

When God 111

Chapter 111 God's Forbidden Zone_2

The Demon Light Ball flew back almost along its original trajectory, sweeping over people's heads and returning to the City Lord's Mansion.

Boom!

A terrifying light explosion erupted in the sky above the City Lord's Mansion, as if a second sun had blossomed over it.

The shockwave from the explosion swept down from high altitude, shattering the glass on buildings even at such a distance.

Some old, dilapidated buildings closer to the City Lord's Mansion even had their roofs blown off entirely.

Only at this moment did others realize how dangerous it had just been, panic-stricken as they crowded together to flee the city.

Meng Xiaotian got up after braving the shockwave and searched for the figure of the Magic Armor Master, but found no trace.

Gritting his teeth, he charged towards the City Lord's Mansion once more.

When the Hand of God threw out the Demon Light Ball, Kun Sha felt like it was the end of the world, and he nearly stumbled with his vision going black.

He hated himself for being powerless, and hated the Hand of God's cruelty, but what use was that?

From now on, Tyrone City could only be called the Tairuo District, and he would bear the humiliating title of Governor, becoming a tool for those bastards to rule and oppress the people of Tyrone.

Yet he had no power to resist any of this.

Suddenly, Kun Sha saw the Demon Light Ball that was about to fall onto the city fly back in a bizarre manner, along its previous trajectory, as if playing in reverse, flashing across the sky to the Hand of God's face in a blink.

"Is there still an S-class Magic Armor Master in Tyrone City?" The Hand of God was only slightly surprised, but did not take it to heart, reaching out to grab the Demon Light Ball. The Hand of God launched again.

Just as his hand was about to grasp the Demon Light Ball, it disappeared from his sight in a strange way.

The Demon Light Ball emerged bizarrely from underneath his arm, like an uppercut, slamming heavily into the Hand of God's chin.

Boom!

The terrifying light explosion blossomed in the sky, leaving Kun Sha, Qin Shi, Pa Shan, and others stunned.

The shockwave swept down from the sky, causing them all to stagger, a figure fell from the sky, crashing heavily onto the bloody square, cracking the ground extensively.

The figure that fell was the Hand of God, donned in a red Magic Armor, lying motionless in the pit he had created, neither alive nor dead.

"Who are you?" Asura emerged from somewhere, coldly questioning while staring at the wall of the City Lord's Mansion.

Everyone turned their heads to see a Magic Armor Master in black and purple-edged armor standing on top of the wall, gazing at those in the square.

Kun Sha saw that figure, his eyes flickering with wild joy, but he said nothing.

He knew he could not shout Li Xiu's name. If Space City learned Li Xiu's name, Li Xiu would face a calamity.

Qin Shi saw Li Xiu, her face full of shock and disbelief.

She knew Li Xiu was strong, but never imagined he would be this powerful. He could counter the Hand of God and even defeat him!

That was the Hand of God! A god-like figure among Magic Armor Masters, how could he be defeated by him?

At this point in the city, Sha Chu looked towards the City Lord's Mansion, her expression uncertain.

This could be her best chance to escape. Although Li Xiu held her Blood Seal Stone, because it absorbed her blood for a short time, it might not fully control her, making the chance of her being killed low.

If she could escape back to Longevity Heaven, perhaps there would be a way to completely rid herself of the Blood Seal Stone's influence.

Yet Sha Chu still hesitated and did not immediately choose to flee, as Li Xiu's astonishing kick just now had too deeply shocked her.

She knew Li Xiu's Magic Armor skills were strong, but did not expect them to be this strong.

As a true Trial Taker, few paid no attention to the Hand of God.

Every Trial Taker hoped that one day they could defeat those Magic Armor Masters who thought themselves superior, to show them that talent is not everything, and that ordinary people can become stronger and nobler with enough effort.

Unfortunately, until now, Trial Takers of the same level were still far inferior to Magic Armor Masters of the same level.

Therefore, true Trial Takers constantly compared themselves with Magic Armor Masters, with the Hand of God naturally being the Magic Armor Master most considered as the imaginary enemy.

Sha Chu had also done similar things, having even studied the Hand of God's various abilities in detail.

Not only had Meng Xiaotian seen through the Hand of God, but so had Sha Chu, and she saw it more clearly and understandably, thus was even more shocked.

"Perhaps this is an opportunity." Sha Chu muttered to herself, looking towards the City Lord's Mansion.

"Ghost-faced Magic Armor, who are you?" Asura asked again, staring at the Ghost-faced Magic Armor Master.

"Whatever he is, he's dead for sure today," the Hand of God got up from the ground, his voice filled with a sinister, violent blaze.

But just as he raised his head, a foot stomped directly onto his face.

Boom!

The Demonic Light exploded like a black purple lotus, turning two-thirds of the square into a massive pit.

The Hand of God lay in the pit like a dead dog, a foot of the Ghost-faced Magic Armor Master pressed firmly on his face, no matter how he struggled, he couldn't get up.

Asura looked in awe at the Ghost-faced Magic Armor Master before him, already shocked to his core.

He knew that the body under the Ghost-faced Magic Armor Master's foot was not the real Hand of God, but even if he wasn't the real one, he had already learned all the Hand of God's expertise in Magic Armor Manipulation Techniques, coupled with the Magic Armor originally belonging to the Hand of God, he seemed not much inferior to the real Hand of God.

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Even Asura himself wasn't confident he could defeat him.

That such a person could be easily trampled underfoot, without any power to resist, made even Asura feel a bit terrified.

Moreover, the Ghost-faced Magic Armor worn by that Magic Armor Master was an older model of S-Class Magic Armor, a tier below the Red Flower Magic Armor worn by God.

"Who exactly are you? Why are you opposing our Space City?" Asura took a deep breath, staring at Li Xiu and asked slowly.

Li Xiu glanced at the God under his foot and directly kicked him toward Asura. He fell in front of Asura, struggling to get up, but the Magic Armor on him seemed unresponsive, making it impossible to stand.

Poof!

He spat a mouthful of blood and fell motionless to the ground.

"Get out of Tyrone City immediately. From now on, this place is banned for God. Don't let me see anyone associated with God again." Li Xiu coldly said to Asura.

Although Li Xiu served in Space City for three years, he rarely interacted with other Magic Armor Masters there. The only one he interacted with was Bai Qiuyi.

It was also because of Bai Qiuyi that he chose to join Space City; otherwise, someone like Li Xiu wouldn't have stayed in such a place for long.

So Li Xiu wasn't familiar with Asura and the others. Furthermore, since Li Xiu deliberately changed his voice, Asura couldn't recognize who he was.

"I will convey your words to our City Lord." After saying this, Asura picked up God's body and left the City Lord's Mansion with the soldiers of Space City without a trace of hesitation.

Li Xiu turned to look at Kun Sha and the others, only to see Kun Sha, Qin Shi, and Pa Shan staring blankly at him, as if petrified, without a word for a long time.

"What's wrong? Can't even recognize me?" Li Xiu walked over and said.

"You... you killed... God..." The three finally reacted, Pa Shan stammering and pointing at Li Xiu.

"He's probably not the real God, just an impostor." Li Xiu said.

"An impostor?" Qin Shi was taken aback, then relaxed and said, "I knew it, how could God be killed so easily? Turns out he was an impostor, no wonder. But how did you know he was a fake?"

However, Qin Shi overlooked one problem, even if he was an impostor, he still easily defeated both her and Kun Sha, two S-Class Magic Armor Masters.

"The real God couldn't be this weak." Li Xiu turned to Kun Sha and said, "You go clean up the mess in the city first, I have some matters to handle and will chat after I return."

Qin Shi looked somewhat perplexed. If this was considered weak, then what did that make her?

Kun Sha also knew it wasn't the time to speak and promptly left the City Lord's Mansion to clean up the current chaos in the city.

Li Xiu also left the City Lord's Mansion, removing his Magic Armor in a quiet place, wrapping the Magic Armor Box in cloth, and slowly wandering the streets in search of Sha Chu.

Earlier, he was afraid he wouldn't make it in time to save Kun Sha and the others, so he had no choice but to leave Sha Chu first and head to the City Lord's Mansion. He guessed Sha Chu should have fled long ago.

To Li Xiu's surprise, when he slowly walked to where he parted ways with Sha Chu, he found Sha Chu sitting on the roadside curb, resting, not having fled as Li Xiu expected.

"I saw the people from Space City leave, so the issue should be resolved, right?" Seeing Li Xiu approaching, Sha Chu looked up and smiled.

"Why didn't you leave?" Li Xiu stared intently at Sha Chu and asked.

"My Blood Seal Stone is with you, where else could I go?" Sha Chu said pitifully.

Li Xiu frowned slightly. He felt Sha Chu had changed a bit, but couldn't pinpoint exactly what was different.

In less than half an hour, the army from Space City withdrew from Tyrone City, not leaving a single one behind. Asura was efficient in handling matters.

The reason Li Xiu didn't go all out against people from Space City was partly because he didn't want to get involved in this power struggle, only intending to save Kun Sha and the others.

Additionally, if he were to completely eradicate them, Guan Jinghao wouldn't simply let it go, and if they retaliated with full force...

Even though Li Xiu might be able to escape despite the odds, Kun Sha and the people of Tyrone City would be in an even worse situation.

Moreover, Li Xiu wanted to know Guan Jinghao's reaction after the fake God was killed.

Finding a Magic Armor Master skilled in Li Xiu's usual techniques wouldn't be easy; it wouldn't be possible to find another one anytime soon. Would Guan Jinghao give up on using God's prestigious name?

Li Xiu didn't know the answer, but he wanted to find out.

Outside the city, meeting with Shale and A Fei, Shale immediately asked Li Xiu upon his return, "How are things in the city?"

"It's all resolved." Li Xiu said.

Shale was taken aback, "What does 'all resolved' mean?"

"It means Space City has retreated and probably won't return anytime soon." Li Xiu said.

"What's going on? How could they have retreated?" Shale couldn't understand. Space City had been determined to take Tyrone City as their foothold in the Southern Cross Federation. How could they just give up?

"God is dead, so why would they stay?" Li Xiu laughed.

"God... is dead..." Shale suddenly reacted, eyes wide, jumping up to point at Li Xiu's nose, exclaiming incredulously, "You... you killed... God..."

In a dark little room, Meng Xiaotian was fiddling with his phone, repeatedly watching the footage he had captured.

Unfortunately, by the time he arrived at the City Lord's Mansion, it was too late, and he hadn't recorded much. But as a professional, the videos he recorded earlier were enough for him to analyze a lot.

Ultimately, Meng Xiaotian concluded that this mysterious Magic Armor Master was stronger than God and that God had likely been defeated, otherwise the army of Space City wouldn't have withdrawn from Tyrone City.

Meng Xiaotian pondered for a moment, then edited his videos, added analysis to create a short video, and uploaded it online.

Chapter 113 Test Subject

The reason Meng Xiaotian posted the vidcast online was primarily to attack Space City.

The man he followed was precisely the biggest rival of Space City, the City Lord of White Night City.

Both Space City and White Night City rose to prominence through Demon Armor; both produced Demon Armor worthy of praise, but Space City's reputation and sales always overshadowed White Night City.

Especially since the appearance of the Hand of God, a Magic Armor Master, which made Space City's Demon Armor even more renowned, causing White Night City great distress.

With a chance to attack Space City and the Hand of God, naturally, Meng Xiaotian spared no effort.

However, after his short video was uploaded, it received a barrage of ridicule.

Some said he was just trying to attract attention; others accused him of doing anything unscrupulous for online popularity; some even outright claimed his video was fake.

People simply did not trust Meng Xiaotian's analysis, even with seemingly reasonable analyses, stating that if Li Xiu really kicked a Demon Light Ball of such a level, the only result would be self-destruction, and it was impossible to kick the Demon Light Ball back.

Some even threatened Meng Xiaotian, warning him not to tarnish the reputation of the Hand of God, otherwise, they would directly PK him in real life, and kill him.

Among those speaking out were quite a few famous Magic Armor Masters, which showed the influence of the Hand of God among Magic Armor Masters.

This drove Meng Xiaotian to madness, but unfortunately, the video he captured was only snippets, lacking the actual battle footage between the Hand of God and the mysterious Magic Armor Master. He hadn't even filmed the Hand of God, mostly relying on his own analysis and speculation, and his footage was taken with a phone, not professional equipment, resulting in poor quality with insufficient evidence to refute them.

Meng Xiaotian firmly believed his analysis and judgment were absolutely correct; he was determined to capture the real battle footage of that mysterious Magic Armor Master, preferably his fight against the Hand of God, to fiercely slap those people in the face and shut them all up.

"Are you really leaving? Can't you stay? If you want, you can become the City Lord of Tyrone City," Kun Sha said to Li Xiu.

"I'm not good at management, and can't possibly do better than you. Staying in the city won't be of any help, only bringing disaster upon you, and I have other matters to attend to, so I can't stay here," Li Xiu replied.

Kun Sha also understood that a Magic Armor Master on the front line was not a threat to a force the size of Space City. Instead, it was the unseen enemy that made Space City hesitant to act impulsively.

"No matter where you go in the future, as long as I'm in Tyrone City, there will always be a place for you here," Kun Sha said.

After bidding farewell to Kun Sha, Pa Shan, Shale, and Qin Shi, Li Xiu left Tyrone City with Ah Fei and Sha Chu.

He had already spoken to Ah Fei, and unexpectedly, Ah Fei said she had seen the Hand of God up close. Although the Demon Armor was the same, it wasn't the Hand of God who annihilated her family.

Ah Fei was very sure they were not the same person, and Li Xiu didn't know how she determined that, throwing him into doubt again.

What puzzled Li Xiu further was why the substitute could use the Hand of God; this wasn't a technique that just any Magic Armor Master could learn. It required not only extremely high talent but also technical nuances, not something replicable by studying his vids. Besides Li Xiu himself, only one Magic Armor Master had mastered the Hand of God under Li Xiu's guidance, and that Magic Armor Master was already dead.

After exiting the city, Li Xiu found Ximen Guan hiding in the forest and continued their journey together.

The first task was to find the set of Demon Armor Ximen Guan researched before, as Ximen Guan said some of its materials were special. In their current situation, it wasn't realistic to gather all the materials to produce a new set.

During the journey, Li Xiu gave Ximen Guan a phone to help him understand the current times of this era.

He had been trapped for decades, completely out of touch with society, and needed to refresh his knowledge base.

The first thing Ximen Guan checked online was information about Demon Armor.

"The craftsmanship of Demon Armor has indeed improved greatly, unfortunately, there's no major breakthrough in the technique. Are those researching Demon Armor a bunch of idiots? It's been decades, and they're still stuck in the same mode," Ximen Guan said with arrogance and disdain after roughly understanding the current state of Demon Armor.

He then watched some footage of Magic Armor Master battles and, after understanding the current level of Magic Armor Masters, suddenly turned to Li Xiu asking: "Do you know that Magic Armor Master called the Hand of God?"

"Yes, I know him," Li Xiu nodded.

"I think he's very suitable to be my Demon Armor tester; where can I find him?" Ximen Guan's expression seemed like allowing the Hand of God to test his Demon Armor was an enormous favor, as if the Hand of God should gratefully run over to hug his thigh.

"Forget about the Hand of God. He's the chief Magic Armor Master of Space City, who knows how many new types of Demon Armor developed in laboratories are waiting for him to use. There's no chance for you," Sha Chu interjected.

She didn't know that the so-called "Hand of God" had already been killed by Li Xiu in the Tyrone City Lord's Mansion, still assuming the Hand of God had retreated with the people of Space City.

Chapter 114 Experimental Subject_2

"Those laboratories are nothing, how can they be compared to me..." Ximen Guan said dismissively, though he knew that those people probably wouldn't care about him at all.

"Why not consider him, he is a Magic Armor Master too," Sha Chu pointed at Li Xiu.

Li Xiu was a bit puzzled, unsure of Sha Chu's intentions and why he was speaking on his behalf.

Sha Chu did not look at Li Xiu, just kept talking to Ximen Guan by himself.

"Him? Let's see if he can reincarnate well in the next life, maybe I'll give him a chance then," Ximen Guan said, feeling it was inappropriate to speak like this about his savior. He added, "With a talent like yours, being a Trial Taker has more prospects. Leave the Demon Armor testing to the professionals."

"That's true." Li Xiu smiled slightly.

He had already promised Ximen Guan not to take his Demon Armor, and naturally wouldn't go back on his word.

Now it was Sha Chu's turn to look at Li Xiu with some confusion; Ximen Guan seemed unaware of Li Xiu's proficiency in Magic Armor Control.

Li Xiu said nothing, so Sha Chu also refrained from speaking further.

Ximen Guan continued browsing online, and soon he saw the short video Meng Xiaotian had posted.

After watching the video, Ximen Guan immediately thrust his phone in front of Li Xiu and said, "Who is this Magic Armor Master? I want him to control my Demon Armor."

Li Xiu glanced at it and found it was yesterday's video of him kicking the Demon Light Ball. He couldn't help but smile, "This Magic Armor Master isn't suitable for you."

"What do you know? I said he's suitable, so he is. Just help me find him," Ximen Guan insisted.

"He really isn't suitable." Li Xiu shook his head again.

He had been forced by Ximen Guan to swear never to control Ximen Guan's Demon Armor again.

"If you're not going to help, forget it; I'll find someone myself in the future," Ximen Guan thought, now that he had regained his freedom, he didn't need Li Xiu to help him find a Magic Armor Master.

With the prestigious name of Ximen Guan, surely any Magic Armor Master would be intrigued?

He had already checked; their God was the trademark of Space City and might not notice him.

This Magic Armor Master wasn't that famous, so if he revealed his identity, Ximen Guan believed he had a good chance of persuading him.

Maybe this Magic Armor Master would even cry out, cling to his leg, and beg to become a tester upon seeing his Demon Armor.

"Which Magic Armor Master?" both Ah Fei and Sha Chu asked curiously, peeking at Ximen Guan's phone screen.

After a while, the expressions of both became quite peculiar as they simultaneously looked at Li Xiu.

Apparently, Ximen Guan didn't notice this; he was considering how to find this Magic Armor Master, even fantasizing about the shock and admiration on the Magic Armor Master's face upon learning he was the Father of Demon Armor, Ximen Guan.

"Hehe, although Demon Armor manufacturing technology isn't great nowadays, the level of Magic Armor Masters is much stronger than before. Browsing casually, I found two Magic Armor Masters who met my requirements; it seems testers are no longer a problem. I used to think too much," Ximen Guan said comfortably, flipping through his phone.

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In a laboratory in Space City, a swollen corpse lay on a bed with white sheets, surrounded by various unnameable instruments.

"Multiple crush fractures in the skeleton, the internal organs are all decayed. It's strange, Red Flower didn't suffer much damage; how did he end up so severely injured?" Fu Dongsheng looked at the X-ray pictures in his hand, his face full of doubt as he looked down and asked, "What kind of Demon Armor injured him?"

"Ghost Mask," Asura replied.

"Ghost-faced Magic Armor? That set of Ghost-faced Magic Armor manufactured in my Lab No. 1?" Fu Dongsheng paused slightly, lifting his head to look at Asura.

"Yes, exactly that set of Ghost-faced Magic Armor," Asura nodded.

"That makes it even stranger. The Demonic Light of Ghost-faced Magic Armor is much weaker than Red Flower's in both upper and lower limits, and Ghost-faced Magic Armor doesn't have such attack methods either. It shouldn't be able to pierce through Red Flower Magic Armor to injure a person like this," Fu Dongsheng frowned.

"I also found it impossible, but that Magic Armor Master managed it, showing God had no ability to fight back and was directly massacred," Asura said bitterly.

"This isn't a problem with Demon Armor, but with people; human issues aren't something I deal with, settle it among yourselves," Fu Dongsheng put down the pictures, then looked at the Red Flower Magic Armor undergoing testing on the instrument and continued, "But based on my prediction, Red Flower itself should have some flaws, which led to the Magic Armor Master inside being injured so badly even though the armor itself wasn't significantly damaged. I will find this flaw and ensure there won't be a next time."

"Thank you for your effort." Asura wanted to say more when the lab door opened, and a man walked in.

The man was tall and refined, wearing a crisp white uniform, with shoes spotless and thin gold-rimmed glasses on his nose.

"City Lord." Asura quickly saluted the man.

Guan Jinghao nodded slightly, then looked at Fu Dongsheng and asked, "Professor Fu, what's the result?"

"It seems the No. 11 test subject is still not perfect. Though Red Flower has some issues, under the control of a Magic Armor Master of equal level, Red Flower shouldn't lose. The fact that the No. 11 test subject died so tragically only shows he is still not perfect," Fu Dongsheng said, looking at the data.

Chapter 115 Experimental Subject_3

"Failed again?" Guan Jinghao looked at the swollen corpse on the bed, slightly furrowing his brows.

"It's normal. The Red Flower Lang was designed from the start for that individual, not just anyone can fully harness its abilities. Several failures are not surprising." Fu Dongsheng looked up at Guan Jinghao, saying meaningfully, "Do you regret giving up on that person?"

"There's nothing to regret. The peak of human life is too short. No matter how strong he is, he can't withstand the grind of time; he will grow old eventually. The Space City can't bet its future on one person. I need thousands upon thousands of Magic Armor Masters like him." Guan Jinghao said calmly.

"Then our experiment..." Fu Dongsheng didn't finish his sentence.

"Perform a thorough autopsy on No. 11, identify the problem, and cultivate No. 12 as soon as possible," Guan Jinghao instructed.

"Leave it to me. I already have new ideas. I believe No. 12 will give you some unexpected surprises." Fu Dongsheng's eyes were filled with frenzy.

"Professor Fu, the experiment must be more rigorous. I hope the incident with No. 4 won't happen again." Guan Jinghao's voice was gentle, but it made Fu Dongsheng shudder.

"Rest assured, I won't make the same mistake twice." Fu Dongsheng said, picking up a scalpel and heading towards the corpse on the bed.

Guan Jinghao and Asura left the laboratory, with Asura following behind Guan Jinghao, walking slowly.

"Tell me more about the Magic Armor Master who killed No. 11," Guan Jinghao said casually.

Asura dared not be negligent and recounted the events in detail, not daring to omit any details.

"The Magic Armor Master's skills are strong and a bit strange, couldn't tell their origins." Asura added his own thoughts at the end.

"Do you think there's a chance he is that person?" Guan Jinghao asked indifferently.

"Probably not, their technical style is different. The Magic Armor Master's style is a bit domineering, not like that person who perfected his craft." Asura pondered.

"How does that Magic Armor Master compare to that person?" Guan Jinghao asked again.

"I think if it were that person wearing Red Flower Lang, he definitely wouldn't have lost." Asura thought for a moment and then spoke his mind truthfully.

Guan Jinghao said nothing more and continued to walk forward.

"City Lord, what about Tyrone City?" Asura asked cautiously.

"Leave it for now. We'll discuss it after No. 12 is completed." Guan Jinghao reached his office door, opened it but paused, asked without turning his head, "Any news on that person?"

"No, it's as if he vanished into thin air." Asura said helplessly.

"Well then." Guan Jinghao seemed unconcerned, said lightly, and then entered the office.

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"How can this be?" Ximen Guan stared blankly at the fortress-like building before him, completely stupefied.

He and two others, including Li Xiu, had rushed for days, finally arriving at the place where he had hidden the Magic Armor, in Ximen Guan's secret laboratory.

Before he left, this was a desolate area, with a small stone mountain.

But now the mountain was gone, replaced by a city resembling a massive fortress.

The city's entrance was bustling with people, appearing quite prosperous.

"Is this the little mountain you mentioned? It's quite special." Li Xiu chuckled.

Ximen Guan's face was ashen. The mountain was gone, meaning his lab and the cherished Magic Armor were all lost. This was undoubtedly a huge blow to him.

"Let's enter the city and take a look." Ximen Guan, undeterred, wanted to investigate inside and see if his lab was truly destroyed.

After entering the city, Ximen Guan was completely hopeless.

By its location, it seemed the city had been built by flattening the small mountain, using the mountain's foundation to create a cohesive stone surface. The city walls and buildings were constructed from the same stone.

"Who the hell was so bored as to flatten a stone mountain to build this thing?" Ximen Guan felt he was about to go mad.

The Magic Armor was his life's proudest creation, something he couldn't let go of even in death, and suddenly realizing it was gone, at his age, it was a wonder he didn't collapse on the spot.

"Old Guan, don't get so worked up. It's okay if the mountain was dug up; even if the Magic Armor was taken, it must have gone to someone. Maybe it's in the hands of the fortress's owner, and there's still a chance to get it back." Li Xiu comforted.

"Right!" Ximen Guan's eyes brightened instantly, feeling hopeful again.

"Let's find out who owns this fortress, and why someone would build a city in such a place," suggested Sha Chu, sensing something was off.

The Southern Cross Federation was rich in gemstone deposits, and after the advent of the magic era, several nearby forces built cities here, each wanting a share.

But most of these cities were built on existing ones with strong foundations.

This city had never been heard of before, built in such desolation, yet with so many people, it was indeed strange.

Upon inquiry, they learned that the city had only been open for less than a year and was only famous locally, no wonder even Sha Chu hadn't heard of it.

The influx of people was due to the city's owner announcing a recruitment for Trial Takers.

Inside the fortress, there was a Trial Gate, and the City Lord was recruiting Trial Takers to enter the gate, offering attractive conditions which drew many local desperados and Trial Takers.

Of course, these so-called Trial Takers were merely ordinary people subjected to several enhancements in the Trial Ground, not true Trial Takers in the proper sense.

Unexpectedly, the fortress's owner even publicly disclosed the trial's contents, allowing everyone to know the trial rules and details.

Normally, no one would reveal such information, since understanding the rules of a Trial Gate usually costs numerous lives.

Who would be so foolish to give away such vital information for others to benefit from?

Li Xiu felt something was off, but he wasn't interested in that; finding Ximen Guan's Magic Armor was his main concern.

According to Ximen Guan, his Magic Armor wasn't something just any Magic Armor Master could activate, and since it was incomplete, it couldn't be activated now. Even if someone took it, they couldn't get it to function, and it shouldn't be difficult to buy it back with some money.

However, after asking around, no one mentioned finding a Magic Armor during the mountain excavation.

Li Xiu did hear an interesting thing that piqued his interest in the fortress's Trial Gate.

Chapter 116 Zhongshan City

The City Lord of Zhongshan City surprisingly provides gemstones for free to enter the Trial Ground. After the trial ends, any rewards obtained by the Trial Taker, such as Demon Cores, belong entirely to the Trial Taker, without any fees to be submitted.

No wonder so many Trial Takers flock here. The trial projects and rules of the Trial Ground are already quite clear, and someone is providing gemstones. Anyone keen on becoming a Trial Taker would hardly miss such an opportunity.

"What exactly is the intention of this City Lord of Zhongshan City? Is he some kind of wealthy altruist with no other place to spend money and a questionable brain?" Li Xiu pondered incredulously after hearing about the situation.

Yet the facts lay right in front of them. The Trial Gate of Zhongshan City opens for free every three days, and quite a few people have already claimed rewards from it.

One person saying they got a reward could be deceitful; ten people might still be deceiving. But for several months, there have been hundreds who have taken rewards from the Trial Gate of Zhongshan City. To say it's a scam is indeed a difficult claim.

"Are those selected people secretly arranged by the City Lord of Zhongshan City?" Sha Chu pondered aloud.

"Why not just go visit the City Lord's Mansion to find out," Li Xiu replied with a chuckle.

After all, they planned to visit the City Lord's Mansion. It's most likely that the person who took Ximen Guan's Demon Armor is the City Lord of Zhongshan City, so they have to find out what kind of person he is.

Today happened to be the day for selecting Trial Takers, so Li Xiu and his group headed to the City Lord's Mansion, where the selection was taking place.

In front of the City Lord's Mansion, the square was crowded with people queuing up to register for the Trial Taker selection.

Li Xiu watched for a while and found the selection rules to be quite fair.

The City Lord of Zhongshan City set up three test projects to examine speed, strength, and reaction ability.

The top ten in overall physical fitness will be arranged to enter the Trial Ground tomorrow.

Unfortunately, they did not see the City Lord of Zhongshan City himself; there were designated people responsible for selecting Trial Takers.

"It seems my Demon Armor has fallen into the hands of someone who understands its worth," Ximen Guan mused for a moment and then snorted coldly.

"Do you mean the City Lord of Zhongshan is recruiting so many people to the Trial Ground because of your Demon Armor?" Though Li Xiu understood Ximen Guan's implication, he couldn't fathom the connection between the Demon Armor and the Trial Ground.

Ximen Guan curled his lip and said, "The Demon Armor I researched is not ordinary. Although it's missing some components, unable to be used currently, anyone knowledgeable would instantly see its value, and would go to any lengths to complete it. But to complete the final components, some special Demon Cores are needed. The City Lord of Zhongshan stirred up so much to get the special S-Class Demon Core from this Trial Ground."

"You knew about the Trial Gate here all along?" Li Xiu asked.

"Why do you think I chose to set up my lab here?" Ximen Guan sneered. "Since I know where the Demon Armor is, I'm relieved; I'll find a way to retrieve it later."

After a pause, Ximen Guan said to Li Xiu, "I clearly understand what the City Lord of Zhongshan wants. He's simply recruiting people into the Trial Ground to expedite the occurrence of the S-Class trial. It

seems he's invested quite an effort into this Trial Ground, devising such schemes. If you want some strengthening and rewards, it's worth visiting the ground multiple times while you have the chance. If someone is offering free body enhancements, why not take advantage? And if you do meet the City Lord of Zhongshan, help me discern what kind of person he is."

Ximen Guan shared some detailed information about the Trial Ground with Li Xiu, much more detailed than what the City Lord of Zhongshan revealed.

The Trial Ground of Zhongshan City is named Hero Trial Ground. The trial, while seemingly simple, can also be quite challenging.

The Hero Trial Ground has only one trial project—the Dark Maze, which requires one to traverse a completely dark labyrinth.

The maze itself isn't too difficult; each room has four doors, and many such rooms connect together. Finding the exit within the given time allows one to pass the trial.

The higher the level of the Dark Maze, the more rooms there are, and the shorter the time allowed.

However, for Dark Mazes below A-Class, if you are careful enough and can remember all the paths you've taken, even trying each door one by one will give you enough time to pass the maze.

The main challenge lies in the lack of visual capability inside and relying solely on memory for direction, which easily leads to losing one's sense of direction and retracing the same paths repeatedly, making it hard to exit.

The City Lord of Zhongshan made these rules clear: unless facing an A-Class Dark Maze trial, the chances of getting out alive are high.

However, he failed to mention one thing: the more people who pass the Dark Maze, the higher the chance of a high-level Dark Maze appearing next time it opens.

Of course, more deaths inside also increase the likelihood of higher-level Dark Mazes appearing.

The more people initially pass the Dark Maze easily, the more will be tempted to take advantage.

The City Lord of Zhongshan made it clear as well: encountering an A-Class Dark Maze increases the chance of death significantly. It's their own choice, so even if they die inside, they cannot blame the City Lord.

Chapter 117 Zhongshan City_2

For those who've already tasted the sweetness, even if they encounter an A-level Dark Maze once, they'll just think they were unlucky this time.

"In that case, let's sign up for the trial too," Afei said.

Li Xiu nodded, he had the same intention. The Dark Maze wasn't a problem for him; getting rewards and body enhancements without having to pay any price would be the best.

Li Xiu wasn't short on money before, but now he had to support Demigod Shana and really lacked money, so saving a bit would be good.

Moreover, body enhancement was very important for Li Xiu. The Fire Lotus Sword was still too heavy; he needed his body to become stronger.

Li Xiu, Sha Chu, and Afei all signed up for the Trial Taker selection. Compared to these unremarkable individuals, Li Xiu was stronger than most of them, not to mention Afei and Sha Chu.

Except for Li Xiu's low score in the speed test, the other test scores were high.

In the final comprehensive scoring, Li Xiu was unexpectedly eliminated, while Afei and Sha Chu easily made it.

"Fire Lotus Sword, oh Fire Lotus Sword, what exactly are you doing?" Li Xiu sighed lightly, but didn't think much of it.

After Afei and Sha Chu were taken to the City Lord's Mansion, Li Xiu and Ximen Guan stayed in a hotel within the city.

Beside the hotel was Gemstone Street; after dinner, Li Xiu set out to stroll around Gemstone Street nearby.

Li Xiu asked Ximen Guan to join him, but he refused, staying alone behind closed doors in his room, busy with something unknown.

Zhongshan City, located at the intersection of Guyue City and Red Sand City, doesn't produce gemstones, but there are many gemstone merchants from other parts of the Southern Cross Federation.

Gemstone Street is quite bustling; besides the stores, street vendors can be seen everywhere along the street.

They spread cloth on the ground or set up a worn-out table and sell gemstones there.

Usually, gemstones aren't placed on the table; when a customer comes to look, the vendor takes out small plastic bags, each containing various gemstones, mainly rubies, sapphires, and spinels.

There are also some cheaper ones like tourmalines, peridots, aquamarines, zircons, topazes, moonstones, etc.

However, most gemstones sold at these stalls are of poor quality, especially rubies and sapphires, which are full of impurities, and few are large; some even sell raw stones directly.

Li Xiu suspected that many vendors were gemstone miners, who dug gems from black mines and brought them here to sell.

Of course, it couldn't be ruled out that some were doing business without cost, robbing gemstones outside and selling them here.

Li Xiu walked along, not caring about the appearance, cut, or brilliance of the gemstones; he didn't care whether the gemstones were big or small, mainly whether the gemstones made him feel hungry.

As he walked and looked, he was somewhat disappointed; gemstones nurturing magic spirits were indeed rare. He had seen no less than a thousand gemstones along the way, yet not one could make him feel hungry.

"What kind of gemstone is this?" Li Xiu finally discovered a gemstone at a roadside stall that made him hungry.

The stall just had a rag with a pile of colorful gemstones on it, ranging from as small as a fingernail to larger than a mahjong tile.

"This here is authentic natural Topaz, and that is natural Crystal Stone." The old man enthusiastically responded when he heard Li Xiu asking.

Although Li Xiu hadn't paid much attention to gemstones before, he knew a bit about them commonly.

Topaz as a gemstone was quite common before the magic spirits descended; even now, Topaz isn't very expensive because it's rarely used to open a Trial Gate, and the production of Topaz is very high, so its value is naturally not high.

The hardness and refractive index of Topaz are relatively high among gemstones, even close to diamonds.

When Topaz was first discovered, someone mistook it for diamonds.

A diamond on a king's crown was later proven to be a colorless Topaz.

Natural Topaz is mostly colorless, with a few having hues of orange, yellow, blue, and red.

Most Topaz sold on the market previously had undergone treatment, like laser or coating, showing blue or pink colors, and such Topaz itself wasn't very valuable.

The colorful Topaz displayed at the old man's stall was clearly the kind that had undergone color treatment, suitable for jewelry but not very good for feeding magic spirits.

Of course, if it were true natural Topaz, especially the yellow Topaz known as Emperor Topaz, its value would be another matter.

"Is this one also Topaz?" Li Xiu pointed to a deep blue Topaz and asked.

"Authentic natural London Blue Topaz. Look at this color, this cut; this brilliance in the droplet, weighs over thirteen carats. You won't find another Topaz as perfect as this on the whole street, only in exchange for fifty pounds of rice..." The old man saw Li Xiu as a novice and went on to exaggerate.

"I don't have rice; how about I trade this raw stone for it?" Li Xiu took out a Pink Spinel Raw Stone, placing it in his palm for the old man to see.

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This is one of the pink spinel raw stones that Li Xiu found last time. When it was offered to the Pink Nightmare, perhaps due to its small size and many impurities, the Pink Nightmare didn't consume it.

There were originally five of such pink spinel raw stones, with each raw stone being just over a carat. Once cut and polished, the remaining part would be less than a carat.

The old man's eyes lit up when he saw the pink spinel raw stone, but his face showed a somewhat troubled expression as he said, "Such a small raw stone; what gemstone is this raw stone of?"

"Spinel," Li Xiu replied.

Seeing that Li Xiu knew what this raw stone was, the old man continued, "Spinel is a good thing, but this raw stone is too small. After cutting and polishing, it might only be about 0.5 carats. It's not very suitable to trade for my topaz. Well, let me take a look first."

The old man took the spinel raw stone from Li Xiu's hand, brought it close to his eyes, and looked it over carefully, feeling happier the more he looked at it.

Although this spinel raw stone was not large, its color and quality were quite good. If cut well, it could yield about 0.7 to 0.8 carats. While its value might not be very high, it's much more valuable than his topaz.

The uses for spinel far exceed those for topaz, yet its production is much less than that of topaz.

"It looks pretty good, but trading such a small spinel raw stone for my large natural London blue topaz would be a big loss for me. Do you have any more such raw stones? Give me another one, and I'll trade with you." The old man had a reluctant look on his face, but his eyes, which seemed like hooks, glanced directly at Li Xiu's pockets.

Li Xiu was about to say something when he heard a person next to him say, "If you won't trade, I will."

Li Xiu turned his head to see a young man about twenty years old, quite handsome, perhaps a bit too handsome, with very fair skin and delicate features. Standing over 180 centimeters tall, his body proportions were very good, and his long legs were quite striking.

Seeing Li Xiu looking at him, the young man nodded and smiled at Li Xiu, then said, "I also have London blue topaz. If you're interested, you can come to my side and take a look. You can choose from several teardrop blue topazes that are over a dozen carats. I only want this spinel raw stone."

The old man, upon hearing the young man's words, did not get angry or react, but instead said to Li Xiu with a sarcastic tone, "Young brother, there are all kinds of people nowadays. Be careful not to be taken in by a small gain and end up with a big loss. If something goes wrong, don't blame me for not warning you."

The young man was clearly still a bit inexperienced. Hearing the old man's words, his face changed immediately, and he seemed to want to say something to the old man.

Li Xiu stopped the young man and smiled at the old man, saying, "Sir, since I spoke with you first, of course, I'll prioritize trading with you. If you won't trade, then I'll consider others."

"Alright, since you seem like a good person, I'll treat it as a good deed for the day and prevent anyone from being deceived by a bad person without knowing what's happening." The old man intentionally glanced at the young man as he spoke.

This was not even an insinuation; he was outright saying the young man was a scammer trying to hoodwink Li Xiu.

"Who are you calling a scammer?" The young man was both angry and anxious, but he didn't make a move against the old man and couldn't find the words to retort at the moment.

"Thank you, sir." Li Xiu smiled, accepting the blue topaz handed over by the old man.

"You'll regret trading with him." The young man was so angry that he stomped his foot. Seeing that Li Xiu had already traded, he turned and left, frustrated.

But Li Xiu grabbed his arm, put away the blue topaz, and smiled at the young man, saying, "Brother, don't rush off. How about joining me for a cup of tea?"

"You have already traded; what's the point of tea now?" The young man was unhappy, but he didn't shake off Li Xiu's hand holding him.

"Let's chat over tea." Li Xiu spotted a tea stall not far to the left and led the young man over, ordered a pot of tea, and sat down.

"Thank you for your patronage. Come again when you have more raw stones, I'll give you a discount next time," the old man said gleefully to Li Xiu as he stowed away the spinel raw stone.

"Thank you." Li Xiu's words irritated the young man even more.

"Two rookies; the old man gave them a lesson, a bit of tuition money is nothing." The old man smugly pulled out the pink spinel raw stone and looked at it, touching and admiring it, unable to part with it.

"If you didn't believe me, why did you bring me here?" The young man was still disgruntled after sitting down.

"I do believe you," Li Xiu smiled.

"If you believed me, why did you trade with him?" The young man thought Li Xiu was just giving him lip service.

"Don't rush; take a sip of tea, and I'll explain slowly." Li Xiu poured a cup of tea and placed it in front of the young man.

"What do you mean?" The young man, though a bit impulsive, was not stupid and sensed there was more to Li Xiu's words.

After taking a sip of tea, Li Xiu put the cup down, took the topaz from his pocket, and placed it on the table in front of the young man.

"Look at this gemstone more carefully," Li Xiu smiled.

"What's there to see? Isn't it just a topaz?" The young man seemed puzzled but still picked up the gemstone, examining it closely.

The teardrop-shaped blue gemstone had a great luster, finely cut; from different angles, you could see impressive fire.

"This gemstone... seems..." As he looked, the young man seemed to notice something, and his expression began to change.

"Seems like what?" Li Xiu asked with a sip of tea, smiling.

"Isn't this topaz?" The young man looked at Li Xiu uncertainly.

"What do you think it is?" Li Xiu continued to ask.

After close inspection, the young man looked at Li Xiu somewhat unsurely and said, "Could this be an aquamarine... with such a color... if it's aquamarine, it would have to be Santa Maria color... but this color is slightly different from the Santa Maria aquamarine."

Li Xiu remained silent with a smile. He knew it certainly wasn't dyed topaz, but he also didn't know what the gemstone was exactly, so he let the young man see for himself.

Chapter 119 Saint Maria Aquamarine

The deeper the color of an aquamarine, the more valuable it is. Before the era of magic spirits, gemstone appraisal institutions designated a unique color name for aquamarines with top-tier colors, calling it "Saint Maria" color.

Just like the Jedi Knight for spinel, aquamarine must meet specific color standards to be called Saint Maria Aquamarine.

The Saint Maria color aquamarine and London Blue Topaz have somewhat similar colors, but the color of London Blue Topaz is artificially processed, so the color standards are uniform without any color difference.

Saint Maria Aquamarine, however, is different. Even if they are all Saint Maria colors, the tones can vary from deep to light; as long as they meet certain standards, they can be called Saint Maria color.

This particular Saint Maria Sea Blue Sapphire is noticeably deeper in color than most Saint Maria tone aquamarines and more closely resembles London Blue Topaz.

The old man was good at doing business and had decent calculations, but his professional skill was evidently lacking.

It's unclear where he acquired this batch of topaz, but it included an aquamarine like this one.

"The color of this aquamarine is so deep; calling it a super Saint Maria color wouldn't be an exaggeration. I've never seen such a deep blue before; at first, I couldn't even recognize it, and it nearly ruined your deal." The young man examined it for a while, returned the Saint Maria aquamarine to Li Xiu, and said with a smile, "If the old man knew he swapped a ten-plus carat super Saint Maria aquamarine for a one-carat spinel raw stone, he would be livid. Guess this is poetic justice."

The young man paused, looked at Li Xiu, and asked, somewhat puzzled, "Why did you tell me about this? If this spreads, it won't do you any good. It might even stir up trouble."

"If I don't tell you, will you still intervene if you encounter something similar next time?" Li Xiu asked the young man with a teasing smile.

"Well..." The young man wasn't quite sure whether he'd still get involved.

"Although I'm not a good person, I don't want to discourage those with good intentions. People like you are too rare in this era, and I don't want them to decrease any further," Li Xiu said seriously.

The young man was deeply moved by this, feeling a sense of regret over meeting late and excitedly said, "Meeting you today is my good fortune, I, Chu Jun. Everyone around me has always told me that this era is all about respecting the strong and putting profits first, that I should consider my self-interest more. But I don't believe that; I want to change this era. Sometimes, I even doubt myself, questioning whether I'm too naive and too childish. Meeting you today reassures me that my persistence wasn't wrong; I should do something for this era..."

Chu Jun grew more enthusiastic as he spoke and couldn't help but want to share all the grievances and ambitions he'd carried in the past with the person right before him.

Li Xiu listened intently; he found Chu Jun to be quite an interesting person.

"By the way, I don't even know your name," Chu Jun said, realizing only after speaking for a while that he still didn't know the name of the person before him.

"Li Xiu," Li Xiu replied.

"Li Xiu, why did you come to Zhongshan City?" Chu Jun asked again.

"I originally came to participate in the trial, but I was eliminated due to poor physical fitness," Li Xiu said with a smile.

"That's easy to fix. If you truly want to participate in the trial, I can arrange it for you," Chu Jun said eagerly.

"Does it require money?" Li Xiu was currently very concerned about financial matters.

"No need, leave it to me. Just give me your number, and I'll notify you once I've made arrangements," Chu Jun said warmly.

Li Xiu thought for a moment, then gave his number to Chu Jun. He truly admired this young man; whether Chu Jun could accomplish this or not, making a friend wouldn't be bad.

The two of them chatted for a while longer. The old man running a stall came in, holding his worn-out cloth, and sat at a nearby table.

"Hey, you two are still here?" The old man greeted them with a smile.

Li Xiu smiled and nodded politely, while Chu Jun, although aware the old man had suffered a great loss, showed no kindness towards him, not even looking his way, continuing to drink his tea.

The old man didn't say anything further, ordered a pot of tea, and drank while humming a tune, tapping his finger on his leg, appearing totally at ease.

"Let's go, find another place to continue our conversation," Chu Jun frowned slightly, stood up, and said to Li Xiu.

"Another day, it's getting late; I need to go back and rest," Li Xiu looked at the sky, intending to return.

Li Xiu settled the bill, and as the two were about to leave, they saw a middle-aged man rush into the tea shop's door, almost bumping into Li Xiu. Without an apology, he hurried into the tea shop, glancing around and finding the old man before immediately rushing over.

"Dad, where's that batch of topaz I gave you this morning?" The middle-aged man asked urgently as soon as he reached the old man.

"Here it is, what's the matter?" The old man patted his waist pouch, asking in confusion.

"Let me see," the old man's son impatiently said. Rather than waiting for the old man to act, he reached out and unzipped the old man's waist pouch, taking out bags containing gemstones one by one.

He quickly looked through bag after bag, found the package of London Blue Topaz, examined it repeatedly, and finally poured the topaz out onto the table, inspecting them one by one.

Chapter 120 Saint Maria Aquamarine_2

"Son, what are you looking for?" The old man became more puzzled.

"Is there a teardrop-shaped blue topaz in here?" The middle-aged man hurriedly searched as he asked anxiously.

"A teardrop-shaped blue topaz, yeah, it was just sold. Why, is there a problem?" The old man's heart skipped a beat, and his good mood instantly vanished.

"Sold!" The middle-aged man's body stiffened as he turned his head somewhat mechanically to look at the old man, his eyes bloodshot. He trembled as he asked, "When was it sold, and to whom?"

"Just a moment ago, sold to..." The old man turned his head to look at the table where Li Xiu and Chu Jun had been, but their shadows were nowhere to be seen; they had already settled the bill and left.

"Those two young people were just here, how did they leave so quickly, what's going on?" The old man muttered.

The middle-aged man ignored the old man and rushed out, but how could he still see any trace of Li Xiu and Chu Jun? The long street was filled with people, and he had only caught a hurried glimpse of them just now. Now, even if Li Xiu stood before him, he probably wouldn't recognize him.

"Son, what exactly is going on? It's just a topaz, why are you so worked up?" The old man chased after him and, seeing his son's demeanor, realized that something was amiss.

"What topaz? That's aquamarine, Saint Maria color aquamarine. The third master and his gang don't know anything, they dug up a batch of crystals and topaz in an old city district destroyed by demon spirits. Who knew there were a few teardrop-cut aquamarines mixed in? Those fools didn't understand anything, thinking they were topazes, and lumped them all together. Later, when they were selling them, a knowledgeable buyer recognized them as aquamarine. There were a total of five teardrop-cut aquamarines, and two of them reached the Saint Maria color. When I went to pick up the goods, I remember taking a teardrop-shaped one, and it was the deepest color..." The middle-aged man grew more anxious with each word.

The old man felt as if he'd been struck by lightning, and stood there dumbfounded.

"That's not topaz... it's aquamarine... Saint Maria aquamarine..." The old man pulled out the spinel raw stone he had just traded for, which he had been caressing like a treasure, and angrily tossed it to the ground, exclaiming in grief and fury, "Damn, I've hunted geese all my life, and now two young sparrows have poked out my eyes..."

After Li Xiu and Chu Jun parted ways, he returned to the inn where he was staying.

The light in Ximen Guan's room was still on, but the door was closed, making it unclear if he was asleep.

Upon returning to his own room, Li Xiu took out the super Saint Maria color aquamarine and admired it in his palm.

The facets were smooth as mirrors, emitting a blue glow under the light, resembling a deep blue ice drop.

The profound deep blue seemed to calm one's mind the longer they looked at it.

Li Xiu took out a needle, pricked his finger, and let a drop of blood fall onto the super Saint Maria aquamarine.

He knew his blood was somewhat special, possibly related to the demon spirit infant that had died within him.

Others needed a long time to complete a blood contract with a demon spirit gemstone, but he only needed a drop of blood to complete it.

Although Li Xiu was still somewhat concerned about whether the demon spirit infant had truly died, at this point, worrying was useless. It was better to take advantage of the current convenience.

Once the blood was absorbed by the aquamarine, it quickly transformed from solid to liquid, as if coming to life, flowing onto Li Xiu's finger, and slowly solidifying into a deep blue gemstone ring.

When the gemstone ring was fully formed, with a thought, it flew from Li Xiu's hand, transforming into a translucent blue, jellyfish-like demon spirit before him.

The demon spirit floated in the air, as if swimming through water, its transparent body emitting a faint blue fluorescence, eerie yet beautiful.

Ice Soul Sea Demon (evolvable): E-grade demon spirit (Flowing Colors), can summon E-grade demon spirit Ice Soul Sea Demon.

"Only a Flowing Color demon spirit? It seems that Radiant demon spirits are indeed very rare." Li Xiu had already anticipated that the quality of the Ice Soul Sea Demon demon spirit couldn't be too high, so he wasn't particularly disappointed.

Although the Ice Soul Sea Demon only had a Flowing Colors quality, it also had its benefits.

Ordinary aquamarines were cheaper than spinel, and upgrading the Ice Soul Sea Demon's level would cost less than training a Jedi Knight, which was also an advantage.

Li Xiu was already considering whether to sell some of his demon cores in exchange for aquamarines to raise the level of the Ice Soul Sea Demon.

If there were an S-grade demon spirit by one's side, regardless of the quality, it would still be an undeniable force.

However, Li Xiu didn't have many demon cores left. Afei returned his portion of the demon cores to him, and these days Li Xiu had been wearing some of the demon cores on him, which vanished one by one each day.

Li Xiu felt that his physique had improved somewhat, but the improvement wasn't significant. Compared to the energy in those demon cores, Li Xiu's physical enhancement was not proportional.

This made Li Xiu suspect that the demon spirit infant might not have been killed after all, and that most of the energy from the demon cores had been stolen by the demon spirit infant.

"Li Xiu, it's all set. Tomorrow morning at eight, come straight to the back door of the City Lord's Mansion, and I'll take you to participate in the trial," Chu Jun sent a message.

"Got it, I'll be there at eight sharp." After replying to the message, Li Xiu began delving into the materials he could find.