

## When God 841

### Chapter 841 Advancement to Spirit Casting (3)

He actually wanted to know more if, with his current abilities, he could kill the Divine Creatures. If he could, he planned to eliminate the Divine Position Demon Spirits in the remaining eight fireseed locations, plunder a batch of resources, and absorb all the Light Flames.

He now understood the Spirit Light Unity and also had the stealth methods of Spirit Casting, so self-preservation shouldn't be an issue.

Just in case, Li Xiu bought an insurance. If he went invisible and Qingyi was absorbing the Light Flames, the Ice Tiger couldn't find him and would likely go back to stop Qingyi, making it easier for him to shake off the Ice Tiger.

If he missed this chance, who would accompany him on such adventures in the future?

No matter what Li Qingyi said, she disagreed. Li Xiu had no choice but to say, "Even if you don't go to absorb that Light Flame, I still want to try to see if I can kill the Ice Tiger. If you don't go, I'll send you back to blow out the Longevity Lamp first."

Li Qingyi stared blankly at Li Xiu, "Why do you have to take such risks?"

"If I weren't a person who loves adventure, I wouldn't even have become a Trial Taker." Li Xiu pointed to the other side of the Ice Platform and said, "You wait over there. Once I give the signal, rush towards the Ice Platform with all your might."

Seeing that Li Xiu was resolute, knowing that saying anything would be useless, Li Qingyi could only follow Li Xiu's instructions and quietly moved to the other side of the Ice Platform.

Once Li Qingyi was in place, Li Xiu took a deep breath and summoned a Black Death Demon.

This was just an ordinary Radiant Black Death Demon; to others, it's a dream demon spirit, but to Zhou Wen, it's just cannon fodder.

He summoned the Black Death Demon and hid far away, then had the Black Death Demon slowly approach the Ice Platform.

After getting closer and seeing the Ice Tiger still sleeping, Li Xiu didn't let the Black Death Demon get any closer, directly commanding it to make a move.

The shackles on the Black Death Demon's hands broke, transforming into two Black Light Whips, which lashed twice at the icy ground, the snow flying, leaving two charred cracks on the glacier.

This instantly startled the Ice Tiger awake, lifting its head to look at the Black Death Demon.

Li Xiu controlled the Black Death Demon to whip the ground twice more, as if it were intimidating the beast, the action provoking.

After this, under Li Xiu's control, the Black Death Demon turned and fled, and the Ice Tiger seemed enraged, suddenly standing up.

Its massive figure stood over three meters tall, combined with its fierce momentum, appearing extremely imposing.

The Ice Tiger slightly exerted its four legs, and its figure suddenly disappeared. When it reappeared, it slammed full force onto the fleeing Black Death Demon, smashing its body into pieces.

"Such speed!" Li Xiu watched clearly. The Ice Tiger didn't really disappear; it was just so fast that an average person couldn't see its movements and only saw an afterimage vanish.

After smashing the Black Death Demon, the Ice Tiger looked around but found nothing, then slowly walked back to the Ice Platform and lay down again.

Li Xiu had already hidden himself invisibly, so the Ice Tiger couldn't detect him.

The Ice Tiger was very strong, but after seeing its speed, Li Xiu had an idea.

Once the Ice Tiger calmed down, Li Xiu quietly retreated a distance, then summoned the Black Death Demon King.

Under Li Xiu's control, the Black Death Demon King summoned its Black Death Legion.

Li Xiu surveyed the surrounding terrain and dispersed the Black Death Demons of the Black Death Legion, placing a Black Death Demon minion hidden in the snow every so often.

Li Xiu kept calculating distances, observing the terrain and position, leading the Black Death Legion further out, leaving a Black Death Demon minion every so often.

Once all the minions were arranged, Li Xiu was several dozen miles away from the Ice Platform.

After arranging a hiding place for the Black Death Demon King, Li Xiu finally started his plan.

The Ice Tiger, sleeping soundly, suddenly heard the crackling again, raised its head, and saw another reckless demon spirit swinging a whip at it.

Watching from his hidden position, Li Xiu was delighted to see the Ice Tiger stand up.

Who knew that the next second, the Ice Tiger, unlike before, simply opened its mouth and spewed out a tide-like ice light towards the Black Death Demon minion.

"Damn, this isn't according to plan!" Li Xiu was immediately frustrated, quickly controlling the Black Death Demon minion to flee.

Unfortunately, the Black Death Demon minion couldn't outrun the Ice Tiger's icy breath; within a few meters, it was engulfed by the tide-like ice light, frozen into an ice sculpture that shattered like glass on the ground.

"Damn it!" Li Xiu was a bit annoyed.

Luckily, he had a backup plan and quietly summoned another Radiant Black Death Demon to taunt the Ice Tiger from an even farther distance.

After being taunted repeatedly, the Ice Tiger was evidently very angry, seeing the Black Death Demon far away, and didn't pounce this time, opened its mouth again, spewing out an ice beam.

But this time the ice beam was different; it condensed into an Ice Cone, piercing nearly a thousand meters through the air, punching through the Black Death Demon's chest, leaving a large hole, and then it fell over.

"Damn, you're good!" Li Xiu inwardly cursed, knowing this was costing him money, and he didn't have many Black Death Demons to toy with the Ice Tiger.

"Looks like I'll have to use Plan C." After observing several times, Li Xiu had a rough assessment of the Ice Tiger's powers.

He took a deep breath, moved further away, and then summoned the Masked Emperor and the Forbidden Spear.

Riding the Masked Emperor, Li Xiu, wielding the Gatling State Forbidden Spear in one hand, unleashed a torrent of bullets in the Ice Tiger's direction.

Without waiting for the Ice Tiger's reaction, Li Xiu had the Masked Emperor go full throttle, charging off into the distance.

The Masked Emperor sped through the snow, the Forbidden Spear in Li Xiu's hand rattling incessantly, echoing across the snowy plains, light bullets streaking through like a meteor shower toward the Ice Platform.

"Roar!" An angry roar echoed from the direction of the Ice Platform.

Chapter 842 Old Bai's Book

The light bullets scattered, splashing like fireworks toward all directions, while ice cones pierced through the air. Thankfully, with over a thousand meters as a buffer, the Masked Emperor swayed left and right, dodging those ice cones as if he had foresight, continuing to charge forward at high speed.

Where the Masked Emperor passed, the light flames spewed from both sides burned deep marks into the icy snow ground. Without the aid of the light flames on both sides, he would've slid off the ice and snow long ago.

Seeing the ice cones missing, the Ice Tiger roared, its figure bringing along countless illusions as it instantly chased after them.

It simultaneously spewed a tidal wave of icy light, seemingly about to engulf Li Xiu and the Masked Emperor.

Everything was within Li Xiu's calculations. At the moment when the icy light was about to catch up with him, he suddenly leaped up, retracting the Masked Emperor while in mid-air, and his figure vanished into thin air.

The icy light surged like a flood, condensing into an "Ice Dragon" thousands of meters long on the snowfield.

The Ice Tiger watched helplessly as Li Xiu vanished, a hint of doubt flashing in its eyes, but merely for a moment, before it spewed rolling icy breath at the empty space where Li Xiu disappeared, condensing an ice bridge in mid-air but found nothing.

The Ice Tiger did not pause, spewing icy breath towards the sky repeatedly, with hundred-meter-long ice bridges extending in various directions, yet still discovered nothing.

Bang!

A sound like a whip attracted the Ice Tiger's attention; it saw a Black Death Demon waving a Light Whip a kilometer away, and the already enraged Ice Tiger instantly charged over, simultaneously spewing ice cones aimed at the Black Death Demon.

The Black Death Demon turned and ran, the distance was sufficient, coupled with Li Xiu's secret manipulation, that Black Death Demon miraculously evaded the ice cones with the Angel's Wing Body Technique.

The Ice Tiger grew even more infuriated, leaping directly at it and instantly pouncing onto the Black Death Demon, tearing it to shreds.

Just after shredding the Black Death Demon, another whip sound echoed from afar, and the provoked Ice Tiger hastily charged again.

Having lost its reason in mockery, the Ice Tiger darted on the ice field like a phantom, killing one Black Death Demon after another, in mere moments charging over thirty to forty miles, still furiously hunting more distant Black Death Demons.

When the Ice Tiger was drawn over sixty to seventy miles away, Li Xiu saw the opportunity was ripe and immediately sent the signal agreed upon with Li Qingyi.

The Fire Lotus Sword soared skyward, flying in another direction, flashing through the air for a brief moment.

The Ice Tiger also sensed the flash of the Fire Lotus Sword at that instant, pausing to scrutinize the direction where the Fire Lotus Sword vanished, then at the Black Death Demon waving provocatively with a Light Whip in the far distance ahead.

The next second, the Ice Tiger made its choice, pouncing towards the Black Death Demon.

Hiding in the snow, Li Xiu slightly exhaled in relief; had the Ice Tiger returned now to search for the Fire Lotus Sword, the time Li Qingyi had to absorb the light flames would lessen.

Luckily, the Ice Tiger ultimately didn't choose to return but was still drawn to the Black Death Demon underling instead.

Earlier he seemed to leap towards the air, but in reality, after disappearing in mid-air, he changed his direction, sidestepping to fall amidst the snow.

Li Qingyi found the signal, dashing toward the ice platform without hesitation, sprinting full speed to the light flames, deploying the Unbreakable Cold Ice Shield.

Just as the Unbreakable Cold Ice Shield was deployed, the Ice Tiger had seemingly sensed it despite being eighty miles out, unexpectedly abandoning the Black Death Demon underling waving the Light Whip ahead, turning to rush back towards the ice platform.

The Ice Tiger's speed was incredibly fast; Li Xiu, hiding in the snowpile, roughly calculated that, at a distance of seventy to eighty miles, the Ice Tiger might need less than ten seconds to come back, leaving Li Qingyi presumably short on time.

With a thought, Li Xiu relentlessly sprinted towards another direction, simultaneously summoning the Forbidden Spear, frantically firing towards the Ice Tiger's direction.

Li Xiu dared not hold back this time, both the Red-Blue Dual Casting Spirit of the Evil Spirit Token flew out simultaneously, attaching itself to Li Xiu, causing red and blue overlapping Demonic Light to appear on Li Xiu's body.

The Seven-Flower Blood Vine also entwined around Li Xiu's body, making him feel surging power brimming within.

The light energy of the three casting spirits merged into one, elevating Li Xiu's light energy to nearly match the third-form casting spirit, under full outburst his speed was comparable to lightning.

Li Xiu's speed was fast, yet the Ice Tiger's speed was not slow, seeing the light bullets, it ceased charging towards the ice platform, spewing icy breath that froze all the light bullets in the air, its figure bringing icy illusions as it pursued Li Xiu's direction, rapidly closing the distance between them.

Li Xiu saw the Ice Tiger charging over, continuously calculating the distance between them, evading ice cones yet not hastening to become invisible.

Though the Light of Truth was strong, it had a certain range, controlling the distance well would avoid danger.

However, the Ice Tiger's speed was tremendous, in just a second or two, Li Xiu felt he was nearing the danger zone.

"I've done all I can; whether it succeeds now depends on your luck," Li Xiu triggered the fourth casting spirit directly, his figure invisibly disappearing, speed soaring again.

The Red-Blue Dual Casting Spirit and Seven-Flower Blood Vine's glow disappeared alongside Li Xiu, nearly driving the Ice Tiger insane.

Frantically lunging forth, spraying icy breath madly around yet discovering nothing, the Ice Tiger unleashed a strange light in its fury, the light resembling an enormous translucent ice shell, spiral-shaped like a snail shell, enveloping nearly a kilometer radius in that eerie starlight.

Chapter 843 Old Bai's Book (Part 2)

Unfortunately, it still hadn't discovered Li Xiu's whereabouts. Frustrated, it spewed out cold light to vent its anger before turning towards the Ice Platform again.

Over there, Li Qingyi was almost finished; the ninth Light Talisman had appeared on the Unbreakable Cold Ice Shield.

Watching the Ice Tiger's glow rapidly approach from afar, Li Qingyi hesitated no longer and blew out the Longevity Lamp beside him, leaving the Land of Nine Dragons Profound Ice.

Li Qingyi had only just disappeared when the roaring Ice Breath engulfed the Ice Platform, yet it couldn't retain anything.

With a furious roar, the Ice Tiger shook the ice plains, frenziedly releasing its wrath near the Ice Platform. With a swipe of its paw, the ice plains cracked with deep trench-like fissures.

Li Xiu watched the raging Ice Tiger from afar, knowing that if he truly faced the Ice Tiger in battle, he'd likely end up in trouble.

Previously, he could defeat Jiaotu only because Jiaotu was bound by the Jade Lock Chain, unable to fully exert its power.

Now, Li Xiu had lost his thought of slaying the Ice Tiger, silently waiting for it to finish venting. As long as it leaves the Ice Platform or falls asleep again, Li Xiu will stealthily blow out his own Longevity Lamp.

Li Qingyi returned to the entrance of the Nine Dragon Profound Ice Sect, standing there gazing at the gate, feeling unease in his heart.

More than an hour passed, and as Li Qingyi grew increasingly irritable, he saw a flash of light at the gate where Li Xiu's figure appeared.

"My heart's not good; could you avoid scaring me like that next time?" Li Qingyi examined Li Xiu, wanting to say much, but seeing he wasn't hurt at all, he only uttered this sentence.

"Alright." Li Xiu smiled and nodded.

"It's good you're fine. I'll head back first. Wait a day for me. Once I advance in Spirit Casting, I'll go with you to the City of Light." Li Qingyi said little more, turning to leave.

Li Xiu returned to the Seventh Courtyard, which had been relatively quiet these days. Those guarding the Trial Gate stayed by it, those heading to the City of Light went there, only Li Ming'Er and Old Bai remained in the Seventh Courtyard.

When Li Xiu returned to the Seventh Courtyard, Old Bai was playing chess in the yard.

"How do you play chess alone?" Li Xiu saw Old Bai playing chess solo, lacking even an opponent, and asked curiously.

"I play chess with myself." Old Bai stared at the chessboard, seemingly pondering his next move.

"Playing chess against yourself, controlling both sides, there's no suspense; where's the fun in that?" Li Xiu said.

"Why would there be no suspense?" Old Bai placed a piece, speaking to the chessboard, "The human heart is a wondrous thing. In different environments, the mind changes; are you certain you truly understand yourself?"

Li Xiu listened to Old Bai's words and became contemplative.

While placing pieces, Old Bai continued, "There are ways and methods for the wealthy to live and interact, and there are ways and methods for the poor as well. When you have everything, sacrificing a bit to achieve your goal is easy, but when you have nothing, even paying a single coin is like cutting flesh. What you like today might be your all; tomorrow, you might no longer like it, and it may become worthless. The human mind changes every moment. The most difficult thing to predict in this world is human nature. I play chess with myself; at this moment, I am me; at that moment, I am not necessarily the same me. How could there be no suspense?"

"What if the heart remains as one?" Li Xiu stared at Old Bai and asked.

"Then you're either a demon or a saint." Old Bai said as he placed the last piece in his hand.

Li Xiu didn't need to count; one glance showed it was a draw.

"If there's suspense, if there's difference, why is it a draw?"

"Because I can't reclaim the me from that time." Old Bai sighed, gathering the black and white pieces from the board.

"Interested in a game with me?" After clearing the pieces, Old Bai smiled and looked at Li Xiu.

"You can't beat me." Li Xiu said.

"Chess is like life; life's not yet started, how do you know you won't lose?" Old Bai replied.

"Life has unknown rules, but the chessboard does not. As long as you know the rules, I won't lose." Li Xiu disliked playing chess because, for him, chess had no suspense, no unknowns, nothing that stirred his heart.

Li Xiu was very curious and liked exploring the unknown, sometimes even wanting to do adventurous things, because only then could he feel truly alive.

Old Bai was slightly taken aback; Li Xiu's words were bold. He had played chess with someone known as the Chess Saint, and even the Chess Saint dared not make such arrogant claims.

Old Bai gazed at Li Xiu for a while, then suddenly chuckled, "If you win, I'll give you something fun."

"Not playing." Li Xiu still refused, for he already knew the result, and repeating something with a known outcome held no interest for him.

Li Xiu's refusal made Old Bai even more eager to play a game with him. After a moment of contemplation, he said, "If you lose, you give me something."

"What do you want?" Li Xiu grew interested upon hearing Old Bai trying to make a bet; he wanted to know what Old Bai desired.

"Win first, then I'll say." Old Bai replied.

"You can't win." Li Xiu shook his head again, "Just tell me what you want."

Chapter 844 Lao Bai's Book (Part 3)

Old Bai said nothing, only placing a piece on the chessboard, then gesturing as if inviting a move.

Li Xiu saw Old Bai's gesture and had no choice but to sit opposite him at the chess table, casually picking up a piece and dropping it as if not thinking at all.

"When I was in the Mortal World, I once played against the Chess Saint." Old Bai, seeing Li Xiu's casual approach, stopped playing and said slowly while looking at Li Xiu.

"What was the result?" Li Xiu asked.

"Wins and losses both." Old Bai smiled, "But when I lost, it was just by one or two pieces, whereas if the Chess Saint lost, it was like an avalanche."

Seeing Li Xiu still seemed uninterested, Old Bai took a book from his chest and placed it on the table. The book looked new, but its binding was ancient, stitched together with thread.

"This is something I've been working on recently, something you might find interesting. If you win, just take it and have a look. But if you lose, I will ask for something." Old Bai said.

"You don't need to do this. Since I'm playing, I'll be all-in and won't be perfunctory with you." Li Xiu understood Old Bai's intention.

"Aren't you curious about what I want now?" Old Bai looked at Li Xiu with interest.

"Earlier I asked to help you, now I don't ask because you won't win." Li Xiu said.

"Your arrogance is quite like mine when I was young." Old Bai chuckled, said no more, and dropped a piece.

Li Xiu casually picked up a piece and dropped it without a second thought.

Old Bai smiled slightly, having said so much, yet Li Xiu still didn't take it seriously. He planned to teach Li Xiu a lesson.

Old Bai thought carefully as he played, but Li Xiu continued to play quickly without thinking, often dropping his piece right after Old Bai.

At first, Old Bai thought Li Xiu was not taking the game seriously, but as they progressed, Old Bai realized something was off.

Li Xiu's moves were definitely not random; they were part of a careful strategy.

But if it was a carefully planned strategy, how could he play so fast, as if he didn't need to think?

"Could he be familiar with all the world's chess patterns, having seen this one before? That's impossible, even if he has thousands of chess patterns in mind, they couldn't match one exactly..." Old Bai felt increasingly amazed, yet didn't overthink it.

Li Xiu's approach emphasized the strategy, which was also Old Bai's expertise.

"Let's see whose strategy is superior." Old Bai focused deeply, dismissing any other thoughts.

The more they played, the slower Old Bai became, whereas Li Xiu maintained his speed, making a move right after Old Bai.

For him, chess games posed no difficulty. His Spiritual Sense was incredibly strong, with computational abilities to a freakish extent. He once competed against superintelligent computers and ended up winning.

Against humans, losing was truly difficult.

The more Old Bai played, the more unsettled he became. By the end, his forehead was covered in sweat, his eyes fixed on the board.

"Draw!" Old Bai slowly raised his head to look at Li Xiu. He sensed that the result was a draw, but in reality, he'd already lost.

After the mid-game, Old Bai realized that Li Xiu had manipulated the game; it wasn't that he had played to a draw but Li Xiu had chosen it.

At this moment, Old Bai finally understood that Li Xiu's earlier words were not arrogance. To play chess at this level, he certainly had the right to speak them.

"Could you be the reincarnation of the Chess God?" Old Bai remarked with a wry smile.

"I think the metaphor of being the reincarnation of a supercomputer is more appropriate." Li Xiu smiled.

"What's a supercomputer?" Old Bai asked, puzzled.

Li Xiu then realized that Old Bai had been trapped on Longevity Island for thousands of years, unaware of computers, let alone supercomputers.

"It's a device with strong computational abilities." Li Xiu explained.

Old Bai was suddenly enlightened, "No wonder playing against you always feels strange. Your chess lacks any spirit, it's pure calculation. That's why."

After speaking, Old Bai laughed wryly again, "With such strong computational abilities, you don't need any spirit. But abilities like that, even I, the old man, have never seen or heard of before."

"Old Bai, just speak frankly about what you need. Within my capabilities, I won't disappoint you." Li Xiu said.

"I want you to look at this book." Old Bai pushed the book toward Li Xiu and drifted away, elegantly returning to his room.

"I see." Li Xiu finally understood that Old Bai was just looking for an excuse to give him the book.

After returning to his room, Old Bai closed the door, wiping sweat from his forehead, "What kind of monster is this? Asking me what I want? The old man's plan was to beat you, then talk about taking you as a disciple. Now, how do you expect the old man to ask?"

Li Xiu naturally did not know what Old Bai was thinking. He picked up the book and began flipping through it, curious about what Old Bai wanted him to see.

Li Xiu flipped a few pages, his eyes suddenly went wide, feeling a warmth in his nose as if something was about to flow out, he couldn't help but cover his nose with his hand.

"This Old Bai, truly young at heart, actually hand-drawing stuff like this..." As Li Xiu covered his nose, he couldn't resist flipping through a few more pages.

The book contained drawings of a woman with revealing clothing. Although it wasn't colored and the lines were simple, her expressions and postures were incredibly alluring. Li Xiu could only say Old Bai captured the essential charm.

"Who would have thought, the usually dignified Old Bai is actually a master of the art. Such skill not used to draw certain indescribable comics is really a waste." Li Xiu commented while looking, flipping to the back, realizing there was something odd about the woman depicted in the book.

Chapter 845 I'll Take This Deal

"What the heck is this thing?" Li Xiu watched as the woman in the book started moving.

"Is this a 3D comic?" The more Li Xiu looked, the more amazing he found it. The illustrations, which were clearly just simple sketches, appeared to leap off the page like a 3D projection, constantly twisting and turning.

The fact that hand-drawing could produce such an effect made Li Xiu think this might be the greatest invention of the century.

With this technology, who needs cameras, professional anime teams, or special effects? Just draw it and it's done.

Li Xiu watched with great interest, feeling more and more that this truly was a good thing.

"Old Bai gave me this; does he want to partner with me to promote this technology? If this mysterious book gets popular, just selling it alone would rake in cash." Li Xiu subconsciously thought of making money.

Old Bai was leisurely drinking tea in the room, seemingly waiting for something.

"Once that kid gets mesmerized by my 'Scripture of Extreme Desire', I'll go out to enlighten him and take him under my wing, passing on my legacy." Old Bai was scheming with a clink-clank.—

He wanted to take Li Xiu as his successor, not to teach him fighting skills. Even though he could fight, that wasn't his most valued aspect.

What Old Bai truly wanted Li Xiu to learn from him was the Art of Manipulation.

Previously, Old Bai felt Li Xiu's personality was quite compatible with his, wanting to leave him some legacy before leaving. After witnessing Li Xiu's astonishing ability to calculate, Old Bai felt even more that Li Xiu was suitable to inherit his mantle, but didn't know how to broach the subject.

After all, he was currently relying on someone else, and it was awkward to initiate taking a disciple.

However, letting Li Xiu read the 'Scripture of Extreme Desire' wasn't meant to trouble him; resisting its temptation was the foundation of his teachings.

Life is full of desires, and although desires are the root of human progress and survival, a person controlled by desire ultimately can't achieve great things.

To master his skills, one must not only have desires, but be more sensitive and eager than others. Extreme desire without indulgence is the pursuit of his path.

It sounds contradictory, but if you can't achieve that, you can't walk his path.

Old Bai waited for a while, estimating the time was about right, but since Li Xiu was no ordinary person, he waited a bit longer before finally going out.

Old Bai saw Li Xiu still engrossed in the book, one hand covering his nose, eyes unblinking, appearing deeply absorbed, and couldn't help but think: "Kid, no matter how talented you are, ultimately you're still a young man full of vigor and can't resist the allure of the 'Scripture of Extreme Desire'. It's time for me to step in."

Old Bai walked up to Li Xiu, ready to enlighten him, but suddenly saw Li Xiu, absorbed in the 'Scripture of Extreme Desire', looking up at him.

This startled Old Bai; someone entranced by the 'Scripture of Extreme Desire' should be absolutely focused, oblivious to their surroundings. How could Li Xiu shift his focus and gaze from the book before being enlightened?

"Old Bai, I've agreed to your proposal." Li Xiu stood up excitedly and grabbed Old Bai's hand.

"Agreed?" Old Bai was slightly startled, then suddenly realized: this kid seems to recognize the book's benefits; this saves me a lot of talking. But for him to break free from the book's allure on his own, his talent is genuinely extraordinary; I've truly found the right successor."

Old Bai saw the eager and confident Li Xiu, was about to speak, but heard Li Xiu say: "Old Bai, let's do this business."

"Business!" Old Bai was momentarily unresponsive, confused about Li Xiu's meaning. Wasn't he supposed to become a disciple? Why bring up business?

Li Xiu released Old Bai's hand, picked up the 'Scripture of Extreme Desire', and excitedly said to Old Bai: "Old Bai, your drawing skills are incredible; this thing is like watching a short film, just amazing. Don't worry, you can focus on drawing. I'll handle the printing, sales, and marketing, front all the costs, and we'll split the profits. This good stuff will surely sweep the world in no time, and we'll get rich."

Old Bai stared at Li Xiu, his expression growing increasingly grim.

He finally understood Li Xiu's meaning — they were talking about partnering to sell books, not about apprenticeship.

Old Bai was so angry he felt his mind was about to explode; who was he to stoop to selling books for money? Li Xiu proposing this felt like a massive insult, and his 'Scripture of Extreme Desire' felt insulted too.

This was the culmination of his life's work, and Li Xiu wanted to treat it like a cheap book to sell. Old Bai felt his blood pressure rapidly rising, almost causing a stroke;

"I'm not selling." Old Bai grabbed the 'Scripture of Extreme Desire', turned around, and headed to his room, fearing that if he spoke another word or looked at Li Xiu again, he'd give him a piece of his mind.

"If you feel a fifty-fifty split isn't enough, we can negotiate. How about sixty-forty... seventy-thirty also works... Old Bai... don't leave..." Li Xiu was speaking as Old Bai had already returned to his room and slammed the door shut.

"Thirty percent isn't much; I'm paying, working, and networking; isn't thirty percent fair?" Li Xiu muttered to himself.

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Li Xiu wasn't exactly an expert on Old Bai's thoughts, how could he know what was going on in Old Bai's mind? He couldn't understand why Old Bai showed him this, it seemed like he wanted to cooperate. Why couldn't they just talk it over properly?

"Why be angry? If seventy-thirty doesn't work, we can discuss eighty-twenty." Li Xiu sighed.

Seeing that Old Bai had no intention of coming out, Li Xiu thought it was his initial proposal of fifty-fifty that had upset him.

"Forget it, we'll talk later, I don't have time for this now. I have to host the Trial Contest." Li Xiu thought for a moment and then called out to Old Bai inside: "Old Bai, don't be upset. We'll discuss the split later in detail. I need to go back to the City of Light now, we'll talk when I return."

"Talk my foot!" Old Bai was so angry inside the house that his nose was crooked. He couldn't be bothered to deal with Li Xiu, secretly grumbling in his heart.

Li Xiu returned to his room and had a good sleep. The next morning, just as he got up and finished washing up, he heard a knock at the courtyard door.

Opening the door, Li Qingyi was standing outside, holding onto a suitcase.

"I'm ready, we can head to the City of Light for the Trial Contest." Li Qingyi said calmly.

"Alright, I'll go fill out an application form with Deputy President Han." Li Xiu said as he prepared to leave.

"No need, I've already applied for you." Li Qingyi stopped Li Xiu and said.

"Alright, let's head out then." Li Xiu packed his things, bid farewell to Li Ming'Er, and then followed Li Qingyi to the beach.

When Li Xiu and Li Qingyi emerged from the coffin, they were already near the City of Light. It didn't take them long to reach the City of Light.

"Li Xiu, did you hear that those big shots from Changsheng Heaven are joining the Trial Contest?" Chu Jun rushed to Li Xiu and explained the situation.

"I heard." Li Xiu nodded slightly.

"With those big shots around, recovering the prizes will likely be impossible. There's also a big problem with the defense measures during the competition. I discussed a plan with Sha Chu and A Fei, see if it works." Chu Jun handed the design plan to Li Xiu.

After looking through it for a while, Li Xiu smiled and said, "This plan is good, it can determine a winner without causing discord. I think it works."

"I'm relieved then, Sha Chu is already adjusting the venue and the arena." Chu Jun gave an overview of the current situation in the City of Light.

He heard that the market there was already booming. Even before the competition started, the Demon Spirit Rings, Talent Gemstones, and Skill Rings sent from Changsheng Heaven were selling rapidly, nearing exhaustion.

Trial Takers from around the world discovered the market in the City of Light surprisingly had so many good items for Trial Takers, and the prices were much lower than outside. Many spent large amounts to buy them, even numerous big merchants were drawn to bring their wealth to the City of Light to stock up, practically treating the City of Light as a wholesale market.

When Sha Chu brought the ledger to him, Li Xiu saw his earnings and couldn't keep his mouth shut in happiness.

"This money is too easy to earn, but the second batch of goods will take some time to arrive from Changsheng Heaven. Should we press them for it?" Li Xiu pondered while stroking his chin.

"No rush, the reputation is already established, running out of stock isn't necessarily a bad thing." Sha Chu stopped Li Xiu from going back to Changsheng Heaven to push for goods, and continued: "You've looked at the rules we've designed for the competition. How do you feel about it?"

"Very good, just implement it as you designed." Li Xiu wasn't very concerned about the Trial Contest, even if he couldn't recover the prizes, he'd already made a huge profit this time.

"There aren't many other issues, but one matter needs your decision. We've split the projects, so do we have a champion for each project, or do we combine all projects into one overall champion?" Sha Chu looked at Li Xiu and asked.

"A champion for each project is better." Li Xiu pondered.

"Then there's another issue, if we have a champion for each project, and we've split into five projects, does that mean we need to prepare five sets of rewards?" Sha Chu mentioned her concern.

"Naturally, five sets. Don't worry about the money, if we're doing it, we'll do it well. Preparing four more sets of prizes isn't a big deal." Li Xiu was also reluctant, but since this Trial Contest was a task assigned by the president, he had to do it well, even if it meant taking a hit.

Fortunately, the president also gave him benefits, letting him make a big sum, otherwise, even if Li Xiu wanted to make five sets of prizes, he didn't have the financial means.

With Li Xiu's approval, Sha Chu had no more concerns and went ahead with preparations.

The Trial Contest, which had already shocked Trial Takers worldwide, caused another sensation when the detailed competition rules were announced.

Originally, it was thought to be a simple Trial Taker battle, but it turned out to be competitions across five events.

The competition rules weren't an issue, the issue was there would be five champions, meaning theoretically five Trial Takers could obtain the ultimate Super Spirit rewards.

"Is the City of Light trying to turn the Trial Contest into the Trial Taker Olympics?" Someone thought of that ancient sports event.

"The City of Light truly deserves to be the Holy Land for Trial Takers, they are loaded, with five Super Spirit rewards plus prizes for the top ten, how much is this all worth?"

Chapter 847 I'll Take This Deal\_3

"I just want to know now if the Lord of Light City and the master of Blowing Snow Princess will also participate in this Trial Taker tournament. I'd love to see the ultimate showdown between Jedi Knight and Blowing Snow Princess. It was a shame we didn't get to see them battle in the last Magic Spirit tournament."

"Blowing Snow Princess is the best."

"Jedi Knight is the invincible trump card."

"Are you all acting as if the Black Death Demon King doesn't exist?"

"Aren't there too many events?"

"Not really. According to the rules, each Trial Taker can participate in all events, and maybe someone could win a grand slam, taking all the championships."

"What's so interesting about the tournament? Going to the City of Light's market to buy Magic Spirits is the real deal. I heard someone bought a Light Base Magic Spirit at the City of Light's market."

"What! A Light Base Magic Spirit! That's impossible. Would someone actually sell that thing?"

For a moment, it seemed like the whole world was talking about the upcoming Trial Taker tournament in the City of Light, as if not knowing about it meant you were out of touch with modern times.

"Li Xiu is making quite the commotion," Asura chuckled while watching the news.

"The bigger, the better. Let's have him warm up the scene for us; it'll be more fun that way," Rakshasa snorted coldly.

"It's time for the world to realize who truly represents the main theme of this era," Yaksha said in a chilling tone.

...

Li Xiu and Li Qingyi had just sat down to drink some water when they saw a person swaggering into the living room.

"Xiao Er, the second young master?" Li Xiu, upon seeing Xiao Er, instinctively thought he was here to demand money.

Last time, Xiao Er gave him fifty million, but after a few days, having learned nothing, he left. Li Xiu thought he was bitter about it and had come back for the money.

Li Xiu's principle has always been that money taken in cannot be refunded; continuing to learn was possible, but refunding was out of the question.

"Li Xiu, you finally came," Xiao Er had been waiting almost a month, finally hearing the news of Li Xiu's return and rushing over immediately.

"Does the second young master Xiao want to continue learning? No problem, I guarantee comprehensive teaching and full responsibility," Li Xiu directly blocked the refund route for Xiao Er.

"Learning is certain, but it's not me learning from you; it's you learning from me," Xiao Er said seriously.

"What would I learn from you?" Li Xiu looked at Xiao Er in a daze, thinking, "Did he regret giving me fifty million last time, and now he's been stewing on it so much it's scrambled his brain?"

"That's a good question," Xiao Er said with a smug look on his face. "Based on the manipulation techniques you taught me, I've conducted in-depth research and improvements, achieving breakthrough innovation. I developed a new set of Multi-Demon Spirit Manipulation Technique, which I call the 'Xiao Array Manipulation Technique.' The efficiency and precision of manipulation are much more advanced and user-friendly than yours. If you want to learn, I can teach you right now, and I won't charge you much; just like you, tuition is fifty million."

"Uh... Can I choose not to learn?" After hearing Xiao Er's words, Li Xiu was ever more convinced that he was desperate to get that fifty million back.

"Brother Li, think carefully. My Xiao Array Manipulation Technique is far superior to your old manipulation technique. If you learn it now, I won't participate in the Trial tournament. However, if you don't, I will compete in the tournament, and if a winner is decided there and then, your reputation might suffer," Xiao Er said confidently, even calling him brother.

Li Xiu immediately said earnestly, "I'm hosting the Trial Taker tournament to discover more outstanding Trial Takers. If you truly defeat me in the competition, it will symbolize the emergence of talented individuals among the Trial Takers, the younger generation surpassing the older one, and it's a fortune for the human race. How could I feel disgraced? I would only be more delighted."

Xiao Er wanted to say more, but Li Xiu interrupted, continuing, "Young Master Xiao Er, you must participate in the Trial Taker tournament. I eagerly anticipate your Xiao Array Manipulation Technique and hope you will triumph over the champions worldwide, showing Trial Takers what the strongest Multi-Demon Spirit Manipulation Technique is, granting the ignorant Trial Takers insight and motivation, illuminating the path ahead. When that time comes, I will personally prepare a feast to celebrate with you, thanking you on behalf of Trial Takers everywhere."

Upon hearing this, Xiao Er's eyes brightened, and he patted Li Xiu's shoulder, saying, "Brother Li, your awareness is quite high. What you said makes sense; beating you indeed doesn't hold much accomplishment for me. Reaching my level, one must indeed contribute to the world's progress, providing a light for those who can't even see the road ahead, which is a necessary responsibility. Alright, for your sake, I'll reluctantly participate."

"Thank you, second young master. Your participation is a blessing for Trial Takers worldwide and a fortune for the world. I'll always look forward to your performance," Li Xiu now only wanted to quickly send Xiao Er away, hoping he wouldn't bring up that fifty million again.

"Brother Li, you're indeed a good person. Once the competition begins, you can study up. If you have questions after the competition, come find me, and I'll teach you," Xiao Er said cheerfully as he left the hall.

Li Xiu turned around and sat down, only to see Li Qingyi looking at him with an odd expression.

"Cough, that's the second young master Xiao Er from the Desha Group's Xiao Family. His talent is very impressive, and he's very capable. Skilled in Multi-Demon Spirit manipulation, his level is quite high; he should perform brilliantly in the tournament," Li Xiu said while drinking water.

"Li Xiu, how come I never noticed before that you can be so sly?" Li Qingyi smiled while looking at Li Xiu.

"How am I sly?" Li Xiu replied with a smile.

"No matter how skilled Xiao Er is, can he match those Spirit Forging Level experts? You tricked him into entering the competition; perhaps your intentions aren't pure," Li Qingyi said.

"If you think that way, then you're wronging me. I genuinely hope Xiao Er shines in the competition, uncovering more talents for my Eternal Sky," Li Xiu said earnestly. "Xiao Er's talent is outstanding. Even though he may not be a match for those Spirit Forging Level experts, he can still win a few matches and showcase his abilities. As for encountering Spirit Forging Level experts, will he suffer? Well, young people gaining experience isn't a bad thing."

#### Chapter 848 Battle of the Herculean God

The entire City of Light was bustling with activity, yet Li Xiu, the main protagonist, seemed to have nothing to do all day.

Li Xiu spent his days feeding the demon spirits, researching his Symbiotic Contract and Spirit Casting, making these recent days quite comfortable for him.

The several demon spirits that Li Xiu focused on training had all shown varying degrees of improvement.

Since arriving at City of Light, Li Qingyi hadn't stepped outside, dedicated to leveling up her Spirit Casting, aiming to upgrade to the second form before the tournament started.

In any case, there was no hope in aiming for the top few, so besides Li Qingyi, Chu Jun, Afei, and the others did not enter the competition, purely serving the tournament.

Li Xiu himself did not compete; the demon spirit tournament required his presence, otherwise, as the host, he wouldn't participate.

This time's Trial Taker tournament didn't require Li Xiu to fill the scene, so he wasn't interested in competing.

As days passed, more and more trial takers arrived at the City of Light, the hotels were fully booked, and many residents turned their houses into temporary homestays, yet it still couldn't meet the trial takers' needs, so many trial takers camped outside the city.

To ensure the safety of the trial takers, Sha Chu had Ye Xiyuan dispatch two teams of Magic Armor Masters to maintain order outside the city, patrolling in shifts.

Several teams of Magic Armor Masters also patrolled inside the city in shifts; these Magic Armor Masters were Fishman Magic Armor Masters that Li Xiu brought from the Longevity Heaven Research Institute, wearing new model Magic Armor partly from the Longevity Heaven Research Institute and largely sponsored by the Chu Family.

Originally, Li Xiu planned to order a batch of new model Magic Armor from the Chu Family, but the old master of Chu didn't want Li Xiu's money, instead proposing a requirement and then gifted this batch of new model Magic Armor for free.

All the Magic Armor provided by the Chu Family bore the prominent mark of White Night City, easily recognized as White Night City produced Magic Armor.

If it were from another family, Li Xiu naturally wouldn't agree, but with his collaboration with the Chu Family, promoting White Night City wasn't an issue.

"What's going on in City of Light? As the sacred land for trial takers, using Magic Armor Masters as patrol teams is a bit embarrassing, isn't it?"

"Look at that Magic Armor Master, so small in stature, probably not even of age yet."

"Having Magic Armor Masters manage trial takers is simply shameful for a place acclaimed as the sacred land for trial takers like City of Light."

"Isn't this just too ironic?"

Initially, those trial takers were somewhat dissatisfied upon seeing the Magic Armor Master patrol teams.

But when some trial takers caused trouble outside the city, a Magic Armor Master team member unleashed S-Class Demonic Light, instantly intimidating those trial takers.

Only then did they realize that the patrol teams in City of Light were all composed of S-Class Magic Armor Masters.

Even Meng Xiaotian was outside the city; he had been delayed by something, arrived too late, couldn't find accommodation inside the city, and had to stay outside.

Unexpectedly, this turned into an opportunity for him, as he filmed footage of the Magic Armor Master patrol team's intervention, re-edited it, and uploaded it online.

The video quickly sparked heated discussions online; forming patrol teams of S-Class Magic Armor Masters was indeed a luxurious act outside of Longevity Heaven.

Meng Xiaotian specifically filmed the White Night City insignia on the Magic Armor, highlighting it to show that these Magic Armor Masters wore armor from White Night City.

"Why haven't we seen these S-Class Magic Armors before? They seem to be a new model, don't they?"

"White Night City actually released a new model of Magic Armor, but why haven't we seen it on the official website? Could it be fake?"

"Stop speculating, these are the latest model Magic Armors researched by White Night City, and the data hasn't been officially released yet."

"City of Light can acquire so many new model Magic Armors before they hit the market, clearly they have a special relationship with White Night City."

"That's for sure, the second figure of City of Light, Chu Jun, who hosted the last demon spirit tournament, is the son of the Chu family of White Night City."

"No wonder those new model Magic Armors look sleek, are the patrolling Magic Armor Masters also from White Night City?"

"A relative of mine is a high-level executive at White Night City Magic Armor Factory, and reliable sources say this batch of new model Magic Armor is very powerful, stronger than typical S-Class Magic Armors..."

The Trial Taker tournament hadn't even started yet, but White Night City's new model Magic Armors already sparked a buzz, bringing the Chu family's old master immense joy.

Under everyone's gaze, the opening day of the Trial Taker tournament finally arrived.

Chu Jun was once again the host this time, just like the last demon spirit tournament, the opening scene featured the appearance of the Love God Shooter.

The Love God Shooter was still highly popular outside; many recognized her upon her appearance.

But when they saw the Love God Shooter firing an arrow into the sky, which turned into a spectacle of demonic heart lights, they were still stunned by the sight.

"Wow, the Love God Shooter has become stronger; I remember she could only shoot one heart arrow before, what's with all these heart arrows?"

"It's so glamorous; I wonder which Land of Trial produced the Love God Shooter; I really want one for myself."

"With this power, she should be S-Class, right?"

"The Love God Shooter is so strong now, I can't wait to see what level the Black Death Demon King, Jedi Knight, and the Snow Maiden have reached."

"Well, you'll be disappointed; the City of Light's Lord isn't competing in the Trial Taker tournament."

## Chapter 849 Battle of the Hercules\_2

"Ah! Doesn't this mean I can't see the Black Death Demon King and the Jedi Knight? They're the reason I came!"

...

Amidst the chatter of the Trial Takers, the opening ceremony performance officially began. Surprisingly, after the Love God Shooter, no other magic spirits appeared. The performance consisted of only some singing and dancing, with many advertisements inserted in between.

Even the costumes of the performers carried advertisements for various famous brands.

"Wow, has the City of Light gone crazy for money? Is this even acceptable?"

"Are we here to watch a competition or ads?"

"The City of Light isn't what it used to be."

"Refund!"

...

Sitting in the VIP room, Li Xiu felt a bit embarrassed watching these performances and asked Sha Chu, "Did we really accept so many advertisements?"

"There are many more to come," Sha Chu nodded.

"The criticism is really harsh. Can we remove a few?" Li Xiu also felt there were too many ads, which seemed over the top.

Sha Chu didn't say anything, just handed Li Xiu the breakdown of advertisement fees and breach compensation from various companies: "City Lord, you decide which ones to remove."

Li Xiu looked closely, then smiled wryly: "I think I can withstand this; let them vent a bit."

After much difficulty, the opening ceremony ended, and Chujun announced the schedule and the list of participants amid the criticism.

The first competition was the Power Contest, where participants were judged based on their strength.

People were curious about how to determine the winner's strength — perhaps they would have the Trial Takers do weightlifting?

With such curiosity, people still came early the next day to the arena to watch the Power Contest.

Upon arriving at the arena, they saw a pile of mysterious objects in the middle, covered with red cloth, not knowing what it was.

Chujun came out at this moment, stood beside the machine, and spoke through a loudspeaker: "Everyone must be curious about what's inside here? Don't worry; I'll reveal the answer soon."

As he spoke, Chujun directly pulled off the red cloth, revealing what was underneath.

The crowd, seeing the appearance of the object, was stunned.

"Is this a bulldozer?"

"The Power Contest won't have Trial Takers competing against a bulldozer, will it?"

"What kind of nonsense is this, having Trial Takers compete in strength against a bulldozer? This is too perfunctory."

Attendees were disappointed with the City of Light's design this time; if this was how they would compete in strength, they might as well watch weightlifting instead.

As if anticipating the audience's reactions, Chujun waited for the chatter to subside before loudly controlling the scene and said with a smile: "Let me introduce this vital apparatus of the Power Contest. We call it the Powerful Divine Machine."

"No need to rush; I assure you, this is not a bulldozer but a strength testing device," Chujun's words finally quieted the crowd.

Everyone was curious about how this bulldozer-like object would test strength.

Chujun went up to the Powerful Divine Machine, then loosened up his body and fiercely punched the shield in front of it.

Bang!

Chujun's fist hit the shield, which only slightly receded, leaving the entire machine unmoved. But on what seemed like the cockpit's glass, a row of numbers appeared, finally settling on 22.

"As you can see, after receiving a hard blow, this Powerful Divine Machine displays the force value it endured. The larger the value, the stronger the participant's power. Trial Takers may strike the Powerful Divine Machine themselves or use Talent Skills, Symbiotic Contracts, Parasitic Contracts, or magic spirits. Anything belonging to the Trial Taker can be used, but no other tools are allowed. Today is the preliminary round of the Power Contest. The rule is that participants with a force value over 20 can advance to the next round. Now, please, contestants enter the arena."

This piqued the audience's interest, and they eagerly awaited the first Trial Taker.

Li Xiu and Li Qingyi, along with others, watched the Powerful Divine Machine, specially commissioned by Sha Chu from the research institute. Although the material itself wasn't extraordinarily good, its design allowed it to bear Spirit Forging Level power directly without being destroyed.

Of course, the Powerful Divine Machine still had a limit. If the converted mechanical power exceeded the maximum capacity, the machine would still break.

The first Trial Taker entering the arena was none other than Xiao Er.

Xiao Er dressed like a noble prince today, and with his handsome appearance, his entrance accompanied by a swarm of magic spirits stunned the audience.

"So many magic spirits... This guy's family must have mines, right?"

"You guessed it right. His family indeed has mines; he's from the world's largest diamond group, Desha Group, the second son of the Xiao Family, Xiao Er."

"This is a genuine diamond king! No wonder there are so many magic spirits."

Xiao Er approached the Powerful Divine Machine, refraining from doing anything himself. He simply said "Go," and a magic spirit stepped forward to the machine.

The magic spirit, clad in blue armor akin to a Giant Warrior, lifted its bucket-like fist and slammed it toward the Powerful Divine Machine.

Chapter 850 Battle of the Hercules Machine (Part 3)

The panel of the Powerful Divine Machine retracted backward like a car's shock absorber, visibly retracting a certain distance.

The numbers on the screen of the Powerful Divine Machine flashed rapidly, finally stopping at 107.

"Is it only this little amount? Fine, I'll give it a harder shot next time." Xiao Er descended from the stage with a smug expression.

The trial takers that followed didn't perform well at all, with several unable to even reach 20 points.

The worst one only reached 9 points, while the others just scored in the teens, making the audience, who initially thought the competition was easy, realize that the Powerful Divine Machine's contest was not simple at all.

Fortunately, a few participants managed to pass afterward. As the competition proceeded, a few stronger trial takers appeared, but the highest score was only in the eighties. Besides Xiao Er, there wasn't a single score over a hundred.

"Too weak, it's boring. Are today's trial takers really this standard? There's not even one worthy opponent." After the competition ended, Xiao Er rushed to Li Xiu's VIP room, resting his legs on the coffee table, crossing them with an air of a lonely expert.

"I'm going to prepare for the competition," Li Qingyi said, getting up as her turn was approaching.

"Is this beauty also joining the competition?" Xiao Er, who had been sneakily glancing at Li Qingyi sitting beside Li Xiu, quickly asked upon hearing her intention.

"Is there a problem?" Li Qingyi asked.

"Are you Li Xiu's girlfriend?" Xiao Er's thinking was astonishingly direct, suddenly asking such a question.

"No." Li Qingyi immediately replied.

"Do you have a boyfriend?" Xiao Er pressed further.

"No." Li Qingyi slightly shook her head.

"That's good then." Xiao Er tossed a Demon Spirit Ring to Li Qingyi: "This is for you. I just bought this S-Class Demon Spirit Ring, and with it, you'll easily pass the first round."

"I appreciate the gesture, but there's no need." Li Qingyi placed the Demon Spirit Ring on the coffee table in front of Xiao Er and then turned and walked out.

After Li Qingyi left, Xiao Er put down his legs, leaned toward Li Xiu, and said, "Li Xiu, that beauty isn't bad at all. What's her background?"

"She's my subordinate." Li Xiu replied with a smile.

"Be honest, is there anything between you two? If there is, I won't say anything more. If not, I'm going to make a move." Xiao Er said.

"I advise you not to make a move." Li Xiu said.

"Got it, I'll pretend I didn't say anything. I don't have many virtues except being excellent, but I understand that a friend's wife is off-limits." Xiao Er sat back down, somewhat regrettably saying, "Such a beauty, truly rare, too bad I came too late."

Li Xiu just smiled without further explanation.

Upon seeing Li Qingyi go on stage, Xiao Er noticed that she didn't summon anything but walked right up to the Powerful Divine Machine, seemingly intending to do it herself.

"Li Xiu, not to criticize, but as the City Lord of the City of Light, how can you not give your girlfriend a decent demon spirit? Making her do it herself is too ungraceful. If I had such a beautiful girlfriend, she could choose any demon spirit she wants." Xiao Er said, crossing his legs while sipping a drink.

"She doesn't like using demon spirits." Li Xiu casually said.

"Don't be silly, all women are like this. They say they don't want it, but they're just waiting for you to send it. If you don't cherish such a beauty, who knows which jerk will snatch her away. By then, it'll be too late to cry." Xiao Er said.

Li Xiu remained noncommittal, solely watching Li Qingyi before the Powerful Divine Machine.

Li Qingyi didn't even summon a Symbiotic Contract, only pressing her palm on the panel of the Powerful Divine Machine.

Poof!

Just as Xiao Er was taking a sip of his drink, he saw the numbers on the screen frantically jumping, finally stopping at 110, nearly choking him, spraying out a mouthful of drink.

"What the heck, what's going on? Is there something fishy with your machine? How did just a touch from her score 110, while my Light Base demon spirit's earlier strike was only 107..." Xiao Er widened his eyes at Li Xiu, questioning.

"Is Light Base very strong?" Li Xiu smiled at Xiao Er.

"Of course Light Base is strong... Wait... Are you implying... that your girlfriend is a Light Base level trial taker?" Xiao Er's eyes widened as he looked at Li Xiu.

"More or less." Li Xiu thought to himself, "More than just Light Base."

"A Light Base level girlfriend... You're really lucky... It's only now that I... Never mind..." Xiao Er, feeling frustrated, didn't want to continue talking.

The following contestants weren't particularly notable. Xiao Er, perhaps because of his frustration or lack of interest in male trial takers, remained mostly silent.

Li Xiu, however, watched with great interest, soon noticing an elder on stage. Without summoning anything, the elder assumed a horse stance and punched the Powerful Divine Machine, hitting a score of 110.

"Now the competition's getting interesting. Didn't expect that old man to be quite capable." Xiao Er nonchalantly commented.

However, three more individuals subsequently scored 110, leaving Xiao Er amazed: "Your trial taker contest is quite something, actually having this many Light Base levels participating."

Before Li Xiu could respond, Xiao Er suddenly stood up, eyes shining as he focused on a newly entered female trial taker.

"Oh no... I'm done for... I've found true love... How can there be such a captivating woman in the world... I must make her my girlfriend... Li Xiu... This is your organized competition, you must have her contact information, right? Quick, give it to me." Xiao Er exclaimed exaggeratedly.

After taking a glance at the female trial taker inside the venue and realizing she was Wan Chaocun, Li Xiu couldn't help but smile wryly: "Uh... I'm afraid that's not possible either..."

"This one... is yours too..." Xiao Er stared dumbfounded at Li Xiu.

"She's the sister I acknowledge." Li Xiu stated.

"A sworn sister... I understand..." Xiao Er sat back on the sofa dejectedly, sighing, "Is it that the heavens see me as too outstanding and can't bear to let me waste my prime years, forcing me to shine in the path of demon spirit mastery?"

While Xiao Er was lamenting, a thunderous explosion suddenly echoed from the arena.