

Apocalypse 41

Chapter 41

“Your birthday present, I’ve finished it” Gu Qing Shan changed the subject.

“Ah! I want my present! When are you giving it to me? I want to see my present a bit early too!” Su Xue Er was still regretting for slip of the tongue, but quickly became joyful again when she heard that.

“Do you have time tonight?”

“I do, recommended students really only go to get used to the campus early, meeting the professors early, while I’m actually quite free everyday”

“Ok then, tonight I’ll come to meet you”

“Then I’ll be waiting”

Su Xue Er once again felt her words were a bit careless, got embarrassed and quickly turned off her phone.

Gu Qing Shan lightly laughed a bit, then operated his phone again.

“Impartial Goddess?”

“I’m here, I’ve heard your conversation, Blazing Angel’s first form testing is complete, currently testing second form”

“Can you not eavesdrop on me?”

“Be assured, Impartial Goddess will not interfere with anybody’s right to love”

“That’s not what I meant, I mean don’t tap my calls”

“In accordance to citizen Gu Qing Shan’s request, Su Xue Er has been listed as a secret contact, removing from secret security observation”

“...What were we talking about? Right, I want the Blazing Angel”

“The testing hasn’t been completed, must you gift the Blazing Angel to Su Xue Er right now?”

“Hm, no need to worry, I’ve tested all the forms already”

Tested them all in my past life, Gu Qing Shan silently added.

“Blazing Angel in preparation for launch”

“Su Xue Er added to Confederate list of key protective figures”

“Blazing Angel ready for launch in 3 hours”

“Very good, thank you” Gu Qing Shan cut off his call.

For some reason, in the past few days, Gu Qing Shan doesn’t need to officially make a request at all and can always contact Impartial Goddess at any time.

Maybe it's because I've become a person close to the President so she gives me special attention? Gu Qing Shan thought to himself.

He took a quick shower, changed into some clean clothes and left the room.

He still has the morning free, and can probably use this time to train his Skills a bit.

Gu Qing Shan went to the receptionist and quickly found a gym that had an archery range.

Archery has become a Noble's sport — during this day and age, pretty much all cold weapons have become high-class sports.

Meaning, the cost won't be cheap.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly remembered, he should check how much credits he has left.

The President will help with this education, but he's not the greedy kind of person that will ask others for everything he wants.

Taking out his personal Holo-Brain, Gu Qing Shan checked his possessions.

"Huh, there's still around 19200 credits left, if I use them sparingly I'll have enough for a while"

This is the money he had saved from working part-time, originally he planned on using it to pay for his first year of University.

Since now he doesn't have to worry about tuition fees anymore, Gu Qing Shan's economic situation has improved greatly.

Gu Qing Shan eyes scanned the Holo-Brain's screen a bit and was stunned.

"Personal Merit: 799,873,957,281,439 points"

A bit confused, Gu Qing Shan hit the Holo-Brain a bit on instinct.

The number on it still didn't change.

"I've used this Holo-Brain for 7-8 years already, seems like it's finally malfunctioned"

He sighed.

To create to Mech for Su Xue Er, he spent 2000 points in exchange for Impartial Goddess' help, so he should have basically nothing left.

Because of that, such an astronomically number could only be because the Holo-Brain have a problem.

To buy another Holo-Brain, he'll have to spend a lot, his credits will quickly be reduced again.

That's not good, I can't just spend all I have, let's quickly find another place to work, that way I can actually pay for my own expenses.

With a heavy heart, Gu Qing Shan came out of the hotel and got onto a shuttle bus.

Half an hour later, Gu Qing Shan got out from the crowded shuttle bus, almost stumbling.

“How different the capital is, so many people”

Gu Qing Shan wiped the sweat off his forehead, as he turned around he saw the gym’s billboard.

Interstellar Club.

As Gu Qing Shan walked in, a few receptionist girls immediately stood up.

“Our grandest welcome sir, please pardon me asking, do you have a membership card?” A receptionist girl politely asked.

“I don’t, first time here” Gu Qing Shan answered honestly.

The receptionist quickly stepped down as a manager-looking female came up.

The woman only took a glance before her attitude clearly became cold.

Gu Qing Shan today was wearing a white T-shirt and black pants, even though he looks clean, the hems of both his T-shirt and pants are all worn out, clearly old clothes.

To conceal the Night Rain and his Inventory Bag, he was even using a long bag used for carrying bows — the cheapest kind.

The manager has to welcome so many people every day, of course, her eyes are extremely sharp, immediately recognizing him as a poor student.

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“The free trial area is on the right, underground 2nd floor”

The manager turned her eyes, retracted her smile and simply said.

“Could I ask where the archery range is?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“The archery range?”

The manager laughed a bit, so he’s one of those youths that tries everything to find a way up society huh.

The sport called archery is always loved by nobles.

A slightly good set of bow and arrow would cost at least a few ten thousand, a special-made high-quality bow would cost 500 thousand credits at least.

A normal person simply doesn’t have the money to buy special-made bows.

Even renting the public bows at the archery range would require a minimum deposit time of 3 months for regular people, so the cost isn’t something to joke about.

Because of that, the archery range is exclusively a place for nobles and rich people.

“Do you have your own bow sir? If not, then you can buy one at our place” the manager simply asked without changing her expression.

She fully believes that single sentence is enough to extinguish the delusions of this youth.

“Yes, I do have one, I only need a place to practice” Gu Qing Shan nodded

The manager squinted her eyes.

She once again took a look at the youth.

She wasn't wrong, a cheap set of clothes, even the shoes he's wearing are old, belonging to some unknown brand.

The face isn't bad, yet so shameless that he's willing to lie just to get into the archery range?

Do you want to climb up using nobles that much?

The manager silently laughed, then pointed inside: “The archery range is inside the club and needs to pass by at least 2 other areas, would you like me to guide you?”

“Then I'll trouble you” Gu Qing Shan answered.

“Please come with me”

The manager lead Gu Qing Shan forward, turning around and gestured with her eyes.

The other receptionists all saw that smiled knowingly.

When the two of them have already left the lobby, a few couldn't help it and broke out smiling.

“Another one”

“He'll probably be kicked out quickly”

“Definitely, these kinds of poor people don't know you need to have very high status to get into the archery range, otherwise the door wouldn't even open”

“I really want to see his confused look when he's blocked outside and couldn't even get in the door”

“Just wait, he'll be escorted out by security soon”

“Then, how about we all say ‘hope to see you again?’”

“Haha, good idea”

The manager lead Gu Qing Shan passed a firing range, a pool area, and finally to an automatic door.

She silently stepped back, smiled and said: “We're here, please come in sir”

“Ah, thanks” Gu Qing Shan walked forward.

The doors are still closed.

When Gu Qing Shan tried to push it, the door was seen to be locked.

He looked back at the manager.

The manager's expression was cold, answered: “To enter the archery range, you need to use your Holo-Brain for identification, and only if you reach a certain prerequisite, sir”

Gu Qing Shan tiredly: “My Holo-Brain seems to be malfunctioning today, may be another time then”

The manager smirked and said: “Why don't you try a bit; maybe you'll be able to pass?”

Her hands waved, the security guards around the area quickly came.

When Gu Qing Shan saw that, he misunderstood.

Since under normal circumstances, if you refuse to identify yourself, you have to be either an escapee or an illegal immigrant, either way you must have some sort of problem.

He shook his head and just took out his Holo-Brain and turned on wireless identification.

Ting!

“Identification passed”

“Welcome, distinguished individual, having you here is our Interstellar Club’s honor”

The electronic voice sounded, together with a hint of respect.

This is a pre-recorded voice, as different people with different status comes, the welcoming voice will be different.

The archery range door quickly opened the way.

“Distinguished individual?”

As the manager heard that, she was stunned.

Others might not understand, but she knows very well what that designation means.

Only Leader-class characters or one of the 9 Lords would be called a “distinguished individual”.

The security guards are all very clever immediately bowed and quickly returned to their post.

Inside the archery range, two employees quickly stepped out to welcome him, bowing a 90 degrees’ angle: “Welcome sir, please come with me”

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Very well”

———-a capital gym is very different indeed, their serving attitude is on a whole different level.

As Gu Qing Shan was walking into the archery range, he suddenly turned around and sincerely thanked the manager: “Thank you for being the guide”

“Your, your words are too kind”, the manager stood outside the door, her voice trembling.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and followed the two employees inside.

The automatic door slowly closed.

And the manager is still stunned.

Chapter 42

Gu Qing Shan looked around and check the archery range’s layout.

20 targets are lined up next to another, a few people are already practicing their shooting at the targets.

A few of them even have instructors, carefully showing them how to fix their postures and techniques.

The employees leading him saw that and asked: "Do you need archery instruction? Our teachers here are guaranteed top-level professionals"

"Ah, no need"

"Will you be using your own bow or ours?"

"I'm using my own"

As Gu Qing Shan said that, he reached into the archery bag behind him to take out the Night Rain.

"Let me try for a bit first"

"Please go ahead"

Not infusing any spirit energy, he only casually took an arrow, pulled the strings and fired.

———boom.

A target more than 50 meters away was blown to bits, there was even a huge hole on the walls behind the target.

The whole archery range went silent.

"What happened?"

"Bombs?"

"No, it seems like the target had a problem"

A few people who didn't seem to sure what happened was discussing it among themselves.

They're all aristocrats with some pedigree, so even if there's a crisis, they would still remain calm first and foremost.

The two employees besides Gu Qing Shan are already stunned.

"Haha, sorry about that, seems like I'd better use your bows instead" Gu Qing Shan quickly said.

This is a distinguished individual, of course he would be different from normal people, one of the employees convinced herself, then said: "That's great, then would you like to use a public target that everyone can use, or a personal target?"

"Personal target" Gu Qing Shan thought a bit and answered.

The employee: "The first time renting our bow will cost you 800 credits, a personal target will cost 1000 credits per hour"

"...That's fine"

After the 2 employees made a strange face a left, Gu Qing Shan could finally sigh.

The Night Rain is too powerful, infusing it with spirit energy will let it become invisible, as well as removing all traces of the user.

Gu Qing Shan had already considered this fact, so to avoid attention, Gu Qing Shan didn't use spirit energy and only 1/3 of his raw strength.

The result was that a high-resistance target was immediately blown to pieces.

Stowing away the Night Rain, Gu Qing Shan chose a target closest to himself and waited for the employees to do their job.

Just a bit later, the employee brought back 3 bows.

"Please try them out"

Gu Qing Shan tried each one, estimated for a bit before choosing the heaviest one.

"I'll use this one" he gestured.

"Very well, please have a good time" the employee politely said and returned.

Very good, now I can start training.

The only thing I have to worry about is the strength.

Gu Qing Shan drew an arrow used for training, only using 10% of his strength, lightly pulled the bow and fired.

Oh no!

As soon as the arrow left the bow, Gu Qing Shan immediately regretted.

This shot he had unconsciously used the arrow guiding method of Shifting Flurry.

But a shot arrow cannot be taken back.

The arrow flew out in a twisted line, drawing a strange curve before hitting the bullseyes.

A surprised shriek was heard.

"Look, look, that arrow can curve!" a female student who was watching shouted.

"How is that possible"

"That can't be, you must have seen it wrong"

A few people refuted her suspiciously.

Right then, everyone was still concentrating on training, so no one else noticed it.

Gu Qing Shan wiped the sweat from his forehead.

What a blunder, accidentally using a Skill like that.

He feigned ignorance of the commotion, pulled his bow and once again fired an arrow.

This time, everyone else on the archery range all stopped their hands to look.

Gu Qing Shan lightly let go.

The arrow flew.

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But this time was a normal arrow, so everyone watching felt disappointed.

Gu Qing Shan breathed out normally, then continued to shoot.

In the next few minutes, he had shot 2 quivers worth of arrows, but did not create any more commotion.

It was now that everybody stopped paying attention.

Even the female student was muttering to herself: "Could it be that I was dizzy?"

After a while, seeing that Gu Qing Shan held the same posture, using very standard, but also accurate archery, even she lost interest. A bit angry, she didn't bother with Gu Qing Shan anymore.

Finally, Gu Qing Shan could sigh in relief, considering himself lucky.

Putting down the bow used for training, Gu Qing Shan hesitated a bit, but still took the Night Rain out.

Training bows are too normal, so Gu Qing Shan wasn't feeling it.

He might as well use the Night Rain, that way, not only can he train his skills, he can also get used to using the Night Rain.

The only thing he has to worry about is not using spirit energy, and pay attention to not use too much force.

The former will create strange occurrences, while targets can't handle the latter, drawing unnecessary attention to himself.

Gu Qing Shan held the Night Rain, stood at the rented target, using minimal force to fire.

This time he used a full hour.

Gu Qing Shan happily trained, his whole body covered in sweat, but got more and more used to the Night Rain.

Even though he couldn't use any Skills, the knowledge he gained on archery itself is real, this time he even drilled them into his body as muscle memory.

While nonchalantly training, he didn't notice there were people staring straight at him, as well as the Night Rain.

"Hello"

A voice was heard next to him.

Gu Qing Shan looked back, only to see a young man standing at the target next to him while seriously evaluating him.

"What's it is?" Gu Qing Shan lowered his bow and asked.

"Can I ask if your bow is for sale?"

“Sorry, it’s not” Gu Qing Shan answered.

The man still stared at the Night Rain, loudly: “Just name a price, bargain a bit, to us money is no issue”

“I don’t intend to sell it” Gu Qing Shan repeat.

The young man shook his head, turned to go to another target.

He went into a group of youths and repeated what Gu Qing Shan had said to the leader.

The leader laughed when he heard that and said something.

Just a moment later, the whole crowd of people went next to Gu Qing Shan’s target.

Gu Qing Shan seemingly not aware yet, still drawing arrow after arrow.

“Your bow isn’t bad”

The leader stares incessantly at the Night Rain, greed could be seen in his eyes.

“It really isn’t” Gu Qing Shan answered

“I want to buy it” the person said.

“I’m not selling”

“Don’t be like that, how about this, you sell me the bow, we can be friends”

“Not selling”

The person thought for a bit, then said: “Then how about a bet? I’ll bet 100,000 credits”

Archery, this type of sport, by itself is a very good sport to bet on and discuss, not just aristocrats but even regular people who have a bit of money are willing to bet on it for a bit of fun.

Right when Gu Qing Shan was a bit lacking money, so when he heard that he said: “That’s fine, but I have a condition”

“How dare you speak of conditions in front of Hui Shao!” the young man from before shouted.

“Don’t fuss, let him speak his condition”

Hui Shao raised a hand to stop the other person and slightly cracked his head.

Every time a fish is about to take the bait, he would always not be able to help it and crack his neck a little to hide his emotions.

As long as the other party agrees to a bet, he have absolute confidence to win.

It’s just a few small tricks, some dirty, some aren’t.

This time he’s prepared at least 5-6 of those.

Because he really wants that special and powerful bow.

“It’s a simple condition” Gu Qing Shan coldly replied “transfer the 100,000 credits first, if I win I’ll take the money and leave, you win, both the money and the bow is yours”

Chapter 43

Hui Shao stared at Gu Qing Shan, asked: “We haven’t even started yet and you already want to my money?”

Gu Qing Shan shrugged: “It can’t be helped, there are too many of you, if you lose and don’t want to pay up then I can’t really do anything can I?”

“If I lose” Gu Qing Shan pointed at himself “between all of you here, I can’t leave anyways”

Hui Shao hesitated a bit.

“You can’t even afford to put out a deposit and you still want to bet?” Gu Qing Shan shook his head, about to leave.

“Wait!”

Hui Shao use his hand to stop Gu Qing Shan, a bit angry.

Originally he was planning on not paying even a single cent.

Who knows the opponent would be that clever, just a few words and he already couldn’t go back on his words.

Even a normal person has pride, let alone a noble young master like Hui, the other party has stated very plainly, if he wants the bet to go on, he has no choice but to pay up first.

Bastard, I won’t let you off easily.

Hui Shao determined silently, his face clearly became darker and said: “Fine then, but I also have a condition”

“What condition?”

Hui Shao emphasized every word: “If you lose, I want one arm”

Then he added: “If you don’t dare to take the bet, leave the bow and crawl under my crotch”

Gu Qing Shan calmly: “Your condition is fine, but that’ll take more money”

Hui Shao took out a card, gave it to him and said: “A registered unnamed card, transfer 200,000 yourself”

He stared cruelly at Gu Qing Shan: “100,000 for the bow; 100,000 for your arm”

“Agreed”

Gu Qing Shan took the card, transferred 200,000 credits using his personal Holo-Brain.

“Now then, how do you want to bet”

Gu Qing Shan gave the card back to the other party, his mood already better.

During high school, he has always used money sparingly, so he'll be able to use the 200,000 credits for a very long time.

Hui Shao said: "Free shooting for 1 minute and compare the scores at the end, whoever scored more wins"

Hui Shao smirked proudly: "I already know the outcome; I'll be taking your right hand"

Saying that, he clapped his hands.

A middle-aged man wearing the club's uniform stepped out from the crowd.

"Young master Hui, leave it to me" the middle-aged man said.

A person in the know immediately exclaimed: "The world's archery competition 3 times champion, Wu Sheng!"

"Oh man, poor that boy"

"Yeah, he bet an arm with Hui Shao, he's done for"

"Hah, how regretful for such a young man"

Completely opposite to the rest of the people is the crowd behind Hui Shao, both clapping and laughing at another's misfortune.

"Ha ha, such a prideful brat, I've hated him from the start"

"Wait till he gets his arm chopped off, he'll probably pee his pants"

"That's really worth watching!"

"I can't wait to see the look on his face, ha ha ha!"

A moment later, Gu Qing Shan and Wu Sheng were both standing in front of their respective targets.

"Begin!" an instructor signaled.

Wu Sheng skillfully drew an arrow, aimed carefully and shot.

Pew!

The arrow accurately hit the bullseye.

A loud cheer was heard around.

"10 points!"

"As expected from the world's 3 times champion!"

"Very good!"

"Look at that posture, that calmness!"

Hui Shao was also smiling.

Looking at the other side.

Gu Qing Shan had already shot 3 arrows, each of them neatly lined up next to each other on the outermost ring.

The crowd of rich young masters laughed

“1 point”

“He only got 1 point”

“No, no, he got 1 point 3 times”

“Ha ha, he’s definitely not keeping his arm”

Gu Qing Shan still unfazed, kept shooting his arrows one after another.

On the other side, Wu Sheng aimed for another while and finally shot the second arrow.

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Bullseye!

10 points!

Everyone kept cheering.

Wu Sheng happily turned around and raised his bow in celebration.

Looking at the other side, he can see the youth’s hand hasn’t stopped, already hit 7 arrows on the target.

However, they’re all 1 point.

Wu Sheng shook his head and laughed sarcastically.

What good does quick shooting do?

7 shots couldn’t compare to even one of his shots.

He drew another arrow, pulled the bow and aimed again.

The competition continued.

15 seconds later.

As time passed, the sound of cheering died down, replaced by the sound of gossip from around.

Wu Sheng fired another shot, this time because of the crowd’s noise, his nerves were affected and could only get 8 points.

He couldn’t help but turned around to look at what was happening on the other side.

As soon as he looked, the bow in Wu Sheng’s hand dropped to the ground, himself frozen in shock, unable to move.

On the opposite’s side target, arrows were lined up like a coiling string, having completely covered the outermost ring.

Then the second outermost ring was also completely covered towards the inside.

Once again the arrows were orderly lined up like a continuous string!

After that was the 3rd ring from the outside, moving closer and closer to the bullseye.

Gu Qing Shan happily shot arrows for another 15 seconds.

In just 30 seconds total, the whole 5 quivers full of arrows prepared was all shot.

“The end” Gu Qing Shan said.

In front of him, the whole target was covered in arrows lined up neatly, not leaving a single space left.

Even the bullseye in the middle was covered in arrows, not even a small gap could be seen.

On the other hand, there were only 5 arrows on Wu Sheng’s target.

No matter how hard Wu Sheng tried, in just a minute he couldn’t possibly do the same thing as Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan stowed away the bow and turned around to leave.

As he passed by Hui Shao, Gu Qing Shan stopped for a second and said: “Thank you for the credits”

Hui Shao gripped Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder with his hand, groaning: “This isn’t over yet”

“Ah? What else is there?”

Gu Qing Shan lightly knocked his hand off.

“Leave the bow, you can leave” Hui Shao said.

“That isn’t what our bet was though”

“If you want your life, then leave the bow”

“So you can see this bow’s value? How unfortunate but you lost, so I won’t give it to you”

“How brave”, Hui Shao nodded, his eyes became like a snake’s: “In this whole capital city, there hasn’t been a single person who dare to directly disobey me, you lot, tell him so he can keep his pathetic life”

A youth said: “Hui Shao, saying that much is already respecting him, since he doesn’t know right from wrong, let us teach him how cruel this world is”

Another said: “I’ve checked information from the archery range, his surname is Gu, he’s not from the 9 Lords, no matter how we handle him there won’t be a problem”

Hui Shao turned around and told a subordinate: “Go, get the archery range’s manager”

Soon, the manager of the archery range as well as a few employees quickly came running.

From a distance, the manager was already smiling and asked: “Hui Shao, what can we do for you?”

Hui Shao used his chin to point at Gu Qing Shan and answered: “I lost a bow, then found out he had it”

“That’s right, this brat is a thief”

“Call the police, put him prison”

“Give back Hui Shao’s bow first”

The crowd shouted in agreement.

The manager looked at Gu Qing Shan and asked without hesitation: “Sir, please return the bow to Hui Shao”

Gu Qing Shan turned around, very sincerely said: "I brought the bow here, you go and check the surveillance footage yourself, I've not come close to those people since the start"

The manager frowned and looked at Hui Shao, not knowing what to do.

Hui Shao said: "Isn't your surveillance system broken?"

The manager slapped his head, then immediately: "Yes! Our cameras are already broken, sir, please return the bow to Hui Shao, or we will have to call the police"

Chapter 44

Gu Qing Shan just said: "If you believe in their words so much, then call the authorities"

The manager smiled and said: "Then you can't blame me for it"

He took out a phone and really called the police.

Only a few moments later, policemen have already arrived at the archery range.

The first thing they did was to greet the Hui Shao before coming to Gu Qing Shan.

"You were reported for thievery, please come with us" a policeman directly said.

Gu Qing Shan took a look at the police and asked: "Are you really the police? What evidence do you have?"

"We're all witnesses here!"

"Catch him, quickly"

"Brat, it's too late to regret it now, go and think about what you did in prison"

The crowd of youths were noisy.

Gu Qing Shan coldly glanced at them.

The whole crowd didn't understand why, but they all immediately felt a shiver and couldn't help but shut up.

This one isn't simple, they all had the same thought.

A police even couldn't help himself and drew his gun.

"Do you really want my bow that much?" Gu Qing Shan looked at Hui Shao.

Hui Shao smirked and said sarcastically: "You thief, this is my bow"

A police walked up and said: "According to procedure, you're now a suspect, we need to check your personal records before you can hire a lawyer"

Gu Qing Shan glanced at him and took out his Holo-Brain.

The police that was talking to him felt like he was being stared at by some sort of an ancient predator, himself a prey.

He shakenly took out the scanner from his belt and scanned the Holo-Brain.

“Beep!”

“Checking personal record”

“Not enough authority, access denied”

The police Holo-Brain scanner repeated that message.

The nonchalant look on the other policemen all disappeared at the same time.

“Captain Zhang, it seems this brat have some status, you’ll have to do it” a policeman said.

“Alright, let me”

The police captain stepped forward, taking Gu Qing Shan’s personal Holo-Brain and scanned it.

“Beep!”

“Checking personal record”

“Not enough authority, access denied”

All the policemen looked at each other, their hearts sank.

Originally they thought it was a normal case of using status for bullying, but this looks more like a clash of giants instead.

This kind of problem, if they don’t handle it well they’ll pay very dearly.

Unconsciously, on their face showed a bit more respect.

A policeman who was standing near Gu Qing Shan reluctantly showed a stiff smile and said: “Please wait a minute sir”

And then they looked at the crowd like asking for help.

“You lot really can’t even handle a small matter, do I have to do everything?” a youth from the behind Hui Shao stepped out and said tiredly.

He’s the son of the capital’s police department’s commissioner, having already joined the police department from long ago, right now he’s the department’s vice-commissioner.

These policemen are all his men.

He took out a small scanner and scanned Gu Qing Shan’s Holo-Brain.

“Beep!”

As the scanner worked, the records slowly appeared on the screen.

“Hah, it’s like I always have to do everything myself” said the youth as he showed a face of pride.

Suddenly, a voice was heard from the scanner.

This electronic voice also contained a hint of warning.

“Too many requests in a short period of time, increasing security level”

“Not enough authority, access denied”

Everyone was immediately stunned, their eyes looking at Gu Qing Shan became very anxious.

Just who is this person that could even deny investigation?

"I remember, the President's announcement from yesterday, he was there" a policeman spoke.

"That's right, he was the President's adoptive son"

"The President was going to help him enter University"

The thing people fear most is when they don't know how deep your connections and influence go.

Now that everyone knew who Gu Qing Shan was, they could be a bit calmer.

So that's it, it's not that he's an unknown VIP or something, just that he has the President backing him.

The current President is a kind and easy-going person, no matter if it's diplomatic military decisions or inside policing decisions, he always use relatively soft methods, gaining a lot of approval from all citizens.

Even the youths from the 9 Lords families here feel this situation to be a bit hard to handle.

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Hui Shao suddenly laughed, and shouted: "You lot, hold down this brat for me"

A few unnoticed people started to move, their eyes locked onto Gu Qing Shan.

"Hui Shao, this might not be ok" the other youth scowled a bit and silently advised against it.

"I know my boundaries" Hui Shao said, "The President's adoptive son got into an argument in a gym club, both sides fought a bit, nothing too major"

"We only need to give him a good beating to let go of our anger, when the President's term is over, I'll get him back later"

As Hui Shao said that, the crowd around them returned to their nonchalant attitude.

A few young people getting into conflict and fight a bit isn't anything too serious.

This kind of "not too serious" matter, even the President don't have any way to manage.

"Beat him good for me" Hui Shao pointed at Gu Qing Shan "I want to step on his face, let him know just who is the real master in this world"

"Yes"

As the people stepped forward, their aura caught Gu Qing Shan's attention.

"How interesting, since when did Supernaturalist were so cheap that they would become a noble's servant?" Gu Qing Shan laughed.

As the men hear that, their faces all changed.

"You brat, how dare you"

As he said that, his hand glowed a black aura and quickly stepped forward.

“Dark-elemental? What a waste on someone like you”

Just as Gu Qing Shan said that, he had already raised his bow and fired.

His hands so quick it became afterimages, as consecutive string sounds were heard and arrows disappeared one after another.

Cries of pain could be heard one after another.

The crowd couldn't even tell what happened before Hui Shao's subordinate all got knocked back.

As they turned around, they all gasped.

The five Supernaturalist were pinned to the wall, their feet in the air.

The arrows had pierced their shoulders, passed through and stuck themselves in the walls behind.

Red blood dripped down the white painted walls.

One of the Supernaturalist still didn't give up and tried to raise his left hand.

A flame rose from his palm.

Just as the Supernaturalist wanted to act, he heard a voice asking.

“You want to test to see if you're quicker, or am I quicker?”

Gu Qing Shan lightly asked.

His bow is still raised, but the aura around him already changed.

Cold as ice killing intent emitted from his whole body, locked straight onto the Supernaturalist on the wall.

A normal person who couldn't even breach the first stage of Dark-element is basically harmless so he doesn't need to care, but Fire-element is different.

Of the 5-elements, Fire has one of the highest destructive capabilities, if the opponent really dares to use it, Gu Qing Shan will immediately take his life without any hesitation.

The other person is also a veteran, as soon as he felt the killing intent, he looked to find a pair of calm eyes staring at him, and knew that he had really hit a hard wall this time.

His Fire-element was awakened very late, so he's only just got to the second stage of “Searing Flame”, although the power is great, he still couldn't control it at will yet and needs time to focus his power.

The enemy's arrows are too quick, so quick that no one could react, so quick that he couldn't react.

Just then, if the enemy didn't aim at the shoulder, but somewhere else...

He deeply sighed and reluctantly dropped his hands.

The whole scene was silent.

Step, step, step, Gu Qing Shan walked forward, to where Hui Shao is.

“You’re part of the 9 Lords?” he asked.

Hui Shao stuck out his chest and said: “I’m part of the Lord of the Capital, Huang family’s ——“

Bah!

A single slap, Hui Shao was knocked flying.

Gu Qing Shan kept walking forward, looking down on the other party.

“You dare to hit me, I’m the second son of Huang Family, you’ll pay for this with your life!” Hui Shao held his bleeding face, screaming and shouting.

“I have to pay for this? Ah! You insect that only knows how to eat until you die, you think you deserve to speak that way to me?”

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and coldly spoke.

Everyone there was stunned speechless.

Chapter 45

This is the 2nd young master of the Huang family you know, one of the top 9 Lords, the giant monster of a family that’s taken its roots in this capital city, a family that would make no one would dare offend you know.

The group of young masters all got scared to death, some quickly took out their phone to call their family people, a few pointed at Gu Qing Shan shouting: “Commoner, you dare hit young master Hui, no one can save you now, you’re finished!”

Gu Qing Shan slowly: “The young master of Huang family got into an argument with another in the archery range, and both sides fought for a bit, nothing too serious”

These are the words said by Hui Shao just now, in less than 10 minutes it’s already been returned in full by Gu Qing Shan.

The policemen looked at the bow in Gu Qing Shan’s hand, then again at the Supernaturalist being pinned on the wall, deciding not to do anything rash, they used their communicators to call for more reinforcements.

“Go! Quickly find people! I’ll pay up no matter how much it takes! I want him dead!” Hui Shao laid on the ground, shouting.

“Seems like I’ll have to wait for a bit” Gu Qing Shan went up towards the target, once targeting started practicing his archery.

These type of useless young masters, if he doesn’t scare them completely, they’ll definitely not let this go and find the opportunity to get back at him.

Today, he has to scare them beyond reason to put this matter to rest.

Right at this moment, the archery range door suddenly opened.

An elegant female voice can be heard.

“Ah? So many people standing still in the archery range, what is this?”

Together with her voice, a beautiful female figure with her long head of crimson red hair entered the archery range.

Behind the girl was two rows of men, wearing black suits and a badge that signals the Confederate Special Security Forces.

An old man who was walking beside the girl smiled and spoke: “Let me see, they’re probably surprised that your Highness would appear so they’re simply stunned is all”

As the old man looked at the crowd, he saw the 2nd young master of Huang family lying on the ground with a face full of blood, unable to move.

The old man opened his mouth wide in surprise, then gestured towards behind him.

Two bodyguards quickly walked and carried Hui Shao up.

One of them put his hand on Hui Shao’s face.

The bleeding immediately stopped, his face that was originally swollen also quickly got back to normal.

As Hui Shao recovered and looked at the beautiful female exuding elegance, his anger from before became inconsequential.

He asked with a low voice: “Elder Kang, this person is?”

The old man gestured to him with his eyes, then turned towards the red-haired girl and spoke: “Your Highness Royal Princess, please allow me to introduce to you, this is our capital’s most influential of the 9 Lords, Huang family’s——”

“Whoa, who did this?”

Anna completely ignored the other party, exclaimed excitedly while walking towards the end of archery range and looked at the wall.

The 5 people pinned on the wall were still occasionally groaning from pain.

At this time the old man finally noticed there were people on the wall at the end of the archery range, his face changed.

What is this, an important ambassador is visiting the Confederate Capital, and they just happen to run into a scene of a fight?

What’s more, the police are here?

Since when were capital police unable to even handle this kind of problem?

This is a huge diplomatic problem now!

The old man was furious, about to scold the people here.

“That’s quite skilled whoever did this, I really want to learn, please pardon me asking but who did this?” Anna turned around, her face full of excitement and asked.

The old man's words were stuck in his throat.

Everyone around was also speechless at the scene they were seeing.

Anyone can see, there was a fight that went on here, possibly escalating to a life and death situation.

Yet her royal highness only felt that people being hanged on walls were highly entertaining.

Rumor has it that the royal princess of the Empire does many things purely from her own preference, and have done things that makes people not knowing if they should laugh or cry, seeing it with their own eyes, that seems to be the truth.

That youth, it's hard to tell if he's in trouble or if this is a blessing.

Even when he hit Hui Shao, he's still standing there just fine, but if he were to anger her royal highness princess Anna Medici of the Empire.

Ahahaha...

Numerous eyes were concentrated on Gu Qing Shan.

Looking at Anna acting, searching left and right, Gu Qing Shan almost couldn't help but smile.

Gu Qing Shan have no idea why she's here, furthermore he has no idea what kind of stunt she's trying to pull off.

Of course he's not scared of her, just that he's not really sure.

Sure enough, Anna walked step by step towards Gu Qing Shan, then asked him with a face full of admiration

"So it was you that shot them into the wall?"

When they heard that, everyone started sweating.

"Yes I did"

Gu Qing Shan kept up his act and answered.

Anna's face slightly changed, she did curtsy then seriously requested: "I've long been interested in this noble sport, and seeing how excellent your archery is, could I ask of you to teach me, for the sake of our countries' friendship"

This is completely perfect noble etiquette, from her actions to her words.

Gu Qing Shan almost wanted to turn around and escape, but was still able to hold himself back.

He completely couldn't predict what Anna just did.

Gu Qing Shan didn't want to garner too much attention, only to pass by the last period of peace before the Apocalypse enjoying his University life.

But the jewel of the Empire is already in front of him, all the people watching here are either noble or wealthy, as well as so many secret security and hidden information officers of the Confederate here, he's sure that everything that happens here will be known.

Then there was another problem, if he were to disrespect the princess of the Empire in front of so many people, both the President and himself will be put into a hard situation.

Fine, it's because she's Anna after all.

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed, then returned the courtesy: "Your request is my honor"

"Ah!" Anna playfully blinked, then waved her hand upwards: "Clear the area!"

The Confederate secret security personnel all scattered, politely persuaded the people here to leave the archery range.

If you observe carefully, you'll see that even these highly trained bodyguards were also feeling helpless.

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Everywhere that the Empire's princess goes must be cleared like this, even a toilet, completely making people numb and speechless.

But no one dare complain.

St. Orland Empire's emperor isn't someone they can just disobey.

Even the royal princess herself is publicly known as a Supernaturalist feared by many.

Rumour has it that her Fire-element has already awoken to its 4th stage "Burning Sun".

Fire-element, the first stage is simply called "Fire", as it evolves, it turns into "Searing Flame".

From the 3rd stage "Magma" and up, every stage is an immense increase in strength for the user.

With her 4th stage "Burning Sun", she's already stronger than 90% of all Professionals.

Even without her status as a princess, simply with Anna's strength, she can enjoy the highest respect and admiration.

A girl who have both noble status in the normal world, as well as overwhelming strength in the supernatural world, anyone that can earn her recognition would enjoy unimaginable benefits.

Hui Shao's eyes turned a bit, then brought a few people over, smiled and said: "Your royal highness, I would be honored to serve you"

Anna pointed at the wall —where the bodyguards are thinking of ways to get the men off.

She asked: "Can you do that?"

"I don't, but as the 2nd young master of Huang family, I know the capital like the back of my hand, I can guarantee ———"

Anna opened her eyes wide, then very innocently asked: "If you can't do that, then why are you still here?"

Hui Shao was shut down completely.

"I don't associate with straw bags" Anna said: "Men, clear out the area!" (TN: "straw bag"=a thing/person that most people can't use)

These words were like a sledge hammer, pounding on Hui Shao's self-esteem.

Hui Shao was politely escorted out.

Before leaving, he even glared at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan was unfazed.

A useless young master's grudge is something he can nonchalantly cut off.

Gu Qing Shan walked up close to Anna, lowered his voice and asked: "What are you doing? This will make me very passive you know"

Anna could tell he was a bit annoyed, replied pitifully: "I wanted a Scorpio Palace"

Just that answer completely melted away Gu Qing Shan's other emotions.

"You, hah, please tell me next time if you're going to appear suddenly" he shook his head and answered.

Seeing the matter was over, Anna's pitifulness on her face disappeared, returned to a bright smile and took a bow on the shelf.

She spoke: "First teach me how to use a bow, then tonight I have some things to ask you"

As Gu Qing Shan was about to speak, a light was reflected in his eyes, turned into a line of blood-red text.

"Time flow is once again in chaos, the time has come"

"The user must enter the other world within 5 minutes, otherwise the messed up space-time flow will be permanent"

"Warning, if the user were to refuse entry, the ability to travel to the other world will be completely lost"

Gu Qing Shan was stunned as if struck by lightning.

Why now?

It's not the first time he experienced the place called Space-time vortex, so why did the situation become like this this time?

Could it be because I entered that strange space?

Inside the Space-time vortex, there are many strange sights, a few could affect the player, but to permanently affect the flow of time flow, this is a first even for Gu Qing Shan.

Maybe, that space is more special compared to all the other spaces recorded in history?
But when that corpse on the bronze pillar called for help I didn't even reply though!

As he didn't have much time left, Gu Qing Shan pulled Anna to a relatively secluded spot and spoke in a low voice: "I need your help with something"

Anna looked at him, curious: "Tell me first then"

"I..."

Gu Qing Shan didn't know what to say.

The situation was very dire, he only had 5 minutes to escape from everyone's sight.

But the whole club is surrounded by all manners of security for the sake of princess Anna's safety.

If he wanted to escape alone without dealing with Anna first, then he definitely wouldn't have enough time, as all the layers of security will stop him first.

But when the time comes, Gu Qing Shan could only enter without a choice.

If the scene of Gu Qing Shan entering the game were to be seen, it could mean huge trouble.

Gu Qing Shan isn't really afraid, but this will become a highly annoying wrench into his plan, affecting his actions afterwards.

Anna seeing that he couldn't speak, took a glance at him.

His eyes are a beautiful amber color, his eyelashes very long, every time he pulls the bowstring, his eyes would always gently lit up, showing a sense of focus and consciousness.

When he mixes alcohol, his eyes show a deep mist, as if he's in another world altogether.

He's wearing a white T-shirt, regular pants and sports shoes, simple as simple can be.

But this person who's "simple as simple can be", as he walked out from the bar, defeated dozens of Martial artists and 2 Mobile Mech in a matter of seconds.

Some people need fancy clothing to be regal, but he doesn't.

He himself is a King.

Without a shred of hesitation while killing, yet very calm and composed while on TV, didn't even speak a single word.

Feng Huo De said he was a bit hard to understand, but it's not that complicated, he's just a bit nervous and shy in front of the camera.

Right at this moment, standing before her, he's showing an appearance of not knowing what to say, how interesting.

Anna's mood became happy, her lips slightly lifted up.

She put both hands behind her back, slightly bending forward and asked: "What's so hard to say, could it be that you want to confess to me?"

Chapter 46

"It's not that, I need to leave immediately, but I can't let anyone find out" Gu Qing Shan answered her straight away.

Anna crossed her arms, looking at him intently.

Doesn't look like he's lying.

"Very urgent?" Anna took back her playfulness and seriously asked.

"Very"

"Then come with me" Anna thought for a second, then quickly decided.

This youth gives her a very strange feeling, some sort of indescribable empathy.

The first time they met, he was immediately able to make a few drinks for her that she couldn't forget.

Immediately after, while fighting, he showed S-class potential.

He also has something to do with a Confederate secret, possibly the very reason why the Confederate had ordered a large sortie a few days ago.

For both personal and professional reasons, Anna is willing to help him once.

As the two of them spoke, they didn't know just how much their actions scared the bodyguards.

Just yesterday, princess Anna splashed a whole glass of wine on the son of a senator just because he wanted to kiss her hand as a greeting.

Yet today her royal highness is letting another male pull her hand, and stood so close to talk like that.

From the princess' face, they could see she didn't mind or was unhappy about that at all, in fact she seemed to be curious.

While everyone was guessing the reason, the princess already walked towards the area with a glass wall, operating her Holo-Brain to do something.

A few moments later, an engine sound was heard.

Very quickly, the engine sound got louder and louder.

And in a matter of seconds, a blazing red shuttle stopped in the middle of the sky, letting out a roaring engine sound.

The shuttle slowly adjusted the angle and opened the door for the princess.

"Prepare to board" princess Anna turned around and said.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the shuttle for a bit and nodded.

This is a “Floating Fire” speed shuttle, the number 1 fastest shuttle in the world, limited to just 5 in the whole world.

As the Empire’s princess personal ride, she brings it with her everywhere.

As Anna put her hand on the glass wall, the glass quickly melted like butter, drops of glass drips down like the rain.

“Go” Anna turned and said

“Yes” Gu Qing Shan checked the time.

There’s 2 minutes left, plenty of time.

Anna and he boarded the speed shuttle.

“Princess! Princess! Where are you going?” the old man panicked, hurriedly asked.

The group of bodyguards were also very confused.

They’ve never met such a hot-headed guard target before, completely ignoring diplomatic etiquettes, already leaving before she said she would.

“Where am I going? Ah, I’ll be leaving to practice archery with my instructor here, I’ll come back before the dinner party”

“Ah, yes, about this glass wall, please contact my father, he’ll pay you back for it, thank you”

As Anna said that, she closed the door.

The Floating Fire engine roared and disappeared far into the distance in a single flash.

The old man turned around and shouted at the people: “What are you all standing there stunned for, quickly follow after the princess, if anything were to happen to her then it’ll be a cause of war for our two countries!”

All the bodyguards quickly woke from their state of confusion, scurried back to work.

On the shuttle.

Gu Qing Shan was looking at the time on his UI.

There’s about a minute left.

As he looked at Anna, he could see she was busy piloting the shuttle to get away from the busy capital sky.

Inside this shuttle was a shelf full of alcohol.

Under the shelf there was a long compartment, inside there was quite a few cold weapons on display.

Machete, Razor saws, Morningstar, Daggers, Short spears, Axes, Whip, Trident, pretty much anything you could think of, all of them really well made, clearly not just props.

Gu Qing Shan’s hand couldn’t help but twitch.

“You collect cold weapons?”

“Yeah, it’s a small hobby”

“Why aren’t there any swords here”

“Swords, those things are too elegant, not aggressive enough”

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

These girls, why do all of you keep looking down on swords.

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but feel a bit sorrowful.

Ever since he stabbed his sword into the Final Demon Lord’s heart, he hasn’t even touch a real sword.

Of course they do sell swords and other cold weapons on the market, but you can only swing those things around for a bit for fun, they’ll immediately break in a real battle.

Right now, Gu Qing Shan wants a sword even in his dreams, a real sword that he can use.

40 seconds later.

The Floating Fire was docked on a cliffside, on the outskirts of the capital.

Gu Qing Shan spoke with a low voice: “This time I’ll have to thank you”

“Words aren’t worth that much, I’d rather take a Scorpio Palace instead” as Anna said that she couldn’t help but licked her lips.

Of course she doesn’t realize just how alluring that gesture was.

Gu Qing Shan laughed a bit, then said: “No problem, if I’m able to return this time, I’ll invite you for a few”

“Hm? What do you mean”

Anna sensitively discovered the omen in his words, turning her eyes away from the dashboard and towards Gu Qing Shan.

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“If I’m able to return, I’ll tell you a secret, and also invite you for a drink” Gu Qing Shan said.

20 seconds left.

Gu Qing Shan was prepared.

He doesn’t mind Anna knowing about this secret.

From the first time since they met, he had already decided to make sure the horrible destiny that would befall Anna to not happen this time.

10 seconds counting down.

“I’ll be going” Gu Qing Shan said.

Anna suddenly thought of something, and unhooked a small black string out from behind her hair.

On the string, there was an intricately shaped pendant, taken off from her snow-white skin.

She quickly put it around Gu Qing Shan's neck and solemnly said: "Live"

Gu Qing Shan's eyes showed clear surprise.

Before he could say anything, a light already appeared.

And Gu Qing Shan disappeared from Anna's sight.

A few moments later.

A black shadow approached from afar, stopping in front of the shuttle.

The shadow stood up to become a man wearing sunglasses and neatly combed hair.

"Princess, this is an official visit you know, suddenly leaving like that would create a lot of commotion"

Feng Huo De sighed, half complaining half persuading her.

Anna sat silently in the shuttle, not saying anything back.

As Feng Huo De saw the princess like that, he felt like something was off.

Normally, if he tried to persuade her, she would snap back at him.

What's with her today? There's not even a hint of disdain that she usually wears on her face.

The princess almost looks lonely, did someone do something to affect her?

Feng Huo De thought a bit, his tone softens and said: "Your highness, actually this matter is nothing to worry about, we can just ignore it, you — are you ok?"

Anna tilted her head downward, still silent.

Right until when Feng Huo De was so worried that he was about to call the medical team that the princess finally spoke

"Huo De"

"I'm here, princess"

"Have you ever lost someone you hold dear?"

"Ah, yes, but that's a long time ago"

"I don't know what's wrong with me today, suddenly I'm very afraid that I won't be able to meet a certain person anymore"

Just what is wrong with the princess? I don't get what she's saying at all.

Feng Huo De was worried; he couldn't help but observed her a bit closer to find some clues.

Suddenly ———

"Your highness, where is your Life Exchange Contract!" Feng Huo De exclaimed loudly.

Princess Anna didn't say anything.

Feng Huo De could only feel a cold sweat dripping down his back.

The dropped down, painfully cried: "We're done for"

Princess Anna's sight was focused on the horizon, silently spoke: "There won't be any problem"

It's hard to tell if she's talking about Gu Qing Shan, or herself.

...

A light covered Gu Qing Shan, travelling nonstop across the Space-time Vortex.

Gu Qing Shan lightly touched the pendant on his neck, feeling all sorts of emotions.

On the pendant was a statue, a statue of an old man with a calm expression, one hand holding a long scythe, while the other hand was holding up his own face while he sat sleeping on a stone.

This is the Life Exchange Contract, also known as Death's relic.

Whoever holds this in his hand, Death will prolong his life just before his moment of death.

But such a miraculous ability would of course have its limits.

Because Death will draw twice as much life force from whoever possessed it before the current holder.

——-Death will never make a losing deal.

Gu Qing Shan held the pendant tight.

This relic has existed since over ten thousand years ago, a legendary item.

Who could've known it was in Anna's hands.

Who could've known that Anna would suddenly hang it on his neck like that.

This girl, what a mess she's gotten herself into.

If anything were to happen to him then she's finished.

Gu Qing Shan wryly smiled, his eyes show determination.

He already owes Anna once from his past life, even though later on he became a Great Sword Saint, she was already dead so he didn't even have the chance to try and rescue her.

This life, he won't let it happen again!

In front of him, a hole-like door slowly opened.

And Gu Qing Shan flew inside.

Chapter 48

“I thought I was going to die for sure, phew”

“Who didn’t?”

“Thank you, fellow Daoist”

All the cultivators looked at him with thankful eyes.

Gu Qing Shan sincerely clasped his fist: “My strength is meager, only my formation skills are a little bit of use, so later in battle, please spare a thought for me”

He has already confirmed, all of them are Foundation Establishment realm.

Amidst a sea of demons, to cooperate with a group of cultivators stronger than himself, Gu Qing Shan is basically walking on thin ice.

The cruelty of man, he has already experienced many times.

Gu Qing Shan’s words seems very sincere, making the cultivators hold a better impression of him.

One of them said: “No worries, we all followed General Sun Zhi here, all we need to do is defend and soon the General will come to aid us”

Another said sorrowfully: “We were careless to be discovered by the demons suddenly appeared, otherwise we wouldn’t be in this situation”

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed, but didn’t say anything about it.

Everyone there started talking with Gu Qing Shan, as Gu Qing Shan was quite well-versed in this world’s culture, he was able to keep a sense of harmony with everyone.

Normally, Foundation Establishment cultivators wouldn’t even bother to look at qi training realms.

Gu Qing Shan was able to mingle with a bunch of Foundation Establishment cultivators like this is mostly because he just saved their life on the verge of death, as well as being thought of as a powerful formation user.

On the battlefield, formation users are both rare and highly welcomed.

Thanks to that, the group wouldn’t consider Gu Qing Shan to be fodder and make him go in front of the group as a scout.

In any other place, at any other time, these cultivators could very easily kill him as they pleased.

As they all slowly recovered, the leader cultivator finally asked: “The formation is decent enough, so how long can it hold out for?”

As soon as he spoke up, the rest of them became silent.

It was only now that Gu Qing Shan had the chance to carefully evaluate him.

This person looks to be about 20 years old, his eyes are cold yet bright, on him was a light blue armor, his hands holding a long fan. The clothes seem to be extremely clean, he fought the demons for so long yet not even a speck of blood was seen on him.

Fire and Wind element users like to use fans as weapons, but Water-element users who use fans are quite rare.

His light blue armor naturally creates a layer of frost around himself, forming a cold breeze in the air.

Quite a good frost armor, just this one armor probably costs a few hundred thousand low-tier Spirit Stones.

Such a person has to be a direct disciple of a large sect. (1)

Gu Qing Shan silently raised his opinion of this person and answered: "The formation can hold for about half an hour"

Everyone felt a bit relieved.

Half an hour is enough to recover quite a large chunk of spirit energy, it would also somewhat remedy their loss of stamina.

The leader person's face slightly relaxed and ordered: "Everyone recover your strength on the spot, we'll move in half an hour"

He tapped his Inventory Bag, taking out a few pills full of spirit energy and gave to everyone, including Gu Qing Shan.

When Gu Qing Shan received the pill, he smelled it a bit and was surprised.

"Such a good pill, it's a waste for a qi training realm to use" he said.

"It's fine, right now is a dire situation, just use it to recover your spirit energy" the other person answered.

"Then thank you" Gu Qing Shan nodded as he hears that and didn't hesitate.

This is a top-grade Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill, the price for each must be thousands, no, up to ten thousand gold!

It's an incredibly valuable pill, not only could it quickly and stably recover spirit energy, it would also not have any side effects on the body, very highly praised by people in the cultivation world.

A single one of this pill is enough to be used as a life-saver in battle.

To be able to casually give one out to everyone here, means that this person is not only a person of great character, but also that he's from a higher upbringing.

He is only a few years older than Gu Qing Shan, but his tone of voice is already grown up and fluid, only that his eyes are a bit cold, his face shows a hint of purposeful detachment from everyone.

As he noticed Gu Qing Shan's eyes on him, he clasped his fist: "I am Leng Tian Xing, direct disciple of Yao Guang Sect, hereby thank you for your reinforcement"

Yao Guang Sect? (TN: lit. Origin Light Sect)

Just as I thought, Gu Qing Shan silently confirmed.

This is a large monster of a sect in the cultivation world, their tradition goes back a few hundred thousand years, one of the sects that everyone has heard about in the cultivation world.

However, such a brilliant person was never heard of, so he must've died in this place in the other life.

But not just him, even Gu Qing Shan couldn't guarantee his own survival in this desolate destroyed world.

Gu Qing Shan silently exhaled, then also clasped his fists: "I'm Gu Qing Shan"

Leng Tian Xing returned the gesture: "Nice to meet you"

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Both of them are not people who would talk much, after their little chat, they returned to meditating and rest.

Very quickly, everyone closed their eyes and went into deep meditation.

Gu Qing Shan tapped his Inventory Bag, took out the military qi training method booklet and turned the pages.

On the War God UI, he glanced at the amount of Soul Points.

"To comprehend qi training 7th stage: Shen Tang breakthrough method, Soul Points cost: 6"

"Comprehend"

"Comprehension completed, Current Soul Points: 21/7"

After that, Gu Qing Shan swallowed the valuable Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill, together with 3 mouthfuls of demon snake blood.

Right now if he doesn't take the chance to break through, it is very possible for him to just die on the spot, so he has to at least attempt it.

Taking advantage of the Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill's powerful effects and the enhanced senses from the demon snake blood, Gu Qing Shan just might be able to break through stage 7 right now.

Time quickly passed.

Inside the formation, a tiny wave of spirit energy slowly ripples, like throwing a stone into the calm water.

Gu Qing Shan used Soul Points to breakthrough, so he immediately recovered his spirit energy to full.

This little bit of inconsequential change also affected the environment a bit.

Feeling the essence of the world around them changed, everyone opened their eyes in surprise.

Leng Tian Xing's face slightly relaxes a bit, saying: "Congratulations friend, seems like you've benefited"

Gu Qing Shan wryly smiled and shook his head: "It's still only qi training stage 7, and I still have to thank your pill"

“No need to be reserved, our lives were saved by you after all”

“Don’t mention it, don’t mention it”

Everyone there congratulated him.

You could feel their spirit raised as they looked at each other in joy.

Every time a cultivator reached a new realm, the spirit essence of the world will wash through their bodies, recovering the spirit energy that they’ve used until the amount in their Dantian becomes full.

A pill’s power is slow and steady, how would it even compare to a gift from the world?

Gu Qing Shan breaking through means that in just a few seconds, the spirit energy he used for formations has already fully recovered.

And since he broke through qi training stage 7, his total spirit energy should have also increased by 30%.

What does a formation user who have recovered to his peak condition mean?

It means that Gu Qing Shan could potentially use that formation he just used once again ———possibly twice, because his total spirit energy was increased by a large margin.

All cultivators here understand very clearly just how good the formation was.

To be able to completely hide their presence among a sea of demons, it’s completely a life-saver.

That way, everyone’s chance of survival increased another bit.

Of course, they don’t know that Gu Qing Shan doesn’t actually know how to arrange formations.

“Since that’s the case” Leng Tian Xing stood up “we can break through the encirclement to go towards the Northwest direction, there is a cave there where General Sun Zhi had arranged a base with a permanent Invisibility formation, it can provide a place for us to rest and fully recover”

“Good”

“Deputy Leng is the smartest of us all, I agree”

“Roger”

The rest of them replied.

Gu Qing Shan silently checked his map, seeing that the place where they wanted to go was the same as his, he was able to calm down.

Right now the demons have already scattered about, only a few demons that still couldn’t settle down and are still fighting left

Leng Tian Xing started pointing to each person and gave them their missions: “Wu Jin, Ma Liu, you two are the vanguards, Wang Cheng, Luo Xiao, you two take care of the side”

He looked at Gu Qing Shan and asked: “You’re the formation user, so you can stay at the middle and protect yourself, any problems?”

Gu Qing Shan didn’t hesitate and answered: “No problems”

In the middle of a demon encirclement, it's dangerous no matter which direction it is, only the middle of the crowd will be the safest place.

Gu Qing Shan's formations are much stronger than they had thought, numerous demons still couldn't find their presence at all, so in a life-and-death situation, he could once again save all their lives.

The Sword cultivator called Wang Cheng suddenly asked: "What about you, Deputy Leng?"

Leng Tian Xing answered without changing his expression: "I'll be at the back, responsible for back guard"

The back is the most dangerous position in a retreat, yet Leng Tian Xing was willing to take it on himself.

This was a reason for everyone's admiration.

After Leng Tian Xing arranged the positions, he clasped his fist and looked around: "If we can get out of this dire situation, I will personally invite all the brothers here to join Yao Guang Sect, as our stewards"

Note:

(1) direct disciple: this is a special position, as being the direct disciple of a sect will always mean they're the direct disciple of the sect's Master, meaning he or she is the next sect Master-in-training.

Chapter 47

TN: Warning, depictions of gore and/or death coming up in the next 10 or so chapters. Honestly I feel like the gore isn't that strong, but just in case.

A transparent black cloud that covered the entire world.

Drops of fire were raining down from the sky.

As space itself ripped opened, Gu Qing Shan who was covered in a ball of light appeared hovering.

Under the dark sky, the sound of fighting drew Gu Qing Shan's attention.

On a mild hill a few meters above ground, a horde of black demons was rushing, pushing their way up.

A few cultivators had their backs to each other, trying their best to fend off the demons.

A few moments later, one of the cultivators suddenly got pulled out and surrounded by the demons, screaming as he was eaten alive.

"No! Lil' bro!"

Within the cultivators, one of them screamed sorrowfully, ran out of formation and went on a demon killing frenzy.

But that accomplished nothing, as the smell of blood only made the demons also went into a frenzy, swarming them even quicker.

In only a few breaths, the cultivator who got mad was already killed and eaten, bone and all.

There were only 6-7 cultivators left, surrounded, like candles in the wind that could be blown out at any time.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the bunch of them and mumbled: "Seems like these are the men that General Sun Zhi left behind, since they haven't all died, seems like they do have some skills to them after all"

Not wanting to watch anymore, Gu Qing Shan's spirit energy moved, breaking open the light sphere and dropped down on a nearby hill.

He specifically chose this place, as it wasn't far from where the cultivators are, plus they cultivators on the hill were already attracting the attention of the demons, so he was relatively safe.

As he felt the ground under his feet, Gu Qing Shan retracted all the spirit energy around his body and held his breath.

——demons can feel both spirit energy waves and breathing, so he has to be careful.

Suddenly a foul stench shot straight at Gu Qing Shan, as he dodged forwards a few feet...

Chomp ——

That sound was heard behind him.

The large jaw missed, reluctantly retracted its head.

As Gu Qing Shan looked back, his heart sank a bit.

A Rotting Eater Demon was crawling forward; its whole body was like a hill of rotting meat that could move.

The indescribable stench was once again felt as the adrenaline rush died down.

This demon is known to eat anything, but it's favorite food are rotting corpses, as it gradually ate more and more, the smell has already seeped into every piece of flesh on its body.

Normally, even the other demons will stay away from this one, simply because the smell is too foul.

After the Rotting Eater Demon fails to eat its prey the first time, it shifted its neck, spitting out a viscous fluid, wanting to trap the prey in place.

Not only is this fluid hard to dodge, it could also eat through flesh, if you don't prepare yourself and gets spit on, it could possibly dissolve your whole body in one go.

This Rotting Eater Demon was emitting a strong aura, much stronger than a normal one, possibly already reached Foundation Establishment realm.

Its fluid is so potent it might be able to eat through the bones as well.

Gu Qing Shan already knew of their characteristics, so he quickly evaded, but still almost didn't make it out of the spit zone.

The few cultivators on the hill were surprised.

In fact, when Gu Qing Shan had just appeared in this space, they already immediately noticed.

But when they saw that he was just a qi training realm cultivator, the hope that just appeared immediately got shattered again.

The cultivators were in despair so thought that he couldn't survive for more than a few seconds, but they saw the unexpected.

Gu Qing Shan was only a qi training realm, a whole realm lower than the Rotting Eater Demon, yet he could evade the surprise attack like that, you could say his performance is more than stellar.

Seeing its prey once again evaded, the Rotting Eater Demon angrily wanted to roar.

Once it draws attention here, it'll also bring more demons.

When that happens, with Gu Qing Shan's strength, being surrounded by demons can only mean death.

Right at that dire second, the Rotting Eater Demon suddenly felt something was placed in its mouth.

It was confused.

With its intellect, it couldn't tell what it was, no matter how much it thought.

By instinct, it closed its mouth and tried to chew the thing inside.

———what a strange feeling.

Not what it usually likes to eat, but seems like it can be eaten.

Hm, the more it eats the more delicious it seems, almost like it's good for it.

The food made the Rotting Eater Demon calmed down.

But what exactly is this?

Rotting Eater Demon slowly stuck its claws inside its mouth, wanting to know what it just ate.

It wants to remember this thing, to include in its list of menu.

As Gu Qing Shan saw that, he silently crouched down, slowly backed away from the Rotting Eater Demon's sight.

Just then he threw a stack of demon snake skin and bones from afar straight into the big mouth.

This monster called Rotting Eater Demon, when it's hungry enough it could even eat rocks as food, let alone a rare monster like the demon snake, whose skin contains a lot of energy and definitely taste better than rocks and rotten corpses.

While the Rotting Eater Demon was distracted by food, Gu Qing Shan had already silently snuck away.

Hiding behind a large pile of rocks, he checked around.

There weren't that many demons around this area, as most of them were scurrying up the other hill.

On the other hill, the fight was getting more and more intense.

The 6-7 cultivators were completely surrounded by the endless sea of demon, unable to retreat or advance at all.

In a desperate fight for their lives, the cultivators couldn't help but use their spirit energy, fighting at full strength, so even here where he is he could feel their energy.

Looking for just a few seconds, Gu Qing Shan's face became much more serious.

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"All of them are Foundation Establishment realm, there's possibly also a Golden Core realm"

Both the cultivators and the demons that fill this place was very much out of his league.

"Low cultivation limits the amount of things I can do, so there's only..."

As he was thinking, there was already 3-5 demons who took notice of him.

They immediately rushed here, even used their hulking body to knock way those in their way, not wanting any more competitors for the meal.

Gu Qing Shan simply ignored those Foundation Establishment realm demons, took out the formation plate, one hand holding the plate, the other quickly infusing spirit energy into it.

His hands moved nonstop and shouted: "Come this way!"

On the other side, the cultivators lost another person, his body was eaten up right away, making their situation even more dangerous.

They couldn't help but turned towards Gu Qing Shan when they heard that, quickly saw the dimly glowing formation plate and rejoiced.

"A formation plate!"

"A formation user! It's a formation user!"

"That's great, we're saved"

Formation users are an extremely rare existence, every single one of them is protected like treasures by their sect, that being the case, how would one of them appear here alone?

But they didn't have the time to think about that.

Suddenly seeing a chance for survival, their fighting spirit lit up once again and successfully pushed the wave of demons around themselves back a few feet.

Under a cultivator's instruction, they gradually got closer to Gu Qing Shan.

That cultivator pointed at two people and ordered: "He's only a qi training realm, your feet are quick, go protect him!"

"Yes!"

This formation user could be their only hope to survive.

The leader-like person waved the jade fan in his hand, firing spells one after another.

Each and every demon that got his by his spells were frozen into statues, a few stronger demons that didn't get frozen was also slowed down greatly.

The Sword cultivator and Blade user dashed forward, killing the demons with a few quick slashes.

Having an area of effect Ice-type spell as cover, both of them were as quick as lightning, immediately got close to Gu Qing Shan and killed all the demons that tried to get close.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the two of them, his eyes couldn't move away from the swordsman's weapon
A sword!

Looking at the swordsman's sword, Gu Qing Shan's fingers couldn't help but twitch a bit.

Since his return, Gu Qing Shan couldn't remember even a single Sword Skill, it's like all the Sword Skills he had learned in the past were completely sealed by the System.

He could hazard a guess, the reason why the System did that was to lower the risk when travelling through Space-time as much as possible, to get away from a few large unnecessary troubles.

Gu Qing Shan could still remember very clearly, after he returned, the System had said "Illegal entry successful"

But now that the return is done, the seal still hasn't been released.

Something very deep in his instinct is telling him, he needs a sword.

Just like numerous years ago, he needs a sword that can kill!

The peak Foundation Establishment cultivator could feel Gu Qing Shan's eyes, looked at him in confusion.

No, now's not the time yet!

Gu Qing Shan held down his excitement, his eyes looked at the leader.

"So he's an awoken Water-element user, at the second stage of Freezing Mist. If it wasn't for him, these people would probably have already died"

Gu Qing Shan silently noted, turning to look at the 2 cultivators at the very back.

They guarded on both sides of the leader, using their naked fists and kicks to knock away a large chunk of demons each time.

These are martial cultivators, their blood essence had almost become solid as the power of martial arts flowed around their bodies.

No doubt about it, they're true Martial Grandmasters, a few steps from advancing to Martial Eminence.

Behind them, a flood of demons came down.

In just a few seconds, all the cultivators had already surrounded Gu Qing Shan to protect him.

The leader cultivator put away his jade fan, quickly asked: “How’s the formation? Do you need our protection?”

Everyone looked at him.

To arrange a formation requires time, if Gu Qing Shan takes too long, when everyone had reached the end of their ropes and he still hasn’t finished setting it up then everything is just a big joke.

As Gu Qing Shan heard that, he shook his head and replied: “It’ll be done right away”

He tapped the formation plate, both hands forming signs.

The formation plate that Gong Sun Zhi gave him had quite a few advanced formations inscribed.

As Gong Sun Zhi had already taught Gu Qing Shan the special hand signs needed to operate the plate, he only needs to infuse spirit energy into the plate and use the correct sign to use the formation he needs.

Even a normal formation user needs hand signs to form and arrange the formation, so if you don’t know anything, you’d really believe Gu Qing Shan to be a real formation user.

Only a truly masterful formation user like Gong Sun Zhi would be able to tell what the signs are for, and understand that he’s a fraud.

The only drawback being, formations on the formation plate all have limited uses, once they’re all used up, the formation plate becomes useless.

The situation right now is very dire, plus all the cultivators around him are strangers, so Gu Qing Shan decided to pretend to be a formation user.

“Water, Wind, Mist, Earth, Green River Sky Hidden Formation!”

As Gu Qing Shan infused his spirit energy, star-shaped seal made of numerous stars appeared from the formation plate, among them were four especially noticeable stars.

The formation is done!

The strongest formation used for hiding on the plate was activated immediately, draining 70% of Gu Qing Shan’s spirit energy.

The light covered both him and the cultivators, in just a flash, they’ve already disappeared from the sea of demons.

Numerous demons couldn’t find their target, still in a frenzy, they clashed and started killing each other.

Only a few of the strongest, biggest demons couldn’t be bothered, just picked up a few smaller demons, ate a mouthful of them then left.

Their actions immediately stopped the other demon’s frenzy.

In just a few moments, half the demons already scattered.

Inside the hidden formation, all the cultivators laid on the ground, breathing heavily.

They’ve all just about reached their limits.

Chapter 49

Hearing something like that made all the cultivators here felt immense joy and motivation.

Yao Guang Sect's traditions had continued for a few ten thousand years, so the benefits of being its stewards have always made others green with envy, it's said to be 30% better than the benefits of being an Elder in normal sects.

All the cultivators looked at each other, all wanted to show their worth.

Inside the formation, the atmosphere has certainly changed.

He also knows how to raise morale, Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

As expected of Leng Tian Xing who comes from a large sect, even experienced with dealing with people, only needing a few words to fire up their morale.

To fight within a sea of demons, if you don't have enough morale and motivation helping you, then you'll soon be filled with feelings of despair.

Everyone has finished recovering.

Leng Tian Xing said: "Everyone prepare yourselves, as soon as the formation dissipate, we'll move"

No one said anything to disagree as everyone stood up.

Gu Qing Shan also walked forward, silently judging the people here.

Wu Jin and Ma Liu at the front are overflowing with blood essence, their bodies show clear strength.

Wang Cheng on the left held his Long Sword in his hands, Luo Xiao on the right carried his giant Demon-head Blade on his shoulder.

As for Leng Tian Xing, he was only holding a fan, his expression still cold and composed as he stood silently with everyone.

Gu Qing Shan squints his eyes as he glanced around and made an evaluation.

———two Martial Grandmasters, a Sword Cultivator, a Blade Master, a 5-Elemental user.

Together with him as the "formation user", this line up isn't too bad.

As Gu Qing Shan was thinking, all the cultivators had finished their final preparations.

The light of the formation was also flickering nonstop, about to dissipate.

Wu Jin shouted: "I'm going!"

"Go, we'll be right behind you" Leng Tian Xing tapped his shoulder as encouragement.

Wu Jin roared, the muscles on his body all expanded greatly, the excess flowing blood essence escaped from his nose as two streams of white smoke.

He lowered his stance, pointing his shoulder out towards the outside of the formation.

“Mountain Levelling Rush!”

Shouting loudly, Wu Jin rushed out from the formation, using his tough shoulder pads to create a pathway several dozens meters long.

All the demons on the way were either knocked away or pierced through by the shoulder pad.

The demons that got stuck on the shoulder pads quickly got caught by Wu Jin, killed and threw away.

A few dozen meters later, as the rushing force died down, Wu Jin starts using his fists to attack.

“Consecutive punches! Die, all of you!”

As the demons weren't prepared, a few demons with a monster body and beast heads were beaten to a pulp by Wu Jin.

One breath, two breaths, ten breaths

Hoh, hoh, hoh!

As Wu Jin breathed out a stream of white smoke, his barrage stopped.

After a burst of strength like that, he's already a bit tired.

“Next is me”

Ma Liu changed places with him, his body turned into a hulking giant, holding a metal staff in hand, he knocked down demons left and right while advancing.

At this time, Wang Cheng and Luo Xiao had already drew their weapons and jumped out at the same time.

Slash after slash of both Sword and Blade, cutting the demons on both sides of Wu Jin and Ma Liu into showers of blood.

Gu Qing Shan ran after them without any hesitation, with the formation plate in hand, he lightly shouted: “Great spirit of the earth, heed my call, break!”

Layer upon layer of demons that were rushing them immediately all fell down.

Under them, the ground broke into near bottomless crevasses, buried and stopped the demons' movement.

Leng Tian Xing was surprised.

This formation user, even though his cultivation isn't that high, he is able to command the formations at will, quite adept at what he does.

And a great help.

“A chance!”

Leng Tian Xing raised his fan and casted a spell without hesitation.

“Frost Blade True Slash!”

Strings of white emitting bone-chilling frost suddenly appeared in front of the group.

Just like a harvest, the strings quickly cut down a large area of demons at once.

The horde of demons just around them was quickly cleaned out, reducing the group's pressure.

Just as that happened, Gu Qing Shan had finished preparing the next formation as he put the plate in front of himself, both hands quickly making the signs

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“Wind, Fire, Lightning, Water, Heaven Earth Spirit Funnel!”

The spirit energy light turned into a string and coiled around the 6 of them.

“What! A mobile Spirit Funnel!?” Leng Tian Xing exclaimed.

All the cultivators were surprised, then as they found their spirit energy recovering, the surprise turned into joy.

Wu Jin laughed heartily: “Haha, great formation user! If we make it back alive, I'll definitely take you as my good brother!”

Wang Cheng is a cold-faced swordsman, shaking off the black blood on his sword he said: “How quick!”

Normally, a Spirit Funnel could only be stationary, as it was moved it would very quickly lose the effectiveness.

Only formation users of the highest caliber could create a temporary small-scale Spirit Funnel that could be moved.

Gu Qing Shan's actions shocked everyone here.

No one could look down on him again.

Formation is the second hardest to learn of the 6 arts.

While the hardest would be Divination.

To master both formation and Divination, it's the same as trying to climb against a waterfall and dig a hole in the sky at the same time.

On average, out of 100 cultivators with decent talent, 5-6 of them could reach Golden Core realm.

But if the same 100 cultivators were to try and learn formation or Divination, then not even one would succeed.

This is one of the main reasons why Gong Sun Zhi is regarded so highly in history.

“Good”

Leng Tian Xing also complimented, his left hand creating hand signs, his right waving the fan as he cast another spell.

“Soul Claiming Frost Blade!”

As the air became twisted, crescent-shaped ice blades flew out, cutting through the wave of demons chasing behind them.

They kept on moving just like that, very quickly already passed the halfway mark.

“We’re close!”

Said Leng Tian Xing as he saw the two martial artists already showing signs of fatigue on their faces, to motivate them.

Everyone felt relieved.

Gu Qing Shan looked around, suddenly reminded them: “Wang Cheng, Luo Xiao, you two are too far, it’s dangerous!”

The Swordsman and Blademaster was a bit too deep into the horde of demons, getting further and further away from the group as they fought.

They’ve already gotten out of Gu Qing Shan’s formation range.

As soon as Wang Cheng heard that, he turned around, hesitated a bit before hearing Leng Tian Xing shout: “Come back!”

Wang Cheng immediately acted, wanting to get back.

But it was too late.

A giant Demon Hand sprouted from the ground, grabbing Wang Cheng and crushed him into a ball of flesh.

A sharp, powerful Sword Cultivator died, just like that.

His Longsword was still covered in blood, flew through the sky and almost fell into the endless horde of demons.

Right at that moment, Gu Qing Shan reached out his hand, moved the spirit energy in his body to control Wang Cheng’s sword from afar and retrieved it.

On the other side, the Blademaster Luo Xiao was already heading back, suddenly his leg was grabbed by a half-sized Crimson Gold demon and fell down.

Almost immediately as he fell, Luo Xiao’s head was bitten off by a dog demon, without being able to even scream for help.

The dog demon was afraid it might get its food stolen and ran away as soon as it bit off the head.

The other demons also quickly rushed up, ripping apart Luo Xiao’s body.

As the smell of blood got around, the demons once again let out a frenzy screech.

More and more demons are coming.

As two cultivators died, the pressure on the rest of them increased exponentially.

In just a few moments, both Ma Liu and Wu Jin's body were already covered in blood with wounds all over.

Gu Qing Shan felt nervous and asked: "How close are we?"

Leng Tian Xing hesitated to answer: "We're just a little more away, do you want to try rushing there at once?"

Gu Qing Shan looked at the two martial cultivators and answered in a low voice: "We can't, the demons know how to read the situation, if we simply rush forward, they'll be prepared"

He turned the formation plate and shouted: "Water, Wind, Mist, Earth, Green River Sky Hidden Formation!"

This formation can only be used twice, after this, there won't be any left for them to hide from the demons.

As the formation plate light up, it concentrates the spirit essence of the world.

Water, Wind, Mist, Earth, the four elements arranged themselves in a unique way, as the formation was formed.

Just like that, the cultivators that were in trouble disappeared right under the demons' eyes.

Chapter 50

Seeing the meal before them gone without a trace, the demons screeched in frenzy and disappointment.

A few breaths later, they still couldn't find the cultivators.

The ground was trembling.

A demon wrapped in a fiery mist jumped out from the ground, trying to find them, but could only let out a disappointed roar.

As soon as it appeared, the demons from all sides couldn't help but retreated from it.

This is a terrifying Crimson Flame Demon, who has awakened the Fire-element to the 3rd stage "Magma", incredibly strong, incredibly hard to handle.

A Foundation Establishment realm cultivator alone couldn't even think about killing it.

As Leng Tian Xing saw that, a thick layer of cold sweat had already formed on his back.

Luckily he didn't keep going.

No matter how knowledgeable, how skillful he is, that's only usable in the cultivation world when handling other people.

This is another world altogether, a destroyed world.

An endless amount of demons roaming around makes him feel like a child in hot water, it's possible to die with the slightest bit of carelessness.

Leng Tian Xing lightly shook his head as he felt a deep sense of powerlessness.

Wu Jin lifted his head, ignoring his body full of wounds and laughed: "Haha, finally we were able to persevere, hah, we persevered!"

Then his voice stopped.

Wu Jin opened his eyes wide, fell backwards as his body made a loud sound as it hit the ground.

Almost immediately after Wu Jin fell down, Gu Qing Shan stepped forward and sat down next to his body, putting his hand on his heart.

"He's dead"

Gu Qing Shan coldly reported.

The other two faces changed, as they used their inner sight, they could immediately tell Wu Jin already don't have a pulse or heart beats anymore.

Ma Liu sorrowfully yelled towards the sky.

Leng Tian Xing silently looked down, his hand gripped the fan tightly.

Suddenly Gu Qing Shan took out a dagger from the body, stabbed it into Wu Jin's chest, only succeeded after two or three tries.

"Stop!"

Ma Liu angrily roared as he saw that and raised his fist as he was about to attack Gu Qing Shan.

He has always been a good friend of Wu Jin, because of his sorrow, he was really going to kill Gu Qing Shan.

A fan immediately pushed down his fist.

Ma Liu's eyes were bloodshot, speaking as if roaring: "Deputy Leng, he dares to treat brother Wu's body like that, I won't forgive him! I won't forgive him!"

Leng Tian Xing looked at Gu Qing Shan's hands without blinking and spoke with a low voice: "Look carefully first"

Gu Qing Shan stabbed the dagger deep into Wu Jin's chest, then twisted it as he reached the heart.

The heart wound was cut open as a shriek could be heard.

Gu Qing Shan's eyes grew serious, slowly pulling the dagger out.

As Ma Liu saw the dagger, he opened his mouth wide.

A black imp only as big as a thumb was pierced on the dagger.

The imp struggled, but no matter how much it tried it couldn't break itself free.

Its feet and hands were full of sharp claws, as it struck the dagger a metal sound could be heard.

“A Heart Stealer Imps, goes in through the mouth and eats the heart” as Gu Qing Shan finished, he gave the dagger to Ma Liu, saying: “avenge Wu Jin”

Ma Liu’s eyes glowed red, opened his palms and squeezed the dagger.

The black imp was crushed together with the dagger.

“Hahaha, ha ha ha ha ha, so this is the end”

Ma Liu suddenly laughed like he was mad.

Leng Tian Xing’s face changed, grabbed him and said: “A dead person can’t be revived, don’t kill yourself as well!”

Ma Liu pushed him away and screamed: “He died, he already died do you understand? We’re all going to die here”

Gu Qing Shan stood up and seriously said: “We won’t, we still have a chance”

“I’m going to run away first” Ma Liu’s bloodshot eyes stared at Leng Tian Xing, then at Gu Qing Shan as he spoke confused: “I’m going to go first, none of you stop me, who dares to stop me?”

Saying that, a black aura could be seen from his body.

As soon as the black aura appeared, Gu Qing Shan’s face also changed.

As Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing looked at each other, they could see the nervousness in the other’s eyes.

Gu Qing Shan took a few steps backwards, one hand gripping the formation plate, another at his back, ready to take out the bow at any time.

——the sword that he took is still in his Inventory Bag, he hasn’t touched it yet.

Leng Tian Xing face was as deep as water, taking step by step backwards, still with his fan in hand.

Both of them stood parallel, the spirit energy inside their Dantian rushed around their body, like a bow that’s pulled but not yet released.

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“Kill, kill, kill kill kill, kill all the demons”

Ma Liu was mumbling to himself, a dark light was seen shining on his body.

Suddenly black flowers appeared out of nowhere, numerous beauties were seen inside, showing off their alluring bodies, their captivating eyes staring at Ma Liu.

The black flowers circled around Ma Liu, divided into two and went into Ma Liu’s ears.

Then another went into his mouth.

Finally, the dark light almost seems to solidify and went into his eyes.

The red glow in Ma Liu’s eyes were soon replaced by darkness.

“Kill”

His hoarse voice repeated the same word over and over, slowly stepped outside the formation, swinging his fist to kill the demons outside.

But very quickly, the endless horde of demons surrounded him, turning him into a walking ball of flesh.

The demons bit him one after another, but Ma Liu almost seems unconscious, only kept swinging his fists, killing the demons that approached him in front.

In just a few moments, the demons had already eaten Ma Liu, not leaving even a strand of hair left.

It was only then that the dark light gradually dissipated.

In the empty air, a satisfied moan could be heard.

“Delicious... Soul...”

Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing silently watched that scene, their bodies were soaked in sweat.

It wasn't until a while later that they could look at each other again.

“What exactly was that?” Leng Tian Xing muttered.

Different from himself that was always calm and collected, right now he's feeling fear.

“Tianma, almost invincible existences” Gu Qing Shan sighed and looked around.

“What is a Tianma?” Leng Tian Xing asked.

“A kind of demon that doesn't have a body, experts in breaking your mind and taking your soul”

Gu Qing Shan doesn't want to say too much, lest he loses his fighting spirit as well.

Fuck! Fuck! Why are there Tianma here, right now I don't have any items from Buddhists that I can use to repel them.

If Tianma are around, the situation is at least ten thousand times more dire than before.

Tianma are intangible, they can always see through a cultivator's cracks in their mind, using that to eat away their souls.

Both Leng Tian Xing and himself have no way to deal with them right now.

Tianma carry a strong sense of territory, so unless they're forced to, they won't get out from their territory.

Because of that, the only way to live right now is to quickly get out of here.

As he thought that, Gu Qing Shan quickly asked: “Do you have any more Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill?”

Leng Tian Xing took out two glowing transparent pills in his hand: “The last two”

Gu Qing Shan didn't hesitate and said: “Give them both to me”

Leng Tian Xing looked at him.

Gu Qing Shan spoke: "First, you still haven't used much spirit energy, second, I'll be the vanguard next" "You'll open the way?" Leng Tian Xing asked in surprise.

"Yes, it's already a do-or-die situation, either we die here, or to cut open a path to live" Gu Qing Shan answered with a low voice.

He could tell, Leng Tian Xing is very strong at spells, but weak at close combat, without a powerful ally to buy time for him to cast his spells, even if Leng Tian Xing is stronger he won't be able to make it pass this last leg of the journey.

"Fine" Leng Tian Xing was silent for a bit, then said: "If you die, then me having one more Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill won't make a difference"

He threw the 2 pills over.

During the fight just now, Leng Tian Xing didn't really use too much spirit energy, so even if he uses the pill it won't be as effective as Gu Qing Shan eating the pill.

If Gu Qing Shan can recover his full spirit energy, he can use this formation again, to hide the two of them one more time.

That way they'll get another chance at a breather.

This is what he thinks.

He doesn't know that the formation can no longer be used.

Gu Qing Shan received the pill, swallowed one right away and put away the second.

His impression of Leng Tian Xing increased again.

To know the logic is one thing, to be able to just hand out such a valuable pill is another.

In a crisis situation, to be able to trust others that much makes him a suitable comrade.

Since that's the case, he can be relieved to concentrate on killing demons, to get out of the Tianma's territory as soon as possible.

Gu Qing Shan already decided and spoke: "The formation can still hold for a bit; you rest up first"

Saying that, he walked to Wu Jin's body, took off the heavy shoulder pads on Wu Jin and put it on himself.

Chapter 51

"You're a martial cultivator as well?"

When Leng Tian Xing saw him put on the shoulder pad, he couldn't help but ask.

Gu Qing Shan didn't want to answer, only pointed at a direction and asked: "The place where we need to go, is in that direction?"

Leng Tian Xing glanced at where he was pointing and answered: “Yes”

Their destination was overrun by demons, without even a place to stand up straight, it was almost like looking at a gross, fleshy sea.

To break the encirclement and get there will be a bloody and intense battle.

Gu Qing Shan frowns.

Both himself and Leng Tian Xing have decent long-ranged attacks, but without martial cultivators to cover the front, both of them will very quickly be surrounded by demons again.

During the next battle, they will need someone to go into close combat and use martial arts to keep them at bay.

—however, a good Sword Cultivator can also keep this amount of demons at bay.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then tapped his Inventory Bag to take out a Longsword.

This was the sword that Gu Qing Shan tried his best to recover after the Sword Cultivator Wang Cheng died.

As he gripped the sword, Gu Qing Shan was also observing it very carefully.

From its appearance, this is a very normal steel sword, the only special thing about it would be at the handle, where the words “Qian Qi” were inscribed. (TN: lit. Thousand Rides)

As he carefully felt it, he could tell the sword carried a hint of cold air.

Gu Qing Shan lightly swung the sword, and the cold air flows outwards.

Sword Cultivator Wang Cheng was the captain of Qian Qi squad, so according to the appropriate treatment, his Longsword was forged with a small bit of Cold Core iron.

With only a little bit of Cold Core iron, this sword has already become twice as sharp.

The only thing bad thing about the sword, is that while forging, the smith only paid attention to sharpness, so he made the sword about half an inch thinner, making the sword very prone to bending during an intense fight, possibly even breaking.

“You understand swordmanship?”

Leng Tian Xing asked as he saw him so carefully looked at the Longsword.

Right now he can no longer underestimate this formation user with low cultivation, so he’s speaking as if they were equals.

Gu Qing Shan unfazed and answered: “I understand it a bit”

In front of him, the War God UI was full of notifications.

“Discovered weapon: Sword”

“Detected that user knows 1753 kinds of Sword Skills”

“Detected that the user has War God UI, War God Skill turned on”

“No traces of Demon God, current situation found to be stable”

“Protection measures unlocked, begin memory recovery”

“Awaken!”

“From now on, the user can use Soul Points to regain his previous Sword cultivation”

Gu Qing Shan stood straight up and lightly swung the sword in his hand.

“Ping”

Another System sound was heard.

“In accordance to user memory, considering user’s current cultivation, current list of Sword Skills that will not cause the user’s soul to collapse as follow:”

The War God UI was showing a list of choices in front of Gu Qing Shan’s eyes.

“Sword Skill: Wind Slashing Style”

“Sword Skill: Bai Tai Style” (TN: lit. dice into a hundred pieces)

“Sword Skill: Flowing Clouds Style”

“Sword Skill: Kai Shan Style” (TN: lit. cut open a mountain)

“Sword Skill: Four Seas Style”

“Secret Art: Water Flow Severance”

“Seeing that the user had a very deep understanding of the sword, the cost to awaken his own sword cultivation reduced to its lowest”

“To awaken a Sword Skill, Soul Points Cost:5”

“To awaken a Secret Art, Soul Points Cost:10”

A Secret Art is a very powerful Sword Style, these kinds of sword styles usually only have a single move, commonly regarded as the king of sword styles.

If you look at it from a cultivator’s perspective, Secret Arts are the spells and techniques of a Sword Cultivator.

Gu Qing Shan only glanced over and quickly made his choice.

“Awaken Wind Slash Style, Kai Shan Style; Awaken Secret Art: Water Flow Severance”

“Ping”

“Wind Slash Style, Kai Shan Style, Secret Art Water Flow Severance has awakened, Soul Points cost: 20”

“Current Soul Points: 1/7”

As his Soul Points goes down, Gu Qing Shan felt images deep from inside his memory resurfacing.

All the images that were sitting in his memory collecting dust suddenly became active again, just like they only happened yesterday.

An outpost at the frontline.

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A bunch of soldiers were gossiping, discussing things between themselves.

“Hah, even he wants to learn the first 3 moves of Wind Slash?”

“He’s just trash. The game had already begun over half a year ago and yet he’s only starting now”

“Yeah, all our Sword Skills had already begun to take shape and he’s only arrived at the Vanguard Legion, at least it’s not all bad, we have fodder to use now”

“You’re right, from now on, whenever we have to sortie, just let him go first”

“Ahaha, you’re right”

The voices and images disappeared as the scene changed.

The moon was high up in the sky, no one was around.

He’s still there alone, practicing his Sword Skills.

The skin on his right hand has already all but peeled off, his hands wrapped in numerous layers of bandages, even just gripping the sword he could feel intense pain.

You can’t, you can’t give up, this is the only chance for you to change your fate.

Gu Qing Shan gritted his teeth, extremely determined

The sword was swung once again.

The bandage has already begun to leak blood.

Soaked in sweat, he was focused only in training this Skills.

The scene also slowly faded as a new scene appeared.

“Vanguard Legion Gu Qing Shan, for your bravery and effort in defeating the demons, you are hereby bestowed the full secret scripture of Wind Slash Sword Style”

“Ping!”

The scene changed again.

On a high platform, Gu Qing Shan was performing the Wind Slash Sword Style with absolute perfection.

“Hm, he’s interesting, but he’s too old, how regretful”

“Being that old, his potential will be limited, we don’t need him”

“Yes, he’s already almost 20, yet he only knows a single Wind Slash Style, seems like his ability to comprehend isn’t anything special, we also don’t need him”

“Then it’s decided, semester examination results are a failed?”

“Hm, I agree”

“Then that’s that, call on the next one”

The scene changed.

Gu Qing Shan was like a walking corpse, stood still on the street as snow fell on his body.

Suddenly two cultivators walked by him, speaking in a low voice

“The auction house has quite a few Sword Styles for sale, I especially like one of them, but the price is a bit too high, I’ll have to go earn a bit more Spirit Stones”

“Ah, is that so, you want me to help a bit?”

“If you can then thank you”

As their conversation was heard by Gu Qing Shan, he suddenly turned around.

“Fellow Daoist, is what you just said true?”

“Where did this trash qi training realm come from, scam!”

....

“You are Gu Qing Shan? Have you thought carefully, you want to go into the demon territory to collect herbs”

“Yes, as long as the reward you promise won’t change”

“Our store has a thousand years of reputation; we definitely will not change our minds”

“Then there’s no problem”

“Young man, I have to remind you, if you die in the demon territory, we won’t be responsible for looking for your corpse”

“No need to worry, I don’t have anyone that needs my corpse to remember me anyways”

“... Hah, so you’re a pitiful person as well, then we have a deal”

The scene went away again.

Numerous scenes just like that kept appeared then disappeared, as the Sword Styles in his mind became clearer and clearer.

His whole memory has returned.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and raised the Longsword.

“Finally I’m back”

“I’m Sword Saint Gu Qing Shan”

He declared with a low voice.

Leng Tian Xing couldn’t understand what he was saying and became cautious.

Suddenly saying nonsense, could it be Tianma are appearing again?

Gu Qing Shan slowly stepped forward, each step was a swing of the sword, as he got used to the Sword Styles.

All the Sword Styles that War God UI picked out were ones that he knew, furthermore, the ones he knew best.

Choosing these 3 Styles, Gu Qing Shan had thought it through very seriously.

Wind Slash Style is extremely quick, Kai Shan Style had a heavy swing, both of them complemented each other.

Water Flow Severance is the first ever Secret Art that he learnt, in the current situation, he has to awaken it no matter what, to use as a trump card.

Chapter 52

Aside from that, having awoken Wind Slash Style, he can hide his Sword in the air next to himself, whenever he needs he can just infuse it with spirit energy to take his Sword out.

This one function is able to overcome the wasted time from having to pull the sword out of the sheath from numerous other Styles.

In the past life, Wind Slash Style was the most popular Style to learn for players, simply because it's so stylish to pull a sword out of thin air.

Numerous Sword Cultivators, even if they have to sell their blood for money they'll buy a copy of the Wind Slash Style book, just to keep up their appearance.

Gu Qing Shan chose this Sword Style, mainly because he's about to have to go deep into the horde of demons, this Style that allows for easy drawing of the sword, coupled with its quick speed is extremely suitable for quickly moving forward.

This was also the first ever complete Sword Style that he risked his life killing demons to get.

As Gu Qing Shan swung his sword, all sorts of emotions welled up inside him.

Leng Tian Xing was standing on one side looking at him, but couldn't relax at all.

Because the scene in front of him was too strange.

The youth before him was wearing a shoulder pad designed for impact, a sword in hand, as well as a large formation plate on his back.

Martial Cultivator?

Sword Cultivator?

Formation user?

Formation user is easy to understand, no matter if it's Martial arts or Sword arts, as long as you have talent with the 6 Arts you can learn to use formation.

But that's already very rare.

A cultivator who learns both Martial arts and Sword arts is simply unheard of.

Looking at the way Gu Qing Shan swings the sword, he's clearly a master of the art.

Leng Tian Xing couldn't help but asked: "What do you cultivate exactly? The Sword or Martial arts? I can't really tell"

Gu Qing Shan when hearing thought also felt a bit of a headache, as he couldn't really tell others that he used Soul Points to learn Skills.

He thought a bit, then said: "Hoh, my main cultivation isn't Martial arts, neither am I a pure formation user"

Leng Tian Xing unconsciously repeated: "Not a main Martial arts cultivator?"

Gu Qing Shan swallowed the Crimson Crane Qi Holding pill he was keeping in his mouth and answered: "I know a bit of martial arts, but I can't call myself someone who focus himself on being a martial artist" "I also know a few Sword Styles and a bit about formation, only that"

Leng Tian Xing was a bit shocked, still unable to really comprehend what he was seeing.

Gu Qing Shan didn't say anything more, closed his eyes and circulated his spirit energy, to thoroughly absorb the pill's energy.

A while later, Leng Tian Xing spoke: "Your knowledge is too wide-spread, later on it will be very hard to reach the top for any of them"

This is a friendly advice.

A cultivator who's well-versed in multiple subjects isn't always a good thing, when they all reach a certain point, it will become incredibly hard to improve anymore.

Gu Qing Shan could tell the other party's good will, smiled and said: "No worries, it's just a few means"

Leng Tian Xing: "Means?"

Gu Qing Shan: "Yes, the means to survive"

These words are calm, but contains immense sorrow and struggle, almost reflecting the whole journey of everything that he's been through just to live.

This is also a true depiction of humanity as a whole during the last few years of the Apocalypse.

As Leng Tian Xing heard that, he seems to have understood something.

Finished preparing, Gu Qing Shan stood up, his body slightly leaned forward just like Wu Jin from before, aiming the shoulder pad towards the outside of the formation, pacing back and forth a few times.

Gu Qing Shan said: "We have about half a stick of incense's time left, then the formation will disappear"

Leng Tian Xing couldn't help but asked: "How can I help?"

When it was a crowd of people, he held the position of leader, but after everyone had already died and there's only Gu Qing Shan and himself, he unconsciously considered Gu Qing Shan to be the leader.

A peak Foundation Establishment cultivator, actively asking a qi training cultivator for order, what a very rare sight to see.

Both of them didn't take notice of it, but it very naturally happened.

Gu Qing Shan used the sword to point outside the formation, asking: "Do you see that Rotting Eater Demon there?"

The same demon that attacked him when he teleported here.

Leng Tian Xing answered: "I can"

Gu Qing Shan then said: "That monster is extremely foul-smelling, disgusting to both humans and demons alike, I want you to get me one of its eyes"

Leng Tian Xing's spirit energy flowed from his body, stood up and asked: "You want me to leave the formation to kill it?"

Gu Qing Shan stopped him: "No, with a bit of smart"

Suddenly Gu Qing Shan took the Heart Stealer Imp on the ground, chopped into pieces, then took out demon snake blood, pouring it on the imp's body.

After that, Gu Qing Shan dug out a few stones about half the size of a person, neatly lining them up on the ground.

He carefully smeared the imp blood onto the stones.

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Leng Tian Xing could only watch the scene in silence.

Everything he's doing is completely out of his comprehension.

Outside the formation, the Rotting Eater Demon was slowly moving.

It's still hungry, and looking to find some crippled demons among the mass of demons here to eat.

All the other demons are staying as far away from it as possible, they'd rather fight with some other demon to the death than to get close to the foul Rotting Eater Demon.

The Rotting Eater Demon is strong, but its speed is so pathetically low that others of the same realm as it could outrun it, normally it could only eat rotten stuff that's already dead.

While the Rotting Eater Demon was worried about food, it suddenly felt a "pap" as something that's coated in an alluring smell dropped right beside it.

Taking a look, it could tell this was a square stone, but the color was a bit different, looks like... something that it likes.

The Rotting Eater Demon moved its nose and sniffed.

The smell of blood.

This thing isn't so bad, but there's too little, not enough to even stick to its teeth.

The Rotting Eater Demon originally didn't want to bother with it, but the alluring smell of blood was covered in a scent of energy and made it opened its mouth on instinct.

It quickly jumped forward and ate the stone as well as a patch of dirt in a single bite.

—tastes nice, sadly there's too little.

While the Rotting Eater Demon was feeling sad, it heard another sound as another strange thing dropped down near it.

This distance, it only needs to move a bit to reach.

The Rotting Eater Demon slowly crawled over and ate it.

Energy, smell, taste together with a cold, hard feelings, the Rotting Eater Demon only didn't care about the last part.

— are there more?

It felt great hope and anticipation.

Then a miracle!

Another square rock dropped very near where it was.

The Rotting Eater Demon took the time to crawl over.

.....

Gu Qing Shan looked at the Rotting Eater Demon and said: "It's coming; you only have one chance"

Leng Tian Xing couldn't help but feel a bit pressured: "What if I fail?"

Gu Qing Shan answered: "Then we will have to think of another way, but this is already the best method"

Leng Tian Xing asked again: "Then if I succeed?"

Gu Qing Shan carefully answered: "Immediately give the eye to me, when I'm finished with it, the formation will also barely run out of energy"

"Understood"

Leng Tian Xing breathed in deeply and concentrated on the Rotting Eater Demon.

He doesn't worry a single bit about whether Gu Qing Shan wanted to harm him or not, after all he's a whole realm stronger, before he dies he can just strike as hard as possible, as well as numerous other ways to take him to the grave together.

He looked a bit at Gu Qing Shan.

This guy isn't an idiot, he probably won't do anything harmful in this dire situation.

Right at that moment, Gu Qing Shan silently shouted: "Do it!"

Leng Tian Xing moved his spirit energy, his hand gripped the fan and swung it diagonally in the air.

"Frost Blade True Slash!"

Outside the formation, the Rotting Eater Demon raised an ear-piercing shriek.

A white string appeared right at its forehead, then black blood spilled out.

The frost string that suddenly appeared took off almost half its skull.

It was very heavily wounded and lost an eye.

Even to a blob demon, this type of wound is quite severe.

The Rotting Eater Demon was screaming, rolling on the ground.

The two people inside the formation already didn't take any notice of it anymore, instead using their inner sight to look inside the chunk of rotting flesh flying across the sky.

A big, dull-colored eyeball was flying through the air towards a large crowd of other demons.

Leng Tian Xing quickly put away his fan, extending his left hand outward and shouted: "Come!"

The dull-colored eyeball suddenly made a turn in the air, flew straight into the formation and into Leng Tian Xing's hand.

Chapter 53

Success!

Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing both breathed out in relief.

As Leng Tian Xing held the eyeball, his cold expression changed.

He only just held the eyeball and his hand was already covered in a foul-smelling whatever-this-is.

He quickly threw it to Gu Qing Shan, took out a piece of towel cloth, used a Water-element spell to produce water and rinsed his hands again and again.

It smells so bad that Leng Tian Xing couldn't handle it even for a moment longer.

He came from a large clan, being a jewel among his peers, everything he eats and uses are always the best, even the sect he joined was one of the very best the world, not to mention his privileged treatment, so he has never touched such a foul thing in his whole life.

Leng Tian Xing would rather jump into the sea of demons and fight to the death rather than touching that again.

"You've done well!"

Gu Qing Shan complimented him, received the Rotting Eater Demon's eyeball and chopped it into mush.

Taking the mush in hand, he starts smearing it all over his body, the standard military armor made from demon silk very quickly starts to let off a foul stench of rotting corpses.

Leng Tian Xing was nauseous, couldn't help but said: "Do you have any idea how much this stinks?"

Gu Qing Shan was still seriously smearing it on his body and answered: "Rotting Eater Demon's fluid glands are contained in its eyeballs"

"If you smear this on yourself, the demons will instinctively think of you as a Rotting Eater Demon"

"Both yours and mine spirit energy are limited, so unless we use a trick like this, we'll definitely die when we attract stronger demons"

He took a chunk of mush eyeball in hand and presented it to Leng Tian Xing: "Although you won't have to be a vanguard in front, but the back is also very dangerous, I highly encourage you to also do this"

Leng Tian Xing immediately retreated a few steps and frowned: "I don't need it"

Gu Qing Shan sincerely said: "If you don't use it, when you're surrounded by demons you will die"

Leng Tian Xing looked at the mush eyeball again, shaking his head constantly: "To get this thing on myself, I'd rather just die and reincarnate"

How different people from large sects are, Gu Qing Shan just shrugged.

A few dozen seconds later, both of them are fully prepared.

Gu Qing Shan signaled: "Go"

"Ready" Leng Tian Xing stood up, also signaling that he's ready.

Gu Qing Shan breathed in, looking at the War God UI.

"Spend 1 Soul Points to comprehend martial arts: Mountain Levelling Rush"

"Current Soul Points: 0/7"

A warmth flowed from the shoulder pad to Gu Qing Shan's body, concentrating at his Thought Sea.

Gu Qing Shan pointed at a direction, saying: "We'll break through from here"

Leng Tian Xing looked a bit and was surprised: "If we go that way we'll have to make a detour"

Gu Qing Shan answered: "I've confirmed, on this there aren't that many strong demons"

Leng Tian Xing looked at him again: "You seem to understand demons very well"

Gu Qing Shan tapped his shoulder and said: "I do, I'm part of the Vanguard legion"

Not waiting for Leng Tian Xing to ask anything else, Gu Qing Shan shouted: "I'm going!"

Blood essence filled his body as he rushed out of the formation.

Mountain Levelling Rush!

Just like Wu Jin, Gu Qing Shan was using the same rushing attack.

The only difference is that his spirit energy isn't quite as strong as Wu Jin, so the attack didn't look quite as impactful.

But when Gu Qing Shan rushed out, the amount of demons that got knocked away was a few times more than Wu Jin.

You can't even compare the two!

As Gu Qing Shan was on his way, the heavy shoulder pad knocked a Crimson Gold Demon flying.

The Crimson Gold Demon was flying in the air screaming, then suddenly a sword slash was seen, cutting off its head.

As the small-scale rain of blood poured on him, Gu Qing Shan held the sword with one hand, quickly running forward.

Each slash is quick as the wind, his figure blurry without sight as Gu Qing Shan was coldly harvesting the demons' lives.

Leng Tian Xing gasped

"This is Wind Slash Style? How is it so strong!"

Leng Tian Xing have met quite a few Sword Cultivators who can also use Wind Slash Style.

But he swears he has never seen anyone use this Sword Style so fluently like this.

"Catch up!"

Gu Qing Shan used three slashes in a row, cutting off a Giant Elephant Demon and reminded him.

Leng Tian Xing regained his senses, quickly jumped after him.

A straight path

A few breaths later, when Mountain Levelling Rush's power was dying down, Gu Qing Shan's body shifted a bit, quickly regaining his balance.

A second later, sword slashes could be seen all over the air.

His actions are fluid and natural, seamless like the flowing water, each time he strikes there's already numerous patterns prepared to deal with any coming danger, so he wasn't afraid of any kind of attacks or sneak attacks.

Observing it clearly, you can almost feel a sense of rhythm.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit sorrowful, but glad at the same time.

The experience from all those times, struggling to get out of a sea of blood and corpses, taking the general's head amongst his own troops, they only started to reawaken after all this time.

It's only right now that he can truly be considered to have returned.

The Space-time Vortex is a much scarier and stranger place than the Space Vortex that he used to get here, it's hard to guess what the System is afraid of so much that it would seal all his memories of Sword Styles.

The only difference between himself now and in the past is his cultivation, and that there's still quite a few Sword Skills that he hasn't awoken yet.

There's a few very power Sword Skills, that he couldn't even think about with his current cultivation, otherwise the overwhelming Sword Will contained within will rip apart Gu Qing Shan's soul. (1)

This is also the War God UI's way of protecting him.

As Gu Qing Shan was moving left and right along the sea of demons, all the demons were covering their noses and scattered about.

A demon's sense of smell is at least a dozen times more sensitive compared to humans, and this is something they have from birth.

In their perspective, the thing they're facing is a young Rotting Eater Demon.

These pieces of literal shit, if you kill them the stench will stay on yourself for years without washing away.

If you eat them, you'll have a stomach ache for months on end.

Having to choose either of them, all the demons decide not to choose at all and just make way.

Taking that chance, Gu Qing Shan was like a wraith, suddenly appeared in the middle of the sea of demons, the sword in his hand swung without making a sound.

Qian Qi sword in his hand is like an awoken fiend, cruel, blood thirsty, crafty, and most of all, hungry for demon's lives.

Facing the danger of death, a few Foundation Establishment realm demons has already reacted, wanting to retaliate.

As Gu Qing Shan saw that, his eyes glowed.

"Wind Slicing Consecutive Slashes!"

The sword is like a wind, fierce yet quick.

Wind Slash Style's forte is its killing speed!

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Gu Qing Shan movements are neat, without a shred of excess, every slash he makes accurately slices off the demons' neck, arms, hip, legs.

One breath later, around where he stood, there no longer is any demon capable of moving.

After walking a few dozen more meters, when Gu Qing Shan's slashing speed had slowed down, the painful shrieking of demons could be heard altogether.

The demons who are very far away are complacent, not caring a single bit about their kin's screaming.

Demons very frequently have fights to the death, so this was a daily occurrence.

There's not even a hint of human's blood in there, just the foulest stench in the world, clearly a Rotting Eater Demon.

———who the hell is willing to offend that sickening piece of shit without any gain?

Even demons have a sense of self-preservation, quickly turned around and escape the smell.

It feels long, but in fact Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing had only started to break the encirclement for only a dozen breaths.

The two of them freely moved forward more than a few hundred meters, just like a miracle, so easily that Leng Tian Xing felt like he was dreaming.

When they were about to reach their destination, a strange demon suddenly appeared.

This demon had a coat of burning flame, emitting immense miasma, even the ground was scorched red where he stood.

“Crimson Flame Demon!” Leng Tian Xing shouted in dismay.

But Leng Tian Xing have no way to get away from the horde of chasing demons to deal with the Crimson Flame Demon.

Because he doesn't have the foul smell on himself, he was very quickly discovered and got his hands full with the demons from behind.

Luckily Gu Qing Shan's advancement speed was quick enough so the demons had no way to surround them just yet, making it possible for him to not be swarmed by the demons.

“I see it, let me” Gu Qing Shan answered.

“You——” Leng Tian Xing didn't know what to say.

Crimson Flame Demons are Fire-element demons, its whole body is created from a black flame, almost intangible, and incredibly hard to be killed by physical means.

Crimson Flame Demons also have a lot of spells that it can use, and once it does, it's very hard to deal with.

A single Crimson Flame Demon can fight 2 Foundation Establishment realm cultivators at the same time without losing.

Even himself doesn't have full confidence to deal with this monster, let alone a qi training realm like Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan threw his sword up and quickly moved forward.

Qian Qi sword spun a few times in the air, then suddenly disappeared ——it was hidden into a subspace with Wind Slash Style.

The Crimson Flame Demon saw that the two of them were running towards it, laughed cruelly and opened its mouth about to use a Fire spell.

“Too far away, I can't reach it!”

Leng Tian Xing needed only a single look to know it's already a life and death situation.

Crimson Flame Demon's Fire-element spells all reach the rank of “Magma”, the two of them have no way to block it, only dodge.

But if they dodge, their offense will also be temporarily stopped, and it'll be much harder to keep pushing forward like before.

And that'll be their death.

Leng Tian Xing's heart sank.

He's already busy dealing with the demons behind himself and can't do anything to stop the Crimson Flame Demon.

Could it be, this is where I fall?

Then suddenly a bow appeared out of nowhere in Gu Qing Shan's hand, before he could even see Gu Qing Shan's action, a streak of light had already flew from the bow.

"Bombardment!"

"Sharpshooter!"

"Riding Wind!"

Under the effect of Bombardment and Riding Wind, Gu Qing Shan's arrow contain both power and speed.

A cold gleam of metal.

Khiih!

The arrow hit the Crimson Flame Demon directly on its forehead, its whole head bent upward.

As a great demon, the Crimson Flame Demon is very powerful, and couldn't possibly be killed by Gu Qing Shan's qi training realm weak spirit energy.

But Gu Qing Shan's purpose has been achieved.

Because of the arrow, the Crimson Flame Demon had bent its head upwards against its will, as the horrifying flame it had prepared was shot straight up at the sky.

"You can use it like that?" Leng Tian Xing couldn't believe his eyes and muttered.

He spent so long just to accept that he's a Sword and Martial Cultivator, then suddenly he pulled out a bow, using one arrow to solve their dire situation.

Being a direct disciple of a large sect, Leng Tian Xing is very knowledgeable, as soon as Gu Qing Shan moved he could already tell the three Skills used were "Riding Wind", "Sharpshooter", "Bombardment".

But they're all General-class archery Skills!

Leng Tian Xing felt like he was going crazy.

Just who is this? A natural-born Saint?

Otherwise, how could a single person use formation, Martial arts, Archery and Sword arts all to this degree?

Leng Tian Xing already couldn't keep his calm anymore.

In reality, right now Gu Qing Shan was basically a Great Sword Saint who's suppressing his own cultivation to qi training realm and fight demons.

With his wealth of experience, he doesn't even have to think to find the best way to deal with an enemy.

Gu Qing Shan still didn't say a word, taking the chance when the Crimson Flame Demon was still stunned, he stepped forward and hit it with his shoulder pad.

Mountain Levelling Rush!

The Crimson Flame Demon was quickly sent flying, falling into the sea of demons a few dozen meters away.

These demons were first shocked, then angered as they started to attack the Crimson Flame Demon.

While the Crimson Flame Demon was still disoriented, it felt angry and wanted to retaliate, but it was stuck dealing with other demons, so it couldn't get away.

"We're fine, let's go!"

Gu Qing Shan spoke with a low voice.

Leng Tian Xing could only feel his common sense numbed.

Gu Qing Shan silently checked his spirit energy, seeing that after advancing to qi training stage 7, his spirit energy had increased greatly. Before, one use of Bombardment took 90% of his spirit energy, now it only takes 50%.

He still has strength to spare!

Gu Qing Shan put away the bow and grabbed the air.

Qian Qi sword appeared from thin air, fitting perfectly in his hand.

He stopped his feet, using the few breaths he bought for himself to fix his breathing.

The demons from around hesitated for a bit as they saw him grab his Longsword.

They were all screaming, wanting someone else to come up first.

A very rare sight.

In the short moment of a few breaths, the demons were actively retreating, not a single one moved up to attack.

Gu Qing Shan held his sword in his hand, as his eyes passed through the sea of demons, he muttered.

Leng Tian Xing could hear what he said, but was thinking if he actually heard wrong.

Because what he heard Gu Qing Shan say was: "It's just a few minions after all"

Note:

(1) Sword Will: The will or meaning behind a sword strike, Chinese novels usually attribute this as a thing that only the best swordsman can have, as their attacks carry a will of its own, fueled by the emotion or expertise of the user. If you've ever seen an anime or movie scene where the fighting spirit of the fighters materialize as animals or objects, that's essentially what a sword will is.

Occasionally it is also called sword spirit, but since sword spirit could also mean the spirit of the sword (like Fi from Zelda Skyward Sword), I decided to translate this as Sword Will instead.

Chapter 54

Gu Qing Shan bent forward and kept running, sword in hand.

Behind him, Leng Tian Xing was also casting spells one after another, freezing all the demons chasing behind him in place.

While all the demons that are rushing from the front were cut into pieces by Gu Qing Shan's sword.

Both of them moved forward in the sea of demons and advanced another few dozens meters.

Suddenly Leng Tian Xing called out with a hoarse voice: "I can only keep going for another 10 breaths at most"

Gu Qing Shan quickly turned around so see that many demons have already regained their senses and are rushing towards them.

All of them are at least Foundation Establishment realm, a few are even Golden Core realm, a single one of Leng Tian Xing's spells couldn't kill them, plus he couldn't hit all of them, so his spell casting speed will be insufficient very soon.

This can't go one, otherwise Leng Tian Xing will die!
And if he dies, I alone can't even hope to reach the safe place.

"Do you have any talismans?" Gu Qing Shan contemplated, then asked.

"I do, but I've already used a lot, there aren't that many left" Leng Tian Xing answered.

"Let's change places, conserve your spirit energy, use talismans instead ——you only need to open up a path to advance, no need to care whether or not the demons die" Gu Qing Shan said

"You'll take the back?" Leng Tian Xing asked.

"Hm, I will" Gu Qing Shan answered

"...Fine"

Leng Tian Xing stared at him carefully.

During a dire situation, if they can't manage then the one at the back will definitely die first.

Gu Qing Shan's action this time really painted him in a new light again.

It was at this moment that he truly considers Gu Qing Shan a comrade.

"Get ready"

Gu Qing Shan said as he started unlocking his armor.

All the belts on the standard Vanguard legion armor was unlocked, as Gu Qing Shan swung his hand and threw it towards the demons at the back.

These flesh-hungry demons, even when they saw their own kind killed one after another by Leng Tian Xing's spells they didn't even retreat, only advanced more and more.

Yet, as soon as the armor covered in foul rotting flesh flew towards them, all the demons pinched their noses and ran away.

It really is too foul, even Leng Tian Xing himself had to use this spirit energy to block his breath and all the pores on his body to keep himself from fainting from the smell.

“Switch”

Gu Qing Shan shouted as the two of them switched places.

Leng Tian Xing took out a bunch of talisman, throwing them out one by one, knocking the demons that still haven't gathered in front flying.

This isn't the same as spell casting, he only needed to use the least amount of spirit energy to trigger it, so the attack rate is very high, the only weakness is that this is basically the same as burning money.

But Leng Tian Xing is a wealthy young master who never lacks money, since every else already died and only the 2 of them are still alive, he doesn't care to hold back anymore and decide to use all the talismans he has.

As the demons from both sides retreated from the smell, when the two of them switched places they even advanced a few dozens more meters.

“I can't believe this stench actually works” Leng Tian Xing thought a bit and said.

If back then, he had compromised and smeared the Rotting Eater Demon flesh all over his body....

“Are you regretting now?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“No, definitely not” Leng Tian Xing's face paled.

The two of them were still moving quickly.

The further they ran, the smell from the armor almost became unnoticeable.

Very quickly, the frenzied demons started to catch up with them again.

“Kai Shan!”

Gu Qing Shan shouted loudly as he held the sword with both hands, the aura on his body suddenly became heavy.

One strike.

Boom ———pow!

Any demons that got hit by the sword got cut in two and knocked rolling back from the excessive force.

All the demons on the way were also got knocked down by the rolling pieces of demon corpses.

Kai Shan Style is a heavy sword style, each strike contains the power of a thousand tons, so any foe that's caught off guard will not get out unscathed.

But Kai Shan Style is also famously very slow in their movements, making it easy to dodge.

Normal Sword Cultivators will not use this kind of style that's full of openings.

Only the most stupid swordsmen, and the most skillful swordsmen dare to use this Sword Style.

Right now the sword was practically screaming, as each strike carried with it a white misty air, knocking the demons away one after another.

Each strike clears out a bunch of them, so each strike relieves the pressure on them by a lot.

The two of them were like pieces of driftwood in the middle of a sea storm, having to try their best to go on, barely making it through each time.

Gu Qing Shan had already ignored any sort of moves and just used Kai Shan Style to swing around wildly.

Under the current situation where demons are rushing them like waves in the sea, they have no need to consider whether they'll hit or miss, as each attack will surely hit a bunch of demons.

Kai Shan Style's strength was being used by Gu Qing Shan to its utmost limit.

"Quickly advance" Leng Tian Xing shouted.

"Coming!" Gu Qing Shan swung one time, then quickly shifted his body and retreated.

At this moment, the two of them were blocking the advancing sea of demons and making sure their movement were on the correct path at the same time.

But since there were so many demons attacking them, as the person in the back, Gu Qing Shan surely couldn't prevent every attack.

Very quickly, just like Wu Jin and Ma Liu, Gu Qing Shan's body was covered in blood.

Gu Qing Shan just endured and held on, continued swinging his sword.

"Kai Shan!"

He shouted silently.

Each strike as heavy as a mountain, crushing the demons.

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This is a life and death situation; he definitely can't be weak.

Since there were so many demons attacking, Gu Qing Shan had already ignored most of them, only blocking the most fatal ones.

Time passes quickly, in the blink of an eye, they have already made a lot of progress again.

Their destination is already in sight.

Gu Qing Shan's body was wounded all over, many places even had flesh ripped away by the demons, showing bloody bones.

Wounds of this type were numerous, almost like he was suffering from some sort of flesh-rending punishment. (1)

But Gu Qing Shan's face was as calm and composed as ever, his sword swings continued nonstop, seemingly unfazed.

Leng Tian Xing's inner sight took a glance and was shocked to no end.

5 breaths later, Gu Qing Shan suddenly asked: "How far?"

"Only 30 meters more, I can see the cave entrance!" Leng Tian Xing was also panicking.

"Good"

This was the time that Gu Qing Shan was waiting for.

He shifted his body to one side, held the sword in both hands and pointed the tip as the sea of demon in front, and muttered.

"Secret Art"

In just a second, the spirit energy in his Dantian rushed upwards and out, flowing through his hands into the Longsword.

The Longsword let out a 'wu wu' sound.

Gu Qing Shan had calculated every single bit of spirit energy exactly, saving just enough spirit energy for this moment.

His spirit energy was just barely enough to use this Secret art.

Leng Tian Xing pupils contracted.

With his knowledge, of course he can tell how strong this Sword technique is.

What technique is this, why haven't I seen it before?

Leng Tian Xing searched his memory and found that this technique was different from every single sword style he knows.

Could it be a Secret Art?

Called a Sword Cultivator's spells, it's not something that just any random person will have.

Leng Tian Xing was incredibly shaken, but held back his urge to turn around and only used his inner sight to observe.

In just a second, Gu Qing Shan's fighting spirit has reached its peak.

While the Qian Qi sword was letting out a 'wu wu' sound before, it suddenly went silent.

Intense killing intent flowed along the blade, enough to make you shiver.

"It is, it's a Secret Art, he knows a Secret Art!"

Leng Tian Xing couldn't help but screamed inside.

The last bit of pride he had left in him was now gone.

In front of Gu Qing Shan, the flow of demons was stopped like the flow of water, demons that were behind couldn't wait and climbed up, stepping on demons in front to move forward.

The demons stacked up higher and higher, became a towering several-foot-tall wall of demons, crashing down on both of them.

"Water Flow Severance!"

Gu Qing Shan shouted, his sword pointed directly forward.

If you can slow down time at this very moment, you'd see on the blade of Qian Qi sword was layers on layers of phantom swords, concentrated in one spot.

In a split second, the tsunami of phantom swords overflowed.

And the blade of the sword that released all that power, was slowly cracking.

Numerous cracks grew more and more, then fully covered the sword.

The very moment before the sword broke apart.

Heaven and earth were silent.

Suddenly.

A thunderous rhythmic sound like the giants of ancient time themselves were beating the drum can be heard.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Blinding phantom swords bursts from the tip of Qian Qi sword, rushed forward to create a deafening noise.

The huge wall made up of demons were blown up, fell crashing down, scattered into dust and disappeared.

The whole sea of demon was no more, revealing the desolate, desert-like landscape. On it were numerous cut-off hands and feet, the smell of blood in the air were so thick it could make you sick.

The demons that were rushing here from afar held faces of fear and uncertainty, stopped right at the edge of where the phantom swords exploded, didn't dare to take even a single step forward.

One sword strike could split a river in half and stop its flow.

Having such power, it's only suitable to call it the Water Flow Severance!

Clink.

A small sound was heard, as Qian Qi sword couldn't handle the power of a Secret Art, it broke into pieces and scattered.

The only thing left was the handle still in Gu Qing Shan's hand.

Gu Qing Shan gritted his teeth and felt a deep sense of loss.

He took so long to find a sword, only to break it with a single use of a Secret Art.

Reluctantly, he threw away the handle, then rushed forward.

Mountain Levelling Rush!

Gu Qing Shan moved forward, blocked a hungry demon for Leng Tian Xing and broke its neck.

“We’re going!” he shouted

“On it!”

Leng Tian Xing also knows that they are already at the last leg, suppressed the surprise in his heart and triggered all the talisman in his hands, throwing them out like they’re not worth any money.

Note:

(1) Flesh-rending punishment: an old type of interrogation method/capital punishment in China, where the flesh of the prisoner is flayed off bit by bit to ensure the sufferer received the most intense pain, either until they’re dead or confess to a crime.

Chapter 55

The two of them quickly rushed forward, they didn’t care about killing the demons, only that they’re out of their way.

20 meters!

10 meters!

5 meters!

They made it!

As the two of them got into the cave, Gu Qing Shan turned and kicked a Crimson Gold Demon out.

While the Crimson Gold Demon was still flying, Gu Qing Shan had already stuffed the last Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill in this mouth and took out the formation plate on his back.

“Wind, Wood, Light, Dark, Water, All Beings Life and Death Illusion formation!”

Illusion formation casted!

“Wind, Fire, Lightning, Water, Heaven Earth Spirit Funnel”

Spirit Funnel formation casted!

“Spirits of the Earth, Water, Wood, Metal, Deep Fog!”

Maze formation casted!

“Vanquish the wicked, Demon Repel Formation!”

Repel formation casted!

In a single moment, Gu Qing Shan had activated all the defensive formations on the formation plate given by Gong Sun Zhi.

The Crimson Gold Demon that got kicked away rolled twice on the ground then stood up.

It was angry, wanting to scream, yet when it turned around to look, it saw nothing in the cave.

Only a thin fog was seen, which carried an atmosphere that made it not want to get close.

And then, the whole cave disappeared.

With the Crimson Gold Demon's mind, no matter how much it thought it still couldn't understand, only feeling like it didn't want to go anywhere near that place.

The Crimson Gold demon growled angrily, then turned around and left.

Afterwards, the hundreds of thousands of demons that came couldn't find their prey no matter what.

Strange, where are the two meat?

Who stole them?

The demons looked at each other, but didn't find the alluring smell of flesh and blood from any of the other demons' mouths.

Then the demons fought and killed each other again to release their anger.

After a while, the demons reluctantly scattered.

They were unconsciously avoiding the cave.

After Gu Qing Shan was done, he dropped the formation plate and sat straight down on the spot, breathing heavily and shouted: "My spirit energy is limited, these formations won't hold for too long, go and turn on the large-scale hidden formation quickly!"

Constant killing on the way here, using the Secret Art, then consecutively arranged several formations, Gu Qing Shan had already ran out of every bit of energy he has.

He literally couldn't lift a finger now.

Luckily, he had the final Crimson Crane Qi Holding Pill that was slowly doing its job in his stomach.

Seeing Gu Qing Shan's dead tired appearance, Leng Tian Xing stood up and went towards the end of the cave.

On a large wall at the end of the cave was a formation 3-person tall.

This formation is specifically designed to stop demons from peeking inside, and there was another formation on the ground, a super-distance mass-transportation formation.

These formations are the crystallization of humanity's highest degree of formation knowledge.

Leng Tian Xing jumped forward, took out a few mid-grade spirit stones and put them inside the formation.

Ong.

The large-scale hidden formation starts to move.

As Leng Tian Xing looked at the super-distance formation, his face changed and exclaimed in horror:
“This can’t be!”

When Gu Qing Shan heard that, he couldn’t help but feel his stomach tightened.

If anything unexpected happen right now, even if he has the ability to bend reality itself, he won’t have the spirit energy to use it.

He staggered to stand up and asked with a low voice: “What’s the matter?”

Leng Tian Xing dejectedly answered: “The super-distance teleportation formation isn’t completed; we can’t return”

At this moment Leng Tian Xing was really feeling despair.

After they went through hell and back, after everyone almost all died to get here, their only hope had become despair instead.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then took out a small iron sphere in his chest and asked: “Does it perhaps need this?”

Leng Tian Xing eyes once again glowed and said: “The specially made secret rune! We’re saved!”

“Specially made secret rune?”

Gu Qing Shan repeated that.

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“Wait a minute” he slowly looked up at Leng Tian Xing, “What did you say this was?”

“A component of General Sun Zhi’s formation”, Leng Tian Xing was still basking in joy, “with this, we can fill the missing part of the super-distance teleportation formation, we can return to our world from here”

“This isn’t an identification device? It’s not an identification device we can use to call for reinforcement?”

Gu Qing Shan grabbed Leng Tian Xing’s cuffs and shouted loudly.

“Identification device? Of course it’s not an identification device”

Leng Tian Xing looked at Gu Qing Shan strangely.

Gu Qing Shan released his hands, staggered backwards step by step and fell down.

His face paled, his heart sank to the very bottom.

So Gong Sun Zhi had already decided to sacrifice himself.

Gong Sun Zhi only gave this to him to let him escape.

Gu Qing Shan struck the cave wall with his fist, knocking rubble everywhere.

What good does it do for me to return alone!

Damn it!

Why didn't I think of that before!

Right now he is nothing but a lowly Vanguard legion soldier; so he can't possibly bring any intelligence back to the top brass.

In this world, without strength, without status, your words carry even less weight than the wind.

Not to mention, the top brass of humanity already has traitors. As soon as he showed himself, the traitors can just frame him with a random crime and kill him without asking.

Look for a Saint?

No, that's even more impossible.

Even Gong Sun Zhi and Ning Yue Xi had to use 300 years' worth of supplies from their own sects to exchange a single communication talisman to contact them.

Gu Qing Shan and Gong Sun Zhi are worlds apart in status.

Nevermind meeting a Saint directly, he can't even get a communication talisman to contact them.

Just how, just what could he do?

There's less than half a day left until Gong Sun Zhi dies!

"What's going on with you?" Leng Tian Xing saw that his expression was strange and asked.

"You be quiet first please"

Gu Qing Shan slapped his face, forcing himself to be calm.

What can he do now to save Gong Sun Zhi and Ning Yue Xi?

Every second counts.

Contacting their respective sects, definitely impossible.

The traitor would definitely have prepared people to monitor the sects.

"What did General Sun Zhi tell you?" Gu Qing Shan asked him.

Seeing him asking that with a serious tone, Leng Tian Xing also seriously answered: "If he doesn't return, we have to immediately return to our world, change our names and hide our status, wait until he can reveal the traitor"

Gu Qing Shan deeply sighed.

How pitiful!

So Leng Tian Xing still held hope that General Sun Zhi can come back to reveal who the traitor was.

With the current situation, even if they could get away from the traitor's monitoring, if he were to randomly seek out the sects, they would definitely be suspicious.

A round of confirmation back and forth would take too long; he won't make it in time.

Not to mention, even if they believe, there's no telling whether or not the two sects have the power to save the two of them.

The demon's forces have always been overwhelming compared to humans, and this time it was their elites that were dispatched.

He's sure that the 5 demon generals will also appear very soon.

Faceless Giant, the 5 demon generals.

And the Grounded Devil legion will also have returned to the frontline.

Grounded Devils by nature counter the use of formation, when that happens, Ning Yue Xi and Gong Sun Zhi will be in even more danger.

This situation really does make people despair.

What methods are there left?

Gu Qing Shan gritted his teeth tightly, quickly reviewing all the methods he can think of.

After a while, he closed his eyes and sighed deeply.

The 3 Saints.

The only way for them to make it in time, to save them in time is if they have the 3 Saints' help.

After all that thinking, he's returned to square one.

The 3 Saints are the highest fighting strength of humanity. Normally, even a sect master couldn't guarantee to contact them, let alone Gu Qing Shan who is a nameless soldier at the frontline.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head, almost in complete despair.