

## Ancient GM 581

### Chapter 581: Strength of Character

Lin Xian`er watched the battle on the path up towards the treasure pagoda without blinking. Even with her state of heart, she couldn't help feeling thunderstruck.

Before this, although Qin Wentian was already quite famous due to his slaying of Ye Kongfan, he was still quite a distance from those Heaven Chosen in the Royal Sacred Region who had already been renowned for a long time. At most, he could only be considered an up and coming new talent. Lin Xian`er recognized Qin Wentian's talent and potential, but she had not thought him comparable to the absolute era-suppressing geniuses until he slew both Poison Scorpion and the Saint Child of the Supreme Demon Sect in one blow.

Right now, staring at the battle drums around him, Lin Xian`er couldn't help but sigh in her heart. This so-called burial ground of geniuses, was it not also a place for talents to awaken? Those who were truly outstanding would never be buried forever. This outstanding young man seemed to have undergone a transformation through the trials of this realm, and had already grown powerful enough to fight against the majority of the Heaven Chosen in the Royal Sacred Region.

In addition to that, he had even obtained a divine artifact from the Immortal Martial Realm.

She naturally knew that external divine weapons from outside this realm weren't usable here, only divine weapons of the Immortal Martial Realm could be used. Maybe the Immortal Martial Realm divine weapons weren't as powerful as some of the supreme techniques taught to those Heaven Chosen from the true major powers, but their usage would be magnified when used in the Immortal Martial Realm.

For example, if Lin Xian`er were to fight against Lou Bingyu and under the circumstances when their strengths were evenly matched, just by using a Immortal Martial Realm divine weapon, Lou Bingyu would instantly be able to suppress her effortlessly, possibly to the extent of being able to kill her.

If Lou Bingyu originally had been sufficiently powerful when she was lent the power of an Immortal Realm divine weapon, she would be able to sweep through all Heaven Chosen unhindered, achieving a strength similar to the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses while here in the Immortal Martial Realm.

Lin Xian`er also clearly knew that only a very limited few would be qualified to receive a divine weapon from the Immortal Martial Realm, the chances were as rare as finding a phoenix's feather or kirin's horn. Many people speculated that an Immortal Martial Realm divine weapon was able to grow together with the martial cultivator who possessed it, and it even changed one's innate talent. Back then, the Human Emperor of Ye was a very good example. Before the Immortal Martial Realm, Ye Qingyun was basically an unknown. But after that, wasn't it the time he truly exuded his splendor, and showcased his brilliance?

The Human Emperor was the most evident example everyone else could find. But as to what the truth really was, it was something that only Ye Qingyun himself knew. Qin Wentian once personally heard the Human Emperor disdain that a mere treasure could be the reason for his uprising, mocking those who went to such lengths to take the treasure from him.

But regardless of the matter, Qin Wentian himself had already received one Immortal Martial Realm divine weapon, the battle drum. This was enough to make Lin Xian`er sigh in admiration.

Naturally, Lin Xian`er was also taken aback by that cold and beautiful silhouette. That poor silhouette who was forced back continuously, even to the extent of coughing out blood, exuded an unbendable aura even in the face of death. That demeanor, when exemplified by a woman, wasn't it also displaying her strength of character?

When Lin Xianer saw how Lou Bingyu was injured to this extent by Qin Wentian, her heart couldn't help but to bloom with compassion and worry. She had truly started to admire this young maiden who was the most favored disciple under the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness. Indeed, Lou Bingyu was an extraordinary character. Lin Xianer could only hope that she wouldn't be led astray by that old witch's teaching and guidance. Naturally, that was in the future, and the premise as to her being led astray or not still depended on whether or not Qin Wentian would be ruthless enough to destroy this beautiful flower, burying the proud plum flower forever right here in the Immortal Martial Realm.

Lin Xian`er's eyes revealed traces of a gentle smile. For some reason she believed that Qin Wentian wouldn't be so merciless. After all, the person he was facing was a delicate and beautiful young maiden who had a different bearing compared to the vast majority of women. Although she was a little cold, it wasn't able to mask her refined presence, so different from others.

Yet when Lin Xian`er saw Qin Wentian directly pointing the ancient halberd at Lou Bingyu's throat, her heart couldn't help but skip a beat. Her eyes widened and were as bright as torches as she stared intently at the sharp tip of the ancient halberd.

On the top of the treasure pagoda, Qin Wentian stared at Lou Bingyu, his heart stirring slightly. This was someone who wouldn't cower even in the face of death. Although his first impression of Lou Bingyu wasn't that good, the actual reason was mainly because of the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness. But as they exchanged blows, he saw many other things. This female in front of him was more outstanding and tenacious even compared to many of the other male Heaven Chosen.

"Why must you do this? You completely have the chance to breakaway from this battle." Qin Wentian stared at that cold and beautiful countenance in front of him as he was slightly taken aback.

Lou Bingyu seemed as though she hadn't heard any of his words. Right now, her heart was filled with an excruciating piercing pain that was extremely unbearable.

She was an orphan. She had followed her master ever since she was very young. Not only she was the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness her master, she also took on the role of her mother. And although her master was very strict towards her, Lou Bingyu understood the reason behind it. She knew that the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness only had a single wish in this lifetime and that was to surpass that man. If she didn't have the power to surpass him, she had to nurture and ensure that her disciples at the very least would surpass his disciples. Hence, the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness placed her heavy hopes onto her disciple's shoulders.

Lou Bingyu was extremely outstanding and the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness once stated that among the younger generations at the Heavenly Dipper Realm, other than Ji Feixue, there would be no one who could defeat her disciple Lou Bingyu. Although many people didn't believe so, Lou Bingyu's performance in the Battle Sword Sect soon made everyone agree with the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness' statement. Despite her young age, Lou Bingyu was already shining like a constellation, chasing after the footsteps of Ji Feixue.

But today, even before she met Ji Feixue, and contended against the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses, she had already been defeated by this young man in front of her. Not only that, this person was the same as her, a disciple of the Battle Sword Sect. And what's even more ironic was that her master had forced that person's foster father to dig into his flesh for his treasure for her benefit. Yet today, she still lost to this young man despite the augmentation the treasure provided her.

Lou Bingyu felt that she had no way to face her master. She didn't want to imagine how disappointed the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness would be when she exited the Immortal Martial Realm.

Qin Wentian could see despair as well as a struggle in Lou Bingyu's eyes. He furrowed his brows in confusion, this maiden before him wasn't afraid of death. So what then would cause her to feel despair?

The only possibility was the hope and expectations the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness laid on her shoulders.

"Is it because of your master?" Qin Wentian asked in a low voice. "Is it even worth it?"

"Kill me and retrieve the treasure axe to return to your foster father. The actions of my master were because of me, your actions were because of your foster father. I have no regrets even if I were to die in your hands." Lou Bingyu was as cold as ever. She closed her eyes when she finished her statement.

This decision caused Qin Wentian to be stunned. When he stared at the countenance of Lou Bingyu, he found that the ancient halberd in his hands had no desire to pierce forward.

Glancing at Lou Bingyu's body, even if he tore her apart, would he be able to retrieve the treasure?"

"When your master forced my foster father to take out that treasure, my foster father said this: 'This is just a mere treasure, do you really think that this item was the sole reason for me being able to rise up? Utterly laughable.' And after your master acquired the treasure, she also spoke to me: 'Today I won't bully you, but if you step into the Immortal Martial Realm, this seat's personal disciple will naturally discipline you on my behalf.' How imposing my foster father was, how could he care for a mere treasure? Maybe the only thing that was unbearable for him to accept was the humiliation of the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness forcing him to dig out that treasure in front of so many experts."

Qin Wentian slowly continued, "Now that I've defeated you here today, I really want to see if the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness will remember her arrogant words she spoke back then. And as for this debt that she owes, I don't think you should be the one bearing it for her. Although the disciples of the Battle Sword Sect aren't even comparable to the numbers of the other nine great sects, they are still revered and feared because of their individual combat prowess. I believe that you would also be one of the dazzling figures of our sect in the future, but I hope you remember that ultimately you are a member of the Battle Sword Sect and not just a personal disciple under the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness. I won't kill you, nor will I retrieve the treasure that has now already melded as one with you because I can see in you the 'spirit' of the Battle Sword Sect."

After speaking, Qin Wentian retracted his ancient halberd as a powerful force knocked Lou Bingyu down the pagoda's path.

As Qin Wentian stared at Lou Bingyu who was now on the ground, the expression on his face was as calm as water. He had his own principles, and the Human Emperor had his own pride and spirit. He believed that his foster father would understand his decision.

Regarding this treasure, what he should do was that one day, he had to make the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness lower her head in apology and not destroy such an outstanding disciple of the Battle Sword Sect. Only this would be able to satisfy the pride of himself, Qin Wentian.

Naturally there were two other reasons why Qin Wentian chose to spare Lou Bingyu: Firstly, that sentence Lou Bingyu had spoken, "We are both from the same sect, I have no wish to injure you. Just leave."

Secondly, simply because Lou Bingyu was a woman, and an exceedingly beautiful one at that. Maybe Qin Wentian didn't consciously decide to spare her because of this, but one couldn't argue that this fact didn't influence his decision. Qin Wentian was a man, after all.

After Lou Bingyu was knocked down to the ground, her cold eyes flashed with traces of surprise. Lifting her head and staring at that young man on top of the pagoda, she saw Qin Wentian was also looking right at her at that moment. From his eyes, she could see resoluteness, determination, and pride, as well as conviction.

Qin Wentian continued to ascend. After all the participants had all been knocked out, nobody could bar him from advancing to the very top of the treasure pagoda.

The silvery white glow got stronger and stronger and even blinded Qin Wentian's eyes. His eyes narrowed to a slit as he grabbed towards the source of the light. However, he didn't manage to grab anything. The already intense light intensified even further and all of a sudden, a beam of silver light shot into the center of Qin Wentian's brow, causing stabbing pain to rip at his sea of consciousness as if something was drilling into it.

To his surprise, words of a chant appeared in his mind. The silvery glow caused Qin Wentian's sea of consciousness to rumble as it instantly echoed within him. His entire body started trembling violently. The stream of words of the chant seemed incomprehensible, yet each syllable of it was filled with an incomparably unique and mysterious energy that permeated every part of his body.

Along with the sound of the chant in his mind, Qin Wentian's astral energy spiraled madly, erupting forth as though it wanted to break its own limits. His Yuanfu and astral novas were all trembling violently; even his meridians and artery channels were shaking. The blood circulating in his body was roaring like the waves of the ocean. The transformation occurring at this instant filled every cell of him with excruciating pain. With a howl of agony, Qin Wentian involuntarily spat out a mouthful of fresh blood.

The humming of the chant got increasingly messy, completely without rhythm. It was almost impossible to control; it seemed like it was a source of energy that didn't belong to him and was intending on forcibly drilling deep into his sea of consciousness.

"HALT!" Qin Wentian's mind shuddered violently, his powerful will forcibly halted the humming of the chant. He was worried that if he allowed the chanting to continue unabated, the transformation would tear his body asunder before it ended.

#### Chapter 582: Courting Humiliation

Within the Immortal Martial Realm, in a vast region which exuded an archaic air, there were numerous silhouettes currently standing. Any one of them was an extremely famous Heaven Chosen from the various major powers in the Royal Sacred Region.

In fact, even the eight era-suppressing geniuses were there.

In this vast region somewhere situated at the back, there were countless floating bridges intersecting together. This place was the place where the ending point of all the eighty-one floating bridge converged. Right now on top of a particular bridge, quite a few silhouettes appeared there. They stood there and turned their gazes on the vast region ahead and stared at those dazzling figures that were already there.

In fact, among the silhouettes appearing on this particular bridge, there were several extremely famous characters among them as well. Members from the Nine Great Sects, crown princes from ancient kingdoms, Saint Children and Holy Maidens from large reclusive sects, etc. Yet right now, the vast majority of them didn't have the guts to get down from the bridges. Just by sensing how immensely powerful the aura from these various geniuses of the Royal Sacred Region were, they were all trembling with fear. Right now, these people's cultivation bases were still being suppressed. If they really got down from the floating bridge, any one of those dazzlingly famous characters already there could kill them with a single slap.

Although these people weren't happy in their hearts, the harsh reality of the current differences in strength was right in front of them. They had no choice but to accept the reality: they had already been eliminated.

"Gu Liufeng is still as outstanding as ever. No matter where he goes, he who is always clad in white will always be the focal point of all attention." A female Heaven Chosen from an ancient reclusive sect stood on the bridge, gazing at the silhouette of Gu Liufeng. Her eyes sparkled with admiration. Although the Royal Sacred Region was boundlessly vast, based on her talent and background, those who were able to make her sit up with attention among those of the same generation weren't many. Those who could attract her interest were undoubtedly extremely outstanding amongst their peers.

Gu Liufeng was the perfect example. The calm lake severs the moon, the Yi shooting the nine heavens. This young man had long become a symbol of this generation. No matter what topic was it, as long as it had something to do with geniuses of the younger generation, Gu Liufeng's name would be sure to come up. There were almost no characters who could be compared to him, simply because Gu Liufeng was someone with no background who rose that high despite having no support.

"Is your heart moved?" A young maiden clad in pink who stood at the side spoke in a teasing manner. For those who knew of her, they all knew that she was a character extremely tough to deal with.

"There are very few people whose heart wouldn't be moved when facing the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses, let alone Gu Liufeng, who could be considered among one of the more outstanding ones among the eight," another maiden replied with a slight smile on her face. "In addition, it seems as though he was the first among the others to arrive at this point."

"Who would have thought that we wouldn't even have the qualifications to step down from the bridge. The tests in the Immortal Martial Realm was truly too difficult. My last test had something to do with a demonic tree, only three people on my floating bridge passed that test. After which, they were sent away by that demonic tree to some unknown place while we were all trapped at that location. Only after a certain amount of time did the demonic tree vanish, enabling us to continue advancing forward, and eventually reaching this place at the end."

The girl smiled, albeit bitterly. "However, the suppression effect on our cultivation bases has never been lifted. Right now, we no longer have the qualifications to contend against those below."

"I believed there would still be chances. There are some secret realms on the floating bridge I was on, and as long as we can pass them, we would gain the qualifications to take a test named 'The

Immortal Guides the Way.' Sadly, I failed them." The girl at the side smiled wryly as she shook her head. She originally was also a prideful individual, but she faltered, and when she was in front of that difficult test, she failed. She couldn't help feeling depressed when she recalled the demonic monkey who was the guardian of that test.

"Yeah, there are many secret realms on the floating bridges, with many tests designed for the participants. There were some who could pass easily, advancing courageously forwards without looking back, while there were also some who took the beaten path. Look over there, it's Princess Jiao Yang of Grand Zhou. She's awesome, she passed all of those difficult tests and even acquired a blazing steed."

The other maiden glanced over towards Princess Jiao Yang when she heard her friend's words and indeed, a handsome looking horse blazing with flames that was exuding a brilliant glow was being ridden by Princess Jiao Yang. The blazing steed floated in the air as a wave of flame continuously revolved around it beautifully, the light from the flame also causing a halo of fire to envelope Princess Jiao Yang.

At that moment, a person appeared beside the two maidens. This person was clad in imperial robes that were incomparably luxurious. His eyes shone with a terrifying golden light that caused fear in others. His aura was at the seventh level of Heavenly Dipper, and it was evident that his suppression was lifted. He directly walked past the two maidens, advancing forward.

"It's Shang Tong, the Eye King from Grand Shang. To think that he has already stepped into the seventh level, and not only that, his cultivation base is so solid, much stronger compared to him earlier when he just entered the Immortal Martial Realm," somebody exclaimed in shock as they recognised him.

Both Grand Shang and Grand Zhou were extremely powerful. Other than Princess Jiao Yang, there was another prince from Grand Zhou that was among the dazzling group of characters as well.

After Shang Tong, there were a few exceptional others that appeared. All of their eyes gleamed with sharpness, the auras they exuded were filled with power as they continued their way forward.

Such a scenario caused the watching crowd to be taken aback. Even now, there were more people appearing and occasionally, even Heaven Chosen with the Immortal Martial Medallions were mixed within.

"Lin Xianer has arrived!" At this moment an exclamation of surprise sounded out. Many turned around to see the silhouette of Lin Xianer really appear on one of the bridges. Her flawless



countenance was as soul-stirring as before, and each and every of her steps were able to move the hearts of people.

“Lin Xian`er is truly powerful, the restriction on her cultivation base is lifted.”

The crowd all sighed in admiration; as expected of a Fairy from the Celestial Maiden Sect. Not only was she beautiful, her talent was exceptionally outstanding as well.

The only point that caused people to feel somewhat uncomfortable was that there was a young man right in front of Lin Xianer. This person appeared calm, yet gave off a sense of incredible sharpness. His serene eyes stared ahead as he slowly advanced forward. And behind this young man, there wasn't just Lin Xianer alone. There was another ice-cold beauty walking behind him, causing the crowd to speculate wildly about the identity of this young man.

“Senior Sister Lou.” The members from the Battle Sword Sect all called out a greeting upon seeing Lou Bingyu. Lou Bingyu's gaze slowly turned towards them; there was no expression in her eyes, and she continued on her way forward. Occasionally her eyes would drift to the figure of the young man in front of her. This young man who most assuredly came from the same bridge as her, should be one of the dark horses in the Immortal Martial Realm right?

“She's Lou Bingyu, the most favored personal disciple under the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereignty.” The crowd's eyes narrowed upon learning of Lou Bingyu's identity. Such an outstanding woman, yet she was actually following behind a young man? Not only that, Lin Xian`er who was beside her also has the title of the number one beauty under the heavens.

Such a scene caused an incredulous expression to appear on many faces of the crowd. Wasn't it rumored that Lou Bingyu was as cold as ice and frost? She would never willingly walk with any man, let alone behind one. What was happening?

Staring at their position, regardless if you were looking at Lou Bingyu or Lin Xian`er, both of them seemed to be playing a supporting role. Such a scene caused a huge impact in the hearts of the crowd.

The person who called out Lou Bingyu's name was another elite female disciple under the Plum Mountain Sovereignty. Next to her were a few other members from the Battle Sword Sect, and one amongst them was clad in robes made of phoenix feathers, looking outstanding and alluring beyond comparison. But at this moment, she was also rubbing her eyes in confusion as she stared at the scene below. She couldn't believe what she was seeing.

As they were both personal disciples of the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness, Li Haoyou's understanding far surpassed others when it came to Lou Bingyu. She knew that her master had placed high hopes and expectations on Lou Bingyu, a fact that made her jealous. But she knew that in terms of both strength and talent, she did not compare to her fellow disciple. She also knew that Lou Bingyu was lofty and cold, and the reason she had come to the Immortal Martial Realm this time around was to challenge the status of Ji Feixue in the Battle Sword Sect. Her sole purpose was to contend against the eight era-suppressing geniuses!

But now, Lou Bingyu was actually walking behind that man, together with Lin Xian`er?

The first time she saw Qin Wentian, Li Hanyou couldn't even be bothered with him. Although he had proven his strength afterwards, Li Hanyou still wasn't convinced. In ancient Ye, he had even threatened her master, the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness; he simply didn't know what was good for himself! It was not possible that Lou Bingyu didn't know what happened in Ye.

At this moment, that young man in front of both Lin Xian`er and Lou Bingyu truly seemed extraordinary.

“Hold it there!”

This was practically an unexplained event crying out for an explanation. Lin Hanyou shouted, calling for Qin Wentian to stop. Her voice was impolite, containing coldness and even a few hints of disdain within.

Qin Wentian halted, his brow was furrowed as he stared at Lin Hanyou. In truth, he wasn't really familiar with Li Hanyou; they had only brief encounters the few times they met. For some reason, the eyes this woman used to stare at him with were filled with unfriendliness. Although Qin Wentian didn't like the gaze this woman was using to look at him, it couldn't be said that he loathed it. After all, they weren't really familiar with each other.

Hearing the ring of command in Li Hanyou's tone, Qin Wentian's look back at her was icy, and felt as sharp as an unsheathed sword, causing Lin Hanyou's mind to violently shudder. This made her feel an even more intense bout of humiliation. A cold killing intent flashed in her beautiful eyes, and this killing intent was even sharper than the look Qin Wentian gave her.

“Senior sister, back when master stormed the royal palace of Ye, she publicly stated that she wanted you to teach this man a lesson! Although he's also a member of our Battle Sword Sect, he's

extremely disrespectful of master; his behaviour was simply outrageous! How can senior sister pretend to be calm and remain indifferent?!" Li Hanyou knew that she might not be Qin Wentian's match now, but because Qin Wentian's gaze made her exceedingly uncomfortable; she decided to say these words to Lou Bingyu, hoping that she would be able to use Lou Bingyu to deal with Qin Wentian.

Lou Bingyu's eyes flashed icily. In reality, although the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness did utter such words back then in Ye, she had never specifically instructed Lou Bingyu to deal with Qin Wentian. After all, from the perspective of the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness, Qin Wentian was merely a junior, and she was unlikely to go so far as to really do anything to him.

And Li Hanyou still didn't know that Lou Bingyu had already been defeated by Qin Wentian. How could she even deal with him?

BAM!

As the sound of Li Hanyou's voice faded, a loud sound echoed out. Qin Wentian directly swiped his palm across space, smacking Li Hanyou's face with such might that her body was flung through the air. When she landed on the ground, the impact from that slap even caused her to cough out a mouthful of blood. The slap completely knocked Li Hanyou silly.

When she recovered, she climbed back up to her feet and stared at Qin Wentian with rage smoldering in her eyes. Her entire body was trembling in disbelief.

Qin Wentian's killing intent gushed out, instantly causing an unbelievable amount of chill to bloom in Li Hanyou's heart, so cold it was like she had frozen solid.

Qin Wentian slowly turned away and continued on his path, not even bothering to spare a second glance for her. Lou Bingyu similarly followed, completely disregarding her. Their actions caused Li Hanyou to feel the many pairs of eyes staring at her humiliation.

"What an interesting woman," Lin Xian'er laughed lightly before following behind Qin Wentian. Her melodious voice contained a mocking tone to it, ridiculing Li Hanyou's stupidity of grossly overestimating her own strength!

Chapter 583: The Names On The Stone Monument

Li Hanyou's bloodshot eyes stared at that Qin Wentian who had completely disregarded her. As she stretched out her own hand and gingerly touched the burning hot sensation that was still continuing to linger on her face. Her normally beautiful countenance began to give off a malevolent sensation.

As a Heaven Chosen of the Li Clan she had never experienced humiliation like she had today when Qin Wentian harshly slapped her. That slap had not only struck her face, it hit at her pride as well.

Yet Qin Wentian didn't think too much about it as he continued to make his way forwards. Upon reaching the very end of the converging point, he gazed out at the vast space before him.

After receiving the oracular chant, an opening appeared in the sealed space. The three of them had rested there for a few days while their conditions were restored to their peak before travelling on that path and returning back to the floating bridges. By then, the floating bridges had all converged; they followed the road and it led them here.

Lin Xian'er's relationship with Qin Wentian originally already wasn't bad. She naturally followed him along. She was filled with anticipation for this young man whom she had clearly once underestimated. How far would he be able to go?

Lou Bingyu's was also deeply stirred by the words Qin Wentian had spoken that day. Not only did he not kill her, he didn't even take the treasure in her body back simply because he could see the spirit of the Battle Sword Sect on her. After that, even though she was knocked down from the path of the pagoda, she couldn't find it within herself to muster any hatred. Her mind was unable to calm down; she was considering how to face her complex trains of thought.

Her heart finally gave her an answer. She wouldn't hate Qin Wentian, but rather, she would work hard to improve herself further, getting even stronger, picking up her pride once more as she defeated Qin Wentian. Although the Battle Sword Sect was extremely united against external enemies, they too advocated competition within their ranks for the sake of improvement. Hence, they wouldn't forbid fights among the disciples.

Their journey in the Immortal Martial Realm had yet to conclude, she still had a chance. Since Qin Wentian could rise up in here, there was no reason why she couldn't do so.

Qin Wentian and the two maidens who were the focus of the countless gazes steadily advanced forwards, leaving behind three dazzling back views that caused a rush of impacts to the hearts of the crowd. Many years later, when they thought back to the legendary characters of the Royal Sacred Region, they couldn't help but think of this scene today. That handsome young man proceeding forwards with the number one beauty under the heavens Lin Xian'er and the frosty beauty Lou Bingyu behind him, his back view exuding a loftiness that was comparable to an unscalable and incomparably gigantic mountain.

“Hanyou.” Beside Li Hanyou, a disciple who had a good relationship with her was trying to console her. However, she only saw Li Hanyou’s bloodshot gaze containing a torrential killing intent so cold that it was bone chilling. “When my elder brother Li Hantian comes, I will definitely get him to tear Qin Wentian into pieces.”

Li Hanyou didn’t know that Li Hantian had long fallen in the battle on the pagoda path days ago.

Qin Wentian and the two maidens landed, their gazes staring ahead. Up in front of them, there were a number of rows of stone monuments which were so large that they could be said to be a stone rampart instead. Every stone monument shone with a brilliant and intense light and had been here since time immemorial, witnessing the rise of countless numbers of talented geniuses.

In front of these rows of stone monuments were a group of figures in white. The countenances of this group of people were all extremely tranquil, as though they were reclusive characters that took no part in the struggles of the external world. These were all none other than the envoys of the Immortal Martial Realm.

In addition to this, in the vast region before these stone monuments there were a large number of geniuses who had passed the tests on the floating bridges and had the suppression effect completely removed. All of these top-tier geniuses had come to this place, yet they were all quietly standing there with no hint of contending against the others at this moment.

Qin Wentian saw a few familiar faces, including two other Heaven Chosen from the Battle Sword Sect. One of the two was none other than the dazzling Ji Feixue. The other was in fact Duan Han. Duan Han had also managed to arrive here, causing Qin Wentian to feel joy in his heart. Duan Han, as a disciple of Sword Sovereign Ling Tian, usually had a composed temperament but when it came to unleashing his fury, he was crazier than anyone else. No matter where he was placed, Duan Han definitely would be able to shine with a splendor that belonged to him alone.

Other than those two, there was also Di Shi, who had a mortal grudge with him, as well as Shang Tong from Grand Shang. Their eyes flashed with coldness when they noticed Qin Wentian, and this was especially true for Di Shi. He didn’t mask his killing intent the slightest, as his animosity gushed towards Qin Wentian with no reservations.

Qin Wentian was the man who slew his brother. This debt of revenge had not been paid for yet.

Before Di Shi could act, Ji Feixue and Duan Han had already come over and stood by Qin Wentian’s side, instantly abolishing any thoughts Di Shi might have had to make a move against him.

Right now the Battle Sword Sect had a total of four Heaven Chosen that had arrived at this step. And among them, there was even a era-suppressing genius, Ji Feixue. If they really clashed, the one who suffered a disadvantage would be none other than Di Shi.

“Junior apprentice brother Qin, junior apprentice sister Lou.” Ji Feixue’s eyes flickered with a smile as he felt gratified in his heart. To have four members of the Battle Sword Sect being able to make it to this point was most definitely a thing of pride.

Duan Han stared at Lou Bingyu, and when he saw that Lou Bingyu was following behind Qin Wentian, his eyes couldn’t help but flash with interest. Especially so when he noted that other than Lou Bingyu, the number one beauty under the heavens in the Royal Sacred Region, Lin Xianer, had also come here together with Qin Wentian. And after that, when he thought of Mo Qingcheng and Qinger once more, even he felt a little jealous of the luck of this junior brother of his. Wasn’t the luck of Qin Wentian a little too good with women?

Even leaving aside Lin Xian`er, Duan Han was extremely clear on what character and temperament Lou Bingyu had. She was the most favored disciple under the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness, the frosty beauty of their Battle Sword Sect. The members of their sect always joked that Ji Feixue and Lou Bingyu were a match made in heaven. Even Sword Sovereign Ling Tian had once commented that these two were a perfect match for each other and he had the thought of playing matchmaker for them. Sadly however, the attitude of the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness was extremely cold towards this. Her only wish was for Lou Bingyu to surpass Ji Feixue.

But no matter what, the fact was that many in the Battle Sword Sect had long regarded Ji Feixue and Lou Bingyu as a couple.

Behind Qin Wentian, Lou Bingyu glanced at Ji Feixue, but those cold and beautiful eyes of hers didn’t reveal much. After this, she involuntarily glanced at Qin Wentian as she pondered, comparing both of them in her heart.

In the past, her target was only Ji Feixue. So she had always monitored him closely. Naturally she also heard of the rumors about her and Ji Feixue, and occasionally, strange waves of emotions that she couldn’t understand floated up in her heart. Even she herself wasn’t clear of what feelings she had towards Ji Feixue, she only knew that he was very outstanding and her goal was none other than to surpass him.

Swiftly, Lou Bingyu tidied up her thoughts and berated herself for overthinking. She could see the light of curiosity in Ji Feixue’s eyes getting brighter and brighter. Although Qin Wentian was

outstanding, when compared against Ji Feixue there was still a distance between them. She didn't know which of the two would eventually end up as the person who could raise aloft the huge banner of the younger generation in the Battle Sword Sect.

“Senior.” Qin Wentian was filled with admiration towards Ji Feixue. Ji Feixue was the pride of the younger generation in the Battle Sword Sect and always had a sincere smile on his face. He didn't put on any airs and had even aided Qin Wentian previously when Di Shi tried to act against him. Such a character was truly worthy of respect.

“Junior brother, being able to walk until this step has already showcased how outstanding you are. However, after this the path of the monument will be the genuine test. Try to walk as far as you can, the further you walk, the more benefits you will be able to acquire, which will then reflect a higher ranking on the ranking stone monument of the Immortal Martial Realm.”

Ji Feixue smiled. “This will be the final confrontation in the Immortal Martial Realm. You have to know that when we step onto the path of the monument, our names will appear on the gigantic ranking monument situated before the entrance of this realm. Very soon, your name will appear in full view of the endless crowd, becoming the focus of millions. As your name on the ranking rises higher and higher, I wonder how many will have their hearts stirred when they see it.”

“Mhm,” Qin Wentian nodded, his eyes roaming the area, looking at the various geniuses gathered here. These were all the cream of the crop, the most elite talents of this batch of participants who had come to the Immortal Martial Realm. The eight era-suppressing geniuses were naturally also included in their number. Soon, all of them walked towards the stone monuments, which contained all the recordings of the unique techniques of the Immortal Martial Realm.

A gust of wind blew past, fluttering the hair and robes of people. Some of them closed their eyes and stood there, there were others who sat down cross-legged. Qin Wentian and Ji Feixue, after coming to a quick agreement, both sat down on the ground and started cultivating.

The envoys were all silently waiting there. They gave no instructions, which meant that they were still waiting. There might be people who hadn't arrived yet.

In the blink of an eye, three days passed. Several figures appeared at the convergence point of the bridges. Ye Lingshuang, Fan Le, and Ouyang Kuangsheng were among these; they had tried their luck and barged into many secret realms and took many tests, yet they still hadn't managed to lift the suppression effect on their cultivation bases. For some unknown reason, the gate barring their path earlier disappeared after some time. It was only then that they could continue forwards and arrive at this place.

“We no longer have a way to fight alongside with you.” Fatty’s lips curled up in a slight smile, showing he was extremely proud of the man whom he called his best friend. Right now, there wasn’t the slightest bit of shamelessness in his eyes, they were flickering with a bright light. He would remember forever how they encountered each other and got acquainted when they were back in Chu, taking the entrance test to join the Emperor Star Academy, and eventually proceeding into the Dark Forest. During then, who would have imagined that this juvenile youth would be able to have such accomplishments today?

This fellow, I wanted to shorten the distance between us only to discover the distance is only getting further and further. I fear that one day, we might not be even to see his back view anymore. Ouyang Kuangsheng felt extremely complicated. There was a little jealousy, but mostly his heart was proud that he had a friend like this. Hopefully, Qin Wentian would be able to climb even higher up in the future.

Li Hanyou was still waiting for Li Hantian to arrive. But when the envoys finally opened their eyes and stepped aside, revealing the path of the monuments, Li Hantian still hadn’t appeared yet. This made the blood drain from her face. She knew that maybe, Li Hantian would never appear again.

At the same time, the crowd discovered to their extreme shock that the Saint Child of the Supreme Demon Sect and Poison Scorpion of the Sky Poison Valley, as well as a few other Heaven Chosen from reclusive sects and ancient counties, had all disappeared. They would remain buried here in the Immortal Martial Realm forever.

“This damnable burial ground of geniuses. So it was already destined that it would be a stage only for a minority,” somebody cursed, speaking out the thoughts of many. They had initially thought that they would be able to find their place here in the Immortal Martial Realm, but in the end they learned miserably that they weren’t the main characters, they were only the supporting cast.

Staring at those figures heading over to the stone monuments, there were traces of disappointment in the eyes of many of the watchers. They understood that from today onwards, these people were already destined to have a hand in the future of the Royal Sacred Region!

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Outside the Immortal Martial Realm, countless people turned their attention forwards. It was unknown how many people had gathered everywhere within a hundred miles radius of this region. They unceasingly pressed forward, with their only aim to see the dazzling stone monument of the Immortal Martial Realm. What names would appear on that stone monument?



Gu Liufeng, Ji Feixue, Di Shi... One name after another started to 'float up' the stone monument, shining radiantly. These names were all familiar to the crowd, and the number of names increased as the stone monument got increasingly brighter.

Many from the major powers were waiting in the crowd with their fists tightly clenched in anticipation as they stared at the stone monument before them.

Several experts from the Supreme Demon Sect gathered in a particular location as they fixed their stares on the stone monument. When the names stopped appearing, they discovered to their sorrow that the name of the Saint Child had never appeared at all. This caused their hearts to pound as realization of what had happened filled their bodies with a chill.

Many other people had the same kind of feeling. Regardless if they were from large reclusive sects or powerful ancient clans and countries, many experts from the major powers felt their hearts going cold.

Of course, there were also some among them with smiles on their faces; they had already seen the names of their Heaven Chosen on the monument. This was especially true for the Battle Sword Sect, the names of four of their members were shining on the stone monument, exceedingly resplendent.

The maidens from the Medicine Sovereign Valley gathered together with Mo Qingcheng in the center. When she saw the three words 'Qin Wentian' floating on the monument, a smile of immeasurable beauty and radiance blossomed on her face!

#### Chapter 584: First and the Last

Although Mo Qingcheng didn't enter the Immortal Martial Realm, her heart had been knotted with anxiousness ever since Qin Wentian entered. Usually there wouldn't be any expression on her emotionless face, but right now faint traces of worry were evident over at the center of her brow. When she saw Qin Wentian's name appear on the ranking monument, her tightly clenched fists finally relaxed, revealing palms filled with the cold perspiration of sweat.

The maidens of the Medicine Sovereign Valley also noted the appearance of Qin Wentian's name. Their eyes flashed with a bright glow as their impression of Qin Wentian increased. It seemed the companion Mo Qingcheng had chosen really wasn't bad, able to be ranked on the monument. However, they wondered if he would be strong enough to rank within the top thirty.

They glanced at Mo Qingcheng and upon seeing how her happiness formed a corona of radiance around her, the hearts of the maidens all trembled. Such a smile, pure and flawless, so beautiful that it engendered jealousy. They all sighed in their hearts, the love their Holy Maiden had for this man was simply too deep. They couldn't tell whether was this a good or a bad thing.

As the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley, Mo Qingcheng's countenance could even shock the heavens. Naturally there would be many people paying attention to her, especially men from the younger generation. Their gazes would frequently shift in her direction and right now, they were all struck dumb by the sheer beauty of Mo Qingcheng's smile. After which, they promptly turned their gazes back to the stone monument. Which name was it that had the power to cause such a beautiful smile to appear on the Holy Maiden's face?

Thinking of this, a faint jealousy appeared in their hearts. If the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley could smile at them like that, even if they had to give up everything in return, they would have no more regrets in this lifetime.

Those currently in the Immortal Martial Realm had no idea of what was happening outside. After Qin Wentian and his group had their names engraved onto the same stone monument, they continued on ahead. The monuments exuded a mysterious energy and they could now choose any of them and attempt to communicate with their wills.

Qin Wentian walked to the ancient monuments situated in the first row. These stone monuments radiated scintillating golden light, and emitted a wild and lofty aura which attracted him. This was also the reason why he chose to connect with one of these monuments.

As his perception sank into the stone monument, the golden light radiating from it intensified. Qin Wentian's mind connected completely with it, and then he appeared in another space within this stone monument.

In this vast space, streams of golden light shone in the sky, illuminating the entire area. These streams of golden light seemed to be formed from runes. Countless numbers of these golden runes had congregated together to form a sentence of ancient words. Words that were so powerful that they shocked the heavens as they hung suspended in the air emitting resplendent light.

Qin Wentian inclined his head back, staring up at the golden runes in the sky. Those resplendent golden symbols trembled slightly, transforming as a long whistling sound echoed in the air. A silhouette in the form of a gigantic golden great roc took shape. It spat out a beam of runic light which enveloped Qin Wentian completely.

The runes directly shot into Qin Wentian's body and instantly his entire body turned golden as if he was forged from pure gold. A long screech issued from his mouth and as he waved his arms, a gust of wind was actually generated. He discovered that he no longer had arms, he had wings instead. He had transformed into a great golden roc.

The will of the ancient monument assimilated into his body. Right now he was the purest golden-winged roc. He stared at the ancient words in the air, and they imprinted themselves into his brain, transforming into image after image of the golden-winged roc cultivating. Qin Wentian also followed what was shown, cultivating while in the form of that golden-winged great roc. The golden luster of his body grew increasingly resplendent, his wings gradually lengthened, and his talons became even sharper.

RUMBLE!

A thunderous sound echoed out after a while, and an azure dragon appeared in Qin Wentian's space. This azure dragon was extremely terrifying, glaring at Qin Wentian with its large eyes.

"The Heaven Chosen of the Divine Dragon Castle, Hei Yan." The experts on the floating bridges saw two of the stone monuments joining together as two linked-images manifested in the middle of the air. This was none other than a projection cast by the respective stone monuments.

"Hei Yan is the first expert that entered the stone monument of others. The first person he sought out is Qin Wentian, a disciple of the Battle Sword Sect. The Qin Wentian who sent Li Hanyou of the Li Clan flying with a single smack to the face."

"Hei Yan is a Heaven Chosen of the Divine Dragon Castle, his control over that demonic dragon should be very strong. I'm afraid Qin Wentian has already come to the end of his path," the crowd mused. The saucer-like eyes of that demonic dragon stared at the golden-winged roc that Qin Wentian had transformed into. A cold laughter flickered within its eyes. Since this was the first time he was attacking, it was obvious that a not so dazzling character would be targeted. Thus, he chose Qin Wentian as his target and directly launched his attack.

The demon dragon spiralled through the air, lunging towards the golden-winged roc. The thick and powerful claws of the dragon directly lunged towards the great roc.

Qin Wentian's cold eyes were staring at his opponent. Golden light flashed as his own sharp talons similarly reached out towards his opponent. In the clash between the azure dragon and the golden roc, the azure dragon undoubtedly possessed an advantage when it came to strength. The impact directly forced the great roc back.

Qin Wentian's countenance didn't change. His eyes shifted to the air, staring at the ancient words while silently cursing this idiot of an azure dragon.

Seeing Qin Wentian ignoring him, Hei Yan's saucer-like eyes flashed with a malevolent light. He roared in rage, "This first battle shall be your doomsday. Get the fuck out, you don't belong here!"

As he spoke, the demonic dragon lunged out towards Qin Wentian once more. Qin Wentian's wings flickered, transforming into a stream of golden light as he soared upwards, choosing not to enter a direct clash with his opponent. His eyes were still staring at the ancient words in the air; he wanted to comprehend more of the golden runes. Gradually, the golden luster on the golden-winged roc grew increasingly brighter and even the edge of his wings were emanating a terrifyingly sharp aura.

"ROAR!"

The demonic dragon howled, Hei Yan naturally understood he couldn't allow Qin Wentian to comprehend the runes. He had to kill Qin Wentian in the shortest amount of time, using the quickest attack. Only then would he be able to walk further than others on this path.

Hence, the scene of a pursuit appeared on the images in the air. The golden-winged great roc was injured after a few clashes and Qin Wentian, who was standing before the stone monument in reality, let out a few miserable groans. After yet another clash, Qin Wentian was injured to the extent of coughing out blood.

But, the eyes of the golden-winged roc in the image were actually shining. The golden radiance from it illuminated the sky, causing a strange glow to flash through Hei Yan's eyes. He started to feel pressure, but right now if he abandoned attacking to comprehend the runes, he would definitely lag behind Qin Wentian. Hence, he could only continue to attack Qin Wentian with full force.

At this moment, not only was Hei Yan in combat with Qin Wentian, several images of other ancient stone monuments appeared in the air. This made those spectators on the floating bridges understand that for this test, it was one on one battles.

There weren't really a lot of people watching Qin Wentian's battle. The battles of the eight era-suppressing geniuses were what truly drew the attention of the crowd. For example, Gu Liufeng, the stone monument he chose had caused his body to be enveloped in a silvery white armor. With the Shooting-Sun Bow in his hand, he looked extremely handsome, confident, and at ease, with an uninhibited bearing.

Gu Liufeng's opponent was a Heaven Chosen from the Qinghua Mountain Sect, one of the Nine Great Sects in the Royal Sacred Region. This opponent was naturally chosen by Gu Liufeng, who would even dare to choose him as an opponent?

Bright light flashed from the bow in his hand, the rune light sparkled as a faint shadow projected out from his weapon. With the twanging of his bowstring, the sound of his arrow whistling through space could be heard. The fired arrow was as beautiful and as fast as a shooting star.

Puchi...

A crisp sound echoed out in that manifested image, the Heaven Chosen from the Qinghua Mountain Sect had a hole pierced through the center of his brow. The stone monument which was in front of him fell into darkness. That Heaven Chosen's eyes snapped open, he turned and glanced at Gu Liufeng, his eyes containing a bleak desolateness to them. The sound of a cry echoed out as that Heaven Chosen consecutively vomited out fresh blood several times, before turning and leaving the area.

Gu Liufeng similarly opened his eyes. He stepped forth and continued heading forward, coming to a halt in front of another stone monument. His perception drifted into the chosen stone monument as he started cultivating once more.

"I finally understand the rules," Fan Le murmured from on the floating bridge. "Sinking one's perception into the stone monument to cultivate the energy in each stone monument. When they are in that space, they can only use the art of the stone monument they cultivated for combat and have no way to use any of their own innate techniques. This way, the starting point of everyone is the same."

"That's right! Only after defeating an opponent would one be eligible to choose the second stone monument. Gu Liufeng must have already fully comprehended the technique in his first chosen stone monument, resulting in him defeating an opponent and subsequently choosing a second monument and cultivating a second technique within. This will undoubtedly grant him a key advantage." The eyes of Ouyang Kuangsheng gleamed sharply. If Gu Liufeng also finished comprehending the power from the second monument, and fought with another opponent, it would definitely be effortless, the distance between him and the slower ones would only be pulled further and further apart.

“The stronger one is, the further he can walk on this path, up until the point where he has left all the others behind and becoming the only one remaining.” Ye Lingshuang’s eyes flashed with a bright glow as she stared in the direction of Qin Wentian nervously.

Hei Yan was still unceasingly attacking Qin Wentian, but now he was already unable to threaten Qin Wentian. The golden-winged great roc was getting stronger and stronger.

“He’s going to counterattack.” Qin Zheng spoke. After which, the others only saw the golden-winged roc which Qin Wentian transformed to spreading its wings and soaring through the sky. The golden light lit up the entire sky as the golden feathers shone with resplendent runic light. His wings tore space as he flew downwards like a mad cyclone, and instantly appeared below Hei Yan. An instant later, the demonic azure dragon which Hei Yan transformed into was cleanly severed, forcibly chopped into two pieces.

Pu!

Hei Yan spat out blood onto his monument as the light from it dimmed and faded away. He opened his eyes and stared in the direction of Qin Wentian, his countenance growing incredibly unsightly.

Qin Wentian’s eyes were still closed, his perception immersed in his own stone monument. There were many also like him, acting extremely cautiously and weren’t willing to fight, choosing to keep a low profile instead. Nevertheless, as time flowed by, the number of participants advancing to a new monument only increased.

In the blink of an eye three days had passed. The number of participants from the original seventy-plus dwindled down to only thirty-six.

Gu Liufeng had already consecutively defeated three opponents and was now at his fourth monument. Right now, he was the only one who had advanced to the fourth row of monuments. The spectators all had looks of awe on their faces. This Gu Liufeng was too awesome; every time he gained a rough comprehension of the power within, he would choose an opponent to fight against before winning and advancing to the next row of monuments.

In addition, the spectators also discovered that stronger ones were like Gu Liufeng, constantly seeking combat. For geniuses at the peak like them, there was no way they would slow down and wait for others.

All the geniuses started this test at the same time, and this was an absolutely fair setting. Who could they blame if they lagged behind and were defeated?!

Three days later, the spectators also discovered a strange scene. Qin Wentian was actually still at the first row of stone monuments. This caused many to have strange expressions on their faces. Right now, truly, there was no one who didn't know of the name 'Qin Wentian.'

Gu Liufeng, was the number one while Qin Wentian was ranked the last!

Chapter 585: Ranked at the end, but still magnificent

Whether was it Gu Liufeng or Di Shi, Ji Feixue or Qin Wentian, these Heaven Chosen instantly understood the rules when they started comprehending their first stone monuments. The stone monuments was most definitely a treasure left behind by the master of the realm and within each of them was power – power from an extraordinary mighty innate art or technique!

For those who had arrived here, even if they lost a fight, they need not die. One could say that to those who stepped into the Immortal Martial Realm, this was the place where they started to reap the true rewards. As to how much they could obtain, it would depend on their own abilities. They all understood that the further they could proceed, the more they would be able to gain.

Gu Liufeng, who was in the lead, understood this. So did Qin Wentian who was in last place.

But the two of them chose different paths. Gu Liufeng chose speed; he had an incomparably brilliant reputation in the Royal Sacred Region and he understood that he might have a proud heart, but he could never halt his path forward. This pride influenced his determination to forge on, he needed more than anyone else to advance ahead. If he did not, the instant he stopped, it would be inevitably fatal.

He also understood that each of the stone monuments contained a different kind of power. It was impossible for him to completely comprehend the essence of each so quickly. It required a very long time if one wanted to do so. If there was only him in this place, he would stop and completely analyze and comprehend the stone monuments. But in this place where so many Heaven Chosen were contending against each other, he couldn't make a mistake. Hence, he needed to find a balance between gaining comprehension and advancement. As long as he comprehended enough to defeat his opponent and could advance forwards, that was enough for now.

In truth, Gu Liufeng's actions influenced many others to take the same path as him. Such a scene made Gu Liufeng's worries that his path might be wrong fade away. If everyone chose this path, he

was confident enough in his own talent that even with the shortest amount of time, he would still be the one to comprehend the most, and wouldn't be weaker compared to the others.

Up until the point where Gu Liufeng discovered that there was still a young man choosing to stop at the first row of stone monuments. His eyes couldn't help but to flash with resplendent light as great waves rocked his heart, causing hesitation to seep into his mind. Still, he calmed down swiftly and continued to do things as per the path he had chosen. This was his, Gu Liufeng's, personality.

Qin Wentian was clearly taking a risk as well. He stopped at the first row of monuments and ran the risk of others getting so far ahead that they might be able to eliminate him.

There was no perfect path, only the path you chose. Qin Wentian's thought process was very simple; the runic lights contained an immense energy that he needed. Seeing that they were right in front of him and he still didn't want to absorb them? That was simply the act of a fool. What he really wanted was to use his comprehension of this stone monument to level up. Even if he were really to be eliminated, he had no regrets making this choice.

However, the spectators on the floating bridges didn't think this way. Gu Liufeng's presence was just too dazzling and Qin Wentian who was ranked at the very last naturally appeared extremely weak to others. In fact there were even people who snickered, "Arriving at this point is indeed a testament to your strength, but one mustn't forget to account for the factor of luck. Although this person is said to be very powerful, he looks like nothing more than an inconsequential figure. For him to avoid elimination maybe was because nobody noticed the silhouette of this inconsequential figure who lagged behind."

"Nobody paid any attention to his existence at all." Members from the reclusive Tuotian Sect of the western domain gathered together. One among them had faint traces of mockery on his face. His cold eyes were filled with disdain as he stared in Qin Wentian's direction.

This mocking sentence attracted much laughter from the surroundings. It wasn't known if he was jealous because there were two beauties following behind Qin Wentian earlier, or he was jealous that Qin Wentian was able to walk the path of the monuments. Only to end up ranked at the very back.

"It's common sense that those who can step on the path of the monuments have accomplished something none of us on the floating bridges can do. Yet for some reason, there are still people vilifying one of the qualified participants. Isn't that just simply slapping his own face, yet he's still so immeasurably self-satisfied with it," Ye Lingshuang and the others retorted. They stood not far away and naturally felt unhappy upon hearing that.



Those from the Tuotian Sect turned their gazes upon Ye Lingshuang as cold lights flickered within their eyes. They could be considered a major power of a certain area, and of course they were very uncomfortable, because not even one of them managed to be qualified enough for the path of monuments. However, they understood that Ye Lingshuang and her group wasn't that easy to bully either, and thus these people could only snort icily and not do anything in response.

But another group of people was glaring at Ye Lingshuang. They spat out sarcastically, "Qin Wentian's luck with women is too good. Lin Xian'er from the Celestial Maiden Sect, Lou Bingyu from the Battle Sword Sect, and to think there are still two more beautiful women here. This little beauty keeps speaking up for him, I wonder if the two of them have already done some unspeakable acts behind the scene."

The instant this sentence sounded out, many people all erupted in laughter. Those from the Tuotian Sect earlier glanced at the one who spoke, instantly finding support. He then stared at Ye Lingshuang and Yun Mengyi again, "These two beauties have such smoking hot figures, that Qin Wentian truly causes one to admire him."

The one who spoke earlier grinned. They were from none other than the supreme Di Clan, and had witnessed the confrontation back then. Naturally their provocation today had a purpose to it.

"All of you are courting death." Thunderfire crackled around Ouyang Kuangsheng when he heard the filthy words from the mouths of this people. Instantly the other spectators in the surroundings all had expression of interests on their faces, preparing to watch a good show. The people here all still had the suppression effect on their cultivation, hence everyone was on equal grounds. However when those from the supreme Di Clan, when added to the Tuotian Sect members, they undoubtedly possessed a clear advantage in terms of numbers, almost twice as many as Ouyang Kuangsheng's group.

"We are courting death?" Those from the supreme Di Clan laughed as coldness radiated from them. "These two beauties are so alluring, how can I bear to die without enjoying them first?"

Someone already recognized the members of the supreme Di Clan, and an expression of understanding instantly flashed on his face. So this was an intentional provocation. After all Qin Wentian's slaying of Di Shi's younger brother was an event that rocked the Royal Sacred Region. By now, there was almost none who didn't know of Qin Wentian's name.

And indeed as expected, Ouyang Kuangsheng and his group couldn't tolerate anymore and acted. Instantly an intense battle erupted.

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In another area, Qin Wentian's will was still connected to the stone monument, he was silently gaining comprehension and didn't initiate invading other's monuments. Right now, the golden light filled the skies and his entire body radiated sharpness.

"This cultivation art is really powerful, and doesn't seem to be any weaker than the nine ultimate arts of Grand Xia. When used in conjunction with the third level of my Fiend Transformation Art, I can unleash even more strength. Sadly, I'm not proficient in the Mandate of Gold nor the Mandate of Wind. If not the power unleashed would be many times stronger." Qin Wentian murmured. Inside the space of the monument, Qin Wentian soared through the skies like a streak of golden lightning.

This strengthened Qin Wentian's resolve to walk down further on the path of monuments. This was a true treasure, and if someone was powerful enough to leave these treasures lying about here, there was a very great probability that the master of this realm was really an immortal.

Qin Wentian wished to remain distraction free and focus solely on comprehension, but this point was evidently impossible. Right now there was another person who had 'invaded' his stone monument, forcibly joining the two spaces of two stone monuments together.

After Qin Wentian's battle earlier, nobody paid attention to Qin Wentian any longer. They also didn't know how far his comprehension of the innate technique he had chosen had progressed. Right now in the projected image, the golden-winged roc that Qin Wentian transformed into was shining with ever-increasing brilliance, its eyes flashing with sharpness as it stared at the invader.

This person was clad in fiery-red armor and had a pair of wings on her back. It was an extremely beautiful maiden akin to the blazing sun.

"Princess Jiao Yang from Grand Zhou targeted Qin Wentian. At long last, it's about time for Qin Wentian, who has always been hiding at the back, to be eliminated." There would always be many people paying attention to beauties, and it was especially so considering Princess Jiao Yang's identity and strength. Her name in Grand Zhou was like the sun in the sky. Everyone knew of her.

"Shang Tong from Grand Shang was also challenged. How interesting, his opponent is actually Ji Feixue. Most likely, Shang Tong would definitely lose." Several speculated as they turned their gazes onto another image projection. Ji Feixue was preparing to make his move.

“Lin Xianer is targeted by Chi Lian of the Blood Devil Palace. Seems like there will be three battles going on concurrently. The number one beauty under the heavens Lin Xianer’s path has reached its end.” The gazes of the people had shifted to yet another projection. It wasn’t that they were doubting Lin Xian`er’s strength, as she had in fact already defeated an opponent earlier. But sadly, the opponent who targeted her was none other than Chi Lian from the Blood Devil Palace.

Chi Lian was from the Blood Devil Palace, which was one of the Nine Great Sects. Not only was he a disciple of the Blood Devil Palace, he was also a descendent of the supreme Chi Clan in the western region, as well as one of the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses.

Although Lin Xian`er was outstanding, her defeat was inevitable when facing against such a powerful opponent.

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Princess Jiao Yang and Qin Wentian exchanged glances. Although Qin Wentian had remained on the first row of monuments, Princess Jiao Yang wouldn’t underestimate him. She understood that Qin Wentian, who had won one battle already, had the qualifications to move forward, but instead chose to remain at the first row. This decision in itself needed courage, and at the very least she knew she wasn’t courageous enough to make the same decision as he had.

However although she admired Qin Wentian for his courage, she still unhesitatingly chose Qin Wentian as her opponent. By now, the ones who remained were all exceedingly famous for their strength, and Qin Wentian should be the weakest one.

Bzzz!

Princess Jiao Yang moved. Her wings spread out, her entire body bathed in flames. She was akin to a great sun, with an incomparably sharp sword in her hand. She had already achieved the realm of ‘man and sword as one.’ Her sword was as blinding as rays from the sun, and this was precisely the power Princess Jiao Yang had comprehended from her stone monument.

Qin Wentian also moved. The golden-winged roc he transformed into soared high up into the clouds before swooping down with destructive vengeance. That loftiness in his eyes contained an aura that was unexceeded in the world. It was as if he was a genuine golden-winged great roc and the harbinger of destruction.

The brilliance exuding from these two was so blinding that nobody dared to directly stare at them. Instantly, the gazes of everyone spectating who were originally paying attention to the other battles were all attracted here. In the first image projection, Qin Wentian glided through the air above Princess Jiao Yang, swooping down with crushing force. In the eyes of the spectators, he was just like a gorgeous, magnificent beam of golden light.

On the floating bridges, Ouyang Kuangsheng and the others were currently in the heat of battle against those from the supreme Di Clan and Tuotian Sect. But when that beam of golden light radiated outwards, their attentions were involuntarily attracted as they turned their gazes towards the image projection. Upon seeing that magnificent scene, they couldn't help but to stare, thunderstruck!

#### Chapter 586: Pressure from Di Shi

Princess Jiao Yang from Grand Zhou had an illustrious identity and outstanding talent, allowing her to be renowned throughout the Grand Zhou Empire.

She chose Qin Wentian as her target. Just when everyone thought his path had come to an end, he used a gorgeous, magnificent strike to tell everyone that in this world, there would always be some existences that weren't born that 'dazzling,' but at certain times the radiance erupting forth from them was able to cause Heaven Chosen to dim and lose their luster. Maybe it was only now that everyone saw Qin Wentian clearly, walking towards the stage that could make history.

The Qin Wentian right now involuntarily caused the hearts of others to pound. Would he be one such existence? From a no-name ordinary commoner stepping upon this vast dazzling stage that was the Royal Sacred Region and creating an era that belonged to him alone?

Maybe he would!

Those from the Tuotian Sect and supreme Di Clan that were currently in combat couldn't help but turn their attentions over. And soon after, they saw Princess Jiao Yang being forced backwards from the monument while Qin Wentian was still standing solidly at the first row. The monument before him was still the same as before, despite him already defeating two people, he had no intention to advance forward yet.

Traces of blood leaked out from the corners of Princess Jiao Yang's lips, her countenance was pale white as she stared at the young man in front of her while in a daze. Even now, she couldn't believe what just happened. That earlier magnificent strike by him, what was that?

Her heart was pounding rapidly, the countenance of Princess Jiao Yang flashed with disappointment as a bitter smile curled up her lips. She had thought of many ways in which she might be eliminated. For example, losing narrowly in a ferocious clash against top-tier Heaven Chosen, or maybe losing to one of the eight absolute geniuses. Maybe if that happened, it wouldn't have made her feel so disappointed. Unfortunately, the reality was that she had lost to someone she never even considered to be her opponent at all. With regards to Qin Wentian, she didn't know anything about him, she only knew about his courage and that he had killed the little ancestor of the supreme Di Clan.

BANG!

Another thunderous sound echoed out as yet another figure was forced backwards. Turning her gaze over to the defeated person, Princess Jiao Yang froze for a moment before the smile on her face turned wry. The representative of Grand Zhou and the representative of Grand Shang were both defeated almost at the same time. It was already determined that their names wouldn't be ranked in the top ten of the Immortal Martial Realm.

Shang Tong's countenance was extremely unsightly. He had been defeated. Although he lost to Ji Feixue, he still felt very uncomfortable in his heart. This was especially so when he discovered that Qin Wentian, who had chosen to remain on the first row, was still on the path. His rage burned even higher, and he didn't know that just moments earlier, Qin Wentian had already defeated Princess Jiao Yang who was now beside him.

"Damn what an irony, someone who only knows to hide at the back. I should have gotten rid of him sooner," Shang Tong lightly commented as he turned and glanced at Princess Jiao Yang with a mocking smile on his face. Although Shang Tong's words weren't intentional, Princess Jiao Yang's countenance drastically changed. Although Shang Tong's words were targeted at Qin Wentian, wasn't that the same as targeting her as well?

After all, the person Shang Tong was mocking was the person who had defeated her.

"Since you are already eliminated, do you still have the qualifications to judge others?" Princess Jiao Yang coldly snorted before flicking her sleeves and leaving. A flame borne of anger burned in her heart, and she felt that it would be too embarrassing if she stayed here any longer.

Turning away, Shang Tong left as well. He was actually moving towards the floating bridge. As he departed, Lin Xianer was also defeated by Chi Lian. This result didn't come as a surprise to the spectators because although Lin Xianer was stronger than most, the eight absolute era-suppressing

geniuses were all the real deal. Be it Ji Feixue or Chi Lian, not one of them caused the spectators to be disappointed.

Shang Tong arrived on top of the floating bridge, turning his gaze towards the crowd. Instantly the gazes which were on him earlier were averted. Although Shang Tong had been defeated, he was still an invincible existence to these spectators whose cultivation bases were still suppressed. And now, considering his angered mood, it wasn't a good idea to antagonize him.

Very swiftly, Shang Tong discovered that there were people fighting on the floating bridges. Especially when he saw Ye Lingshuang, a cold glint of light akin to the sharp edge of a blade flickered in his eyes. Ye Lingshuang, the daughter of the Human Emperor. She was the same as Ji Feixue and Qin Wentian, they were all members of the Battle Sword Sect.

Shang Tong was once again reminded of the brazenness of the Battle Sword Sect back then in Xuan King City. He then coldly spoke, "Those from the Battle Sword Sect truly think their lives are extraordinary, finding trouble everywhere they go."

Ye Lingshuang and an expert from the supreme Di Clan clashed and separated. After which, as she saw the evident targeting of her in Shang Tong's eyes, she coldly snorted but didn't reply. After all, right now their group was the weaker party, she didn't wish to make an enemy against so many.

Seeing how Ye Lingshuang disregarded him, Shang Tong laughed, "Back then Ye Qingyun was a character ranked first in the Immortal Martial Realm, but right now, his daughter other than possessing a little bit of good looks, she doesn't even have any courage. And as for the other sons of Ye Qingyun, they are all a bunch of trash. Ye Qingyun could be considered a pitiful thing, he has no qualified successors."

"After being defeated by others yet now coming here to lord over us, how utterly ridiculous." How could Ye Lingshuang endure such words? She retorted instantly to his insult.

The coldness in Shang Tong's eyes got increasingly pronounced as he stared at Ye Lingshuang. Taking a step forwards, an immense pressure bore down on her, forcing her backwards. Shang Tong floated up in the air, staring down disdainfully at his opponent as he icily spoke, "Even if I'm defeated by Ji Feixue, it's still far from your turn to comment on that. And even if you are the daughter of Ye Qingyun, I'm going to help him teach you a lesson."

As the sound of his voice faded, Shang Tong's palms blasted out as a stream of golden palm imprints violently slammed into Ye Lingshuang, flinging her through the air before she smashed onto the ground, vomiting blood.

Those from the Tuotian Sect and supreme Di Clan surrounded her, the smiles on their faces becoming wider and wider. Earlier in their fight, although they had an advantage, they couldn't break through their defenses and their lack of success made the flames of anger in their heart burned even brighter.

Fan Le, Ouyang Kuangsheng and the others stepped out, staring at Shang Tong as their countenances became incredibly unsightly to behold. Shang Tong's suppression on his cultivation base had been lifted, it was effortless for him if he wanted to kill them.

"Goddamn shameless shit," Fan Le spat.

"A thing with no proper upbringing." Shang Tong walked forward as an overwhelming pressure enveloped everyone. He slammed out another palm and with no way to defend, Fan Le and the others in his group were all flung through the air.

The Shang Tong at this moment was boiling with anger, how could he tolerate Fan Le's retort?

"Do what you want to them," Shang Tong coldly spoke as he glanced at those from the Tuotian Sect and supreme Di Clan. These people were very unhappy with Shang Tong's tone of voice. After all they were all extraordinary characters and only had their cultivation suppressed. The arrogant attitude of Shang Tong made them feel like beating him up. But Shang Tong right now was helping them, so they didn't mind it that much and chose to comply, walking towards Ye Lingshuang and the others in her group instead. When their eyes landed on the two beauties, Ye Lingshuang and Yun Mengyi, a nefarious light shone within.

An indistinct coldness suddenly bore down on their bodies. Turning their heads back, they saw Princess Jiao Yang coldly staring at them. After which, Princess Jiao Yang turned her gaze onto Shang Tong as she spoke, "Bullying people with their cultivation bases suppressed in such an unbridled manner. When those members of the Battle Sword Sect with their suppression lifted returns, wouldn't that be equivocal to you seeking your own humiliation?"

Evidently, although the proud Princess Jiao Yang was defeated as well, she looked down on Shang Tong's character.

"Hmph," Shang Tong coldly snorted. Although he understood his actions were inappropriate, so what of it? At this moment, yet another dazzling silhouette arrived, drawing the gazes of countless spectators. It was Lin Xian'er.

“The crown prince of Grand Shang, Eye King Shang Tong, to think that he is actually such a character.” Lin Xian`er’s eyes flashed with coldness, it was clear that she also looked down on Shang Tong. This caused both of Shang Tong’s fists to clench tightly. Consecutively, there were two beautiful women who stared at him with eyes like this. How could the flame of anger in his heart dissipate? His countenance became incredibly ugly to behold.

“I, Shang Tong have always done things according to my own desires, I don’t need the opinions of others.” After he spoke, he actually moved towards Ye Lingshuang and her group, while exuding killing intent. Princess Jiao Yang shifted her gaze over as the contempt within her eyes became even more pronounced. Yet, although she looked down on Shang Tong’s actions, she couldn’t be bothered to step in and help. After all, this had nothing to do with her.

“I can’t tolerate your despicable actions any longer.” Lin Xian`er radiated a cold killing intent as she stepped towards Shang Tong. Such a scene caused expressions of interest to appear on the faces of the surrounding spectators.

Shang Tong inclined his head, locking gazes with Lin Xian`er. In the end, a battle between them never erupted.

The activities of the participants still on the path of monuments seemed to have slowed down. Qin Wentian stayed for a total of seven days and nights at the first row before finally advancing to the second. His perception drifted outwards before he finally stepped before a stone monument and sank his perception within.

In the space, astral light flashed as a figure clad in astral armor stood there proudly in the middle of heaven and earth.

The runic lights of this space madly descended, cascading on Qin Wentian’s body, shining resplendently. Very swiftly, Qin Wentian’s entire body was enveloped by a layer of astral light.

What kind of power was contained within this stone monument?

Qin Wentian didn’t even have time to cultivate when yet another participant invaded his stone monument, causing him to be completely speechless.



He had never initiated invasion into another's stone monument because he wanted to have more time to cultivate the power within the stone monument he had chosen, not wanting to even waste the slightest bit of time.

When those on the floating bridges saw who was it that invaded Qin Wentian's stone monument, calls of exclamation couldn't help but ring out in the air. All of them knew for sure Qin Wentian's journey in the Immortal Martial Realm had come to an end!

They were still saying why the invader could endure it for so long, but had his endurance finally come to an end as he decided to act against Qin Wentian?

"As to why I didn't act against you earlier is because I know I can't kill you in the Immortal Martial Realm, so I didn't want to waste my time. Yet who would have thought that you are actually still here. In that case, even if I can't kill you, I can force you out of the path. You can temporarily keep your life, but I will be claiming it sooner or later." Di Shi's tyrannical and domineering voice drifted over, containing an unsurmountable conviction. Both of his sharp eyes were staring at the tiny inconsequential figure that he deemed his prey!

#### Chapter 587: In an Undefeatable Position

Qin Wentian stared at Di Shi's silhouette as a trace of vigilance flashed through those dark eyes of his. Although his comprehension of his first stone monument was exceedingly deep, he dared not underestimate an era-suppressing genius like Di Shi.

When he stepped into the second row of stone monuments earlier, he had already seen Di Shi on the third row. In the span of seven days, Di Shi had comprehended three stone monuments, yet he didn't advance forward. Evidently, he also knew that he required more time to comprehend the power within each stone monument fully and digest it. Right now, since Di Shi had actually chosen to return to the second row, he naturally didn't have any good intentions in his heart.

The astral light in their space transformed into a golden screen of light, enveloping Qin Wentian, akin to the light of the rising sun. He resembled a primordial great roc that exuded overwhelming power and a lofty air.

In order to allow him to better comprehend its power, the first stone monument had bestowed upon him the unique ability to really transform into a golden-winged roc. Since he had already left the first row, there was no way he could transform now. But in this space of the stone monuments, one could only use power comprehended from the stone monuments; all other techniques were useless.

Despite the golden screen of light being only illusory, Qin Wentian's presence still resembled a true primordial great roc, and emanated a terrifyingly keen sharpness.

Gales of demonic wind blew around Di Shi, emitting a sinister cold air that unceasingly washed over Qin Wentian.

Bzz!

The raging wind whistled as Di Shi stepped out towards Qin Wentian in a supreme manner, like a sovereign of all. His palms blasted out, his five fingers were like hooks that shot towards Qin Wentian as the manifestation of an incomparably golden sharp talons directly sliced instantly towards Qin Wentian. The claw was immensely huge, like the talons of a gigantic primordial bird of prey seeking to tear people into pieces.

The golden light around Qin Wentian grew increasingly resplendent, and then shot out in a beautiful arc, directly splitting apart the manifestation of that talon. His speed rose to the extreme, and even surpassed Di Shi's.

The raging wind howled, Di Shi's eyes were ice cold. He continued pursuing Qin Wentian while constantly lashing out with his talons, creating manifestations of countless claws that unceasingly struck towards Qin Wentian.

Qin Wentian continued evading and at the same time, his golden wings slashed out with indomitable force, slicing the talons slashing towards him into pieces repeatedly. His palms also spanned out countless times, and as an incomparably huge manifestation of an incomparably sharp talon that was even larger than Qin Wentian's body came flying at him, it was shattered into dust by the golden runic lights which Qin Wentian blasted out from his hands. Although this attack didn't have the ferociousness and baleful aura of his opponent's manifested talon, it still gave the spectators a feeling that the palm imprint hurled forth had nothing it could not conquer.

"Qin Wentian can actually defend against Di Shi's attacks?" The eyes of the spectators flashed with interest. Although Qin Wentian was the weaker combatant, he used his speed to evade as well as his own powerful attacks to negate that of Di Shi's. But what made these people thunderstruck was that if they only considered single-target attacks, the power of that palm imprint Qin Wentian blasted out was evidently stronger than Di Shi. How could all of them not be shocked?

A short exchange between them had already enabled Qin Wentian to understand where his advantage lay. When faced with Di Shi's enraged and violent attacks, he used his advantage in

speed and strength to counterattack his opponent, and was not purely evading. The manifestations of talons were shattered one after another as he now took the initiative and pressured Di Shi.

Such a scene caused dumbfounded looks to appear on the faces of the spectators. Qin Wentian was actually initiating attacks against one of the eight era-suppressing geniuses, Di Shi?

“As expected of Di Shi, he comprehended three different kinds of innate techniques in a mere seven days, and can even unleash the powers he learned from these three monuments to such an extent. His achievements are truly something ordinary people would find hard to match. However, that other fellow only comprehended a single monument in this seven days, the power he gained from his deeper comprehension can surpass any one of Di Shi’s individual techniques, which led to the scene just now. If his opponent wasn’t Di Shi but was me instead, I’m afraid that my defeat would be inevitable,” Lin Xian`er spoke in a low voice as she looked on.

Princess Jiao Yang nearby couldn’t help but nod in agreement. She was insta-defeated by Qin Wentian because of the difference in their power gained from how deep their comprehension was.

“However, Di Shi has already comprehend the power of three monuments. Even if his understanding isn’t that deep yet, it’s obvious he still hasn’t erupted forth with all the power he is capable of mustering,” Princess Jiao Yang replied. All the while wondering in her heart if that man who insta-defeated her could face Di Shi’s attack if Di Shi went all out?

And just at that instant, Qin Wentian arrived in front of Di Shi, and runic lights abruptly flashed. Di Shi’s entire body grew resplendent, erupting forth with overwhelming might as the entire space seemed to be filled with the after-images of Di Shi. All of the images were unleashing an attack at the same moment. A torrential cutting energy sliced its way towards Qin Wentian, blotting out the skies and sun, and shaking the heavens with its might.

“It’s concluded.” Many spectators sighed in their heart when they saw Di Shi’s attack.

Qin Wentian, who was only a few inches away from Di Shi, was also stunned. But his reaction was extremely quick, and he didn’t abandon his notion to advance forwards. His illusory pair of golden wings cut a perfect arc in the air, causing a radiant screen of golden light to instantly envelope him protectively in the time it took for a spark to fly off the flint. And when that first stream of attacks smashed into his body, Qin Wentian borrowed the force of that momentum and soared up into the air, his bearing like a real primordial great roc.

Bang, bang, bang!

Attack after attack slammed into Qin Wentian's body, each increasing his speed further, to the point where Di Shi's later attacks could no longer hit him.

Qin Wentian curved through the skies in a radiant arc, but the impact of the attacks slamming into him caused his real body standing in front of the stone monument to cough out blood. However, his eyes in the space of the stone monument grew even sharper and flashed with loftiness as he regarded Di Shi. It seemed like this battle wasn't going to be an easy one.

Qin Wentian wasn't so arrogant as to believe that he could use the power he understood from only one monument to lord unrivalled over the other participants, despite his comprehension being deeper than any of them. His choosing to stay behind at the first row was equivalent to taking a risk. Maybe if he had made the same choice as others, and advanced to the third stone monument with mediocre comprehensions, he might not be any weaker than the current Di Shi. However, since he had already made his choice, he had no regrets.

Di Shi's brow was heavily furrowed when he discovered that his attack earlier didn't destroy Qin Wentian. He continued pressing forward towards Qin Wentian and unceasingly unleashing his attacks. However, given that Qin Wentian was already on his guard. He continued using his advantage in speed and single-target attacks to match the variety of attacks Di Shi could use. This resulted in a closely-fought contest between them. Unless Di Shi's every attack could be as powerful as that earlier surprise attack he launched, he had no way to defeat Qin Wentian.

Eventually, Di Shi chose to give up. His perception retracted from Qin Wentian's monument as he immersed himself fully into comprehending the monument he had chosen on the third row. The image projection in the air disappeared as the battle between them ended. Such an ending caused an uproar among the spectators on the floating bridges.

Di Shi actually failed to eliminate Qin Wentian!

Shang Tong's countenance changed, his demeanor grew heavy, layered with shock and unwillingness. He was defeated in a domineering manner by Ji Feixue, yet Qin Wentian could fight evenly against Di Shi who was ranked on the same tier as Ji Feixue? Shang Tong didn't want to admit what this indicated.

Lin Xian'er's eyes flashed with laughter and surprise, as well as anticipation.

Princess Jiao Yang also heaved a sigh of relief. With Qin Wentian's ability displayed like this, her heart felt much better, and she could better accept her miserable defeat at his hands.

All this seemed to have no effect on that young man. Qin Wentian acted as usual; he didn't invade others and chose to quietly comprehend the power of the stone monument on the second row he had chosen. This innate technique was a terrifying power that could be unleashed via palm strikes. He could see the faint silhouette manifested by the stone monument, which was clad in astral armor with powerful intense astral runic lights flashing in its palms as it blasted up to the heavens, shattering the stars.

This kind of attack technique was similar to the Star-Seizing Palm of the Star-Seizing Manor he had witnessed when he was younger. However, the power level was as different as the earth and sky. The strength of this palm strike was much more ferocious, comparable to Di Shi's earlier attack. However, Di Shi's claws contained a baleful aura to them, while the power behind this palm attack was purer, thicker, and heavier.

"In fact, it actually resembled an attack unleashed with the augmentation of the Spirit Refinement Method I found in my dad's memories." Qin Wentian was clearly taken aback. He had never forgotten to use the Spirit Refinement Method to refine his astral energy into divine energy, and this was also the main reason why he could easily jump levels and defeat opponents of a higher cultivation level. The technique contained within this stone monument actually had the shadow of the Spirit Refinement Method within it, the intense astral runic light flashing in its palms concentrated astral energy to a maximum before exploding out with pure power. "Isn't this similar to how I usually condense divine energy? Although the essence of this two techniques are similar, it's obvious that the Spirit Refinement Method is still of a higher tier."

On the path of monuments, the number of Heaven Chosen became fewer and fewer. There were some extremely famous people who were also eliminated, and among them was Qin Wentian's senior apprentice brother, Duan Han. As for that dazzling Gu Liufeng, he had already proceeded on to the fifth row of the monuments.

The various Heaven Chosen still remaining began to slow down as they took the time to fully comprehend the stone monuments they'd chosen. It was as though they were enlightened after seeing how Qin Wentian was able to clash evenly against Di Shi.

The eight era-suppressing geniuses were all still present, their presence was like they were announcing to the world that they were as outstanding now as in the past. Only the incident between Di Shi and Qin Wentian shocked everyone, and led to nobody else daring to challenge Qin Wentian any longer.

Now, less than twenty remained on the path of the stone monuments. The hearts of those on the floating bridges were thumping. It might not be long before the top ten of the Immortal Martial Realm of this batch would appear. Those outside the realm were likely filled with anticipation as they looked forward to the moment where the results would be out.

But regardless of how the situation was on the outside, be it great waves startling the heavens or absolute quiet, all of that had nothing to do with Qin Wentian, who was now quietly immersed in his comprehension. He knew his purpose was to take every step solidly, building a stable foundation, and raise his strength.

If by luck he became the last contender, he would naturally be extremely happy. At the very least, he could give an answer to the band of brothers who had aided him through the realm, enabling him to climb to this point. At the same time, he could also give an answer to the one waiting outside the Immortal Martial Realm. Even if time corroded his memories, he would never forget the pure, flawless smile of that beautiful countenance that could topple kingdoms who had always believed in him.

Seven days later, Qin Wentian who had already defeated two people could proceed onwards with no barriers. He walked towards the third row of monuments, and this time around he actually chose the stone monument which Di Shi had chosen earlier. Such a scenario caused many to widen their eyes as the impression of Qin Wentian grew deeper in their minds.

Currently, only twelve remained on the path of the monuments. This young man who fought against Di Shi and came out the victor. As long as he could hold on for two others to be defeated, he would become a dark horse. Becoming one of the top ten existences in this group that had ventured into the Immortal Martial Realm.

Outside the Immortal Martial Realm, the bright and beautiful silhouette that was always in Qin Wentian's heart was still standing in the midst of those from the Medicine Sovereign Valley. Her lovely face was filled with anxiousness. Those dainty hands of hers had not relaxed since she had seen Qin Wentian's name on the stone monument. They were tightly clenched; not once had they loosened up since then.

Staring at those drifting names 'hovering' on the stone monument, she no longer cared how high Qin Wentian's ranking would be. She only hoped that when he exited the Immortal Martial Realm, his condition would be just as before, and not injured in the slightest!

Chapter 588: Initiating Invasion

On the path of monuments, twelve silhouettes could be seen quietly sitting there, trying to gain comprehension of the power within the respective monuments they had chosen.

These twelve were the eight era-suppressing geniuses: Gu Liufeng; Ji Feixue from the Battle Sword Sect; Di Shi from the supreme Di Clan; Li Tian from the Heaven Punisher Clan; Dongyue Hanjiang, crown prince from the Eastern Mountain ancient country; Chi Lian, a descendant of the supreme Chi Clan and also a disciple of the Blood Devil Palace; Fan Miaoyu, a disciple from the Forgotten Immortal Tower and Holy Maiden of the reclusive Tianfan Sect located in the Western Domain; and lastly, Hua Taixu from the Great Emptiness(Taixu) Sect.

Fan Miaoyu was the only female within the eight era-suppressing geniuses. She and Chi Lian had two identities, for her, she was the Holy Maiden from the Tianfan Sect as well as a disciple of the Forgotten Immortal Tower.

In the Royal Sacred Region, many geniuses from reclusive sects or powerful clans would be sent to join the Nine Great Sects, providing them with better resources to grow. There was nothing strange about it.

Not only that, if those people reached a stronger boundary of strength, the major power they were in was more than happy to allow them to join a power of higher tier so as not to restrict their development. This was not a short sighted judgement, but rather acknowledging that there were some people who were already destined to never stay. The major powers they were in could only allow them to do what they wanted, aiding them in walking towards a vaster and more brilliant stage.

Among the eight, Gu Liufeng was the most famous; Fan Miaoyu had the highest cultivation base at the ninth level of Heavenly Dipper; and Hua Taixu was the latest to rise up and the most mysterious of the eight.

As to why all the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses had cultivation bases at the seventh level or higher, it was because even when they were weaker, they were already capable of creating miracles. They had acquired exemplary battle achievement records that were so dazzling that they drew the attention of everyone in the Royal Sacred Region.

Other than those eight, the remaining four were: Qin Wentian of the Battle Sword Sect; Lou Bingyu of the Battle Sword Sect; Nangong Shuang of the Nangong Aristocrat Clan; and Si Ling from the Violet Thunder Sect, who was also a descendent of the great Si Clan from Grand Xia.

Out of all twelve, the Battle Sword Sect occupied three positions: Ji Feixue, Lou Bingyu, and Qin Wentian. This made many sigh in admiration, as the individual combat prowess of the Battle Sword Sect's members was indeed as tyrannical as ever.

Lou Bingyu had always kept a low profile and rarely appeared in public, but because she was the most favored personal disciple under the Plum Mountain Sword Sovereigness, many knew of her. However, Qin Wentian was undoubtedly a dark horse. Di Shi personally acted against him, yet was unable to blast him out.

These twelve people were now engaged in quiet comprehension. Evidently, they were now all very cautious and wanted to raise their strength.

This time around, Qin Wentian had chosen the stone monument which Di Shi had selected earlier. The power within this stone monument could be clearly seen, as the area flashed with resplendent astral light, and constellations flooded the sky. A lone figure stood there proudly in the heavens, and this person was actually able to split themselves into a million other silhouettes in just an instant, all blasting out an attack simultaneously. It was a feat that shook one to their core.

This attack was precisely that technique Di Shi used to injure Qin Wentian. However, Di Shi's understanding of it was barely the tip of the iceberg. How overwhelming was this million-incarnation technique? At that instant of attack, Qin Wentian felt even both the heaven and earth were collapsing. He stared intently at the silhouette in the air as the light of excitement flickered in his eyes. Resplendent and beautiful, the light in his eyes resembled the starry skies.

If he used the million-incarnation technique together with the power to seize the stars which he comprehended from a stone monument earlier, the entirety of the heavenly bodies and constellations in the skies would all be plundered away by him, so powerful that it could tremble the heavens. How could Qin Wentian not be excited by this? This further reassured him that his choice in advancement style wasn't wrong; resolution in his method of advancing steadily and surely, fully immersing himself in comprehension of each stone monument.

On the floating bridges, Ouyang Kuangsheng had a startled expression on his face when he heard something Ye Lingshuang said. He turned his gaze onto Ye Lingshuang as he pointed his finger to a person on the path of monuments and asked, "Did you say that person is named Hua Taixu?"

"Yes, Hua Taixu from the Great Emptiness Sect (Taixu Sect). He shot to fame because of two battles. The first was he slew an extremely powerful expert whose cultivation base was higher than him. The second battle was against one of the proclaimed era-suppressing geniuses, Dongyue Hanjiang, in which he fought him to a draw. Because of that, his name spread across the Royal



Sacred Region and he became the eighth era-suppressing genius.” Ye Lingshuang nodded her head, while Ouyang Kuangsheng simply stood there dumbstruck.

In fact, Hua Taixu was Ouyang Kuangsheng’s idol when he was young; his only ambition then was to surpass his idol! It was only natural that he had seen Hua Taixu before. The Hua Taixu now was slightly different compared to when he was younger, and regardless of whether it was his appearance or aura, both gave people a impenetrable and mysterious feeling. With careful observation, Ouyang Kuangsheng could still recognise him, albeit belatedly.

“Truly it’s him!” Ouyang Kuangsheng was astounded. Although he had glanced at Hua Taixu earlier, because Hua Taixu’s aura had changed and he was standing among seven other equally dazzling figures, he didn’t recognize him. Right now, Ouyang Kuangsheng couldn’t help feeling taken aback. Hua Taixu, who was once the most illustrious of all the younger generation in Grand Xia, had shone even brighter when he came to the Royal Sacred Region. He really was similar to Qin Wentian. However, after the journey to the Immortal Martial Realm is concluded, Qin Wentian’s name would surely also resound throughout the Royal Sacred Region.

“You are acquainted with him?” Ye Lingshuang stared at Ouyang Kuangsheng with a slightly puzzled expression. “This Hua Taixu is extremely mysterious, the first time news of him was circulated was back when he was accepted as a personal disciple by the sect leader of the Great Emptiness Sect.”

“Yes, I’m acquainted, he’s the idol of myself back when I was young. Years before, he was once the number one in the Heavenly Fate Rankings of Grand Xia, and afterwards Wentian also achieved the same result as him.”

“There’s also a grudge between them both. In the past, Hua Taixu’s younger brother tried to take liberties with Mo Qingcheng, and ended up being killed by Wentian.” Ouyang Kuangsheng’s words caused Ye Lingshuang to be somewhat speechless, she hadn’t imagined that there would be such a history between Qin Wentian and Hua Taixu. No wonder Qin Wentian’s relationship with Mo Qingcheng was so good, so it turned out that they had known each other for such a long time.

“In that case it could be said that Wentian should have recognised Hua Taixu as well,” Ye Lingshuang replied in a low voice. Qin Wentian had long heard about the names of the eight absolute era-suppressing geniuses, and should have recognised Hua Taixu when he saw him today.

“Surely. That fellow is truly similar to Hua Taixu, both of them acting like they don’t know each other,” Ouyang Kuangsheng laughed bitterly.

“Of course they would act this way, unless you wanted them to go all out in a great battle the instant they met?” Ye Lingshuang laughed. “Let’s see how it turns out, maybe they might clash against each other on the path of monuments.”

“Si Ling is about to make a move against Lou Bingyu, seems like he’s accumulating the number of victories now if not it would be too difficult to advance forward later. Lou Bingyu’s strength should be ranked among the weakest there, hence this must be why he chose her.”

At this moment, Si Ling invaded Lou Bingyu’s stone monument, and the battle between both of them was extremely intense. Si Ling cultivated lightning-attributed arts. Thunder and lightning danced madly in the air with overwhelming power, yet Lou Bingyu was similarly strong as well. Her defense was so seamless that not even wind and rain could penetrate it, and both of them seemed evenly matched. At the end, Si Ling from the Violet Thunder Sect had no choice but to give up.

It was another few days of peace where the finalists were quietly comprehending. Those on the floating bridges were waiting patiently as well. They knew that now was merely the calm before the storm, and after their comprehensions were finished, there would definitely be earth-shaking and heaven-shattering battles.

Indeed, on the fifth day, Dongyue Hanjiang made a move against Nangong Shuang. He was the crown prince of the Eastern Mountain ancient country and one of the eight era-suppressing geniuses. With crushing force, he directly ousted the outstanding genius, Nangong Shuang. Nangong Shuang’s monument dimmed and now, only eleven remained on the path of monuments.

The top ten were about to be revealed soon. As long as one more was eliminated, the names of the top ten could be confirmed.

Many had their fists tightly clenched. Even up till now, not one of the eight era-suppressing geniuses had been eliminated yet. Other than that battle between Di Shi and Qin Wentian which ended up in a draw, the other seven had all won against the opponents they’d chosen. It was unknown whether the result was from Di Shi being among the weakest of the eight, or if it because he had chosen Qin Wentian as his opponent.

“Will the eight of them be ranked in the top eight?” Many people silently speculated, they involuntarily felt nervous for some reason.

As long as one more person was eliminated, the top ten would be revealed. Sadly, the ones with the highest probability of being ousted should most likely be Qin Wentian, Lou Bingyu, or Si Ling.

Today, Qin Wentian stood in front of his chosen monument. He halted his comprehension and wanted to withdraw his perception. Yet he suddenly realised that from the start until now he had defeated two opponents which made it possible for him to advance to the third row. If he wished to proceed forwards to the fourth row, he would have to eliminate one more before he could do so.

He no longer had a choice, he had to initiate an invasion.

Thinking of that, Qin Wentian's eyes flashed with a terrifying light. In response, a radiant glow burst out of his stone monument, enveloping that of his target.

An instant later, in the space of the stone monument Di Shi was in, a startling cold light flashed past his eyes. There was actually someone who voluntarily chose to invade his stone monument?

Turning, Di Shi saw Qin Wentian, who was fully enveloped in golden light. An illusory image of a golden-winged primordial roc enveloped Qin Wentian, and that cold and lofty eyes were looking down directly at Di Shi.

"This..." Those on the floating bridges were thunderstruck.

"Has he gone mad? He's initiating an invasion against Di Shi?"

Qin Wentian didn't chose Lou Bingyu nor Si Ling; he had chosen Di Shi instead.

Qin Wentian's first battle on the path of the monuments had been against Di Shi. The him then had just finished comprehending a stone monument on the first row and was challenged and suppressed by Di Shi. However because of his advantage in speed, Di Shi couldn't defeat him. Right now, it was he who initiated an invasion instead.

"F\*cking beautiful, kill him." An expression of excitement appeared on Fan Le's face when he saw the image projection in the air. The faces of those of the supreme Di Clan were dark and sinister as they coldly spoke, "He's courting death."

"Has he finally initiated an invasion? I wonder if there will be a surprise." The bright eyes of Lin Xian'er also flickered with the light of excitement. As long as Qin Wentian won this battle, it would mean that the names of the top ten would be set. Di Shi would be ousted from the top ten.

If that happened, it would cause all of the Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns in the Royal Sacred Region of this generation to shiver.

“I’m actually anxious as well.” Ouyang Kuangsheng stared at the image projection, feeling his heart thumping rapidly. He understood Qin Wentian very well. Since Qin Wentian had initiated the invasion, it must mean that he was confident of victory.

“You are truly courting death,” Di Shi stared at Qin Wentian in the manner he would stare at a dead man. Initiating an invasion against him? He was the first among the eight era-suppressing geniuses challenged in this manner. This was an extremely humiliating matter.

The light flashing in Qin Wentian’s eyes didn’t fade. He turned and shot straight towards Di Shi, like a streak of golden lightning.

Bzzz!

A raging wind howled, Di Shi similarly dashed towards Qin Wentian. The two of them rushed each other in a straightforward manner, both their eyes flickering with a terrifying cold sharpness as well as lofty pride.

Only to see astral light circulating in Qin Wentian’s palms that transformed into resplendent runic brilliance. His palm abruptly snaked out, blasting towards Di Shi.

Di Shi similarly issued an attack, an incomparably large talon of a ferocious bird of prey.

BANG!

Everyone saw that incomparably huge bird’s talon being pulverized into nothingness under the might of the palm imprint. It was as though that palm strike contained enough energy to pluck the stars from heaven, and yet the remaining power of that strike continued gushing towards Di Shi!

Di Shi pushed out with both of his palms at the same moment, causing manifestations of gigantic bird talons unceasingly shot out from them. Rumbling sounds echoed unendingly, yet the manifestations of talons were all shattered apart. Qin Wentian’s palm attack had nothing it couldn’t conquer.

Di Shi's body was driven forcibly backwards!

“F\*CK!” The fatty on the floating bridge was even more excited. Wasn't this Di Shi very arrogant? In that case just blast him out of the path. The others continued watching the golden silhouette that was swooping downwards as their hearts thumped rapidly. In that first exchange of blows, Qin Wentian undoubtedly possessed an advantage. Was he truly about to defy the natural order of the heavens?!

Translation Notes:

东岳寒江 Dongyue Hanjiang – directly translates into Eastern Mountain Cold River

太虚教派华太虚 – a play on words -> Hua Taixu of the Great Emptiness (Taixu) Sect

Tai 太 = Grand/Great/Supreme

Xu 虚 = Emptiness/Void/Illusory/False

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Chapter 589: Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art

Qin Wentian swoop downwards as golden light illuminated the skies. He projected an unrivalled loftiness, and his cold stare seemed to be able to pierce through the eyes of those he gazed upon.

Di Shi was forced back strike by strike. He roared in rage and a strange phenomenon appeared behind him. Manifestations of numerous birds of prey coalesced behind him as the glow from them enveloped his body, causing his aura to grow even more terrifying and baleful.

Upon seeing Qin Wentian attacking again, Di Shi's body trembled as those manifestations exuded an aura of arrogantly laughing at the nine heavens. He once again unleashed an attack. The incomparably enormous gigantic talons converged together, forming a true ancient ferocious bird

that lunged towards Qin Wentian seeking to kill him, holding enough force to tear the bodies of humans into pieces..

“Di Shi has begun his counter attack, what a powerful strike. This should be a power he comprehended after studying the stone monument in the fourth row.”

The attacks of the two combatants clashed again, and the resulting shockwaves were so great that even the image projection turned blurry.

Bang, Bang, Bang!

The resplendent astral light from Qin Wentian’s palm circulated unceasingly. The runic lights shot forth, illuminating everything. The glow from Di Shi also permeated the entire area as his baleful aura towered up into the heavens. Streams of Star-Seizing Palm imprints slammed out with rage, repeatedly colliding against Di Shi’s attack. Both of them soared up into the air when attacking as explosions erupted all around them. The spectators stared with thunderstruck expressions and their hearts trembled at the display.

“Qin Wentian’s attack are actually so powerful. He isn’t any weaker even when contending against Di Shi.” Many sighed in admiration.

Di Shi couldn’t help but bellow angrily upon seeing this situation. An even brighter light shot forth from him. The entire skies was filled with countless numbers of his images. The projection of the ancient primordial bird of prey stared hatefully at Qin Wentian with an incomparably terrifying aura.

“DIE!” Di Shi howled, and in that instant, attacks from the countless images in the sky blasted out with torrential might.

Bzz!

Astral light erupted, and Qin Wentian split into a million incarnations as well. The palms of his silhouettes all circulated resplendent light before transforming into an endless stream of Star-Seizing palm imprints that blasted out in the direction Di Shi was in.

Right now, everyone spectating felt as though both clashing participants had three heads and six arms. Di Shi seemed more powerful because his incarnations were augmented by the illusory

projection of that ancient primordial bird of prey. In fact, in terms of the number of incarnations, Qin Wentian had more than he did.

Currents of destructive qi flows ravaged the space within the monument, the spectators all saw the scene of Di Shi being forced back as Qin Wentian's speed increased. The flapping wings of the golden primordial roc radiated a golden light that covered the entire sky, followed by numerous Star-Seizing palm imprints containing enough force to shake both heaven and earth blasting out and destroying everything in their path.

The hearts of the spectators thumped rapidly, they were all staring at that blurry projection image as terrifying waves rocked their hearts. That young man who had always been adopting a defensive stance has just bared his sharp fangs.

Qin Wentian could have continued combat while maintaining his defensive stance. And if he had done so, as long as some other battle eliminated one more finalist, he would have been ranked in the top ten here in the Immortal Martial Realm. However, he had chosen not to and instead initiated his own attack. Even more astonishing, he had picked Di Shi! This confidence of his left the hearts of the crowd shaking.

The blurry projection image abruptly tore apart as the hearts of the crowd violently pounded. They kept their gaze fixated in the direction of the two of them. An instant later, Di Shi was forced back until the first row of stone monuments as he coughed out blood. The visibly trembling Di Shi was a far cry from how arrogant and imposing he had looked earlier. The light which enveloped him seemed like it had been shattered by someone using the most cruelest method possible.

So cruel that it was tough for people to accept. But this was the reality that transformed into torrential waves, rocking the hearts of the crowd.

Di Shi, one of the eight era-suppressing geniuses, had actually been defeated! Although this wasn't a true battle where the participants could use their real techniques, it was still an absolutely fair competition. Losing to Qin Wentian under such a setting indicated that even if Qin Wentian's true combat strength wasn't able to rival Di Shi, his innate potential was even stronger in comparison.

This was a battle in which an era-suppressing genius was defeated! And this meant that in the ranking for this batch of participants in the Immortal Martial Realm, Di Shi's name wouldn't be in the top ten.

The implications of this battle were extraordinary.

The crowd members were all speculating now. Although Di Shi lost to Qin Wentian, he should at least be stronger than Lou Bingyu and Si Ling. Sadly, Qin Wentian used Di Shi, an era-suppressing genius, as a stepping stone, starting a legend that belonged solely to himself. This battle would certainly cause Qin Wentian's name to resound throughout the Royal Sacred Region.

Countless gazes gathered on Qin Wentian. Right now the corona of light enveloping Qin Wentian seemed even brighter than the eight era-suppressing geniuses. It seemed as if he had used this battle to announce to the world that he would replace Di Shi, stepping into the same tier as the era-suppressing geniuses!

Everyone involuntarily thought back to the earlier conflict between Di Shi and Qin Wentian. It was rumoured that Di Yu, his younger brother, acted in an incomparably arrogant manner to humiliate Qin Wentian's friends, and even dared to insult the Holy Maiden of the Medicine Sovereign Valley. Qin Wentian wanted to kill Di Yu, but was prevented from doing so by the arrival of Di Shi. Di Shi acted in an overwhelmingly domineering manner, fighting against Qin Wentian and his group alone, wanting to kill them all. How supreme was he back then? If it wasn't for the arrival of Ji Feixue spoiling his plans, Qin Wentian would have died! And then, when everything was calm, Di Shi made a surprise attack on Qin Wentian's friends, which angered Wentian so much that he decisively slew Di Yu in front of Di Shi before disappearing by use of a spatial-transference scroll.

The actions of Qin Wentian during that battle caused many to be impressed by his courage. Even so, it was a fact that he hadn't had the strength to face Di Shi head on. In the eyes of others, he and Di Shi belonged to different levels, and so they had all believed that back at the start of this trial, when Di Shi initiated an invasion against Qin Wentian, it would be Qin Wentian's final battle in the Immortal Martial Realm. Di Shi didn't manage to oust Qin Wentian then, and now, in their second confrontation, Di Shi was the one ousted instead.

Such a reversal, if one contemplated the entire sequence of events, was undoubtedly a hot-blooded story! Qin Wentian had completed his transformation in the Immortal Martial Realm, trampling Di Shi under foot. Now, who would dare to look down on this low-profile young man from the Battle Sword Sect? He used only one invasion to shatter everyone's preconceptions and told everyone that the legendary story belonging to him was only just beginning.

"Fucking beautiful!" Fatty excitedly roared from the floating bridge, his meaty face turning red from excitement.

Chu Mang and Ouyang Kuangsheng let out low sounding roars as well. Although they sensed that the difference in their strengths were pulling apart despite how hard they had worked, they were still happy that they could watch Qin Wentian advance further on his path while accompanying him.



The youth who once held Mo Qingcheng's hand, announcing to the world their relationship on the stage of the Heavenly Fate Ranking Battle in Grand Xia, had finally issued a voice that belonged to him here in the Royal Sacred Region.

They believed that this battle was merely the beginning.

Yun Mengyi's eyes, which had always been icy and cold, couldn't help but shine with a brilliant light when she saw this. Qin Wentian had finally set foot upon the path which would enable him to rise up.

Not far away, Princess Jiao Yang heaved a sigh of relief. Even Di Shi was defeated by Qin Wentian! In that case, she could accept her loss more easily. She was simply unfortunate that she had chosen to target him earlier.

Lin Xian'er's eyes flickered with a smile as the corners of her lips curved up, appearing so beautiful that she couldn't be compared to anything in this world.

As for those others from the supreme Di Clan, their countenances were all ashen to behold. Di Shi was defeated, not ranked within the top ten...

After Qin Wentian defeated Di Shi, he advanced to the fourth row of monuments. Now there were only ten participants remaining, and he was able to proceed to the fourth row because he had defeated Di Shi. But this was not his final destination. In order to prevent the difficulty from skyrocketing later, he might as well eliminate one more right now so as to clear his path to the fifth row.

When Si Ling realised that Qin Wentian had invaded his monument, his expression turned incredibly unsightly. Lightning crackled around his body as he stared at Qin Wentian's eyes which was filled with loftiness. Since there was no way for him to evade this confrontation, he could only go all out and fight against him. Soon after the spectators saw a stream of palm imprints containing enough power to seize the stars from the heavens pressing down on him, ousting Si Ling in a beautiful and magnificent manner.

If the spectators were to describe the battle, they would only have two words for it – insta-kill. It was so domineering that it could be termed sadistic abuse as well.

Si Ling was blasted back to the first row of stone monuments coughing out blood. He stared at Qin Wentian ahead of him, his face incomparably unsightly to behold. Most probably, he would never

imagine that the reason why Qin Wentian invaded him was merely to rack up enough victories to clear a path to the fifth row. Si Ling was merely collateral damage. If Si Ling had known this reason, he would have definitely coughed out even more mouthfuls of fresh blood.

“Nine more remaining, Si Ling should be ranked tenth in the Immortal Martial Realm. But in reality, his strength should be under Di Shi’s,” someone spoke. “But this Qin Wentian is truly perverse, he could have easily ousted Si Ling, yet he intentionally chose Di Shi. This action is already something that can’t be described as ‘self-confidence,’ it’s simply brazen arrogance.”

“Well, he has the capabilities to act like this. If you can defeat Di Shi, you can be as brazenly arrogant as him as well,” someone among the crowd replied. Causing everyone in the surroundings to nod their heads in silence. Evidently, after Qin Wentian defeated Di Shi, his position in their hearts had changed. Everyone understood that Qin Wentian’s meteoric rise couldn’t be stopped.

Only now did Qin Wentian advance towards the fourth row, silently using his perception to sense the fluctuations of energies exuding from the various stone monuments. An instant later, he felt an unusual aura from one of the monuments. The energy contained within shone with resplendent brilliance, causing a bright glow to flash within his eyes.

“In the test of the treasure pagoda, I obtained an unnamed oracular chant that could stir the entirety of energy within my body, could that have something to do with this stone monument?” Qin Wentian mused. “Fine I will choose this one.”

Qin Wentian walked to the front of that stone monument, he trusted his instincts. Maybe the chant he obtained earlier was simply a part of the art contained within the stone monument. If he did not choose this, the chant would have simply gone to waste.

Qin Wentian sank his perception within the stone monument as it flared with a dazzling light. A primordial giant appeared in front of him with power enough to suppress the heavens and earth. In the middle of the air, there were a number of gigantic ancient words that branded themselves into Qin Wentian’s sea of consciousness, forming a resonance with the chant already in his mind. Instantly, the blurry words from before became clearer and clearer as they floated up in his mind.

“Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art!” These four gigantic symbols floated up in his mind, causing Qin Wentian’s heart to pound rapidly. Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art, it was an immortal-level art.

This could be his greatest harvest in the Immortal Martial Realm. The rumors regarding this realm had cleared up, there actually were immortal arts in here. In that case, there was no doubt that the

master of this realm must really be an immortal! And there was a high possibility that he isn't any ordinary immortal. Those who had obtained the top rankings of this realm in the previous contests should have known the truth, and perhaps the upper-echelons of the top-tier powers had an idea as well. This was the reason the journey into the Immortal Martial Realm every ten years was so heavily regarded by even the major powers!

#### Chapter 590: All Erupting At The Same Instant

The Immortal Martial Realm was also known as the burial ground of geniuses, and yet there were still countless numbers of geniuses who chose to head there. Regardless of whether they were members from the Nine Great Sects, crown princes or princesses from ancient countries, Saint Childs or Holy Maidens from large reclusive sects, all went there willingly. Nobody knew how many geniuses have died, but for those who could survive all the way to the end, they could truly obtain great rewards.

Each and every stone monument on the path contained a kind of power within it. For those who took the final test before reaching the convergence point of the floating bridges, they too would obtain the chant that complemented the art within one of the stone monuments. Qin Wentian understood that if he hadn't obtained the secret chant from the treasure pagoda earlier, the art contained within the stone monument would merely be an innate technique and not a full immortal art. He also understood that if he failed to reach the fourth row of monuments, the chant he had obtained would similarly be useless as well.

Advancing layer by layer, only those who truly gained the approval of the Immortal Martial Realm would have an opportunity to acquire an immortal-level art or technique.

At this moment, Qin Wentian understood. In this vast Royal Sacred Region there was quite a number who had cultivated immortal arts before. Those dazzling characters who once stood among the top in the Immortal Martial Realm would have definitely acquired immortal arts as well. But for matters like this, they would only tell the ones closest to them, and not spread the news around wildly.

These were immortal arts, how could people not covet them? Even if they acquired one, they couldn't spread the word if not it would be the same like they didn't acquire. Hence the master of the Immortal Martial Realm was always regarded as a rumor, and wasn't really an established fact because those who knew it kept their silence, and those who didn't know could only speculate.

"I wonder if Di Shi obtained an immortal art," Qin Wentian mused in a low voice. He didn't know if Di Shi was the same as him, ranking first in the last test, and obtaining a chant before arriving here, and he also couldn't determine if or where that ultimate attack Di Shi used originated from which of the rows on the path of the stone monuments.

If Di Shi only had the chant and hadn't acquired any immortal art, his hatred towards Qin Wentian would surely deepen.

The Fiendgod Heaven Suppressing Art could suppress the heavens and earth, becoming an immortal god with a single thought, becoming a fiendish devil with a single thought.

“Just as well! In the future Di Tian shall cultivate the Great Dream Immortal Art, while my original body shall cultivate this Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art. This Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art has the power to temper my body, and can't be shared, so it's more suitable for my original self to cultivate it! If Di Tian cultivates the Great Dream Immortal Art, through our linked consciousness, I will be able to use it too!”Qin Wentian thought excitedly.

Right now, he had a total of four immortal arts in his memory. Most probably the number of people in the Royal Sacred Region who could claim to know as many immortal arts as him could be counted on both hands.

Among these four immortal arts, one was an unique-type – the Great Nirvana Immortal Art. This heaven-defying art allowed one to create another body, essentially having a second life; two of the immortal arts, respectively the Great Dream Immortal Art and the Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art, had to be slowly cultivated; and the last immortal art he knew, the Immortal Vanquishing swordplay, was simply so powerful that he didn't even dare to use it. The unleashed might was insanely terrifying, he couldn't be able to bear the burden of using it.

But as he grew stronger and stronger in the future, it was only a matter of time before he could execute the Immortal Vanquishing Swordplay with no fear of self-injury.

“For this Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art, if the oracular chant formula wasn't in my mind, what would appear would merely be a watered-down version of an innate technique but could still be considered extremely powerful,” Qin Wentian mused as he started his cultivation. It was naturally impossible for him to completely master the Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art in the Immortal Martial Realm. It would take until he broke through and stepped into the legendary realm of immortals before this Art would be considered fully mastered. Right now, he was only qualified to learn the basics.

However, this wouldn't affect Qin Wentian initial cultivation of the Art. He would still be able to gain comprehension of it and use it to fight against the other combatants in the Immortal Martial Realm.

“Fan Mengyu is going to make a move towards Lou Bingyu.” At this moment, the spectators on the floating bridges who had been silent earlier started to boil with excitement once more. Fan Mengyu’s original cultivation base was at the ninth level of Heavenly Dipper and in the entire Royal Sacred Region, among Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns, she could be considered an unrivalled existence. There were even people who said that she could fight against Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants and win, although no one had proved it.

Any of the eight era-suppressing geniuses could jump levels and fight against opponents, but for Heavenly Dipper Sovereigns to fight against Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants? That wasn’t a feat simply described by ‘jumping levels.’ It was a qualitative evolution, so no matter how outstanding a genius might be, it couldn’t be guaranteed that they would be able to step past that gulf.

“Lou Bingyu’s journey in the Immortal Martial Realm is soon to be concluded,” many mused in their hearts. Although Lou Bingyu’s strength shocked many, being ranked #9 in the Immortal Martial Realm would already be a fair valuation of her strength. After all, Di Shi was eliminated earlier than he should have been.

Fan Miaoyu had already advanced to the fifth row, and has cultivated a total of five different kinds of power. In comparison, Lou Bingyu had only advanced to the fourth row and cultivated four different kind of powers. The two of them fought a grand battle, and there were no signs of insta-killing. On the contrary, when comparing the might of individual attacks, Lou Bingyu’s strength wasn’t weaker than Fan Miaoyu. This meant that Lou Bingyu’s comprehension abilities were on par with hers.

Fighting in the space of the stone monuments was different than fighting in reality, they could only use the power they cultivated in the stone monuments. Since their cultivation level was currently equal, they could only depend on how deep their comprehension of the power within each stone monument was to determine the victor.

Eventually, because of Lou Bingyu’s lack of combat experience as well as her lesser proficiency in using her innate techniques, she was defeated by Fan Miaoyu. Even so, her latent potential was evident for all to see.

Oddly enough, when the spectators saw this scene, a strange emotion couldn’t help but appear in their hearts. Before this, there were a few earlier battles, and Lou Bingyu and Si Ling were obviously the weakest among those remaining. When Si Ling faced Qin Wentian, he got insta-smashed; this indicated that Qin Wentian might very well have the power to achieve this again when facing Lou Bingyu. However, Fan Miaoyu evidently couldn’t do so.

Then, what did that mean, exactly?

As they thought of this, their hearts beat faster. Fan Miaoyu chose Lou Bingyu as her opponent, but was her real motive to probe the depths of Qin Wentian's strength?

Many stared at the silhouette of the young man who was currently on the fourth row. This fellow had defeated Di Shi, and was already qualified to advance to the fifth row. This time around, a really powerful dark horse had appeared.

"There are still eight remaining. Di Shi ranked #11, Si Ling ranked #10, Lou Bingyu ranked #9," someone spoke in a low voice. Although he was stating the obvious, his words still caused many to be taken aback when they heard them. There remained eight ranking spots, and there were a total of eight era-suppressing geniuses. What did this indicate?

After Fan Miaoyu defeated Lou Bingyu, she quietly stood in front of her stone monument. The remaining eight participants were all quietly comprehending the stone monuments. After over ten days, Qin Wentian stepped into the fifth row. As of now, he had already caught up to many of the participants.

Of the remaining eight, there were six, including Qin Wentian, who were currently on the fifth row.

"Things are getting interesting," Lin Xian'er smiled. There was no need to expressly state her meaning when Qin Wentian had already advanced to the fifth row of monuments. Before this, when everyone was on the first row, Qin Wentian used the longest amount of time in comprehension. Back then he took a risk, and was 'clearly' the weakest one, to the extent he was even injured by Di Shi and narrowly avoided being defeated.

But because of his solid foundation, when Qin Wentian advanced on the path of the monuments, and he advanced to the third row, he already had the power to oust Di Shi.

And right now Qin Wentian already reached the fifth row, the number of arts and techniques he cultivated wasn't any less than the others. What did this mean? Many people were filled with anticipation for the results.

"There's still the sixth row and the seventh row. I need to defeat two more before I can walk it all the way to the very end. Right now there's only eight remaining, I can't wait any longer," Qin Wentian mused. If he failed to defeat two others, there would be no way for him to walk to the final seventh row of monuments. This was a situation he didn't want to see.

Not only did Qin Wentian have this thought, the others were all thinking the same as well. Right now, other than Gu Liufeng and Hua Taixu who had already advanced to the sixth row of monuments, the others were all still on the fifth row. However, Gu Liufeng had already defeated six people which gave him the right to advance to the seventh row. Thus, there was no need for him to defeat any more people. What he needed to do now was to focus all his attention on comprehending.

Hua Taixu lacked one more victory, and so he initiated an attack. The target of his choice was none other than Ji Feixue from the Battle Sword Sect.

At the same time, Li Tian also invaded Dongyue Hanjiang's stone monument. Evidently he also understood that it was time for him to make a move.

Qin Wentian was the first to choose a stone monument, after which he didn't take the time to comprehend anything, he decisively invaded Chi Lian's stone monument.

The butterfly effect had kicked in, upon seeing these events, the hearts of those watching pounded violently. Three supreme confrontations actually began at exactly the same moment.

“Hua Taixu is the most mysterious among the eight era-suppressing geniuses. He who came to fame the latest has chosen Ji Feixue as his opponent. Ji Feixue's cultivation base was the lowest among the eight geniuses, he was on the sixth level before breaking through to the seventh within the Immortal Martial Realm. I wonder who will be the victor?”

“Li Tian from the Heaven Punisher Clan and Dongyue Hanjiang from the Eastern Mountain ancient country both excel in attacks. They went all out at each other right at the start and nobody knows what sort of power they comprehended from the stone monuments. Most likely, it would be techniques that were well suited to themselves. There is a 50% chance of victory for either, and it's very hard to predict who will end up the winner.”

“As for Qin Wentian against Chi Lian, this battle...” The crowd all felt a peculiar feeling as they watched this battle. This was a battle which a dark horse was participating in, but in fact the end result was extremely clear to them. The probability of Qin Wentian obtaining victory was sky-high.

Someone who was not part of the eight era-suppressing geniuses, yet was regarded even higher than one of the eight. If it was before this, everyone had felt that this was absurd. But for some reason, there were many right now who believed that Qin Wentian's odds were higher than Chi Lian,

because they had personally witnessed Qin Wentian chose to advance step by step, and only after solidifying his foundation.

Hua Taixu's battle with Ji Feixue had started. Hua Taixu stepped out giving off an aura that made him seem only faintly discernible. He didn't seem real, more like an illusion from the void instead.

Ji Feixue had cultivated quite a few techniques from the stone monuments, but he focused mainly on sword arts. A row of ancient swords manifested, and clanging sounds rang out as they clashed against each other. A sword then broke the void, shining with an incomparable resplendent light.

In contrast, Hua Taixu was still slowly sauntering, giving no heed to Ji Feixue's attack at all. When the sword beam lacerated his body, it slashed against an illusory shadow, passing through it harmlessly. Hua Taixu's presence seemed everywhere, the light around him grew increasingly brighter, invoking a sense of surrealism to others.

"I'm afraid Ji Feixue will be defeated. Hua Taixu's strength is so much stronger than expected." The hearts of the crowd shuddered.

In another image projection, Li Tian transformed into a giant, stepping on the earth while dominating the heavens. The fourth monument that contained the Fiendgod Heaven Suppression Art, which Qin Wentian had chosen, had also been selected earlier by Li Tian. Sadly, he only acquired an innate technique, and not the full immortal art.