

My Crown 1631

Chapter 1631: Come, If There Are Any Other Surprises Give Me All You've Got!

Yet what was behind this light was actually an abyss, an even greater and more extensive maze. This made her inner strength start to crumble. Even she, too, could not withstand this endless torture.

"Do not fear, don't be scared! Don't worry! I will definitely help you! I will definitely stand on your side!" Qi Xuanxuan asserted as if she were making a vow. "Little Fatty will too! Don't you worry, there is me and Little Fatty to help you!"

Qiao Mu turned to look pitifully at Qi Xuanxuan while sniffing. "Xuanxuan, you're hugging me so hard that it hurts."

Qi Xuanxuan pulled back her plump arms in embarrassment as she gave a silly laugh. She then pulled Qiao Mu up and declared, "Qiaoqiao, don't you worry! There is me here if anything happens! Speaking of which, you had run off because you saw Duanmu Qing? Did you know him before?"

Qiao Mu paused before shaking her head afterwards. "I don't know him."

"From the looks of it, Duanmu Qing, that guy, should be the most reliable one in our team." When Qi Xuanxuan was saying this, she discovered that Qiao Mu was looking straight at her, and she hastily placated with a chortle, "Haha, of course, not including you."

Qiao Mu gave a harrumph before asking her, "When you left, did that troublesome mentor say anything?"

Qi Xuanxuan's expression changed, and she said with a slap of her thigh, "Right, we have to hurry back! Who knows if that troublesome guy will find fault with us again!"

"Gurgle!" Qi Xuanxuan had nearly stomped a little droplet flat with her foot.

She hastily withdrew her petite leg and gazed in astonishment at the little droplet, little dirt block, and little treant.

"This... this? What are these?"

Qiao Mu lowered her arm.

The little droplet, little dirt block, and little treant hopped onto her arm at the same time and climbed up.

Qiao Mu reached out while holding these three little fellows. Afterwards, she told Qi Xuanxuan, who had fallen into a daze, "Let me introduce you. Little Water, Little Earth, and Little Tree."

"This is the secret to my grasp over the water spirit and the earth spirit. This is sacred water, and this is sacred earth."

Qi Xuanxuan felt like because she hadn't recovered from her dumbfoundment in time, her jaw seemed to have dropped too.

“Uh!” Qi Xuanxuan hastily propped up her petite jaw before swallowing her saliva. She exclaimed while staring at Little Water and Little Earth with shining eyes, “Wow, this is the sacred earth and sacred water of our five elemental spirits! Lemme see, lemme see! Oh my!”

Qi Xuanxuan had stretched out her petite hand, but the sacred water swatted her with a small water whip, so she hastily withdrew it.

“Humph, don’t arbitrarily touch this Lord Holy Water1!” The little fellow transformed into a water child and shouted akimbo. Afterwards, it skipped up along Qiao Mu’s arm.

“Don’t make trouble.” Qiao Mu stroked Little Water helplessly.

“Master, Master. You’re not sad anymore.”

“I wasn’t sad.” She had only been momentarily confused about the events of her previous life.

She was simply unable to process those sealed memories that had popped up all of a sudden, was all.

“Master, you have Dottie here.”

“And me, and me! And Little Earth, Little Earth!” The dirt clump was unwilling to be left behind as it climbed up steadily.

They were worthy of being sacred water and sacred earth. They were both so chatty.

After giving a rueful sigh, Qi Xuanxuan quickly turned to ask Qiao Mu, “What other abilities are you still hiding from me? Just tell me in one go lest my heart suffers from shocks and frights from morning ’til night. It’s too frightening!”

Qiao Mu’s mood turned brighter with these fellows’ goofy behavior.

Chapter 1632: Are You Ready?

Qiao Mu pondered Qi Xuanxuan’s question seriously, and after some thought, she tilted her head.

“Actually, I was the one who made those pills we sold last time. My pill alchemist teacher has already passed away.”

Qi Xuanxuan’s petite mouth dropped open into an “O!”

By the time the two returned to the standby area hand in hand, basically everyone had already finished their preparations and gathered in front of the summit.

The little fatty let out a sigh of relief when he saw the two girls returning. He hastily ran up and carefully examined Qiao Mu.

Seeing that she was uninjured save for her slightly red eyes, he finally exhaled and started rambling, “You gave me a scare. Where did you two run off to? They’re setting off in five minutes. That old stoic face said that if you two still don’t come back after five minutes, then our team will be considered to have forfeited! He said that we had voluntarily quit the entrance exam, that son of a duck!”

However, the little stoic and Qi Xuanxuan simultaneously swiveled their heads to shoot mortal daggers at the little fatty when they heard him say “old stoic face.”

The little fatty reacted just before his fatal demise that he seemed to have used the wrong wording.

He immediately covered up his gaffe with an awkward cough. “Ugh, cough, cough. I, uhm. It’s great that you’re back. Since our team has assembled, how about we get to know each other!”

While the little fatty and Qi Xuanxuan were caught up talking to Qiao Mu, Duanmu Qing could feel that his gaze kept wandering uncontrollably to that chilly little stoic face.

It was as if that little stoic face was a magnet that deeply attracted his attention.

Duanmu Qing subconsciously clutched at his chest as he felt his heartbeat quicken.

He moved his lips with an urge to go up and talk to the little stoic, but he suddenly realized that the little stoic’s gaze had never landed on him from beginning to end.

“Hello everybody, I am Ma Ta.” Ma Ta jumped out first and waved his hand at everyone.

The little fatty and Qi Xuanxuan both stuck their fists out at him at the same time.

Ma Ta quickly raised his hands and grinned mischievously, “Don’t hit, don’t hit! If I didn’t notify Senior Brother Duanmu at the last minute to help us, you guys would’ve been kicked out from the academy because of your failure to form a team!”

Qi Xuanxuan was surprised. So it was this guy who had sought out a helper.

She sized up Ma Ta before saying with a harrumph, “You have a bit of conscience, I’ll give you that.”

“Hehehe.” Ma Ta clasped his hands together and cupped them toward Qi Xuanxuan. “Take it as my apology gift to you!”

“My name is...”

Yet Qi Xuanxuan’s words were interrupted by Mentor Wei Xu all of a sudden.

“Are you all ready?” Wei Xu came out from a stone cottage. “I will remind you once again to prepare sufficient waterskins. Otherwise, you will regret it once you get to the deepest part of the Lava Mountain Range!”

Everyone looked at each other, and many of the teams hurriedly ran toward the academy’s water fountain to stock up on water to prepare for unforeseen circumstances.

Qi Xuanxuan couldn’t help but be a bit worried as she turned to ask Qiao Mu, “What should we do? We haven’t prepared any waterskins?”

“You don’t need to worry.” Both Qiao Mu and the little fatty spoke in unison.

Qiao Mu knew very well that she didn’t need to use any mystic conscious to store or retrieve items from her Paradise Planet. Paradise Planet was stocked full with food and water, with all that one could ever want.

As for mystic beasts, that was even more laughable.

All her beasts roamed around on Paradise Planet, completely unlike other people who needed to open the mystic beast space with their mystic conscious in order to let them out.

Chapter 1633: Unveiling Cultivation

In conclusion, all these so-called restrictions were completely useless against Qiao Mu!

She had a masterful cheat—Paradise Planet!

Qiao Mu turned around to look at the little fatty who had also spoken.

She saw the little fatty remove his jacket, revealing water sacks of various sizes hanging in a circle around his waist.

He then smiled good-naturedly at the two girls. “Don’t worry, I filled up a lot of water for you. There’ll definitely be enough to drink while we’re in the Lava Mountain Range!”

Qiao Mu’s expression relaxed, and Qi Xuanxuan even jumped in delight as she hit the little fatty’s shoulder with her fist. “Fatty, is it heavy? Do you want to give us several to carry?”

“This amount of water is no sweat!” The little fatty put on his jacket again. “I’ll give out the water once we get inside the Lava Mountain Range. Right now I’ll hold them for you!”

“Tut, Little Fatty really is considerate. Whoever becomes your wife in the future will certainly be blissful.”

As they spoke, the people who had run off to fill more water hastily ran back.

A lot of people were falling over each other to borrow some more water sacks from the academy.

Yet Wei Xu swept them an unfeeling gaze and announced, “Time is up.”

The students’ moans resounded throughout the summit.

Some of them looked at the two small water sacks hanging from their waist with faint worry.

They felt that this Mentor Wei Xu definitely wasn’t scaring them deliberately. They really might be seeking their deaths if they didn’t bring enough water with them into the mountain range.

Why were they feeling so fretful?

“Before setting out, each member of your team must show me your cultivation and mystic energy! Do not hide it! Let me know your true strength!”

“Also summon your mystic beasts so I can examine them. If I discover you summoning your mystic beasts during the exam, I will treat it as cheating and disqualify you.”

Wei Xu turned to look at that “strongest team” and instructed while pointing at Che Ruman, “Starting from your team.”

Che Ruman smiled and raised her graceful chin up high in arrogance. She stretched out her hand and generated a flame the size of a bean. "Che Ruman, 18 years old. Level-15 peak-rank mystic cultivator, with grasp over grade-six spiritual fire energy."

"Peng Guang, 25 years old. Level-14 initial success-rank mystic cultivator, with incomplete grasp over spiritual water."

"Zhu Bozong, 22 years old. Level-14 mystic cultivator, with grasp over grade-five spiritual water energy."

"Li Qian, 28 years old. Level-one spiritual cultivator, with control over grade-five spiritual fire energy."

As the people in Che Ruman's team unveiled their strength one by one while summoning their mystic beasts at the same time, there was nobody present who did not gaze at them with looks of envy.

As expected of the strongest team. There was only that sleazy man with an ape's chin who was a level-13 mystic cultivator with barely some grasp over a hint of spiritual energy.

Out of the other four people, there were actually three who had grasped grade-five spiritual energy while the captain Che Ruman was even more talented. She had actually grasped grade-six spiritual fire!

People who were able to grasp spiritual energy grade-six and above were all badass!

The distance between them was as disparate as day and night.

They couldn't afford to offend them. Che Ruman's team was worthy of its title as the strongest team. It sure was impressive!

All of the teams unveiled their cultivation and strength one by one.

Among them was the revelation of two more people who had grasped grade-six spiritual energy, which made everyone green with envy.

Even so, Wei Xu was unmoved and merely watched on coldly.

After the second to last team finished unveiling their cultivation, everybody's gazes simultaneously whipped over to Qiao Mu's team.

Their gazes were tinged with schadenfreude as they looked at Qiao Mu and company..

Chapter 1634: Surprise! Surprise!

So what if those three young men had extraordinary strength? It couldn't be helped that they had two people with low cultivation as baggage!

Tsk, just wait until they ventured out into the mountains. They would find out that women who were just pretty were useless. Baggage was baggage. It would only bring calamity to the team!

"Kou Hongwen, 19 years old. Level-15 peak-rank mystic cultivator. Grade-eight earth spirit, divine beast radiant-armored tortoise!" The little fatty announced.

With this, shouts of surprise erupted from the crowd, "A, a divine beast?"

“Grade-eight earth spirit? My Heavens!”

“I didn’t hear wrong right? Grade-eight earth spirit!”

Amidst everyone’s uproar, Qi Xuanxuan, Qiao Mu, and the others made their announcements in succession.

“Qi Xuanxuan, 15 years old. Level-13 peak-rank mystic cultivator. Grade-eight spiritual thunder, divine beast golden-fur lion!” With this declaration, Qi Xuanxuan’s body jolted, and an enormous mystic energy burst forth from her hand with a bright glare.

Everyone was stupefied!

“Qiao Mu, 15 years old. Level-15 initial success-rank mystic cultivator. Grade-nine spiritual water, sacred beast ancient bloodfire phoenix.”

“Ma Ta, 19 years old. Level-one initial success-rank spiritual cultivator. Grade-eight spiritual water, divine beast...”

“Duanmu Qing, 19 years old. Level-three peak-rank spiritual cultivator. Grade-nine spiritual wood, divine beast...”

Qiao Mu, Ma Ta, and Duanmu Qing had basically spoken at the same time, their voices meshing into a jumble.

Yet everyone was still able to extract such terrifying keywords such as grade nine, grade eight, grade nine; sacred beast, divine beast, divine beast. They had already completely forgotten how to manage their facial expressions!

Why did such a formidable species known as prodigies exist in this world?

What did these people who were known as prodigies eat while growing up?

Didn’t they know that summoning one divine beast after another to scare them was a very immoral and awful thing to do!

Also, the five spirits the people in this world grasped were generally grade six and below.

What were they planning with this entire team consisting of people who had all grasped five spirits that were grade eight and grade nine?

As Qiao Mu, Ma Ta, and Duanmu Qing unveiled their cultivation and summoned their divine beasts, the entire area descended into silence.

“Shriek.” The cry of a phoenix was heard.

Wei Xu couldn’t stop his eyelid from jerking. “You don’t need to summon your ancient bloodfire phoenix. I already know.”

You already know?

No, you do not know.

This ancient bloodfire phoenix is just but one of my sacred beasts.

Qiao Mu withdrew her hand and did not summon the phoenix. She nonchalantly observed the people around them who had become thunderstruck and then turned to ask Wei Xu, "Now can we set off?"

Wei Xu nodded. "I have a general idea of the extent of your capabilities. I will bring each of your teams to different areas for practical training. Do assess your own capabilities and act accordingly."

The crowd nodded woodenly. They had yet to recover their wits from the shock.

Particularly the people who had ridiculed Qiao Mu and Qi Xuanxuan earlier. They could feel their faces burning from the faceslapping.

What people with no cultivation at all? What people who only had meager ability? Their faces had been smacked soundly!

Bullsh*t with the meager ability. Bullsh*t with the no cultivation at all.

These two 15-year-old girls were respectively a level-13 peak-rank mystic cultivator and a level-15 initial success-rank mystic cultivator. Was there anything more terrifying than this?

They were only 15 years old!

The even more terrifying thing was that even though the average age in Qiao Mu's team was under 20 years old, their cultivation was the highest among them fools!

There was even a 19-year-old level-three spiritual cultivator among them!

Why couldn't this kind of prodigy just go die? Did they have to show off so much in front of them ordinary people?

Chapter 1635: I Want First Place!

It gave them such crushing blows that they wanted to die!

Che Ruman was like a wandering ghost as she drifted forward with her moving teammates. Even until now she still couldn't accept that her team had been stripped of the title of "the strongest team."

This "strongest team" was merely a joke!

The other party was stronger than them but they hadn't even said anything. In the end, they were just buffoons making fools of themselves, putting on a show for everyone.

Right now, Che Ruman only felt her face burning up.

She really wanted to turn around and yell at Qiao Mu. Furthermore, she wanted to scold Qiao Mu for being a crackpot. Why was she concealing her strength for no reason?

She was clearly a level-15 initial success-rank mystic cultivator yet had to pretend to be someone without any cultivation at all. Didn't she feel ashamed?

Yet all her scolding came to a halt when she set her eyes on that stoic face!

Why couldn't she vent?

The d*mn stoic face looked so abominable!

She really hoped she would die in that deepest part of the Lava Mountain Range.

Che Ruman was harboring such malicious thoughts as she cast an eye over Qiao Mu. She then looked up at the tough and stocky Li Qian next to her. "Do you have the confidence to score first place?"

Li Qian creased his brows. "That 15-year-old girl's name is Qiao Mu right? I'm afraid her team will be hard to handle. They also have two upperclassmen senior brothers helping them, so we probably won't get first place. Second place should be no problem."

"I do not want to be second!!" Che Ruman practically screeched. "I, Che Ruman, would rather be the head of a dog than the tail of a lion! I just want to be first place! I want our team to be first in the exam."

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Li Qian looked down at Che Ruman when he heard this. He then chuckled as he embraced her slender waist and soothed with a smile, "What are you getting anxious for when it hasn't even started yet? If you want to be first place, it's not like there isn't a way."

"I see that that team is only made up of young girls and whippersnappers. With their average age under 20, they certainly won't have much battle experience. They only have extraordinary talent because they were born in patrician families!"

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"If we pull some tricks on the sly, first place won't be impossible." Li Qian sneakily groped Che Ruman's alluring butt and cracked a grin. "But after I help you this time, you have to promise me to let me use another toy... hm?"

Che Ruman couldn't help but shudder on the inside when she heard this. When she recalled how Li Qian, that pervert, had used so many toys on her, her body instantly turned taut.

But she couldn't offend this level-one spiritual cultivator for the time being. She still had to rely on him.

Che Ruman giggled and stroked Li Qian's chest with her hand as she chided coquettishly, "You devil, just thinking about that stuff all day long. As long as you help me get first place, then, then whatever you say."

"Hehe. Isn't that because you, this rare beauty, are so ravishing." Li Qian laughed as he felt her up as they straggled behind their team.

However, before they could flirt around for long, they felt heat waves rolling in. The air around them started getting hotter to the point of being unbearable.

They quickly separated. Che Ruman even used her sleeve to dab at the streaming sweat on her forehead and neck. She grumbled, "Why is it so hot? It's much hotter than on the summit!"

Li Qian was also irritable in body and mind from the heat.

“That is certain.” Someone from another team chimed in, “The summits above have been secured with spiritual water defensive barriers to lower the temperature.. It is naturally different from this area.”

Chapter 1636: Venturing Into the Mountains

Che Ruman found the heat hard to bear and hastily took out a water bottle from her inner world before the mentor could seal their mystic conscious. She chugged more than half of it in one go.

Che Ruman hung the remaining half-filled bottle of water on her waist and asked impatiently, “How much longer to the entrance?”

“We should arrive soon.”

The teams’ advance slowed down. Everyone had been following a meandering mountainous path, and now they had stopped in front of a large area of fiery-red rocks.

The rocks here had been scorched red, making everything red in their line of sight.

Qiao Mu halted with the rest of the team.

“You, you, you! Your three teams will hunt and kill ten level-13 mystic beasts near the entrance of this red rock forest,” Wei Xu stated coldly while pointing at three of the 23 teams.

“Right now, I will seal everybody’s mystic conscious. When it comes time for you to fight the mystic beasts in the mountain range, you can only utilize your own cultivation and strength!”

“Have you taken out water and food from your inner world? I’ll give you another minute to adjust and prepare. Be quick!”

Che Ruman’s expression was unsightly as she took out two more water bottles from her inner world. She also dug out a lot of dry food and stuffed them into her pockets while protesting incessantly, “Mentor, you won’t allow us to use our inner worlds in such a vile environment? Isn’t this entrance exam too strict!”

“If you don’t want to proceed with the exam, you can leave now!” Wei Xu responded indifferently. “I had stated the rules clearly early on! Making objections now has no meaning at all!”

In the next second, he sealed everyone’s mystic conscious, catching them all off guard.

This maneuver involuntarily garnered all the students’ admiration.

Che Ruman tried to manipulate her mystic conscious, and sure enough, she wasn’t able to!

At this moment, Che Ruman’s expression turned extremely wretched.

She really couldn’t open her inner world. She couldn’t help but be a bit regretful that she hadn’t taken out the remaining two bottles of water from her inner world.

Wasn’t the two and a half bottles of water she was carrying right now a bit too little?

It was too late now since her inner world had been sealed. Che Ruman couldn't help but be unsure when looking at Mentor Wei Xu.

It couldn't be as Wei Xu said. Even if they were to encounter large spiritual beasts, he wouldn't intervene and help them in the moment of life and death?

Wei Xu shook his hand, and a Heavenly Law covenant glowing with gold light unscrolled in layers in front of everyone, revealing the rows of names inscribed on it.

"Those who still decide to participate in the exam can come up and sign this life-and-death covenant."

"Those who do not want to sign can leave."

Everyone's expressions changed drastically. They were not blind and could clearly see what was written on the Heavenly Law covenant.

The covenant said, everybody was participating in this entrance exam of their own volition.

In the process of the entrance exam, mentors would not rescue them if they were to encounter any life-and-death crises. They all had to depend on teamwork and cooperation to fight and win.

Each team who had finished defeating ten of the designated mystic beasts could call for a mentor and request to leave the beast domain of the Lava Mountain Range.

Those who could not complete their task within the time limit would fail the exam and needed to leave the mountain immediately.

Everyone was to sign this Heavenly Law covenant of their own volition after reading it. Their life and death had nothing to do with the academy!

It was this kind of life-and-death contract. Are you signing or are you not signing?

If you aren't signing you can immediately scam!

Chapter 1637: Elimination

If they signed, no one could guarantee that they would definitely survive inside the Lava Mountain Range.

Immediately, there were several teams that beat a retreat.

Frankly speaking, Apex Academy was only their second choice. In reality, didn't most of them originally want to go to the four great Sun, Moon, Star, and Celestial academies?

However, their costly tuition compelled them to settle for second best, so they planned to first try their luck at Apex Academy. After accumulating experience or wealth, they would try their luck at the four great academies next year.

Don't be kidding. This was only an entrance exam. They didn't want to gamble their lives away.

There were immediately seven to eight teams that dispersed with the announcement of this life-and-death contract. They looked toward Mentor Wei Xu with foul-looking expressions, questioning, "Since we are no longer taking Apex Academy's exam, should Mentor not undo the seal on our mystic conscious?"

However, Wei Xu swept those teams with a cold look. "The seal on your mystic conscious will automatically be undone in seven days."

In other words, he had no way of undoing the seal now??

Those people's faces promptly turned green. They glowered at Wei Xu frustratedly, gnashing their teeth in anger.

If this Wei Xu had taken this life-and-death contract out at the beginning for them to sign, hell knows how many people would be left going with him into the mountains at this moment.

But he just had to wait until after he led them into the Lava Mountain Range before bringing this up.

How was this an entrance exam or practical training? This was simply putting them in a life-and-death struggle.

Whoever wanted to could go, but leave them out of it.

Excluding those people who withdrew, there were 15 teams remaining on the spot. Besides Qiao Mu's party of five who were calm and collected, the other people's expressions were more or less... stiff and unsightly.

Che Ruman turned to glance at Qiao Mu, and her gaze involuntarily flickered.

These two girls were rather gutsy. Even at this kind of time, they actually still hadn't batted an eyelid.

But that was because they actually had true ability.

Che Ruman examined Qiao Mu and Qi Xuanxuan once more before withdrawing her gaze. She walked up to the scroll and left her signature with the brush, in addition to leaving her own seal in blood.

The other people in Che Ruman's team also went up one by one to leave their blood seals and signatures before quietly stepping back.

After Qiao Mu and company followed suit, they turned around to see that there were two teams left who were still discussing and hesitating whether or not to sign.

Yet they saw Wei Xu abruptly putting away that Heavenly Law covenant with a firm attitude and declaring indifferently, "Alright, those who have signed the Heavenly Law covenant continue following me."

The members of those two wavering teams got agitated. "Mentor, we have also decided to participate!"

"Time waits for no one. Be quicker next year." After telling those crestfallen team members these two sentences, Wei Xu immediately set out deep into the Lava Mountain Range with the remaining 13 teams.

“I trust that the majority of you all who have remained should have decent mental toughness. Those people from earlier who got scared and withdrew from just a few sentences are not fit at all for this time’s large-scale trial.”

Suddenly, a rather large map appeared in his hands. After looking it over, he said, “Everyone follow me.”

“The Lava Mountain Range is divided into three large zones. The location of our trial this time is mainly going to be Zone One.”

“Also officially known as the Lava Mountain Range’s... interior.”

“Of course, entering this area can be considered a deep venture into the interior when comparing the periphery of the Lava Mountain Range.. But in actuality, it is not.”

Chapter 1638: I Thank Your Whole Family

“The true interior of the Lava Mountain Range really starts when you enter Zone Two.” Wei Xu stated nonchalantly as he glanced at everybody, “Right now I will give each of your teams one minute to pass the map around and remember the general areas.”

“Let me remind you all. Do not enter Zone Two or Three. Or else, at your current strength... the consequences are not something you can bear.”

The members of the teams couldn’t help but look at each other in dismay. They apprehensively took the map and mechanically memorized it, wanting to engrave it into their minds.

Yet not everyone was like Mo Lian and had an eidetic memory.

Even our dear Qiao Mu could not possibly memorize such a super large map in one go.

Qiao Mu turned her head aside dizzily to escape from that map. She creased her brows.

Yet Ma Ta, who was standing with crossed arms to the side, gave them an uncouth smile. “You are in luck today! Boss Duanmu has an extremely good memory. When he did practical training in the Lava Mountain Range before, he had once passed through Zone Two. He’s very familiar with this area. With him leading the way, we don’t have to worry about crossing into restricted areas.”

Qiao Mu saw that Duanmu Qing only scanned the map briefly before retracting his gaze. As she was thinking, she suddenly saw him turn and look at her.

She promptly turned her eyes away, but with very rigid movements.

She did not know what the hell she was shying away from. Nevertheless, the little stoic’s face showed slight embarrassment.

Qi Xuanxuan turned to glance at her before suddenly stepping up to request, “Mentor Wei Xu, please bring us to where we need to be.”

Wei Xu swept Qi Xuanxuan a passing glance. “You guys are last.”

Qi Xuanxuan: ...

Che Ruman smirked, and just as she was about to make some snide remarks, she heard Mentor Wei Xu say, "Your team possesses the greatest overall strength, so you should go hunting in the area with the strongest mystic beasts as a matter of course."

I thank your whole family from my head to my toes!

Qi Xuanxuan and the little fatty simultaneously rolled their eyes.

The snide remark Che Ruman was about to make lodged in her throat in that instant, and she sullenly clamped her mouth shut.

"Alright." Wei Xu took back the map and stated nonchalantly, "You've all perused the map. Don't blame me for not warning you again that if you tread into Zone Two by accident, you may die without leaving behind any remains."

"Mentor, is it that there are particularly dangerous mystic beasts in Zone Two and Three?"

"Mystic beast?" Wei Xu scoffed. "There is a thousand-year divine beast reigning over Zone Two. As for Zone Three..."

Wei Xu specially turned to say to Qiao Mu, "Even though your ancient bloodfire phoenix is a sacred beast, it is only in the toddler stage at present. Do not casually strut around Zone Three, or else you will regret it."

Qiao Mu could sense that this Mentor Wei Xu had been targeting her from the beginning.

When she heard him saying this now, she turned to look at him seriously while asking, "Are you fine? Is your brain not working right? You don't remember that you sealed off everyone's mystic conscious just now?"

"Mentor, people can't summon their contracted beasts after getting their mystic conscious sealed!" Qi Xuanxuan added tepidly.

Mentor Wei Xu's frosty expression stiffened slightly, and then he turned around with a harrumph. "We're setting out."

Qiao Mu and company followed the rest of the group in silence.

After several rounds of elimination, there were only a total of 13 teams, including Qiao Mu's, that were willing to stay and continue on with the exam.

Chapter 1639: Let Me Introduce You

As for how many of these 13 teams that could come out of the Lava Mountain Range in the end...

No one could say for sure!

Don't think that the Zone One Mentor Wei Xu was referring to was small in area just because it was called a zone. In reality, one zone spanned more than 10 thousand square kilometers.

That's why after Qiao Mu and the other teams were brought to Zone One, they were basically spaced out very far away from each other. They didn't have to think of encountering each other in less than four to six hours' time.

Every team was cast off to carry out its mission in its own small area.

After finally ditching Qiao Mu and her party of five, Wei Xu swept them a cold look before saying, "Apex Academy only takes five students every year. I hope that I will still be able to see all of you in seven days as an intact team. I forgot to tell you that if someone in your team dies, it means that you have awful teamwork. At that time, the remaining people will be disqualified from passing the exam."

"Of course, this only applies to you, you, you. You three." Mentor Wei Xu pointed at Qiao Mu, the little fatty, and Qi Xuanxuan as he continued coolly, "After all, two people in your team are already students of Apex Academy."

After saying this, this Mentor Wei Xu made a quick exit. Even his final clarification was full of taunting and mocking.

Qiao Mu creased her brows as she stared at Mentor Wei Xu's departing silhouette.

Qi Xuanxuan couldn't resist scoffing. "This mentor truly is ridiculous! He has started deriding us from the moment we set foot on Lava Summit. Is he not tired out from that."

Ma Ta hastily explained, "Actually, Mentor Wei Xu is very serious and responsible. It's just that he's a bit..."

Qi Xuanxuan glared at him. "Shut up! You're on that idiot mentor's side! Since this trial won't affect you at all, be quick about it if you guys want to withdraw!"

"Hey, Miss Qi, what are you saying! Since we promised to help you pass the entrance exam, we naturally won't abandon you halfway through."

Just as Ma Ta finished his sentence, his ears wriggled alertly. He turned and saw several red fanged foxes suddenly darting out from behind a pile of scarlet rocks. He promptly mustered several orbs of water spiritual energy and hurled them over in that direction.

"Let's move!" Duanmu Qing gave a low shout, and the other four people immediately ran over in his direction. They swiftly leaped onto the rocks to dodge that pack of red fanged foxes.

This pack of red fanged foxes swarmed out from all directions. As their numbers grew, Duanmu Qing and the others' expressions started turning grave.

The small fox in the lead had a pair of red beady eyes that were locked onto Qiao Mu and company. It abruptly jumped and pounced over to bite Qiao Mu's calf.

All of a sudden, a white and furry tail bashed that small fox's head.

With a boom, a large and furry tail had pulverized the red fanged fox that attempted to bite Qiao Mu's calf in an instant!

Duanmu Qing and the rest couldn't help but be stunned when they turned around for a look.

They saw that a little fat squirrel had appeared beside Qiao Mu at some point in time. It was sticking out its small fat belly as it swiftly kept pace at Qiao Mu's feet.

Wherever it passed, all those small foxes, no matter how sharp their fangs were, ended up as ghosts underneath its tail.

"Xuanxuan, let me introduce you to my second contracted beast besides the ancient bloodfire phoenix. Its name is Chirpy!"

Chapter 1640: The Punishment Tower (1)

Qi Xuanxuan's wooden face did not show any superfluous emotion.

It was rather the little fatty who yelped in surprise, "Oh my f*cking god! Isn't this cheating, Qiaoqiao? Haha, but I like it!"

"That Mentor whatshisname thought that you would be at your wit's end once he sealed off your phoenix. How would he have known, haha! That you have a squirrel with you too!" The fatty's voice suddenly came to a halt when he got to this point. He wrinkled his brow and said, "How come I remember that you seemed to have previously summoned a large cyan bird before the ancient bloodfire phoenix?"

"She also has a little white snake." Qi Xuanxuan uttered woodenly as she continued to maintain her "composure."

Qiao Mu cast them a glance. "Break out while this pack of red foxes still hasn't encircled us!"

Everyone gave a shout in response and ran like mad, maneuvering up and down around those craggy and oddly-shaped rocks. Soon, they left that pack of red foxes in the dust.

Originally, the foxes were already thinking of retreat after the little fat squirrel killed their leader in one smack of its tail. They immediately lost interest in pursuing once they saw how fast these people were fleeing.

A portion of them put on an act and chased them for several hundred kilometers before beating a retreat. They gave several barks before turning tail and running away.

Qi Xuanxuan heaved a sigh of relief. "These red fanged foxes are quite swift."

They had abruptly swarmed out from behind the rocks. If not for the fact that their speed wasn't bad either, this pack of beasts would have surrounded them by now.

After getting chased by these foxes, they had covered a distance of several hundred kilometers.

Once those fanged foxes made themselves scarce, the little fatty anxiously sought out a rock to sit down on. He panted heavily and exclaimed, "Oh my goodness, I'm so d*mn tired."

Qiao Mu cast him a glance before turning to look far away at the fox carcasses strewn along the path they had taken.

“I’ll be doing some cleaning up.”

The mission this mentor assigned them was to hunt 10 level-two spiritual beasts. At their current cultivation, this was considered a challenging mission.

Even though these foxes were only level-12 and level-13 mystic beasts, Qiao Mu adhered to her mindset of minimizing waste and planned to see whether these fox carcasses contained any cores.

At the same time.

The black, 17-level Punishment Tower stood tall within an unknown dimension while enveloped in a layer of scorching red flames.

As this dimension drifted slowly inside the boundaries of the Lower Star Domain, this 17-level Punishment Tower would occasionally flash with light.

Every flash signified the opening of the drifting dimensional gate, which would occasionally suck in one or two poor devils.

On the 13th level, a certain peach blossom was lazily lying on a round large bed cushioned with velvet. He held a cup of wine in one hand and fruit in the other as he bemoaned, “These illusory things are illusions after all! There is no flavor in eating them. So stingy!”

“Oh please, don’t be choosy when you have something to eat. At least you can still eat this stuff. Yet look at me??”

Across from the round large bed was a row of chains fixed to the wall. A young man whose hands were both cuffed to the chains rolled his eyes uncontrollably as he groaned, “I’ve been hanging from this wall for a full ten years, bro!”

“Yet how long has it been since you came in here! You’re even getting fed and entertained! Like I said, this Heavenly Law varies its treatment according to the individual! It’s totally a bootlicker!”

As soon as that young man finished his sentence, a thunderbolt struck him on the head and burnt his skin into a crisp!