

## Canon 541

### Chapter 541: The Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow, Former Grand Minister's Invention (2)

Zhang San shook his head. "Your Highness, I'm not afraid of danger. I'm just worried that I won't be able to complete the mission you've assigned me."

He smiled bitterly. "I know my own abilities very well. Even with the connate divine weapon you've given me, it's impossible for me to injure a Great Demon with my cultivation."

"I estimate that even if I tried to assassinate a first-rank demonic beast, the chances of success are almost zero."

...

"I know." Zhou Shu said. "What if I said I was sending you to your death?"

"I'll go!" Zhang San said firmly without hesitation.

Zhou Shu laughed and patted his shoulder. "Don't worry. Letting you die won't do me any good."

"I worked so hard to forge the Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow. Did I do it just to send you to your death?"

"Remember, the Great Demon I asked you to assassinate is called Yao Aotian."

"Yao Aotian?" Zhang San looked thoughtful.

He was a reliable subordinate and didn't ask Zhou Shu who Yao Aotian was, what he looked like, or where he was.

He needed to solve these problems himself, not with the king's help.

But he didn't know that the real Yao Aotian was already dead. The current Yao Aotian was Yin Chengshan in disguise.

"Your Highness, I'm on it!" Zhang San said seriously. "As long as I don't die, I will bring back Yao Aotian's head sooner or later!"

Zhang San's eyes were full of determination.

He came from an ordinary background and had achieved his current achievements because of his tenacity.

Zhou Shu nodded. He didn't tell Zhang San the truth.

If he really knew, there would be more or less some traces when he acted.

Only when he attacked without knowing would there be no flaws to hide from the demonic beasts.

"Remember, although assassinating a Great Demon is important, your life is more important. If you miss, escape immediately. Do you understand?" Zhou Shu added.

Zhang San nodded vigorously. He was extremely grateful. Although he didn't know why the king arranged for him to do this, his last sentence was enough to show how much he valued him!

"Your Highness, I understand. Don't worry. I won't let you down," Zhang San said seriously.

"That's fine with me, but I don't want you to fail the Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow." Zhou Shu patted his shoulder and disappeared.

Zhang San looked at the sky. After a long time, he clenched his fists and quietly entered the forest.

First, he had to find a way to find out where the Great Demon Yao Aotian was!

As for how to investigate, as a scout, he naturally had many ways. For example, capturing a demonic beast alive first...

When Zhou Shu returned to the cave where the Lingxiao Treasure Palace was being forged, he immediately saw Zhang Chunlin sitting at the entrance of the cave, doing something.

"What are you doing?" Zhou Shu asked casually.

Zhang Chunlin looked up at him. "Waiting for you."

"Waiting for me?"

"I think we should have a good talk." Zhang Chunlin said seriously. "I know you don't trust me, so you're hiding a lot of things."

"And I don't know why, but I get the feeling you have something against me."

"At your age, you probably weren't even born when I left Great Xia. Even if you were, you wouldn't know any better. There's probably no bad blood between us."

Zhang Chunlin said in a deep voice, "I've recalled carefully. I don't have any enemies with the surname Zhou, so the possibility of me having a grudge against your father is not high."

"You don't have to guess. I have no grudge against you," Zhou Shu said calmly.

"Since there's no grudge, I think you can trust me, at least for now," Zhang Chunlin said. "I can help you!"

"You're helping me now." Zhou Shu looked at Zhang Chunlin. "As long as you do what I arrange, you'll be helping me."

"It's not enough." Zhang Chunlin shook his head. "Although I'm not sure what you're going to do, I believe that you can't be undercover here for as long as five years."

"According to our current progress, it will take at least five years to process all the forging materials. In the meantime, once your identity is exposed, all our efforts will be in vain."

"So, please believe me." Zhang Chunlin's expression was very serious. "Tell me your true purpose, and we'll think of a way together!"

"I, Zhang Chunlin, am a Grandmaster and a Grand Craftsman. I was once the grand minister of the Great Xia Forging Division! I think I still have some ability!"

Zhou Shu looked at Zhang Chunlin in surprise. His previous attitude toward Zhang Chunlin wasn't good and was even a little nasty. The main reason was that he felt that the decline of the Great Xia Forging Division had a lot to do with Zhang Chunlin, a former grand minister of the Great Xia Forging Division.

The Forging Division turning into a sweatshop might have something to do with him.

Zhou Shu wasn't shrewd. If he had an opinion, he would directly show it. He couldn't be bothered to pretend.

He didn't expect that Zhang Chunlin, who had suffered his tough treatment, would actually reflect on himself so rationally and calmly. No wonder he had once been a high-ranking official. He was indeed good at doing such things.

His impression of Zhang Chunlin changed slightly.

"It doesn't matter if you know what I'm after or not. There won't be the slightest change in what needs to be done," Zhou Shu said. "If the speed of smelting forging materials can't be increased, it won't solve my problem.

"If you have a way to solve this problem, that will help me. Otherwise, if you have the time, you should deal with more forging materials."

Zhou Shu's tone softened a little, but he still didn't say much.

This was his personality. He wasn't deliberately targeting Zhang Chunlin. Before he succeeded, he didn't like to say anything to others.

What if it didn't work? Wouldn't that be embarrassing?

"I have an idea!" Zhang Chunlin's words made Zhou Shu retract his steps.

"You have an idea?" Zhou Shu said.

"Right!" Zhang Chunlin looked around. After confirming that there were no demonic beasts nearby, he continued, "To tell you the truth, when I was still in Great Xia, I had been thinking about how to increase the efficiency of forging.

"I've always felt that the real art of forging shouldn't only be in the hands of Forging Masters. I even feel that forging shouldn't rely too much on people in the first place!"

"Is that why you don't treat apprentices as human beings?" Zhou Shu suddenly interrupted.

Zhang Chunlin was stunned. "When did I not treat Forging Apprentices as humans?"

Zhou Shu didn't want to dwell on this question. "Continue."

Zhang Chunlin frowned, but he continued, "I think the Great Xia Forging Division is too dependent on Forging Masters. That's not good. Anyone should be able to forge. The Great Xia Forging Division should be able to operate without anyone..."

Zhou Shu finally understood. Zhang Chunlin really had some ideas, but his ideas seemed to have gone astray.

The importance of Forging Masters was not diminished. Instead, the importance of Forging Apprentices was diminished. The Great Xia Forging Division could operate normally without any Forging Apprentices...

As a result, the replacements for Forging Apprentices had greatly increased. It wasn't a pity even if they died from exhaustion...

It had been twenty years since Zhang Chunlin left Great Xia. Before Yin Wuyou took over, there should have been other grand ministers. Perhaps it wasn't Zhang Chunlin's fault.

When Zhou Shu thought of this, his expression softened even more. He gestured for him to continue.

Zhang Chunlin continued, "That's why I've been thinking about this when I was in the Great Xia Forging Division. Afterward, I fell into the hands of the demonic beasts and was imprisoned in the dungeon.

"In order to prevent myself from going crazy, I've been thinking about this problem. The heavens help those who work hard. I finally thought of a way!

"There's no way to locate star paths for ranked weapons, but it's completely possible to process forging materials without relying on people!"

Zhang Chunlin's face emitted a strange glow as he said excitedly, "What makes us humans stronger than demonic beasts is that we have brains. We know how to use external objects! According to my method, it won't take five years to process these forging materials. Five months is enough!"

#### **Chapter 542: Industrialization of Forging, Sowing Discord (1)**

Zhang Chunlin spoke his thoughts excitedly. Zhou Shu's expression became a little strange. He suddenly said, "Odd to even change?"

Zhang Chunlin was stunned. "What do you mean?"

"Nothing." Zhou Shu heaved a sigh of relief, not knowing whether to laugh or cry.

...

He was still a little too nervous. How could it be so easy to meet someone like him?

Zhang Chunlin was obviously not a transmigrator. He had just coincidentally had similar ideas to his previous life.

"This has to be done according to the properties of different forging materials. There's no need for a Forging Master to take action. A Forging Apprentice can complete this step with a little training," Zhang Chunlin said excitedly. "What we need to do is to forge a large smelting furnace!"

Zhang Chunlin's idea was actually somewhat similar to the steelmaking method on Earth in Zhou Shu's previous life. Zhou Shu had a similar idea in the past, but he had put it aside.

The forging of weapons in this world was similar to Earth's in Zhou Shu's previous life. There were many things that couldn't be copied. Although Zhou Shu had used his previous life as a reference, he relied more on the forging techniques of this world.

But if it was just dealing with forging materials, he could use the industrial methods of his previous life.

"That's a very good thought." Zhou Shu nodded. "Have you thought about how to forge the smelting furnace? Also, where will the fire seed come from?"

"I've already designed the smelting furnace and thought about the fire seed. We can draw earth fire to forge it. This way, we won't need martial artists to activate the true fire," Zhang Chunlin said seriously. "I've calculated that the temperature of the earth fire is enough to smelt ordinary forging materials.

"However, materials like Heaven Refining Stone still need true fire to be smelted."

Zhang Chunlin had seriously considered this question. He gave answers to all of Zhou Shu's questions.

During his twenty years of captivity, Zhang Chunlin had spent almost all his time thinking about this problem in order to avoid being tortured to madness. He had already envisioned all kinds of possibilities. What he lacked was just an opportunity to practice.

Now, this opportunity was right in front of him, and the massive amount of forging materials happened to give him a chance to practice it.

If not for the fact that he wasn't familiar with Zhou Shu, he would have suggested this idea long ago.

Over the past few days, although Zhang Chunlin still couldn't see through Zhou Shu, he was at least certain that Zhou Shu was really human.

Moreover, he was a human who hadn't submitted to demonic beasts.

This was enough. He, Zhang Chunlin, was not ignorant of the bigger picture. As long as he was sure it was for the sake of the human race, he would do his best to help. As for the friction between the two of them, it was not worth mentioning in the face of important matters.

"Very well!" Zhou Shu said. "Let's do it your way. There are a few things you need to pay special attention to!"

Zhou Shu explained some of the processes of industrialization in his previous life to Zhang Chunlin.

Zhang Chunlin's eyes lit up as he looked at Zhou Shu with admiration.

There were many things that he couldn't figure out. But when he heard this, he was certain that Zhou Shu's method was feasible!

Zhou Shu was able to analyze some of the problems that Zhang Chunlin had been thinking hard about for years.

He really was a genius!

Could it be that what he had said earlier about him being Great Xia's King of the South was true?

This thought flashed across Zhang Chunlin's mind.

"This process is called industrialized forging," Zhou Shu continued, "If you succeed, you will be the founder of industrialized forging."

"You deserve more credit."

Zhang Chunlin shook his head. The points Zhou Shu had just mentioned were the most important points. If he couldn't solve these points, he wouldn't be able to achieve the best effect with his thoughts alone.

Moreover, Zhang Chunlin suspected that Zhou Shu had already thought of these ideas. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to follow his train of thought so quickly.

"That's enough. We don't have to argue about this." Zhou Shu smiled and shook his head. "If we succeed, your name will definitely be in the history of forging."

"The most important thing now is to actually make it."

Zhou Shu continued, "To smelt materials in bulk, you need to know the nature of the forging materials like the back of your hand. You can't afford to make any mistakes. You'll have to keep an eye on it."

"Leave it to me. Don't worry," Zhang Chunlin said.

The two of them looked at each other and felt like they had just met for the first time.

Zhou Shu no longer felt any enmity for Zhang Chunlin.

"You've been imprisoned by demonic beasts for many years, and your physical condition has been bad. This is somewhat disadvantageous to your work." Zhou Shu took out a few finger-sized pills. "I have some nourishing pills here. Take them back and take them when you have time."

"I need to stress again that what we're going to do is important and that we only have this one chance. We can't afford to make a mistake!"

Zhang Chunlin took the pills from Zhou Shu and said with a solemn expression, "Don't worry. I endured humiliation for twenty years in order to make the demonic beasts pay the price one day! I will definitely make this happen!"

He turned and left, leaving Zhou Shu.

The corners of Zhou Shu's mouth curled up slightly. If Zhang Chunlin really succeeded, he could bring him back to the Huaxia Pavilion in the future and become a deputy pavilion master with Shi Songtao.

## **Chapter 543: Industrialization of Forging, Sowing Discord (2)**

Zhang Chunlin returned to the depths of the cave with the Essence Cleansing Pills.

The human captives were busy processing the ores.

Some of the human captives were forgers, and some were not. But even ordinary martial artists could process ore.

...

Zhang Chunlin ignored everyone. He walked straight to a corner and hesitated for a moment before picking up an Essence Cleansing Pill and putting it into his mouth.

He felt that there was no need for Zhou Shu to harm him. If Zhou Shu really wanted to harm him, he had plenty of ways.

Zhang Chunlin was no longer a hot-blooded and impulsive brat. Compared to the great kindness Zhou Shu had shown him by saving him from the demonic beasts, the conflict between him and Zhou Shu was nothing.

The Essence Cleansing Pill turned into a stream of heat that surged into his dantian. Then Zhang Chunlin felt his stomach churn.

*Gruu—*

Zhang Chunlin's eyes widened, and his eyeballs almost fell out...

Several days later, in the hollowed-out mountainside, a furnace more than ten feet tall stood there. Under the furnace was a burning earth fire.

To Zhou Shu, who could mobilize Great Demons, drawing out an earth fire vein was no problem at all.

The huge smelting furnace was personally forged by Zhang Chunlin.

After consuming the Essence Cleansing Pill, Zhang Chunlin had diarrhea for several days before he finally recovered.

After recovering, he felt his body become much smoother and clearer.

After being tortured by demonic beasts for twenty years, he felt as if he had regained his vitality. He became much more energetic and felt grateful to Zhou Shu.

"Everyone, pay attention. Send the ores into the smelting furnace in the order I say!" Zhang Chunlin shouted. "Those who control flames, pay attention to the heat. Listen to my instructions!"

With Zhang Chunlin's shout, the hundred or so newly freed human captives started operating like a precise instrument.

It had to be said that Zhang Chunlin, a former grand minister of the Great Xia Forging Division, was still very capable in management.

It was definitely not a simple matter to make these more than a hundred human captives listen to him in such a short time.

As the ores were continuously sent into the huge smelting furnace, the martial artists in charge controlled the earth fire to envelop the smelting furnace completely.

The temperature in the entire space suddenly rose by several degrees.

In the distance, the demonic beasts sent by Ji Lutian looked at the huge smelting furnace strangely.

They were all in doubt. Could such a large smelting furnace be controlled?

Zhou Shu also appeared not far away.

He had to take a look at this first batch of casting.

The flames burned fiercely, and a sound like flowing water came from the smelting furnace.

Refining forging materials was not as simple as melting the ore into a liquid state. During this process, the impurities in the ore had to be removed. Different temperatures would have a huge impact on the forging materials.

The biggest problem with such a huge smelting furnace was that it was easy to cause heat unevenness, which would greatly affect the quality of the forging materials.

Therefore, generally speaking, forgers wouldn't smelt too many forging materials at once. If the quantity was too large, it would be difficult not to make a mistake.

Zhang Chunlin had obviously put in a lot of effort on this. There was a stand on the huge smelting furnace, and the smelting furnace slowly rotated on the stand.

Coupled with some special designs he had made when forging the smelting furnace, it was enough to ensure that the forging materials could be evenly heated during the heating process.

As time passed, all the humans, including Zhang Chunlin, were already covered in sweat. But no one dared to relax as they stared at the smelting furnace.

"Lower the fire! Cool down!" Zhang Chunlin shouted. "Start the furnace!"

Orders came from Zhang Chunlin. Zhou Shu nodded slightly.

Once again, he acknowledged Zhang Chunlin's ability.

He watched as the fiery red magma-like liquid poured out of the smelting furnace and flowed into the mold that Zhang Chunlin had long prepared.

Zhou Shu was already certain that this step was a success.

In that case, there should be no problem dealing with the ores in batches.

As long as there was no problem with the composite smelting of the forging materials, this method could greatly reduce the time needed to forge the Lingxiao Treasure Palace.

*Pada*— Zhou Shu clapped. "Brilliant! Sir Zhang, follow this method and forge a few more smelting furnaces. I believe that you will definitely be able to finish processing the forging materials in a few months!"

Zhang Chunlin wiped the sweat off his forehead and said happily, "Fortunately, I didn't disappoint you! I'll definitely work harder!"

Zhou Shu nodded. He took some forging materials and returned to his own forging room.

Seeing the forging materials that Zhang Chunlin and the others had finished processing, his hands itched again. He wanted to forge another connate divine weapon.

*Boom!*

Just as he entered the forging room, he heard an explosion outside.

With a flash, Zhou Shu was already outside the cave.

He saw some demonic beasts rising into the sky, and 'Yao Aotian' stood in front of the mountain wall with blood at the corner of his mouth.

"Aotian, are you all right?" Zhou Shu asked in front of the demon beasts.

Yao Aotian, who was also Yin Chengshan, shook his head. He felt suffocated and couldn't speak for a moment.

"How dare you! Who dares to assassinate a Great Demon of the Demon Realm?!" Zhou Shu shouted.

Currently, the surroundings were full of demonic beasts of the tiger demon race. There were no Great Demons among these demonic beasts.

The Great Demons had all gone to help Zhou Shu mine.

The demonic beasts looked at each other. Finally, a humanoid demonic beast stepped forward and said, "Lord Yao Qing, calm down. We will definitely capture the assassin."

"Forget it. It has nothing to do with you." Zhou Shu waved his hand. "You won't be able to catch anyone who has the ability to hurt Aotian. Even if you chase after him, there's a high chance that you'll catch a scapegoat."

"Hmph, there must be a demonic beast that can't bear to see that Aotian is about to break through to the Demon King realm, so he secretly attacked him," Zhou Shu said out loud.

The demonic beasts of the tiger demon race were shocked. "Lord Yao Qing, are you saying that a Demon King wants to kill Lord Yao Aotian?"

Zhou Shu looked at the demonic beast in admiration. Not all demonic beasts were fools.

Wasn't he rather sensible?

"I didn't say that. You did," Zhou Shu said coldly. "If another Demon King emerges, the interests of the Demon Realm will definitely have to be redrawn. One Demon King Hu Li is already a surprise. If another appears, hehe..."

Zhou Shu's voice was very loud, and the tiger demonic beasts heard him clearly.

Demonic beasts were not as smart as humans, but this didn't mean that they were all fools.

"Lord Yao Qing, do you think our king has also aroused the fear of those lords?" a tiger demon asked cautiously.

The king he was talking about was naturally Demon King Hu Li.

“Hmph, I’m afraid it’s not just Demon King Hu Li. It’s the same for me,” Zhou Shu said. “You must protect me well. Also, if Aotian and I suddenly die one day, remember to tell Demon King Hu Li to be careful of the other Demon Kings!”

Zhou Shu turned around and helped Yao Aotian into the cave. The corners of his mouth curled up slightly. The tiger demons behind him were all bewildered.

There was too much information in Zhou Shu’s words. For a moment, they couldn’t react. Some smarter ones had already taken the initiative to send a message to Demon King Hu Li.

Inside the cave, Yin Chengshan hesitated for a moment before saying, “Your—Sir, it wasn’t a demonic beast who tried to assassinate me...”

“I know,” Zhou Shu said. “I arranged it.”

“Huh?!” Yin Chengshan exclaimed. He had a sudden realization. “Are you trying to sow discord, Sir?”

“I’m trying, but the chances of success are slim,” Zhou Shu said casually. “Not all demonic beasts are fools. The main reason is to find an excuse for you. Yao Aotian is about to break through to the Demon King realm. With the style of demon beasts, there will definitely be many demonic beasts who will challenge him. With your strength, you won’t be able to deal with them. Now is a good time to use your injuries as an excuse to avoid those challenges. At the same time, go and take care of the demonic beast army that Yao Aotian left behind. They can’t stop mining.”

#### **Chapter 544: Catching A Big Fish, 29-Word Movement Technique (1)**

Yao Aotian was different from Yao Qing. The only loophole in Zhou Shu’s disguise as Yao Qing had been covered up by Ji Lutian.

As long as the real Yao Qing didn’t appear, no one would be able to see through him.

But Yao Aotian was not a homebody like Yao Qing. Yao Aotian had a wide circle of friends. Previously, he had changed his name because of what Zhou Shu said and had touched the threshold of the Demon King realm, becoming an influential figure among the Great Demons.

...

Demonic beasts had always been very combative. Just from what Zhou Shu saw, several Great Demons had already come to challenge Yao Aotian, wanting to break through by challenging him.

Yin Chengshan’s cultivation level was still far from the Great Demon realm. If he really fought with a Great Demon, he would be exposed immediately.

This was why Zhou Shu had come up with this ruse.

It was hard to say if it would work.

“Zhang San won’t stop assassinating you. Make use of this opportunity to transfer the demonic beast army under Yao Aotian to protect yourself,” Zhou Shu said casually. “I’ll find time to help you forge another connate divine weapon to increase your strength...”

Before Zhou Shu could help Yin Chengshan forge a connate weapon, someone came looking for him.

When Zhou Shu had forged the Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow, many Great Demons had seen it with their own eyes. At the time, he had tricked them into saying that he had forged the Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow to fish.

Zhou Shu didn't expect the Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow to really catch a big fish!

"Demon King Hu Li, although I've learned some human forging techniques, I'm still far inferior to my father. Why don't you go to him to forge a weapon?" Zhou Shu looked at Hu Li and glanced at the figure covered in a black robe behind him.

"I want to find Brother Ji too. Unfortunately, he and your mother have gone off somewhere to have fun. I can't find them," Hu Li said. "Nephew, you have inherited your father's ability. This should be an easy task for you.

"I have no choice. Demon King Ao personally ordered the mission. Although I'm also a Demon King now, Demon King Ao took good care of me in the past, so I couldn't refuse him."

Hu Li was very tactful, but Zhou Shu saw the bruise at the corner of his eye. There was a high chance that Demon King Ao had beaten him up...

Speaking of which, Hu Li had indeed been a little jumpy recently. Before his advancement ceremony to become a Demon King was even held, he had already begun to search the world for heaven and earth treasures.

Some of the other Demon Kings might not care too much, but there were definitely some Demon Kings who would be unhappy.

It was only a matter of time before someone taught Hu Li a lesson.

Zhou Shu didn't expect that the legendary number one Demon King of the Demon Realm would take action so quickly.

"Demon King Hu Li, it's not that I don't want to help, but my skills are really limited," Zhou Shu said. "I've already spent all my energy helping you build the Demon King Palace. I don't have time for anything else?"

"There's not much to do at night for the Demon King Palace. Help me resolve this matter first. Nephew, help me, and I will remember your kindness."

Hu Li whispered in Zhou Shu's ear, "Just forge a weapon and send him away."

As Demon King Hu Li spoke, he glanced at the black-robed figure with an unhappy expression.

The black-robed figure had been silent since he entered. Hu Li's voice wasn't that soft. He must have been able to hear it, but he still didn't react at all.

Zhou Shu hesitated and continued, "I can only try. I'm not sure if it'll work."

Zhou Shu looked at the black-robed figure. "Sir, do you have any requirements for weapons?"

The black-robed figure seemed to be shrouded in a layer of fog. Zhou Shu was unable to determine his cultivation.

"You're Ji Lutian's son. I want to know how much of his skills you've inherited," the black-robed figure said, his voice hoarse and unpleasant, as if he had something stuck in his throat.

"Sir, you seem to have made a mistake." Zhou Shu shook his head. "I'm not the one helping you. You're the one asking me for help.

"If you doubt my strength, that's fine. I don't want to help you forge a weapon either. Please leave."

For some reason, Zhou Shu didn't like the aura of this black-robed figure. Moreover, he had been guiding demonic beasts to repel weapons. Now that a demonic beast who wanted to use a weapon appeared, Zhou Shu was already giving him face by not killing him on the spot.

Demon King Hu Li chuckled and gave Zhou Shu a thumbs up, not caring about the black-robed figure at all.

The black-robed figure was slightly stunned. He hadn't expected Zhou Shu's reaction to be so unyielding.

The black-robed figure was silent for a moment before saying, "I've misspoken. I have a secret forging formula. You just need to forge the weapon according to the secret forging formula."

He took out a yellowed piece of parchment and handed it to Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu casually took it. Before looking at it, he said, "I can tell at a glance that you're an amateur. It doesn't matter if you have a secret forging formula. Forging skills are the most important thing when forging.

"We demonic beasts are not good at this. I only know a little about it. I can't guarantee that it will work."

#### **Chapter 545: Catching A Big Fish, 29-Word Movement Technique (2)**

"Just do your best. If not, I'll go find your father," the black-robed figure said.

Zhou Shu's face darkened. *Isn't this bastard taking advantage of me?*

*I'm not the real Yao Qing. Don't keep mentioning my father. Shut it, okay? If you dare to mention him again, I'll beat you to death.*

...

Zhou Shu couldn't be bothered with the black-robed figure and lowered his head to look at the secret forging formula he had given him.

After just a glance, Zhou Shu raised his head in surprise and seriously sized up the black-robed figure.

*Damn it. No wonder this black-robed figure is so annoying. It turns out that enemies are bound to meet!*

*Emperor Wei Wu!*

*This old bastard is still alive!*

"I'll give it a try. Are you going to wait here or come back for it in a few days?" Zhou Shu looked at the black-robed figure with a faint smile.

"I'll pick it up in a few days," the black-robed figure said in a hoarse voice. "Keep this secret forging formula well. Don't lose it."

With that, he cupped his hands at Zhou Shu and Hu Li before turning around and walking out.

Hu Li only spat when he was far away.

"What the hell! You think you're so great just because you have Demon King Ao's favor?!" Hu Li cursed.

"Demon King Hu Li, who is this? Is he a clansman of Demon King Ao?" Zhou Shu asked casually.

"I don't know," Demon King Hu Li said. "I was going to borrow some forging materials from Demon King Ao, but he forced this guy on me."

The process seemed to be unpleasant. Hu Li shivered and shook his head. "I'll leave this to you, Nephew. I haven't gathered the materials you want. I'll think of something."

With that, the Demon King Hu Li left like a gust of wind.

Zhou Shu looked down at the secret forging formula in his hand and rubbed his chin in deep thought.

When he saw the secret forging formula, he was certain that the person shrouded in the black robe was Emperor Wei Wu!

Emperor Wei Wu was the one who had joined the demonic beasts and opened a gap between the Demon Realm and the Ten Nations Continent to lure the demonic beasts into the Ten Nations!

Zhou Shu was not surprised that Emperor Wei Wu had revived. After all, he had seen this more than once.

Back then, Zhou Shu had killed Great Wei's Imperial Preceptor Xiao Shunzhi more than once.

If the imperial preceptor of Great Wei could come back from the dead, it was not surprising that Emperor Wei Wu could come back from the dead.

Zhou Shu just didn't expect that not only was Emperor Wei Wu not dead, but he actually dared to come out and help the Demon Realm invade the Ten Nations.

*I wonder what he gets out of this.*

*Previously, Great Demon Yao Lian had a replica of the imperial cauldrons. With the replica, he entered the Zhuling Grotto-Heaven. That replica is closely related to Emperor Wei Wu. I didn't expect him to want to forge another one now.*

Zhou Shu sneered. He didn't know where Emperor Wei Wu had obtained the secret forging formula for the imperial cauldron. Unfortunately, he had approached the wrong person.

*You want to forge another imperial cauldron replica and destroy the barrier between the Demon Realm and the Ten Nations. Emperor Wei Wu, what kind of deep hatred do you have with the human race to actually spare no effort to help the Demon Realm?*

Zhou Shu shook his head. *If you didn't die, you should have hidden yourself well. You might have been able to live then. Now that you've appeared, if I don't kill you, I'll be letting you down.*

Zhou Shu snorted. With a flick of his wrist, flames rose from his palm and instantly burned the secret forging formula for the replica imperial cauldron to ashes.

Zhou Shu didn't need such crude things at all.

He didn't need a forging formula to forge a fake imperial cauldron.

Zhou Shu had personally seen the real imperial cauldron and had even participated in the repair of Great Qin's imperial cauldron.

Unfortunately, Demon King Hu Li was present just now. Otherwise, Zhou Shu would have taken down Emperor Wei Wu on the spot. Now, he didn't know where he had gone, so he could only wait for him to appear next time.

Zhou Shu wasn't in a hurry. In any case, Emperor Wei Wu had already appeared in front of him, so he wouldn't be able to escape.

Emperor Wei Wu's appearance reminded Zhou Shu that the Ten Nations Continent was still facing the threat of the Demon Realm.

And the Ten Nations Alliance army that was now in the Demon Realm...

*Zhang Chunlin and the others are still preparing the materials to forge the Lingxiao Treasure Palace. In the next few months, we can forge some connate divine weapons.*

Zhou Shu pondered. *The numbers of the Ten Nations Alliance in the Demon Realm are limited. I have to make sure they are all elite soldiers. If they all break through to the third rank of the Martial Dao and are equipped with connate divine weapons...*

This was only a thought. Although Zhou Shu had fooled more than ten Great Demons, it was wishful thinking to get the 30,000-strong army equipped with connate divine weapons.

Not to mention 30,000, the forging materials weren't even enough for 3,000 connate divine weapons. Connate divine weapons were not so easily forged.

Not to mention anything else, the cost was definitely worthy of the word divine weapon.

It was unrealistic for everyone to have one. But it was not unrealistic for every first-rank martial artist to have one.

The strength of the Ten Nations Alliance army was still far inferior to the Demon Realm army. Without divine weapons, there was no way to fight this battle.

Now that the various Great Demons were working hard to mine, he could first forge some connate divine weapons.

*The weapons in the Legendary Armament Canon have been refreshed. The only weapons that can give me benefits now are connate divine weapons: the Ming Hong Saber, the Huben Saber, the Crimson Firmament Sword, the Great Destroyer Heavenly Bow...*

*But only four connate divine weapons are too slow for me to improve my strength. I still have to forge all the connate divine weapons in the Legendary Armament Canon.*

*Connate Horse Slaying Saber, Connate Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber, Connate Heavenly Halberd...*

Zhou Shu counted for a long time and sighed to himself.

After accumulating for so long, his workers were almost all over the army. In the end, after the Legendary Armament Canon upgraded, he returned to before liberation overnight.

It had been a long time since he felt his strength increase. He hadn't even seen benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon for a long time.

And this was only because he had so few workers these days.

*It's been quite peaceful for the past few days. Helping Emperor Wei Wu can be an excuse. I'll forge a few connate divine weapons first!*

*My Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form has yet to reach perfection, and there's still the Zhuang Zhou Butterfly Dream Technique, the God of War Catalog, and the Heaven Slaying Sword Art. After the weapons leveled up, these rewards shouldn't have changed.*

*The Connate Spring Embroidered Saber, Connate Shadow Sword, and Connate Overlord Spear will be first!*

Zhou Shu did as he said. He returned to the cave and got Zhang Chunlin to transport the forging materials into his forging room.

...

In the Huaxia Pavilion's Demon Realm branch, Meng Bai, Wang Mu, Bai Qiancheng, and the other generals sat together with solemn expressions.

"That Demon Realm army didn't really discover us," Mi Ziwen reported in a low voice. "They were mining. They just happened to dig their way onto our mountain.

"At the rate they're going, they'll soon dig out the karst cave. Then, we won't be able to hide our tracks."

Mi Ziwen didn't know whether to laugh or cry. It was obvious that his second brother was behind the demonic beasts' mining. *Second Brother probably didn't expect the demonic beasts would dig directly to the camp.*

"There are two ways. The first is to contact His Highness and ask him to find a way to transfer this demonic beast army away," Wang Mu said.

"How do we contact him?" Bai Qiancheng shook his head. "This method won't work. We can't contact His Highness."

"Then, there's only one other way," Wang Mu said. "Prepare for war."

"No." Meng Bai shook his head. "We have only thirty thousand men now. We can't afford to lose them.

“With our current strength, we definitely won’t be able to defeat that Demon Realm army if we fight head-on.”

“Have you forgotten the twenty-nine-word movement technique that His Highness mentioned? We’ve discussed it for so long. Isn’t this the perfect opportunity to give it a try?” Wang Mu said in a deep voice, “We’re not here to survive behind enemy lines. We’re here to fight!

“This karst cave extends in all directions. It’s the best place for such warfare. If we don’t dare to fight, when will we dare to?”

The generals looked at each other, their eyes filled with fighting spirit.

The 29-word movement technique: When the enemy advances, I retreat. When the enemy is stationed, I disrupt them. When the enemy is tired, I fight. When the enemy retreats, I go after them. Fight!

### **Chapter 546: Tushan Appears Again (1)**

*Swish!*

Amid the sound of a blade entering flesh, a huge demonic beast’s head rolled to the ground.

Meng Bai breathed heavily and took a long breath. His face lit up.

...

This Demon Realm army was finally wiped out!

For several days in a row, they had relied on their familiarity with the karst cave to lure the Demon Realm army into it. They had fought separately and finally wiped out this Demon Realm army that was twice their number.

“Clear the battlefield. Retreat!” Meng Bai barked.

*Clap clap clap—*

The army was cleaning up the battlefield and preparing to retreat deep into the cave when a round of applause suddenly sounded.

Meng Bai’s and the others’ expressions changed drastically as they looked up in the direction of the sound.

A graceful figure suddenly appeared in front of everyone. This charming appearance belonged to none other than Yin Yuzhu, who had stayed in the cave for a period of time. She was Demon Queen Tushan!

“Leave first!”

Xiao Jianghe stepped out of the crowd, and the Connate Huben Saber appeared in his hand. He became one with the saber, and a violent aura erupted from his body.

Tushan’s gaze landed on the Connate Huben Saber in Xiao Jianghe’s hand, and her eyes flashed.

“Another connate divine weapon?” Tushan muttered. A smile appeared on her face.

This smile made the bloody atmosphere disappear, and everyone's eyes seemed to brighten.

"Showing your saber on sight, is that how you treat your guests?" Tushan's lips didn't move, but a voice sounded in everyone's ears.

"To our guests, we have fine wine. To our enemies, we have only sabers!" Xiao Jianghe said coldly.

Spiritual essence circulated in his body, and the Connate Huben Saber shone brightly. The Seven Seas Dragon Armor on his body let out a dragon roar, and a flood dragon circled around his body.

He knew the strength of Tushan and didn't hold back at all.

Right now, among the Ten Nations Alliance, he was the strongest. At this moment, only by blocking at the front could he fight for a chance of survival for everyone.

"If I were an enemy, do you think you'd still be standing?" Tushan's voice sounded.

Xiao Jianghe felt a gust of wind blow toward him, and he subconsciously swung the Huben Saber.

*Clank!*

With a crisp sound, Xiao Jianghe's arm went numb, and the Huben Saber left his hand.

Tushan appeared again, as if she had never moved. But there was already a saber in her hand. If it wasn't the Connate Huben Saber, what was it?

Everyone's expressions changed drastically. The strongest among them, Xiao Jianghe, had actually lost his weapon in one move!

"Fight to the death!"

Meng Bai, Wang Mu, Bai Qiancheng, and the others all had strong battle intent in their eyes as they took out their weapons.

Mi Ziwen, Wang Xin, and the others also took a step forward, their battle intent surging.

Tushan smiled faintly. She gently flicked the Connate Huben Saber in her hand.

"Where's Zhou Shu? I'm here to look for him. I just happened to watch the battle." The voice of Tushan sounded in everyone's ears. "It was very exciting. It's much more fun than ants fighting."

"Succubus, cut the crap!" Xiao Jianghe shouted. He took a step forward, and his body shone brightly. The Connate Huben Saber in Tushan's hand suddenly flashed and disappeared from her hand with a whoosh. The next moment, it returned to Xiao Jianghe's hand.

An intrinsic divine weapon could be controlled even if it was out of hand!

Surprise flashed across Demon Queen Tushan's face, and a smile appeared on his lips. "I see."

She nodded. "As expected, you humans know best. I knew it. So weapons can be used like that."

"Take this!" Xiao Jianghe shouted, ignoring what she said. He held the saber with both hands and slashed out another shocking saber beam.

Xiao Jianghe was a first-rank martial artist, and the Huben Saber in his hand was a connate weapon. Under the unity of man and saber, even a first-rank martial artist couldn't block his move.

But how could a first-rank martial artist compare to Demon Queen Tushan?

She only smiled lightly and flicked her finger. With a clang, Xiao Jianghe was sent flying. He hit the cave wall with a bang and spat out a mouthful of blood.

"Kill!" Meng Bai shouted and attacked with the Mountain Suppressing Sword.

Wang Mu, Bai Qiancheng, Lu Wenshuang, and the others attacked almost at the same time. No one held back. The spiritual essence in their bodies completely erupted as they used their strongest killing moves.

Dozens of rays of light almost completely drowned the figure of Tushan.

As the Tushan chuckled, the dozens of rays of light were like clay oxen entering the sea. They didn't cause any waves at all. Tushan's skirt didn't even flutter before she dealt with all the attacks.

Everyone was stunned. This was their first time fighting a Demon King head-on. At this moment, they truly understood what a Demon King meant!

Only now did they realize the distance between them and Zhou Shu!

Without Zhou Shu, just a Demon King could easily kill all of them.

"If you attack me again, I'm going to get angry." Tushan's voice sounded in everyone's ears. Her voice was charming, but everyone felt cold.

They had just destroyed an army of demonic beasts, and then an invincible Demon King came. What should they do?

Fight? They were already fighting for their lives, but there was no hope.

## **Chapter 547: Tushan Appears Again (2)**

"What exactly do you want to do?" Lu Wenshuang stepped forward and gritted her teeth. "If my master were here, you wouldn't have the chance to behave atrociously.

"If you dare to be impudent, my master will cut off your tail when he returns!"

Demon Queen Tushan narrowed her eyes, killing intent flashing in them. The surrounding air instantly dropped by several degrees.

...

She snorted. "You're his disciple, aren't you, little girl? I'd like to see how much you mean to him."

*Whoosh!*

The wind blew, and the sand flew. Everyone subconsciously closed their eyes and covered their faces with their hands.

A moment later, the commotion disappeared. Tushan had already disappeared, and Lu Wenshuang had disappeared with her.

"Listen, tell that brat surnamed Zhou to come to the usual place to find me if he wants to save this girl. If he doesn't dare to come, then I'll rape this girl before killing her." The voice of Tushan came from somewhere and sounded in everyone's ears.

Everyone paled.

The joy of their recent victory vanished.

It was purely a fluke that they were able to destroy that Demon Realm army. Tushan had been watching from the sidelines but didn't attack.

If she attacked, the Ten Nations Alliance would definitely not be spared.

Facing the power of the Demon Realm, the Ten Nations Alliance was still vulnerable.

"What do we do now?"

Everyone looked at each other. Lu Wenshuang definitely had to be saved, but they didn't have the ability.

Xiao Jianghe struggled to get up and said, "I know where His Highness is. I'll find him."

"No." Meng Bai shook his head. "You don't have the disguise of a demonic beast now. You'll be killed by the demons before you can approach His Highness."

"Then, what do you think we should do? If something happens to Miss Lu, how should I explain it to His Highness when he returns?"

A strange redness flashed across Xiao Jianghe's face. He had just been injured by Tushan. Although she had no intention of killing anyone, she was a Demon King after all. A casual attack from her was enough to deal with Xiao Jianghe, a first-rank martial artist.

"In my opinion, Tushan is not interested in killing," Mi Ziwen said thoughtfully. "If she wanted to kill us, all of us wouldn't stand a chance against her."

Mi Ziwen analyzed, "As for what she said about raping before killing, my guess is that she's not looking for Second Brother purely for revenge. It's very likely that she has something to ask of him!"

"I think so too." Meng Bai nodded approvingly. "With the Demon Queen's unpredictable personality, our lives are probably worth much less than that of ants in her eyes. She attacked a few times just now, but she didn't kill a single person. It's impossible for her not to have the guts to kill us.

"The only explanation is that she has a favor to ask of His Highness, so she doesn't want to anger him!"

"Even so, how can we save Miss Lu?" Xiao Jianghe said solemnly.

"There's no other way," Meng Bai said. "We can no longer deal with people at the Demon King realm. We're not strong enough to save her.

“But as soon as we know she’s not in immediate danger, we’ll have plenty of time to find a way to contact His Highness.”

Everyone was a little depressed. They had always tried not to rely on Zhou Shu too much. This time, they had even taken the initiative to attack the Demon Realm army to prove their strength.

But in the end, they realized that without Zhou Shu, they were still unable to truly establish themselves in the Demon Realm.

*Bang!*

Xiao Jianghe punched the wall, and gravel fell. “If only I could be stronger!”

He had a connate divine weapon, but he couldn’t even withstand a single move from the other party. In the end, he was still too weak!

“This can’t be rushed.”

Everyone sighed. Didn’t they feel the same way?

But not everyone was a genius like the king. They had already done their best to reach their current cultivation level. No matter how strong they were, they couldn’t see any hope.

Meng Bai pondered and said, “If we can find out where the usual place the Demon Queen mentioned is, maybe we can talk to her. Since she has something to ask of His Highness, we should be the ones to take the initiative.”

“If it’s the usual place, I might know where it is,” Mi Ziwen said.

“You mean...” Meng Bai also understood.

Previously, Zhou Shu had fought Tushan and cut off one of her tails. This place...

“The Weapon Burial Mountain!” Meng Bai and Mi Ziwen spoke at the same time.

“I’ve been to the Weapon Burial Mountain. I’m more familiar with it. Let me talk to Queen Tushan,” Mi Ziwen continued.

They all looked at him, then back at Meng Bai.

Meng Bai hesitated for a moment before saying, “Take the Hundred Wars Armored Army and go with the Criminal Army!”

“No need.” Mi Ziwen shook his head. “Teacher, if Tushan wants to attack, it’s useless no matter how many people we send. If she doesn’t, then I alone will be enough.

“I’m just going to negotiate with her. It doesn’t matter how many of us there are.”

Meng Bai naturally understood this principle, but it concerned his only personal disciple.

“Sir Mi,” Xiao Jianghe suddenly said. “Bring Yang Hong along.”

Yang Hong, who had been standing at the back, was speechless.

“His Highness once said that Yang Hong is a person with great luck. Bringing him along might be of some use.”

Everyone’s eyes fell on Yang Hong.

Yang Hong immediately felt uneasy.

He was just a mere Grandmaster. What great luck could he have that he didn’t know.

Meng Bai and the others revealed thoughtful expressions. When Yang Hong entered the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, his cultivation was only at the ninth rank. But now, he was already at the third rank!

In terms of cultivation speed, besides Zhou Shu, no one else in the Ten Nations Alliance could compare to him.

How many people with stronger cultivation than him had died on the battlefield? Not only had he survived until now, but the longer he lived, the better his situation. Could it be that he really had great luck?

“Well, I’m just a constable...” Yang Hong said weakly.

Everyone rolled their eyes. He had indeed been a junior constable before, but now...

Ma Fengzhang, the commander of the Great Xia Divine Constable Bureau, was only a third-rank martial artist!

“Yang Hong, go to the Weapon Burial Mountain with General Mi! This is a military order!” Meng Bai said seriously.

Yang Hong: “...”

What could he say? He could only obey.

Although he was a Grandmaster, he didn’t really have a say in the Ten Nations Alliance.

It was mainly because his cultivation level had increased too quickly and his position hadn’t caught up. Moreover, other than Zhou Shu, no one else paid much attention to him. His presence was abnormally low, and for some reason...

“I’ll come along.” A voice sounded, and Sun Gongping took the initiative to step forward.

“You?”

Meng Bai was about to refuse when Sun Gongping said, “Great General, have you forgotten my identity?”

“I’m the World Wayfarer of the Heavenly Mountain Villa!” Sun Gongping raised his head. “If it really comes to the most dangerous time, I don’t believe that the Heavenly Mountain Villa won’t protect me!”

“Nonsense!” Meng Bai frowned. What World Wayfarer of the Heavenly Mountain Villa? It was all just Sun Gongping’s words. Who would take him seriously?

Besides, no one knew what the Heavenly Mountain Villa was like. How could they protect him?

"I have to go." Sun Gongping said stubbornly.

"I'm going too!" Another voice sounded, "Tushan once guided me in my cultivation. She probably won't kill me."

The person who spoke was Wang Xin.

Wang Mu's face darkened. His grandson had almost been bewitched by Tushan back then, yet he still dared to say such things now.

"Bastards, do you think this is an outing?!" Meng Bai shouted angrily. "Other than Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong, no one else is allowed to leave the camp without permission!

"If you disobey, you will be punished by military law!"

"Great General, you can't do this!" Sun Gongping said indignantly.

"Great General Meng, I am from Great Qin. I don't have to follow your Great Xia military laws. You can't control me," Wang Xin said.

"If he can't control you, what about me? Is it possible that I can't control you either?" Wang Mu said through gritted teeth.

#### **Chapter 548: The Crimson Firmament Sword's Kill, Son of Heaven Sword Technique (1)**

Sun Gongping's eyelids twitched as he listened to the violent beating.

Fortunately, his father wasn't here. Otherwise, he would have ended up like Wang Xin.

*He can't fight back while being beaten up in front of so many people. Poor thing.*

...

Sun Gongping shivered and noticed Meng Bai's eager expression.

Sun Gongping took a step back and said, "Don't be rash, Great General. I'll fight back."

"Hmph." Meng Bai snorted and couldn't be bothered with him. He looked at Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong and said, "You two, go now. You can talk with Tushan. If she has any requests, as long as it's not too much, try to satisfy her."

"I understand." Mi Ziwen nodded, looked at Yang Hong, and walked out.

Sun Gongping wanted to follow, but Meng Bai kicked him back.

...

[The Crimson Firmament Sword you forged effectively completed a kill. Reward: Son of Heaven Sword Technique.]

[The Crimson Firmament Sword you forged effectively completed a kill. The Son of Heaven Sword Technique has improved by 30%.]

Zhou Shu, who was about to forge a connate divine weapon, suddenly saw a barrage of messages. Then all kinds of scenes appeared in his mind.

A glowing longsword waved in his consciousness and executed one sword technique after another.

Zhou Shu looked stunned. *Yang Hong is fighting?*

Speaking of which, he had given the Crimson Firmament Sword to Yang Hong for a period of time. But Yang Hong had been first chased by a group of first-rank demonic beasts and fled like a dog. Later on, he had even fallen into Hu Li's hands and became a captive.

Fortunately, Zhou Shu had just obtained the divine ability Myriad Transformations and saved him.

Only now did the Crimson Firmament Sword welcome its first kill.

"The Son of Heaven Sword Technique..." Zhou Shu muttered.

The name of this sword technique was really easy to misunderstand.

But the power of this sword technique was really not bad.

With Zhou Shu's current cultivation, his previous sword techniques, be it the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique or the Great Traversal Sword Art, were more or less unable to keep up.

The Heaven Slaying Sword Art was not bad, but it was only a killing move after all. Now that he had the Son of Heaven Sword Technique, it could make up for the flaws in his sword technique.

*Yang Hong should have returned to the camp by now. Why did he suddenly start killing enemies?* Zhou Shu raised his eyebrows and pondered. *Did the camp encounter an enemy?*

In order to prevent the location of the camp from being leaked, Zhou Shu had even killed Yao Aotian.

But this was the Demon Realm after all. It was impossible for the Huaxia Pavilion's Demon Realm branch to continue hiding.

He just wondered what their current situation was.

At this thought, Zhou Shu couldn't sit still anymore.

If the Huaxia Pavilion's Demon Realm branch was destroyed, it wouldn't be worth it no matter how smoothly the matters here went.

If he was the one only left, so what if he managed to forge the Lingxiao Treasure Palace?

Zhou Shu stood up and left the cave. He turned into a ray of light and disappeared into the air.

He was Yao Qing now, not a vassal of Hu Li, so he could naturally come and go as he pleased.

As long as he avoided the attention of the great demons, he did not have to worry about being exposed.

...

When Zhou Shu rushed back to the Huaxia Pavilion's Demon Realm branch, Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong had already rushed to the ruins of the Weapon Burial Mountain.

Standing on the ruins of Weapon Burial Mountain, Mi Ziwen hesitated for a moment before raising his voice. "Demon Queen Tushan, Mi Ziwen requests an audience."

"I asked the kid surnamed Zhou to come. What are you doing here? Are you here to die?" The voice of Tushan came from all directions, making it impossible to determine where she was.

Mi Ziwen didn't find it strange. He said solemnly, "Demon Queen Tushan, our king has something important to do, and it's not convenient for him to come over now. We came to talk to you. If you have any requests, I can pass them on."

"My request is for that Zhou kid to come over," Tushan said coldly. "He cut off one of my tails. We are irreconcilable enemies, and I must teach him a lesson."

"Demon Queen Tushan, let's not beat around the bush," Mi Ziwen said grimly. "If you were only after revenge, you would have killed us all long ago."

"Do you think I won't dare to kill you?"

"Of course you dare, Demon Queen Tushan," Mi Ziwen said. "Demon Queen, with your cultivation, killing us is as easy as flipping your hand. However, killing two small fries like us doesn't give you much of a sense of accomplishment, right? We humans have a saying that we don't kill envoys when two countries are at war. If you kill us, I'm afraid it will be beneath your dignity."

"That's what you humans say. We demonic beasts aren't that particular. I can kill whoever I want. Who cares?" Tushan said coldly. "But seeing how eloquent you are, I'll give you a chance.

"If you come out alive, I'll talk to you."

Mi Ziwen's and Yang Hong's expressions changed slightly. Suddenly, a strong force attacked them. The two of them felt the world spin, and then a vortex appeared in the air. Their figures were instantly swallowed by the vortex and disappeared.

As soon as the two of them disappeared, a figure descended from the sky.

"Tushan!" Zhou Shu happened to see Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong disappear.

"Yo, you got here fast." Tushan chuckled.

"Do you have a death wish?!" Zhou Shu's expression was extremely cold, and killing intent surged from his body. He stared in a direction, and waves appeared in the air. Tushan appeared before him.

*Clang!*

The Ming Hong Saber appeared in his hand, its blade aimed at Tushan.

## **Chapter 549: The Crimson Firmament Sword's Kill, Son of Heaven Sword Technique (2)**

"Tushan, release them. Otherwise, today will be the day you die!" Zhou Shu said murderously.

"I let you take advantage of me last time. Do you really think I'm so easy to bully?" Tushan snorted. "Kid, you can forge connate divine weapons, right?"

“If you do me a favor, I might consider returning those people to you.”

...

Tushan looked at Zhou Shu, her eyes shining.

Zhou Shu snorted. “Return them, or there’s no room for discussion!”

“Is that so?” Tushan laughed. Her aura suddenly exploded, and a few tails appeared behind her. With a bang, the surrounding space shattered like a mirror.

Zhou Shu frowned when he saw his surroundings change.

At this moment, if he still didn’t know what Tushan had done, he would really be stupid.

“You’re courting death!”

Without any hesitation, Zhou Shu instantly slashed out with the Ming Hong Saber. He activated the Heavenly Saber Art, and saber beams filling the sky swept toward Tushan.

“Is that the extent of it? This is much weaker than the last time.” Tushan flicked her tail and shattered the saber beams.

She held the Kun Wu Saber and attacked as well.

“Receive my attack!”

A shocking saber beam appeared. Tushan had actually refined the Kun Wu Saber into her intrinsic divine weapon!

She had seen Xiao Jianghe use the Connate Huben Saber previously and saw through the secret at a glance.

To a Demon King, the secret of the connate divine weapon couldn’t be hidden at all.

After refining the Kun Wu Saber, when Tushan used her saber technique again, it was more than 30% stronger than the last time she fought Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu didn’t use his divine ability Total Annihilation. With a single slash, he was sent flying thousands of feet away, as if space had shattered.

As Tushan laughed, she and Zhou Shu disappeared into the shattered space.

A moment later, peace returned to the ruins of the Weapon Burial Mountain. It was as if nothing had happened.

Space remained the same. Mountains remained the same. Nothing was broken.

Zhou Shu flipped in the air, and his feet landed on the ground. Then he retreated repeatedly to reduce the impact.

He narrowed his eyes at his surroundings.

Tushan had disappeared.

And he was in a very different place from before.

This wasn't the ruins of the Weapon Burial Mountain at all!

After Zhou Shu returned to the camp, he had learned that Tushan had kidnapped Lu Wenshuang. Then he immediately rushed to the ruins of the Weapon Burial Mountain.

In the end, he saw Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong disappear. Now, he was in an unfamiliar place. Tushan was indeed plotting something!

Zhou Shu had a faint guess. With a flip of his wrist, a light flew out of the Cosmic Bangle.

The Longevity Sword!

Shi Changsheng's figure appeared on the Longevity Sword. He yawned and said, "What's the matter? Didn't I tell you not to disturb me if there's nothing important? Is it that hard for me to try and get some sleep?"

"Old Shi, please take a look. Is this the Heavenly Hub Armory of the Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain?" Zhou Shu asked solemnly.

"The Heavenly Hub Armory of the Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain?" Shi Changsheng rubbed his eyes. "Didn't I tell you? The Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain has long been shattered. We don't even know if there's still a Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain. How can it be so easy to find?"

"You've been tricked, haven't you?" He raised his head and looked around, and his eyes widened.

"Damn it. Did you really find the Heavenly Hub Armory? Are you that lucky?" Shi Changsheng was shocked. He turned his head to size up Zhou Shu. "How can you be so lucky?"

"Is this really the Heavenly Hub Armory?" Zhou Shu frowned.

Previously, Tushan had thought of ways to lure his group to the Weapon Burial Mountain so that they could help her obtain the Kun Wu Saber.

At the time, Shi Changsheng had said that the Kun Wu Saber might be the key to entering the Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain's Heavenly Hub Armory.

This time, Tushan had reappeared and even sneakily caused so much trouble. Zhou Shu's first reaction was to think of the Heavenly Hub Armory.

He was originally wondering if Tushan couldn't enter the Heavenly Hub Armory, so she wanted his help.

From the looks of it, she had already opened the Heavenly Hub Armory. What was her goal?

Wasn't she afraid that he would take the Heavenly Hub Armory for himself?

"Old Shi, is there anything useful to the Demon Queen in the Heavenly Hub Armory?" Zhou Shu pondered. "Like the kind of thing she can't accept if she can't get it."

"How would I know?" Shi Changsheng rolled his eyes. "The Heavenly Hub Armory doesn't belong to my family!"

“And I don’t know what the Demon Queen likes. Maybe she brought you here to sleep with you.

“By the way, young fellow, that Demon Queen isn’t bad. Do you want me to teach you an ancient dual cultivation technique? I guarantee that you will be overjoyed.”

Shi Changsheng smiled wretchedly, completely opposite to his sanctimonious appearance.

Zhou Shu rolled his eyes. *Do I need it?*

His God of War Catalog had that kind of cultivation technique. He knew a lot about it.

Back then, he and Yin Wuyou had cultivated together.

“Elder Stone, is there any danger in the Heavenly Hub Armory?” Zhou Shu changed the topic.

From the looks of it, it was very likely that Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong had been brought in by Tushan.

Mi Ziwen’s and Yang Hong’s cultivation levels were not high. If there was danger here...

“Obviously,” Shi Changsheng said. “The Heavenly Hub Armory was an intrinsic divine weapon belonging to the one surnamed Diao. He always regarded it as a treasure. Even the disciples of Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain couldn’t enter easily. Do you think such a place isn’t dangerous?”

“If it were you, wouldn’t you set up some means of preventing outsiders from entering your treasure vault?”

“Young fellow, it’s not that I’m looking down on you, but with your cultivation level, it will be extremely dangerous to barge into the Heavenly Hub Armory.”

Shi Changsheng’s words made Zhou Shu frown. If even his cultivation level had a slim chance of survival, wouldn’t Mi Ziwen and Yang Hong die?

“But you don’t have to worry. As long as you don’t force your way into those special places, with your skills, you’ll have no problem surviving.”

Shi Changsheng continued, “Little Zhou, you’re a forger yourself. The most precious thing in the Heavenly Hub Armory is weapons. You don’t care about them. I say, there’s no need for you to take the risk here.”

“Do you think I want to take the risk?” Zhou Shu said angrily. “I was tricked into coming here!”

“Tricked into it? Why haven’t I ever been tricked into such a good place before?” Shi Changsheng said, his eyes wide.

Zhou Shu rolled his eyes. He had just said that the Heavenly Hub Armory was dangerous, but now, it had become a good thing?

*Could you be telling me that there’s nothing good in the Heavenly Hub Armory because you want to keep it for yourself?*

Shi Changsheng also realized that he had misspoken. He smiled awkwardly and said, “Since we’re here, it’s not a bad idea to stroll around.

"If I remember correctly, in addition to weapons, the Heavenly Hub Armory stores the forging materials they collected.

"I just don't know what level we're at in the Heavenly Hub Armory."

"That's not important." Zhou Shu frowned. "Since the Heavenly Hub Armory is a weapon, it's easy.

"There really aren't many weapons in the world that I can't take care of."

Zhou Shu looked up at the sky and said in a low voice, "If I refine the Heavenly Hub Armory, everything will be fine!"

"You want to refine the Heavenly Hub Armory?" Shi Changsheng's eyes widened in shock. "Do you know what level the Heavenly Hub Armory is? It's a nine heavens divine weapon!"

"You want to refine it? Do you know that if a divine weapon of this level is refined, a single tremor can destroy all martial artists below the Grotto-Heaven realm?"

"Don't talk so big, young fellow. Life is beautiful. Why take it so hard and get yourself killed?"

Shi Changsheng said earnestly, "With me around, it's not a problem to help you find a way out. How about it? You're grateful, right?"

#### **Chapter 550: Second Heavens, Tushan's Blood Sacrifice (1)**

Shi Changsheng said proudly, "Although this Heavenly Hub Armory is a nine heavens divine weapon, my Longevity Sword isn't afraid of it."

Zhou Shu glanced at Shi Changsheng. He had never been able to see through him, or rather, the Longevity Sword.

This Longevity Sword was ordinary at first. At first glance, it looked like a heaven-grade weapon. Later, after interacting with it more, the Longevity Sword could erupt with impressive strength from time to time.

...

At least for now, ordinary connate divine weapons didn't have the power of the Longevity Sword.

As for the Armament Manual of the Heavenly Mountain Villa, others felt that it was reasonable, but Zhou Shu had never taken it seriously.

Sometimes, a weapon was as complicated as a person. It wasn't so simple to judge them.

And this Longevity Sword was a very complicated weapon.

Zhou Shu believed Shi Changsheng when he said that he wasn't afraid of the Heavenly Hub Armory.

After all, Shi Changsheng had also been the owner of a grotto-heaven back then. He had been on the same level as the owner of the Heavenly Hub Armory.

But Shi Changsheng had already turned into a sword. It was really hard to say who was stronger between him and the Heavenly Hub Armory.

Moreover, since he had come to the Heavenly Hub Armory, Zhou Shu didn't intend to return empty-handed.

With the help of the Longevity Sword, he might be able to escape successfully. But Mi Ziwen, Yang Hong, and even Lu Wenshuang were still in the hands of Tushan. How could Zhou Shu leave alone?

"Old Shi, is every level of the Heavenly Hub Armory as big as the Zhuling Grotto-Heaven?" Zhou Shu observed his surroundings and didn't sense any danger for the time being.

"Say, young fellow, didn't I tell you? The Heavenly Hub Armory doesn't belong to my family. It's my first time here. How do I know how big it is?" Shi Changsheng said angrily.

"I thought you were well-informed, Elder..." Zhou Shu said.

"I'm well informed, that's for sure." Shi Changsheng nodded. "Let me tell you. Back then, the one surnamed Diao fused the Heavenly Hub Armory with his Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain to gain his strength.

"After his body was gone, the Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain shattered. It's impossible for the Heavenly Hub Armory to be intact. Therefore, the Heavenly Hub Armory is at most a broken weapon now.

"Don't even think about refining it. But there should be no problem getting some benefits out of it.

"Since you don't want to leave, I'll give you some pointers. If you find anything, how about we split thirty-seventy?"

"That wouldn't be nice of me. Old Shi, you're only taking thirty%. Isn't that too little?" Zhou Shu said.

"Bullshit. Thirty for you, seventy for me!" Shi Changsheng said.

"No!" Zhou Shu shook his head. "Old Shi, you're not at your peak now. You still need my help. I'll give you forty percent at most!"

"Forty percent? Do you think I'm a beggar? Fifty percent! Any less, and you won't hear another word from me!" Shi Changsheng said angrily.

"Deal!"

A look of triumph came into both their eyes.

Shi Changsheng said that he had never entered the Heavenly Hub Armory, but he clearly knew much more about it than Zhou Shu.

Under Shi Changsheng's guidance, Zhou Shu continued forward and quickly found a golden mountain.

That's right, a mountain of gold!

A thousand-foot-tall mountain of gold!

“Is the owner of the Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain so rich?”

Even with Zhou Shu’s knowledge, he couldn’t help but be dumbfounded. How much gold was in this mountain of gold?

The key was that this golden mountain was not naturally formed.

“Of course. The Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain is the ancestor of forging. They had the most forgers in the world. Eighty percent of the weapons in the world came from the Red Water Heaven of Dan Mountain. How much money do you think they made?” Shi Changsheng curled his lips. “That Diao fellow has bad taste. Who is he showing off to?”

Zhou Shu nodded in deep agreement.

Gold was extremely precious to ordinary people, but to people with their cultivation...

But a golden mountain indeed looked exciting...

Zhou Shu licked his lips. How could he move this mountain of gold back?

With a mountain of gold, wouldn’t he become the richest man in the Ten Nations when he returned to the Ten Nations Continent?

“I know which level of the Heavenly Hub Armory this is,” Shi Changsheng continued. “This mountain of gold was placed at the entrance to bluff people.

“This is just the first heaven. There’s nothing good here,” Shi Changsheng said with disdain.

*This is only the first heaven? If there’s a gold mountain in the first heaven, wouldn’t the other levels...*

Although gold itself might not be much, if there was enough of it, it would be different.

Even if one bought forging materials using the gold from this mountain of gold, one could buy countless precious forging materials.

“Old Shi, how do we go to the next level?” Along the way, Zhou Shu roughly understood the size of this space.

This place was much smaller than the Zhuling Grotto-Heaven. It was only a thousand miles wide.

The environment was not as beautiful as the Zhuling Grotto-Heaven. Instead, there were dilapidated scenes everywhere, as if a huge earthquake had occurred.

This scene also made Zhou Shu believe Shi Changsheng’s words. Perhaps the Heavenly Hub Armory was really just a broken weapon.

It seemed that the only thing that remained intact and valuable in the first heaven was this mountain of gold.

“To get in the door, of course, you have to have a key,” Shi Changsheng said.