

Cultivating with Top Enlightenment

#Chapter 51 - 47 Night Battle - Read Cultivating with Top Enlightenment Chapter 51 - 47 Night Battle

Chapter 51: Chapter 47 Night Battle

The three of them all chuckled lightly.

Iron Eagle continued:

"However, our goal this time is not to slaughter the True Martial Sect, but to come for the True Martial Sect's legacy."

Iron Dragon nodded and said:

"That's right, the primary target is the Scripture Pavilion. Second Brother, you're the fastest. When the time comes, you go to the Scripture Pavilion. I'll create a disturbance in the front to draw Jiang Baishan and those True Disciples over. If anyone gets in your way, swiftly deal with them and find the cultivation technique of the True Martial Sect."

"Third Brother, you'll provide rear support. If there's any commotion, assist us in retreating. Also, keep an eye on the foot of the mountain. If others are also targeting the True Martial Sect, it would be troublesome if they clash with us."

Iron Tiger and Iron Eagle both nodded.

The three have been infamous for years, yet they can still be free and unrestrained, thanks to their tacit cooperation.

However, Iron Tiger was a bit unwilling and said:

"Big Brother, this person surnamed Wang paid such a high price to invite us three brothers. It seems that the legacy of the True Martial Sect is no small matter. Are we just going to hand it over to him?"

Iron Dragon sighed:

"You fool, we'll quietly make a copy for ourselves at that time, and give one to Wang. If Taoist Longshan comes out alive and vigorous, we can use them to draw Taoist Longshan's attention."

"Rumors in the martial world say that Taoist Longshan could reach the Primordial Core Realm so quickly because of the legacy he obtained back then. If there's a chance, we must see it for ourselves."

"If it really is an unparalleled legacy, after we grab it, we'll flee far to Cang State. Do you think the one surnamed Wang and Taoist Longshan can cross mountains and rivers to find us?"

The three of them shared a sinister smile.

The night grew deeper.

Iron Dragon checked the time and said coldly:

"Let's go!"

The three of them flew across the air like great eagles.

Then they split into three teams.

Iron Tiger crouched near the True Martial Sect's mountain gate for support, Iron Dragon headed straight for the True Martial Sect, and as for Iron Eagle, he concealed himself, ready to act.

Before long.

A rumbling sound erupted, followed by shouts and curses.

"How dare you act recklessly in my True Martial Sect!"

"Where did these thieves come from, not knowing life from death!"

"A Gang Essence Realm expert hiding his head and showing his tail, let me, Jiang Baishan, see you!"

The disciples of the True Martial Sect gathered in increasing numbers.

Iron Dragon's hoarse laughter echoed in the night air:

"I heard that Taoist Longshan is almost dead. I'm here to see if it's true. Call out Taoist Longshan, you little brats are unworthy."

On the Martial Arts Arena.

Flames converged from all directions.

Iron Dragon stood alone with hands folded, exuding an unstoppable aura. He casually flicked a Gang Qi from his fingers, which shot towards an Inner Sect Disciple with astonishing momentum.

That disciple's mind went blank, but fortunately, Jiang Baishan intervened in time, swinging a Sword Qi to sever the Gang Qi.

Otherwise, the disciple would have lost his head instantly.

Nevertheless, just being grazed by the Gang Qi left a bone-deep wound on his chest.

The gap between the Inner Essence Realm and the Gang Qi Realm was too vast.

Jiang Baishan's eyes turned cold as he shouted:

"Everyone retreat, I'll handle him!"

He moved like lightning, attacking Iron Dragon.

Words clashed constantly as he tested Iron Dragon's origin, somewhat shocked in his heart, clearly sensing this black-clothed man's extraordinary strength, seemingly with reserves to spare.

"Why do you disturb my True Martial Sect at night? What is your intention?"

Iron Dragon merely sneered without answering.

Taoist Longshan had still not appeared, seemingly unable to leave his seclusion, which reassured him.

He even mocked:

"Is this the extent of the True Martial Sect's power, its fame is unearned!"

Jiang Baishan's face flushed with anger, but he was helpless. Fortunately, Xiong Shi and Ye Qinghe, along with other True Disciples, had arrived.

"Fifth Brother, we're here to help you!"

Their combined power, as True Disciples, was not trivial.

Adding to the fight, they immediately constrained Iron Dragon, preventing him from harming anyone.

This commotion arose.

On Iron Eagle's end, there was immediate action.

"No signal arrow, looks like Big Brother is handling it with ease."

Seeing the firelight converge toward the Martial Arts Arena, he chuckled sinisterly and stealthily moved toward the Scripture Pavilion.

Iron Eagle's body technique was quite advanced, Gang Qi flowing at his toes, easily crossing great distances, effortlessly avoiding disciples heading towards the Martial Arts Arena.

But for some reason.

The deeper he went, the more he felt a sense of unease.

As if something was watching him.

He secretly heightened his vigilance.

"Who goes there, come out!"

Finally, unable to bear the maddening feeling, Iron Eagle swung his hand casually toward a nearby pavilion.

Gang Essence exploded, snapping beams of wood, and the pavilion swayed precariously.

Iron Eagle's eyes narrowed.

A middle-aged Taoist emerged from the shadows, appearing before him. The Taoist looked unremarkable, carrying a large sword on his back.

This Taoist was none other than Ning Qi in disguise.

The commotion at the Martial Arts Arena had naturally caught his attention, intending to assist, but he did not expect the night attackers to be this cunning, feigning one thing while targeting the Scripture Pavilion, after observing for a moment, he realized this was no weak opponent, definitely a Gang Essence Realm.

"A sneaky person, finally showing yourself."

Iron Eagle sneered.

But inwardly, heightened his guard to the utmost; he found that he couldn't see through this Taoist.

Ning Qi calmly said:

"I'm afraid it's you who are the sneaky one, visiting my True Martial Sect at night, what do you want?"

He initially planned to ambush, but the perceptive ability of a Gang Essence Realm was exceptional, giving him no opportunity to get close, this person had purposefully damaged things to force him out.

"I must end this quickly."

The senior brothers at the front were still fighting, Ning Qi could not waste time.

Just as Iron Eagle was about to reply.

He found that the Taoist rushed over without saying a word, completely disregarding convention. His hair stood on end, a sense of crisis enveloped his heart, such menacing power could only belong to another Gang Essence Realm.

"I didn't expect the True Martial Sect to have such a hidden master too. That Wang has tricked me!"

Iron Eagle cursed inwardly, fully unleashing his Gang Qi.

Fists of Claw Gang blasted through the air, emitting faint eagle screeches in the night sky. Known as Flying Heaven Eagle, he excelled in body technique, but his strength was not lacking. The Heavenly Eagle True Gang he cultivated was exceptionally sharp, each Gang Qi piercing the air with intense momentum.

But the next moment.

His eyes widened in disbelief.

The Taoist across from him did not display any Gang Qi. He merely swung his large sword casually, yet completely shattered all the Gang Qi.

But immediately, Iron Eagle became furious:

"A dignified Gang Essence Realm expert, not revealing Gang Qi, are you trying to toy with me?"

His gaze turned cold, he swooped down like an eagle; the Heavenly Eagle True Gang excelled in close combat. He wanted to show this arrogant Taoist some color.

Ning Qi was internally marvelling at how extraordinary the Dragon Owl Sword was. Seeing the black-clad man across being provoked and rushing over, he couldn't help but smile inside.

The bothersome part about Gang Essence Realm for him was that Gang Qi could be shot from several dozens of meters away.

If the opponent engaged him from afar.

It would take some effort for him to get close.

But now.

Iron Eagle, ignorant of Ning Qi's roots, instead rushed over.

It was somewhat akin to waving at King Yama.

Chapter 52: Chapter 48: Nothing More

Ning Qi's figure was as elusive as a white cloud, either dodging the Gang Qi or brandishing the Dragon Owl Sword, with Inner Strength attached to it, slicing the Gang Qi into pieces.

But at this moment, Tie Ying took the initiative to charge forward with extreme speed.

Ning Qi also adapted to the situation.

With a light tap of his toe, his momentum suddenly changed, his eyes were indifferent, and like a dragon roaming in the dark night, he surged forward, even faster than Tie Ying.

His self-created Misty Dragon Roaming Step was an unmatched ultimate skill, outstanding in both agility for evasion and speed for charging. Suddenly bursting forth, it made Tie Ying's heart skip a beat, sensing that things were not good.

But it was too late.

The two charged at each other, the distance of dozens of feet covered in a mere breath.

Tie Ying looked at the indifferent middle-aged Taoist, feeling uneasy, but at this moment of narrow encounter, the brave wins. He had confidence in his Heavenly Eagle True Gang. If he retreated now, his momentum would surely fall into disadvantage, and today he might leave with nothing, or even be unable to retreat safely.

Three feet remaining.

Tie Ying's palms turned into eagle claws, and with a clanging sound, a pair of sharp claws extended from both his hands, glimmering with a faint light in the night sky.

He roared angrily in his heart.

"Heavenly Eagle Claw!"

A fierce look flashed in his eyes, and waves of Gang Qi erupted from his body, tearing through the sharp claws, instantly forming two sharp eagle claw Gang Qi. The cry of a heavenly eagle could be heard, shaking one's spirit.

His very first move was a killer move!

Relying on this move, Tie Ying was always victorious, having even killed a strong Gang Essence Realm master before.

But Ning Qi was no ordinary person.

The impact of the heavenly eagle's cry on him was negligible, several faux deaths had strengthened his spirit far beyond his peers.

Looking at the eagle claw True Gang.

Ning Qi's expression did not change, maintaining his usual indifference.

In the astonished gaze of Tie Ying, he lightly swung his sword, the Dragon Owl Sword slashing from two feet away, unexpectedly, instead of Gang Qi, an Inner Strength of red and blue hues extended from the sword.

"Inner Essence Realm?!"

Tie Ying found it somewhat absurd and was about to laugh, thinking the opponent was a pig dressed as a tiger, an Inner Essence Realm person had scared him, a Gang Essence Realm.

But the sarcastic laughter had not yet escaped when it abruptly stopped.

Tie Ying's eyes widened with intense disbelief.

He saw the red and blue Inner Strength extending from the Dragon Owl Sword, breaking through three feet almost instantly.

Ning Qi lightly waved his sword.

Though he was three feet away, the Inner Strength had already reached to kill.

Physical strength was also integrated within.

Tie Ying seemed to see two massive mountains of ice and fire pressing down, a faint rumble echoed, chilling his scalp, and an intense scorching breath came forth, along with an eerie chill, the terrifying Sword Intent was unheard of, and the Inner Strength was truly astonishing.

The Heavenly Eagle True Gang had almost no resistance as it was slashed apart.

The three feet of Inner Strength Sword Qi was unstoppable, continuing to slash.

Tie Ying's soul almost left his body, barely managing to raise his Protective Gang Qi, his entire body became rigid in place.

He slowly lowered his head.

He saw a horrifying wound extending from his left shoulder, slashing through to his right abdomen. Blood was about to spurt out, but was frozen by an extreme cold, forming icy blood flowers.

"What... what on earth is this?"

Tie Ying's eyes bulged out, trying desperately to move his hand, but vitality drained away at an alarming speed.

He could feel that the so-called Inner Strength was vibrating, rotating, cutting, and his Protective Gang Qi was like fragile paper, almost instantly shattered.

You call this the Inner Essence Realm?!

But he was destined not to get an answer.

Ning Qi swung his sword again.

A swift stroke to the throat, ice blossomed, and the fresh blood poised to spurt immediately solidified.

Tie Ying's corpse collapsed to the ground.

Ning Qi's eyes flickered slightly.

"This person, is weaker than I imagined."

White Mist Realm, seems just so?

Ning Qi had a clearer understanding of his own strength.

Facing a Gang Essence Realm for the first time, he was quite satisfied with the power of the Cold Flame Triple Sword, easily shattering the Protective Gang Qi of White Mist Realm. Of course, it was also possible that this opponent was not formidable within the White Mist Realm.

"Gotta go support my senior brothers."

Ning Qi glanced at his opponent's corpse. There was no time to deal with it now, so he swiftly dashed towards the Martial Arts Arena, where the battle continued.

But what he didn't know was.

At the moment he killed Tie Ying, the situation at the Martial Arts Arena had already changed.

Originally.

Tie Long was alone battling the True Inheritors, still having energy to spare, from time to time provoking with words, fully capturing everyone's attention.

"Tsk tsk, Qing State says, Taoist Longshan's disciples are all talents, but today I see, they're only so-so."

But as soon as he finished speaking, his face changed dramatically.

A faint wrenching pain emanated from his heart.

Making his pupils reflect disbelief.

"Second brother is dead?!"

"How is that possible?!"

Tie Long, lost in thought, nearly injured by Ye Qinghe's sword light, Ye Qinghe cursed angrily:

"An old coward hiding all the time, clearly not daring to provoke my master. If I train for a few more years, I'll kill you like slaughtering a dog!"

Tie Long swung a punch, the Fist Gang forcing everyone back.

Ignoring the verbal jabs, he shockingly looked towards the Scripture Pavilion, waves of panic overwhelming his heart.

The Iron Ridge Three Fierce, after gaining a fortuitous encounter, each swallowed a Unity Gu, parasitizing inside, enhancing Martial Path cultivation.

Besides, if one dies, the others could sense it.

And now.

Iron Ying's Unity Gu had died, which was self-explanatory.

"How could it be possible? Second brother just left not long ago, might not even have reached the Scripture Pavilion, yet suddenly he died? Doesn't this mean he had almost no resistance against the hidden opponent?!"

Tie Long's eyes showed a trace of fear.

To have such power to kill the second brother instantly, even by surprise, couldn't be underestimated.

"Is there a hidden master from the True Martial Sect, or has Taoist Longshan emerged from retreat?"

"Damn! That Wang bastard trapped us!"

Tie Long gnashed his teeth, fear creeping into his heart.

Even though he kept calling Taoist Longshan names, if they really faced him, they'd flee faster than anyone, Taoist Longshan's fame wasn't made by charlatanry, but by his sword, one kill at a time!

All three of them together wouldn't even be enough to be seen by him.

They dared to cause trouble in True Martial Sect purely because they knew Taoist Longshan was in secluded closed-door training, unable to exit.

"Retreat! Immediate retreat!"

Tie Long immediately had the intent to retreat, with no thought of avenging Tie Ying, knowing nothing about the hidden master's background. Now is not the time, as the Unity Gu's backlash began, reducing his strength, he must find a place to recuperate.

If he delayed any longer here, he might end up buried here.

Tie Long's fists shot forward repeatedly, dragon-shaped Gang Qi firing indiscriminately around, constant roaring.

But Jiang Baishan and others were not easy to deal with, quickly noticing Tie Long's intent to retreat.

Unaware of what happened, they certainly couldn't let him leave easily.

Coming and going as he pleases.

Does he think True Martial Sect is a mere playground?

Chapter 53: Chapter 49 Who Killed the Flying Heaven Eagle

"Don't let him escape! His strength has diminished!"

Jiang Baishan's eyes lit up, noticing something was off. This person's state was unusual, and his Gang Qi was no longer as fierce as before.

His eyes were cold as he charged forward with his sword enwrapped in Gang Essence.

The presence of this person was mysterious, and his intentions had to be clarified. It was best to capture him, or it would be hard to sleep with such an unknown lurking around True Martial Sect.

Strike when the iron is hot.

The disciples of the True Martial Sect all understood this principle.

The Martial Arts practiced by several True Disciples originated from the same source. Though they hadn't reached the level of the 'Nine Great Celestial Beings battling the Martial Saint,' they managed to suppress the weakened Tie Long together.

Tie Long's fury surged to the heavens.

If not for suffering backlash from the Unity Gu and having no intention to engage in battle, how could he be humiliated by these True Martial Sect brats?

At this moment.

With Tie Ying already dead in the Scripture Pavilion, he couldn't bother to hide his Ultimate Skill.

With a swift strike.

Gang Qi roared like a dragon, ferociously crashing towards Ye Qinghe with formidable force.

Jiang Baishan's expression changed as he immediately dodged and landed before the furious dragon Gang Qi, finally shattering it with sword Qi like rain.

Xiong Shi recognized Tie Long's identity and shouted angrily:

"River Overturn Dragon! You're the River Overturn Dragon of the Iron Ridge Three Fierce!"

With those words.

Everyone was taken by surprise.

The Iron Ridge Three Fierce had a well-known reputation, which they were familiar with, but what truly alarmed them was not individual strength, but the fact that the three were inseparable, implying that three Gang Essence Realm experts had invaded True Martial Mountain.

At this thought, everyone's hearts pounded, their expressions cautious as they glanced around, not daring to pursue.

Seizing the opportunity.

Tie Long quickly increased the distance.

He coldly glanced at Jiang Baishan and the others, not uttering a word.

At this moment.

A stout figure shot from afar, growling low:

"Boss, I'm here to support you. How did second brother die?"

His eyes were crimson red, like a fierce beast, instantly revealing his identity as Walking Tiger Tie Hu to the True Martial Sect members, but his words left everyone in shock.

The second of the Iron Ridge Three Fierce, Flying Heaven Eagle, was dead?

Tie Long shouted in anger:

"You fool, we were set up, hurry and leave!"

Without explaining further.

He dashed towards the mountain's base first-hand, leaving the newcomer Tie Hu momentarily stunned. He unwillingly looked into the distance, then stomped his foot and turned to leave.

The True Martial Sect members dared not act recklessly.

Who knows if Flying Heaven Eagle is truly dead? If it were a trap, pursuing would be walking into their hands, and even if he is really dead, the remaining two Gang Essence Realm figures aren't ones they could chase.

Tie Long and Tie Hu sped through the forest, and only when they were very far away did Tie Long stop, panting.

"Damn it!"

He struck a tree hard with his fist, leaving a hole.

Tie Hu, unconvinced, murmured:

"Boss, what's going on? With just those brats just now, what do we have to fear? How did second brother really die?"

Tie Long turned his head, speaking fiercely:

"We've been tricked by that Wang, True Martial Sect doesn't only have Jiang Baishan at Gang Essence Realm—there are likely hidden masters!"

"I attracted everyone's attention earlier, while second brother snuck into the Scripture Pavilion amidst the chaos. But after a short while, the Unity Gu started backlashing, do you know what this implies? Second brother was easily killed by that hidden master!"

"I even suspect that the person might be Taoist Longshan, who hasn't truly secluded himself. He might be fishing for people using this opportunity!"

Understanding the situation, Tie Hu's pupils contracted sharply, yet he hesitated:

"It can't be Taoist Longshan, right? Otherwise, we couldn't have possibly left so smoothly. The hidden master didn't pursue, so perhaps... that person isn't so strong, and maybe second brother was just careless?"

Tie Long pondered deeply, realizing Tie Hu made some sense - he was indeed overly cautious. However, he quickly added:

"Even if it's not Taoist Longshan, that hidden person is absolutely not simple. Second brother acts cautiously and wouldn't be easily deceived."

"Regardless, today's matter ends here. Now that our identities are exposed, we must immediately leave Qing State, or Taoist Longshan might come for revenge, and we wouldn't be able to withstand it!"

Tie Hu was entirely reluctant, looking toward the mountain:

"But my Dominating Tiger True Intent Painting..."

Tie Long reprimanded:

"Don't let minor details ruin major plans. Going back now would be walking into a trap!"

Tie Hu fell silent.

Tie Long patted Tie Hu's shoulder, comforting him:

"Hu, from now on, it'll just be us. I assure you, this won't end here. Let's lay low in another state for a few years. Revenge can wait ten years for a gentleman. When we break through to the Jade Liquid Realm or even Primordial Core Realm, we will come back for second brother's revenge!"

Tie Hu replied, somewhat gruffly:

"Yes, big brother."

But he felt somewhat uneasy inside; if it had been his big brother's Furious Dragon True Intent Painting that was lost, he might not have been so rational, as, in the end, it wasn't his own loss. He scratched his back, feeling the raised pattern, growing somewhat irritable.

The two rested for a while, then gradually disappeared into the distance.

...

Meanwhile, at the True Martial Sect Martial Arts Arena.

Jiang Baishan and Xiong Shi, among others, remained vigilant. The firelight illuminated everything around to ensure enemies wouldn't ambush them unnoticed.

"Why did the Iron Ridge Three Fierce suddenly attack our True Martial Sect?"

"Those two earlier should have been River Overturn Dragon Tie Long and Walking Tiger Tie Hu. The third wasn't seen; could Flying Heaven Eagle Tie Ying really be dead? If so, who killed him?"

Numerous questions filled everyone's minds.

As Ning Qi approached the Martial Arts Arena, he managed to discern the invaders' identities from the disciples' whispered discussions.

"Iron Ridge Three Fierce? Could it be that the one I killed earlier was Flying Heaven Eagle?"

Ning Qi pondered.

"Should I go down the mountain to pursue them and capture them all?"

This thought arose, but Ning Qi quickly dismissed it.

It was uncertain whether the intruders were only the Iron Ridge Three Fierce. Pursuing now might leave others to strike while he was away, leading to regret. It's better to stay on the mountain to protect everyone.

Moreover, chasing them in the dark forest at night might not end well. If they fell into an ambush, it would be troublesome.

Ning Qi, adjusting his form with the Body Shifting and Bone Changing Skill, returned to his original appearance and stepped forward.

Ye Qinghe immediately noticed Ning Qi approaching with a sword on his back.

"Jiu, why did you come here?" she reproached. "With bandits attacking, how can you wander around? If you encounter them, it would be disastrous!"

Ning Qi softly replied:

"I heard the commotion and wanted to help the senior brothers and sisters."

Everyone felt relieved, but still said:

"If this happens again, Jiu, you should stay hidden. Leave the rest to us."

Though they all knew Ning Qi was exceptionally gifted, beyond his peers, he was still young, and this level of battle might be too much for him to handle.

While everyone remained on guard.

A distant voice from a disciple called out:

"Second senior brother, third senior sister, traces of battle were found here, along with a body!"

Upon hearing this.

Everyone's spirits lifted.

Chapter 54: Chapter 50: Unnamed Stronger

"Where is it? Take us there now!"

Jiang Baishan almost shivered all over, instantly realizing what had happened.

There was a hint of horror in his eyes.

Then, the others also thought of something, and one by one couldn't help but rush over there.

Ning Qi felt slightly helpless in his heart.

Of course, he knew what that was. After killing Flying Heaven Eagle, he rushed over to provide support and hadn't had time to deal with his corpse, which must have now been discovered by the disciples.

He gave a slight flicker of his eyes but ultimately said nothing.

Soon.

Everyone appeared at the site where Ning Qi and Tie Ying fought earlier.

Visible traces on the ground caused everyone to gasp, the almost collapsed pavilion and the crisscrossing marks on the ground all indicated that the battle that just occurred here was definitely at Gang Essence Realm level.

"A Gang Essence Realm master has infiltrated!"

"Was River Overturning Dragon distracting us just now?"

The enemy obviously had significant intentions, seeing this direction, it's precisely the path to the Scripture Pavilion!

Wolfish ambition!

They are plotting for the True Martial Sect's martial arts inheritance!

Everyone was both shocked and angry.

Then Ye Qinghe was the first to react.

"Just now Walking Tiger said, 'How did the second die,' could it be... this person in front of us is Flying Heaven Eagle?"

Shock rose in everyone's eyes.

The dignified Gang Essence Realm strong person, died just like that?

Xiong Shi squatted down.

He pulled open the mask off the corpse in front of him, instantly, a lean, sinister face met everyone's gaze, though the eyes were still wide with fear and terror, as if it had seen something unbelievable.

"Is it Flying Heaven Eagle?"

The others kept asking.

Xiong Shi just frowned and shook his head slowly.

"I can't tell."

Suddenly.

He seemed to think of something, pulling out a dagger from a nearby disciple's waist, and with one slash, he cut open the corpse's black clothes. The faint pattern instantly revealed itself, Xiong Shi's eyes lit up, and he pulled further, exposing the pattern on the corpse's back fully before the crowd.

It was a fierce tiger descending the mountain, majestic and possessing a special grace.

Xiong Shi took a deep breath and said solemnly:

"It is indeed Flying Heaven Eagle!"

Jiang Baishan asked:

"Second Senior Brother, what makes you so sure?"

Seeing the confusion in everyone's eyes, Xiong Shi slowly said:

"You all know of the Iron Ridge Three Fierce, but do you know their origins?"

Everyone shook their heads, but Ye Qinghe frowned and said:

"Rumor has it that they are not actual brothers, just from a place called Iron Ridge, and later became sworn brothers."

Xiong Shi said:

"Indeed, it now seems the rumor is true."

"These three emerged from Iron Ridge with a fortuitous encounter but didn't trust each other completely, hence the sworn brotherhood, and moreover, it's said they got three martial arts related to Dragon, Tiger, and Eagle, thus changed their names to Tie Long, Tie Hu, and Tie Ying."

Ning Qi was staring at the Fierce Tiger Painting in a trance. He had already discerned its mystery; once immersed, the tiger seemed to come alive, roaming the mountains and forests, each motion containing profound martial arts truths.

At this moment, hearing Xiong Shi's words.

Ning Qi instinctively asked:

"Does Senior Brother mean this pattern is related to Flying Heaven Eagle's identity?"

Xiong Shi nodded:

"Yes, these three brothers committed numerous evil acts and even guarded against each other. To prevent betrayal someday, they tattooed the three paintings they obtained onto their bodies."

Here he paused, eyes tinged with mischief.

"But — not their own martial art tattooed on themselves, but each other's on their bodies."

Suddenly everyone understood.

"So, you mean Flying Heaven Eagle has the martial art of the other two Fierce?"

"If I guess correctly, it should be Walking Tiger's Dominating Tiger True Intent Painting!" Xiong Shi nodded, "Given that, River Overturning Dragon has Heavenly Eagle True Intent Painting, and Walking Tiger holds Furious Dragon True Intent Painting."

At this moment, everyone became convinced that the person before them was Flying Heaven Eagle; no wonder Tie Hu was so infuriated earlier and reluctant while leaving, the root cause was right here.

Flying Heaven Eagle dying at True Martial Sect means Walking Tiger lacked the True Intent Painting from now on.

No wonder he was so furious.

True Intent Painting, unlike martial arts already recorded, offers continuous observance and insight, akin to a revelation, facilitating easier attainment of high martial arts realms, and even creating new martial arts from it.

It's a treasure only a Celestial Being Strong Person who has mastered a martial art to its peak can create.

Everyone's gaze burned with desire.

This Dominating Tiger True Intent Painting is indeed a precious treasure!

But then.

Jiang Baishan's words caused everyone's body to tremble.

"Then... who killed Flying Heaven Eagle?"

Previously only confirming Flying Heaven Eagle's identity, they had forgotten this crucial matter.

Who fought with Flying Heaven Eagle, moreover, killed him here?

Jiang Baishan's eyes deepened.

He was the only Gang Essence Realm present, thus saw more clearly; he had been observing the nearby battle traces, now crouched down, touching the two wounds on Tie Ying's chest and neck, taking a deep breath and saying:

"If I didn't see wrong, Flying Heaven Eagle was killed instantly by this unknown expert with a single sword! Without the sword strike on his neck, Flying Heaven Eagle would still have died."

He felt immense pressure.

He had constantly envisioned himself in Flying Heaven Eagle's position, and guessed he wouldn't fare much better, merely a matter of a sword or two.

True Martial Mountain suddenly had such a Sword Dao master, making him uneasy.

Everyone was silent.

Stunned.

Although Iron Ridge Three Fierce didn't have a good reputation, their strength was solid; Gang Essence Realm ranked among the top-tier experts across Qing State. But now being easily killed, shows how powerful the assailant was.

"Could it be other intruders in our True Martial Sect?"

With this thought, everyone felt immense pressure.

But immediately a disciple reported:

"Dear Senior Brothers, there are no signs of intrusion at the Scripture Pavilion, nor are there battle traces elsewhere."

Everyone looked at each other.

If this unknown expert had malicious intent, nobody in True Martial Sect could withstand it, places like the Scripture Pavilion would be freely accessible unless their master emerged from seclusion.

But now with no movements, it indicates this expert likely means no harm.

"Do you think... this unknown expert is the hidden strength of our True Martial Sect? He disposed of Flying Heaven Eagle upon discovering the intrusion."

Everyone's eyes brightened.

Imagining an elder with a crane-like stature and immortal aura.

"Highly likely! Otherwise, there's no explanation!"

Watching senior brothers and sisters along with numerous disciples' faces gradually lightening with excitement, Ning Qi raised his head from the Fierce Tiger True Intent Painting, his expression somewhat peculiar.

Chapter 55: Chapter 51 Celestial Being Secret Technique

In a sense.

They weren't guessing wrong.

Ning Qi is the Hidden Guardian of the True Martial Sect, indeed one of its foundations, though they guessed wrongly on one point; Ning Qi is not some 'old man,' but merely a child not yet seven years old.

Ning Qi chuckled silently.

He had no intention of explaining.

Firstly because of the previous matter with Qin Yun, secondly as the Hidden Guardian of the True Martial Sect, naturally it's better to remain hidden unless absolutely necessary; otherwise Ning Qi wouldn't expose his strength, striving to stay low-key until he is strong enough.

He would be better in the shadows.

"Fortunately, our True Martial Sect still has powerful protectors in the dark, otherwise today's situation would have been disastrous."

Everyone felt a little fearful afterward.

If Flying Heaven Eagle had looted the Scripture Pavilion, it would definitely be a huge blow to the True Martial Sect.

"I wonder what kind of strength this senior actually possesses?"

"Jade Liquid Realm, or Primordial Core Realm like Master?"

Everyone was curious, but sensibly didn't delve into their identity since Taoist Longshan didn't reveal this hidden foundation to them; evidently, it wasn't necessary to probe, they just speculated in their hearts.

Yet this kind of speculation invigorated everyone considerably.

After all, today's events had indeed dampened the morale of the True Martial Sect.

Ning Qi watched intently as Xiong Shi cut the Fierce Tiger True Intent Painting off Flying Heaven Eagle's back, a True Intent Painting branded onto the back using special methods, only removable by cutting.

He felt somewhat tempted.

A simple observation earlier had already led him to comprehend several martial arts.

If he could immerse himself fully, there would undoubtedly be greater gains.

But he was not in a hurry.

This Fierce Tiger True Intent Painting would likely be placed in the Scripture Pavilion.

Ye Qinghe was lost in thought, pondering the words of Jiang Baishan and Xiong Shi, feeling something odd nagging at her heart.

"Our True Martial Sect's hidden foundation? ... Something feels strange about Flying Heaven Eagle's death, killed on the way to the Scripture Pavilion..."

Her brows furrowed.

Suddenly.

A figure entered her line of sight, carrying a big sword, watching Xiong Shi skin with attention.

Ye Qinghe's pupils trembled.

"Junior Brother?!"

A startling thought arose in her mind, shaking her heart like tumultuous waves, but then she shook her head with a laugh, feeling foolish.

"Jiu is indeed a prodigy, but hasn't practiced martial arts for even four years; I reckon he should have just broken through to the Inner Essence Realm recently. How could he possess strength to instantly defeat a Gang Essence Realm expert?"

Ye Qinghe moved forward absentmindedly, noticing the Dragon Owl Sword was spotless and free of any blood scent.

Ning Qi seemed to sense something, turning with a smile:

"Third Senior Sister?"

Ye Qinghe exhaled, silently scolding herself for being too foolish to have such unrealistic thoughts.

She laughed:

"You're still young, don't watch this. Later, Second Senior Brother will handle the True Intent Painting and bring it for you to view, don't worry."

Saying this, she pulled Ning Qi away.

Skinning was not a beautiful scene, in their minds, their Little Junior Brother was still a pure little lamb, spending his days reading and cultivating in the courtyard.

...

From the night Iron Ridge Three Fierce launched their raid.

The entire True Martial Sect went into a state of alert, patrol duties multiplied several fold, ensuring no blind spots, previously slack for years, yet one night was enough to awaken everyone, although there might be a great master within the sect, they couldn't gamble.

Now with Flying Heaven Eagle dead in the True Martial Sect, Xiong Shi and others worried River Overturn Dragon and Walking Tiger might not easily let go, perhaps seeking revenge.

Besides, who knows if other forces are eyeing the True Martial Sect.

But Ning Qi felt more relaxed, as he knew he was the one who killed Flying Heaven Eagle, worrying not at all about the other two coming for revenge; coming would mean delivering themselves, he even hoped those two would come.

This way.

Perhaps there's a chance to gather all three True Intent Paintings.

Ning Qi looked at the Dominating Tiger True Intent Painting in his hand, feeling a bit regretful.

"This True Intent Painting, indeed not that simple."

"Dominating Tiger Stance, Dominating Tiger Strength, Dominating Tiger True Gang, from Body Tempering Realm to Gang Essence Realm, the cultivation techniques form a single lineage, all superior, and even contain part of a Celestial Being Secret Technique!"

In the past few days.

After Xiong Shi handled the True Intent Painting, he sent it to Ning Qi, knowing Ning Qi was very interested in different martial arts classics.

With Ning Qi's comprehension, the True Intent Painting held no secrets before him.

Walking Tiger spent decades of hard toil, yet merely understood part of the Dominating Tiger True Gang, not matching Ning Qi's insights in a single night.

"This part of Celestial Being Secret Technique is the strongest, even the essence of the True Intent Painting!"

"Regrettably, it's only one third; the other two parts likely hidden in the Heavenly Eagle True Intent Painting and Furious Dragon True Intent Painting."

Ning Qi slowly put away the Human Skin Scroll, feeling a bit regretful.

If that night he chose to pursue, he might have killed River Overturn Dragon and Walking Tiger, then all three True Intent Paintings would be in his grasp, maximizing their value.

However.

He didn't regret.

Against two True Intent Paintings, he valued his senior siblings' safety more; any unexpected incident would leave him with endless remorse.

"It's not a big problem, when my realm is higher in the future, I could attempt to complete them, even achieve higher levels."

After all, Ning Qi was merely in the Inner Essence Realm.

Now for him to create a Celestial Being Secret Technique would be overly advanced; he still didn't know what 'Celestial Being Resonance, invoking the Power of Heaven and Earth' truly meant.

But even so, this Fierce Tiger True Intent Painting benefited Ning Qi greatly.

The Myriad Phenomena Chapter he crafted advanced further.

Even started crafting the Myriad Phenomena True Gang for future Gang Essence Realm cultivation.

...

A few days passed.

The True Martial Sect remained calm, neither River Overturn Dragon nor Walking Tiger's presence was seen, Jiang Baishan and others breathed a slight sigh of relief, though not lowering their guard.

This continued until ten days later.

Luo Wentian and a group of disciples appeared outside the mountain gate, their faces anxious, upon seeing Jiang Baishan and others, they asked repeatedly:

"Wu, what's exactly going on?"

Luo Wentian looked somewhat grim, having received the notice while returning from the Purple River Sword Venerate's birthday banquet, rushing back at full speed.

Jiang Baishan hurriedly said:

"Senior Brother, nothing happened within the sect."

He immediately detailed the night's raid, seeing Luo Wentian return, everyone felt more at ease, although Luo Wentian's cultivation wasn't the highest, he had been managing the sect's affairs meticulously, contributing significantly to the True Martial Sect's growth.

Luo Wentian's originally grim expression slightly lightened, yet remained extremely serious.

He exhaled deeply and said:

"We had just left the mountain, then the sect suffered a night raid, claiming there's no connection between these, it's inconceivable!"

Everyone had guessed long ago, their eyes burning with anger:

"Senior Brother means, Purple River Sword Sect?"

Ning Qi's gaze slightly tightened, Purple River Sword Venerate was a Primordial Core Realm expert.