

## Ancient GM 561

### Chapter 561: The Wind and Clouds Changes

Many white-robed silhouettes appeared beside Lin Xian`er, protectively surrounding her. She smiled as she stared at Di Shi, before stating in a gentle voice, “Although you are one of the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses, who would have thought that there’s such a huge difference between you all. Your strength isn’t just a little weaker compared to Gu Liufeng, and when we compare characters, Sir Di actually attacked me just because of a casual comment I made, how truly disappointing.”

“Gu Liufeng, I shall definitely avenge the hatred of this single arrow. As for the difference in strength between us, it’s only natural considering the difference in our cultivation base. As to whose talent is stronger, we will naturally know after the Immortal Martial Realm concludes.” The azure glow from Di Shi flickered as his eyes gleamed with sharpness. He then turned to Lin Xian`er as he spoke, “As to me being angered and hence attacking you, that’s simply complete nonsense. Di Shi only wished to have Fairy Lin to accompany me for a chat, how can I truly bear to destroy such a beautiful flower like you?”

“Sir Di’s method of invitation is somewhat unique,” Lin Xian`er softly replied.

“Fairy Lin’s countenance is able to charm all living things, naturally I had to resort to some unusual methods. Since Fairy Lin does not wish to do so, I, Di shall not force you.” Di Shi’s silhouette flickered as he appeared higher in the air. His gaze turned to Qin Wentian once more as a glimmer of coldness flashed within his eyes. Pointing at Qin Wentian, he stated, “Ji Feixue might be able to protect you for now, but since you have injured my brother, you are already destined to die no matter who you are or what status you have.”

As the sound of his voice faded, Di Shi’s silhouette rushed out abruptly. Ji Feixue coldly snorted, his silhouette too flickered as he moved in front of Qin Wentian. His sword was already in his hands and with but a thought, he could unleash his attack instantly.

At this moment, Di Shi’s body suddenly veered to the side, dashing towards Fan Le and the rest, as well as those from the Medicine Sovereign Valley.

“IMPUDENT!” Ji Feixue knew that he was tricked and instantly reacted, chasing after Di Shi. However, how fast exactly was Di Shi’s speed?

“CAREFUL!” Qin Wentian shouted. Yun Mengyi blasted out her palms as a surge of freezing ice energy gushed towards Di Shi. At the same time, Qin Zheng stepped forth as he lashed out with spatial laceration. However, even their joint attacks could do nothing to Di Shi. Di Shi stretched his

arms out, causing a huge primordial bird to manifest as it tore through all attacks before lunging at his targets.

The countenances of Fan Le and the others drastically changed. Di Shi was simply too powerful.

BANG!

Astral light flooded the area as the whole lot of them executed Stellar Transposition.

“WHERE CAN YOU ESCAPE?!” Di Shi howled in madness. His arms blasted out as the azure light zoomed forth, causing numerous ferocious primordial birds to manifest

“SCRAM!” Ouyang Kuangsheng’s countenance was incredibly unsightly to behold.

Qin Wentian’s eyes flashed with extreme coldness when he took in this scene. A spatial glow then enveloped his person as he spoke, “Senior brother, aid me.”

Duan Han and the others beside all nodded, after which they saw Qin Wentian stepping forth as astral light erupted. He executed Stellar Transposition as his monstrous perception madly flowed out. Di Yu who was in the midst of recovering abruptly gave a miserable scream, “BROTHER SAVE ME!”

Di Shi’s expression turned ugly, his attack had already landed as the primordial birds all blasted Fan Le and the others away, causing their blood to splash through the air. Di Shi initially planned to slaughter them all right away, yet the scream of Di Yu caused him to immediately turn and rush in his brother’s direction. At this moment, Ji Feixue’s sword light flashed as this entire space was enveloped by a screen of swords.

“OUT OF MY WAY!” Di Shi raged, the blood in his body surged as the azure light glowing from him grew even brighter. The projection of a gigantic azure roc manifested and erupted forwards with terrifying might.

“You are too impudent.” How could Ji Feixue let him pass? He turned his wrist as seven times seven, a total of forty-nine swords slashed out. The sword might engulfed this entire area, forcibly cutting Di Shi off.

“YOU DARE?” A roar of rage reverberated the heavens, shaking the entire space. Astral light flashed as a constellation appeared in the skies.

“SLASH!” Duan Han didn’t hesitate and instantly slashed out causing the entire skies to dim as darkness enveloped Di Yu and his protectors.

Qin Wentian, Duan Han, and the rest naturally understood that Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants had arrived. Not only for their opponents, they themselves also had Ascendants hiding in the shadows. The people from the major powers all had experts at the Ascendant level following them behind. Earlier, when Di Shi arrived, the Ascendants from his clan had already been hiding in the shadows. As Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants, they naturally wouldn’t easily interfere in a battle of the younger generations – not even when there were casualties.

And precisely because both sides knew that the Ascendants from the various powers had arrived, they decided to halt the battle there. That should have been the end of everything until the instant Di Shi decided to act against Fan Le and the others. This time around, Qin Wentian was truly completely enraged.

Hence, this was why there was such a scene now. Di Yu was a Heaven Chosen among the younger generation of the supreme Di Clan, and his talent in cultivation was not any weaker compared to Di Shi. In the future, there was an extremely high possibility that he would be able to become an era-suppressing genius as well. And now that they saw Qin Wentian, Duan Han, and the rest intending to kill Di Yu, how could these Ascendants from the supreme Di Clan still refrain from interfering?

“I didn’t even come out, who gave all of you the turn to interfere?” In the skies, a sword beam flashed by, so powerful that it felt as though it could tear the skies, slashing towards the constellation manifested by those from the supreme Di Clan. At the same time, a new constellation appeared which transformed into a tempest, directly separating Qin Wentian and the others from the Ascendants of the supreme Di Clan. Several silhouettes then appeared in the air. It was actually none other than Shi Xuan and his troops.

The ascendants from the Battle Sword Sect and ancient Ye had both made their move while the experts from the Medicine Sovereign Valley only focused on protecting Mo Qingcheng. From their perspective, Mo Qingcheng’s safety was everything. If the battle really escalated, they would first whisk Mo Qingcheng away.

“GO!” The experts from the supreme Di Clan roared, telling the guards to bring Di Yu away.

“Too late.” A beam shot forth from the center of Qin Wentian’s brow, directly rushing madly into Di Yu’s sea of consciousness. Waves of vibrations rumbled through his mind, causing Di Yu to howl unceasingly in excruciating agony. The darkness hadn’t dissipated as a pair of demonic wings grew from Qin Wentian’s back. A gust of raging wind kicked up, while a halberd strike slashed out towards where Di Yu and his bodyguards were at. This halberd strike had neither sound nor presence, disappearing into the void.

“CAREFUL!” The bodyguards in front of Di Yu were extremely nervous, they couldn’t see Qin Wentian or the direction of Qin Wentian’s halberd attack, and so they could only try to broaden their scope of defence, madly unleashing their attacks hoping to intersect with that of Qin Wentian’s.

Bzzz!

Astral light flashed, Qin Wentian transformed into a series of blurry shadows, exceptionally indistinct in the darkness. It was completely impossible to see him at all.

“Puchi!” A light sound echoed out, the blurry shadows eventually appeared above Di Yu as the Scarlet Demon Halberd pierced right into the brain of Di Yu, reaping his life away. This time, Di Yu didn’t even have the time to scream.

“ARGH!” Those experts from the supreme Di Clan all madly unleashed their attacks towards Qin Wentian. However at the exact same instant, Qin Wentian’s surroundings shimmered with spatial energy as the attacks landed. Qin Wentian coughed out blood while the spatial fluctuations intensified, teleporting him away from that space.

“DI YU!” those from the Di Clan howled, not daring to believe their eyes.

Di Shi’s attacks also got increasingly frantic. He roared in rage, causing space to rumble. Right now, his eyes had already turned red from madness.

“Di Shi.” Ji Feixue slashed out a sword as he icily continued, “Initially this battle had already stopped. You are the one who killed your own brother with your actions. Don’t lay the blame on others.”

What sort of character was Di Shi? How could he endure such provocation? His attacks got more and more chaotic, azure light flashed as the talons of the gigantic Azure Roc slashed apart the skies. On the other hand, Ji Feixue executed a completely defensive sword technique to protect himself. Considering the state of madness he was in, although Di Shi’s attacks were powerful, it was completely impossible for him to injure Ji Feixue. The two of them were equally matched.

As for Fan Le and the others, they were slightly injured. Mo Qingcheng brought the maidens of the Medicine Sovereign Valley along to administer to their injuries while protecting their safety.

On the other side, those from the Battle Sword Sect, and Shi Xuan and his troops were also at an overwhelming advantage when facing against the ascendants from the supreme Di Clan. The bodyguards of Di Yu hugged his corpse and howled in rage, yet they were all helpless.

Today, they had already suffered a grievous loss. Losing a young genius that had the potential to become an era-suppressing genius, yet they could do nothing to their opponent. Even Qin Wentian, the person who killed Di Yu, had already completely vanished from this space using a spatial transference scroll. Earlier, Qin Wentian used the scroll because he merely wanted to escape from the torrents of attack. But in this situation, even if he didn't teleport away, the supreme Di Clan wouldn't be able to do anything to him regardless.

“This time, Di Shi must have gone mad. His younger brother died because of him attacking Qin Wentian's friends, causing Qin Wentian to become completely enraged, sparing no expense to kill Di Yu in retaliation. If not, the ascendants on both sides would have never acted,” the hearts of the spectators silently mused. They initially thought that this was originally only going to be a fight between the younger generations. Who would have thought that the wind and clouds would change?

Di Shi was simply too arrogant, that was why this ending came about.

Naturally, Di Yu's character should be blamed as well. He would never have imagined that today would be the day of his death.

Looking at the madness on Di Shi's face, the spectators all shook their head. Even though Di Yu died, the ending was still hard to say. Di Shi would certainly take revenge. Would Qin Wentian be able to survive Di Shi's revenge?

Also for Qin Wentian's friends, Di Shi would certainly not spare them. They could only pray that they wouldn't encounter Di Shi in the Immortal Martial Realm. After all, the Realm's entrance was limited to Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns. Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants wouldn't be able to enter. One could only depend on themselves there.

RUMBLE!

A towering rage permeated the atmosphere. Di Shi finally stopped engaging Ji Feixue in combat. He soared up into the skies, glancing at Mo Qingcheng, Fan Le, and the rest, before staring at the body of his brother as he began to howl in madness.

“THE IMMORTAL MARTIAL REALM SHALL BE YOUR BURIAL GROUNDS!” Di Shi madly roared, his voice echoing through the skies, so loud that it hurt the ear drums of the spectators.

“GO!” Di Shi roared again, as the experts from the supreme Di Clan brought Di Yu's corpse and soared into the heavens, all of them departing from this area. Evidently, they knew they couldn't do anything considering the strength arrayed against them. Thus, they could only give up.

But staring at their departing backs, the spectators understood that today, an immense debt of hatred had been formed. It was impossible that Di Shi and his clan would give up on revenge.

Ji Feixue's brows were furrowed as he turned to Duan Han, "We must quickly find junior brother Qin, and in the future, please take care of yourselves and do not wander out alone. Di Shi and his brother were exceedingly close, and now that Di Yu is dead, he would surely spare no expense to hunt the whole lot of you down."

"Di Yu deserves death," Duan Han coldly spoke. The fighting initially had already stopped, yet because of Di Shi's actions, all of this happened.

Yet Fan Le and the others all understood in their hearts, knowing what they should do. Since the seeds of hatred had already been sown, they could only be more cautious in the future!

"What an interesting fellow." From afar, Lin Xian'er laughed. This Sir Qin was truly crazy; seeing that his friends got attacked, he went and spared no expense, even at the cost of his life to ensure that Di Yu would die here today!

#### Chapter 562: Journey into the Immortal Martial Realm

The others returned to the inn. Qin Wentian heaved a sigh of relief upon learning that everyone was safe.

In the following days, Qin Wentian didn't go out. Other than cultivating together with Mo Qingcheng, he would occasionally find Fan Le and the rest to drink and chat in leisure. Naturally he didn't forget to ask about Bai Qing.

It turned out that after Fan Le and the others exited the royal tomb, they gathered together and went exploring the various secret realms of Grand Xia. On an occasion, they ventured into a forbidden area in Grand Xia named the Devil Statue Cliff. Over there they encountered many dangers and almost died in there. Eventually, they narrowly managed to escape with their lives.

It was Bai Qing who saved them, they couldn't forget that in front of that fear-inducing devil statue, Bai Qing's entire body radiated devilish might, staring at that recovering devil statue while acquiring the time needed for them to exit safely. However, the consequences of her actions resulted in Bai Qing being trapped in the Devil Statue Cliff; even her life and death was unknown.

After hearing this news, Qin Wentian was exceptionally worried about Bai Qing's safety. But according to Ouyang Kuangsheng, although after the royal tomb Bai Qing did roam around Grand Xia with them, her personality was extremely detached, always keeping to herself. Nobody knew what she was thinking about, but they could all clearly feel the loneliness in her heart. Even if it wasn't for the sake of rescuing them, Bai Qing would have never exited the Devil Statue Cliff, she would have continued to stay within to pursue the unknown secrets inside even if it meant facing death.

Yun Mengyi was a female, she was the one who understood Bai Qing's heart the most. She said something causing Qin Wentian to feel very uneasy. Bai Qing had entered Mara; that was a heart devil, she had no way to walk out of it. Hence, the value of her life to her was extremely little. She didn't see her life as important.

Yun Mengyi's words kept revolving in Qin Wentian's heart, making him feel extremely unbearable.

He naturally understood that this has everything to do with Bai Qing's past. Back then, the things the Bai Clan did to him had already caused Bai Qing to walk a stray path, leading her to practice the devil arts. The devil arts would slowly influence one's personality, eventually forming a heart devil; this was an extremely difficult path to advance on and just the slightest mistake would condemn one to eternal damnation.

After which, they met again. Bai Qing suffered an attack purposely from him to repay the debts her father and elder sister owed him. Just a call of the name 'Wentian gege' caused the tension in her heart to ease, allowing her to repair relations with her family. Only then did Bai Qing show signs of turning for the better. But after her master died and Qin Wentian got seriously injured, Bai Qing descended once more into Mara.

Thinking back to the days of the past, that naive and adorable lass who always loved to follow him and called him 'Wentian gege,' Qin Wentian couldn't help but feel extremely anxious. He definitely had to return to Grand Xia. After settling the matters in Grand Xia, he would enter the Devil Statue Cliff to search for Bai Qing.

As to the reason why Qin Wentian focused so much on cultivation without leaving the inn, this wasn't just because he was worried about the revenge by Di Shi and his clan. That day, he had personally witnessed the strength of four era-suppressing geniuses, any one of them were true blazing suns of this generation and in addition, there were four others ranked as highly as them. Not only that, there were Heaven Chosen of the Nine Great Sects, as well as the other monstrous talents of ancient countries and reclusive sects. One could very well imagine how intense the competition in the Immortal Martial Realm would be. He naturally hoped to raise his strength as much as he could during this period.

The Immortal Martial Realm was also termed as the burial grounds for geniuses. One could only wonder how many geniuses this cruel place would eliminate in this batch of participants. The remaining geniuses that were filtered by the baptism of blood would naturally stand out as being conspicuously brilliant.

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The Immortal Martial Realm was just outside the Immortal Martial City. This ancient city was constructed at the border of the Immortal Martial Realm.

Ten years between activations, the Immortal Martial Realm was a separate dimension. There were rumors saying that the master of the realm was someone on the same level as the sect leader of the Royal Sacred Sect, someone who had already reached the legendary realm above that of Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants.

There were also rumors that the Immortal Martial Realm, other than acting as a filter for the generations of elite geniuses in the Royal Sacred Region, had another purpose and that was the master of the realm was seeking a successor.

In any case, there were just too many rumors about the Immortal Martial Realm. Although this place was known as the burial ground of geniuses, there was still no lack of cultivators willing to enter.

This was a sacred place in the Royal Sacred Region, nobody was willing to miss out on this opportunity. Although many people would die within, it was worth it as there are also many fortuitous opportunities that one could seek inside. For those who once engraved their names upon the ranking monument in the Immortal Martial Realm, several of them became the emperors of ancient countries or sect leaders of great reclusive sects later on. Right now, outside the Immortal Martial Realm, there was a sea of people so vast that one look wasn't able to reach the end of them. Everyone who was interested in entering the Immortal Martial Realm all gathered in this place, causing this area of a few hundred square miles to be completely filled with people.

This was the first time Qin Wentian had seen such an overwhelming scene. When he was in Grand Xia for the Heavenly Fate Rankings, he already thought that the scene there was majestic enough. But when compared to the Immortal Martial Realm, there was no way to even talk about it. Firstly, was because the number of people in Grand Xia wasn't able to match those in the Royal Sacred Region, the difference was simply too great. Secondly, the experts in Grand Xia were far from able to stand on equal grounds with those from the Immortal Martial Realm, and their obsession with strength was incomparable.

"Truly shocking." Fan Le grinned as he spoke. The whole lot of them flew through the air amidst countless others. They didn't dare to move too quickly for fear of colliding with others.

"Grand Xia is truly a place of desolation when compared to the Royal Sacred Realm, no wonder these powerhouses were too lazy to even go lord over Grand Xia," Ouyang Kuangsheng spoke in a low voice, similarly taken aback.

"Grand Xia was once powerful before, it was part of the three grand empires of the Royal Sacred Region. But because others coveted it, Grand Xia's treasury was ransacked, and after a period of several thousand years, the powerhouses of the previous generation had all already migrated out of Grand Xia, which led to the present Grand Xia today." Yun Mengyi sighed, this was a vicious cycle. The places where the strong gathered would grow stronger and stronger as countless experts flocked to them. For weaker places, even if demon-level geniuses were born there, those locations no longer held any attraction once the geniuses matured to a certain strength, causing them to leave, which in turn makes the weak place weaker and weaker.



This was a golden pyramid of the martial path. Strong people all desire to stand on the peak, and this included the Heaven Chosen of the Royal Sacred Region as well. Once their strength grew to a certain point where the Royal Sacred Region wasn't able to contain them, they would also leave for a better place.

“How many people are there here? There must at least be a million, can the Immortal Martial Realm contain so many people?” Fan Le asked.

“The majority of those here are only here to spectate or to send their close ones off. The ratio of those entering should be around one to ten and this is considered already excellent odds,” Ye Lingshuang who was by the side replied. “After all, ordinary cultivators would never dare to enter the realm. Just seeing the majesty of this place is sufficient for ordinary cultivators to know their place.”

“Thank you, beautiful sister,” Fan Le winked as he glanced at Ye Lingshuang. His narrowed eyes gleamed with a bright light, which caused Ye Lingshuang to be speechless. She didn't know why Qin Wentian had such a shameless friend whose eyes always gleamed with light whenever he saw beautiful girls. However, recently Ye Lingshuang also began to understand Fan Le's character. According to his words, it's natural to love beautiful things, and he acted like this simply because he was bursting out with universal love.

“Qingcheng, don't enter the Immortal Martial Realm.” Qin Wentian held on to Mo Qingcheng's hand, his gaze gentle.

Mo Qingcheng smiled sweetly as she replied in a low voice, “Why can't I enter?”

“Your talent lies in medicine and alchemy while the Immortal Martial Realm is purely a place to temper one's combat prowess. It doesn't matter if you are weaker when it comes to combat, I don't wish to put you in any danger,” Qin Wentian gently spoke, his words causing the sweet smile on Mo Qingcheng's face to grow even sweeter. She nodded and stated, “Mhm, okay, I will listen to you. But you must promise me to be careful in the Immortal Martial Realm.”

“Don't worry, even I'll take care of myself, I'll still care about you, I can't bear to lose you.” Qin Wentian squeezed the dainty hand of Mo Qingcheng, causing an expression of shyness to appear on her face.

She rolled her eyes and replied, “Glib tongue.”

Qin Wentian initially had the thought of getting Di Tian here to help him, but in the end he abolished that notion. Di Tian was his other true self and if he, Qin Wentian, really died in the Immortal Martial Realm, he would still survive.

Their group finally neared the entrance of the Immortal Martial Realm, and up ahead were many silhouettes akin to celestials who were clad in white. They stood around a gigantic stone monument and there were three large and imposing words glimmering with resplendent radiance engraved onto it – Immortal Martial Realm.

This over hundred meters tall stone monument was none other than the Immortal Martial Realm Monument. This place was also the entrance for the Immortal Martial Realm.

A few hundred meters behind the stone monument, there were a total of eighty-one stone pillars. The eyes of the crowd all shone when they stared at the pillars. Those from ancient clans and reclusive sects all radiated a keen battle intent. All of them wanted to stand atop one of the stone pillars.

Right now, the silhouettes of the three Immortal Martial Realm envoys flickered as they appeared on top of the Immortal Martial Monument. Their eyes held a terrifying penetrating power as they glanced over the crowd. Silence instantly descended onto the crowd as countless silhouettes inclined their heads, staring at the envoys above. Just this scene alone caused the hearts of the vast majority to palpitate.

“Holders of the Immortal Martial Medallion, ascend the stone pillars,” the envoy standing in the centre of the three spoke. His voice was soft, yet it thundered through space, permeating a region of hundreds of miles.

“The eighty-one holders of the Immortal Martial Medallions are those whom the envoys hold in the highest regards. The vast majority of them are geniuses from the Nine Great Sects or from ancient countries, reclusive sects or supreme clans.” The crowd stared ahead as eighty-one silhouettes flew through the air towards the stone pillars.

“Di Shi, the Heaven Chosen from the supreme Di Clan, one of the eight era-suppressing geniuses. I heard that his younger brother was killed just recently.”

After Di Shi, the other geniuses all ascended the stone pillars.

“Gu Liufeng, that’s Gu Liufeng. How handsome!”

“That must be Li Tian, his physique is so robust!”

“The number one beauty under the heavens, Lin Xian’er also obtained a Immortal Martial Medallion.”

“Who’s that maiden? She’s actually so beautiful to the extent it’s comparable to Lin Xian’er?”

“The princess of Grand Zhou, Princess Qiaoyang. As outstanding as expected, who says females can’t be comparable to males?”

“That must be the Saint Child of the Supreme Demon Sect. What an overwhelming demonic qi.”

“Nangong Shuang from the Nangong Aristocrat Clan also arrived. I wonder if the Nangong Aristocrat Clan still hates the Celestial Maiden Sect.”

One medallion holder after another ascended the stone pillars. The instant they appeared they immediately caused a torrential wave of commotion through the crowd. These were all the Heaven Chosen of this generation!

The eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses were undoubtedly the most dazzling among the various geniuses. The vast majority of the gazes were all riveted onto them.

Ji Feixue and Qin Wentian soared towards the stone pillars together. They were both acquainted and were members of the same sect. Naturally they would be closer compared to the other strangers. The two of them stood on stone pillars that were right next to each other.

Other than them, there were two other members, a man and a woman, of the Battle Sword Sect who also received the medallions.

These two of them were none other than the other personal disciples under the nine Sword Sovereigns. The icy-looking maiden stood underneath the sunlight, giving off a quiet and cold demeanor as though she was the goddess from the moon, untouchable. Qin Wentian stood on the left of Ji Feixue while she stood on the right.

“Lou Bingyu.” Qin Wentian noticed her because her master was none other than the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness. This maiden was none other than the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness’s favorite disciple, Lou Bingyu.

In the Immortal Martial Realm, treasures and divine weapons weren’t allowed. The Immortal Martial Realm was a separate dimension that was a world of its own, and it would reject external energies that didn’t have its mark on them. The Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness, in order to allow Lou Bingyu to have a more powerful trump card allowing her to gain greater advantage compared to others in the Immortal Martial Realm, didn’t hesitate to take advantage of the Human Emperor’s precarious position, forcing him to dig into his own flesh to take out his treasure, before she gifted it to Lou Bingyu.

And now this treasure had already melded into Lou Bingyu’s flesh and become a part of her body. Qin Wentian silently mused, nothing of what he was thinking could be seen in his eyes. But ever since the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness did that to the Human Emperor Ye Qingyun, rivalry between Qin Wentian and Lou Bingyu was already destined. Although they were members of the same sect, they weren’t allies, but enemies.

Other than these eight era-suppressing geniuses, the spectators also silently studied the remaining medallion holders. Out of these eighty-one holders, the Nine Great Sects only made up of a third of the numbers. The others were from the other major powers in the Royal Sacred Region, numbering one or two at most.

Although there were some people similar to Qin Wentian whose faces and names weren’t known to all, the spectators didn’t question too much about Qin Wentian being among the eighty-one. After all, every time the deed of him slaying Ye Kongfan as well as Di Yu from the supreme Di Clan was

mentioned, it wasn't strange for him to be a holder of a medallion. Ye Kongfan was two levels higher compared to him, while slaying Di Yu in front of Di Shi showed that he was a spirited man filled with boldness.

The only thing that was a pity was that his cultivation level was indeed lower compared to the other geniuses. Although it was rumored that the true test in the Immortal Martial Realm would be set up in such a way that people of different level cultivation bases were able to compete fairly, there was no such thing as absolute fairness. At the very end, the participants had to depend on absolute strength to acquire what they desire.

This could be said to be a magnificent feast that eliminated many.

"Immortal Martial Realm, activate!" the envoys standing on the top of the stone monument spoke. Instantly, huge rumbling sounds echoed out as the entrance of the incomparably vast Immortal Martial Realm pulled open. The gazes of countless people peered into it, wanting to see for themselves what exactly this separate world was.

They saw many floating islands with twisted roots and intertwined joints akin to floating cities. That shocking scene only required a single glance to remain unforgettable in this lifetime.

"Is that the eighty-one floating bridges of the Immortal Martial Realm?" Although many in the crowd had asked for details from those experts who had entered the Immortal Martial Realm before, truly seeing it with their own eyes were still an extremely shocking thing.

Although the eighty-one floating bridges were termed bridges, each and every one of them could be considered an individual world, a kind of tempering test.

This eighty-one floating bridges corresponded with the eighty-one medallion holders. It was precisely because of these floating bridges that the eighty-one medallions existed. The Immortal Martial Realm envoys chose eighty-one participants and didn't wish for them to meet each other too early. Naturally, if the eighty-one selected individuals lost to some others on their own bridge, it could only be said that they were useless.

"The eighty-one of you listen up. Each of you will walk to one bridge, and every bridge will bring you a different encounter. As for the danger level, it's the same no matter which bridge you take. Your destiny shall depend on yourself, and as for the others without a medallion, just go to whichever bridge you want to." An envoy waved his hands and spoke. Instantly, the eighty-one selected individuals flickered as they entered the Immortal Martial Realm.

Qin Wentian and Ji Feixue advanced together side by side. In the instant they stepped into the Immortal Martial Realm, a formless heavenly might descended from the skies. The great dao had no form, yet the pressure from it would envelop all who stepped into the Immortal Martial Realm. The majority of the eighty-one individuals had no change to their countenance. Evidently, they had already roughly knew about the situation in here.

In addition, those eighty-one selected individuals all had extremely strong hearts and minds and were long prepared. With their capabilities, so what even if their cultivation realms were suppressed?

Characters that were Heaven Chosen didn't merely depend on superiority of their cultivation bases. Regardless of combat strength, comprehension, strength of will, they were all much higher compared to ordinary people.

Qin Wentian roughly knew the happenings within. He had heard that entering the Immortal Realm meant stepping across one of the eighty-one floating bridges and was something that would never change, but the dangers and opportunities one faced would change. As for their suppressed cultivation base, it would slowly be unlocked sooner or later, and so what he had to do before the suppression was lifted was to use this pressure by the Immortal Martial Realm to constantly elevate his strength, fighting to raise his cultivation base up another level before the suppression was lifted.

Staring at the eighty-one floating bridges akin to heavenly palaces caused Qin Wentian to be thunderstruck. Each of the eighty-one bridges was like a world onto their own and would lead to different places with different dangerous tests and fortuitous encounters.

An intense killing intent landed onto Qin Wentian. Qin Wentian's sharp perception naturally sensed it, these killing intents came from different places. Other than Di Shi, there were also those from the Violet Thunder Sect.

Qin Wentian didn't glance at them; he would face these people sooner or later, but there were more immediate dangers waiting for him ahead. If he wished to walk all the way to the end, it wasn't so simple as simply facing against Di Shi and those from the Violet Thunder Sect.

The silhouettes of the majority of the participants all flickered as they soared towards the different floating bridges.

"Junior brother Qin, choose a bridge first. One bridge, one world, we have to depend on our luck," Ji Feixue spoke.

"Ji Feixue." At this moment, a voice drifted over from Ji Feixue's side, it was the voice of Lou Bingyu. Turning his gaze over, Ji Feixue stared at the quiet and cold countenance.

“My name shall be placed before yours in the ranking monument of the Immortal Martial Realm,” Lou Bingyu calmly stated. After which, her silhouette flashed as she soared towards one of the floating bridges.

“Good confidence,” Ji Feixue smiled before similarly flying towards one of the bridges.

Lou Bingyu didn't even glance at Qin Wentian. Maybe she didn't know of the relationship between Qin Wentian and the Human Emperor.

Turning his gaze towards the sky, Qin Wentian soared up, his movements akin to a gust of wind as he approached one of the empty floating bridges. As the holder of a medallion, he was the first to step upon this bridge. The other eighty geniuses had already chosen their own, this way it would ensure that these selected individuals wouldn't cross each other's path too early.

The floating bridge Qin Wentian was on was a lone existence, parallel to the other eighty bridges yet they each led to a different place. He stared at the many never seen before scenes ahead of him as he breathed deeply.

A bridge was a world of its own.

By this time, the other participants also entered the Immortal Martial Realm and were soaring towards the eighty-one floating bridges.

Despite the fact that there were eighty-one bridges, the number of participants was simply too high. There were thousands of participants entering each of the eighty-one bridges.

Qin Wentian slowly walked out on the bridge he had chosen, his steps slow and steady.

The Immortal Martial Realm was considered a sacred place in the Royal Sacred Region. He had to grab hold of this opportunity to increase his strength.

“Halt!”

From behind, a thunderous voice roared. It was none other than a participant who came to the bridge he had chosen, the second person to set foot on the bridge. Evidently, the participant chose this bridge because he saw Qin Wentian choosing it.

The eighty-one selected individuals were all Heaven Chosen. Although Qin Wentian had an exemplary battle achievement record, the threat he posed was much less compared to the others.

At least, this was what Shi Kuang from the Heaven Crippling sect felt. He was the one that roared for Qin Wentian to stop.

Qin Wentian paused, turning back and saw Shi Kuang on the bridge as well. Behind Shi Kuang, sounds of a large approaching army drew closer and closer.

Qin Wentian didn't say anything, he merely continue staring at Shi Kuang. Looking at that deep and clear eyes of Qin Wentian, Shi Kuang's heart involuntarily bloomed with panic. This sort of feeling was extremely fatal, especially in the Immortal Martial Realm. How could fear appear in his heart just because of a glance from a single person?

“Although you are a holder of the Immortal Martial Medallion, why don't you wait for more people before proceeding across the bridge together?” Shi Kuang controlled his emotions, yet he didn't dare to say anything impolite. It was as though he feared that calm gaze of Qin Wentian. Shi Kuang could feel that within that calmness, there was a terrifying unruly wildness that could erupt at the slightest provocation.

“Wentian.” Ye Lingshuang also arrived at this bridge. After seeing Qin Wentian, her silhouette flickered as she appeared next to Qin Wentian. After which, Fan Le and the others appeared. They naturally would choose to walk the same path as Qin Wentian, hence all of them came to this floating bridge.

Only then did Qin Wentian retract the gaze he stared at Shi Kuang with. He glanced towards Ye Lingshuang and smiled, “Sister Lingshuang, let's proceed together.”

The number of people on the floating bridges increased to the point where this space seemed to be unable to contain them all. Qin Wentian and his friends proceeded ahead with trepidation and caution.

In this world of the floating bridges, there were ancient trees that reached high up to the skies, and so many ancient buildings and constructs. But regardless of how magnificent the scenery and landscape was, there was only one path ahead of them that stretched out continuously with seemingly no end to it.

The participants behind all started to form alliances, and many of them were from the same sect, choosing to band together and hence all of them went up to the same floating bridge. This way, they would have more leverage to protect themselves should danger arise.

Shi Kuang and a few other members from the Heaven Crippling Sect all banded together in an alliance. This was the same for the other members, including those from the Nine Great Sects.

Duan Han didn't chose this floating bridge; he was very clear of Qin Wentian's combat strength. Since everyone's cultivation bases were already suppressed, there was no worries if he left Qin Wentian to lead here on this floating bridge. He brought a few other members along as they entered another bridge. The other participants who were members of the Battle Sword Sect didn't have that much trust in Qin Wentian compared to Duan Han. Hence, they formed into their own groups, with none joining Qin Wentian's alliance.

#### Chapter 564: HumanBullying Demon

The floating bridge was very wide, but there was only a single path ahead. Everyone started walking on it, following the pathway ahead.

Gradually, the floating bridge they were on diverged from the other eighty bridges, leading in a completely different direction. Maybe they would meet each other in the end, but at the very least, they had to complete the path they were on before they knew if they would converge once more at the end.

“Suppression of cultivation bases and mandates, this feeling sucks.” Fan Le sighed depressedly as he walked along. He had discovered that his cultivation base was suppressed to the first level of Heavenly Dipper while the wills of his Mandates were also suppressed to the initial boundary of the second level. This sort of feeling was extremely uncomfortable when you knew your true strength was much more powerful, but you had no way to use it.

“This is the rule in the Immortal Martial Realm. Initially, this world will give a fair environment for those who have entered. In fact, this is advantageous for us. Once the suppression is lifted, there will be countless geniuses here who can kill us effortlessly,” Ye Lingshuang spoke in a low voice. Fan Le murmured a little, but eventually he also agreed with Ye Lingshuang. Their cultivation bases were considered among the weakest among the participants in the realm.

Also, Fan Le was extremely intelligent. Given how sharp he was he had already noticed the unbending aura everyone was exuding. Everyone wanted to devour their opponents, becoming the only one remaining in the Immortal Martial Realm. They were all very clear on how many elites of the Royal Sacred Region were in here, and the ambitions in the hearts of those from the major powers. Although everything looked calm now, there was a fire burning in everyone's heart that could erupt at any instant.



“What the hell are those things?” Fan Le noticed that there were eighteen silver-colored puppets appearing in front of them blocking their path. Not only that, they were positioned in an array formation shape as well.

“The first test of the Immortal Martial Realm has begun,” the hearts of everyone mused. There were dangers everywhere in this realm, even the first test was filled with incredible peril.

Astral light flashed, transforming into the shape of a bow as arrows penetrated space, shooting directly towards the silver-colored puppets. However, an intense silvery glow radiated forth from the puppets as the long spears in their hands pierced out. The aura from the eighteen puppets joined together and shattered the arrows into pieces.

“The strength of each individual puppet is about the peak of the first level of Heavenly Dipper, and the Mandates they are capable of using is also at the initial boundary of the second level. However, the puppets seem to be able to fuse their attacks together and their overall strength can be augmented to the peak of the second-level of Heavenly Dipper, and the will of their Mandates to the advanced boundary.” Qin Wentian’s perception was extremely sharp, he shared his analysis as the others around him all nodded, agreeing with his words.

“We can try to barge through by force.” Although their cultivation base and Mandates were suppressed for this first test, based on the combined power of their group, this was nothing to them at all.

They had eight people in their alliance: Qin Wentian, Ye Lingshuang, Fan Le, Ouyang Kuangsheng, Chu Mang, Yun Mengyi, Qin Zheng, and Mu Feng.

“Ouyang and me shall be the vanguard, Qin Zheng and Yun Mengyi support us from the side, Fatty and Big Bro Chu Mang suppress the rear while sister Lingshuang and Mu Feng will be in the center to deal with any unexpected situations,” Qin Wentian took the role of the commander and spoke. Such an arrangement was indeed very logical, although the first test of the Immortal Martial Realm wouldn’t be too monstrous, it was always better to be more safe than sorry.

“Right,” everyone agreed. The other participants at the back were all extremely joyful that Qin Wentian’s group wanted to be the first to probe. Naturally, they didn’t mind waiting quietly.

“Go!” Qin Wentian shouted after their formation was arranged, and the eight of them rushed towards the eighteen silver-colored puppets. Because the formless energy restricted their strength, they couldn’t even summon their astral novas and could only use their astral souls.

Qin Wentian’s physique underwent Demon Transformation as a demonic armor enveloped him. His gaze was extremely sharp as a heavenly hammer appeared in his hands. Since he was the vanguard, he naturally needed a tyrannical attack. Ouyang’s astral souls were released as well, and they were

incredibly dazzling. His entire body was cloaked in thunderfire that formed an armor which circulated around his body as both of them rushed ahead.

The eighteen silver-colored puppets simultaneously launched an attack towards Qin Wentian and his alliance. The stunning spear strike penetrated through everything.

Bzzz!

A raging wind gusted by as Qin Wentian and Ouyang Kuangsheng unleashed their attacks. The force behind them was exceptionally terrifying; the instant Qin Wentian's heavenly hammer slammed out, the entire space shook. Although his cultivation base and Mandates were suppressed, the strength of his physique as well as the augmentation effect of innate techniques wouldn't be suppressed.

The attacks from two sides collided directly against each other in the air. Qin Wentian and Ouyang Kuangsheng directly dashed into the midst of the puppets, forcing them backwards one by one. However, these puppets seemed to have an invulnerable body. The puppets reacted with a second round of attacks, their spear techniques were as ferocious as before as they struck out towards the two humans right at the forefront.

At this moment, Qin Zheng and Yun Mengyi acted. Spatial and freezing energy erupted forth at the same instant and the spear light from the combined attacks of the puppets was blocked by a formless energy. Fan Le and Chu Mang were long prepared and were storing up their power. In that instant during the clash, all eight of them had already entered the puppet formation and continued advancing ahead.

"They can't be killed, and can only be forced to retreat," the onlookers all understood upon spectating. Qin Wentian and Ouyang once again unleashed their attacks towards the spear light shooting their way, negating it completely. They then forcibly advanced straight through despite the pressure and eventually, their group of eight safely crossed over the formation of the eighteen puppets and arrived safely on the other side.

"It's almost impossible for a lone cultivator to barge through that," Qin Wentian murmured after he landed. The spectators naturally knew this was true. Although Qin Wentian and the others looked relaxed, this was only because their collaboration efforts had achieved a synergy greater than the whole of their strengths combined. If this formation was used to test a lone cultivator, unless that person was an absolute monstrous genius, they would definitely die within that formation.

From this point, one could see that the difficulty of the Immortal Martial Realm's tests were still exceedingly high. Just this first test was already so tough and to get pass it, the unallied cultivators who had yet to form groups were all being forced to do so.

"Quickly, let's move." Those behind, upon seeing Qin Wentian and his group directly leaving, they didn't dare to hesitate and delay any longer. They didn't want Qin Wentian and his group to be the first to obtain any benefits in this realm.

Thus the other groups all continuously began to attempt to barge through the formation of the eighteen puppets. Because of them working in an alliance, the passing rate was extremely high. Only as time passed progressively and the difficulty of the tests skyrocketed, would the death rate soar as well.

Qin Wentian and his group didn't have time to be bothered with those behind them. They continued walking forward. Soon after, they came to a stop as they arrived at a checkpoint. In front of them, an incomparably large demonic beast was coiled up there. The way past this checkpoint was just precisely at the location where the large head of the demonic beast was resting at. Only by walking underneath it would they be able to cross to the next area.

"What demonic beast is this?"

This demonic beast was totally jet black in color, and had a malevolent countenance with scaly armor. It appeared to be a snake demon, yet there was a faint shadow of a flood dragon (jiao), in its aura.

"Black Jiao Python, the black mist it breathes has corrosion properties," Ye Lingshuang warned.

"A Black Jiao Python at the third level of Heavenly Dipper, the corroding mist it breathes out is capable of easily killing us." Feeling that cold stare of the python, Ye Lingshuang's expression was incredibly unsightly. Why was the second test already so difficult?

The Black Jiao Python icily stared in their direction. A demonic glint of light flickered in its eyes as though it had understood Ye Lingshuang's words.

"There must be a solution, the Immortal Martial Realm wouldn't set an impossible test." Qin Zheng spoke in a low voice as he glanced at the Black Jiao Python. "Brother Python, can you let us know the rules?"

The Black Jiao Python stared at Qin Zheng, its baleful eyes glinted with cold light as it replied, “I am the rule here.”

The others didn’t find it strange that the Black Jiao Python could speak human speech. Demonic beasts at the Heavenly Dipper Realm would naturally be unable to speak the human tongue. Not only that, for some demonic beasts who wished to experience life as a human, they are still able to transform into humans. However, demons have a demonic path of their own and many demonic beasts disdain and dislike taking the form of a human. It was just like how a human would never like to take on the form of a demonic beast, or if not, back then Qin Wentian wouldn’t have tried every possible means to revert back to his human body.

“This demonic beast is extremely arrogant,” Fan Le murmured.

The Black Jiao Python turned its gaze onto Fan Le as it grinned, “You better be more careful.”

“Damn, Brother Python I’m just casually speaking, don’t be so petty okay?” Fan Le mumbled, while cursing silently in his heart. This third-level Heavenly Dipper python actually dared to be so arrogant? If it wasn’t for his cultivation base being suppressed, Fan Le would have long rushed up and smashed the guardian of this checkpoint, the python, into pieces. How could he still waste time talking to it? But now, Fan Le couldn’t afford to offend it.

The Black Jiao Python didn’t reply, it merely looked at Fan Le. After some time, the other participants all arrived as well.

“Brother Jiao, I have a treasure for you.” At this moment, a figure walked out as he tossed a gigantic pearl exuding a heavy demonic qi over to the Black Jiao Python.

The Black Jiao Python swallowed the pearl with a single gulp. After which, its triangular-shaped eyes shone with satisfaction as it stared at the supplicant, “I’ll use the normal rules to test you guys, watch clearly.”

After it spoke, the Black Jiao Python started to spit out black-colored mist that corresponded with its extremely rhythmic breathing. That black-colored mist contained extremely powerful corrosive properties, causing even those who stood far away to feel an intense sense of danger. If they came into contact with this mist, not even the slightest bit of their flesh would be left.

“Tough to deal with,” a notion of thought flashed past the minds of everyone. As to what it meant by normal rules, it was the ordinary rhythmic breathing of it. This python was the guardian for this

checkpoint, it wouldn't make things easy for anyone. At the very most, it would follow the normal rules in testing the participants.

“Thank you Brother Jiao, these are all from my Supreme Demon Sect.” That young man pointed to a group of people behind him, as the Black Jiao Python nodded its head.

“So they are from the Supreme Demon Sect, no wonder they understood the personality of demonic beasts so well. It's said that snake-type demonic beasts are all horny and greedy. This person from the Supreme Demon Sect not only gifted it a present, it even addressed this Black Jiao Python as Brother Jiao. Jiao obviously sounds much better compared to Jiao Python.” The hearts of everyone were silently thoughtful as they looked on while the supplicant from the Supreme Demon Sect began the test.

After the Black Jiao Python exhaled, the offeror who had long been prepared instantly unleash his speed to the limits. His body was enveloped by demonic energy that transformed into armor as he instantly dashed underneath the head of the black python. The corrosive the Black Jiao Python breathed out only touched him a little, but it still melted through the armor of demonic energy protecting him, causing everyone to start at the strength of the corrosiveness. However, this person had long made his preparations and it was evident that the Black Jiao Python went easy on him.

After that, the second person from the Supreme Demon Sect rushed over, and although he passed too, his leg was slightly injured. The third person was in even more danger, only narrowly escaping with his life. As for the fourth, the corrosion ate up an entire leg of his. For the fifth, he mistook the timing and was completely corroded by the poison mist just halfway past the checkpoint, becoming a pile of melted gore before disappearing completely, the sight of it causing the hearts of everyone to pound in fear.

“Brother Jiao, I have a treasure here as well, this is for you.” Ye Lingshuang walked up as an exquisite looking little sword could be seen in her hands. Although this place rejected divine weapons, it was fine as long as one didn't actively summon the energy from the divine inscriptions within them to release their might. If not, the instant one ignored this restriction and used their divine weapons, it would instantly bring about a tribulation from this realm.

The Black Jiao Python didn't say anything, it merely glanced at Ye Lingshuang as its eyes flickered with an evil lascivious gleam. The sight of this caused Fan Le to boil in anger as he cursed, “This beast is actually greedy for women.”

“Snake-type demons are all known to be lustful.” Everyone sighed in their hearts, seems like this was true. Could it be that this Black Jiao Python was having designs on Ye Lingshuang? Qin Wentian and the others all frowned at this revelation, yet they only saw the Black Jiao Python turning its gaze to Fan Le as a venomous look appeared in its eyes.

In here, it was the law!

## Chapter 565: Despair Wrought By A Single Stomp

“Trash, you have thoroughly infuriated me.” The sinister triangular-shaped eyes of the Black Jiao Python flashed with venom. In here, he was the law that dictated the life and death of this participants. Those people caught it and placed it inside this realm, instructing it on what it was supposed to do. As long as it followed the basic rules, it could basically do whatever it wanted to.

The only instruction he had to follow was that he mustn't leave this place and could only guard this checkpoint. At the same time, he had to breathe out poisonous mist to prevent others who wanted to advance pass him.

As for the rest, he can do as he desired. This meant that as long as he wanted to, he could even slaughter all participants with impunity. However, although this Black Jiao Python was extremely crafty, it also understood that it cannot invoke the rage of the participants completely. If not, what happens if everyone joined forces to kill it?

It wasn't immortal. If a team couldn't kill it, what about when two or three teams joined forces?

Hence, the Black Jiao Python always ensured its actions wouldn't infuriate the mass populace of those participants. To the humans, it was just a test, and the easiest way to pass it, was simply to walk underneath it while evading the mist.

The Black Jiao Python didn't know that right now, a young man in front of it was currently contemplating this possibility as his eyes glimmered with a bright light.

“Although this Black Jiao Python is powerful, we can easily kill it if we get enlist the help of some of these participants. But would that defy the original intention of this test? Would the Immortal Martial Realm introduce new variables if they slew the guardian?” Qin Wentian speculated silently. He felt that it was highly possible, so they couldn't pick this method.

But if the Black Jiao Python was intentionally provoking them, their small team banding together to slay it shouldn't be considered too overbearing, right?

If not, if they followed the rules set by the python, Qin Wentian was confident that he would be able to pass the test safely. But what about Ye Lingshuang, Fan Le, and the others?

Fan Le was also glaring at the Black Jiao Python. Seeing its venomous look, a strange glow flashed in Fan Le's eyes as he transmitted his voice to Qin Wentian, “Boss, do you want to fuck this beast up?”

Qin Wentian didn't feel weird when he heard Fan Le's suggestion. This fatty had always been courageous, and since this Black Jiao Python has set its designs on them, there was no other option to pick. They could only act against it.

"Fuck," Qin Wentian spoke, his words causing others to be taken aback. This elegant looking fellow actually uttered such an uncouth word?

"A mere demonic beast yet it dares to be this brazen?" A sinister light flickered in Fan Le's eyes. The instant the sound of his voice faded, the hearts of the participants here pounded. Seems like these few fellows didn't intend to follow the rules of this test, but rather chose to make a move against the guardian instead.

However, this plan of theirs also conformed to the wishes of everyone. If Qin Wentian and his group waged a battle against the Black Jiao Python, didn't it mean that all of them would be able to pass this second test easily? After they thought of this, all of them laughed coldly in their hearts. They didn't even know if Qin Wentian and his group would be able to handle the python. Although they had eight people with them, in front of absolute strength, numbers were useless. If they were facing against a fifth-level Black Jiao Python, it didn't matter how many people they had. If they couldn't break pass its defence, all that was waiting for them was death.

However, this was just a Black Jiao Python at the third-level of Heavenly Dipper, there shouldn't be any problem killing it if they all worked together. However, with just the strength of Qin Wentian's group of eight, they might not be able to handle this.

The defense of demonic beast was naturally extremely strong. And this Black Jiao Python's scales also had a faint characteristic of a flood dragon, glimmering with bright glossy light that was seemingly impenetrable. With that and its cultivation base, it was impossible for first-level Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns to break through its defense. These eight people were truly bold.

"Are all of you courting death?" The body of that Black Jiao Python started moving, causing the entire ground to rumble as it continuously breathed out black mist, causing the saturation of corroding gas to sky rocket.

"We must not be hit by the black mist, this corrosion effect can even wither our bodies, transforming us into nothing but puddles of blood," Mu Feng reminded them. The others nodded in agreement and those with bloodline powers instantly ignited them to augment their strength. Bloodlines were considered something inherent and innate to cultivators and wouldn't be suppressed by the Immortal Martial Realm.

"Blind its eyes," Qin Wentian spoke in a low voice, as Fan Le nodded sagely.

“The eyes of this beast are too nefarious, it even still dared to gaze at sister Lingshuang.”

“Very filthy indeed.” Ouyang Kuangsheng glanced at Fan Le, causing Fan Le to curse in his hearts. What do you mean by that action, are you saying that I’m the pot calling the kettle black? This fatty’s eyes are not filthy when I stare at beautiful women. The look in my eyes is called admiration!

“Do it.” As the sound of Qin Wentian’s voice faded away, the faces of everyone turned solemn. Qin Wentian led the way and rushed forth, executing the Fiend Transformation Art and causing a layer of scaly armor to envelop his body. A pair of demonic wings took form behind his back; he was fully prepared to protect himself.

“DIE!” The Black Jiao Python spat out a mouthful of black mist towards Qin Wentian. The terrifying corrosion energy permeated the air, but at that instant it breathed, Fan Le and Chu Mang’s arrows were already zooming over aiming straight for its eyes.

The Black Jiao Python instantly closed its eyes when it saw the arrows shooting over, and used its perception to sense the location of its opponents instead. It breathed out once again, intent on pursuing Qin Wentian who was using Stellar Transposition.

A long spear appeared in Qin Wentian’s hand. This wasn’t a divine weapon, just an ordinary mortal-ranked long spear instead. Using Stellar Transposition, Qin Wentian instantly moved through the air as he blasted out a spear strike with the speed of lightning towards the eye of the Black Jiao Python.

The Black Jiao Python opened its huge maw and stretched its neck in the direction Qin Wentian was, preparing to chomp down at any moment. If Qin Wentian really dared to rush over, it would swallow the spear down together with Qin Wentian.

“MU FENG!” Qin Wentian called out. Mu Feng transformed into a series of shadows as he blasted out blood-color palm imprints towards the huge maw of the python before he executed Stellar Transposition and retreated together with Qin Wentian. And indeed at the instant of their retreat, the huge maw of the Black Jiao Python fiercely snapped shut. The power of that bite caused the entire space to rumble, but the blood-colored palm imprint had already been successfully blasted into the mouth of that python.

So it turned out that Qin Wentian’s attack was merely a feint.

The Black Jiao Python was truly enraged. Its immense head dashed towards Qin Wentian and the others. Its body was extremely long and sinuous, hence it didn’t need to move much to extend the



range of its attacks. Yet another mouthful of black mist spat out, seeking to drown Qin Wentian and the others within it.

“Freeze!” Yun Mengyi’s will from the Mandate of Icesnow enveloped the black mist, while in the next instant, the arrows from Fan Le and Chu Mang thundered mercilessly into its maw, causing the Black Jiao Python to issue terrible wrathful roars filled with pain.

Qin Zheng blasted out with his palm as his spatial energy enveloped the frozen black mist, easily teleporting the entire cloud away with a wave of his hands.

“ARGH HOWOLLLL~ AROOO!” the Black Jiao Python howled in agony. Evidently Mu Feng’s poison arts were starting to take effect. How could Qin Wentian and Ouyang Kuangsheng be courteous with it? They flew into the air and madly unleashed their attacks, targeting the eyes of the python.

“Before the suppression on our cultivation base is lifted, let’s not provoke this bunch of mad men,” many were silently thinking in their hearts. This wasn’t because of Qin Wentian’s group strength. After all, there were many Heaven Chosen here. But rather, the methods Qin Wentian’s group of eight employed were simply too ruthless, and the main point was that they had a tacit understanding and worked extremely well together. This fact alone was enough to cause restraining fear in the hearts of others because if everyone’s cultivation bases were equal, a group that was completely united was a power not many could deal with.

Indeed, not long later, that Black Jiao Python was slain by Qin Wentian’s group of eight. The massive corpse lay there on the ground with completely no hints of life emanating from it. That damnable fatty actually still walked over and furiously stomped on its body continuously.

“Let’s go.” Qin Wentian’s heart was as calm as ever. They had just entered the Immortal Martial Realm and their actions saved a whole lot of trouble for the other participants, which caused them all to allow Qin Wentian’s group to once again take the lead. There were even some among the participants whose eyes flickered with cold light when they stared at the back of Qin Wentian.

Although there were tests in the Immortal Martial Realm, there would also be strokes of good fortune at the end. Although the participants had not reached the point of falling out and fighting against each other yet, if a treasure really appeared, it would definitely ignite the flames of desire which they are all suppressing in their hearts, leading to a great battle among all the participants for the sake of contending for the treasure.

And after they walked on for a bit, Qin Wentian suddenly halted as he stared dumbfoundedly at the scene before him. Not only him, everyone else was dumbstruck as well.

“BOOM!” A thunderous sound rang out, causing the hearts of everyone to pound.

“BOOM! BOOM ! BOOM!” The thunderous noise continued relentlessly, causing many to quiver in fear. That sound, was actually the sound of footsteps.

In front of them was a gargantuan demon that was over a hundred meters tall. Its head was akin to a large house, and the participants could only see it when they inclined their heads. Its feet were over tens of meters wide and was continuously stomping upon the ground. And just so as luck would have it, the place this gargantuan was stomping at, was precisely the entrance to the next area.

The thought of fighting this didn't even appear in the minds of the participants. This gargantuan demon was an ox-type demonic beast. It appeared as though it was sleeping, repeating the same action over and over again – lifting its hooves and stomping them down at varying tempo. Even at the slowest tempo, one would require the speed at the very peak of first-level Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns before they could cross over to the entrance. And if the tempo quickened, even someone at the third-level of Heavenly Dipper with insights of the Mandate of Wind at the transformation boundary of the second level, would definitely be unable to pass it.

Thus, whoever encountered the fast tempo would definitely die. And if one encountered the slow tempo, it would first depend on the speed of the individuals, followed by their luck.

Everyone instantly shut their mouths as silence descended. Other than that stomping sound, there was no other noise in the air. Everyone started communicating via voice transmission, they were afraid that they would accidentally wake the Ox Demon up. In that case, only death awaited them; it could crush them all into pulps of bloody flesh with just a single stomp.

“Based on our current cultivation level, if we encounter the fast tempo, we won't be able to cross it even if we used Stellar Transposition. However, if we encountered the normal or slow tempo, we should be able to succeed,” Qin Wentian transmitted. Stellar Transposition was a technique all of them had cultivated, nobody would find such a movement technique a hassle.

“Mhm, as long as we don't encounter the fast tempo, we should be fine. Death to the unlucky ones who encounter that.”

They soon all came to a consensus. “Sister Lingshuang, I will bring you along,” Qin Wentian transmitted his voice to Ye Lingshuang. Amongst all of them, he was the one who was most proficient with Stellar Transposition. Effects of bloodline powers and other movement techniques didn't interact with Stellar Transposition, and based on the proficiency of his understanding of this technique, this was the method which he had the most confidence in.

Ye Lingshuang glanced at Qin Wentian as she nodded her head, climbing onto Qin Wentian's back allowing Qin Wentian to carry her.

However before they acted, one of the other participants was already prepared to make his move. A pair of wings formed behind his back as the will from the Mandate of Wind enveloped him. He was obviously an expert that was proficient in speed. At the instant the ox lifted its foot, he instantly zoomed past like a gust of wind.

Fast, too fast to the point where after-images were left behind. The hearts of the crowd pounded as they watched the ox's hoof beginning its descent. That person had almost reached the entrance to the next area.

"BOOM!" That hoof stomped down as the hearts of everyone pounded violently in tandem with it. When that hoof lifted again, the crowd only saw a pool of blood where the person who made the attempt used to be.

The bodies of many started shivering involuntarily. That person who made the try was already so fast, yet he failed to cross over? The speed in which the hoof stomped down at that instant could be considered the normal tempo, and this failure caused looks of despair on the faces of vast majority of the crowd. They had all witnessed personally for themselves how quick the speed of the person who attempted it was.

"Hu..." Qin Wentian drew in a deep breath.

Ye Lingshuang lying on his back spoke, "Wentian, I think I will just stay here. I don't wish to burden you."

Truth to be told, if he wasn't carrying Ye Lingshuang, Qin Wentian would be even more confident.

"Sister, trust me," Qin Wentian spoke in a low voice. He walked nearer to the stomping hoof and drew in a deep breath. Earlier, he saw that the person who attempted didn't choose the right moment, which was what led to his death. Qin Wentian dashed forwards the instant the hoof slammed down, and executed Stellar Transposition with all his might the very instant the hoof was lifted up. His grasp of time of that single instant was perfect.

"BOOM!" That gigantic hoof landed once more, as Qin Wentian's heart thumped together with it. Ye Lingshuang who was trembling with her eyes closed finally opened her eyes. They didn't die! Her beautiful eyes flashed with a bright glow of light upon realising that they didn't die.

"He succeeded." At the other end of that gigantic hoof, the hearts of the participants trembled. This movement technique was simply too fast.

“I’m next.” Qin Zheng walked out. Similarly, he drew in a deep breath and mirrored Qin Wentian’s movements exactly. He succeeded as well.

The members of Qin Wentian’s group all had expressions of excitement on their faces. As for the other participants, there were quite a lot of them who had expressions of jealousy on their faces.

“My turn.” Fan Le walked out, his eyes flashing with excitement. Rushing ahead, he instantly executed Stellar Transposition.

“Rumble!” At the instant Fan Le moved, lightning crackled in the air, causing the heart of Qin Wentian to tremble slightly. The next moment, an overwhelming demonic qi filled the air, there was someone who intentionally wanted to wake the ox demon by using the power of lightning to blast it.

Staring at that gigantic hoof stomping down with quickening speed, Qin Wentian saw the look of despair on Fan Le’s face.

“NOOOO!” Qin Wentian roared in rage.

“They have a unique and extremely powerful movement technique with them, don’t let any more of them cross over.” At the instant where Qin Wentian’s roar of rage rang out, the eyes of everyone were staring at Ouyang Kuangsheng and the others that had yet to cross over.

#### Chapter 566: Path of Life and Death

“BOOM!” A terrible sound rang out, causing Qin Wentian to feel as though sharp knives were impaling his heart.

Fan Le had disappeared. As that foot stomped down, Fan Le completely vanished, nothing could be seen of him.

Qin Wentian’s eyes instantly turned red as he boiled with fury. Staring at that empty location, it was as though Qin Wentian could see the silhouette of fatty when he was younger.

“This fatty me, is a genius...”

“This fatty me ain’t lecherous, I’m just overflowing with universal love...”

That frivolous-looking face of Fan Le relentlessly flashed past Qin Wentian's mind yet everything disappeared completely from his world with that might of a single stomp. That shameless fatty was one of Qin Wentian's best friends, the one whom he had been acquainted with the longest. That was his dearest brother, who had always been supportive even to the extent of going through life-and-death situations with him.

Was he really dead?

Qin Wentian had no way to accept this, even though it was stated that the Immortal Martial Realm was a place filled with danger, with only a 10% chance of survival before they entered, Qin Wentian still felt an excruciating pain in his heart when he saw Fan Le disappearing like that right before him.

Ye Lingshuang's eyes also turned red. Ouyang Kuangsheng and Chu Mang roared in rage as they turned and glared at the person who woke the gargantuan ox demon up. The culprit was a young man whose entire body was cloaked in lightning. He exuded an intense feeling of pride and provocation and unmasked killing intent flickered in his eyes as he matched the gazes of Ouyang Kuangsheng and Fan Le.

"The leader of that group is Qin Wentian, with his origins in Grand Xia. Earlier I believe everyone has already seen that these people have an unique and extremely powerful movement technique with them. No matter what, we can't allow all of them to cross over. Only by forcing them to hand over this technique would we be confident enough to get pass that stomping hoof," that young man matter-of-factly spoke. He was from the Violet Thunder Sect and had long recognised Qin Wentian. Naturally, he could tell that these people had an unusual connection with Qin Wentian and before those from the Violet Thunder Sect entered the Immortal Martial Realm, all of them received a mission from the elders: If they met with those from the Battle Sword Sect in here and if there was an opportunity to send them all to the death, don't be courteous, just do it. Take note especially of a person named Qin Wentian.

This order was passed down by one of the Seven Supremacies of the Violet Thunder Sect. There were rumors saying that it was none other than Qin Wentian and the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley who had spoiled his plot, curing the Human Emperor of Ye and eventually leading to the death of his disciple Ye Kongfan as well as that battle where the Human Emperor fought one against all and won, causing the reputation of the Violet Thunder Sect to blacken. As an elder-level character, that Supremacy has no way of acting directly against Qin Wentian. In that case, he would leave this in the hands of the disciples of the Violet Thunder Sect.

Also, when the disciples of the Violet Thunder Sect saw the rhythmic stomping of the ox's hoof, they knew for sure they needed a better movement technique. Although the movement technique in

the Violet Thunder Sect wasn't bad, it still lost out by a hair compared to Stellar Transposition, which thus led to the scene earlier.

Stellar Transposition was one of the nine ultimate arts of Grand Xia and could also be said that it was the easiest out of the ultimate arts to train in. Although Qin Wentian and the rest had cultivated the bloodcurse imprint, the Thundergod Slash, and the other various ultimate arts, they merely 'cultivated' in them and although the power unleashed wasn't bad, they were far from being able to reach the peak.

The Grand Xia Empire back then was a power ranked equally with the Grand Shang Empire. This meant that Grand Xia was also a power that belonged to the first-tier, akin to the Nine Great Sects, etc. There were naturally other supreme movement techniques like the Stellar Transposition in the powerful sects and clans in the Royal Sacred Region. Obviously, these weren't something that could be easily shared with outsiders. When everyone saw that Qin Zheng and the rest had learned the exact same movement technique, as well as hearing the words of the young man from the Violet Thunder Sect, their eyes began to gleam with greed.

The participants also naturally noticed the gargantuan ox demon. Although the ox demon was awakened now, it still didn't make a move towards them. It merely stared at the participants with an evil smile on its face and continued its actions. The participants understood that this ox demon was the same as the Black Jiao Python; it was a guardian beast designed for them by the Immortal Martial Realm of this area and it wouldn't easily break the rules to kill them. If they successfully passed the barrage of stomping hooves, it would do nothing to harm them.

However after it awoke, the stomping tempo began to be increasingly chaotic, there was totally no sense of rhythm which they could anticipate from. Sometimes, that gigantic hoof would just hover in the air staying there, yet none of the participants dared to attempt the test.

"Hand over the movement technique." Shi Kuang from the Heaven Crippling Sect brought people over and surrounded Ouyang Kuangsheng and the others, their eyes flashing with coldness. In the Heaven Crippling Sect, Shi Kuang was considered a Heaven Chosen character, but earlier fear actually appeared in his heart because of a single stare from Qin Wentian. This was simply a humiliation of the greatest degree!

Right now Ouyang Kuangsheng, Yun Mengyi, Chu Mang and Mu Feng were still stuck over on the other side, and they were all surrounded.

“ALL OF YOU GO TO HELL!” Ouyang Kuangsheng roared in rage. Thunderfire crackled around him as his astral souls were all released. He directly dashed out towards that young man from the Violet Thunder Sect as a gigantic palm imprint manifested and slammed outwards.

“Lightning and thunder energies? How can the people of my Violet Thunder Sect fear this?” The arrogance exuded by that young man from the Violet Thunder Sect intensified further. He, Que Cheng, had always been bothered by the fact that he wasn’t one of those eighty-one selected individuals awarded the Immortal Martial Realm Medallion. Now, even a nameless unknown dared to strike out against him? Wasn’t he simply courting death?

“Wrath of the Thunder God!” Que Cheng roared, as the entire space trembled. Beams of towering lightning broke past space, shattering Ouyang Kuangsheng’s attack into nothingness.

“THUNDERGOD SLASH!” Ouyang Kuangsheng bellowed as a beam of light slashed down right from the heavens. The amount of lightning energy and thunderous might contained within even caused Que Cheng to be stunned in shock, silently marvelling at the power of this particular technique. Although Ouyang Kuangsheng had no way to unleash the true might of this technique, as someone who cultivated lightning-attributed arts, how could Que Cheng not be able to tell how profound this technique was?

Brilliant light flashed, Que Cheng also released his astral souls as a pair of wings made from lightning-element energy formed behind him. Streams of terrifying runic lightning blasted upwards, colliding directly with the Thundergod Slash as the impact from the collision reverberated this entire space.

The others from the Violet Thunder Sect didn’t assist Que Cheng. If they banded together, offering help for the sake of a nameless unknown, it would be a form of humiliation for Que Cheng instead.

Que Cheng was the personal disciple of one of the Seven Supremacies. His status in the Violet Thunder Sect was even higher than Ye Kongfan, and his talent was stronger as well. Sadly, he wasn’t one of the eighty-one selected individuals. Although the envoys did visit the Violet Thunder Sect, the medallion went to some other disciple instead. And it was precisely because of that person that the sect leader of the Violet Thunder Sect personally made a trip down to ancient Ye.

Ouyang Kuangsheng was forced backwards, a stream of the runic lightning narrowly blasted into him. Although he was hit by the mere after-shockwaves of that attack, a bloody wound appeared in his chest.

“If they refuse to hand over the movement technique, cripple them one by one. As for that woman, strip her off her clothes, I want to see by then, would these people would still be so obstinate and unyielding,” a voice filled with venom rang out, the person who spoke was a young man from another alliance.

Ouyang Kuangsheng glanced over and instantly, his countenance stiffened. There were simply too many people who were on this floating bridge and he didn't notice the presence of this person earlier. Now that he was looking carefully, he actually saw somebody he was acquainted with,

The Great Solar Chen Clan back then had three Heaven Chosen. These three were the ones who received the Sacred Royal Medallion for this hundred-year period. Among these three were Chen Fan, as well as Great Solar Chen Wang. Both of them had already died, yet there was still the third one who successfully fled from Grand Xia after the Great Solar Chen Clan was destroyed.

Chen Yin was one of the top rankers on the Heavenly Fate Rankings. He was famous much earlier than Chen Fan and Chen Wang and was one of the characters who could summon wind and clouds in Grand Xia back in his time.

After the Great Solar Chen Clan's destruction, Chen Yin had his heart fully set on revenge. He took the Sacred Royal Medallion and eventually joined one of the Nine Great Sects – the Great Earth Sect.

Qin Wentian wasn't acquainted with Chen Yin. If not back when the Great Earth Sect issued an invitation to him in Xuan King City, he would have already noted Chen Yin's existence. Back then it was none other than a single sentence from Chen Yin which made the Great Earth Sect want to recruit Qin Wentian at all cost. Chen Yin told them that Qin Wentian had knowledge of an Immortal Art.

After entering the Immortal Martial Realm, Chen Yin has always been looking for a chance to deal with Qin Wentian. And now since there was somebody who initiates an attack against Ouyang Kuangsheng, Chen Yin naturally didn't mind stepping in and giving a few nasty suggestions.

“Chen Yin, I was still a teen back then when you fought in the Heavenly Fate Rankings and I have always looked up to you when I witnessed your glory. Who would have thought that you actually had such a personality?” Ouyang Kuangsheng stared straight at him causing Chen Yin to frown. Who would have thought that Ouyang Kuangsheng would recognise him?

On the other end, Ye Lingshuang was staring at Qin Wentian who was walking back as she called out, “Wentian!”



“I need to go back.” Qin Wentian approached the stomping hoof once more his actions causing Ye Lingshuang’s heart to pound rapidly. This hoof of death had the possibility of claiming his life. If Qin Wentian head back, he would eventually have to return here again, he needed to face death twice! Not only that, the ox demon this time around was fully awakened and no longer in a sleeping state.

“I’ll accompany you.” Ye Lingshuang gritted her teeth.

“No. Sister Lingshuang, you and Qin Zheng stand guard here. If those who act against Ouyang rush in, retaliate back with full force. I want them dead.” Qin Wentian’s expression was solemn as he turned and glanced at Ye Lingshuang. Ye Lingshuang knew that she would only be in more danger if she went back, hence she could only nodd in agreement to Qin Wentian’s suggestions.

Qin Wentian’s words caused great shock to appear on the faces of the other participants, regardless if they were from the Violet Thunder Sect or Heaven Crippling Sect. They had actually forgotten to take into account that Qin Wentian could still return to this place to kill them, and those who passed to the next area could block their advance. But swiftly after, their furrowed brows smoothed over. If they could take Ouyang Kuangsheng and the others hostage, they wanted to see if Qin Wentian would dared to do anything to them. As long as a few of them passed into the next area, this whole situation would be completely under their control.

“Wentian, don’t come over. Just guard there!” Ouyang Kuangsheng bellowed. It was too dangerous if Qin Wentian really came over, there were simply too many opponents and even if Qin Wentian was here, there wouldn’t be any change to the situation.

“No.” Qin Wentian’s eyes flashed with resolution as he spoke, “I’m coming over to accompany you all. Sister Lingshuang and Qin Zheng, if anything happens to us, spare no one. Kill them one by one as they try to cross over. Since they want to play, we will play with them, we will all stay here.”

Qin Wentian’s voice was filled with decisiveness, his words causing the expressions of the other participants to turn ashen. This fellow was a madman.

If anything happened to Qin Wentian and his group, all of them would die with them. The thousand-plus participants would all be stuck here at this checkpoint forever.

“Boom!” Astral light flashed and at that instant the sound of the hoof stomped on the ground, Qin Wentian immediately executed Stellar Transposition. He had two lives, even if he died here he

would still be alive. He had to go back, he had to get revenge for Fan Le, he had to ensure Ouyang Kuangsheng and the others safely crossed over.

“Interesting.” Qin Wentian didn’t notice the grin on the gargantuan ox’s face becoming wider as an expression of interest flashed past its countenance. At the instant when Qin Wentian rushed out, its hoof that hadn’t been fully lifted up, stomped down again with crushing force.

“NOOO!” Ye Lingshuang turned pale as she saw this. Not only her, Ouyang Kuangsheng and Chu Mang were all roaring in denial. Even Yun Mengyi was involuntarily shaking.

“RUMBLE!” A thunderous boom echoed out. Regardless how strong Qin Wentian was, even he would be crushed to death if that gigantic hoof landed on him.

“VILE BEAST!” Ouyang Kuangsheng inclined his head staring at the gargantuan demon as his eyes turned red. However the gargantuan demon only grinned as it turned its attention to Ouyang Kuangsheng. “Little brat, are you looking to die?”

“FUCK YOU!” Ouyang Kuangsheng roared in rage, the lightning around him began boiling as he actually dashed towards the gargantuan ox demon.

The gargantuan laughed, it lifted its hoof and actually shifted it forwards causing sudden terror to flood everyone’s heart. This ox demon could move from its designated position?

“RUN!” Everyone madly fled with frantic speed only to see the gigantic hoof stomping down with crushing force on Ouyang Kuangsheng. It was an unsurpassed existence. In here, it was invincible.

.....

Qin Wentian initially thought he had already died but the truth was that he was still alive. After that gigantic hoof stomped down, he wasn’t trampled flat but was actually sent to another dimension instead.

His heart started pounding with agitation, unable to revert to his calm state. Qin Wentian closed his eyes before drawing in a deep breath as he stared at a cavern ahead of him.

“Path of Life and Death.” Outside the cavern, five large words were engraved there, causing Qin Wentian to feel a sense of coming back from death’s door.

He didn’t die... In that case, Fan Le must be still alive as well!

Chapter 567: Trials of the Life and Death Cavern

Qin Wentian walked through the cavern. An old-looking demon ox was standing at the other end.

That's right, this ox demon was standing there upright like a human, the sight of this causing Qin Wentian to feel more than a little awkward. But as he stared at the facial features of this ox, Qin Wentian felt a little weird, because from its features he actually felt that he could distinguish this from the other demon oxen in the world, similar to humans who had different features.

When humans look at humans, it was easy to distinguish one from another. But when they were looking at another species, they would feel that all of them looked the same. Yet this ox demon was clearly different from others; it even had a trace of the spiritual qi of humans and it was evident that this ox demon was none other than the gargantuan ox that stood guard on the outside.

“You find this strange?” Right now, the physique of this ox demon wasn't as gargantuan. He stared at Qin Wentian and grinned, “The gargantuan form outside is nothing but my clone. I'm the one tasked with the responsibility of administering the matters of the Life and Death Cavern in the Immortal Martial Realm.”

Qin Wentian's countenance faltered slightly. In that case, there must be a variety of mysterious places in the Immortal Martial Realm with different guardians there controlling the test.

“Senior ox, my speed isn't slow at all. I should be considered to have passed the test right? Anyway, wasn't that test a little too unfair?” Qin Wentian inquired.

“Haha little boy, talking to me about fairness? I allowed you to come here earlier because I have some expectations of you. To tell you the truth, those whose speed that I felt to be too slow, were all trampled to death by me. They truly died. But as for people like you whose strength reached a certain level, although I stomped on you, I didn't crush you and transported you to the Cavern of Life and Death in advance instead. However, don't feel you are fortunate yet. In here there's only two paths for you to walk. Either life, or death.”

The ox demon stared at Qin Wentian as he grinned again. “The Cavern of Life and Death has a total of four trials. Cavern of Cultivation Level, Cavern of Innate Techniques, Cavern of Mandates, Cavern of Combat. Now you have a choice to choose which path you want to take and you better hear me clearly. If you pass the trial, you live. If you fail, you die. There's no third option.”

Qin Wentian frowned, it was useless to talk logic to this ox demon. Since he was already transported here, he could only obediently take the test, there were no other choices. However, the ox demon just said that he sent Qin Wentian here in advance? Could it be that if they continued on walking the floating bridge, it would similarly led them to this place?

“What differences are there regarding the four trials?” Qin Wentian asked.

“Idiot. You should already know by hearing their names. Cultivation level: You have to break through your current cultivation level by a given amount of time...” The old ox explained, causing Qin Wentian’s heart to tremble. In that case, for the Cavern of Innate Techniques, one must comprehend a certain innate technique in a given amount of time? For the Cavern of Mandates, one must break through to the next boundary in a given amount of time as well?

“How tough,” Qin Wentian cursed silently. Cultivation level wasn’t something one could break through simply because one wanted to. That Cavern was definitely a death trap, he must never choose that. In that case, he can only choose the three other trials.

“Within a certain period of time wishing for me to break through with no rhyme nor reason? Totally impossible, isn’t the level of difficulty too high?” Qin Wentian asked again.

“Just say straight what you want to say, don’t try to play mind games with me, little boy. I will give you a hint. Other than the Cavern of Combat, the other three trials will allow you to contemplate first before taking them, and from a certain perspective, this can also be considered a stroke of great fortune. I will never allow ordinary humans to enter this place.” The old ox laughed evilly as he added, “Have you made your choice?”

“I have a total of four Mandates.” Qin Wentian replied.

“Choose one you like and if it’s within the boundary of my control, you can proceed.” The old ox replied. For some of the more unique Mandates, the Immortal Martial Realm might not be able to set a test for them. But for the more ordinary ones, the Immortal Martial Realm would definitely be able to.

“Mandate of Demon,” Qin Wentian gambled.

“Release your will of the Mandate of Demons,” the old ox grinned. Qin Wentian released his will from the Mandate of Demons, allowing the old ox to feel it. At this moment, Qin Wentian’s cultivation base and Mandates which were suppressed earlier had all been completely restored.

The old ox turned and entered a particular cavern for a moment before he walked out again. When he stared at Qin Wentian once more, that gaze of the ox actually caused Qin Wentian to feel a little scared.

“Two hours. Evolve your Mandate of Demons to the Perfection Boundary and you will be considered to have passed. If not, just die,” the old ox smiled happily, causing Qin Wentian’s countenance to pale instantly.

“Senior, are you kidding?”

Two hours to evolve one’s Mandate to the Perfection Boundary? What joke is this? If two hours were sufficient, the entire Royal Sacred Region would be littered with people whose Mandates reached perfection.

“In here, there’s only life or death. There are no jokes. Your two hours already started one minute ago.” The smile on the old ox’s face got even more radiant.

“Bastard.” Qin Wentian cursed in his heart as he hurriedly rushed into the cavern designated. He knew it was pointless to plead with the demon ox. In here, it was the controller; unless Qin Wentian could kill it, there was nothing he could do to change its mind.

In the cavern, resplendent astral light circulated. It was as though he entered into a mysterious space. Everything disappeared as a mountain range appeared in front of him. And right ahead, there was a baby black eagle.

That eagle was very young and slowly learning how to fly. It flapped its little wings and let out a few adorable chirps.

Its wings slowly developed as the black eagle gradually matured. It started to soar through the air, from slow to fast and gradually, it could move in the wind as natural as a fish in water. After a period of time, its wings developed more and more as the sharpness in its gaze became more pronounced.

It started to hunt, soaring through the horizons, pouncing on prey in the ocean, fighting against the other demons and growing up in adversity.

Its eyes gradually turned cold as a tyrannical qi filled with boundless sharpness emanated from it. It swooped down from the heavens as it slammed its sharp talons onto a huge python; it entered a forest of demons and slew powerful opponents while contempt for those weaker gradually seeped into its aura.

The black eagle got increasingly stronger. Its wings had already reached the span of 1,000 meters and it was like the sovereign of the skies. Standing on a mountain peak and gazing at its subjects below. Just a single glance was sufficient to cow all others into submission.

Qin Wentian was like a spectator watching the life of the black eagle from its own perspective. He went wherever the black eagle went, and he could clearly sense that imposing tyrannical aura, as well as that pride of lone arrogance, disdainfully looking down on its subjects.

It was a demon, a demon that fought against the heavens and the earth. It stood upon the ground staring at the sky as though it wanted nothing more than to tear it asunder.

When that scene disappeared, Qin Wentian still felt that he was inside the mind of the black eagle as the memories of the events earlier continuously flashed through his mind.

The Mandate of Demons was naturally comprehended from demons. If one wanted their Mandate of Demons to reach perfection, they had to comprehend the lone arrogance of demons, the pride and imposing manner of demons, the disdain and contempt for humanity of demons.

Qin Wentian closed his eyes, and in this state he even forgot the passing of time. Demonic qi gushed out from him, the astral energy in his body seethed and surged, frantically absorbing astral energy from the constellations even in this place, filling his Yuanfu up completely.

However, how could it be so easy to achieve a breakthrough in Mandates? Although his comprehension of the Mandate of Demons had improved, to breakthrough wasn't something that could be done overnight. Qin Wentian forgot the flow of time, but time still flowed by. Soon after, an hour had already passed.

Qin Wentian recalled the days back when he transformed into the body of a primordial great roc, wreaking havoc everywhere in Grand Xia, his sword splitting the Pill Emperor Hall. He had never seriously contemplated himself back then. At that time, everywhere he passed the demons there all bowed to him in complete submission. When he stood there on the mountain peak gazing at his countless demonic subjects, how imposing was he?

Usually when he used the will from the Mandate of Demons, although he had that imposingness and regal demonic aura, it was far from being able to compare to himself back when he was a primordial great roc. During that period of time, everything felt so real because of the fact that back then was a true demon.

“In fact, I’ve already felt before how the Mandate of Demons at the Perfection Boundary felt like. Back when I took the form of the primordial great roc, the essence of humanity burned away from me, leaving behind only pure demonity. Naturally, that being I was and the feeling back then, that was the great perfection boundary,” Qin Wentian mused. His eyes closed as his demonic qi swirled about. The demonic qi actually caused a pair of demonic wings to form behind his back without him willing it. The center of his brows radiated a terrifying sharpness, Qin Wentian was trying to return back to the days when he was a primordial great roc to recall the feeling of the Mandate of Demons at perfection.

An extremely fearsome demonic qi kicked up a storm, enveloping his entire person within. Crackling sounds echoed out causing the entire space to tremble and finally when Qin Wentian opened his eyes once more, the imposingness, the pride, the contempt for humans, the coldness, and the lone arrogance of a true demonic being could be seen flickering within.

“BOOM!” The demonic qi erupted in a tempest, blasting against the ceiling. Qin Wentian stood up, turned about, and walked outside.

After exiting, Qin Wentian faced the ox demon as his back was actually covered with cold sweat. The process of comprehension forced him to be in a state of total immersion. He had even forgotten the duration but even so, he used almost two hours before he finally succeeded. This sort of trial was simply a dead path.

“Congratulations to you for passing the test of the Life and Death Cavern,” the ox demon laughed. Qin Wentian wasn’t as excited as he imagined he would be. He then asked, “Since senior is the person controlling the test here, senior should know about my friends situation. Has he passed?”

Fan Le should have also been brought to the Life and Death Cavern. But what he didn’t know was that after he was brought in here, the ox demon’s actions caused the other participants to be seized with terror as they all ran away while Ouyang Kuangsheng was brought into here for the test as well.

“You wish to help him?” the old ox grinned, as though it was plotting something nefarious.

“Yes.” Qin Wentian nodded his head.

“Take this trial once again and if you pass, I shall consider sparing him. Anyway you don’t merely have a friend taking the test of the life and death cavern.” The words of the old ox caused Qin Wentian to turn ashen.

Taking the trial once again?

He was already exceedingly lucky that his Mandate of Demons had a sudden breakthrough to the Perfection Boundary. If it wasn’t for him transforming into the form of an primordial roc years before, he would surely have died here today. If he were to take the trial once more, the danger could be easily imaginable.

“The trials here in the life and death cavern is an exceptionally important one that would affect your ranking in the Immortal Martial Realm. Not only that, it can even make your strength increase further. Such a good deal offered, why not take it?” the old ox continued to cajole Qin Wentian.

“Dog shit,” Qin Wentian cursed in his heart. Ranking? He didn’t care about ranking. What he wanted was his strength to increase! But first, only passing the test would result in an increase in strength. If he failed, it meant death.

“If I take the trial again, would senior promise me to help my friends?” Qin Wentian asked.

“I will take that into consideration. The tests here in the Life and Death Cavern, I’m the decider of things.” The old ox still had a mischievous grin playing on his face, Qin Wentian didn’t have any ways to get more information out of it.

“Fine. In that case, I choose the trial of the innate techniques. I hope that senior will keep your promise.” Qin Wentian steadied his heart. Other than Fan Le, the ox demon said that there was still one more friend of his currently taking this test and it was unknown whether he would pass or fail. In that case Qin Wentian could only go all out and stake his life upon it. If he failed, that meant death, but he still had another true-self out there. But even if he didn’t have another true-self out there, he would still have made the same choice.

To him, the lives of his brothers were even more valuable than his own!

Chapter 568: Grand Nihilism Thousand Imprint

The ox demon bellowed with laughter when he heard Qin Wentian’s words! “Release the wills of all your Mandates which you are proficient with for me to take a look!”



Qin Wentian didn't say anything more and unleashed all four of his Mandates. The ox demon then stated, "In order to lower the difficulty of the trial, I will allow you to pick the type of innate technique. An example would be sword-type techniques, illusion-type techniques, demonification-type techniques. Consider carefully, this is a trial of the Cavern of Life and Death and isn't a joke. If you fail, you will definitely die. As the guardian of this area, I have to follow the rules set by the Immortal Martial Realm."

Since Qin Wentian already made his decision to attempt the trial once more, he no longer had any needless burdens nor worries in his heart. He started to contemplate, with his comprehensions and insight gained in recent years, he had used his Mandates and created his own innate technique. His halberd arts, and the spear arts he derived from them, were things of his own creation and hence were extremely suited to him. He had even cultivated the Nine Ultimate Arts of Grand Xia before. An example was the Bloodcurse Imprint, but because Qin Wentian wasn't proficient in the Mandate of Blood or Mandate of Curses, he wasn't able to master the technique to the large-success stage.

He was very clear that if one wanted to achieve exemplary perfection in innate techniques, the Mandates one comprehended were of paramount importance. The Mandates comprehended must match with the type of innate techniques one wanted to cultivate in. For him, although the first three of his Mandates could all meld together into his palm arts, the power he exploded forth with was still limited. His halberd art was powerful and his sword art was mighty. What he was lacking was a good palm art!

"I'll choose palm-type innate techniques," Qin Wentian replied.

"Okay, wait here." The Ox demon walked into the cavern once more. This time, Qin Wentian seriously contemplated the cavern only to see that in the interior of it, a stone wall suddenly glowed, turning a pure golden hue as it transformed into a library that seemed akin to a treasury. The ox demon then entered it acting as though it was searching for something.

Although the ox demon knew that Qin Wentian was watching, it did nothing to restrict him. Qin Wentian was truly taken aback. He could now confirm some of the rumors circulating outside regarding the Immortal Martial Realm. The master of the Immortal Martial Realm should most likely be an existence at the immortal level, but it was unknown whether he was still alive. If not, there was no way such a vast separate world could be under his control. The entire Immortal Martial Realm was akin to a gigantic treasure, yet the powerful sects and supreme clans didn't covet it? There must be an unfathomably powerful force restraining their actions.

And after some time, the glow from the cavern dimmed as the ox demon walked out. It stared at Qin Wentian, “You can enter now. This time, I will give you a day worth of time. You will pass if you comprehend the palm technique within the span of allocated time and if you fail, just die.”

“Luckily there’s a day worth of time this time around,” Qin Wentian sighed in his heart. If there were only two hours, he could probably just commit suicide. He knew very well how long he needed to truly comprehend his innate techniques previously.

A day could already be considered very short. But what’s fortunate was that there should be something for him to gain comprehension from, akin to the black eagle when he took his first trial.

Qin Wentian stepped into the cavern once again. Astral light flashed and indeed as he expected, the place he appeared in wasn’t in the interior of the cavern. Astral light constituted an image that somehow brought his perspective into a separate space.

In this space Qin Wentian saw a silhouette. This silhouette had its back facing him and was standing in the air. Both its palms were incomparably resplendent with terrifying streams of astral light interweaving and revolving around in an extremely stable manner.

And at this very moment, the arms of this figure moved. It lifted its hands and blasted out forwards with its palms. That palm strike seemed to slam against the dome of heavens, with power enough to shatter even the heavenly bodies and astral constellations.

“BOOM!” Above in the skies, a gigantic palm imprint appeared, the impression was so deep that it was as though it was branded directly into the sky. The sight of that palm caused a chill in Qin Wentian’s heart. Although the palm strike didn’t land on anything, the might that blasted out from it was incomparably terrifying, to the point where it could even leave a marking on the sky. Was there even anything this palm imprint couldn’t destroy?

That figure retracted its palms before blasting out once again, relentlessly repeating the same movement. Above in the skies, a countless number of extremely clear gigantic palm imprints blotted out the skies. Even the heavens themselves were trembling as though they would soon break apart from that crushing might.

“Such a pure and unadulterated palm art, I can’t even tell which Mandates were used. Or more accurately, this palm-type innate technique was the purest type of palm techniques that was able to meld with any kind of Martial Mandate. The stronger the user is, the stronger the might exuded will be,” Qin Wentian mused.

There were no secrets to this palm art, no method of circulating force. The only scene he was shown was the figure repeatedly blasting out the same palm strike in the exact same manner. Was repetition the key? The continual stacking of power? He had to comprehend his own insights from this, insights that belonged only to him. Only then would he be able to comprehend a palm art suited for him from that essence of the palm art the figure utilized in the scene.

The myriad numbers of innate techniques were all created by humans. For stronger innate techniques, they were originally created by experts before undergoing countless refinement, becoming more perfect with every alteration. Qin Wentian understood this very clearly in his heart.

For example, he had cultivated halberd arts for a very long time. The halberd art he had created before could be considered quite weak, but as he gradually grew stronger, the halberd art of his creation evolved with him as well. Now, not only was the might of his halberd art extremely terrifying, it could even bewilder the hearts of others, forcing a dream upon them.

As he thought of this, Qin Wentian stretched out his palm. He recalled the Thousand-Hands Imprint he once cultivated in the Emperor Star Academy. Lifting his hands, he blasted out towards the air as he used the most rudimentary will from the Mandate of Force to coat it. However, despite his current level, the might the Thousand-Hand Imprints could generate was still limited. If he wanted to use this as a base, he had to evolve this.

Qin Wentian's aura changed as he released the will of his Mandate of Demons which was at the Perfection Boundary. He exuded loftiness, arrogance, coldness, contempt. He stood there seemingly unexcelled by all in this world.

Boom!

He slammed out one more palm strike, causing the air to rumble. With the stacking of power – the additional infusion from the will of the Mandate of Demons, the palm's strength was obviously stronger.

“The final stance of the Thousand-Hands Imprint was the Great Thousand-Hand Imprint and this was the quintessence of the entire set of palm techniques. Back then in the Emperor Star Academy, I was simply too weak. But now, things are different. The quintessence of this should be able to fuse with my Mandate of Force. The Thousand-Palm Imprint can manifest tens of thousands of palm imprints, and as for my second level insight into the Mandate of Force, it is Void Vibration. If I can make these tens of thousands of palm imprints superimpose and stack, and then compressed them into one, transforming it into a vibrational shock wave, the power unleashed would be multiplied by at least a hundredfold.”

As he thought of this, Qin Wentian began to use the Thousand-Hands Imprint as a base as he repeatedly sent out one palm strike after another, mirroring the unknown figure. The two of them continuously struck out, but after a period of time, Qin Wentian's palm strike still had no way to leave an imprint in the sky.

In the blink of an eye, a day had almost passed. Currently, Qin Wentian's palm arts were evidently much more powerful compared to before. Blasting forth with a palm, the Thousand-Palms Imprint transformed into streams of chaotic currents that ravaged this entire space, causing both heavens and earth to shake. The might exuded was incredibly terrifying.

Especially when he added his will from the Mandate of Demons and unleashed the palm strike using divine energy, the might generated was far more destructive and violent. But despite that, his palm strikes were still unable to leave a mark in the sky. He knew that to pass this test, one's palm art must reach the level of leaving behind a mark. That was the symbol of having passed this test.

"Time's up, I failed." Qin Wentian resignedly put his palms down. A day worth of time was simply too short, it was too difficult to reach the level of leaving a mark in the sky.

"Focus on comprehending, I've forgotten to tell you that this cavern is actually a grand illusion-scape and will make you feel that the flow of time is faster than normal. In fact, only two hours have passed."

The Ox demon's voice drifted over, his words causing Qin Wentian to be stunned as he cursed, "Are you playing around with me?"

"Hmph, how can the words of this lord be playing around? If you don't pass this trial after a day, you will die without a doubt. It's only because you are in an illusion-scape that you would have a wrong concept about the rate of time flowing. This is just like a dreamscape," the cold snort of the ox demon resounded out.

Qin Wentian believed it, sometimes when one was in a dream, it felt that they experienced an entire lifetime but in fact, only a single instant had passed. Back then in the Royal Tomb, he had already experienced this feeling before extremely clearly.

However, this ox demon was extremely devious, it actually didn't tell him beforehand. But luckily, he still had time remaining to continue gaining comprehension.

“The differences between things like illusion-scape, dreamscape, and reality is just a matter of perspective,” Qin Wentian silently mused. He continued repeating the movement, and attempted to infuse his will from the Mandate of Dream into his palm art, hoping that he would be able to succeed, qualitatively evolving it just like his halberd art.

It was extremely difficult, he needed to achieve a complete fusion. But for the Great Thousand-Hand Imprints, the myriad of palm imprints manifested each had a different frequency. And as for his vibrational shockwaves, it was insanely difficult to achieve a complete fusion with the myriad of palm imprints.

“Pulsation, I must find the same frequency of their pulsation. This is similar to the great tidal waves of the oceans. Whenever the flowing water reaches a certain frequency, they would build up together and erupt forth with an indomitable momentum. If my Void Vibrational shock wave can find ‘that instant’ and fuse completely with my Thousand-Palms Imprint, compressing completely into one, how powerful would that be?”

Qin Wentian soon returned to that self-immersion state as he forgot the flow of time. Gradually, his palm art became increasingly profound as the might generated got more and more terrifying.

Qin Wentian unceasingly blasted out palm strikes into the air. He exploded forth with thunderous booms and boundless might. His palm imprints gradually started to condense together and the tens of thousands imprints became only a few hundred, a few hundred gradually condensed into over ten. Although the number of palm imprints lessened, their strength evidently increased by another tier. Before this his palm strikes were akin to the casual movement of water in the ocean. After this process of continuously refining, they started to resemble great tidal waves that could build upon one another’s momentum, slamming onto the shore with crushing force. Streams of formless energy created vibrational shockwaves that fused within his palm arts, stacking upon each other, building up power before erupting forth at the last instant.

In the ninth day Qin Wentian spent in the illusion-scape, the figure before him was still repeating its actions. Qin Wentian similarly mirrored its movements and thunderous booming sounds reverberated in the space. Streams of heaven-shaking and earth-shattering qi flow circulated about and at the last instant, they all condensed into a single palm strike that erupted upwards into the sky, branding it with a mark.

Qin Wentian didn’t stop; he continued practicing and relentlessly left behind palm-marks in the skies. And at the last instant before time was up, when Qin Wentian blasted forth with his palm again, at the very moment when the torrential qi flows converged together, no palm imprint manifested. There was simply nothing at all.

KABOOOM!

Abruptly, a world-shattering sound thundered out as an incomparably gargantuan palm imprint covered the entire sky, branding its mark there, sufficient to cause the hearts of all to tremble.

Qin Wentian smiled. The might of this palm strike was even stronger than his self-created halberd art.

“This innate technique, I shall name it the ‘Grand Nihilism Thousand Imprint,’” Qin Wentian stated silently in his heart. However, the consumption rate of energy for this attack was simply too fearsome, the entire supply of energy in all four of his Yuanfu had been completely drained.

However, since he had not died, this meant that he passed the test within the allocated amount of time.

“You can continue your cultivation in there,” the voice of the ox demon drifted over, as though he knew what Qin Wentian was thinking. Joy bloomed in Qin Wentian’s heart. The astral energy in this cavern was exceedingly saturated and was a heavenly place for cultivation. How could he miss out on such a good chance? He instantly sat down and started cultivating..

Only when all four of his Yuanfu were filled up to the brim did Qin Wentian exit the cavern. Right now, he saw the ox demon smiling at him. “Your strength improved yet again, why aren’t you thanking me yet? Or do you want to have another go at the trials?”

“Are there any prizes for consecutively passing the trials three times in the Cavern of Life and Death?” Qin Wentian furrowed his brow as he asked.

“Of course, if you pass three trials consecutively, I will send you to a wonderful place with another challenge. If you can pass that challenge, there will naturally be some very good rewards waiting for you.”

“Okay for my next trial, I will pick the Cavern of Mandates, I want to pick the Mandate of Force.” Qin Wentian’s furrowed brow smoothed as he relaxed. And as if he was mimicking the ox demon, a wide smile appeared on his face. He stared at the ox demon as he released his will from the Mandate of Force. It was at the transformation boundary of the second insight.

Staring at Qin Wentian’s smile, the smile on the ox’s face vanished completely as a strange expression appeared on its face.

“I was tricked?!” The ox demon cursed as it glared at Qin Wentian. “Seems like your Mandate of Force is already at the peak of the transformation boundary and is already on the verge of a breakthrough. Intentionally fishing information from me and even daring to pull a fast one on this lord? Brat, you better remember this!”

After speaking, the ox demon turned and entered the cavern once again. The radiant smile on Qin Wentian’s face only got wider and wider!

#### Chapter 569: I Will Teach You Conduct

After the Ox demon exited the cavern, Qin Wentian went in again. And just a hour later, Qin Wentian exited it, staring at the ox demon with a smile that was not a smile.

After he comprehended the Grand Nihilism Thousand Imprint, he already sensed that his Mandate of Force was on the verge of a breakthrough because of the comprehensions he gained regarding the palm technique. As long as he summoned the entirety of his force, he would be able to break through from the transformation boundary to perfection boundary, yet he didn’t do so. He forcibly suppressed it and intentionally pranked the ox demon hoping to fish for more benefits.

Hence for the third trial, it could be said that Qin Wentian breezed through it almost effortlessly. Qin Wentian’s Mandate of Force had reached the perfection boundary of the second-level insight.

“Senior ox, where are my rewards?” Qin Wentian laughed as he stared at the ox demon.

“Relax, there’s no hurry, didn’t I say that there would be a challenge? If you want the rewards you naturally have to pass through this new test.” Another grin appeared on the ox demon’s face, causing Qin Wentian to feel a trace of uneasiness. He knew from experience that this ox was extremely crafty and every time when it smiled, it would mean something bad was going to happen to him. Most probably, this ox had some weird designs on Qin Wentian again.

Qin Wentian felt extremely depressed. It seemed as though the master of the Immortal Martial Realm gave a very large degree of freedom to the guardians, allowing them to do what they wanted. The Black Jiao Python was like this, and this Ox demon had an even greater authority, evident by the fact that it was assigned to take charge of the trials of the Cavern of Life and Death.

Not only that, he still didn’t know what nefarious methods this damn ox would think up to deal with him.

“Don’t worry, this test is absolutely fair. I will allow you to gather with the others who are currently in the Cavern of Life and Death and undergo an absolutely fair combat process. If you end up the only one remaining, you will be considered to have passed my test.” The ox demon lowered its head adorably and grinned at Qin Wentian. Seeing the ox demon acting this way, Qin Wentian was seized with the impulse to rush up and punch its head.

Become the only one remaining? Regardless of the test, how could it be so simple to be the only one remaining?

Although the eighty-one selected individuals were sent to different floating bridges, each and every bridge contained Heaven Chosen from the major powers in the Royal Sacred Region. There are too many demon-level genius characters in there, and although the eighty-one selected individuals were the cream of the crop, it didn’t mean that the others were useless.

His senior brother Duan Han was a very good example, Duan Han was a personal disciple under Sword Sovereign Ling Tian. Other than that, among the disciples of the nine mountains in the Battle Sword Sect, there were a total of three members who obtained the Immortal Martial Medallion. The other terrifying characters of the Battle Sword Sect were thus mingled among the crowd.

Become the only one remaining? The difficulty was already destined to be far more intense than he imagined.

But what could Qin Wentian say? He said nothing and with a wave of its hand, the ox demon directly teleported him away.

When Qin Wentian appeared again, he was on the floating bridge once more. However right now, the bridge he was on started to stretch out in all eight directions, and the scenery appearing before him, such the floating cities, was all absolutely immense.

The other participants were all over the place seeking their own lucky chances. Qin Wentian didn’t know what happened to the other participants when he was taking the trials of the Cavern of Life and Death. Most probably, it wouldn’t be simple.

“I hope the others are fine,” Qin Wentian silently sighed. His silhouette flickered as he rushed ahead, and far away in the distance, there was actually a region completely filled with fog.



“The test the Ox demon spoke of, would it be there?” Qin Wentian dashed forth and after a short moment of time, he came to the boundary of the floating bridge as he turned his gaze down.

At the edge of his vision, the fog gradually dissipated and everything became clear. There was actually an ancient looking battlefield filled with several platforms constructed from stone.

On each and every one of the stone platforms, there was an ancient looking battle drum set up. These battle drums quietly sat there, and every one of them exuded a unique aura that seemed able to connect the heavens and earth.

“These drums are so marvelous, they are definitely not any ordinary battle drums.” Just a single glance told him that there were hundreds of stone platforms and battle drums, as though this place was prepared for the participants who chose this particular floating bridge.

RUMBLE!!

An intense grinding sound thundered out in this ancient space. From above the heavens, an incomparably huge stone tablet descended downwards, radiating a terrifying battle intent.

BOOM!

The stone tablet landed on the ground, embedded itself within. There was a terrifying glow circulating around the stone table, which shot towards each and every set of battle drums present. After which, reverberations rang out as each of the drums vibrated with incredible battle intent, as though they were summoning the warriors that they wanted to control them.

Every one of the participants clearly saw what happened, and they could also feel the power radiating out from the stone tablet. That surge of power was ancient and mighty, able to break even the heavens and earth, as though there was an unfathomably fearsome battle spirit within it that possessed supreme conviction that it would always be victorious.

The booming sounds from the drums madly gushed towards a certain direction, akin to a summoning hymn. An instant later, many people appeared at the boundary of this strange place, and after staring at the words engraved on that ancient battle stone tablet, they soon understood the usage of these battle drums.

“Wentian.” A voice drifted over. Qin Wentian turned only to see Ye Lingshuang, Qin Zheng, Yun Mengyi, Chu Mang and Mu Feng.

Upon seeing their expression, Qin Wentian laughed, “The ox demon didn’t trample me to death, he sent me to another space to undergo the trials of the Cavern of Life and Death instead.”

“It’s good that you are fine. This means that Fan Le and Ouyang didn’t die as well.” Chu Mang had a weight off his mind, Ye Lingshuang’s eyes turned slightly red, Qin Zheng had a smile on his face, Mu Feng was as detached as before while Yun Mengyi turned her head to another direction, not allowing them to see the emotions flashing through her eyes.

“Ouyang was also trampled by that ox demon?” Only now did Qin Wentian know who the additional person the ox demon said taking the trials was.

“Yeah, after seeing you being trampled to ‘death’, Ouyang instantly flew into a rage and rushed straight at it. After which he suffered the same fate as you and was trampled to ‘death’ by a barrage of stomps. The madness of the ox demon caused many to flee, and many also died after it went on a rampage. Seems like it didn’t kill you guys, but sent you to the cavern instead. Didn’t I question how the test could be that perverse?” Qin Zheng added.

“It isn’t so easy to pass the trials set in the Cavern of Life and Death.” An expression of worry appeared on Qin Wentian’s face. Although the old ox promised that he would take care of them, and Fan Le and Ouyang Kuangsheng hadn’t appeared yet, Qin Wentian couldn’t help but feel anxious.

As for the others who ‘died’ after it went on a rampage, most probably the ox demon also brought the stronger ones to the cavern. But the probability of them dying was much higher in comparison.

“We did encounter the Cavern of Life and Death you are talking about, but because we didn’t know how dangerous was it, we didn’t dare to attempt it. What’s exactly inside it?” Ye Lingshuang questioned.

Qin Wentian explained everything to them and after that, similar expressions of worry could be seen on their faces for Ouyang Kuangsheng and Fan Le.

“You actually didn’t die?” A cold voice drifted over. Qin Wentian stared to the left only to see a row of silhouettes standing there. They were none other than the experts from the Violet Thunder Sect.

“These people are from the Violet Thunder Sect and the one who spoke is none other than Que Cheng, it was he who woke up that ox demon which caused all of us to think that Fan Le had died.” Chu Mang glowered with rage as he stared at Que Cheng.

“In the situation back then, who were the ones that wanted to act against all of you?” Qin Wentian coldly asked.

“The Violet Thunder Sect, the Heaven Crippling Sect, and the Great Earth Sect,” Qin Zheng calmly replied.

“Great Earth Sect?” Qin Wentian’s voice was filled with killing intent.

“Yes, Ouyang recognised a disciple from the Great Earth Sect. He said that this person had also once participated in the Heavenly Fate Rankings of Grand Xia in a batch far earlier than you and Ouyang Kuangsheng. Not only that, his name was Chen Yin.” Qin Zheng remembered, and instantly Qin Wentian recalled the Great Solar Chen Clan.

“Over there,” Yun Mengyi spoke in a soft voice, her eyes were icy cold as she stared in a certain direction. Qin Wentian turned his gaze over to where Yun Mengyi was looking and saw a young man around thirty years old with solar flames flickering in his eyes.

“Great Solar Universe Art.” Qin Wentian instantly understood that there was no mistake, this man was from the Great Solar Chen Clan. Also, it appeared that he had once met this man before. Back then in the Xuan King City, it was precisely this person that whispered something to the elder of the Great Earth Sect. Qin Wentian suddenly reassessed the scenario back then; so it turned out that there was a motive for the Great Earth Sect to invite him over. Luckily, he chose the Battle Sword Sect instead.

Yet another indistinct killing intent drifted over. Qin Wentian looked in another direction and saw Shi Kuang from the Heaven Crippling Sect.

Qin Wentian stared straight at him, his eyes as cold as ice, shimmering with a grim light.

This time around, Shi Kuang didn’t avoid his gaze. He wasn’t like the first time they met, and had no intentions of retreating from a confrontation.

“I heard that you wish to kill us all?” Qin Wentian stared at Shi Kuang as he asked.

“Your gaze truly makes me feel an intense sensation of loathing. Although you are still alive now, your lives would eventually be claimed sooner or later.” Shi Kuang pointed at the ancient battlefield while his eyes bore into Qin Wentian’s. “In this place, with the aid of the battle drums, we can recover our original cultivation base. Not only that, we can even burst forth with a strength above the limits of our current cultivation base. I’ve already felt the summoning of the battle spirit. This ancient battlefield where the corpses of ancient times are buried is truly an exceedingly suitable place for you.”

After Shi Kuang spoke, he turned and walked forward together with the other members from the Heaven Crippling Sect and entered the battlefield.

“You are right. I, Shi Kuang, want to kill all of you. If you have the slightest bit of courage, accept my challenge.” Shi Kuang stood atop a stone platform behind a set of battle drums as an overwhelming killing intent radiated out from him.

Qin Wentian then turned his gaze onto Chen Yin and the other experts from the Great Earth Sect. His gaze landed on the person beside Chen Yin, this person seemed to be the leader of these members.

“What do you all mean by that?” Qin Wentian spoke.

The leading young man turned to Qin Wentian as he laughed with interest. He looked at Qin Wentian as though Qin Wentian was a clown and he radiated a faint loftiness as well.

His name was Shen Ting, a Heaven Chosen from the Great Earth Sect and he was extremely strong. In the Great Earth Sect among Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns of this generation, he was ranked either around the third or fourth.

His relationship with Chen Yin wasn't bad, and Chen Yin seemed to have some sort of grudge with Qin Wentian and his group. Although Qin Wentian slew Ye Kongfan and had an outstanding battle record, in Shen Ting's eyes someone at the fifth-level of Heavenly Dipper daring to use such a tone to speak to him simply didn't know how tall the Heavens were.

“Nothing. Chen Yin wants to kill you all, I would naturally help him. The answer is just so simple, and if you wish to battle, I will teach you how to conduct yourself properly when speaking to someone superior.” Shen Ting walked towards the battlefield, and didn't bother to mask the lofty arrogance in his eyes.

And as for Que Cheng, he didn't say anything. The reason he wanted Qin Wentian dead was simple, it was because the Violet Thunder Sect had an unreconcilable grudge with Qin Wentian. As for Shen Ting's words, they were what he wanted to say as well! Without further ado, Que Cheng and the experts from the Violet Thunder Sect walked towards the ancient battlefield too!

Chapter 570: Battle Drums Shaking the Skies

The participants all entered the battlefield in turn and stood upon the stone platforms, gently touching the battle drums in front of them.

Qin Wentian's gaze roamed the place, counting. There were around a few hundred people here.

"Let us enter as well." Qin Wentian stepped out and a moment later, he arrived before a battle drum. Around him, Ye Lingshuang, Chu Mang, and the others took up their positions, with Qin Wentian in the center.

Qin Wentian gently touched the battle drum before him as a mysterious feeling floated up in his mind. It was as though as long as he was willing, he could infuse his consciousness into the battle drum and create a battle spirit from the drum to fight for him.

Just like what the stone tablet had engraved. In this battlefield, the battle drums were the ones fighting instead of the humans.

Their cultivation bases were still suppressed, but if they used the battle drums to fight, they could break through this suppression and even surpass their peak strength to the extent of unleashing terrifying strength that far exceeds what their cultivation base was capable of.

But as to how to accomplish that, it would depend on one's self to figure it out.

Everyone wasted no time and stepped into the battlefield. They understood that since there was this battlefield prepared for them, it must mean that the next test wanted them to contend against each other. This would be the first test in the Immortal Martial Realm that required them to fight against the other participants and from a certain perspective, this was also a test of absolute fairness.

BOOM!

Somebody used their hands and blasted into the battle drum causing an impassioned battle intent to radiated out, resounding through this battlefield.

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM!

Booming sounds rang out one after another as the various participants were trying to figure out the way how to use the drums for combat.

Qin Wentian's perception drifted out, after which he blasted a palm strike right at the battle drum in front of him. All of an instant, a thunderous roar reverberated the space as a mysterious energy was summoned from within the drum, which then created a screen of light that enveloped him.

At that moment, an unusual feeling bloomed in Qin Wentian's heart. It was as though he could merge as one with the battle drum. This battle drum seemed to contain a battle spirit that belonged

to solely to itself, born because it wanted to do battle, born because of the warrior that managed to reverberate it.

BOOM!

Qin Wentian sent out another palm strike as that unusual feeling got stronger and stronger.

After three booms, Qin Wentian felt as though he fused together successfully with the battle spirit of the battle drum. As long as he willed it, he could unleash an attack towards any direction using the battle drum as a medium.

BANG!

A fiery palm imprint grabbed towards Qin Wentian. Qin Wentian didn't lift his head, but his perception could clearly feel everything that was happening around here. On the left, an incomparably fiery palm of destruction slammed towards him. Evidently, there was someone who figured out how to use the battle drums a step earlier than Qin Wentian and activated an attack towards him.

Qin Wentian's palms slammed mercilessly onto his own battle drum as well. Instantly, a draconic roar thundered out, blasting towards that incomparably fiery palm imprint as sounds of a collision resounded in the air, causing chaotic qi flows born from the impact to appear.

The confrontation had started here, but combat also erupted among the other participants. Instantly, this entire place was transformed into a real battle field as thunderous booming sounds of the battle drums filled the air. Roars of battle spirits could be heard as they radiated an incredibly intense battle intent.

Since there was someone trying to sneak attack him, Qin Wentian naturally wouldn't be overly courteous. He initiated an attack right at his attacker. His palms turned crimson as he blasted onto the battle drum, manifesting blood-colored palmprints formed from the Bloodcurse Imprint to zoom madly towards his target.

"Hmph," that person coldly snorted, unwilling to show any weakness as he infused his fiery palms with a heavy destructive might that blasted through all the blood-colored palmprints and continued its way towards Qin Wentian.

“Shattered Void!” Qin Wentian slammed his palms down as an even more overwhelming destructive might gushed forth, dissipating the might of his opponent’s attack. Right now, both his palms twirled about as he blasted them towards the surface of his battle drum, causing two enormous ancient bells to manifest, hurtling towards his opponent as the sounds from the bells reverberated through the air, targeted to pulverise the heart of his opponent.

The Heartbreak Echo was able to explode hearts.

Following the start of combat, the participants were all starting to get more proficient with using the drum as a medium for their attacks. The shockwaves from the combat collisions also became more intense in magnitude. The Heartbreak Echo’s reverberations caused the heart of that opponent to pound. His eyes then flashed with madness and killing intent as he unleashed a barrage of strikes onto the battle drum, causing flame-coated long spears to manifest, shooting forwards with terrifying speed.

However, Qin Wentian didn’t seem to see the incoming attacks. Demonic qi gushed out in torrential amounts as both his palms rapidly struck out, causing the reverberations from the ancient bells to shake the entire space in this area, focusing and aiming for the heart. The bell chimes echoed throughout his opponent’s mind and an instant later, that opponent suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood as his face turned pale. Heartbreak Echo, when unleashed with the aid of the battle drum as a medium, was even more terrifying than normal. The reverberations could merge together with the booming of the battle drums, causing this attack to be in a perpetual loop, relentless and unceasing, constantly targeting the heart.

Streams of sword qi lacerated outwards, slashing at the flame-coated spears. The humming of ten thousand swords filled the air amidst the booming sounds from the Heartbreak Echo. That person coughed out another mouthful of blood as his battle intent wavered. The battle spirit of his drum was already trembling from the pressure. A moment later, his heart exploded with an explosive boom as the battle drum in front of him shattered into pieces. That person coughed out yet another mouthful of blood; the shattering of a drum meant the death of the user. After which, the mysterious energy in his opponent’s battle drum actually shot towards Qin Wentian’s, adding to the quantity of it.

The light from his drum that enveloped Qin Wentian grew even brighter and when he did a test sending out another attack via the drum, that drum sound was even louder as the magnitude of his attack got even larger.

Not only Qin Wentian. This entire space had already erupted with combat and quite a few people had successfully shattered the drums of others, causing their own battle drum to be infused with even more energy.

This was the plundering of the battle spirits.

Plundering by virtue of destruction.

“Quickly up our attacks and start to plunder the battle spirits of others. If not, the distance between the strength of our group and our opponents would be pulled apart.” Qin Wentian understood the situation and swiftly transmitted his voice to Ye Lingshuang and the others. They all nodded in agreement as their attacks got more ferocious, seeking to strengthen themselves by destroying the drums of the other participants.

Que Cheng from the Violet Thunder Sect, Shi Kuang from the Heaven Crippling Sect and Yin Ting from the Great Earth Sect weren't in a rush to attack Qin Wentian. After they discovered that they could plunder the battle spirits of others to strengthen themselves, they started to attack others near them in a frenzied manner.

“Go all out and aid me in plundering the spirits,” Que Cheng commanded the experts of the Violet Thunder Sect beside him. They had already formed a formation with Que Cheng in the center. If someone wanted to work alone and plunder the battle spirits, their might in the end would surely lose out to others. There's only one method to make one level up the fastest, and that's getting the help of others to supplement one's battle drum growth. In such a situation, the first one to level up in this battle field, will be an unrivalled and unstoppable existence.

“Aid me,” Yin Ting commanded, evidently he had the same idea as Que Cheng.

Not only them, the alliances of major powers also started to group around with their leading characters in the center as they began to plunder the battle spirits of the other drums. Very swiftly, quite a few had levelled up.

“He already broke through to the second level of Heavenly Dipper despite the suppression effect. The will of Mandate in his attacks also got stronger.” Somebody discovered that Que Cheng had broken through and his attacks were more terrifying than before. The overall might of the Violet Thunder Sect Alliance was increasing as time flowed by.

Those that joined the Violet Thunder Sect were usually people who were proficient with lightning and thunder, and the lightning and thunder attribute techniques almost always placed a strong emphasis on attack. When a number of people proficient in lightning joined forces in a formation, their combined might would naturally be beyond terrifying. Hence, Que Cheng's strength had already started to pull away from the others.



RUMBLE!

Under the tyrannical might of lightning, yet the battle drum of another participant was shattered as the user died.

“Damn, this can’t go on. Only by aiding only one to plunder would we be able to block them from levelling up,” some of the unaffiliated major powers realised. They weren’t willing to be stepping stones for others to rise up, and hearing the ever-increasing volume of the the jarring booms from the battle drums from those of the Nine Great Sects, all of them understood that they would soon be in danger.

“Wentian, we will aid you to plunder,” Ye Lingshuang spoke.

Qin Wentian was currently duelling with an opponent. Upon hearing Ye Lingshuang’s words, Qin Wentian’s expression shone. Chu Mang also added, “That’s right, if not the distance between us and others would only be lengthened.”

As the sound of his voice faded, a fearsome meteor hammer chopped down mercilessly aiming for Chu Mang. Chu Mang wasn’t flustered, he slammed his palms onto his battle drum as the manifestation of a great axe appeared, slashing towards that meteor hammer. Two streams of invisible force clashed in the air, but after a few moments, the force of the hammer won out and continued towards Chu Mang. The person attacking was obviously the leading character of an alliance, and the might of his attacks was already infinitely close to breaking through to the second level of Heavenly Dipper.

“Right.” Qin Wentian nodded. He then turned his gaze onto Chu Mang’s attacker as a cold light flashed in his eyes.

“All of you act as support for me, I will be the main attacker.” An intense battle intent radiated out from Qin Wentian. The sounds of the drums form a cacophony of discordant booms in the air as Qin Wentian unleashed Heartbreak Echo once more. His attack was like a tempest of wind and rain that swept towards that alliance.

“Okay!” Ye Lingshuang and the others nodded in agreement. They also started their attacks, aiding Qin Wentian in negating the effects from attacks issued by other alliances, allowing Qin Wentian to focus his all on his role.

The air flashed with sparks from the collision of countless attacks. The drum sounds shook the heavens only to see a number of ancient bells appearing as well. The chimes of these bells caused reverberations that formed into a wall of sound, raining down with crushing force on the alliance who attacked Chu Mang, causing their faces all to turn red as a result of resisting Qin Wentian's attack.

Right now, a number of blood-colored ancient halberds descended from the skies, raining down upon the alliance of seven experts.

RUMBLE!

A nightmarish dreamscape instantly appeared in the minds of that seven experts. They would have been able to resist this intrusion of dreamforce in their normal states, but the Heartbreak Echo had already caused them to summon all the fiber of their beings in defying it. Now with this additional attack from Qin Wentian's dream will, they could only grit their teeth and bear with the invasion.

The reverberations from the bells continued, joining in with Qin Wentian's drum sound, akin to a melody of destruction.

The seven experts all coughed out blood, their drums of the weaker ones shattered as all of them died. Only the leading character proved to be more resilient, but he was still killed as an ancient halberd rained from above and impaled his battle drum, causing it to shatter.

The battle spirits all rushed into Qin Wentian's battle drum one by one, further increasing its power. And at the instant the alliance was destroyed, there was a manifestation of a flaming giant currently dashing towards Ye Lingshuang, wanting to bury her within a sea of flames.

"Sister Lingshuang, be careful!" Qin Wentian shouted as his perception sensed the incoming attack. Ye Lingshuang instantly blasted her palms onto her battle drum causing sword qi to ravage the air. But despite so, she was still slower by a beat. That flaming giant exuded an indomitable might and under the monument pressure, Ye Lingshuang coughed out blood as she hurriedly terminated the connection with her battle drum as a crack appeared there. Although the battle drum didn't shatter, Ye Lingshuang had already lost control of it. The battle spirit within was forcibly absorbed away by the attacker, wresting the battle drum away from her control.

The remains of the flaming giant metamorphosed into the form of a dragon as it lunged towards Ye Lingshuang. Ye Lingshuang paled, the instructions engraved on the stone tablet clearly stated that one can only use the drums to battle in this battle field. Those who broke the rules will be sentenced to death.

Staring at the fire dragon helplessly, Ye Lingshuang lifted her palms, preparing to unleash her final attack.

BOOOM!

An incomparably gigantic palm imprint suddenly appeared in the middle of the air, shattering the dragon completely into pieces. Ye Lingshuang's body was trembling uncontrollably as cold sweat drenched her back. What a narrow escape!

“Sister Lingshuang, come stand behind me,” Qin Wentian called out. Ye Lingshuang nodded, her silhouette flickered as she appeared behind Qin Wentian.

Qin Wentian then shifted his gaze onto the person who sneaked an attack on Ye Lingshuang. Indeed it was none other than Chen Yin from the Great Solar Chen Clan. Although Qin Wentian had a grudge with plenty of people, they weren't in a rush to attack, but were spending time on plundering the battle spirits instead, opting to raise their strength as fast as possible. Yet this Chen Yin seemed unable to contain himself any longer and decided to attack him right away!