

When God 171

Chapter 171 The Difference of Demon Spirits_2

"Li Xiu, I really thank you so much," Chu Jun said with a peculiar expression. "Since I was young, I've dreamed of becoming a Magic Armor Master, but reality hit me with the cruelest blow—I don't have the talent for it. So, I settled for second best and became a Trial Taker. But I'm not reconciled, really not reconciled, because even a true Trial Taker is far inferior to a Magic Armor Master."

"I've always believed that the power of technology will always surpass pure strength. I often dreamt of suddenly acquiring the talent of a Magic Armor Master. Maybe one day, I could become one."

Chu Jun laughed and said, "Until today, I really couldn't let go, but now I have. Even a Magic Armor Master like you says a Trial Taker could possibly be stronger than a Magic Armor Master. So, I'll bet my life on it and definitely become the strongest Trial Taker, one even stronger than a Magic Armor Master."

"Why do you want to become a Magic Armor Master so badly?" Li Xiu asked.

Li Xiu originally thought Chu Jun might say something like wanting to be a hero who saves the world or wanting to be respected by people, etc.

Who could have thought that Chu Jun would just say, "My grandfather is Chu Sanhu."

"And then?" Li Xiu asked, looking at Chu Jun.

Chu Jun stared blankly at Li Xiu, thinking he hadn't heard clearly what he said, so he repeated, "My grandfather is Chu Sanhu."

"I heard you. I know your grandfather is Chu Sanhu. Does that have anything to do with you wanting to become a Magic Armor Master?" Li Xiu said.

"Aren't you a Magic Armor Master? Haven't you heard of the name Chu Sanhu?" Chu Jun looked at Li Xiu, asking in an odd tone.

"I've heard of him, he was once ranked the world's number one Magic Armor Master. Hasn't he retired a long time ago? Does that have anything to do with you wanting to become a Magic Armor Master?" Li Xiu thought for a moment and said.

Chu Sanhu's name was familiar to him—a very old Magic Armor Master, probably around the same age as Ximen Guan, the first king of Magic Armor Masters.

"Alright, maybe I was thinking too much." Chu Jun glanced at Li Xiu and, for some unknown reason, suddenly felt much lighter.

"Since my grandfather, our family has been top-tier Magic Armor Masters generation after generation. In my generation, with so many young people in the family, I'm the only one without the talent of a Magic Armor Master," Chu Jun said with a laugh. "Initially, I felt very hopeless, but now I suddenly feel like it's not such a big deal."

"It's not that big a deal anyway; being a Magic Armor Master is just a profession, nothing special," Li Xiu said.

"You're bold to say that. It's not appropriate for you to say. Among the current Magic Armor Masters, only the one called God is qualified to say such things," Chu Jun said.

"He's not a real god, just a person. If he can say it, then so can I," Li Xiu said with a smile.

"That's no ordinary person. I won't say much about others, but when it comes to Magic Armors, our Chu Family firmly considers itself second, with no one daring to claim first before God. Our Chu Family's Magic Armor Masters have consistently ranked in the world's top five, and for decades, this has been the case generation after generation. Even if someone occasionally replaces a Chu Family member as number one, they are usually just a flash in the pan, and sooner or later, the position is snatched back by us. But ever since God's appearance, our family's Magic Armor Masters are going crazy, spending each day researching God, almost driving themselves insane. Despite this, to date, no one dares to challenge God's world number one—they're scared."

"For decades, the Chu Family's Magic Armor Masters feared no one, but they fear God now, and they don't dare to challenge," Chu Jun said and laughed. "Speaking of which, I should thank God. Without

him suppressing our family's Magic Armor Masters, they would look down on me even more as a Trial Taker."

"The path of a Trial Taker is no easy one either," Li Xiu said.

"Difficult or not, I must walk it. You, an S-Class Magic Armor Master, are undeterred by danger, so how can I easily give up?" Chu Jun said spiritedly. "Arrange a position for me in the City Lord's Mansion. As long as I'm here, as long as the Chu Family is here, I promise the Red Sand City Lord won't dare touch Zhongshan City."

"Alright, then you can handle matters related to the Trial Gate. Later, have Ah Fei take you through the procedures and organize the Trial Gate's data," Li Xiu did not refuse.

"Leave it to me. Are you planning to enter the S-Class Dark Maze?" Chu Jun realized something and looked at Li Xiu.

"Yes, I'm planning to go the day after tomorrow," Li Xiu nodded.

"Count me in," Chu Jun said, full of spirit.

"You?" Li Xiu looked Chu Jun up and down.

"Don't underestimate me. Although I don't have as many magic spirits as you, magic spirits can't be used in the Trial Ground, so your magic spirits are useless there," Chu Jun said.

"Then tell me, what role will you play in the Dark Maze?" Although Li Xiu was confident about passing the S-Class Dark Maze, no one can promise there won't be any accidents.

Trials aren't child's play; you can't just take anyone in casually.

"I have the E Night Pupil ability, which allows me to see in the dark, a reward from the Hero's Trial Ground," Chu Jun said proudly.

"Not bad, and then?" Li Xiu's unimpressed expression betrayed his true thoughts.

"Isn't that enough?" Chu Jun asked somewhat displeased.

"To be honest, the people going in with me this time, the weakest among them also has a Night Pupil ability, and there's another who can completely ignore darkness," Li Xiu said truthfully.

Chapter 172 The Differences of Demon Spirits_3

"Is that so!" Chu Jun immediately lost his temper and, after thinking for a moment, said, "I have an S-grade skill, but it might not be of any use."

"S-grade skill? You have an S-grade skill?" Li Xiu looked at Chu Jun with some surprise.

"During a trial ground before, I luckily passed an S-grade trial and obtained the skill, but this skill has some limitations, mostly it's not very useful." Chu Jun said hesitantly.

"Tell me about it." Li Xiu was indeed curious about what kind of S-grade skill could be useless.

"My S-grade skill is called Inspiration. It can sense the location of the Demon Spirits, as well as their names, levels, and other information..." Chu Jun's voice grew smaller the more he spoke, realizing this ability wasn't very useful in the trial ground.

"What's the range of your sensing ability?" Li Xiu didn't think so.

Inspiration might be useless in the trial ground, but it's very useful in the Land of Trial.

The Land of Trial is bizarre and unpredictable. In places like the Black Death City, Li Xiu didn't dare to even open the city gate because he didn't know what was outside.

With the Inspiration skill, Chu Jun was different. With it, he could know if there were any Demon Spirits outside the city gate and what level they were.

This skill is like a natural radar. How could such a skill possibly be useless?

Of course, in the trial ground, it was indeed useless.

"What's your physical prowess like?" Li Xiu sized up Chu Jun and asked.

He felt that Chu Jun's physical prowess might not be as good as his. If Chu Jun couldn't even run faster than him, he couldn't take Chu Jun as a burden.

Li Xiu wanted to take Chu Jun to the Black Death City, but Chu Jun needed to have sufficient ability; Li Xiu's minimum standard was that Chu Jun had to run faster than him, not dragging behind.

"My physical prowess has already reached the limit of E-grade, just one step away from advancing to D-grade." Chu Jun said.

Li Xiu was taken aback, not expecting Chu Jun to be so strong.

Li Xiu had already learned from Sha Chu that the enhancement from trials actually has a limit.

When you are being enhanced, if you don't feel anything when the trial bracelet injects energy, it proves that your body has reached the enhancement limit at that level.

At that point, you must break through to the next level to continue enhancing.

How to break through to the next level was something Sha Chu didn't explain in detail, and Li Xiu hadn't asked either.

Because this question didn't need to be asked. Once he truly becomes a Trial Taker, he would naturally find out.

The reason Li Xiu decided to go to the Sea Heaven Trial Ground after S-grade trial was that he still felt the body enhancement; it hadn't yet reached its current limit.

In case he was just a little short of the strength needed to wield the Blood Pattern Revolver, wouldn't that be a wasted opportunity?

Chu Jun was a true Trial Taker; Li Xiu had known that before, but his youthful appearance was quite deceiving, making Li Xiu always feel that his physical prowess seemed inadequate.

Unexpectedly, Chu Jun's physical prowess was at the peak of E-grade, definitely stronger than Li Xiu, who hadn't formally become a Trial Taker. Theoretically, he wasn't even an E-grade Trial Taker yet.

"Alright, you're in. But you need to find a way to get a Trial Badge. I plan to take you guys to the Land of Trial after passing the trial ground." Li Xiu said.

"We're going to the Land of Trial?" Chu Jun's eyes brightened: "Don't worry, I'll handle the Trial Badges. How many people are we talking about?"

"Including you, there are four of us." Li Xiu originally only asked him to prepare his own Trial Badge, but he didn't expect Chu Jun to be so financially well-off.

"No problem, leave it to me. I won't mess it up." Chu Jun said, patting his chest.

"I have a question for you." Li Xiu called after Chu Jun, who was ready to leave.

"What's the question?" Chu Jun turned back and asked.

"Did you play ball with Zhou Bailong for a few gemstones because you were short on money?" Li Xiu pondered and asked.

He actually wanted to ask whether Chu Jun, in such a family, without the talent of a Magic Armor Master, was very much undervalued or even oppressed.

Li Xiu thought of those well-known melodramatic plots, where the eldest son is a genius, and the younger son with no talent is despised. The parents order the younger child around like a servant and don't pay him.

The poor younger son eats the eldest son's leftovers, wears his hand-me-downs, and like Cinderella, pitifully does the dirty and hard work every day, even getting bullied by the household servants.

"I'm not short of money; I just want to earn it with my own efforts, not rely on family money. Not many people in the Southern Cross Federation know I'm from the Chu Family, and Zhou Bailong doesn't either." Chu Jun explained.

"Then where are you planning to get the Trial Badge?" Li Xiu thought about Chu Jun's situation, figuring it wasn't right to let him pay for everyone's Trial Badge.

"You mean the Trial Badge? My mom insisted I use a Trial Badge for trials to prevent accidents. When entering the Trial Ground, you can swipe the badge to set a suitable Trial Level. Most trial grounds allow this, but the Hero Trial Ground is a bit quirky, the badge doesn't work there, so I rarely go." Chu Jun answered.

"So you're saying you often use the Trial Badge to adjust the trial difficulty?" Li Xiu asked.

"I used to use it every time. The suitable trial difficulty makes for the fastest growth." Chu Jun said naturally.

Now Li Xiu finally understood what being wealthy truly meant. He used to feel he wasn't lacking money, but Chu Qun genuinely wasn't lacking at all.

"Alright, you go ahead and prepare." Li Xiu waved his hand, giving Chu Jun the go-ahead to prepare the Trial Badge.

After two days of resting, Li Xiu's previous injury had healed, and he was in good shape.

He called upon Afei, Ye Yuzhen, and Chu Jun, and together they arrived at the entrance of the Hero Trial Ground.

From the start, Sha Chu hadn't planned to participate. She didn't like these attempts without any certainty.

Li Xiu handed the Black Apatite to Ye Yuzhen, asking him to embed it into the gate.

With the shimmering black light, the gate of the Hero Trial Ground opened with a loud boom.

Chapter 173 S-Class Dark Maze

In the white room, Li Xiu and three others wore tight white suits as they surveyed the room. The light screen had already lit up, emitting a cold voice: "Welcome to the Hero Trial Ground. The S-level trial is about to begin. The trial rules are as follows..."

"Only one hour!" After hearing the rules, Ye Yuzhen's face changed instantly.

From his experience, the number of rooms increases with each difficulty level, doubling the complexity, and the time required also doubles.

For the S-level difficulty, it's likely that the difficulty is more than just doubling, yet the time hasn't increased. Ye Yuzhen's heart sank halfway.

However, Sha Chu had a face eager to try, clearly not yet realizing the challenge of the S-Class Dark Maze.

Afei glanced at Li Xiu, not realizing she was relying more and more on Li Xiu.

"City Lord, let me lead the way later..." Ye Yuzhen said through gritted teeth. He was determined to get out, even if it meant taking a deadly risk.

"You scout, but you must follow my command." Li Xiu said.

"Our time is limited. Even if there aren't many mistakes, an hour is too short... I can see from here that the chances of success are higher..." Ye Yuzhen was internally skeptical about Li Xiu.

"Listen to me, or walk on your own. You can choose." Li Xiu said calmly.

Ye Yuzhen felt bitter inside, not understanding why Li Xiu was enforcing his authority as City Lord at such a critical time.

But seeing Li Xiu's expression, it was clear he was determined and wouldn't change his mind with a few words.

In silence, the countdown had ended, and the entire room suddenly went dark.

"Follow me." Ye Yuzhen called out, heading towards one of the doors, believing the facts would make Li Xiu give up his idea.

Li Xiu didn't say anything, calling Sha Chu and Afei along, following Ye Yuzhen through the door to a new room.

Ye Yuzhen chose doors based on his experience, passing through three to four rooms consecutively without a word from Li Xiu, which reassured Ye Yuzhen.

"It seems that although he says one thing, he actually relies on me; he's just maintaining his City Lord's dignity." Ye Yuzhen felt relieved, relying on experience and intuition, and chose another door.

Upon entering the new room, as Ye Yuzhen was about to continue, Li Xiu suddenly spoke: "This path isn't right. We need to go back."

These few doors had already been enough for Li Xiu to determine the maze's orientation; he already knew how to navigate it.

"Go back?" Ye Yuzhen's heart skipped a beat, hurriedly saying: "The path ahead should be correct. I have experience with this, I can be sure the path is right."

He was truly afraid that Li Xiu would just make them go back, wasting so much time.

Time was already limited, and wasting more time might mean that even if they found the way out, the time might not be enough.

"This is the second time, and the last. Next time, you won't need to say anything; walk on your own." Li Xiu said, turning and walking away.

Afei followed Li Xiu without hesitation. Although Sha Chu had Night Pupil skill, he could only vaguely see some shadows here, unable to discern who was who. Upon hearing Li Xiu's voice, he quickly followed.

Ye Yuzhen stared blankly as Afei and Sha Chu followed Li Xiu, feeling aggrieved, wanting to say something but remembering Li Xiu's earlier words, he swallowed it back down.

After looking at the door Li Xiu was taking back and then his chosen door, Ye Yuzhen gritted his teeth and still followed.

He didn't believe in Li Xiu, but couldn't not believe him.

If all three with Li Xiu died inside while he managed to get out, would Sha Chu outside spare him? Ye Yuzhen knew escaping alone wouldn't lead to survival.

Following Li Xiu might still offer a chance to navigate back to the correct path and redeem Li Xiu and the others, thus redeeming himself. Ye Yuzhen had no other choice.

After catching up with Li Xiu, Ye Yuzhen softly explained: "I only wanted to lead everyone out."

"Good intentions don't guarantee results." Li Xiu said calmly: "Stop wasting time, follow the path I suggest."

The group returned to the original room, and Li Xiu chose another door, with Ye Yuzhen still leading.

Each time they entered a room, Li Xiu would direct Ye Yuzhen on which way to go.

He knew that the path Ye Yuzhen had initially chosen was correct if it were an A-level or below Dark Maze; Ye Yuzhen's path would be the quickest to exit.

However, this wasn't an A-level Dark Maze; it was an S-level Dark Maze. If they took that path, after passing the A-level maze area, there would be rooms with many traps and venomous beasts ahead.

The route Li Xiu chose, while initially the most winding, was the only one where they could potentially avoid the venomous insects and beasts later, making it the fastest path to escape.

If Li Xiu hadn't cracked the Dark Maze's code and relied solely on experience, the more experienced would die more horribly, trapping them inside.

Even as Ye Yuzhen followed Li Xiu's directions, his heart still didn't accept it, or rather, he was anxious.

After some travelling, Ye Yuzhen realized Li Xiu's chosen path wasn't wrong, but it was so circuitous that it would waste a lot of time. Based on their speed, traversing previously known areas could take thirty to forty minutes, leaving uncertain time to navigate new areas of the S-Class Dark Maze.

Chapter 174 S-Class Dark Maze_2

Ye Yuzhen really wanted to tell Li Xiu to change the route, but when he turned to look at Li Xiu, he saw his expression and knew that saying anything now would be useless.

Ye Yuzhen had conceded time and again, but found that the road Li Xiu pointed out became more and more convoluted. Clearly, there was a shorter path, yet he was making them take the long detour.

"Looks like today next year will be my death anniversary. What will happen to my little sister then?" Ye Yuzhen's lips were bitter.

But after walking for so long, turning back was no longer possible. Considering the time to walk back, it was about the same as taking this path.

"If I die here today, even as a ghost, I won't let you live in peace." Ye Yuzhen thought viciously as he looked at Zhou Wen.

Despite his hatred, Ye Yuzhen still had to follow the route Li Xiu pointed out. Fortunately, the path Li Xiu suggested wasn't entirely wrong, as it also bypassed rooms with traps and mechanisms.

After leaving the familiar area, Ye Yuzhen roughly estimated that it took over thirty minutes, which was about the same as he had previously judged.

There were at most only twenty minutes left, or maybe even just twenty minutes. Could they still make it out of this unknown area?

"Left," Li Xiu continued to give instructions without the slightest hesitation.

Now was the time to verify his deductions; bringing Ye Yuzhen along was to use him as a scout. Otherwise, why bring along someone who once tried to kill him?

Li Xiu could let go of past grievances, as long as there was a cost, and now was the time for that cost.

Ye Yuzhen didn't know what Li Xiu based his choice of route on, as this was an area no one had ever been to. What was Li Xiu's basis for choosing the route? Ye Yuzhen really had no idea.

But he didn't have any other choice now, so he could only leave it to fate.

"Anyway, if I die, you all won't live either. At worst, we'll die together." Ye Yuzhen gritted his teeth and walked into the room.

Still, he was creeped out inside, so he didn't move as fast as before, cautiously making his way inside.

"We don't have much time left. Walk faster," Li Xiu urged from behind.

Ye Yuzhen gritted his teeth, quickened his pace, and moved forward. Fortunately, this room was safe.

"Continue to the left," Li Xiu said again.

Ye Yuzhen also knew time was short. There wasn't time for him to explore slowly, so he just threw caution to the wind. Wherever Li Xiu said to go, he rushed right in.

One time, two times, three times. Initially, Ye Yuzhen was anxious and scared, but after going through several doors, he realized they hadn't encountered a single trap or poisonous creature or beast.

"Is it luck?" Ye Yuzhen quickly dismissed this thought. Relying on luck in the Dark Maze would lead to a miserable death.

Ye Yuzhen turned to look at Li Xiu, but could only see a face largely obscured by sunglasses, unable to discern his expression.

"Could he really know the way? But how would he know? No one has ever been to the S-Class area..." Ye Yuzhen's emotions were complicated.

He hoped Li Xiu really knew how to get out, but he also dared not believe that Li Xiu indeed knew the way.

Li Xiu continued to direct Ye Yuzhen forward, and after a dozen doors, he was already sure his earlier deduction was correct. The entire S-Class maze was based on a backward calculation from those few lines.

Door after door, no one said a word, hurriedly pressing forward.

Li Xiu was at the back. Although his physical fitness wasn't poor, the burden on him was too heavy. His stamina was depleting drastically, slowing him down.

Ye Yuzhen turned back several times, waiting for Li Xiu, wishing he could drag Li Xiu along and run together.

Now he had no thought of walking on his own, for in this unknown area, he didn't know how to proceed, yet Li Xiu seemed to know.

At least, up to now, all the rooms they traversed were safe.

Li Xiu gritted his teeth and ran forward. His stamina was depleting faster than he had estimated, but time was running out, allowing no room for rest.

Ah Fei and Chu Jun slowed their pace, waiting for Li Xiu, while Ye Yuzhen could only patiently wait ahead.

"We're almost out of time, at most less than ten minutes remaining, possibly only five minutes," Ye Yuzhen estimated time with great anxiety.

"There are still eight minutes and thirty-four seconds," Li Xiu remarked.

Ye Yuzhen was stunned: "How do you know the exact time?"

No one was allowed to bring timing tools in here, nor were there any light screens displaying a countdown. How could Li Xiu estimate time so precisely?

"I've been counting down in my mind. Now there are eight minutes and thirty-one seconds left. It should still be doable. Give me twenty seconds to rest," Li Xiu said as he sat down on the ground. He was utterly exhausted, with sweat pouring down his body uncontrollably.

Ye Yuzhen was surprised that Li Xiu actually rested when he said so. He didn't believe Li Xiu could silently count time so accurately, to the exact second.

After all, Li Xiu had had disagreements with him before and spoken so many words. Could he really still count accurately?

He didn't believe such a person existed in the world, but he had no choice but to watch helplessly as Li Xiu rested.

Li Xiu sat there, taking deep breaths, drawing in as much oxygen as possible, while alleviating the soreness in his muscles.

His body was soaked in sweat, burdened by the weight of two packs. This was more tiring than carrying a three-hundred-pound person. The fact that he'd managed to keep running for so long was quite remarkable.

Chapter 175 S-Class Dark Maze_3

Twenty seconds is not enough for an average person to recover much stamina. Li Xiu's physical condition is quite good, and he recovers quickly. It may be that the demon spirit parasitizing him has some effect as well.

Li Xiu is resting, but for Ye Yuzhen, twenty seconds feel like an eternity, like twenty centuries passing by.

Several times, he wanted to urge Li Xiu to hurry, but in the end, he swallowed his words.

Through this interaction, he has come to know the kind of person Li Xiu is. Once he has made a decision, he will not change it.

Finally, Li Xiu stood up and directed Ye Yuzhen to continue advancing.

After resting, Li Xiu's stamina recovered a lot. Although he still didn't run fast, it was much better than before.

Door after door, the continuously repeating identical rooms create an illusion for the group that they are circling in the same room, like being caught in a ghost trap.

Ye Yuzhen's forehead is drenched with cold sweat, not because he is tired, but because he is afraid. The fear in his heart is spreading infinitely, causing his body to tremble uncontrollably.

Because they have reached his estimated bottom line, now it might be close to one hour.

He fears the next moment when the light screen suddenly appears, announcing the end of the trial, and then his body is directly blasted into pieces by the Trial Bracelet.

Every subsequent second feels like holding a ticking bomb that might explode at any time, the key being he still doesn't know the time.

Second by second, Ye Yuzhen's heart beats wildly, but luckily it doesn't explode.

"Hurry up, we have three minutes and twenty-two seconds left. We don't have time to waste," Li Xiu noticed Ye Yuzhen's speed had slowed down and reminded him.

"I wonder who wanted to rest earlier and who was walking so slow, who exactly is wasting time?" Ye Yuzhen felt depressed but had no mood to argue, hastening his steps forward.

"Two minutes... one minute thirty seconds... one minute..." Li Xiu reports the time every thirty seconds.

He's not reminding Ye Yuzhen but calculating the remaining time and distance traveled, correcting errors caused by different walking speeds.

"Just hold on a bit longer, the time should be about right," Li Xiu calculates over and over, feeling the time is just perfect, similar to his previous calculations, with some leeway.

But this voice, in Ye Yuzhen's ears, sounds like a death-calling magical sound, shocking him greatly.

"Do you think you're a clock? I don't believe your calculations are that precise, just self-soothing, right?" Ye Yuzhen thought dejectedly.

But he dared not slow his pace, continuing forward. Yet speeding up, Li Xiu couldn't keep up, causing a distressing sensation as if suffering between ice and fire.

Fortunately, until now, they have not encountered any traps or mechanisms, which makes Ye Yuzhen feel a bit suspicious.

"Ten seconds left... two doors remaining... we can make it..." Li Xiu said, panting heavily.

"Two doors left... ten seconds... do you really think you're a GPS?" Ye Yuzhen, half-believing, pushed open doors according to Li Xiu's instructions.

One door... two doors...

Suddenly, Ye Yuzhen's vision turned bright, with a shining screen inside the door. The countdown on the screen has only 004 seconds left, plus the seconds it took him to walk over. Li Xiu's calculation of time is astonishingly accurate, off by at most one second.

Ye Yuzhen sat on the ground as if completely exhausted, staring blankly at the countdown above.

"How could there be such a person!" Ye Yuzhen is now filled with extreme fear.

This journey has shown Ye Yuzhen that the S-Class Dark Maze is many times larger than Class A.

If relying on his navigation afterward just by luck, he definitely wouldn't have made it.

He's extremely grateful now, grateful he followed Li Xiu, which may have been the only path to survival.

"The S-Class Dark Maze doesn't seem as difficult as imagined," Chu Jun said with a smile.

A Fei rolled his eyes at him; if it weren't for Li Xiu leading the way, the S-Class Maze wouldn't be just difficult.

Chu Jun smiled casually, "Don't look at me like that, I'm just trying to lighten the mood."

"S-Class trial complete, rewards are being randomly generated... Each person can choose two rewards..."

Li Xiu sits on the ground panting, sweat not stopping, as a screen with four options appeared in front of him.

Skills, Talents, Attributes, Demon Core, with no entry ticket option.

Li Xiu looked at the reward lists of the other three and found only Chu Jun had the entry ticket option.

"Those who wish to enter the Land of Trial, save one reward," Li Xiu said and chose the Attribute Reward.

The bracelet suddenly brought intense pain, making Li Xiu feel like countless small bugs were crawling inside his body.

The veins on his arm bulged as if something brutal was crawling inside the veins, visibly undulating.

"Apparently, luck is still on my side, here, take these," Chu Jun divided the prepared Trial Badges among Li Xiu, A Fei, and Ye Yuzhen.

Ye Yuzhen hesitated for a moment before accepting the Trial Badge and choosing the demon core reward.

An S-Class Demon Core, along with his previous savings, should be ample enough to buy a set of A-Class Demon Armor.

"Why didn't you choose skills or talents?" Chu Jun looked at Ye Yuzhen and asked somewhat perplexed.

Magic Armor Masters' demand for demon cores far exceeds that of Trial Takers, so generally, Trial Takers rarely choose the demon core reward unless forced by circumstances.

"I like money," Ye Yuzhen gripped the S-Class Demon Core in hand, feeling an unusual calm, and said with a smile.

Chu Jun chose a skill himself, while A Fei chose an attribute.

Li Xiu had already told her how to become a real Trial Taker, and she also prepared to become a real Trial Taker. As soon as she had a suitable chance, she would immediately become a real Trial Taker.

"Alright, I'm going to activate the entry ticket, get ready with your Trial Badges," Chu Jun said, selecting the entry ticket.

The entry ticket appeared before Chu Jun, transforming into a black vortex.

Li Xiu and the others hurriedly tossed their Trial Badges into it, and as soon as the Trial Badge entered the black hole, Li Xiu immediately felt a massive force pulling him into the black hole.

Chapter 176 Leaving the City

Once again, Li Xiu found himself in a familiar setting: the copper lamp, the stone table, and the contract resting on the table.

Theoretically, this was Chu Jun's ticket to enter, so the contract on the stone table should belong to him.

However, as soon as someone enters here, anyone can take the contract.

Li Xiu had already taken the contract from here, so even if he had a ticket himself, he wouldn't be able to get another contract upon entering.

Chu Jun hadn't taken the contract here before, so there was a contract present when he used his ticket.

If this opportunity were snatched by someone else, taking the contract here, the next time he enters, he wouldn't have a contract either.

The contract on the table wasn't like the Dark Mirror Li Xiu had; instead, it was a black umbrella.

"Li Xiu, coming in alive this time is all thanks to you. If you're interested, you can give it a try." Chu Jun said to Li Xiu.

Li Xiu shook his head and said, "I'm not interested."

He truly wasn't interested. Having two parasitic contracts on him was already overwhelming, and adding another one might render him unable to even walk.

"If you're not interested, then I won't hold back." Chu Jun said as he walked over, reached out to grip the umbrella handle, and forcefully lifted the umbrella.

Chu Jun had quite a good physique, so it didn't seem too difficult.

After picking up the black umbrella, amid that eerie sound, Chu Jun used his blood to establish a contract with the black umbrella.

The heavy umbrella, which originally required both hands to lift, became light as a feather once the contract was established, and Chu Jun opened the umbrella effortlessly.

"Not bad at all, it's actually a Radiant Contract—can be used as a weapon and a shield. I've hit the jackpot, thanks, Li Xiu." Chu Jun smiled.

Li Xiu felt a bit frustrated; a real Trial Taker didn't have to bear the weight of the parasitic contracts, yet he wasn't truly a Trial Taker but had parasitic contracts. Such an oddity was indeed one of a kind.

After the contract was completed, the copper lamp moved by itself, drifting into the darkness, prompting the group to bypass the stone table and follow the copper lamp into the shadows.

Before long, the four of them arrived at the crossroads of Black Death City; the copper lamp had settled on the stone pillar in the small square without attaching itself to anyone.

Ye Yuzhen looked around tensely. Although he was a genuine Trial Taker and had obtained a contract, he had never reached the Land of Trial.

He was afraid, afraid of dying in the Land of Trial, afraid that no one would take care of Ye Xiyuan if he died.

Chu Jun was completely different, embodying curiosity as if he was endlessly curious about everything.

Afei was cautiously surveying his surroundings, despite having learned about the details of Black Death City from Li Xiu, he remained very cautious.

Li Xiu glanced towards the small stone house and saw that its door was open, and the stone coffin inside was shattered.

Now Li Xiu was certain that no matter who used the ticket to reach Black Death City, it was always the same place.

Clang! Clang!

The familiar sound of chains dragging on the ground echoed, and while Li Xiu was used to it, Afei and the other two immediately looked vigilantly in that direction.

"Just a small ordinary E-grade magic spirit, leave it to me." Chu Jun said as he summoned his Deep Blue Knight.

The Deep Blue Knight charged ahead, and with the knight's sword in hand, it stabbed the Black Death Demon several times, killing it.

"What do you think? Although I don't have as many magic spirits as you, isn't my magic spirit pretty cool?" Chu Jun boasted to Li Xiu.

"Not bad." Li Xiu nodded.

However, he wasn't praising the Deep Blue Knight but Chu Jun's inspiration skill.

Typically, people could judge the quality of a magic spirit by its appearance and glow, but levels weren't particularly visible.

Chu Jun could accurately state that it was an E-grade magic spirit, evidently due to his inspiration skill.

With Chu Jun's skill, it was like having a magic spirit radar by one's side; perhaps today they could try venturing out.

"None of you need to act, I'll handle this, and we'll still split the loot equally." Chu Jun declared when another E-grade Black Death Demon appeared, immediately getting pumped up, and he truly managed to pull it off.

The Deep Blue Knight sprinted and slew the Black Death Demons appearing at the end of the long street, indeed showing some flair.

Ye Yuzhen's eyes were shining, as he had become a genuine Trial Taker through luck and sheer effort, yet his understanding of Trial Takers was less than Li Xiu's.

Apart from the contract on his finger, he had never seen a Demon Spirit Ring, feel envy as he watched the Deep Blue Knight.

"If only I could have a magic spirit like that," Ye Yuzhen thought.

With the Deep Blue Knight sweeping through, either end of the long street saw more Black Death Demons emerging, and the Deep Blue Knight was starting to be overwhelmed.

"Why are there so many magic spirits, Li Xiu, hurry and help." Chu Jun discarded any semblance of pride, realizing the situation was wrong and immediately called for Li Xiu.

Li Xiu summoned his Radiant Black Death Demon, blocking one of the streets.

The D-grade Radiant Black Death Demon, killing these ordinary E-grade Black Death Demons was like slaughtering chicks, wiping out several with a single sweep, something the Deep Blue Knight couldn't hope to match.

"When did you get that Radiant Demon Spirit?" Chu Jun's eyes widened.

Ye Yuzhen was deeply shocked, staring blankly at the Black Death Demon emanating dark light and smoke, like a Demon God.

Chapter 177 Leaving the City_2

"Turns out Trial Takers are this strong and can control such demon spirits to fight... Having such demon spirits means you have the capital to battle a Magic Armor Master..."

A Fei also summoned her Radiant Black Death Demon to block the Black Death Demon's attack from another street.

"You have one too!" Chu Jun's jaw almost dropped to the ground.

"Li Xiu gave it to me," A Fei replied.

Chu Jun looked at Li Xiu with a peculiar expression: "Do you have any Radiant Demon Spirits left? You don't have to give it to me, just sell me one."

"Let's talk about it after we get out," Li Xiu said with a smile.

This is the normal state of Black Death City, apart from having a large number of Black Death Demons, there's really nothing significant to mention.

Two Radiant Black Death Demons took care of all the demon spirits, and the last Emerging Color Demon Spirit was lashed to death by A Fei's Black Death Demon.

Unfortunately, besides the Demon Cores, these black aura demons didn't leave anything behind.

"This Land of Trial is pretty good, the number of demon spirits is sufficient, even by farming Demon Cores, I've made a profit. The Land of Trial I went to before had pitifully few demon spirits, and if I didn't get good loot, I'd suffer a huge loss," Chu Jun said excitedly while collecting Demon Cores.

"Leave this to them, come with me," Li Xiu called Chu Jun over and they walked towards the city gate.

"Can your Inspiration Skill sense the situation outside?" Reaching the gate, Li Xiu looked at Chu Jun and asked.

"I'll give it a try." Chu Jun approached the gate and then activated his Inspiration Skill, a faint red Skill Brand appeared on his left pinky finger.

After a while, the expression on Chu Jun's face turned increasingly grave: "At a place four to five hundred meters outside the gate, there's a C-level demon spirit, but I can't sense its grade because the distance is too far."

"A C-level demon spirit?" Li Xiu found this situation better than he had expected.

The Pink Nightmare is a B-level, even without skills, unless the opponent's grade is much higher, it shouldn't be too inferior.

Of course, Li Xiu didn't intend to let the Pink Nightmare take the risk, it's his life-saving mount.

The Masked Emperor is also considered a mount, but it can't handle complex terrains, its limitations are too great.

"Dare to come out with me and take a look?" Li Xiu asked Chu Jun.

"If you dare, I dare," Chu Jun said unyieldingly.

"Alright, then let's open the gate," Li Xiu said, summoning his Jedi Knight first, which was his strong asset, capable of doing all sorts of dirty and heavy work as a super-blue-collar demon spirit.

"The quality of this demon spirit isn't great, it doesn't even have Emerging Color, just an ordinary demon spirit," Chu Jun said with a curled lip upon seeing the Jedi Knight's appearance.

"It's just cannon fodder, used to scout the way," Li Xiu said casually.

"I see, that's not bad, let's first test that C-level demon spirit's reality," Chu Jun had an epiphany.

The two came to the winch nearby and together pushed the winch, gradually raising the gate.

Chu Jun continuously used his Inspiration Skill, pushing the winch while saying, "The demon spirit is moving, coming towards us quickly, it's still four hundred meters away... three hundred and fifty meters... three hundred meters..."

The gate was raised to half a person's height, Li Xiu jammed the winch, stopped raising it further, and came to the gate, looking out, only to see pitch black.

Inside the city, there was firelight illumination, but outside, there wasn't a single light source. Fortunately, Li Xiu had the Dark Mirror, the darker it was, the clearer he could see. A half-human, half-mechanical monster with glowing green patterns and a rapidly beating green luminous heart half illuminating its mechanical body.

Half of his body was flesh, half mechanical, running with a clumsy appearance, yet moving exceptionally fast. It was now less than a hundred meters from the city gate.

Chu Jun also bent down to look outside, though he had Night Pupil's talent, he couldn't see far. He could only see the green patterns and luminous green heart, knowing that the thing was approaching.

Li Xiu sent out the Jedi Knight to intercept the C-level demon spirit.

"This cannon fodder might not be enough to handle it. You should at least find a stronger piece of cannon fodder, so it can last longer, allowing us to understand the demon spirit better," Chu Jun said.

"Let's try it first, if it doesn't work, we'll see," Li Xiu said casually.

The Jedi Knight ran into the darkness outside the city, its figure quickly swallowed by the dark, only the fluorescent Samurai Sword in its hand emitted a faint glow.

Soon, the half-human, half-mechanical demon spirit rushed in front of the Jedi Knight, extending claws forged of steel blades towards the Jedi Knight's body.

The Jedi Knight directly drew its sword and slashed, a Blood Red Crescent Blade Light cut through the night, striking the demon spirit's chest as it lunged.

Crack!

Half of the demon spirit's hollow mechanical chest armor was severed by the Blood Light Slash, and the green heart was slashed open, causing it to fall to the ground, unable to get up again. The green light on its body surged, quickly dissipating.

"Wow, does your ordinary demon spirit have a Talent Skill? Did you elevate it to S-level?" Chu Jun asked with mouth agape after a long pause.

The probability of an ordinary demon spirit awakening a Talent Skill was extremely low, only when promoted to S-level did the probability of awakening greatly increase.

So he naturally assumed Li Xiu had elevated an ordinary demon spirit to S-level.

"No, C-level," Li Xiu answered.

"An ordinary demon spirit at C-level can awaken a Talent Skill? Your luck is unbelievably good," Chu Jun envied, "My Deep Blue Knight is an Emerging Color Demon Spirit, if it could awaken a Talent Skill at C-level, that would be enough."

Chapter 178 Leaving the City_3

The Jedi Knight had already dragged the corpse of the demon spirit back as the two spoke.

Although the demon spirit had just been slain, half of its flesh was rapidly decaying, emitting a stench as if it were dug out of a sewer after decades.

The other mechanical half showed no changes, except for the shattered green heart in its chest, which housed a Demon Core with a dark green metallic shell.

"A C-level Shining Demon Core, it's hard to find such a thing outside," Chu Jun said.

On Earth, C-level Demon Cores are abundant. Even S-level ones aren't considered rare, but most of them are ordinary quality. Finding a flowing color quality is difficult, let alone a Shining Demon Core.

"Are there more demon spirits outside?" Li Xiu asked Chu Jun while letting the Jedi Knight extract the Demon Core.

"My sensing range has a radius of about a thousand meters. Within this range, I haven't sensed any demon spirits," Chu Jun said after sensing carefully.

"A radius of one thousand meters isn't small. Let's go out and take a look," Li Xiu called over A Fei, instructing her to guard the city gate. After they left, she should lower the gate to prevent any demon spirits from charging into the city.

After leaving the city, Li Xiu immediately summoned the Pink Nightmare and mounted it.

"You..." Chu Jun felt frustrated upon seeing this scene.

Not only did Li Xiu have a skilled companion pet, but he also had a mount and a Radiant Demon Spirit. In comparison, Chu Jun suddenly felt poor.

"What's wrong?" Li Xiu asked Chu Jun, puzzled.

He carried too much burden; walking was exhausting. He had to ride the Pink Nightmare to conserve energy in case he needed it during an encounter with danger.

"Don't you think it's inappropriate for a man to ride such a pink mount?" Chu Jun said solemnly.

"Not at all, pink's nice," Li Xiu smiled.

"Alright, as long as you're happy," Chu Jun followed Li Xiu helplessly as they walked forward.

While walking forward, Li Xiu observed the surrounding terrain. From the city gate, he had seen darkness afar, thinking it was due to poor vision.

Upon stepping out, he realized it wasn't due to poor eyesight but a black sea in the distance, with even the sand on the beach being black. No wonder it looked dark with nothing to see.

The black sea was something Li Xiu had never seen on Earth, and it was peculiar with occasional small ripples on the otherwise calm surface, so quiet it didn't seem like an ocean.

Usually, the sea has three feet of waves, rising and falling with tides. How could there be no waves?

However, thinking again, this isn't Earth, and who knows if the blood moon here is similar to Earth's moon with tidal forces? The absence of tides seems reasonable.

"There's a demon spirit over there!" Chu Jun pointed to the left beach.

"What kind of demon spirit?" Li Xiu looked toward where Chu Jun pointed, seeing only the beach and black reefs without spotting any demon spirit.

Li Xiu stared at the reefs, thinking the demon spirit might be hiding behind them.

"I don't know," Chu Jun shook his head slightly, confusion evident on his face, seemingly unable to identify the demon spirit's level and quality despite sensing its presence.

"Is your feeling that it's stronger than the last demon spirit, or weaker?" Li Xiu surveyed the direction of the reefs and continued asking.

"Weaker, but it's strange. It's such a weak demon spirit; how could I not sense its level and name?" Chu Jun grew more puzzled.

"Is it on the other side of the reef two hundred meters away?" Li Xiu pondered various possibilities, summoning the Black Death Demon, guiding it to walk behind the reefs.

"Yes," Chu Jun nodded.

Li Xiu cautiously controlled the Black Death Demon into the reef cluster, circling inside yet finding nothing.

"So odd, how can there be nothing? I clearly felt something there," Chu Jun couldn't see that far, thus approached to gain a clearer view.

Li Xiu rode the Nightmare, tagging along beside Chu Jun.

After circling several rounds without any findings, it shouldn't be dangerous.

However, Li Xiu trusted Chu Jun's instincts and feared that Chu Jun might encounter danger from being too close, hence he followed closely.

When Chu Jun was tens of meters away from the reef, he began to vaguely discern the contours.

After observing for a while, he pointed at the largest reef's slab and said, "I feel the demon spirit is in that area."

"Is it at the largest piece of reef?" Li Xiu gazed towards that direction, scrutinizing the reef.

The reef had a high and low side, shaped like a conker. The higher part was three to four meters, and the lower part was about two meters, looking black and indistinct from neighboring reefs.

Having already searched the area multiple times, the Black Death Demon found nothing.

"Could the demon spirit be under that reef?" Li Xiu considered all possibilities.

"It's possible, or perhaps the demon spirit is tiny, hiding in the crevices of the reef. My sensing detected weak demon spirit aura, indicating it's not very strong," Chu Jun approached further to gain a clearer view.

Li Xiu kept close to Chu Jun, both getting nearer to the reef, Chu Jun muttering, "It's right there, shouldn't it be? How can there be nothing?"

Li Xiu watched the black sandy ground, wary of unexpected creatures emerging.

Luckily, that didn't happen, as Chu Jun was within ten meters of the reef, intending to continue advancing but was stopped by Li Xiu.

"Stop here, don't go further."

"I'm struggling to see clearly, let me step closer, it's right here, how can there be nothing?" Chu Jun said, advancing a few more steps.

If even this ability was inaccurate, Chu Jun himself felt useless.

Just as Chu Jun took a few steps forward, the reef suddenly cracked open a gap.

Chapter 179 White Lotus

The massive black reef split horizontally down the middle, resembling the gaping mouth of a black beast, emitting a mesmerizing kaleidoscope of colors from within.

Upon seeing the rainbow-colored enchanted light inside, Chu Jun's eyes glazed over, as if bewitched, and he began walking towards the reef that looked like the mouth of a beast.

"Chu Jun..." Li Xiu called out several times, but Chu Jun ignored him entirely, continuing to walk toward the cracked reef.

Li Xiu quickly dismounted and slapped Chu Jun's face. It was a hard slap, causing Chu Jun's head to tilt, and a palm print appeared on his face.

Yet Chu Jun remained oblivious, persistently moving toward the reef. Li Xiu tried to pull him back, but Chu Jun dragged his body forward as if he were a robot programmed with a fixed target.

Seeing Chu Jun almost at the reef, Li Xiu knew that pulling him was futile; even if all three of his legs were broken, he'd still crawl over.

With a hardened resolve, Li Xiu summoned the Jedi Knight, intending for the Jedi Knight to use Blood Light Slash to cut into the cracked reef.

Inside the cracked reef, an array of dazzling colors shimmered mysteriously. Whether it was due to wearing the Dark Mirror or not, the glow seemed less intense in Li Xiu's eyes, revealing that the mesmerizing light emanated from a spherical crystal within the reef.

If the crystal could be shattered, Chu Jun should regain his senses.

However, when the Jedi Knight appeared and was about to draw his sword to slash at the crystal inside the reef, he suddenly froze and, like Chu Jun, ambled toward the reef in a daze.

Li Xiu was startled, wanting to recall the Jedi Knight, but the Jedi Knight completely ignored his commands and continued walking forward.

"Can even demons not resist that hypnotic rainbow glow? Why wasn't the Pink Nightmare affected?" Li Xiu had summoned the Jedi Knight because the Pink Nightmare beside him remained unaffected, assuming a demon could resist the strange, enchanting light.

Unexpectedly, that wasn't the case. Perhaps the Pink Nightmare was immune due to its intrinsic nature.

Gritting his teeth, Li Xiu summoned all his demons, each one appearing around him.

Soon, Li Xiu discovered that the demons unaffected by the mesmerizing light included Demigod Shana, Love God Shooter, and Pink Nightmare.

Overjoyed, Li Xiu commanded Demigod Shana to attack, and with the Blue Diamond Spear, a bullet was fired at the reef.

Bang!

The reef swiftly closed, blocking Demigod Shana's bullet. The bullet only chipped away some fragments from the rock, leaving a bullet hole on it.

Thankfully, as the reef closed, the enchanted demons and Chu Jun immediately regained their senses.

"Let's go." Li Xiu retrieved all the demons except for Pink Nightmare, then mounted Chu Jun onto Pink Nightmare's back, riding swiftly away from the black reef.

"What just happened?" Chu Jun asked in bewilderment, still trying to look back, but Li Xiu sternly stopped him.

"Don't look back," Li Xiu instructed, urging Pink Nightmare to increase its speed, quickly distancing them from the black reef.

"What just happened?" Chu Jun asked again, puzzled, after they had left the beach and returned to the city gate.

After explaining what had transpired, Chu Jun broke into a cold sweat: "It's a good thing you were there. I don't remember a thing."

"It's fine now." Li Xiu thought for a moment and said, "That reef might be a demon itself. The enchanted rainbow light emitted by its inner crystal probably has a hypnotic effect. I was only able to resist it because I was wearing the Dark Mirror."

Originally, Li Xiu thought the Dark Mirror only had night vision capabilities, but now it seemed to also resist the effects of some Demonic Lights.

It makes sense when you think about it: the Dark Mirror makes bright places harder to see, so it also provides some resistance to light that confuses the mind.

"Let's go take a look again later. I suspect that enchanting light only works within a certain distance, so don't get too close," Li Xiu advised Chu Jun as they cautiously approached the direction of the reef once more.

This time, they were more careful and cautious.

It would be more appropriate for Li Xiu to go alone, but he worried that more demons might appear nearby and needed Chu Jun by his side for a warning.

They stopped more than a hundred meters away from the reef, with Li Xiu instructing the Jedi Knight to guard Chu Jun while he rode Pink Nightmare closer.

As Li Xiu inched closer, the reef remained unresponsive, showing no sign of splitting again even when he was right beside it.

"This thing is quite cunning. It knows its ability doesn't work on me, so it doesn't even bother opening its mouth," Li Xiu pondered, realizing the creature's combat strength wasn't too formidable, relying only on the potent enchanted light.

"Did you think that by keeping your mouth shut, I'd be powerless against you?" Li Xiu thought, summoning Demigod Shana and Love God Shooter simultaneously.

Chu Jun, who was previously too dazed to see the demons Li Xiu had summoned, now gaped with wide eyes as he saw Demigod Shana, a shimmering blue silhouette, and Love God Shooter, glowing with resplendent light.

"Radiant Demon Spirit... you actually possess a Radiant Demon Spirit..." Chu Jun exclaimed, finding it hard to stay composed.

Chu Jun had only heard of such things as a Radiant Demon Spirit but had never seen one before.

Chapter 180 White Lotus_2

Li Xiu didn't have time to pay attention to him, he controlled the Love God Shooter, and shot an arrow at the black boulder.

The Light Arrow struck the black boulder, leaving a glowing heart-shaped mark.

The boulder, which had its mouth tightly closed, surprisingly began to slowly open, revealing a crystal inside that emitted a colorful and mesmerizing light.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

At the moment the black boulder cracked open, Demigod Shana fired three shots in quick succession, the bullets flying into the crevice one after another.

The black boulder regained clarity almost instantly, but it was too late to try to close its mouth again.

The three bullets collided straight into the crystal, shattering it to pieces, and the black boulder immediately stopped moving.

A colorful light rose from the fragments, condensing into a hexagonal gemstone that shone with a dazzling array of colors.

"I felt it, that's a C-rank Demon Spirit Illusory Sea Clam, probably of Radiant Quality." Chu Jun's information came a bit late.

Li Xiu stepped forward, picked up the Talent Gemstone, and selected a colorful Demon Core from the crystal fragments.

"Your information came a bit too late." Li Xiu turned to look at Chu Jun, only to find him staring intently in the direction of the sea.

"Could there be another Illusory Sea Clam mesmerizing him?" Li Xiu quickly turned to look, and his face changed immediately.

From the Black Sea, a giant creature was emerging from the water, its entire body shining with white light, appearing as large as an island, with its size above the water already being astonishing.

However, the part that was above the water seemed to be just a small fraction of its body, with an even larger form underneath emitting a faint glow.

As its body surfaced, the calm black seawater was stirred into massive waves, crashing towards the beach like a tidal wave.

"Let's go." Li Xiu, riding the Pink Nightmare, sped to Chu Jun's side, pulled him onto the horse's back, and once again raced towards the city gate.

The monstrous black wave surged behind them, like a black demon intent on devouring everything.

"Ah Fei, open the gate." Li Xiu shouted at the top of his lungs as he sprinted towards the city gate.

The city gate slowly began to rise, but the speed was too slow. After all, only Ah Fei was turning the winch, and her physical strength couldn't compare to that of Chu Jun or Li Xiu.

Even with the two turning the winch together, it wasn't easy, let alone with just Ah Fei.

The black seawater nearly reached the Pink Nightmare's hind hooves, and the city gate had only risen twenty to thirty centimeters.

"Hold on tight!" Wen couldn't afford to stop and wait, nor was there time, so he urged the Pink Nightmare to leap forward towards the city gate.

While in midair, the Pink Nightmare transformed into a ring that returned to Li Xiu's finger, and Li Xiu, taking back the Pink Nightmare, collided into the city gate with Chu Jun.

Enduring the pain of crashing into the wall, the two of them fell to the ground, both quickly rolling beneath the gate into the city.

"Close the gate!" Li Xiu, disregarding his pain, immediately got up and helped Ah Fei reverse the winch.

Bang!

The stone gate fell, blocking the roaring black seawater outside, causing the gate and city wall to rumble.

A small puddle of seawater flowed in before the gate closed, but Chu Jun didn't pay much attention to it. When he tried to get up, his hand accidentally touched the black seawater.

"Ah!" Chu Jun let out a scream and quickly withdrew his hand.

Li Xiu and Ah Fei immediately looked over and saw that the fingers Chu Jun had touched the black seawater were emitting a foul-smelling smoke.

The black seawater was corroding the flesh on his fingers, and it seemed like they would soon be exposed to the bone.

Li Xiu rushed to Chu Jun's side, grabbed his palm with his right hand, pressed his waist with his left, and, with burning blood surging, unsheathed the Fire Lotus Sword, slicing towards Chu Jun's fingers.

Chu Jun was startled, thinking Li Xiu was about to cut off his fingers, and struggled to break free.

But Li Xiu twisted firmly, making Chu Jun feel as if his fingers were about to be broken, and he involuntarily squatted following Li Xiu's movement.

The Fire Lotus Sword had already sliced onto Chu Jun's fingers, with a blade thinner than paper, cutting away a layer of flesh from his fingers that had been corroded by the black seawater, without severing his fingers.

Seeing that Chu Jun's fingers showed no further signs of corrosion, Li Xiu released his hand and gave a glance at the ground, where the piece of flesh had been corroded into black water.

"It hurts like hell!" Chu Jun pressed on his wound, grimacing in pain.

"You're lucky your fingers aren't ruined, so just endure a bit of the pain." Li Xiu said with a smile.

"True, this Land of Trial is way too dangerous, nothing like the level of the ones I've been to before." Chu Jun said with lingering fear, glancing at the black water on the ground.

"It is indeed quite terrifying." Li Xiu nodded, "The seawater is already so powerful, the Demon Spirit in the sea is probably even stronger, too bad we didn't get a clear look at it."

"What more do you want to see? My inspiration couldn't detect its name or level, only an overwhelming and terrifying Spiritual Energy, as if it wanted to engulf the world. I suspect that creature might be an S-rank Radiant Demon Spirit." Chu Jun said, lips pale from pain, teeth chattering as he spoke.

"You can't sense an S-rank Demon Spirit?" Li Xiu asked in confusion.