Chapter 1561

Seemed To Have Been Through It Before?

The elders were a little taken aback. They had never played against Yang Chen, but based on characters like Luo Qianqiu, who would also need to make an early move, it was likely true.

Heavenly Lightning Tribulation in Shang Qing? That's incredible; the Xiao family couldn't withstand such a powerful man's attack, and they'd be put on the chopping block...

"All right, since that's the case, let's gather the experts and call as many of them as we can; if some of them can't be found, that's fine too. I just don't know, where should we go to find Yang Chen then?" gritted the elder at the peak level of Weak Waters.

"Rest assured, elder." Xiao Mengyue said with confidence, "Because the Ning family had a bad relationship with Yang Chen, they sent people to provide Yang Chen's information to both of us."

"The Ning family is also involved?"

"Yes", Luo Qianqiu said, "By that time, a group of masters will also be sent to join us from the Ning family."

Xiao Mengyue said, "It has now been investigated that Yang Chen's base camp is in an archipelago in the Mediterranean Sea in Europe, and some of his family members are there. As long as the place is captured, Yang Chen will only be able to surrender and admit defeat!"

"Europe?" A Taishang elder frowned and said, "Isn't that a violation of the 'Treaty of Gods' made by the ancestors 20,000 years ago? Although the foreign gods have always been at peace with us Chinese cultivators for the past 20,000 years, many cultivators who have gone out have not been spared."

"Europe?" An elder from Taishang frowned and said, "Isn't that a violation of the ancestors' 20,000-year-old 'Treaty of Gods'? Although the foreign gods have always been at peace with us Chinese cultivators for the past 20,000 years, many cultivators who have gone out have not been spared."

"Everyone," Luo Qianqiu said with a relaxed smile, "the gods are not terrible; in fact, their space laws are already very weak, according to reliable information." In the beginning, there was a Hongmeng Soul Forming Stage messenger who witnessed the battle between the God of War and Yang Chen with his own eyes. Yang Chen is Pluto's heir, but he almost exclusively uses his cultivation base to fight, demonstrating the distinction. Athena is currently the most powerful main god, but she can't speak for herself, and no matter how powerful she is, she can't deal with a large number of masters from our two alliances. We will remove them altogether if they dare to obstruct. The Treaty of Gods will not be broken at that time, and we Chinese cultivators will be able to travel around the world as well; isn't it glorious for China?"

"That being said... we don't fear those main gods, but..." An elder hesitated and said, "If we are attacking his family, will there be some..."

"Elder! You must remember that Yang Chen was the first to infiltrate our Xiao family, killing people and stealing medicines. Do you have to be honest and open with him!?" Righteously, Xiao Mengyue stated.

When the elders heard it, they felt the same way, so they stopped refusing. After all, the family's safety was the most important consideration.

...

In the territory of the Great Desolate Realm, Yang Chen didn't know what was going to happen outside.

It took the effort to have a good relationship with the demonic cultivator and the devil cultivators. You couldn't make people think that you were not sincere and leave in a hurry when you came.

It was late at night after eating and drinking in the demonic cultivator palace, and Yu Lanting and the other beauties dragged him to the devil cultivator palace.

The devil cultivator's palace was indeed much more beautiful from the inside out, and there were all kinds of natural fragrances everywhere, in contrast to the demon cultivator's dark and dead place.

Yu Lanting, Yu Wenhong, Yu Qiyun, and the other female fairies were all beautiful, but Yang Chen was clear that they were drawn to him not because they liked him, but because they valued his ability to emerge from the Ten Thousand Demon Realm.

If you became too involved with them or entered into a relationship without giving it your all, it would be counterproductive at the time, and they would be hostile towards you.

As a result, Yang Chen appeared to be close to them, but he was secretly wary in his heart.

He met many devil cultivator masters in the devil cultivator's palace. Yu Lanting invited Yang Chen to a quiet courtyard after being welcomed again.

This elegant and bright Devil Sect Master poured wine for Yang Chen personally, and every move was captivating.

"Young Master Yang, you can probably guess it, but as the Devil Sect Master, I still have to ask if you can find a way to rescue ancestor Yu Xuening?" Yu Lanting finally asked directly after screening out several of the little fox devil maids.

"Sect Master Yu, your ancestors are also kind to me," Yang Chen said helplessly. "If I have the ability, I will save her without hesitation. But I finally manage to suppress the fierce chaos spirit; if I give it another chance, the consequences for me or the entire cultivation world will be unimaginable."

"Young Master Yang doesn't have to rush to a conclusion," Yu Lanting smiled charmingly, moved her body, and came to Yang Chen's side.

The female fox devil spoke gently and the fragrance emitted by her body became stronger and stronger, stimulating Yang Chen's adrenaline, and there was a trace of heat in his core.

"Young Master Yang, what do you think about the appearance of your lady here? Will I be able to enter your sight?"

"Sect Master Yu, I was wondering if you would tempt me with the other beauties here, but I didn't expect...you to enter the field yourself...impossible, although I like beautiful women, this is pretty fatal..." Yang Chen gulped and smiled awkwardly.

"Young Master Yang, you are thinking too much," Yu Lanting chuckled, winking charmingly. "Simply put, our Qingqiu clan is a matriarchal society, and women are born with more powerful talents than men, so nearly all of the clan's elders are women. And do you know why our Qingqiu clan women have always been men's most coveted race partners?"

"Because of the beauty in appearance?" blinked Yang Chen.

Yu Lanting shook her head.

"A stalwart supporter?"

"Because, the women of our Qingqiu clan are born with a physique that fosters harmony between Yin and Yang, which breeds the spiritual energy of the two ceremonies," Yu Lanting explained with a smile. "The more noble a woman in the Qingqiu clan is, the more diligent and quick she is in her cultivation, and men who have intercourse with yin and yang can also reap many benefits."

"Do you mean dual cultivation?" Yang Chen was taken aback.

"Hmm..." Yu Lanting twisted a strand of hair with her finger, leaned her head against Yang Chen's arm, and softly said, "I suppose so, but it isn't dual cultivation of ordinary concepts... Human cultivators' dual cultivation employs exercises to achieve True Yuan complementarity... That is a congenital defect, not an acquired one... And the 'dual cultivation' caused by our Qingqiu women's unique physique is the purer spiritual energy of the two rituals, with no side effects. It will benefit as long as the intercourse is successful..."

Yang Chen probably understood the women of the Qingqiu clan seem to be the sweet pastry in the eyes of male cultivators.

Yu Lanting stated once more, "Young Master Yang, it is not an exaggeration to say that you have such a high level of cultivation at such a young age... Despite Lanting's age of over 2,000 years, I have yet to find a cultivating companion because... no one can be the apple of my eye... Despite the fact that human cultivators have always looked down on us devil cultivators, if it is a genius like Young Master Yang, your lady here is still eager to be your companion... If we can communicate with one another, we will be able to cultivate in the future when the opportunity arises. Isn't it true that we should all benefit from each other?"

"Then, once I get the benefit, I'll go save Yu Xuening, is that what you mean?" Yang Chen grinned.

Yu Lanting raised her head and stared at Yang Chen with her watery eyes, "Whether Young Master Yang wishes to go or not, your lady will not dare to force it. If you become your lady's lover, I'll be more than willing to cherish you..."

Yang Chen couldn't stand her seductive eyes and made a clear voice: "Sect Master Yu, if I heard correctly when you talk about the intercourse of yin and yang, there must be a premise of 'common heart', and it needs an opportunity, right?"

"Indeed."

"That is to say, men and women must love each other without gaps, and it cannot be achieved every time, it depends on the chance," Yang Chen said.

Yu Lanting nodded, "That's natural, just like an epiphany. No one knows when it will be possible, and they can only wait for it to happen. And a man and a woman truly love each other, it's just a premise. If it's that simple, how will it be worth it?"

"That's it", Yang Chen said with a smile: "I just met Sect Master Yu today and we are not familiar with each other, let alone love each other. I already have more than a dozen confidentes. It would be too greedy for me to have Sect Master Yu as well, it's not suitable for a powerful Qingqiu woman like you either..."

Yu Lanting was stunned and frowned. She didn't expect Yang Chen to have more than a dozen women.

How could she, the dignified Devil Sect Master, allow her partner to have other female companions, not to mention a group of humans.

Yang Chen remembered a strange incident from before, "Hey," and said, "By the way, Sect Master Yu, the Yin and Yang convergence that you mention, and the dual cultivation... What is the specific situation? I seem to beexperienced?"

Chapter 1562

Divine Foxes

"This is impossible," Yu Lanting said in displeasure. "That occurrence can only happen with women of our clan. Even if you intend to reject me, there's no need to make up such an excuse. I might be too ugly and too old for you, but I don't need your pity."

Her remark amused Yang Chen. This vixen may be more than 2,000 years old, but she still throws a tantrum like a little girl.

"I'm telling the truth. One of my women's names is An Xin. One time when we were in bed, a suction power appeared in her body. Not only did it absorb some of my True Yuan, but it also produced an extreme surge of pure spiritual energy which then became injected into our bodies. At that time, my cultivation improved a lot. An Xin, too, went into the Soul Forming stage from the Xiantian stage. It was unbelievable! I didn't use any cultivation technique, nor would she know any. It was entirely a coincidence as it didn't happen again."

Realizing that he did not seem to be lying, Yu Lanting pondered before asking, "There's too little information to conclude. Did anything else happen that time?"

Yang Chen recalled that night. Clapping his hands together, he said, "Oh, at that time An Xin's eyes suddenly turned green for a moment, but they returned to normal soon."

"Green!?"

Yu Lanting stood up abruptly, shock coloring her features.

"What's wrong? Is there a special meaning to green?" He was puzzled.

At that moment, she asked again, "Mr. Yang, are you sure you saw green colour?"

He nodded his head vehemently as a response. "I can't be that dumb to not recognize green. Besides, I'm not color blind."

Taking a deep breath, Yu Lanting paced the area. All of a sudden, she looked into Yang Chen's eyes.

At first, he did not know what she meant by that, but the scene that happened next had him gape at her.

"You..."

Yu Lanting's eyes were flickering with a green glow, the same as what happened to An Xin at that time.

Once the green glow faded, she uttered seriously, "Mr. Yang, do you know how we differentiate the ranks in our clan?"

"Levels? You have ranks in your clan?"

"That's right," Yu Lanting said. "We're foxes that are divided into different ranks. The lowest-ranked foxes are fire foxes. They have red fur and brown eyes. Most fire foxes do not have human forms. The limit of their cultivation is usually the Soul Forming stage. Higher up the rank is the snow foxes. They have silver-grey fur and blue eyes. Most of them have human forms, but rarely do they have more than five tails. Next, we have the black foxes with black eyes. Most of them are the elites in our clan. In history, most of the black foxes are elites with more than six tails. And the royalty of our clan, the divine foxes, have pure white fur and green eyes. Only the divine foxes can be called the nine-tailed fox because only the royalty have the opportunity to have nine tails!"

Yang Chen could only gawk at her. He had considered himself as a worldly man, yet he could not fathom the possibility of An Xin being a divine fox, a royalty.

This doesn't seem right. An Xin is obviously a human. Wait, now that I think about it, she does seem to be born with the charms of a vixen. Since our first meeting, I've been inexplicably attracted to her. In the past, I merely thought she had alluring features, but I suppose it's mainly caused by her bloodline of a divine fox.

Yu Lanting went on, "As you can see, Wenhong, Qiyun, including me, are also divine foxes. Not many of us are left, so every one of us is extremely precious—"

"Wait, do you mean by that my woman is a divine fox?" Yang Chen asked incredulously.

She was uncertain either. "If what you said indeed happened, such a possibility exists. Ms. An Xin does have the bloodline of our royalty. The divine foxes hardly get themselves involved with humans, but it's not impossible. Once they have a child, the bloodline will go on. You never realized it because her bloodline is too weak. If she never cultivates, her bloodline will never be activated. However, once she reaches a certain level in her cultivation and be aided by plenty of spiritual medicine, there's a chance for her bloodline to be activated. After all, divine foxes are powerful."

Yang Chen then asked in concern, "Would it bring harm to her?"

Yu Lanting was surprised. Chuckling, she said, "You truly are a tender person. Even at this moment, you're thinking about your woman's health first. That's rare amongst human cultivators."

"You're making me blush." He touched his chin awkwardly.

"Don't worry," she consoled him. "If her body does contain our bloodline, once it's activated, it'll grow stronger until the human part of her weakens and disappears. Something like this happened before. When that happens, she'll possess the talent of the divine foxes in cultivation. This should be a glorious event for her. Although she can't grow tails like us, her talent would not be different from us."

Yang Chen let out a sigh of relief. At the same time, he was delighted for An Xin.

At that moment, Yu Lanting said with a solemn expression, "Mr. Yang, can you bring me to meet her?" "Huh? What do you want to do?" he asked with a frown, wary of her.

Smiling, she replied, "Rest assured. I do not harbor any ill intentions. In our clan, marriage with humans isn't banned, nor do we wipe out those who are not of pure blood. Firstly, I just want to confirm if An Xin does possess our noble bloodline. Secondly, if she is a descendant of the royalty, she can choose to enter our clan even if she's not pure blood. We're not an orthodox clan. If she's willing to be part of our clan, we can then teach her our secret technique which would be far easier for her to cultivate. Not only so, but she can also use many powerful tricks."

Yang Chen mulled over it and reckoned she would not dare to lie to him. Since he did not know how demonic beasts are cultivated, it would be best to agree to her request and let An Xin benefit from it.

"Thank you!" Yu Lanting was elated. If things go well, a member of our royalty would be Yang Chen's lover, and our relationship with him will become much closer!

Yang Chen asked, "When do you want to leave? An Xin is now in overseas."

"Would it be all right for you to stay in our abode for a day? I'm a clan leader, so my departure from Honghuang would not be a small matter. I have to settle some matters and also relay this good news to the elders. Moreover, I need to handpick some companions," she replied.

Naturally, he had no objections to that. As for whether he could bring the demonic beasts cultivators overseas, he was not concerned, considering his relationship with the Gods.

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The next day, hundreds of cultivators had gathered in the sky south of the Ning residence in the illusionary dimension.

Even those with the lowest cultivation were in the Ye Fire stage.

Those from the Luo clan were Luo Qianqiu, Luo Pingchao, Luo Changchun, eight elders in the Ruo Water stage, and Luo Qianli, totaling ten Ruo Water cultivators, two Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning Tribulation cultivators.

Although they were not all of the elites of the Luo clan, it was enough to make the other cultivators feel suffocated.

Moreover, under Xiao Mengyue's lead, the Xiao clan sent Xiao Mengyu, Xiao Mohui, Xiao Mozheng, six Taishang elders, and dozens of Ye Fire and Ming Water cultivators.

Although they were weaker compared to the Luo clans, they were still a force to be reckoned with.

A short moment later, the oppression from six Ruo Water cultivators came forth. The newcomers were Ning Zhengfeng, five Taishang elders, and a group of Ming Water cultivators.

"Haha, pardon me for making you wait for a long time. We were delayed by some things in the clan," Ning Zhengfeng apologized.

Luo Qianqiu frowned. "I heard that the genius of the Ning clan, Ning Ruozhu, has ascended into the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning Tribulation stage. Is she not joining us to kill Yang Chen?"

Chapter 1563

The End of the World

"Please understand that I can't persuade my sister. I've argued with her for a long time before coming over here, but she has been unruly since young. There's nothing I can do about it," Ning Zhengfeng explained, shrugging.

Xiao Mengyue sneered. "You're worried about losing the best cultivator in your clan, so that's why you deliberately stopped her from coming over."

Instead of being infuriated, Ning Zhengfeng smiled. "You're overthinking it, Mr. Xiao. The situation can't be precarious since we've gathered so many elites. Be it the Gods or Yang Chen, they're not a match for us. This would be a massacre for us to uphold justice."

"I sure wish that's the case." Xiao Mengyue snorted.

"We have yet to leave, and you're already having doubts. That isn't a good color on you," Ning Zhengfeng remarked.

Xiao Mengyue scowled and turned around, no longer intending to entertain him further.

Luo Pingchao, who had been quiet the whole time, chimed in, "Since you're here, lead the way."

Not daring to trifle with him because of his unfathomable cultivation, Ning Zhengfeng agreed and waved his hand forward before leading them in the southwestern direction.

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It was morning on the Forgotten Realms where the fog had dissipated and the sun brought warmth to the place.

However, the temperature continued to drop, which was unlike the usual season in the Mediterranean Sea in May.

In the residential area located in the middle was a rather wide stone house. Ron had arranged it for Wang Ma and Minjuan, and now Su Xin had joined them.

At that moment, Lanlan, dressed in a pink cardigan, was seated at the long dining table.

Leaning her arms against the table, she stared at the scrumptious spread with sparkling eyes.

"Look at our little glutton. Your saliva is dropping onto the floor."

Wang Ma came out of the kitchen with a big plate of roasted lamb leg. After putting the plate down, she took a piece of napkin and wiped the little girl's lips.

Pouting, Lanlan grumbled, "Granny Wang, why isn't Mommy and everyone else back yet? I'm hungry."

"They'll be back soon. Wait patiently," Wang Ma coaxed, smiling.

Life on the island was serene and quiet. Commotions were rare there. The islanders were people who wished to change their lives into a simple one.

Wang Ma, Minjuan, and Su Xin were used to living on the island as everything they wanted was there. Besides, they could dine and chat with their neighbors—people who lived on the island in seclusion—so they had a great time.

Recently, Lanlan had been having her meals in Wang Ma and Su Xin's place ever since Xiao Zhiqing brought her over once.

However, it was not because the food was particularly delicious, but rather because the castle was slightly vast and empty for a child.

Even though there were a dozen women and a big group of maids in the castle, the place still felt desolate without Yang Chen around.

The stone house was perfect to let everyone gather and have harmonious meals together.

As a matter of fact, the women were cultivators who no longer viewed food as a necessity, but since it was hard to change their habits so soon, they would still gather with the rest for meals. Besides, everyone else on the island needed to have three meals a day.

Just as Wang Ma spoke, someone walked into the house.

"Mr. Ron, you're here too," she greeted cheerfully upon seeing the old man.

On the other hand, Ron could not cheer up. Forcing a smile and nodding, he replied, "I'm a fan of your cooking. Would that make me seem like a shameless person?"

"No, it doesn't. You're family, Mr. Ron." Wang Ma then asked, "What's wrong? Are you still frustrated over the flowers?"

Ron stroked Lanlan's hair before finding himself a seat. Then, he sighed. "It's all ruined. The temperature is getting lower and lower. Not only have my flowers not bloomed, but many of them have also wilted from the cold. The weather at night is too cold. This isn't summer but autumn. If this goes on, many of the trees will be affected as they're all tropical plants. If the weather is too low, they won't be able to survive."

"Yeah, I wonder how this happened." Su Xin came out of the kitchen at that moment, holding a tray of freshly baked bread. "Many people are guessing if the end of the world is actually coming. They're all worried."

"There's nothing we can do about it. Didn't they say Ms. Jane is researching this phenomenon? We'll have to wait for an answer from the scientists," Wang Ma lamented.

The door to the stone house was opened, and a few women walked in.

Lin Ruoxi headed in with Cai Yan, who probably told some weird joke which caused the former to look at her resignedly.

Mo Qianni, Cai Ning, and the others also walked in while smiling. Upon seeing those inside the house, they greeted them.

"It's time to eat!" Lanlan jumped on the chair. Lin Ruoxi carried her down and pinched her cheek softly. Pretending to be angry, she chided, "I told you many times. You're the youngest here, so you're not allowed to sit in the main seat even if Daddy's not home. Don't be insolent."

Having said so, she put Lanlan down on a high chair, which made the little girl silk in displeasure. She never thought of herself being the youngest one. Even though she was only slightly taller than the table, she could still climb onto the table to eat.

At that time, Jane and her student, Grace, walked into the house.

Both of them were still wearing their lab coats, so they took them off and hung them on the wall before sitting down at the table.

Although it was a long dining table, all of the seats were almost taken. While some served themselves some stew, some grabbed bread. Of course, Lanlan grabbed herself a lamb leg and started munching on it.

"Sister Jane, how is the research going? Why is the temperature dropping continuously?" Zhenxiu asked curiously.

A hint of distress flashed across Jane's eyes before she forced out a smile and said, "I've only found the apparent reason, but I've yet to discover the actual reason."

"Oh? What's the apparent reason? You seem worried," Liu Mingyu asked as she put down her silver spoon.

"Severe loss in solar energy!"

Before Jane could answer, her assistant, Grace, had shouted out earnestly.

Jane slapped the back of her head lightly and chastised, "Did I tell you to answer? Pipe down."

It sounded like Lin Ruoxi lecturing Lanlan.

Grace stuck out her tongue sheepishly and lowered her head to drink the stew.

Her reaction had the other women giggling in amusement, for they thought she seemed like a little girl.

Shaking her head in a resigned manner, Jane then told the rest, "As she said, the energy radiated by the Sun to Earth is weakening continuously."

"How is that possible? Even though I've never learned astronomy, I've read some articles and know that as a star, the Sun is still quite young. Why would its energy weaken?" Mo Qianni asked in puzzlement.

"This would be related to my next discovery. It baffles me to find out that the data from the satellite shows that the solar energy diminishes after entering the atmosphere of Earth. In other words, the problem lies somewhere on our planet. But I haven't got a clue for now. This whole incident is unbelievable."

Seeing the frown on Jane's face, they, too, frowned as they were much more clueless than her.

Jane then added, "At this rate, the Southern Hemisphere would undergo the coldest winter in a month. And when October arrives, the Northern Hemisphere will face an even lower temperature. What I'm more concerned about other than people freezing to death, is the survival of animals and plants. Widespread extinction will occur which consequently affects the ecosystem of Earth."

"Is it that serious? Maybe it'll be better soon?" Wang Ma asked fearfully.

Jane let out a wry smile. "There's no 'maybe' in science. Everything happens for a reason. Until we find the root cause, nothing can be done to change the current situation."

That worried the others. Since even the usually confident Jane felt helpless, they could tell the gravity of the situation.

Lanlan was the only one enjoying her meal. After devouring a lamb leg, she reached for a large piece of steak.

Suddenly, Jane, Rose, and Cai Ning stood up and rushed out of the house, taking the others by surprise.

"Cultivators are approaching... There are many of them." Zhenxiu and Cai Yan, too, stood up in shock, their expressions solemn.

Chapter 1564

Far Weaker

"So many people are here. Seeing that they're blatantly defying the Treaty of Gods, they couldn't have come harboring goodwill." An Xin found the situation threatening too. Standing up, she told Lin Ruoxi, "Sister Ruoxi, is Hubby still in the Honghuang realm?"

Lin Ruoxi calmly picked up the napkin to wipe the corner of her lips. Her movement was so graceful that it put the others on edge. Nodding, she replied, "Yes. You guys know it too. Hannya sent us the message."

"Their True Yuan oppression is so strong. We should contact Hubby now," An Xin voiced anxiously.

"It's useless," Xiao Zhiqing replied dejectedly. "Hubby can't be reached. I tried calling him to ask when he'll be returning, but I couldn't get through. The Honghuang realm might be different from the illusionary dimension, so they don't have any reception there."

"Then... What should we do?" An Xin exclaimed. "Why did he have to go to that place at such a juncture..."

Xiao Zhiqing smiled wryly. "Sister An Xin, there's no point in being anxious. I don't think Hubby saw this coming. Who would've known that cultivators would come here."

An Xin shook her head. "I don't care; I have to head out with Sister Rose and the rest. Take care of yourselves. Oh right, contact Hui Lin. She might be able to help!"

Having said that, she rushed out with Zhenxiu and Cai Yan.

.....

A cold gust of wind was blowing vigorously in the sky.

As the current patriarch of the clans, Luo Qianqiu, Xiao Mengyue, and Ning Zhengfeng stood in the front even though their cultivation levels were not the highest.

"Oh, I was not expecting to see cultivators of the Soul Forming stage on the island," Xiao Mengyue remarked, narrowing his eyes.

"They should be Yang Chen's people, but Yang Chen isn't here. Otherwise, he would've detected our presence a long time ago."

"It doesn't matter. Kill those who are with him, and he'll show up." Luo Qianqiu's eyes gleamed coldly.

Feeling the menacing aura exuded from him, the cultivators at the back shuddered.

The shame of having the whole clan defeated by Yang Chen weighed heavily on Luo Qianqiu's chest. After all, he was a prideful man.

Therefore, he wanted more than anyone to take down Yang Chen. Naturally, those who were on his side would also be his target.

"If that's the case, why don't we work together and strike the whole place down? It's a waste of time to step on the ants one by one," Ning Zhengfeng suggested.

"That's a good idea," Xiao Mengyue concurred with a smirk.

Among the hundreds of cultivators, dozens of them were in the Ruo Water stage. Therefore, it would not take much time to reduce the whole island to dust.

At that moment, Rose, Cai Ning, and the rest went up to the sky.

Shock painted their features when they saw a large group of cultivators.

Never in their wildest dreams had they ever imagined their first meeting with their foes in the illusionary dimension would be that imposing.

Although the ladies had improved rapidly in their cultivation, they could not defeat any one of the cultivators.

"Who are you lots?"

Despite the precarious situation, Rose remained calm. Even though Yang Chen was not around, they could still rely on the Gods, so buying themselves some time would be a good move.

Gazes filled with contempt, Luo Qianqiu, and the others viewed the ladies beneath them. Their Soul Forming stage cultivation was nowhere near a threat.

"You must be Yang Chen, that damned thief's harem. You've come at such an opportune time. Perfect, I shall break your bones and dismember you to quell my hatred!" Luo Qianqiu sneered and raised his arm. Instantly, a bolt of dark red lightning appeared.

"Rose, run!"

The moment Cai Ning sensed the destructive power possessed by the lightning, she knew it was not an attack that they could withstand. Their only option out of this situation was to flee!

However, Rose did not think she could escape.

Luo Qianqiu had no intention to talk to them, coming after their lives as soon as he showed up. The lightning consisted of an ounce of Taowu's power that it moved so fast that she couldn't dodge.

"Boom!"

Like an arrow, the bolt of dark red lightning shot forward in a bone-chilling trajectory, aiming right at Rose's eyes.

With her eyes widened, Rose was rooted to the spot by the immense True Yuan oppression. Red was the only color she could see, and it felt as though she could foresee her demise from having her skull blasted into smithereens.

"Swoosh!"

At that instance, a golden-red flaming arrow flew toward her and knocked into the bolt of lightning.

What ensued was a shattering explosion. Blinding sparks flew, sending off a high-temperature shockwave.

Most importantly, it saved Rose's life in time.

"Who's there!?"

Luo Qianqiu and the other cultivators glared into the distance.

In the blink of an eye, two portals appeared in mid-air, and two figures stepped out of them.

The man wore a pristine suit, with a red striped tie and black leather shoes.

The woman had silver hair, wearing a sapphire blue dress. A seductive smile graced her lips. From afar, she seemed like the princess of a fairytale.

That was Apollo, the God of the Sun, and Artemis, Goddess of the Moon. Alternatively, they were known as Stern and Alice, respectively.

On Apollo's hand was a white and gold flaming longbow, Helios. The bow itself was taller than him, and the overbearing aura exuded from it made the temperature of the vicinity feel significantly higher.

Even just from looking at them from afar, the cultivators felt unsettled.

It was at that split second when Apollo shot the flaming arrow from an unknown distance. After piercing the air, it blocked Luo Qianqiu's attack.

Cai Ning and Rose sighed, relieved from cheating death.

"Thank you," Rose voiced her gratitude towards Apollo.

Touching up his fringe, he replied indifferently, "There's no need for the formalities. You're Hades's family, and they're our enemies, so I was just doing what I'm supposed to do. However, you ladies are inferior to them. It would be best for you to remain on the island. Chinese cultivators have blatantly defied the Treaty of Gods. Therefore... leave it to us."

Rose and the others nodded. Cognisant that they would be a burden to the pair, they headed back to the island immediately.

"If I'm not mistaken, you two must be the God of the Sun and the Goddess of the Moon?" Ning Zhengfeng was able to recognize them at a first glance, thanks to the Ning clan-wide information network.

Artemis giggled. "How surprising. 20,000 years have passed, and so many cultivators have had the guts to leave China. Someone even recognized us."

"Hah, pretentious and arrogant Gods!" Xiao Mengyue scoffed. "You two came at a perfect time. We are here to wipe out Yang Chen's family. If the pair of you dare to intervene, we'll just have to finish you off together! I'll get rid of that so-called Treaty of Gods and kick you, goddamned Gods, out of this world!"

Having said that, he waved his arm downwards. "Those from the Xiao clan, heed my orders—follow me and kill them both!"

As Xiao Mengyue was a newly appointed patriarch, he was eager to show himself off so that his clan members would acknowledge his status.

He was somewhat aware of the Gods' capabilities and knew that their True Yuan was the kryptonite to the space law. That fact fueled his courage and confidence, and thus he was certain of winning the battle.

The cultivators of the Xiao clan, including the Taishang elders knew they could not back down when their patriarch had taken lead. Flying behind him, they surrounded Apollo and Artemis.

Xiao Mengyue held an upper-ranked sword. As True Yuan flowed out of it, it glowed in green.

Flying towards Apollo, he yelled, "Aoki Xuanxin Sutra – Withered Wood Envelopment!"

With the use of his cultivation in the Ruo Water stage, he unleashed entangling green beams of light that encircled Apollo like vines. In the next second, they contracted to capture him and then tear him apart.

An amused expression appeared on Apollo's face, yet he did not dodge. A blazing ball of fire then showed up around him abruptly.

"Huh!?"

Xiao Mengyue, who was plunging downward with his sword, shrieked and made a sudden rotation in the air. Fortunately, he dodged the ball of fire by a hair's breadth.

The temperature of the fire was so high that he could feel his True Yuan barrier evaporating before he even got close to it.

As for the beams of light, they were shattered to pieces and vanished into nothingness.

Snorting, Apollo looked at the pale-faced Xiao Mengyue teasingly. "You guys are far weaker than your ancestors..."

Chapter 1565

God of Sun

Although Xiao Mengyue was flushed with anger, he dared not strike recklessly.

Due to the lack of battle experience with the Gods, he did not know if Apollo's space laws had any special characteristics. Even if they seemed like flames, they came from the space laws—the Heavenly Sun Fire, which contained the power of the parallel spaces.

As long as the density of the spaces reached a certain point, it would not fear the True Yuan.

"Don't you be obnoxious! That was just your stroke of luck!" Xiao Mengyue roared. "Everyone, attack alongside me! Have a taste of my 'Roaring Wave of the Vast Forest'!"

At his shout, the dozens of cultivators of the Xiao clan dashed forward. Some shot their swords forward while some cast colorful True Yuan spells at Apollo.

Xiao Mengyue shot out layers of True Yuan which flowed and strengthened. True to its name, they formed into a raging green wave in the sky.

As for the other two Taishang elders, they thrust their arms forward, and one after another, two giant palm prints darted out like beasts running out of cages.

"How ignorant..." Apollo sniggered as the Heavenly Sun Fire that enveloped his body exploded.

In a split second, he had transformed into a blazing golden sun that lit up the whole world.

Even the cultivators that were a few hundred kilometers away took a few steps backward.

The swords that reached the perimeter of Apollo had their True Yuan shed and melted into iron.

"How is that possible?!" the cultivators exclaimed, for the power Apollo they displayed was far beyond their understanding of the Gods.

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The Heavenly Fire he exuded may not have been as powerful as the Samadhi True Fire, but the temperature was comparable. It was even higher than the Samadhi True Fire!

The spells cast by the cultivators, including the two Taishang elders, had no effect on Apollo. They were slowed by the space barrier, and the Heavenly Sun Fire destroyed them before they could reach him.

Even Xiao Mengyue's True Yuan had no effect.

At the same time, Apollo did not stop at defense.

The arrow on Helius was aiming right at Xiao Mengyue, but it was not an ordinary one. Rather, it was one conjured by golden-red fire.

With graceful movements, Apollo pulled the string backward and waited till the flame arrow grew to the thickness of a man's arm before he let go of it abruptly.

Swoosh!

By the time the sound drifted into their ears, red light had formed a bright trajectory in the sky.

Though Apollo's motion seemed effortless, the arrow carried a force that could seem to shatter the sky and burn the spaces.

The temperature it contained was formed from the friction between parallel spaces and possessed the power to tear the spaces apart.

The only thing Xiao Mengyue saw was the golden-red glow, and he had no idea what happened next.

The rest of the people stared at him in horror.

"Sir!"

"Dad!"

Some elites of the Xiao clan and Xiao Mozheng shouted at him.

Xiao Mozheng seemed especially emotional, his eyes red and brimming with tears.

Only then did Xiao Mengyue realize something. Lowering his head, he saw that the middle part of his body was burnt, and there was even a hole in his abdomen.

If it were not for his True Yuan barrier, he would have been reduced to ashes.

"No..." he exclaimed in disbelief.

I'm already... dead?

Not all cultivators had invincible physiques like Yang Chen. Since his True Yuan barrier was destroyed and his body was burnt and pierced, death was inevitable.

Never in his wildest dreams did he expect to be so defenseless before Apollo. After all, he was in the Ruo Water stage and had just become the patriarch of the Xiao clan.

Watching Xiao Mengyue fall from the sky, many of the cultivators felt a chill run down their spines.

They doubt Luo Qianqiu could stand a chance against that attack despite being in the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage.

As expected, Luo Pingchao's and Luo Qianqiu's expressions were grim as they realized the situation seemed bleak.

However, Apollo could not care less about their astonishment, nor did he plan to give them time to think.

Raising Helius, he aimed at the sky.

At the same time, he was muttering some odd words. It was the Gods' actual language.

"Burn, Helius! The wrath of the God of Sun... Rain of Fire and Stars!"

A fire arrow much longer than before was then shot towards the sky.

Just as the cultivators were staring at it intently in confusion, Luo Qianqiu yelled, "Put up your Barrier now! Dodge! Run now!!"

Just mere seconds after he shouted, the sky was painted in blood-red.

On the heels of that, countless fire arrows penetrated the clouds, shooting toward the cultivators.

Though it looked like a meteor shower, every meteor was actually a deadly Heavenly Sun Fire!

Cultivators above the Ruo Water stage were able to repel the arrows, but those below the Ming Water stage were not so fortunate.

A series of thuds sounded as the arrow burst on the colorful True Yuan barriers of the cultivators.

Some of those in the Ye Fire and Kui Water stages could not hold up against the arrows. After having their barriers destroyed, their bodies were burnt to ashes. In that instant, they fell to their demise.

Only thirty-odd cultivators remained in the blink of an eye, and they were all above the Ming Water stage. The majority of them were hurt.

Apollo had obviously controlled the coverage of the arrows because none of them landed on the ground and were absorbed into another parallel space in mid-flight.

"Hey, my dear brother, you went too far. I have yet to strike, and you've already killed so many."

Artemis had been watching from the side. When she saw the large drop in the number of people, she giggled.

"They're just vermin who deserve to die for having the audacity to intrude into our territory." Apollo turned to look at the remaining cultivators and chuckled. "All right. Now that I've taken care of them, I hope you won't let us down."

Some of the surviving cultivators were dejected.

Xiao Mengyu was delighted at first to witness Xiao Mengyue's death, thinking that he could reclaim the position as the patriarch. However, as of now, he was more worried about his survival.

As for Ning Zhengfeng, he narrowed his eyes, thinking if he should find an opportunity to retreat. He reckoned the Xiao clan's Taishang elders could put up a fight so that the elders of his clan would not lose their lives.

Apollo's power was terrifyingly destructive. Only one in the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage could kill Xiao Mengyue in one move.

As the person with the highest cultivation level amongst the cultivators, Luo Pingchao had stepped out, holding a blue sword in his hand. It was an upper-ranked artifact.

"How ostentatious! All you did was kill a bunch of good-for-nothings! I'd like to see how you'll fare against me!"

With that, the sword flew out of his hand, emitting the sound of waves as it moved.

"It's here! The former patriarch's Blue Sea Sword! That move is the 'Sound of Waves'!" someone in the Luo clan exclaimed, obviously confident in Luo Pingchao's ability as he was a rare prodigy.

At that moment, afterimages of the blue sword formed in the sky like a tsunami. They moved so quickly and emitted deafening sound waves that made it hard to tell which was the actual sword.

Carrying a blue sword aura, the afterimages headed toward the pair of siblings!

The True Yuan contained within it was vastly different from that of Xiao Mengyue. Even the coverage seemed impossible to avoid.

"Interesting..."

Apollo waved an arm, and the Heavenly Sun Fire struck at the tsunami-like sword aura.

The golden-red Heavenly Fire collided with the blue sword aura. Surprisingly, the power they possessed seemed to be on par, emitting ear-splitting sounds as they crashed against one another repeatedly.

Chapter 1566

Chant of Selene

The high temperature and sharp sword aura had the spaces in that area tearing and repairing continuously as if nuclear bombs were being ignited. The oppression that leaked out of them caused many cultivators to back off.

The difference between the Nine Heavenly Lightning and Six Frost Water tribulation caused the displayed True Yuan to be much more massive.

The cultivators even felt that their presence was superfluous. After all, their cultivation would not be a threat to them at all, and only the Luo father and son would stand a chance.

Luo Pingchao did not wait after seeing that his strike had failed. Instead, he motioned with his hand, and the Blue Sea Sword obeyed. As it spun in the air, it emitted waves of sword aura that swooped down on Apollo like a tornado.

The Heavenly Sun Fire did not collide with Luo Pingchao, but the terrified cultivators ducked out of the way.

"Sun's Carriage, Horse of the Sun!"

Apollo summoned another fire arrow on Helius and fired it at the blue tornado.

Boom!

The arrow transformed into a horse, neighing as it charged into the tornado's center!

The flames on its hooves ignited the fragments of space.

The fragmented space energy intertwined with the sword aura, causing huge explosions within the tornado. Yet, they were still in a stalemate.

At that moment, the cultivators realized that Apollo's ability must be on par with Luo Pingchao. Since Luo Pingchao was at the pinnacle of the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage, it was no wonder that Apollo could kill Xiao Mengyue so easily.

However, unbeknownst to them, the Gods' ability had yet to recover fully. Once Gaia's Heart was restored, their power would return to the level feared by all cultivators.

Seeing that Apollo could not defeat Luo Pingchao so soon, Artemis lost the mood to watch on.

"Brother, I'll leave him to you and deal with the rest."

With that, layers of frost surrounded her.

Blue sparkles shone on her hand like snowflakes and crystals as an ice-blue longbow appeared in her hand abruptly.

A pair of graceful and mysterious wings spread out from the sides.

Her silver hair, blue dress, porcelain skin, longbow, magnificent beauty, and dignified bearing had the cultivators' hearts skipped a beat.

Swirling, Artemis aimed Selene at the cultivators who were watching the battle from afar.

"Selene, Moon Hue Arrow!"

Similar to Helius, there was not a physical arrow on the bow. Once Artemis put her fingers on it lightly, an arrow in the form of frost energy conjured on it, enshrouding her with a cloud of mist.

"Be careful!" Ning Zhengfeng yelled as he held a six-foot-long polearm in his hand. It was not a metal weapon, but one made of golden white flames.

None of them dared to make the first attack, as they were unfamiliar with the Gods' moves, lest they fell for their trap.

Contrary to their expectations, the arrow was not shot towards them, exploding midway.

A massive cloud of frost spread out rapidly, blanketing the area with a fuzzy mist.

Just as the cultivators were perplexed by the unexpected turn of events, Artemis shot three more arrows.

"Oh no! She's trying to trap us in it!" One of the elders in the Ruo Water stage caught on and yelled in alarm.

Alas, it was too late. The frost mist released by the Moon Hue Arrow possessed a powerful freezing effect. Many of the cultivators in the Ming Water stage could feel their movements were slowed down, and the flow of their True Yuan was hindered.

Artemis's giggles drifted into their ears from all directions.

However, the cultivators could not pinpoint her location, for all they could see was the white mist.

That region had become Artemis's territory where her divine sense was found everywhere. It acted as her clones, rendering her untraceable.

Luo Pingchao, who was engaging Apollo, was also shrouded by the mist. Fortunately, his cultivation was profound enough for him to resist the latter.

Rising and retreating the tide, his sword aura continued to rage.

On the other hand, Apollo's Heavenly Sun Fire remained relentless.

However, unlike Apollo who was used to Artemis's attack, Luo Pingchao soon recognized that his defeat was imminent.

"Everyone, disperse! Don't gather together. Use True Yuan to dispel the mist!" the levelheaded Ning Zhengfeng yelled while the golden white flames on his polearm blazed brightly. Like a torch being lit amidst the darkness, the flames wiped out a big patch of frosty mists around him.

"It's the lower-ranked divine weapon, the Taiyi Polearm!" someone who recognized his weapon exclaimed.

"As expected of the patriarch of the Ning clan to have the most artifacts!"

Many of the cultivators felt motivated. Right, the Gods have their special weapons, but we have ours too!

The Ning clan possessed the most divine weapons. The differences between the clans were apparent. After all, Luo Pingchao could only use an upper-ranked artifact while Ning Zhengfeng could use a lower-ranked divine weapon despite having a lower cultivation level.

The Taiyi Polearm was forged by the divine beings of the Great Ancient times. Through this weapon, the wielder could use the Taiyi True Fire for battles. Taiyi True Fire was also a type of foreign fire with the characteristic of a metal. Thus, it did not fear ice and water, also possessing a special kind of destructive power.

Combined with the use of the Ning clan's Taibai True Yuan Force, the divine weapon would only become more mighty.

However, no sooner had the cultivators rejoiced than the pained shrieks sounded.

"Chant of Selene... The Moonlight!"

The voice of Artemis came from high above the sky. Then there were the frantic fluctuations in the spaces. The spaces shattered one by one, and the power of the space was conjured into a white pillar of light.

The colossal pillar appeared out of nowhere above the cultivators, connecting the sky and the ground.

Some cultivators in the Ming Water stage failed to dodge in time and were pierced from their heads to their legs by the pillar. Their organs had all been shattered, and they had turned into corpses in mid-air.

Under the moonlight, they froze and broke into smithereens as they fell off the sky.

Some of the elders in the Ruo Water stage did not see this coming and were injured by it. With a sense of foreboding, they looked up.

"Let's run! We'll never be her match in this mist!"

The so-called elites were scrambling for their lives.

Excited, Artemis chuckled. "Naughty boys, do you think you can run away?"

It sounded like she was teasing, but her movements were nowhere merciful.

One by one, the pillars rained and fell everywhere within the cloud of mist, threatening to crush the cultivators to dust.

Ning Zhengfeng and the other cultivators in the Ruo Water stage dodged with their best might while burning the mist with their True Yuan or artifacts.

However, the mists regathered rapidly, making it hard for them to get away from it.

Every time they came close to the edge, the moonlight would strike them back into the cloud of mist.

"Golden Crow Secrets – Assembly of Ten Thousand Birds!"

Unable to hold it anymore, Luo Qianqiu had the gold Golden Crow True Fire encircle him, paying no heed if this move of his would hurt his men.

The Golden Crow True Fire took the form of a giant crow, flying past the mist and clearing a path for the cultivators to aid their escape.

Like Apollo, Luo Qianqiu became the other sun in the sky.

"Eh? There's someone capable within them too," Artemis grumbled.

The next second, she aimed Selene at Luo Qianqiu.

"Chant of Selene... Lunar Eclipse!"

A blue energy-filled arrow conjured and was shot out immediately.

Luo Qianqiu's Three-legged Golden Crow approached it in time, wanting to break the arrow.

However, before the two even made contact, the arrow expanded into a massive dark energy ball about the diameter of dozens of feet, enveloping Luo Qianqiu.

Chapter 1567

God of the Sea's Territory

Although the Three-legged Golden Crow broke through the energy ball's barrier, it was shot by an arrow before even coming close to Artemis.

All Luo Qianqiu could see was black and blue. Suddenly, the energy ball started to spin vigorously.

At the same time, the pressure around him strengthened. That came from the power of spaces which shook his True Yuan barrier.

From the outside, it seemed like a giant black energy ball swelled, and a vortex formed within it rapidly.

As the vortex took shape, the energy ball began to shrink. Spaces crumbled and fell into another dimension.

It suddenly dawned on Luo Qianqiu that this attack was not intended to completely defeat him, but rather to transport him to another dimension. It could have been a crack in space, but that wasn't the main issue. His survival, let alone his return, would be a problem once he was sent away.

No wonder it's called Lunar Eclipse.

Having had an all-new understanding of the power of the space law, Luo Qianqiu had to admit that Artemis was far more capable than they had imagined.

Nonetheless, he was not going to stand idly by and await his demise. As the Golden Crow True Fire blazed around him, he forcefully dispelled the power of space emitted by the Lunar Eclipse.

His action made Artemis frown. Luo Qianqiu's cultivation level was lower than Luo Pingchao's, yet the tricks they had were not much different. Though she did not expect to take him out of the picture instantly, she did not think he could crack her move.

Once again, Artemis's figure became a blur as she appeared in different spots incessantly. Meanwhile, the moonlight started flickering.

Despite having returned to their senses and retrieved their artifacts to fight her, the cultivators could not catch her. Instead, they had to dodge the moonlight from time to time, much to their dismay.

The two elders in the Ruo Water stage—from the Luo and Xiao clans respectively—were delighted to get out of the mist when dozens of light blades came in their way.

"Moonlight Blades!"

Artemis had appeared somewhere near them without warning. With Selene raised, her hands moved quickly, shooting innumerable round-shaped blades out.

Within those blades were the cut and compressed power of the space. They were thin but terrifyingly sharp.

The elders tried to fight the blades with their swords or artifacts, but there were simply too many of them. In no time, their True Yuan barriers were torn apart. Their heads fell off the sky, and their bodies were slashed into bits.

It was a gruesome sight to behold.

Realizing that they had lost yet two more elites, the cultivators slowed down their attack.

Once they became more and more cautious, none of them were killed by Artemis anymore.

A long time passed before most of the mist was dispelled. Despite sustaining some injuries, the cultivators were still alive. Those who had died were in the Ming Water stage.

Luo Pingchao, still engaged in the battle with Apollo, was covered in his surging sword aura. He was fighting like a sword himself, yet they remained in a deadlock.

Seeing that the others had managed to escape from the mist, he yelled, "Qianqiu! Leave with them!"

In truth, he did not fear Apollo and Artemis. However, he was certain that they would not stand a chance against them even if all the cultivators worked together. Besides, there were nine Gods, excluding Yang Chen. If another one or two came to help Apollo and Artemis, fleeing the scene itself would be the biggest problem.

The rest had also thought of that. After receiving a signal from Luo Qianqiu, Ning Zhengfeng flew towards Artemis and motioned the rest to retreat.

With Luo Qianqiu's Golden Crow True Fire and Crossing Sky Purple Lightning and his Taiyi Polearm and Taiyi True Fire, they would be able to distract Artemis.

However, just as the cultivators decided to retreat, a drastic change occurred to the vast sea beneath them.

"That's..."

Luo Changchun was the first to notice it.

At about five kilometers away, the seawater began to rise ferociously, taking the form of a wall.

In no time, the walls rose to a thousand meters tall.

The power of space within those walls amazed the cultivators.

In just mere ten seconds, a dome-shaped fortress had formed, enveloping the vicinity.

"Eh, I thought you weren't coming over, Poseidon."

Apollo had moved away from Luo Pingchao and turned to look at the fortress.

Dressed in a white chef uniform, Poseidon appeared. Although his hair was ruffled, and he was bearded, the man still looked domineering.

"Hmph, I spent some time making seafood stews." Poseidon squinted at the battlefield and added, "If I hadn't used my 'God of the Sea's Territory' in time, you two would've let them escape."

"Please. We have yet to use the full of our capabilities," Apollo replied in disdain.

"We've all recovered less than half of our powers, so I know your limits well." Poseidon was insistent.

The way they bickered made it seem like they could care less about the human cultivators as if they were already corpses in their eyes.

However, Luo Pingchao and the others finally realized the seawater cage was the God of the Sea's doing.

Worse yet, it turned out the Gods only had less than half of their capabilities.

H-How is this possible!? And what do they mean by "recover"!? If Apollo and Artemis have less than half of their actual power and could still push Luo Pingchao to the corner, doesn't that mean their realms would be above the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage once they recover?

Since a God is stronger than Apollo and Artemis had appeared, they knew it would be too late if they did not flee now.

"Retreat! Everyone, retreat!" Luo Pingchao yelled and was the first to leave.

As his sword aura surrounded him, he dashed towards the northeast.

The other cultivators followed suit, retreating and doing whatever they could to crush the seawater fortress.

Naturally, Poseidon would not let them flee so easily.

With a sneer, he chanted in the Gods' language, "In the name of the God of the Sea, I summon thee, Abyss Sea Dragon..."

As he gestured with his hand, dozens of thick scaled dragons emerged from the sea.

These scaled dragons conjured with seawater had their blue eyes opened, emitting a bone-chilling aura. As they were formed from the space laws, they were tireless and immortal.

Hundreds of scaled dragons flew high up in the sky at the same time, making a spectacular picture, but rather than being awestruck, the cultivators were afraid.

They attempted to bomb the dragons tailing them with their artifacts and spells while fleeing.

Only a few of the dragons were shattered, despite their heavenly weapon and great cultivation. However, they could quickly reassemble and continue to attack.

Worse yet, the "God of the Sea's Territory", was more than just forming a fortress with seawater.

As soon as Luo Pingchao reached the fortress, frozen arrows made of seawater shot out of the walls.

Innumerable arrows were shot incessantly like falling stars, overpowering Luo Pingchao.

"Trying to flee?"

Apollo and Artemis had long since come forth, shooting arrows of Heavenly Sun Fire and Lunar Eclipse toward him.

One after another, the dark energy balls rained down on the cultivators, sending them scurrying all over the place. Not only did they have to be wary of the ferocious dragons, but they also had to dodge the arrows.

A myriad of colours—red, blue, gold, and white—filled the sky, and the extreme temperatures put the cultivators' True Yuan barriers to the test.

Chapter 1568

The Lost Drumstick

Trapped in the cage by three Gods, the cultivators finally seethed with rage. It took us centuries to millennia to attain our current cultivation! There's no way we'll perish just like this.

All at once, they used all kinds of methods they had to fight against the Gods, even if they would sustain grievous injuries.

After all, they had lived for a thousand years if not centuries, so it was impossible not to have any trump cards or tricks up their sleeves. Only at the final moment would they reveal their deck.

For a moment, the cultivators were embroiled in a fight with the three Gods. Though they could not break through the seawater fortress, they were not defeated by the Gods.

While Luo Pingchao, Luo Qianqiu, and Ning Zhengfeng were fighting with Apollo and Artemis, the other cultivators were keeping Poseidon in check.

Of course, they knew that the other Gods must have caught wind in the situation there and had not attacked because they did not see the need to do so for now. However, it was only a matter of time for them to show up. Thus, they had to get out of the sticky situation before the other Gods decided to join the battle.

While the battle above the sea was going on fiercely, the islanders also felt tense.

The shocking change in the sky filled them with worry. Most importantly, they felt insecure due to Yang Chen's absence.

At the same time, Yang Chen's harem had gathered at Wang Ma and Su Xin's place.

They had thought of hiding in another place but found it dangerous, thinking that cultivators might block their way. Since their cultivation was too low, any cultivator in the Tribulation Passing stage would be too tough of an opponent to them.

Moreover, they might burden the other islanders, so in the end, they chose to believe in the Gods' power and remain on the island.

Seeing that the Gods had taken control of the situation, the ladies sighed in relief.

Those in the Soul Forming stage, such as Rose, Cai Ning, and An Xin could not feel at ease staying indoors, so they chose the fight outside.

As for Jane, she had returned to her lab to see if she could contact Yang Chen using some special communication method.

At that moment, the ladies remained on alert even though they could not really see the battlefield.

"Sister Rose, do you think Hubby can return in time? Our opponents are so strong; I don't think the Gods can defeat them so soon," An Xin asked worriedly.

"That's hard to say. If Jane can't contact him, I don't think he can come back anytime soon."

Zhenxiu was flustered. Her lips paled as she said, "We're so useless. No wonder Brother Yang doesn't let us go to the illusionary dimension."

Cai Ning sighed. "Don't blame yourself. Considering the time we spent on cultivating, we're progressing rather quickly. Those cultivators are a few decades older than us and are from the hidden clans, so we can't compare to them."

They both had a sour expression on their faces. They only realized how insignificant they were when such a battle erupted. It was also at this point that they realized how powerful Yang Chen was, being able to save Su Xin and Xiao Zhiqing from the illusionary dimension by himself.

At that moment, the door opened, and a small figure came running out of the house. She was even holding a curry chicken drumstick in her hand, while her face was covered with food crumbs. It was none other than Lanlan.

The chubby girl ran past the ladies and stared at the sky in excitement.

"Wow! So pretty!" she exclaimed and took a bite of the drumstick.

"Eh, Lanlan, don't go out. Come eat in the house." Wang Ma came out and beckoned her to go in.

Lanlan looked over her shoulder and shook her body as she whined, "No, aunties are all outside. I want to watch it too."

Wang Ma approached and wiped the stain off her lips, chiding, "You're only causing trouble here. Go in with me, or your mom will get angry at you."

Lanlan pouted and looked at the bizarre scene in the sky reluctantly.

Initially, the ladies were chuckling, amused by her reaction. Normal kids would have been frightened to tears at such an odd phenomenon, yet Lanlan was fearless, intrigued even. It seemed like she had indeed inherited her father's carefreeness.

However, in the next second, their smiles froze.

A few silhouettes appeared in the woods nearby and came in front of them in the blink of an eye.

Then, a middle-aged man grabbed Lanlan by the waist and carried her.

"Ah! Lanlan!" Wang Ma yelled but was immediately grabbed by the throat by another middle-aged cultivator.

Everything happened so suddenly that the ladies failed to react in time. It was apparent that the other party has far higher cultivation than them.

"Who are you!?" Rose asked nervously.

Five opponents had appeared out of nowhere. Other than the two middle-aged men who had held Lanlan and Wang Ma as captives, there was a bearded middle-aged cultivator, a younger gentleman-like cultivator, and an elderly man.

Those people were Xiao Mohui, Xiao Mozheng, a Xiao clan elder, and two Xiao clan cultivators.

Despite the grudges between the brothers, they still chose to work together when at the brink of death.

Since Yang Chen did not show up after a long time, they had reasons to believe that he was not on the island.

Thus, they decided to bring three elites and landed on the island whilst the battle in the sky was still ongoing. With that, they traced them to this place.

They know they could turn the tides if they succeeded in abducting Yang Chen's family.

Moreover, their cultivation level would not attract the Gods' attention. With so many cultivators holding them back, they would not have the time to notice a few missing ones.

Therefore, once those five people located the house in the center of the island, they teleported before the ladies and captured Wang Ma and Lanlan since they were the nearest.

"Hah, our identities do not matter. What matters is that we want those related to Yang Chen dead." Xiao Mohui smirked.

That sent chills down the ladies' spine, and they were at a loss for what to do.

Lanlan belatedly realized she was seized by someone. The drumstick in her hand had also fallen to the ground. Tears welled up in her eyes from the pain of losing her food.

"Meanie! Let me go! My drumstick! I lost my drumstick! You guys are bad guys! Daddy will beat you all up!" she cried.

"Shut up!" Enraged, Xiao Mohui landed a slap across her face.

Although he did not use True Yuan, the slap was not any less painful. Lanlan's face was swollen, and she wailed even louder.

"Tch, you already have a rich True Qi at such a young age. You must be Yang Chen, that monster's child. We got the right person." Xiao Mozheng smiled menacingly.

"Damn it! How dare you hit Lanlan!?"

Seeing that Lanlan was beaten, Cai Yan was the first to lose her cool. A streak of white-colored Heart Fire formed in her palm which transformed into a spear.

"Yanyan, no! You're not his match!" Cai Ning wanted to stop her sister, but Cai Yan did not intend to back down, thrusting the spear at Xiao Mohui.

Snorting, he waved his arm, and a green True Yuan encircled the spear and disintegrated it. Not only that, but he also sent Cai Yan flying backward.

Cai Yan coughed out a mouthful of blood and was received by Cai Ning. Her face turned as white as a sheet as she coughed out two more mouthfuls of blood from the severe internal bleeding.

"I'm surprised that you know how to use the Heart Fire. Unfortunately, your foreign fire is powerful, but your cultivation is too weak to use it." Xiao Mohui guffawed. "If I knew it would be this easy, I would've caught you all at once to save myself the trouble."

At that moment, Wang Ma stared at the side profile of the person before her.

"Y-You are Mozheng!?"

The expression on Xiao Mozheng's face was strange. As he turned to look at her with an impassive expression, he must have realized something. "It's been a long time, Yulan."

Chapter 1569

One Would Be Enough

His words stunned the ladies present at the scene. However, since they knew Xiao Zhiqing's past, the realisation quickly dawned on them.

He's Xiao Mozheng? Xiao Zhiqing's father and the man who abandoned Wang Ma and brought Xiao Zhiqing away!? Does that mean they're from the Xiao clan!?

Xiao Mohui snorted and mocked, "So your ex-lover is here. Could she be that bitch, Xiao Zhiqing's mother? Tsk, she sure maintained her appearance well."

Distressed, Wang Ma cried, "Mozheng! Mozheng! How dare you show up before me... You heartless bastard!"

"I can spare you today for the sake of our past," Xiao Mozheng lamented.

Unlike the graceful person she usually was, Wang Ma berated him like a shrewd woman. "You rogue! Coward! I was blind to have been with you! You do not deserve to be my daughter's father! I dare you to kill me now! You disgust me!"

"Yulan, you've disappointed me. I never knew you would be so unreasonable..."

"Tch! Hypocrite!"

Wang Ma spat, but Xiao Mozheng dodged it again.

Sighing, he decided not to pay her any more attention. With a flick of his finger, he pressed at her acupressure point and knocked her out.

A second before he did so, the ladies inside the house finally noticed something was amiss, and they ran outside.

Seeing that her mother had fainted, Xiao Zhiqing was shocked. "Let go of my mother!" she yelled.

At the sight of her, Xiao Mohui's and Xiao Mozheng's expressions turned grim.

"My, so you're here too." Xiao Mohui smiled sinisterly as he remarked, "Just right. Since Yang Chen is willing to barge into the Luo clan for you, I'm sure we'll be able to extricate ourselves from this safely by using you as our hostage."

Xiao Zhiqing paled and instinctively took a few steps backwards.

The other ladies also stood before her, determined to buy some time even if they had to die.

"Ning'er, you move faster than us. Inform this matter to Apollo and the rest," Rose told Cai Ning through telepathy.

Cai Ning shot her a look of understanding and took a step back discreetly.

However, Xiao Mohui and the others saw through her plan before she could fly up the sky.

Grinning, Xiao Mohui taunted, "If you dare to leave or ask for help, I'll kill this monster and this woman."

With that, the ladies dared not move, run or resist.

"Despicable!" An Xin flushed with rage.

Xiao Mohui replied in disdain, "As long as it works. When Yang Chen robbed our clan, he was much more despicable than us."

"Stop talking nonsense," Xiao Mozheng snapped. "If you know best, don't resist and let me destroy your cultivation. Then, we can spare your lives."

The ladies paled at his threat. Being alive would be worse than death since he would threaten Yang Chen with their lives.

At that critical moment, Lin Ruoxi suddenly took a few steps forward.

Staring at the cultivator who was holding Lanlan, she declared lightly, "Let go of my daughter."

Her tone was commanding, one that brooked no room for rejection.

Lanlan had been trying her best to struggle free, but her cultivation was nothing compared to those of the Ming Water stage.

"This is your daughter? If yes, then you must be one of Yang Chen's b*tches?" Xiao Mohui stroked his beard and smirked. "That bastard sure knows how to enjoy himself. All his women are pretty... Unfortunately, you'll all be our slaves, much less than a pet."

Seeing that the cultivator refused to let Lanlan, Lin Ruoxi glared at him coldly, her gaze filled with murderous intent.

"Zhenxiu?"

"Huh?" Zhenxiu was startled to hear her name being called.

Turning around, Lin Ruoxi said flatly, "Lend me your dual blade."

The instant the other ladies glimpsed her eyes, they shuddered from the bone-chilling coldness.

That look did not seem to belong to Lin Ruoxi. In fact, it reminded them of Yang Chen when he was slaughtering others.

As if bewitched, Zhenxiu took out Manjushage and passed them to Lin Ruoxi.

"One would be enough." Lin Ruoxi took one and gripped it in her left hand. Step by step, she strolled toward Xiao Mohui and the rest.

The atmosphere seemed to have turned cold because of her.

When the ladies realised she was trying to save Lanlan, they jolted in shock.

Lin Ruoxi is not even in the Soul Forming stage. She'll only be sending herself to her death!

"Ruoxi, I know you're worried about Lanlan, but you can't die in vain!" Mo Qianni rushed forward to hold her back.

Yet, just as she was about to touch her, she missed. It turned out Lin Ruoxi had taken another step forward.

Frowning, Cai Ning, who was speedy, wanted to grab her shoulders, encountered the same situation as Mo Qianni. For some reason, the moment she put her arms down, she missed.

Lin Ruoxi was like a phantom. Even though she was moving so slowly, it was impossible to seize her.

Without looking back, she strolled forward and soon arrived before Xiao Mohui and the rest.

Xiao Mohui narrowed his eyes. Truthfully, he did not see anything special but still decided to be on guard.

"You'd better not move about. If you dare, your daughter will become crippled at once." He sneered.

Lin Ruoxi was unfazed, as though she did not hear him.

Walking straight to the cultivator that held Lanlan, she reached out to hold her.

The thing everyone else saw next horrified them.

Lin Ruoxi had easily taken over Lanlan while the cultivator's face contorted with fear and pain.

He did not move or talk, staring at her as she held the little girl.

The instant she carried Lanlan, Lin Ruoxi swept her left hand backward in a natural and leisure manner.

In the next moment, the cultivator's head fell to the ground, blood spurting out of his neck.

"How... How is that possible!?"

Those on Xiao Mohui's side gawked at her.

They could not fathom why a woman with negligible cultivation could kill someone more powerful than her in one move. What was even more unbelievable was that the cultivator did not resist at all.

Why was he killed!? But there's no fluctuations in energy and True Yuan!

Even their ladies were shocked, feeling as if they saw an illusion in which Lin Ruoxi was shrouded with an air of mystery.

Not even Yang Chen can kill a Ming Water cultivator so easily!

Lin Ruoxi remained nonchalant as though she did not just behead someone moments ago. Hugging her child, she pecked her cheek and was distressed to see the wounds on her. In a gentle voice, she chided,

"I told you to listen to me and don't run about. Be good in the future, or you'll be beaten up by bad guys. Do you hear me?"

Lanlan nodded obediently. With one finger pointed at Xiao Mohui, she pouted. "Mommy, he hit me..."

"I know."

Holding Lanlan in one hand and the blade in the other, Lin Ruoxi headed toward Xiao Mohui.

Xiao Mohui was alarmed by her movement despite being a Ming Water cultivator. He wanted to move backwards instinctively but found it hard to even move. His whole body was trembling.

The brown sword in his hand was an upper-ranked artifact, but it did not give him any confidence.

Sweating profusely and breathing heavily, he wanted to speak but found it impossible to do so.

That was when he realised why the earlier cultivator did not resist. It was because his body, throat, and the True Yuan within his Dantian were oppressed, rendering it impossible for him to resist.

He could find no words to explain the pressure, but, in short, those parts were sealed.

Before he even realised, Lin Ruoxi had before him. Yet, other than looking at her in horror and devastation, there was nothing he could do. Without hesitation, she raised her arm. With one swift move across his throat, his head fell to the ground.

In mere moments, Lin Ruoxi beheaded two Ming Water cultivators without getting a drop of blood on herself or the blade. That was how fast she moved.

While Lanlan clapped and praised her cheerily, the ladies could not react in the same way.

"I-Is she really Sister Ruoxi?" Zhenxiu gulped.

"Yes," Cai Ning answered with a solemn expression, "but there's a chance that she isn't..."

Lin Ruoxi did not mind their conversation, regarding Xiao Mozheng and the other two cultivators.

In swift steps, she walked past them like a leaf flitting across the breeze. As if specifically designed, the blade arched in a perfect trajectory, cutting across their vulnerable throats.

Chapter 1570

Brahma God

The three heads had their eyes opened as they fell to the ground. Even till that moment, none of them could resist or open up their True Yuan barrier.

Such a shameful death would make the prideful man unable to keep their heads held high in the afterworld.

Lin Ruoxi had tossed the blade back to Zhenxiu and supported the unconscious Wang Ma.

When she came before others and saw their fearful gazes, she smiled and asked, "What's wrong? I don't think killing them would cause any problem."

"Ruoxi, your cultivation... What happened?" Rose could not help but ask.

After handing Wang Ma to Xiao Zhiqing, Lin Ruoxi deliberated over it for a moment and shook her head. "I don't know. I just didn't want Lanlan to be hurt, and I saved her. It was the same when we were kidnapped."

The ladies did not believe it would be that simple since they witnessed the frighteningly bizarre scene with their own eyes.

Lin Ruoxi, on the other hand, did not appear to be lying, as if she had killed them effortlessly.

At the thought of something, Lin Ruoxi asked Xiao Zhiqing, "Qing'er, would you blame me for killing your father?"

Xiao Zhiqing looked at Xiao Mozheng's head with an enigmatic look before shaking his head. "He brought it upon himself."

Lin Ruoxi nodded and carried Lanlan back home.

The little girl was naturally excited about finishing her meal since nothing else mattered more than food. On the other hand, the ladies did not share the same sentiment.

Staring at her blade, Zhenxiu mumbled under her breath, "This blade... I didn't know it could be this powerful."

"It's a good weapon, but the person who wields it is the key," Cai Ning commented with a deep look on her face.

Those who were fighting above the sea were unaware of the happenings on the island.

The battle had come to a climax, the air filled with True Yuan and pieces of space. It was like a sea of doom.

The seawater fortress was still blocking the cultivators' way at every corner while the scaled dragons roared and stirred up waves. The deep blue water soared into the sky and fell back to the sea, chasing after the cultivators and breaking their True Yuan barrier easily.

Although Luo Pingchao and Luo Qianqiu were holding Poseidon back, Apollo and Artemis had killed more than twenty cultivators with their bow, including a few Ruo Water cultivators.

Seeing that only fewer than twenty elders above the Ruo Water stage were left, Luo Qianqiu and the others were stricken with anxiety.

Those elders were the elites of the hidden clans, and most were even part of the direct bloodline. If they perished, not only would they be too ashamed to face the rest of the clan members, but Hongmeng might also seize the chance to oppress them.

At the same time, they found it hard to accept they might be facing their demise even though they had marched over to obliterate Yang Chen and his family.

As another dozen of his Crossing Sky Purple Lightning were dodged by Poseidon's space laws, Luo Qianqiu turned grim and spoke to his father through telepathy. "Father, if this goes on, it'll only be a

matter of time before we lose. Their space law is superior to our cultivation, so our attack wouldn't have any effect. Besides, our True Yuan is depleting..."

Luo Pingchao was wielding the Blue Sea Sword, using the sword aura to fight Apollo. Blue light extended around him like a blossoming cornflower.

However, none of the sword aurae could come close to the Gods because the space laws had sent them to another dimension.

At the realization that his powerful attacks were useless against the Gods, Luo Pingchao became weary.

"We did not make enough preparations. Qianqiu, I'll break through the fortress, and you guys follow!"

"Father... Are you..." Luo Qianqiu frowned as though he was thinking of the worst situation.

Luo Pingchao replied, "Don't worry. I'll just have to recover for three months. With you around, the Luo clan will have a leader. If I don't do it, we won't be able to get out of here once the other Gods arrive!"

With that said, he suddenly retracted all of his sword aurae, escaped the dragons, and roared as red mist shrouded him.

As if his True Yuan exploded, his muscles bulged and strengthened. In no time, they tore through the top of his robe, revealing his veiny bronze-colored muscles!

Poseidon, Apollo, and Artemis, who had the cultivators in check, felt the oddness of Luo Pingchao and reflexively took a few steps back.

As they retreated, they directed the Heavenly Sun Fire and Moonlight Blades towards him, but those were dispersed by the blood-like mist.

Not only that, but a far more powerful surge of sword aura was shot out of the mists, aiming as blue and red beams of light at the Gods.

This time, though the space laws blocked most of the attacks, the Gods realized some of them would still come near to their bodies. If they were not careful, it would harm them.

With that, the Gods' attacks weakened, allowing the cultivators to breathe a sigh of relief.

"What spell is this?" Poseidon asked as he dodged the attacks while frowning.

"I think it's a secret technique that can boost one's cultivation instantly," Artemis replied, knitting her brows. "His power is increasing continuously!"

"To think they would have such a trick up their sleeves. We've underestimated them. His current cultivation is at least stronger than before by thirty percent," Apollo added.

The Gods were not the only ones stunned by the turn of events as the cultivators also cast their curious gazes at Luo Pingchao.

By then, his height had reached over two meters. With the blood-like mist enveloping him, he looked like a red warrior.

What frightened them the most was that his eyes had turned white as though the white fire was blazing within them.

"Pingchao!" Seeing that his son used that tactic, Luo Changchun yelled in agony.

"Is that the Luo clan's great technique in the Luotian Sutra, the 'Brahma God'?" Ning Zhengfeng exclaimed.

As the patriarch of the Ning clan, he was knowledgeable thus was instantly reminded of the rumored technique.

It was called a rumored one because it was a trump card that would harm the user. Due to the severe sequelae, he never heard of it being used for nearly a thousand years.

This method used a special way to route the True Yuan, using the cultivator's energy, such as the blood, as its fuel.

The rapid combustion of the blood would boost the True Yuan inside their Dantian, amplifying its purity. At the best effect, the cultivator's power would be boosted by fifty to sixty percent.

A cultivator's blood contained a large amount of spiritual energy. Therefore, the greater their cultivation, the higher the amount of spiritual energy. However, if they lost too much blood, they would be comparatively weak, and could even lose their cultivation in severe cases.

Therefore, for those below the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning Tribulation stage or even the Ruo Water stage, having their cultivation revert to the Kui Water stage would be the best case scenario.

Only those above the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning Tribulation stage could remain unscathed as their bodies were strengthened by the heavenly lightning.

In the worst case scenario, they would take more than a year to recover. If they had the assistance from spiritual pills, it would still take them at least two months.

Even saddening was the fact that this method would only last for five minutes. If the user used it longer than that, their blood would be depleted, causing their death.

That was why Luo Pingchao was not planning to use that trick to defeat the three Gods.

Instead, he wanted to break free from the predicament and bring everyone else back to the illusionary dimension within five minutes.

Raising his sword high, he yelled, "Sword Aura of the Tide, Berserk Dragon Tidebreaker! Go!"

Sword aura soared into the air like dragons, coloring the sky blue and red.

With a downward swing of Luo Pingchao's sword, the dragons swerved down.

Poseidon's summoned scaled dragons were shattered with a single strike.