

When God 121

Chapter 121 Saint Maria Aquamarine_3

The number of Trial Gates discovered globally has already surpassed tens of thousands, but those truly developed by humans are less than one-tenth.

Most Trial Gates, once entered, leave no one able to come out alive, or very few can.

The Trial Gates developed now are filled up by the lives of major forces.

However, as the physical qualities of Trial Takers improve, it's believed that the speed of exploring Trial Gates will quicken, and there will be more true Trial Takers.

But since those with the ability to explore Trial Gates are the major forces, it's easy to imagine that it will still be difficult for ordinary people to become true Trial Takers; most real Trial Takers will still be controlled by those rulers.

Li Xiu is now researching Trial Gates, only wanting to find a place where he can quickly undertake trials, to improve his physical qualities and become a true Trial Taker.

After much research, Li Xiu discovered that what he lacked wasn't Trial Gates, but money.

Every time a Trial Gate is opened, at least ten gemstones are needed, and generally, the weight of the gemstones should be above one carat.

The better the quality of the gemstone and the heavier it is, the wider the Trial Gate opens, and the longer the duration.

Gemstones of poor quality might exhaust their energy even before the gate opens.

This doesn't affect Li Xiu much; he only wants to participate in the trial alone, needing only a crack in the gate wide enough for him to enter.

But even so, at least ten gemstones are needed each time. If they are topaz or similar gemstones, ten of them don't cost much money, but if they are rubies or diamonds, the cost is not low either.

What's more, based on Li Xiu's own experience and deduction, different Trial Gates do affect becoming a true Trial Taker.

For example, within the Sea Heaven Trial Ground, the Blood Pattern Revolver is obviously more advanced than the Fire Lotus Sword, with the Fire Lotus Sword being of Shining Quality contract; the Blood Pattern Revolver's quality should be higher, but whether it reaches Radiant Level, Li Xiu isn't sure.

To become a true Trial Taker, one must possess a Symbiotic Contract, and a Symbiotic Contract cannot be replaced. Thus, Li Xiu believes his first contract must be the top-tier Radiant Contract.

But how to judge which Trial Ground can yield a Radiant Contract? This is not within Li Xiu's knowledge range. Theoretically, the more precious the gemstone used, the higher level contract the Trial Ground might yield.

According to this theory, saving money is impossible, unless Li Xiu is willing to happen upon a Symbiotic Contract randomly; otherwise, he can only spend a lot of money on those expensive Trial Gates.

Another issue is why the Fire Lotus Sword didn't become his Symbiotic Contract, which puzzled Li Xiu.

After much contemplation, he came up with two possibilities.

One possibility is that the magical entity larva within his body was causing trouble, preventing the Fire Lotus Sword from becoming his Symbiotic Contract.

After all, the contract could harm the magical entity, so the larva not wanting Li Xiu to successfully form the contract is quite normal.

Another possibility is related to the Blood Pattern Revolver, a possibility Li Xiu only thought of after a long time of consideration.

When Li Xiu was using the Blood Pattern Revolver to fire, his strength hadn't reached the standard of contract, so the Blood Pattern Revolver didn't resonate with him or become his Symbiotic Contract.

Yet when Li Xiu's blood stained the Blood Pattern Revolver, it made firing feel a lot easier, but he still couldn't lift the Blood Pattern Revolver.

From the knowledge Li Xiu obtained from Kun Sha and Sha Chu, without having lifted the contract, blood is of no use in forming an agreement with the contract.

According to Sha Chu, even if one drained all their blood and soaked the contract in it, it wouldn't trigger any reaction from the contract.

The peculiarity lies here; Li Xiu's blood indeed caused a slight reaction in the Blood Pattern Revolver, but the contract wasn't successful.

Li Xiu suspects this could be related to the magical entity larva in his body, regardless of whether the larva is alive or not; it has changed Li Xiu's physique, making him slightly different from a normal human.

This was evident when the sinister creature climbed onto Li Xiu without causing harm.

Perhaps the sinister creature mistook Li Xiu for a magical entity, attempting to parasitize him, thus climbing onto him.

Hence, Li Xiu wonders if it's because his blood is special; although it didn't complete the contract with the Blood Pattern Revolver, it has established some kind of connection, affecting other contracts forming agreements with Li Xiu, which is why the Fire Lotus Sword didn't become his Symbiotic Contract.

Between the two possibilities, Li Xiu favors the latter because Li Xiu doesn't even know if the magical entity larva is alive; he can't find it, and even with a Symbiotic Contract, he wouldn't be able to kill the magical entity larva.

If the latter is true, then Li Xiu only has two paths to become a true Trial Taker.

One path is to return to the Sea Heaven Trial Ground and complete a contract with the Blood Pattern Revolver, making it his Symbiotic Contract.

The other path is to find a contract stronger than the Blood Pattern Revolver; as long as that contract is not affected by the Blood Pattern Revolver, it can naturally form a successful contract, becoming Li Xiu's Symbiotic Contract.

The Sea Heaven Trial Ground is Revered Sky's domain and harbors unknown terrifying magical entities; who knows what will happen if the larva's parents meet Li Xiu.

One larva is already so bizarre and frightening; it's hard to imagine how terrifying its parents might be.

Preparing fully is necessary if Li Xiu intends to go to the Sea Heaven Trial Ground; until then, Li Xiu can only seek other routes.

After extensive research, Li Xiu thinks the most likely known Trial Ground to yield high-quality contracts, and relatively easy to enter, is the "Purgatory Gate Trial Ground," controlled by Red Sand City.

Chapter 122 Dark Maze

The conditions for opening the Purgatory Gate Trial Ground are extremely stringent. The entire gate has seventy-two slots, meaning seventy-two gemstones are needed to open the Trial Gate, which is a much higher requirement than the average Trial Gate.

A standard Trial Gate can be opened with more than ten gemstones, and the Sea Heaven Trial Ground needs thirty-six gemstones. The Purgatory Gate needs seventy-two, which is twice that of the Sea Heaven Trial Ground.

Even more terrifying is that Red Sand City researched for a long time, initially trying various gemstones, but couldn't open the Purgatory Gate. Until someone suddenly had a flash of inspiration, embedding thirty-six blue gemstones and thirty-six rubies into the Purgatory Gate, which then lit up, showing signs of opening.

In the end, seventy-two one-carat red and blue gemstones barely supported the Purgatory Gate to open a small crevice, too small for even a child to squeeze through, before the gemstone's energy was completely consumed and the door closed again.

Fortunately, Red Sand City is a renowned worldwide producer of rubies and blue gemstones, and the Red Sand City Lord didn't mind such an expense, forcing the Purgatory Gate open with gemstones.

It is said that the Red Sand City Lord used thirty-six rubies over three carats and thirty-six blue gemstones over three carats, forcibly opening the Purgatory Gate and sending in a squad of warriors.

Because the cost of opening the Purgatory Gate was too high, that time the Red Sand City Lord sent in over a thousand people, and only one person came out alive in the end.

Since then, the Red Sand City Lord has never opened the Purgatory Gate again. That person who came out alive disappeared from the mortal world, and no one knows what the trial inside the Purgatory Gate entails, except for the Red Sand City Lord.

Li Xiu is quite interested in the Purgatory Gate. The contract inside the Purgatory Gate must be extraordinary. If one can obtain the contract from there, it might be possible to fulfill the pact of life.

Of course, he currently knows nothing about the situation inside the Purgatory Gate, nor does he have enough gemstones to open the Purgatory Gate, and the Red Sand City Lord may not let him use the Purgatory Gate. So, this matter can only wait for an opportunity.

Fortunately, Li Xiu is not in a hurry. Even if he wants to go to the Purgatory Gate, he must first improve his physical condition. Otherwise, if one pays such a heavy price, enters, sees the contract, but can't take it, wouldn't that be foolish?

So the current priority is to improve physical fitness.

"Now, being able to use the Zhongshan City's Hero Trial Ground for free is exactly to my liking. I wonder how strong Chu Jun's connections are over there, whether they can help me enter the Hero Trial Ground a few times." Li Xiu secretly planned in his heart.

Early the next morning, Li Xiu knocked on Ximen Guan's door.

"Hey, old man, are you going out today?" Li Xiu asked.

"No, what's up?" Ximen Guan asked impatiently, showing no intention of inviting Li Xiu in.

"I'm going out for a bit. Here's something I can't carry around conveniently. Can you look after it for a while?" Li Xiu was holding the Ghost-faced Magic Armor wrapped in cloth.

With Ah Fei not around, he couldn't conveniently carry the armor to the trial, nor was he comfortable leaving it in the room.

In these times, who knows what kind of people are in the hotel. If someone took his magic armor, Li Xiu wouldn't even have a place to cry.

"Put it over there." Ximen Guan finally pulled the door fully open, allowing Li Xiu to place the item in his room.

After Li Xiu left, Ximen Guan closed the door and didn't even glance at what Li Xiu had left, busying himself with his phone.

"Humph, trying to steal Ximen Guan's magic armor, do you have a death wish? Once I modify a set of magic armor to serve as the controller of my treasured magic armor, even if you complete the final step, you'll only make it my wedding dress..." Ximen Guan typed while secretly feeling pleased.

He believed he was undoubtedly a genius, only that making money now was seriously difficult.

"Bullshit, what do you know, energy guidance circulation systems must be done this way. Your double circulation system is just trash, do you understand..." Ximen Guan typed while roaring.

He originally thought with his knowledge of magic armor, earning a bit online to buy a set of magic armor would be no problem.

However, the modification designs he provided were criticized severely by others. The things he talked about were considered outdated, and the perplexing talks by others were unknown to him. Many times, he only knew what it was after searching online.

Having struggled these past few days, Ximen Guan hadn't earned a cent and all his plans were rejected. Some even called him rubbish, saying he didn't understand magic armor modification at all.

"How can I get an S-level magic armor? If worse comes to worst, even an A-level would do!" Ximen Guan felt somewhat depressed.

Little did Ximen Guan know, right in his room lay a quietly resting set of S-level magic armor.

As Ximen Guan scratched his head thinking of ways to earn money to buy magic armor, Li Xiu arrived at the back gate of the City Lord's Mansion.

From afar, he saw Chu Jun waiting for him at the gate. When Chu Jun saw Li Xiu approaching, he quickly came up and handed a number plate to Li Xiu.

"Only ten people can enter the Hero Trial Ground at a time. This is your number plate. Take it over there, and someone will lead you." Chu Jun thought for a moment and then said to Li Xiu, "I heard them say that the Dark Maze below A level isn't too difficult. As long as you calm down and carefully memorize the route, don't confuse yourself, the difficulty shouldn't be too big..."

Chapter 123 Dark Maze_2

"Don't worry, I should be able to handle it." Li Xiu didn't find Chu Jun's concern annoying, feeling his good intentions.

"Alright then, I'll be off. There's still something I need to handle over there, you should go in quickly, they're about to set off." Having arranged things, Chu Jun jogged away.

Li Xiu entered through the back door with a number plate. The guards did not stop him, presumably because Chu Jun had already taken care of it.

When he arrived at the courtyard gate pointed out by Chu Jun, he saw that inside were all the Trial Takers recruited yesterday, including A Fei and Sha Chu.

Li Xiu showed his number plate, and the guard let him in.

"Why are you here?" A Fei came to Li Xiu's side and asked with some confusion.

"I made a friend yesterday, who got me the qualification to enter the Hero Trial Ground," Li Xiu explained.

"I was wondering why we were one man short this morning, turns out it was you who replaced him. What kind of friend did you meet, seems like you have quite the connection?" Sha Chu said with a smile.

"Did you see the City Lord of Zhongshan?" Li Xiu ignored Sha Chu and pondered before asking.

"No, everything here is handled by that adjutant, we didn't get to see what the City Lord of Zhongshan looks like at all," A Fei replied.

"Let's complete the trial first then," Li Xiu nodded.

When it was time for the trial, the Zhongshan City's City Lord's adjutant led Li Xiu and the other ten people to the Trial Gate.

This Trial Gate was located in the City Lord's Mansion, in a separate large courtyard, standing a gray-black gate, less than ten meters high. Among the Trial Gates Li Xiu had seen, this one was relatively small.

The adjutant personally embedded over twenty black crystals on the gate, which radiated a black light and then slowly opened.

Li Xiu was somewhat surprised, the Hero Trial Ground actually needed over twenty gemstones to open, which is quite a number.

Fortunately, black crystals are relatively cheap, much cheaper compared to pink apatite, so the cost to open it isn't that high.

Li Xiu exchanged a glance with A Fei and Sha Chu, and then followed the other Trial Takers through the door.

Inside a white room, the ten Trial Takers all found themselves in tight white clothes. At Li Xiu's waist was a light red belt, making him look relatively fine, but Sha Chu was quite eye-catching with her red dress and red boots. Thankfully, her Tang Blade, as a Symbiotic Contract, was absorbed into her body, otherwise, she would have stood out even more. Even so, the other Trial Takers looked at her in confusion.

The white room resembled a white box, with white walls, floor, and ceiling. Each wall had a door, but no one knew which door led to the exit.

Every time in the Dark Maze, the path to the exit was different, so previous experience was of little use.

The light screen that appeared on the wall lit up the entire room brightly.

"Welcome to the Hero Trial Ground, the B-level trial is about to begin, here are the rules..." The cold voice in such an oppressive environment made people feel particularly uncomfortable.

The rules were the same as what Li Xiu knew before: as long as the exit is found, one passes the first round of tests. There were no other restrictions, just find the exit.

While the light screen still illuminated the room, Li Xiu carefully observed the room and the doors, hoping to find something.

Based on Li Xiu's previous experience, trials generally had patterns to follow, and it wasn't just about brute force to pass.

A trial like the Dark Maze couldn't just rely on luck. Besides the sense of direction, calm judgment, and memory, Li Xiu wanted to know if there were other solutions.

"Are you also a Trial Taker?" While Li Xiu was observing the room, a Trial Taker suddenly approached him and asked this out of the blue.

The other Trial Takers didn't understand what this meant, thinking all who came here were Trial Takers, considering if that Trial Taker was out of his mind.

Li Xiu naturally didn't think so, he carefully scrutinized the person in front and countered, "Are you too?"

This person appeared to be in his twenties, with ordinary looks, ordinary build, and ordinary stature. He was the kind of person you'd forget once you looked away.

The Fire Lotus Sword at Li Xiu's waist and the Demon Spirit Ring on his hand were clear marks of a real Trial Taker, which couldn't be hidden.

But on this person, Li Xiu didn't see a contract, only noticing a Black Crystal Ring on his finger, which might be a Demon Spirit Ring.

"This is my contract." The man raised his finger with the Black Crystal Ring, answering Li Xiu's question.

This surprised Li Xiu a bit, not expecting the Black Crystal Ring to not be a Demon Spirit Ring but a contract.

"Any instructions?" Li Xiu looked at the man and asked.

"Just confirming something." The man replied.

"Confirm what?" Li Xiu slightly frowned, feeling a bit off with the man's tone.

"Confirming my target. I only deal with ordinary people. I don't mess with Trial Takers, as they didn't pay me to kill Trial Takers." The man's straightforwardness startled Li Xiu.

The man made it clear that he was hired to come in and kill but wasn't told there were real Trial Takers inside.

So he would only kill ordinary people, and he wouldn't bother with Li Xiu and Sha Chu.

This could be considered both a gesture of goodwill and a threat.

He didn't want to trouble Li Xiu and Sha Chu, and hoped they wouldn't interfere with his affairs, each minding their own business.

Chapter 124 Dark Maze_3

Li Xiu was just about to say something when the countdown ended, and the light screen suddenly disappeared, leaving the entire room in complete darkness.

Li Xiu immediately grabbed the Fei next to him and quickly retreated, leaning directly against the wall.

Although the man said he wouldn't cause trouble for Li Xiu and Sha Chu, who knows if he was telling the truth.

Even if he was, Li Xiu couldn't let him harm Fei.

Li Xiu attempted to summon a demon spirit, but failed. In the Trial Ground, demon spirits and contracts couldn't be used.

"Ah!" A scream of agony echoed in the room, a piercing sound that sent a shiver through everyone's heart.

Then Li Xiu heard the sound of chaotic footsteps and doors opening and closing repeatedly.

Li Xiu remained still, and Fei behind him didn't utter a word either.

"Who's the woman behind you?" The man's voice spoke again in the darkness; he hadn't left after all.

"A friend." Li Xiu replied.

"That's a bit troublesome. I accepted the Gemstone from someone, so I have to do the job for them. It's one thing for you as a Trial Taker, but she's not a Trial Taker. If I don't kill her, it wouldn't look very professional." The man sighed.

"So?" Li Xiu asked nonchalantly.

"So I hope you can leave here, find another girlfriend once you're out. This girlfriend of yours isn't very attractive anyway. With your status as a Trial Taker, finding a better one shouldn't be hard." The man continued in the darkness, "Time is short, I have to kill those other people too. I'll give you three seconds to decide. If you're still here after I count to three, then I'm sorry, I'll have no choice but to kill a Trial Taker for an ordinary price."

"No need to count, you can't kill her." Li Xiu stated.

"Seems like you still don't understand. Forget it, I hate losing deals. Let me put it plainly: you can't see anything here, but for me, this place is no different from outside. You should get it with me saying that." The man added.

"Understood."

"Then get going if you understand."

"Alright, then I'm leaving now." After saying that, Li Xiu pulled Fei to leave.

"You're just asking to die." The man sighed, then, like a ghost, he swiftly approached Li Xiu.

His footsteps were as light as a cat's, almost inaudible, and in a flash, he was beside Li Xiu, reaching out his fingers to stab at Li Xiu's eyes.

The man was somewhat wary of Sha Chu. After all, Trial Takers with so many contracts on them were definitely not to be trifled with.

Li Xiu, like him, only had one contract, indicating that Li Xiu hadn't been a Trial Taker for long and his level shouldn't be high.

As long as he wasn't a D-level Trial Taker, in the Dark Maze, the man had full confidence he could kill him.

He possessed the Dark Pupil skill, allowing him to see in the dark, and the Ghost Wind skill, which lightened his body, sped him up, and reduced the sound made when his body touched external objects.

The Dark Maze was a natural stronghold for him, unless the opponent was a Trial Taker more advanced than he was, strong enough to crush him in strength, otherwise, he feared no one here.

"Making money is tough, and I still have to kill a Trial Taker. Once I'm out, they better pay me more; I, Ye Yuzhen, don't do unprofitable business." Ye Yuzhen thought to himself.

As his fingers were about to pierce into Li Xiu's eyes, Li Xiu was holding Fei with one hand and opening the door with the other, seemingly unaware of the approaching threat.

"So what if you're a Trial Taker? In the Dark Maze, I, Ye Yuzhen, am the absolute ruler." Just as Ye Yuzhen's fingers were about to touch Li Xiu's eyelid, he suddenly felt a great force from his abdomen.

Li Xiu's foot, who knows when, was kicked into Ye Yuzhen's abdomen, sending him stumbling several steps backward, clutching his abdomen, and kneeling on the ground with a thud.

The pain made Ye Yuzhen's whole body tremble, but he bit his lip and didn't make a sound, then silently rolled to the side.

He couldn't make a sound, to prevent Li Xiu from hearing it and chasing after him.

But just after he rolled over and raised his head, he saw a fist rapidly enlarging before his eyes.

Bang!

Ye Yuzhen only saw stars before him, and he fell straight back, landing on the ground with another thud.

Ye Yuzhen's ability to take a hit was indeed somewhat strong; Li Xiu had used all his strength with both a kick and a punch, yet he hadn't managed to kill Ye Yuzhen.

Even after being punched directly in the face by Li Xiu, as soon as he hit the ground, he immediately flipped backwards, rolling away from Li Xiu.

Li Xiu didn't have night vision abilities, but as long as he could hear a little sound, he could judge the trajectories of all movements, almost like seeing them.

Seeing how tough Ye Yuzhen was, if he continued to entangle with him, it would probably take some time to finish him off.

The clear time in the Dark Maze was only half an hour, and being here for the first time, he didn't know how long it would take to get out. Li Xiu didn't have time to waste on him, so he pulled Fei through a door and rushed out.

Li Xiu's move made Ye Yuzhen certain that Li Xiu couldn't see him, but was judging his position by sound.

"As long as you can't see, that's fine." Ye Yuzhen wiped the blood off his face, enduring the pain on his face and abdomen, and pushed the door to pursue.

Li Xiu pulled Fei straight forward, passing through door after door, until they reached the seventeenth room, when Li Xiu discovered that there was no door ahead anymore, just a wall he could touch.

So Li Xiu changed direction, groping along the left wall, but found no door there either.

"Looks like the only way is to go right." Li Xiu continued to the right with Fei, and sure enough, found a door on the right wall.

As soon as Li Xiu pushed the door open, he heard breathing inside the room.

"Something's not right... This sound... isn't human breathing..." While Li Xiu listened carefully, he pulled Fei back, intending to exit the room and return to the previous room.

Chapter 125 Really Can't See?

"This guy is somewhat clever, first probing the maze's depth in a straight line, then determining his position and the direction of the exit." Ye Yuzhen chased after Li Xiu, quickly noticing Li Xiu's strategy.

"But unfortunately, you still underestimate the Dark Maze. A B-level Dark Maze is not square-shaped; this method is ineffective here." Ye Yuzhen sneered and continued the pursuit.

He also dared not chase too quickly, lest Li Xiu heard his footsteps. The opponent had excellent hearing. He planned to ambush Li Xiu when he hit a dead end and had no choice but to turn back.

Suddenly, Ye Yuzhen saw the door open. Li Xiu, who had just rushed in not long ago, came running back with A Fei.

"What a chance, give you a chance to live and you don't take it, don't blame me for being ruthless." Ye Yuzhen stood in the middle of the room motionless, watching as Li Xiu pulled A Fei towards him. He extended his arm, his two fingers aimed at Li Xiu's eyes, intending for Li Xiu to blind himself.

As Li Xiu was almost upon him, his fingers were about to pierce Li Xiu's eyes, but Li Xiu suddenly tilted his head, avoiding Ye Yuzhen's fingers, and crashed into Ye Yuzhen's shoulder, causing Ye Yuzhen's body to spin around.

Ye Yuzhen had just steadied himself when he heard the sound of a door opening, and Li Xiu had already rushed into another room.

Ye Yuzhen was about to give chase when he suddenly sensed something unsettling, a low growling sound behind him.

Turning around, Ye Yuzhen was startled to see a massive tiger emerging from the room Li Xiu had just dashed out of, staring at him menacingly.

If he could use contracts, Ye Yuzhen wouldn't fear a single tiger, but this was the Trial Ground, where contracts couldn't be used. By physical prowess alone, he wouldn't have much advantage against a tiger.

Moreover, this tiger looked like it was starving.

"Roar..." The tiger let out a roar that made Ye Yuzhen's eardrums ache.

Before Ye Yuzhen could decide what to do, the starving tiger pounced, initiating a man-tiger combat scene.

"Didn't they say there were live beasts in the Dark Maze? This wasn't part of the deal!" Li Xiu continued leading A Fei through door after door.

That woman, Sha Chu, had vanished since the start of the trial. Who knows where she's gone?

Her physical prowess far exceeded that of Li Xiu and A Fei. She could probably kill a beast or two barehanded.

But unfortunately, Li Xiu had no idea where Sha Chu was, perhaps she'd already found the exit.

Li Xiu was more cautious this time. Although he could contend with a beast like the tiger, time in the Dark Maze was limited. Avoiding unnecessary encounters with beasts was essential.

Fortunately, with the assassin taking the lead, Li Xiu continued to find a way out with A Fei.

A few minutes later, a battered Ye Yuzhen pushed aside the tiger's corpse weighing him down, gasping as he got up.

He had multiple tiger scratches on his body, not fatal, but extremely painful.

If given more time, Ye Yuzhen might have killed the tiger without injury, but in the Dark Maze, he had no time to waste. He had to kill the tiger as quickly as possible.

Beyond exiting the Dark Maze before the countdown ended, he also had to eliminate the other Trial Takers.

Solving the tiger at the cost of injuries, Ye Yuzhen was seething with anger.

"That bastard, I will take you down," Ye Yuzhen dragged his weary body, pushed open the door, and pursued in the direction Li Xiu had left.

"Don't move." In a room, Li Xiu pressed down on A Fei, immobilizing her completely.

Upon entering the room, Li Xiu heard a faint buzzing, the sound of some insect rapidly flapping its wings.

Li Xiu listened carefully for a while, confirming that the sounds must be from bees, toxic ones probably, and he heard them coming from several directions.

Li Xiu had to stop and listen closely. Before long, he discerned not only toxic bees but also beehives in the room, and there were more than one.

The bees would pause their wing vibrations after flying for a while, a scenario applicable not just to an individual bee but to all the bees, and not in a single location.

After Li Xiu's calculations, there were nine beehives in the room, varying in size, height, position, spread throughout.

If they rushed through, they'd hit a hive no matter what direction they took. The toxic bees would swarm out, a disaster easily imagined.

"Let's bypass it; this room is tricky," Li Xiu calculated in his mind. Although he could circumvent the hives, unpredictably moving toxic bees complicated matters.

If it were just him, it might be manageable, but bringing A Fei along, she couldn't anticipate the bees' paths, and any sudden movement could provoke the hive.

After some consideration, Li Xiu decided to bypass the room.

Chapter 126 Really Can't See?_2

Li Xiu slowly backed up to the door and reached out to open it.

As soon as the door was opened, someone stumbled and rushed in, crashing into the room before Li Xiu had a chance to pull him back.

The sound of a bee hive being smashed and the buzzing of countless poisonous bees flapping their wings filled Li Xiu's ears. He immediately grabbed A Fei and dashed out, shutting the door behind them.

Ye Yuzhen chased after Li Xiu in a frenzy, no longer willing to wait or waste time. He wanted to catch up to Li Xiu and kill him directly.

With these thoughts, Ye Yuzhen accelerated even further, charging toward the opposite doorway.

This door led to the opposite room, and without thinking, he crashed into it.

Unexpectedly, just as he was about to hit the door, it opened on its own, causing Ye Yuzhen to lose control and tumble into the room.

He kept charging forward for several steps, unable to stop, and nearly collided with a bee hive right in front of his face.

Li Xiu couldn't see, but Ye Yuzhen could—he saw the hive and was startled. Yet, unable to halt his momentum, he had to twist his waist awkwardly to avoid the hive.

"Luckily my old waist holds up; it's not so easy to mess with me!" Ye Yuzhen thought proudly of his agility and waist strength, but then heard a crunching sound from beneath his feet.

Ye Yuzhen's face suddenly changed, his neck stiffly bending down to see a hive crushed under his foot, releasing swarms of poisonous bees.

"Ah!" Ye Yuzhen yelled, immediately turning and sprinting back.

Watching Li Xiu and A Fei charge out through the door, he gathered strength in his legs and leaped forward like an arrow, hoping to use his momentum to flee the room.

But Li Xiu had already closed the door behind him.

In mid-air, Ye Yuzhen couldn't stop himself and slammed into the door with a thud.

Buzz! Buzz!

Swarms of poisonous bees surrounded him, stabbing him with their stingers.

"Ah! Ahhh! Oh..." The screams rang out continuously.

Li Xiu, pulling A Fei, had long since run into another room, continuing to search for other exits.

No matter how he ran, Li Xiu's mind seemed like a map. Everywhere he went was memorized, continuously analyzed, calculated, and judged.

After more than twenty minutes, Li Xiu finally found an exit with A Fei. After they walked out, they saw Sha Chu and three other Trial Takers had already emerged, making six people including Li Xiu and A Fei.

As the seconds ticked away, no one else came out besides them six.

At the nearly thirty-minute mark, a man with a heavily swollen head resembling a pig's head staggered out in the final seconds.

"The first trial is over, rewards distributed, clearing in progress... Countdown to the second trial begins... Anyone not participating in the second trial, please remove their trial wristband..."

Everyone who passed the trial received a Demon Core and a body strengthening.

Ye Yuzhen's eyes were swollen to mere slits, glaring viciously at Li Xiu, his appearance looking more pitiful and funny than fierce.

"Don't let me see you again, or you'll be dead for sure." Ye Yuzhen thought he was threatening Li Xiu fiercely, but his current appearance was simply not intimidating, even amusing.

Li Xiu chuckled: "Entering the Trial Ground means submitting to Celestial Mandate, if you want to kill me, just go ahead, I won't blame you if I die."

"Fine, you're fine, wait for it... Ouch..." Ye Yuzhen tried to act tough but tugged at the wounds on his face, causing him to clutch his face in pain. Touching the bee stings made it worse, prompting his cries.

"Next time... next time I'll definitely kill you..." Ye Yuzhen cursed, removing his wristband.

He truly dared not continue; his body wasn't strong enough to ignore the bee venom. Thankfully, he was already a true Trial Taker, his physique far surpassing ordinary people. A typical Trial Taker would have been stung to death long ago and wouldn't have had the chance to threaten Li Xiu.

The other ordinary Trial Takers opted out, finding the B-level difficulty already taxing, choosing not to risk further.

Li Xiu, A Fei, and Sha Chu chose to continue, facing the second trial—escape from the Dark Maze within twenty minutes.

The three of them set off together, and even though the maze layout had changed, they managed to traverse the Dark Maze in twenty minutes.

With three participants left, the next trial unexpectedly became the final one. The rules of the Hero Trial Ground were evidently different from other trial grounds.

After receiving the reward, Sha Chu turned to Li Xiu and A Fei, saying: "According to precedent, the next trial should require us to escape the Dark Maze in ten minutes. It's nearly impossible unless we choose the right rooms every time without a single mistake and aren't delayed by those poisonous insects and beasts inside; it's too hard. I'm giving up, what about you two?"

"I want to give it a try." Li Xiu thought for a moment and said, not joining the final trial would mean missing out on the other rewards, which wouldn't satisfy his needs.

Chapter 127 Really Can't See?_3

"I give up too." A Fei was the least likely to give up, but she knew she'd only be a burden in such a trial and didn't want to waste Li Xiu's time.

The final trial lasted only ten minutes, and Li Xiu couldn't afford any distractions; otherwise, he could easily die inside.

"Let's go together." Li Xiu stopped A Fei and asked her to continue the trial because he was already confident of winning.

During the first round of the trial, the reason Li Xiu took so long to come out was not only due to Ye Yuzhen's disruption and unfamiliarity with the Dark Maze but also because Li Xiu deliberately walked through most of the rooms.

By the second time he walked through the Dark Maze, Li Xiu had confirmed one thing.

The maps of both rounds of the Dark Maze were actually the same; only the angles of the entire Dark Maze had shifted, making people mistakenly think the layout had changed, though it hadn't changed at all.

Because vision is not available in the dark, it's easy to lose one's sense of direction, so it's not easy to discover the real situation.

"Okay." Since Li Xiu insisted, A Fei didn't hesitate and agreed immediately.

"Are you so sure you can get through without getting lost?" Sha Chu looked at Li Xiu with an odd expression, unable to understand where Li Xiu's confidence came from.

"At most, I might make one mistake, but it shouldn't matter much." Li Xiu smiled.

"Alright, if you're not afraid of dying, then I'll walk this path with you." Sha Chu suddenly changed her mind and decided to join Li Xiu in facing the final trial.

Sha Chu herself thought it impossible to complete the trial within ten minutes, but Li Xiu seemed highly confident.

From her understanding of Li Xiu, it was clear that Li Xiu wasn't someone who would take risks without confidence, so she chose to join him in the final trial.

Deep down, Sha Chu also wanted to know how Li Xiu would pass through the Dark Maze within ten minutes.

The final trial began, indeed, with a ten-minute duration, and both Sha Chu and A Fei looked at Li Xiu.

"Hold hands, and you just need to follow me." Li Xiu held A Fei's hand, and A Fei held Sha Chu's hand.

The three of them, led by Li Xiu, moved quickly in the darkness and opened the first door.

After entering the room, Li Xiu didn't immediately choose which door to take but instead felt around the other three walls of the room.

"Go back." Li Xiu's words immediately made Sha Chu's heart tighten.

"No way, did we take the wrong door on the first try?" Sha Chu began to regret, thinking that if Li Xiu made a mistake and they couldn't get out of the Dark Maze in ten minutes, she'd be doomed with him.

"Sigh, it turns out you can't trust others too much; only yourself is reliable." Sha Chu thought uneasily.

Li Xiu led them back to the starting room and then looked towards another door without hesitation.

After that, Li Xiu didn't hesitate anymore; once he entered a room, he would rush towards the next door.

Sometimes he chose left, sometimes right, and sometimes the door directly in front; Sha Chu couldn't figure out what he was basing his choices on.

But not long after, the three of them arrived at the exit, completing the final trial with a time of nine minutes and thirty-one seconds, leaving ample time.

"How did you decide which door to take? Is there some kind of marker in the Dark Maze?" Sha Chu clearly followed Li Xiu the whole way, but she still couldn't understand how he navigated it; she simply couldn't see it.

"This is difficult to explain, and even if you understood, it wouldn't be of much use." Li Xiu spoke truthfully.

Even if Sha Chu understood what to do, without Li Xiu's memory and judgment, knowing it still wouldn't be useful.

Sha Chu twitched the corner of her eye but said nothing more.

The final trial's rewards appeared before the three of them, and each person could choose one reward.

There were four possible choices for the B-level trial rewards, though only one could be chosen. Li Xiu's four options were talent, skill, Demon Core, and attribute—all common rewards.

Without hesitation, Li Xiu chose the Attribute Reward, and his body was infused with a powerful energy, significantly enhancing his physical condition once again.

"Even the B-level Attribute Reward is not bad; after another twenty times, I'll probably be able to run like a normal person while carrying the weight of the Fire Lotus Sword." Li Xiu felt his body's changes, feeling extremely delighted.

A Fei chose the Skill Reward, while Sha Chu chose the Talent Reward.

"Why did you choose the Talent Reward when you had a Skill Reward option?" Li Xiu asked Sha Chu, curious.

"Of course, I want Skill Rewards too, but compared to skills, I tend more towards talent. Although talent isn't as direct as skills, it doesn't require my active use and can function continuously, which is an advantage skills don't have."

Sha Chu continued explaining, "Too many skills, and sometimes you don't know which to choose. For me, having a few high-level skills is more useful than possessing a bunch of low-level ones."

Li Xiu understood what Sha Chu meant; she didn't think much of B-level skills.

After leaving the Hero Trial Ground, the adjutant arranged a dinner specifically to host the three of them and invited them to participate in the next Hero's Trial.

Li Xiu and the others gladly accepted, which made the adjutant very happy. The four of them toasted to each other with mixed intentions, creating a harmonious scene.

Yet Li Xiu and his group didn't eat much, and on their way back to the inn, they stopped for another meal.

As of now, they didn't know who set up the murderous Trial Taker; the City Lord's Mansion was highly suspect, so they had to be cautious.

After returning to the inn, they brought some food to Ximen Guan. When they saw him, the sight startled all three of them.

Ximen Guan's hair was disheveled, and he looked haggard, appearing in worse shape than when he was imprisoned.

Chapter 128 Depressed Ximen Guan

"Old Guan, what happened?" Li Xiu asked with concern.

Ximen Guan immediately started cursing, "The ones doing Demon Armor development nowadays are a bunch of idiots. They don't work on serious technology, always messing with flashy stuff. One generation after another, almost every year there's a new generation of Demon Armor, but what kind of crap are they releasing? Does it have any technical value?"

"And those Magic Armor Masters today seem like fools. They treat those pointless gimmicks like treasures, crying and shouting to add them to their Magic Armor. Some even buy a whole new set with every generation. Haven't they been brainwashed by money, have cash burning a hole in their pockets?" Ximen Guan got more and more agitated as he spoke.

Li Xiu chuckled and said, "Actually, you can't blame those Magic Armor Masters. They're just the operators of Magic Armor and don't know how to build them. Nowadays, the only places that can really come out with new products are Space City and White Night City. The new products they research are basically not even released to the market. Every time they update, it's just a slight modification of old models, adding some new features. The actual performance improvement isn't too significant. But regular Magic Armor Masters have no choice. If they want to get stronger, they have to buy these products. You buy it and can get a bit stronger, but if you don't, you won't even have the chance to improve."

"Talking about this makes me even angrier. I gave those idiots a modification plan to truly enhance their Magic Armor's performance, but they said my technology and plan were outdated. They're just a bunch of know-nothing fools... I changed their control system to the most scientific arrangement, and they said my arrangement wasn't scientific, that it was outdated tech. Bullshit science, their kind of arrangement is the one that's unscientific, am I right? Their so-called plan isn't for ease of control; it's to slow down the control so those who are less bright can operate the Magic Armor normally..." Ximen Guan got even more fired up.

Ximen Guan's gripe was something Li Xiu was aware of; current control schemes are indeed not the fastest.

Initially, Magic Armors used a faster control scheme. The reason for this backward upgrade was to accommodate some Magic Armor Masters with weaker Spiritual Sense and multi-tasking ability.

Not all Magic Armor Masters feel that faster response is better. Some simply can't handle such speeds. If that scheme were used, many Magic Armor Masters couldn't operate the Magic Armor in battle.

The Magic Armors Li Xiu used had the most optimized plans.

But the Ghost-faced Magic Armor also had this backward upgrade control scheme. This S-Class Magic Armor was just a money-making trick from Space City's first laboratory, something only people like Zheng De could afford.

Li Xiu wasn't really bothered by it. Even with such a backward upgraded S-Class Magic Armor, he could still handle it just fine; it didn't affect him.

"Old Guan, calm down. There's no need to get mad over them. By the way, why are you online modifying others' Magic Armors?" Li Xiu asked.

"Just trying to earn some cash. With my Magic Armor skills, giving those youngsters a modification plan shouldn't be a problem, bringing in loads of money. Who knew they wouldn't recognize quality..." Ximen Guan said, getting worked up again.

"Well, keep working on it." When Li Xiu heard it was about money, he immediately chose to stay out of it, as he too was short on cash and couldn't help.

Li Xiu and Afet each returned to their rooms, but as Sha Chu was about to leave, Ximen Guan called her back.

"Young lady, you're with the Changsheng Tian group. You've got connections and methods. Can you help me get an S-Class Magic Armor? If not, an A-Class will do!" Ximen Guan said with a smiling face.

The situation was now overpowering him. Although Ximen Guan used to be the Father of Demon Armor, he couldn't earn a dime now and relied on Li Xiu for food, clothing, and shelter.

"Why do you need Magic Armor?" Sha Chu asked, looking at Ximen Guan.

Sha Chu was already controlled by Li Xiu with the Blood Seal Stone, so Ximen Guan wasn't afraid she'd escape or report, and he spoke truthfully: "I need a set of Magic Armor for modification, and afterward, I can use it to control the ones I made previously."

"Can you really do that?" Sha Chu was surprised. She had never heard of such Magic Armor technology.

"Others can't, but who am I, Ximen Guan? I definitely can." Ximen Guan boasted for a moment, then asked, "So, can you help me get a set of Magic Armor?"

"I can, but why not modify Li Xiu's set of Magic Armor?" Sha Chu asked suspiciously.

Ximen Guan was taken aback, "Li Xiu's Magic Armor? What Magic Armor does Li Xiu have? Does he have high-grade Magic Armor? A-Class or B-Class? I could make do with B-Class..."

"Didn't you see it?" Sha Chu gestured at the Ghost-faced Magic Armor that Li Xiu had left in Ximen Guan's room.

Since he had to participate in a trial in a few days, Li Xiu hadn't taken it with him.

"This is Magic Armor? What grade of Magic Armor is it?" Ximen Guan was dumbfounded. He didn't expect there to be a set of Magic Armor right in his room.

"You can check it yourself." Sha Chu said with a smile.

"I didn't expect that kid to really have Magic Armor." Ximen Guan walked over, opened the cloth wrapped around the Magic Armor, and when he saw the Magic Armor Box with black base and purple patterns, his eyes widened: "This is... S-Class Magic Armor... that kid actually has an S-Class Magic Armor... why is he carrying this... can he even use it?"

Chapter 129 Depressed Ximen Guan_2

"Huh... This magic armor looks kind of familiar... No, wait... I've seen this magic armor before... Isn't this the set from the video?" Ximen Guan's expression gradually became a bit strange.

"Sha Chu, where did Li Xiu get this magic armor from? Whose magic armor is this?" Ximen Guan excitedly grabbed Sha Chu's arm.

"What do you think?" Sha Chu enjoyed watching the changing expressions of Ximen Guan, finding it quite entertaining.

"Are you saying this magic armor belongs to Li Xiu? He... he's the magic armor master from the video?" Ximen Guan's expression was indeed remarkable, flipping through countless expressions in an instant.

From surprise to astonishment, and from astonishment to disbelief, then from disbelief to anger, even an actor couldn't change expressions as quickly and richly as Ximen Guan.

"Didn't he already tell you that he was also a magic armor master?" Sha Chu's words left Ximen Guan looking constipated, his face a bit swollen from being jammed up.

"How was I supposed to know he's that kind of magic armor master? Damn it, such a powerful magic armor master, why is he going to the trial ground, acting as a trial taker? Is he out of his mind? Was he kicked in the head by a donkey when he was a kid?" Ximen Guan, saying this, picked up the magic armor box and stormed off to Li Xiu's room.

Without knocking, he kicked the door open and tossed the ghost-faced magic armor box in front of Li Xiu, demanding, "Is this your magic armor?"

"Yes, isn't this the one I left with you this morning?" Li Xiu was a bit puzzled by Ximen Guan's reaction.

Ximen Guan pounded on the table excitedly, "But you didn't tell me this is an S-Class Magic Armor, and you didn't tell me you're the magic armor master from the video?"

"You didn't ask me, and what's the difference whether I told you or not?" Li Xiu replied.

"How could it not be different? With your level of magic armor control, why waste time messing around in the trial ground? You're a born magic armor master, a man destined for magic armor, you should be commanding the world's strongest magic armor, which means the magic armor made by me, Ximen Guan. No other magic armor can match you except mine..." Ximen Guan got more and more excited as he spoke.

"Old Guan, I can't use your magic armor." Li Xiu's words were like a cold bucket of water poured over Ximen Guan's head.

"Why not? With your skills, you could definitely handle my magic armor, and only you can handle it." Ximen Guan slapped the table and questioned loudly.

"But you made me swear an oath that I absolutely couldn't claim your magic armor for myself, that I must find it another suitable owner. I've even sworn an oath, I can't just go back on it, what if the oath comes true?" Li Xiu spread his hands helplessly.

Ximen Guan was dumbfounded, only then remembering such a thing had happened, wishing he could slap himself a couple of times.

At the time, he was afraid Li Xiu would pocket his magic armor but wouldn't be able to use it, afraid the magic armor would just be buried, so he made Li Xiu swear a harsh oath.

But how could Ximen Guan have thought that Li Xiu was not only a magic armor master but also an outstanding one that even left Ximen Guan amazed.

Now Ximen Guan regretted it deeply, cursing himself for not asking Li Xiu a couple more questions back then.

But how could he have imagined that such a powerful magic armor master would switch careers to become a trial taker, even a god couldn't predict that!

"That doesn't count, it was just something I said casually, it doesn't count, it doesn't count." Ximen Guan shook his head and waved his hands repeatedly.

"I'm a man of my word, especially after making an oath, I can't knowingly break it." Li Xiu, however, shook his head firmly.

No matter how good Ximen Guan's magic armor was, Li Xiu couldn't use it.

Besides, Li Xiu was interested in Ximen Guan's technology, the ability to make the magic armor enter the trial ground, not the magic armor itself.

Ximen Guan tried every way to convince Li Xiu, but Li Xiu just wouldn't relent, leaving Ximen Guan extremely frustrated.

"Fine, if you're really unwilling, I won't force you. Can I borrow your magic armor? After I modify it, it can be used for remote controlling the magic armor I made..." Ximen Guan could only settle for second best and borrow Li Xiu's magic armor instead.

"Of course, do you need any materials? Write me a list." Li Xiu also wanted to see how good Ximen Guan's magic armor technology really was.

Although he was the Father of Demon Armor, that was many years ago. Ximen Guan hadn't touched magic armor for decades, so who knows if he's still capable.

"That would be great. Don't worry, after it's modified, this magic armor will be much stronger than before..." Ximen Guan hurriedly wrote a list and gave it to Li Xiu, feeling relieved about these materials.

Li Xiu saw that most of the list consisted of demon cores and some tools, and there wasn't a demand for S-Class demon spirit materials, which reassured him.

"All my demon cores are here, see if there's anything you can use." Li Xiu took out all his demon cores for Ximen Guan to see.

Ximen Guan rummaged through them and suddenly his eyes lit up, "You even have a S-Class demon core with special attributes, nice, nice, now that we have the main materials, the other stuff isn't worth much, just buy them casually. I was originally thinking about using ordinary S-Class or even A-Class demon cores as a fallback, but that's unnecessary now."

Ximen Guan kept fondling the blue demon core that seemed to contain lightning inside, praising it endlessly.

Chapter 130 Depressed Ximen Guan_3

Li Xiu took a closer look and recognized the Demon Core as one of the highest-grade cores knocked off from the metal coffin. He had suspected it was an S-Class Demon Core before, but without the proper equipment to confirm it, Li Xiu couldn't be sure.

"As long as it works. You take a few Demon Cores from here as well, and if you need anything else, trade for it yourself," Li Xiu said.

Ximen Guan, unabashed, grabbed a handful of Demon Cores and left, saying as he walked, "Don't worry, I will definitely modify the Ghost-faced Magic Armor for you into the world's second-best armor."

"Why the second-best in the world, and not the best?" Li Xiu asked with a smile.

"The best in the world is, of course, the set of armor I crafted with my own hands. Are you sure you won't reconsider? You'll regret missing out on that armor for a lifetime," Ximen Guan tried persuading Li Xiu again.

"A person must keep their word, and besides, I'm very afraid of dying," Li Xiu laughed.

"Fine then, it's not like I have to have you. Just don't regret it when you see others wearing my set of armor in the future," Ximen Guan huffed and left.

While walking, Ximen Guan thought to himself, "Are you kidding? My armor is hot stuff. If you don't want it, I'll find someone else. That deity guy fits my requirements well. If you don't wear it, I'll have him wear it. When he becomes the representative figure of this era's Magic Armor Masters in my armor, we'll see if you regret it. What a waste of talent, not being a Magic Armor Master, but wanting to be a Trial Taker in that dangerous business. Ridiculous."

Not long after Ximen Guan left, Li Xiu had just called over the innkeeper to fix the door when Sha Chu came over and sat right down on Li Xiu's bed.

Her previously torn red dress was perfectly restored. It was unclear whether she used some method to mend it or if the contract itself had self-repair capabilities.

Sha Chu reclined against the head of the bed, her fit physique and dramatic curves making one irresistibly daydream.

"Don't you know that posing like this in a man's room is a very dangerous thing to do?" Li Xiu admired the delightful scene before him and said.

"It doesn't matter. My life is in your hands anyway. Whatever over-the-top things you want to do to me, I can't refuse, can I?" Sha Chu said, switching to an even lazier posture while smiling at Li Xiu.

"What do you want from me?" Li Xiu enjoyed women, but didn't like the feeling of having to constantly guard against a woman stabbing him in the back while holding her.

"Next month, I need to go back to Long Life Heaven. If I don't return in time, not only will I die, but you'll also be implicated after I die," Sha Chu sat up straight and thoroughly explained her predicament.

Members like Sha Chu have Blood Seal Stones in Long Life Heaven and must report back periodically. If she doesn't return by the deadline, the Commander who controls the Blood Seal Stone will use it to give her a little lesson.

If she doesn't return within a month past the deadline and has no sufficient persuasive reason, her Blood Seal Stone will be destroyed, and she will die.

"Now I'm stuck with two Blood Seal Stones, damned if I do, damned if I don't. If I don't die by their hands, I'll die by yours. Living is really tough." Sha Chu sighed.

"Where is Long Life Heaven's headquarters located?" Li Xiu asked.

"I truly don't know. If I did, I would have told you long ago. Every time I go to Long Life Heaven, I'm placed in a coffin and carried in by someone else. And every time I'm in that coffin, I fall asleep quickly, so I truly have no idea where I'm being taken." Sha Chu said helplessly.

"If I want to join Long Life Heaven, is there any way to avoid the control of the Blood Seal Stone?" Li Xiu asked while staring at Sha Chu.

"There isn't, and I advise you not to take the risk either. There are just too many powerful people in Long Life Heaven, you wouldn't be able to hide it," Sha Chu replied.

"Got it. When do you plan to leave?" Li Xiu nodded.

"By mid-month at the latest," Sha Chu thought for a moment and said.

"What are you planning to do about the old official's affair?" Li Xiu asked again.

"I'll hide it for as long as I can. If I end up exposing you all, with the mistakes I've committed, even the rules won't let me live," Sha Chu said lightly.

"You can leave whenever you want. Take care of yourself," Li Xiu said while flipping through some documents, ignoring Sha Chu.

"I understand." Sha Chu got up to leave, but stopped at the door, turned back to look at Li Xiu, and said, "If you're really determined to join Long Life Heaven, I actually have a way to help you avoid the control of the Blood Seal Stone, but this method requires you to completely trust me. If you ever come to a decision, you can come find me."

With that, Sha Chu turned to leave, shutting the door behind her again.

"I only trust myself," Li Xiu mumbled to himself while looking at the closed door.

The next Hero's Trial is in three days, and with nothing to do, Li Xiu counted his possessions.

Li Xiu realized he was indeed short on cash. Without gemstones, he couldn't help Demigod Shana level up; after all, as an E-class demigod, Shana's abilities were limited.

Dealing with low-level magical spirits and Magic Armor Masters was fine, but against A-level or higher spirits and masters, he wouldn't be very effective.

"Where can I get some diamonds?" Li Xiu lately often found himself worrying about money, a concern he never had before.

"Li Xiu, are you free? I have something I need your help with and I'll pay you for it," just as Li Xiu was worried about money, Chu Jun sent him a message.

"What is it?" Li Xiu replied simply to the message.

"I want you to help appraise a batch of gemstones. I'll pay you twice the market rate for the appraisal fee," Chu Jun replied.

Li Xiu thought, "I don't really have deep knowledge about gemstones, and without equipment, how can I appraise them for you?"

Just as he was pondering how to decline Chu Jun, the latter already sent the time and place over.

Li Xiu called directly, only to hear that the recipient's phone was turned off, and his messages went unanswered.