

Read Battle Through the Heavens - Chapter 1001-1050 Mouse Tide Sound Array

Chapter: Mouse Tide Sound Array

Two human figures slowly descended from the air, landing on the platform. The figures who appeared were Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran. They were the last to arrive.

The appearance of these two people naturally attracted quite a lot of attention from those present. Numerous gazes shot toward these two people. However, most of them, with the exception of a few, were not acquainted with Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran. Although Xiao Yan's name had spread far because of the recent grudge he had with the Wind Lightning Pavilion, there was still a little gap between him and Miss Feng, Tang Ying, and the other outstanding individuals from the younger generation in the hearts of some people.

Xiao Yan appeared to have not sensed these gazes. His eyes swept over the place. Upon seeing that there were nearly twenty figures present, his heart was involuntarily a little startled. It was unexpected that these people's speed was all so fast. He was unable to catch up with them despite traveling through the night...

Of course, most of the reason for this was because Xiao Yan was unfamiliar with the route. The people present mostly had a great understanding of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Moreover, they were also clearly aware of some shortcuts. Compared to them, Xiao Yan, who was unfamiliar with the place, was naturally at a greater disadvantage. If he had not ended up meeting Nalan Yanran at the last minute, it was likely that he would have difficulty arriving at this place in time.

While Xiao Yan's gaze was sweeping around, he managed to see a couple of familiar figures. His eyes first paused on Miss Feng, whose body permeated a noble aura. This woman's appearance was not inferior to Nalan Yanran. Moreover, her demeanor was something that gave certain men the desire to subdue her.

Miss Feng, who was a short distance away, also seemed to have sensed the focus of Xiao Yan's gaze. Her eyes moved and stared at Xiao Yan. There was a slight provocation within her eyes. The matter between Xiao Yan and the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion had become quite a big issue. In the end, even Fei Tian failed to successfully capture him. This caused the Wind Lightning Pavilion to lose a great amount of face. If she were able to capture him and hand him to be northern pavilion this time around, the northern pavilion would owe her a favor. They might end up being a great help in the fight for the successor of the pavilion chief.

The corner of Miss Feng's mouth was involuntarily lifted when she thought about this. It seemed that she really cannot let this person off. If he were allowed to successfully

leave the Heaven Eye Mountain Range, he would be able to borrow the help of the powerful spirit. At that time, even she would have difficulty contending against him.

“Since you have delivered yourself to me, this miss shall unceremoniously accept you.”

Xiao Yan was naturally unable to tell just what this woman was thinking in her heart. Even if he was aware of it, he would merely scoff. Perhaps he was indeed afraid of those old fellows from the Wind Lightning Pavilion. However, there were extremely few people from the same generation who could force him into an extremely miserable state. At the very least, he had never met someone since he had first started training.

Xiao Yan’s gaze shifted away from Miss Feng before pausing on two other figures. He had met these two people within the mountain range. They were Tang Ying from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion and Wang Chen from the Yellow Spring Pavilion.

Tang Ying smiled and nodded slightly when he felt Xiao Yan’s eyes. On the other hand, Wang Chen face was dark. His eyes carried a chilly look. He seemed to dislike Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan also nodded to Tang Ying and completely ignored Wang Chen. He was about to withdraw his gaze when the corner of his eyes suddenly caught a green-colored figure.

This girl appeared to be the youngest on the platform. She was wearing green clothes and her watery intelligent eyes appeared exceptionally cute. Her moving face still faintly contained a tenderness and naivety. She was a complete mismatch with the present environment.

“Be careful of that girl. She is not as simple as she appears on the surface.” A soft voice was emitted from Nalan Yanran’s mouth beside him while Xiao Yan was observing the girl.

“Why?” Xiao Yan spoke without a change in his expression.

“Because she is the most outstanding person among the younger generation in the Falling Star Pavilion.” Nalan Yanran slowly said.

“Falling Star Pavilion? Mu Qing Luan?” Xiao Yan’s eyes narrowed. He had also heard a little about the most outstanding member of the younger generation from the four pavilions.

“Yes. The number of disciples within the Falling Star Pavilion is perhaps the least among the four pavilions. However, all of them possess outstanding abilities, yet this Mu Qing Luan was the top among them. Additionally, she might appear like a little girl on the outside, but she looked the same a couple of years ago. There has not been the

slightest change in her appearance during these years. Needless to say, she is extremely strong.” Nalan Yanran nodded as she explained.

Surprise involuntarily flashed across Xiao Yan’s eyes when he heard this. The disciples from the four pavilions all did indeed live up to their reputations. However, he found that it was only normal after thinking about it. With the four pavilions being such large factions along with the shocking talent that these people possessed, it was not too unbelievable for these people to possess such an achievement.

Mu Qing Luan suddenly turned her head while Xiao Yan was focusing on her. She gave him a crafty smile. Seeing this, Xiao Yan smiled and nodded to her with an impassive face.

When Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran entered the platform, the small, old man near the rock stairs also glanced at the former. Immediately, he said in a slow manner, “The old me is the tribe leader of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe, Jin Shi. Since all of you have arrived at this place, I think that none of you are ordinary people. You should clearly be aware that only by passing through the checkpoints that we have set will you be able to obtain the remaining eight places.”

There were two enormous mice with dark-gold hair on the two sides of Jin Shi. These two Gold Swallowing Mice’s Size were exceptionally large. Moreover, there was an intelligence and consciousness that was not inferior to a human flickering within their eyes. These two Gold Swallowing Mice were clearly rank 6 and should be the other two chosen ones to enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool this time around. As long as they could breakthrough the Dou Huang class and undergo the lightning tribulation, they would be able to transform into human form and become a true core member of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe.

Only the weak voice of Jin Shi sounded on the platform. Although this old man might appear very weak, no one present dared to offend him. Other than Xiao Yan, it was likely that everyone present was familiar with this name Jin Shi. Back then, this old fellow had revealed his might in the big battle for the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. Even Fei Tian and those old demons of his level were unable to defeat him. From this, one could tell just how powerful this person’s strength was.

Xiao Yan’s gaze paused on Jin Shi body. A moment later, he slightly knit his brows. From his voice, Xiao Yan could vaguely hear that Jin Shi seemed to possess quite a serious injury within his body. Moreover, this injury did not appear to be a new one. Instead, it was something that came as a result of long term accumulation.

“*Cough*...” Jin Shi’s eyes swept indifferently across the entire platform. After coughing, he suddenly waved his sleeves. One could only see the rock stairs that led to the mountain top behind him suddenly moved. Immediately gold-colored Gold Swallowing Mouse appeared in a densely packed manner. There were so many of them that it caused one’s head to feel numb just looking at them.

“The checkpoint selection this time around is not very difficult. There is only one of them. As long as one is able to successfully reach the mountaintop amid the sonic wave of this mouse tide, one would be considered to have successfully passed.” Jin Shi pointed at the dense mouse tide behind him and spoke indifferently.

The expressions of quite a number of people present changed when they heard this. Quite a number of private conversations broke out on the platform.

Xiao Yan was startled when he saw the reaction of the people around. He just began to have some doubts when Nalan Yanran beside him softly explained, “The Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe specialize in sonic wave attacks. If the sonic wave from such a large mouse tide was to be emitted together, it is likely that even an expert Dou Huang would have difficulty enduring it. Looks like there won’t be many people who will be able to pass.”

Xiao Yan only came to a sudden understanding upon hearing this. Sonic wave attack huh... it was indeed a little unorthodox.

Jin Shi ignored the present commotion. He raised his eyes and said, “I will give all of you five minutes of preparation time. After which, the sound wave formation will be activated. Whether you will be able to successfully pass through will depend on your own abilities. Of course, according to the agreement, there will be eight people who will be chosen. If there are fewer than eight people who pass, the remaining spots will be determined by drawing lots.

After saying this, Jin Shi slowly shut his eyes and recuperated, ignoring everyone in the process.

The entire place was full of commotion again after seeing Jin Shi shut his eyes. Quite a number of people began to whisper to each other. Some even began to find helpers to break through the checkpoint together.

“Later, all you need to do is to try your best to use Dou Qi to cover your ears and follow behind me.” Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes and looked at the densely packed Gold Swallowing Mouse around the rock stairs before turning his head to speak with Nalan Yanran.

“The sonic wave of the Gold Swallowing Mouse can ignore any Dou Qi blocking it. Once it enters one’s mind, it will cause that person to feel an illusion or giddiness. One will be hard pressed to defend against it. At that time, all you need to do is to take care of yourself. Arriving at this place is already almost my limit. Everyone here is extraordinary. It will be quite difficult if I compete with them.” Nalan Yanran mused for a moment in the face of Xiao Yan’s good intention before gently shaking her head and replying.

Xiao Yan frowned when he heard this. It was unexpected that this Gold Swallowing Mouse's sonic wave was actually so troublesome. Immediately, he asked, "How can we fight against it?"

"One can rely on one's powerful Dou Qi and forcefully endure through it in the face of the sonic wave attack by the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe. Alternatively, one can also use sonic wave Dou Technique to fight with it. However, the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe is a naturally born expert in sonic wave attacks. It is likely that an ordinary Sonic Wave attack would have difficulty charging through the mouse tide sound array." Nalan Yanran hesitantly replied.

"Sonic wave Dou Technique..." Xiao Yan softly muttered. His eyes brightened slightly when he heard this. The Lion Tiger Gold Shattering Roar was coincidentally quite a high grade Dou Technique. More importantly, Xiao Yan had consumed a tier 7 medicinal pill, the 'Yin-Yang Mysterious Dragon Pill,' in the 'Black-Corner Region' back then. From it, he had absorbed a thread of dragon roar. This had caused the strength of his sonic wave Dou Technique to become even stronger. He wondered if he could rely on it to charge through this mouse tide sound array.

When Xiao Yan recalled this 'Yin-Yang Mysterious Dragon Pill,' he also recalled the mysterious effect that this medicinal pill had in aiding one to breakthrough. However, this kind of effect was something that had never appeared ever since he had consumed it. Xiao Yan also felt helpless in the face of this. It was rumored that Feng zun-zhe had relied on this medicinal pill to breakthrough the Dou Zun class. Could it be that he also needed to reach that level for this medicinal pill's miraculous effect to appear?

While Xiao Yan was quietly sighing in his heart, Jin Shi's eyes were slowly opened. His gaze swept over the platform. After which, he waved his hand and his faint voice reverberated beside everyone's ears.

"Time's up. The checkpoint break through shall begin..."

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Chapter 1002: Breaking Through the Checkpoint

The atmosphere on the platform became tense the moment Jin Shi uttered those words. The countless numbers of enormous gold-colored mice around the rock stairs suddenly emitted a strange glow. Numerous eyes stared intently at the entrance of the rock stairs. The gold-colored hair on their bodies also began to stand on end, appearing just like a hedgehog.

For an instant, no one dared to randomly charge in after seeing the army of Gold Swallowing Mouse solemnly waiting. The great number was one that no one was aware of. Moreover, most of the people present were clearly aware of just what the sonic wave

attack of the Gold Swallowing Mouse consisted of. That was something which was extremely difficult to block against. During the fight for the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool back then, these beasts had caused many experts to suffer.

“All of you only have one hour’s time. Those who fail to reach the mountain peak within an hour will be deemed to have failed.” Jin Shi did not press everyone when he saw that they were quiet. All he did was speak these words in an indifferent manner.

The expressions of quite a number of people changed upon hearing these words. A moment later, two figures finally could not wait any longer as they walked out from the crowd. They exchanged looks with one another before immediately cupping their hands to Jin Shi and saying, “Bone Transforming Gate, Hu Ya and Hu Cheng.”

Jin Shi nodded his head. The Bone Transforming Gate was not far from the Heaven Eye Mountain Range and was somewhat well-known. Of course, it was naturally inferior when compared to a faction like the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Moreover, the strength of these two people were coincidentally at that of a four star and five star Dou Huang. They might be outstanding in other places, but they could only be considered to be at the middle level in this place.

After greeting Jin Shi, a somewhat pale-white, powerful Dou Qi surged out of their bodies, immediately wrapping around both of them.

The two of them suddenly stomped onto the ground just after the Dou Qi surged. Their bodies shot out like a thunderbolt as they rushed up the rock stairs. From the way the two acted, it seemed they wished to charge through the so-called mouse tide sound array in one go.

The speed of these two was indeed quite fast. After a mere flash, they had charged over a hundred meters. It was also at this instant that the hair on the densely packed Gold Swallowing Mice around the rock stairs stood straight up. After which, they opened their mouths, which were filled with sharp teeth.

“Screech! Screech!”

A sharp cry, that seemed to be able to pierce through one’s soul carried an unusual ripple, like that of a demon’s tone, suddenly appeared. It immediately spread in all directions.

The two figures suddenly paused when the sonic wave appeared. Their faces swiftly became pale, but they were not immediately defeated. They endured the turmoil of the Dou Qi within their bodies as their toes pressed on the rock stairs and shot out.

“Grug!”

They endured the sonic wave, that came from all directions, and advanced ten meters before the bodies of the two of them once again stiffened. Two mouthfuls of fresh blood were spat out. Their bodies seemed to have suffered a heavy blow as they flew backwards. Finally, they landed heavily on the stage in front of everyone's gazes. Another mouthful of fresh blood was spat out.

Quite a number of people on the platform sighed regretfully upon seeing this. This damn sound array was indeed troublesome to deal with.

"Fail." Jin Shi shook his head and slowly said.

The two people from the Bone Transforming Gate could only shake their heads after hearing this. They struggled to get up and stood by the side unwillingly. All they could do now was to hope that there would be less than eight people who could pass through this sound array. Thus, they might still have a chance.

"Who is next?" Jin Shi's gaze swept around and once again asked.

The platform was once again silent when these words were uttered. Xiao Yan, Miss Feng, Tang Ying, and the others did not reply. Although they were pressed for time, there was no need for them to hurry now. One should not neglect sharpening one's axe before chopping wood. If they were to observe the sound array, there might be an even greater chance for them to successfully pass through it.

Another four people stepped up amid this silence. From the looks of it, they seemed to be planning to using their numbers to forcefully break through.

Jin Shi involuntarily twitched his mouth when he saw four people charging together. There was a thread of ridicule on his face. Relying on numbers would not allow one to breakthrough this mouse tide sound array.

It was indeed just as Jin Shi had expected. Not long after these four people charged up the rock stairs, the two people in front were sent flying back by the strange soul-piercing sound before they had even covered half the journey. After which, they miserably landed on the platform. From the looks of their weary breathing, it was clear that they had suffered serious injuries.

"Failed, continue..."

Jin Shi raised his eyes, glanced at the people present, and lazily spoke.

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Xiao Yan watched the people stepping forward to challenge the checkpoint only to end up returning in failure to the back of the platform. His eyes became slightly solemn as a result. The difficulty of this sound array seemed to be even more difficult than he had

expected. Among the challengers earlier, there were also some people who knew sonic wave Dou Techniques. However, the sonic wave that they had unleashed not only failed to allow them to successfully charge through the checkpoint, but had instead ended up being shaken by the mouse tide sonic wave. They spat out a mouthful of blood and flew back after the two sound waves collided.

Although they had failed, one person had traveled the furthest among those who had attempted. If his sonic wave Dou Technique had been able to withstand the sonic wave emitted from so many Gold Swallowing Mouse, it was likely that he would have really successfully charged through.

While the challenge continuing, the people who participated increased. The time they managed to endure while facing the sound array became longer. This caused quite a number of people to feel somewhat excited. After all, even if they were not the ones who charged through, they were at least able to feel some hope.

Xiao Yan's hand involuntarily fondled his chin after another person was defeated. The strength of this person was around that of a seven star Dou Huang or so, which was similar to Xiao Yan's earlier strength. However, this person was still forced back by the sonic wave while he was still around a hundred meters from the top of the mountain.

Another wave of sighs sounded from the platform when they saw this person fail. Immediately, a colorful figure slowly stepped forward.

Being one of the focus points on the platform, the actions of Miss Feng naturally attracted the attention of everyone present. Quite a number of people immediately focused. With the strength of this woman, she was considered a top existence among everyone present. If even she was unable to breakthrough this sound array, it was likely that hardly anyone could successfully pass through it.

Jin Shi's lazy face revealed an interested expression when he saw Miss Feng walking out. He had heard a little about here. By being able to become the most likely successor of a faction like the Wind Lightning Pavilion, it was likely that no one would believe that she did not have some ability. Jin Shi was very interested about her performance today.

"Feng Qing Er from the Wind Lightning Pavilion greets Jin Shi elder. Teacher has told me to represent him and send his greetings before I leave." The colorfully clothed lady walked to the front of the rock stairs and smiled as she spoke to Jin Shi.

Jin Shi smiled faintly when he heard this. He said, "Help me thank Lei zun-zhe for his concern. I will head to the Wind Lightning Pavilion to meet him if there is a chance in the future."

"Is Feng Qing Er her name? Lei zun-zhe... ugh, indeed. It is really impossible for the Wind Lightning Pavilion to possess such a position in the Central Plains if they did not

possess a Dou Zun.” Xiao Yan sighed in his heart and muttered softly to himself after hearing the short conversation between Feng Qing Er and Jin Shi.

Feng Qing Er had a polite chat in front of the rock stairs before she ceased speaking. Her pretty eyes turned to the rock stairs that led to the mountain top. After which, she glanced at the densely packed Gold Swallowing Mice around. A solemnness also surfaced on her face. A bright silver glow swiftly surged out from her body before it immediately wrapped around her.

“Begin.” Jin Shi waved his hand and said after seeing the silver glow appear on Feng Qing Er’s body.

“Bang!”

His voice had just sounded when Feng Qing Er’s lovely body suddenly shook. She immediately transformed into a silver line that shot toward the top of the mountain with frightening speed.

From the looks of it, it seemed that she was planning to obtain victory using her speed. However, it must be said that this lady’s speed was indeed shockingly fast. Even Xiao Yan’s eyes revealed some surprise. This lady was indeed not a simple person.

Screech screech screech screech screech!

Sharp sonic waves transformed into ripples that spread out swiftly at this instant. When the sonic wave made contact with Feng Qing Er’s body, her body slightly trembled. Suddenly, her speed soared and a couple of afterimages appeared in the sky. These afterimages immediately crumbled under the spreading sonic wave.

This frightening speed caused quite a number of people on the platform to let out an exclamation. Looking from their angle, it seemed that even the sonic wave had difficulty catching up with Feng Qing Er. All it could do was closely follow behind and shatter the afterimages that appeared one after another.

Jin Shi narrowed his eyes as he looked at the figure that had transformed into a thunderbolt. He involuntarily nodded. This woman’s speed was indeed frightening. It was likely that she had already practiced the Wind Lightning Pavilion’s Three Thousand Lightning Movement to the highest level.

“Chi!”

A rushing wind sound appeared on the distant end of the rock stairs. Immediately, Feng Qing Er’s lovely body leaped up and steadily landed on a rock. She looked down on everyone standing at the middle of the mountains from above. At this moment, a breeze blew past and her long hair drifted in it. She possessed the noble aura of a Queen.

“Feng Qing Er has successfully passed the checkpoint.”

Jin Shi withdrew his eyes. His calm voice finally contained a little fluctuation. This woman was someone whom even the most outstanding person among the younger generation in their Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe could not compare with. This Wind Lightning Pavilion did have a successor.

Feng Qing Er was the first to successfully pass the checkpoint. This had caused the people on the platform to turn into an uproar. This was especially the case for Tang Ying, Wang Chen, and Mu Qing Luan. Being the members of the four pavilions, they naturally did not wish to lose to the former in such a place.

Xiao Yan also smiled as he looked at the commotion of the place. His gaze looked at the distant mountain top and coincidentally met with that of Feng Qing Er. The provoking look in the other party's eyes was completely absorbed in his sight.

“Just follow me. I will lead you through it.”

Xiao Yan turned his head and smiled at Nalan Yanran. He did not wait for her to reply when he turned around and walked toward the rock stairs.

Nalan Yanran was startled when she saw the skinny back. She immediately grit her teeth and swiftly followed. Since Xiao Yan had opened his mouth, she should accompany him to give it a try even if she were to fail in the end. She possessed an unknown confidence in the former.

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Chapter 1003: Mu Qing Luan

Xiao Yan brought Nalan Yanran and walked toward the front of the platform. At this moment, Tang Ying had also coincidentally walked out from the crowd. His gaze glanced at Feng Qing Er at the end of the rock stairs before turning his head to Jin Shi. He cupped his hands together and said, “Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion disciple Tang Ying greets elder Jin Shi.”

Jin Shi nodded his head slightly. His gaze swept over Tang Ying. The other party's sword aura caused him to slightly nod his head. These four pavilions really lived up to their reputation. The disciples they groomed were all people with great abilities. With such a perfect method to groom new blood, it was little wonder that they were able to possess such a position in the Central Plains.

Tang Ying slapped the large blue-colored sword on his back after the greeting. It emitted a ‘clang’ sound as it automatically flew out. Finally, the sword was suspended in front of Tang Ying. A sharp sword aura permeated out, causing quite a number of

people to feel a chill. At the same time, Tang Ying's toes pressed on the ground and his body gently landed on the sword.

A surprised glint flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as he looked at Tang Ying, who stood on his sword. With his eyesight, Xiao Yan was naturally able to discover some energy shooting out of Tang Ying's fingers and feet. This energy adhered to the sword, providing the large sword with the energy to float in the air.

"This is the Royal Sword Technique of the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion. It is rumored that if one practices it to the highest level, one will be able to control the sword with one's heart as well as move with the sword. One's flying speed will also be extremely quick. This can be considered a unique technique of the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion." Nalan Yanran softly explained to Xiao Yan. She had gained a slight understanding of these large factions during these few years that she had been in the Central Plains.

"It is indeed quite mysterious." Xiao Yan nodded. Experts were indeed as numerous as the clouds in the Central Plains. It was extremely rare to see such a mysterious Dou Skill in other places.

Tang Ying's body slowly rose up while Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanlan were conversing. When he was around thirty to forty feet from the ground, he gradually came to a stop. His gaze stared intently at the densely packed Gold Swallowing Mice on both sides of the rock stairs and narrowed his eyes. An instant later, he swung his robe and the longsword under his feet emitted a 'chi' sound and rushed forward like a meteorite. His body transformed into a blue sword figure that rushed toward the top of the mountain.

Screech screech screech!

The sword figure had just charged into the region of the rock stairs when an ear-piercing sound that came from all directions was transmitted toward him. Under this kind of sonic wave attack, even one's soul would end up intensely trembling. If one did not have a powerful defensive skill, it was likely that one's soul would end up suffering quite a serious injury.

However, Tang Ying's expression still remained cold in the face of the powerful sonic wave attack. A sharp sword aura surged out of his body, appearing just like a blue-colored sword lotus, which wrapped around his entire body. The sonic wave formed an intense ripple when it collided with it. However, this did not stop Tang Ying.

In front of the envious eyes of many on the platform, Tang Ying forcefully broke through the many sonic waves within less than three minutes. With a flash of his body, he charged to the top of the mountain and slowly landed on it. His breathing was a little hurried, but his eyes contained a rare excitement. Although only a short amount of time had passed earlier, the danger that it involved was not any less than a big battle between experts of the same level.

“Success.”

Jin Shi nodded slightly and announced after seeing Tang Ying successfully charge to the top of the mountain.

“Next.”

A yellow figure immediately rushed out upon hearing this. Finally, he got out of the crowd ahead of Xiao Yan. He cupped his hands toward Jin Shi and said, “Wang Chen from the Yellow Spring Pavilion.”

Wang Chen suddenly turned his head around after saying this. He looked at Xiao Yan who was a short distance behind and a cold smile surfaced on his face. Xiao Yan completely ignored this. A slight smile still hung on his face.

Wang Chen did not procrastinate. He swiftly turned his body and his gaze landed on the two people at the top of the mountain. With a laugh, a dark-black ink-like Dou Qi swiftly surged out of his body. After which, it wrapped him up like a black ball. His feet stomped on the ground and the black ball used the most brutal method to rush forward with a ‘chi’ sound.

That sonic wave attack once again surged over when Wang Chen entered the area around the rock stairs. However, Wang Chen relied on his powerful Dou Qi to forcefully withstand the sonic wave. His footsteps appeared as though he was flying as he covered a distance of over a hundred feet. In the blink of an eye he was already close to the mountain top.

见到这家伙所选择的方式，平台上不少人皆是惊哗出声，旋即暗叹，这家伙的斗气，果然雄浑，居然能够强行冲出这音波阵，虽说如此看上去有些有些笨拙，但也不失为一个可行之法。

“哈哈！”

Quite a number of people emitted an exclamation when they saw that this fellow had chosen to use such a method. They immediately sighed quietly. This fellow’s Dou Qi was indeed vast and strong. He was able to forcefully charge through this sound array. Although it may appear somewhat clumsy, it was still a viable method.

“Ha ha!”

The dark-black ball once again shot forth. Finally, it flipped in the air and landed on top of the mountain with a loud laugh.

“Success.” The corner of Jin Shi’s mouth was also lifted as he spoke when his gaze swept over the mountain top. This fellow’s Dou Qi was clearly much stronger when

compared to ordinary experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class. Moreover, it was the rare darkness affinity Dou Qi. Otherwise, even if he could forcefully breakthrough the sound array, he would definitely show signs of being greatly exhausted. However, from the looks of this person, it seemed that he had an easy time. This Yellow Spring Pavilion was indeed also worthy of being one of the four pavilions.

“Next.”

Xiao Yan did not anxiously appear after hearing the voice which escaped Jin Shi’s mouth. His gaze turned and saw a green-clothed, young lady slowly walking over. Naturally, she was Mu Qing Luan from the Falling Star Pavilion.

“Falling Star Pavilion Mu Qing Luan greets elder Jin Shi.” The young lady stood prettily and spoke to Jin Shi with a sweet smile. Her face displayed a playful look.

Jin Shi’s indifferent face finally revealed a smile when his eyes paused on Mu Qing Luan. He nodded his head and slowly said, “Miss Qing Luan’s tongue is really becoming sweeter and sweeter. Back then, your clan asked you to become Feng zun-zhe’s disciple. From the looks of it now, it seems that it was quite a good decision.”

“Feng zun-zhe?”

Xiao Yan, who was randomly shifting his eyes on the platform, suddenly stilled his eyes at this moment. After which, he slowly turned his head in a somewhat stiff manner. His gaze had some disbelief as it locked onto Mu Qing Luan. She was actually Feng zun-zhe’s disciple?

Xiao Yan had the intention of searching for Yao Lao’s extremely good friend, Feng zun-zhe, when he headed to the Central Plains. However, he had not heard much news all this time. Now, he was suddenly able to obtain some information regarding Feng zun-zhe in this place?

“This Mu Qing Luan is a member of the Falling Star Pavilion. If Feng zun-zhe is her teacher, then Feng zun-zhe is likely someone from the Falling Star Pavilion?” This thought swiftly swirled around Xiao Yan’s heart. A wild joy also surged onto his face. He was finally able to obtain news about Feng zun-zhe. If it was really as Yao Lao had said, he would be able to gain a great help and would no longer be alone...

While these thought lingered in Xiao Yan’s heart, Mu Qing Luan’s legs had already stepped onto the rock stairs. After which, she steadily climbed to the end of the rock stairs. When the sonic wave surged over from all directions, a clear bird chipping soft hum was emitted from Mu Qing Luan’s small mouth. Under this soft hum, the sonic wave that surged over seemed to have met with a nemesis and swiftly scattered. In an instant, the tone within the entire sound array became chaotic.

During this chaos, Mu Qing Luan climbed up leisurely. Around ten minutes later, she ascended to the mountain top. It seemed that she was the person who had the easiest time. Those sonic waves that could hurt a person's soul seemed to be completely useless against her.

Quite a number of people became stunned when they saw Mu Qing Luan ascend the mountain so easily. No one expected that one could actually pass through this sound array in such a relaxed manner that did not consume any strength.

"Success. Next." Jin Shi helplessly shook his head when he saw Mu Qing Luan easily reach the top of the mountain. He had forgotten that the sonic wave attack by the Gold Swallowing Mouse did not have much of an effect on Mu Qing Luan. This time around, she had managed to gain a huge advantage.

Xiao Yan was also similarly stunned for quite awhile because of how Mu Qing Luan had easily pass the checkpoint. A moment later, he finally let out a bitter laugh. His eyes swept around him. At this moment, there was still around ten people including Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran who had yet to take the challenge following the success of Feng Qing Er and the three others. There were only four spots left...

Xiao Yan exhaled gently after seeing that no one had stepped forward. He turned his head, lifted his chin toward Nalan Yanran, and strode out in front of everyone's gazes. Behind him, Nalan Yanran hesitated for a moment before following.

All the gazes present swiftly gathered on Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran. The four people on the mountain top also threw their gazes down with different feelings. One would likely identify Xiao Yan's strength through this sound array.

"This junior Xiao Yan greets elder Jin Shi." Xiao Yan cupped his hands together and respectfully spoke.

"Xiao Yan?" Jin Shi's eyes narrowed slightly upon hearing this name. He had indeed heard of this young man whom even Fei Tian was unable to capture. It was unexpected that even he had come to this place.

"The sound array will strengthen following an increase in the number of people. Are you certain you wish to bring another person along?" Jin Shi's eyes glanced at Nalan Yanran and said. With his eyesight, he was naturally able to tell that her strength was insufficient to pass this sound array.

Before Xiao Yan could reply, Nalan Yanran behind him began to hesitantly whisper, "Why don't you go up by yourself? Bringing me along is too much of a burden."

"Just follow me. Treat it as a gift to her." Xiao Yan shook his head and slowly walked to the rock stairs.

“A gift to teacher huh...”

Nalan Yanran looked at Xiao Yan’s back. She gently bit her red lips as self-mockery appeared in her eyes. She immediately sighed, lifted her leg, and followed.

Under everyone’s gazes, Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran slowly paused in front of the rock stairs. Quite a number of people’s eyes revealed a curiosity. Many people really wished to know just whether this person who had created an uproar recently possessed a strength comparable to his reputation.

Xiao Yan gently inhaled a breath of air in front of everyone. He stepped forward and gently landed on the rock stairs!

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Chapter 1004: Sonic Wave Face Off

After Xiao Yan’s feet stepped onto the rock stairs, the densely packed Gold Swallowing Mice around the rock stairs immediately opened their eyes. The hair on their bodies stood erect as a powerful sonic wave suddenly appeared, causing the energy in this place to swiftly fluctuate.

Nalan Yanran clenched her silver teeth after seeing Xiao Yan enter the rock stairs. She merely lifted her head and followed.

“Follow me!”

Xiao Yan’s gaze stared intently at the Gold Swallowing Mice around the rock stairs. An instant later, his throat suddenly emitted a low roar. His feet stomped violently on the ground after his roar sounded, and he transformed into a light figure, which shot toward the mountain top in a lightning-like manner. Behind him, Nalan Yanran also stimulated her Dou Qi to its limit and did her best to increase her speed while following close behind Xiao Yan.

The people on the platform as well as on the mountain top also swiftly threw their gazes over when they saw Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran begin. Since the beginning, there had not been a precedent of people successfully passing the checkpoint in groups of two or more individuals. Everyone clearly understood that the strength of this so-called mouse tide sound array was determined by the number of people in the group. Now that Xiao Yan was challenging this checkpoint in a group of two, the sonic wave’s strength would naturally be double its ordinary strength. Under such a sonic wave attack, it was likely that even Feng Qing Er and the others would have some difficulty passing through it.

Hence, many people did not have much confidence that Xiao Yan would be able to charge through the checkpoint this time around. If he was alone, he might still have a chance. However, now that he was bringing along a burden, the result...

Screech screech screech!

After Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran had charged forward by nearly a hundred meters over the rock stairs, the ear-piercing sonic wave that was swiftly formed finally descended from the sky in an abrupt manner, appearing much like a storm. It entered through every single opening on Xiao Yan's and Nalan Yanran's bodies.

Xiao Yan's and Nalan Yanran's bodies stiffened almost at the same time when the sonic wave arrived. However, Xiao Yan was in a much better state. By relying on the great strength of his Dou Qi, he was able to forcefully endure it. Although his speed had been reduced, he was ultimately able to withstand it. However, Nalan Yanran the pretty face of Nalan Yanran behind him turned slightly pale. Her speed was quickly reduced as the ear-piercing sonic wave caused her soul to feel waves of piercing pain. The Dou Qi within her body also began to become disorderly.

Nalan Yanran tightly clenched her silver teeth. She looked at Xiao Yan's back not far away from her and forcefully endured the pain from her soul that drilled into her heart. The Dou Qi in her body surged out without holding back, forming numerous defenses around her body as she tried her best to stop these sonic wave attacks.

Two figures hurriedly flashed up the long rock stairs. The sonic waves from all directions seemed to possess a real form as they permeated every inch of the space around the rock stairs. Each time Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran advanced, they would exhaust a great amount of Dou Qi. Only then were they able to reach their destination.

When they were observing earlier, it seemed that the entire journey would only take a short couple of minutes. It was unexpected that after personally giving it a try, they finally became aware just how troublesome and dangerous this thing actually was.

Screech screech screech screech screech!

Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran finally charged through half of the distance of the rock stairs in front of everyone's gazes. However, Nalan Yanran's pretty face was extremely pale at this moment. Were it not for her perseverance, she would likely have found it difficult to endure to such an extent. It was a little too difficult for Nalan Yanran to breakthrough this mouse tide sound array with her current strength.

Nalan Yanran's vision gradually became blurry. She looked at the figure in front of her, which appeared skinny. However, that figure was unusually stable amid the sonic wave. The corner of her mouth revealed a bitterness. She thought of the distant past when she used a haughty status to forcefully cancel the Xiao clan's engagement. At that time, she

might have been young and spoiled, but she knew in her heart that the reason for her actions were partly related to Xiao Yan's reputation of being useless.

At that time, she had been accepted into the Misty Cloud Sect and appeared to have a limitless future in the eyes of many. Xiao Yan, on the other hand, was merely a useless young master from a small clan. The gap between the two was just like that between the Heavens and Earth. Her arrogance back then naturally had difficulty enduring such a gap.

However, it was also because of this impulse of hers that gave her this limitless regret. All the things she was proud of were completely destroyed as this young man grew one step at a time. Even her greatest support, the Misty Cloud Sect, was eventually forced to take that most miserable step under his cold and indifferent voice.

Originally, she thought that she and this young man, who could not be removed from her memory, would become people from two separate worlds after she had left the Jia Ma Empire. However, she had not expected that the person who would step forward and rescue her when she met with danger would actually be him...

In their encounter once again, his strength had truly surpassed her. Until now... her qualification to follow in his footsteps had also gradually disappeared. Nalan Yanran bit her lower lip tightly with the back of her teeth when she thought until this point. A thread of blood seeped out. Originally, the relationship between him and her had the chance to be able to reach the most intimate level. Unfortunately...

Some regret that remained deep within her heart spread out like a poisonous snake, causing the bitterness in the corner of Nalan Yanran's mouth to become denser. The dense Dou Qi on the surface of her body also became thinner under the assault of the sonic wave.

"Grug grug!"

At a certain instant, the Dou Qi suddenly completely disappeared. Nalan Yanran's body suddenly stilled. Her pretty face was as white as snow. Immediately, she spat out a mouthful of fresh blood. Her eyes swiftly turned dark, and her body appeared to have suffered a serious blow as it fell down like a kite with its string cut.

"I'm sorry, I have already done my best..."

Nalan Yanran slowly shut her eyes after sensing the exhausted Dou Qi within her body. A soft mutter sounded within her heart as she did so.

Quite a number of people on the platform involuntarily shook their heads when they saw Nalan Yanran flying back after finally being unable to endure any longer. They involuntarily felt indignation toward Xiao Yan. He had brought such a beauty into the

sound array, but was unable to give her any protection. This action was not like a man in the eyes of many people.

“Acting conceited. Harming others and yourself.”

Feng Qing Er shook her head gently on the mountain top as she spoke with a faint ridiculing voice.

“This person is quite strong. He has yet to reveal his true ability.” Tang Ying hesitated for a moment before slowly speaking.

“Humph, you really think too highly of this brat.” Wang Chen curled his mouth and coldly laughed.

“That might not be true. This person might be young, but even I cannot see through him. Moreover, he is able to escape from the hands of Fei Tian from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. Although he had the help of external strength, it is likely that no one will believe that he does not have some ability.” Mu Qing Luan by the side covered her mouth and laughed with her lovely voice when she heard this.

“Bang!”

A muffled thunder sound suddenly resonated from the rock stairs while the four people were conversing. Immediately, they saw Xiao Yan’s body suddenly crumbled under the sonic waves. The next time he appeared, he was already behind Nalan Yanran. He extended his arm and held her narrow waist.

“Huh? Three Thousand Lightning Movement. It is really as the rumors say. This person has managed to learn the Wind Lightning Pavilion’s Three Thousand Lightning Movement from some unknown place. Looking at it now, this is indeed true.” Mu Qing Luan immediately spoke with surprise when she saw the disappearing afterimage and the thunderous roar.

“He is just a little thief.” Feng Qing Er glanced indifferently at Mu Qing Luan. Her voice carried a thread of iciness.

“A little thief will not be able to escape from the hands of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion’s chief, Fei Tian.” Mu Qing Luan did not feel the least bit afraid of Feng Qing Er. Instead, she curled her small mouth and laughed softly.

Feng Qing Er’s eyebrows were bunched up together in the face of Mu Qing Luan’s tit for tat. However, due to the other party’s identity, she could only swing her sleeves and turned her cold gaze towards Xiao Yan on the rock stairs. She said, “In that case, I want to see just how he will bring a person and get through this mouse tide sound array!”

Xiao Yan hugged Nalan Yanran's waist in front of everyone's eyes. His body paused in midair as his gaze focused intently on the densely packed Gold Swallowing Mouse below. A cold glint flashed across his eyes.

"You should challenge the formation alone. I am unable to get through this large formation." Nalan Yanran said. Her pale face revealed a bright redness upon having her soft waist hugged by Xiao Yan.

"Use your remaining Dou Qi to cover your ears. I said that I will lead you across the formation, and I will do it." Xiao Yan spoke faintly.

Nalan Yanran hesitated for a moment when she saw Xiao Yan's insistence. All she could do was nod her head. After which, she used her remaining Dou Qi to swiftly cover both of her ears.

Screech screech screech screech!

The countless number of Gold Swallowing Mice below paused for a moment before suddenly raising their heads. Numerous gazes were locked onto Xiao Yan in the sky. Immediately, their teeth-filled mouths were swiftly opened. A sonic wave, even more frightening than the one earlier, was emitted like a thunderbolt.

The faces of everyone on the platform changed as they sensed the strength of this sonic wave.

Xiao Yan looked at the substance-like sonic wave from the air. His mouth pulsed and his face turned a somewhat flushed red. An instant later, he suddenly opened his mouth!

"Roar!"

A thunder like lion and tiger roar suddenly appeared in the sky. Enormous sound waves wrapped around the entire Heaven Eye Mountain. The shocking roar even contained a strange dragon roar, causing the soul of anyone who heard it to tremble. Their legs also involuntarily shook.

"Dragon roar?"

The passive face Jin Shi displayed changed expressions at this moment while he involuntarily cried out. That kind of sonic wave was not frightening. However, the thing that caused him to be most shocked was that a dragon roar was hidden in the cry. This kind of dragon roar was something that an ordinary Dou Skill could not imitate. Only some unique beast which truly possessed the bloodline of a dragon could emit it. However, Xiao Yan was a human...

The enormous sonic wave swept around in front of numerous shocked gazes. It violently collided with the sonic wave from the mouse tide. After which, a completely one-sided disappearance occurred. What disappeared was the mouse tide sonic wave!

Xiao Yan relied on his own strength to destroy the sonic wave formed from a countless number of Gold Swallowing Mice head-on in this kind of sonic wave face off!

This scene caused those people on the platform and the mountain top to instantly become stunned...

“This... how is this possible?”

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Chapter 1005: The Whereabouts of Feng Zun-zhe

The mouse tide sonic wave that came from all directions completely scattered. Finally, they spread all over the place in a chaotic fashion. In an instant, the forest around the rock stairs suffered. The sonic wave were just like blades which completely cut the many trees right through the middle amid ‘swash swash’ sounds.

Xiao Yan looked at the mouse tide sonic wave that faced a total defeat from the sky. He was also a little stunned. His heart clearly understood that the reason he was able to achieve such an effect was likely because of the thread of dragon aura he had obtained from the Yin-Yang Mysterious Dragon Pill. Otherwise, with just the level of the Lion Tiger Gold Shattering Roar, it was definitely impossible to achieve such a shocking effect even if it could fight against such a great sonic wave.

“I have never discovered such a benefit during my fight with humans. This dragon aura seems to pose greater harm to Magical Beasts.” Xiao Yan’s gaze swept over the surroundings of the rock stairs. He had begun to tremble upon discovering the countless numbers of Gold Swallowing Mouse. The fierceness from earlier had completely disappeared. Clearly, that roar had caused them significant harm.

Xiao Yan hugged Nalan Yanran’s narrow waist. He hesitated for a moment before finally moving. After which, he rushed to the top of the mountain without any hinderance. Only then did he gently set her down.

At this moment, the platform and the mountain top were completely silent. No one expected that Xiao Yan would choose the fiercest method to breakthrough the checkpoint. Moreover, the thing that really caused everyone to be speechless was that he had actually really managed to successfully destroy that mouse tide sound array that was formed by a countless number of Gold Swallowing Mouse. It was likely that very few people present could achieve this.

“This fellow is indeed an abnormal being...” Quite a number of people muttered in their hearts as a strange look appeared in their eyes.

“*Cough*...” Beside the rock stairs, Jin Shi, who was stunned for a moment, had finally recovered. He looked at the weary Gold Swallowing Mouse and involuntarily laughed. It was unexpected that this fellow possessed such a technique. Now that he had done this, the strength of the mouse tide sound array would definitely have been reduced. This will end up giving those after him an advantage.

Jin Shi sighed helplessly. He waved his hand and said, “The challenge is a success. Next. You have less than half an hour.”

A human figure hurriedly walked forward upon hearing Jin Shi’s words. After which, he swiftly walked to the rock stairs...

.....

On the mountain top, Xiao Yan took out a medicinal pill from his storage ring, handed it to Nalan Yanran and inquired, “Are you alright?”

Nalan Yanran shook her head gently after receiving the medicinal pill. She softly replied, “I’m fine... thank you.”

Xiao Yan smiled. Only then did he turn his gaze and sweep it across the top of the mountain. This Heaven Eye Mountain’s peak was quite large. Moreover, it was filled with potholes. Rocks were scattered all over it. The spot where the four others were located was coincidentally a flat stone platform that was cut from an enormous rock. However, he did not see the Heaven Eye Blood Pool. It was likely located in some other place.

Xiao Yan made a brief observation of his surroundings before turning his gaze to Feng Qing Er and the three others. At this moment, these four people were also throwing their gazes to him. Tang Ying’s and Mu Qing Luan’s gazes were still alright. However, Feng Qing Er’s and Wang Chen’s gazes were somewhat unfriendly.

“Congratulations.” Tang Ying’s cold face revealed a smile as he cupped his hands toward Xiao Yan.

“Thank you.” Xiao Yan smiled. He did not have any ill feelings toward Tang Ying. Hence, he was quite courteous to him. He completely ignored Feng Qing Er and Wang Chen by the side. This kind of complete disregard also caused the chill in their eyes to become denser.

The eyes of Mu Qing Luan by the side looked toward the next challenger on the rock stairs before turning her gaze away after seeing that there was little suspense. She

observed Xiao Yan with some interest and saucily asked, "What level of mastery has your Three Thousand Lightning Movement reached?"

Mu Qing Luan had actually asked such a question in front of Feng Qing Er. Clearly, Mu Qing Luan's intention was to make her feel unhappy. As expected, Feng Qing Er's face became even colder upon hearing these words. She faintly said, "Mu Qing Luan, taking the opportunity to gain advantage with your tongue now does not show that you have any ability. I will test and see if your strength has improved during these four years in the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting three months from now."

Mu Qing Luan lifted the corner of her mouth and smiled as she replied, "I am rather looking forward to it. I wonder if the luck from the last round will appear on you again?"

"You know best in your heart whether it was good luck." Feng Qing Er raised her pretty eyes gently. Her calm voice had a kind of provoking aura.

Xiao Yan was also stunned when he saw the two clashing. It seemed that the four pavilions were not as harmonious as he had thought. However, he also felt quite pleased at being able to see Feng Qing Er suffer a loss. Perhaps it was due to her identity, but this woman gave him a terrible impression right from the start.

"Miss Mu, may I know if I can have a private word with you?" Xiao Yan asked. He did not wish to intervene in the mutual criticism between these two women. However, the current him was anxiously wishing to obtain some news.

Mu Qing Luan was also startled when she heard this. This was the first time she had met Xiao Yan, and they could not be considered to be familiar with one another. However, thinking about how Xiao Yan had caused the Wind Lightning Pavilion to lose a great amount of face during this period of time had caused her to have quite a good impression of him. She did not reject him. Instead, her heart contained a little doubt as she nodded her head and gently drifted to one side.

"Don't move around randomly. Wait for me." Xiao Yan instructed Nalan Yanran. After which, he swiftly rushed away and slowly landed beside Mu Qing Luan.

"Is there a matter?" Mu Qing Luan's delicate hand parted the black hair on her forehead as she turned around and laughed with a hand over her mouth.

Looking at Mu Qing Luan from a close proximity, she appeared to be an extremely young girl. However, Xiao Yan knew that this girl was strong. He hesitated for a moment before finally inquiring, "May I inquire if Feng zun-zhe is Miss Mu's teacher?"

"Yes. Quite a number of people know about this. Don't tell me that you want to ask this?" Mu Qing Luan raised her thin eyebrows gently as she replied.

"In that case, does Miss Mu know about the whereabouts of elder Feng?" Xiao Yan courteously asked.

"Who exactly are you? Why are you searching for teacher?" Mu Qing Luan narrowed her eyes as she spoke with some caution.

Xiao Yan could only bitterly laugh when he saw the cautious manner of Mu Qing Luan. He hesitated for a moment before relying, "A disciple of an old friend. On orders from my teacher, I have come to look for elder Feng."

"A disciple of an old friend? Which old friend?" Mu Qing Luan was startled when she heard this. Her gaze carefully observed Xiao Yan before asking.

"This... Miss Feng will be aware of this in the future. However, it is not convenient to talk about it now." Xiao Yan shook his head and spoke somewhat apologetically. He had never met Feng zun-zhe and was unaware of what his strength was like. Although he had absolute trust in what Yao Lao had said, he was currently no longer that naive little fellow from back then. Acting cautiously was something that had long been deeply imprinted in his bones.

Mu Qing Luan involuntarily curled her mouth when she heard this. Feng zun-zhe had a wide social circle and many friends. This reason was clearly insufficient. However, she did not want to make things even more difficult. With Feng zun-zhe's strength, it was likely that Xiao Yan would be able to accomplish nothing even if he held ill intent within his heart. Mu Qing Luan immediately waved her hand and said, "Teacher loves to travel. It is difficult to meet him on an ordinary day. However, if you really wish to look for him, you can head to the Wind Lightning Eastern Pavilion three months from now."

"Wind Lightning Pavilion?" Xiao Yan was startled when he heard these words. His face was immediately covered with a bitter smile. His relationship with the Wind Lightning Pavilion had already turned to such a state. How could he head to their headquarters? Just a single Fei Tian had already managed to chase him until such a manner. The Wind Lightning Eastern Pavilion was where the headquarters were located. There would definitely be many experts there. It was likely that he would not be able to return after heading there.

"The location of the Four Pavilions Grand Meeting three months from now will be held at the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Being one of the parties participating in it, my Falling Star Pavilion will naturally be present. At that time, teacher will also head there. If you wish to find him, you can only do so at that time. It is not that I am purposefully playing with you." Mu Qing Luan spoke in a lovely voice. She covered her mouth and laughed when she saw the bitter smile on Xiao Yan's face.

"Three months later huh..."

Xiao Yan fell into deep thought after he let out a bitter smile. He finally nodded and said, "Thank you for your information Miss Feng."

"You aren't really planning on heading there, are you? Not only will Fei Tian be present in the Four Pavilions Grand Meeting. Even the other two pavilion chiefs will be present. Moreover, there is also the eastern pavilion chief Lei zun-zhe there. You are really seeking death if you head there." Mu Qing Luan widened her beautiful watery eyes as she stared at Xiao Yan. That appearance was as though she was looking at a fool. From the way she saw it, this action of Xiao Yan was no different from allowing himself to be caught.

"Ke ke, I know my limits." Xiao Yan grinned and replied. If it was really as Yao Lao had said, Feng zun-zhe would definitely be able to provide him with quite a great amount of help. Should he lend a hand, the chances of successfully rescuing Yao Lao would be much higher. After all, he really did not have many people that could help in the Central Plains.

Mu Qing Luan did not say anything more when she saw Xiao Yan's insistence. She waved her hands and said, "Since you persist on going, you should not blame me. However, if it is really as you say and you are a disciple of teacher's old friend, his elderly self might help plead on your behalf and get the Wind Lightning Pavilion to let you off. Even that Lei zun-zhe must give him some face."

Xiao Yan beamed and nodded. He once again thanked Mu Qing Luan. Immediately, he heard some noise being emitted from the rock platform. He lifted his eyes and saw that there were another two figures who had successfully broke through the mouse tide sonic wave.

"Let's go, the time is about to be up." Mu Qing Luan swept over the rock platform before waving her hand. She had just turned around when she hesitated for a moment. Finally, she said, "That's right. I'll give you a reminder. Be careful of Feng Qing Er and Wang Chen."

Mu Qing Luan's toes pressed gently on the ground after her words sounded. After which, her body gently drifted forward before landing on a rock.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly as he looked at Mu Qing Luan's figure. His gaze immediately flickered over Feng Qing Er and Wang Chen without leaving any trace. There was a faint cold glint flashing within his eyes. It would be fine if they did not meddle with him. Should they really choose to be foolish, he would let them know that he, Xiao Yan, was not someone whom others could randomly manipulate!

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Chapter 1006: Transaction

The attempt to breakthrough the sonic wave checkpoint had gradually reached the end by the time Xiao Yan returned to the rock platform. The thing that caused him to be stunned was that three people had successfully reached the mountain top during this short period of time. Thus, there were nine people on the rock platform. However, after putting aside the two spots for the Gold Swallowing Mouse, there were only eight spots for the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool remaining. In other words, there was one person among the nine of them who would lose the opportunity to enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

Xiao Yan looked at the person who was the last to charge through the checkpoint after landing on the rock platform. After which, he sensed the strength of the sonic wave and involuntarily frowned. It seemed that the current sonic wave was much weaker than before.

Xiao Yan's heart contained some doubt as he fell deep into thought. A moment later, he looked at the somewhat weary-looking Gold Swallowing Mouse and immediately understood the reason. He let out a bitter laugh. It was unexpected that the people behind him had gained such a great advantage after he had used the Lion Tiger Gold Shattering Roar.

According to the strength of the mouse tide sound array earlier, at least one of the three people who had succeeded in crossing the checkpoint would have difficulty passing through it. The other two might not have had such an easy time crossing it. Xiao Yan had unintentionally helped create a passing condition for those fellows behind.

Of course, even though these people possessed such a good condition to cross the checkpoint, they still needed to possess some strength. Those three people earlier all had the strength of a seven star Dou Huang and could not be considered weak.

Xiao Yan sighed helplessly in his heart. Xiao Yan's gaze turned to a figure that was miserably flashing on the rock stairs. He shook his head slightly. This person's strength was only around that of a six star Dou Huang. His chance of success of passing through this mouse tide sound array was not very high.

As Xiao Yan had expected, this figure's Dou Qi was finally exhausted just as he was about a couple dozens of meters from the mountain top. His face turned white and a mouthful of fresh blood was spat out. After which, his body miserably shot back and finally landed heavily on the platform. His face was one that was not resigned to the situation.

Those people on the platform, who had failed before, also sighed when they saw that this person's efforts were futile. Their gazes bitterly looked at the mountain top. There were already more than eight people there. In other words, they no longer had the chance to ascend to the peak.

“The challenge is over. For those who failed, there will be someone to send you off the Heaven Eye Mountain.” Jin Shi glanced at those unwilling people on the platform while his faint voice announced their fate.

The faces of quite a number of people became much paler when they heard Jin Shi’s words. However, he ignored them. He waved his hand and a couple of strong people with human bodies and mouse heads walked out, sealing off the rock stairs. After which, Jin Shi’s body flashed and appeared at the top of the mountain in a ghost-like manner before looking down at Xiao Yan’s group from a higher spot.

Xiao Yan’s group hurriedly bowed when they saw Jin Shi appeared. They clearly knew that regardless of who it was, whoever offended the people from the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe would likely end up suffering for it.

Jin Shi nodded. He slowly landed on the ground before walking toward the deep parts of the mountain peak. “Follow me.”

Xiao Yan and the others did not dare to slight Jin Shi after hearing this. All of them swiftly followed at his pace.

A strange rock forest was at the peak of Heaven Eye Mountain. If one raised one’s head in this place, one would coincidentally be able to see the fluctuations of the extremely dense energy tide. The energy pressure that vaguely spread from it caused one’s heart to involuntarily feel a chill.

The colorful energy tide was just like a wave as it spread out again and again, an extremely majestic scene.

Xiao Yan’s group swiftly jumped through the strange rocks while they endured the energy wave in the sky. This continued for awhile, their footsteps followed Jin Shi before gradually coming to a stop.

All of them slowly climbed a steep slope. The scene that appeared in front of them immediately caused them to inhale a breath of cool air.

In front of Xiao Yan’s group was an extremely spacious volcano. Wisps of hot fog, that contained fire poison, were repeatedly spat out. In the middle of the volcano was a small pool which was around ten feet in diameter. At this moment, the pool was almost empty. One could vaguely see a fiery-red lava-like substance in it.

“That is the Heaven Eye Blood Pool. However, now is not the time when the energy tide is at its peak. When it reaches the peak, the entire mountain range’s energy will gather at this volcano. At that time, the blood pool will also overflow. All of you only need to enter it at that time.” Jin Shi pointed at the pool at the middle of the volcano and faintly spoke.

Everyone's heart involuntarily leaped when they heard this. Their eyes also became a lot hotter when they looked at the pool. If they could soak in it, they would be able to save an unknown number of years of tough training.

"All of you need to remember that the interior of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool contains an extremely dense fire poison. Hence, you cannot stay in it for too long. All of you must come out after at most three days. Otherwise, if the fire poison enters your body, it is likely that it will be difficult to expel even if your teachers do it personally. The fire poison has accumulated over a countless number of years. Once it enters your body, it will be just like maggots in one's bones. Other than some high tier alchemists, it is likely that no one can remove it." Jin Shi spoke with a deep voice.

The expressions of quite a number of people changed a little upon hearing these words. It was unexpected that there was such a danger within this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept over Jin Shi. His heart suddenly understood something. No wonder Xiao Yan felt that he had accumulated an injury. From the looks of it, the injury should be related to this fire poison.

"Additionally, there are nine of you presently here. In other words, one of you will not be able to enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. You will have to decide who cannot enter." Jin Shi raised his eyelids and slowly said.

The atmosphere became mysterious after these words sounded. With the exception of Feng Qing Er and the three others, those other individuals by themselves began to slowly step back a little. There was a little more caution within their eyes as they looked around them.

Jin Shi was unconcerned about their reaction. He had just turned around when his footsteps suddenly paused. His eyes turned to Xiao Yan and said, "Follow me."

Everyone present, including Xiao Yan, was startled when they heard this. Immediately, they threw some unusual gazes at him.

Being the party involved, Xiao Yan hesitated a moment and was just about to speak when he saw Jin Shi slowly walked toward the entrance to the volcano. He headed to another peak where a rock pavilion was located. Seeing this, Xiao Yan could only nod his head. He said something to Nalan Yanran and swiftly followed.

Jin Shi was already standing with his hands behind his back when he saw Xiao Yan arrived at the rock pavilion. His gaze looked to the colorful energy tide in the sky. He was even able to see that gray-clothed, old man whom he had meet at the maze earlier within the rock pavilion.

Jin Shi smiled toward Xiao Yan when he saw him arrive. He glanced at Jin Gu before speaking, "Little fellow, do you know why I have called you over?"

Xiao Yan was quiet for a moment when he heard this. After which, he immediately asked, "Because of elder Jin Shi's internal injury?"

Xiao Yan clearly sensed Jin Shi's body tremble slightly the moment he spoke. Jin Gu, on the other hand, laughed out loud and said, "See, I already said that this fellow is not an ordinary alchemist."

Jin Shi slowly turned around. His originally calm eyes had become exceptionally sharp at this moment. He stared at Xiao Yan and asked somewhat doubtfully, "You are able to tell that I am suffering from internal injuries?" One could not fault him for doubting. It should be known that even some top tier 6 alchemist did not reach this level. Could this young man in front of him, who was twenty plus years old, be at a higher tier than this?

"Aye, I am able to see a little." Xiao Yan slightly nodded.

"Are you confident you can treat it?" Jin Shi took two steps forward and inquired in a deep voice.

"I can take a look." Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment and unceremoniously sat down in front of a rock table. After which, he pointed at the rock chair beside him. Jin Shi's mouth twitched upon seeing this, but he could only obey and sit down.

Xiao Yan grabbed Jin Shi's arm. His eyes narrowed while a thread of Spiritual Strength swiftly entered his body.

Jin Shi and Jin Gu exchanged glances after seeing Xiao Yan shut his eyes. They did not interrupt him by saying anything. Most alchemists were eccentric in nature. Back then, they had suffered a lot just to find an alchemist to help take a look. Xiao Yan was many times better when compared to them.

Xiao Yan continued his probing for awhile before he finally slowly opened his eyes. The expression in them was somewhat solemn.

"How is it?" Jin Gu by the side hurriedly asked.

"The fire poison has entered the body and seeped deep into the bones. This is the first time that I have seen such deep-seated fire poison. It is extremely difficult to expel it." Xiao Yan withdrew his hand and shook his head. His gaze involuntarily contained some pity when looking at Jin Shi. Were it not because of this fellow's great strength, it was likely that he would have turned to ashes from this fire poison.

The expressions of Jin Shi and Jin Gu became much gloomier when they heard Xiao Yan uttering a similar observation as some other high tier alchemists.

Xiao Yan rubbed his finger gently over the table when he saw the appearance of these two. A moment later, he finally said, "Although it is extremely difficult to expel, it is not completely without a solution..."

"Crack!"

The rock table in front of Jin Shi immediately formed some cracks the moment these words sounded. His eyes were heated as he raised his head and stared intently at Xiao Yan. His voice had finally become anxious, "You... mister Xiao Yan is able to expel the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison in my body?"

Xiao Yan smiled, but did not reply. His gaze slide to the area outside of the rock pavilion, appearing unformatable.

Jin Shi and Jin Gu were startled when they saw this. They immediately seemed to have understood something. Jin Shi hesitated a moment before finally clenching his teeth as he softly said, "As long as you can completely expel the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison in my body, I will give you an opportunity that will guarantee your successful advancement to a Dou Zong!"

Shua!

The gaze that was looking away from the rock pavilion seemed to have instantly turned back. Xiao Yan's eyes had also become extremely heated at this moment. He did not hesitate as a heavy word was uttered from his mouth!

"Agreed!"

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Chapter 1007: Bottom Of The Blood Pool

Jin Shi heaved a sigh of relief upon hearing Xiao Yan's words. He exchanged glances with Jin Gu by the side. He hesitated for a moment before he slowly uttered, "The Heaven Blood Mountain Pool does indeed possess some miraculous effect of aiding one to breakthrough the bottleneck. However, the chances of this occurring are not very great. Moreover, it is only effective to some experts who have remained at the peak of the Dou Huang class for some time. However, looking at your strength, it is likely that it has only been a short period of time since you advanced to a nine star Dou Huang. Hence, even if you enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, it would be quite difficult for you if you intend to rely on it to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class."

Xiao Yan nodded. He also felt some doubt within his heart. He valued this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. Otherwise, he would not have taken the risk of being captured by the Wind Lightning Pavilion to head over to this place.

“What method does elder Jin Shi have in mind?” Xiao Yan’s finger gently tapped on the rock table. He suppressed the earlier turbulence in his heart as he softly inquired.

“The mouth of the Heaven Eye Mountain peak volcano is the place with the densest energy within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool is also formed from this enormous amount of energy. However, this is not the most exquisite part of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.” Jin Shi’s eyes were thrown toward the enormous volcano mouth as he said in a deep voice, “Although most of the energy will agglomerate in the red-colored liquid in that enormous volcano mouth each time an energy tide is formed, a small portion of it will sink down and seep into the deepest portion of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. Although it contains only a small amount of energy, it is exceptionally pure, perhaps because it is formed over a long period of time... unfortunately, that place, which possesses a great treasure, is also where the fire poison is the densest.”

The bitterness in Jin Shi’s face had become quite a lot denser when his words reached the end.

“Could it be that the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison within elder Jin Shi was obtained from that place?” Xiao Yan’s expression gradually changed as he asked.

Jin Shi sighed and nodded.

“Even with elder Jin Shi’s strength, you were unable to withstand the corrosion of the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison. Xiao Yan has only the strength of a nine star Dou Huang. How will I be able to endure it?” Xiao Yan involuntarily frowned as he spoke.

“Other people will naturally not dare to enter the bottom of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. However, for you, who possesses a ‘Heavenly Flame,’ it will not be too difficult. Although the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison is like maggots in one’s bones, it will still have no way of dealing with a ‘Heavenly Flame’.” Jin Shi smiled as he replied.

Xiao Yan’s eyebrows were involuntarily lifted when he heard this. Ever since he had entered the Heaven Eye Mountain, he had never revealed the ‘Heavenly Flame.’ How did this Jin Shi know that he possessed one?

“The noses of our Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe are extremely sharp. We also have an ability that can sense the energy within one’s body. It is not the first time that I have seen a ‘Heavenly Flame,’ and it is only natural that I am aware of the frightening scent of this thing.” Jin Shi grinned as he replied, aware of the doubt in Xiao Yan’s heart.

Xiao Yan came to a sudden understanding as he said, “Does elder Jin intend on getting me to head to the bottom of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool and borrow the energy there to break through the Dou Huang class?”

Jin Shi slightly tilted his head. He glanced at Xiao Yan and said, "That place is an area originally discovered by us, the Gold Swallowing Mouse. In order to open up that place, quite a number of Gold Swallowing Mice have ended up dying. Hence, that place can be considered a secret location to our Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe. Even Feng Qing Er and the others are not aware of it. What do you say?"

Xiao Yan crossed his ten fingers. He mused for a moment. Only then did he raise his eyes and look at Jin Shi. He said, "Alright, but I will only help elder expel the poison after I successfully come out from the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool."

Jin Shi narrowed his eyes and slowly said, "It is not that I do not trust you. However, there is no evidence in a verbal agreement. I cannot just rely on a sentence of yours to confirm that you can really help me expel the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison from my body, can I?"

"This is the Heaven Eye Mountain, the territory of the Gold Swallowing Mice. With elders Jin Gu and Jin Shi present in this place, you will not need to worry about the little me fleeing, do you?" Xiao Yan chuckled.

Jin Shi turned his head slightly upon hearing this. He exchanged looks with Jin Gu. It was a long while later before he finally nodded. He faintly said, "In that case, I will trust you once. Hopefully, you will do as you promised. If you fail to meet the requirements of this transaction at that time, you should not blame the old me..."

There was a faint threat at the end of his words. However, Xiao Yan merely grinned. Although the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison in Jin Shi's body was serious, it was not completely impossible to expel it...

Jin Shi waved his hand when he saw that Xiao Yan did not object. A gold light flashed to Xiao Yan.

"There is a spatial barrier that is placed by my Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe at the bottom of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. You must rely on this thing in order to enter it." Jin Shi said.

Xiao Yan grabbed the object and glanced at it. It was a dark-golden-colored mouse skull. Xiao Yan nodded, stored it in his storage ring and laughed, "In that case, I will thank elder Jin Shi. If I am really able to breakthrough the Dou Huang class in this place, you can leave the treatment of the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison in your body to me."

"This is the best... you should return first. The peak of the energy tide will be arriving soon. At that time, the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool will swiftly fill up. All you need to do is enter it at the most opportune time." Jin Shi said.

Xiao Yan also beamed when he heard this. He stood up and cupped his hands to the two before turning around, walking out of the rock pavilion. He headed toward the volcano's mouth.

Jin Shi involuntarily sighed when he saw Xiao Yan's distant back. He said, "The bottom of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool is a place that our Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe had discovered with much difficulty. If that place did not possess fire poison, it would have allowed our Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe's strength to soar. Unfortunately, an outsider will be the first who will enjoy its benefits."

"Stop nagging. Even with your strength, you have also been injured by the Blood Pool, leaving you like this. It is likely that the other tribe members will die on the spot if they head down. Although it is a treasure ground, it is also a fatal place." Jin Gu curled his mouth as he spoke.

"Although I ended up getting the fire poison all over my body, I advanced from a five star Dou Zong to a seven star Dou Zong within these short ten years. This speed is many times faster than in other places. I can be considered to have not lost out." Jin Shi smiled as he replied.

"If you didn't meet Xiao Yan, it is likely that you would not have lived for three more years. Even if we are able to invite a tier 7 alchemist from the Central Plains over, it is likely that the price will be even higher than if we hire him..."

Jin Shi smiled. He also stood up and his gaze turned to the volcano's mouth. He said, "Originally, I was thinking of using the blood pool to groom the experts in my tribe. However, from the looks of it now, I will need to plan carefully..."

Jin Shi sighed after saying those words. His sigh contained a little unwillingness. Guarding a treasure that they could not use. Such a feeling was the thing that really caused one to become miserable.

.....

Eight figures were standing on a slope near the mouth of the volcano. An argument was occurring.

"All of you should stop arguing. There are only eight spots, yet there are nine of us here. I say that we should just allocate the spots based on the level of our strength. The one who is weakest should voluntarily withdraw. What do you say?" A white-clothed man, who had an evil appearance between his brow, swept his gaze over everyone before it finally landed on Nalan Yanran. He laughed.

The expressions of the other people changed upon hearing his words. However, they did not open their mouths. Being the person in question, Nalan Yanran bunched up her eyebrows. Her hand rubbed the white fox in her embrace as she replied in a calm voice,

“It is quite difficult for me to reach this place with my strength. However, since he has brought me here with much difficulty, it is naturally impossible for me to take the initiative to quit. Xiao Yan can get me to quit, but you cannot.”

“All you did is borrow the strength of others. What ability do you have? Being someone else’s exclusive property and allowing others to play with you just for the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool is not worthwhile.” The white-clothed man coldly laughed.

Feng Qing Er, Mu Qing Luan, and the two others did not join the present argument. With their strength, no one would dare point their eyes toward them. Hence, their gazes were all thrown to the mouth of the volcano.

Nalan Yanran’s pretty face turned frosty when she heard the mean words from the white-clothed man. Powerful Dou Qi swiftly surged out of her body. After which, fire seemed to rise from her pretty eyes as she stared at the former. Before she could attack, however, a hand gently landed on her shoulders. A laugh that caused her to relax was transmitted over.

“It seems that the discussion is not going smoothly?”

Upon hearing this voice, even Feng Qing Er and the three others swiftly turned their eyes over. They stared at Xiao Yan behind Nalan Yanran and their eyes contained unusual emotions.

“Allow me.” Xiao Yan smiled slightly to Nalan Yanran. After which, he slowly stepped forward, staring at the white-clothed man. An iciness was revealed in the smile on his face, “Do you think that it is better for her to withdraw?”

The expression of the white-clothed man became somewhat ugly when he saw Xiao Yan appear. However, he could not back down in front of everyone’s eyes. All he could do was toughen his skin and coldly laugh, “Originally, she would not have gotten here if she had relied on her own strength. Should she not give up this spot?”

“Is there anyone else who thinks this?” Xiao Yan turned his head. His gaze slowly swept over everyone as he softly inquired.

Feng Qing Er and the others did not say anything in the face of Xiao Yan’s eyes, which revealed dangerous aura. The remaining two did not dare to clash with Xiao Yan. Hence, no one ended up speaking.

“There are only eight spots, but there are nine of us here!” The corner of the white-clothed man’s mouth was pulled when he saw this before he finally cried out.

Xiao Yan tilted his head in agreement. He strode forward and the muffled sound of thunder appeared. An afterimage surfaced and his body emerged in front of the white-clothed man in a ghost-like manner.

The white-clothed man had remained cautious while talking with Xiao Yan. Hence, his expression abruptly changed when the thunder sound appeared. His body swiftly withdrew, but he had just taken a step back when a figure followed close behind him like maggots in his bones. A thunder-like punch tore through the air and violently smashed into the chest of the white-clothed man.

“Grug!”

A mouthful of crimson blood was spat out as the white-clothed man’s body flew backwards. It immediately collided with an enormous rock, that shattered into pieces!

“Now, there are only eight people left...”

Xiao Yan’s figure appeared. He looked at the collapsed man with indifferent eyes as he slowly spoke.

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Chapter 1008: Entering the Blood Pool

The sudden unexpected change in situation caused everyone present to become startled. By the time they had recovered, they only saw the white-clothed man on the ground. The hearts of everyone other than Feng Qing Er’s four person group felt a chill. Their gazes contained an additional fear when looking at Xiao Yan.

The white-clothed man’s body collapsed on an enormous rock. His body was covered with blood traces and was involuntarily twitching. The punch from Xiao Yan earlier might not have taken his life, but it had left him unable to move. With his strength as a seven star Dou Huang, it was impossible for him to forcefully endure a punch from Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan’s eyes swept indifferently over this fellow. He slowly turned around and the coldness of his face swiftly melted. He grinned to everyone else and softly asked, “Isn’t there the right number of people now?”

Feng Qing Er’s gaze swept over Xiao Yan’s face. She coldly laughed, “You are extremely overbearing. It is likely that my Wind Lightning Pavilion cannot be compared with you when it comes to doing such things.”

Xiao Yan merely smiled in the face of the ridicule in Feng Qing Er’s tone. He said, “It is merely the case of the weak being eaten. However, I don’t understand how I can be more overbearing than the Wind Lightning Pavilion since it has maneuvered a couple of elite Dou Zongs to surround me. One can hardly find many who possess such generosity.”

“If the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool wasn’t about to appear, I would really like to test you to see just what level you are in this Heaven Eye Mountain. A place external help, can’t reach.” A cold glint flashed through Feng Qing Er’s eyes as she challenged.

“If Miss Feng wishes to give it a try, she can do so anytime.” Xiao Yan gave a bland laugh. His completely indifferent manner caused Feng Qing Er to be infuriated. However, she could only suppress the fury in her heart when she glanced at the mouth of the volcano. The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was about to appear. She needed to quickly enter it and absorb the strange energy within it as quickly as possible. There was a limited amount of energy within the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. If she could absorb a little more of it, this little more might be able to decide whether or not she would break through the Dou Huang class...

Xiao Yan ignored Feng Qing Er after seeing that she had become quiet. He slowly walked to Nalan Yanran’s side, and asked with a beaming look, “Are you alright?”

Nalan Yanran was startled when she saw Xiao Yan’s smiling face. Suddenly, she felt the tip of her nose become watery. This feeling of being protected by a man seemed to be a different than the feeling Yun Yun gave her. It was solid and safe. Behind this skinny back, she seemed to be able to completely relax her heart.

However, reasoning told her that this kind of calm enjoyment would only exist for a short while. Perhaps it would disappear after she left this Heaven Eye Mountain... the corner of Nalan Yanran’s mouth was involuntarily lifted in self-mockery when she thought of this. At one point, she could have enjoyed such a feeling for her entire life. However, it was ultimately destroyed by her...

“Is this considered reaping what I sow?” A soft, inaudible voice was gently emitted from Nalan Yanran’s mouth. However, it coincidentally entered Xiao Yan’s ears. His footsteps momentarily paused before he walked side by side with her to the top of the slope.

The back of Nalan Yanran’s teeth bit her lower red lip even harder when she sensed Xiao Yan walking by her. She slowly turned around and looked at the skinny back. When she was about to speak, however, a soul-stirring thunderous noise was suddenly transmitted from the sky.

The thunder sound that suddenly appeared also stunned everyone present. They raised their heads, only to see the colorful energy tide in the sky suddenly ceased spreading. An enormous colorful spiral appeared on the mouth of the volcano. While it slowly spun, Xiao Yan and the others could sense an extremely frightening majestic energy that was wildly gathering in the sky.

“Is the Blood Pool about to appear?”

Joy surfaced in the eyes of Xiao Yan's group when they saw this unusual change in the sky.

Following the appearance of this enormous, colorful energy swirl in the sky, the energy around them began to fluctuate. Waves of energy poured into the swirl like colorful cloths, causing the spiraling speed to increase.

A hurricane also appeared out of nowhere, following the increase in the rotation speed of the spiral. Whistling noises were rampant on the mountain top as the hurricane cut through the mountain peak like the edge of a knife. It left behind some arm thick cracks on some enormous rocks amid waves of 'chi chi' sounds.

Powerful Dou Qi surged from the bodies of Xiao Yan's group. Their bodies were just like rocks that stood without moving on the tall slope. Most people who arrived here were considered to be the top people from the younger generation in the northern region of the Central Plains. There was naturally no weaklings among them.

The energy spiral's size became larger in the sky, and the energy contained within it also became increasingly frightening. At a certain instant, the spinning speed was finally reduced. Immediately, the spiral paused momentarily before a glaring light suddenly erupted from the middle of the spiral!

"Bang!"

The sudden intense light basically covered the entire Heaven Eye Mountain Range. At this moment, the dense fog that permeated the mountain range had become thinner amid this light!

The energy spiral suddenly paused the instant the intense light appeared. Immediately, an energy pillar that was a hundreds of feet in size emitted a 'bang' like a cannonball. It blasted out of the spiral, its direction being the mouth of the volcano below.

The expressions of Xiao Yan and the others changed slightly in the face of this frightening energy light pillar. Their bodies swiftly withdrew.

"Bang!"

The light pillar's speed was extremely fast. Within a flash, it violently landed on the volcano's mouth. Immediately, an enormous air wave swept out and the surrounding strange rocks were immediately blasted apart.

The feet of Xiao Yan and the others rubbed against the ground as they pulled back nearly ten plus meters. Only then did they slowly stabilize their bodies. They looked at the mountain top that had become empty in the blink of an eye, and involuntarily wiped off the cold sweat on their foreheads. Raising their eyes, they could see that the mouth

of the volcano was permeated with a dense colorful light. A wave of powerful energy, which was astonishingly dense, was rippling within it.

“Now is the best time to enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, please get moving!” Jin Shi’s figure drifted over from a distant place before finally landing. There were two large Gold Swallowing Mice behind him.

An excitement that was difficult to remove instantly flashed across the eyes of Feng Qing Er and the others when his words sounded. Their bodies moved and they swiftly unleashed their fastest speed, turning into a couple of light rays that flew toward the mouth of the volcano in a lightning-like manner.

Xiao Yan glanced at Feng Qing Er and the others, who were wildly charging over. His heart involuntarily laughed. After grabbing Nalan Yanran’s wrist from behind him, his body moved and swiftly shot forward.

“Remember, do not go too deep into the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. You should quickly absorb the energy once you enter. This is an opportunity that is difficult to come by.” Xiao Yan quickly reminded Nalan Yanran while he flashed forward.

“Yes.” Nalan Yanran did not oppose Xiao Yan pulling her. Instead, she gently nodded her head.

“There is no need to wait for me after you have exited the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. I might need quite a long time.” Xiao Yan’s body moved and appeared on the mouth of the volcano. He randomly uttered some words as he did so. After which, his eyes swept at the mouth of the volcano and an amazement involuntarily surfaced.

At this moment, the enormous mouth of the volcano was filled with a dense, colorful energy. It appeared exceptionally gorgeous. Moreover, the most attractive thing was the eye-catching red pool in the middle of the volcano.

Even from a great distance, Xiao Yan’s group was still able to see that the interior of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was filled with an unusual red liquid. Xiao Yan could sense that it was full of rich energy.

“Is that the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool?”

A heated look appeared in Xiao Yan’s eyes as he stared at the unusual Blood Pool. After which, he glanced at Feng Qing Er and the rest, who were wildly rushing toward the Blood Pool. His toes pressed on the ground, and he rushed toward the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool while pulling Nalan Yanran along.

The size of this volcano’s mouth was extremely large. However, Xiao Yan managed to cover the distance within half a minute with his speed. By the time he had hurried over,

however, he coincidentally managed to see Feng Qing Er and the others charge into the Blood Pool, emitting a splashing sound as they did so.

Xiao Yan felt somewhat helpless when he saw these fellows being so anxious. However, it was fortunate that his target was the bottom of the Blood Pool. Otherwise, it would really be fun if he had competed with these people in terms of craziness.

The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was around seventy to eighty feet or so, and could not be considered too large. However, it was more than sufficient to accommodate Xiao Yan and the others. Looking at the Blood Pool from close up, Xiao Yan felt that the unusual feeling had become even denser. The red-colored energy did not appear to be much different than fresh blood. It was viscous and red. Some blood-like bubbles would also repeatedly appear on the surface of the Blood Pool. A wave of dense blood-colored energy was slowly being emitted like smoke.

“It is indeed worthy of being a mysterious place that can aid one in breaking through the bottleneck. The shocking amount of energy gathered is at a level that I am seeing for the first time...” Xiao Yan sighed in his heart. He turned his head to Nalan Yanran and smiled as he said, “You should enter. Although you have not reached the peak of the Dou Huang class, soaking in it will still be beneficial to you.”

Nalan Yanran nodded slightly. She placed the white fox in her hands down gently beside the Blood Pool. After which, her pretty eyes paused on Xiao Yan’s face while she whispered, “Thank you very much... you... if you wish to find teacher in the future, you can perhaps head to the Flower Sect.”

Nalan Yanran did not wait for Xiao Yan to question her for more details after she spoke. Her body moved and she plunged into the Blood Pool like a mermaid.

“Flower Sect? One of the so-called two sects?”

Xiao Yan was startled when he saw Nalan Yanran’s back disappear within the Blood Pool. However, he did not have the time to ponder about how Yun Yun managed to interact with such a faction. Nevertheless, he remembered this in his heart. His body leaped forward and landed into the Blood Pool with a smashing noise.

The mouth of the volcano gradually became calm following the group’s entrance into the Blood Pool. Only the wild wind continued to rage crazily, forming whistling storms in the process...

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Chapter 1009: Hidden Training In the Blood Pool!

The first thing Xiao Yan felt after charging into the Blood Pool was the pure energy with an unbelievable density. Jade-green Dou Qi lingered around his body, completely isolating the blood-colored liquid around him in the process. He did not absorb the energy in this place. Instead, he swam toward the bottom of the Blood Pool after pausing for a moment.

The red liquid in the Blood Pool was quite viscous. It was just like fresh blood. Visibility had shortened in this place. Even when one swam, one would sense quite a strong resistance. Moreover, the thing that caused Xiao Yan to be stunned was that his Spiritual Strength had difficulty penetrating the blood-red liquid. This feeling was just like the strange maze fog that he had met in the forest earlier.

Although his Spiritual Strength had difficulty penetrating the blood-red-colored liquid, Xiao Yan could still vaguely sense that there was something crazily absorbing the energy within the Blood Pool not far from him. Clearly, that should be Feng Qing Er and the others.

Xiao Yan's body momentarily stopped. He hesitated for a moment as his gaze looked to the bottom of the Blood Pool. Due to his sight being hindered, all that he could see was a serene dark-red. At a glance, it gave one a feeling that caused one's pores to stand.

Xiao Yan waved his hand and the dark-golden bone appeared in it. He held it tightly, clenched his teeth, and moved, breaking through the red-colored liquid in the process. After which, he swiftly swam toward the bottom.

The further Xiao Yan was from the surface of the Blood Pool, the energy that the red-colored liquid contained also became even denser and more pure. However, Xiao Yan clearly understood that this red-colored energy was contaminated with an extremely rich fire poison. This kind of fire poison was not naturally formed with the energy. Instead, it had seeped out of this volcano. This Heaven Mountain Blood Pool should be the middle of the volcano where the fire poison was the most wild and violent.

Xiao Yan had seen something like this fire poison back then in the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower of the Inner Academy. However, these two fire poisons were clearly on two completely different levels. This Heaven Eye Mountain's volcano had existed for an unknown number of years. The accumulated fire poison was extremely terrifying. Otherwise, it would not be possible for it to injure Jin Shi so much. An elite Dou Zong was not weak.

A jade-green flame surrounded Xiao Yan's body. Its frightening temperature caused the blood-red energy around him to completely vaporize. The fire poison that was contained within the red-colored energy was forcefully expelled by the flame, and was unable to even touch Xiao Yan's body.

After this continuous descent lasted for around ten minutes, the dark-golden skull in Xiao Yan's hand finally became hot, and a glow seeped out of it.

Xiao Yan's heart rejoiced when he saw the reaction of the skull. His swimming speed gradually slowed before his body came to a stop. His gaze was fire hot as he looked below. The space at that spot vaguely contained a distorted feeling. The large amount of red-colored liquid present seemed as though it had met with an invisible barrier, forcing it to separate.

"Is this the spatial barrier..." A solemnity flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as he looked at the distorted space. He could vaguely sense the great strength of this thing. If he were to rely on his own strength, it would have been difficult for him to enter it.

Xiao Yan slowly raised the dark-golden-colored skull in his hand. After which, he gently placed it on the invisible spatial barrier. Immediately, the skull emitted an intense light as circular ripples rose from the spatial barrier. Immediately, a tunnel that could only accommodate a single person appeared in front of Xiao Yan.

The solemnity on Xiao Yan's face became more intense upon seeing this tunnel. He returned the skull to his Storage Ring and inhaled a deep breath. The Glazed Lotus Heart Flame surged out and completely wrapped around his body. Only after applying these precautions did Xiao Yan quietly relax. His body moved and he cautiously swam into the tunnel.

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Xiao Yan's body had just passed through the tunnel when he suddenly sensed a powerful pressure surging over. His body immediately sank over a dozen meters before stabilizing.

After stabilizing his body, Xiao Yan began to raise his eyes and look all around him. This area that was sealed by the spatial barrier was not very large. It was definitely less than a hundred feet in size. The viscosity of the blood-red energy in this place had reached a frightening level. Even when he moved his arm, he would sense a resistance that was over ten times stronger than what it was above.

A kind of dark-grayish glow was mixed with this viscous blood-colored liquid. The glow emitted a faint fishy stench. Each time these grayish-colored glow landed on the jade-green flame around Xiao Yan's body, they would immediately burst apart. At the same time, the flame would tremble.

"Is this the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison? Its corrosive strength is actually this frightening. No wonder even an expert like Jin Shi did not dare to remain for long in this place." Xiao Yan muttered to himself within his heart. His expression was solemn as he looked over the dense, gray-colored light spots.

Below Xiao Yan was an uneven surface that was filled with potholes. These various-sized potholes repeatedly emitted a grayish smoke. The interior of the smoke was filled

with the gray-colored fire poison. Obviously, the bottom of this Blood Pool was a seething volcano.

Xiao Yan's gaze carried some surprise as it swept across this area, that had been sealed by a spatial barrier. After which, he sat within the blood-red liquid. The Glazed Lotus Heart Flame surged out of his body in an unceasing manner, isolating him from the corrosive fire poison.

"If I didn't possess the 'Heavenly Flame,' it is likely that I would not dare to come here even if I knew that this was a precious area." Xiao Yan sighed while rejoicing. His hands swiftly formed a seal and both his eyes were gradually shut.

Within a couple of minutes, Xiao Yan had successfully entered his training condition. Immediately, a fierce suction force slowly surged out of his body.

Following the surging of his suction force, the quiet blood-red-colored liquid was disturbed. Powerful, viscous, red-colored energy unceasingly entered Xiao Yan's body like a pillar.

When the blood-red-colored liquid made contact with the surface of Xiao Yan's jade-green flame, it immediately emitted waves of 'chi chi' sounds. The gray-colored light spots within the liquid energy immediately collapsed. The fire poison had difficulty entering Xiao Yan's body because of the presence of this Glazed Lotus Heart Flame.

This blood-colored liquid was considered a great tonic only after the removal of the fire poison. However, due to the accumulation over time, these two things seemed to have completely adhered together. If Xiao Yan did not own the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, it would have been impossible for him to separate them in such an easy fashion.

When the first wave of majestic blood-red liquid entered Xiao Yan's body, it caused his entire body to tremble. Such a large amount of energy was comparable to three to five days of effort given a normal day. Now, however, it was completely absorbed within an extremely short period of time. No wonder the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe had spent such a great amount of effort to hide this place. If one could completely expel the fire poison from this place, the strength of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe would definitely soar because of it.

Xiao Yan's mind controlled the majestic energy that poured into his body and navigated it along the Flame Mantra Qi Method route. During the circulation, Xiao Yan could vaguely sense his veins, bones, muscles, and even cells wildly swallowing the enormous amount of energy, that had invaded his body. While they swallowed, they were also swiftly strengthening themselves...

The viscous blood energy seemed to possess a kind of miraculous effect. The amount of it that could be absorbed was extremely high. Perhaps it was due to the accumulation

over the years, but it also possessed a faint lifeforce. During the absorption, Xiao Yan could feel that his body was in an energetic state. This was a very unique feeling.

If someone else had been here now, the person would have discovered that Xiao Yan's entire body seemed to have turned a blood-red color. The majestic, viscous energy had already occupied every single inch of his body. Even his skin had turned extremely flexible while soaking in the blood-colored energy.

Xiao Yan's heart felt a great joy because the blood energy possessed such a miraculous effect. If Xiao Yan had some earlier doubts about this place being able to aid him in breaking through the Dou Huang class, he had forgotten them all. According to this speed, he had the confidence that the bottomless pit of energy needed to breakthrough the Dou Huang class would be filled by this place!

The bottom of the Blood Pool had given Xiao Yan a great amount of energy that would transform him! In this place, he could fearlessly absorb the energy around without worrying about facing a situation where the energy would be exhausted.

The Heaven Mountain Fire Poison in this place, that other people were most afraid of, did not pose the slightest threat to Xiao Yan... Hence, this treasure ground could be called a tailor made perfect for Xiao Yan...

Xiao Yan's suction speed might be frightening, but he also knew that even though this was the case, a long amount of time would still be needed if he wished to breakthrough the Dou Huang class. The energy needed to breakthrough the peak of the Dou Huang class was really too vast.

Xiao Yan's body sat cross-legged at the bottom of the Blood Pool like a corpse. The jade-green flame around his body appeared as though it could never be extinguished as it firmly protected Xiao Yan. The waves of thick blood-red energy around the flame were penetrating through it, without stopping, before they poured into Xiao Yan's body.

The quiet bottom of the Blood Pool did not possess any concept of time. Xiao Yan sat there like an old monk. The aura that was spreading from his body was gradually climbing at a slow pace. Although this pace seemed slow, it was crossing the great canyon between the Dou Huang and the Dou Zong class. Xiao Yan's strength climbed at a snail's pace. According to this speed, it was only a matter of time before he broke through...

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Chapter 1010: Soul Refining Effect

The dark-fiery-red bottom of the Blood Pool was completely silent. Everything was progressing amid this silence. Even time seemed to have lost its purpose in such a place.

A jade-green color was vaguely visible within the fiery-redness. It was exceptionally eye-catching. If one were to take a closer look, a figure, seated cross-legged, would finally be revealed. Naturally, that figure was Xiao Yan, who had entered the Blood Pool to train.

Xiao Yan had never exited his training state ever since he had entered it. He was just like an old monk maintaining an immovable posture as he absorbed the vast and mighty energy from around him. After which, he used it to refine his veins, bones, muscles, and even cells.

A dark-red-blood color covered every single inch of Xiao Yan's body. Even his face was filled with this blood color. At a glance, Xiao Yan appeared savage. However, it was fortunate that there were no other people present other than him. Hence, no one saw this scene.

By estimating the time, Xiao Yan should have already remained in this place for around two days. He did not rest for even a moment during these two days as he continued to absorb the powerful energy from around him. During this quick and fierce absorption, the Dou Qi within Xiao Yan's body gradually became stronger as it repeatedly flow through his veins in a crashing manner, like a river flow.

According to Xiao Yan's estimation, it was likely that he had reached the peak of the nine star Dou Huang. However, there was still a distance that was difficult to estimate from this point. If he wanted to successfully breakthrough to the Dou Huang class, it was highly unlikely that he could achieve it within two to three days even with the help of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

Xiao Yan was naturally clear about this in his heart. Therefore, he did not feel any irritation. He maintained a calm mind as he followed the right method and absorbed the blood-red energy, allowing himself to control most of the soaring energy. After all, regardless of how strong he was, how would he fight with others if he was unable to easily control the Dou Qi within his body?

Xiao Yan's calm mentality made it difficult for his bitter training to affect his mental state. His body was completely still as he absorbed the energy, once again sinking into the mysterious feeling of having his body completely transformed...

While this calm training continued over time, Xiao Yan's black hair grew longer like wild grass. Perhaps it was because the interior of his body was full of too much blood-colored energy, but his black hair gradually turned blood-red in color. Looking at him from a distance, Xiao Yan appeared just like a blood person, emitting a faint terrifying aura.

Xiao Yan was unconcerned about the transformation on the surface of his body. He knew that this change was due to him being unable to appropriately control the overly large amount of energy that he had absorbed. After he got control of the energy within his body, everything would naturally return to its original state. What the current him needed to do was completely focus his mind and sense the powerful strength within his body...

.....

Time flowed by like flowing water within the dark-red Blood Pool. In the blink of an eye, nearly ten days passed. Xiao Yan's body did not move even a little during this period of time. His blood-red hair had also become denser. However, it was worthwhile mentioning that Xiao Yan's current aura had gradually soared to a frightening level. Although he had yet to breakthrough the Dou Huang class, he was at least two to three times stronger compared to ten days ago.

The transformation of his aura did not bring successfully break Xiao Yan through the Dou Huang class. From this, one could tell just how difficult it was to reach the Dou Zong class. If not for this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, it was likely that Xiao Yan would have required at least half a year to reach this stage even with his incredible training speed.

Wave after wave of viscous energy unceasingly poured into Xiao Yan's body. At a certain moment, Xiao Yan's face suddenly moved. His eyes twitched a little, and they were slowly opened.

The eyes of Xiao Yan revealed some surprise when he opened them. What had suddenly woken him up from his training state was not due to any external factor. Instead, it was due to Xiao Yan discovering something about his training in this place, the 'Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body' spiritual avatar between his brows was also absorbing the blood-colored energy. Perhaps it was due to his suppression of it, but the avatar did not manage to absorb much of the energy. Hence, it was only now that Xiao Yan suddenly discovered that his avatar was growing stronger...

"The energy in this place can strengthen a soul?" Xiao Yan uncertainly muttered. He hesitated for a moment before flicking his finger. A shapeless light rushed from between his brows, and finally landed beside him.

The avatar had just appeared when the interior of its body automatically emitted a suction force. The surrounding blood-colored energy also seemed to be dragged by it. A portion of this energy was separated and poured into the avatar's body. When this viscous energy made contact with the Fallen Heart Flame on the surface of the avatar's body, it immediately emitted a crackling sound, which appeared due to the fire poison within the energy.

“It is fortunate that the Fallen Heart Flame is protecting the avatar. Otherwise, the moment this avatar appeared, it would have been eroded by the fire poison until it scattered.” Xiao Yan sighed in relief when he saw this scene. He spoke joyfully in his heart.

After a vast and mighty energy entered the avatar, one could see a dense red color immediately surge out of its body. In an instant, the originally transparent avatar immediately turned blood-red in color.

Although its color had changed, Xiao Yan, who had a spiritual contact with the avatar, was surprised to discover that the strength of this avatar was swiftly rising at a speed that caused one to be shocked!

“According to this speed and the refinement of the ‘Fallen Heart Flame,’ it is likely that the avatar will be able to reach the intermediate stage soon. The energy in this place also possesses the effect of refining a spiritual avatar?” Xiao Yan muttered to himself in surprise after being shocked momentarily by this speed.

Within less than half a year, Xiao Yan would be able to train his Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body to the intermediate stage. If this news were to spread to the ears within the Wind Lightning Pavilion, it was likely that those people who practiced this Dou Technique would immediately spit out blood on the spot. This was especially the case for Fan Tian. It should be known that this old fellow had spent nearly five years to train his avatar to the intermediate stage, yet Xiao Yan had shortened the amount of time needed from five years to a time frame over ten times quicker. This gap was as vast as the gap between the clouds and the ground.

This miraculous effect of the blood-colored energy in this place was likely something that even Jin Shi was unaware of. After all, he did not possess a ‘Heavenly Flame’ to protect his body. Thus, he would not have dared to release his soul. Should his soul be contaminated by the fire poison, he would have reached a point of being incurable, and he would have certainly ended up dying.

Xiao Yan jumped for joy within his heart because of this discovery. His eyes firmly focused on the transformation of his avatar. This continued for a long while. Xiao Yan only completely relaxed when he saw that no problems had occurred. He placed his avatar beside him and allowed it to absorb the energy. In any case, the bottom of the Blood Pool had a vast amount of energy, enough for them to squander.

Xiao Yan’s mind sensed the interior of his body after shifting away from the avatar. The joy on his face became even denser as he softly muttered, “The peak of the Dou Huang class... that Jin Shi did not lie. This place is likely really able to allow me to successfully breakthrough the Dou Huang class and advance to a Dou Zong. However, it is likely that this will require a long time...”

Xiao Yan raised his head. He glanced up. The vicious blood-red energy did not allow his sight to reach a great distance. The uniform dark-red color caused one to feel a pressure. However, in order to successfully breakthrough the Dou Huang class, Xiao Yan could only grit his teeth and endure.

“If I am able to successfully breakthrough to the Dou Zong class, it is likely that I will be able to hold my own for even against that old Fei Tian, who will not die. Should I borrow old mister Yao’s strength again, I might really be able to fight with him head-on.”

Dou Zong and Dou Huang were two completely different classes. If Xiao Yan were able to successfully breakthrough, the gap between him and Fei Tian would no longer be so distant and unreachable. He might even be able to fight with Fei Tian if he borrowed the help of some external things.

Moreover, if he reached the Dou Zong class, his chances of successfully refining a tier 7 medicinal pill would also significantly rise. He would no longer need to rely on his luck. With this ability, Xiao Yan was quite confident that he would be able to enter the top ten of the Pill Gathering organized by the Pill Tower!

Xiao Yan’s heart also became hotter as he thought about the various benefits he would receive upon reaching the Dou Zong class. He inhaled a deep breath of air, glanced at his spiritual avatar absorbing energy not far beside him, and once again formed the training seal with his hands. His eyes were gradually shut. This time around, he had decided that he would definitely not leave the bottom of the Blood Pool until he breakthrough to the Dou Zong class!

After Xiao Yan entered his training state, the bottom of the Blood Pool once again became completely quiet. The only thing different, however, was that there was an additional figure absorbing the energy, like an empty pit, within this dark-red world...

.....

Time passed extremely quickly in this place. Xiao Yan, who had completely entered his training state, had completely forgotten about the flow of time. He gradually entered a condition that was completely oblivious to his surroundings. The only way to get out of this place was to wait for the day of his breakthrough!

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Read Battle Through the Heavens - Chapter 1011: Breakthrough! Dou Zong!

Chapter 1011: Breakthrough! Dou Zong!

A wild gale raged outside of the volcano's mouth, whistling repeatedly as it did so. Two old figures were standing with their hands behind them in a rock pavilion not far from the mouth of the volcano.

"It has already been two and a half months..." Jin Shi knit his brows and looked to the mouth of the volcano. The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool at that spot had already fallen from its filled condition back then to an extremely shallow level. Moreover, the blood color within the liquid had become much paler. At a glance, it did not appear much different from ordinary lake water. The energy within it had also paled to a level that was impossible to absorb.

Jin Gu by the side also bitterly laughed when he heard this. He immediately said with some hesitation, "Could something have happened? The Heaven Mountain Fire Poison below is overly dense. Even I do not dare to proceed too deep..."

"That should not be the case. Although the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison is extremely fierce, it does not pose much of a threat to a 'Heavenly Flame'." Jin Shi shook his head and spoke in a deep voice. For some unknown reason, however, his tone did not appear very confident when he said this. Xiao Yan had already entered the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool for two and a half months. This period of time was indeed a little too long. The fire poison at the bottom of the Blood Pool was extremely dense. Even he did not dare to stay for such a long time. Although Xiao Yan possessed a 'Heavenly Flame,' his strength was ultimately only that of a nine star Dou Huang...

Jin Gu helplessly sighed when he saw Jin Shi's appearance. During these two and a half months, the energy tide of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range had gradually calmed down. Feng Qing Er and the others had remained in the Blood Pool for five days before leaving the pool. After a brief goodbye, they swiftly left this place. From the looks of it, it seemed that they had benefited from soaking in the Blood Pool this time around. They might even be able to successfully breakthrough the Dou Huang class once they returned.

Nalan Yanran, on the other hand, had only remained in the Blood Pool for three days. This was because the energy within her body had already reached saturation, and she had little choice but to leave. After which, she waited for Xiao Yan on the Heaven Eye Mountain Range for nearly two months before finally having no choice but to leave. In other words, it was likely that Xiao Yan was the only one in the Heaven Eye Mountain no one had any news of.

"If there is still no news today, I will enter the Blood Pool and see just what has happened..."

After musing for a while, Jin Shi finally grit his teeth. He still required Xiao Yan's help to expel the fire poison from his body. Hence, even though he knew that he could not just enter the bottom of the Blood Pool as he wished, he had no choice but to go and take a look.

Jin Gu also helplessly nodded when he heard this. They had no other choice left but to do so.

“Bang!”

The surroundings of the mouth of the volcano suddenly emitted a loud rumbling sound when Jin Gu had just nodded his head. All the energy around them suddenly began to fluctuate.

Following the appearance of this rumbling sound, one could see that the surrounding natural energy seemed to have met with a drag force and began to crazily gather around the mouth of the volcano. Jin Shi and Jin Gu fixed their eyes onto the spot where the energy had gathered. It was surprisingly the location where the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was located!

“What has happened?”

The sudden unexpected change caused Jin Gu to be startled as he hurriedly questioned.

Jin Shi also frowned. His eyes firmly stared at the interior of the Blood Pool. A whirlpool that was a couple of dozen feet in size had appeared at that spot. The middle of the whirlpool was a dark-black hole. The surrounding natural energy was all flowing wildly through it.

“The interior of the Blood Pool seems to have something that is crazily absorbing energy. If I have guessed correctly, this should have been created by Xiao Yan.” Jin Shi slowly inferred.

“How could he stir the natural energy until it shakes given his Dou Huang strength?” Jin Gu spoke with a surprised voice. He suddenly recalled something and his eyes widened. There was a shocked expression on his face as he turned to Jin Shi. “This fellow... could it be that he is about to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class?”

A strange look also flashed across Jin Shi’s eyes. A moment later, he nodded and said, “It is likely the case. This fellow... has really done it. Although the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool does indeed possess some effect to help one breakthrough the bottleneck, this is also the first time that I have seen someone breakthrough with the help of the Blood Pool... if news of this were to spread, it is likely that the attraction of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool would continue to soar.”

“No wonder he has remained for such a long time in the bottom of the Blood Pool. He is actually thinking of breaking through to the Dou Zong class in one go. However, it is likely that this method can only be used by people like him who possess a ‘Heavenly Flame.’ The Heaven Mountain Fire Poison below is really a little too frightening.”

“But the activity that this fellow creates when he is breaking through is really incredible. This place has been shaken until this manner. It is likely that some elite Dou Zong within a five hundred kilometer radius will sense something...” Jin Gu smacked his mouth as he lamented.

Jin Shi nodded. His eyes focused intently on the Blood Pool and his heart also sighed in relief. As long as nothing happened to Xiao Yan, the fire poison within his body should not be a problem.

While these two were conversing, the fluctuation of the natural energy in this place also became more and more intense. Wave after wave of dense energy seeped from the surroundings. After which, the energy flowed toward the whirlpool within the Blood Pool. Looking from a distance, it seemed as though the entire Heaven Eye Mountain was wrapped within a somewhat colorful, violent energy storm, giving it a spectacular appearance.

The sudden unexpected change naturally attracted the attention of the entire Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe in the Heaven Eye Mountain. Innumerable stunned gazes shot to the source of the commotion. They looked at the substance-like energy while the energy pressure that vaguely seeped from it caused quite a number of weaker Gold Swallowing Mice to feel their hearts tremble with fear.

The change in the surroundings not only did not reduce with the flow of time, but instead became more severe. In the end, it seemed as though there were a countless number of colorful pillars falling from the sky...

As an increasing amount of energy poured into the Blood Pool, a majestic aura, similar to that of an enormous dragon waking up, slowly seeped out of the bottom of the Blood Pool. That aura was extremely strong. Even Jin Shi and Jin Gu expressions changed slightly.

“This aura... does not seem like the level of someone who has just advanced to the Dou Zong class.” Jin Gu muttered somewhat doubtfully.

“Yes, this aura alone is not inferior to that of an ordinary one star Dou Zong. However, one cannot rule out the explanation of one’s aura reaching the peak when breaking through. Perhaps it will gradually be reduced after the breakthrough is completed.” Jin Shi nodded as he replied.

The permeating aura swiftly spread. Within a short period of time, it covered the entire Heaven Eye Mountain. Under such a mighty aura, everyone, with the exception of a certain strong individuals like Jin Shi, felt a fear seeping out of their hearts. Quite a number of Gold Swallowing Mice, that had yet to evolve, let out a panicked screech.

Following the massive activity within the Heaven Eye Mountain and the increasingly strong aura that was spreading from the bottom of the Blood Pool, quite a number of

experts within a five hundred kilometer radius of the Heaven Eye Mountain sensed something. In an instant, numerous gazes were thrown in the direction of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range.

“This aura... is another person about to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class? From this direction, it seems to be from the Heaven Eye Mountain Range? Is it another member of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe?”

“These fellows are really lucky. Therefore, the strength of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe will increase again.”

“The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool is really good stuff. Looks like I should get the disciples in the sect to try their luck next time.”

“...”

Energy whistled around the sky of the Heaven Eye Mountain peak. The rotating speed of the whirlpool in the Blood Pool also became crazier as waves splashed into the surrounding rock walls, emitting deafening bangs.

Perhaps it was because of the fluctuation of the surrounding natural energy, but quite a number of dark clouds gathered in the sky above the peak of the mountain. In an instant, the originally bright weather was covered by dark clouds.

Jin Shi and Jin Gu were unconcerned about the change in the sky. Their gazes were firmly locked onto the Blood Pool. Base on their senses, the suction from the bottom of the Blood Pool seemed to have reached a peak...

“He is about to come out...”

Jin Shi stared at the frightening rotation speed of the water surface before he suddenly spoke in a deep voice.

“Bang!”

Jin Shi’s voice had just sounded when the surface of the water appeared as though a bomb had been dropped into it. It exploded and a countless number of water pillars shot into the sky. The water pillars burst apart, and it seemed as though rain had descended on the Heaven Eye Mountain.

The Blood Pool’s water pillars spat out in all directions. A short while later, a crane-like cry, from the bottom of the Blood Pool, suddenly broke through the surface of the water and shot to the clouds while carrying a mighty Dou Qi with it!

Bang bang bang bang bang!

A clear roar seemed to have stirred the shaking of the sky and land. Space was distorted while the water pillars shot out. The entire Heaven Eye Mountain Range had begun to tremble at this instant. Numerous cracks began to swiftly spread like spiderwebs around the mouth of the volcano while a deafening sound resounded over the mountain.

Boom!

The movement of the mountain peak had just stopped when a large water pillar, that seemed to cover all of the Blood Pool, violently shot out like a volcanic eruption. It forcefully blasted away the whirlpool on the surface!

The water pillar was a couple of dozens meters in height. When it reached its highest point, the water pillar suddenly collapsed. Enormous clusters of water fell from the sky, like rain had formed between the sky and the land.

The rain violently smashed onto the rocks below, resulting in a clear pitter-patter sound being formed. All the gazes within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range were focused intently on the sky.

The rain that spread over the sky seemed to have been torn apart by an invisible hand, opening a path to the sky.

A skinny figure slowly appeared in the part of the sky where the rain had been separated. The figure's legs were stepping on the empty air while his body stood extremely straight. The majestic aura that spread from his body appeared just like a sword that could split open the endless sky above his head!

"Dou Zong..."

Numerous respectful and envious voices sounded throughout the entire Heaven Eye Mountain Range when everyone present sensed the great strength of this aura.

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Chapter 1012: Seeing Yao Lao Again

The skinny figure stood in the sky. His body did not move, but his majestic aura was enough to cause this area to tremble.

Dou Zong, the true point when one could be considered a genuine expert on the continent. Only by successfully reaching this level would one gain the prerequisite that allowed one to survive in the Central Plains. Currently, Xiao Yan had reached this step at such an age. This achievement was impressive.

Rain poured down from the sky in all directions, wrapping the Heaven Eye Mountain within its grip. A pitter-platter sound appeared.

The figure stood in the distant empty air. No Dou Qi wings or bone wings appeared on his back. Walking through the air was a unique indicator of an elite Dou Zong.

A countless number of gazes passed through the rain and looked at the unmoving figure in the sky. In an instant, the entire Heaven Eye Mountain Range became completely silent. Only the sound of raindrops falling on tree leaves clearly resounded over the mountain.

The figure in the sky did not move. Each time the rain came into a radius within five feet of him, it would automatically scatter. That manner was as though there was an invisible barrier around Xiao Yan.

At this moment, Xiao Yan's eyes were tightly shut. A majestic aura lingered over his body, causing it to appear as though he had transformed into a statue.

"What is wrong with him?" Jin Gu asked. Surprise flashed across his eyes when he saw Xiao Yan's stillness. Currently, Xiao Yan had successfully advanced. Why had he become like this?

"It seems that he has entered a unique condition..." Jin Shi hesitated for a moment before speaking.

Jin Gu was startled when he heard this. Even though his strength was stronger than Xiao Yan, he was unable to see just what was happening in his body.

"Let's wait. He should recover soon."

"Alright."

...

Xiao Yan, who had his eyes shut in the sky, frowned intently while those two were speaking. The fire seal on his brows, which had not shown much activity for a long time, currently emitted a fire glow.

Xiao Yan was initially uncertain about what was currently happening. The only thing he felt was that the Spiritual Strength within his body had become extremely sensitive the moment he had successfully broken through to the Dou Zong class. At the same time, he once again felt the faint remnant spiritual seal that remained within the fire seal between his brows.

This fire seal was something that Yao Lao had left behind when he had been captured. It was also not the first time that such a situation had occurred. When he broke through

to the Dou Huang class back then, Xiao Yan had followed the remnant spiritual seal in the fire seal, traveling space itself, to probe into the mysterious large hall where Yao Lao had been imprisoned. Due to his Spiritual Strength being weak back then, what he could see was extremely blur.

With his experience from the last time, Xiao Yan understood what happened when he once again sense the change of the fire seal. The Spiritual Strength within his body gathered together before entering the interior of the fire seal.

A flash appeared in Xiao Yan's eyes after his Spiritual Strength entered the fire seal. A strange, dark-black tunnel appeared. Without hesitating, his Spiritual Strength rushed into it like a bolt of lightning.

The dark-black tunnel seemed to be extremely long. However, Xiao Yan did not feel anxious due to him being in possession of the experience from last time. He carefully gathered his Spiritual Strength and swiftly shuffled through it.

This traveling continued for an unknown about of time before a kind of pressure was vaguely transmitted from the edge of the tunnel. A dark and dense fluctuation was also felt.

The Spiritual Strength had just charged out of the tunnel when it sensed a dark coldness sweeping over. The same large dark hall entered his eyes. This large hall was so huge that it was frightening. It was completely covered in a black-grayish color, which caused one to feel an extreme pressure.

There were quite a number of black rock pillars that were dozens of feet tall within the large hall. Many strange symbols were drawn on these rock pillars. They vaguely emitted a glow, appearing just like a countless number of flickering eyes, giving it a ghastly and chilly appearance.

Xiao Yan's gaze swiftly swept over this large hall, which was so large that he could not tell its size. After which, his eyes suddenly turned to a certain area. A countless number of light clusters were flickering at that spot. Upon careful observation, one could see that the interior of those light clusters were spiritual bodies with their eyes tightly shut!

Although Xiao Yan had seen it the last time, there was too little time and his Spiritual Strength was still weak. Hence, the vision he brought back was very blur. This time around, however, he could clearly see that there was a black-colored chain snaking through the cluster of spiritual bodies.

This black-colored chain was wrapped around the spiritual bodies' necks. There seemed to be something vaguely being drawn from the interior of the spiritual bodies through the chain...

Xiao Yan's gaze moved with the chain and saw that there were some strange towering dark-black-colored pillars present at the edge of the chain!

These rock pillars seemed to be absorbing something from within the spiritual bodies. Xiao Yan felt a creepiness run through his body when he saw this scene. The 'Hall of Souls' seemed to be using these souls as a kind of nutrient?

Although Xiao Yan was currently only an invisible Spiritual Strength, his shocked emotion still appeared.

This shock continued for an instant before Xiao Yan hurriedly sense the faint trance that existed within the fire seal. His Spiritual Strength carefully drifted around the large hall.

For some unknown reason, he could not even see a single 'Hall of Soul' guard within this hall. There was only the uniform gastly and death-like silence.

A strange and gloomy place of death. This was Xiao Yan's evaluation of this place.

Xiao Yan's search did not stop while this thought jumped across his heart. His gaze swept over the packed interior of the hall. A moment later, his Spiritual Strength suddenly trembled. Joy immediately rose within his heart. That slight fluctuation had become a little more obvious.

Xiao Yan's speed quietly increased with a thought flickering through his mind. However, he did not dare move too fast. He clearly understood that there was definitely an Honorable Elder (Dou Zun) guarding this hall. Although Xiao Yan's current strength was completely different now, he was not so arrogant that he thought he could fight with an elite Dou Zun.

Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength suddenly paused after traveling forward for a short while. His gaze was startled as he looked in front of him. There was a cluster of light, which did not stand out, suspended on a rock table. Inside of the light cluster was an old man, whose body appeared somewhat illusionary. This old man had both his eyes tightly shut. That old face, that was so familiar, was surprisingly Yao Lao!

Yao Lao's neck also had a black-colored chain around it. Moreover, this black-colored chain seemed to be even bigger than the others. There was also more of those strange symbols on it.

Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength trembled intensely, revealing his excitement and an indescribable feeling at this moment.

Xiao Yan looked at the face, which seemed to look even older. It had been nearly three to four years since Yao Lao had been captured. Xiao Yan felt pain, like his heart was gripped by something as well as an overwhelming killing intent when he thought of the hardship that Yao Lao had suffered during these years. Yao Lao had to be given a lot of

credit for all of his achievements. As the saying went, a teacher was just like a father. Xiao Yan had also truly viewed Yao Lao as his father. It was natural that Xiao Yan's heart felt an extreme pain when he saw Yao Lao suffering such torture.

Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength drifted toward the top of the rock table. Due to his cautiousness, Xiao Yan did not land his body. Instead, his gaze looked to Yao Lao, who had his eyes shut. He was able to sense Yao Lao's life force. Although it was weak, it was fortunate that nothing overly serious had happened to him.

While Xiao Yan was observing Yao Lao, who was in a slumber, Yao Lao seemed to have sensed something. His eyelids twitched. After struggling for a moment, he gradually opened his eyes.

Yao Lao's body instantly stiffened after he opened his somewhat turbid eyes. His gaze was dull as he stared at the empty air in front of him. His body involuntarily trembled.

Seeing Yao Lao acting like this, Xiao Yan finally could not endure it any longer. His Spiritual Strength was distorted as he transformed into an illusionary figure that knelt toward Yao Lao in the air. After which, he kowtowed to Yao Lao. His voice was slightly hoarse, "Teacher, this disciple is unfilial!"

Yao Lao watched the young man that was suspended while kneeling. His eyes became moist and a small voice passed through the light ball.

"Little fellow, you have already done quite well. Being able to recruit you as my disciple is the best thing that these old bones of mine have ever done."

Although Yao Lao was currently imprisoned, he still had his eyesight. He was able to tell that the current Xiao Yan was just a thread of Spiritual Strength. However, there was a great strength hidden within it. Since Xiao Yan was able to rely on a thread of Spiritual Strength to transform into a person, Yao Lao was naturally able to guess that the current Xiao Yan had successfully advanced to the Dou Zong class.

Xiao Yan's eyes turned red. He whispered, "Teacher, rest assured that I will come and rescue you as soon as possible!"

"Perhaps you do not have the qualification..."

Xiao Yan's words had just sounded when an old, indifferent voice slowly resounded in the large hall.

A vast pressure suddenly descended following the appearance of this old voice. However, Xiao Yan's expression did not change. He stood up, turned around, and looked at the fluctuating space behind him with dark eyes. A purple-clothed, old man strangely appeared at that spot.

The old man in purple clothes glanced at Xiao Yan. He immediately knit his brows. Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength vaguely gave him a somewhat familiar feeling. After thinking for awhile, he involuntarily said with some surprise, "You are the Spiritual Strength from back then?"

Xiao Ya stared at this purple-clothed, old man and did not reply.

"It is unexpected that the person who could not even receive a spiritual fluctuation from this venerable self (Dou Zun) is actually able to come to this spot. Looks like you are much stronger than you were back then." The purple-clothed, old man glanced at Yao Lao in the light cluster. He faintly smiled, raised his hand, and aimed it at Xiao Yan from a distance. "However, this is far from sufficient..."

"The next time I come here, I will repay you all of the hardships that teacher has suffered during these years!" Xiao Yan's gaze was just like that of a wild beast. It vaguely carried a craziness that caused one to feel afraid.

"Hopefully..."

The purple-clothed, old man raised his eyebrows as his hand suddenly clenched. The space around Xiao Yan immediately cracked apart. Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength was eliminated by this frightening attack.

A pleased expression surfaced on the old face of Yao Lao within the light cluster as he looked at Xiao Yan's disappearing body. Xiao Yan was able to remain unafraid in the face of an elite Dou Zun. From the looks of it, he had really grown quite a lot during these years. Yao Lao vaguely felt that the next time this disciple of his appeared, he was not going to be a mere Spiritual Strength. Instead, he would arrive himself!

The brows of the purple-clothed, old man were knit together when he saw the gratified look on Yao Lao's face. For some unknown reason, his heart felt a little uneasiness that had not appeared for an unknown number of years... although it was not very intense, it still caused him to feel a chill that seeped deep into his bones.

"Xiao Yan huh..."

A voice that contained some iciness slowly sounded within the quiet hall.

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Chapter 1013: One Star Dou Zong

Yao Lao within the light cluster looked at the frowning purple-clothed, old man in the large, dark-black hall. He involuntarily laughed, "Qin Tian, are you feeling an uneasiness?"

The expression of the purple-clothed, old man became slightly cold when he heard Yao Lao's words. He faintly said, "Yao Chen, you should just look after yourself. If the hall's chief did not fancy your alchemist skill, do you think that you would have lived until now?"

Yao Lao's head moved a little. It caused the chain to emit a 'clang' sound. His eyelids were slowly shut as he coldly laughed, "The old me is not a softie like you."

"A wise person would recognize the situation. Putting up a futile resistance is the most foolish thing to do. With your alchemist skills, the only people on this Dou Qi continent who could compare with you are likely only those few old people who will not die in the Pill Tower. If you join the 'Hall of Souls,' your position will definitely be even higher than mine. Why do you want to suffer in this place?" The purple-clothed, old man slowly spoke.

Ridicule surfaced on Yao Lao's face, but he was too lazy to bother with the other person.

"I think you have a clear understanding of just what kind of strength the 'Hall of Souls' possesses. Otherwise, given your haughtiness, it is impossible for you to hide for so many years. Although this place is only a branch hall of the 'Hall of Souls,' do you really think that your disciple can barge in here?" The purple-clothed, old man scornfully spoke.

"Any words that are spoken now will only gain a verbal victor. Everything will reveal a result when the time comes." Yao Lao smiled when he heard this. His originally turbid eyes had become exceptionally bright.

The expression of the purple-clothed, old man sank upon seeing this. He coldly laughed, "That disciple of yours is called Xiao Yan, right? If I have guessed correctly, it is likely that he has also arrived in the Central Plains. Good. This venerable self (Dou Zun) shall wait for him to come. However, hopefully he will be able to survive while being chased after by the 'Hall of Souls!'"

After saying those words, the purple-clothed, old man swung his sleeves. The space beside him became distorted. He slowly disappeared into that distorted space in a strange manner.

Yao Lao's fist was slightly clenched as he stared at the spot where the purple-clothed, old man had disappeared. He immediately let out a soft laugh as both his eyes were gradually shut...

After the end of the conversation between the two, the incomparably large hall once again became deathly silent...

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At the top of Heaven Eye Mountain, the strong outpour slowly started to stop. Warm sunlight fell from the ground and brightened up the whole mountain. The environment after rain was extremely fresh.

The human figure in the sky maintained a still stance for a long while before it suddenly shook. Those tightly shut eyes were also slowly opened. A killing intent surged within those dark-black eyes.

“Teacher, wait for me.”

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air and suppressed the churning killing intent within his heart. His tightly clenched hands were slowly opened.

The purple-clothed, old man whom he had seen this time around should be the first genuine elite Dou Zun that Xiao Yan had ever met. That vast pressure was indeed extremely terrifying. Fortunately, the current Xiao Yan was no longer that little fellow who had just advanced into the Dou Huang class back then. He was still able to remain calm under that pressure. This was many times better when compared to that last time where he was shattered by the pressure before he could even see the other party.

Xiao Yan had learned a lot after entering that large, dark-black hall. Of course, the thing that reassured Xiao Yan was that Yao Lao was still safe. Although Yao Lao’s situation might not appear good, at the very least there was no sign of his life being in danger. Even though this was the case, Xiao Yan knew that he needed to speed up. It was not easy for Yao Lao to be able to endure for so many years. If he were to drag on for another couple of years, it was difficult to say just what would happen.

“Once I have settled the matter here, I will head to that Wind Lightning Pavilion. I must find Feng zun-zhe no matter what. I must get his help in order to rescue Yao Lao as soon as possible.”

Xiao Yan heaved a gentle sigh of relief after making up his mind. His mind sunk into his body and sensed it carefully. Currently, the interior of his body seemed to have undergone a complete transformation. The veins within had not only widened by more than ten times their previous size, but there was even a faint Dou Qi crystal layer around his veins and even his bones. Moreover, they were repeatedly emitting a weak glow.

Xiao Yan clenched his fist and threw out a punch without any fancy moves. One could see the space around his fist become distorted. A low ear-piercing sonic boom sounded over the sky like thunder. This simple punch was even stronger than the Octane Blast Xiao Yan had displayed with all his strength back then!

Dou Zong and Dou Huang were indeed two completely different levels!

“My current strength should have already stabilized at the level of a one star Dou Zong, saving me quite a lot time needed to get use to it. This is likely an effect of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.” Xiao Yan softly muttered to himself. Most of the people would have to undergo quite a long period of familiarization in order to truly reach a one star Dou Zong yet Xiao Yan had currently skipped this step and successfully reached the level of a one star Dou Zong.

Although this one star Dou Zong might seem unworthy of being mentioned, the gap between every star within the Dou Zong class was enormous. If one were to rely on normal training, requiring many years or even more time than a decade in order to raise one’s strength by one star was not rare.

Xiao Yan was exclaiming his good luck within his heart when his gaze turned to the rock pavilion near the mouth of the volcano. He saw Jin Shi and Jin Gu at a glance. Immediately, his feet moved. He slowly stepped through empty air and descended from the sky. Finally, he landed in the rock pavilion.

“Haha, little friend Xiao Yan, congratulations on advancing to the Dou Zong class.”

Jin Gu smiled when he saw Xiao Yan land in the rock pavilion. His manner of addressing Xiao Yan had changed without him realizing it. Currently Xiao Yan was considered someone in the same class as them. Moreover, he was aware that Xiao Yan possessed quite a number of hidden trump cards. It was likely that even he would not be a match for Xiao Yan if they were to really fight.

Regardless of where one was, one’s strength would ultimately determine one’s treatment. Although Xiao Yan did possess the strength to fight with an expert Dou Zong in the past, he was ultimately just a Dou Huang. In the eyes of many Dou Zongs, it was ultimately difficult to view him as someone on the same level as them. Now that Xiao Yan had successfully advanced to the Dou Zong class, it was only natural that Jin Gu and Jin Shi would not treat him the same when dealing with him. Therefore, their words were a little more courteous.

“I was merely lucky. If elder Jin Shi had not provided me with the training spot, it is likely that Xiao Yan would have found it difficult to break through.” Xiao Yan cupped his hands toward the two and chuckled. These words were indeed true. If he had not trained in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, it was likely impossible for Xiao Yan to breakthrough the Dou Huang class without at least a year.

Jin Shi grinned when he heard this. He said, “We are only getting what we want. The old me is unable to shoulder this thanks. However, you have exceeded the old me’s expectation by remaining in the Blood Pool for over two months. Even I do not dare to stay within it for such a long time.”

“I have trained for over two months huh...” Xiao Yan was startled. His gaze swept around him, but he did not see Nalan Yanran and the others.

“Feng Qing Er and the rest have long since left. Currently, you are the only one left on the Heaven Eye Mountain. That’s right. That friend of yours had stayed here for a period of time before leaving. From the looks of her anxious manner before she left, it is likely that something has happened.” Jin Gu said.

“Nalan Yanran has also left?” Xiao Yan was a little surprised when he heard this. Immediately, he nodded. It was fortunate that he was already aware of Yun Yun’s whereabouts. When he had the time, he would head to the Flower Sect and see how she was doing.

“Little friend Xiao Yan. Currently, you have successfully broken through the Dou Huang class. I wonder...” Jin Shi hesitated for a moment before suddenly speaking.

Xiao Yan was naturally aware of what Jin Shi wanted to say when he saw his inability to express himself. He immediately beamed and said, “Elder Jin Shi, you can rest assured that Xiao Yan is not someone who does no work after benefiting. Leave the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison in your body to me.”

Jin Shi and Jin Gu sighed in relief when they heard this. Jin Shi was considered the strongest person in the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe. Their tribe was able to occupy this Heaven Eye Mountain because of the deterrence of the two of them. If Jin Shi were to end up dying because of the fire poison, it would definitely be a great loss to the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe.

“These are some medicinal ingredients needed to expel the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison. I did not prepare them. Hence, I’m afraid that I will have to trouble the two of you.” Xiao Yan took out a white piece of paper from his Storage Ring. After which, he wrote some medicinal ingredients on it, and handed it to Jin Shi and Jin Gu.

Jin Gu by the side hurriedly received the white paper. His gaze swept over it. He immediately laughed, “It’s not a problem. This Heaven Eye Mountain Range is filled with medicinal ingredients. Our Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe also has a rich stockpile after so many years. Although these medicinal ingredients are rare, it is likely that they can reach little friend Xiao Yan’s hand by this afternoon.”

Jin Gu and Jin Shi were also aware of some of the alchemist’s tradition. If they wanted the alchemist to refine a medicinal pill, they needed to prepare their own medicinal ingredients. These alchemists only needed to refine a pill.

Jin Gu swiftly left the rock pavilion after receiving the white paper. After which, he rushed to the middle of the mountain. He needed to prepare all of these medicinal ingredients as fast as possible

Xiao Yan smiled when he saw Jin Gu disappear.

“Little friend Xiao Yan, if you are able to expel the fire poison from my body, the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe will treat you as a lifetime friend. Although my Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe cannot compare with those ancient families, we also do have a reputation in the Magical Beast world. Moreover, due to our large numbers, we are aware of a large amount of information. If one were to think about it, we can be considered as very knowledgeable individuals within the Magical Beast world.” Jin Shi’s gaze slowly slide from Jin Gu’s body to Xiao Yan as he softly laughed.

Xiao Yan’s heart moved when he heard this. He hesitated for a moment before suddenly asking, “In that case, can I inquire about something from elder Jin Shi?”

“Please ask.” Jin Shi responded.

“May I know if elder Jin Shi has heard of the Gu clan?” Xiao Yan licked his lips and slowly asked.

“Gu clan?”

These two simple words, however, caused Jin Shi’s expression to instantly change.

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Chapter 1014: Gu Realm

Xiao Yan’s heart tightened when he saw the change of Jin Shi’s expression. It seemed that he was aware of some information that was related to the Gu clan.

“Little friend Xiao Yan, why have you suddenly mentioned the Gu clan? Don’t tell me that you have a conflict with them?” Jin Shi also gradually recovered a moment later and spoke with some worry. This Gu clan was not the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Xiao Yan might still be able to live happily even after offending the Wind Lightning Pavilion. However, if he were to form an enmity with this mysterious Gu clan, the result..

Xiao Yan shook his head and smiled as he said, “I have never met this Gu clan. How could there be any conflict? It is just that I wish to know some information related to this Gu clan. Is it possible for elder Jin Shi to tell me about them?”

Jin Shi sighed in relief. He wiped off the cold sweat on his forehead as he said, “It is best if this is the case. Throughout the Central Plains region, the human’s ‘Hall of Souls,’ and Pill Hall or the three great ancient families in the Magical Beast world fear this Gu clan.”

Xiao Yan also felt slightly startled when he heard this. Although he was able to guess that Xun Er’s background was not weak, he did not expect that the so-called Gu clan was actually this strong.

“Why is it that I have never heard of this Gu clan? Moreover, this clan has never appeared among the humans nor Magical Beast factions. Could it be that they do not belong to either one?” Xiao Yan asked uncertainly.

“Strictly speaking, this Gu clan could be considered human. However... they are descendants from the ancient times. It is rumored that they possessed the bloodline of a Dou Di.” Jin Shi slowly explained.

“The bloodline of a Dou Di?” Xiao Yan was stunned.

“It is rumored that if a person is able to reach the Dou Di class, their bloodline will undergo a change. His descendants will benefit as a result. There were quite a number of Dou Di clans in the ancient times. Although they could be considered humans, they possessed a rich talent when it came to training. Some of those who were lucky might even inherit some Dou Di’s abilities through their bloodline. However, such a thing is extremely rare and will completely depend on one’s luck.” Jin Shi nodded. His tone contained a respect that was difficult to hide when he mentioned the words Dou Di. This was a respect for the strongest people in the world.

“These clans that possess an ancient Dou Di bloodline greatly discriminate against outsiders. Due to them needing to maintain the purity of their bloodline, even if they were to marry an ordinary human, they would definitely choose an extremely outstanding person.

“There were quite a number of clans in the ancient times who possessed the bloodline of a Dou Di. However, with the flow of time, it seems that hardly any remained. The survivors are called the extremely mysterious Gu clan..”

“The Gu Clan doesn’t care much for the ranking on the continent but its strength is without doubt. There are many experts in the clan and speaking truthfully, there are very few factions in the continent that can contend against it.”

Xiao Yan nodded his head. It was no wonder that Xun Er told him that he had to wait until he was a Dou Zong before he could go and try to find her. So the Gu Clan was actually this scary. Thinking of the strength of the Hall of Souls, even they were afraid of the Gu Clan. How terrifying was the strength of this Gu Clan?

“Then does elder Jin Shi know where the headquarters of the Gu Clan is?” Xiao Yan paused before asking.

“The eastern region of the Central Plains basically belongs to the Gu clan. Other than a few of them, the many various fractions there are all vassals of the Gu clan. However, the Gu clan seldom manages them. Usually, most of the people of the Gu clan all live in the ‘Gu Realm’.” Jin Shi continued to explain.

“Gu Realm?” Xiao Yan was once again startled when he heard these unfamiliar words.

“Any experts who reach the Dou Sheng class are basically standing on the peak of the Dou Qi continent. At this level, one would have already surpassed the ordinary and would have stepped into the holy level. The strength that one would possess would naturally be far from what an ordinary person can imagine. Opening a realm where people could live is an indicator of an elite Dou Sheng.” Jin Shi sighed. His voice contained extreme envy. “This Gu Realm is built from the extremely strong Dou Shengs of the Gu clan over the generations. After a countless number of years of strengthening and expanding, its size could at the very least be comparable to the northern region of the Central Plains even if it cannot be compared with the entire Central Plains region. That place is uniquely owned by the people of the Gu clan. Hence, the ordinary people from the Central Plains do not really understand it.”

Xiao Yan gently inhaled a breath of cold air. Opening a realm. Was such a frightening thing really something that a person’s strength could achieve? An elite Dou Sheng was so powerful it ended up making one feel disbelief? Xiao Yan felt himself tremble when he thought of the frightening strength that could tear space apart with just the lift of a hand.

This was already the case for an elite Dou Sheng. Then just how terrifying was the even stronger Dou Di?

By comparing the two, the mysterious ability of an elite Dou Di being able to change their bloodline mentioned by Jin Shi did not appear to be some cooked up story.

“Even I am not certain on how one enters this Gu Realm. If not for the many members of my Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe, it is likely that I would be far from qualified to be aware of so many secrets given my strength.” Jin Shi shook his head and spoke somewhat regretfully.

Xiao Yan nodded. He was also satisfied by learning so much information related to the Gu clan. Although the Gu clan’s strength was extremely great, he would definitely break into that place for Xun Er even if it was extremely dangerous.

Although Xiao Yan was uncertain how many experts were within the Gu clan, it was likely that there would not be any less than that of the ‘Hall of Souls.’ Xiao Yan’s strength was insufficient even though he had currently broken through to the Dou Zong class. However, this did not become an obstruction to Xiao Yan.

“Once I rescue Yao Lao, I will head to that Gu clan. Regardless of how special you are, you are ultimately humans!” Xiao Yan clenched his teeth and spoke viciously in his heart. He did not feel any fear just because of the great strength behind the Gu clan. Xun Er had waited for him for so many years. Regardless of the situation, he needed to make a trip there. Otherwise, he was heartless.

“Looks like I should quickly expel the fire poison in Jin Shi. The Four Pavilion Grand Meeting that Mu Qing Luan had mentioned is about to begin. If I miss it, I don’t know just when it will be before I can find Feng zun-zhe...”

.....

Jin Gu efficiency had somewhat exceeded Xiao Yan’s expectation. Before noon time, all the things that Xiao Yan needed were delivered into his hands.

A fog floated within a rock house on the slopes of a mountain. The fog contained waves of dense medicinal fragrance and a transpiring heat.

There was a large wooden basin within the rock house. Jin Shi was seated within the wooden basin, and boiling water covered his body up to his neck. He was unable to use Dou Qi to block the temperature. Hence, Jin Shi’s face was filled with perspiration.

A jade-green flame was swiftly writhing on Xiao Yan’s hand just beside the wooden basin. There were numerous medicinal ingredients mixed with it. A moment later, it transformed into a drop of a fiery-red medicinal liquid. With a flick of his finger, the medicinal liquid fell into the basin. The surface of the water immediately turned red as many fiery-red bubbles churned within it.

“Consume this medicinal pill.” A medicinal pill shot out from Xiao Yan’s Storage Ring before being suspended in front of Jin Shi. He sucked it and swallowed it into his body.

When the medicinal pill entered his body, a bone-chilling coldness immediately began to spread out, covering every single inch of his body. At the same time, the medicinal strength within the hot red-colored liquid within the basin seeped into his body from every pore. Amid this clash between cold and hot, drops of a grayish liquid, that contained a stenc, slowly seeped out of Jin Shi’s nose.

“Hiss hiss!”

Jin Shi’s body intensely trembled as the fishy gray liquid seeped out. His teeth were tightly clenched together as his mouth emitted a hissing voice. Clearly, he was suffering an extremely intense pain during the process of forcing the poison out.

Jin Gu by the side also became anxious when he saw Jin Shi’s painful expression.

“There is no need to be anxious. It is only a normal pain. Everything will be fine if he can endure for a while.” Xiao Yan’s face was calm. He waved his hand and a cluster of jade-green flames fell from it. After which, it landed in the wooden basin, and the temperature of the fire-red liquid swiftly rose.

Jin Shi’s face was like burning charcoal following the swift increase in the water’s temperature. The air that he exhaled was hot. His appearance caused Jin Gu, who was

watching by the side, to feel numb. If the fire poison was not being forced out, he would have wondered if Xiao Yan was planning on murdering Jin Shi...

With the rise of the flame, an increasing amount of gray-colored liquid seeped out of Jin Shi's body. However, with the combustion of the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, the fire poison was swiftly incinerated the moment they appeared. Thus, the purity of the medicinal strength in the wooden basin was maintained.

This method of using ice and fire to expel the poison continued for nearly eight hours. Only then did it end because of the exhaustion of the medicinal strength within the wooden basin. However, it must be said that the fire poison was indeed deposited too deeply within Jin Shi's body. Xiao Yan was unable to completely remove it from the root despite having used this method.

"According to this speed, it should be possible to expel most of the fire poison in your body within five days. At that time, I will refine some medicinal liquid for you. As long as you soak in it for two to three hours everyday for two to three months, the fire poison in your body will be completely removed." Xiao Yan pulled away the 'Heavenly Flame' and spoke after seeing Jin Shi stand up from the wooden basin to put on his clothes.

"Thank you mister Xiao Yan. Our Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe will definitely not forget this favor. If there is anything that requires our help in the future, you can come and look for the old me on the Heaven Eye Mountain."

Jin Shi solemnly bowed to Xiao Yan as he spoke in a deep voice. He could sense the change in his body. A disease that had been with him for so many years could finally be expelled. Currently, his heart was quite excited.

Xiao Yan beamed. He looked at Jin Shi, whose spirit was much better. His hand suddenly rubbed his chest. There seemed to be quite a frightening poison also present within his body, the Demon Poison Spot... this thing had also pestered him for many years. Although he had yet to find an elite Dou Zun, Xiao Yan had already advanced to the Dou Zong class. His ability to resist it had also significantly risen.

"I wonder if I am able to rely on my strength to refine this Demon Poison Spot with my current ability. If I am able to obtain the Dou Qi from a Dou Zong's lifetime, it would likely be a great tonic to me..."

Xiao Yan's heart involuntarily became heated when he thought of this. His intention to deal with the Demon Poison Spot was not something that he had been thinking about for just one or two days...

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Chapter 1015: Refine

During the next few days, Xiao Yan would spend nearly ten hours to help Jin Shi expel the Heaven Mountain Fire Poison within Jin Shi's body on a daily basis. Under his effort to expel the poison, Jin Shi's spirit was getting better everyday. Hence, his attitude to Xiao Yan gradually changed from the a treatment of someone equal to the current courteous and respectful one. Although Xiao Yan had just broken through to the Dou Zong class not long ago, his other status as an alchemist was sufficient to cause a person at Jin Shi's level to treat him politely. After all, everyone knew what a lucky thing it was to be able to befriend a high tier alchemist.

Xiao Yan's remaining effort during these couple of days was spent on the Demon Poison Spot within his body. Everyday that this time-bomb-like thing, which had pestered him for a few years, was not removed, it would stay a thorn within his heart that would cause him to always feel a little uncomfortable.

Through his study during this period of time, Xiao Yan had also gained a much deeper understanding of the Demon Poison Spot. However, he did not recklessly do anything. This Demon Poison Spot was extremely frightening. If the Little Fairy Doctor had not placed a seal on it back then, it was likely that it would have long since erupted. Xiao Yan might have already broken through to the Dou Zong class, but it was best if he did not take the initiative to remove the seal. It would not be too late for him to act when he had more confidence.

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A fire was burning fiercely within the wooden basin of a rock house permeated by hot air. Only the middle spot of the house was void of hot air. That place was where Jin Shi's head was protruding from the medicinal water.

At this moment, Jin Shi appeared extremely energetic. Both his aura and his liveliness were far from what his previous sickly-self could compare with. Clearly, the expelling of the poison by Xiao Yan during this period of time was quite effective.

The fog permeated the place for a long time before it slowly thinned. The medicinal water within the wooden basin had also become clear. The medicinal liquid within it had already entered Jin Shi's body.

Xiao Yan waved his hand and returned the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame to his body. He also sighed in relief. It was fortunate that he had currently reached the Dou Zong class. Otherwise, with his previous strength, it would have been difficult for him to perform such a long period of poison expelling in such a relaxed manner.

Jin Shi leaped out of the wooden basin after having put on his clothes. He sensed the life force that seeped out of his body and a joy surfaced on his old face. He cupped his hands and solemnly said to Xiao Yan, "Little brother Xiao Yan, a simple thanks does not do such a big favor justice. The old me shall remember this."

Xiao Yan grinned. He took out two jade bottles from his Storage Ring and handed them to Jin Shi. He uttered, "I will leave tomorrow. This is the medicinal liquid and medicinal pill needed to expel the poison. Most of the fire poison within your body has already been expelled. Hence, there is no longer a need for me to use the 'Heavenly Flame' as a catalyst. You should have already learned the poison expelling method during this period of time. Hence, I shall not say anything more about it. If you follow the method, the fire poison in your body will be completely removed within two to three months."

"You are leaving tomorrow?" Jin Shi was startled upon hearing this. He hurriedly confirmed what had been said.

Xiao Yan nodded. The so-called Four Pavilions Grand Meeting was likely to begin. If he wished to find Feng zun-zhe, he could only head to the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Otherwise, those elite Dou Zuns were all so elusive. He did not know just when he would be able to find the other party again. Due to the 'Hall of Souls,' Xiao Yan was unable to openly speak about the matter. He could only quietly search by himself.

Jin Shi could only nod his head when he saw Xiao Yan's insistence. He received the two jade bottle and said in a deep voice, "Little brother Xiao Yan, if you meet with any trouble in the future, you can come and find me in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Even that old fellow Fei Tian would not dare to do anything to you in this place."

Xiao Yan smiled. Although Jin Shi was a Magical Beast, he valued relationships. The strength of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe was weak when compared to the Wind Lightning Pavilion. However, he was still able to say such words. From the looks of it, he was a worthy person to befriend.

"In that case, I shall thank elder Jin Shi first."

.....

Xiao Yan was seated cross-legged on a bed within a room that was filled with a gentle light. His upper body was naked. There was a dark-black ink-like spot on his chest, which was vaguely emitting a stench. Surrounding the black spot were some unusual symbols. They wrapped around the countless number of black lines spreading from the black spot. These symbols were the seal that Little Fairy Doctor had placed on him. However, the symbols had become a lot paler after the erosion of the Demon Poison Spot during these few years. It seemed that it would not be able to hold out for long.

Xiao Yan's eyes paused on the black spot. There were two methods if one wished to remove this Demon Poison Spot. One was to find a Dou Zun class expert to help him while the other was to find another 'Heavenly Flame.' After the three kinds of 'Heavenly Flames' merged, it would be an easy matter to refine this Demon Poison Spot. Unfortunately, the current Xiao Yan did not meet either of the requirements.

Although he had not met both conditions, Xiao Yan vaguely sensed that his current self was no longer as helpless against this Demon Poison Spot as he was back then. His breakthrough this time around was a great benefit to him.

Xiao Yan frowned and thought deeply for awhile. After which, he suddenly clenched his teeth. A thought passed through his mind and the jade-green flame swiftly moved within his body. It quickly gathered at his chest and surrounded the Demon Poison Spot.

Looking at the pale seal, it was obvious that it would not be able to endure for long. Hence, Xiao Yan must quickly settle this Demon Poison Spot. Although it was somewhat difficult for him to refine the Demon Poison Spot in one go with his current strength, he could choose to do it over a prolonged period, gradually refining it. Hence, he could reduce the pressure felt by the seal.

After having made up his mind, Xiao Yan's mind controlled a thread of flame that sprang out. It came to the Demon Poison Spot and coiled around it. After which, it suddenly pounced forward.

The flame collided with the circular symbol seal. Its high temperature immediately caused the seal to emit a white smoke and 'chi chi' sound. Following the erosion of the 'Heavenly Flame,' the complete seal gradually began to break open, forming a small gap in the process.

Xiao Yan controlled the flame perfectly. The small gap was insufficient to cause the Demon Poison Spot to erupt, but it was also able to drag a small portion out.

The crack had just been formed when the Demon Poison Spot within it, which had been quiet for many years, suddenly began to surge. The black cluster wiggled and a thumb-sized, black line separated from the body before rushing to the gap.

Xiao Yan's mind tensed up when he saw that black line shoot out. The jade-green flame around the seal became turbulent, like a sea of fire, as it surrounded the area around his chest until nothing could seep out.

The black line successfully penetrated through the gap and a dense wave of fishy stench spread out. This fishy stench contained an extremely corrosive strength. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan had the protection of the 'Heavenly Flame.' The moment these fishy stench appeared, it immediately emitted a 'chi chi' sound and swiftly turned into nothing.

A coldness also flashed through Xiao Yan's eyes as he looked at the dark-black, somewhat sinister line. If he had yet to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class at this moment, it was likely that this Demon Poison Spot black line would have turned his body into a complete mess. Fortunately, the current him had truly reached the Dou Zong class.

A thought passed through Xiao Yan's mind and the jade-green sea of flames around his chest immediately transformed into numerous fire dragons. These dragons were accompanied by a low, deep roar as they surged toward the black line.

The Demon Poison Spot black string seemed to display an uneasiness when it faced such a large scale encirclement by the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. With the growth of Xiao Yan's strength, the power of this Glazed Lotus Heart Flame had also soared. Back then, just refining a tiny Demon Poison Spot black line had exhausted a long period of time. If Xiao Yan were to do it again at this moment, he had the confidence that the refinement speed would decrease by at least ten times the amount of time it took before.

While the thread of the Demon Poison Spot was feeling uncertain, the fire dragon instantly arrived. The flame swept over and surrounded the black line. After which, the flames twisted together, transforming into a cluster of fierce green flame that wrapped the black line and swiftly began to refine it.

Faced with the refinement of the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, the Demon Poison Spot black line also began to resist. Waves of corrosive fog unceasingly surged into his body. After which, the fog collided with the surrounding flames.

"Chi Chi!"

The black fog collided onto the flame and a 'chi chi' sound immediately erupted. The current Glazed Lotus Heart Flame might have difficulty completely refining the Demon Poison Spot, but it did not have a problem refining this small portion of it.

Under the control of Xiao Yan's mind, the 'Heavenly Flame' swiftly shrank. A 'chi chi' sound once again appeared. Immediately, one could see the Demon Poison Spot black line swiftly paling. Within an hour or so, the black-colored poison within it was completely refined by the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame.

After the poison within was removed, an extremely pure, substance-like Dou Qi appeared in front of Xiao Yan's mind.

This cluster of Dou Qi did not possess the slightest consciousness. It simply remained within the flame without moving.

A satisfied expression surfaced on Xiao Yan's face when he sensed the purity of this Dou Qi. This Demon Poison Spot might be dangerous, but it could be considered a great tonic. If he completely refined it, Xiao Yan estimated that his strength could at least leap to the level of a three star Dou Zong.

Danger and reward indeed coexisted in everything in this world.

Xiao Yan's mind controlled this wave of Dou Qi, and directed it along the route of the Flame Mantra, immediately making it his own.

Xiao Yan's heart laughed when he sensed the tiny increase of strengthened Dou Qi within his body. His mind once again reached into the Demon Poison Spot. After which, he continued to drag a small amount of Demon Poison Spot poison from it...

Although he could not refine the Demon Poison Spot in one go, all he needed to do was to remove a little of it to refine each time. Over time, this Demon Poison Spot would naturally collapse because it lacked Dou Qi. At that time, the time bomb in his body would also automatically disappear...

"The effect of this thing is something that even some tier 7 medicinal pills cannot compare with. Hee hee, that old fellow Xie Bi Yan has really given me a great gift..."

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Chapter 1016: Wind Lightning Mountain Range

Xiao Yan continued to dragging poison out of the Demon Poison Spot and use the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame to refine it throughout the night. Only when the sky gradually became bright did he, who was still in a rock house, slowly open his eyes.

An entire night's refinement did not cause Xiao Yan to feel the least bit tired. Instead, due to the replenishment of the enormous amount of Dou Qi, his condition was perfectly at his peak. A faint glow was flickering while he blinked. This was due to the great surge of Dou Qi in his body that was difficult to hide.

Xiao Yan lowered his head and looked at the Demon Poison Spot on his chest. At the moment, it's size had clearly shrunk a little. Xiao Yan shook his head with some dissatisfaction when he saw this. He had at least removed ten bundles of poison during the night. It was unexpected that this amount was such a small portion when compared to the Demon Poison Spot as a whole.

After having absorbed all the Dou Qi within the ten clusters of poison, Xiao Yan could vaguely feel that his strength had improved. Although this feeling was not very obvious, it was considered quite incredible. After all, each star within the Dou Zong class required an extremely great amount of energy. If Xiao Yan were to train in an orthodox fashion, it was likely that he would require nearly three to four months in order to reach this stage even with his speed, yet he was able to reach it in one night. This effectiveness was already quite great.

There was a massive gap between every star within the Dou Zong class. Hence, the classification within the expert Dou Zongs were a little more detailed in the Central Plains. Every star was divided into four levels. They were entry, intermediate, advance,

and peak. However, such differentiation was too subtle. Hence, very few people would measure another in such a manner. However, it was quite useful when using it to measure one's own strength. According to Xiao Yan's guess, he should be currently at the intermediate level after having absorbed the Dou Qi within the Demon Poison Spot.

"Ugh, it is indeed very difficult to raise one's level in the Dou Zong class. No wonder First Elder's level did not experience a great increase despite having trained for so many years..." Xiao Yan sighed softly in his heart. He took out his clothes and put them back on. Currently, the Dou Qi in his body had reached saturation and needed a period of time of adaptation before he could once again absorb Dou Qi from the Demon Poison Spot. Fortunately, with his current strength, the Demon Poison Spot no longer posed a fatal threat to him. Instead, this thing was treated as a movable Dou Qi warehouse by Xiao Yan...

"Looks like it is time to leave. The Four Pavilion Grand Meeting is about to be held in a few days..." Xiao Yan leaped down from the bed. He mused for a moment before packing his things properly. After which, he did not stay any longer. He pushed opened the door and simply walked out.

When Xiao Yan walked out of the room, the Gold Swallowing Mice guards standing by the side hurriedly bowed to Xiao Yan. He waved his hand and without saying anything, stepped onto the empty air, and appeared to be walking on the stairs leading to heaven as ascended into the sky in front of the envious eyes of those few guards.

Xiao Yan overlooked the Heaven Eye Mountain as he stood in the sky. He involuntarily smiled and walked forward. This was something that he had dreamed of. It was unexpected that he was able to fulfill it now...

Two figures hurried over when Xiao Yan rose into the air.

"Little brother Xiao Yan, are you going to leave now?" Jin Shi appeared. He looked at Xiao Yan and hurriedly asked.

Xiao Yan nodded and laughed, "I still have some matters to attend to and cannot remain here for long. Thank you both for your great hospitality. If I have time in the future, I will come and visit."

Jin Shi and Jin Gu could not say any other words to get Xiao Yan to stay after they heard this. They immediately replied in deep voices, "Little brother Xiao Yan, the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe owes you a big favor. If you meet any trouble in the future, please do not forget about us old fellows."

Xiao Yan tilted his head. The Gold Swallowing Mouse faction a large population, and remained up to date with the news in the Central Plains region. It was naturally a good thing to befriend them.

“Ke ke, looking at your anxious face, the two of us shall not hold you back any longer. We will pray for your journey to be smooth.” Jin Gu smiled, cupped his hands, and spoke.

“In that case, I shall borrow elder Jin Gu’s blessing. Goodbye!”

Xiao Yan smiled. He cupped his hands to the two of them and did not stay any longer. His body moved and transformed into a light figure, which rushed out of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range with a ‘swoosh’ sound. Within a couple of blinks, he had already disappeared from Jin Shi’s and Jin Gu’s sight.

.....

With Xiao Yan’s speed, he had already exited the region of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range within ten plus minutes. Originally, with his current strength, his speed would have been a little faster if he used the bone wings. However, the words of the Gray Wolf King were firmly etched in his heart. Although he had currently advanced to the Dou Zong class, this strength was really insignificant when compared to the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. Hence, unless it was a critical moment, it was best that he used the bone wings as little as possible in the future.

Xiao Yan’s figure stopped on a mountain peak outside of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. He took a map of the northern region from his Space Ring. The map he had purchased in Bone Transforming City back then. After which, he began to search for something on it.

According to what Mu Qing Luan had mentioned, the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting this time around would be held at the headquarters of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, which was the eastern pavilion. Based on the map, the position of the eastern pavilion should be near the border between the northern and middle region of the Central Plains.

“It is so far away. Looks like I will need about five days just to travel there...” Xiao Yan bitterly laughed after putting the map back into his Storage Ring. It was fortunate that had reached the level of a Dou Zong. Otherwise, it was likely that he would not have been able to hurry to the eastern pavilion without ten days to half a month’s time. At that time, it was likely that the gathering would have ended.

“Looks like I should travel quickly. Otherwise, it will be unlucky if I miss it...”

Xiao Yan sighed as he faced the eastern sky. A bright-silver glow slowly surfaced on his feet. Immediately, muffled thunder sounded. His body disappeared in a ghost-like manner.

.....

The name of the Wind Lightning Eastern Pavilion held a heavy weight throughout the Central Plains region. Being the headquarters of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, this place was filled with many experts. Its defenses were also extremely solid. During the years since the Wind Lightning Pavilion had been founded, it had experienced quite a number of tribulations. However, the eastern pavilion had always remained standing. Its reputation had gradually formed from many fights between factions. Only after all that, did it gain its current status.

The Four Pavilion Grand Meeting, as the name suggested, was naturally conducted by the four pavilions in the Central Plains. Although the main characters were the four pavilions, each season of the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting would be a grand event within the Central Plains region. Although it could not be put in the same category as the Pill Gathering of the Pill Tower, it was also a rare event.

This Four Pavilion Grand Meeting was not a competition between the experts of the older generations. Instead, it was a competition for the younger generation. Of course, the younger generation, who could represent the four Pavilions, were naturally the most outstanding people among the younger generation of each party. New blood was the most important thing if each faction wanted to survive. Hence, the four pavilions paid great attention to the younger generation.

Under their great focus on grooming the younger generation, it was natural that quite a number of outstanding individuals had appeared among them: the Wind Lightning Pavilion's Feng Qing Er, the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion's Tang Ying, the Yellow Spring Pavilion's Wang Chen, the Falling Star Pavilion's Mu Qing Luan, etc. All of these people possessed some reputation across the entire Central Plains region.

Of course, the Central Plains was one where many outstanding individuals were hidden. No one knew just where dark horse would suddenly appear. Even though this was the case, each of the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting would attract a countless number of strong young people from many factions. The main characters of this Grand Meeting were usually the four pavilions, but it did not reject some other competitors. However, in order to increase the quality, it naturally possessed a necessary filter. Moreover, it was rumored to be extremely harsh. This had eliminated some of the people who were there simply to inflate the numbers.

After all, among the competitions between the younger generation, the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting was considered to be of a superior quality. Even some of the experts from the older generation had difficulty achieving the requirements.

The location where the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting would be held was usually decided by the party who had won the last season's competition. The victor of the last Grand Meeting was the Wind Lightning Pavilion, Hence, the location this time was decided to be the Wind Lightning Eastern Pavilion.

.....

The Wind Lightning Eastern Pavilion was situated in the Wind Lightning Mountain Range near the border of the northern region. This place was extremely unique. Perhaps it was because the terrain was too high, but there was always a rumbling thunder sound. The weather was also unpredictable. At first it may be extremely sunny, but the next moment, a thunderstorm may appear.

The entire Wind Lightning Mountain Range was the territory controlled by the eastern pavilion. This place was just like their backyard. Other factions who were not strong did not dare to encroach into this area.

The Wind Lightning Mountain Range during this period of time was unusually lively. A countless number of people came from all over the place and gathered at the Lightning Mountain within the mountain range. This was because above the Lightning Mountain stood the headquarters of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, the eastern pavilion!

.....

A ray of light bounded across the sky outside of the Wind Lightning Mountain Range like a falling star. It transformed into a person that landed on the top of a mountain. He lowered his head and looked at the ant-like human flow below only to be stunned.

The person who had hurried over was naturally Xiao Yan, who had increased his speed along the way. He had basically gone all out during these few days, and had seldom rested along the way. Even by hurrying in this manner, he had exhausted four days in order to reach this place.

“This area has a very dense Wind Lightning Strength...”

Xiao Yan gently exhaled. He looked into the distance and saw the mountain range, which was many times larger than the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. There was a shocking rumbling thunder within this mountain range he could feel despite being a great distance away. The Wind Lightning Strength contained within the mountain range caused his expression to alter.

“This place should be the Wind Lightning Mountain Range where the Wind Lightning Pavilion Eastern Pavilion is located. Looks like I’m not late...”

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Chapter 1017: Lightning Mountain

Xiao Yan found a deserted spot on the mountain peak and landed on the ground. After which, he headed to the foot of the mountain. He helplessly shook his head when he saw the densely packed human flow outside of the Wind Lightning Mountain Range. It

was likely that these people were all here because of the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting...

"I wonder if the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting has begun?" Xiao Yan muttered softly to himself. He fell briefly thought about before he suddenly took out a thin transparent skin-like item from his Storage Ring. After which, he covered it over his face. Almost instantly, some changes occurred on the contours of his face. If one did not look carefully, it would likely be difficult for one to recognize him.

This item, that could slightly alter one's appearance, was a little thing the Little Fairy Doctor had given him when they headed to the Chu Yun Empire back then. It was unexpected that it would still be of use after so many years had passed.

He was hiding his appearance in order to save himself some trouble. Currently, everyone was aware of his enmity with the Wind Lightning Pavilion. If he were to openly appear in this place, it was likely that the Wind Lightning Pavilion would not simply stand idly by the side. There were many experts within the eastern pavilion. Moreover, the Wind Lightning Pavilion's chief resided here. Even though Xiao Yan had broken through to the Dou Zong class, he could only choose to avoid a head-on confrontation when meeting with an expert of this level.

The reason he had come to the Wind Lightning Mountain Range was to search for Feng zun-zhe. Unless he had no choice, he did not wish to expose himself. After all, he would place himself in a dangerous position if that occurred. Therefore, hiding his appearance was indeed necessary.

Xiao Yan rubbed his face after having altered his appearance. After which, he walked out of the dense forest, joined the human flow on the main road that led into the mountain range, and moved toward the Wind Lightning Mountain Range.

The various noises within the noisy human flow, which Xiao Yan had joined, caused his ears to feel a ringing sensation. However, Xiao Yan could only laugh as he forcefully endured it.

"Dammit, there are too many people. Can the eastern pavilion accommodate so many people?"

"The Grand Meeting is about to begin today. Naturally, there will be a lot of people. It is rumored that the people from the four pavilions have already arrived."

"The final victor in the last competition was the Wind Lightning Pavilion. I wonder just who will be the victor this time around?"

"It is difficult to say. Feng Qing Er, Tang Ying, Wang Chen, and that Mu Qing Luan are no ordinary people. It is rumored that these four entered the Heaven Eye Mountain Range's Heaven Mountain Blood Pool some time ago. Their strength will definitely have

improved. Hee hee, I wonder if any one of them borrowed the strength of the Blood Pool to breakthrough the Dou Huang class?”

“These four people have the strength at the peak of the Dou Huang class. Adding their tactics, they are even able to exchange blows with some expert Dou Zongs. Whoever is able to breakthrough during this period of time will definitely win.”

“Who knows. There are an unknown number of talented individuals in the Central Plains. There are always some dark horses appearing in each of the Four Pavilion Grand Meetings. I wonder just who will appear this time around?”

“Dark horse huh. Naturally, it is that young man called Xiao Yan, who has stirred an uproar within the northern region recently. Even the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion’s chief returned empty-handed after personally chasing him. One can just imagine how terrifyingly strong he is.”

“Qi... Xiao Yan might be strong, but this place is the headquarters of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Do you think that he dares to come here?”

“...”

Xiao Yan was involuntarily startled when he heard the conversation around him eventually talking about him. His hands could not help, but rub his face. It was unexpected that he possessed such a reputation in this northern region. However, this was not what he wanted. If his name were to spread to the ears of the ‘Hall of Souls,’ it was likely that things would become even more troublesome.

Xiao Yan successfully entered through the entrance of the mountain range amid a terrible noise. There were disciples from the Wind Lightning Pavilion maintaining order around the entrance. Other than some special guests, ordinary people were not allowed to fly in the air above the Wind Lightning Mountain Range. This had resulted in Xiao Yan, who did not wish to expose his identity, being forced to walk in.

Upon entering the mountain range, Xiao Yan swiftly separated himself from most of the human flow. After which, he turned to a deserted forest, increased his speed, and swiftly rushed to the interior of the mountain range. From the information that he had heard earlier, today should be the start of the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting. Moreover, the thing that excited Xiao Yan most was that the people from the four pavilions had arrived, which meant Feng zun-zhe should have arrived.

“If I really meet Feng zun-zhe, it is best to observe him quietly before making contact with him. Although teacher has said that I can trust him completely, it is always best to be careful.” Xiao Yan’s figure transformed into a blurry one that shuffled through the mountain range while this thought lingered in his heart.

The heavy burden of rescuing Yao Lao and his father were things that Xiao Yan needed to complete. Hence, he needed to ensure his safety. It was best to be cautious about any uncertain factors.

The Wind Lightning Mountain Range was extremely vast. Even with Xiao Yan's speed, he still spent nearly half an hour before reaching the middle of the mountain range. There was a magnificent and steep mountain located at that spot, Lightning Mountain!

Lightning Mountain was extremely tall. One was unable to see its peak when looking up from its base. The middle portion of the mountain was covered in a dense fog. This fog was a little dark, and it faintly contained lightning flashing within it. Looking from a distance, this mountain peak seemed to be covered by a countless number of bolts of lightning, making it appear extremely majestic.

Xiao Yan let out a praise for the towering Lightning Mountain before moving his body to land somewhere near its base. The top of the Lightning Mountain was the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The defenses of that place were unusually tight. Perhaps it was due to the Grand Meeting approaching, but the surrounding defenses had also been fortified. There would occasionally be human figures flapping Dou Qi wings in the sky. The Lightning Mountain had entered into a tight inspection network.

In order to not alert the experts in the Wind Lightning Pavilion, Xiao Yan would naturally not adopt such a brutal break in method. The line at the foot of the mountain might be long, but Xiao Yan still possessed a little bit of patience.

Xiao Yan advanced along with the group and finally came to a stop when he was about to ascend the mountain. At this moment, there were two rock roads that led up the mountain. One was provided for those people, who had come to watch the Grand Meeting, while the other was provided for some of the young experts who had come to participate in the Grand Meeting.

There were nearly a hundred armored disciples from the Wind Lightning Pavilion guarding the front of the two rock roads. Their stern expressions brought about some pressure. This resulted in no one daring to cause trouble. Additionally, there were two old men in front of these hundred disciples. One was a male while the other was a female. Xiao Yan's eyes solidified when his gaze swept over these two people because the two of them were the two who had accompanied Feng Qing Er to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range back then.

"The strength of these two is quite impressive. I wonder if I will be able to pass through their inspection after having altered my appearance." Xiao Yan slightly frowned.

"It is unexpected that the participants of this competition are filtered by the Huo Mu Elders of the eastern pavilion this time around. These two people hold quite a high position within the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The Wind Lightning Pavilion selections have always been harsh. After seeing this today, they do live up to their reputation.

Fortunately, I am only here to watch the fun and need to pass through their verification..." A group of people in front of Xiao Yan softly conversed while he was frowning.

Xiao Yan's heart leaped when he heard this. It seemed that not everyone must be examined by these two people.

"I think that everyone is aware of the rules of my Wind Lightning Pavilion. Anyone who wishes to participate in the Grand Meeting must first reach the strength of a three star Dou Huang or higher. Secondly, he or she must be less than thirty years old. Third, this person must last over five exchanges in the hands of the old me. Only by meeting these three conditions will one possess the qualification to participate. Of course, if you are only here to watch the fun, you can just climb the mountain using the left stone road." A red-clothed Elder Huo explained while everyone was engaged in private conversations.

Quite a big commotion was stirred when these words sounded. Just fulfilling one of these three criteria was not an easy matter, much less all three of them. It was really strict.

Most of the people chose the road on the left side under such strict criteria. Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment before following the human flow to the left rock road. His aim was merely to find Feng zun-zhe. He was not interested in fighting within the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Some trouble would be unavoidable if he ended up recognized by others.

While most people were climbing the rock road on the left side, there were also a couple of young people, who felt that they were quite strong, intending to attempt the right path. However, all of them were swept aside by Elder Huo without exception. These people might have barely met the requirement of a three star Dou Huang, but it was clear that they were those that relied on medicinal pills or some natural treasure to support them. Their fighting strengths were similar to that of a two star Dou Huang.

The Huo Mu Elders did not even raise their eyes when fighting these weak fellows. Xiao Yan by the side also laughed in his heart when he saw this. After which, he increased his speed and stepped onto the rock road on the left.

"Wait!"

Xiao Yan's feet had just stepped on the rock road when Elder Huo by the side suddenly turned his head before Xiao Yan could even climb up. Elder Huo frowned as he looked at Xiao Yan.

The fist under Xiao Yan sleeves was tightened when he heard this cry. He turned his head slowly and looked at Elder Huo.

Elder Huo's eyes slowly swept over Xiao Yan's face before faintly saying, "You seem to have reached the qualification to participate in the competition. Why don't you give it a try?"

Numerous gazes shot to Xiao Yan when these words sounded. There were many people earlier who had not passed the test, yet this fellow, who appeared ordinary, possessed such ability?

"I am not interested in the Grand Meeting. The reason I have come here is to search for someone." Xiao Yan's voice appeared a little hoarse under his suppression. After saying these words, he ignored Elder Huo, turned around, and climbed to the top of the mountain, leaving behind a group of stunned gazes in the process.

"This fellow... is too arrogant, no?"

The old woman beside Elder Huo knit her brows, glanced at Xiao Yan's back, and asked, "Is there something wrong with that person?"

"I don't know... I only sensed the natural fire affinity energy suddenly fluctuate a little when he stepped onto the stone road. For some unknown reason, this person gives me a kind of inexplicable feeling..." Elder Huo knit his brows and bitterly laughed. He sighed, "It is most likely just an illusion..."

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Chapter 1018: Four Great Zun-zhe

The rock road was extremely long. At a glance, it was just like a large meandering snake that followed the mountain range to the top before disappearing in the distant dark clouds. One would feel exceptionally small while walking it.

Xiao Yan's footsteps proceeded at a steady pace as he slowly walked to the top of the mountain. Both sides of the mountain road were covered with large silver-colored tree. Such a tree was quite strange. This kind of tree did not have any leaves. Its entire being was just like a straight pillar. The thing that caused Xiao Yan to be surprised was that the interior of this enormous silver-colored tree contained a dense lightning energy. If one used one's Spiritual Strength to sense it, one would be able to discover a wave of lightning aura at the top of the enormous tree that repeatedly surged out. Finally, it rose into the dark clouds in the sky.

Xiao Yan halted his feet as he looked at this scene, falling deep into thought as he did so. The reason the Lightning Mountain possessed such a frightening Wind Lightning Strength was probably related to these unusual trees. With the silver trees providing a lightning strength, the dark clouds in the sky would never scatter. Thus, one would be

able to achieve double the effect with half the effort when practicing a lightning affinity Qi Method in this place.

“This Wind Lightning Pavilion really knows how to choose a place...”

Xiao Yan praised them in his heart. His feet had just moved when the clear cry of a crane suddenly resounded. Everyone immediately looked up to see a beautiful and colourful crane flapping its wings as it flew from the bottom of the mountain all the way to the peak.

“Seven Colored Large Crane? Could it be that Miss Feng from the Wind Lightning Pavilion is the one on it?”

The mountain road immediately emitted numerous exclamations and envious noises when they saw the Seven Colored Large Crane.

Xiao Yan’s gaze also paused on that Seven Colored Large Crane. He did not take another look at the colorful crane. Instead, his gaze locked onto the graceful figure on the back of the enormous crane. Looking at that familiar back, this lady was indeed Feng Qing Er.

The enormous crane did not pause because of the numerous exclamations from the mountain road. With a flap of its enormous wings, it charged into the clouds and quickly disappeared.

Xiao Yan slowly withdrew his eyes after the enormous crane disappeared. His brows were involuntarily knit together. There was definitely something on that lady hiding her aura. Otherwise, it would be impossible for Xiao Yan to not be able see through her strength with his current ability.

“Looks like this woman is not simple. I have seen the people from the four pavilions. If I really want to compare them, this Feng Qing Er is the most dangerous...” Xiao Yan revealed an expression of being deep in thought as he muttered to himself in his heart. Those that he did not know were the most frightening things. Tang Ying, Wang Chen, and Mu Qing Luan might be strong since they possessed their own trump cards that could fight with an expert Dou Zong. However, the three of them did not give Xiao Yan such a dangerous feeling. Only this Feng Qing Er... caused him to be unable to see through her.

“If I have guessed correctly, it is likely that the final victor in this Four Pavilion Grand Meeting will be this woman...” Xiao Yan softly sighed. Although there was no basis for this thinking of his, he vaguely had a feeling that caused him to think in this manner.

Perhaps it was due to the Wind Lightning Pavilion, but Xiao Yan did not have a good impression of Feng Qing Er. Although the other party had an outstanding appearance

and demeanor, Xiao Yan had a grudge with her right from the start. Hence, his heart felt a little displeased if he were to see her obtain victory in the Grand Meeting.

Xiao Yan curled his mouth and muttered in his heart. After which, he ceased remaining still on this mountain road any longer. He increased his pace. In the end, he transformed into a black line that swiftly rushed to the top of the mountain.

Although the Lightning Mountain was quite tall, Xiao Yan successfully reached the top of the mountain within less than ten minutes.

Xiao Yan had just ascended to the peak when a demon-like noise poured into his ears, causing him to feel a little giddy due to him not being to prepare. When he recovered, his eyes swept around with some lingering fear. He was immediately stunned. All he could see was an unending human sea.

“ ... ”

Even with Xiao Yan's character, he could not help, but feel somewhat speechless at this moment. He did not expect this Four Pavilion Grand Meeting to actually attract such a crazy flow of human traffic.

Xiao Yan was stunned for a moment before he sighed in resignation. His body moved and he rushed to an enormous silver-colored tree. At this moment, quite a number of people were also standing in those strange silver trees around. Therefore, Xiao Yan did not attract many eyes.

With the help of a good view, Xiao Yan was able to roughly see the peak of the Lightning Mountain. The place they were currently at was a stadium. This stadium's building material was clearly the enormous silver-colored tree that Xiao Yan was currently standing on. Its entirety was bright-silver in color and quite glaring. There were some potholes in the stadium. It seemed that this was the place where the disciples of the Wind Lightning Pavilion usually trained.

The most eye-catching part of the entire peak of the Lightning Mountain was an enormous silver-colored tower. This tower was at least three to four hundred feet in height, appearing extremely majestic. A lightning glow flickered around the tower while the peak of it was inserted into the cloud layer, giving it an extremely mysterious feeling.

There were many buildings on the top of the mountain, likely the quarters of the Wind Lightning Pavilion's disciples. Xiao Yan merely swept his gaze around this places before pausing it on the front of the enormous silver-colored stadium. There were some silver wooden chairs placed at a spot with an extremely good view. Quite a number of stern-looking Wind Lightning Pavilion disciples were standing in front of those seats. Looking at the aura that faintly seeped out of them, it was clear that they were not ordinary disciples.

At this moment, these seats were all empty. Clearly, those who had the qualification to sit in them were the heavyweights in the four pavilions.

Xiao Yan sat cross-legged in the silver tree when he saw that the Grand Meeting had not formally begun. After which, he shut his eyes and recuperated...

The time Xiao Yan recuperated did not last for long when a clear gong sound suddenly appeared on the Lightning Mountain. Immediately, numerous agile figures flashed from the mountain top. After which, they spread apart. The positions in which these scattered individuals occupied was excellent. They coincidentally surrounded the entire mountain top. Any unusual movement would be locked onto by the sharp eyes of these guards.

"The disciples of the Wind Lightning Pavilion are indeed well-trained..." Xiao Yan's eyes opened when the gong sound appeared. He randomly glanced at the positions the human figures occupied as he quietly spoke in his heart.

"Bang!"

An enormous thunderbolt suddenly rushed down from the cloud layer while Xiao Yan was muttering to himself. The instantaneous bright light caused most people to reflexively shut their eyes.

Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes, studying the enormous thunderbolt. A couple of people were slowly walking out of that spot. Finally, they sat on the silver wooden seats.

Xiao Yan's eyes swept over them and his gaze immediately paused on a familiar figure. A coldness flashed across his eyes. "Fei Tian..."

"It's actually the Wind Lightning Pavilion's four pavilion chiefs. Tsk tsk, the Wind Lightning Pavilion is indeed filled with experts. The person in the middle should be the rumored Lei zun-zhe, right?"

Some exclamations resounded over the place when everyone opened their eyes and saw the four people at the seats.

Xiao Yan's heart jumped when he heard this. His gaze turned and instantly paused on a person at the middle. This person had a large build and looked as though he was only forty or fifty years old. However, his chin was covered in a silver-colored beard. He was wearing a silver-colored robe with lightning pictures sewn on it. Looking from a distance, those pictures seemed to be alive as they continuously flowed. A slight lightning aura even vaguely seeped out of it.

This person's aura seemed to be far inferior to Fei Tian and the two others. He even had the feeling of an ordinary person. However, by relying on his exceptional Spiritual Perception, Xiao Yan clearly sensed a dangerous feeling from this person. Such a feeling was something that even Fei Tian did not give off.

“Is he the chief of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, the one called Lei zun-zhe? He is indeed extremely frightening...” Xiao Yan exhaled. This was the first time his actual body had faced a real Dou Zun for the first time. Although the purple-clothed, old man whom he had met at the ‘Hall of Souls’ was also a Dou Zun, Xiao Yan was merely a wisp of Spiritual Strength at that time.

“Swoosh!”

An ear-piercing wind sound suddenly resounded over Lightning Mountain when Xiao Yan was feeling amazed in his heart. Immediately, everyone was stunned to see an enormous sword that was over a hundred feet in size cutting through the distant space, rushing over. Within a flash, it appeared in the sky above the stadium.

“Ha ha, Jian zun-zhe, you are the fastest to arrive this time around.” A silver-robed Lei zun-zhe stood up when he saw the enormous sword in the sky. After which, his laughter sounded over the Lightning Mountain like rolling thunder.

The enormous sword shook gently and transformed into countless light spots as it collapsed. Two figures slowly descended from the sky above, landing at their seats.

The two figures consisted of an old and young man. Xiao Yan was familiar with the young person. He was Tang Ying from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion. The old man beside him was small in size. He was wearing linen clothes and seemed like an inconspicuous, small, old man. However, everyone present knew that this small, old man was a frightening existence who was on the same level as Lei zun-zhe.

“It is unexpected that even Jian zun-zhe has arrived. Looks like those who have arrived at the Wind Lightning Mountain Range earlier are merely the advance party of the four pavilions. Those who are arriving now are the core individuals.”

Jian zun-zhe’s appearance instantly caused the stadium’s atmosphere to become fiery hot.

Jian zun-zhe did not really bother with Lei zun-zhe’s laughter. He rolled his eyes and sat down in a chair. Tang Ying behind him respectfully stood with his hands lowered.

“Hee hee, old Jian still has such temper. It looks like the match back then is still a blotch in your heart.” A strange laugh, that carried a sinister feeling, sounded when Jian zun-zhe had just sat down. Immediately, a dark-black glow rushed over from the foot of the mountain. It appeared to have teleported as materialized in their seats. With a wave of his sleeves, the figure unceremoniously sat down.

The human figure, who had appeared, was an old man in black robes. His facial complexion was pale and a somewhat shady look was present between his brows. One of his eyes was black while the other was white, giving him an extremely strange

appearance. A familiar figure was behind him. This person was naturally Wang Chen from the Yellow Spring Pavilion.

“Back then, the old me was unlucky and narrowly lost to him. It is at least much better than some people who have merely lasted for a hundred exchanges in Feng zun-zhe’s hands before being defeated by him. Don’t you agree Huang Quan zun-zhe?” Jian zun-zhe glanced at the black-robed, old man as he spoke in a neutral voice.

The eyes of the black-robed, old man immediately turned chilly when he heard these words. Before he could retort, however, there was a slight change in his expression. His sinister eyes locked firmly on the sky. There was a dragon-roar-like wind suddenly transmitted over from that spot.

“This fellow clearly has the fastest speed, yet he always likes to be the last to arrive...” Jian zun-zhe raised his eyes. His turbid gaze looked at the distant sky as he laughed.

Jian zun-zhe’s voice had just sounded when the dragon roar like wind was transmitted over with a ‘bang.’ Immediately, an enormous green whirlwind appeared above the mountain in front of a countless number of eyes.

Xiao Yan’s eyes suddenly shifted when this green-colored whirlwind appeared. He stared firmly at it and the fists in his sleeves abruptly tightened.

“Feng zun-zhe...”

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Chapter 1019: The Commencement of the Grand Meeting

The enormous green-colored whirlwind appeared to be twinkling as it materialized in the sky above the enormous stadium within a couple of breaths. The whirlwind gently shook and suddenly paused. After which, it transformed into a countless number of light spots, which scattered. Two figures rode a breeze as they slowly landed next to their seats.

“It is actually Feng zun-zhe? Unexpectedly, four zun-zhe (Dou Zun) have arrived at this Grand Meeting. This trip has indeed been worthwhile.”

“Usually, it is difficult to see even an elite Dou Zun, yet four of them have appeared together at this moment. The Four Pavilion Grand Meeting is extremely grand. No wonder it attracts so many people.”

“Hee hee, I wonder just who will be the final victor of the Grand Meeting this time around?”

The two people, who were the last to appear, naturally attracted the gazes of the entire stadium, more so for Xiao Yan. The two figures had just appeared when his gaze instantly turned to them.

Xiao Yan had already met the green-clothed Mu Qing Luan. Hence, his eyes did not pause for long on her before they suddenly paused on the old man in front of her.

The old man was wearing a green robe. His long hair spread over his shoulders, giving him a sort of free and easy appearance. That face of his could not be considered ordinary. Even though he was already very old, one could still vaguely see a handsomeness. It was likely that his appearance was definitely breathtaking when he was young. Looking at his outer appearance, he was clearly superior among the four Dou Zuns present. Perhaps it was because he practiced wind affinity Qi Method, but his demeanor appeared ethereal, giving others an unfathomable feeling.

“Is he Feng zun-zhe?”

Xiao Yan’s eyes slowly sized up the green-clothed, old man. An excitement also flashed across his eyes. He had heard about this Feng zun-zhe quite a number of times from Yao Lao. This person could be considered a friend of Yao Lao that had undergone life and death situations with him. If these words were true and he valued the relationship as greatly as what Yao Lao had described, Xiao Yan should be able to achieve a truly great helper this time around.

An excitement rose within Xiao Yan’s heart. Lei zun-zhe and Jian zun-zhe on the seats smiled and cupped their hands together when they saw Feng zun-zhe arrived. Feng zun-zhe had become famous much earlier than any of the three others. Hence, these two people still cupped their hands politely despite all of them currently sharing the same status. However, Huang Quan zun-zhe by the side seemed to have a conflict with Feng zun-zhe. After narrowing his eyes and glancing at him, he turned his head and looked as though he had not seen him.

The green-robed Feng zun-zhe’s face wore a warm smile. He reciprocated the courtesy of Lei zun-zhe and Jian zun-zhe. However, he did not give Huang Quan zun-zhe by the side another look. Although the four pavilions were afraid of each other, Feng zun-zhe was at odds with this Huang Quan zun-zhe. Moreover, the other party’s shadiness and ruthless character were things that Feng zun-zhe disliked.

After the couple of them politely greeted each other, Lei zun-zhe raised his head and looked at the sky. After which, he slowly stood up and swept his gaze over the stadium. Immediately, the noisiness that shot toward the clouds became completely silent under those eyes that contained a faint lightning glow.

“Today is the auspicious day that my Wind Lightning Pavilion will hold the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting. Thank you all for coming to the Lightning Mountain to support my Wind Lightning Pavilion. However, I think that everyone is aware of the rules of my Wind

Lightning Pavilion. I hope that there will not be anyone interrupting the Grand Meeting when it is being held.” Lei zun-zhe’s faint voice was just like a thunder as it resounded over the entire Lightning Mountain. Moreover, his voice contained a hint of lightning might. Some of the weaker individuals involuntarily trembled.

Lei zun-zhe’s words were filled with a domineering tone. It was just like an unyielding thunderbolt that did not allow anyone to refute it. Some people might not like to hear such words, but no one present dared to oppose him with his frightening strength. The frightening deterrence of an elite Dou Zun was really extraordinary.

Lei zun-zhe only nodded slightly when he saw that no unusual noises had appeared. His hand was waved and a clear gong once again sounded in an unhurried manner.

“The number of participants of this season’s Four Pavilion Grand Meeting is fifty-three, including the four disciples of the Four Pavilions. The old rules will still apply. It will begin with a chaotic battle until there are only eight people remaining. All the competitors please enter now.” Lei zun-zhe’s voice once again sounded when the gong appeared.

Waves of rushing wind resounded over the stadium when Lei zun-zhe’s voice finished speaking. Immediately, numerous young figures flashed into the arena. Finally, they landed one after another and were spread around the arena. All of them were alert.

The appearance of these people immediately caused the Grand Meeting to turn into one with a fiery hot atmosphere. Deafening cheers surged around the mountain in an overwhelming manner. They charged to the sky. The distant dark clouds had also begun to ripple as a result.

Mu Qing Luan, Tang Ying, and Wang Chen in the VIP seats exchanged glances when the participants entered the arena. After which, their bodies moved and they gently landed in the arena. The moment these three people entered, their surroundings emitted a flapping sound as they became empty. Everyone present knew the strength of these three. Naturally no one would automatically deliver themselves to them.

Being one of the main characters of this Grand Meeting, the entrance of Mu Qing Luan and the two others caused the cheers in the stadium to surge even more. The atmosphere on the mountain top had swiftly entered an extremely excited one following their entrances.

“Screech!”

A clear crane cry suddenly sounded in the sky the moment the three people entered the arena. Immediately, an enormous, colorful crane came gliding over from one side of the mountain top. A beautiful figure pressed her toes on the enormous crane’s back. The moving figure rushed down and landed in the arena without emitting the slightest noise.

Xiao Yan's eyes glanced over. The figure was naturally Feng Qi Er. Her noble demeanor was something that no one could compare with.

The atmosphere outside of the arena immediately soared when Feng Qing Er entered. Everyone knew that the chances of this lady winning this season's Four Pavilion Grand Meeting were the highest among all the participants.

The moment Feng Qing Er appeared, surprise flashed across the eyes of Feng zun-zhe, Qian zun-zhe, and Huang Quan zun-zhe in the VIP seats. Immediately, Jian zun-zhe laughed, "Looks like Lei zun-zhe has really invested. You have even personally helped hide her actual strength. Are you planning on catching us by surprise?"

Lei zun-zhe laughed out loud when he heard this. He said, "What is Qian zun-zhe saying? This girl's status is a little unique. Therefore, I can only do it this way. There is really no other choice."

"Looks like Lei zun-zhe really wishes to continue holding the top seat of this season's Four Pavilion Grand Meeting. The Wind Lightning Pavilion likely has the highest chance of victory in this competition." Feng zun-zhe's gaze paused on Feng Qing Er's lovely body as he softly spoke.

"Feng zun-zhe is thinking too much. That girl Qing Luan is someone from the Mythical Bird Tribe. If her bloodline awakens, she can also be considered an outstanding person among the younger generation." Lei zun-zhe waved his hand and laughed. However, his eyes revealed a pride that ordinary people had difficulty detecting. He indeed coveted the thought of gaining the top spot in this season's Four Pavilion Grand Meeting.

Feng zun-zhe merely smiled noncommittally in the face of Lei zun-zhe's words.

Huang Quan zun-zhe by the side frowned. Wang Chen could be considered one of his most outstanding disciples after all these years. However, there was still a little gap when he was compared to Feng Qing Er. It seemed that the position of the Yellow Spring Pavilion would not experience too much change during this season's Grand Meeting.

The Yellow Spring Pavilion had always been ranked last among the four pavilions. However, Huang Quan zun-zhe was helpless to improve this. After all, the Yellow Spring Pavilion was indeed unable to compare with the other three pavilions when it came to the method of grooming the younger generation.

Xiao Yan's eyes were firmly locked onto Feng Qing Er while he sat on the silver wood. He had always felt a vague sense of danger when facing this woman. This had nothing to do with strength. It was just a vague feeling that was inexplicable...

Xiao Yan knit his brows. His eyes slide as they slowly swept over the arena. At this moment, every corner of the arena had some competitors standing with a cautious faces. These people were all quite young, but they were exceptionally strong. Of course, those who had the qualification to participate in this Grand Meeting were definitely not ordinary people. They were either those with outstanding training talent or people supported by a strong faction.

“This place is indeed worthy of being the Central Plains. Even in the Black-Corner Region, one would be hard pressed to find a couple of young Dou Huangs. It is unexpected that the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting has attracted so many of them...” Xiao Yan softly sighed. The Central Plains were indeed worthy of being the part of the Dou Qi continent with the most strong people. This place was filled with tons of talent. No one knew if there would suddenly be a complete dark horse appearing.

“Huh?”

While Xiao Yan was feeling amazed, his shifting gaze suddenly paused. A surprised ‘huh’ escaped from his mouth.

The spot where Xiao Yan’s eyes had paused was coincidentally a corner of the arena. There was a black-clothed figure there. This person’s back faced Xiao Yan. Despite being a great distance away, Xiao Yan felt that this back was somewhat familiar for some unknown reason.

Xiao Yan slightly frowned. With his current strength, this kind of familiar feeling would not appear without reason...

While Xiao Yan was feeling uncertain, the black-clothed man clenched his hand, and a long spear flashed and appeared. His body also coincidentally shifted, allowing Xiao Yan to see the outline of his face.

Xiao Yan was stunned for a moment when he saw that familiar face from the side. Finally, he abruptly clapped his hands. A stunned expression flashed across his eyes.

“Lin Yan? What is that fellow doing here?”

The person who had appeared in front of Xiao Yan’s eyes was surprisingly Lin Yan who had accompanied Xiao Yan from the Jia Nan Academy to the Jia Ma Empire back then. However, when Xiao Yan went to the valley to undertake a retreat, Lin Yan, Lin Xiu Ya, and Liu Qing left the Jia Ma Empire together. It was unexpected that Xiao Yan would actually be able to meet this fellow in this place...

The surprise in Xiao Yan’s eyes gradually withdrew and he involuntarily shook his head. He had just arrived in the Central Plains for less than half a year, but he had actually met quite a few familiar people from back then. Fate was really unpredictable.

“Since everyone has gathered, let the competition begin...”

Lei zun-zhe from the leader’s seat ceased chatting when he saw that everyone had gathered in the arena. He raised his head and waved his hand. That faint voice of his resonated within everyone’s ears.

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Chapter 1020: Chaotic Filtering

After Lei zun-zhe words rang out, the atmosphere in the arena suddenly became tense. Fifty-three gazes swept across each other. Their eyes were filled with caution for the other party. In this kind of chaotic situation, all one needed to do was to get themselves to continue remaining in order to obtain victory. At the same time, however, most of the people knew that this selection was extremely harsh and cruel.

Only eight among the fifty-three people would remain. Four of these eight positions were already occupied by the people from the four pavilions. In other words, only four among the other forty-nine people would be able to remain.

Four out of forty-nine. One could just imagine just what kind of intense battle would erupt as a result of such a filtering method.

While the atmosphere in the arena was tense, the stadium around it also became quiet. Countless numbers of eyes were staring at the arena without blinking. The people inside were all considered the top among the younger generation. Other than a small portion of them, most of the people possessed a strength that they were really proud of. The battle that erupted between these people would naturally catch the attention of others.

Ever since Xiao Yan discovered Lin Yan’s figure, his eyes had remained focused on him. With his eyesight, he was naturally able to tell the latter’s strength at a glance. Four star Dou Huang. This strength might be considered quite good in other places, but it was barely considered to meet the requirement to participate in the competition in this place.

“It is unexpected that he has actually reached the Dou Huang level after having not met for a couple of years. I remember before I undertook the retreat back then, Lin Yan’s strength was merely at the Dou Wang class. It seems that he should have also met with some lucky and unique encounters during these years...” Xiao Yan’s eyes rotated over Lin Yan’s back as he softly muttered to himself.

A lucky and unique encounter was not some fantasy in the Central Plains. Xiao Yan was able to borrow the help of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class. Naturally, other people would also be able to obtain some unique

encounters that an ordinary person would find it difficult to experience. The Central Plains were extremely vast. Who was able to completely investigate the interior of those vast mountain ranges?

“However, for some unknown reason, Lin Xiu Ya and Liu Qing are not with him. The three of them should have left together...” Xiao Yan muttered. He had quite a good impression of Lin Yan and the two others. Moreover, when he had just broken through to the Dou Wang class, Lin Yan and the other two still followed him despite knowing that he had a great enemy like the Misty Cloud Sect. This favor was something Xiao Yan did not allow himself to forget. However, these three fellows had left by themselves because of boredom after the matter of the Misty Cloud Sect was settled. Thus, Xiao Yan had lacked the opportunity to return the favor.

“Clang!”

The atmosphere in the arena had reached such a tense and unbearable level while Xiao Yan was muttering to himself when someone finally could no longer endure it. He took the lead to attack as the weapon in his hand pierced toward a person a short distance from him. However, the people within the arena were in an extremely cautious state. This person’s figure was discovered the moment he moved. The person who was attacked allowed the Dou Qi in his body to surge in his anger. Immediately, he tightened his grip on the weapon in his hand and attacked the one who had launched a sneak attack.

With the two exchanging blows, the tense atmosphere in the arena instantly collapsed. Waves of various-colored, powerful Dou Qi surged out. After which, the entire arena had completely descended into chaos.

Over fifty Dou Huang class Dou Qi had spread to every single corner of the stadium. A powerful energy pressure permeated the stadium, causing quite a number of people to feel a pressure.

Dou Qi spread in all directions in the arena as chaos continued to spread. At this moment, almost everyone beside them was their opponent. Hence, every single person acted like frightened birds. As long as someone entered within a few dozen feet from them, the Dou Qi within their bodies would involuntarily unleash a fierce attack on the person who had barged into their territory.

In this chaos, it was only natural that situations of a few people joining hands against another became a common occurrence. At this moment, one could only consider such a person unlucky. In the face of attacks by a couple of people at a similar level, that person would be swiftly defeated within less than ten exchanges.

Chaos was a kind of catalyst. Seeing the chaotic battle in the arena that caused one’s skin to turn numb, the surrounding gallery erupted into a soul-stirring cheer. Quite a

number of people's faces and necks reddened because of the atmosphere. From the looks of it, they seemed to wish that they were one of those present in the arena.

The deafening sound wave caused Xiao Yan to feel quite helpless. A thought flashed through his heart and his Dou Qi covered both of his ears, completely isolating him from the noise. His gaze, on the other hand, had remained focused on the chaotic battle.

At this moment, the arena had descended into complete chaos. The clear sound of colliding Dou Qi and clashing blades reverberated around. In this chaotic situation, there was a continuous number of people vomiting blood and withdrawing despite the people present being strong individuals. This place was far too chaotic. If one managed to defend their front, they were unable to defend their back. Enemies were all around them. If one was careless, there would be a fatal blow heading one's way. Blades did not possess eyes in such a competition. Being injured was a frequent matter. If one shouted 'I admit defeat' just before suffering a fatal blow, there would naturally not be a killing move against launching against the loser according to the rules.

The chaos continued for less than ten minutes, but there were over a dozen seriously injured competitors who had no choice but to leave the arena. After all, if they were to continue fighting, it would likely no longer just be a question of serious injuries...

The chaos in the battleground had also somewhat exceeded Xiao Yan's expectations. Originally, he had thought that this kind of grand competition would choose a traditional one-on-one elimination method. Unexpectedly... it had resorted to this hodgepodge elimination... hence, not only would one require ability, but one would also need a certain amount of luck. After all, even a hero would fall after being outnumbered. Even if one was an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class, the result of him being unluckily attacked by over a dozen Dou Huangs would also likely be quite miserable.

Of course, the person that really exceeded Xiao Yan's expectations was Lin Yan. His strength could only be considered intermediate in this place. However, he was not eliminated despite over ten minutes passing. Xiao Yan only managed to tell some of the reasons after carefully observing him.

"This Lin Yan's agility... seems to be very strange... but it is just too ugly."

Xiao Yan was deep in thought as he watched Lin Yan's agility, which appeared extremely ugly to the point of being awkward. On the surface, it was just like a duck swaying left and right. However, under Xiao Yan's eyesight, he was able to tell that this agility Dou Technique was definitely not ordinary. Its profoundness was not inferior to the Three Thousand Lightning Movement.

"This fellow really has had a unique encounter during these years..." Xiao Yan smiled. He was certain that this ugly, awkward agility technique was something that Lin Yan of the past had never practiced. Clearly, it should be something that he had obtained during these years of training.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief when he saw that Lin Yan was able to endure. Regardless of the situation, he and Lin Yan had quite a good relationship. It was natural that he would feel happy to see him gain an achievement today.

Xiao Yan's eyes shifted away from Lin Yan and slowly swept over the arena. Immediately, he narrowed his eyes. The arena might currently be extremely chaotic, but there were still four safe, small circles. The owners of these four small circles were Feng Qing Er, Mu Qing Luan, Tang Ying, and Wang Chen...

The aura of these four was maintained at the peak of the Dou Huang class. Their faces were cold as they studied the somewhat chaotic battleground around them. Anyone who dared to step into their territory would immediately receive a fierce attack. The strength of the four of them could be considered top notch in this place. Although there were a couple of others who performed quite well in the arena, they clearly did not dare to randomly make contact with these four.

The chaos continued within the arena. It had basically become a filter where people were eliminated. Those who remained were swiftly becoming fewer and fewer.

Following the swift reduction in numbers, the chaos within the arena gradually diminished, especially the case when there were only eleven people remaining in the arena. The chaotic arena immediately became unusually quiet. The eleven people were scattered all over the place. While they were panting, they were also cautiously watching each other.

Xiao Yan beamed when his eyes swept over the arena and discovered that Lin Yan was among them. However, the weakest person within the arena was also him. Other than Feng Qing Er and the three others, most of the others remaining were seven star or eight star experts. Of course, the reason he was able to endure until now was mainly because of his strange agility Dou Skill.

Being unique, it was naturally much easier for Lin Yan to attract the attention of the others. It was the first time in so many Four Pavilion Grand Meeting that someone was able to endure until now with just the strength of a four star Dou Huang.

Of course, such good luck would naturally not continue to accompany Lin Yan. After the eleven people in the arena had briefly rested, the ten others immediately turned their gazes toward him with ill intent. A red-clothed man among them, who had reached the strength of an eight star Dou Huang, stomped on the ground. His body shot straight toward Lin Yan like an arrow.

Seeing that he had attracted the attention an eight star Dou Huang, Lin Yan's expression involuntarily changed. That strange agility was unleashed as he narrowly dodge the fierce attack that arrived. At the same time, his footsteps also quickly withdrew.

That red-clothed man let out a cold laugh after his futile attempt. The large blade in his hand was drawn until many afterimages appeared. His body moved and quickly gave chase like the maggots in one's bones. The sharp blade glow in his hand forced Lin Yan to pull back.

Xiao Yan had already stood up on the silver wood. His eyes narrowed as he watched Lin Yan, who narrowly escaped time and time again. He would not watch Lin Yan die from another person's blade. If it came to a critical juncture, he would naturally intervene and rescue him.

"But... something seems wrong..."

Xiao Yan's eyes firmly stared at the two where one was chasing and the other fleeing. His brows were suddenly knit together. That red-clothed man had a couple of chances to injure Lin Yan earlier, but he did not attack. From the looks of it, it seemed as though he was purposefully chasing Lin Yan?

Xiao Yan's eyes congelated as he mused a little. Immediately, his gaze paused on a yellow-robed man with a cold face closest to Lin Yan. This person was not unfamiliar to Xiao Yan because he was Wang Chen from the Yellow Spring Pavilion. At this moment, he was like a poisonous snake as he looked at Lin Yan approaching his territory. The corner of his mouth revealed a sinister look.

"That fellow is planning on forcing Lin Yan into Wang Chen's attacking range!"

Xiao Yan's heart turned cold. This fellow was really vicious. He was thinking of using another person to do his dirty deed!

Just when Xiao Yan had discovered the intention of the red-clothed man, Lin Yan, who was swiftly withdrawing, finally took a step into Wang Chen's attacking range.

A chill surged into Lin Yan's heart when his feet stepped into range. Immediately, he saw the red-clothed man in front of him smile sinisterly as he swiftly pulled back. The corner of his eyes drifted, only to see a black-colored pillar that contained an incomparable amount of killing intent shooting toward his throat like a poisonous snake.

"Stop, I admit defeat!"

Lin Yan felt his heart immediately turn numb when he saw this black-colored pillar attack. The gap between Wang Chen and him was really too great. Even with the help of his agility, he was no match for him.

However, Wang Chen merely laughed in the face of Lin Yan's cry. He was a bloodthirsty person and blood had to appear on his hand. How was it possible for him to withdraw his attack.

“Dammit, you shameless bastard.”

Lan Yan furiously cursed with a pale face when he saw that this fellow did not let him off despite having admitted defeat. Nevertheless, cursing was one thing. At this critical moment, his strange ugly agility was hurriedly displayed. His body swayed strangely as he swiftly withdrew.

“Bang!”

The black pillar shot over like a poisonous snake, striking Lin Yan’s shoulders.

“Chi!”

Lin Yan immediately vomited a mouthful of fresh blood after suffering this heavy blow. His body rubbed on the ground, forming a scar that was dozens of meters long. Had he not avoided being struck in a fatal point, it was likely that he would have died.

The scene in the battleground had stirred waves of curses outside of the arena. Wang Chen used such a vicious attack when the other party had already admitted defeat. From the looks of it, he did appear a little despicable.

Wang Chen completely ignored the noise outside of the arena. His gaze was dark and cold as it stared at Lin Yan. The other party’s earlier curse had clearly stirred the killing intent within his heart. Immediately, he let out a cold smile. His hand was clenched and two long black daggers rolled down from his sleeves. His body shot out in a lightning-like manner and appeared in front of Lin Yan in the blink of an eye. The daggers in his hands did not hesitate as they turned into black glint that trickily and viciously pierced toward Lin Yan’s chest. Lin Yan didn’t have the time to dodge.

“Dammit, this fellow is really shameless. He has really thrown away the face of the Yellow Spring Pavilion!”

If Wang Chen earlier actions were said to have stirred some boos, this current action of his had infuriated quite a number of people. Immediately, many furious curses were emitted from all directions.

The many curses appeared to have merely caused the smile on Wang Chen’s face to become colder. However, the actions of his hands were not the least bit slowed. Li Yan could only watch as the black glint, which contained a cold air pierced toward a fatal spot. Moreover, he did not possess any ability to dodge it..

“Am I about to die here?”

A soft muttering sounded in Lin Yan’s heart. Just when he was prepared to shut his eyes and await his death, however, a suction force suddenly surged from behind him. His body also involuntarily pulled back. Immediately, he sensed a warm hand patting his

shoulders. After which, a helpless voice which seemed familiar appeared beside his ear without any forewarning.

“You, do you have nothing better to do, but come here and participate?”

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Read Battle Through the Heavens - Chapter 1021: Come

Chapter 1021: Come

The voice that had suddenly sounded by the side of his ear caused Lin Yan to be startled. The thoughts in his mind became dull for a moment before his eyes suddenly widened. He suddenly turned around. Both of his eyes revealed a wild joy and surprise when he saw that familiar face.

“Shh, don’t say anything...”

Xiao Yan merely smiled and whispered when he saw Lin Yan’s stunned expression.

Lin Yan immediately reacted upon hearing this familiar voice again. An excitement that was difficult to describe swiftly surged into his eyes. He parted his mouth and nodded. Using a voice that only the two of them could hear, he said, “Good fellow, why have you come to the Central Plains?”

Xiao Yan grinned in the face of Lin Yan’s excited expression. After which, he waved his hand, indicating that this was not the place to chat.

Lin Yan also woke up when he saw this. His gaze swept around. The sudden unexpected situation back then had clearly attracted the gazes of everyone present. All of them were able to see Xiao Yan suddenly entering the arena to rescue him from Wang Chen’s hands with a Blitzkrieg tactic.

Quite a number of Wind Lightning Pavilion’s expert guards around the arena immediately rushed over when they what Xiao Yan did. A furious sound was emitted from the arena, “Who are you? Why have you interrupted the competition?”

Over a dozen Wind Lightning Pavilion’s experts with Dou Qi wings on their backs were suspended in the air. They surrounded Xiao Yan with cold, stern eyes. The weapons that they held in their hands vaguely emitted a cold glint.

The sudden unexpected change had similarly exceeded Wang Chen’s expectations. When he had recovered, his dark, cold eyes were immediately locked onto Xiao Yan. The black-colored daggers in his hand gently rubbed against each other, emitting a creaking sound that caused one’s heart to feel cold.

“According to the rules of the Grand Meeting, one cannot continue to attack anyone who admits defeat. However, this person ignored the rules earlier. Instead of going after him, why is everyone questioning me?” Xiao Yan released the hand grabbing Lin Yan’s shoulder. After which, he raised his head and glanced at the dozen plus experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion as he spoke in a faint voice. Xiao Yan did not wish to expose his identity here. Hence, he had suppressed his voice on purpose, causing it to appear a little hoarse.

The dozen plus experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion were stunned when they heard Xiao Yan’s words. All of them glanced at Wang Chen. They had naturally witnessed the scene earlier. However, he was a member of the Yellow Spring Pavilion. Moreover, that Huang Quan zun-zhe was currently in the VIP seats. What decision could the few of them make in this situation. Naturally, they could only choose to close one eye. However, they did not expect that Xiao Yan would intervene. Moreover, they had never expect that this person who had intervene did not appear to have understood the situation. Could the background of this Wang Chen be measured with the treatment of an ordinary person?

Although they thought in this manner, they would naturally not dare to speak like this in public. After all, Wang Chen was the unreasonable one in this manner. Xiao Yan’s rescue might be somewhat against the rules, but it was within reason.

“He is but trash who relied on luck to reach this point. It’s fine if I kill him. What’s so great about that?” The experts from the Wing Lightning Pavilion might not dare to say it, but Wang Chen could act this fearlessly. He immediately let out a cold laugh. There was disdain within his evil voice.

“You as****!”

A furious flame surged into the eyes of the fiery-tempered Lin Yan when he heard this. He had just taken a step forward when he was grabbed by Xiao Yan.

Lin Yan could only grit his teeth violently after being grabbed by Xiao Yan. He turned around and stared at him in a dissatisfied manner. In his memory, Xiao Yan did not appear to be the kind of person who would swallow such an insult.

“It looks like the people from the Yellow Spring Pavilion only have such quality. The reason you are able to last until now is because you are relying on the reputation of the Yellow Spring Pavilion. There is nothing worthwhile to be arrogant about...” Xiao Yan held Lin Yan as his eyes looked at Wang Chen and coldly laughed. He had similarly found this person to be quite an eyesore.

The expression in Wang Chen’s eyes had turned as chilly as a poisonous snake when he heard this. A ferocious look vaguely appeared on his face.

The gazes of the other competitors around the arena looked over. Their eyebrows were knit when their eyes swept over Xiao Yan. Immediately, they shook their heads and muttered, "Reckless fellow."

On the surface, Xiao Yan's strength was specifically suppressed at the level of an eight star Dou Huang. With his current Spiritual Strength, even an expert like Fei Tian would likely have difficulty clearly seeing his exact strength, much less these people. However, there was one exception. Her pretty eyebrows were slightly bunched together when her eyes landed on Xiao Yan for the first time. A special sense that she was born with caused her to feel that he was vaguely familiar.

"It is not up to you as a younger generation to discuss what the Yellow Spring Pavilion is like. Whose disciple are you? Tell this old me. By being able to teach such an arrogant disciple, it is likely that your teacher should also possess some ability, no?" Xiao Yan's cold laugh had just sounded when Huang Quan zun-zhe from the seats in the middle of the stadium raised his eyebrows and glanced at Xiao Yan. His faint voice contained a dense, cold feeling.

Huang Quan zun-zhe sized Xiao Yan up when he spoke these words, and surprise flashed across his eyes. At a glance, he could tell that this person's appearance was purposefully altered. The thing that caused him to be most surprised was that this fellow's aura had a kind of obscure feeling to it. When he was about to perform a deeper observation, he sensed that the other party was covered within a layer of extremely hot flame. Although there were many obstructions, his old, sharp eyes could still tell that this fellow's strength was likely at least at the peak of the Dou Huang class.

This kind of feeling of having his sight blocked caused Huang Quan zun-zhe to be stunned. He had the strength of a Dou Zun, yet he was unable to see through the strength of a member of the younger generation.

While Huang Quan zun-zhe was feeling stunned by this, Lei zun-zhe, Feng zun-zhe, and Jian zun-zhe also shared this same feeling. All of them felt somewhat surprised in their hearts.

The sudden words uttered by Huang Quan zun-zhe caused Xiao Yan's brows to be slightly knit. He did not expect that these old fellows would intervene and speak in this kind of competition between the younger generation. Immediately, he cupped his hands and spoke in a manner that was not inferior, "Huang Quan zun-zhe really thinks too highly of the little me. I am merely speaking the truth as it is. This friend of mine has already admitted defeat, but the other party still launched a killing move. This action has already violated the rules of the competition. The remaining three Dou Zun sirs have seen it clearly with their own eyes. I think that everyone knows just who is right and who is wrong in their hearts."

Quite a number of people felt admiration when they saw that Xiao Yan did not panic even a little when facing four elite Dou Zuns. This mentality was not something that an

ordinary person possessed. After all, every single elite Dou Zun was a giant. It was not overboard to say that they could summon clouds with a flip of their hand and call the rain by turning it.

This reply of Xiao Yan had also somewhat exceeded the expectations of Lei zun-zhe and the two others. Before they could reply, however, the expression of Huang Quan zun-zhe had become much darker. His voice was ice-cold as he uttered, "A mere advantage of words. Lei zun-zhe, finish off this little trouble and don't hinder the progress of the competition."

One could not see any emotion on Lei zun-zhe's face as his finger gently tapped his armrest. He smiled faintly. His eyes swung to Feng zun-zhe and Jian zun-zhe beside him as he asked, "Ke ke, how do the two of you think we should deal with this matter?"

This old fellow was really cunning. He knew that it was easy to offend others like this. Wang Chen was in the wrong. If he favored him too much, everyone would think that the Wind Lightning Pavilion was unfair, damaging its reputation in the process. If he did not do anything, it was likely to offend Huang Quan zun-zhe. Hence, he had thrown this hot potato to Feng zun-zhe and Jian zun-zhe.

"Let's do it according to the rules. Anyone who commits an offence in the competition must suffer a heavy punishment. However, on account of this being the first offense of this person, let him suffer fifty strikes of the thunder rod and expel him from Lightning Mountain." Huang Quan zun-zhe spoke in an indifferent tone. That tone of his appeared to be discussing an insignificant matter. Of course, given his strength, he did indeed possess the qualification to say these words.

"He is not the one in the wrong. Are you trying to cause Lei zun-zhe to end up being called unfair by randomly punishing this person?" Feng zun-zhe laughed and glanced at Huang Quan zun-zhe as he replied.

Huang Quan's zun-zhe's eyes became a lot more dangerous when he heard this. The Yellow Spring Pavilion did not have a reputation of being nice. If he allowed Xiao Yan to leave in peace after he openly ridiculed them, the reputation of the Yellow Spring Pavilion would be lost.

"Ke ke, Feng zun-zhe is right. Although this person has interrupted the competition, he had a reason for doing so. Moreover, the actions of Wang Chen clearly show that he does not have any regards for the rules. It will really be difficult to explain things if the other person was punished. Why don't we do this. Let's all take a step back and allow this person to leave with his friend. The Grand Meeting will continue. What do you say?" Jian zun-zhe rubbed his beard as he laughed.

Lei zun-zhe was startled. Immediately, he shook his head helplessly in his heart. These two old fellows were clearly intending on getting Huang Quan zun-zhe to lose face. However, what they had said was also reasonable. His Wind Lightning Pavilion was not

the Yellow Spring Pavilion. Its style of doing things was also completely different. All Lei zun-zhe could do at that moment was smile apologetically to Huang Quan zun-zhe.

Huang Quan zun-zhe's face became much uglier when he saw the expression of Lei zun-zhe. His gaze were icy as he observed Xiao Yan, who had sighed in relief within the arena. A faint fierceness flashed across his face. Immediately, a calm voice was emitted ahead of Feng zun-zhe, "Since you think that Wang Chen has endured until the end because he relied on my Yellow Spring Pavilion, this venerable self (Dou Zun) shall give you an opportunity to exchange blows with him. You can bring your friend with you and leave peacefully regardless of the results. What do you say?"

Huang Quan zun-zhe's words immediately stirred an uproar in the stadium. Xiao Yan also frowned. It seemed that this old fellow did not possess the magnanimity that an elite Dou Zun ought to have.

"Don't care about this old fellow who won't die. Let's leave..."

Lin Yan's expression slightly changed. He pulled Xiao Yan with the intention to leave. It was unexpected that this old fellow would say such words. He understood Wang Chen's strength very well. It was likely that only Feng Qing Er and a couple of others present could fight with him.

"If you do not dare to fight, you should kowtow three times to teacher. This matter will end if you do so. Otherwise, you will not be able to leave."

Wang Chen's bright-red tongue gently licked his sharp dagger as he ferociously laughed at Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's dark-black eyes stared intently at Wang Chen. The hands under his sleeves were tightly clenched.

Should he fight or should he not fight?

The eyes of everyone present paused on Xiao Yan. All of them wanted to know just how this young man, who appeared neither submissive nor overbearing, would deal with Wang Chen's provocation. Although most of the people present did not hold much hope, they still wished for Xiao Yan to fight with Wang Chen due to him being too displeasing to the eye.

Xiao Yan finally sighed slowly in front of everyone a moment later.

"Xiao Yan, don't be reckless..."

Lin Yan hurriedly said. His expression changed when he saw Xiao Yan's actions.

Xiao Yan turned his head and smiled. After which, he freed himself from Lin Yan's grip as he softly said, "Relax... a person who has come from the Inner Academy will not be weaker than some random person from the Yellow Spring Pavilion."

Xiao Yan slowly took a step forward after saying those words. His eyes looked at Wang Chen, and a simple word caused the hot blood of the countless number of people present to boil.

"Come..."

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Chapter 1022: Fighting Wang Chen

The entire stadium let out a cheer when they saw Xiao Yan take a step forward. Regardless of whether he was Wang Chen's match, just the boldness of stepping forward and facing his challenge head-on caused many people to let out quiet praises.

A dense smile flashed across Huang Quan zun-zhe's withered-tree-like face while he sat in the VIP seats. Although the brat in front of him was a little strange, he also possessed confidence in Wang Chen. His actual strength had already reached the level of half a step into the Dou Zong class after having soaked in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. As long as he was given sufficient time, his entry into the Dou Zong class was a given. Moreover, Wang Chen was also able to fight with an ordinary Dou Zong if he went all out. There was even less need to mention the current situation...

"Lei zun-zhe, what do you say to me occupying a little of the competition's time?" Huang Quan zun-zhe looked at Lei zun-zhe as he faintly laughed.

Lei zun-zhe smiled when he heard this, but did not reject him. Although Xiao Yan seemed a little strange, he was clearly far inferior to Huang Quan zun-zhe in his heart. It was only natural that Lei zun-zhe had to give him some time and face.

"Hopefully it will not drag out for too long..."

Huang Quan zun-zhe smiled. His gaze turned to Wang Chen in the arena as he faintly said, "This matter was caused by you, so you should resolve this matter. You should know of the consequences if you fail to resolve it."

Wang Chen's hands, which were holding the dark-black daggers, trembled slightly upon hearing the words of Huang Quan zun-zhe. He bowed his body slightly to him as a savage smile surged onto his face, "Teacher, please rest assured that this disciple shall let this person, who has humiliated our Yellow Spring Pavilion, pay the price."

Huang Quan zun-zhe slowly leaned against the backrest and gently nodded.

Jian zun-zhe and Feng zun-zhe by the side knit their brows slightly when they saw this. Their gazes looked at Xiao Yan in the arena with strange expressions. However, they did not say anything. If they were to continue placing obstructions, it was likely that this old fellow Huang Quan would explode today...

The competitors present automatically withdrew to the side when they heard Lei zun-zhe's words. Their eyes immediately stared at Xiao Yan in the arena. This fellow dared to accept Wang Chen's challenge. They did not know whether he was crazy or if he possessed some confidence...

Feng Qing Er's eyebrows were vertical as she studied Xiao Yan's figure. Her hands parted a thread of black hair in front of her forehead as doubt flashed across her pretty eyes.

The progress of the competition also came to a halt as a result. However, the atmosphere on the mountain top did not become chaotic. The many cheering cries had instead caused the atmosphere to become even more heated. Many people wanted to know whether Xiao Yan would be able to endure under Wang Chen's hands... of course, this did not exclude their attitude of wanting to hear some other unbelievable scene.

Lin Yan anxiously rubbed his hands together as he watched Xiao Yan, who was slowly walking into the arena. His heart felt a little regretful. He could vaguely sense that Xiao Yan's aura was far stronger than him. However, Wang Chen was someone at the peak of the Dou Huang class. Moreover, it was rumored that this fellow had a strength that could fight against an elite Dou Zong. The thing that caused him to be most worried about was that Wang Chen was a vicious person. Each time he fought with someone, the other party would definitely be crippled even if he did not die... Xiao Yan would likely be in a dangerous position when fighting with him.

"Dammit, if this fellow dares to hurt Xiao Yan, the old me will not let him off easily even if I have to risk this life of mine." Lin Yan viciously clenched his teeth. A fierce glint also flashed across his eyes. He was a person who greatly valued friendship, and he had a deep relationship with Xiao Yan. If anything were to happen to him, he would definitely not just sit idly by the side.

Wang Chen looked at Xiao Yan, who was slowly walking over, with a pair of dark eyes. Xiao Yan finally stopped not far in front of him. The daggers in Wang Chen's hands were swiftly rotated before he clenched their hilts. The daggers obediently paused in his hands.

"If you admit defeat now and kowtow three times, I can allow you to get lost from Lightning Mountain." Wang Chen glanced at Xiao Yan and laughed in a dense voice.

Xiao Yan merely smiled in the face of the sinister Wang Chen. He clenched his fist and Dou Qi immediately surged of his body. It swiftly gathered in his palm and a jade-green

energy ruler was formed. The Heavy Xuan Ruler was overly conspicuous. If he were to take it out here, he would be immediately recognized. On the other hand, this large ruler formed by energy appeared blurry, and it also looked like a broadsword.

The sinister smile on Wang Chen's face involuntarily became denser when he saw that Xiao Yan had ignored his words. The killing intent within his eyes swiftly rose.

"Brat, I will let you regret offending the Yellow Spring Pavilion!"

The sinister voice had just sounded when Wang Chen's body trembled. He transformed into a black rainbow. Within a breath's time, he had appeared behind Xiao Yan's back. The daggers in his hands moved in a lightning-like manner. They pierced at two fatal spots, the neck and the back of his heart.

"Clang! Clang!"

Wang Chen might be fast, but the daggers had yet to land on Xiao Yan's body when the jade-green energy ruler emitted a 'shua' sound. It appeared behind his back. After which, he easily blocked the dagger attack.

Wang Chen's face did not display any changes after his first attack proved futile. Black-colored Dou Qi, that contained a dense chillness, lingered over his dagger like poisonous snakes. They transformed into two enormous black pythons that bypassed the large energy ruler and violently pierced toward Xiao Yan's head.

Bang! Bang!

The large energy python had just charged out when a fist made of wind, carrying a deep sonic boom, landed on them, shattering them in the process.

After shattering the large energy pythons, the energy ruler in Xiao Yan's hand emitted a 'shua' sound. It carried a sonic boom as it was violently fanned. The powerful wind forced Wang Chen back.

"You are only so-so."

Xiao Yan's face revealed a smile as he supported the heavy ruler on his shoulders. However, his calm voice only caused Wang Chen's eyes to become fiercer.

"It is only a warm up. There is no need to speak so arrogantly!"

Wang Chen's bright-red tongue licked a dagger. Dark-black ink-like Dou Qi surged out of his body as though an enormous ink pillar had shot toward the sky. The strength of this Dou Qi exceeded that of an ordinary person at the peak of the Dou Huang class!

At this moment, just the aura of Wang Chen could already be considered a quasi-elite Dou Zong. Although there was still an enormous gap to a genuine elite Dou Zong, it was ultimately much stronger than some experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class.

Numerous exclamations were emitted from outside the arena as they sensed Wang Chen's powerful aura, some contained envy. The current Wang Chen had already taken half a step into the Dou Zong class. Half of the enormous gap between the Dou Huang and Dou Zong was already crossed by Wang Chen. The remaining half was only a matter of time...

The faces of Feng Qing Er, Mu Qing Luan, and Tang Ying in the arena did not reveal any surprise. All of them had soaked in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, and knew that they had gained a great deal of benefits from it. It was within expectations that this Wang Chen had also taken half a step into the Dou Zong class.

"Quasi Dou Zong huh..."

Xiao Yan muttered. He narrowed his eyes as his gaze looked at the powerful Dou Qi that lingered around Wang Chen like a whirlwind. When he had exchanged blows with this person in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range, he had clearly been at the peak of the Dou Huang class. It was likely that the help of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool had allowed him to gain such a breakthrough.

"The current you has already lost your final chance to show regret..."

Wang Chen's face was covered with a ferocity. It appeared to be faintly distorted, causing it to appear extremely terrifying.

Xiao Yan frowned. This person was indeed somewhat troublesome to deal with. If this continued, there was no telling just how long he would be entangled. Moreover, someone might see through something during this period of time. Hence, it was best that he ended this battle as soon as possible.

Just as Xiao Yan had made up his mind, Wang Chen, whose aura had already reached the peak, revealed an even more savage smile on his face. His body moved and the intense corrosive strength on the surface of his body caused a long gully to appear in the ground.

"Bone Corroding Round Dagger Dance!"

Wang Chen's speed was also much faster compared to before. In a flash, he appeared in front of Xiao Yan. The two daggers in his hands transformed into countless number of black glows that even caused numerous scars to appear in the air. The angle of the daggers' dance was extremely strange. They had basically permeated all around Xiao Yan. Those black glows even contained waves of chillness that drilled into his heart.

Xiao Yan's eyes coagulated. This Wang Chen was definitely using a kind of high class Dou Skill. Moreover, it was likely that its level was quite high... this Yellow Spring Pavilion really lived up to its reputation of being one of the four pavilions that coexisted.

“Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler!”

The heavy ruler in Xiao Yan's hand also moved as his heart desired at this moment, swiftly forming numerous ruler shadows. It formed a dense ruler web that completely wrapped around Xiao Yan's body.

Clang clang clang clang clang clang!

The black glow that came from all directions poured into the ruler's web as a clear sound continued to erupt. Each time a clear sound appeared, an enormous energy ripple would swiftly surge out, forming numerous spider web like cracks on the hard silver wood arena.

Exclamations were immediately emitted from all around as everyone watched the dazzling exchange in the battleground. No one expected that Xiao Yan would be able to fight evenly with Wang Chen when he had unleashed his Dou Qi to its peak.

At this moment, anyone, regardless of how foolish they were, could tell that Xiao Yan's choice of agreeing to the fight was not some reckless act. Instead, he truly possessed the ability and qualification to fight with the other party.

In the VIP seats, the smile on Huang Quan zun-zhe's face was reduced. In the end, it had completely transformed into a gloomy expression. From his senses, Xiao Yan's strength was continuously climbing. Within a short breath's time, it had approached Wang Chen. Moreover, it was still climbing!

Feng zun-zhe, Lei zun-zhe, Jian zun-zhe, and the others gradually revealed surprise on their faces. All of them immediately fell deep into thought. This person had indeed hid his actual strength. If this was the case, it seemed the one in trouble was going to be—Wang Chen?

A slight arc involuntarily curled on the faces of Feng zun-zhe and Jian zun-zhe when they thought of this.

While these two were gloating, unexpected changes continued to appear in the arena. One could see the ruler shadows, that had been wrapping around Xiao Yan's body, suddenly disappearing. A powerful aura that was far stronger than that of Wang Chen immediately appeared just like a mountain peak that rose from the plains, surging to the sky as it did so!

The majestic Dou Qi easily broke through the blade web formed by Wang Chen's dagger. With a flash of the ruler, an unusual flame swiftly gathered at the tip of the ruler!

“Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler, Six Joint Fire!”

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Chapter 1023: Six-Joint Flame

The Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler was divided into three levels, Splitting Fire, Body Flowing Fire, and Six-Joint Fire. The difference in the strength of these three levels was also extremely great. However, Xiao Yan had seldom used the Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler’s attacking technique ever since practicing this skill because the thing that he valued the most was the defensive ability of the Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler. Of course, this did not mean that the Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler did not possess any other good points. For it to be able to reach the Di class Middle level, the offensive strength of the Six-Joint Body Ruler would naturally be even more powerful than the Flame Splitting Tsunami if it was used well!

However, Xiao Yan of the past could at the very most use the Splitting Fire due to the limitations of his ability. He would have to strain himself if he used the Body Flowing Fire. The Six-Joint Fire was even more distant. However, his breakthrough to the Dou Zong class this time around had allowed all of his abilities to leap forward overnight. He had also strode to the Six-Joint Fire level of this Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler.

This was one of the various benefits that advancing to the Dou Zong class had brought about. Dou Zong and Dou Huang were two completely different levels.

Unless someone at the peak of the Dou Huang class possessed some truly strong trump cards, when attempting to leap across classes to challenge an elite Dou Zong, one’s ending would definitely be extremely miserable. After all, the gap between the two was too great...

This was also the first time that Xiao Yan had used the Six-Joint Fire of the Six-Joint Body Flowing Ruler ever since Xiao Yan had broken through to the Dou Zong class. Although he had difficulty predicting its strength, he knew that it would definitely be stronger than if he used all his strength to unleash the Flame Splitting Tsunami!

A strange flame that appeared greenish-brown gently adhered to the surface of the ruler. This flame was not a real flame. Instead, it was a strange flame that had appeared when the Dou Qi within Xiao Yan’s body was compressed to a point that was difficult to imagine. Of course, this could not be strictly considered a flame. At the very most, it could be considered an alternative of compressed Dou Qi.

It was fortunate that he had already reached the Dou Zong class. Otherwise, with his previous strength of a Dou Huang, it would definitely be impossible for him to compress Dou Qi to such an extent.

The greenish-brown flame adhered to the tip of the ruler, appearing as though it would scatter with one blow. However, it was this inconspicuous flame that tore a-finger-wide black line in the air like an incomparably sharp blade when it was swung with the ruler's wind...

There was no sonic boom or other unusual phenomenon when the ruler was swung out. Only a kind of dead silence like that prior to the eruption of a volcano!

However, it was this gentle swing of the ruler that caused the expressions of everyone present, who possessed some knowledge, to change. Tang Ying, Mu Qing Luan, and even Feng Qing Er revealed a solemnness in their eyes. Disbelief and shock filled their eyes as they looked at Xiao Yan.

“This fellow... is actually an elite Dou Zong?”

Although Xiao Yan had changed his appearance slightly, he still appeared quite young. Hence, when Tang Ying and the others saw that the aura spreading out from his body had actually reached the Dou Zong class, a great storm had appeared in his heart. It did not calm down even after a long time.

“This person...”

Feng Qing Er eyebrows were knit. Her pretty eyes stared intently at Xiao Yan. When his aura had completely erupted earlier, the strange familiar feeling that she had sensed earlier had become much denser. She was clearly aware that this kind of unknown feeling would not randomly appear. Moreover, her perception was also much stronger than an ordinary person.

Of course, compared with Tang Ying's group, the ones who felt most stunned by this were the sea of people in the stadium. From the start, no one held much confidence in Xiao Yan being the victor. Now, however... the aura that erupted like a volcano from Xiao Yan's body had truly exceeded that of Wang Chen!

Wang Chen was a quasi Dou Zong. Just what level was Xiao Yan, who had exceeded him, at? There were only two words that answered that question, Dou Zong!

By having lost the 'quasi' word in front, the gap between them was just like the Heaven and Earth!

“This fellow... has actually reached the Dou Zong class...” Lin Yan at the edge of the arena was also staring at Xiao Yan's back with a stunned look. When he had left the Jia Ma Empire back then, he clearly remembered that Xiao Yan was merely at the peak of the Dou Wang class. Now, however, he had actually leaped to a Dou Zong existence after only a few short years. Was this kind of training speed not a little too frightening?

It should be known that he had already reached the level of a four star Dou Huang, yet his strength had only soared so much because he had accidentally obtained an inheritance from an ancestor. However, the speed he was proud of seemed unworthy of even being mentioned compared with Xiao Yan.

Although Lin Yan admired Xiao Yan, his highest estimate of his strength when they had reunited was at the very most equal to that of Wang Chen. However, he had never expected that Xiao Yan was truly able to reach the Dou Zong class!

At this moment, he had finally understood why Xiao Yan dared to publicly accept Wang Chen's challenge. With his current strength, how many among the younger generation were his match? Even Wang Chen was only at the quasi Dou Zong level despite possessing the support of a great being like the Yellow Spring Pavilion.

The expression of Huang Quan zun-zhe in the VIP seats had become unusually dark and cold at this moment. His gaze sinisterly stared at Xiao Yan. He had actually been mistaken this time around!

Of course, he was not the only one who had been mistaken. Lei zun-zhe, Feng zun-zhe, and Jian zun-zhe by the side also revealed some shock on their faces. A moment later, a solemn expression flashed across their eyes. Although a Dou Zong was unworthy of causing them to act in this manner, the age of this Dou Zong was merely twenty or so. By being able to reach such a level at such a young age, this person either had monster-like talent or an extremely great background supporting him from behind!

"Looks like this person is not simple. Wang Chen is no match for him." Jian zun-zhe fondled his beard as he slowly spoke.

Huang Quan zun-zhe eyes turned cold when he heard Jian zun-zhe's words. He replied in a chilly, dark voice, "It is not over yet. Randomly guessing the outcome will only embarrass yourself."

The corner of Jian zun-zhe's mouth was curled. His eyes looked at the arena and coldly laughed, "I want to see just who will ultimately be embarrassed."

During the tit for tat exchange between the two, the situation within the arena had become unusually dangerous in a split second.

The ferocity on Wang Chen's face had become a lot stiffer in the face of Xiao Yan's silent ruler attack. A dense feeling of danger vaguely spread from deep within his heart, climbing to every corner of his body as it did.

"How is this possible? How can this brat be a Dou Zong?"

Wang Chen grit his teeth. He inhaled a deep breath of air as his eyes swiftly turned crimson. A craziness surged out of his heart. He clearly knew just what kind of

punishment would await him once he returned should he be defeated in Xiao Yan's hands!

The moment he thought of this, the madness within Wang Chen's heart thickened. In the end, a beast-like roar was emitted from his throat. Following the emission of this roar, the small blood vessels on Wang Chen's skin suddenly burst apart. In an instant, he was covered in blood.

"Yellow Spring Blood Skill!"

Under Wang Chen's crazy roar, his aura rose wildly like a fire arrow within an instant. Following the increase in strength of his aura, both of his eyes turned dark-black in color. Dark-black energy surged out of his body in all directions, spread out. Looking from a distance, he appeared just like a ferocious ancient beast, emitting a savage fierceness.

Tang Ying's group involuntarily inhaled a breath of cold air when they saw Wang Chen's appearance.

"This fellow has even used the Yellow Spring Blood Skill... what a lunatic."

Dark-black energy lingered over Wang Chen's body. His majestic strength caused even space to ripple. A fierceness flashed across his eyes as he abruptly clenched his fist. Dark-black energy agglomerated in a lightning-like manner.

The dark-black energy swiftly agglomerated as a dense corpse stench spread from Wang Chen's right hand. Immediately, his entire arm turned as black as ink.

"Yellow Spring Rotten Corpse Arm!"

The dark-black arm suddenly shot out with a low roar.

A crack was formed in the air when the black arm struck out. The tough silver wood arena seemed to have met its nemesis as it swiftly lost its luster. Immediately, it was just like withered wood, turning yellowish and rotten...

"It is the Yellow Spring Rotten Corpse Arm? That is the extremely powerful Dou Skill of the Yellow Spring Pavilion."

Numerous astonished cries immediately sounded outside of the arena when everyone saw Wang Chen's black arm. Clearly, this Dou Skill was quite well-known.

The exclamations outside of the arena had just sounded when the falling ruler figure finally carried a wisp of greenish-brown flames abruptly fell. After which, it suddenly collided with a black arm!

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth was lifted into an icy arc the moment the collision occurred. A wisp of Glazed Lotus Core Flame was quietly channeled through the body of the ruler before finally being shot out.

Bang!

The sudden collision brought about a soul-stirring explosion. An incomparable energy ripple spread out from the point where the two made contact. It swept out like a storm, and the silver wood arena instantly ended up as a large pit. Arm thick lines swiftly spread out like a spiderweb. Within the blink of an eye, they occupied half of the arena while wooden fragments flew everywhere.

Silver-colored wooden fragments shot out at great speed like a storm. A silver light flickered when the sunlight shot over, causing it to appear extremely beautiful.

“Chi!”

The tornado that had just been formed from the silver-colored wood fragments when a figure suddenly shot away from it. It immediately smashed heavily into the arena. After which, it tore and formed a large gully in the arena, one that over nearly a hundred meters long...

The entire stadium was completely silent. Countless numbers of gazes were dull as they looked at the dark-black figure inserted in the silver wood.

“Grug.”

Wang Chen struggled to climb up. However, a mouthful of fresh blood was spat out. He was about to maneuver his Dou Qi when waves of searing pain was transmitted from within his body. He hurriedly looked into himself, only to see a wisp of an extremely hot jade-green flame emitting a high temperature within his body, wildly destroying it...

“This is?” Wang Chen's eyes immediately shrank when he sensed this wisp of jade green flame!

The storm that was created from the silver wood slowly disappeared. Xiao Yan's figure slowly surfaced within it. His dense eyes glanced at Wang Chen, who still had a breath remaining. After which, he raised his head and looked at Huang Quan zun-zhe, who had a frighteningly gloomy expression.

“Good, good, brat, you have really surprise this venerable self (zun-zhe)!”

Huang Quan zun-zhe slowly stood up. His voice revealed killing intent and fury, that he was trying his best to suppress.

Xiao Yan's eyes slightly narrowed. He cupped his hands to Huang Quan zun-zhe and said, "I have already fulfilled the agreement. Goodbye!"

Xiao Yan turned around and walked to the edge of the stadium after saying these words.

"*Cough,* wait..."

Just when Xiao Yan had turned around and taken over a dozen steps, a coughing voice that contained a dense laugh was transmitted over. Xiao Yan paused his footsteps and turned his head. His eyes were chilly as he looked at Wang Chen, who was climbing up from the ground with much difficulty. Xiao Yan's voice was ice-cold as he said, "Do you still wish to continue?"

"*Cough*..." Wang Chen spat out a mouthful of blood. The savage smile on his face appeared exceptionally frightening when mixed with the fresh blood.

"I really did not expect that you would have advanced to the Dou Zong class within three short months. Looks like you gained the most from the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool... don't you agree, Xiao Yan?"

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Chapter 1024: Identity Revealed

Wang Chen's savage laughter caused everyone present to be stunned. A moment later, 'shua' sounds appeared as a countless number of eyes carried some disbelief and paused on Xiao Yan, who had suddenly stopped in the arena.

"Xiao Yan? That Xiao Yan who has a grudge with the Wind Lightning Pavilion?"

"That Xiao Yan who forcefully broke the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation that the three great Elders of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion had placed. The one who escaped from Fei Tian's hands?"

Countless numbers of people outside of the arena had instantly become completely stunned. No one expected that the unknown, young man, who had defeated Wang Chen, was actually Xiao Yan, who had recently created an uproar in the northern region. Moreover, the thing that really cause them to feel a great disbelief was that this person actually dared to come to Lightning Mountain despite his conflict with the Wind Lightning Pavilion? Was... was this not delivering himself to be captured?

"This fellow... is actually Xiao Yan? Is he crazy?" Tang Ying opened his mouth. His cold face revealed a stunned expression when he looked at Xiao Yan.

"This fool... he has really come?" Mu Qing Luan's pretty face was filled with shock. She had never expected that this fellow would dare to come to this Lightning Mountain.

"It is actually him... no wonder... unexpectedly... his courage has reached such an extent. Looks like he really does not hold any regard for my Wind Lightning Pavilion."

Feng Qing Er's pretty eyes looked at Xiao Yan as the corner of her lips was slowly lifted into a slight arc. A faint chillness and arrogance was present in it. She had always truly hoped to have an exchange with him. She would restore the reputation of the Wind Lightning Pavilion through it. Unfortunately, she lacked the opportunity to do so last time.

Lei zun-zhe and the others in the VIP seats were stunned as they looked at the noise over the entire place. A moment later, they had finally recovered. A smile on their face was also slowly withdrawn as they stared at Xiao Yan in the arena with expressionless faces. Lei zun-zhe's finger gently tapped on the armrest. The slight sound gave off an extremely pressurizing feeling to it.

Lei zun-zhe had also heard of Xiao Yan's name. Relying on one's strength to turn the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion into such a miserable state was not something that an ordinary person could achieve.

"Fei Tian, is he that Xiao Yan?" Lei zun-zhe's eyes revealed a lightning glow vaguely flickering as he turned his head to Fei Tian by the side and indifferently asked.

The dense-looking Huang Quan zun-zhe gloatingly laughed in his heart as he clearly sensed the anger that was hidden in Lei zun-zhe's voice. He shrank his body back. It was unexpected that this fellow was the Xiao Yan who had caused an uproar recently. Thus, the matter today would be a little fun...

Feng zun-zhe and Jian zun-zhe by the sides were similarly startled because of this. Their gazes were a little strange as they observed Xiao Yan. However, they did not say anything. This was a problem of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, and it was inappropriate for them to say anything.

The silver-robed Fei Tian hurriedly got up when he heard Lei zun-zhe's words. At this moment, his face had become slightly ugly. He had already been scolded by Lei zun-zhe more than once over the matter with Xiao Yan. Moreover, he had also suffered the ridicule of those two others beside him. It was unexpected that the matter, that had been temporarily put aside today, was brought up again.

Fei Tian clenched his fist under his sleeves. He took two steps forward and his sinister eyes turned to Xiao Yan in the arena as he coldly said, "Brat, take off the thing on your face!"

The gazes of the entire place shifted along with the voice. They all gathered on Xiao Yan. Most of the people present knew that there was a conflict between the Wind Lightning Pavilion and Xiao Yan. If Xiao Yan's identity was confirmed, this little fellow would likely be unlucky today. Regardless of how strong he was, he would definitely be unable to successfully escape alive amid being surrounded by so many experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion.

Xiao Yan's eyes also became slightly dark and solemn in the face of the countless numbers of gazes. He did not expect to be recognized by Wang Chen. It was likely due to the 'Heavenly Flame.' When they had exchanged blows back then, Wang Chen was aware that the 'Heavenly Flame' of Xiao Yan had a suppressing effect on his Dou Qi. Naturally, he had a deep impression of it.

Xiao Yan's eyes were cold as they swept over Wang Chen, who was smiling in a savage manner. Immediately, a body hurried over. Lin Yan held a long spear in his hand and appeared beside Xiao Yan with a solemn face. Finally he asked in a deep voice, "Do you want to charge out?"

Xiao Yan slightly shook his head. Given the strength of the two of them, it was likely that their chances of successfully escaping were very low if they forcefully tried to break out.

"Just leave it to me..." Xiao Yan waved his hand and slowly raised his head. He immediately laughed in a cold voice as his hand grabbed his face. An item made of skin fell from it, revealing Xiao Yan's original face. Since he was already unable to hide, there was naturally no need to conceal his face any longer.

"Why? Pavilion chief Fei Tian, are you planning on attacking me again today?"

Fei Tian's face turned dark and cold when he saw Xiao Yan's face, that had been deeply imprinted in his memory. His throat emitted a furious laugh as his body moved. A thunder resounded over the place and his figure suddenly disappeared!

Xiao Yan's expression changed when he saw Fei Tian's body disappear. He sent Lin Yan back with palm as lightning glow flickered on his feet. His body slightly shook.

Xiao Yan's body had just trembled when Fei Tian appeared behind him in a ghost-like manner. His hand-claw, which was covered by lightning, violently penetrated through Xiao Yan's chest. However, it was unfortunate that not the slightest amount of fresh blood appeared.

"Afterimage?"

Fei Tian's hand shook and the afterimage was shattered. He slowly turned around, and his eyes coldly landed Xiao Yan suspended in a spot a few dozen meters above the ground. He coldly laughed, "It has only been a couple of months since I last saw you, but your strength has improved. No wonder you are so arrogant."

“The Wind Lightning Pavilion is only so-so. It specializes in the elders bullying the younger ones and using its numerical advantage to bully others!”

Xiao Yan’s gaze was ice-cold as he stared at Fei Tian. A moment later, he suddenly let out a laugh. His eyes were raised as he looked at the expressionless Lei zun-zhe in the VIP seats. He mocked, “If Lei zun-zhe really feels that this little self has a great enmity with the Wind Lightning Pavilion, why don’t you act personally? With your Dou Zun’s strength, the little me will definitely be unable to survive one exchange from you. Why do you need to make it so troublesome?”

Xiao Yan’s words immediately stirred an uproar in the stadium. Quite a number of people wondered if Xiao Yan had knocked his head against something. He dared to provoke Lei zun-zhe at this time? However, some of the smarter individuals let out a quiet praise in their hearts after being stunned. What kind of status did Lei zun-zhe had? A elite Dou Zun, an existence that was like a giant in the Central Plains region. His status had a massive gap with Xiao Yan that was difficult to measure. This was the case regardless of whether it was in terms of reputation or ability. After Xiao Yan spoke those words, Lei zun-zhe would not dare to personally attack Xiao Yan today unless he wished to gain the reputation of bullying someone younger just because he was older!

In other words, these words of Xiao Yan had helped sever a truly dangerous roar. With his current strength, other than facing an elite Dou Zun, he would still have the ability to flee even against an expert like Fei Tian.

“This brat is really cunning...”

Jian zun-zhe softly laughed before glancing at Lei zun-zhe by the side, who remained expressionless.

“There is no need to play these tricks in front of this venerable self (Dou Zun). There is no need for this venerable self to act in order to capture you.” Lei zun-zhe’s gaze stared indifferently at Xiao Yan. There was a little ripple within his voice.

“With an elder like the Northern Pavilion in front acting, there is naturally no need for Lei zun-zhe to act. In any case, these things are something that the Wind Lightning Pavilion commonly does. Moreover, if the Northern Pavilion chief fails, there is still the Western Pavilion chief and Southern Pavilion chief.” Xiao Yan laughed.

“Ha ha, brat, there is no need to speak with such thorny words. The western and southern pavilions will not intervene in the matter of the northern pavilion.” A large strong-looking man with naked arms laughed out loud in a thunder-like voice from the VIP seat. He was the pavilion chief of the Western Pavilion.

Fei Tian frowned slightly when he heard this laughter. The status between Xiao Yan and him was really too different. Back then, he had no choice but to attack. It was unexpected that Xiao Yan still managed to flee. This had caused him to lose a great

face. It was due to this that he was unable to control himself, and had launched an attack the moment he saw Xiao Yan. However, he found it difficult to make a decision on what he should do once he recovered his reasoning. If he were to really act when others did not, he would definitely end up with a reputation of bullying the weak. The Wind Lightning Pavilion was not the Yellow Spring Pavilion. It did not want such a reputation.

However, if he did not attack at this moment, the other experts of the same generation within the Wind Lightning Pavilion would definitely not take the initiative to intervene unless Lei zun-zhe gave the order. Thus, choosing whether to attack or not was a headache to him.

Fei Tian struggled for a moment in his heart before a ruthless expression finally flashed across his face. This Xiao Yan had caused his Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion to lose its reputation. He would definitely not let Xiao Yan off today.

After Fei Tian had made up his mind within his heart, a majestic, frightening strength slowly woke from within his body. Under the traction of this frightening aura, the layers of clouds in the distant sky emitted a rumbling sound. Silver lightning flickered within them as thunder sounded!

Xiao Yan's eyes sank when he saw this. He did not expect this old fellow to be willing to end up with a bad reputation by insisting on attacking him...

"Xiao Yan, run!"

Lin Yan hurriedly cried out from within the arena. Fei Tian's strength was really too frightening. Even though Xiao Yan had advanced to the Dou Zong class, the gap between Xiao Yan and him was really too difficult to measure. Xiao Yan basically had no chance of victory if the two battled.

Xiao Yan slightly shook his head. This place was Lightning Mountain, the headquarters of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It was easier said than done when it came to escaping. Only by taking a risky fight would he have a chance to live. Moreover...

Xiao Yan's eyes lifted up as he looked into the distance. Finally, they paused on the green-robed Feng zun-zhe, who appeared extremely free and easy in the VIP seats. Was this person a trustworthy person like his teacher had mentioned?

Xiao Yan would naturally not announce Yao Lao's name in public. Immediately, he inhaled a deep breath, cupped his hands together, and said in a deep voice, "Feng zun-zhe, this little self wishes for you to see something!"

Feng zun-zhe was startled when he saw Xiao Yan suddenly speak to him. He immediately smiled and said, "Little fellow, this matter is between you and the Wind Lightning Pavilion, and it doesn't seem to be related to my venerable self (Dou Zun)?"

Feng zun-zhe was not acquainted with Xiao Yan. Naturally he would not offend the Wind Lighting Pavilion for Xiao Yan after having just met him for the first time. This was the case even if Feng zun-zhe was not afraid of the Wind Lightning Pavilion.

Xiao Yan grinned. He took off the ancient black ring, that Yao Lao had left behind, from his finger. After which, he tossed it to Feng zun-zhe. If he was indeed as Yao Lao had described and was worthy of his complete trust, Feng zun-zhe's subsequent actions should prove something. Of course, if the results were different than what Xiao Yan imagined, Xiao Yan would still settle the future matters by himself.

Feng zun-zhe knit his eyebrows and looked at the dark-black object that flew over. Under a countless number of gazes, Feng zun-zhe grabbed the item with his hand. After which, he slowly opened his hand. An unusually familiar dark-black ring was lying within it.

The faint smile on Feng zun-zhe's face slowly stiffened the moment his eyes saw the black ring. At the same time, it appeared as if the entire stadium had stilled...

At this instant, Feng zun-zhe's body seemed to transform into a statue. His eyes were dull as he stared intently at the ring with a deep spiritual imprint. A frightening storm was whistling and forming above his head...

Although he did not utter a single word, everyone knew that Feng zun-zhe was currently feeling an agitation in his heart he could not hide!

After a short while, Feng zun-zhe's body gradually relaxed in front of a countless number of stunned gazes. His hand held the ring tightly as he leaned against his backrest. Both of his eyes were gradually shut and a soft voice carrying a tone that bore no argument was slowly emitted.

"No one is allowed to touch this person!"

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Read Battle Through the Heavens - Chapter 1031: Victor

Chapter 1031: Victor

The tiny crack lines on the enormous bell were inconspicuous when compared to its enormous size. However, with the strength of Lei zun-zhe and the others, they were naturally able to see them. Their faces immediately changed. From the looks of it, Feng Qing Er's Demon Phoenix Bell was unable to block the attack of the frightening fire lotus.

Lei zun-zhe's expression had turned gloomy at this moment. His fist was slowly clenched. This scene was something that he had never expected from the start. He could not be more clear on Feng Qing Er's strength, yet regardless of how unbelievable it was, the truth was right in front of him...

Compared with the gloomy expression of Lei zun-zhe, a smile appeared on Feng zun-zhe's face. Xiao Yan's performance since the beginning had been extremely satisfactory. Originally he had thought that it was fine as long as Xiao Yan did not lose too badly to Feng Qing Er. He had never thought of Xiao Yan would be able to defeat the other party. Although he knew that Xiao Yan had some outstanding points in order for Yao Lao to accept him as a disciple, he was also aware that Feng Qing Er was not someone ordinary. Being someone from the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe, her fighting strength far exceeded those at the same level as her...

Jian zun-zhe and Huang Quan zun-zhe by the side were similarly startled. Clearly, Xiao Yan exceeded their expectations by breaking the Demon Phoenix Bell.

"I wonder what the background of this fellow is. He actually knows such a powerful Dou Technique. Moreover, such talent is also quite frightening..." The two of them revealed an expression of thoughtfulness. Regardless of how talented one was, in order for one to achieve this at such an age, one would require a teacher who had similarly great abilities. Moreover, there were not many old fellows who could teach such a disciple even in the Central Plains, yet it seemed that none of them had a disciple called Xiao Yan.

On the edge of the arena, Mu Qing Luan, Tang Ying, and the pale-faced Wang Chen were somewhat shocked as they watched the endless sea of fire in the sky, especially Wang Chen. He had basically felt his limbs become numb. If Xiao Yan had used such a frightening Dou Technique when exchanging blows with him earlier, it was likely that he would not even have the opportunity to escape alive.

"Even Feng Qing Er's Demon Phoenix Bell is unable to block that fire lotus... this Xiao Yan is really too terrifying." Tang Ying involuntarily inhaled a deep breath. He slowly spoke as his gaze stared intently at the sky. His voice had a little bitterness to it. By being able to become the most outstanding person among the younger generation in the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion, Tang Ying's heart naturally held some pride, yet this pride appeared just like a joke in front of Xiao Yan and Feng Qing Er. The fighting strength that the two had displayed had far exceeded him.

Mu Qing Luan by the side also nodded while sharing the same feeling. Although they had heard of Xiao Yan's name because of his conflict with the Wind Lightning Pavilion, they did not pay much attention to him, perhaps because they were the most outstanding members of the younger generation within the four pavilions. However, this big battle today had caused all of them to submit. Such strength was indeed not something that they could compare with.

Wang Chen grit his teeth when he heard the sighs in the words of those two. Although he was unwilling to accept it, that unwillingness could only be suppressed in his heart in the face of the sea of fire that permeated the sky.

An enormous, dark-black bell stood in the three-colored sea of fire that permeated the sky. Each time the fire wave surged over, it would cause the dark light on the surface of the enormous bell to tremble. The tiny crack lines on it would also spread even faster...

“Crack...”

A slight noise was slowly emitted. In the end, they had begun to continuously sound.

This kind of noise was not very loud but it was gradually transmitted into everyone's ears. Hence, the entire stadium was silent. Countless numbers of eyes carried a little shock as they looked at the three-colored sea of fire in the sky. The victor of this battle was about to be determined at this moment!

Xiao Yan was suspended in the air just below the sea of fire. At this moment, his face was a little pale. Although the strength of a Dou Technique like the three-colored fire lotus was extremely terrifying, the exhaustion when one used it was also frightening.

Xiao Yan's eyes locked onto the dark-black bell in the sea of fire. His heart did not relax even a little because of the spreading crack line on it. His years of experience allowed him to understand a logic. A lion would need to use all its skill even when hunting a rabbit. One must not underestimate any opponent. Otherwise, one might end up being pulled into an endless abyss. Many experts had fallen to his hands during these few years. Hence, Xiao Yan naturally possessed a deep understanding.

Xiao Yan swiftly tossed a couple of Dou Qi recovery medicinal pills into his mouth. He narrowed his eyes as he watched the large bell with its increasing number of crack lines. The Dou Qi within his body circulated quietly as it completely covered his body...

Crack... crack...

The crack lines swiftly spread. A moment later, they finally covered every corner of the large bell. At this moment, the three-colored sea of fire once again unleashed an extremely terrifying fire wave that violently collided with that enormous bell.

“Bang!”

The collision this time around was just like a mountain rock being shattered. A shockingly loud sound was emitted. Immediately, one could see the enormous bell violently shake. Dark light shot through the crack lines before the enormous bell was shattered with a bang!

Dark fragments shot out in all directions at a shocking speed. Each fragment contained a frightening amount of energy. Although these fragments would be vaporized into nothingness by the high temperature of the sea of flames, the powerful wave that were created from the explosion had scattered the sea of fire!

Xiao Yan's black eyes stared intently at the location where the enormous bell had exploded. Some dark-black fragments had whistled past his body while carrying a sharp wind. However, they did not cause him to be the least bit distracted!

A dense, black smoke surged from the fragments of the enormous bell. Xiao Yan's eyes were focused on them.

After staring at the black smoke without blinking for a moment, Xiao Yan noticed that the black smoke suddenly shrank. Immediately, a figure rushed out from within in a lightning-like manner.

A chill surged in Xiao Yan's eyes the moment this figure appeared. A silver glow flickered under his feet as his body moved. A couple of afterimages appeared, and his body caught up with that figure in a ghost-like manner. A jade-green flame swiftly surged out of his fist.

“Chi!”

When Xiao Yan appeared behind that figure, a colorful cloth that contained a sharp wind suddenly shot at the middle of Xiao Yan's forehead.

A cold smile was revealed on Xiao Yan's face. He grabbed the colorful cloth and used it to help him charge forward. Immediately, he violently struck the soft figure like a cannonball.

“Groan!”

The strong force from this collision caused the figure to emit a moan. The lovely figure also landed roughly on the ground, smashing heavily against the surface of the arena. That powerful force caused numerous cracks to spread on the ground.

Numerous exclamations sounded from around the stadium once they saw Feng Qing Er, who was injured on the ground.

Xiao Yan seemed to have not heard all of this noise. His fist tightened under his sleeves without anyone noticing. Immediately, he let out a cold laugh. His body moved, descending in front of many shocked eyes. After which, he landed beside Feng Qing Er, raised his foot, and viciously stomped toward her head. From the looks of his stance, Feng Qing Er's head would likely burst apart like a watermelon if his foot were to accurately strike her.

This sudden vicious act by Xiao Yan caused all the eyes present to become dull. Forget about just how one would meet with an endless amount of trouble by killing Feng Qing Er given her background. Just the very fact that the other party was a great beauty would make a vicious person hesitate a little when delivering such a ruthless strike, wouldn't it? Yet, at this moment, Xiao Yan... the viciousness of his descending foot and his crisp manner looked as though he was stepping on an ant. There was not the least bit of hesitation. His decisiveness caused one to feel stunned.

Xiao Yan's falling foot was extremely quick. He did not give anyone the chance to intervene. An instant later, it was viciously stomped on Feng Qing Er's head without any unexpected changes.

The entire stadium was silent at this instant.

"Puff!"

The expected fresh blood splashing in all directions did not occur when the foot stomped on Feng Qing Er's head. Her head burst apart like a balloon while her body gradually turned into nothing.

Many people present were at a loss when they witnessed this scene. Their eyes descended into a dull state. They were uncertain what had just happened...

Xiao Yan's face did not reveal the slightest surprise when he failed to see any fresh blood. His eyes were slightly shut as his feet gently strode forward. In a flash, he appeared at a certain location in the air. The corner of his mouth was lifted into a cold smile as his fist violently smashed toward the empty space in front of him.

"Bang!"

A punch was thrown out. Just when this punch was about to strike empty air, a colorful figure appeared in a strange fashion. In her panic, she waved her hand, and it collided with Xiao Yan's fist. The powerful strength that erupted caused her to take over a dozen steps back. A trace of blood involuntarily seeped out of the corner of her mouth.

"Who do you intend to deceive with your entry level Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body?"

Xiao Yan raised his eyes and smiled to the pale, pretty face of Feng Qing Er. There was a little chillness in his smile.

Feng Qing Er clenched her silver teeth. Her pretty eyes were furiously looking at the smiling Xiao Yan. Today was the first time that she had been defeated in such a humiliating fashion in all these years!

Humiliation rose within her heart like a tide. A moment later, a viciousness flashed across Feng Qing Er's pretty eyes. She maneuvered the little remaining Dou Qi within her body. However, before she could unleash an attack, a thunderous roar suddenly resounded. Immediately, a figure appeared in front of her in a ghost-like fashion. An icy-cold hand gently grabbed her long neck like an eagle claw while a soft voice that contained a killing intent slowly sounded. The voice caused Feng Qing Er's lovely body to suddenly stiffened.

"You have lost..."

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Chapter 1032: Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood

The gazes of the entire stadium solidified on the large hand placed on Feng Qing Er's neck. Even the killing intent that had vaguely surfaced on Xiao Yan's face was caught by the eyes of quite a number of people.

The entire Lightning Mountain became silent at this moment. Had the result of this much-anticipated top level fight between the younger generation finally been determined?

This final result had exceeded the expectations of most people. Feng Qing Er's reputation and strength was something that everyone was aware of, yet this talented lady of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, who only appeared once every century, was defeated in the hands of this young man called Xiao Yan.

Quite a number of people also revealed somewhat gloomy faces within this quiet stadium. Lei zun-zhe's face was as deep as water. He had similarly not expected Feng Qing Er to be defeated by Xiao Yan's hands. Not only was he unable to make things difficult for Xiao Yan today, but he had also allowed Xiao Yan to borrow Feng Qing Er's reputation to immediately become famous. He really felt like he had suffered double the loss despite intending to take advantage of Xiao Yan.

The location where the Wind Lightning Pavilion was located was completely silent. Fei Tian and the others looked at each other. Although their faces were ugly, they did not open their mouths to say anything. The strength that Xiao Yan had displayed had caused even them to withdraw the estimations they had made at him in the past.

Compared to the gloomy faced Lei zun-zhe, Feng zun-zhe's face was full of smiles. Xiao Yan's performance today had truly subdued his high expectations.

"That stubborn old fellow's eyes are still as sharp as ever. I wonder just where he obtained such an outstanding disciple." Feng zun-zhe smiled and softly sighed in his heart.

In the arena, where everyone's eyes were focused, Feng Qing Er lovely body had become much stiffer because of the cold hand around her neck. The little bit of genuine killing intent contained in Xiao Yan's voice caused her to not doubt that the person in front of her would viciously destroy a flower if it really came to that point.

However, the faint fear had just risen within her heart when it was replaced by fury and humiliation. With her status and strength, when had she been treated in such a manner?

Feng Qing Er clenched her teeth tightly as her pretty eyes stared at Xiao Yan angrily, appearing just like a haughty phoenix. A strange, black flame slowly seeped out of her body.

A chill flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes when he saw Feng Qing Er was still being stubborn. The Glazed Lotus Heart Flame suddenly surged out from his hand as he cried out in a low voice, "Get lost!"

The jade-green flame swiftly rushed out and collided with the strange black flame on Feng Qing Er's body. Both parties engaged in an intense exchange, but the black flame hurriedly shrank back into her body while looking as though it had met with a great enemy in front of Feng Qing Er's shocked eyes.

The Heavenly Flames reigned supreme among the tens of thousands of flames in the world. Moreover, Xiao Yan's Glazed Lotus Heart Flame was formed from the merger of two types of Heavenly Flames. If one were to rank it, it was likely not difficult for it to enter the top ten. Although Feng Qing Er's black flame was a little unique, it was still unable to gain any advantage in front of Xiao Yan's Glazed Lotus Heart Flame.

"Do you really think that I don't dare to kill you..."

Xiao Yan's face turned cold and indifferent after having suppressed the black flame on Feng Qing Er's body. However, his expression changed abruptly before his words sounded. He saw the Storage Ring on his hand trembling suddenly as a jade bottle appeared without any forewarning. The green-red blood within the jade bottle emitted a majestic energy fluctuation.

The sudden unexpected change caused many people to be stunned. Xiao Yan was the first to recover. With a wave of his hand, his jade-green flame wrapped around the jade bottle. After which, he stored it in his Storage Ring in a lightning-like manner.

Xiao Yan's reaction was extremely quick. Many people did not even clearly see just what had happened. Even Lei zun-zhe and the others in the VIP seats only sensed a powerful energy ripple appearing before it swiftly vanished.

Xiao Yan's expression became exceptionally dark and solemn after having returned the jade bottle into his Storage Ring. He swiftly took two steps back after discovering that

the green-red blood felt an uncontrollable impulse as long as it was beside this woman. It was likely due to them both being Heaven Demon Phoenixes...

“Looks like I will need to find a time to settle this blood...”

This thought flashed through Xiao Yan’s heart as he raised his eyes. However, he saw that Feng Qing Er’s eyes were emitting an unusual heated glow at this moment.

Xiao Yan’s heart sank further when he saw this scene. He vaguely sensed that something was wrong...

Feng Qing Er’s pretty eyes stared at Xiao Yan’s Storage Ring. Xiao Yan’s reaction earlier was too quick. Hence, even she did not see just what that thing was. Although she did not clearly see it, she was able to clearly sense that the blood within her body had started boiling when that thing appeared. An extremely intense suction force surged within her heart.

“This kind of feeling...” Feng Qing Er descended deep into thought. Her tongue gently licked her red lips. This scene was indeed filled with an endless amount of doubt. This deep thought continued for a moment before her lovely body abruptly trembled. Both of her eyes gradually revealed shock.

“Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood?”

Feng Qing Er slowly raised her eyes and stared at Xiao Yan without blinking. There was some shock in her tone as she articulated each word with a pause between them.

“Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood?”

Xiao Yan’s heart jumped when he heard this. However, his face did not reveal any changes. His tone was calm when he asked, “What do you mean?”

“Hand over that thing from earlier!” Feng Qing Er’s pretty eyes were searing hot as they stared at Xiao Yan. Her cold laugh was not hidden. Instead, it spread over the entire stadium, “You are really very bold. You dare to lay your hands on something that belongs to my Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe?”

The sudden change in the arena also caused quite a number of people, who were unaware of the situation, to become a little stunned. Numerous gazes swept around the stadium.

Lei zun-zhe and the rest in the VIP seats had also become stunned because of this. They stood up from their chairs, strode forward, and appeared in the arena. After glancing at the two of them, Lei zun-zhe asked in a deep voice, “Qing Er, what’s the matter?”

Feng zun-zhe had also appeared beside Xiao Yan when Lei zun-zhe had appeared. He took a step forward and coincidentally blocked Xiao Yan behind him. His eyebrows knit slightly as looked at Feng Qing Er and said in a faint voice, "Winning and losing is commonplace in a competition. Although you are a member of the Heaven Demon Phoenix, do not think that the Heaven Demon Phoenixes can roam this Central Plains without fear."

Feng Qing Er's teeth bit her lower red lip. Her eyes still remained locked on Xiao Yan. A moment later, she coldly laughed, "Feng zun-zhe, this is not something that Qing Er has randomly made up. The item that I sensed earlier is clearly my tribe's Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. With your status, you should be aware of the rules of my Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. Any tribe member's corpse must not land in the hands of an outsider. This Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood must be refined from my tribe's Demon Phoenix bloodline. This act has broken a great taboo of my tribe. If this matter is spread to my tribe, the enforcement troop of my tribe will take action..."

Everyone was stunned when they heard this. All of their faces underwent their own changes.

The smile on Feng zun-zhe's face diminished a little. The Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe was not the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The overbearing manner of those fellows was something that he had personally experienced back then.

Lei zun-zhe and the rest did not speak at this moment. This matter implicated the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. Hence, it was best to let Feng zun-zhe get a headache over it. Moreover, they were happy to see anything that could reduce the strength of the Falling Star Pavilion.

"I am unaware of what you are talking about. It is merely a match. Winning and losing is a small matter. Miss Feng Qing Er need not accuse me of such a serious offense." Xiao Yan frowned while speaking with a somewhat cold voice.

"Are you saying that I have wronged you?" Feng Qing Er's pretty face became slightly cold while she spoke.

"If you wish to condemn someone, you can always find the charges." Xiao Yan faintly replied.

"Do you dare allow me to search your Storage Ring?" Feng Qing Er furiously laughed. She was definitely not mistaken about the feeling of her blood boiling earlier.

Quite a number of people frowned in the face of Feng Qing Er's words. Searching someone else's storage ring was not much different than searching someone's body. This request was a little overboard.

“Although the Falling Star Pavilion cannot compare with the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe, it is not something that can be bullied by others as they wish. This venerable self (Dou Zun) has also met with some of the old fellows in the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. You wish to search someone else’s Storage Ring with just your words alone? It is likely that no one will be able to simply endure this.” Feng zun-zhe’s expression sank as he spoke.

Feng Qing Er did not dare to say anything to contradict Feng zun-zhe once he spoke. A Dou Zun was considered a peak expert even within their Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. Moreover, there was the Falling Star Pavilion behind him. However, if she was unwilling to just simply step back. The Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood was of great use to the Demon Phoenix tribe. If she could obtain it, her bloodline strength would definitely become much stronger. Hence, Feng Qing Er clenched her teeth and said in a deep voice, “It is fine if you do not allow Qing Er to search his Storage Ring. However, I must use a kind of searching skill according to the rules of my clan. If it still yields no results, I can apologize for my actions.”

Feng zun-zhe appeared startled when he heard this. He hesitated a little in his heart as he turned his head to Xiao Yan. He was also aware of some of the rules of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. Feng Qing Er’s request was reasonable. However, he was a little worried that Xiao Yan possessed whatever Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood with him as Feng Qing Er had claimed. At that time, it would likely alarm the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe if it was really found. Things would become a little troublesome then...

Xiao Yan also sensed Feng zun-zhe’s eyes. His eyes flickered when he did so.

“This searching skill will only react to the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. What is there to be worried about if I have wronged you?” Feng Qing Er coldly laughed when she saw that Xiao Yan had remained quiet.

Xiao Yan glanced at her faintly. The glint in his eyes gradually disappeared. The corner of his mouth was lifted into a cold smile. He nodded unexpectedly and said, “Alright, I shall allow you to use your searching skill!”

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Chapter 1033: End of the Grand Meeting

Xiao Yan nodded his head and agreed. This caused everyone, including Feng Qing Er, to be stunned for a moment. This matter was not child’s play. If that thing was really found, it was likely that Xiao Yan would appear on the blacklist of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe...

A worried expression appeared in Feng zun-zhe’s eyes. He looked at Xiao Yan as he asked in a deep voice, “Is it alright?”

“Haha, old Feng, please relax. One need not be afraid of one’s shadow being crooked if one stands straight. I have seen many little tricks of falsely accusing someone after they have lost. This is nothing surprising.” Xiao Yan smiled, nodded, and reassured him.

Feng zun-zhe felt a lot more reassured after hearing Xiao Yan’s words. Since he dared to speak in this manner, it was likely that he had some confidence.

Feng Qing Er by the side was extremely infuriated by Xiao Yan’s words. Her pretty face wore a cold smile as she said, “You can just act tough. If I end up finding it later, I will definitely let you suffer the consequences.”

The corner of Xiao Yan’s mouth was lifted into an unusual smile. He softly said, “If you fail to find anything, Miss Feng might have to apologize to me in public.”

Feng Qing Er’s eyes were ice-cold. She let out a cold snort as she bit her finger. A droplet of bright-red blood fell from it and was immediately suspended in front of her. It vaguely emitted a strange glow in the process.

Xiao Yan glanced at this droplet of blood. The blood was crimson in color, but if one were to carefully observe it, one would be able to see an extremely faint-green color in it. Xiao Yan thought deeply when he saw this scene. The blood of the mysterious dried corpse was clearly a lot denser than Feng Qing Er’s blood. From the looks of it, the blood of that mysterious dried corpse was definitely purer than Feng Qing Er’s blood.

Feng Qing Er’s face was frosty. Her finger led the droplet of blood to form a mysterious seal. With a toss of her hand, the seal paused above Xiao Yan’s head. A circular red-colored luster was emitted from it as it slowly wrapped around Xiao Yan’s body.

Xiao Yan clearly sensed an unusual energy when his body was covered by the red-colored light barrier. It was slowly scanning his body, and he vaguely felt as though someone was snooping around.

Xiao Yan’s face was completely impassive through this. However, he was laughing coldly in his heart. For him to be bold enough to allow Feng Qing Er to search him in public, it was only natural that he was confident that he could hide the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood...

The red-colored glow slowly spread through Xiao Yan’s body. It specifically scanned the ring on his hand multiple times, but not even the hint of an unusual phenomenon appeared. This caused Feng Qing Er’s face to appear uglier.

Feng zun-zhe by the side sighed in relief within his heart when he saw Feng Qing Er’s expression.

The search continued for some time before the red glow finally began to disappear. The seal had also transformed into a red ray of light that was absorbed into the green-faced Feng Qing Er's body.

"Miss Feng, has there been any results?" Xiao Yan glanced at Feng Qing Er as he inquired.

"Where have you hidden the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood?" Feng Qing Er clenched her silver teeth. Her appearance was as though she desperately wanted to pounce over and strip Xiao Yan, conducting a complete search over him. She had clearly sensed the existence of the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood earlier. However, the result of her search had caused her to suffer a great blow. Her searching skill was extremely sensitive to the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. Seldom was there any situation where it would be wrong...

The expression of Feng zun-zhe by the side sank. He cried out in a cold voice, "Feng Qing Er, don't think that this venerable self (Dou Zun) cannot do anything to you just because you are a member of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. If you continue to stir trouble, do not blame this venerable self (Dou Zun) for not giving the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe any face!"

Feng Qing Er's pretty face changed a little when she heard Feng zun-zhe cold cry. Lei zun-zhe by the side could only step forward when he saw this. "Qing Er, the matter today might be just a misunderstanding..."

"But..."

Feng Qing Er became anxious. She was about to retort when she saw Lei zun-zhe knit his eyebrows. All she could do was swallow her words. Ultimately, she was Lei zun-zhe's disciple. She had no choice but to obey his words. Moreover, she knew that with Feng zun-zhe protecting Xiao Yan, the matter today was likely hopeless. If she were able to find the Ancient Phoenix Blood on Xiao Yan's body, she would be able to say something. With the reputation of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe, it was likely that even Feng zun-zhe would have to weigh his options a little. Unfortunately...

Feng Qing Er was furious in her heart. In the end, all she could do was viciously stare at Xiao Yan as she coldly said, "I will not simply just drop this matter."

Xiao Yan smiled. He replied in a light voice, "Miss Feng seems to have forgotten something? As chief disciple of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, I think that you despise people who go back on their word, no?"

Feng Qing Er's face immediately turned green when she heard this. Her hand was clenched, emitting a cracking sound as it did so. Only a long while later did she forcefully say a couple of words from her mouth, "I'm sorry."

Xiao Yan grinned. He was too lazy to continue getting entangled with this woman. He took a step back and withdrew behind Feng zun-zhe.

Feng zun-zhe sighed in relief after seeing this matter come to an end. He smiled to Lei zun-zhe and said, "Ke ke, the result of the match is already known. According to our prior agreement, the grudge between Xiao Yan and the Wind Lightning Pavilion will be written off, right?"

The corner of Lei zun-zhe's mouth twitched a little. Although his heart was filled with fury, he would naturally not swallow his own words in public given his status. All he could do was stiffly nod his head. A lightning glow flickered through his eyes as he stared at Xiao Yan intently. He said, "On account of Feng zun-zhe, I shall not take you to task for the matter between you and the Wind Lightning Pavilion. However, I hope that you know what is good for yourself in the future. If the Three Thousand Lightning Movement is leaked by you, this venerable self (Dou Zun) will personally kill you!"

Xiao Yan merely smiled in the face of Lei zun-zhe's words that contained a hidden threat. He cupped his hands together and said, "Lei zun-zhe, please rest assured."

Feng zun-zhe by the side glanced at the ugly face of Lei zun-zhe. He grinned as his eyes looked all around him and laughed, "Lei zun-zhe is really magnanimous. However, it is likely that the Four Pavilion Grand Meeting will have difficulty continuing today. In terms of strength, the Wind Lightning Pavilion is indeed much stronger. In that case, it seems that this season's leader spot is still retained in the hands of the Wind Lightning Pavilion."

Xiao Yan's matter was only resolved because of the presence of Feng zun-zhe. Regardless of how unwilling they were in their hearts, they, at the very least, needed to give Feng zun-zhe face on the surface. In that case, Feng zun-zhe would naturally return them a little of the favor. Moreover, the empty name of being the so-called leader of the four pavilions was the best choice. In any case, this position did not possess any actual authority. It only sounded nice. Additionally, if one wished to compare strengths, none of the other three pavilion's younger generation was a match for Feng Qing Er. Of course, this was naturally only after Xiao Yan had been excluded. From the fight earlier, the stronger of the two had already become known to a countless number of people.

Lei zun-zhe's expression became slightly warmer when he heard Feng zun-zhe's words. Jian zun-zhe and Huang Quan zun-zhe could only nod their heads after a brief moment of hesitation. Tang Ying was definitely no match for Feng Qing Er. Wang Chen, on the other hand, had already been crippled by Xiao Yan from the start. How could he fight with others....

"Ke ke, since the Grand Meeting is over, the old me shall not stay any longer. I will come and visit if I have time in the future..." Feng zun-zhe laughed. He cupped his hands to Lei zun-zhe. After which, he waved his hand and a wild wind rose around him.

Immediately, the wind affinity energy around them began to automatically gather. Finally, it formed an enormous wind eagle in front of an innumerable number of eyes.

“Let’s go...”

Feng zun-zhe beckoned with his hand. His body moved and he leaped onto the enormous eagle. Mu Qing Luan followed closely behind. After beckoning Lin Yan, who was a short distance away, to follow, he leaped onto the large eagle.

Feng zun-zhe placed both of his hands behind him after seeing that the few of them had leaped onto the large eagle. He stood on the head of the eagle while it flapped its wings. After which, it brought about a strong wind as it cut through the air with a ‘swoosh’ sound, flying away from the Wind Lightning Mountain Range. Within a couple of flashes, it completely disappeared from the focus of a countless number of gazes.

Jian zun-zhe and Huang Quan zun-zhe bid Lei zun-zhe goodbye after watching the enormous eagle disappear. Finally, they grabbed their disciples and swiftly left the Lightning Mountain.

After Jian zun-zhe left, only the people from the Wind Lightning Pavilion were left behind. Only at this moment, did Lei zun-zhe expression completely become gloomy. His eyes turned to Feng Qing Er as he asked, “Did you really sense the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood earlier?”

“I’m definitely right! However, I am also unaware of why I am unable to find it.” Feng Qing Er nodded and spoke with absolute certainty.

Lei zun-zhe slightly nodded. He immediately spoke in a sinister manner, “You should return and report this matter to the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. At that time, the experts in your clan will definitely intervene and capture Xiao Yan. If the people from the Falling Star Pavilion stop them, it should not be difficult for the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe to finish them off given its strength...”

Feng Qing Er hesitated for a moment when she heard this. Finally, she clenched her silver teeth and nodded.

“Since you refuse to cripple your Three Thousand Lightning Movement yourself, I shall cause you to be unable to use any other Dou Skills in the future...”

A cold expression surfaced on Lei zun-zhe’s face. His soft mumbling was filled with a killing intent that caused those few people around to tremble.

Fierce wind suddenly rose in the serene-blue sky. An enormous eagle carried a lightning storm as it flew. On the back of the eagle sat a couple of figures. Xiao Yan was among them..

At this moment, Xiao Yan was seated cross-legged on the back of the eagle. His gaze looked in the direction of the Lightning Mountain and found that it had disappeared. His tensed heart finally relaxed. Immediately, he clenched his teeth and a jade-green flame was fiercely burning on his hand!

“What is it?”

Feng zun-zhe’s figure instantly appeared beside Xiao Yan as he asked in surprise.

Xiao Yan did not reply. His eyes were staring intently at the burning flame in his hand. Droplets of green-red blood were mixed in the rising flame. This blood, that contained a shocking energy ripple, was slowly being forced out!

Feng zun-zhe, Mu Qing Luan, and Lin Yan revealed a shocked expression when they saw this. Xiao Yan had hidden this thing in the Heavenly Flame earlier. No wonder it was not detected...

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Chapter 1034: Absorption

The jade-green flame fiercely burned. A high temperature spread from it, causing the surrounding fierce wind to become much hotter as a result. However, no one paid any attention to this. The eyes of Feng zun-zhe and the others were merely staring at the interior of the flame. There were three droplets of red-green blood rotating inside.

“It is indeed the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. Moreover, the color is so dense. It is likely that it can only be refined from the blood of some Heaven Demon Phoenix who have reached the Dou Zun class...” Mu Qing Luan’s pretty face changed by the side when she saw the three droplets of green-red blood. At the same time, she also let out an exclamation. She was a member of the Mythical Bird Tribe. Although her tribe could not be compared with the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe, she did have a great understanding of their tribe. Hence, she was able to see just how precious these three droplets of green-red blood were at a glance.

Even the expression of Feng zun-zhe changed when he heard Mu Qing Luan’s words. A Dou Zun class Heaven Demon Phoenix? Such a strength would definitely be ranked among those old demons, who would not die, even within the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. How was it possible for this Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood to land in Xiao Yan’s hands?

“However, it is fortunate that it was not discovered earlier. Otherwise, it would likely have been really troublesome. A Dou Zun class Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood is sufficient to get the Heaven Demon Phoenix to mobilize their forces. The both of you

must not leak this matter to anyone.” Feng zun-zhe’s expression had become much more solemn. His eyes revealed a sternness.

Mu Qing Luan and Lin Yan nodded when they heard these words. They clearly understood just what kind of trouble it would bring Xiao Yan if this matter were to spread.

“The Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood has already been forced out by Xiao Yan. Why is it that his expression...” Lin Yan’s eyes swept over Xiao Yan’s face as he suddenly asked with some hesitation.

Feng zun-zhe and Mu Qing Luan also threw their eyes toward Xiao Yan when they heard this. They did indeed see that his face was blood-red in color. His body’s temperature was also frighteningly hot. There was a bitter expression between his brows. It was as though he was resisting something.

There is more than just these three drops of Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. The remainder should still be in his body. However... it seems that he cannot force them out.” Feng zun-zhe sharp eyes swiftly sensed the problem, and he explained it in a deep voice.

“What should we do?” Lin Yan became anxiously as he hurriedly asked.

“The interior of the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood contains the strength of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe’s bloodline. It is impossible for an ordinary person to absorb it. After all, the constitution of a human is far inferior to that of a Heaven Demon Phoenix. If one forcefully absorbs it, it is likely that one might end up bursting apart. The only thing that we can do now is to help force out the remaining Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood within his body.” Mu Qing Luan spoke with a bitter smile.

“There is no way to force it out. Earlier, Xiao Yan hid the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood inside the Heavenly Flame to avoid Feng Qing Er’s search. However, the Heavenly Flame’s temperature is extremely high. It has caused some of the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood’s energy to spread. Now, it has basically spread all over his body. It is already impossible to completely force it out.” Feng zun-zhe shook his head as he revealed another problem.

Mu Qing Luan spread her hands when she heard this. She was helpless if this was the case.

“Let’s take a look at the situation first...”

Feng zun-zhe voiced his thoughts. If he were to randomly intervene in the matter now, it was likely that he would only add to the problem. Hence, it was best to first see if Xiao Yan could rely on his own strength to force this Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood out of his body.

While the three of them were conversing, Xiao Yan's skin was becoming boiling hot. Its color had also turned blood-red. At a glance, he appeared just like a frightening blood person.

Of course, Xiao Yan's outer appearance was not the only one affected. At this moment, the interior of Xiao Yan's body was in complete chaos. Green-red energy was just like wild, galloping horses that crazily rocketed through the interior of his body. The crazy violence that was contained within it caused the interior of Xiao Yan's body to repeatedly emit waves after waves of intense throbbing pain.

"Dammit.."

Xiao Yan's mind tried its best to suppress the uprising within his body as he quietly cursed. Originally, he had refined five droplets of green red blood from the Magical Beast dried corpse. After using one droplet when refining a medicinal pill in the Inner Academy, he only had four droplets remaining. He had forced out three droplets earlier. In other words, there was still one droplet of green-red blood remaining in his body. The main culprit of turning his body into such chaos was this drop of damn green-red blood.

The green-red blood had completely split apart when it was in the Heavenly Flame earlier. After which, it transformed into numerous violent energies that spread apart and randomly charged about within Xiao Yan's body.

"I don't believe that I am unable to subdue you after having managed to refine you!"

Xiao Yan viciously grit his teeth as he studied the chaotic situation within his body. A thought passed through his mind and Spiritual Strength surged from between his brows. After which, it wildly invaded his body and forcefully chased the scattered energy in a certain direction.

Simply waiting for the wild energy to scatter more would only cause his internal injuries to become more and more serious. Hence, he needed to gather the scattered energy together and completely finish them off in a clean sweep!

The resistance of the green-red, violent energy was extremely high. They were just like wild horses that could not be subdued, requiring Xiao Yan to exhaust a great amount of Spiritual Strength in order to drag them away. Thus, the exhaustion of his Spiritual Strength was unusually great. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan had successfully advanced to the Dou Zong class. Otherwise, it was likely difficult for him to complete such a difficult task.

Spiritual Strength randomly moved through every part of his body without tiring, doing its best to chase down the green-red, wild energy. Despite the great exhaustion of his Spiritual Strength, it was quite effective. In less than ten minutes, the green-red energy, that had scattered throughout his body, had been gathered together, transforming into a palm-sized green-red energy cluster.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief within his heart as he observed this cluster of violent energy, that had been gathered together. He immediately sighed in relief. A thought passed through his mind and the jade-green flame surged out, turning into a fire cauldron. It coincidentally wrapped the cluster of energy inside it.

The fire cauldron had just wrapped the energy cluster when a frighteningly high temperature seeped from it!

The green-red energy seemed to have sensed some danger when the high temperature rose. It scattered apart, transforming into a countless number of clusters that shot in all directions. However, the fire cauldron at this moment had already become extremely tough under the control of Xiao Yan's mind. Hence, the green-red energies were reflected back when they knocked into the fire cauldron, becoming a chaotic cluster.

When these wild and violent energies turned to chaos, the fire cauldron's high temperature swiftly rose. The frighteningly high temperature gradually caused the tiny green-red energy seeds to gradually turn into nothingness. Finally, it transformed into a wisp of green-red fog and slowly drifted out of the fire cauldron.

The green-red fog no longer showed the violent and untamable properties in it after being refined by the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. Instead, it gently drifted out and merged into his bones, veins, muscles, cells...

Following the merger of this green-red fog and his body, Xiao Yan was surprised to find that everything in his body seemed to have been given a strength enhancer at this moment. Their strength and toughness was slowly raising...

"This Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood is indeed a great spiritual medicine for raising the strength of one's body. However, it is likely that the effect would have been even better if it had been used to refine a medicinal pill..."

Xiao Yan let out a quiet sigh within his heart as he sensed the change in his body. Immediately, he felt somewhat regretful.

Of course, this kind of regret naturally disappeared immediately after it appeared. The current Xiao Yan also understood that it was indeed not easy to absorb such Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. If he didn't possess the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, it was likely that the interior of his body would have turned into a mess because of the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood.

Due to the repeated refinement of the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, green-red fog repeatedly seeped out of the top of the fire cauldron. This momentum showed signs of it gradually becoming denser.

When this green-red fog repeatedly penetrated into Xiao Yan's body, the feeling of his physical body becoming stronger also became more and more obvious. Xiao Yan had

an illusion that if he had sufficient Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood, his body would likely become as strong as that of a Heaven Demon Phoenix. Of course, the precondition to this was that he was able to endure the continuous strengthening. The Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood was really a little too violent for a human. If he was careless, his body might explode because of his strength being raised too much...

“Body explosion?”

Xiao Yan suddenly trembled when he thought of this. He instantly recovered from the joy of having his physical body being strengthened. This kind of green-red fog did indeed possess an exceptionally great effect when it came to strengthening one’s body. However... if one were to absorb too much of it, it would likely become a disaster.

Xiao Yan’s mind entered the fire cauldron. At this moment, there were still two-thirds left of the green-red energy cluster. Just one-third made Xiao Yan feel like his body wouldn’t be able to endure. If the remainder was completely absorbed by his body, it was likely that his body would really explode...

Xiao Yan’s heart felt a chill when he thought of this. However, if he did not completely refine this Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood in this situation, it would randomly dart around his body. The harm it would cause would also be quite great, yet if he continued the refinement, his body would be unable to endure such wild, violent energy at his current strength...

At this moment, Xiao Yan had undoubtedly entered a dilemma.

While Xiao Yan was hesitating, the refinement within the fire cauldron did not come to a stop. Wave after wave of green-red fog curled and rose up, covering every inch of Xiao Yan’s body in that fog.

Xiao Yan mournfully discovered that his body was gradually beginning to be unable to absorb any more while the green-red fog permeated it. However, the green-red fog could not be bothered with all this. It still continuously invaded Xiao Yan’s body.

Xiao Yan’s body gradually began to show signs of a swelling pain following the repeated entry of the green-red fog.

Xiao Yan softly sighed as he sensed the vague pain that appeared in his swollen muscles.

“Dammit, I have overdone it this time around...”

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Chapter 1035: Bone Wing’s Transformation

On the enormous fierce wind eagle, Lin Yan watched Xiao Yan's body as the blood-red color gradually diminished. He let out a sigh of relief. It seemed that he was gradually absorbing the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood within his body...

"This fellow is actually absorbing the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood?" Mu Qing Luan by the side was startled when she saw this scene. She immediately voiced her surprise.

Feng zun-zhe slightly nodded. Although there was no change in Xiao Yan's aura, he was still able to sense his strength increasing by relying on the sharp senses of of an elite Dou Zun.

"The Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood does possess a great effect in raising the strength of a person's body. However, once the body is unable to endure that kind of strengthening, it is likely that it will end up exploding." Mu Qing Luan knit her eyebrows as she softly said.

Lin Yan was startled when he heard this. Immediately, the expression in his eyes changed while he was looking at Xiao Yan. He hurriedly said, "It seems that something is not quite right..."

Feng zun-zhe and Mu Qing Luan quickly turned their eyes to Xiao Yan when they heard his voice. They could see that Xiao Yan's body was vaguely showing signs of swelling...

"It is really the case of what I said coming true..." Mu Qing Luan bitterly laughed when she saw this scene. She sighed, "Xiao Yan's body is unable to absorb so much Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. This is the forewarning of the explosion of one's body..."

Feng zun-zhe's expression changed slightly. He stepped forward and appeared beside Xiao Yan's body. His hand was extended but it was hurriedly stopped by Mu Qing Luan by the side. "Currently, the interior of Xiao Yan's body is in a full state. If any other energy is inserted, it is likely that his body will immediately burst apart."

Feng zun-zhe intently frowned. He said in a deep voice, "If this continues, he will sooner or later end up dying from his body bursting apart because of that Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood."

Mu Qing Luan bitterly laughed as she said, "No one knows if he has any other tactics. If we were to randomly intervene, it is likely that we will make matters worse."

Feng zun-zhe hesitated for a moment upon hearing this. All he could do, however, was to withdraw his hand. He looked at Xiao Yan's swelling body, clenched his teeth, and said, "If he still doesn't have any solution after some time, I can only intervene."

"Only the people from the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribes possess the ability to completely absorb the bloodline strength within the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood. If they absorb it, they will be able to cause every part of their body or their bloodline to

become even purer. However, if a human were to absorb it, the process will be filled with danger. I don't know if I should say that this fellow is too bold or ignorant..." Mu Qing Luan nodded. Her eyes looked at Xiao Yan, who was continuing to swell, as she muttered to herself.

The fierce wind eagle flapped its enormous wings, circling in the sky. The surrounding wild gale separated a great distance away, causing a quiet space to appear on the back of the enormous eagle.

Feng zun-zhe and the two others were all focused on Xiao Yan's swelling body. In less than ten breath's time, Xiao Yan had actually transformed into a large fat person. The flesh all over his body appeared just like a balloon with air being blown in it as it bulged out. While Xiao Yan's body was swelling in this manner, a painful expression had also covered his face. However, he had clenched his teeth and endured it.

Feng zun-zhe's eyes stared intently at Xiao Yan's swollen body. His fingers had already slowly curled involuntarily under his sleeves. Wave after wave of spiraling wind, that emitted some sharpness, appeared.

"Hu..."

Xiao Yan's body had swelled to his limit within a couple of breath's time. The small blood vessels on his skin had started to burst apart. Fresh blood seeped out, making him look like a terrifying blood person. Feng zun-zhe was unable to endure it any longer when he saw Xiao Yan in this state. He inhaled a deep breath of air and slowly raised his hand. A majestic natural energy agglomerated with lightning-like speed. He intended to force out the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood from within Xiao Yan's body!

Mu Qing Luan could only sigh softly when she saw that Feng zun-zhe was about to intervene. Thus, it was likely that Xiao Yan would suffer an extremely serious injury even if his life could be saved. Moreover, the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood could also be considered to have been completely wasted...

The gathering of the energy became swifter and fiercer. An instant later, it was suddenly formed. Feng zun-zhe's face was as deep as water. His sleeve was waved and was just about to transfer that energy into Xiao Yan's body when he suddenly opened his eyes!

Feng zun-zhe was startled when he saw Xiao Yan open his eyes. The majestic energy in his hand also stopped as a result.

Xiao Yan, who had opened his eyes, swiftly formed some seals with his hands. Soon after, he let out a deep cry. A muffled sound could be heard by Feng zun-zhe and the two others as a pair of ten-foot-large gem-like bone wings swiftly spread apart.

Xiao Yan's body had strangely ceased swelling when the bone wings appeared. Wave after wave of green-red energy, visible to the naked eye, followed Xiao Yan's skin and

swiftly flowed. They poured into the bone wings on Xiao Yan's back in a lightning-like manner!

A strange scene appeared as this increasing amount of green-red energy poured into the bone wings. One could see that the crystal clear, jade-like bone wings began to slowly extend. Moreover, numerous unusual green-red lines spread through the empty bone wings. At a glance, they appeared like countless of tiny blood vessels...

The green-red energy stretched the size of this pair of bone wings by over two times. Moreover, the dense green-red lines also caused the bone wings to possess a mysterious feeling. They were gently flapped as a low, deep sonic boom immediately resounded over the place. A wild wind also spread out.

With the bone wings absorbing the overbearing, violent, green-red energy, Xiao Yan's swelling body swiftly shrank. Within a short couple of breath's time, he had returned to his normal size. Although his body was still covered with fresh blood, the painful expression on his face had gradually disappeared.

Feng zun-zhe and the two others were a little stunned when they saw the enormous bone wings on Xiao Yan's back, especially when they heard the sound made from its flapping. The shock on their faces became even denser.

"This is... Heaven Demon Phoenix Wings?"

Mu Qing Luan's eyes stared at the pair of bone wings on Xiao Yan's back. A moment later, she finally inhaled a breath of cold air as she uttered those words.

"Yes, you should be right. Back then, I also saw some of the old demons from the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe using them. Although this pair of wings belonging to Xiao Yan does not have any phoenix feathers, the scent on it is similar to that of the Heaven Demon Phoenix wings." Feng zun-zhe slowly nodded. Even with his mental strength, his face involuntarily revealed some shock upon seeing that Xiao Yan possessed a pair of Heaven Demon Phoenix wings.

"This fellow... don't tell me he killed a member of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe? Otherwise, how is it possible for him to possess the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood and this pair of Heaven Demon Phoenix wings? If the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe becomes aware of this, it is likely that they will dispatch experts to kill Xiao Yan." Mu Qing Luan gradually withdrew the shock on her face as she muttered. Only now did she feel that this disciple of her teacher's old friend, who had suddenly appeared, was very mysterious.

Feng zun-zhe slightly nodded his head. He also found things to be a little troublesome. This little fellow was indeed quite bold. Even Yao Chen and him would have thought twice before touching someone from the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. It was

unexpected that this little fellow had not only removed the essence blood but had even created these bone wings.

Xiao Yan's tightly shut eyes twitched while the two of them were speaking. Soon after, Xiao Yan slowly opened them and saw Feng zun-zhe's group who were looking at him. He bitterly laughed, "I'm sorry. I did not expect things to end up like this..."

"Are you alright?" Feng zun-zhe shook his head and asked.

Xiao Yan stood up and clenched his fist. A torrent-like overwhelming strength immediately surged through his limbs and bones. This kind of comfortable feeling of caused Xiao Yan to involuntarily let out a howl to the sky!

The howl rumbled. There was a vague dragon roar and phoenix cry within it that shook one's heart!

"Phoenix cry? Dragon roar?"

Feng zun-zhe's heart immediately trembled when he heard this howl. His eyes were somewhat strange as he looked to Xiao Yan. He said, "Phoenix cry and dragon roar. These are top sonic waves in the world. If used together with a sonic wave Dou Technique, their strength will be extremely great. Unexpectedly, you possess both together..."

Xiao Yan was similarly startled. That little dragon's roar had originated from the Yin-Yang Mysterious Dragon Pill back then. As for this phoenix cry... could it be because of that Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood?

"You should hide these Heaven Demon Phoenix wings first. Try your best to avoid using them in the future. Otherwise, should the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe discover them, you will likely be faced with great trouble..." Feng zun-zhe reminded.

Xiao Yan's eyes rolled when he heard this. He was startled when he saw that the bone wings had transformed. The bone wings were gently flapped, and he could see wild wind surging from them. A low sonic boom was formed under the wings. It was just like the noise from a cannon that caused one to feel shaken.

"The bone wings have become so much stronger. I think that their speed should have increased quite a lot. Looks like the remaining Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood has been absorbed by them..." joy surged in Xiao Yan's heart as he sensed the strength of the current bone wings. If he were to use the Three Thousand Lightning Movement in addition, it was likely that even Fei Tian would no longer be able to catch up with him.

A thought passed through Xiao Yan's mind, returning the bone wings to his body. After which, he took out a cloth to wipe off the blood on his body. When he did so, he discovered that his skin radiated a faint green color. When his finger pressed his skin

with great force, he felt a flexibility that was just like the skin of an animal. This caused Xiao Yan's face to become stunned.

"This skin of mine could likely even be compared with some Magical Beasts. This Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood is indeed good stuff for refining one's flesh... if I take a little more, will it turn me into a Magical Beast?"

Xiao Yan mocked. Although there was no increase in the Dou Qi, his physical body was much stronger than before. In other words, his endurance had also become much greater. If he were to fight head-on when battling others in the future, he would likely be able to gain a great advantage.

Feng zun-zhe sighed in relief after seeing that Xiao Yan found nothing amiss during his detailed check of his body. Immediately, his eyes stared at Xiao Yan as he slowly said, "Little fellow, since you are fine, can you tell me where your teacher is?"

Xiao Yan's fist suddenly tightened when he heard this question from Feng zun-zhe.

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Chapter 1036: Events of the Past

Mu Qing Luan by the side raised her ears when she heard Feng zun-zhe's words. She was also very curious about Xiao Yan's background. Although Feng zun-zhe had many friends, she didn't know of a friend whom he would be so concerned about after all these years...

Xiao Yan tightly clenched his fist. A fierce glint vaguely appeared in his eyes. A moment later he suppressed the fluctuating emotion within his heart. He inhaled a deep breath of air as he slowly said, "Old Feng should also be aware of the matter about teacher back then, right?"

"He was not with me when something happened to him. By the time I discovered something amiss, Han Feng had already announced to the public that the old fellow had suffered a backlash when he was refining a pill and ended up self-destructing. I will naturally never believe such words, and I interrogated Han Feng quite a number of times about this. However, this fellow is extremely cunning, and I failed to learn anything through my questioning. After this continued a couple of times, he also disappeared from the Central Plains region. Only at that time did I vaguely sense the disappearance of that old fellow was related to him. However, I am unable to find any information about Han Feng after searching the Central Plains for so many years." Feng zun-zhe's eyes stared intently at Xiao Yan as he spoke with a deep voice.

Xiao Yan sighed softly and whispered, "Teacher was indeed harmed by Han Feng back then."

“Boom!”

Feng zun-zhe’s expression almost instantly turned dark, chilly when Xiao Yan’s words sounded. A dense killing intent surged out of his body, causing the temperature of this place to significantly drop.

“This bastard, Yao Chen had raised him after he was abandoned as a baby and had taught him all that he knew, yet he dared to betray his teacher? Has his conscience really been eaten by a dog. Back then, the old me should have killed this bastard with a slap!” A fury surged onto Feng zun-zhe’s face as he cried out.

Mu Qing Luan covered her neck when she saw Feng zun-zhe this furious. Feng zun-zhe was usually light and carefree. Seldom would he lose himself in such a manner.

“Yao Chen? Could he be that life and death good friend of teacher, the pavilion chief of the Falling Star Pavilion that has never shown himself, Yao Chen, Yao zun-zhe?” Mu Qing Luan muttered this name in her mouth before she immediately seemed to have recalled something. Her pretty eyes were stunned as she looked at Xiao Yan and involuntarily cried out.

“Pavilion chief?” Xiao Yan was startled when he heard this. He was unaware that Yao Lao had been Pavilion chief.

“The Falling Star Pavilion was founded by Yao Chen and me back then. However, he doesn’t like these matters and the place was more or less managed by me. Although he has been missing during these years, the position of pavilion chief still remains because I know that with the old fellow’s ability, he would not die so easily.” Feng zun-zhe waved his hand as he explained.

Xiao Yan slightly nodded. It was unexpected that teacher would be the pavilion chief of the Falling Star Pavilion in name. In that case, was he not considered a member of the Falling Star Pavilion?

“Let’s not talk about this for now. Once I return, I will issue a wanted order. I think that the bastard Han Feng is still alive. If he lands in my hands, I will definitely let him suffer a fate where he cannot even beg to die!” Feng zun-zhe spoke in a dark manner. It seemed that Han Feng had completely infuriated him.

“If it’s a wanted order, there is probably no need...” Xiao Yan shook his head. He flicked his finger and a jade bottle appeared from his Storage Ring. His finger rubbed over the mouth of the bottle as an illusionary spiritual body was hurriedly released.

“Xiao Yan, just what will it take for you to let me off...” Han Feng’s soul roared in a flustered and exasperated manner after escaping the bottle. However, his roar had yet to finish when it came to a sudden halt. A frightened expression that was difficult to hide appeared on his face.

“Han Feng!”

Feng zun-zhe’s eyes were dense as he looked at Han Feng’s soul in front of him. Two words that contained a chilly killing intent were slowly emitted between his teeth.

“Feng zun-zhe?”

Han Feng’s eyes were dull as he looked at Feng zun-zhe in front of him. An instant later he immediately let out a shocked scream and hurriedly turn to flee.

Feng zun-zhe’s eyes were ice-cold. His fingers were curled into claws as he sucked at Han Feng. A frightening suction forcefully pulled Han Feng back. After which, it grabbed Han Feng’s neck like an eagle claw would grab a small animal. That usually benign-looking, old face had become unusually frightening at this moment, “Bastard, you dared attack your teacher? If not for Yao Chen, you would have been swallowed by a wild stray. Beast, you aren’t even worthy of being a pig or a dog!”

Han Feng finally became afraid as he looked at Feng zun-zhe’s eyes, which contained a dense killing intent, that caused one to freeze over. He was also a little afraid of Feng zun-zhe in his heart. Immediately, he hurriedly cried out, “Don’t kill me. This has nothing to do with me. I was also forced by those people from the ‘Hall of Souls’!”

“Hall of Souls?” Feng zun-zhe’s expression changed when he heard this name.

“Old Feng, the ‘Hall of Souls’ seem to be after teacher’s Spiritual Strength. Now, teacher has already fallen into their hands.” Xiao Yan spoke in a low and deep voice.

“It is really related to those bastards!” Feng zun-zhe grit his teeth as he yelled. During his investigations over these years, he had also vaguely discovered something about the ‘Hall of Souls.’ However, he had not expected the ones who had struck at Yao Chen back to be these fellows, who lingered around without disappearing.

“This bastard cannot be allowed to live.” A killing intent flashed across his eyes as he stared at Han Feng icily. Even if it was the ‘Hall of Souls’ who wanted to strike Yao Chen, it would be extremely difficult for them to do so. After all, Yao Chen had a great number of friends. Quite a number of experts from the older generation back then had quite a good relationship with him. With his identity as an alchemist, his ability to summon help with just a wave of his hand was something that would cause even the ‘Hall of Souls’ would have to think twice despite their strength. However, Yao Chen had eventually disappeared in an abrupt manner. Clearly, this was because a traitor had betrayed him, resulting in him lacking the time to gather helpers. Who else could this traitor be other than this bastard Han Feng?

“Old Feng, wait. We still need Han Feng to guide us in order for us to find the branch hall where Yao Lao is being imprisoned. It is not the right time to kill him.” Xiao Yan hurriedly spoke when he saw this situation.

“It is likely that the ‘Hall of Souls’ does not only want the old fellow’s soul. Perhaps, they attach a greater value on his ability to refine pills. Back then, I became vaguely aware that the ‘Hall of Souls’ seemed to be quietly acting on a grand plan. This plan required quite a number of outstanding alchemists... during that big fight at the Ancient Mansion, which had turned the entire Central Plains into an uproar, Yao Chen and I had exchanged blows with the ‘Hall of Souls.’ It is likely that he had caught their eye at that time.” Feng zun-zhe nodded, mused for a moment, and suddenly made a guess.

“Ancient Mansion?” Xiao Yan was stunned when he heard this.

“It is already an extremely old story. That mansion was passed down from the ancient times. Back then, it attracted over half of the experts of the Central Plains who were at the Dou Zong class and above. However, the treasures inside were indeed shocking. The Qi Method you practice now was obtained by Yao Chen from that place back then.” Feng zun-zhe sighed.

Xiao Yan was once again startled. He involuntarily inhaled a gentle breath. Flame Mantra was actually something that was obtained from that Ancient Mansion...

“Where is that old fellow being imprisoned right now?” Feng zun-zhe glanced icily at Han Feng before demanding.

“The western regions of the Central Plains Underworld City. There is a branch hall of the ‘Hall of Souls’ there. Yao... Yao Chen is being imprisoned there...” Han Feng hesitated for a moment before speaking.

“Underworld City huh. It is unexpected that there is a branch hall of the ‘Hall of Souls’ there...” Feng zun-zhe frowned and asked once again. “How many honorable elders (Dou Zun) are there in that branch?”

“One.” Han Feng’s eyes quietly flickered as he softly replied.

“Do you really think that this venerable self (Dou Zun) does not have any understanding of the ‘Hall of Souls’?” Feng zun-zhe laughed coldly when he heard this. “A branch of the ‘Hall of Souls’ would at least have a chief and a deputy regardless of how low level it is. They are at the honorable elder level. Moreover, that place is one where someone as important as Yao Chen is imprisoned. One honorable elder. Looks like your evil thoughts have yet to be extinguished.”

Han Feng’s body trembled slightly when he heard Feng zun-zhe’s words. The expression of Xiao Yan by the side had also slowly turned dark and solemn. Dammit. He had nearly been tricked by this bastard. Two honorable elders... this was not a matter of summing two up. A lineup consisting of two Dou Zun class experts would have the ability to even wash some top tier factions in the Central Plains in blood. If he had not found Feng zun-zhe and ended up foolishly leading people to Underworld City, it was likely that he would have fallen into their hands.

“Store him away. He might be useful in the future.” Feng zun-zhe’s eyes were dense as he glanced at Han Feng, who was involuntarily trembling. However, he simply laughed and tossed Han Feng to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan nodded his head with a cold smile after receiving Han Feng’s soul. He stuffed him back into the jade bottle. With a random flick of his finger, a wisp of invisible flame rushed in, and a sharp miserable cry once again sounded.

Xiao Yan’s finger rubbed the mouth of the bottle and isolated the miserable cry. After which, he returned it to his Storage Ring. He would wait and see if this fellow could survive being burned by the Fallen Heart Flame. When dealing with such scum, he would not allow them to peacefully die.

“Old Feng, what should we do now?” Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment and asked.

“We cannot be reckless when dealing with this matter, and we cannot allow any information to be leaked. Otherwise, once the ‘Hall of Souls’ transfers Yao Chen, it will be even more difficult for us to find him. You should wait quietly for some time. I will dispatch someone to head to Underworld City to investigate.”

“If we delay for too long...” Xiao Yan spoke in a somewhat worried manner.

“Relax, there are not many people who possess pill refining skills that can be compared with Yao Chen in the Central Plains. The ‘Hall of Souls’ will not easily hurt him.” Feng zun-zhe spoke in a calm manner.

Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment after hearing this but he could only nod his head. The ‘Hall of Souls’ was too powerful. They really could not afford to alert them.

“I will return to the Falling Star Pavilion next. After which, I will begin investigating the ‘Hall of Souls.’ What about you?” Feng zun-zhe’s eyes looked at Xiao Yan as he asked.

Xiao Yan mused for a moment before saying, “I wish to head to the middle regions of the Central Plains region. There is still a year or so left until the Pill Tower’s Pill Gathering. I wish to participate.”

“The Pill Gathering huh?” Feng zun-zhe was startled when he heard this. He immediately smiled and said, “This is also not bad. Back then, that old fellow Yao Chen managed to get a champion spot in that Pill Gathering. He was really glorious. Being his disciple, you must naturally not diminish his reputation. Moreover... according to what I know, the top ten in this Pill Gathering appear to be able to obtain the right to subdue the ‘Three Thousand Burning Flames.’ Perhaps this possesses a fatal attraction to you.”

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Chapter 1037: Heading to the Pill Region

Feng zun-zhe did not say anything more after seeing that Xiao Yan had made up his mind. He mused for a moment before taking out an old piece of jade from his Storage Ring. After which, he handed it to Xiao Yan and said, "Take this star jade. In the future, I will be able to rely on this thing to find you. Moreover, if you meet with any trouble that you cannot resolve, you can shatter it. I will be able to sense it."

Xiao Yan tilted his head. He solemnly received the old piece of jade and placed it in his Storage Ring. After which, he cupped his hands to Feng zun-zhe and said with a deep voice, "Thank you Old Feng."

Feng zun-zhe smiled and waved his hand. His palm patted Xiao Yan's shoulder as he slowly said, "For Yao Chen to pass that Qi Method to you, it is enough to tell that he values you. Back then, that scum Han Feng coveted this Qi Method, but Yao Chen did not hand it over to him."

Xiao Yan quietly nodded. Yao Lao had spent an immense amount of effort on him, something that Xiao Yan was naturally aware of. Hence, his heart treated Yao Lao like his father. During these years, he had personally put in a ton of effort in order to obtain the strength to rescue Yao Lao.

Xiao Yan's training journey was a lonely and harsh one, yet he had grit his teeth and endured. In order for him to be able to walk to this point from being the trash of his clan back then, the hardships and effort he faced was naturally something that others had difficulty comparing with. People like Feng Qing Er and Tang Ying might indeed have extremely outstanding talent, but they also possessed the support of a great faction behind them. However, Xiao Yan could only rely on Yao Lao and his own hard work.

"Once I return to the Falling Star Pavilion, I will try my best to inquire about the factions within Underworld City. During this period of time, I will quietly make contact with some people who were friends with Yao Chen back then. If I am able to gather them, snatching Yao Chen back should not be difficult." Feng zun-zhe spoke. Although the strength of the Falling Star Pavilion was quite strong, there was still quite a gap when compared with a great being like the 'Hall of Souls.' Moreover, the 'Hall of Souls' was mysterious and unfathomable. No one knew its exact strength. If one was not prepared, it was likely that one would not only fail to rescue Yao Chen but also end up losing the entire Falling Star Pavilion in the process.

Xiao Yan nodded his head. His heart clearly understood just how frightening the 'Hall of Souls' was. Naturally, he knew that he could not be reckless when it came to such matters. If they made a wrong move, it was likely that they would lose everything in the process.

"Alright, we are pressed for time and I shall not stay any longer. Remember, you should be more careful when you are alone in the future. According to my guess, it is likely that

Feng Qing Er will not give up this Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood so easily. You should pay a little more attention. After all, the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe is not full of some nice characters. If you meet with any trouble that you cannot resolve, you should shatter the star jade.” Feng zun-zhe said.

Xiao Yan tilted his head in acknowledgement. After which, he cupped his hands to Feng zun-zhe. He lifted his chin to Lin Yan by the side. Their bodies moved, and they leaped off the back of the enormous eagle and swiftly fell to the ground.

Feng zun-zhe exhaled as he looked at Xiao Yan and Lin Yan fall through the sky. His gaze locked onto the western region of the Central Plains as he muttered, “Old fellow, I have finally obtained news of you. Rest assured that I will definitely rescue you this time around.” Feng zun-zhe waved his sleeves after his words sounded. Wild wind rose and the enormous eagle emitted a loud, clear cry. It flapped its enormous wings, transformed into a fierce gale, and swiftly disappeared into the horizon.

Xiao Yan and Lin Yan rushed down to the top of a mountain, landing on the top of a tree. They raised their heads and looked at Feng zun-zhe’s group disappear. Xiao Yan slowly clenched his fist. He had finally found Feng zun-zhe. In the future, he would no longer need to bitterly rely on himself.

With Xiao Yan’s current strength, he was already able to resolve the Demon Poison Spot within his body himself. Although he could not refine it completely in one attempt, there was no need for him to do it in this manner. The Dou Qi contained within the Demon Poison Spot was too strong. Consuming it in one go would not be very beneficial to him. Step by step refinement was more suitable...

“Xiao Yan, where do you plan to go?’ Lin Yan gradually withdrew his gaze, turned to Xiao Yan, and asked with a smile.

“Where is the Pill Tower located?” Xiao Yan dryly coughed. His eyes swept all around him as he asked with some embarrassment. He knew that the Pill Tower was situated in the middle of the Central Plains, but he was unaware of its exact location.

Lin Yan rolled his eyes when he heard this. The name of the Pill Tower was something that everyone in the Central Plains was aware of. It was unexpected that Xiao Yan had actually asked such a question.

“The location where the Pill Tower is situated is called Pill City. That place has the highest concentration of alchemists on the entire continent. The area within a five hundred kilometer radius of Pill City is the territory of the Pill Tower faction. It is also called the Pill Region. There is still quite a long journey from this place until the Pill City. Even by using the Wormhole, it is likely that we will need a month or so.” Lin Yan spread his hand as he explained.

“In that case, you will lead the way. Let’s find a city with a Wormhole first. After that, we will hurry to the Pill City.” Xiao Yan laughed. It was indeed a lot more convenient for someone who knew the way to lead. It would save him the trouble of randomly roaming around like a headless housefly. Although there was still some time until the Pill Gathering began, he still needed to find the Little Fairy Doctor and Zi Yan before then.

“Yes.” Lin Yan nodded as he said, “You are planning on participating in the Pill Gathering of the Pill Tower, right? Hee hee, coincidentally, Liu Qing’s clan is also located in that region.”

“Liu Qing huh?” Xiao Yan’s face revealed a smile when he heard this familiar name. He also possessed quite a good impression of this forthright fellow.

“That fellow also misses you greatly and frequently speaks about you. However, he is now the clan’s head and possesses a great status. Nevertheless, he is frequently being suppressed by those old fellows in his clan, causing him to feel out of sorts.” Lin Yan laughed.

“If it is along the way, we can go and take a look at this fellow.” Xiao Yan laughed. He similarly missed those friends he had made at the Inner Academy back then.

Lin Yan nodded. His back trembled and a pair of Dou Qi wings were extended. His wings were flapped immediately, and he transformed into a ray of light that flew into the distance. Xiao Yan stepped into the empty air and followed close behind him.

.....

This was a mysterious world. Endless clouds lingered over the distant sky, giving it an appearance of paradise. Moreover, the energy of this place was also exceptionally dense. The effect of training in this place would likely be many times better than other places.

This place was filled with many steep mountain peaks. Occasionally, a couple rays of light would flash through the sky. The vague powerful auras that seeped out of the peaks would likely have attracted quite a number of eyes if it was somewhere else.

An extremely steep mountain peak was located under the clouds and fog. The mountain peaks were just like enormous swords that pierced into the clouds. If one was to raise one’s head and took a look, one would find that it was difficult to see the peak within the lingering clouds and fog.

There was a round, green rock located at the mountain peak where fog lingered. A figure was seated cross-legged on top of the rock. Both of the figure’s hands formed a training seal. While the figure inhaled and exhaled, numerous substance-like Qi lingered over the tip of the figure’s nose without scattering.

The figure was wearing green clothes. It was not one filled with splendor, but emitted an elegance that caused one to be relaxed. The figure's delicate, small waist was being gently restrained by a pale-purple cloth belt that outlined the moving curves of that already delicate waist. If one were to shift one's gaze upwards, one would find a pretty face with a quiet temperament that did not lose to Feng Qing Er. A pair of pretty eyes revealed a wisp of ethereal aura. At a glance, it appeared as though any great fury within one's heart would weaken when looking at this pair of quiet and indifferent eyes.

Such a lady appeared just like a fairy or an uncontaminated clear lotus in the mundane world. Her entire body emitted a kind of misty, rare feeling that caused one to only be able to observe from a distance without being able to fondle. A lady like this, who seemed to be born from the spiritual aura of nature, would likely result in some men feeling ashamed when standing in front of her.

The surrounding natural energy lingered beside this girl, appearing like the stars supporting the moon. The energy entered her body as she desired...

This quiet training continued for nearly an hour or so before the lady's intelligent, beautiful eyes, that had been shut, were slowly opened. Following the opening of her eyes, a wisp of golden-colored flame immediately flashed through them. An unusual pressure also spread out along with the appearance of this golden-colored flame.

Under such an unusual pressure, even the surrounding natural energy had become a little sluggish. It even wiggled slightly.

The lady stood up in an elegant manner. Her tall figure appeared exceptionally enchanting. She turned her head slightly, glanced behind her, and slightly grinned. She said, "Old Ling, show yourself."

That instantaneous smile possessed a kind of great beauty. Even the surrounding nature had become a little brighter because of it.

A shadow behind the lady began to slowly wiggle after the lady's words sounded. Immediately, it transformed into an elderly figure. He respectfully bowed to her as he laughed, "Young miss's perception is really becoming increasingly frightening. I have only just arrived, yet I was already discovered."

The lady was non-committal to this little boot-licking. Her hand randomly lifted some black hair that had landed on her forehead as she asked, "Is there a matter for Old Ling to come here?"

"The old me would not dare to come and interrupt young miss's training if there was nothing." The figure raised his head, revealing an old face. It was Ling Ying, who had once protected Xiao Yan back then. As for this ethereal lady in front, who else could it be other than Xun Er, whom Xiao Yan thought of everyday?

"I am not interested in whatever happens in the clan." Xun Er randomly spoke. She raised her hand and the lingering fog gathered at her palm. Immediately, it transformed into the delicate and handsome face of a man. A rare, warm smile was revealed on her beautiful face when she looked at this face.

Ling Ying also laughed when he heard this. He teasingly said, "I think that young miss will definitely be interested in what I have to say."

Xun Er's eyes paused on the man's face agglomerated from fog. Her pretty eyes glanced at Ling Ying when she heard his words. She then smiled and said, "Hopefully... speak."

Ling Ying coughed softly and slowly said, "According to the latest news that I have obtained, a young man called Xiao Yan has appeared in the northern regions of the Central Plains..."

"Puff!"

The fog, which had gathered into a person's face, scattered. The tall, curvy figure seemed to have gently trembled at this moment. A short while later, she inhaled a gentle breath of somewhat icy-cold air and softly asked, "Are you certain?"

"From what I think, there is a good chance that it is him..." Ling Ying smiled as he replied.

The lady suddenly turned around. Her elegant lovely appearance currently contained a rare joy. She descended from the mountain peak. Her footsteps were determined and were without the slightest hesitation.

"Give the order that I am leaving the Gu Realm!"

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Chapter 1038: Practicing the Flame Creation Skill

Two rays of light shot over from the distant sky. The wind that had been created from the fast speed whistled continuously through the air.

"We are now on the boundary of the northern region. However, if we simply rely on our own flying, it is likely that we will need two to three months in order to reach the Pill Region. However, we are quite lucky. There is a city called Sky Maple City not far from this place. There is coincidentally a wormhole that leads to the middle of the Central Plains there. If we were to take that route, we will be able to save over half the time." Lin Yan, who was leading at the front, suddenly turned his head and spoke to Xiao Yan. Two rays of light flashed through the sky.

Xiao Yan nodded upon hearing this. All he wanted was to arrive in the Pill Region as soon as possible. If he were to estimate the time, he had been separated from the Little Fairy Doctor's group for half a year. He wondered just how they were faring...

"However, you should hide your appearance as much as possible. After the matter with the Lightning Mountain, your current reputation is not inferior to that of Feng Qing Er. Moreover, you possess that so-called Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood in your body. I'm afraid that Feng Qing Er will not give up. She will quietly search for you. It is better for you to cover your appearance a little." Lin Yan reminded.

Xiao Yan naturally did not reject Lin Yan's suggestion. Feng zun-zhe had also mentioned that he should try to avoid coming into conflict with the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe at this moment. Those fellows were no ordinary individuals. If their relationship soured, they would be extremely troublesome to deal with. This was especially the case on the precondition of them having to also deal with the 'Hall of Souls.'

Xiao Yan took the skin-like item from his Storage Ring and placed it over his face. This thing might be useless against a sharp-eyed expert, but it was an extremely convenient way to hide one's appearance.

Lin Yan smiled and nodded when he saw Xiao Yan once again transforming into the ordinary appearance that Lin Yan saw when they had been reunited. After which, he turned around and looked in front of him. The faint outline of an enormous city appeared on the edge of their sight...

"Let's go. We are arriving. Speed up."

Lin Yan waved his hand. After which, he suddenly increased his speed and rushed toward the distant city. Xiao Yan followed close behind him.

As the saying went, a horse would die from galloping if one followed the sight of a mountain and ran. Although they were able to vaguely see the outline of the city, Lin Yan still had to fly for nearly twenty minutes or so with his speed before that enormous city gradually appeared in front of their eyes.

The both of them descended from the sky and successfully entered this city called Sky Maple City. Xiao Yan did not hurry toward the wormhole after entering the city. Instead, made his way to the largest auction house in the city. After which, he spent quite a great amount of money and purchased three types of beast flames.

These kinds of beast flames were usually obtained from the bodies of Magical Beasts. Their strength was not considered great. Some even failed when compares to a flame agglomerated from Dou Qi. Of course, one must also look at the level of the Magical Beast. Those beast flames within some frighteningly strong Magical Beast were naturally quite strong. One example was the unusual black flame of Feng Qing Er. If

one of those old demons from the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe appeared, it was likely that even if Xiao Yan unleashed the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame to its limit, he might not be able to suppress the other party. This was the gap between their strengths.

Lin Yan was also quite surprised that Xiao Yan was collecting such beast flames. However, seeing that Xiao Yan did not give an explanation, he chose not to inquire. Only after Xiao Yan had gathered all the things that he needed did Lin Yan lead Xiao Yan to the center of Sky Maple City.

.....

Xiao Yan stood in the spacious open ground at the center of Sky Maple City. He looked at the thousand-foot-tall dark-black wormhole and involuntarily inhaled a breath of cold air. It was likely that one could only find such a spectacular item in the Central Plains.

“The wormhole of Sky Maple City is created by two elite Dou Zuns together. It is extremely stable and not a single spatial storm has appeared after so many years of use. Thus, the human traffic within Sky Maple City was at a level that no other city within five hundred kilometers could compare with it.” Lin Yan smiled and spoke when he saw Xiao Yan’s shocked manner.

“Two Dou Zuns, no wonder...” Xiao Yan came to a sudden understanding after hearing this. The number of elite Dou Zuns whom he had seen during these years could be counted with one hand. They were basically the few that Xiao Yan had seen at the Lightning Mountain a couple of days ago. In the past, such a strength was really unattainable from his perspective.

“Let’s go. It is already quite late. If we delay any longer, the wormhole will be closed for the day.” Lin Yan waved his hand and swiftly climbed the stairs. After paying two shares of the expensive toll to the guards in front of the wormhole, the two of them successfully entered the wormhole.

Lin Yan took out a palm-sized crude, small boat before entering the wormhole. Xiao Yan had seen this thing. A space boat. It was a transport one could use to fly through a wormhole. When Xiao Yan’s group had arrived in the Central Plains back then, they had also rode on this small thing. However, it was obvious that the quality of this boat belonging to Lin Yan was not very good. It looked exceptionally simple.

“The price of a space boat is extremely expensive. This thing might appear simple and crude, but it cost me a total over two million gold coins in order to get my hands on it. I have risked my life and relied on killing two rank 6 Magical Beast in order to obtain the two million gold coins.” Lin Yan’s face turned a little red when he saw Xiao Yan’s eyes, and he immediately defended himself.

“Hee hee, however, it is fortunate that I managed to luckily enter a cave after having killed those two rank 6 Magical Beast. The agility Dou Technique I am practicing was

obtained from that place. It might look ugly when it is being used, but this agility skill is at the Di class middle level.” Lin Yan became a little enraptured when he spoke until the end. It seemed that he had gained quite a lot from his unique encounter.

“What is this agility Dou Technique called?” Xiao Yan was somewhat curious. He had seen Lin Yan’s agility technique. Although it appeared ugly, it was quite practical.

“Bat Duck Dodging Fire Steps.” Lin Yan rubbed his head and spoke with some embarrassment. The name of this agility Dou Technique lacked ornamental value, just like the way it was used.

“It is quite a good agility Dou Technique. With this agility Dou Technique, it is likely that even some six star Dou Huangs will not be able to harm you.” Xiao Yan looked at the queue in front, nodded, and softly replies.

“This Bat Duck Dodging Fire Steps also have a matching Qi Method known as Fire Bat Method. However, it is only at the Di class low level. Hee hee, I am able to reach this strength during these years all thanks to this Fire Bat Method...” Lin Yan moved closer to Xiao Yan and proudly laughed.

Xiao Yan also laughed when he heard this. His heart immediately let out a soft sigh. Currently, the Flame Mantra was stuck at the Di class low level. A Qi Method of this level might be sufficient for him when he was in the Dou Huang class, but now that he had advanced to the Dou Zong class, his requirement for Qi Methods had also become even harsher. It seemed that he needed to quickly raise the Qi Method’s level...

“I am about to enter the Pill Region and should also prepare some items as soon as possible. It is best that I practice the Flame Creation Skill that I have obtained. Otherwise, the remaining ‘Life Transforming Flame’ would only support my usage of the Extermination Fire Lotus once. This is not enough...” Xiao Yan thought in his heart. Although he had already advanced to the Dou Zong class, the only powerful trump card he had that could kill an old demon like Fei Tian was this Extermination Fire Lotus. Hence, he needed to prepare this thing beforehand. The Pill Region was situated in the middle of the Central Plains region. Other than the Pill Tower, there were many powerful factions that were not weaker than the Wind Lightning Pavilion there. If he wanted to survive in that place, he would find it difficult to navigate it should he not possess some trump cards.

While Xiao Yan was deep in thought, the queue had reached their turn. The two of them strode forward and entered the enormous wormhole. A spatial fluctuation appeared and the two of them disappeared into it.

.....

The interior of the dark-black spatial tunnel had two spatial walls that had been created from spatial strength on both sides. If one’s gaze were to pass through the silver-white

wall, one would be able to see an endless emptiness beyond. This kind of darkness appeared to be endless, causing one to feel a chill within one's heart.

Xiao Yan sat on that simple and crude space boat while Lin Yan was seated in front. He was controlling the space boat as it advanced. There were quite a number of various-sized space boats around them, which were also filled with quite a number of people. With so many people traveling, the quiet space tunnel no longer appeared lonely. There was laughter and chatting noises repeatedly being transmitted from around them.

"We will require at least a month's time in order to pass through this wormhole. You should rest first. It is fine if I control this boat." Lin Yan turned his head and spoke to Xiao Yan after the space boat had gotten on the right track.

Xiao Yan did not reject Lin Yan's offer when he heard this. He smiled and nodded. Coincidentally, he required this month's time in order to practice the Flame Creation Skill.

A thought passed through Xiao Yan's mind and a crimson scroll immediately appeared. There was a heat being vaguely emitted from it. This was naturally the Flame Creation Skill Xiao Yan had obtained from the Demon Flame Valley back then...

The old Flame Creation Skill required three people to practice it in order to form a Life Transforming Flame. However, this scroll in Xiao Yan's hands had undergone much alteration by the Old Ground Demon Ghost over many years. Not only did it not require three people, but the 'Life Transforming Flame' that was formed would no longer exhaust the life force within one's body. It was of a much higher grade compared to the original skill. At the very least, even Xiao Yan ended up being surprised by the Old Ground Demon Ghost's ability. Improving a Dou Technique was not a simple task...

Xiao Yan's hand slowly opened the scroll. His Spiritual Strength also entered it. A large amount of information immediately surged into his mind. This information was naturally the true training method of this Flame Creation Skill!

While Xiao Yan had shut his eyes and studied the Flame Creation Skill Dou Technique, the space boat flew swiftly under Lin Yan's control, flying toward the extremely distant end of the space tunnel. The exit led to the middle of the Central Plains, a region which possessed an even greater attraction than the northern region...

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Chapter 1039: Refining Beast Flame

Numerous rays of lights flashed in the spacious tunnel. One could even vaguely see the outline of some boats.

Lin Yan alone was sufficient to handle the matter of controlling the space boat. Hence, Xiao Yan did not need to divert any attention. He placed all his focus on the Flame Creation Skill. If he could learn this Flame Creation Skill within this one month long journey through the space tunnel, it would be advantageous to Xiao Yan.

Of course, this Flame Creation Skill was the top level Dou Technique of the Demon Flame Valley. There would naturally be something extraordinary to it, and it would likely be quite difficult if one wished to master it within a short period of time. However, this clearly did not obstruct Xiao Yan since he decided to practice it.

Xiao Yan's attention became completely engrossed in the training method recorded in the scroll on the first day of travel. The 'Flame Creation Skill' of the past required three people to practice it together and sacrifice their life force in order to create the 'Life Transforming Flame.' However, after the added improvements by the Old Ground Demon Ghost over the years, the current Flame Creation Skill was completely different from its previous form.

After studying this improved Flame Creation Skill properly, Xiao Yan involuntarily felt astounded at the ability of the Old Ground Demon Ghost. The drawbacks of this Flame Creation Skill had been remedied by him. Of course, as a result, the already tedious training method had become even more complicated.

According to what was recorded on the scroll, the improved Flame Creation Skill required three types of beast flames. After which, one would have to merge the three types of beast flames in one's body and use one's Dou Qi to refine and compress them a countless number of times until they were refined to their limits. After which, one had to perfectly merge these three beast flames together. If one succeeded, one will form a 'Life Transforming Flame' fire seed.

Of course, this wisp of fire seed would naturally not be able to support Xiao Yan's usage of the Extermination Fire Lotus. He needed to find various beast flames, refine them according to the method recorded in the Flame Creation Skill and merge them into this fire seed, allowing the fire seed to continuously expand and strengthen...

This might not seem too difficult if one simply heard the procedure, but it could end up stumping most people if one were to attempt it. The nice part was beast flames were very common. One would usually be able to purchase some from large auction houses. However, it was not an easy matter to get them to safely merge in one's body. Every flame discriminated against each other. It was the case for the Heavenly Flames and was also the case for beast flames. If one was careless when merging the three types of beast flames, one would end up suffering a serious injury.

Moreover, even if one safely merged the three types of beast flames in one's body, refining them was also a bitter task. The requirement for one's Spiritual Strength was harsh. After all, the refinement of the Flame Creation Skill was quite special. It required one to force threads of one's Dou Qi into the flame during the refinement. Such

penetration would require one to constantly pay attention to any slight changes within the flame. If one's Spiritual Strength was weak, it would not be possible to perform this task.

The final step of merging the three flames, once they had been refined, together was also a dangerous task. If anything became amiss during the process, the merger would end up failing, and the explosion of the flame within one's body would end up leading one to lose more than one would have gained.

Due to the reasons above, there was enough evidence to prove that the difficulty of practicing this Flame Creation Skill was many times harder than practicing the original version of it.

After understanding its difficulty, even Xiao Yan ended up feeling somewhat speechless. That Old Demon Ground Ghost was indeed worthy of being a seven star Dou Zong. He was able to improve the Flame Creation Skill using this method. Regardless of how one put it, the 'Life Transforming Flame,' that the current Flame Creation Skill makes, no longer hurt the life force within one's body. Hence, the Flame Creation Skill had abandoned its bad reputation of self harm.

Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength was slowly withdrawn from the scroll. He exhaled a long breath and mused for a moment. With a wave of his hand, three jade bottles appeared. There were three clusters of fierce burning flames within the jade bottle. They were blue, brown, and red in color. These three clusters of flames were naturally the three types of beast flames that Xiao Yan had obtained from the auction house. These three beast flames were meant to be used to practice the Flame Creation Skill...

"The first step is to merge the three types of beast flames into my body..."

Xiao Yan's eyes looked at the burning flames within the jade bottles. With a flick of his finger, the jade bottles burst apart. Immediately, the three clusters of flame were released.

Xiao Yan glanced at the three clusters of burning flame and let out a cold laugh. Other people might be a little afraid of merging them into their bodies, but the current Xiao Yan could be called a fire-playing specialist. There were three types of 'Heavenly Flames' within his body, and the might of these beast flames was far inferior to the 'Heavenly Flames.'

Xiao Yan opened his mouth and a suction force surged out. He sucked the three beast flames into his mouth and swallowed them.

The three types of beast flames had just entered Xiao Yan's body when the Glazed Lotus Heart Fame pounced on them, surrounding them before they could even unleash heat.

The Heavenly Flames were the top of all flames. In front of it, these beast flames were just small fry. Even their fiercely rising fire seeds became a lot more sluggish.

Xiao Yan smiled when he saw this. This process was really far too simple and was not a challenge to him. Even without the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame protecting the interior of his body, with this body of his that had experienced the refinement of many nature treasures like the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool and the Ancient Phoenix Essence Blood, he would barely be harmed even if these beast flames were to explode.

A thought passed through Xiao Yan's mind as these three types of beast flames become sluggish. Three bundles of powerful Dou Qi mixed with some jade green flame swiftly surged out. After which, they each wrapped around the individual clusters of beast flames.

"The second step, refinement..."

Xiao Yan muttered in his heart. Dou Qi immediately moved as he desired, transforming into three clusters of swiftly rotating Dou Qi. Following the rotation of the clusters of Dou Qi, the pressure within them greatly soared. Under this pressure, the three clusters of 'Beast Flames' began to alternate between light and dark tints.

While the pressure strength was soaring, Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength also invaded into the flame. Immediately, the flame seed within the beast flames began to change. They were studied in detailed by Xiao Yan. Using this, Xiao Yan sensed the pressure within and determined if he ought to strengthen or weaken them. With his current Spiritual Strength, performing this task was an extremely simple matter. Everything smoothly progressed.

All the steps began to progress quite smoothly under the monitoring of Xiao Yan's outstanding Spiritual Strength. The merger and refinement began without any accident. Of course, this kind of refinement was not something that could be completed within a short period of time. It required a long period of continuous improvement in order to completely purify the three types of beast flames.

Xiao Yan understood this point. Hence, all his attention was placed on this refinement after having entered his training state. He had an abundant amount of Spiritual Strength, and he did not need to worry about exhaustion...

The time within the space tunnel swiftly passed while Xiao Yan was deeply engrossed in the refinement. During this period of time, Lin Yan could tell that Xiao Yan was training, so he did not disturb him. This allowed Xiao Yan to perform the beast flame purification without any other concerns...

.....

One day after another passed in this monotonous wormhole. However, Xiao Yan remained in his training state. He did not show any signs of waking. Seeing this, Lin Yan also did not dare to interrupt him, afraid he might accidentally cause something to go wrong with Xiao Yan...

Time flew by and twenty days passed in the blink of an eye.

Lin Yan had controlled the space boat throughout the twenty days. It was fortunate that he was currently an expert Dou Huang and that the space boat did not exhaust a great amount of Dou Qi. Hence, Lin Yan was able to endure. On the other hand, Xiao Yan appeared like a meditating old monk during these twenty days as he sat within the cabin. If Lin Yan could not sense the life force within Xiao Yan's body, it was likely that even he would have thought that something had happened to Xiao Yan during his training.

"Ugh, this fellow... just what is he practicing. He has remained in his training condition for a long time..." Lin Yan sat at the front of the boat. His hand poured a wave of Dou Qi into the space boat in a habitual fashion. After which, he looked at Xiao Yan in the cabin, shook his head helplessly, and muttered to himself.

While Lin Yan was muttering to himself, Xiao Yan's body, which had not moved even a little during the twenty days, slightly trembled. His tightly shut eyes were slowly opened.

Joy surged up Lin Yan's face when he saw Xiao Yan suddenly open his eyes. After which, he heaved a sigh of relief, but did not say anything to interrupt Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan, who had opened his eyes, let out a long breath. Joy also flashed within his eyes. His palm was opened and three insignificant thumb-sized flames quietly appeared. After which, they flew around his finger like spirits. A faint heat was vaguely emitted. After Xiao Yan's twenty days of tireless training, the three types of beast flames were undoubtedly many times stronger than before.

"I have finally completed the refinement..."

Xiao Yan heaved a sigh of relief within his heart as he studied these three tiny beast flames. If not for his outstanding Spiritual Strength, it was likely that he would not have been able to endure this prolonged refinement. If another person attempted this, it was likely that one would have difficulty refining these three beast flames to such an extent without half a year's time. After all, they did not possess a 'Heavenly Flame' to suppress them...

"Next, will be the final merging step. If I am able to successfully merge and form a fire seed, I will have successfully mastered this Flame Creation Skill. As long as I find more beast flames to feed it in the future, it will sooner or later grow into the 'Life Transforming Flame,' needed to use the Extermination Fire Lotus..."

Xiao Yan softly muttered to himself. There was a solemnness on his face while he spoke.

After all, this final merging step was the most difficult and dangerous step of this Flame Creation Skill!

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Chapter 1040: Fire Seed

Xiao Yan's eyes were focused on the three wisps of flames on his fingers. A moment later, he raised his head and smiled apologetically to Lin Yan at the front of the boat. He said, "It is likely that you will need to control the space boat during the remaining journey. This Dou Skill that I am practicing still lacks the final step."

Lin Yan grinned and nodded when he heard this. He said, "This is a small matter. You can just relax and train as long as no unexpected circumstances occur. Additionally, there should be another ten days or so until the end of the wormhole. You must wake up before we leave. There will be some bumps when leaving the wormhole, and they might end up disturbing you."

Xiao Yan slightly smiled. His eyes returned to the three small wisps of flame. His expression gradually became solemn. His success in practicing the Flame Creation Skill would determine whether he could continue using that Extermination Fire Lotus of his. That was Xiao Yan's killing move. It would be a great loss if he could no longer use it.

"Merge..."

Xiao Yan gently exhaled a breath and once again slowly shut his eyes. The three wisps of beast flames on his finger emitted a 'sou' sound and entered his body...

Xiao Yan's mind sank into his body. Three tiny wisps of beast flames swam in all directions within a cluster of jade-green flames. However, when they arrived a certain distance from the jade-green flame, they would withdraw in shock. In front of a 'Heavenly Flame,' an ordinary beast flame resembled subjects seeing an emperor. They would feel extremely afraid.

Xiao Yan's mind focused on these three wisps of beast flames he had refined after twenty days of tireless effort. A moment later, he finally made up his mind. An order was emitted from his heart.

Following the release of this order, an invisible strength immediately rushed out and firmly grabbed these three wisps of beast flames. After which, he collided them together in a violent manner!

"Bang!"

The three types of beast flames collided with each other and a great repulsion force immediately erupted. A three-colored fire wave spread apart. However, reaction was slowly suppressed by the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, that completely surrounded the beast flames, when the wave made contact with it.

Xiao Yan was unconcerned that the flames had erupted. A thought passed through his heart, and an enormous might forcefully merged the three wisps of beast flames together!

The three types of beast flames were forcefully pressed together. Their resistance soared, and the originally calm surfaces of the flames appeared to be boiling. Tiny air bubbles repeatedly rose from within the flames, as though it was about to explode.

The change of the flame did not cause Xiao Yan's expression to change. When he attempted to create the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame back then, was really considered soul-stirring. Any slight mistake would have caused him to perish in the Heavenly Flames. Compared to the scene back then, the three types of beast flames was really a simple matter.

Although it was a simple matter, it was the step one needed to undertake in order to practice the Flame Creation Skill. Hence, Xiao Yan naturally needed to put forth all his effort.

However, with the experience of merging the Heavenly Flames from back then, Xiao Yan did not appear extremely busy during the merger this time around. His Spiritual Strength invaded the flame that was being merged with lightning-like speed.

The moment the Spiritual Strength invaded the fire, Xiao Yan sensed the wild violence that was spreading within it. It was just like a volcano that was about to erupt. Three types of flames resisted each other. Each time the flames collided, the violence within each flame would grow a little more. If this continued, an eruption would occur sooner or later.

Xiao Yan's heart gradually become solemn as he sensed the premonition of a volcano erupting within the flame. A thought passed through his mind, and the jade-green flame, that was surrounding, was reduced in size. Following this shrinkage, the pressure within the jade-green flame suddenly soared!

Following the swift expansion of the pressure, the wild violence within the flame grew many times. At a glance, it appeared to be about to erupt. However, Xiao Yan did not show any indication of weakening his grip...

“Bang!”

The pressure became terrifying, and the flame, that was forcefully being merged together, could no longer endure it. A muffled sound appeared as it suddenly exploded like an erupting volcano!

With the explosion of the flame, a powerful fire ripple spread in all directions. After which, it collided with the surrounding Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. The wild and violent force caused the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame to fluctuate...

The wild, violent force completely poured against the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan had already been prepared. Hence, the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame was not scattered by the force. Otherwise, even with the strength of Xiao Yan's body, he would suffer a little if he received such a blow.

Although the force from the exploding flame was suppressed, it seemed that this merger did not appear to be very successfully.

The three wisps of flames within the jade-green flame had scattered. Three extremely tiny flame seeds were drifting within. These three flame seeds were extremely small. Their flickering manner appeared as though they would be extinguished by just breathing near it.

During the explosion, the three wisps of flames seemed to have lost the wild violence hidden within them. They drifted about like a candle's light...

Xiao Yan's heart sighed in relief as he looked at the three wisps of fire seedlings, which could be extinguished with just a breath. Immediately, he emitted a soft laugh. A thought passed through his heart, and the three wisps of fire seeds fluttered before making contact with each other...

The contact this time around did not result in the intense reaction like earlier. Under the hidden control of Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength, the three wisps of fire seeds quietly blended together. After which, the three wisp of fire began to show signs of merging under the ingenious suppression Xiao Yan had created around them!

The signs were extremely faint. However, they were still detected by Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength. Immediately, a joy surged within his heart. He steadied his mind and maintained the special pressure as he slowly and gradually merged these three wisps of flame seeds...

This kind of merger was not something that could be accomplished from just a day's effort. This was a subtle job that required a long period of stable pressure. Therefore, one needed to use one's Spiritual Strength to control any slight changes within the flame. However, with Xiao Yan's strength, he was able to complete most of these steps perfectly. All that he needed to do was wait for time to pass...

.....

One day after another passed while Xiao Yan focused on merging these three types of beast flames. In the blink of an eye, nearly nine days passed. After nearly twenty nine days of traveling, the space boat was approaching the end of the wormhole...

Lin Yan sat cross-legged at the front of the boat. He habitually poured a wave of Dou Qi into the boat before rubbing his forehead. There was a tired expression on his face. The one month of control might not be exhausting for his Dou Qi, but it did consume a great deal of his attention.

"We will be able to leave the wormhole after another day. Is this fellow not done yet?" Lin Yan looked at Xiao Yan, who was in the cabin of the boat. After which, he looked at the other space boats that appeared exceptionally excited because they were about to arrive at their destination. He involuntarily let out a bitter laugh. It seemed that he had become a boatsman for Xiao Yan for a month...

"There will be an intense space ripple when leaving the wormhole. Xiao Yan will definitely be disturbed by it at that time. If such a situation ends up causing the Dou Qi in his body to wildly move, it will not be a mere simple matter..." Lin Dong mused for a moment before softly sighing, "Forget it, if he doesn't wake up before we leave the wormhole, I can only forcefully wake him up..."

Lin Yan hurriedly braced his attention after making up his mind. He controlled the space boat and maintained a stable speed. The boat transformed into a ray of light that rushed toward the end of the wormhole...

A day's time was not considered long. During this period of time, Xiao Yan still did not show any signs of waking up. This caused Lin Dong's face to involuntarily reveal some anxiety. He could clearly sense the spatial strength in this place becoming denser. They were getting closer to the wormhole's exit.

Lin Yan slightly raised his eyes. He could vaguely see a silverish, circular light ring. Lin Yan turned his head and looked at Xiao Yan at the cabin. Finally, he clenched his teeth, stood up, and strode toward Xiao Yan.

Lin Yan's hand swiftly swung toward Xiao Yan's shoulder after entering the cabin. However, before his hand landed on Xiao Yan's shoulder, a jade-green flame surged out of Xiao Yan's body in a lightning-like fashion, shooting at Lin Yan!

Lin Yan's expression changed when he saw this. He could sense the frightening energy contained within the jade-green flame. He maneuvered his body, and the ugly agility technique was quickly displayed. He dodged the jade-green flame with it.

Before Lin Yan could sigh in relief after having dodged the flame, a hot wind suddenly pounced over from behind him. He turned his head in fear and saw that a jade-green flame was swiftly magnifying in his eyes.

Even with the help of Lin Yan's unusual ability skill, he would have difficulty dodging it from such a close distance. Hence, he only watched as the flame rushed toward his body.

"Stop!"

Fortunately, a soft cry suddenly sounded within the cabin just as the jade-green flame was about to crash into Lin Yan's body. The flame immediately paused in an extremely obedient manner. However, its hot temperature caused a searing pain to rise on Lin Yan's back. He hurriedly leaped aside as a result.

Lin Yan felt a lingering fear in his heart as he stared at the jade-green flame after having leaped to one side. Only then did Lin Yan turn his eyes to Xiao Yan, who had opened his eyes at some point. He let out a bitter laugh, "You have finally woken up."

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded at Lin Yan. He extended his hand and pulled the jade green flame into his body. After which, he rubbed his fingers gently, and a wisp of a pale-white bone-like fire seed quietly rose with a 'chi' sound...

This wisp of a pale-white-colored flame was the result of the successful merger of the three types of beast flames. It was also the seed of a new generation of 'Life Transforming Flame!' In the future, Xiao Yan would have to rely on this little thing to use the Extermination Fire Lotus...

Xiao Yan returned the pale-white fire seedling to his body with satisfied eyes. Only then did he stand up and walk out of the cabin. His eyes landed on the enormous silver-colored ring a short distance away. He involuntarily grinned.

"Pill Region, Three Thousand Burning Flame. I have arrived..."

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Read Battle Through the Heavens - Chapter 1041: Middle Region, Tianhuang City

Chapter 1041: Middle Region, Tianhuang City

In a spacious open ground, that was covered in rock fragments, was an enormous stone stage. A hundreds-foot-wide dark-black Wormhole was right at the top of the stone platform. It was slowly rotating while a shocking spatial fluctuation was seeping out.

"Chi! Chi!"

The silence of the rock fragments in the open ground continued for a short before a deep sound suddenly appeared. Following its appearance, one could see the Wormhole form wave after wave of intense spatial ripples. Numerous human figures rushed out of it in a straight line. All of them landed steadily in the open ground.

“We have finally come out. This damn space Wormhole is really too tough...” Lin Yan landed on the ground and immediately inhaled a breath of fresh air from the outside world. He was laughing as though he had managed to extricate himself from something.

Xiao Yan also nodded with the same thoughts beside Lin Yan. His eyes swept in all directions. At this moment, there were quite a number of human figures who had exited the Wormhole. Hence, this open ground quickly became lively.

“Is this place the Pill Region?” Xiao Yan rubbed his hands together, withdrew his curious eyes, and asked.

“No.” Lin Yan shook his head and said, “This is only the middle of the Central Plains. It is also known as the Middle Region to others. That Pill Region is located in the central part of the Middle Region.”

“Middle Region...” Xiao Yan was startled.

“Hee hee, if one describes the Central Plains as the center of the Dou Qi continent, this Middle Region would be considered the center of the Central Plains. The top factions of renown mostly set up their headquarters within the Middle Region.” Lin Yan smiled as he continued, “The place we are currently located is the south-western part of the the Middle Region. The factions that are most famous in this area are the Sound Valley and the Burning Flame Valley. These two large factions are the overlords around here. Other than these two large factions, there is a countless number of other various-sized factions. However, they are far inferior when compared to the Sound Valley or the Burning Flame Valley. Liu Qing’s clan is also in this south-western region.”

“Burning Flame Valley?” Xiao Yan’s heart immediately moved when he heard this. He had long heard of this faction’s name. Moreover, the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change, which had accompanied him for many years, also belonged to this faction. Therefore, Xiao Yan was really interested in them.

“One Hall, One Tower, Two Sects, Three Valleys, Four Pavilions. The strength of the Burning Flame Valley and Sound Valley should be much stronger than the Wind Lightning Pavilion, especially the Burning Flame Valley. It has hundreds of years of history, and it has quite a powerful foundation. Hee hee, additionally, I shall secretly tell you that there is a ‘Heavenly Flame’ called the Nine Dragon Lightning Flame within the Burning Flame Valley...” Lin Yan suddenly leaned close to Xiao Yan and mysteriously revealed some information.

Xiao Yan gently smiled. He felt somewhat helpless. Even though he knew that the Burning Flame Valley possessed a kind Heavenly Flame, it was impossible for Xiao Yan to do anything about it. Forget about the frightening strength that the Burning Flame Valley possessed. Even if he could get his hands on the Nine Dragon Lightning Flame, the experts from the Burning Flame Valley had already placed perfect seals on it. It was likely that he would have no means of swallowing it after obtaining it. Instead, he would end up offending a faction with a strength that was even more frightening than the Wind Lightning Pavilion.

Although it was not possible for Xiao Yan to take the Nine Dragon Lightning Flame, Xiao Yan was extremely interested in the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change. After these years of practicing it, he had also gradually understood just how profound this Skyfire Three Mysterious Change was, especially for someone like him, who possessed more than one type of Heavenly Flame in his body. It could be describe as making something fierce even more ferocious. If Xiao Yan could obtain the method to practice the other two changes in the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change, his fighting strength would definitely soar!

“If I have the opportunity, perhaps I can try and see if I can attempt to obtain the remaining changes of the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change. However, it is best not to reveal that I already know how to use the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change unless it is an extremely special circumstance. Otherwise, if this Burning Flame Valley is as stubborn as the Wind Lightning Pavilion, it is likely that I will face a lot of trouble.” Xiao Yan mused for a moment while muttering in his heart.

“How far is this place from the Pill Region?” Xiao Yan raised his head and asked Lin Yan.

“It is a long distance away. However, there are quite a number of short distance Wormholes within the Middle Region. We should be able to reach the Pill Region in six to seven days.” Lin Yan counted before looking at Xiao Yan and saying, “Tianhuang City, where Liu Qing clan’s is located, is coincidentally one of the cities we must pass through. That city possesses a Wormhole that leads to the Pill Region.”

Xiao Yan felt somewhat startled when he heard this. He immediately grinned, nodded, and said, “It’s just as well. I can go and meet that fellow along the way. It has been a couple of years since I last saw Liu Qing. I wonder what he is like now.”

Lin Yan beamed and nodded, “Liu Qing is now the clan head. His training talent is better than mine. When he and I parted ways back then, he had already reached the level of a three star Dou Huang. Now, it is likely that he has at the very least reached the level of a seven star Dou Huang... since you have decided, I shall lead the way. With our speed, we should be able to reach Liu Qing’s city within one day.”

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. There was still some time until the start of the Pill Gathering. He could gather some beast flames along the way and strengthen the wisp of 'Life Transforming Flame' fire seed within his body.

Lin Yan did not say any other unnecessary words after seeing that Xiao Yan did not oppose him. His back shook and a pair of Dou Qi wings spread apart. His body moved and flew to the sky.

A Dou Huang class expert might not be considered too rare in the Central Plains, but it could be classified among the strong. Hence, numerous envious gazes were thrown over when the people on the rock fragment in the open ground saw Lin Yan rise into the sky. By being able to become a Dou Huang at such a young age, it was likely that his future achievements would be limitless.

While all of these people were feeling envious, Xiao Yan's feet stepped on empty air, and he swiftly rose up to the sky. After which, he made a hand signal to Lin Yan. The both of them transformed into rays of light that disappeared from the sight of many dull eyes in the open ground.

"Walking through the air? Dou Zong? That little fellow is actually an expert Dou Zong?"

The people in the open ground finally recovered after Xiao Yan and Lin Yan disappeared into the horizon. They emitted numerous exclamations of disbelief. Dou Zong. Even in the Central Plains, someone of this class was definitely a strong person. Countless numbers of people were going all out in a struggle to reach this class. However, only a very few ended up reaching this class. Hence, it was little wonder that these people would lose themselves when they saw that Xiao Yan had reached the Dou Zong class at his age...

Tianhuang City was a city that was not smaller than Tian Bei City. Moreover, this city possessed a Wormhole that connected it to the Pill Region. This caused the human traffic in the city to far exceed the congestion in Tian Bei City.

Many various-sized factions lived within Tianhuang City. Two large clans were the leaders among them. One was the Liu clan and the other was the Cheng clan. These two clans could be considered the strongest factions within Tian Huang city. Of course, these two clans did not possess the qualification to build a long distance transporter like a Wormhole. Hence, the Wormhole of this place did not belong to any one of the two large clans. Instead, its owner was the Burning Flame Valley.

The Burning Flame Valley was the true overlord over thousands of kilometers, controlling many cities. The only one that could contend with it was the Sound Valley. However, this Sound Valley was always secretive. The reach of their faction was nowhere near as great as the Burning Flame Valley. However, no one dared underestimate it. One did not even need to use one's head to know that a faction that could be compared with the Burning Flame Valley was not ordinary.

The Burning Flame Valley controlled many cities, and this Tianhuang city was among those within its territory. If one were to really talk about it, the Liu clan and Cheng clan could be considered vassal clans of the Burning Flame Valley. The management rights of this Wormhole was decided by the Burning Flame Valley. Of course, the faction managing it would justifiably be the boss of this city. During these years, the management rights had alternated between the Liu clan and the Cheng clan. However, neither party could obtain the management rights for long. This was perhaps a kind of tactic used by the Burning Flame Valley to keep them in check...

With Xiao Yan and Lin Yan's speed, they did not need to spend much time to get to Tianhuang City. Within a day, they could vaguely see the outline of Tianhuang city...

During this day of traveling, Xiao Yan would briefly search the mountain ranges he passed by. Hence, he obtained two more types of beast flames. Although they were not very strong, they were still better than nothing.

Xiao Yan randomly merged the two types of beast flames into the 'Life Transforming Flame.' He involuntarily smiled when he sensed the fire seed gradually growing stronger. There were many different types of beast fires in this world. It was not very difficult to collect them. Moreover, with his current strength, it was relatively easy to obtain beast flames as long as he entered the mountain range where those types of Magical Beasts gathered...

"Is this the Tianhuang City you mentioned?" Xiao Yan raised his head, looked at the distant corner of the city covered by lush greenery, and involuntarily smiled.

Lin Yan nodded. His eyes swept all around him while reminding Xiao Yan, "This is the territory of the Burning Flame Valley. You should be careful when you do anything and should avoid using the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change. Although the Burning Flame Valley does not view their Dou Technique as their life like the Wind Lightning Pavilion does, they would definitely feel somewhat displeased when seeing an outsider use their Dou Technique."

Xiao Yan had told Lin Yan about the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change during the journey, causing him to be extremely stunned. He had not expected that Xiao Yan not only practiced the Dou Technique from the Wind Lightning Pavilion but also possessed a Dou Technique from the Burning Flame Valley. Hence, Lin Yan told him numerous times to hide the Dou Technique.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. His eyes followed the main road into the distant. There was an enormous city peeking out of the forest, appearing like an enormous beast one could not see the end of.

"Let's go... according to what you said, the Wormhole of this Tianhuang City should be controlled by the Liu clan this time around. This will make things a little smoother. Moreover, I wonder just what level Liu Qing has reached during these years."

Xiao Yan softly laughed as curiosity flashed across his eyes. Back then, Liu Qing was an existence ranked in the top three on the Inner Academy Strong Ranking. At that time, even Xiao Yan looked up to him. However, Xiao Yan wondered just what level Liu Qing had reached after all these years.

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Chapter 1042: Competing for Wormhole

Xiao Yan and Lin Yan were walking toward the city when a majestic city wall, that carried a foreboding aura, appeared in front of them. Humans were coming and going under the towering city gate. The entire place was filled with a noisy atmosphere.

The two of them smoothly entered the city. They looked at the spacious road and at the endless shops and buildings on both sides of the road. The black mass of human heads and the noise they created on the street transformed into a large sound wave that spread apart, charging to the clouds.

“Tianhuang City is really exuberant. It can likely even be compared with the few most prosperous cities within the Black-Corner Region.” Xiao Yan involuntarily clicked his tongue and praised as he looked over the mighty city and the human traffic.

“This is the Middle Region of the Central Plains, the entire continent’s central area. Although the Black-Corner Region is also quite strong, how could it compare with this place?” Lin Yan laughed. He immediately identified their route and led Xiao Yan to the location of the Liu clan’s home. He had once stayed in this place for a period of time. Hence, he was quite familiar with Tianhuang City.

Xiao Yan followed behind Lin Yan. They walked down a couple of long roads and took a couple of turns before an extremely spacious manor appeared in front of their eyes.

This manor was extremely large. Moreover, there were a couple of guards with weapons in their hands currently outside of the manor. Their alert gazes swept all around them.

Xiao Yan was startled when he saw the tight defenses of the manor. He said with surprise, “Is there a need for so many guards in broad daylight?”

Lin Yan was also stunned. A moment later, he frowned and softly said, “There seems to be something wrong. The Liu clan did not post so many guards in the past. Wait for a moment...” Once Lin Yan said this, his eyes wandered before he stopped a man who was hastily walking by. He cupped his hands together and smiled as he asked, “Friend, may I know what has happened in this Tianhuang City? Why is the Liu clan acting like this?”

The person whom Lin Yan had stopped glanced at him doubtfully before asking. "Have you come from somewhere else? Currently, the Liu clan and the Cheng clan are fighting for the management rights of the Wormhole. The two clans have led quite a number of people to the open area in the middle of the city. Everyone in the city has run over to watch the show."

Lin Yan once again knit his brows when he heard this. He cupped his hands to the person in front of him before turning around and walking to Xiao Yan's side. In a soft voice, he whispered, "Sorry, I remember that it should be the Liu clan's turn to own the management rights of the Wormhole this year. Why has a fight occurred?"

Xiao Yan had also heard what that person had said earlier. He immediately grinned and said, "Won't we know if we head to the middle of the city and take a look?"

Lin Yan nodded. He immediately laughed, "Looks like Liu Qing isn't having an easy time being clan head. Follow me, such a fight is uncommon..."

After saying this, Lin Yan turned around and led the way. He swiftly walked to the middle of the city. Xiao Yan also smiled and followed close behind.

.....

In the middle of Tianhuang city was an extremely spacious area made of green rock. A stone platform was located in the center of the open ground. On it was an enormous dark-black Wormhole that was slowly rotating. A shocking spatial ripple was spreading from it.

Currently, the area around the open ground was occupied by a dense sea of people. The noise from it was like a demon's voice, causing one's eardrum to feel some pain. A countless number of curious eyes were watching the middle of the open ground. There were two groups of people facing off against each other in that spot.

"Chen Yao, the Wormhole should be managed by my Liu clan this year. What do you mean by your actions today?"

The one leading the group on the left side was a well-built man. He was frowning and there was an aura of power even without anger. This kind of face was somewhat familiar. If one were to look carefully, one would realize that that person could not be anyone other than Liu Qing.

The current Liu Qing no longer possessed the spirit he had back then. Replacing that spirit was a kind of calmness. After all, the Liu clan needed a qualified clan head, not a young and impulsive boy.

There were two white-haired old men behind Liu Qing. These two people were standing randomly, but they possessed a majestic aura that quietly rippled. No one dared to

underestimate them as a result. Additionally, there was a voluminous, beautiful figure standing by the side. This lady was wearing red clothes. Her face was peach-blossom-like and was filled with an allure. Any man who saw her would feel attracted. This face was also familiar. She possessed an alluring name, Liu Fei. Back then, she had a small conflict with Xiao Yan in the Inner Academy.

However, after a few years, the current Liu Qing appeared even more alluring. She was just like matured peach that caused the eyes of quite a number of men to involuntarily drift toward her.

“Hee hee, Liu Qing, if we were to talk about it, you are one generation younger than me. You should not be speaking in such a disrespectful manner to a senior.”

There was a similar large group of people with fierce looks opposite Liu Qing’s group. Their leader was a middle-aged man. His eyes glanced at Liu Qing in a sinister manner before he strangely laughed.

Liu Qing’s face revealed a cold smile when he heard this. He was just about to say something when an elderly voice sounded in the open ground.

“This is the newest order from my Burning Flame Valley.”

A countless number of gazes instantly turned when they heard this voice. All they saw was a crimson-robed, old man standing with his hands behind him. There were quite a number of red-colored speckles on his old face.

“Elder Chi Huo from the Burning Flame Valley?”

The open ground emitted numerous exclamations when the people saw this old man. The expressions of Liu Qing and the two old men behind him slightly changed. Immediately, they cupped their hands and said in a courteous manner, “It is actually Elder Chi Huo. May I know what is the reason of this new order? According to the rules of the past, now is not the time for the handing over of the Wormhole management rights.”

“The Valley Chief has given the order. He requires some high tier alchemists to head to the Burning Flame Valley to help his elderly self refine a medicinal pill. However, he has yet to find any suitable person until now. Hence, he has issued this order. Any clan who can find a high tier alchemist will obtain the management rights of the Wormhole. This will be effective for three years.” The old man who was called Elder Chi Huo spoke in a faint voice.

“The Cheng clan has found a tier 6 alchemist who has been acknowledged by the Pill Tower. If your Liu clan can also find one and invite him to follow me to the Burning Flame Valley, this Wormhole will be handed to you. Moreover, the rights will be extended from one year to three years.” Elder Chi Huo pointed in the direction of the

Cheng clan. There was an old man in a purple-colored alchemist robe, who was standing with his hands behind him.

“A tier 6 alchemist?” Liu Qing’s expression changed when he heard this. Their Liu clan did indeed also possess an alchemist. However, the best was only a tier 5 alchemist. They had never owned a tier 6 alchemist. After all, an alchemist at that tier would be able to obtain good treatment from a faction like the Burning Flame Valley. Who would come to their clan, which was neither large nor small?

“Elder Chi Huo, this matter has occurred too suddenly. Can you give our Liu clan a couple of days. We will definitely go all out to find a tier 6 alchemist.” Liu Qing’s expression changed rapidly before he spoke in this manner.

Elder Chi Huo shook his head. His tone was his usual monotonous one. “This is an order personally given by the Valley Chief. Who dares to delay? Forget about your Liu clan, even the old me does not have that ability. If your Liu clan fails to invite a tier 6 alchemist today, you will hand the management rights of the Wormhole to the Cheng clan.”

Liu Qing’s expression was quite ugly when he heard Elder Chi Huo not giving them the slightest amount of face. He clenched his hand. Where would he go and find a tier 6 alchemist within a day? Did they really think that a tier 6 alchemist was as common as cabbage? An alchemist at such a tier was a strength that was near the top even within the Pill Tower.

“This old fellow, who will not die, has definitely been bribed by the Cheng clan!” Liu Fei grit her silver teeth behind Liu Qing as she spoke with great displeasure.

“Shut up!” Liu Qing’s expression sank. When she heard him, Liu Fei could only stomp her feet while feeling wronged. She ceased speaking after that.

“What should we do, Elders?” Liu Qing turned his head, looked at the two old man behind him, and sighed.

The two old men could only bitterly laugh when they heard this. They said, “We have also vaguely heard information about the Burning Flame Valley searching for a high tier alchemist. However, we did not pay much attention to it. Unexpectedly... Fei-er is likely right. Someone must have informed the Cheng clan beforehand. I have also heard of this tier 6 alchemist. It is rumored that he is a high rank alchemist who advanced to the tier 6 level a long time ago. It is likely very difficult to find someone who is of a higher tier within Tianhuang City.”

Liu Qing’s heart sank when he heard the two of them speak in such a manner. His fist was clenched tightly until it emitted a cracking sound. The Wormhole was too important to the Liu clan. This was an extremely large source of income for them. Only with this income as a foundation would their Liu clan be able to hire even more capable people to

expand their faction. However, if it were to be snatched by the Cheng clan, their development rate would end up slowing if not stopping.

“Ke ke, nephew Liu, you should not continue to have a bee in your bonnet. Just calmly hand over the management rights of the Wormhole. If I am happy in the future, I might distribute some small profits for the Liu clan to enjoy.” The middle-aged man called Cheng Yao involuntarily laughed in a strange manner when he saw Liu Qing’s change in expression.

Liu Qing’s face had turned much greener when he heard this quiet ridicule from the other party. However, he was currently the head of the Liu clan. Every single action of his needed to take in the consideration of the entire clan. He immediately suppressed the fury in his heart and clenched his teeth with great unwillingness. After which, he spoke in a deep, dark voice, “Cheng Yao, you can consider yourself ruthless! Let’s go!”

After saying this, Liu Qing could only wave his hand with a green face before turning around to leave.

“Hee hee, Liu Qing, this is unlike you. Are you going to just give up in this manner.” A figure suddenly rushed over from outside of the open ground and laughed at Liu Qing when he had just turned his body.

“Lin Yan?”

Liu Qing was startled when he saw the person who had arrived. He immediately sighed as he said with a bitter smile, “Forget it. Let’s leave. You are not a tier 6 alchemist and cannot help me.”

Hearing this, Lin Yan chuckled in a strange manner. He said, “I might not be able to help you, but someone can help you.” After saying these words, he turned his head, and shouted to the sky, “How long do you intend to stay up there?”

Liu Qing, Liu Fei, and the others were startled when they saw Lin Yan’s actions. They immediately raised their heads, only to see a young man walking through the air, heading over. Immediately, the young man landed gently on the ground.

“Walking through the air, an elite Dou Zong?”

The hearts of Liu Qing’s group felt a chill upon seeing this scene. He was just about to cup his hands and say some courteous words when a familiar laugh, that he could not forget, suddenly sounded. This laughter caused his body to abruptly stiffened.

“Liu Qing, it has been a few years since we have last met. Are you well?”

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Chapter 1043: Meeting Old Friends

The familiar soft laugh caused Liu Qing's body to momentarily stiffen. A moment later, he finally recovered. His face was filled with disbelief as he looked at the unknown young man, "You... you are Xiao Yan?"

Liu Qing's words had just sounded when Liu Fei's lovely body behind him suddenly trembled. Xiao Yan, a name that had left behind an impression in heart that was difficult to remove. This true genius of the Inner Academy back then was someone even her cousin brother, whom she was proud of, could not catch up to...

Her pretty eyes secretly observed the young man in front of her. She was slightly startled when they paused on the somewhat foreign face. Her cautious eyes discovered some clues and her hands slightly shook under her sleeves. Her eyes began to dodge him. Back then, she had developed a small grudge with Xiao Yan. It was due to this grudge that Xiao Yan had exchanged blows with Liu Qing. The result, however, had caused the support within her heart to completely collapse. Until now, Liu Fei could not forget that skinny figure that stood proudly in the Fighting Arena back then. At that time, Xiao Yan was merely a young man who had just arrived at the Inner Academy. However, his achievements had attracted the eyes of the entire Inner Academy.

"Is it... really him?" The back of Liu Fei's teeth bit her lower red lip. Beauties had always liked heroes since ancient times. In this world there were many people stronger than her cousin brother, whom she thought of as seemingly undefeatable in her heart. This also caused her to hold back her unruly self and learn to treat others gently.

"He looks somewhat different, but his voice is still the same..." Xiao Yan smiled and waved his hands. His eyes swept over Liu Qing as he spoke with an involuntary surprise, "Seven star Dou Huang? Not bad. You are much stronger than Lin Yan."

Liu Qing was finally able to confirm the identity of the person in front after hearing this familiar tone. An excitement surged into his eyes. His eyes also swept over Xiao Yan and the expression on his his face became slightly dull. He bitterly laughed, "It is likely that you have already broken through to the Dou Zong class right?" He had clearly watched Xiao Yan walk through the air earlier.

The faces of the people behind Liu Qing changed a little upon hearing his words. Their eyes were surprised as they swept over Xiao Yan's body. It was really rare to find such a young expert Dou Zong.

"I was merely lucky." Xiao Yan slightly smiled, but did not deny it.

"Ugh, I am still unable to catch up with you. You are indeed worthy of being the person with the most outstanding talent in the Inner Academy. I have no choice but to admit it..." Liu Qing sighed. Back then, when he had half a foot into the Dou Wang class, Xiao Yan was merely just a Dou Ling, yet within a short few years, Xiao Yan had already

reached a level that he could only look up to. This extreme change was really a little difficult to accept.

Xiao Yan smiled. His eyes swept over Liu Fei's face behind Liu Qing and smiled as he nodded to her. Under his smile, a bright redness rose onto her face. Her pretty eyes swiftly turned away.

"All of you did not wait for me when you left back then. I thought that something had happened to you." Xiao Yan's eyes slide back to Liu Qing as he spoke with a smile.

"Lin Yan said that you had already taken your revenge and it was pointless for us to stay any longer. Hence, we had formed a group and left the Jia Ma Empire. That's right, why are you here?" Liu Qing spoke with a smile. The greenish color on his face had greatly diminished. Clearly, his heart felt extremely happy at being able to meet Xiao Yan here.

"I need to head to the Pill Region. Tianhuang City possesses a Wormhole that leads to the Pill Region, so I came to visit you along the way." Xiao Yan smiled. His eyes swept over the people from the Cheng clan not far away without leaving a trace.

Liu Qing nodded his head when he heard this. He immediately laughed in an unconstrained manner, "After today, the Wormhole will be opened once again. I will help you get things ready. Leave this small matter to me."

"It is already the Cheng clan's turn to manage the Wormhole. They have always viewed our Liu clan as an eyesore. Cousin brother, they will only make things difficult if you were to show yourself." Liu Fei, who was behind Liu Qing, muttered.

Liu Qing's expression sank and Liu Fei ceased speaking.

"What has happened? Do you need my help?" Xiao Yan appeared to have not seen Liu Qing's face. His eyes moved to Liu Fei as he asked with a smile.

"Nothing, it is only some small trouble. Let's go back first. Since you have arrived in Tianhuang City, I will have to properly receive you no matter what." Liu Qing waved his hand, pulled Xiao Yan's shoulders, and laughed.

"I have never said such words when you followed me to the Jia Ma Empire back then." Xiao Yan looked at Liu Qing and softly chuckled.

Liu Qing's hand stiffened in mid-air. His eyes landed on Xiao Yan before he let out a bitter laugh. He sighed, "This is not the Jia Ma Empire. Just the strength of a Cheng clan is stronger than the Misty Cloud Sect. If you were to intervene, it is likely that you will end up attracting some trouble."

“Ha ha, Liu Qing, you have really underestimated Xiao Yan. He has just fought his way out of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Even the chief of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion, Fei Tian, could not do anything to him. Just what is a small Cheng clan?” Lin Yan by the side curled his mouth as he blurted out.

Liu Qing and the two Elders behind him were stunned when they heard this. Their faces immediately changed a little. Fighting his way out of the Wind Lightning Pavilion?

“Don’t listen to the nonsense this fellow is sprouting. I have only just come down from the Lightning Mountain and had some grudge with the Wind Lightning Pavilion. However, it has already been settled.” Xiao Yan waved his hand and smiled as he downplayed the story. His tone might appear like a light breeze, but the danger hidden within was something that Liu Qing and the others could vaguely sense.

Liu Fei’s eyes contained an unusual flicker as they slowly swept over Xiao Yan.

Liu Qing let out a shocked exclamation before beginning to struggle a little. Finally, he sighed, “It is a trouble that is caused by this Wormhole. Originally, it should be my Liu clan’s turn to control this Wormhole this year. However, the Burning Flame Valley has used this as a bargaining chip in order to find a high tier alchemist. That Cheng clan has found a tier 6 alchemist from somewhere. However, the highest tier alchemist in my Liu clan is only a tier 5...”

“Why is the Burning Flame Valley searching for a high tier alchemist? With their ability, it is not possible for them to not possess any alchemists, no?” Xiao Yan asked with some doubt.

“I am not too certain about this. However, it is rumored that the Valley Chief of the Burning Flame Valley wants to refine a medicinal pill that requires the help of some high tier alchemists.” Liu Qing shook his head and replies.

Xiao Yan slightly nodded. His eyes were suddenly thrown onto the proud face of the purple-robed, old man a short distance away as he said, “In other words, as long as you have an alchemist whose tier is higher than that of the old fellow, this Wormhole will be returned to the Liu clan to manage?”

Liu Qing nodded. Some hope involuntarily rose in his heart when he looked at Xiao Yan. He was aware that Xiao Yan was also an alchemist. Moreover, he had already been able to refine a tier 5 medicinal pill when he was at the Inner Academy back then. With his talent, it was impossible for Xiao Yan not to have any improvement. According to his guesses, the current Xiao Yan should be a tier 6 alchemist. Although Xiao Yan might not surpass that purple-robed, old man, he would at the very least not be much weaker...

Xiao Yan smiled when he saw this. He slowly stepped forward and cupped his hands toward the red-robed, old man. With a smile, he said, "This senior, the Liu clan has yet to admit defeat. Please wait for a moment before handing the Wormhole over."

Elder Chi Huo had discovered Xiao Yan the moment he had appeared. He was similarly shocked that Xiao Yan was able to reach the Dou Zong class at such an age. It was likely that among the same generation, there was hardly anyone who could reach such an achievement.

"If the clan has yet to admit defeat, please invite the alchemist. Should the alchemist that the Liu clan find be stronger than grandmaster Xiu, the management rights of this Wormhole will belong to the Liu clan." Perhaps it was because Elder Chi Huo was aware of Xiao Yan's current strength, but his tone was much more polite when he spoke.

Xiao Yan grinned and nodded when he heard this. After which, he turned his eyes to the purple-robed, old man, cupped his hands together, and smiled as he said, "In that case, please allow the little me to compete with this grandmaster Xiu. What do you say?"

"You are the alchemist that the Liu clan has invited?" Elder Chi Huo was stunned when he heard this. His eyes slowly swept over Xiao Yan's body. He involuntarily felt some disbelief. Xiao Yan's status as a Dou Zong at his age had already shocked Elder Chi Huo greatly. If he possessed an alchemist status, would he not be a little too terrifying?

Dou Qi training and pill refinement skills were two extremely profound paths. It was extremely difficult for one to become outstanding in any one of the two categories. There were very few who could successfully obtain great achievements on both paths!

These words of Xiao Yan had also started a commotion among the crowd below. However, most people scoffed at Xiao Yan's words. Although this young man was quite strong, it did not mean that he had the qualification to challenge an alchemist like Grandmaster Zeng Xiu...

Being one of the party involved, Zeng Xiu was also startled. However, a cold smile flashed across his shriveled face. He looked at Xiao Yan and said, "Perhaps the old me might really be unable to compete with you in terms of Dou Qi, but in terms of alchemist skills... I shall say something that you may not like to hear. You do not possess the qualification!"

Xiao Yan ignored this cold laugh of Zeng Xiu. His eyes turned to Elder Chi Huo as smiled and said, "May I know how are we going to compete? Should we refine a medicinal pill on the spot?"

"There is no need for such trouble. The old me does not have much time to waste with you." Zeng Xiu replied instead. He coldly laughed and said, "Since you are also an alchemist, you should also be aware of the importance of one's Spiritual Strength. In

that case, we shall compete in terms of Spiritual Strength! On account of you being from a younger generation, the old me shall allow you to attack first. As long as you can force me back with your Spiritual Strength, it will be considered your victory!”

One could not blame Zeng Xiu for being this arrogant. The greatest gap between an alchemist and an ordinary Dou Practitioner was their Spiritual Strength. A tier 6 alchemist’s Spiritual Strength was comparable to an expert Dou Zong!

Xiao Yan was initially stunned when he heard Zeng Xiu’s words. His expression swiftly became a little strange. Competing Spiritual Strength?

Zeng Xiu waved his sleeves and stood with his hands behind him after speaking. His eyes glanced at Xiao Yan indifferently. The demeanor of a grandmaster was fully displayed.

“Begin.”

Xiao Yan slightly widened his mouth. Immediately, it turned into a soft sigh. He slowly raised his hand in front of a countless number of gazes. After which, he gently swept it down from some distance away.

When his hand was swung, a majestic, vast Spiritual Strength immediately swept down from the sky like a storm.

The calm-faced Elder Chi Huo expression drastically changed at this moment.

The indifferent expression of Zeng Xiu had also instantly paled...

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Chapter 1044: One Strike

The majestic Spiritual Strength appeared just like unending mighty wave as it swept through the sky. It carried an unusually frightening pressure that rushed toward the purple-robed, old man in a lightning-like manner. Space trembled wherever it passed. Threads of dark-black lines quietly spread!

Although the Spiritual Strength was without form or color, anyone who possessed strength would be able to sense the frightening pressure that permeated the sky. This kind of pressure originated from deep within one’s soul, causing one to possess a fluttering feeling. At this moment, the many private conversations came to an abrupt stop. The expressions of some of the people who had scoff at Xiao Yan’s earlier arrogance stiffened. At a glance, they appeared exceptionally comical.

After having advanced to the Dou Zong class, the current Xiao Yan had likely reached the seventh tier if one were to talk about his alchemist tier. Moreover, due to his Spiritual Strength being outstanding to begin with, it was likely that he would not be inferior to some true tier 7 alchemists!

Such a frightening strength would naturally release an unusually powerful pressure when it was unleashed. Forget about Zeng Xiu, who was only a tier 6 alchemist, even if he had reached the level of a tier 7 alchemist, the outcome of his battle with Xiao Yan would be unpredictable!

Elder Chi Huo was stunned as he watched the majestic strength that swept across the sky. A moment later, he inhaled a deep breath of air. His eyes revealed a shaken expression as he looked at Xiao Yan a short distance away. A hoarse voice that carried some disbelief was slowly emitted from his mouth, "A tier 7 alchemist?"

Spiritual Strength was a fundamental ability that all alchemists relied on to survive because only by possessing powerful Spiritual Strength would an alchemist be able to control a flame and successfully refine a medicinal pill. Hence, the might of Spiritual Strength was directly linked to an alchemist's skill level. Many people in the Central Plains identified the gap between two alchemists through this Spiritual Strength.

This was why Elder Chi Huo was able to reveal Xiao Yan's alchemist tier when he sensed his Spiritual Strength.

Of course, a great storm rose within the heart of Elder Chi Huo at this moment. He had never expected Xiao Yan to be just a Dou Zong not someone who possessed such deep attainments in terms of medicinal refinement skill. Tier 7... a tier 7 alchemist. This status was of significant weight even in the Central Plains region. It should be known that an alchemist of such tier might not be at the peak within the Pill Tower, but was definitely considered a top existence!

Moreover, the thing that really shocked Elder Chi Huo was Xiao Yan's age. Even with his experience, it was the first time that he had seen such a young tier 7 alchemist in all his life. Such talent in both Dou Qi and pill refinement could really be described as monstrous.

"That old fellow Zeng Xiu is going to be unlucky this time around. He dared to be so boastful..."

While Elder Chi Huo was feeling regretful for Zeng Xiu, the regret in Zeng Xiu's heart was more than ten times greater than what the elder felt for him. Of course, anyone who faced such a majestic Spiritual Strength, that was heading toward them from all directions, would not appear calm.

Zeng Xiu's face had completely turned white at this moment. His eyes vaguely revealed a dullness and fear. Being an alchemist, he was even more sensitive to Spiritual

Strength. The majestic strength that was heading toward him caused him to feel as though he was faced with a vast ocean. This kind of feeling was something that he had only sensed from some of the Elders in the Pill Tower. Moreover, those Elders all possessed a great reputation throughout the Central Plains region without exception!

However, the one who gave him such a feeling this time around was not those Elders from the Pill Tower. Instead, it was a young man who looked to be in his twenties!

“A tier 7 alchemist? How is that possible?”

A crazy, ruthless expression surged into Zeng Xiu’s eyes after his body slightly trembled. He definitely did not believe that this younger generation, who appeared like a little fellow, was on the seventh tier, a level he only looked up to!

The ruthless expression had just appeared when Zeng Xiu swiftly took a couple of steps back. At this moment, he no longer bothered about those boastful words that he had spoken earlier. He let out a soft roar and a powerful Spiritual Strength poured out of his body. It swiftly agglomerated into an invisible spiritual barrier in front of him.

“Brat, forget about trying to play some tricks in front of the old me!”

Zeng Xiu’s eyes stared intently at Xiao Yan. He coldly cried out after the spiritual barrier was formed.

Xiao Yan raised his eyes in the face of Zeng Xiu’s cry. The corner of his mouth was lifted into a mocking smile. This Zeng Xiu was merely a tier 6 alchemist, yet this person dared to show off his Spiritual Strength in front of him. It appeared as though this Zeng Xiu was seeking his own suffering.

Xiao Yan gently flicked his finger and softly said, “Go!”

His word had just sounded when the majestic Spiritual Strength, that swept through the sky, instantly gathered. It formed a substance-like spiritual hammer in front of an innumerable number of shocked eyes. After which, it ruthlessly fell and smashed against the thick spiritual barrier!

“Bang!”

The two suddenly collided and a shocking ripple spread out. It immediately unrolled over the open ground like a wave of water. In an instant, a slight tremble appeared in the open ground. Numerous cracks formed.

“Crack!”

An invisible ripple suddenly spread from the point of contact between the heavy hammer and the spiritual barrier. Zeng Xiu's face also turned purple. He went all out to maneuver his Spiritual Strength before pouring it into the spiritual barrier.

“Break!”

Xiao Yan extended his hand. He pointed at Zeng Xiu from a great distance. His finger pressed into empty air as he let out a soft laugh.

The word had just left Xiao Yan's mouth when the energy on the spiritual heavy hammer suddenly soared. Immediately, a cracking sound appeared. Numerous crack lines swiftly spread over the invisible barrier in front of Zeng Xiu and the other shocked gazes present.

“Boom!”

While the crack lines spread, the crumbling spiritual barrier was finally unable to endure the frightening Spiritual Strength attack. It emitted a 'boom' sound, transformed into countless number of fragments, and blasted apart!

“Grug!”

The spiritual barrier blasted apart. The expression of Zeng Xiu, who was connected to it, instantly turned white. Immediately, a mouthful of fresh blood was spat out. His body also flew back as though he had suffered a serious blow. He landed heavily on the ground and formed a scar that was nearly a hundred meters long before he finally paused.

The entire place was silent.

Numerous eyes were dull as they looked at Zeng Xiu, who had fallen to the ground. No one knew whether he was dead or alive. For an instant, no one opened their mouths. One strike, a tier 6 alchemist was defeated after only one exchange. Moreover, he was defeated quite miserably. The person who had managed to do this was merely a young man, only twenty years old or so...

Silence continued for a moment before it was finally broken by the sound of someone inhaling a cold breath. Numerous eyes carried a fiery heat as they slid to the young man who had not even taken a step forward. At this moment, everyone could guess that this person's tier was likely even higher than Zeng Xiu's tier!

Zeng Xiu was a tier 6 alchemist. Since Xiao Yan was of an even higher tier, the answer to his level seemed obvious. Tier 7! Only an alchemist of this tier would be able to turn a tier 6 alchemist into such a miserable state in a Spiritual Strength fight...

“This person... is a tier 7 alchemist?”

The throats of countless number of people rolled. The expressions in their eyes had also become dull. Tier 7 alchemist, this was not an ordinary heavyweight. An alchemist of this tier would definitely be a top existence within the Burning Flame Valley or even the Pill Tower!

Cheng Yao and the entire Cheng clan were stunned as they looked at Zeng Xiu, who was lying in the distance with no one knowing whether he was still alive. Only a moment later did they swallow a mouthful of saliva with much difficulty. A tier 7 alchemist? Their bodies involuntarily felt chill as they trembled when they thought of this. A person of such an existence would not have much difficulty destroying their Cheng clan. All he needed to do was open his mouth and many extremely strong people would happily act on his behalf. The ability of a tier 7 alchemist to gather helpers was something that no one dared to doubt...

"This Liu clan, when did they get to know an alchemist of this tier? Why is it that I have never even heard any news of it?" Cheng Yao's expression was volatile. Thoughts flew around his heart. A tier 7 alchemist was an important person that was beyond what a clan like theirs could hire. He could not understand why the Liu clan could invite him over?

A short distance away from Cheng Yao, Liu Qing, Liu Fei, and the others were also looking at Zeng Xiu on the ground in the distance with wide-open mouths. Liu Qing's group felt a kind of ridiculous feeling when Zeng Xiu was unable to even endure one exchange with Xiao Yan. That was a tier 6 alchemist...

"Tier 7 alchemist..." The two white-haired, old men behind Liu Qing slowly inhaled a breath of air at this moment. Their tone contained a joy that could not be suppressed as they asked, "This mister is a tier 7 alchemist. Clan head, is he really your friend?"

Liu Qing's heart involuntarily felt proud when he heard the disbelief in the tone of their voices. These two old fellows might be the Elders of the clan, but they had always objected to him being chosen as the clan head. Today, he could coincidentally use Xiao Yan's face to dampen their spirits.

Liu Qing might feel proud in his heart, but his expression did not change. He replied in a faint voice, "If he is not my friend, do you two Elders think that someone else would intervene?"

The two Elders smiled in embarrassment when they heard this. However, they did not retort. If Liu Qing really possessed a tier 7 alchemist friend, it would undoubtedly bring a great joy to the Liu clan.

"This senior, may I know if there is an end result for this match?" Xiao Yan waved his sleeves and the majestic Spiritual Strength, that spread through the sky, instantly disappeared. He looked to Elder Chi Huo as inquired with a smile.

Upon hearing Xiao Yan's words, Elder Chi Huo's eyes hurriedly withdrew from Zeng Xiu in the distance, whose fate was unknown. A rare smile surfaced on his face as he nodded.

"Young friend's strength is extraordinary. The victory naturally belongs to you. Ke ke, the management rights for the Tianhuang City's Wormhole for the next three years will belong to the Liu clan..."

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