

## Ancient GM 521

### Chapter 521: Courage and Spirit

Fourteen sword strikes! Everyone on that mountain was stunned—who was this man exactly? He'd actually comprehended a total of fourteen sword strikes in a mere span of five days? Not only that, his cultivation level wasn't even that strong, either.

Currently, Ye Lingshuang was totally speechless. As she stared at Qin Wentian's silhouette, her mouth twitched before she glared at Little Rascal in her arms. Little Rascal's eyes were wide open as he stared ahead, before whining in a baby-voice, "Awe..some..!"

"Awesome, your head." Ye Lingshuang rapped Little Rascal on its head, causing Little Rascal to glare at her unhappily.

"What are you looking at? Do you want to fight, huh?" Ye Lingshuang snorted.

"You...are...bully...me..." Little Rascal stared fiercely at Ye Lingshuang, causing her to laugh in a pleased manner. How dare this little demon display such an attitude, she had to teach it a lesson. However soon after, her pleased expression instantly vanished as her face turned red. Little Rascal was staring haughtily at her, while using its paws to punch at her breasts.

"YOU...!" Ye Lingshuang cried. The spectators turned their attention to her, but Ye Lingshuang's reaction speed was extremely fast, and she hurriedly hugged Little Rascal closer, not wanting to let the others witness such an embarrassing scene.

"Junior Sister, what's wrong?" Liu Yun curiously glanced at Ye Lingshuang as he inquired.

"Nothing." Ye Lingshuang's cheeks were tinged with red as she shook her head repeatedly. Right now, her dislike for Qin Wentian grew even stronger—what exactly had he been teaching this heart-meltingly adorable puppy for it to become so lecherous?

Liu Yun hummed suspiciously, as he directed his stare at Ye Lingshuang's bosom. He could only see Little Rascal squeezing himself out, looking right back at him with wide innocent eyes.

“What are you looking at?” Ye Lingshuang raged. Liu Yun instantly shivered and hurriedly shifted his eyes away, pretending as though nothing had happened. He then added in a low voice, “Junior Brother Qin is truly awesome, to think that he actually comprehended up till the fourteenth sword strike.”

Ye Lingshuang gritted her teeth when she heard Liu Yun’s words. Apparently, these two kindred spirits were truly birds of a feather.

“Junior Brother Qin is indeed awesome. However, I don’t think he’ll be able to comprehend the fifteenth sword strike. In our Battle Sword Sect, no one has ever succeeded in solving the puzzle of the fifteenth sword strike before breaking through to the Celestial Phenomenon Realm.” In that moment, Lin Shuai suddenly spoke. Ye Lingshuang didn’t reply but she shifted her gaze back towards Qin Wentian.

It was then that yet another mountain rampart appeared before Qin Wentian. The picture depicted a bevy of ancient demons howling and shrieking madly, their aura sweeping over the heavens and earth, devouring everything, and causing total annihilation. There were evil dragons and malicious phoenixes among these demons, their presence a calamity for the entire populace in this world. However in that instant, a sword swept outwards. Situated in the center, the sword landed, utterly obliterating each and every one of the demonic fiends.

The evil dragons howled madly, but under the pressure from the sword, they all turned to dust. The massive, single-eyed bear demon froze under the sword-light, before its body was lacerated into fragments so fine they were invisible to the naked eye.

Qin Wentian’s heart pounded rapidly. The might of this sword strike was simply too overwhelming.

When the sword landed, everything was obliterated. This time around, he couldn’t find any traces of fused Mandates in the sword strike. What he saw was pure destruction.

“Is this an evolution of fused Mandates?” Qin Wentian mused to himself while sighing in his heart. He was completely clueless, and he couldn’t see through the mysteries of this sword strike at all.

In the previous fourteen sword strikes, he could see traces of Mandates within them. However, he was drawing a blank for this particular sword strike.

“Maybe this is the true outcome after the Mandates undergo a perfect fusion, creating a brand new energy in the process. The magnitude of this power is truly terrifying,” Qin Wentian murmured to himself as a hint of stubbornness could be seen flashing through his eyes. He wanted to solve this puzzle, he wanted to comprehend this sword strike.

Closing his eyes, he entered a state where he set aside everything from his thoughts. In his dreamscape, only that particular sword strike remained.

For the purpose of comprehending this sword, Qin Wentian didn't rest for seven days. After a week, he finally opened his eyes, smiling bitterly while shaking his head. He still couldn't figure it out.

Qin Wentian had an extremely determined personality, however that didn't mean that he was stupid. He had no way to see through the fifteenth sword strike, hence, there was no way for him to gain any insights and comprehend it. His cultivation base was still far from enough—for now, at least.

Since that was the case, he could only choose to give up for the time being.

Turning, Qin Wentian calmly proceeded back. His expression was as serene as ever, having had no idea he'd broken two great records. Although his cultivation base hadn't increased, he now had a much clearer view of the pathway he was going to walk on in the future.

Li Hanyou was still trying to comprehend the ninth sword strike. Right now, the shadow of a smile appeared on her face. This sword strike was profound indeed, she had finally comprehended this strike.

However at this moment, a silhouette appeared in front her. Li Hanyou turned her gaze over, only to see Qin Wentian coming down from the mountain path. She then laughed coldly, “Why? You can't comprehend any more sword strikes?”

Qin Wentian nodded his head lightly, but didn't say anything else. The countenance of this woman had an inborn arrogance to it. She must be from an extraordinary background, though this had nothing to do with him.

Li Hanyou ignored Qin Wentian, stretching her palms out and placing them upon the mountain rampart with a satisfied smile on her face. After that, she took a step forward, indicating that she too, had comprehended the tenth sword strike.

Qin Wentian merely shook his head before leaving the mountainous stairs-like pathway to the grass hut. A look of puzzlement appeared on his face when he noticed so many silhouettes standing in the air, all with their gazes fixed on him.

His silhouette flickered as he reappeared at Lin Shuai's side. "Senior Brother, what's going on?"

"You broke two consecutive records in one go, and you didn't know about it?" Lin Shuai laughed. Qin Wentian froze for an instant before a wry smile appeared on his face. Apparently, his speed in comprehending the sword strikes was too quick, which had resulted in all this commotion.

"Here, take back this little lecher." Ye Lingshuang tossed Little Rascal over to Qin Wentian. Qin Wentian looked at Ye Lingshuang, puzzled by her reactions, only to see her glaring fiercely at him. "Good acting skills, you do look pretty innocent. But to be able to nurture this adorable fellow into such a lecherous mutt, you yourself must be the biggest lecher of all."

Qin Wentian's face was filled with black lines as he stared at Little Rascal. What had Little Rascal done exactly in order to attract so much hatred from Ye Lingshuang?

"Haha, Junior Brother Qin. Don't mind Junior Sister Ye, she's always so direct. We should interact more next time, and besides, I hear that this is your first time here in the eastern part of the Royal Sacred Region? As a responsible Senior Brother, I'll bring you around to many fun places in the future." Liu Yun flashed a 'you-know-I-know' look at Qin Wentian as he continued, "The little fairies of the Waning Moon Tower are all truly spectacular. This Senior Brother will definitely take good care of you, hahaha."

Ye Lingshuang glared fiercely at Liu Yun, and Qin Wentian could only laugh awkwardly to try to diffuse the situation. However, right at this moment, a voice boomed thunderously from afar, "You naughty fellow, are you trying to mislead your junior brother?"

As the sound of the voice faded, an old man appeared in the air. This person had a smile on his face and projected a gentle and amicable aura. He stared at Qin Wentian as he smiled, "Little fellow, I'm the master of Liu Yun. Are you interested in becoming my disciple?"

"How can any of your disciples achieve great things in the future? Boy, follow me instead." Another black-robed figure appeared. This person projected an imposing presence without enmity, despite exuding a fearsome aura.

“The experts on your mountain are as common as clouds, why are you snatching people from me? Why not follow me instead?” Yet another expert appeared, startling the astonished crowd. After this, a total of five to six experts appeared. These were all elder-level characters of the Battle Sword Sect and all of them wished for Qin Wentian to be their disciple. Such a scene caused many to sigh in envy. Such preferential treatment was truly rarely seen.

“Hanyou is the disciple of this Sovereign, and has already achieved comprehension of the tenth sword strike. Since you could comprehend fourteen sword strikes in a mere five days, your comprehension abilities must be heaven-defying. Although your cultivation base is lacking, following this Sovereign will enable you to catch up to your peers. If your performance is outstanding, this seat will even personally coach you myself.”

From afar, a misty voice drifted over, greatly shocking the others in the area. Even those elder-level characters could only smile bitterly in resignation. The Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign actually wanted Qin Wentian to be her disciple. She must have come here to observe her disciple Li Hanyou’s progress.

The Plum Mountain Sovereign was a female, yet the tone of her voice was brimming over with power. Although Qin Wentian had never interacted with her before, he could tell she was an extraordinary character just from the fact that when her words sounded out, the entire mountain was doused with silence. No one else dared to speak.

Li Hanyou’s silhouette flickered, disappearing from the mountainous pathway. Her expression changed, wasn’t this voice the voice of her master? Her master actually wanted him to join her?

Turning her gaze over, her eyes flashed with a strange glow as she stared at Qin Wentian. Back then she had acted on her own desire to join the Plum Mountains, and because of her outstanding performance, she was eventually selected as a personal disciple.

“Junior Brother, she’s the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign.” Liu Yun’s flippant tone was completely gone and was now filled with solemnity, a silent reminder for him to be respectful in his reply. From this, one could see how imposing the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign was.

Qin Wentian stared in the direction of the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign as he stated, “Senior, thanks for the kind offer. But, this Junior has yet to decide.”

As the sound of his voice faded, intense shock painted the faces of everyone in the crowd. They had never imagined that Qin Wentian would reject the Sword Sovereign.

This person was indeed someone of their Battle Sword Sect—he was full of personality. To think he'd actually reject an invitation from the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign.

Li Hanyou's eyes gleamed with a cold sharpness, feeling extremely indignant in her heart. She'd put in so much effort before she was selected to join the Plum Mountain. And from there, she slowly climbed up to the ranks of a personal disciple. Yet today, the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign herself was issuing an invitation, and she was actually rejected? She was rejected!

A towering might enveloped the entire area. Evidently, even the Sword Sovereign herself had never expected Qin Wentian would reject her.

“Excellent, excellent.” Her voice boomed out, shaking the entire space in this area with its power. “It's a good thing to have personality, but you would do better to weigh your own importance more thoroughly. Farewell.”

As the sound of that voice faded, the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign vanished completely. It was already considered extremely tough to make a Sword Sovereign take note and personally invite you, but after issuing that invitation and being rejected in public? With the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign's pride, she was obviously exceptionally unhappy. However with her status, she naturally wouldn't make things difficult for Qin Wentian.

Qin Wentian's countenance was as calm as ever. First impressions counted for a lot. When the Sword Sovereign issued the invitation, her tone was filled with endless arrogance despite its power. Naturally, she had the right to be arrogant, she was the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign after all.

Yet, Qin Wentian didn't like the tone she'd used when she was inviting him.

Since he didn't like it, he chose to reject her. There was nothing strange about his choice, this was just him following his heart.

Currently, Ye Lingshuang also looked at Qin Wentian in a different light. Not everyone would have such courage and spirit to reject the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign's invitation.

Lin Shuai had a smile on his face, his eyes flickering with hints of admiration. However, a sudden notion appeared in his mind. The Ancestor pointed Qin Wentian out to them, yet he didn't

personally issue an invitation, but instead chose to do so by using the disciple selection event? Could it be that the Ancestor had also been rejected by Qin Wentian as well?

However this notion disappeared instantly in a flash—he didn't dare to think too much about it!

## Chapter 522: Gravity Mountain

After Qin Wentian rejected the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereign, he took note of the others' expressions and knew then how prestigious being the personal disciple of the Plum Mountain Sovereign was. Shaking his head, he turned his gaze onto Lin Shuai.

“Senior Brother, I'll go find a place to stay and rest first,” stated Qin Wentian.

“Mhm, sounds good. After you and Junior Sister Qing'er are done choosing a residence, follow me to the mountains. Lin Shuai smiled. Since his mission had been accomplished, he would report this to his master. After all, Qin Wentian was someone the ancestor wanted, the ancestor should have no reason not to meet him.

“Sure.” Qin Wentian didn't have any objections. After which, they departed the area.

Li Hanyou stomped on the ground and instantly, several extraordinary young cultivators appeared beside her. For a moment, Li Hanyou seemed to be a bright moon encircled by the surrounding stars.

“How many sword strikes did that man comprehend earlier?” Li Hanyou asked.

“Junior Sister, after joining the sect, that man took a total of only five days to comprehend fourteen sword strikes,” someone replied. An instant later, Li Hanyou's countenance turned stiff as the pride in her heart somewhat dissipated. In comparison to that man, she had only comprehended ten sword strikes.

“Junior Sister doesn't need to brood over this. Comprehension depends on one's innate perception, but it cannot represent aptitude,” that person consoled. Li Hanyou nodded her head, “Don't worry. How can I, Li Hanyou, be someone who undervalues herself? But since that man could comprehend fourteen swords, he can be considered extraordinary as well. I wonder how strong his combat prowess and talent are?”

Qin Wentian and Qing`er first went to search for an empty cavern for their cultivation at the mountain under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian. The two caverns they found were near to each other, both with a rustic appearance and an atmosphere of beautiful tranquility.

After which, they came to a certain mountain with a meandering path that snaked all the way to the top. Beside the pathway were flowers which inundated the surroundings with their fragrance, and several waterfalls could be seen nearby. This place gave off a feeling of paradise in the mortal world.

Qin Wentian followed Lin Shuai on the pathway to ascend the mountains while Ye Lingshuang and the rest stayed at the mountain waist. Qing`er and Little Rascal didn't follow as well, opting to remain in the caverns to cultivate. The area around the mountain waist was where the Sword Sovereign would guide disciples. Without direct orders, no one was allowed to ascend the mountains, hence when they saw Lin Shuai bringing Qin Wentian up, Ye Lingshuang and the rest all had strange expressions on their faces. Senior Brother Lin Shuai actually brought Qin Wentian to meet with the Sword Sovereign directly?

What background did Qin Wentian have exactly?

“Junior Brother has returned.” As Qin Wentian and Lin Shuai arrived at the exterior of the great hall, a girl in white walked out. This girl appeared neat and tidy, and although she couldn't be considered a beauty, her features exuded a kind of exquisite elegance that radiated a faintly dignified air.

“This is Sixth Senior Sister, Cang Yue,” Lin Shuai introduced.

“Senior Sister,” Qin Wentian greeted. She must be one of the personal disciples under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian. Being such a young Celestial Phenomenon Ascendant, she'd be considered someone at the very peak in Grand Xia. The world outside was truly too vast.

“You should be Junior Brother Wentian? Go on in, Master has been waiting for quite a long time.” The white-robed female smiled, her smile causing one to feel extremely comfortable when looking at her.

Qin Wentian felt somewhat bewildered, the Sword Sovereign was waiting for him?

Bringing along his bafflement, he followed the white-robed female into the great hall. Inside, there were several members of the Battle Sect present, with a man casually standing some ways further in, resembling an incomparably sharp sword. Although not a hint of his aura leaked out, he gave Qin Wentian a sense of terrifying pressure, as though it would be difficult for him to take even a step forward if he tried.



“Junior pays his respect to the sect leader.” Qin Wentian guessed that this man was none other than the sect leader of the Battle Sword Sect, Sword Sovereign Ling Tian.

“Mhm, I’ve already heard them telling me stories about your achievements. Can you release your Astral Souls and will of Mandates for me to take a look?” Sword Sovereign Lingtian smiled at Qin Wentian. Although he was suppressing his aura, the pressure emanating from him was no joke. Yet, Qin Wentian could still talk to him face to face with no signs of being pressured. This was already an extremely remarkable feat.

The instant the sect leader’s voice faded, Qin Wentian felt the pressure enveloping the air dissipate all of a sudden. It felt as though the person standing in front of him was none other than an ordinary mortal.

“State of origin.” Qin Wentian knew that the sect leader’s cultivation had already arrived at a certain level. Now in such a place like the Battle Sword Sect, this wasn’t something Grand Xia could compare to. Qin Wentian didn’t concern himself with that, and released his Astral Souls and will of Mandates as requested.

The dazzling light from his astral souls lit up the entire great hall. The corona of brilliant golden light around the astral souls was so blinding that none could stare directly at it. A resplendent light flashed in the eyes of Sword Sovereign Ling Tian; despite how strong the state of his heart was, he involuntarily exuded some of his aura when he saw Qin Wentian’s astral souls, causing a sense of stifling might to press down upon the others in the great hall, although he soon regained control.

“Enough.” The resplendent light in Sword Sovereign Ling Tian’s eyes slowly dissipated away, however his heart was still trembling in amazement. As the sect leader of the Battle Sword Sect, he had seen numerous geniuses before. Even those heaven-defying geniuses were no strangers to him; they were the ones who would intentionally delay their cultivation time to raise their sensory abilities in order to condense an astral soul from the 5th Heavenly Layer as their second astral soul. However, for someone whose first astral soul already hailed from the 5th Heavenly Layer, this was the first time Sword Sovereign Ling Tian had met someone like that.

Not only that, he’d heard that Qin Wentian originated from that vast piece of desolate land, Grand Xia. This was simply unbelievable.

Lin Shuai and Cang Yue were both stunned as well. The astral sensory abilities of their junior brother was this powerful?

“Force, Dreamsleeper, Demon, Sword. Your will of Mandates gives you great attacking power, and if you were to use such a combination effectively, no one would be able to match you when it comes to attack power,” Sword Sovereign Ling Tian stated. Force, Demon, Sword—all three of these Mandates possessed the greatest attacking power, whereas Dreamsleeper granted his attack an illusory component.

Qin Wentian lightly nodded as he listened in silence.

“Force, Demon, Sword is able to augment your attacks by countless folds. With them, you can try pursuing the peak of attacks. However, firstly, your Mandates must reach the Perfection Boundary, and secondly, you must continue to increase the strength of your physique. After all, the augmentation effect from the wills of your Mandates is just a multiplier that depends on your original strength. If your original strength increases because of a stronger physique, the effects from the augmentation would be even greater.”

Sword Sovereign Ling Tian explained. Qin Wentian naturally understood the logic behind it.

However, back when he'd made a breakthrough in cultivation, his physique had also grown stronger along with it. The Fiend Art Transformation had given him a further enhancement as well. It would be very difficult for him to increase the strength of his physique.

“And since you've already visited the path to the grass hut, you should understand that if you succeed in fusing two of your Mandates—even it were just a simple, incomplete fusion—the effects generated would already be unfathomably terrifying.” Sword Sovereign Ling Tian stared at Qin Wentian.

“Junior has tried this in the past, using different wills of Mandates and applying it to my halberd arts. The might of my attacks did noticeably increase, although the method I used was just the most simplified level of fusion,” Qin Wentian replied. Only from the fifteenth sword strike onwards could one be considered to have a certain mastery in the fusion of Mandates. Right now, although Qin Wentian had comprehended up to fourteen sword strikes, he could only achieve the standards of the first to seventh sword strikes. He couldn't fuse any Mandates yet, he could only use one at a time.

“So you have already comprehended part of it by yourself even before attempting the trial of the grass hut. However, don't be mistaken, different weapons are suited to different Mandates. Our founder is a sword cultivator, so the Mandates of Wind, Rain, Lightning or Thunder is easier to infuse into a sword body. However, do not assume this to hold true for everything else. A good example is your Heavenly Hammer Astral Soul, it's more suited to be infused with the Mandate of Force and Great Earth instead.”

Sword Sovereign Ling Tian casually imparted these insights to him, causing Qin Wentian to be extremely grateful. Although he was a Sword Sovereign, he didn't put on any airs.

“Many thanks for Senior's guidance.” Qin Wentian understood that Sword Sovereign Ling Tian was worried that he'd set off on the wrong path of beliefs, hence he was sharing his insights with him now.

“Ultimately, you must walk your own path. Outsiders can only guide and show you a little of the way, and how far you go will still depend on your own talent as well as your own destiny. There's no need for you to acknowledge me as your master, but you can feel free to look for me if you have any questions. Now I have a task for you; follow your Senior Brother Lin Shuai to the Gravity Mountain, where you will cultivate. As for your little girlfriend, I will arrange a good master for her. If she's unwilling and chooses to cultivate on her own, I won't force her either.”

“Right.” Qin Wentian felt joy in his heart—he hadn’t expected Sword Sovereign Ling Tian to treat him so nicely. As for the fact that Sword Sovereign Ling Tian had mistaken Qing`er as his girlfriend, he decided just to let it slide, not bothering to explain further.

“Junior Brother, let’s go.” Lin Shuai smiled. Qin Wentian then bowed low with respect to Sword Sovereign Ling Tian before following Lin Shuai along.

When Sword Sovereign Ling Tian stared at Qin Wentian’s departing back, his face was beaming with a smile, silently praising the judgement of his master. Because his master wanted Qin Wentian to join their Battle Sword Sect, he’d put in so much effort and even got one of his personal disciples to oversee the disciple recruitment event in Xuan King City. Since his master regarded Qin Wentian so highly, it wouldn’t be appropriate if he allowed Qin Wentian to acknowledge himself as his master.

“Junior Brother Qin, you are really full of surprises.” After exiting the great hall, and arriving back at the mountain waist, Lin Shuai couldn’t help but be filled with admiration. Qin Wentian’s combination of astral souls was truly too shocking.

Qin Wentian merely laughed, but didn’t say anything. Ye Lingshuang curiously inquired, “Senior, what are you talking about?”

“Nothing much.” Lin Shuai shook his head as he casually added, “Master wants me to bring Junior Brother Qin to the Gravity Mountain.”

“WHAT!?” Ye Lingshuang involuntarily shouted. Liu Yun rolled his eyes, but tactfully remained silent, their actions causing Qin Wentian to be filled with curiosity for this place called Gravity Mountain.

The Gravity Mountain was located in a ravine deep inside a mountain range. Inside the ravine were several black-colored gigantic rocks that gave people a sense of heaviness. Several ancient sturdy trees could also be seen within the ravine. All of them had incredibly thick trunks, and were so large that not even ten people joining their hands together would be able to embrace one.

“Is this place the Gravity Mountain?” Qin Wentian asked as he stared at the ravine ahead.

“That’s right. Junior Brother, you see those black rocks? You have to move them all to the other side of the ravine before moving them back here. Also, do you see those ancient thick and sturdy trees? You have to use an axe and chop down a hundred of them before your training can be considered completed,” Lin Shuai instructed.

“Haha, how difficult can this be?” Qin Wentian laughed. Behind him, Ye Lingshuang had a strange expression on her face upon hearing that.

“Oh, not difficult to you? In that case, get down into the ravine and try it for yourself,” Lin Shuai stated.

“Sure.” Qin Wentian nodded in agreement and entered the ravine.

However, the instant he descended downwards, his countenance underwent a drastic change. A terrifying pressure landed on his body, causing him to sink down directly against his will.

“How heavy is the gravity here exactly?” With a huge rumble, Qin Wentian landed on the ground. Despite his physique, his legs felt like jelly, and he was almost incapable of standing straight in a stable manner. His entire body felt extremely uncomfortable, and he could feel a heavy force pulverizing his internal organs.

“Junior Brother Qin, cultivate well.” Lin Shuai smiled before turning and departing the area. Ye Lingshuang had a complacent expression on her face, while Liu Yun stared sympathetically at Qin Wentian. “Junior Brother Qin try to enjoy yourself, don’t forget to move the rocks as well as to chop the trees.”

“How can the gravity be so terrifying?” Qin Wentian forced himself to stand straight. The gravity here was even affecting the circulation of astral energy in his body.

He suddenly recalled that when a certain force reaches its extreme limits, it would undergo a qualitative evolution. And obviously, this gravity domain had already reached its extreme limits.

“BOOM!” With great difficulty, he finally took a step forward, causing a thunderous sound to echo out from the force of his step. Qin Wentian stared at the black-colored gigantic rocks before glancing at the incomparably thick and sturdy ancient trees. He was suddenly seized by the sudden impulse to cry!

#### Chapter 523: Ye Country, Medicine Sovereign Valley

A month later, above the ravine in the Gravity Mountain, Liu Yun sat there leisurely drinking a flask of wine. Occasionally, he would peer downwards, staring at a young man exerting himself to the utmost, trying his best to run.

“The acclimation ability of this fellow is pretty strong. Junior Sister Lingshuang, do you want to drink a mouthful as well?” Liu Yun stretched his hands out, passing the flask of wine to Ye Lingshuang only to earn a baleful glare in response.

“It’s fine if you don’t want to drink, but why must you be so fierce? You shouldn’t act like this, you are a princess after all.” Liu Yun took back the wine, yet Ye Lingshuang’s expression turned heavy as traces of hurt flashed through her eyes.

“Liu Yun.” Jiang Huai who was standing behind coldly stated. Liu Yun continued drinking as he sighed, “Junior sister, try not to let that affect you too much. I didn’t say anything wrong anyway.”

“I’ve got it.” Ye Lingshuang replied in a low voice, causing Liu Yun’s countenance to falter slightly before he smiled, “Why doesn’t junior sister marry me? I will definitely take good care of you!”

“Scram!” Ye Lingshuang cursed, this bastard’s skin was truly super thick.

“Ai, seems like I have to go look for the little fairies in the Waning Moon Tower, I will visit Junior Brother Qin again next month.” Liu Yun turned and left, appearing extremely carefree. Ye Lingshuang and Jiang Hui didn’t depart, but instead they remained here watching Qin Wentian. Upon seeing Qin Wentian was already able to run under the effects of this gravity domain, Ye Lingshuang couldn’t help but to remark, “What a powerful acclimation ability, he could already run at this speed.”

When Qin Wentian first arrived at the Gravity Mountain, it was difficult even for him to walk. The gravity here was too terrifying, only after spending a month did his body gradually get used to the pressure. He was using his own strength as well as the will from his Mandate to counteract the gravity slightly, allowing him to surpass his limits again and again under the effect of the overwhelming pressure.

Right now, Qin Wentian was standing in front of a black-colored gigantic rock as he murmured to himself, “I wonder how heavy this is.”

Qin Wentian circulated the astral energy within his body, an instant later, the will of his Mandate infused into his arms. Suddenly, he erupted forth with strength causing rumbling sounds to ring out as Qin Wentian ferociously carried the rock up successfully. An instant later, a thunderous boom rang out as fissures appeared on the ground. He couldn’t sustain his effort for more than a single breath of time. The gigantic rock slammed onto the ground as he slumped over it, panting for breath.

“This rock should only weigh around ten thousand jin but under the gravity effect here, its weight had been multiplied by hundreds of thousands of times.” Qin Wentian mused, even with the way he was now, he couldn’t even carry a single rock. Turning back helplessly, he walked in the direction of the ancient trees. Lifting up an axe on the ground, he swung it at the trunk of a tree. However only a layer of bark had been broken through, there was essentially no damage at all. He couldn’t help but sigh in his heart, although his strength was suppressed to the limits, the trunks of ancient trees were also undoubtedly too sturdy.

Turning his head back glancing at the pile of rocks, as he heaved a breath of relief upon noticing that there were a few smaller ones there. Qin Wentian ran back over, carrying one of the smaller

rocks up before slowly trudging to the other side of the ravine with immense difficulty. Each of his steps left a deep imprint in the earth, giving a testament to how strong the gravity here was.

“How heavy,” Qin Wentian felt extremely depressed in his heart, however he could only grit his teeth and persevere on. After walking over ten steps, his entire body was drenched with his perspiration. In this place, he found the same feeling that he had when he first started his journey on the pathway of cultivation. Constantly breaking through his limits, using the pressure to temper and refine each and every part of his body, strengthening it.

After this one month, he gradually began to acclimatize to this terrifying gravity. This was already considered a remarkable improvement.

Qin Wentian silently persisted on in the gravity mountain. Occasionally, he would also see others entering this place, cultivating themselves within. After three months, he could finally carry the gigantic rocks and wield the axe at the same time, attempting to chop down the ancient trees.

Every month, Liu Yun and Ye Lingshuang would visit him once.

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Today, Qin Wentian was chopping trees again. Currently, he looked pretty relaxed when wielding the axe, as though this action had already been formed into a habit. He had also attempted to infuse his will of Mandates into the axe and with every chop he made, he could feel himself improving slightly. With the accumulation of experience from time, his improvement grew increasingly larger, every chop of his axe would be able to chop into the tree further.

“This fellow, what a fast improvement.” Liu Yun and the others came by, resting at the mountain ledge above the ravine as they watched Qin Wentian going about his training. Qin Wentian slammed his axe towards the trunk of an ancient tree, deep fissures could be seen as a testament of his improvement. And after tens of chops, the ancient tree was finally felled.

This time, Liu Yun didn’t leave so quickly, he stayed and watched as Qin Wentian chopped down the trees. Very swiftly, not even one day passed, Qin Wentian had already chopped down a hundred trees thereby completing his training. However he didn’t stop, he continued on seeking other trees to temper himself instead.

“Wait, he isn’t thinking of chopping down this entire forest right? The tree planting elder would die of exhaustion just to keep up.” Liu Yun mumbled. The trees here were grown using a special kind of

seed which would enable their growth rate to be many times faster than normal. After the trees had grown, the Battle Sword Sect would use them as a training ground for their disciples.

“Hmm? Why does he seem to be weaker now? Why is he taking so long to chop down a tree?” Liu Yun furrowed his brows, feeling slightly puzzled.

“He’s not using any Mandates now to amplify the power but rather only chopping the trees with his pure bodily strength.” Ye Lingshuang replied.

“Ye Lingshuang.” At this moment a voice drifted over. Ye Lingshuang turned her head back, as a figure slowly made his way over to her. Upon seeing this person, Ye Lingshuang had a strange expression on her face. This was the disciple in charge of communications in the Battle Sword Sect. Did something just transpire?

“There’s a letter for you.” The other party passed over a letter. Ye Lingshuang tore open the seal and after reading, her body instantly turned cold, her face devoid of blood.

“Junior Sister, what’s wrong?” At this moment, Liu Yun asked in a serious tone. His expressions had no trace of his joking self when he saw how affected Ye Lingshuang was by the letter.

“My father is seriously injured, his life is in critical danger.” Ye Lingshuang replied, her words causing Liu Yun’s heart to pound with shock. He was very clear on Ye Lingshuang’s background. Ye Lingshuang was the princess of an ancient country, her father was the Human Emperor of this generation.

Their country had a history of over ten thousand years and was extremely powerful. However, the internal strife and conflicts were exceedingly complex. Liu Yun only heard a little about it.

“Was it done by the Violet Thunder Sect?”

“No idea.” Ye Lingshuang’s countenance was totally pale. Liu Yun then suggested, “Let’s inform master, there are a few experts proficient in medicine in our Battle Sword Sect, there might be a way to save your father.”

Ye Lingshuang placed the letter down, “They’ve already invited the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley over.”

Liu Yun's countenance flashed with sharpness as he added in a low voice, "The newly promoted Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley had just broken through to a fifth-ranked alchemist recently, in addition of obtaining the true inheritance of the Medicine Sovereign. In the younger generation, she could be considered a legendary character, since they have already managed to invite her, there shouldn't be any problems."

There were rumors saying that this legendary character who was the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Sect was on her last breath of life, almost in a state of death when someone sent her to the Medicine Sovereign Valley. However, the identity of the person who sent her to the valley was unknown, yet somehow, that person managed to convince the Medicine Sovereign to personally attend to her, reinfusing life into her through a thorough overhaul of her system. After which, he accepted her as a personal disciple and even made her into the sect's Holy Maiden, imparting his experience and knowledge to her. In a short span of time, she successfully broke through the barrier and became a fifth-ranked alchemist, her speed akin to a rising comet.

As for the Holy Maiden's real name, no one knows.

"They wouldn't give up so easily." Ye Lingshuang was in a frantic state, she didn't know what to do.

"Let's look for Senior Brother, maybe he would have a solution." Liu Yun knew that Ye Lingshuang's thoughts were in a whirl, hence he decisively brought Ye Lingshuang away.

Ye Lingshuang sighed feeling the pain in her heart. A genius was born to their Ye Clan and from that moment onwards, the rivalry and internal strife had intensified further.

That older cousin of hers was born with a special physique and gifted with monstrous innate talent. He eventually became a disciple of the Violet Thunder Sect and his performance was so outstanding that he didn't even need to take the test for the Royal Sacred Sect and the Violet Thunder Sect promised that he would be admitted directly once his cultivation reached a certain level. Right now, it was unknown how strong he had become.

Naturally, Qin Wentian didn't know anything of this. He continued tempering himself by chopping down trees and shifting the gigantic rocks.

Now, he no longer felt doing these two things were a chore, he did this out of a willingness in his heart and was in fact happy that he had this opportunity to grow stronger. Occasionally when he was



struck by a sudden flash of insight, he would practice the infusion of his Mandates into the axe, slamming it into the rocks or waving it wildly in the air. Living such a lifestyle was pretty satisfying, and even though his cultivation level didn't rise, he wasn't in a hurry. Breaking through in cultivation level was only a matter of time, it was more important to establish a firm foundation.

Two days later, Qin Wentian was lying comfortably on a huge slab of rock. The sun rays cascaded downwards, shining onto him revealing the exquisite lines of his perfectly sculpted body. Right now, the terrifying gravity in the ravine was no longer able to affect him. He knew that he had entered a kind of baptism within this ravine, coming out with a much stronger physique compared to before.

“Junior Brother Qin.” At this instant, a voice drifted down, waking Qin Wentian up from his reverie. Opening his eyes, he discovered that it was none other than his Senior Brother Lin Shuai.

“Senior.” Qin Wentian sat up as he turned his gaze onto Lin Shuai.

“The entire forest of ancient trees was annihilated by you and you still don't want to come out?” Lin Shuai stared at the pitiful looking stumps all around the area while silently marvelling in his heart. This fellow was truly powerful, who would have thought that he adapted so quickly and even chopped down all the ancient trees in the Gravity Mountain.

Qin Wentian laughed. After which he violently stomped on the ground, using the force to jump out of the ravine, landing right next to Lin Shuai. Now that the effect of gravity wasn't present, Qin Wentian felt all light and fluffy with no weight at all. Such a feeling felt simply wonderful.

“Why is senior brother so free today to come and pay me a visit?” Qin Wentian smiled.

“I'm here to tell you about a matter. Your Senior Sister Ye Lingshuang is in fact a princess of an ancient country with over ten thousand years of history. However there are many powerful kingdoms led by various kings in that country and also, in addition to the fact that Ye Lingshuang also had an extremely outstanding slightly older cousin who joined the Violet Thunder Sect, all of this caused the internal conflict to be further intensified.”

Lin Shuai explained, causing a light to flash past Qin Wentian's eyes as he understood the whole picture. The other kingdoms in the country are working internally with the aid the Violet Thunder Sect provides externally to topple the royal authority, seizing the throne from Ye Lingshuang's father.

“The Ye Country by itself is an extremely powerful force. By right, neither our Battle Sword Sect nor the Violet Thunder Sect should participate in their internal disputes. However, because of some unique reasons, the Violet Thunder Sect had already participated, secretly acting behind the scenes.

Currently, Ye Lingshuang's father, the Human Emperor, is grievously injured and hovering between the border of life and death.”

Lin Shuai continued his explanation while walking away from the Gravity Mountain. Qin Wentian followed behind him in silence. Since Lin Shuai came here to tell him about this, there should be a purpose behind his actions.

“Lingshuang wished to return immediately but I'm worried for her safety hence I stopped her. After all with her current strength, returning wouldn't help and might even invite a calamity upon herself. I've already sent a few people to investigate this matter. Since this is extremely urgent, our Battle Sword Sect is prepared to send some disciples to escort Lingshuang and they are going to be leaving today. Do you mind being part of this entourage?” Lin Shuai asked.

Qin Wentian nodded his head. Although he knew that his current strength wouldn't be able to change anything, he didn't mind tagging along to protect Lingshuang. Also, this was a chance to broaden his horizons and temper himself outside. There was no reason to reject the invitation.

After a period of time passed, Qin Wentian saw a group of figures preparing to set off. These people were none other than Ye Lingshuang and the others.

“If all of you are together, no one would dare to ambush Lingshuang. Also Junior Brother Qin, it's good for you to remember this unspoken rule. In the Royal Sacred Region, there would often be conflicts among the various major powers. Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns are unable to interfere with the matters of Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants and, if some Sovereign-level disciples died due to conflict between those of the same level, Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants would normally not act in retaliation. If not, a grand war would be easily ignited.”

Lin Shuai spoke, warning Qin Wentian not to be careless. Qin Wentian's expression stiffened, he had experienced an all out war among the transcendent powers of Grand Xia once before. He also knew this to be true, the instant those of the upper echelons became involved, there would be no negotiation left. The conflict would only stop when one side had totally annihilated the other. Even the major powers in the Royal Sacred Region were also wary of an all out war, hence this was why there would be such an unspoken rule.

#### Chapter 524: Tense Situation

There were over ten people who stood upon their swords, soaring up the skies as they transformed into white beams of light, each shooting off in a certain direction.

This group of people were none other than those from the Battle Sword Sect escorting Ye Lingshuang.

Qin Wentian naturally was also among them. These members from the Battle Sword Sect all had cultivation bases at the Heavenly Dipper Realm. After all, the Ye Country was a country with over ten thousand years of history and was extremely powerful. It was impossible for the Battle Sword

Sect to send their members over to forcefully settle the internal dispute, but because of the friendship between their disciples, these people were willing to escort Ye Lingshuang on this trip. At the very least, they could ensure her safety.

The leader of this group of people was a young man clad in black. His cultivation base was at the eighth level of Heavenly Dipper and he was actually another personal disciple under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian. The sect members usually referred to him as Ninth Senior Brother.

The personal disciples of Sword Sovereign Ling Tian usually had a higher status in the sect. Duan Han, for example, was the ninth disciple under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian, and when he was placed among the normal pool of disciples they would still refer to him as Ninth Senior Brother as a form of respect, even though their masters weren't the Sword Sovereign. This was the preferential treatment of a personal disciple.

Duan Han's personality leaned to the colder side, a total contrast to Lin Shuai's personality. He radiated a dense cold qi, as well as an unmasked sharpness. That, coupled with the fact that he was a man of few words, only served to add on to his prestige.

"Junior Sister, don't be too worried. Since the Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Sect is there, she should be able to temporarily suppress the injuries of the Human Emperor," a female disciple consoled Ye Lingshuang. The name of this female was Qiao Yu, and her relationship with Ye Lingshuang had been very good right from the start.

"Mhm." Ye Lingshuang nodded her head, yet there was no way to hide the obvious signs of worry between her brows.

"I heard rumors that the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley has a world-stunning countenance. Soon, we'll be able to see her. I'm truly filled with anticipation." Liu Yun's eyes shone brightly, causing looks of disdain to appear on the faces of others when they looked at him. However, even though this fellow's personality was more to the lecherous side, he always found a way to soften the atmosphere.

"You have no hope," Qiao Yu stated with contempt.

"The Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Valley is a fifth-ranked alchemist. There are countless people from ancient clans and powerful sects who want to woo her, but have no chance at all. After all, the main point depends on who the Holy Maiden likes. Only characters like myself, who have been blessed with good looks since birth, will stand a chance." Liu Yun was currently wrapped in a beautiful dream.

However, Qin Wentian actually felt a pang of sorrow in his heart when he heard their banter, as he was involuntarily reminded of Mo Qingcheng.

The Pill Emperor Hall from back then, wasn't it similar to the Medicine Sovereign Valley he was hearing now? For powers like this that concentrated on herbs and alchemy, they were all prospective allies which the vast majority of the major powers would want to rope in.

But right now, he didn't even know if Mo Qingcheng was dead or alive?

Whenever he thought of Mo Qingcheng being used as food for that disgusting skeleton, Qin Wentian would involuntarily tremble with rage. The Pill Emperor Hall? He would definitely go back there.

However, was Qingcheng still alive in this world? He had once launched an investigation back when he was still in Grand Xia, and there was completely no news of Mo Qingcheng. After he fell unconscious during that battle, Qingcheng had totally disappeared, as though she had never before appeared in Grand Xia. Those survivors from the Pill Emperor Hall also refused to say anything.

Only Qing'er gave him hope, telling him that Mo Qingcheng might still be alive.

"What are you thinking about for you to be so engrossed? Are you planning to woo the Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Valley as well?" Liu Yun turned his gaze onto Qin Wentian as he laughed.

Qin Wentian shook his head lightly. "The Holy Maiden is a fifth-ranked alchemist, after all. In any case, is the Medicine Sovereign Valley powerful?"

"Of course they're strong, but I have no idea how strong they are exactly. The Medicine Sovereign Valley rarely interacts with others, and no one would willingly antagonize them either. The Medicine Sovereign himself is a peak fifth-ranked alchemist, and even if experts from the nine great sects went to beg him for his help, they might not succeed. In terms of medicinal herbs and cultivation pills, the Medicine Sovereign Valley is a power at the peak of the Royal Sacred Region, and no one around the area can match them in strength."

Liu Yun explained, as Qin Wentian nodded silently.

Along the way, Qin Wentian chatted quite a bit with Liu Yun. Of course, Liu Yun was the one doing most of the talking, while Qin Wentian was the one listening. Other than hearing him talk about the various current happenings in the Royal Sacred Region, Liu Yun's other topics naturally revolved around beautiful girls and 'wonderful' places. He even strongly hinted that he wanted to bring Qin Wentian to have some fun, causing Qin Wentian to be speechless.

After half a month, and passing by several territories, Qin Wentian and the others finally arrived at the capital of Ye Country.

In its inner city, the guards were all decked in strikingly magnificent armor. The towering city gates were built from molten gold, but had a simple and unadorned beauty to it. This place was a core location of the Ye Country, being home to the royal palace as well as numerous luxurious manors. The security there was extremely tight, and the number of experts were as common as the clouds.

“HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!” A loud voice shouted as a golden beam of light shot up in the sky. A guard wielded a golden spear, pointing it at the members from the Battle Sword Sect.

“Let’s go down,” Ye Lingshuang stated. As the group of them started to descend, seven golden-armored guards soared up in the air to block their paths. That commander then icily stated, “This is a forbidden place in the Ye Country, only those from the royal clan can enter.”

“How dare you,” Ye Lingshuang coldly retorted. She radiated a dignified air as she spoke, “You actually still dare to block this princess’s path despite seeing who I am?”

That commander acted like he’d just noticed Ye Lingshuang’s presence. Cool amusement flickered in his eyes—now that the Qi King was already in a position of power, this young woman before him would soon become a prisoner. To think that she still wanted to flaunt her position as a princess here? However, this young woman was beautiful and had managed to join the Battle Sword Sect, so it wouldn’t be wise for him to push her too far.

“Oh, so it’s Princess Lingshuang. Your subordinate apologizes for not recognizing you right away, please pardon me.” That commander apologised, yet his expression was one of mockery. He then turned his gaze onto the others. “However, this place is still the royal clan’s forbidden grounds. Surely the princess can see the inappropriateness of bringing a bunch of strangers here?”

“Audacious. Who are you to question the decisions of this princess?” Ye Lingshuang’s voice turned colder and colder. “Not knowing your position and even offending your superior. Everyone, seize him for me.”

She was the princess of the Ye Country and yet a mere commander of the guards dared to be so rude towards her? He was obviously challenging her authority. Her father’s situation must be more terrible than previously imagined, and Ye Lingshuang grew more frantic upon thinking about this.

But as her command echoed out, the guards didn’t move a muscle. No one followed her orders.

Duan Han moved, his black robes like the wind as a cold beam of sword-light lashed out. The countenance of the commander instantly changed, but when he blasted his spear forward, everything was already too late.

“Puchi...” A black-colored sharp sword was embedded right in the center of his brows. The commander had already died. The other guards around them froze for a moment before recovering, as powerful auras gushed out. These guards all had a cultivation base at the Heavenly Dipper Realm.

However, Duan Han merely glanced at them, and that single glance was sufficient to make them cower in fear—his eyes were akin to incomparably sharp swords that threatened to end them if they made a wrong move now.

Ye Lingshuang took note of Duan Han’s methods and understood his intentions. She then stated in a glacial tone, “This man has forgotten his position and even dared to offend his superiors. Death is the only result for people like him. If there is anyone who still dares to block this princess’s path, don’t blame me for showing no mercy.”

As the sound of her voice faded, Ye Lingshuang and her group stepped out. This time around, nobody dared to block them. Those guards all turned ashen when they stared at the corpse of their previous commander. He’d died just like this? No matter what, the commander was an existence at the seventh level of Heavenly Dipper, yet he’d died just from a single sword strike.

“Are people from the Battle Sword Sect all like this?” Those guards felt a chill in their hearts. They didn’t expect that Duan Han would be so ruthless, directly killing the commander with no hesitation.

Those from the Battle Sword Sect continued on. This forbidden location of the royal clan was truly a magnificent sight to behold. Numerous luxurious manors could be seen dotting the landscape and occasionally, experts from some of the manors would turn their gaze upon the members of the Battle Sword Sect flying through the air. From his observations, Qin Wentian could tell that the power of just one of these manors would be sufficient to trample over the entire Grand Xia, let alone the whole of the Ye Country.

Finally, a majestic ancient palace appeared before them. Everything, from the palace walls to the gates were formed from pure gold. And as the palace gates swung open, a group of silhouettes walked out from within, smiles on all their faces.

“Princess Lingshuang, why didn’t you say anything before coming back? We would have organized a better welcome for you.” An expert laughed, yet Ye Lingshuang’s expression turned incredibly unsightly upon seeing them. This person was from the Han King Manor; one of the subordinates of her royal uncles. For them to actually appear in the royal palace now was undoubtedly an indication of how grim things had become. The Han King always had a good relationship with the Qi King.

“I want to see my father, the Emperor,” Ye Lingshuang spoke. That expert glanced at the members of the Battle Sword Sect around her before he smiled, “The arrival of the young heroes of the Battle Sword Sect to our Ye Clan brings light to our humble country. Please enter the royal palace for some rest.”

The people from the Battle Sword Sect didn't react, despite knowing that their identities were already revealed. They had come here openly, so it wasn't strange for the experts in the Ye Country to already know of it.

After which, they directly entered the palace, only to see every inch of it was being tightly protected by imposing guardians. This was a testament of how tense things had become.

Ye Lingshuang immediately ran in the direction of the Hall of the Human Emperor, her speed was like a gust of wind, revealing her worry for her father.

And currently, there were several powerful experts gathered outside the ancient hall.

Ye Lingshuang swept her gaze over at these experts and suddenly stiffened when she caught sight of someone in a certain direction—a young man in imperial robes, who projected an extraordinary bearing. His deep gaze seemed capable of seeing through everything.

In addition to that, there were several members of the younger generations surrounding this young man. Each of them was clearly not ordinary and exuded an overbearing aura. Everyone was an outstanding member of the younger generation, their radiance incomparably resplendent.

The instance their eyes locked gazes with the members from the Battle Sword Sect, a terrifying storm of sharpness could be felt engulfing the entire space.

“Experts from the Violet Thunder Sect,” Qin Wentian speculated, but there was no way he was wrong. That young man in the imperial robes was none other than the prince spoken of by Liu Yun, the son of Qi King, the cousin of Ye Lingshuang. He was a chosen of the Violet Thunder Sect and a demon-level genius. As for those beside him, they were his escorts from the Violet Thunder Sect. If the Violet Thunder Sect denied that they were secretly involved in the Qi King's plan to control the Ye Country, nobody would even believe them.

Ye Lingshuang ignored them and proceeded forwards, wanting to enter the Human Emperor Hall. However, at that moment, a group of figures blocked her path. “Princess, the Human Emperor is currently seriously injured and the Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Sect is giving him treatment. Maybe it would be a better idea for Princess to wait a while longer before entering.”

“How can I not be at my father's side when he's in this state? Let me pass,” Ye Lingshuang replied. Upon seeing how resolute Ye Lingshuang was, the royal guards opened up a pathway allowing her to pass, yet they kept back the other members of the Battle Sword Sect from entering.

“Wait here for me.” Ye Lingshuang turned and spoke to her sect members. Since they had already entered the royal palace, there wouldn't be any one daring to harm Ye Lingshuang in the presence

of all these powerful guards. Hence, Duan Han and the others obliged her wishes, and waited for her outside the ancient hall.

#### Chapter 525: Glistening Teardrops

Qin Wentian stood among those from the Battle Sword Sect. He silently surveyed the place, taking in the majesty of this ancient country. A country with a history of over ten thousand years would naturally be extremely fearsome, and while on the road Liu Yun had already explained to him that the elimination rate of the major powers was exceedingly high in the Royal Sacred Region. The disputes were all of a much greater scale and there was also the occasional appearance of a heaven-defying genius—those who were capable of toppling major powers once they had matured.

Hence, there would be many powers vanishing from the Royal Sacred Region as they were unable to withstand the tests of time. But of course, that also meant that there would be just as many new powers rising up in prominence. Ultimately, only those truly strong powers would be able to consistently solidify their foundations and grow stronger and stronger. There were powers whose history/heritage hadn't even reached the ten thousand year mark, yet they were still considered indomitable. But even they couldn't begin to compare to Ye Country, with its own history of over ten thousand years.

Staring at the group of young cultivators from the Violet Thunder Sect, those from the Battle Sword Sect found that they too, were staring back at them. The person in the lead should be none other than the son of the Qi King—Ye Kongfan—a demon-level genius from the Violet Thunder Sect. This person's innate talent was frightfully high and possessed the Calamity Lightning Bloodline with an innate Heavenly Lightning Physique. He was exceptionally suitable to cultivate the ultimate arts from the Violet Thunder Sect and now his cultivation base was at the seventh level of Heavenly Dipper, possessing an astonishing level of combat strength.

Ye Kongfan was clad in golden imperial robes and exuded the aura of a king. His resplendent eyes shone with a fearsome aura that threatened to erupt forth at any moment.

At this moment, Ye Kongfan's eyes had landed onto Duan Han. He then emotionlessly stated, "The ninth personal disciple under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian, Duan Han."

"Ye Kongfan." Duan Han's pitch-black eyes shone with a bright glow as he stared at him.

Ye Kongfan's eyes contained a sharp smile within as it swept over the other members from the Battle Sword Sect. "To think that the Battle Sword Sect would be so free to visit my Ye Country, I really have to give you a grand welcome. However, I thought that members from the Battle Sword Sect only pursued the martial path and had no interest towards secular things? Coincidentally, I've already invited the Holy Maiden to our Ye Country's battle arena so she can admire our Ye Country's strength. Since the members of the Battle Sword Sect have also arrived, why don't we visit the battle arena together after the Holy Maiden finishes the treatment?"



The competition in the Royal Sacred Region was extremely cruel, with everyone placing emphasis on the martial path. Naturally, the Ye Country was the same as well—this battle arena was the main arena in the Ye Country and it was built for the purpose of recruiting talents within their ranks.

“Since the prince has personally extended an invitation, how could they dare reject?” Ye Kongfan was the son of King Qi and was also a chosen from the Violet Thunder Sect. Of course, since they were now in the Ye Country, his status as the prince took more precedence.

“I heard that the personal disciples under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian all boasted of their overwhelming combat prowess. If brother Duan Han were to display his might on the battle arena, everyone in Ye will surely be filled with excitement,” a member from the Violet Thunder Sect added, his words causing the gazes of those from the Battle Sword Sect to turn sharp. This man was truly impolite.

How could members of the Battle Sword Sect display their combat prowess just because they were told to do so? And all for the Ye citizen’s entertainment? If they did so, wouldn’t their statuses be lowered from such a demeaning act?

“If the members from the Violet Thunder Sect are participating as well, we will definitely step up on the arena to seek your guidance,” Jiang Huai coldly replied, his words causing that young man from the Violet Thunder Sect to snicker coldly. Enmity radiated from the people of both sects, they were all in a state of mutual hostility. It was as if one wrong word could cause a fight to instantly break out.

The competition between the nine great sects were more intense than one could imagine. Members of the nine great sects would often enter into confrontations when they were roaming the Royal Sacred Region. This was especially true for members from the Battle Sword Sect. They had the least number of experts in the nine great sects, yet their individual combat prowess was the strongest. How could members of the other eight sects not provoke them whenever an opportunity was to be found?

During his time in the Xuan King City, Qin Wentian had already experienced for himself the competitiveness between the nine great sects. There was nothing strange about this situation today.

Right now, an old man from the Ye Country walked towards those from the Battle Sword Sect as he gratefully stated, “This old man thanks all of you for protecting the princess on her journey back home.”

The old man was a loyal subject of the Human Emperor of Ye Country. How could he fail to understand the good intentions of the Battle Sword Sect when he saw them escorting Ye Lingshuang back.

“Lingshuang is my junior sister, this is only something we should do. Old man, there’s no need for thanks,” Duan Han replied with courtesy.

The face of the old man was painted with gratitude as he spoke, “Currently, our Ye Country is in a state of chaos. I dare not be presumptuous, but if something really does happen, I hope that all of you heroes will be able to protect the princess. Stop her from doing anything foolish.”

“We will.” Duan Han nodded, “Old man, you don’t need to be so worried. Since the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Sect is here personally, the Human Emperor will certainly be able to make a full recovery.”

The old man sighed as he shook his head, the worry on his face was still apparent. Evidently, he didn’t share his optimism on the situation.

“The Human Emperor has endured this illness for quite a long time.” The old man sighed again.

Duan Han and the rest exchanged glances with furrowed brows—it would seem as though the Human Emperor’s situation was extremely serious, to the extent that this old man wasn’t even confident that the Emperor would be cured, despite the Holy Maiden coming here personally.

Not only that, the Ye Country was an ancient country, so there was no need to doubt the power it wielded. When the Human Emperor’s illness had acted up, there should be many experienced healers and alchemists that had already attended to him, yet none had been able to do a thing in healing him. Now, there was no choice but to invite the Medicine Sovereign Valley to step in.

The Medicine Sovereign Valley have always taken a passive stance and their status was seen as extraordinary. It was extremely tough for ordinary people to invite them, and to have the Holy Maiden herself show up to provide treatment? The Ye Country must have paid a hefty price in order to do so.

After waiting awhile outside, Ye Lingshuang came out. The rims of her eyes were red, evidently she had just been crying not long ago. There were also a number of people beside her, a few palace maids as well as two young men who bore a striking resemblance to her. They were none other than the legitimate princes of the Ye Country.

“Ye Tan thanks the members of the Battle Sword Sect.” The crown prince Ye Tan walked towards the members of the Battle Sword Sect and dipped into a bow, showing his gratitude.

“You are welcome,” Duan Han lightly replied. He then turned his gaze onto Ye Lingshuang, “Lingshuang, how’s the situation?”

“My father has contracted a slow-acting poison, and apparently the poison has already been active for a long period of time. This poison hid itself deep in his body and once it erupts it can steal the life of the victim away. And since my father has just been through a deadly battle, the poison instantly circulated around his body and he’s now in imminent danger.” Ye Lingshuang’s voice was hoarse, and as she spoke, her eyes reddened once more.

“Do those from the Sovereign Medicine Sect have any methods to cure him?” Qiao Yu asked.

“The Holy Maiden said that she only has the ability to temporarily suppress the poison from acting up, but if we are talking about total recovery...” Ye Lingshuang broke off mid-sentence. The others understood her unspoken words, as their hearts silently shuddered. The poison was even enough to claim the life of such a powerhouse like the Human Emperor? One could see how fearsome this poison was exactly.

At this moment, a row of figures walked out from the Human Emperor Hall. These figures were all clad in white, and were all beautiful females with demeanors akin to fairies.

The gazes of everyone shifted in their direction. Ye Kongfan and his cronies took the lead, walking over with a smile on his face, “You’ve all worked hard.”

Qin Wentian similarly stared in the direction of the white-robed maidens. They should be the guards designated by the Medicine Sovereign Valley to protect the safety of the Holy Maiden.

And in the lead, there were three other maidens. The one standing on the left and right were extremely beautiful, yet their radiance and splendor were all overshadowed when seen together with the female standing in the center.

Because the maiden standing in the center was simply too dazzling, it was as though her appearance could cause everything around her to lose their color.

“So devastatingly beautiful that she can topple kingdoms.”

Liu Yun’s eyes brightened as he stared at that figure. Not just him, the others from the Battle Sword Sect were all looking at her with similar states of amazement. The radiance radiating from her was indescribable.

These were all experts from the Battle Sword Sect, and each had firm hearts and tenacious wills, but right now, all of them couldn’t help but be distracted.

However, Qin Wentian was the only one who felt an intense pain rumbling in his heart. In fact, he had even forgotten to breathe. Soon after the pain, a warmth slowly blossomed from within his chest, which was then followed by a radiant smile as that huge rock embedded in his heart was finally released.

“Qingcheng...”

Qin Wentian wanted nothing more than to throw his head back and howl to the heavens. Immediately, his silhouette flickered, moving as fast as a bolt of lightning as he dashed in the direction of the Holy Maiden. The Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Sect was actually Mo Qingcheng!

“Mhm?” Seeing Qin Wentian’s actions, the others from the Battle Sword Sect were shocked awake from their stunned states. Those from the Violet Thunder Sect were all glaring at Qin Wentian, their eyes filled with a dark grim look as though they wanted nothing more than to kill him. The audacity. How dare he?

“IMPUDENT!”

Ye Kongfan coldly shouted, blasting forth with a palm imprint. A terrifying bolt of calamitous lightning fired forth towards Qin Wentian. Qin Wentian raised his palm in response, causing a titanic boom to rumble out. His body was forced back a few steps from the impact as he felt an intense pain in his palm. The power of that bolt of lightning had actually numbed his entire arm.

The maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Sect coldly stared at Qin Wentian, radiating waves of coldness that enveloped Qin Wentian within. An overwhelming pressure descended onto Qin Wentian—if he moved a single step, they would kill him instantly with no hesitation.

“JUNIOR BROTHER!” Those from the Battle Sword Sect sensing the killing intent immediately rushed forward, standing around Qin Wentian protectively.

Yet from the start up till now, Qin Wentian’s eyes were solely on Mo Qingcheng. It was as though he had forgotten about everything else.

Mo Qingcheng was still alive, she didn’t die! Is there anything in this world that was more beautiful than her? His smile was as radiant as earlier, as though he couldn’t feel the numbness in his arm or the overwhelming pressure pressing down on him as he stared at that familiar figure he saw countless times every time he closed his eyes.

The Holy Maiden of the Medical Sovereign Valley turned her gaze onto Qin Wentian. The instant her eyes landed on his silhouette, she actually felt a swift stab of pain right in her heart. However, that pain soon faded as her eyes regained her earlier emotionless look. The aura she was projecting seemed so distant, as though no one would be able to get close to her. This guy in front of her right now seemed so familiar, yet looked like a stranger.

“How dare you? Seeing that you’re someone from the Battle Sword Sect, we will forget your transgression this time around. Should this happen again, don’t blame us for showing no mercy.” Ye Kongfan icily snorted. After which he shifted his gaze and stated, “Holy Maiden, should we proceed to the battle arena?”

Mo Qingcheng paused for a moment as the faintest trace of confusion flashed past her eyes. After which, she turned to move towards the Ye Country’s battle arena, escorted by a bevy of her guards. Those from the Violet Thunder Sect were all staring at Qin Wentian with cold smiles on their faces.

“You’d better control yourself, that’s the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley.” The young man from the Violet Thunder Sect snorted. Although the members from the Battle Sword Sect were unhappy with his attitude, they didn’t say anything. After all, Qin Wentian had indeed acted a little too impulsively.

Qin Wentian stood dumbly in his original location, that radiant smile on his face fading away with the swiftness of a bolt from the blue. Mo Qingcheng hadn’t recognized him?

What was happening?

Mo Qingcheng was in the center of the crowd, yet the two females walking next to her could see that she wore a dazed expression on her face, as though she was beside herself with agony.

“Holy Maiden, what’s wrong?” one of the females asked in a low voice.

“Why is his face so familiar, my heart feels so pained...” Mo Qingcheng whispered, her words causing the expressions of the two females to falter. Back then, Mo Qingcheng was hovering on the edge of life and death and had been saved by the Medicine Sovereign. After she awoke, there were holes in her memories—she suffered from amnesia.

They didn’t say anything more, yet they had never seen such an expression on Mo Qingcheng’s face before. It was as though she had lost her soul, her face totally devoid of blood.

Mo Qingcheng felt the pain in her heart getting increasingly intense as beads of perspiration appeared on her forehead. So familiar, why was he so familiar? Right now, it felt as though there was a flood of memories wanting to break through a barrier in her mind, she felt as though she was about to remember something.

“My head feels so painful.” Mo Qingcheng closed her eyes and without realizing it, glistening teardrops suddenly began to flow down her cheeks, like thunder from a clear sky.

That day in winter, where snowflakes drifted all about. A handsome youth sat beneath a tree, yet he seemed so dumb at the same time, he wasn’t aware of the young girl’s intentions as she sat beside him.

The snowflakes were extremely beautiful, the two of them sat underneath the tree, sitting there with the sweet joy of innocence.

The young girl stretched her hand out, allowing the snowflakes to land on her palm. She then departed with a laugh, leaving after calling the youth a dumbo.

This scenario was so beautiful, so beautiful to the extent that it could melt the heart of anyone who saw it.

“Holy Maiden!” The two females beside her were completely taken aback. Mo Qingcheng’s face was completely covered with tears!

#### Chapter 526: How Could I Forget

Those from the Medicine Sovereign Valley all halted their steps because the Holy Maiden had suddenly stopped, standing there unmoving.

Several of the white-robed maidens stared at the Holy Maiden, shocked beyond words. Tear stains could actually be seen on that world-shocking countenance? What exactly happened?

The other maidens couldn’t help but turn to the two in the lead beside Mo Qingcheng, “What’s wrong with the Holy Maiden?”

“I don’t know.” Right now, panic could also be seen on the faces of the two maidens. “However from her words to us earlier, the Holy Maiden seemed to have recalled something from her past.”

The eyes of the other maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley shone keenly. The Medicine Sovereign’s abilities were simply too heaven-defying. Although the Holy Maiden had been seriously injured, condensing her life force into a pill, hanging suspended between life and death, he was still able to save her. The Medicine Sovereign did say that the Holy Maiden would suffer short-term amnesia but once an intense stimulus triggered her, she would recover sooner or later.

Could it be that the Holy Maiden had regained her memories?

But...when was she ever exposed to an intense stimulus?

They had always been at the Holy Maiden’s side and nothing out of the ordinary had ever happened. The only exception was earlier when that young man had dashed over. To them, such a minor matter was totally disregarded. They simply wouldn’t be able to link this event to an ‘intense stimulus’.

Their Holy Maiden continued standing there, seemingly out of sorts with tears flowing down her face unceasingly. Not only that, one of her hands were clutching her chest as though she was in extreme agony. At this moment, nobody dared to disturb her.

“Mhm?” Ye Kongfan and his cronies started in surprise, they were stunned by this scenario. What had happened to the Holy Maiden?

Nobody understood what she was going through now. It was as though a bolt of lightning flashed through her mind, the countenance of the young man continuously appearing within.

The first time they met, was in a forest outside the borders of a city. She saved a young man but chose to remain anonymous.

The second time they met was in the royal capital of Chu. At that time, the Emperor Star Academy was holding a disciple recruitment event. She was sitting in a sedan chair with her friend, as she noticed him standing in the streets among the crowd. She locked eyes with him for an instant and flashed him a dazzling smile.

After that, during the training exercise in the Dark Forest, she had misunderstood him, causing her heart to be bombarded by an intense guilt.

Scene after scene of their meeting flashed through her mind. All the way until the Jun Lin Banquet, that silly guy who was once a youth had already grown up and had become a young man. His unrestrained and carefree temperament constantly imprinted itself into her heart. Gradually, she discovered the feeling of being in love. This feeling was truly beautiful, as sweet as honey. She thought about him often, and saw him every time she closed her eyes.

And the next scene, she arrived in the Pill Emperor Hall, she finally understood that the feeling of longing for someone was even more terrible than pain. But, he travelled all the way from Chu to the gates of the Pill Emperor Hall to find her. For her, he killed Hua Xiaoyun of the Hua Clan. For her, he stood proudly and arrogantly atop the Heavenly Fate Ranking battle arena holding her hand, proclaiming to the world that she, was his woman. At that moment, she felt as though the entire world was hers. For all eternity, she would never forget the moment when the multitude of gazes landed upon her. The determination and resoluteness in his eyes told the various chosen that even if he had to stand one against all, he would still hold on to her hand tightly.

Her tears soaked her robes yet nobody understood what was going on. It appeared that she recalled something, but what memory was so impactful that it would caused her to be in so much agony?

Mo Qingcheng felt as though her heart was being ripped apart, both her hands were now clutching her chest. She thought back to that last scene... Qin Wentian feeding his blood to the demon sword, transforming into a primordial great roc and splitting apart the Pill Emperor Hall, doing all this just to save her. She remembered him being surrounded by countless powerhouses, and getting heavily injured by Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants to the point of hovering at the border of death. How could she forget this? HOW COULD SHE HAVE EVER FORGOTTEN THIS?!

Suddenly, the crowd saw Mo Qingcheng turning, as she dashed with mad speed towards a certain direction. Her tears continued flowing unceasingly, akin to sparkling crystal tear drops, landing on the ground.

“HOLY MAIDEN!” The maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley as well as the experts from the Violet Thunder Sect turned pale with fright. They instantly rushed after Mo Qingcheng, what exactly happened to her? Why would she react in this manner?

Mo Qingcheng had experienced her lifetime once again in the span of a few short moments. How could her emotional state not be affected when she recalled the memories between her and that young man whom she treasured so much?

However, earlier when Mo Qingcheng simply walked past him, Qin Wentian had also felt an intense pain tearing his heart.

What was going on? Qingcheng, had she really forgotten him?

However when he recalled that Qingcheng had used the majority of her life force to condense a pill, he suddenly understood. He didn't blame her in the slightest. Wasn't just seeing her still alive already the greatest blessing from the heavens?

Once, he feared nothing more than losing her forever. But now since she was still alive, wasn't this already perfect? Although she didn't remember him now, he believed that she wasn't doing this intentionally. She has only forgotten due to the aftermath of that terrible injury. Mo Qingcheng would eventually remember him, she definitely would.

As he thought of this, a smile appeared on Qin Wentian's face once more. Everything was good.

Lifting his head and staring at the brilliant sunlight, he felt that today was truly a beautiful day.

Since she was alive, nothing else matters.

"Junior brother, you truly broaden my horizons. Although the Holy Maiden is an ultimate beauty, how could you rush up to her just like that? You are too ferocious." Liu Yun patted Qin Wentian on the shoulder, staring at Qin Wentian with hints of admiration in his eyes.

"Junior brother you are too impulsive. The Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley has an extraordinary status. As members of the Battle Sword Sect, we must take note of our reputation." Qiao Yu added. Qin Wentian's behaviour was truly too impulsive.

Qin Wentian nodded his head lightly yet didn't bother to explain anything, That smile on his face still remained there, unfading.

Ye Lingshuang was totally speechless when she saw Qin Wentian's reaction. It was one thing to be lecherous. But right now, the Holy Maiden was the one responsible for treating her father. She didn't even dare to imagine the consequences if they offended the Medicine Sovereign Valley.



“Junior Brother Qin... In the future, just treat it as doing me a favor, please don't pull any more stunts like the one you just did, okay?” Ye Lingshuang didn't feel good about blaming Qin Wentian. After all, he was part of the escort which protected her all the way back to the Ye Country. She could only try to persuade him gently.

“Senior Sister, that was my mistake earlier. I won't repeat it.” Qin Wentian also understood where Ye Lingshuang was coming from. The Medicine Sovereign Valley was her only hope, Ye Lingshuang naturally wouldn't want to see any conflict occurring between the Battle Sword Sect and them.

“Thank you for your understanding.” Ye Lingshuang softly replied.

Qin Wentian nodded his head in apology. There were a few other experts from the Ye Country on the side of the Human Emperor who were now staring at him with unfriendly gazes. As for those on the side of the Qi King, their eyes were filled with a mocking laughter.

“Qingcheng.” Sighing silently in his heart, Qin Wentian turned and said, “Didn't the members of the Violet Thunder Sect say that they wanted to go to the battle arena? Let's go there as well.”

“Mhm” The others agreed and headed off in that direction. Ye Lingshuang went as well, there would be attendants taking care of the Human Emperor.

However, right at this moment, they stood there stunned, unable to believe their eyes.

Ahead of them, a figure of stunning beauty was sprinting over. That beautiful face was actually covered in tears. Just a single glance at her would cause people to feel like their hearts were about to shatter.

“The Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Valley?” Everyone was dumbstruck, they didn't know how to react.

The Holy Maiden was actually crying and she was rushing their way.

Qin Wentian was also stunned. He swiftly smiled as he saw Qingcheng rushing towards him.

Mo Qingcheng's footsteps stopped. She stood in front of these people, lowering her head slightly. She lifted her hand as though she wanted to wipe her tears away, yet... she didn't succeed. When she inclined her head again, the tears still continued falling but now, beneath the falling tears, there was a pure and flawless smile in her eyes. Such a level of beauty left all the guys in the Battle Sword Sect dumbfounded. Even Ye Lingshuang was deeply mesmerised.

Qin Wentian walked to Mo Qingcheng's side. He stretched his hands out, gently placing them on her face as he wiped away the tear stains for her. Smiling sweetly at her, he spoke, "Don't cry any more, we are together now, aren't we?"

His voice was extremely gentle, Mo Qingcheng couldn't help but to laugh at his words. However, her tears still had no way to stop. She trembled there, before lunging towards Qin Wentian tightly embracing him as though she was afraid that she would lose him once more.

Those from the Battle Sword Sect stood there dumbly like idiots, rubbing their eyes and wondering if what they just saw was an illusion.

Liu Yun's mouth was wide open in a 'O' shape. He then gulped down his saliva and cursed silently, "Which bastard is using illusion techniques on this daddy, me?"

Ye Lingshuang's heart also pounded violently, she didn't dare to believe what she was seeing. The Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Valley knew Qin Wentian before this?

"Holy Maiden." Those from the Medicine Sovereign Valley finally caught up. They too were badly shocked by this scene. All of them stood still as wooden puppets, looking on as the Holy Maiden of their sect was currently embracing a young man tightly.

Were the tears earlier all for him?

Was the agony she felt earlier all for him?

That intense stimulus that the Medicine Sovereign was talking about, was because of him?!

They felt their heads spinning. They had no way to reconcile what they were seeing with reality. Did their Holy Maiden and this guy once have an unforgettable love story deeply etched in her memories?

In that case, the impulsive actions of the young man earlier weren't because he was affected by the beauty of the Holy Maiden? But instead, they were lovers?!

The members from the Violet Thunder Sect had ashen expressions. They hadn't expected this at all.

Especially Ye Kongfan, he was a chosen from the Violet Thunder Sect, a prince of the ancient Ye Country. He had initially wanted to take this chance to build up a good relationship with the Holy Maiden and slowly steal her heart. But now, the impact of this blow from reality directly smashed his hopes into pieces.

Even an idiot could see that not only did the two of them know each other, they were lovers.

However, despite the love the Holy Maiden held for him, how could this man be worthy of her love? As he thought of this, a cold glint of light flashed past Ye Kongfan's eyes.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry..." Mo Qingcheng kept uttering these words. She hated herself, how could she ever have forgotten him? Even now, she had no way to forgive herself, she hated herself for it.

"Qingcheng, don't act like this, it's okay." Qin Wentian felt his heart trembling when he saw Mo Qingcheng being consumed by her guilt. But didn't he also feel the same way? It was all since he was weak which caused Qingcheng to almost die, losing her memories.

"Mhm." Mo Qingcheng nodded her head, yet her embrace was as tight as before. At this moment, it was as though they were alone within the world, with no one around to disturb them.

#### Chapter 527: Scheme

The two of them tightly embraced each other in the midst of a deafening silence. Gradually the others understood that there was a deep love between Qin Wentian and the Holy Maiden.

Rumor has it that the Holy Maiden was sent to the Medicine Sovereign Valley when she was at the brink of death. As to the specific circumstances that had led to this, only this young man from the Battle Sword Sect knew.

"So the Holy Maiden's name is Qingcheng. What an apt name for this woman of such great beauty. Such a pity, how lamentable..." Liu Yun was sighing in utter dejection.

"I'm sighing because she didn't have the fate to meet this young master first." Liu Yun's fantasies got wilder and wilder while his sect members by the side all rolled their eyes. This bastard was truly one of a kind.

A different kind of thought flashed through Ye Lingshuang's mind, the Holy Maiden was actually Qin Wentian's companion. In that case, if Qin Wentian was willing to help her, doesn't that mean the Holy Maiden would surely try her best to cure her father? It might even be possible for the Holy Maiden to request aid from the more powerful healers in the Medicine Sovereign Valley. If that was really the case, her father would truly have hope.

The Medicine Sovereign Valley had some reclusive characters that were so powerful that even the ancient Ye Country had no way to invite. They couldn't even find these characters but that shouldn't be a problem for the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley.

Qin Wentian and Mo Qingcheng finally separated. Mo Qingcheng stared at Qin Wentian's face, using her hands to slowly caress it. She was staring at Qin Wentian intently as though she was worried she wouldn't be able to see him again.

When she thought back to everything Qin Wentian had endured in the Pill Emperor Hall, her tears started flowing once more. There were so many things that she wanted to tell him, so many things she wanted to say but she didn't know where should she start. Once again, she fell back into Qin Wentian's embrace.

It was unknown how those members of the Medicine Sovereign Valley were feeling. Their Holy Maiden actually acted in the manner of a young girl, so gentle and full of warmth. Just the look in her eyes was enough to melt the hearts of guys all over the world. They wanted to know how deep exactly was the depth of her feelings, what story did she have with this young man of the Battle Sword Sect.

"I thought we would both die in the Pill Emperor Hall." Mo Qingcheng lightly sobbed. Never in her wildest dreams had she imagined that he would still be alive and they would be reunited today. Mo Qingcheng's face was filled with tear-stains yet she was smiling. She felt happy, really happy. It had been a long time since she had last felt this way. Every breath she took and every ray of sunlight she felt, it all felt so wonderful. Life was beautiful.

"Everything is over. But the things the Pill Emperor Hall had done to you, I will get them to pay back this debt sooner or later." Qin Wentian vowed. The Pill Emperor Hall was like a thorn in his heart, he would definitely remove it, completely wiping the Pill Emperor Hall from the face of this world in the future.

Every time Qin Wentian thought of how Mo Qingcheng had been used as fodder for that disgusting skeleton, he felt a bout of pain and fury so intense that he wanted nothing more than to kill all of them.

Qin Wentian was also staring intently back at Mo Qingcheng, it was as though he wouldn't be able to get enough of her. At the sight of his intense expression, Mo Qingcheng finally laughed. That laughter of hers resonated deeply in his heart, involuntarily causing him to smile as well.

"Holy Maiden." Behind her, the maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley called out. When Mo Qingcheng turned and faced them, she had reverted back to her cold temperament which they were all familiar with, causing people to feel a sense of distance with her. How stunning was her beauty, that caused people to feel that she was so high up that they would be unable to reach. However at this moment, her eyes had flickered with faint traces of happiness.

Upon seeing their Holy Maiden in this state, they could only silently sigh in their hearts. It seemed like nobody could impede the love that the Holy Maiden had for this young man. And seeing how much the Medicine Sovereign doted on her, he would definitely not reject.

Yet, the other maidens weren't too happy. Although Qin Wentian was a member of the Battle Sword Sect, he was after all just an ordinary disciple. Also, even if he projected an extraordinary aura, his cultivation base was simply not powerful enough. After all, Mo Qingcheng was the Holy Maiden of their Medicine Sovereign Valley, the most dazzling female in their entire sect!

They had thought that even if the Holy Maiden found the one she loved, her chosen one would definitely be someone capable of shocking the entire world with his name, the hero of his generation. He, should be a supreme genius, surpassing all others but when they looked at Qin Wentian, they couldn't help but feel hints of regret for Mo Qingcheng in their heart. Of course, this was merely what they felt, they naturally wouldn't speak of it out in the public.

Ever since they arrived in Ye, from the attitude Ye Kongfan had shown them, it was evident that he wished to pursue the Holy Maiden.

Ye Kongfan was a chosen with an extraordinary high status in the Violet Thunder Sect. He had the Calamity Lightning Bloodline as well as a Heavenly Lightning Physique. His cultivation was already at the seventh level of Heavenly Dipper despite his young age. However even when he was compared to the Holy Maiden, they too felt that he was insufficient. Only a few people in their estimation were qualified in their eyes.

However, their thoughts were naturally unknown to Qin Wentian and Mo Qingcheng. Even if they knew, they wouldn't be bothered by it.

"Junior Brother Qin, I truly admire you." Liu Yun walked up with a wide smile on his face. "Since the Holy Maiden is your girlfriend, how about introducing a few fairies to your Senior Brother?"

"Your skin is really thick." Qiao Yu stated speechlessly. Qin Wentian involuntarily laughed as well, "Isn't Senior Sister Lingshuang beautiful as well? Why look for someone so far away when you already have a beautiful maiden so near to you?"

"But Junior Sister doesn't like me." Liu Yun made a painful expression as he moaned. His actions caused those from the royal clan to stare at him in dumbfounded amazement, silently thanking the gods that the princess didn't fall in love with this senior of hers.

"Oh ya, since the Holy Maiden is your girl friend, Qinger shouldn't have any relationship with you right?" Liu Yan finally stated his true purpose, he actually had designs on Qinger. His thought process currently was: this bastard Qin Wentian already had this empire-toppling beauty as his girlfriend. Would he be selfish to the point where he wanted to eat the snow lotus as well? That would simply be too beastly of him.

“Don’t blame me for failing to warn you. Qinger’s cultivation base is at the peak of the sixth level and her Mandate of Space has already reached the Perfection Boundary. If Senior Brother still wishes to try your luck and pursue her, please go ahead.” Qin Wentian smiled, he was already thinking of the miserable state Liu Yun would be in if he truly went ahead to bother Qinger.

“Eh...” Liu Yun involuntarily shuddered. The other members of the Battle Sword Sect exchanged glances as well. That icy maiden who didn’t like to talk much was actually so powerful?

“Everyone, the battle arena is still waiting. How about going there together to take a look?” Ye Kongfan’s voice rang out. Although he was feeling extremely unhappy in his heart, his face had a smile on it, masking his true intentions.

Mo Qingcheng was still holding the hand of Qin Wentian. She stared at Qin Wentian with a questioning look on her countenance.

“Let’s go and take a look then.” Qin Wentian smiled. Mo Qingcheng then nodded her head. The whole group of them proceeded towards the Ye Country’s battle arena.

The competition between powers in the Royal Sacred Region was simply too intense, this resulted in the vast majority of places placing an extremely high emphasis on the martial path. The Ye Country was the same as well.

The battle arena of the Ye Country was one of the most important places. The vast arena was so large that one couldn’t see the end of it with a single glance.

There were twelve combat stages constructed upon the battle arena and the battles on the combat stages had never stopped. There would be countless people fighting each other on a daily basis, pursuing victory. The victors naturally would receive a reward from the Ye Country and the truly strong ones would even be recruited as well.

The Ye Country, in addition to the other smaller kingdoms as well as the major powers would often gather here. They would recruit outstanding victors who had proven themselves. And naturally there would be disputes and conflicts that would be settled using the battle arena as well.

In the center of the vast battle arena, there was a corridor designated for the royal clan’s usage. It led to the best spectator stand for the battle arena, there were also armored guards standing at attention, forbidding entry to people who were not from the royal clan.

At this moment, a group of silhouettes appeared in the air space above the royal corridor. Instantly, the gazes of the fighters on the battle arena all stared upwards. Countless number of people also stood up to show their respect while silence suddenly covered the entire space.

They had already heard the news. Today, the son of the King Qi, the chosen of the Violet Thunder Sect, Ye Kongfan had invited the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley to this place. This group of people in the air all exuded an extraordinary demeanor, especially one woman among the others, her level of beauty could even topple empires. Without a doubt, she must be the Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Valley. She was exactly like the rumors, a woman possessing an unmatched countenance.

In front of the maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley, there was a group of young men leading the way. One of the ones in the center was clad in luxurious golden imperial robes, he should be the son of King Qi, Ye Kongfan.

The armored guards on both sides of the corridor all respectfully half-knelt on the ground as they called out, “We pay our respect to the crown prince as well as the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley.”

Their voices reverberated in the air, rumbling like thunder, causing countless people to focus their attention on Ye Kongfan and the Holy Maiden, already placing them as a couple in their minds. These two could truly be called the chosen of the younger generations, if they could be together, they would surely be a perfect couple.

“Rise. Today, I invited the Holy Maiden over here to spectate. I hope the heroes of my Ye Country will do their best and put up a good show worthy of admiration.” Ye Kongfan’s voice echoed out loud and permeated the air. His words caused those from the royal clan on the side of Ye Lingshuang to reveal expressions of sharpness. Ye Lingshuang was frowning as well, these guards actually greeted Ye Kongfan as the crown prince but had ignored her, the princess of direct descent?

Qin Wentian stood at the side of Mo Qingcheng. He saw that right up ahead, there were two extremely majestic master seats. Naturally this was something Ye Kongfan had prepared for himself and Mo Qingcheng. This was also why he played his little tricks earlier, causing the crowd to think that he and Mo Qingcheng were a pair, so as to pave the way to his intentions.

Qin Wentian furrowed his brows as a glint of coldness flashed past his eyes. Ye Kongfan was too scheming, not only did he want to mislead the crowd about Mo Qingcheng, he also wanted to overwhelm the true host – Ye Lingshuang, by giving prominence to his status.

The countless crowd evidently had also noticed Qin Wentian who stood beside Mo Qingcheng. Although it was normal for there to be guards around the Holy Maiden for her protection, why would there actually be a young man? How could his presence not cause people to comment? They were all silently speculating about his identity.

Right now, everyone was watching, waiting to see how this would play out. They wanted to see how Ye Kongfan would designate the seating arrangements.

“Holy Maiden, would you please?” Ye Kongfan stretched his hands out in invitation, signalling for Mo Qingcheng to take one of the two majestic master seats. If Mo Qingcheng sat down, there was no need to doubt that the one who sat next to her, would be Ye Kongfan himself.

Mo Qingcheng frowned. Although she wasn't adept at scheming, she understood what Ye Kongfan wanted to do. If she sat down with Ye Kongfan beside her, where would that place Qin Wentian? Naturally, it was impossible for her to accept this!

## Chapter 528: Sacred Battle Platform

Qin Wentian's eyes glimmered with coldness the moment Ye Kongfan extended the invitation. He then replied, “As the princess of the Ye Country, shouldn't Princess Lingshuang be the first to sit on one of the master seats?”

As the sound of his voice faded, the surrounding atmosphere grew increasingly intense.

Today, Ye Kongfan was simply supplanting the true host of this event, Ye Lingshuang. As the princess of the main bloodline, her status was clearly higher compared to his. He was intentionally trying to place his status above hers, a clear indication of the Qi King's attempt to rebel.

Both Ye Kongfan's eyes shone with a dangerous light. Just when he was about to reply, Mo Qingcheng cut in, “Princess, please.”

The armored guards at the side all radiated faint hints of murderous intent. They were all extremely powerful in strength, and all of them were loyal to Ye Kongfan.

However, since Mo Qingcheng had personally spoken, Ye Kongfan instantly found himself in a difficult position.

“Since the Holy Maiden is so courteous, would Your Highness please proceed to one of the seats to prevent the Holy Maiden from waiting too long?” The members of the royal clan who supported Ye Lingshuang quickly reacted. How could they show that they were weaker in terms of royal authority compared to Ye Kongfan? Since they now had the support of both Qin Wentian and the Holy Maiden from the Medicine Sovereign Valley, it was naturally for the best. If Ye Kongfan really took the master seats together with Mo Qingcheng, wouldn't that mean that there was no need for Ye Lingshuang to even be here?

Ye Lingshuang glanced at Ye Kongfan as she stepped out and moved towards one of the master seat. At this moment, she clearly felt the waves of pressure emanating from the guards who were



attempting to intimidate her. However as the princess of Ye Country, she had to endure this. No matter what, she couldn't let the Qi King succeed in his plot.

A cold wind gusted as the atmosphere in this area got increasingly tense to the point where everyone in the crowd could feel it. Ye Lingshuang continued walking forward step by step while Ye Kongfan's eyes flickered with a malicious light. Finally, he laughed, "Princess, please."

As the sound of his voice rang out, the mounting pressure in the air completely dissipated. However, this made Ye Lingshuang even more alarmed compared to earlier. Ye Kongfan's control of the situation had far exceeded Ye Lingshuang's expectations.

After sitting on the master seat, Ye Lingshuang turned and smiled at Mo Qingcheng, "Holy Maiden, please be seated."

"Sit beside me later okay." Mo Qingcheng smiled at Qin Wentian before heading up to the master seat. Qin Wentian sat beside her while Ye Kongfan sat a seat below Ye Lingshuang. Seeing him being seated, only then did the tense atmosphere palpably ease up.

"Holy Maiden, the twelve combat stages of my Ye Country's battle arena are always fully utilised around the clock. People can either choose to challenge each other or challenge the brave warriors of my Ye Country. The winners would naturally be recruited by various powers and there would even be some among them who would eventually become the pillars of the Ye Country."

Ye Kongfan laughed as he introduced some facts to Mo Qingcheng. Mo Qingcheng simply nodded with an air of detachment, turning her gaze onto the twelve combat stages on the battle arena below. The combat on the stages was all extremely intense and there were truly several illustrious members of the younger generations. Not only that, the three central stages seemed to be catered for even more powerful combatants.

"The three combat stages in the center are the ten-victories stage, fifty-victories stage and the hundred-victories stage respectively. Only those who had won the required number of victories would be allowed to enter the three stages in the center. Hence, the combatants on these three stages usually attracted the most attention." Ye Kongfan noticed Mo Qingcheng's gaze as he continued explaining. Although Ye Lingshuang was the one seated on the master seat, his behaviour made it seem as though he was the true host of this area.

"Those combatants on the hundred-victories stage are all exceedingly powerful. Occasionally, there would be demon-level geniuses appearing as well. Not only do those combatants earn the honor of being up on the hundred-victories stage, they also had to fight against the other hundred-victories

combatants. Our royal clan would usually recruit the winners from here.” Ye Lingshuang also introduced the facts to Mo Qingcheng.

“For the Ye Country to be able to last for ten thousand years, such enthusiasm for the martial path is really worthy of admiration.” Mo Qingcheng replied, her words caused a look of surprise to flash past Ye Lingshuang’s eyes. Earlier she had heard that the Holy Maiden’s personality was cool and indifferent, even when kings or queens were speaking to her, she wouldn’t be bothered to reply at all. Yet nobody dared to say anything. After all her status was special as well as her beauty extraordinary.

But right now, Mo Qingcheng was actually willing to chat with her? Ye Lingshuang knew that her status as a princess didn’t warrant her such weight. The only possibility was that she had a martial relationship with her junior apprentice brother Qin Wentian.

It seemed like the depth of feelings this Holy Maiden had towards Qin Wentian wasn’t of an ordinary level. From Ye Lingshuang’s current point of view, the life and death of her father, was in the hands of Qin Wentian.

“Junior Brother Qin, before you met Senior Brother Lin Shuai and joined our Battle Sword Sect, where did you come from? Could you tell us more about your past? I know Senior Brother Lin Shuai holds you in extremely high regard.” Ye Lingshuang suddenly asked, turning her gaze onto Qin Wentian. Mo Qingcheng similarly looked at Qin Wentian, there were many questions in her heart she wanted to ask but right now it wasn’t too appropriate for her to start asking those questions in front of so many people.

Qin Wentian naturally understood Ye Lingshuang’s and Mo Qingcheng’s thoughts. He laughed, “Back then after the battle at the Pill Emperor Hall, I was seriously injured. It was Qing`er who helped me, allowing me to eventually regain my human form. After that, Grand Xia was in chaos. I reorganised the factions of power under me and destroyed the Great Solar Chen Clan in the process, and established my faction as one of the transcendent powers in Grand Xia. It was regretful that I was unable to exterminate the Pill Emperor Hall at that time. After that, I went to roam the vast world outside Grand Xia and eventually arrived at the Xuan King City. It was there which I met Senior Brother Lin Shuai which eventually led to me joining the Battle Sword Sect.”

The others nodded in politeness, only Mo Qingcheng understood how many things he had gone through since then. She only sighed, feeling regret because she was not by his side.

“So that person who killed the geniuses from the other eight great sects in the Xuan King City was you?!” An expert from the Violet Thunder Sect suddenly shouted, radiating coldness as he stared at Qin Wentian.

“Earlier, the Battle Sword Sect caused a great commotion in the Xuan King City, escorting a criminal whom everybody wanted to kill in a forceful show of dominance. That person killed many members of our Violet Thunder Sect, I didn’t expect that we would meet him here today.”

Right from the start, the people from the Violet Thunder Sword Sect were already unhappy about Qin Wentian’s presence. Now, this news was like adding oil on fire. Their gazes all gleamed with sharpness, as faint waves of pressure gushed towards Qin Wentian.

Qin Wentian’s eyes flickered, and upon noting the killing intent in the eyes of the Violet Sword Sect members, he stated in a frigid tone, “On the battle arena, life and death are predestined. Since the members of the Violet Thunder Sect wanted to kill I, Qin for the sake of a reward, them dying by my hands only proved one thing. They were all trash.”

As the sound of his voice faded away, a terrifying battle intent gushed forth in the air. Qin Wentian had actually said that the members from the Violet Thunder Sect were useless trash who deserved their deaths. Wasn’t this him slapping their faces?

“Overestimating yourself.” A young man from the Violet Thunder Sect snorted coldly. “There are various combatants with different levels of cultivation on the hundred-victories combat stage. If you are so powerful, why don’t you show us with your actions by challenging them instead of barking here?”

“Who the fuck do you think you are? Do the members of my Battle Sword Sect need to prove their worth by using a battle arena in the Ye Kingdom? Don’t forget that back then on the Sacred Battle Platform of the Royal Sacred Region, when the nine great sects contended against each other, your Violet Thunder Sect slinkered away like a loser dog with its tail in between its legs.” Someone from the Battle Sword Sect stated sarcastically.

In this cultivation-oriented world, the emphasis placed on the martial path wasn’t just exhibited by the Ye Country alone. In fact, each and every power in the Royal Sacred Region was of one mind. And, the highest level battle arena in this region was none other than the Sacred Battle Platform.

There would often be members of the supreme powers from the Royal Sacred Region fighting against one another atop the Sacred Battle Platform, this would naturally include the disciples of the nine great sects. Once in the past, the Battle Sword Sect won the honors of being the strongest when

they fought against the other supreme powers on the Sacred Battle Platform. This was also the event which led to people in the entire region proclaiming that the individual combat strength of individuals from the Battle Sword Sect was insanely high, completely off the charts.

For those extremely exceptional individuals whose names would shake the entire Royal Sacred Region, many of them gained their fame because they were invincible in their cultivation level and could even remain unrivalled despite jumping levels and fighting against people with much stronger cultivation bases compared to them in the Sacred Battle Platform. These people were known as absolute geniuses, capable of sweeping away all opponents in front of them.

When the topic of the Sacred Battle Platform was brought up, many of the Medicine Sovereign Valley's maidens were reminded of those absolute geniuses. Ye Kongfan from the Violet Thunder Sect, and Shang Tong from the Royal Shang Clan of Grand Shang weren't considered an absolute genius. At best, they were only second-tiered. From the perspective of the maidens, only a character like those absolute geniuses would be worthy of their Holy Maiden.

By bringing this matter up, this was undoubtedly a provocation to the Violet Thunder Sect. And indeed upon hearing it, the battle intent radiated from them grew many times more intense compared to earlier. Right now, the air was choked with tension, the member from the Violet Thunder Sect then coldly spoke, "If you have the guts, why don't we play around for a bit on one of the combat stage?"

Qin Wentian swept his gaze over the Violet Thunder Sect members, his patience had already reached its limits. The members from the Violet Thunder Sect had provoked him time after time, Ye Kongfan even dared to have designs on Mo Qingcheng. Even a person made of mud would be angered, let alone Qin Wentian. His eyes bored into the person from the Violet Thunder Sect who spoke, a cultivator with a cultivation base at the fifth level of Heavenly Dipper. An expression of disdain flashed past his face as he spoke, "You, are not qualified to fight against I, Qin."

"You..." That person trembled with rage. No matter what, he was still a genius from one of the nine great sects. Naturally, he had an inordinately proud character. Yet Qin Wentian had actually showed disdain for him and completely disregarded him. However, his heart-state was extraordinary and he was soon able to bring his rage under control. That person sneered with a mocking laugh, "Who would have thought that the members of the Battle Sword Sect are all cowards, fully undeserving of their reputation. However, I have to say that skill with their mouths are indeed unrivalled."

"Does my Battle Sword Sect need to prove ourselves to a loser sect like the Violet Thunder Sect?" Liu Yun gulped down a mouthful of wine, a similar expression of disdain also appeared on his face.

“Hey hey, the members from the Battle Sword Sect are my guests, don’t be rude to them.” Ye Kongfan reminded everyone as his eyes flickered with a dark light. That person who spoke earlier laughed, “Oh yes, I shouldn’t be too rude to the guests, let alone in front of the Holy Maiden. However, shouldn’t the Holy Maiden have a higher standard than that? I thought the companion that the Holy Maiden had chosen would at the very least be someone extraordinary. Who would have thought that...”

After speaking, that person shook his head as he sighed in an exaggerated manner. “What a pity.”

Qin Wentian’s eyes flashed with an intense killing intent when he heard that. However, at this moment, he felt someone pulling his hand lightly. As he turned his head back, he noticed Mo Qingcheng looking at him with a warmth and gentle smile on her face. Evidently, she couldn’t be bothered with what the rest of the world wanted to think. In her heart, nobody could compare to Qin Wentian. Back then in Grand Xia, he was already unrivalled. Now the stage had merely shifted to the Royal Sacred Region. Sooner or later, Qin Wentian’s name would shake the world.

In addition, if Qin Wentian truly was someone of mediocre talents, how could he become the person she loved most?

Shifting her gaze over, Mo Qingcheng stared at the young man from the Violet Thunder Sect as a glint of coldness flashed in her eyes. This person wanted to sully the relationship between her and Qin Wentian but he didn’t know that he had already committed the greatest taboo to her. She had truly been angered although none of her emotions showed on her face.

“Princess, before the Human Emperor recovers, I will remain here. Not only that, I will send my people to inform the reclusive elders of my sect as well. I can only trouble the Princess with my lodgings until then.” Mo Qingcheng softly spoke to Ye Lingshuang who sat beside her.

As the sound of her voice faded, Ye Lingshuang’s countenance beamed with a radiant joy. “Holy Maiden, I’ll be eternally grateful if the reclusive experts from your sect can be invited.”

At this moment, Ye Lingshuang’s heart trembled a little. It seemed like she had underestimated how important Qin Wentian was in Mo Qingcheng’s heart.

Ye Kongfan’s countenance grew incredibly ugly to behold. He shot a glare at the person who had spoken earlier, a glare so cold that the person involuntarily trembled. Because of a sentence of provocation from him, it caused Mo Qingcheng to be even more determined to aid the Human Emperor.

How could Ye Kongfan fail to understand? His wish of pursuing the Holy Maiden had become a hopeless cause. His dream had been completely crushed.

## Chapter 529: Meeting An Old Friend

Mo Qingcheng's words stirred up a storm of commotion—because of their mistake, those from the Violet Thunder Sect felt a festering need for vengeance, and they wanted nothing more than to vent it by clashing immediately with those from the Battle Sword Sect.

The members from the Battle Sword Sect had always acted so loftily and arrogant, and had never placed those belonging to the nine great sects in their eyes/sights. Although the nine great sects had conflicts with each other, the people they hated most were none other than the members from the Battle Sword Sect.

“This cultivator is really powerful. He has a cultivation base at the fifth level of Heavenly Dipper and his combat strength is extremely terrifying.” At this moment, Ye Lingshuang broke the silence as he stared at the golden-robed combatant currently standing on the hundred-victories combat stage.

“Of course he's powerful, he's proficient in the Mandate of Gold and has cultivated some sort of invulnerable body technique. His defense is insanely high and his attacks are packed with devastating might.” Ye Kongfan laughed as he continued, “This man reached a hundred victories today and has been standing here since this morning. He has yet to find a worthy opponent.”

Everyone had strange expressions on their faces when they heard Ye Kongfan's words. It seemed as though Ye Kongfan was extremely familiar with this combatant?

“Hehe, this man has already joined my Qi King Manor.” Indeed, a person next to Ye Kongfan laughed. “I wonder if the Battle Sword Sect has anyone brave enough to go up there for a try?”

“There's no need for that. He will definitely lose the next battle,” Qin Wentian calmly spoke. Ye Kongfan's eyes flashed with contempt. He was very clear on the strength of that golden-robed combatant. It was almost impossible for him to lose here.

Right now on that combat stage, there was a skinny-looking man clad in black. This person exuded an extremely cold aura, so cold that people who looked at him would feel their souls involuntarily freezing from terror, and this was despite his aura only being at the fourth level of Heavenly Dipper.

“Although this man seems dangerous, he's only at the fourth level of Heavenly Dipper. He shall definitely be defeated,” spoke an expert from the Violet Thunder Sect. Everyone all turned their gazes in the man's direction. A wave of exultation roared from the massive crowd—from the cheers, it was obvious that they were expecting a good show was forthcoming.

“I’m afraid you will be disappointed.” Qin Wentian was as serene as ever. Very swiftly, combat between the two of them exploded. The golden-robed young man glowed with resplendent golden light as the faint shadow of a terrifying invulnerable body manifested behind him. His attacks were filled with the sharpness from the Mandate of Metal, and it could be said that this man had already reached the pinnacle of both attacks and defense.

The black-robed man chose not to fight him in direct combat, instead he dodged each and every one of his strikes with profound steps. Blood-colored light burst into being, one after another, lighting up the entire combat stage.

The attacks of the golden-robed young man grew increasingly savage, as he tried to destroy everything he could, intending to kill his opponent as swiftly as possible. Both his arms pushed upwards and aimed for the skies, as golden light radiated forth from them. An instant later, the beams of light congregated together to form a gigantic golden palm imprint that annihilated everything in its vicinity. The black-robed man retreated with explosive speed, but was injured by the afterwind of the palm strike, causing him to cough out fresh blood.

“Apparently, your judgement sucks. They’re obviously combatants of different levels.” The expert from the Violet Thunder Sect sneered, directing his words mockingly at Qin Wentian.

“You’re right, they are combatants of different levels. This farce is about to come to an end.” Qin Wentian’s voice had no fluctuations to it, and he was as calm as ever. His words caused those from the Violet Thunder Sect to laugh out loud, “What a stubborn mouth, you already know the ending, yet you still want to win the war of words? I want to see if you will need to slap yourself or not when the fated ending arrives.”

Qin Wentian cast a glance at the person who spoke before spitting out a single word, “Idiot.”

“You...” No matter how strong the endurance of that expert from the Violet Thunder Sect was, he could no longer put up with Qin Wentian’s provocation, especially in this case where it was clear as day that the black-robed man would soon be defeated. Yet, Qin Wentian still wanted to twist the truth and call him an idiot? He wanted nothing more than to punch Qin Wentian in the face right now.

“If the Holy Maiden wasn’t present here today, I don’t know how many times you would have already died,” stated that person in a threatening tone, radiating an unmasked killing intent.

“I thought the Violet Thunder Sect was one of the nine great sects? I didn’t know they had so many idiots belonging to it. How humiliating it is for us to be associated to such idiocy all because of the name of the nine great sects.” Qin Wentian’s voice had no anger to it, and he continued as calmly as before. Yet his words immediately made that expert from the Violet Thunder Sect go crazy. Even those from the Battle Sword Sect and Medicine Sovereign Valley didn’t know where Qin Wentian

was basing his confidence from. It was obvious that the black-robed man was at a disadvantage, yet he was actually so confident the black-robed man would win?

“Let’s hope the Holy Maiden’s companion isn’t one that merely knows how to talk big.” The other maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley sighed. Qin Wentian truly had the gift of gab, but if he didn’t have sufficient power to match that, it would be too disappointing.

“After their battle is over, I will definitely come and give your face a proper slapping.” Another expert trembled with barely controllable fury. He couldn’t help but make that statement in public—Qin Wentian’s humiliation of his Violet Thunder Sect was more than he could take.

Qin Wentian merely cast a cold glance at that person, before turning his attention back to the battle. The attacks of the golden-robed young man had grown more and more powerful and it seemed that the combat would end at any moment. The faces of those from the Violet Thunder Sect were all filled with smiles, while those from the Battle Sword Sect were frowning. The maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley couldn’t help but feel disappointed. Only Mo Qingcheng believed in Qin Wentian’s judgement. This was not because of her relationship with Qin Wentian but because, she too, knew the identity of that young man clad in black.

“RUMBLE!” The violent sounds of attacks rocked the entire stage. It appeared that the golden-robed young man was about to take the black-robed man’s life away. However, right at this moment, nobody noticed a black glint of light flickering within the eyes of the supposed victim. In an instant, the golden-robed young man’s punch hung suspended in the air, his countenance akin to dead ashes.

“BOOM!” The black-robed man took a step forward, pressing his palms into the golden-robed man’s body. In an instant, the golden-robed man withered away—he didn’t even get the chance to mount a defense. A hundred-victories combatant was killed without anyone understanding how.

“This...?” The hearts of the crowd pounded with shock. Those from the Battle Sword Sect all revealed expressions of sharpness as they stared at Qin Wentian with a look of puzzlement on their faces. Why was he so confident and how could he have predicted the ending?

The maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley all had similar expressions on their faces. It seems like Qin Wentian did indeed have some capabilities and wasn’t as useless as they thought.

As for those from the Violet Thunder Sect, their countenances were all extremely unsightly to behold. Such an ending made them feel exceedingly uncomfortable, and all of them felt a burning sensation on their faces upon thinking back to the words they exchanged with Qin Wentian.



“HAHAHA, watching people slapping their own faces truly gives me a wonderful feeling. I recall someone being very arrogant earlier? Why have you all turned into mutes now?” Liu Yun laughed uproariously, but no one from the Violet Thunder Sect could answer back.. All of them were choking from the humiliation and shame they felt.

“Senior Brother, why bother talking to a bunch of idiots? It would only lower your status.” Qin Wentian glanced at those from the Violet Thunder Sect. Although it sounded like he was persuading Liu Yun, his words were by design; layered with barbs for the benefit of the members from the Violet Thunder Sect.

“Kongfan, although they’re our guests for the day, their actions have gone too far. To even use such language to humiliate the honor of our sect, we can’t bear it any longer. If our Violet Thunder Sect has no response to that, we will become the laughingstock of this entire region,” a young man with a cultivation base of the fifth level of Heavenly Dipper icily stated.

“How ridiculous, weren’t you all so sure of your judgement and even stated publicly that you wanted to slap my junior brother Qin’s face once the combat ended? In the end, it seems that the face you are slapping is your own instead. The Violet Thunder Sect is truly so amazing, thank you for the guidance. I’ve learned loads from our interaction today.” Liu Yun snorted. He then continued, “My junior brother was right. What a humiliation it is to be associated with the Violet Thunder Sect.”

“It’s pointless to fight a war of words. Although you are the guests today, you have repeatedly offended my sect. In that case, we might as well talk with true power.” Ye Kongfan’s aura was extraordinary—he was now giving his consent to war against the members from the Battle Sword Sect.

“However before this, let’s invite that black-robed man to come over. He’s exceedingly mysterious, and even I couldn’t tell how he acquired that victory,” Ye Kongfan commanded.

“Yes, Crown Prince.” One of his men sprinted towards the combat stage to invite the black-robed man over. Although it wasn’t known what methods he used, it was a fact that he was the victor. Ye Kongfan naturally wished to recruit powerful experts for his cause. Since the golden-robed man had died, this newcomer could be his replacement.

After a short period of time, the black-robed man could be seen walking over.

Looking at him from such a close distance, the darkness in his eyes was truly terrifying, and he radiated the chill of danger. His eyes seemed to be lifeless, as cold as corpses in the abyss. If his opponent was someone with a lower cultivation than him, they’d be paralysed with just a glance.

“Your strength is beyond my expectations. Are you interested in joining the royal clan of my Ye Country? I can even refer you to join the Violet Thunder Sect. There’s no need for you to take the test.” Ye Kongfan spoke to the black-robed man yet at this moment, Ye Kongfan discovered that the black-robed man wasn’t even looking at him. His black eyes were staring at a seat located above him.

“Mhm?” Ye Kongfan frowned, following the gaze of the black robed man only to discover that the person this man was looking at, was actually Qin Wentian!

“What are you doing here in the Ye Country?” That black robed man asked Qin Wentian, also glancing at Mo Qingcheng. He was evidently taken aback by their presence.

“I’m now in the Battle Sword Sect. My purpose here this time around was because of my senior sister, the Princess of Ye. And also, I would never have expected to be able to meet you here as well.” Qin Wentian was just as taken aback.

“Grand Xia isn’t sufficient to contain me.” That black-robed young man calmly replied, yet Qin Wentian didn’t know that after his departure, the legends of this young man didn’t lose out to him in the least. He’d created so many waves of commotion that the transcendent powers in Grand Xia had joined forces and sent out unceasing waves of assassins after him.

“Then what are your plans in the future?” Qin Wentian calmly asked.

“In the future?” An expression of contemplation flashed on the face of the black-robed man. “After Lu Min died, I no longer have anything to concern myself with. In the future, I shall follow you wherever you go. If you are the light, I will be your shadow.”

An expression of sadness appeared on Qin Wentian’s face as he thought back to that sobbing young girl pulling along a crippled young man to Ginkou, right before the commencement of Grand Xia’s Heavenly Fate Ranking Battle. He hadn’t expected Mu Feng’s only relative to already be dead.

The Heavens were truly too cruel to Mu Feng.

This black-robed young man was none other than the demon-level genius ranked on the Heavenly Fate Rankings in Grand Xia, the disciple of the Poison Monarch, Mu Feng. Back then Di Feng, disguising himself as Qin Wentian, had killed his entire family to sow discord. And because of this grudge, Mu Feng had narrowly poisoned Qin Wentian to death. After the matter was cleared up, not only did Qin Wentian not kill Mu Feng, he even found the truth for him, aiding him in taking his revenge on Di Feng. In that very moment, Mu Feng already knew his life belonged to Qin Wentian.

After that, he followed Di Tian (the incarnation of Qin Wentian's other self) together with Yun Mengyi and the others, entering the Royal Tomb of Grand Xia. Mu Feng set off on the path of the Blood Emperor and nothing had been heard of him since. Who would have thought that today, he too would appear here in Grand Xia!

### Chapter 530: A Single Axe

As to why Qin Wentian was so confident in Mu Feng, it was naturally because of Mu Feng's prowess in the venom arts. He had once personally witnessed how terrifying Mu Feng was, able to kill without anyone's notice. Even he himself had narrowly fallen to the poison administered by Mu Feng.

Back then on the Vermilion Bird Platform of the Heavenly Fate Rankings, how powerful Si Qiong was? His combat prowess was obviously many times stronger compared to Mu Feng and although Si Qiong was the one victorious in the end, his victory came at a staggering cost – he was almost poisoned to death. This clearly showed that combat prowess meant nothing. Even those stronger than him could die easily in his hands. This was especially true if Mu Feng's opponent didn't know that he was adept at using poison.

Let alone now, Mu Feng's temperament got colder and colder and he even acquired the true inheritance of the Blood Emperor. Even Qin Wentian didn't know how strong Mu Feng was right now.

Hence this was why Qin Wentian was so certain that Mu Feng would be the winner. Although throughout the fight it appeared that Mu Feng was at an disadvantage, only the end result mattered – the golden-robed young man was the one who died.

Upon hearing Mu Feng's words, that the girl who had always been taking of him had died, Qin Wentian could only sighed in his heart. He nodded his head and replied, "Okay, follow me in the future."

Mu Feng didn't say anything. He silently walked over and stood quietly behind Qin Wentian, resembling a shadow. If one didn't pay attention it would seemed that Mu Feng didn't exist at all.

Never in Ye Kongfan's wildest imaginations would he imagine such a scenario would occur. He initially intended to recruit Mu Feng but the other party ignored him and even chose to join Qin Wentian.

Without a doubt, this only served to increase Ye Kongfan's hatred for Qin Wentian.

Those from the Battle Sword Sect and the Medicine Sovereign Valley all felt shocked in their hearts, they didn't expect the exquisite-looking young man who stood beside Mo Qingcheng would have such a side to him. His cultivation base was only at the fourth-level of Heavenly Dipper but a character like Mu Feng didn't even paused to consider Ye Kongfan's invitation and directly chose to join him instead.

This couldn't help but made them re-evaluate Qin Wentian. The Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley Mo Qingcheng loved him deeply and the members of the Battle Sword Sect also knew that there was another maiden whose beauty didn't lose out to Mo Qingcheng that was willing to follow Qin Wentian as well.

Now thinking back to the time where Qin Wentian comprehended the fourteen sword strikes in a span of five days, Ye Lingshuang was finally connecting all the dots together. She silently speculated that there were even more mysteries to Qin Wentian. Not one of them from the Battle Sword Sect truly understood him. In that grand stretch of desolation Grand Xia, what storm had Qin Wentian wrought?

Right now, they only felt Qin Wentian was increasingly inscrutable the more they thought they knew of him.

For example an woman like Mo Qingcheng, just based on her beauty alone even if she wasn't the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley, she would still be as outstanding like the cold moon surrounded by twinkling stars wherever she go. As for such a terrifying character like Mu Feng, it didn't matter what sort of story he had with Qin Wentian. The point was he was willing to follow Qin Wentian with no questions asked. Also, the Battle Sword Sect sent so many powerful experts to the Xuan King City including Senior Lin Shuai and even an elder-level character under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian just to recruit two people back. One of them was Qing'er, the other was Qin Wentian. Was this all part of a plan by the Battle Sword Sect?

Also back then when Mo Qingcheng was grievously injured on the verge of death, who was it that sent her to the Medicine Sovereign Valley? Also why did the Medicine Sovereign placed her in such high regards, naming her the Holy Maiden and even personally treated her himself, expending a great deal of his origin qi in the process. Who was so important that the even the Medicine Sovereign had to give so much face to? After all, there was no way to evaluate Mo Qingcheng's talent as was still unconscious. From this, one could see that the one who sent her to the Valley definitely had an extraordinary status.

Ye Lingshuang wasn't a fool. The more she thought about it, the more shocked she became. There were many extraordinary characters in the Battle Sword Sect but even then, this junior apprentice brother of her seemed to be among the more outstanding ones.

However, those from the Violet Thunder Sect naturally wouldn't think too deeply. Right now they wanted nothing more than to dig a hole and hide their faces. Such a situation was something they couldn't accept.

Ye Kongfan's eyes radiated coldness and momentarily, a person beside him stood up causing the gazes of Qin Wentian and the others to fall on him.

"COME!" A loud burst of sound echoed through the air, the voice of this person was like the rumble of thunder, spreading over this empire space making so that the vast majority of stares were shot in his direction.

"Lei Yan, a cultivator at the fifth level of Heavenly Dipper. Both his attack and defense are extremely balanced and he has no major weaknesses. If he challenge you, you must not accept." Ye Lingshuang transmitted her voice over, causing Qin Wentian's expression to flicker slightly. Seems that this senior apprentice sister of his wanted to use this chance to better their relationship. Although Qin Wentian knew what was Ye Lingshuang's goal, he didn't mind it either. After all no matter who it was, if they found out that their father was so heavily injured, they would act in the same way as well.

"I'm Lei Yan from the Violet Thunder Sect. When I saw so many heroes of the Ye Country battling out on the combat stages, my blood is stirred and I too, wanted to participate and be a part of this. I would like to seek a spar against an expert from the Battle Sword Sect. What do the rest of you think?" Lei Yan's loud voice rumbled. An instant later a wave of commotion of wild cheering and shouts filled the air. The sound were like tidal waves of an ocean, fully engulfing the entire battle arena.

The competition between the nine great sects was extremely intense but it wasn't so easy to witness members from the nine sects fighting against one another. Only being present at the Sacred Battle Platform would one have a chance to witness it in a public setting, the occurrence of such an event was truly too rare in other parts of the Royal Sacred Region. Hence now that Lei Yan from the Violet Thunder Sect officially stated that he wanted to issue a challenge to members of the Battle Sword Sect, how could the crowd not be excited about it?

There was a rumor in the Sacred Royal Region that said the individual combat prowess of members from the Battle Sword Sect was the highest. Since today the Violet Sword Sect wanted to test out the truth of this, the crowd naturally would be more than willing to watch.

The members from the Battle Sword Sect were all frowning, their eyes gleaming with coldness. Those from the Violet Thunder Sect actually publicly proclaimed a challenge to force them to accept the battle. If they refused, wouldn't their reputation go down the drain and they would become the laughing stocks of others? Members of the Battle Sword Sect didn't dare to fight against those from the Violet Thunder Sect.

"I've already experienced Brother Qin's gift of gab. Truly his glib words left me astounded in wonder. However, I wonder how his strength is? Would his strength be as powerful as his mouth?" Lei Yan turned his head to the direction of Qin Wentian who stood beside Mo Qingcheng. As expected, he was the one Lei Yan wanted to challenge. The person which caused the Violet Thunder Sect to lose face today, was none other than Qin Wentian.

"The young man at the side of the Holy Maiden?" The crowd was filled with anticipation when they noticed who Lei Yan was proclaiming his challenge to. This young man had an extraordinary relationship with the Holy Maiden and was also a member of the Battle Sword Sect. How could the crowd not be enthusiastic?

"My Junior Brother's cultivation base is only at the fourth-level of Heavenly Dipper while you yourself has a cultivation base at the fifth level. Don't you feel ashamed challenging him? Why don't you challenge me instead?" Liu Yun sarcastically replied, staring at Lei Yan with a smile that was not a smile.

"Hehe, I, Lei knows that this is slightly inappropriate. I'm only challenging Brother Qin because I want to see if he has the strength to match up to that venomous mouth of his. As for you, there's no hurry. There would surely be members of my Violet Thunder Sect to challenge you." Lei Yan's words caused the crowd to feel increasingly excited. Seems like that wouldn't merely be a single battle today.

Qin Wentian inclined his head, staring at Lei Yan with a smile of disdain on his face, "What happens if the loser dies?"

As the sound of his words faded away, the crowd involuntarily gasped. How arrogant, 'what happens if the loser dies?'. To Lei Yan's provocation, Qin Wentian replied in the most direct manner.

Such spirit couldn't help but cause the crowd to sigh in admiration. As expected of someone from the Battle Sword Sect, the sect who was proclaimed to have the highest individual combat prowess.

Lei Yan also felt his heart shuddering from Qin Wentian's words. Staring at him, he only saw Qin Wentian's eyes were totally clear and seemed to be filled with an endless depth. That smile on disdain on his face seemed to contain a boundless confidence, as though once Lei Yan agreed, his life would be Qin Wentian's for the taking.

“RUMBLE!” A towering lightning-might erupted forth, Lei Yan's silhouette flickered as he re-appeared standing in the air space above the hundred-victories combat stage. He roared decisively while pointing a finger at Qin Wentian, “If you dared to fight me without using divine weapons or other treasures, I shall accept this bet of your—the loser shall give his life to the winner.”

The reason why he didn't want divine weapons or other treasures to be part of this fight was because he was afraid that Qin Wentian might have a priceless treasure that could instantly reap his life away. Without the help of divine weapons nor other treasures, he didn't believe Qin Wentian would be able to be victorious.

“If you dare to fight against me, get the fuck out here.” Lei Yan savagely stated, exuding an aura of considering himself unexcelled in this world. There was a manifestation of a lightning dragon coiling around his head, exuding extremely terrifying energy fluctuations.

“Junior Brother, his combat strength is no joke.” Liu Yun reminded Qin Wentian upon seeing him standing up.

“Mhm.” Qin Wentian nodded his head. His eyes flickered as he took out an ordinary large axe from his interspatial ring. “Would ordinary weapons be allowed?”

Those from the Violet Thunder Sect stretched their perception outwards. None of them replied upon sensing that Indeed, that axe in Qin Wentian's hand was just an ordinary weapon.

Qin Wentian then slowly stepped forwards with an axe in his hands. Every step he took caused Lei Yan to feel a faint sense of mounting pressure.

“Gravity.” Lei Yan's heart trembled slightly upon feeling the pressure, he instantly activated his Mandate of Great Earth, causing gravity to press down on Qin Wentian. However during the Gravity Mountains, Qin Wentian had long acclimatised himself to extraordinary powerful gravity. Lei Yan's Mandate of Great Earth had completely no effect on him.

At this moment, countless gazes were riveted on the two combatants. The maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley were also regarding this battle with interest. They wanted to see how powerful the young man in their Holy Maiden's heart is.

With every step Qin Wentian took, a formless pressure emanated forth from him. Lei Yan's body was covered by an armor of stone that sparkled with dangerous-looking arcs of lightning condensed from the will of his Mandates. With such a terrifying defense, even if Qin Wentian's attacks were powerful, it would still be sometime before he could breach that defense.

"Those from the Battle Sword Sect were proclaimed to have the strongest individual combat strength? How ridiculous. I will use this battle to show everyone in the Royal Sacred Region how wrong that claim is." Lei Yan bellowed as he rushed out. Instantly, the lightning dragon coiling around his head enlarged and shot out, transforming into a crystal-body, resplendent and incomparably sharp draconic sword. It penetrated through the space and slashed out towards Qin Wentian.

"What a powerful attack." The eyes of the crowd flickered. Those from the Violet Thunder Sect coldly laughed, this attack was Lei Yan's Draconic Rock Swordplay, it has terrifying destructive capabilities and each of his sword strikes contained an overwhelming might within them.

Qin Wentian lifted his hands, releasing his will of Mandates. In the centre of his brows, a cold light gleamed, shooting right through the sea of consciousness of Lei Yan before he struck out with his axe.

The strike from the axe appeared ordinary and without fanfare, resembling a casual strike used to chop down trees. But the instant the head of the axe landed, it blocked the entirety of the destructive might from Lei Yan's swordplay. That overwhelming draconic sword of Lei Yan was simply like an ordinary tree. Under Qin Wentian's retaliation, that sword was directly cleaved into two. Not only that, the shockwaves of the attack carried forward, continuing ahead unimpeded.

"Bzzz!" Sounds of cleaving rang out, the crowd only saw Lei Yan's body being severed into two. Blood splattered about in the air as the two-halves of his body fell from the air, slamming onto the ground.

A single axe, just like the motion of chopping trees, Qin Wentian directly chopped Lei Yan's life away!