

Canon 281

Chapter 281: The Last Person Who Spoke to Me like That Is Now a Head Miner (2)

There was a slight tremor in the ground. A few kilometers away, smoke and dust rose into the sky. The Demon Realm army was not far away.

Yin Wuyou knew the severity of the situation. There couldn't be no experts in the camp for too long.

Apart from Zhou Shu, she was the only other expert. Shi Songtao's and Haitang's strength was almost negligible.

...

"Be careful!" Yin Wuyou said before shouting at the Great Xia soldiers, "Let's go!"

She turned into a stream of light and headed for the camp.

There were only a few dozen kilometers left. She didn't have to worry that the Great Xia soldiers wouldn't be able to find the camp. She couldn't let the demonic beasts revolt at the camp. She had to return first.

"Go help Her Highness guard the camp first. I'll help His Highness!" A voice sounded.

Only then did Zhou Shu realize that the leader of this group of Great Xia soldiers was actually Mei Wushang!

He was the owner Zhou Shu had chosen for the Heavenly Halberd!

What a coincidence.

"You don't have to. Wushang, you go to the camp too." Zhou Shu shook his head.

The reason he rushed over was that with the strength of these Great Xia soldiers, they would be caught up by the Demon Realm army before they reached the camp.

Without city walls, the consequences could be imagined once they were overtaken.

Zhou Shu had come over to help them stall for time.

When they arrived at the camp and defended on the city wall, there would be no problem in dealing with the Demon Realm army.

Mei Wushang was about to say something, but Zhou Shu waved his hand.

"This is an order!" Zhou Shu shouted. "Hurry to the camp ahead at full speed and assist Her Highness in setting up the defensive line!"

"As you command, General!" Mei Wushang said helplessly.

Watching the dozens of Great Xia soldiers running forward crazily, Zhou Shu temporarily put aside his messy thoughts and turned to look ahead.

Ahead, the Demon Realm army had already appeared in sight.

In the sky, a few bird-type demonic beasts suddenly flapped their several meter long wings, wanting to pass Zhou Shu and chase after Mei Wushang's group.

"Hmph! I'm here, and you still want to go over."

The Spring Embroidered Saber at his waist unsheathed and turned into a saber beam that shot into the sky.

Words could not describe the brilliance of the saber beam.

Just as the sound of the saber being unsheathed came, the heads of the bird-type demonic beasts in the air had already been separated from their bodies.

[The Spring Embroidered Saber you forged effectively completed a kill. The Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form has improved by 20%.]

[The Spring Embroidered Saber you forged effectively completed a kill. The Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form has improved by 10%.]

[The Spring Embroidered Saber you forged effectively completed a kill. The Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form has improved by 50%.]

A few messages floated past his eyes, and his mind felt cool. He felt that his spiritual strength had become stronger, and his divine sense had increased significantly.

Zhou Shu had left the Great Destroyer Sword for Shi Songtao to protect himself. What he carried with him was the Spring Embroidered Saber that he had forged himself.

With his current cultivation, there was not much difference in strength between using the Great Destroyer Sword and using the Spring Embroidered Saber.

He was even more lethal with a saber.

After all, his Heavenly Saber Art was unfathomable.

Although the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique had already reached perfection, it was still quite far from the limitless Heavenly Saber Art.

Saber techniques were Zhou Shu's strongest means of killing.

Even with just a standard saber, not many people below the Grandmaster level could withstand a single strike from him.

Swish!

The blood of the demonic beasts sprinkled down from the sky like a rain of blood.

Then the corpses of a few demonic beasts crashed to the ground.

At this moment, the Demon Realm army was only two to three kilometers away from Zhou Shu.

The entire Demon Realm army witnessed this scene.

The entire Demon Realm army paused for a moment.

These bird-type demonic beasts were not weak, but they were actually all killed with a single slash. The human opposite them was terrifying!

Zhou Shu stood with his saber horizontally, his expression unchanged as he faced the endless demonic beast army.

Every demonic beast in the army was gigantic.

In comparison, Zhou Shu's body was as small as a sapling.

But as he stood there, his mountain-like aura dwarfed the Demon Realm army.

"Stop!" A dignified voice shouted a word that Zhou Shu didn't understand.

The Demon Realm army stopped abruptly, as if someone had pressed the pause button. They stopped a hundred meters away from Zhou Shu.

The contrast between a man and an army was stark.

But such a person had stopped an entire army.

"You were the one who caught Yao Buqi?" The authoritative voice spoke again.

This time, he didn't speak in the demon language but in human language.

As expected, Yao Buqi had spread the news using some means!

Zhou Shu looked ahead and saw a figure slowly walk out of the Demon Realm army.

It was a human-like figure. He wasn't tall. Even in the human race, his height was only average.

He walked out of the Demon Realm army like an ant out of a herd of elephants.

But in the Demon Realm army, countless demonic beasts lowered their heads and made way for this person, their bell-like eyes filled with fanatical worship and fear.

"That's me." Zhou Shu nodded and looked the person up and down.

If he wasn't wrong, a demonic beast that could transform to human form seemed to have a respected status in the Demon Realm.

After capturing Yao Buqi, he could threaten the demonic beasts under him to become miners.

Was this guy in front of him the same?

But it looked like he was a little stronger than Yao Buqi.

Zhou Shu was able to catch Yao Buqi alive partly because he had caught him off guard and partly because his strength was average.

The person in front of him had an aura like the sea and was much stronger than Yao Buqi. Moreover, he knew that he had captured Yao Buqi and would definitely not be confused by his third-rank Martial Dao aura.

Even if Zhou Shu could defeat him, it was almost impossible to capture him alive.

If a first-rank martial artist wanted to leave, Zhou Shu wouldn't be able to stop him, especially this first-rank martial artist who had thousands of demonic beast troops under him.

"State your name," the humanoid demonic beast said coldly. "I don't kill nameless people."

This humanoid demonic beast's command of the human language was much better than Yao Buqi's.

The accent of a foreign language was barely discernible.

"Is that so?" Zhou Shu smiled faintly. "What a coincidence. It's the same for me."

"Why don't you tell me who you are before I decide if I should kill you?"

"How dare you!" the humanoid demonic beast roared angrily, and his aura suddenly exploded. His entire body was like an erupting volcano.

Airwaves spread out with him as the center.

Rumble!

The airwaves knocked down countless tall trees.

The Demon Realm army let out deep roars. The demonic beasts glowed with faint light as they resisted the heavy airwaves.

Strong, so strong!

Although he felt that this humanoid demonic beast was much stronger than Yao Buqi, when his aura truly erupted, Zhou Shu realized that this humanoid demonic beast was even stronger than he had imagined!

Zhou Shu was puzzled. According to Meng Bai's description, although the Demon Realm that the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament was facing was indeed very strong, first-rank experts were rare.

Why had he already encountered two of them not long after he arrived?

If first-rank experts were so common in the Demon Realm's army, then how could the human race kill all the Demon Realm troops that entered this world every time?

"Release Yao Buqi, then kneel as a slave, and I will spare your life," the humanoid demonic beast said coldly. "This is your only chance to live. Kneel!"

Zhou Shu looked at the humanoid demonic beast and laughed. "The last person who talked to me like that was Yao Buqi."

"He's doing quite well as a head miner now. I think you're not bad either."

Zhou Shu stomped heavily on the ground. Layers of waves seemed to erupt on the ground and charged toward the humanoid demonic beast. They collided with the airwaves around his body with a loud bang.

The next moment, Zhou Shu's figure suddenly disappeared, and the pupils of the humanoid demonic beast suddenly constricted.

Chapter 282: Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament Branch (1)

Boom!

The air around the humanoid demonic beast exploded.

His eyes instantly turned red, and iron-like black fur grew on his arms.

...

Only a foot away from him, Zhou Shu's figure appeared. He flipped in the air, and the Spring Embroidered Saber in his hand transformed into a saber beam that swept toward the humanoid demonic beast.

Divine ability, Unstoppable For a Thousand Miles!

This was the drawback of the divine ability Unstoppable For a Thousand Miles. Although he could obtain extreme speed, all his strength would disappear when he maintained his speed in exchange.

Previously, Yao Buqi was inexperienced and was slapped by him a few times.

But the humanoid demonic beast in front of him was much more experienced than Yao Buqi.

His aura that immediately erupted blocked Zhou Shu's figure a foot away.

Zhou Shu wanted to use the same trick again. However, not only did he not succeed, but he was almost injured.

If he couldn't take the shortcut, he would settle it with strength.

He unleashed his Heavenly Saber Art. For a moment, the area within a few meters was filled with sharp saber beams.

There was a hissing sound in the air, and the space seemed to be cut open.

The humanoid demonic beast growled, and his arms turned into black shadows that collided with the saber beams filling the sky.

Amid the thunderous noises, flames seemed to burst in the air.

Crack!

Zhou Shu heard a crisp sound.

The Spring Embroidered Saber in his hand couldn't withstand the pressure and broke into countless pieces. Then it was stirred into powder by the venting force.

And the other party's arm, which was covered in black fur, was actually unscathed!

Boom!

Zhou Shu threw away the hilt of his saber, and the two exchanged blows. With a loud bang, the two of them separated.

The humanoid demonic beast retreated step by step, leaving footprints several inches deep on the ground.

Zhou Shu used the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique to retreat dozens of feet away.

Boom!

His right foot stepped heavily on the ground, leaving a deep footprint.

He shook his numb arm, his eyes flashing with surprise. *This humanoid demonic beast is so strong!*

Ever since he had mastered the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique, this was the first time he had encountered someone whose strength was on par with his.

Indeed, in this world of high martial arts, even if he had mastered the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique, it was impossible for him to run amok.

“Who are you? Why are you so strong?”

Zhou Shu was surprised. The humanoid demonic beast was even more surprised than him.

He had never thought that any human could be as strong as he was!

“You don’t have to say anymore. Again!” Zhou Shu shouted proudly.

He stomped on the ground and appeared in front of the humanoid demonic beast again.

Boom!

The loud noise was incessant, and the wind blew for miles around.

The Demon Realm army had already formed a military formation to resist the aura from the two experts.

On the high walls of the camp, Yin Wuyou, Mei Wushang, and the Great Xia soldiers looked into the distance with slightly changed expressions.

The commotion of such a battle, the high walls beneath their feet...

Everyone began to feel worried.

Although they didn’t expect to be able to stop the Demon Realm army through the high walls in the beginning, after all, stones were too fragile compared to the sharp claws of demonic beasts...

Although Zhou Shu had reinforced the high walls of the camp with the Iron Smelting Hands Technique, they were still just rocks. They couldn’t stop the Demon Realm army.

At most, the walls could only cause some obstruction to the Demon Realm army.

But now that they saw the commotion between Zhou Shu and the humanoid demonic beast, they felt that these high walls were probably unable to cause any obstruction.

Yin Wuyou’s pretty face turned cold, and her eyes were brimming with killing intent.

This camp was her work. She would kill anyone who wanted to destroy it!

Boom!

Thunder boomed in the distance.

The ground shook violently. Even the people in the camp dozens of kilometers away could clearly feel it.

Before they could figure out what was happening, a shadow landed on the high wall.

Everyone was tense. When they saw who the figure was, they heaved a sigh of relief.

“Your Highness!” everyone said in unison.

Zhou Shu waved his hand, indicating that there was no need for formalities.

He looked into the distance. Dozens of kilometers away, the humanoid demonic beast stood tall.

His entire body was covered in black fur that was like iron. He was more like a bear than a human!

He stood there, the ground beneath his feet forming a deep depression.

The pit was dozens of feet deep and dozens of feet in diameter.

This was just formed by his landing. If it were any other ordinary expert, even if they weren't seriously injured, they would probably feel uncomfortable for a long time from such a huge impact.

But this bear seemed to be fine.

He also looked up. His gaze met Zhou Shu's, and sparks flew.

They seemed to see the meaning in each other's eyes.

“Set up camp here!” the humanoid bear demonic beast growled in beast language.

As he spoke, he faced the camp and then disappeared into the Demon Realm army.

Behind him, where the Great Xia people couldn't see, there were a few clear fist marks imprinted in the black fur.

Seeing that the Demon Realm army had stopped and seemed to be setting up camp, the Great Xia people on the wall of the camp heaved a sigh of relief and felt puzzled.

“Did you win, Your Highness?” Mei Wushang asked after hesitating.

“No.” Zhou Shu shook his head. “That guy has thick skin and flesh. I can't injure him.”

Chapter 283: Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament Branch (2)

He had indeed not won the battle just now.

But he didn't lose.

This was the first time Zhou Shu felt so aggrieved.

...

This meat shield, my attacks can't break his defense. His frustration was beyond words.

The humanoid bear wasn't very strong, and the defense of his black fur was comparable to his Golden Bell Shield Technique.

Neither of them could break the other's defenses. Fighting back and forth was nothing more than a lonely fight.

It looked lively, but it was actually useless.

If this continued, Zhou Shu's endurance might be a little better, and he might be able to win in the end.

But in that case, the results would probably not come out until ten days or half a month later.

Therefore, he and the bear demonic beast tacitly stopped fighting.

Yin Wuyou tugged at the corner of Zhou Shu's clothes and asked softly, "What do we do now?"

"Let's all get some rest today," Zhou Shu said. "The other party won't attack today. General Wushang, check your subordinates' weapons. If any of them are damaged, bring them to me. I'll help you repair them.

"I'm afraid there'll be a nasty fight to hold the camp."

The bear demonic beast alone could stall Zhou Shu. It was impossible for Yin Wuyou, Mei Wushang, and the others to block the charge of the 5,000-strong Demon Realm army.

Zhou Shu felt a headache coming on. Who would have thought that a random Demon Realm army would have a demon expert who was not weaker than him?

He had thought that with his strength, he would at least be able to rest easy.

Now, it seemed that some enemies were tricky to deal with even for him.

He now regretted underestimating his enemy. If he had known earlier, he would have prepared a heaven-grade weapon in advance!

Although he couldn't forge heaven-grade weapons himself, the few weapons he had obtained from Zhu Chuanfeng were still in his residence.

If he had a heaven-grade weapon, he would definitely be able to break through the defense of the bear demonic beast and even kill him.

It was too late to regret now. Even if he upgraded the Great Destroyer Sword to a black-grade weapon now, it was still not enough compared to the monstrous defense of the humanoid bear demonic beast.

He now realized how important a good weapon was.

In the past, he could ignore the grade of his weapon because his opponents were too weak.

If he encountered a tough and powerful opponent like the bear demonic beast, a good weapon would definitely be able to turn the tables.

"They are not my men, Your Highness," Mei said awkwardly. "All of us got separated from the main army and bumped into each other."

Zhou Shu finally understood. Not only were there many people from the Demon Realm, but their strength was also far greater than before.

The Great Xia army had been torn apart.

Mei Wushang and the others had all lost contact with the main army in the battle.

Then they bumped into each other during the battle and formed a temporary troop.

Because Mei Wushang was the strongest and was a fair person, he was temporarily in charge of this troop.

"It's not important," Zhou Shu said indifferently. "Since your cultivation is the highest, these people will be led by you now."

Zhou Shu was Great Xia's King of the South. By saying this, it was equivalent to him giving Mei Wushang's position as commander an official stamp.

"Everyone, I'll be blunt." Zhou Shu swept his gaze across everyone. "The Demon Realm army on the other side is dozens of times larger than ours. We might suffer heavy casualties in this battle."

"Your Highness." A soldier smiled. "Since we've decided to participate in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, we're already prepared to go into battle and die."

Everyone chorused.

Ordinary people didn't know the truth about the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, but soldiers qualified to participate would be told before they came.

They might not have felt it before, but after fighting the Demon Realm army, they had seen for themselves how ferocious they were.

If these Demon Realm armies attacked Great Xia, Great Xia would definitely become hell on earth.

When the time came, their wives, children, parents, siblings, and friends would all die without a burial place.

This must not happen!

"Everyone, don't worry. If you die in battle, as long as I don't die, I will definitely avenge you," Zhou Shu said.

"Thank you, Your Highness!" Everyone spoke in unison.

"I'm only saying this to prepare everyone. The situation might not really be that bad," Zhou Shu said with a smile. "It's not as if we have no chance of winning."

Everyone looked at each other. *Do we have a chance of winning?*

Just with these high walls in front of us?

These high walls couldn't withstand the attack of the Demon Realm army at all.

"You don't believe me?" Zhou Shu saw everyone's expressions and smiled. "Deputy Master!

“Tell everyone what this place is.”

Shi Songtao stepped forward in a daze. He didn't understand much more than the others.

He didn't know what Zhou Shu meant.

Still, he spoke honestly. “This is the Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch...”

“Did you hear that? This is Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch. This is my territory!” Zhou Shu said proudly as he placed his hands behind his back. “Anyone who wants to break through this place will have to be capable enough!”

Everyone was skeptical of Zhou Shu's words, but his aura made them feel relieved.

That's right. The person in front of them was Great Xia's King of the South and also Great Qin's side-by-side king.

No one had ever held the position of king of two countries alone before.

The King of the South was an existence that was good at creating miracles.

It was not impossible for a hundred people to defeat five thousand.

If Mei Wushang and the others' initial confidence was based on their confidence in Zhou Shu, then what they saw next gave them true confidence!

Mei Wushang and the others had already experienced several battles before encountering Zhou Shu and the others.

Some of them had ranked weapons, but the standard weapons were already somewhat damaged.

After they took out their weapons, Deputy Master Shi, who didn't seem to have any presence, led them directly to a stone storeroom.

“These are all newly forged standard weapons by His Highness. There are Huben Sabers, Hundred Refinements Ring Pommel Sabers, Horse Slaying Sabers, Spring Embroidered Sabers, Autumn Anatidae Plume Sabers, and even Eight-Sided Han Swords. Pick whatever you like,” Shi Songtao said with great dignity.

Standard weapons were not expensive. After all, they were only made of iron, and they had plenty of iron ore in their camp.

And there were miners here, constantly digging.

To be honest, Shi Songtao didn't even take blood silver seriously anymore. There was too much of it here.

Shi Songtao didn't even bother to keep track of the standard weapons.

Mei Wushang's group saw a room full of weapons and a mountain of forging materials.

Looking at the demonic beasts digging in the distance, they were dumbfounded.

In the month we've been here, have we been leading a different life from His Highness?

We were homeless and couldn't even eat a full meal. The casualties were even worse.

As for His Highness, he directly built a camp here and even had demonic beasts mine for him! Only someone like His Highness could do such a thing.

"Help yourself. Don't stand on ceremony. If you think one isn't enough, you can have two," Shi Songtao said generously. "As long as you fight with your lives, there are more than enough weapons.

"Take your pick. Just close the door for me when you're done. I have things to do."

"What are you going to do, Deputy Master Shi? Do you need our help?" Mei Wushang asked.

"You don't have to. You can't help."

Shi Songtao said proudly, "Only I, Deputy Master Shi, can do this.

"I'm going to put a layer of clothing on the high walls of the camp."

A strange light flashed in Shi Songtao's eyes as he said, "Our pavilion master said that this Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch has to be a steel city. Otherwise, it will be embarrassing!"

Chapter 284: Entering A Dream Again, Demon Realm's Plan (1)

Mei Wushang and the others seemed to understand a lot of what Shi Songtao was saying.

After choosing their weapons, everyone didn't rest. Instead, they returned to the high wall with great curiosity.

When they arrived, they realized what Shi Songtao had meant by a steel city.

...

No one knew what steel was, but seeing what Shi Songtao was doing, they could guess.

Shi Songtao's hands were as red as flames. He held an ore between them. In a moment, the ore melted into a fiery red liquid that dripped onto the high wall.

Shi Songtao's hands were like trowels as he smeared the red iron liquid on a stone block.

When the temperature dropped, the iron liquid solidified into iron again. At this moment, it was inseparable from the stone block.

This was what Shi Songtao had said about putting a layer of clothing on the high walls.

It was also what Shi Songtao had been doing recently.

High walls built of stone blocks were no problem for defending against ordinary beasts.

However, their enemies were not ordinary beasts, but powerful demonic beasts.

The claws and teeth of these demonic beasts were comparable to sharp weapons. Ordinary stones couldn't stop them at all.

This was why Zhou Shu and Shi Songtao had thought of putting an iron coat on the walls.

It was mainly because they had discovered that a large portion of the mineral mines in the camp were iron.

Iron was very common outside and was not valuable at all.

There was no value in bringing it out to Great Xia.

Instead of throwing it away, it was better to use it like this.

If the high walls could become indestructible, the people in the camp would be safer when facing the attack of the demonic beasts.

Shi Songtao now had a taste of the Iron Smelting Hands Technique, and he was full of energy when he worked every day.

The only bad thing was that every three days, he had to look for Zhou Shu for him to use his divine ability Unparalleled Benevolence again.

Otherwise, he would forget everything about the Iron Smelting Hands Technique.

Afterward, he had tentatively asked Zhou Shu if he could cultivate the Iron Smelting Hands Technique himself.

Zhou Shu didn't treat him as an outsider and directly told Shi Songtao the cultivation method of the Iron Smelting Hands Technique.

In the end...

In the end, there was no 'then'.

Shi Songtao immediately gave up. The process of cultivating the Iron Smelting Hands Technique was simply unbearable.

It was better now. He didn't need to cultivate it and could use it himself. It was just that it was a little troublesome approaching Zhou Shu every now and then.

Shi Songtao admired Zhou Shu more and more. He really didn't know how Zhou Shu had successfully cultivated the Iron Smelting Hands Technique.

In any case, there was no way he could do it.

It was enough to make Mei Wushang and the others look at him with admiration. A proud expression appeared on Shi Songtao's face, and his actions of smelting the ore became even more elegant.

Isn't my Iron Smelting Hands Technique cool?!

There were finally other people here. He was finally no longer the lowest existence in the camp.

This feeling was awesome!

In a stone room in the center of the camp, Zhou Shu sat cross-legged on a stone bed with his palms on his knees.

His expression was unreadable, his expression constantly shifting.

There was a tuft of black hair on his palm!

This was taken from the bear demonic beast's body when he fought with him.

Zhou Shu was hesitating. *Should I enter the dream?*

After encountering two humanoid demonic beasts in a row, Zhou Shu had a bad feeling.

According to Meng Bai, there were not many first-rank martial artists among the invaders of the Demon Realm.

But he had already encountered two in a short period of time. There were definitely more than two first-rank martial artists from the Demon Realm.

Otherwise, his luck was off the charts.

If it wasn't a coincidence that all the first-rank martial artists of the Demon Realm were gathered nearby, it could only mean that the invaders of the Demon Realm were stronger than before!

As for how much stronger, he couldn't deduce it yet.

To Zhou Shu, the best way to gather information was to transform into the enemy. Then he would know everything about the enemy.

The Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique was abnormal.

Zhou Shu hesitated because using the Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique was not a pleasant feeling.

It was true that when he transformed into another person in his dream, he could sometimes understand a different feeling. Just like the last time, he was clearly a virgin...

But after waking up from the dream, the feeling of separation from reality was something that normal people would never want to experience again.

If it happened too many times, one's mind might even collapse.

Zhou Shu cultivated the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form and had extremely powerful spiritual strength. He didn't have to worry too much about his mind collapsing.

But the pain of separation was unavoidable.

If it was being someone else in the dream, Zhou Shu wouldn't have hesitated for so long.

But the other party was a demonic beast, even if he was now in human form.

But who knew what his nature was?

If he played some sort of game with a female demonic beast when he entered the dream...

Zhou Shu shuddered at the thought.

In comparison, Zhou Shu felt Yao Buqi was very likely to play such games with female demonic beasts.

And the humanoid bear demonic beast that fought with him today felt a little similar to Wang Xin.

This kind of combat maniac usually didn't get close to women...

Chapter 285: Entering A Dream Again, Demon Realm's Plan (2)

If I enter the dream, I'll be able to find out his weakness. That's the only way to keep this camp. Zhou Shu gritted his teeth.

Otherwise, even if I can stop him, Mei Wushang and the others will definitely not be able to withstand the impact of an army of five thousand demonic beasts.

I'll risk it. If I don't go to hell, who will!

...

At most, when he woke up, he would take a few more glances at Yin Wuyou to cleanse his eyes!

Zhou Shu was not an indecisive person. After making his decision, he put aside all his random thoughts.

Holding the fur of the bear demonic beast, he closed his eyes. With a flash of light, the fur in his palm turned into a white light that enveloped his body.

Zhou Shu's breathing gradually became long and indistinct.

In the room next door, Yin Wuyou listened to Zhou Shu's long breathing and lay down on the stone bed in satisfaction. The corners of her lips curled up as she thought of something.

In the white light, Zhou Shu felt his mind shake. The world around him spun, and then he was only left with a bit of clarity.

He transformed into the humanoid bear demonic beast.

Although Zhou Shu had a trace of self-awareness, he didn't have his own thoughts at all.

His thoughts were all based on the subject of his dream.

The only reason that shred of self-consciousness existed was to keep him from sinking completely into it.

He felt very strange. It was as if he knew who he was, but the body he was in also felt like his.

Even though this was his third dream, Zhou Shu still found it difficult to describe this feeling.

The dream scene changed. It was like nothing he had ever seen.

As Zhou Shu had expected, this bear demonic beast was indeed a battle maniac.

Other than cultivating crazily, he spent his days fighting crazily.

A female demonic beast?

Nonexistent.

If Zhou Shu could still have his own thoughts, he would definitely be relieved.

But now, he had already transformed into the humanoid bear demonic beast.

After entering the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, Zhou Shu's various strengths had increased, including the Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique.

In the beginning, the Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique could only go back to the past one year of the subject he became in his dream.

Currently, he could go back up to three years using the Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique.

In other words, Zhou Shu transformed into the bear demonic beast from three years ago.

This bear demonic beast's name should be Yao Qing.

His days in the Demon Realm were almost like that of an ascetic. In a year, he spoke to no more than five people.

Apart from cultivation, it was still cultivation.

Such dream subjects were simple, but they were also a pain in the ass because there was too little information to be gleaned from them.

In the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, there was no day or night. The sky was always bright.

Being here, he could only tell if a day had passed by timing it himself.

According to the time, the white light on Zhou Shu's body was probably restrained at dawn.

His eyes flew open.

Whoosh!

Zhou Shu let out a long breath. Countless scenes flashed through his eyes.

His face contorted for a moment before he gradually regained his composure.

Boom!

Zhou Shu punched the air, as if he wanted to send all his messy feelings out through this punch.

After he vented, his eyes finally regained clarity.

He didn't try to recall the experience of entering the dream. Instead, he sat there and began to circulate the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form.

In his sea of consciousness, five towering mountains were visualized. Amid the clouds, his consciousness no longer had any distracting thoughts.

After a long time, Zhou Shu opened his eyes again.

This time his expression was calm, his eyes unruffled.

At this moment, he began to recall the dream.

Even though he was prepared, he still felt a strong sense of separation. In his daze, he even felt as though he was Yao Qing.

In his dream, he had transformed into Yao Qing for three years, but the information he had come into contact with was extremely limited.

In the words of later generations, Yao Qing was an otaku. He almost never socialized with others. His daily life was nothing but cultivation.

But it had been three years after all, and Zhou Shu had more or less come into contact with some things in the Demon Realm.

Although their surnames were both Yao, Yao Qing was not related to Yao Buqi by blood.

They weren't even the same kind of demon.

Yao Qing had the bloodline of a bear demon, while Yao Buqi had the bloodline of a deer demon.

In the Demon Realm, those who could transform into human form had high-level bloodlines. This meant that at least one of their parents was a first-rank martial artist.

Only such existences were qualified to use the 'Yao' surname.

Zhou Shu could finally confirm that there were indeed other realms above first-rank martial artist.

In the Demon Realm, such beings were known as great demons!

Yao Qing's parents were both great demons.

However, Yao Qing had not seen his parents once in the past three years.

Therefore, Zhou Shu had no way of inferring how strong great demons were.

In the three years that he had transformed into Yao Qing, the most useful piece of information he had obtained was that there was a great demon in the Demon Realm armies who had descended into this world!

And there were more than a hundred first-rank martial artists like Yao Qing!

Thinking of this, Zhou Shu couldn't help but frown.

If an ordinary human first-rank martial artist encountered Yao Qing, they would probably not be his match.

And Yao Qing was not the strongest among the Demon Realm experts who had descended into this world.

Not to mention the great demons, there were many first-rank Demon Realm experts who were stronger than him.

As far as Zhou Shu knew, there weren't many first-rank martial artists in the teams sent by the ten nations.

At least in Great Xia, including him, there were only seven first-rank martial artists.

In other countries, Great Qin might have more, but in weak countries like Great Liang, there were only a few first-rank martial artists in the entire country. Naturally, there were even fewer sent over.

There were probably a total of less than one hundred first-rank martial artists from all ten nations.

In other words, on the battlefield of the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, the strength of the human race was completely lacking!

Not to mention that there was a great demon. Just the great demon alone could probably suppress all the human experts.

I wonder how Great General Meng and the others are doing.

Please don't get wiped out.

Zhou Shu didn't know how strong the great demon was, nor did he know if he could defeat him. However, he was certain that Meng Bai and the others definitely couldn't defeat him.

If they encountered the great demon, they would probably die.

There's no point in thinking about it.

So what if there's a great demon? If I really encounter him, it's still uncertain who will win!

Although Zhou Shu hadn't even taken down Yao Qing, it didn't mean that he didn't have a trump card.

Moreover, on the battlefield of the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, he was getting stronger every moment.

If he went all out, so what if the other party was a great demon?

He would still kill him.

Now, we have to settle Yao Qing's Demon Realm army first.

Zhou Shu pondered. *Get another batch of miners. We have to speed up the mining and the forging.*

In order to destroy the Demon Realm army, other than high-end combat power, the combat power of ordinary soldiers has to be improved. At the very least, they have to be equipped with suitable weapons.

At the same cultivation level, human soldiers were inferior to demonic beasts.

After all, demonic beasts had sharp claws and thick skin.

The advantage of human soldiers was that they had weapons. This way, they could fight demonic beasts.

Zhou Shu was almost certain that the casualties of Meng Bai's army wouldn't be too small now. Without a sufficient supply of weapons, their strength would be greatly affected.

Demon Realm, if you want to occupy this place, save it. With me around, you're destined to be miners.

Yao Qing's weakness flashed through his mind.

If not for the fact that he didn't want to kill Yao Qing directly, he wouldn't have needed to go through so much trouble to enter the dream. Although Yao Qing's skin was thick, if he really wanted to kill him, he had other methods.

At the very least, Yao Qing would definitely not be able to withstand his divine sense attack!

He kept Yao Qing for the same purpose as Yao Buqi.

After entering the dream, Yao Qing's weakness was his second gain!

Chapter 286: I Will Never Be a Slave. Zhou Shu's Threats and Promises (1)

Zhou Shu had endured the pain of using the Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique to enter a dream as Yao Qing.

His purpose was to find Yao Qing's weakness in order to capture him alive.

Otherwise, even if he used all his methods, he might not be able to kill Yao Qing.

...

Fortunately, his efforts had not been in vain.

When Zhou Shu walked out of the room, he saw Shi Songtao still busy with the walls.

Shi Songtao couldn't fight directly on the battlefield, but he had his strengths when it came to other things.

After all, he was a famous forging genius of Great Xia back then. His reputation was not undeserved.

He didn't rest for a moment throughout the night. He kept putting on layers of clothes on the walls of the camp.

With such effort, the effect was obvious.

The side of the camp facing the Demon Realm army was almost completely covered in a thick layer of iron.

Even demonic beasts couldn't tear open this wall at once.

At the very least, two moves...

Zhou Shu patted Shi Songtao on the shoulder in appreciation, then walked straight up the wall.

Mei Wushang and the others were up early, readying their defenses on the walls.

They were ready to fight!

Zhou Shu smiled at everyone. "Everyone has worked hard."

"Your Highness, we await your orders!" Mei Wushang said solemnly.

"Don't be so nervous yet. It won't start anytime soon."

He kicked the trussed Yao Buqi.

Yao Buqi had been shocked by Zhou Shu's Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form the day before, and his head was still a little dizzy.

It had to be said that demonic beasts were powerful mostly because of their physical bodies. Their mental strength was not much stronger than human martial artists of the same level. In fact, it was weaker.

Zhou Shu, who cultivated the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form, had far more spiritual strength than most martial artists.

Under his attack, most first-rank martial artists couldn't withstand it.

Yao Buqi was already considered powerful since he didn't die on the spot or become a fool.

"Yao Buqi, come with me." Zhou Shu grabbed Yao Buqi.

"Aren't these the reinforcements you invited? We'll see if they can save you."

As Zhou Shu spoke, he jumped off the wall with Yao Buqi in one hand.

Although Yin Wuyou, Mei Wushang, and the others were a little worried about Zhou Shu, they also knew that with his strength, it was useless for them to follow him if he really encountered any danger.

The best thing for them to do was to guard the camp.

This time, Zhou Shu didn't use his divine ability Unstoppable For a Thousand Miles. Instead, he used the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique. A moment later, he arrived a few kilometers away from the Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch.

Then he stopped.

"Yao Qing, do you have the guts to come out and meet me?" Zhou Shu said.

He didn't shout, but his voice carried far enough that it was audible even from dozens of kilometers away.

"Why wouldn't I?"

With a loud bang, a black shadow shot into the sky from the temporary camp of the Demon Realm army.

The black shadow shot into the sky like a cannonball and landed in Zhou Shu's direction.

Boom!

Yao Qing's figure descended from the sky and smashed into the ground.

The ground rumbled and caved in for hundreds of feet.

Zhou Shu's expression didn't change. He looked at Yao Qing, who was a few meters away, and a disdainful smile appeared on his lips.

Yao Qing's pupils constricted when he saw Yao Buqi in Zhou Shu's hand.

"You are strong, human. Release Yao Buqi, and I will spare your life and allow you to be my slave," Yao Qing said coldly. "This is your only chance to live. Otherwise, you will die with those humans!"

"Do I have to thank you for giving me the chance to live?" Zhou Shu mocked.

Yao Qing didn't seem to realize that Zhou Shu was mocking him.

"That won't be necessary. Your skills have won me over. You earned it."

"Haha..." Zhou Shu laughed. "Yao Qing, you're really too naive.

"I told you yesterday. If you don't leave, you'll end up like Yao Buqi."

"Do you think I'm as useless as Yao Buqi?" Yao Qing snorted.

Yao Buqi was furious and cursed, "Yao Qing, you bastard! What right do you have to criticize me? You are neither human nor demon. You're the trash!"

"You're courting death!" Yao Qing's expression turned extremely ugly. The killing intent on his body seemed to materialize in an instant, and a faint red gas condensed around his body.

When Zhou Shu saw Yao Qing's appearance, his smile widened. *As expected!*

Everyone in the Demon Realm said that Yao Qing was the son of two great demons, but in the three years that he had been in the dream, Zhou Shu had accidentally learned that Yao Qing was not the son of two great demons!

He was actually the mix of a human and a demon!

Zhou Shu didn't know why there were humans in the Demon Realm, nor did he know which of Yao Qing's parents was human.

But he knew that Yao Qing's mixed-blood identity was his greatest weakness.

The reason why he knew about Yao Qing's weakness was that in the dream, Yao Buqi had quarreled with Yao Qing and blurted it out.

At the time, Yao Qing had almost killed Yao Buqi.

Zhou Shu had brought Yao Buqi over this time because he wanted Yao Buqi to say it again.

Chapter 287: I Will Never Be a Slave. Zhou Shu's Threats and Promises (2)

Sure enough, in two sentences, Yao Buqi said what he wanted him to say.

Yao Qing's eyes turned crimson. With a clang, he grabbed a long saber from somewhere.

He stared at Yao Buqi, his eyes filled with killing intent.

...

"Am I wrong? Who in our demon race knows how to use weapons? Only a human demon like you knows how to use weapons!" Yao Buqi shouted. "We have claws and teeth. We don't need weapons like humans!"

"Are you courting death?!" Yao Qing shouted, and the light in his eyes shot out more than a foot.

He took a step forward and slashed at Yao Buqi.

The dazzling saber beam crossed dozens of feet and landed on Yao Buqi's head.

With his spiritual essence sealed, there was no way for him to dodge.

Panic flashed in his eyes. Yao Qing really wanted to kill him!

Boom!

There was an explosion, and Yao Buqi suddenly disappeared.

The saber beam landed heavily on the ground, creating a deep crack.

Zhou Shu had pulled Yao Buqi aside at the last moment.

“Yao Qing, so what if you’re a human-demon hybrid. What’s the big deal?” Zhou Shu said with a faint smile. “If the demons can’t accept you, you can come to us. We definitely won’t discriminate against you.

“You use a saber, but to be honest, your saber technique is too lousy. It’s completely unsightly. Come to us, and I’ll teach you a supreme saber technique.”

Just now, it was Yao Qing recruiting Zhou Shu. Now, it was Zhou Shu recruiting Yao Qing.

Except one was a threat, and the other was a lure.

“Don’t even think about shaking my resolve, human,” Yao Qing said coldly.

He glanced at Yao Buqi. “Yao Buqi, you leaked the secrets of our demon race at will. According to the rules of the Demon Realm, you deserve to die.

“Sinner, I don’t need to save you anymore. You can die with this human.”

Yao Qing roared, and the saber in his hand suddenly erupted with a dazzling light. A thousand-foot-long saber beam slashed at Zhou Shu.

Surprise flashed across Zhou Shu’s eyes. The saber in Yao Qing’s hand was actually a heaven-grade weapon!

Heaven-grade weapons could only be forged by human Grand Craftsmen.

And for heaven-grade weapons whose owners died in battle, someone would usually take them away instead of leaving them to demons.

Where did Yao Qing’s heaven-grade weapon come from?

Demons didn’t use weapons. They didn’t have forgers!

Zhou Shu didn’t hesitate at all.

His saber flashed from his waist and slashed at an empty space in the air.

Seeing Zhou Shu’s actions, Yao Qing raised his eyebrows slightly. *What does this human mean by slashing in the air?*

Before this thought could flash through his mind, Zhou Shu’s saber was already above his saber beam.

It felt as if Zhou Shu had placed the saber there, and the saber light he had slashed out had collided with Zhou Shu's saber. Coincidentally, it had collided with the weakest part of the saber beam.

There was a crack as the blade shattered.

Yao Qing took half a step back, his pupils constricting.

When they fought yesterday, he knew that this human's saber technique was very brilliant. If he hadn't broken his saber, he wouldn't have fought him hand-to-hand.

Unexpectedly, his saber technique was even more brilliant than he had imagined. He seemed to know his saber technique like the back of his hand!

Yao Qing refused to believe it. He executed his saber technique and attacked Zhou Shu again.

Ding Ding Dang Dang!

With a few crisp sounds, Zhou Shu slashed left and right. It didn't seem like he was actually slashing anything.

But each slash interrupted Yao Qing's attacks.

This made Yao Qing very uncomfortable, and he almost suffered internal injuries.

He took half a step back and stared at Zhou Shu.

Is my saber technique really so unsightly?

Is it true that he can teach me a supreme saber technique?

With his cultivation level, he should be a person of great status in the human race. A person of such status shouldn't spout nonsense.

Yao Qing's expression kept changing.

Zhou Shu was in no hurry. He stood there with a calm expression.

When he entered the dream, Zhou Shu knew that Yao Qing had a deep obsession with becoming stronger.

This might be because of his identity as a half-demon or because he had been provoked.

The reason wasn't that important.

Zhou Shu only needed to know what could shake his will.

"With your abilities, without external help, you can forget about defeating Yao Wudi for the rest of your life."

Zhou Shu mentioned a name.

Yao Qing's pupils contracted, and a cold killing intent began to circle his body.

The iron-like black hairs also grew from his pores.

His breathing became heavy and thunderous.

SNAP—

Zhou Shu even heard cracking sounds coming from Yao Qing's limbs.

He glared at Zhou Shu as if he wanted to eat him alive.

"How did you find out?" Yao Qing said coldly and glanced at Yao Buqi.

Right now, his killing intent toward Yao Buqi was so strong that it was almost uncontrollable.

This bastard actually revealed such a thing to the humans!

How loathsome!

Zhou Shu smiled and didn't answer Yao Qing's question. Instead, he said, "If you want to defeat Yao Wudi, you only have this one chance in your life.

"Think carefully about whether you want to take this opportunity or not."

Zhou Shu sheathed his saber and placed his hands behind his back, looking proud.

Yao Qing's face alternated between green and purple. He gritted his teeth and roared, "I, Yao Qing, will never be a slave!"

Zhou Shu smiled.

Saying something like this meant he was wavering.

Otherwise, he would have berated him or even attacked him. This would have been a normal reaction.

Now, his words were more like to himself.

"You don't need to be a slave," Zhou Shu said indifferently, "You can ask Yao Buqi if he's a slave now."

"I'm not!" Yao Buqi roared angrily. How could he be a human's slave?

If this spread to the Demon Realm, would he still be able to face others in the future?

Zhou Shu was amused. *The demons of the Demon Realm are really cute. How are they so cooperative?*

"You heard him," Zhou Shu said. "Yao Buqi is my hostage. He didn't become a slave, and naturally, I won't make you a slave either."

Yao Qing breathed heavily and said coldly, "What do you want?"

"Simple." Zhou Shu smiled. "There are countless minerals in this continuous mountain. Take your underlings to mine and bring the minerals here.

"Exchanging minerals for a saber technique is fair enough."

"Hmph, there's no need to exchange. If I take you down, I can still interrogate you to reveal your saber technique." Yao Qing snorted coldly, and his aura soared again.

Before he could attack, he suddenly let out a shocking scream. Then he hugged his head and retreated dozens of feet.

As he retreated, he attacked forward frantically, as if afraid that someone was pursuing him.

But Zhou Shu, who was opposite him, had his hands behind his back and had no intention of attacking.

Yao Qing's eyes were full of horror. He had no idea what was happening.

But the tingling in his brain told him that what had just happened wasn't a fantasy.

"Yao Qing, you have to be clear about one thing. I'm making a deal with you because you have half the bloodline of the human race. Otherwise, Yao Buqi is your example." Zhou Shu clasped his hands behind his back calmly.

"If you really think I can't do anything to you, then you're wrong.

"It won't be difficult for me to kill you."

Zhou Shu's voice turned cold. "I'm giving you a chance now, but if you want to do this the hard way, I'll just spend some effort to kill all of you.

"If not for the fact that you're half human, you and Yao Buqi would be no different to me.

"Don't doubt my strength. You don't want to see me prove my strength. Everyone who has seen my true strength is already dead."

Chapter 288: It Would Be a Pity To Destroy The Great Destroyer Sword (1)

Zhou Shu's confidence really intimidated Yao Qing.

He frowned and stared at Zhou Shu with a solemn expression.

This human, whose spiritual essence cultivation was clearly only at the third rank of the Martial Dao, was a mystery to him.

...

Yao Qing could still vaguely feel pain all over his body from the battle yesterday.

This human's body was even stronger than that of demons!

It went against everything he knew about humans.

Moreover, in the short exchange just now, Yao Qing could tell that this human's saber technique attainments were far above his.

As for how far above, he couldn't tell.

Now, he even suspected that this person's spiritual essence cultivation was not at the third rank at all!

It was impossible for a third-rank martial artist to be so strong.

Even so, Yao Qing didn't believe that Zhou Shu could easily kill them!

Yao Qing was confident in himself. Ever since he was old enough, he had never slacked off for a day.

There might not be anyone in the entire demon race who was more diligent than him.

He didn't train so hard to admit defeat so easily.

In that case, how would he ever defeat Yao Wudi?

Yao Qing's eyes suddenly lit up.

Zhou Shu was sizing up Yao Qing when he suddenly noticed that the hesitation in his eyes had disappeared. In its place was determination.

He felt a twinge of regret.

Yao Qing was half-human and half-demon. Zhou Shu was very interested in his origins.

But after entering the dream for three years, Yao Qing was very secretive about this matter, and the information Zhou Shu could obtain was really limited.

He had wanted to break through the defenses in Yao Qing's heart step by step and then find an opportunity to take him in.

Now, it seemed this was impossible.

Yao Qing was extraordinarily determined.

Thinking about it, it made sense. After decades of bitter cultivation, how could it be so easy to subdue a person who didn't give in to alcohol, women, and money?

"I won't do it the hard way or the easy way." Yao Qing held his long saber, his eyes filled with battle intent as he stared at Zhou Shu.

"Come and kill me if you can!"

"If I can't even defeat you, what right do I have to defeat Yao Wudi!"

Boom—

A ball of light exploded from Yao Qing's body. An astonishing aura spread out from him like a whirlwind.

With a roar, all the trees and rocks within a thousand feet were destroyed.

"Come on!" Yao Qing shouted.

"Since you have a death wish, I'll grant you your wish!" Zhou Shu said calmly.

He took a step forward as his body started glowing gold.

He took another step, and a monstrous aura surged into the sky.

Another step, and he was in front of Yao Qing.

The Great Destroyer Sword behind him shot out.

At the same time, the new Spring Embroidered Saber at his waist also turned into a white light and attacked Yao Qing like a dragon.

Since words didn't work, he would beat him into submission!

Zhou Shu immediately attacked him.

Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords, Heavenly Saber Art.

His saber and sword moved at the same time.

This was the first time Zhou Shu had attacked using both a saber and sword in battle. Yao Qing should feel honored.

Boom—

Yao Qing's eyes were filled with sword light and saber beam. He felt as if he had become a small boat in a boundless storm and could be shattered by the huge waves at any moment.

He hadn't felt this powerless and small in years.

Yao Qing bit the tip of his tongue and shocked himself sober. He let out a shocking roar and slashed out with the saber in his hand.

The powerful impact sent Yao Buqi flying hundreds of feet away.

He got to his feet, spat the silt out of his mouth, and spat twice more.

Fortunately, Yao Buqi was a demon. Otherwise, with his spiritual essence sealed, he would be severely injured by the aftershock of the battle between the two experts.

Yao Buqi looked at the battle not far away. Suddenly, his eyes lit up. *That person is fighting with Yao Qing. Wouldn't I be able to escape?*

He glanced toward the human camp. His men were still there as miners.

But it didn't matter. As long as he returned to the demon race's base camp, he could easily gather another group of subordinates.

He turned back to the demon camp.

There was a demon army of 5,000 there. As long as he escaped there, no matter how strong this human was, he wouldn't dare to attack the demon army head-on.

Yao Buqi sneered in his heart. *Human, oh, human, you've made the wrong choice bringing me here to provoke Yao Qing.*

As long as I escape to the camp, I can still carry on my plan!

If Yao Qing isn't enough, I'll find a few more people!

Yao Buqi thought about it and started walking.

He had just taken a step when a saber beam suddenly descended from the sky.

Half a Spring Embroidered Saber flew in front of him and stabbed into the ground.

Yao Buqi was stunned. He stiffened, not daring to move.

What kind of freak is he? How can he be distracted by me while fighting Yao Qing?

Yao Buqi cursed in his heart. His spiritual essence had been sealed. Even if demons' bodies were strong, they couldn't withstand the attacks of an expert.

"Stay put, or I don't mind sending you on your way early." Zhou Shu's voice was cold.

"How dare you be distracted while fighting me? You're courting death!" Yao Qing roared.

The aura on his body became violent again. He held his saber with both hands and kept slashing.

In terms of saber techniques, Yao Qing couldn't compare to this human, but he wasn't attacking for nothing!

Chapter 289: It Would Be a Pity To Destroy The Great Destroyer Sword (2)

When the sabers collided earlier, Yao Qing had cut off his opponent's saber, and his confidence returned a little.

Since he had severed the opponent's saber, it meant that the opponent was not invincible.

At the very least, he didn't have the strength of a great demon.

...

Otherwise, the opponent would have suppressed him!

This human is very strong, but not strong enough to make me despair!

Yao Qing's battle intent surged. His strength actually increased slightly!

Zhou Shu sighed inwardly.

The standard Spring Embroidered Saber couldn't withstand such an intense battle.

After all, Yao Qing's weapon was a heaven-grade weapon. How could a standard weapon resist it?

Not to mention the Spring Embroidered Saber, even the Great Destroyer Sword wouldn't be able to fight a heaven-grade weapon without being damaged.

The more Zhou Shu thought about it, the more depressed he became. As a forger, he was actually at a disadvantage in terms of weapons!

If he had a heaven-grade weapon now, would Yao Qing still have a chance to fight back?

His strength was actually dragged down by the weapon in his hand.

Even the Great Destroyer Sword couldn't unleash his full strength.

In the past, his opponents were too weak, so this flaw was not obvious.

But now, this flaw was infinitely magnified when he fought the thick-skinned Yao Qing.

“Hmph!” Zhou Shu snorted and visualized the Five Mountains’ True Form in his consciousness.

His divine sense transformed into five mountains that crashed into Yao Qing’s head.

The power of his divine sense was invisible. Although Yao Qing could vaguely sense it, before he could react, he felt a pain in his head, as if he had been hit in the head by a sledgehammer. His vision darkened.

Oh no! Yao Qing’s heart sank. He was also very experienced in combat. Almost without thinking, his spiritual essence erupted.

Boom—

At this moment, the Great Destroyer Sword had already bypassed his long saber and slashed heavily at his chest.

Yao Qing’s burly body flew back high.

This was not the power of Zhou Shu’s sword, but him using the momentum to jump back and reduce the power of Zhou Shu’s sword.

As he jumped back, Yao Qing waved his heaven-grade saber.

His eyes were unfocused, his expression savage.

But his slash made Zhou Shu unable to pursue him effectively.

Boom!

Yao Qing landed heavily on the ground, his eyes red, his breathing heavy.

“You can’t kill me!” Yao Qing said in a low voice.

He gathered his thoughts and focused.

“Although you’re almost as strong as a great demon, you’re not a great demon after all. Such an attack is only effective the first time. It won’t work now that I’m prepared!”

It was rare for Yao Qing to talk so much.

Although he said that Zhou Shu’s divine sense attacks were not effective against him, his behavior showed that he was not completely unconcerned.

Zhou Shu didn’t comment on this and snorted coldly. “We’ve had enough fun, Yao Qing. Take another blow from me.”

His aura suddenly shifted.

In Yao Qing’s eyes, boundless flames suddenly rose from Zhou Shu’s body. He seemed to be riding a dragon in the flames.

A monstrous dragon slammed into him.

Yao Qing's expression changed.

Just as he was about to attack, he felt an immense force coming from his chest.

Crack!

Yao Qing felt a few of his ribs break. His chest surged, and he spat out a cloud of blood.

He rolled in the air, trying to control himself. He turned into a black shadow and fled into the camp.

"Hmph!" Zhou Shu didn't continue to pursue.

He snorted and took a deep breath. His face cleared.

The power of the God of War Catalog was indeed extraordinary.

But the consumption was also huge. Zhou Shu had used the God of War Catalog as a bridge to fuse his divine sense, true qi, spiritual essence, and even the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique and the Heavenly Saber Art into one, which was why he was able to severely injure Yao Qing.

But Yao Qing's reaction was also quick. He finally realized that he was not fighting alone. He still had an army of 5,000 demons...

Zhou Shu narrowed his eyes and looked at the demon army's camp for a while.

This time, although he didn't kill Yao Qing, his injuries wouldn't recover in a day or two. He should be able to stall for a few more days.

Zhou Shu had used so many methods this time. Speaking of which, this was his ultimate goal.

Even he could not easily kill an army of 5,000 demons.

The opponent couldn't kill him, but at the same time, he couldn't stop the charge of the army of 5,000 demons.

If Yao Qing really ordered the 5,000-strong demon army to attack, with the current strength of the Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch, they would definitely lose.

To have the newly built camp immediately occupied by the demon army, Zhou Shu couldn't afford to lose face!

Fortunately, Yao Qing's personality was the same as what he had learned when he entered the dream.

With both soft and hard tactics, he had indeed forgotten to deploy his army directly.

Although Zhou Shu couldn't kill him, he had at least severely injured him.

The rest would have to wait until his injuries healed.

Zhou Shu snorted. In the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, he was constantly getting stronger.

A few days later, when Yao Qing's injuries healed, Zhou Shu would become even stronger.

At that time, he might be able to take down Yao Qing!

Yao Buqi stood there like a wooden statue. He looked at Zhou Shu's back with a complicated expression.

Yao Qing was defeated!

This lunatic Yao Qing was actually easily defeated by this human!

How can this human be so strong?

He is clearly only a third-rank martial artist.

Yao Buqi was starting to panic. *Will my plan still work?*

Zhou Shu watched for a while and confirmed that the demon army had no intention of taking action. Only then did he turn around and walk toward the Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch.

Yao Buqi hesitated for a moment. Before Zhou Shu could speak, he obediently followed.

This human had even easily defeated the martial madman Yao Qing. With his spiritual essence sealed, it was impossible for him to escape.

In that case, why ask for trouble?

A wise man submits to circumstances. I'll suffer for a few more days and then perfect my plan to catch a turtle in a jar!

Our Demon Realm is so powerful. It makes no sense that we can't even deal with this human!

At this thought, Yao Buqi's thoughts came alive again.

...

In the camp of the Demon Realm army, Yao Qing wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth, his face distorted from the pain.

His brow furrowed, and he groaned.

"You're strong, but not invincible!" He stared in Zhou Shu's direction, his eyes filled with fighting spirit. "If I defeat you, I'll have the ability to challenge Yao Wudi!"

"Milord, when do we attack and rescue Lord Yao Buqi?" a demonic beast outside asked in beast language.

"Yao Buqi?" Yao Qing snorted coldly. *That kid is already a traitor. It's not important whether we save him or not!*

Besides, he had learned a lot from fighting that human twice. Opportunities were hard to come by. If they broke through his camp, there was no telling where he would run off to.

"Let everyone conserve their energy. In a few days, it will be the best time to attack," Yao Qing instructed.

Humanoid demonic beasts had a respected status in the Demon Realm. When he said this, the demonic beasts didn't dare to doubt him at all and followed his instructions.

On the other side, Zhou Shu had already returned to the Huaxia Pavilion's Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament branch.

"Deputy Master Shi!" Zhou Shu shouted.

"Here!" Shi Songtao looked up from the corner of the wall and answered loudly. He was still dressing the high walls in iron and working diligently.

"Follow me into the mountains. I want to find some forging materials!"

"Now?"

Not only was Shi Songtao a little surprised, but Yin Wuyou, Mei Wushang, and the others were also surprised.

Now that the Demon Realm's army was at the border and could attack at any time, they were going to the mountains to find forging materials?

"I wounded the commander of the Demon Realm army. I don't think they'll attack in the next few days." Zhou Shu knew Yao Qing's personality very well. He explained, "In the next few days, I'm going to find some forging materials to upgrade my Great Destroyer Sword."

"Upgrade the Great Destroyer Sword?!" Shi Songtao exclaimed. "Your Highness, you can't be rash! No one has ever succeeded in upgrading a weapon. The Great Destroyer Sword is the number one weapon in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual. It would be a pity to destroy it!"

Chapter 290: Searching for Mineral Mines, A Lone Army (1)

Shi Songtao's words made Mei Wushang and the others nod in agreement.

Although they weren't forgers, they knew that no weapon had ever been upgraded.

They had all heard of the reputation of the Great Destroyer Sword.

...

It was a yellow-grade weapon that had killed a first-rank martial artist!

It was the number one existence on the Yellow-grade Armament Manual!

If they had the Great Destroyer Sword, they would worship it. There was no way they would try to upgrade it.

If it failed, the Great Destroyer Sword would be destroyed.

"Your Highness, think it over carefully," Shi Songtao advised in a low voice. "Even ordinary black-grade weapons can't compare to the Great Destroyer Sword. If you need a black-grade weapon, I have one. Take it and use it. Don't destroy the Great Destroyer Sword."

As a forger, Shi Songtao couldn't bear to see a good weapon destroyed like this.

This was the Great Destroyer Sword, a divine weapon in the hearts of many forgers.

“Who said I’m going to destroy the Great Destroyer Sword?” Zhou Shu said strangely. “I’m upgrading the Great Destroyer Sword, not destroying it.”

“What’s the difference?” Shi Songtao countered.

“Upgrading the grade of weapons only exists in legends. Weapons are fixed once they’re successfully forged. A slight change can cause an imbalance, and the weapons will collapse...”

“I know these theories better than you.” Zhou Shu shook his head. “Since I want to do this, I’m naturally confident of succeeding.”

“Your Highness, you can’t joke about this. Once you fail, it’ll be too late for regrets,” Shi Songtao said anxiously.

Once the weapon collapsed, it would be basically impossible to repair it.

“I never joke about forging,” Zhou Shu said.

“Just follow my orders. Time is limited. I need you to help me refine the forging materials.”

Shi Songtao opened his mouth, his emotions suddenly complicated.

He suddenly remembered that ever since Zhou Shu became famous, he had never failed.

If he could really upgrade the Great Destroyer Sword to black grade, it would be the first time since the existence of forging.

It would be an earth-shattering event.

If he, Shi Songtao, could participate as an assistant...

His face flushed with excitement.

Although Shi Songtao was confident before, he had never thought of leaving his name in history.

But now, this opportunity was right in front of him. If they upgraded the Great Destroyer Sword successfully, he would definitely leave a deep mark in the history of forging, even if it was only as an assistant!

“Don’t worry, Your Highness. I’ll definitely complete the mission!”

Shi Songtao’s words made Yin Wuyou, Mei Wushang, and the others speechless.

Your attitude has changed too quickly, hasn’t it?

“Zhou Shu, if you go to the mountains, what about here?” Yin Wuyou didn’t think of stopping Zhou Shu. To her, she only needed to support what Zhou Shu wanted to do.

1

It was just like how Zhou Shu had decided to build a camp here. Actually, there was danger here, and it wasn’t a good place to build a camp.

But Yin Wuyou agreed without hesitation and didn’t raise any objections.

“I’ve already sealed Yao Buqi’s spiritual essence. With his strength, he won’t be able to break the seal,” Zhou Shu said.

“As long as you keep an eye on him, those demonic beast miners won’t dare to rebel.

“The demonic beast army shouldn’t attack for a few days. You just defend well as you’ve been doing.

“As for the rest, we’ll talk about it when I get back.

“At least a day or two, three or five days at most, I’ll definitely be back.”

Zhou Shu led Shi Songtao deeper into the forest.

The most important material needed for the upgrade of the Great Destroyer Sword was blood silver, which had long piled up in the camp.

As for the other materials, they were not expensive materials. They could be easily found in the warehouse of the Forging Division.

But here, they were separated from the main group and couldn’t obtain the supply of forging materials. They could only search for them themselves.

“You’re clear about the forging materials, right?” Zhou Shu said to Shi Songtao. “Not too much, just find eight to ten kilograms of each.”

“Don’t worry, Your Highness. I’m familiar with the materials. As long as the mineral mines exist in these mountains, I’ll definitely be able to find them!” Shi Songtao patted his chest.

Shi Songtao wasn’t lying about this.

He came from a forging family and was different from Zhou Shu’s predecessor, who had been a low-level worker for several generations. His ancestors had all been proper forgers.

As far back as Shi Songtao could remember, he had followed his grandfather and father and learned about various forging materials.

Searching for mineral mines was part of learning about forging materials.

When Shi Songtao was young, he had often wandered in the forest with his grandfather.

Shi Songtao had been to almost every mountain forest in Great Xia.

If he hadn’t met Zhou Shu, he would be the well-deserved number one weapon forging genius of Great Xia.

He had talent, inheritance, and worked hard. He was proper protagonist material.

Unfortunately, he met Zhou Shu and was reduced to becoming the head steward of the Huaxia Pavilion...

Still, he seemed to be enjoying himself.

...

Whoosh—

Shi Songtao's hands were red as he waved a flame. The thorny weeds were burned away, revealing the rock beneath.

He pressed his hands against the rock. With a sizzling sound, a handprint several inches deep appeared on the rock.

Shi Songtao knocked casually, and the burned rock fell away, revealing the structure inside.