sun Mo wasn’t able to read his thoughts.

“Not going is correct. I heard that the cloud is extremely cunning. The number of those tricked by it and died is at least 8,000 if not 10,000.”

Xuanyuan Po blew his nose. “I don’t believe that you really don’t want it!” Tantai Yutang teased.

“One’s strength is the greatest reliance to get ahead in the world. As for those who want to depend on a cloud to change their lives? I can only say that they are thinking too much.” “As expected of a combat addict with muscle for brains.”

Tantai Yutang flashed a thumbs up.

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Under Jin Mujie’s lead, the tour group embarked on their return journey. They didn’t manage to travel far in a day as all the students were distracted. Even if they couldn’t obtain the eight-gate cloud for themselves, it would also be good if they could watch who managed to obtain it.

On their way back, Sun Mo decided to open his treasure chests. In the end, out of his five black-iron chests, he opened two clumps of dark soil, one spring beauty medicine packet, one ancient whale oil, and one bottle of condiment. It could be said that these items were very bad. This caused Sun Mo to no longer dare to continue. He decided to leave the golden treasure chest aside for now.

In the temporary camp, after dinner, everyone was still absent-minded.

“Sadly, there are no more hot springs. If not, it would be a good idea to soak ourselves in one!”

Sun Mo recalled the mission given by the system. He had to make all of his personal students break through by one level. It seemed like it was impossible to accomplish that now.

“Teacher, why don’t I give you a massage?”

Li Ziqi came over. “It’s fine. If you guys have any questions, you can ask me now. If there are no questions, you guys can just go and rest!”

Sun Mo added a few sticks of wood to the fire.

Lu Zhiruo returned to a little tent. She then took her bag and was preparing to search the surroundings to see if there were any hot springs. It would be good if she could find one for her teacher.

Jiji!

The loach jumped out of the bag.

“Little loachie, I want to go and look for a hot spring for Teacher. You should just stay in the tent obediently and not run around randomly, alright? If not, if someone caught you, they might try to cook you in a stew.”

The papaya girl stretched her index finger out and dabbed the loach’s head lightly.

Jiji!

The loach cried out and curled itself around Lu Zhiruo’s arm.

“Mn? You want to go with me?”

Lu Zhiruo hesitated a little but eventually agreed. It would be good to have a companion.

The papaya girl knew that if her teacher discovered her intention, she would surely not be able to go out. Hence, she stealthily snuck out of the camp. After that, she fell into a daze when she looked at the auroras casting their light down on the earth. Which direction should she head to?

Lu Zhiruo thought a little and picked up a tree branch before propping it out on the ground. After that, she let go of her hand. Pak! The tree branch fell in the 10 o’clock direction.

“Alright, let’s head there then.”

After Lu Zhiruo decided on the direction, she immediately widened her steps and broke out into a run.

The little loachie was sweating. (I’m planning to find a hot spring for you, but you settled things yourself? Can your luck really be that good?)

Naturally, to prevent Lu Zhiruo from having to take detours, the ‘little loachie’ would occasionally call out and correct her path.

About half an hour later, Lu Zhiruo managed to find a hot spring.

Chapter 252 From Today Onward, Call Me Lu Ouhuang (Lu Zhiruo)

“Teacher!”

Lu Zhiruo bustled with energy as she rushed over, entering Sun Mo’s tent. “Teacher, I’ve found a hot spring. Let’s go and soak in it!”

“Mn? You went out?”

Sun Mo furrowed her brows. Although the Spiritwind Canyon was basically safe during these few days, it was still very dangerous for a young girl to go out at night. Naturally, Sun Mo was also moved. He had merely said ‘it’s good if we can soak in a hot spring’, and the papaya girl immediately went to find one.

Even if he had a daughter, his daughter might not go to such an extent.

“Eh!”

Lu Zhiruo lowered her head, and her eyes averted to the side, evading Sun Mo's gaze.

"I...I..."

The endearingly silly papaya girl didn't even know how to lie.

"In the future, just don't go out at night."

Sun Mo reminded.

"Mn!"

Lu Zhiruo nodded.

"You've worked hard!"

Sun Mo rubbed the papaya girl's head. "It's not tiring at all. It's very easy to find the hot spring. Little loachie helped a lot!"

After Lu Zhiruo spoke, she wanted to take the loach out of her bag.

Jiji!

The loach continued to hide in the bag, refusing to come out.

"It helped too?"

Sun Mo furrowed his brows. "Yeah!"

Lu Zhiruo didn't want little loachie to be boiled in soup. Besides, she wanted to prove that she didn't waste one spirit stone on buying it; hence, she credited it for her achievement.

Truthfully speaking, although Lu Zhiruo was a little silly and stupid at times, her senses were extremely sharp. She knew that without the help of the little loach, she wouldn't be able to find the hot spring so quickly

The loach was pulled out from the bag by Lu Zhiruo. It could only bare its teeth at Sun Mo.

"Little loachie, you cannot be so fierce to Teacher, alright?"

Lu Zhiruo used her finger to dab little loachie's head, reminding it.

Upon seeing such an intelligent loach, Sun Mo decided to activate Divine Sight and observe it. He felt that even if the loaches here on Darkness Continent were different, they shouldn't be sentient. However, when his Divine Sight revealed the name of the creature, he almost choked to death on his saliva.

"Sp...spirit qi roaming dragon?"

Sun Mo had a face full of disbelief. He rubbed his eyes to ensure that he didn't see it wrongly.

Jiji!

The spirit qi roaming dragon, whose appearance looked almost completely identical to a loach, focused on Sun Mo. It looked like it was preparing to attack.

Spirit qi roaming dragon, 99 years old, at the adolescent phase.

To creatures of the dragon-species, if they weren't 100 years old, they would be considered at the adolescent-stage.

Sun Mo continued peering at the information below for more details.

"It's very sensitive to spirit qi fluctuations and loves to build its nest in locations where spirit qi is in abundance. It can be said to be an innate mine-finding expert."

"After it reaches the adult-stage, its combat strength will rise rapidly."

Note: After being injured, it will shed its dragon form and begin its second-stage transformation to avoid being hunted.

"So this is the case!"

After seeing the information, Sun Mo understood. Everyone in the Spiritwind City knew about this spirit qi roaming dragon. This indicated that it had met many enemies before and had been injured badly. If it wasn't for it transforming into a loach to flee, it would have died.

Such a racial ability was equivalent to lizards breaking their tails to leave. It belonged to the life-saving category.

It was also ranked very highly on the mysterious species list. It was very rare, and the number of people who had seen it before was also very few. This was why only not a lot of people knew of this racial ability of the spirit qi roaming dragons.

"I heard from Ziqi that you used one spirit stone to buy it. Is it right?"

Sun Mo looked at Lu Zhiruo. Right now, she was shining golden in his vision, brimming with the aura of extreme luck.

A random loach that she bought off the street was a spirit qi roaming dragon ranked #36 on the mysterious species list. If the papaya girl said that her luck was number two in the world, who would dare to claim that they were number one?

"Em, I saw it being abused and was very pitiful. Hence, I saved it!"

Lu Zhiruo explained. She was deeply afraid of being punished. It was her compassion and kindness back then that made her buy the loach.

Some girls were like this. When they saw the little rabbits in cages, they would feel it was too cruel to eat them. But when the rabbits were cooked in a spicy stew and served to them on a plate, they would eat it faster than anyone else.

"The three students who sold it are from Ming Lan?"

The three male students would go crazy if they learned that they had handed a spirit qi roaming dragon away for one spirit stone. "Mn!"

Lu Zhiruo nodded. This was what Li Ziqi told her.

The little sunny egg took special note of this because those three fellows had dared to threaten her junior martial sister to extort one spirit stone. She had noted down this debt and would definitely repay it via revenge in the future!

When Sun Mo looked at how Lu Zhiruo was acting, he knew that she still hadn't discovered the true identity of 'little loachie'. He wanted to remind her to quickly establish a soul contract with the spirit qi roaming dragon, but after hesitating a bit, he gave it up. Maybe, the loach decided to follow the papaya girl because of her pureness. If a soul contract was mentioned, it might be frightened away instead.

"Forget it, I'll just let nature take its course!"

Sun Mo patted Lu Zhiruo on her head. "Go and inform Ziqi and the others. We shall take a soak!"

"Right!"

Lu Zhiruo ran off.

"System, open the chest!"

Sun Mo instructed.

The golden chest clicked open, leaving a glowing sheepskin parchment.

Ding!

"Congratulations on obtaining the Spirit Rune Drawing Technique – Flame Explosion. Proficiency level: expert-grade. Once this spirit rune is activated, the user can release a giant fireball to blast his enemies. The effect is like a rocket launcher from an RPG game!"

"What?"

Sun Mo scratched his ears.

The system naturally wouldn't reply to such a boring question.

Sun Mo then crushed the parchment directly.

Pak!

The sheepskin parchment turned into a beam of light that shot into Sun Mo's forehead. An instant later, data germinated in his mind, imprinting deep inside it.

"Congratulations on learning the Flame Explosion Drawing Technique. Proficiency level: expert-grade."

As the notification rang out, Sun Mo took out his spirit rune tools and started to draw, wanting to complete one.

Li Ziqi's group arrived. However, Sun Mo got them to wait. About half an hour later, he completed the flame explosion spirit rune.

Sun Mo walked out of the tent and informed Li Ziqi. "Let me inform Teacher Jin first."

Because Zhang Yanzong and the others wanted to catch the eight-gate cloud, Gu Xiuxun was worried about their safety and decided to follow them. Hence, the only teachers in the camp right now were Jin Mujie and Sun Mo.

“Alright, remember to pay attention to safety.”

Jin Mujie didn’t reject it. Right now, her impression of Sun Mo was too good. He wasn’t like other teachers who treated the mysterious species of darkness as something more important than the students.

Ding! Favorable impression points from Jin Mujie +30. Friendly (260/1,000). “Many thanks, Teacher Jin!”

Sun Mo then gathered with his six students and told Lu Zhiruo to lead the way to the hot spring

After 20 minutes, everyone arrived at a ravine with strange stones everywhere. After many turns, they finally arrived at a hot spring about half the size of a basketball court.

“Zhiruo, how did you find such a remote place?”

Tantai Yutang glanced at the huge strange-looking rocks around them and felt very speechless. If ordinary people came here, they would definitely lose their way. “Alright, start to soak. Girls first, the boys will wait outside!”

Sun Mo instructed.

Ying Baiwu leaped into the pool. After that, she frowned. “The spirit qi here is very ordinary!” Sun Mo used his senses to probe. Indeed, even if one were to soak themselves for half a day here, it wouldn’t be significant.

The spirit qi roaming dragon curled its body up and rested on Lu Zhiruo’s head. It didn’t have any intention to get into the water. The spirit qi here was too little, and it disdained to soak itself inside it.

“Oh!”

Lu Zhiruo stretched her hand up and patted the spirit qi roaming dragon. “Little loachie, is there still another hot spring with a denser concentration of spirit qi?”

Jiji!

The loach cried out and used its tail to point toward the south.

“Little loachie says there is one, but it is quite far away!”

Lu Zhiruo reported.

“What are we waiting for?”

Ying Baiwu urged. From her point of view, if the spirit qi in the water was dense enough, it should be enough to make up for the time they wasted in coming here.

The group of seven set off again. This journey lasted for a total of three hours.

“Where are we heading to?”

Tantai Yutang was speechless. (I’m a sickly person, alright? By tormenting me like this, are you guys worried that I wouldn’t die fast enough?)

“We will reach it after a little while more!”

Lu Zhiruo explained in a low voice.

“Ignore him!” Li Ziqi spoke. Her eyes kept glancing at the little loach on the papaya girl’s head. It seemed that this fellow was the one leading them.

All of a sudden, Xuanyuan Po and Ying Baiwu stopped. Their sharp perception told them that the gust of the night wind contained some spirit qi within. The spirit qi here was indeed much denser.

As they continued walking, their spirits were lifted. The spirit qi in the air was already so dense to this extent. How much denser would it be in the hot spring?

About tens of minutes later, a hot spring appeared in the eyes of everyone. The temperature wasn’t too hot, but there were bubbles on the surface. After the bubbles popped, spirit qi could be felt leaking from them.

“At least, this wasn’t a wasted trip!”

Tantai Yutang was a doctor. Just by looking at the water, he knew that soaking in this hot spring was equivalent to soaking in a peak-grade medical bath. The spring water here not only contained spirit qi, but there were also all sorts of minerals that were highly beneficial to one’s body.

The spirit qi roaming dragon sniffed the air and then jumped into the water with a splash. After that, it floated up and seemed to glide through the water’s surface.

The girls entered the water first. As expected, the experience was much better compared to earlier. They could feel that even their skin cells were eagerly singing as they absorbed the content of the spring water.

Sun Mo tossed a giant medicine packet into the water.

The spirit qi roaming dragon found it strange and took the initiative to swim over. Its tail fiercely smacked into the water giant.

Pak!

A part of the giant exploded, transforming into spirit qi that enveloped the spirit qi roaming dragon, causing it to cry out in comfort.

“This hot spring seemed to be a spring mouth?”

Li Ziqi discovered the reason why the spirit qi here was so dense.

After the girls were done, it was time for the guys to soak themselves. Sun Mo tossed another giant medicine packet in.

“Teacher, that loach...”

Li Ziqi walked over and spoke in a low voice.

“There’s no need to concern yourself with it. Just pretend you don’t know.”

Sun Mo reminded.

“Alright then.”

The little sunny egg decided not to ask anymore.

“Teacher! Teacher! There’s another even better location. Should we go together?”

Lu Zhiruo ran over and pulled on Sun Mo’s hand.

The spirit qi roaming dragon had a helpless look on its face. (I told you about it to repay your kindness, why are you telling it to this fellow?)

Chapter 253 Dragon Repaying a Debt of Gratitude

“The three of you should soak here, don’t run around randomly!”

After Sun Mo instructed Xuanyuan Po and the other two. He then followed the papaya girl to the good location she said she found.

The spirit qi roaming dragon curled up and sat on Lu Zhiruo’s head. Actually, it was the one leading the direction. But even after observing for half a day, Sun Mo didn’t discover how it was communicating with the papaya girl.

“Maybe an alien language?”

No matter what, Sun Mo’s art of spiritual beast control was at the grandmaster-grade, but he completely wasn’t able to deal with this situation.

“She seemed to have an affinity with small animals!”

Li Ziqi mumbled in a soft voice.

“Mn, I can’t do what she does. Even old hens are scared of me!”

Ying Baiwu felt that she had no affinity with animals at all.

W

Sun Mo and Li Ziqi immediately cast a glance at the iron-headed girl. (Back then you were extremely poor, okay? You were so hungry that even your eyes turned green. The little animals must have sensed your ‘hungry intent’. If they didn’t stay away, you might gobble them up if you caught them.)

Very soon, a gigantic rock wall appeared before the eyes of everyone. The spirit qi roaming dragon squeezed its way into a gap that was roughly half-a-meter wide.

Sun Mo and Li Ziqi hesitated, worried that there might be a danger. However, Lu Zhiruo who was happy-go-lucky by nature simply followed in with no worries. Her trust in the spirit qi dragon was absolute.

Sun Mo and the other two could only follow after, squeezing their bodies through the gap. After they headed forward for tens of meters, a naturally-formed karst cave appeared before their eyes. Jiji

The spirit qi roaming dragon called out. "Little loachie asks you all to move faster!"

Lu Zhiruo translated.

"Should we be sufficiently prepared before going in?"

Li Ziqi furrowed her brows. They had a torch with them, but this cave had an extremely long tunnel. A torch wasn't enough.

"Let's go and take a look at it first!"

Sun Mo didn't wish to waste the effort. Coming here already took up quite a lot of time.

"Zhiruo, do you want me to lead the way instead?"

Ying Baiwu suddenly spoke. She ran from the rear of the group to Lu Zhiruo's side.

Although her teacher had the strongest combat strength, things like finding a path definitely mustn't be done by him. Ziqi was too clumsy, and Zhiruo's combat strength was low. She was the only one who was up to this task.

Jiji!

The spirit qi dragon turned its head and called out.

"Little loachie says that there's no danger!"

Lu Zhiruo reported. She added another sentence, "If there's danger, I will call out. You guys have to run first!"

Upon seeing this scene, Sun Mo was very satisfied. Between martial siblings, it was good to be concerned about each other.

"Alright!"

Ying Baiwu returned to the rear, no longer afraid. She had to guard the rear to prevent people from sneak-attacking them from behind.

The tunnel led downward, and the slope became steeper. There were even a few completely vertical walls of three to four meters on the way down. Luckily, these people were cultivators. Their body stats were off the charts. Even if they didn't have tools, they could still descend.

Although Ying Baiwu and Lu Zhiruo were little girls, they were very relaxed when walking here. Li Ziqi was different. She was stumbling about and would occasionally stumble and fall, scraping her knees.

Huala

Li Ziqi stumbled again as she fell.

"Careful!"

Sun Mo grabbed the little sunny egg by her clothes and hoisted her back up.

“Boohoo, why am I so clumsy?”

Li Ziqi was so angry that she wanted to cry. But after seeing Sun Mo’s concerned gaze, she squeezed out a smile. “Teacher, I’m fine. There’s no need to worry about me!”

“How long do we still have to travel?”

Sun Mo asked. From his estimation, they had traveled for 40 minutes.

Lu Zhiruo and the spirit qi roaming dragon communicated in an unknown syllable-based language. After that, she called out, “Little loachie says that we are about to arrive soon!”

Indeed, ten minutes later, a blue-color glow suddenly lit the cave up.

“What is this?”

Ying Baiwu was astonished.

There were some crystal stones on the wall. These were the glowing items.

“They are spirit crystals, crystals formed from the essence of spirit qi.”

Li Ziqi, who had read many books before, immediately gave an explanation. “At a location where spirit qi is overly saturated, they would crystalize and become a type of ore.”

These items could be considered a type of spirit stone. Humans could absorb the spirit qi within for cultivation. However, they were much more expensive compared to spirit stones.

Spirit stones were like normal ore, and there were some impurities within. However, spirit crystals were condensed directly from spirit qi. Hence, it was only natural they would be more expensive.

The more they moved forward, the more spirit crystals they discovered. The glow also grew increasingly brighter.

“The spirit qi here is so concentrated!”

Ying Baiwu inhaled deeply. She felt so comfortable that she wanted to shout.

“Could there be a spirit qi mine in the surroundings?”

Li Ziqi had a look of shock on her face. Other than this reason, she temporarily couldn’t think of anything else. But no matter what, they had struck it rich for sure.

Lu Zhiruo suddenly stopped walking. She then moved toward a gap in the walls and jumped down.

“I’ll go down first!”

Sun Mo lifted his hand to stop Li Ziqi and jumped down before her.

Pak!

Sun Mo landed on the ground and quickly turned his head to get all the things here in his vision.

After that, he was astonished.

This was actually an enormous corridor. There were murals drawn on the walls, but due to the passage of many years, the murals had faded into blurriness. And because of the vast quantity of spirit qi here, many spirit qi essence crystals were generated. “I must not stumble and fall on my face

again!”

Li Ziqi drew in a deep breath and prepared to land in an elegant posture. In the end, even before she could exert any force, her feet slid on the ground and she directly fell in. “Ahhh!”

Li Ziqi screamed. After that, she felt a pair of strong arms around her. She had fallen into a warm embrace.

The little sunny egg had an ashamed look on her face. Just when she wanted to find an excuse to cover her embarrassment, Sun Mo already placed her down and took the initiative to change the topic.

“What place do you think this is?”

“An underground palace?”

Li Ziqi randomly replied. Her heart was full of gratitude for Sun Mo. Her teacher was truly understanding!

Pak!

Ying Baiwu landed in a beautiful posture. Even girls might fall in love with her if they saw her beautiful landing.

The spirit qi roaming dragon continued to lead the way. This time, the distance was very near. There was a gigantic door with a hole at the end of the corridor. As dense spirit qi flowed from within, this place was now covered by a layer of spirit crystals.

Sun Mo broke apart the crystal wall and squeezed his way in.

The three girls followed behind him. After that, when they saw the environment within, all of them had shocked looks on their faces. They were so surprised that they almost forgot to breathe.

Li Ziqi was royalty. Her clan was illustrious and she had seen mountains of silver and gold before. But now, she was completely dumbstruck with her mouth wide open. It was like this was the first time she saw a treasure.

This place was a great hall the size of a soccer field. At this moment, spirit crystals could be seen everywhere, glowing with a bright light.

These crystals were all bunched together like bloomed flowers!

“Teacher, I feel a little giddy!”

Ying Baiwu kneaded her forehead.

“This is the sign of spirit intoxication. Quickly meditate and digest the spirit qi in your body. After that, control your body not to absorb any spirit qi!”

Li Ziqi hurriedly reminded her.

“Spirit intoxication?”

Ying Baiwu had a stupefied look on her face. As a cultivator who had cultivated on her own without any guidance since she was young, she didn’t know any basic knowledge like this.

“It means that when the spirit qi in the area is too dense, our bodies are not able to absorb it. When such a thing happens, this symptom might appear. Your mouth will feel dry and your head giddy, it’s a little like when you are drunk. However, there isn’t too much danger.”

Li Ziqi explained while feeling rueful.

The cultivators of the Middle-Earth Nine Provinces wanted nothing more than to have spirit qi to absorb when they were eating and walking down the streets. However, they couldn’t do so because the spirit qi concentration in the nine provinces was too thin. For cultivators with inferior aptitudes who wanted to break through, they had to prepare alchemy pills or a large number of spirit stones. If not, it was impossible for them to amass enough spirit qi based on their own capabilities and it would lead to them failing their breakthrough.

But right now, in this great hall, just casually breathing in would cause large amounts of spirit qi to flow into one’s body. How luxurious was this?

If people were to know about a treasured land like this, they would definitely go mad and even wars between countries would be triggered for the sake of seizing it.

“There are so many spirit crystals. How much are they worth?” Ying Baiwu’s eyes glowed brightly. She didn’t even have a unit of measure in her brain for this.

“Junior sister, you have to cast your vision further. To peak-level cultivators, what does money count for?”

Li Ziqi smiled.

“Money can buy many things!”

Ying Baiwu didn’t understand.

“You are wrong. The reason why money can buy things is because humans formulated a system and gave money their worth. After that, they chose to treat gold and silver as money. If you grow to a point where you can set up a system where everyone has to follow, you can designate any item you want as money. In fact, in our earliest recorded history, the first form of money was in terms of shells.”

Li Ziqi explained.

“Shells can be treated as money? The ancients must be fools.”

Ying Baiwu’s lips twitched. She didn’t seem to understand what Li Ziqi was saying. Sun Mo cast an astonished glance at the little sunny egg. (My heavens, you even know financial knowledge?)

“In that case, how can one make sure that everyone follows their system?”

Lu Zhiruo was curious.

“By possessing the greatest martial strength, so great that you can conquer the nine provinces or small enough where you can conquer an entire country. At that time, you can make any changes you want to the system!”

Li Ziqi spoke frankly with assurance.

“Enough!”

Sun Mo saw Li Ziqi speaking with zest and hurriedly interrupted her. After that, he sighed. Maybe in the future, this little sunny egg would become the finance minister.

“Simply speaking, if you have money and no martial strength to protect it, your money would be robbed. Hence, these spirit crystals can help cultivators raise their strength and build a large army of cultivators belonging to them solely!”

Sun Mo summarized.

A wise man once said, ‘political power comes from the barrel of a gun’. But where did a gun come from? Naturally, a gun came from being bought by money. “Understood!”

Ying Baiwu nodded. “So, it means we have to use the resources here to nurture a powerful army. After that, we will snatch the money from the richest people because we are the strongest!” “So this is the case!”

Lu Zhiruo finally understood.

Sun Mo was speechless. (My dear Ying Baiwu, although what you said wasn’t wrong, is there a need to be so simple and crude?)

(Humans have to have some face, alright?!)

Jiji!

The spirit qi roaming dragon who was being ignored suddenly cried out. It moved toward Sun Mo and had a complacent look on its face. (Do you see it? My repayment of a debt of kindness is worth so much! Remember this, I’m not a stupid loach. I’m a lofty and noble spirit qi roaming dragon.) “Ah? You can fly?”

Ying Baiwu screamed.

(Damn, I exposed myself!)

The spirit qi roaming dragon immediately started and hurriedly stopped its ability of flight. Hence, it fell onto the ground with a loud thud.

Jiji!

The spirit qi roaming dragon cried out. It was so painful!

“Little loachie, are you alright?”

Lu Zhiruo hurriedly squatted down and stroked its body.

Jiji!

The spirit qi roaming dragon immediately rubbed its head against the papaya girl's tiny arms with a wronged look on its face. However, when the name 'little loachie' was called out by this big-breasted girl, it sounded so nice and pleasant.

(I've decided. When I'm in front of you, I will be your little loachie!)

Chapter 254 Fifth Level of the Blood-Ignition Realm

Sun Mo was very happy. This trip to the Darkness Continent was a very bountiful one.

If he were to dig out all these spirit crystals, he'd be able to sell them for an exorbitant price. Of course, Sun Mo wouldn't sell them. He was going to use them to nurture his disciples.

"Zhiruo, go ask that loach why the spirit qi here is so dense?"

Li Ziqi felt curious.

"Alright!"

The papaya girl mumbled for a while before turning back to report. "It says that the spirit qi comes gushing up from below, but as it's too dangerous, it has never gone down before."

"Teacher?"

Li Ziqi looked toward Sun Mo, her meaning very clear. (Should we go down to check it out? If we're going to use this place as our base, then we must ensure that the surroundings are safe and there aren't any hidden dangers.)

"No hurry!"

Sun Mo planned on going down by himself. It was too dangerous to bring the girls with him.

The spirit qi roaming dragon knew that its secret had been exposed and thus couldn't be bothered to hide. It swung its tail and slithered around in the air. It then darted into a gap.

Not long later, little loachie came out. It moved up to Lu Zhiruo and spurted out five spirit diamonds that were the size of cherries. Each of them was gleaming with a strong blue color.

"These are spirit diamonds!" Li Ziqi gasped. Spirit diamonds, as their names suggested, were spirit qi diamonds. They were the most precious part in a spirit stone vein. The spirit qi they contained were the highest quality nourishment and not only could they be used for cultivation, but they could also wash off the impurities in one's body, increasing the cultivator's absorption of spirit qi.

If the spirit qi limit that a cultivator's body could absorb was at five, then after the expansion from the spirit qi diamond, this limit could be raised to at least ten. If the cultivator's aptitude was good enough, it could even increase by three times or more.

"Little loachie, thank you!"

Lu Zhiruo patted the spirit qi roaming dragon's head and then picked up the spirit diamonds, running over to Sun Mo and offering them to him with both hands.

"This is what it has given you. Keep them for yourself."

Sun Mo didn't take them.

Lu Zhiruo looked at little loachie. Seeing that it didn't object, she insisted. "Teacher, this is my present for you!"

Squeak squeak!

The spirit qi roaming dragon also cried out at Sun Mo, indicating for him to take them. Weren't they just a few pieces of rocks that had a higher level of spirit qi? It'd be able to bring back quite a lot of it after going one around on the higher floor of the Darkness Continent.

Of course, the higher floor would also be more dangerous.

Sun Mo was still hesitating and the spirit qi roaming dragon couldn't take it anymore. It darted into another gap. Not long later, it came flying back, spurting out another five spirit diamonds.

Squeak squeak!

The spirit qi roaming dragon coiled its body up and sat down firmly on Lu Zhiruo's head.

"Eldest Martial Sister, Younger Martial Sister, here, these are for you!"

Lu Zhiruo took two spirit diamonds and gave them to the two girls respectively.

"I can't take them. They are too precious!"

Ying Baiwu refused. Ever since she had the chat with Sun Mo the other time, she had changed a lot and tried to control her money-loving impulses. "Keep them and use them in the future."

Li Ziqi also refused.

"Awww, are you guys treating me as an outsider?"

The papaya girl pouted and looked at the three of them with tears in her eyes. (Teacher doesn't want, my martial sisters don't want them either. You guys definitely don't treat me as family.)

In the papaya girl's view, good things should be shared with one's family. Only then would it be meaningful.

"Don't cry!"

Sun Mo rubbed Lu Zhiruo's head. "I'll accept them."

"Hehe!"

Lu Zhiruo broke into a smile and looked toward Li Ziqi.

"Thank you for your present!"

Li Ziqi also did what Sun Mo had done and patted Lu Zhiruo's head.

"Then what are you guys still waiting for? Quickly use it now!"

Lu Zhiruo urged. They'd definitely have no problems leveling up if they were to use the spirit diamonds.

"You guys can break through. I'll stay on guard."

After saying that, Ying Baiwu walked to the door and guarded the hole. It was because she had just leveled up a few days ago, and it was best for her to stabilize her cultivation level before striving for the next one.

Since it was his personal disciples' display of filial piety, Sun Mo wasn't planning to stand on ceremony. Moreover, after coming to the Darkness Continent, facing the strange and changing environment, it was naturally better to have high battle prowess.

Putting other things aside, if someone were to recognize the spirit qi roaming dragon and wanted to snatch it, as Lu Zhiruo's teacher, he'd have to help her, right?

"Is this considered killing someone and earning a pet?"

Sun Mo shook his head and discarded all the distracting thoughts in his mind. Then he looked for a secluded position in the hall and sat down. After wiping a spirit diamond, he tossed it into his mouth.

He circulated his cultivation art and absorbed spirit qi.

Boom!

The spirit qi essence that had been accumulated for god knows how many years immediately erupted in his mouth, entering his body. They were like a great river and big waves, raging through and bringing away the impurities in his body with them.

Due to the ancient massage technique, Sun Mo's understanding of the human body could be said to be as masterful as a butcher was in dismembering an ox. Therefore, he immediately felt the spirit diamond's benefit.

It was a pity that only the first use would have the greatest effect. Later on, as one used more, the effect would get worse. After all, there was a limit to it.

Sun Mo tried his hardest to control this massive spirit qi, making them flow through his energy channels, forming a cycle. However, there was a bit of a pity. If someone were to perform the ancient massaging technique on him right now, the effect of the absorption would be even better.

Approximately three minutes later, the spirit qi on Sun Mo's body suddenly erupted.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Waves after waves spread out and even shattered the nearby stalactite crystals with their impact.

Spirit diamond cleansing the body, fifth level of the blood-ignition realm, complete!

After leveling up, Sun Mo's hearing and vision were both very clear. The world he saw seemed to have become clearer than it was before.

"Congratulations, Teacher!"

The three girls immediately went up to offer their congratulations.

"Which of you will go first?"

After asking them, Sun Mo then shared his experience with the spirit diamond with Li Ziqi and Lu Zhiruo, preventing them from taking a detour.

"Elder Martial Sister can go first!"

Lu Zhiruo said politely. Out of all the martial siblings, the papaya girl was the most respectful one toward the little sunny egg.

"Then I'll trouble Teacher."

Li Ziqi sat down cross-legged, putting the spirit diamond into her mouth.

When the spirit qi essence gushed out and started surging in her body, Li Ziqi cried out in pain.

There was no helping it. Compared to other people, she moved too little, causing her constitution to be too weak. Therefore, such a massive spirit qi cleansing was a torment to her.

Sun Mo immediately performed the ancient massaging technique.

Boom!

The genie appeared, using his both hands to rapidly massage various parts of Li Ziqi's body. There were even countless afterimages appearing

Atta! Atta!

The genie even let out strange cries.

However, Li Ziqi immediately felt a lot better.

Lu Zhiruo watched from a distance. Suddenly, her ears twitched and she looked in the 3 o'clock direction.

"What's the matter?"

Ying Baiwu asked and tightened her grip on her sword. "The feeling of being snooped at is here again!"

Lu Zhiruo frowned slightly.

Li Ziqi's breakthrough went perfectly without any problems. With a peak-grade spirit diamond, Sun Mo's escort, and considering that little sunny egg's aptitude wasn't bad either, it could only be said that her luck was extremely bad if she could still fail under such conditions.

"Zhiruo, it's your turn!"

Sun Mo didn't rest and wanted to make the best use of their time.

“Oh!”

Lu Zhiruo said worriedly, “I keep having the feeling that something is spying on us.”

“Is it the same as the previous few times?”

Li Ziqi asked. Previously, she had also considered the possibility that it was the spirit qi roaming dragon that was snooping on them in the dark. But now that the little loachie was by Lu Zhiruo’s side, what else could there be?

Wait a minute, it couldn’t be that eight-gate cloud, could it?

“Teacher, Zhiruo, hold on!”

Li Ziqi stopped the two of them and then thought hard. Regardless if it was the eight-gate cloud, why were they snooping on Lu Zhiruo on multiple occasions?

-ASIONIS!

No, it could be that she wasn’t the only one being snooped on. It was just that her senses were stronger, and she was the only one who had noticed it.

Moreover, since something had been following them all this while, it meant that they had something that could attract this thing. Judging from the appearance, locations, and time...

Li Ziqi recalled how every time Lu Zhiruo said that she felt something spying on her, it was when Sun Mo was giving everyone a massage. That thing hiding in the dark couldn’t be curious about the Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands, could it?

“Teacher, when you give Zhiruo a massage, please do the entire set and display the charm of the Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands perfectly.”

Li Ziqi suggested.

Sun Mo was baffled, but it didn’t matter. Anyway, the main job would be done by the genie. As for him, he would only have to deplete some spirit qi and it wouldn’t be tiring.

Lu Zhiruo started to strive to level up.

Li Ziqi focused her attention and observed the surroundings but didn’t notice anything.

“Was my guess wrong?”

The little sunny egg felt perplexed.

Lu Zhiruo’s impetus when striving to level up was really world-shaking.

By right, the spirit qi essence contained in the spirit diamond would be enough for someone at the blood-ignition realm to level up, let alone someone at the body-refinement realm.

However, this theory didn’t apply to Lu Zhiruo. In the beginning, when she started to strive to level up, all the spirit crystals in the entire hall were affected. The spirit qi they contained started flowing out like they were engulfed by a whirlpool. It then gushed into the papaya girl’s body.

Sun Mo was so nervous that he was sweating buckets.

If an ordinary person were to absorb so much spirit qi, they'd have exploded like a stretched-out balloon. However, Lu Zhiruo was completely fine.

Ten minutes had passed, but it wasn't over yet.

The mind of the papaya girl, who had been fully focused earlier, started to wander off as well. "Teacher, that thing is still there!"

"Ignore it!"

Sun Mo was troubled. What on earth was going on with the papaya girl's body? That mustn't do. After they returned, he must go talk to An Xinhui and then check up information from his grandfather's private library collection.

Even if he couldn't resolve Lu Zhiruo's problem, he should at least figure out the reason why she was absorbing so much spirit

qi.

Thankfully, other than absorbing a tremendous amount of spirit qi, no other accidents happened. After another five minutes passed, she leveled up successfully.

Sun Mo let out a big sigh of relief.

"Teacher, shall we go do some adventuring?"

The papaya girl was very excited. She felt that she had gotten stronger and even if they were to encounter any danger, she'd be able to handle it.

Sun Mo hesitated.

"Teacher, let's go. We'll first check out the surroundings and get a grasp of the terrain here. We might even be lucky and pick up some treasures!"

When Li Ziqi said this, she threw a glance at Lu Zhiruo. As long as they were to follow the papaya girl, their luck wouldn't be bad.

"Teacher!"

Ying Baiwu also looked at Sun Mo with a strong yearning in her eyes. (Who wouldn't want to go search for treasures?)

"Alright!"

Sun Mo had wanted to check out the place as well. This was like playing a game. One would definitely take a look around when they came to a new place, right? Otherwise, what fun would there be?

"Zhiruo, ask little loachie if there are any places worth exploring."

Chapter 255 Go Sleep, Everything Exists in Dreams!

"Little loachie says that it's best to not go around recklessly. This place is a little dangerous!"

Lu Zhiruo translated. "Especially below!"

"Ziqi, what do you think?"

Sun Mo fell silent.

"We should at least find out the reason why the spirit qi is so dense, right?" Li Ziqi's curiosity was about to burst. "Didn't little loachie say that the spirit qi surges up from below? Then let's go down to check it out!"

"Alright, but you guys must listen to me. When I say retreat, there mustn't be any objections!"

Sun Mo instructed.

The spirit qi roaming dragon didn't wish to go down to this palace's lower level, but since Lu Zhiruo wanted to go, there was nothing it could do. To prevent them from taking the wrong path and encountering danger, it could only continue to lead the way.

The deeper they went down, the stronger the spirit qi and the more spirit crystals were formed on the walls. The light that they emitted was sufficient to illuminate the path, and the blue light made them feel as if they had entered a fantastical place.

Sun Mo and the other three had already thrown away their fire.

A five-meter-tall spirit-wind passed by them aimlessly.

"It's so big!"

Lu Zhiruo, who was hiding behind a wall, patted her chest, her heart throbbing.

Unlike the spirit-winds above, although the numbers here were lower, they were all mutated versions. Not only did they have tremendous sizes and were strong, but their appearances had also undergone great changes.

Their bodies were condensed from blue spirit crystals, but their joints were connected by many tornadoes.

As they emitted light, when they moved, they were like a gigantic human-shaped lighthouse.

The spirit qi roaming dragon was extremely sensitive toward spirit qi fluctuations and thus could sense and avoid such elemental lifeforms.

On the way here, Sun Mo had come across many lifeforms. However, as these ones had been living in a place with such dense spirit qi over the years, they had all undergone mutation.

Almost all of them had grown spirit crystal shells.

"All of this is money!"

Ying Baiwu's eyes gleamed and she had a strong urge to sweep up the entire place, taking down all of them and their corpses to sell.

"This place doesn't feel right!"

Sun Mo suddenly stopped in his footsteps.

“What happened?”

The papaya girl was perplexed.

“It’s been quite a few minutes since we’ve encountered any lifeforms. This is abnormal. We might have entered the territory of a species of darkness.”

Sun Mo had just said this when two red lights suddenly lit up around the corner in front. Then, a crab that was a lot bigger than a tank swung its pincers and crawled out showily.

Sun Mo immediately activated Divine Sight.

“Mutated rock crab. Mediocre battle prowess, but due to the mutation of its shell, it is extremely sturdy, as if it had put on a layer of heavy armor.”

Note: Intelligence is significantly below average. It has a fiery temper and is carnivorous. Its lower chin is its weakness.

“Teacher, should we retreat for now?”

Li Ziqi asked.

“No need to panic!”

After all, Sun Mo wasn’t a native to the nine provinces and his train of thoughts had yet to adapt to this place. At the sight of this mutated rock crab, his first reaction was the thought of how much it could be sold for if he were to bring it back.

If it was a female crab, then how much crab roe would there be in its stomach? Moreover, by the looks at the two big pincers, they must be filled with meat. If paired with garlic paste sauce and huangjiu [1], it’d absolutely be delicious.

The mutated rock crab started to accelerate.

Sun Mo took out the Flame Explosion Rune and tore it.

First, a few sparks flickered, then they extended into many lines of fire, entangling together. They formed a fireball the size of a coconut within a few seconds, and then with a swoosh, shot out toward the mutated rock crab.

Boom!

The big fireball hit the mutated rock crab’s body. The scene was like how a rocket-propelled grenade hit a tank and erupted on the spot.

Pala! Pala!

The shattered crab shell burned and fell, releasing densely-packed sounds.

The mutated rock crab’s defense was truly outstanding. Even after being hit by such a powerful exploding fireball, it still didn’t die. However, it couldn’t run anymore and it was banged into the wall.

Ying Baiwu sniffed. "It smells a little good."

"System, can a mutated rock crab be used as an ingredient for the spicy fragrant crab burger?"

Sun Mo asked.

He now had a dark recipe for the spicy fragrant crab burger.

The spicy fragrant crab burger, when prepared according to the recipe, would induce agitation and fury to a person when eaten, causing the person to become irritated, violent, and easily angered. Their battle prowess would rise substantially for about three minutes.

Using an analogy, it'd be like berserk potions in games. After eating the crab burger, one would be able to experience a wave of eruption.

"I'm not your mother. Can't you study it yourself? Don't ask me every time you have a question!" the system said.

"Are you on your period? Why is your temper so bad?"

Sun Mo wasn't willing to take this and retorted back.

Ying Baiwu was about to go pick up the corpse, but she stopped after taking a few steps. It was because another big group of rock crabs had gushed out from the corner. Although they weren't as big as this one, there were too many of them.

Clank clank!

With the rock crabs surging over, if someone with trypophobia were to see this, their scalps would definitely turn numb and they'd die on the spot.

"What are you thinking about? Quickly run!"

Sun Mo picked Li Ziqi up and ran off with great speed.

Zhang Qianlin felt that things hadn't been going well for him recently. It felt as if the entire world was going up against him.

After going out to study for three years, he had finally returned with achievements. He felt that his mastery in the study of spirit runes would at least be in the top five of the Central Province Academy even if it wasn't in the top three. What followed would be him displaying his outstanding capabilities, and his reputation would surge. When that happened, he'd become the most famous teacher in the Central Province Academy. What Liu Mubai? Go eat shit!

When that happened, he'd propose to An Xinhui, and she'd also agree to this wedding out of admiration for his talent and handsome looks.

Thereafter, An Xinhui would give up her position and become a female assistant to support him. And he would become the Central Province Academy's headmaster, leading this school back to the pinnacle amongst the Nine Greats.

Due to these great achievements, the school would fork out the money to forge a bronze statue for him. They'd place the statue at the front of the school gate for all the students to admire.

Look, how perfect a life this would be!

Zhang Qianlin had everything planned out, but he had just taken the first step when he sprained his ankle. No, it wasn't just spraining his ankle. It was as if his leg was almost broken.

A newly employed teacher called Black Doggy Sun had messed up his plans.

God Hands?

This reputation was really too great, so much so that he felt despair. Just as he wasn't willing to admit defeat and wanted to use the study of spirit runes to recover some lost ground in the competition, he discovered to his horror that Sun Mo's mastery of the spirit runes was higher than his. Spirit runes potted plants, simplifying spirit runes, rapid drawing, as well as drawing spirit runes that he didn't recognize...

These things that could be done easily by Sun Mo were all things that he couldn't do.

Zhang Qianlin was completely defeated. He felt that he had become a stepping stone and that his beautiful dream was being smashed. In this lifetime, he probably had no hopes of marrying An Xinhui and stomping down on Sun Mo.

However, there was a good saying that every cloud had a silver lining. Who wouldn't have a meal of dumplings during the new year?

Zhang Qianlin looked at the ancient altar in front of him and could no longer hold back the agitation in his heart. He laughed out loud.

"Haha!"

"Haha!"

This feeling was as if the lucky goddess had taken the initiative to take off her panties, crawled onto him, sat down, and was planning to move by herself.

The reason Zhang Qianlin was so proud was because he had some capabilities.

He had read many books from a young age. With his father, Zhang Hanfu, holding a position in the Central Province Academy, in addition to him also being talented and smart, the old headmaster had liked him a lot. Therefore, he had many opportunities to get guidance from the old headmaster. He could even go to the old headmaster's private library to borrow books to read.

Zhang Qianlin didn't recognize the altar in front of him, but this didn't obstruct him from making a deduction.

Though the infrastructure style, the designs of the totems, and the age of the stone materials, Zhang Qianlin deduced that this should be an ancient sealing formation.

"No matter what is sealed here, from today onward, it shall be my slave!"

Zhang Qianlin was very proud.

An ancient sealing formation like this must have a very powerful mysterious species of darkness sealed in it. If the other party was willing to sign a soul contract to become his slave, then he would help to release it.

Think about it. Would a mysterious species of darkness who had been sealed for several thousand years or even several ten thousand years be able to bear with the enticement of freedom?

It wouldn't!

Zhang Qianlin would never dream that the eight-gate cloud he had been chasing would run to this place. This was really a blessing in disguise.

"Can you hear me? If you can, then answer me!"

Zhang Qianlin shouted.

This altar was forged from bronze and carved with mysterious and profound totem runes. However, the center of the altar had caved in and was about the size of about two basketball courts.

Zhang Qianlin stood at the borders and took a glance. He realized that other than blue spring water, there was nothing else there. However, spirit qi kept flowing out from the spring water. The spirit qi was so dense that it made one feel intoxicated.

At the thought of this, Zhang Qianlin felt happy again. Even if he didn't get any treasure, just the dense spirit crystal was already a great fortune.

His clan was going to rise for sure!

There was no reply, so Zhang Qianlin shouted even louder. He even threw a large piece of rock into the spring water.

Plop!

"Is there anyone there? If there isn't, then I'll be leaving!"

Zhang Qianlin frowned slightly. (Could it be that I've guessed wrongly?) Just as he was feeling a little anxious, a dignified and majestic voice that seemed to come from the ancient era rang out.

"Insignificant bug, who gave you the courage to disturb the deep slumber of an ancient king?"

Zhang Qianlin became spirited. To be honest, he felt a little cowardly, nervous, and scared when he heard this voice. However, these emotions then turned into agitation and excitement.

"There's no need to be afraid. This is an ancient sealing formation, and it won't be able to escape. Otherwise, if an ancient king like this were to appear in the world, it'd long have since turned the entire Darkness Continent upside down."

Zhang Qianlin consoled himself and started to consider how he should go about with the negotiations to be able to bring him the greatest level of benefit.

Zhang Qianlin was really very capable. At this moment, he was brave and meticulous, calm and wise. He was starting to scheme against an ancient king.

“Hehe, is it a deep slumber? It looks to me that you’re confined to this place and are unable to break free!”

Zhang Qianlin sneered. “Only I can help you to leave this place and regain your freedom!” The entire hall fell silent once again.

Zhang Qianlin frowned. It’d be better for the other party to be enraged than to be silent. When it was silent, it was hard for him to assess what it was thinking!

“But this time around, I must become a winner.”

Zhang Qianlin swore, “Sun Mo, just you wait. After I’ve subdued this ancient king, you’ll be the first one I kill after I get out of this place!”

Chapter 256 This Is My Treasure. Those Who Touch It Shall Die!

Zhang Qianlin was in no hurry. He could afford to drag things out.

But the problem was... who had entered this place?

Everyone had formed temporary groups to track down that eight-gate cloud and had traveled for quite a bit after it. In the evening, they had completely lost track of its traces.

Left with no choice, everyone could only split up to increase the efficiency of the search.

“I remember that the ones who traveled in the same direction as me are Gu Xiuxun, Zhou Shanyi, Duan Meng, and Yi Jiamin. Out of the four of them, there’d be at least two who’d come in, right?”

The reason Zhang Qianlin could find this place, other than because his luck wasn’t bad, was also thanks to an ancient spirit rune. It was something he had discovered and learned from an ancient manual.

After the user wrote a question based on what they really wished for at the moment, then they would tear the spirit rune to activate it. There’d be a 10% chance to get a correct answer.

Zhang Qianlin’s question was on where he could find the eight-gate cloud. He had then followed the path guided by the ancient spirit rune and found a cave. He had walked all the way and come to this place.

Of course, some parts of this cave were extremely hard to walk in. Some parts even required Zhang Qianlin to use violence to smash them open.

If it wasn’t because the temptation of the eight-gate cloud was too great, Zhang Qianlin would have really given up halfway.

Then, he had sensed that the spirit qi was getting stronger, causing him to become more spirited. He had thought that he’d be able to find a spirit stone vein but hadn’t expected to come across an altar.

However, this altar was clearly bigger than a spirit stone vein.

“The spirit crystals that I saw on my way here couldn’t have been formed because of you, could it?”

Zhang Qianlin suddenly thought of this point.

“As an ant, your recognition isn’t bad,” that voice replied.

Zhang Qianlin then asked with a little more respect in his tone, “Please allow me to revere your great name!” “I’m the ancient elemental king, one that wields the power over wind and freedom. The places where the wind blows are all my domains. The living creatures who hear the sound of the wind are all my people!”

When the Wind King said this, his voice was vast and heavy, having the pressure that could make one’s heart palpitate.

A feeling of respect rose in Zhang Qianlin’s heart.

This sealed ancient king was far too powerful. Moreover, after several hundred thousand years, the sealing formation was also slightly damaged, which resulted in the spirit qi of the ancient king leaking out, radiating this land. As time passed, the Spiritwind Canyon was formed.

Why were there spirit-winds in the Spiritwind Canyon?

They were all formed after being affected by the leaked energy from the Wind King’s body. It was also the cause of the weird and multi-changing spirit qi tides.

“I can help you break the seal, but what benefit can you give me?”

Zhang Qianlin decided to probe things a little.

“Benefits? What an ignorant ant. Even the spirit qi that I blow out casually could help an ant like you level up. Did you really just ask me what benefits I can give you?” The Wind King sneered. “Hehe!”

Zhang Qianlin laughed coldly. (To be using something trivial like this to dismiss me. Do you think I’m a fool?)

“I can bestow you with a pair of Wind Wings. When it is spread out, it will allow you to catch up to the moving clouds in the horizon, as well as the currents from gushing waterfalls!”

The Wind King’s tone was filled with the feeling of bestowal.

“Will I be able to fly?”

Zhang Qianlin was a little agitated.

“An ant would dare to have the wishful thinking of wanting to fly?”

The Wind King sneered.

“Is there anything else?”

Zhang Qianlin licked his lips. “Ant, keep your greed to yourself. There isn’t just one human who has appeared in my Wind King Hall.” The Wind King sneered. “I have many options!”

“Who else is there?”

Zhang Qianlin asked.

“Why don’t you make a guess?”

The Wind King laughed loudly. “Even if I’m sealed and have no choice but to work with an ant, I’ll choose a powerful ant. So fight and kill each other. Only the victor will have the right to talk to me.”

Hearing this, Zhang Qianlin’s ears moved and he turned his head abruptly, looking toward the hall’s entrance. “Who is it? Scram out here!”

Sun Mo walked in.

Their gazes met and their killing intent intensified.

“Sun Mo?”

Zhang Qianlin was stunned. He never expected to encounter Sun Mo here.

“Teacher Zhang!”

Sun Mo greeted.

“No need with the fake courtesy.”

Zhang Qianlin drew his longsword. In this place, gaining something would allow a clan to rise and become prosperous for 1,000 years. Therefore, Zhang Qianlin had to get it for himself no matter what.

“Teacher!”

Ying Baiwu walked in. She stood next to Sun Mo, wanting to fight alongside him. “There’s two more. Stop hiding. Do you really think I’m a small fry?”

Zhang Qianlin sneered.

“Damn it, we’ve been seen through.”

Li Ziqi felt a little displeased. Her initial intention was to let Ying Baiwu come out to confuse Zhang Qianlin while she and Lu Zhiruo hide and find a chance to launch a sneak attack. It was a pity that their battle tactic had been discovered.

“You guys, leave this place. Go to the earlier hall to wait!”

Sun Mo ordered. This was a life and death battle, and if there were no accidents, this enemy should be the strongest he had encountered after coming to Jinling.

Zhang Qianlin hesitated. By right, to keep things a secret, he should kill everyone here. However, he was a great teacher after all, and it was hard for him to harm students.

However, Zhang Qianlin immediately thought of a solution.

“If you guys are willing to come under my wings and swear not to speak a word of what will take place here, I can spare your lives.” This solution wasn’t bad. Li Ziqi’s status was very dignified and even though her motor skills were bad, it didn’t matter. It was fine as long as her backing was strong enough. As for Ying Baiwu, she was a genius that even Fang Wuji valued in high regard. Under Zhang Qianlin’s guidance, she’d definitely be able to soar and have her reputation spread across the nine provinces.

As for Lu Zhiruo, Zhang Qianlin threw a glance at her and immediately had a disdainful gaze. Other than having big boobs, there was nothing good about her!

Forget it. He would just treat it as a buy-two-get-one-free promotion.

“Wait till you wake up before you sleep talk!”

Li Ziqi’s retort was very graceful, but it wasn’t the case for the stubborn young girl.

“Pui! Teacher Sun will be my only teacher in this lifetime!”

Ying Baiwu spat out saliva, held onto the White Bird, and was prepared to fight. It was true that she couldn’t kill Zhang Qianlin, but she could hurt him and it’d increase the chances for Sun Mo victory. In her mind, that would be enough. “Teacher won’t lose!”

Lu Zhiruo was very angry. Where did this guy get his confidence from?

“Before I kill Sun Mo, you guys have about five more minutes to consider!”

Zhang Qianlin stood on the altar and looked down upon Sun Mo from a height. As the corners of his lips curled up into a smile, he exerted force in his legs.

Swoosh!

Zhang Qianlin was like an arrow that had left the bow, shooting out toward Sun Mo. In a blink, he appeared before Sun Mo.

A hint of cold gleam appeared and pierced at Sun Mo’s forehead.

The most effective battle technique was to attack Li Ziqi and force Sun Mo to save her. However, Zhang Qianlin felt that he was strong enough, so he didn’t care to use such methods.

(If I’m going to win, I’ll defeat you fair and square.)

Swoosh!

Sun Mo dodged with a flash and appeared beside Zhang Qianlin, slashing his wooden blade down.

Colors of Autumn!

“What?”

Zhang Qianlin was surprised. How could Sun Mo’s speed be so fast? It was so fast to the extent that Zhang Qianlin almost couldn’t see it clearly. He instinctively wanted to dodge, but when that blade came slashing down, he had a feeling that it was unavoidable.

Right now, Zhang Qianlin felt as if he was standing on a grass plain that was about to turn yellow. The autumn vibe before his eyes was very intense, pressing down overwhelmingly. “What technique is this?”

Zhang Qianlin had no other way but to take it head-on.

Clank!

The wooden blade and sword clashed and the immense counteracting force caused Zhang Qianlin's wrist to feel a little numb. His initial plan was to take the chance to counterattack, but Sun Mo's next attack had come slashing down.

Golden Jade Hibiscus!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

A golden hibiscus bloomed before his eyes. The flower petals were formed from blade shadows, as if they were going to slash him up into minced meat.

Zhang Qianlin backed off and then saw the blade's tip gushing down like a heavy rainstorm toward him.

Ding! Ding! Ding! Zhang Qianlin did his best to block the attack, but a blade suddenly brushed past his sword and pierced at his throat.

"This is bad!"

Zhang Qianlin erupted with brute force. He used his sword to flip the wooden blade while turning his head at the same time. However, at this moment, the wooden blade was like a venomous snake hunting for food. It twisted mysteriously, caught up to him, and tapped his forehead.

Pa!

Zhang Qianlin leaned backward and felt an intense pain to his head. This caused him to feel a terrifying fear. If he hadn't dodged fast enough, his head would have exploded from this attack.

"Teacher, go for it!" Lu Zhiruo cheered him on.

"That mustn't do. I must counterattack. Otherwise, I'll lose."

Zhang Qianlin didn't expect that Sun Mo's battle prowess was so great. He didn't dare to hold back anymore. He performed his ultimate attacks, twisting his body and dodging the wooden blade precariously, getting closer to Sun Mo.

Zhang Qianlin's assessment was very accurate. Sun Mo's cultivation art was very amazing and could be a saint-tier one. Moreover, his body was also terrifyingly powerful. Zhang Qianlin wouldn't be able to defeat him by facing his attacks head-on.

Sun Mo was using a wooden blade and going by this fact, Zhang Qianlin should have an advantage. However, this wasn't the case at all. "If Teacher were to use a steel blade, that guy would have been slain!

Ying Baiwu pouted. "He's almost fallen to a wooden blade!" Li Ziqi smiled.

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Zhang Qianlin drew out the dagger from the back of his waist, wanting to pierce Sun Mo's chest. However, Sun Mo's left fist punched out one step earlier.

Bang!

Zhang Qianlin's left face received a firm punch, and he was almost in a daze from the impact.

Pa!

Sun Mo grabbed Zhang Qianlin's left hand and then leaped up. His knees attacked in succession, colliding into Zhang Qianlin's body.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Zhang Qianlin flew increasingly higher, instantly surpassing Sun Mo's head. However, before he landed, Sun Mo suddenly leaped again. He raised his right leg high and performed an ax kick on Zhang Qianlin's head.

Bang!

Zhang Qianlin's head smashed fiercely onto the ground. Blood spurted out very far from his mouth and nose.

"Huh?"

The three girls were stunned. What kind of attack was this? They had never seen it before! However, it was filled with violent beauty.

Zhang Qianlin was angry and anxious. He had received formal martial arts guidance since young and hadn't met an opponent like Sun Mo who defied conventional thinking. He would use fists, legs, elbows, and knees, anything that he could put to use.

Zhang Qianlin had initially been wary against Sun Mo's wooden blade and hand, so he hadn't expected Sun Mo to be sending out his knee.

The most important thing was that Sun Mo's explosive prowess was very strong. Zhang Qianlin had seen it, but before he could react, he had been struck.

How the hell was he supposed to defend like this?

Chapter 257 Teacher, Be careful!

Bang!

Zhang Qianlin knocked against the wall and coughed up another mouthful of blood. He held on strong and wanted to stand up to start his retaliation, but Sun Mo continued to attack again.

"F*ck your mom, aren't you tired? Even if you aren't tired, can your spirit qi depletion and stamina keep up?"

This was like a 100-meter run. Dashing once might not be a problem, but continuing to run at this speed for 1,000 meters would definitely be impossible. And right now, Sun Mo's condition was akin to running 1,000 meters with the speed for a 100-meter dash.

When this thought dashed into his brain, Zhang Qianlin received another punch to his head.

Bang!

Zhang Qianlin fell to the ground. He bore with the intense pain and slapped the ground fiercely, stopping the flying and falling momentum. He planned on drawing his distance to make adjustments and then take action after Sun Mo's momentum had ceased. Retaliation?

Don't be kidding.

In this situation, before he could even retaliate, he'd get bashed up by Sun Mo.

Sun Mo kept a close chase, not giving Zhang Qianlin a chance to rebalance himself.

"All hail Teacher!"

Lu Zhiruo saw Sun Mo suppressing Zhang Qianlin and was so happy that she shouted out. The spirit qi roaming dragon also felt that this human was very amazing and had the right to be the papaya girl's teacher.

Li Ziqi and Ying Baiwu weren't as innocent as Lu Zhiruo. Their eyes and mouth were agape as they watched the battle. It was as if a battle cruiser had smashed open the national borders, and they saw a whole new world.

Could a battle be fought like this?

Sun Mo's actions had overthrown the two girls' common sense.

The fighting and killing between cultivators could be aggressive, with each attack drawing blood. They could also be very gentlemanly, seemingly fluttery and cool to the extent that the one watching would feel extreme euphoria.

However, Sun Mo's version was too bizarre!

Sun Mo was using his body to his utmost advantage, and it should be the right way to do things, but he was too extreme. For example, an ordinary person would definitely swing their sword to put up a block when they received a killing slash. However, in Sun Mo's case, he could abandon his blade and use his elbow or knee to attack.

"Ziqi, a sword or blade stance's prowess should be greater than that of one's hands or legs, right? But why is Zhang Qianlin the one being suppressed?"

Ying Baiwu knew that Li Ziqi had a good brain and thus asked her.

Li Ziqi fell silent, her eyes opened wide as she observed Sun Mo. She couldn't understand either.

In fact, the reasoning was very simple. Sun Mo relied on the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art's copy. Before Zhang Qianlin made his move, Sun Mo would interrupt him one step ahead.

Sun Mo naturally could block with his wooden blade, but in such a close-combat situation, it was easier to use one's fist, legs, elbows, or knees to attack the opponent.

The one who hit the other party first would be the one to get the advantage.

Sun Mo had watched too many combat movies, and his trail of thoughts was unlike that of the natives in the nine provinces.

To Sun Mo, what mattered was to bash up the enemy regardless of the method used. However, most of the time, the nine provinces' natives would use the ultimate techniques that they excelled in because they saw them as a killing move that could decide the victory.

This was the case for Zhang Qianlin whose face was badly bashed up. He kept trying to look for an opportunity to use his ultimate move and retaliate, but things weren't that simple!

Bang!

Zhang Qianlin was sent flying and falling again, landing on the altar. This time around, his nose bridge had shattered, and a large part of his chin sank in. Blood kept oozing out.

"Aren't you at the fourth level of the blood-ignition realm? Why are you so strong?"

Zhang Qianlin stared at Sun Mo and questioned him sharply. He felt that heaven must be playing a joke on him.

"Oh, that was in the past. I have just used spirit diamonds to level up in a big hall above. I'm now at the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm."

Sun Mo shrugged. He was too tired and needed to take a breather.

"Fifth level?"

Zhang Qianlin frowned and then felt some regret. (I should have thought of this. There are spirit crystals everywhere, so there'd definitely be spirit diamonds as well. It's very normal for Sun Mo to have gone up by one level. If I wasn't that greedy and had come down after leveling up, it wouldn't have been so difficult for me to fight against Sun Mo.)

(No, I'm a genius. Even if we're both at the fifth level of the blood-ignition realm, I'll still be able to win against him.)

Zhang Qianlin was cheering himself on, telling himself that he couldn't just think of relying on his cultivation base to crush others. In the past, he had always been challenging those with a higher cultivation base and had overthrown quite a number of strong opponents.

"Sun Mo, die!"

Zhang Qianlin bellowed and suddenly darted toward Sun Mo. Since he couldn't win in a battle of attrition, then he'd perform his ultimate move and decide the victor in one hit, leaving life or death to fate.

Northern Swallow Returns!

Screech!

Spirit qi gushed out from Zhang Qianlin's body, and the longsword in his hand trembled intensely, releasing a piercing sound. He seemed to turn into a northern swallow that came flying through.

Swoosh!

Two of them crossed each other. Pa! Pa!

Zhang Qianlin couldn't stop the inertia and stumbled a few steps forward before lowering his head, looking at his right hand that was holding onto the sword. He then turned back and looked toward Sun Mo.

"I can't accept this!"

Zhang Qianlin's voice was like a cuckoo crying out in such agony until blood was flowing out from its mouth.

His blissful life plan hadn't started, but it was already going to end. Why? At this moment, Zhang Qianlin felt as if heaven had made a fool out of him.

(Since you don't wish to let me obtain them, then don't let me meet An Xinhui, don't let me enter this Wind King Hall! You've let me see them but don't give them to me. This is very brutal.)

Splash! Splash!

Blood flowed out from the hole in Zhang Qianlin's chest.

"What last words do you have? I can help you pass them on!"

Sun Mo felt that although there were minor flaws in Zhang Qianlin's character, he was still a qualified teacher. At the very least, he hadn't thought of taking a hostage to threaten Sun Mo. Instead, he chose to duel fair and square.

Hearing this, Zhang Qianlin was stunned for a moment. He then looked at Sun Mo with envy in his eyes. In the end, his envy turned into a request.

"Teacher... Teacher Sun, you must give Xin... Xinhui... happiness!"

Plop!

Zhang Qianlin fell to the ground.

Ding! Favorable impression points from Zhang Qianlin +30, prestige connection initiated. Neutral (30/100). "Teacher!"

The three girls came running over, feeling happy for him.

"What are these favorable impression points?"

Sun Mo was perplexed. (I'm the one who has just killed you, so why did you have a favorable impression of me before you die? Are you a masochist?)

"Firstly, it's because you've never conducted yourself in an imposing and arrogant manner. Secondly, it was a duel that Zhang Qianlin was genuinely convinced he would win. Thirdly, by asking him if he had any last words, you showed your kind intentions and he could feel it. Fourthly, it's about An Xinhui. He hopes that you can give her happiness."

The system explained.

Sun Mo was speechless. Was Zhang Qianlin's act considered to be an ultimate attempt to curry up to someone? (You're already dead, yet you don't show concern to your family. Instead, you're hoping that

An Xinhui could be happy. You have my respect because there's no one else like you. But I'm sorry. For now, I don't feel anything toward her!)

As a single man, what was love for Sun Mo? He didn't know it at all. Right now, the type of woman he liked was someone like Jin Mujie, someone with a peach-like butt.

"Teacher, can we go in and negotiate with that Wind King now?"

Ying Baiwu was a little agitated. It was an ancient elemental king. How many good things could they squeeze out of it?

"Younger martial sister, stay calm!"

Li Ziqi shared a small secret. "The more you appear calm, having no desire whatsoever, the more the other party would feel nervous!"

Sun Mo and the other three had reached this vicinity long ago but hadn't found this altar. It was only after having heard the Wind King's voice that they had come rushing over. They had actually planned on ambushing Zhang Qianlin, but their traces had been exposed by a word from the Wind King.

"Let's go in and negotiate!"

Sun Mo's countenance remained calm, but he was feeling very agitated inside. This trip had been extremely fruitful. Would it be possible for him to contract the Wind King and let it become his spiritual beast?

Just as Sun Mo was lost in his thoughts, thinking about how he should go about with the negotiations, he suddenly heard the screams from Lu Zhiruo and Ying Baiwu.

"Teacher, be careful!"

The two girls were wearing shocked expressions as they pounced behind Sun Mo.

Swoosh!

A semi-transparent arrow shot over rapidly, so fast that it seemed as if it could catch up to a shooting star on a summer night.

Lu Zhiruo had the feeling as if someone was spying on them again. Thus, she had looked around and happened to see this arrow. On the other hand, Ying Baiwu was purely being very careful and had a strong sense of possessiveness. She didn't wish to have someone coming up from behind them and thus had been surveilling the surroundings.

When the two girls saw the arrow shooting out toward Sun Mo, they came pouncing over without a hint of hesitation, wanting to block the arrow for him.

"Move away!"

Sun Mo let out an explosive bellow.

Under this situation, he, as the one with the strongest battle prowess, would definitely be the first one to be attacked. Therefore, where he was would be the most dangerous place.

But neither Lu Zhiruo nor Ying Baiwu stopped in their footsteps!

West River Moon, Broad Cold Autumn [1]!

Boom!

Spirit qi erupted from Sun Mo's body like a typhoon, blowing away the papaya girl and Ying Baiwu. At the same time, he twisted his waist and swung his arm, blocking with his wooden blade.

Late Fragrance (1). Ding!

The semi-transparent arrow was brushed by the wooden blade and slightly avoided the vitals on Sun Mo's back. However, the power and speed of the arrow were too great; thus, it still sank into Sun Mo's shoulder.

Pffft!

Blood spurted out and Sun Mo was sent flying back, losing his balance.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Another three semi-transparent arrows came shooting over consecutively. "Teacher!"

Li Ziqi was feeling so anxious that she was crying, running over to him.

"Don't come here!"

Sun Mo let out an explosive bellow and a layer of golden light enveloped him.

Invulnerable Golden Body.

Earlier, Sun Mo could only shake the two girls away in time. He hadn't had the time to perform Invulnerable Golden Body. However, even though he sustained an injury, he had no regrets. Seeing the two girls risk their lives for him, Sun Mo would prioritize saving them even if it meant he had to die.

"Damn it! I brought it upon Teacher!"

At the sight of this scene, Ying Baiwu sank in self-reprimand. If Sun Mo hadn't bothered about her, he wouldn't have been injured.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Sun Mo crushed a semi-transparent arrow, but there were still two more. They hit him and smashed the Invulnerable Golden Body.

Swoosh!

The golden light on Sun Mo's body disappeared.

Although the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art's second level had quite a good defense, it wasn't invincible or immune to damages. It would still shatter if the attack was beyond its tolerance level.

"F*ck, that's impressive!"

Sun Mo was sent flying and falling from the three arrows, completely losing his balance. And at this time, the fifth arrow came shooting straight for his chest.

Chapter 258 A Sword Breaking Ten Thousand Stances

“Things are set now.”

Fang Wuan heaved a sigh of relief. His tensed emotions began to relax.

He had wanted to fire another arrow. However, chaining five arrows in a string of attacks would consume too much of his spirit qi. He had to rest a little. Upon thinking of this, Fang Wuan lowered his head and glanced at the bow in his hands.

This was a battle spoil he picked up after killing a spirit-wind overlord. This bow didn't need arrows. As long as one pulled its string and released spirit qi, arrows would be formed automatically. Also, the arrows were half-transparent. It was very tough to discern them under the light.

Fang Wuan's archery skill was pretty good; hence, it was considered quite troublesome for Sun Mo.

“The winner of this round will be me!”

Fang Wuan felt extremely delightful.

He had tracked the eight-gate cloud all the way to here. When he was searching the surroundings earlier, he heard the sounds of combat and sneaked over, not expecting to witness a life-and-death battle between Sun Mo and Zhang Qianlin.

Honestly speaking, Sun Mo's performance was very shocking, causing Fang Wuan to want to describe him as formidable. But so what of it? If he had to die, he had to die.

“When the mantis stalks the cicada, it's unaware of the oriole behind.” (Today, I'm the man favored by the goddess of luck!)

Fang Wuan rushed out from his hiding place and lunged toward the three girls. Not a single one of these people who knew the secret of the Wind King Hall could be spared.

Fang Wuan calmed his breath. He raised his bow and aimed at Ying Baiwu. This girl had the highest combat strength, so he must kill her first. If she was to escape, it would be too troublesome to find her.

Spirit qi streamed forth from his fingers, condensing into an arrow. Just when Fang Wuan was about to fire it, the scene happening before Sun Mo caused him to be completely dumbstruck. He almost bit his tongue off from the shock.

Sun Mo, who had lost his balance, could no longer avoid the arrows. The only thing he could do was raise his arms to protect his heart and head. However, such a method was merely used to console oneself. Arrows shot from the Spirit King Bow had enough power to blast holes through a body, making one feel the phrase ‘a cool breeze gusting by your heart’.

But when Sun Mo was doing his utmost to struggle, a silver trajectory akin to a shooting star shot past and appeared before him.

Swish!

The arrows slammed into it and vanished after that.

Bang!

Sun Mo fell onto the ground.

“Ah?”

The five people on the scene had stupefied looks on their faces.

A silver-colored cloud floated in the air, and its external appearance was in the form of the eight-trigrams! It was none other than the eight-gate cloud ranked #10 on the mysterious species list, the so-called extremely rare treasure that one might not encounter once in a thousand years! “Wh...why?”

Fang Wuan felt like his brain had turned to mush. Why did the eight-gate cloud block the arrow for Sun Mo? Could it have submitted to him?

No, that shouldn’t be the case. If not, Sun Mo wouldn’t have that shocked look on his face!

The papaya girl’s red lips parted in the shape of an ‘O’.

“Teacher!”

Li Ziqi regained her senses. Her guess was right; the eight-gate cloud had been hiding somewhere nearby to spy on them. Evidently, it was very interested in Sun Mo’s Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands technique and wished to experience the feeling of comfort. “Why?”

Sun Mo didn’t understand either. But after feeling started for a bit, he didn’t bother to think of the reason and directly rushed toward Fang Wuan. The power of his bow was extremely great, and Sun Mo couldn’t allow Fang Wuan to fire any more arrows.

A close-range attacker vs. a long-range one. Sun Mo would obviously be the one at a disadvantage.

Fang Wuan’s reaction was also extremely fast. He notched his arrow and turned away from Ying Baiwu, aiming it toward Sun Mo again.

Swish

The half-transparent arrow vanished from the eyes of the crowd. It was so fast that its speed was unfathomable.

Sun Mo widened his eyes, doing his utmost to determine the trajectory of the arrow. However, even before he could react, the eight-gate cloud rumbled and flew toward him.

Swish!

The arrow slammed into the back of the cloud and disappeared. It was unknown where the arrow went to.

“Damn!”

Fang Wuan cursed. Although he was using a saint-tier bow, he tossed it away with no hesitation and pulled his sword out.

“Go to hell!”

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Fang Wuan roared and pierced forth with rage. This strike wasn't fanciful. It was a simple stroke filled with his maximum strength and speed.

Pu!

A wound appeared on Sun Mo's face from this strike. But when Fang Wuan wanted to change his move and slice off Sun Mo's head, a wooden blade along with its immense might smashed down on Fang Wuan's shoulder.

Bang!

Fang Wuan staggered backward from the impact.

“Damn!”

Fang Wuan silently cursed. If he hadn't spent too much time to handle that spirit-wind overlord and exhausted plenty of his strength. He could have killed Sun Mo in a head-on fight.

Sun Mo seized the opportunity to counterattack.

“Brazen!”

Fang Wuan smiled malevolently. “The wisest decision you could make is to run away!”

Breaking blade stance! Swish! Swish! Swish!

Fang Wuan's sword slashed over ten sword shadows in a single instant. As the younger brother of Fang Wuji and someone highly regarded by Headmaster Cao, this fellow's combat strength was truly strong.

What was a genius?

It was someone on the path of wanting victory. Despite being in a predicament, he was still filled with boundless battle intent.

Fang Wuan could have stealthily retreated and gotten his elder brother to come with him here. However, he had chosen to come alone to fight against Sun Mo, feeling that there was no way he would lose.

Sun Mo's expression turned heavy. He could sense the powerful aura emitting from Fang Wuan. It was self-confidence, strength, and pride!

“Kill, kill, kill!”

Fang Wuan roared in anger. Each of his attacks was quicker than the last.

For the first time ever, Sun Mo's Immemorial Vairocana was suppressed. Although it was a saint-tier art, it was useless if it couldn't hit the target's body.

Fang Wuan didn't have excessive hopes that he could block all attacks. Hence, he decided to exchange injuries for injuries.

This was a ruthless man!

Sun Mo activated Divine Sight and looked at Fang Wuan.

Fang Wuan, 23 years old. Sixth level of the blood-ignition realm.

Strength: 28. Although he doesn't have innate divine strength, his body is strong and fit.

Intellect: 26. His combat wisdom is first-grade.

Agility: 27. Don't even think about using agility to suppress him.

Will: 29. Wise mentality knows how to let go. He has enjoyed countless victories since he was young, causing him to build up a strong and proud heart state.

Endurance: 27. Even if he can't kill you, he can exhaust you to death.

Potential value: Extremely high!

Note: His desire to win is overwhelmingly strong, and he doesn't like to admit defeat. If it wasn't for Fang Wuji being too outstanding, Fang Wuan could definitely replace him as one of the twin annulus of Jinling. The cultivation art he is using consists of nine stances. It is an inferior saint-tier art.

Si~

His sword slashed past and left a wound on Sun Mo's arm.

"Daring to be distracted when fighting against me? Are you looking down on me?"

Fang Wuan coldly snorted. After that, his hand moved as he threw the longsword in his hand forward.

Hidden sword stance!

Fang Wuan began his retaliation. He then rushed toward Sun Mo and fought with his bare fist.

"What the hell?"

Ying Baiwu directly exclaimed. Was this fellow committing suicide? Since she was watching from the point of a spectator, she wasn't able to experience the terror of the hidden sword style.

In front of Sun Mo, there was no sword in Fang Wuan's hands, yet the pressure was even greater compared to when Fang Wuan had a sword. Moreover, the sword that was tossed away seemed to be controlled by an invisible hand and kept piercing forward from bizarre angles, trying to catch Sun Mo unawares.

Bang! Sun Mo's fist slammed into Fang Wuan's. However, Fang Wuan's attacks didn't stop. His sword suddenly pierced upward from below, aiming for Sun Mo's neck.

Dotting Crimson Lip.

Sun Mo narrowly avoided the tip of the sword by the skin of his teeth.

“Haha, you are about to die!” Fang Wuan laughed loudly. This victory seemed secure on the surface, but he was actually a little anxious. Sun Mo’s defense was very impressive, not allowing Fang Wuan to break it despite having attacked it for a long time.

The fearsomeness of the hidden sword stance lay in its sudden and traceless attacks. Opponents would feel like they were walking through tall grass with poisonous snakes hidden within; there might be a poisonous snake darting outward at any moment. When you saw it, its fangs would have bitten you.

However, Sun Mo could always react instantaneously, unleashing a move to block his sword.

Wasn’t his battle instinct a little too good?

Sun Mo temporarily starved off defeat because he depended on ‘copy’ of the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art. If his vision didn’t have the slowing effect, he wouldn’t have been able to react in time.

As the two fought, countless after-images flashed. The three girls could no longer track their movements.

(This can’t continue on!)

Fang Wuan’s body trembled. He was almost at the breaking point just from enduring his injuries. The wound caused by his fight with the spirit-wind overlord had split open and become even wider. Hence, he had to end the battle as soon as possible.

Pak!

Fang Wuan suddenly stretched his hand out and grabbed his sword. The entirety of his spirit qi circulated fiercely as he unleashed his ultimate attack.

“A sword breaking ten thousand stances!”

Boom!

Fang Wuan’s aura instantly rose to the limits, and he slashed out with his sword. Even Li Ziqi and the other two, who were tens of meters away, felt the sword might envelop them. There was also a bone-cutting chill that caused their bodies to turn cold.

Sun Mo didn’t evade. He held his wooden blade and defended head-on. “Paying someone back in their own coin!” Swish!

Fang Wuan’s sword slashed down, moving from Sun Mo’s right shoulder to his left rib. As for Sun Mo’s wooden sword, it wasn’t polite at all. A few breaths later, it slashed through Fang Wuan’s body.

Si~

A lot of blood spurted out from Sun Mo’s wound, directly drenching his teacher robes red.

“Teacher!”

The three girls were so frightened that their faces turned pale. They immediately ran toward Sun Mo.

“Gr...Gra... Grand Universe Formless...”

Fang Wuan stared at Sun Mo in astonishment, never having expected that Sun Mo would know the ultimate divine art of the Skyraise Academy. If he knew this in advance, he would definitely not unleash his ultimate attack so easily.

“Step further away from my teacher!”

Ying Baiwu shouted and slashed her sword out.

Swish!

Spirit qi gushed out, forming into a White Bird that blasted into Fang Wuan.

Bang!

Fang Wuan fell onto the ground.

“Eh?”

Ying Baiwu was stunned. (What? How is he so easily killed?) She had already prepared herself for a fight to the death.

“Teacher!”

Lu Zhiruo ran over and supported Sun Mo who had fallen down. His blood splashed onto her.

“Zhiruo, remember. If this happens again, the first thing you should do is neutralize the enemy completely first!”

Sun Mo had wanted to touch the papaya girl’s forehead. But when he saw that his hand was drenched in blood, he decided not to do so.

Li Ziqi, who was moving slower, also ran over. However, she immediately pulled out her dagger and stabbed toward Fang Wuan’s wound to verify that he was truly dead.

“He died just like that?”

Ying Baiwu furrowed her brows.

Hu!

Sun Mo exhaled a breath of turbid air. This time, it was truly a thrilling victory.

Chapter 259 A Transaction with an Ancient King

After Sun Mo looked at Fang Wuan’s data, he surmised that this fellow had an 80-90% chance of fighting all the way to the death.

Although his Immemorial Vairocana was a saint-tier cultivation art, its main purpose was to hit out the cultivation arts of others. In terms of attacking prowess, it was one level lower compared to other saint-tier cultivation arts.

Hence, Sun Mo had used himself as the bait, depending on his Invulnerable Golden Body to block his opponent’s ultimate move. After that, he used ‘Paying someone back in their own coin’ to retaliate.

The Invulnerable Golden Body diminished a portion of Fang Wuan's sword might. Hence, Sun Mo's inner organs were fine, and he had only suffered a huge wound on his chest. However, Fang Wuan was in a much dire state, his inner organs were destroyed by Sun Mo's blade.

One died, while the other was heavily injured. No matter how Sun Mo looked at it, he had profited.

Naturally, after this battle, Sun Mo needed to recuperate for a month or two before he could fully recover.

"As expected of someone with an extremely high potential value. He is too difficult to handle!"

Sun Mo started to reflect on himself. He mustn't feel proud or complacent just because he won against a person like Zhang Qianlin. He understood that a true genius had strength beyond his imagination!

Ying Baiwu didn't know first-aid, so she was so anxious that she paced around. Luckily, Li Ziqi knew a little and she was helping to treat Sun Mo with the papaya girl as her assistant. They soon stopped Sun Mo's bleeding and dressed his wound.

Pitter patter!

The three girls kept crying. Their tear stains were all over their faces.

"I'm fine. I won't die!"

Sun Mo consoled them. "Baiwu, search his body and take the bow over!"

That bow was a peak-grade weapon.

"Teacher!"

Ying Baiwu didn't move but used her gaze to hint at Sun Mo. He must be careful not to be sneak-attacked by that eight-gate cloud.

The mysterious species of darkness hadn't left. It floated tens of meters away quietly, watching as Li Ziqi and the others treated Sun Mo.

"Don't mind it, I don't think it has any hostility."

Sun Mo spoke. He wanted to lift his hand to greet it, but it was too painful to do so. "Teacher, I think it is interested in your Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands!"

Li Ziqi hurriedly told her discovery to Sun Mo.

Sun Mo started. But after that, he realized that it was logical. After all, the cloud before him was an intelligent spirit. "Thank you!"

As Sun Mo spoke, he activated Divine Sight.

Swish

The senses of the eight-gate cloud were extremely sharp. It immediately rushed into the great hall and hid itself, leaving behind a silver arc in the air as though it was mocking Sun Mo for his ignorance.

Sun Mo was only curious about a lifeform like this and wanted to sate his curiosity.

In the past, Sun Mo had wanted to capture it, but he had abolished all thoughts about that right now after he was saved by it. Sun Mo had no intention of repaying kindness with enmity.

Ying Baiwu walked in the front, while Li Ziqi and Lu Zhiruo were supporting Sun Mo as they entered the great hall.

Jiji!

Little loachie used its teeth to gnaw on the papaya girl's clothes, not wanting her to proceed inside. Because the Wind King was too dangerous. However, who would be willing to give up such a huge treasure trove?

The four of them walked onto the altar. Before they could speak, a voice already rang out.

"Those were honestly two fascinating battles. Congratulations to you, victor!" The tone of the Wind King was extremely lofty. It was as though he was a noble watching the fight between peasants held at the Rome Colosseum.

"How long have you been imprisoned here for? 10,000 years? 100,000 years?"

Sun Mo mocked.

Li Ziqi was unable to restrain a smile. 'When one beats a human, one doesn't beat his face.' However, her teacher was very 'excellent', directly addressing the most heart-pricking issue straight off the bat.

"Ant, do you know who you are speaking to?"

The Wind King roared.

"Retract your arrogance. If you want to go out, you can only depend on us. If not, just wait for death here!"

Sun Mo sat on the ground. "Can you tell us the price you are willing to pay?"

"The bow in that girl's hand is the Wind King Bow, a saint weapon. The user only needs to channel their spirit qi into the bow and arrows will form constantly. Also, since the arrows are semi-transparent, it's very useful for long-range attacks," the Wind King spoke

"Saint weapon?"

"Unlimited arrows?"

"Semi-transparent?"

The three girls exclaimed. Among the weapons in the Middle-Earth Nine Provinces, spirit weapons were already considered very rare. Saint weapons were even rarer, and thus they didn't expect to see one here. Even the name of the weapon already sounded impressive. "I know it even if you didn't answer."

Sun Mo observed it with his Divine Sight. This bow was an inferior saint-tier weapon and was considered quite good. "Baiwu, take it."

"Mn!"

Ying Baiwu didn't reject it. She recalled her teacher telling her before that she was proficient in archery and should work hard to become an archery goddess instead of a sword dancer.

The iron-headed girl took the bow with her left hand and pulled the bowstring with her right. As expected, as she released her spirit qi, a semi-transparent arrow was formed.

Swish

An arrow flew out. Its speed was as fast as a shooting star, and it instantly blasted into the wall.

"How swift!"

Lu Zhiruo praised.

The spirit qi roaming dragon felt its scalp turning numb. The mysterious species of darkness were the most afraid of long-ranged weapons. "Ziqi, you should use this sword then!"

Ying Baiwu took White Bird off her waist and passed it to the little sunny egg.

"With my combat strength, it would be useless even if I took it!"

Li Ziqi bitterly smiled.

"That's why I passed it to you. You can simply imbue your spirit qi in it to release a white bird that can attack your enemies."

Ying Baiwu forcibly passed the sword to Li Ziqi.

Seeing the modesty between martial siblings, Sun Mo was very satisfied. At the very least, he didn't need to worry about them falling out and becoming enemies when they saw some top-tier items.

"Wind King, just by hearing the name of the bow, everyone would know it has a connection with you. So, don't tell us that you don't have a cultivation art to complement the bow with. Why don't you give the art to us?"

Sun Mo 'extorted' the Wind King.

"Haha, I naturally have. But that would depend on how much you guys could learn!"

The Wind King laughed uproariously. A moment later, the spring water at the center of the altar gushed forth. They then condensed into the shape of 'Ying Baiwu'. After that, the water Ying Baiwu executed the Wind King Divine Art while reciting the oracular formula of the art.

Sun Mo immediately activated 'copy' and stared at the stances and movements of 'Ying Baiwu'.

Twenty minutes later, 'Ying Baiwu' finished executing the cultivation art. Its form then dissipated, turning back into the water.

"How about it? Have you memorized it?"

The Wind King taunted.

The entire set of the Wind King Divine Art consisted of over 1,200 words. Because the language used was the ancient language of the Nine Provinces, so not only was it profound and cryptic, but it was also tough to enunciate the words.

Even if great teachers were here, they wouldn't dare to say they had memorized it because they couldn't understand it.

Sun Mo wanted to shoot back verbally. (Who knows what kind of bird language you just spoke?) Ying Baiwu and Lu Zhiruo both had stupefied looks on their faces as well.

"A tiny and inconsequential ant..."

The Wind King was very complacent. It just wanted to say, 'As long as you guys do things according to what I say, I will impart this cultivation art to you all'. However, who knew that the little sunny egg, whose chest was as flat as lotuses in a pond during early summer, suddenly spoke out.

"Che, do you want me to recite what I memorized for you?"

Li Ziqi ridiculed.

"Sure, I'm waiting to hear it!"

The Wind King seamlessly surveyed Li Ziqi. She was about 13 to 14 years old. It meant that she had already learned the Four Books and Five Classics of Confucianism. Could she understand the ancient language at all?

Was this a joke?

Li Ziqi began to recite. After that, she didn't pause a single moment until she recited everything

"Wow, our eldest martial sister is so awesome!"

Lu Zhiruo was full of worship. She was clapping so hard that even her palms turned red.

"Impressive!"

Ying Baiwu was also filled with envy. The intellect of the little sunny egg could suppress the majority of people.

The Wind King fell silent. It didn't say anything for a long time.

"What? Can it be that I memorized some parts wrongly?"

Li Ziqi asked.

"Have you learned the ancient language before?"

The Wind King inquired.

"Nope. The ancient language has long since died out in the Nine Provinces. The current era of people only knows a smidgen of it."

Li Ziqi explained.

“Then you...”

The Wind King couldn't understand.

“She only memorized the intonation of the syllables spoken earlier.”

Sun Mo explained.

“Ah?”

The Wind King could be considered an old monster that had lived for over a million years. But when it heard this, it was still dumbfounded. Was this something that a human could accomplish?

The main point was that Li Ziqi's intonation wasn't wrong! It was like a Chinese man memorizing a piece of text. There would be some with good memories that could completely memorize the text. However, what if the text was written in a foreign language? Let alone memorizing it, even reading it out loud would be a problem. Also, the difficulty of an ancient language was multiple times higher in comparison. Li Ziqi was truly a genius. “My eldest martial sister has an eidetic memory. Her brains are very impressive!”

Lu Zhiruo boasted.

“Is the cultivation art you revealed earlier
real?”

Sun Mo was worried.

“Hmph, no matter what, I'm one of the ancient elemental kings. Would I lie to ants like you?”

The Wind King ridiculed. It had felt that it didn't need to play tricks because they wouldn't be able to understand the language. Who would have anticipated that there would be a small monster like Li Ziqi?

But this girl might really be the key for it to leave here.

“I will admit that there's no mistake in your memorization. But can you understand the meaning though?”

The Wind King laughed. What it meant was simple. (Without my explanations, even if you guys obtain this saint-tier cultivation art, it would be useless). “Do all the spirit-winds outside obey your orders?”

Sun Mo's question was brainless, and it caused the Wind King to be puzzled.

“Naturally!”

The Wind King was very sure.

“Hey, can you not boast? If you can control those spirit-winds, you would have long since lured humans here to help you unlock the seal.”

Li Ziqi directly saw through the hole in the Wind King's words. “Let me guess. It would surely be an extremely troublesome matter to release you, and it's something not ordinary humans could achieve. Hence, you have to wait.”

Sun Mo guessed, "If the human is too strong, you will be worried. But if they are too weak, you can't use them. Hence, your level of strength now must surely be weaker compared to the past."

The Wind King didn't dare to say anything anymore. (I didn't even say anything much relating to the main topic of releasing me, yet you guys already guessed so much? Can you show some mercy?)

Sun Mo wasn't mistaken. The Wind King could cause a huge commotion and draw those seven great teachers or even a secondary saint over, but what could it do then?

After they broke the seal, they would surely think of all solutions to enslave it. But if it lured newbies over, the Wind King was worried that they might fail and make things even worse.

"Wind King, since both of our parties want to cooperate, it's better to lay our terms honestly on the table and negotiate."

Sun Mo suggested.

"What do you wish to discuss?"

The Wind King tried to sound composed.

"Since you are worried about those saints, why don't you personally nurture human talents to help you break the seal?" Sun Mo counter-asked.

"You are saying to impart knowledge to you?"

The Wind King coldly laughed. (Wanting to cheat me of my cultivation art? No way!)

"Not me. But to my student, Li Ziqi!"

Sun Mo didn't have any interest in being an old scholar researching ancient knowledge. His purpose was to educate people. But Li Ziqi was fond of it. As a lady who loved to read, she was fond of studying all sorts of knowledge.

Chapter 260 Protection of the Wind King

"Don't look down on her because she's just 13 years old. She has comprehended the 'self-taught' halo and has the qualification to become a teacher."

Sun Mo introduced the little sunny egg to the Wind King.

"What?"

This was the first time Ying Baiwu and Lu Zhiruo heard of this. Their eyes instantly widened as they looked at Li Ziqi. (Are you not a little too heaven-defying?)

'Teacher!'

After hearing Sun Mo's praise, Li Ziqi felt a little embarrassed. (Am I really so good?) The Wind King was taken aback. If he were to impart his knowledge to this little girl...

VE

“That’s right, I can nurture her into my student. At that time, I won’t have to worry about her betraying me.”

The more the Wind King thought about this, the more he felt this was a good idea.

(Damn, why didn’t I think of this in the past? But then, it is not that easy to find outstanding students.)

“I want to test you!”

Clearly, the Wind King’s heart was moved.

For the next twenty minutes, the conversation between the Wind King and Li Ziqi made Sun Mo recall the moment of his thesis defense.

It was very rare for Li Ziqi to have an opportunity to converse with an ancient old monster who had lived for an unknown number of years. Hence, she cherished this opportunity very much. There were some questions that she didn’t know the answer to, but she would give her viewpoints on them.

At the altar, the Wind King suddenly fell silent.

Just when Lu Zhiruo guessed that things were about to fizzle out and the negotiation had failed, the Wind King suddenly spoke, “This king has very high regard for you!”

Ying Baiwu could hear that the Wind King’s tone was filled with admiration.

“I’m fond of a child who has the ability to think independently. Li Ziqi, do you want to become my student?”.

The Wind King issued an invitation.

In ancient times, it would have been considered an extremely great honor.

“I’m sorry, I only have one teacher!”

Li Ziqi decisively rejected.

“Don’t be in such a hurry to reject. Although I’m sealed, I’m after all a hegemon of this continent over a million years ago. Just giving you a few items I possess would grant you unimaginable might.”

The Wind King had already been prepared to kill them before this.

To him, humans like Sun Mo were ants. This wasn’t a joke. After all, this place was the Wind King Hall. Even a starving camel was larger than a horse.

“Saint-tier cultivation arts? A peak-grade weapon? Sorry, all of them are insignificant to me.”

Li Ziqi shook her head. As a wealthy person from the royal clan, she truly had no regard for things like this. In her heart, knowledge was always number one. No, for her, her teacher was the number one.

“What about eternal life?”

The Wind King tempted.

"I don't need that. I only need a book to read every day and as long as I don't fritter my time away, I feel that life is already very beautiful."

When Li Ziqi said this, her expression was very serious.

Because of her problem with her motoric nerve, her athletic ability was too inferior. Thus, her cultivation speed would be very slow, and it was almost impossible for her to get into the Longevity Realm. Hence, Li Ziqi had long since considered such matters of life and death.

Her answer to this question was...she would do her best to live every single day of her life beautifully.

The Wind King fell silent. This answer was too out of his expectation, but it allowed him to sense Li Ziqi's thirst for knowledge.

"You remind me of someone. She was also like this, burying her head in a sea of books all day long. Her combat strength wasn't the strongest, but her brain was absolutely number one in Middle-Earth."

The Wind King sighed emotionally.

Sun Mo had a calm look on his face as he looked at the Wind King and Li Ziqi, but his heart was extremely anxious. He finally could heave a sigh of relief.

F***, it was truly too frightening. No wonder the spirit qi roaming dragon wanted to stop them from coming here. This Wind King was truly too dangerous.

The Spiritwind Canyon was a newbie training ground. Although there might not be people here every single day of the year, it would still be occupied 80% of the time.

There were so many people and so many tens of thousands of years had passed. But why had no one discovered the Wind King Hall? There was only one answer. Those who did discover this place had all been killed by the Wind King. It wanted to regain freedom but didn't want to be controlled. This was a problem that had no solution.

After being sealed for so long, the Wind King's desire to leave was much duller compared to before. It said what it said to Zhang Qianlin purely out of boredom. It wanted to watch the ants kill each other to relieve his boredom.

In the end, all of the ants would have to die.

But now, the Wind King had a new choice.

"Don't worry. We won't ask anything regarding the knowledge you impart to her." Sun Mo guaranteed.

"Che, just ask if you want to. If you can understand them, just consider it my loss!"

The Wind King growled in contempt. It wasn't that he was looking down on Sun Mo. If you could converse smoothly within a year of learning the ancient language of the nine provinces, it was considered not bad.

Some ancient knowledge was like quantum mechanics. If the student had no talent, they would never be able to understand it.

During ancient times, if one wanted to become the King of the Wind, standing at the peak of one of the elements, they couldn't just be good at fighting "Teacher..."

Li Ziqi looked at Sun Mo.

"Ziqi, the things I can teach you are ultimately limited. Now that you can learn from an ancient king like him, even if you were to simply hear of his experiences, it would be of huge help to you."

Sun Mo was sincerely wishing Li Ziqi well. This was a chance to see the world while standing on the shoulders of a giant. She absolutely mustn't miss out on this.

"Alright, I will listen to Teacher. However, I won't take the Wind King as my teacher."

This was Li Ziqi's bottom line.

"It's fine!"

The Wind King seemed to be very magnanimous, but it was laughing mockingly in its heart. (As long as you learn from me, you would submit to my glory and begin to worship me sooner or later).

Hu~

A wind suddenly started gusting.

Jiji!

The spirit qi roaming dragon cried and then curled itself in Lu Zhiruo's embrace.

"This is a meeting gift I've prepared for you."

As the Wind King spoke, a tornado gusted over. The eight-gate cloud was imprisoned in it.

The eight-gate cloud had exhausted all its strength, wanting to break the wind barrier but to no avail. It could only struggle in despair.

Li Ziqi had a look of joy on her face but then hesitated. In the end, she shook her head. "Please release it. If it wasn't for it saving my Teacher in time, my Teacher would have died."

"Are you sure?"

The Wind King was taken aback. In its era, even though there wasn't anything like the mysterious species list, it still knew that the eight-gate cloud was an extremely rare and valuable treasure.

"Yes!"

After Li Ziqi spoke, she looked at Sun Mo. "Teacher, you won't blame me for taking matters into my own hands, right?"

"I won't."

Sun Mo shook his head. After that, he smiled. "Thank you!"

Li Ziqi was repaying his debt of kindness to the eight-gate cloud.

"Alright, you guys better not regret this!"

After the Wind King spoke, it made the tornado dissipate.

Swish

The eight-gate cloud immediately flew over and hid behind Sun Mo. (Aiya, if I knew I would be captured, I wouldn't have come.)

Fleeing now? The eight-gate cloud didn't dare to. What if it was caught by the Wind King while it was fleeing and the Wind King decided to give it to some other humans?

It might as well follow these humans. At the very least, they didn't have any hostilities toward it and they had kind hearts as well.

This sudden scene caused the four of them to be stupefied.

"What the hell?"

Sun Mo didn't feel that he was charismatic enough to make a mysterious species of darkness like the eight-gate cloud grovel to him.

Lu Zhiruo was too simple-minded. She smiled widely and immediately stretched out her hand to touch the cloud. It felt soft and elastic, very comfortable.

Li Ziqi also couldn't control herself. She also stretched out her hands to touch it.

(Aiya, why are you guys touching me anyhow? You guys are dirtying my body!) The eight-gate cloud squeezed even closer to Sun Mo. (If I wanted someone to touch my body, I would naturally let this guy touch me, alright!?) The little sunny egg didn't guess wrongly. The eight-gate cloud loved places with dense spirit qi. Hence, it would frequently float toward hot spring areas.

When they had been soaking in a hot spring that day, this mysterious species of darkness saw Sun Mo administering his ancient massaging technique on Ying Baiwu by chance. That instant the muscled genie appeared, it immediately felt a bizarre feeling.

Next, the eight-gate cloud kept spying on Sun Mo. This was why Lu Zhiruo always felt like someone was looking at them.

However, this fellow was a cloud and was completely formless. This was why the papaya girl didn't manage to discover it.

Sun Mo couldn't endure it and also stretched out his hand to touch the cloud. It truly felt very 'q' to the touch. Most probably, the feel of touching a woman's boobs should be like this, right? "You should have seen Ziqi's athletic ability earlier. It's a little inferior. Shouldn't you give her some trump cards to guarantee her safety?"

Sun Mo started to 'rip off the Wind King. In any case, if the Wind King didn't want to give anything, Sun Mo would have at most wasted some saliva.

"I understand even if you didn't say anything."

The Wind King snorted. (After all, this is related to the safety of the seal breaker. She naturally has to be protected well. I can't let her die so easily.)

The spirit qi in the surroundings suddenly became denser. Spirit qi facula appeared and an azure-blue ancient rune shot out from the spring water, imprinting itself at the back of Li Ziqi's right hand with a thud.

"Spirit control rune?"

Sun Mo's eyes brightened. This item was used to summon spiritual beasts. Sun Mo could sense an ancient aura from it.

"This is the Wind King Authority Token. Through it, you can summon a wind spirit to protect and aid you in battle. In any case, even if you can't win against an enemy, there wouldn't be a problem for you to flee."

As the spirit qi essence also entered Li Ziqi's body, her cultivation base directly broke through to the next level. "Oi, no matter what, you are still an ancient king. Can you not be so stingy? Just give her two of that Wind King Authority Token and one for each of us."

Sun Mo spoke. He knew that the possibility of the Wind King agreeing wasn't high, but he was just trying his luck. "Scram!"

The Wind King couldn't suppress his urge to curse. (Do you think this is some cheap item? This is something that would exhaust my life origin, alright?)

"Why are you so fierce? I don't even care for it. I have my little loachie!"

Seeing her teacher being scolded, Lu Zhiruo was very angry. (Who cares about your token?)

"It's impossible for me to give you guys any more tokens, but I can impart to you a movement art named the Wind King Divine Steps. Upon learning it, you can even catch up to floating clouds and birds flying in the sky!"

The Wind King compromised. In any case, such things weren't important to him and he also needed this man to protect Li Ziqi. Hence, he could only give Sun Mo some benefits.

"Hmph, when Li Ziqi worships me, I'm going to play you to death."

The lips of the Wind King twitched. (Those who want to benefit from me must all die!) "What level is this art?"

Li Ziqi was curious. (If I learn it, would I be able to run faster?)

"Given the standards of the current era, it should be a peerless-grade saint-tier art."

The Wind King casually replied. Yet, his answer made Sun Mo and Li Ziqi exchange a mutual glance. A bout of lingering fear struck their hearts. As expected, this fellow must have killed many cultivators before. If not, given the time from when it was sealed, it shouldn't know the classification for cultivation arts.

After all, a million years ago, this system of classification hadn't existed.